News of the Association

The Dearborn Reunion

Warm, sunny weather and a host hotel of unusual beauty, the Dearborn Inn, helped make the 1992 reunion, in Dearborn, Michigan, a memorable one for all of the guests who attended. The ladies enjoyed a tour to the nearby Ford Estate. Members and guests also toured the Yankee Air Force Museum, located near the Willow Run Bomber plant of WWII fame, (where Ford built all those B-24s). The building is presently used by General Motors. The Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, a stone's throw from the hotel was also a major attraction for attendees.

Because the Dearborn Inn was located away from a commercial center many informal lunch and dinner meetings took place during the reunion that in themselves became happy mini reunions.

At the banquet Saturday evening Ellsworth Goodell was presented with a much belated DFC by his pilot Vincent O'Shea, who had reminded the War Department that Goodell's DFC was not awarded to him because of a quick change of station when the European war ended so abruptly in May of 1945.

The Color guard under the direction of T/Sgt Jacob Williams of the Michigan Air Guard put on a spirited parading of the colors that drew immediate approval from the attendees. The pride in which the airmen carried the flags and their precise military turns, and bearing awakened warm patriotic feelings.

The Ed Burg Orchestras' up-tempo beat added to the happy mood of the evening. Their jazz style interpretations of the old standards of the 40's drew large numbers of guests to the dance floor. The music sounded so good to Lyle Gressitt, a professional jazz singer, and daughter of member Tillman Gressitt, she joined the band to sing many songs. Ed Burg along with everyone else was very impressed. He wanted to hire Lyle right on the spot.

Chaplain Kenton R Gottschalk delivered the banquet invocation Saturday evening and performed the memorial service Sunday morning with a true warmth of understanding. He had deployed with the Air Guard to Gioia several times and was surprised to find out that Gioia had served during WWII as a replacement depot.

Art Shaw of the 827 squadron came to the reunion with silver nylon jackets that

were imprinted with the association logo making them quite attractive. One was raffled off to raise money for the Scholarship Fund. Harry Watkins 827 Squadron held the winning ticket. It fit as if it were special ordered for him Members interested in obtaining a similar jacket from Art can contact him through the association.

The Dearborn reunion was a huge success.

Annual Meeting Report

The annual business meeting took place on Saturday morning, September 26, 1992, at 10 AM. The minutes of the last meeting and financial report were approved and the written report prepared by Chris Donaldson, representing the Memorial Scholarship Committee, was given, indicating that the 1991 scholarship awards which were to have been presented in the spring of 1992, have been delayed until the 1992-1993 school year in Cerignola and that the precise date and time in April or May of 1993, will be set by the Cerignolaeducational administrators headed by Prof. Umberto Albanese.

Name of Corporation Changed

Members in attendance at the annual meeting approved the change of the corporation name to the 484th Bomb Group Association, in accordance with the notice of the annual meeting mailed to all members. For more details, see the following report of the annual meeting.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Board of Directors, the following proposed changes to the Articles of Incorporation and the By-Laws were approved by the required majority of members in attendance The name of the Corporation in the Articles of Incorporation was changed to 484TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION.

The By-Laws were amended to included three classes of membership, regular, honorary and associate, effective January 1st, 1993, as follows:

Regular members shall be those persons who were formerly members of the

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Cover Photo. Ship #72, 827 squadron, a B-24-H-15 FO was built at
Willow Run by The Ford Motor Company serial number 42-52667.
"Troublemaker" is being kept out of trouble by an escorting P-38 when
this photo was taken, but later on she was forced to ditch in the Adriatic
Sea on October 23, 1944.484th BG photo via King Beach 827 sq.