

What's in this Issue

The term *Combat Express* defines the theme of this issue. It was the use of the regular numbered air forces to augment delivery of ammo, bombs, and fuel to General Patton's Third Army Tactical Air Command. Patton's use of his Tactical Air Force to attack enemy ground positions during August of 1944 consumed supplies at a faster rate than could be supplied through regular channels. Some of you participated in the 484th supply missions to Bron, France during September, 1944. The three stories immediately below support the theme.

1) Air Ground Teamwork We are deviating from normal reporting of events pertaining to the activities of the 484th Bomb Group to bring you a report on Air Ground Teamwork on the Western Front. It is a story about the XIX Tactical Air Command's Air support of ground troops after the Western Allies invasion of Europe in June of 1944. We, in the 484th, think of fighter aircraft as defending the bombers from attack from the German Luftwaffe. This work shows how fighter aircraft were adopted to support ground troops. This report was discovered at Maxwell Field, Alabama. Starts on page 8.

2) Supply Mission This is the story of the 484th's first supply mission of September 11, 1944 to Bron, France in support of the Tactical Air Force employed by Patton's 3rd Army. The Patton led 3rd Army was chewing up big chunks of the German opposition by using P-47s and P-51s to hit at strong points, tanks, and guns. In doing so his tactical fighter-bombers were running out of supplies. The 484th was called upon to alleviate this condition. Story starts on page 19.

3) Combat Express This article from the December 1944 Air Force Magazine reports that medium bombers and cargo planes were also called upon to help carry munitions and fuel to the racing Third Army, sometimes even carrying the much needed supplies right to the tactical airfields themselves. Story on page 27.

Memories of Walter Chapman Story submitted by Dick Olson, son of Richard Olson. His experiences as an evadee. Starts on Page 4.

The Calvin Teel Story. Sometime before he died, Calvin Teel wrote his own story, put together from his own remembrances, flight records and crew member Ralph Christensen's diary. Submitted by Emmett Goff. Starts on page 28.

Guest Editorial. Robert Dorr, an Air Force veteran reminds us all to have greater respect for the venerable B-24 Liberator. See page 38.

Morning Reports Received

Copies of the Morning Reports of the 484th Bomb Group have been received just recently through the efforts of Orville Hommert and his wife, Katie. These reports contain personnel information, listing the comings and goings of any individual through 484th BG HQ by name, rank, MOS, and serial number. We will now be able to correct the master roster, and add new names as applicable.

Veterans Organization Notices

Freeman Army Airfield

Freeman Army Airfield, Seymour, Indiana will hold a reunion on June 7, 1998. Call Ted Jordan, or Jane Henley at 812/522/3607.

The Distinguished Flying Cross Society

The Distinguished Flying Cross Society will hold its annual reunion in Las Vegas at the Circus-Circus Hotel and Casino September 28-30, 1998. For further information contact Alexander D Cuiczak at 714/493/7165.



Rumanian Pows

The Association of Former Prisoners of War in Rumania will meet in reunion September 8 through September 12, 1998 at the Hyatt Newporter Hotel, 1107 Jamboree Rd, Newport Beach, CA 92660. Room rate \$115.00. Call 1-800-233-1234. Max Binswanger 714-723-5015.

A Bronze B-24

A B-24 is to be modeled in bronze for placement at the Air Force Academy. Members are requested to make dollar contribution to the construction of a bronze B-24 to be erected in the courtyard of the Air Force Museum where a scale bronze B-17 already stands. The 2nd Air Division that flew B-24s from England has already contributed 2/3 of the cost. Neal Sorensen (612) 545-2696, is the project chairman. You may send your contributions to Reed Sprinkel, 825 Squadron (484th BG Bronze Project Chairman). 1026 Santiago Dr, Newport Beach, CA 92660-5728.

Contributions to the Scholarship Fund

Tabulated to date and since publication of Torretta Flyer No 32.

John	Hicks 826
<i>In the Memory of Abner O McDaniel</i>	
Robert D	Leavenworth 826
Walter W	Bondarchuk Sr 825
Walter H	Scheurs 825
H M	Hendrickson 824
Ross J	Wilson 824
Robert W	Goble 826
James C	Langdon 825
William J	Delonga 824
Harold D 1	Pressel Jr 825
Ralph	Carr 825
Frederick	D Kuhn 826
Rua L	Petty 825
David R	Ward 826
Robert M	Kelliher 765
George	Christie 765
<i>In the Memory of Seymour Jenner</i>	
Harry K	Hubertz 824
Dan	Joba 826
Lloyd C	McKenzie 825
Colin E	Dye 826
<i>In the Memory of Brother Keith Hamilton Dye</i>	