

AFEES MEMBER REVEALS HELPERS

Your efforts to reward and acknowledge those helpers who aided evadees induced me to become a AFEES member. Most veteran organizations are social-minded or offer political and business connections, but your organization accomplishes a most gratifying gesture to those wonderful helpers.

As for myself, I have always communicated through the years with those who had helped me and even those I had just become acquainted with. Usually I corresponded with 12 families residing in France and Belgium. In fact, my family and I visited them all on two occasions while I was stationed in Germany, and just this past summer we had a French helper (Rosemary Grady) stay here on our Nevada ranch for a two weeks visit.

Knowing how much letters meant to these helpers, I was disappointed and surprised that so many evadees forgot about the risks and sacrifices that had been made for them. One of the helpers, (Marie van Mullen of Lederzeele, France,) had harbored 5 American airmen individually during the years 1943-1944. I was the fifth and last evadee, but also the only one who ever coresponded and visited with her. She never got over the disappointment that "her boys" had forgotten her and I was told that she dwelled on it when she passed away a few years ago.

Perhaps because I was a combat member of the Resistance Force (F.F.I.) my attachment to them was much deeper. We shared the same dangers, the same sabotage and enemy engagements and even the burials for our fallen comrades.

When I attended the 1985 ceremony at the Resistance Memorial Park in Nieppe, France I was given a place of honor beside the flag-draped coffin. (Note: They insisted I wear my cowboy hat, even though I had purchased a beret for the occasion - they were so proud to have me there to show everyone that an American comrade had remembered.) If you will look closely at the ceremony photograph you will notice the absence of the American flag - all Allied Consulate-General offices had been notified weeks in advance. All appeared to pay homage except the American one. I felt surprised, ashamed and disappointed that my country had ignored the invitation. Even though I volunteered that perhaps they were busy, my F.F.I. comrades only offered a sad smile - after all it was Sunday!

As I promised you Mr. Dolph, here is a list of my helpers:

Mr. et Mme. Beck Mme Alise Delgrange
La Place 59143 Lederzelle, Fr.
59285 Buysscheure, Fr

Mme. Alise Delgrange
59143 Lederzelle, France

Mr. et Mme. Depreiter-Timperman
113 Rue de L'eglise
59850 Nieppe, France

Ms. Rosemary Grady
5 Allee des Diviers - Lot Le Devin
13700 Marignane, France

Mr. Stephen Grady Mr. Maurice Leblon
Boite Postale 3 1261 Rue D'Armentieres
63077 Kassandria, Greece 59850 Nieppe, France

Mr. Marcel Lombard
Rue de L'eglise
59270 La Creche (Bailleul) France

Mr. Jean Poissonnier Mr. Francis Andre
1945 Rue du 8'Mai 629 Rue dicteur Vanuxeem
59850 Nieppe, France 59850 Nieppe, France

Mr. et Mme. Rotsaert-Charle
59 Rue du Romarin
7792 Ploegsteert, Belgium

Mr. Bartier
12 Chaussee D'Armentieres
8942 Messines, Belgium

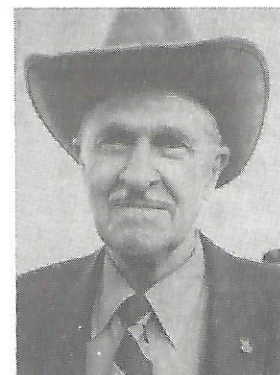
Mr. Jules Lalau
189 Rue D'Armentieres
7792 Comines-Ploegsteert, Belgium

Mr. et Mme. Turck-Vercjaeve
169 Rue du Touquet
7793 LeBizet-Comines, Belgium

MMe. Anais Robaeys (Veuve)
15/15 Allee Raymond Aron
59200 Blanc-Seau Tourcoing, France

Mr. Andre Lewyllie
Route Nationale-Pont D'Achelles
59850 Nieppe, France

CONRAD J. KERSCH 8595 W Cimarron Trail,
Stagecoach, Nevada 89429 (702) 629-0119



To Harry Dolph Cugnon, Belgium
Dear Editor: the 4 March, 1988

I am glad to have received news from you. Before continuing, excuse my writing, because I know not American.

I am sending you the list of the boys my wife and myself have helped during the war. I would like to have news from them.

They have written themselves their addresses and I have kept it in a bottle I hid in the garden.

I hope to come to Denver this year with Comete line if it is possible or I will come next year.

I shall give news again next month.

