

Frank Miller  
856th BS



Dear Si,

After reading the June Carpetbagger, I had to respond. First, the unidentified Carpetbagger on page 3, is none other than yours truly. What a surprise! Note the gunner's wings pinned to a blue patch trimmed in gold. This was a little perk for those that flew on a Lead Crew during daylight bombing missions, when we were with the original 492nd Gp. I don't know some of the guys on my crew conned Red Monaghan into taking the individual pictures back then.

Now for surprise No. 2. The picture on page 7 was the Ladd crew. They had flown several Carpetbagger missions out of Harrington before we arrived from the old 492nd in August of 1944. The chemistry on the crew must not have been the best and there was a certain amount of dissension. Anyway, Ladd was given another crew and Orrin T. Bowland was given the Ladd crew. Bowland had been my original pilot at N. Pick before we lost half of our crew. He had been flying co-pilot on another crew since that time. Bowland, Chuck Wengel and myself then joined the Ladd crew and we were then sent to Leuchers, Scotland on detached service. That brought the crew back to full bomber strength, although we were to do Carpetbagger missions. That seemed to be the case for at least most of the crews that flew out of Scotland. This was a departure from the normal Carpetbagger type operation. It carried through, however, when we got back to Harrington for we started to train for the upcoming night bombing missions. I know this is confusing but it was confusing at the time.

Now for the Ladd crew that is shown: Top L-R Alfred Dauman, co-p; Craig Ladd, pilot; Edward Schweitzer bombardier; Lawrence Christensen, nav;. Bottom L-R William Jungbluth, ro; Paul Pepin, dispatcher; Jack Hammond, tail-gunner; and John Volpe, engineer.

I believe Wengle was the first to finish his missions, then Bowland. After Bowland finished, Capt. Clifton Clark, who had already flown a tour, took over as our pilot for at least most of our remaining missions. I finished next and left before the rest had finished. Dauman I found out later, flew with another crew as a replacement and was KIA, April 19, 1945. I believe this was

the next to last crew that we lost. He could not have had over one or two missions to go. Most of the rest was able to finish before VE-Day. I have not been able to contact Wengel or Pepin. Schweitzer passed away two years ago. Volpe passed away at an early age. The rest I keep in touch with but only Hammond had joined our Association.

Sincerely, Frank Miller



\* \* \* NOTICE \* \* \*

Any member who has not received their 8 1/2"x 11" Membership Certificate, drop Sebastian Corriere a card and he will send you one. Sebastian Corriere, 4939 N. 89th St. Milwaukee, WI 53225.

#### THE SECRETARY/TREASURER'S CORNER

Since the organization of the 801st/492nd BG Association and registration as a veteran's organization, under the Commonwealth of Virginia and Internal Revenue Service Statutes and requirements, we have set up a dues schedule which has been approved by the membership. The annual meeting held in Milwaukee increased the dues from \$10 to \$15, which was needed to offset the increased postal and office expenses. I report to you that the increase was sufficient and the Association finances are in the "black". I would also like to thank those who supported the Association and the Treasurer (me) by contributions over and above the dues.

We, the officers of the Association, do have some problems with dues collections however, and these problems, if not solved now, will escalate to a point which will make a shambles of the dues accounting structure. It is now very difficult to keep track of who paid their dues on time versus those who do not pay their dues on time...even more difficult when it is compounded by an increasingly larger segment of the membership who either delay paying the dues on time or simply forget. Another aspect is those who pay their dues but make out the check to the 8th AFHS but send it to the Treasurer of our Association! Then some do not pay their dues for several years and then pay \$15 as for current dues!! This creates headaches for the Secretary/Treasurer, and worse, complicates the maintenance of the finances of the Association.

Please send your dues payment between the period of December 1st and January 31. This will greatly bookkeeping accuracy and time. Any dues sent in before December will be credited toward the following year unless specifically indicated otherwise on the check. Delinquent dues will be satisfied first regardless of the specific instructions indicated on the check. In other words, dues paid in advance for 1993 etc. will not be credited as such until all delinquencies are removed. This approach should simplify accounting problems now being experienced.

If you feel your dues have not been properly accredited, please send a copy of both side of your check, so your dues payment can be verified. CHECKS ONLY, please, CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED! This is for the benefit of both you and the treasurer.

"Pete" Petrenko  
Secretary/Treasurer

Editor's Note: If payment of dues will create a financial hardship, please write to Pete stating to this effect. You would then be exempted from dues payment and only the Treasurer would be privy to this information. No one will be dropped from membership under these conditions. Address to: I. Pete Petrenko

P.O. Box 1613  
Springfield, VA 22151

\* \* \* NOTICE \* \* \*

In Oslo, Norway there is a Resistance Museum (Norges Hjemm Frontmuseum) near the Akershus. In Bergen Norway there is a Resistance Museum (Theta Museum). There is a museum about the Danish Resistance, Frihedsmuseet (Liberty Museum) in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Have any Carpetbaggers visited any or all of these museums? I plan to visit Scandinavia next Spring and would like to know the amount of time to set aside for visiting those Resistance Museums.

I hope they have at least a mention of Black B-24s.

Sincerely,

John Lusk Moore  
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