

Dear "Bud":

In our last conversation you expressed an interest in the American Ex POW program called "Speak Out" This is a national program directed primarily to students. However, numerous other groups including churches and civic organizations have shown great interest in the presentations. Members of our Cochise Chapter of Arizona have been doing presentations for quite some time and I might add are very well received. In some cases the presentation is limited to an hour. The ones that I have been involved with for the most part involve a full day devoted to a school. The students range from sixth grade through high school We are hopeful of being able to include the college level this fall, as well as the military.

When I started researching the history books that were being used in our system I became sick to my stomach as well as very upset with the lack of information that is being taught in our schools.

We have received many letters from the students of all levels thanking us for making the presentations and expressing appreciation for the Veterans that saved their freedoms.

Incidentally, has the 484th ever had a reunion in Tucson? Recently I visited the Pima Air and Space Museum. Quite spectacular! The B-24J from India that Faulkner and his helpers restored even to the point of mannequins in each position is truly impressive It is completely polished better than new and accessible for viewing by standing inside the bomb bay.

Robert D Leavenworth, 826 Sq.

Dear Bud:

The last issue of the Flyer No #30 included a letter from John Bath concerning the 2/17/45 mid air collision. Being the last living crew member of the crash one misconception should be corrected.

McDaniel the pilot and Dipple co-pilot landed at 160 as I recall their last comments. I was ordered to the rear of the plane upon landing. On touchdown the nose wheel collapsed and the fuselage was sheared off to the bomb bay. There was no fire and the plane did flip over. McDaniel survived the crash but died in the hospital. Dipple CP and Hiser G died in the crash. Kolbe RO survived but was pinned down in the radio compartment. Being in the rear I was able to exit via the area of the missing twin fifties.

My position as observer in the nose turret left me unable to see what happened. As I recall we had hit some clouds at the time of the collision. My chute was lashed in the nose and broke loose exiting through the nose well without me.

To this day it seems inconceivable that McDaniel and Dipple were able to maneuver the plane to Vis minus the rudder controls

Through the grace of God and two excellent pilots, Kolbe and I survived.

Sincerely,
Ed Schwartz

Editors Note: Joe Shugrue just sent in the mission report 17, February, 1945. Up until this time I had understood all of the crew of A-12 (Larson's crew) were trapped inside the spinning aircraft and were reported as KIA. In looking over the crew list I find Edward M Duke, a member of the Association until 1988. There is a note in the Operational Flight Log that says "bailed out 43-43.15.17 Sebenek." The quote may indicate the position of the bail out. You

navigators out there might be able to pin down the spot. So now we know that Duke survived the crash. Were there any others? For your information I am including the crew list of both aircraft.

A-11 44-49721 Nose 502z (Mickey Ship)

S/Sgt Henry F Clark (D)	B/G
1Lt Edwin T Danowski	N
2/Lt William Dipple (D)	P
Capt Kenneth DDowdey	B
S/Sgt William J Hiser (D)	U/G
T/Sgt George Kolbe (D)	R/O
S/Sgt William AMordica	T/G

Yucca Valley, CA

Dear Bud

Attached are some military orders which you may want to add to your archives. The significance of these relative to the 484th BG may be apparent in the following listing:

T/Sgt Jessie Redifer Jr	E
1/Lt Edward Schwartz	N
2/Lt Norman R. Weser	NV
Maj Abner O McDaniel	P

A-12 Ship No 44-48828 Nose No 501Y

S/Sg William A Coke	N/G
2/Lt Francis J. Cummins C/P	
1/Lt Edward M Duke (S)	B
Cpl Kenneth R Larson (D)	P
S/Sg Robert J. Mathison	T/G
T/Sg Louis H Morris	E
2/LT Richard FMulcahy Jr	N
1/Lt Frank V Rabinovitz	N
S/Sg George J. Scheina	T/G
S/Sg Dan T Unger	U/G
T/Sg Jerome B Unterberber	R/O

Hamilton Field, California

Order # 370.5/91

Subject: Movement orders

To: [My crew, pilot Lloyd J Breisch.] [After crew training at Tonopah, NV they sent us by train to Hamilton Field, CA just outside San Francisco. These orders, issued at Hamilton, assigned to us a brand new B-24 with Serial No. 44-40269. It was built in San Diego and the inside of the bombardier's compartment was covered with the names and addresses of girls who had worked on it. We were ordered to proceed to Morrison Field, FL at West Palm Beach thence to the overseas destination of this shipment. Our first stop out of Hamilton was Phoenix. We didn't know that it was radio week - honest. The tail gunner had a bad cold and a locked ear. We insisted he go to sick call and the doctor instructed us to lay over a day.]