Sincerely, your Belgian friend,

Vincent, (Pete in the war.)

P.S. Henry H Gladys is on the list.

Ed. Note: The following reproduction could be better but remember it's been stuck in a can and buried for a long period of time.

George W. Donle - 147 Main Street, Latrobe, Pennsylvania
THEODORE S. SIMMONS - 124 WEST EIGHT STREET LIMA, OHIO, U.S.A.
CARLO E. ASHMAN - ROUTE 5, GREENVILLE, OHIO
WILFRED BLANKLEY - 1656 GROVE ST. SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
WILLIAM R. ELSLEARY - 1ST E 8th AVE, CHANDLER, ARIZONA
ALVIN D. ROBERTS - Bristol, Maryland - U.S.A.
(FORT WORTH, TEXAS, U.S.A.)
(1008 EAST JEFFERSON)
WILLIAM R. WILLIS - 146 Howley St. Binghamton, New York
HAROLD G. SHEDDEN - DOUGLAS SPRINGS, FLA. U.S.A.
HENRY H. GLADYS - 211 Liberty Ave. Monessen, PA U.S.A.
J. A. EVANS - NODDEN GOSWICK, FETTERBOROUGH, S. WALES
J. C. GRIESEL - 3820 84th Ave. S.W. SEATTLE, WA U.S.A.
D. A. LLOYD - GREENHANTLE, 131 PRICKY LANE R. HAMPTON, LEICESTERSHIRE
J. WARETON - 236 DANLISH DRIVE ILFORD, ESSEX
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J. WESTERN - 22 STUART ROAD, HEAVITREE, EXETER, ENGLAND
J. Weymouth Abbot, MAINE U.S.A.
P. S. G. GREGG - 10 CONNETTICUT AVE. FREERET, MAINE
J. W. FLATHER - 247 NORRISTHURST LANE HORMONDSWICK, ENGLAND
KEVIN J. DOYLE - 2069 W 6th AVENUE VANCOUVER BC CANADA
RA WEEDEEN 38 FELSBERG ROAD - BRITTON HILL - LONDON SW1 ENGLAND
DICK KINDIG - INDIANA - SOUTH BEND - USA.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION IMPORTANT

The military archives in Washington D.C. will prepare a copy of your E & E reports if you have patience and can cope with Government Bureaucracy. This service is available for those who returned to England and may be available for other areas. If one of you Eastern Europe Evaders will give this a try and notify Heyward Spinks with results it will be appreciated.

The first step is to call National Archives, Military Field Branch at (301) 763-1710. The reason I suggest this call first is that in my case the office to contact had changed as I was getting this information. A call to this number will instruct you who to write with a request.

This request will be answered with instructions on who and how much to pay. My bill was \$10.85 and I can only assume this is probably average. Two and a half months elapsed from first call to delivery of my records. Patience is needed.

In my case, I knew my E & E number. However, the normal military information, name, rank, serial number and Group will probably start your request. If the E & E number is necessary and you evaded in Western Europe call President Ralph Patton at (412) 343-8570 or Heyward Spinks at (803) 524-4565 for help.

The fact that these reports are now available might relieve the doubt in the minds of some Evaders concerning the certificate we signed concerning disclosure. Those restrictions have been removed and we are free to discuss our visit.

We should never forget another source of this type of information, Leslie Atkinson. Leslie has details on most who evaded through France but has added to his files. He may now be of help in other areas and possibly other Theaters. Give him a try:

Leslie Atkinson
2 Rue Alfred De Musset
66650 Banyuls Sur Mer
France

FROM BEAUTIFUL BELGIUM

To the AFEES: Feb 29, 1988
My best wishes for 1988. I am a bit sick but was suffering from rheumatism and flu. I wish everything of the best to you all, also a good health.

All the best. Betty (Berthe Spira-Van Sevanant)

VCR TAPES OF THE 503 BOAT AVAILABLE

VHS tapes of crew members and sea maneuvers of the M.G.B. 503 used in evacuating airmen out of Western France via "Operation Bonaparte" can be purchased from Ralph Patton for \$15.00 each.

The tape was copied from 500' of 16mm film that was sent to Ralph Patton more than 15 years ago by David Birkin, Navigator of the 503 boat. The second part includes a narration by Bill Webb and Norman Hines, members of the crew during Operation Bonaparte missions. The narration was made during our Denver reunion.

95TH BOMB GROUP (H) 1988 REUNION SLATED
The Annual Reunion of the 95th Bomb Group (H) Association WWII will be held at Cincinnati, Ohio, September 11 to 18, 1988 with a special memorial dedication at the Air Force Museum in Dayton, Ohio. For information, write:-Taylor C. Thurman, 3255 Cart Rd., Richmond, Indiana 47374



Embassy of the United States of America
Belgrade, Yugoslavia

June 9, 1988

Mr. Stephen Galembush
607 North Duane Avenue
Endicott, New York 13760


Dear Mr. Galembush:

I was delighted to present the Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society award citations to Misa and the Federation of Veterans' Associations of Yugoslavia (SUBNOR) at a reception at my home on May 24. As you can see by the enclosed press clippings, the presentation was a resounding success and I was proud to have participated. According to SUBNOR officials, this is the first such citation from an association of the U.S. military ever received by SUBNOR. The citations are now situated prominently in the ceremonial room of SUBNOR headquarters.

As you can imagine, Miso was visibly moved by the event and in their speeches he and SUBNOR President Bogdan Pecotic expressed their sincere gratitude to you and the Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society for keeping the memories of the wartime cooperation between our two countries alive. About 40 representatives of SUBNOR, the Yugoslav Federal Secretariat for National Defense, other government officials and members of the Yugoslav media attended the event and warmly applauded the presentations.

Miso tells me that he will be going to the United States this summer to visit you and tour America. I cannot tell you how pleased I am that this reunion has yielded so many benefits, not just for the Galembush and Mirkovic families, but also for the continued goodwill and friendship that characterize U.S.-Yugoslav relations.

Sincerely,


John D. Scanlan
Ambassador

PRESENTATION MADE BY JOHN D. SCANLON, AMBASSADOR TO YUGOSLAVIA

Dear Guests,

I am delighted to have the honor to present these citations from the AIR FORCES ESCAPE AND EVASION SOCIETY to Mihailo "Misa" Mirkovic and to SUBNOR for their outstanding courage in coming to the aid of the United States airmen during World War II. It is never too late for praise for acts of courage and humanitarianism.

These documents are significant because they represent the dream of one man, Mr. Stephen Galembush, to keep alive the spirit of friendship and gratitude that characterized Allied-Partisan cooperation during the war. Most of you probably know that Mr. Galembush, as a member of a special U. S. military mission, served three months with the Partisans at the Moraca Monastery in Montenegro in 1944, helping to evacuate U. S. Air Force pilots after bombing missions over enemy targets.

Mr. Galembush was struck by the courage and dedication of the Partisan troops, particularly that of the boy courier whom he knew as Misa. As a memento of his unforgettable stay in Moraca, Mr. Galembush kept a photograph of Misa the courier. Over forty years later, when the U. S. Embassy at Mr. Galembush's request had the photograph published in the hopes that someone would have information on the boy in the picture, Misa recognized himself. The two reunited last year in Yugoslavia and together presented a wreath to the Moraca Monastery, in commemoration of those days.

The U. S. Embassy is exceptionally pleased to have participated in this reunion. With great respect and sincere thanks, on behalf of the Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society, please accept these citations in appreciation for your cooperation during those difficult times. In anticipation of continued cooperation, goodwill, and friendship between our two countries, I am honored to present these citations.

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PILOTS REMEMBER COURIER MISA

(Borba, Wednesday, May 25, 1988, p. 14)

American citations presented to Mihailo
Mirovic and Bogdan Pecotic

Belgrade, May 24 (Tanjug) - "It is never too late to pay tribute to extraordinary courage in rendering assistance to U. S. Pilots during World War II," U. S. Ambassador John D. Scanlan stated today, presenting citations of the U. S. Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society to Mihailo Mirkovic (well-known courier Misa) and to President of the SUBNOR of Yugoslavia, Bogdan Pecotic.

The ceremony, held at the residence of the U. S. Ambassador in Belgrade, took place thanks to Mr. Stephen Galembush who, as a member of a special American military mission, spent three months in the Moraca monastery in Montenegro during the war. Assisting the partisans in evacuating the American pilots, after completing bombing missions against enemy targets, Mr. Galembush remembered forever their self-sacrifice, and especially the courage of courier Misa, 13 years old at the time.

A preserved photograph of courier Misa, published in Yugoslavia with the help of the U. S. Embassy forty years after the war, was sufficient for Mihailo Mirkovic to recognize himself, and to meet with Stephen Galembush last year.

Receiving the citations, Mihailo Mirkovic and Bogdan Pecotic expressed thanks to the U. S. Embassy for its engagement in maintaining this relationship, and satisfaction with reminders of the friendship between the people's Liberation Army of Yugoslavia and Allied soldiers from the United States.

Translation of an article published in the daily newspaper "EVENING NEWS" on Wednesday, the 25th of May, 1988. Belgrade Yugoslavia,

THE AMERICAN PILOTS TO THE COURIER MISA

The American-Yugoslav Allied war friendship was confirmed again in Belgrade yesterday. Two documents of gratitude, signed by the President Mr. Ronald Reagan, were given to the Federation of War Veterans of Yugoslavia and to the famous Partisan courier, Misa Mirkovic, by Mr. John Scanlan, the Ambassador of the United States of America in Yugoslavia at his residence in Belgrade.

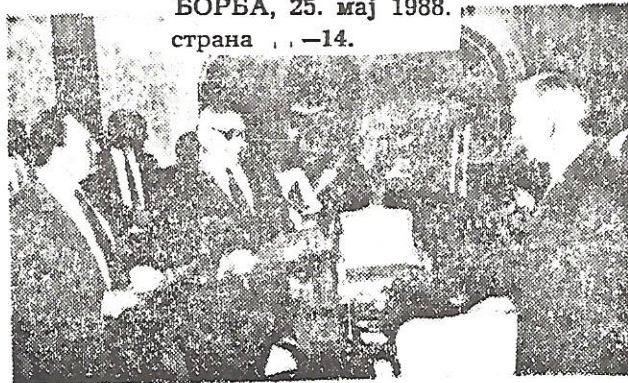
Although many years have passed since the war ended, it is never too late to refresh our memories on these courageous and memorable moments. For example, the rescuing of American Pilots and their crews by the Partisans during the Second World War, tending their wounds and feeding them as well as they were able.

Mt. Stephen Galembush, on an O.S.S. mission (Rakeoff) took a photo of a small warrior who helped him at the time and almost half a century later, sent it to Belgrade. The photo which was taken in 1944 at the Monastery in Moraca, was published in the Belgrade newspaper "Evening News", and many people recognized the legendary courier of war times as Misa Mirkovic, who assisted many war heroes, such as Sava Kovacevic, Mosa Pojade and Peko Dapevic. After that, Galembush and Mirkovic met in Yugoslavia and together placed two flowery garlands on the monument in Moraca, to honor U. S. and Yugoslav war dead.

Giving these certificates of gratitude from AFEES, the Ambassador pointed out in fluent Serbo-Croatian language: "The Embassy of the United States of America is greatly honored to have participated in that meeting. With great respect and sincere gratitude from the Association of the Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society of the United States, I would kindly ask you to accept these documents as the sign of recognition for your precious help during those hard times." President of the Federation of War Veterans of Yugoslavia, Bogdan Pecotic accepted the document and in his own name, Misa Mirkovic, a former kid who lived in the mountain of Vranice in Bosnia, and whose father was killed by the domestic traitors and he, as a boy joined the partisans.

Ed. note: I have personally read Stephen Galembush's book entitled "Candidate for OSS and Rakeoff Mission." In my opinion he is doing a lot to promote good-will between Yugoslavia and the United States. It would be good to write to him and see if Misa can attend our reunion next year. STEPHEN GALEMBUSH, 607 N. Duane Ave. Endicott, New York U.S.A. 13760.

БОРБА, 25. мај 1988.
страница 14.



Пилоти памте курира Мишу

● Америчке новелe Михаилу Мирковићу и Богдану Пецотићу

(Београд, 24. маја, Танјуг)
— Никада није касно да се ода признање за изванредну храброст у пружању помоћи пилотима САД за време другог светског рата, рекао је амбасадор САД у Југославији Џон Д. Скенлан, уручујући данас новелe Америчког удружења за спасавање и евакуисање пилота ратног ваздухопловства САД Михаилу Мирковићу (познатом куриру Миши) и председнику СУВНОР Југославије Богдану Пецотићу.

До свечаности, одржане у резиденцији амбасадора САД у Београду, дошло је захваљујући господину Стивену Галембушу, који је — као члан специјалне америчке војне мисије — провео три ратна месеца у манастиру Морача у Црној Гори. Помажући партизанима у евакуа

цији америчких пилота, након извршених бомбардерских задатака над непријатељским циљевима, господин Галембуш је заувек запамтио њихову пожртвованост, посебно храброст тада тринаестогодишњег курира Мише.

Једна сачувана фотографика курира Мише, објављена у Југославији посредством Амбасаде САД 40 година након рата, била је довољна да се Михаилу Мирковић препозна и прошле године састане са Стивеном Галембушом.

Примајући новелe, Михаилу Мирковић и Богдану Пецотић изразили су захвалност Амбасади САД за ангажовање у одржавању ове везе, као и задовољство због подсећања на пријатељство НОВ Југославије и савезничких војника из САД.



Mihailo Mirkovic (Misa) 13 years old

ARMAND HARDY
De Waterloo 215
Bruxelles 1060 Belgium

June 27, 1988

Dear Ralph:

Please forgive me to be so late in my reply to your splendid reunion in Denver. Your generosity concerning all those "helpers" are something very noticeable. The members of your Committee were all so kind towards us that I can't say more. My friends and I were so happy to see the atmosphere of your reunion that we believe it's something special among your Society. Hope to see you again soon (maybe in Europe...because the \$ is rising sharply again...) and be sure I'll always remember those happy days -

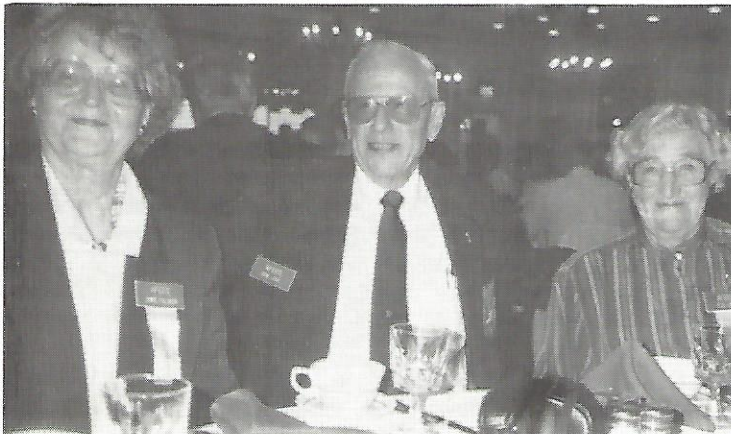
Best Regards, ARMAND HARDY

P. S. I should like to receive some prints of the pictures taken in your reunion. I could send some money for the printing but I don't know to whom I send it.

Ed. Note: Armand's address is above. If everybody would send a couple of pictures, you'd make an old friend happy.

POST EXCHANGE

DECALS	4 1/2" Exterior set of 5	\$5.00
DECALS	3" Interior set of 3	\$5.00
APPLIQUED WINGED BOOT	1" Cloth	\$3.00
AFEES LICENSE PLATE	Fits any danged car!	\$10.00
TIE TACK WINGED BOOT	3/4" Pewter	\$5.00
TIE TACK WINGED BOOT	3/4" Color	\$7.00
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LAPEL PIN	1" Pewter	\$5.00
OFFICIAL BLAZER PATCH	Navy or Royal Blue	\$10.00
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Joke Folmer, Bob Laux and Nel Lind



The "Brass Beat" Our kinda' music



Alice Davey and Sylvia Beall



Claude and Shirley Murray

AFEES MEMBERSHIP AND LIFE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Life Membership, \$100.00 with no annual dues and all privileges.
Regular membership, \$10.00 per year, 10.00 annual dues.

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE () _____

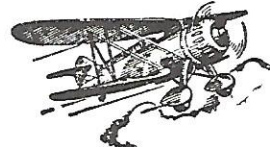
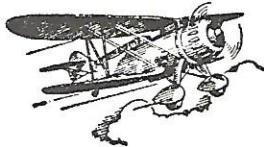
Duty Info: Group, Sqdn, Air Force, Crew Pos., Aircraft Type, Where & when
shot down, Names of helpers and other crew members:

Enclose \$100.00 or \$10.00 check or money order, TAX DEDUCTIBLE contribution
for paid up dues to: Heyward C. Spinks, P.O.Box 844, Beaufort, S. C. 77536

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Information of interest should be sent to the ab obove address. Please enclose photographs (returnable,) and specific data. I carry an eraser to mend my mistakes, occasionally one does slip through so please inform AFEES publishing of any errors so they can be corrected. THANK YOU...AFEES PUBLISHING...HAVE A GOOD SUMMER, ALL DAY LONG...



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