

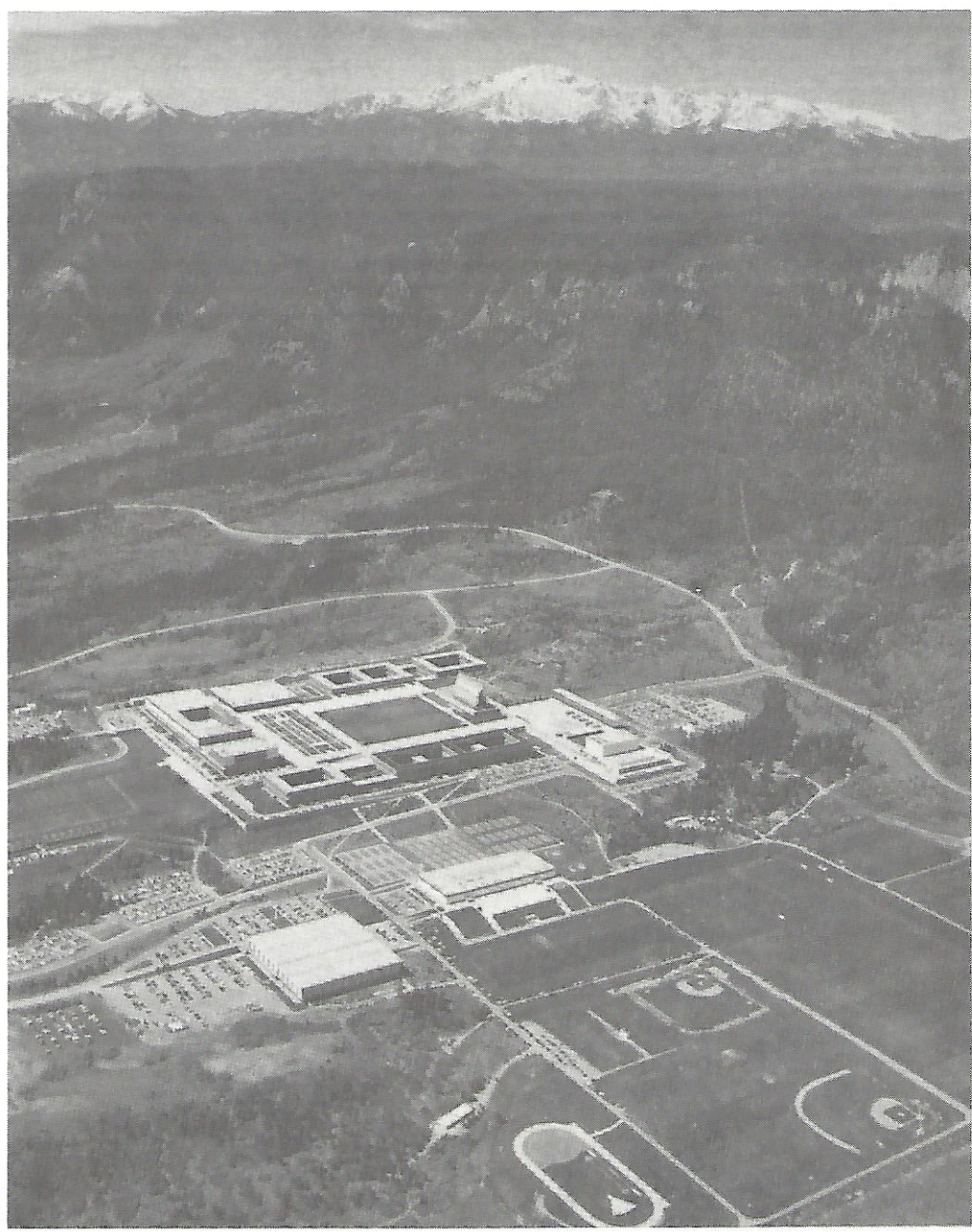
Clayton C. David
19 Oak Ridge Pond
Minneapolis, MN 55401
Phone 314 0441

3

AIR FORCES

ESCAPE AND EVASION SOCIETY

SUMMER 1988 COMMUNICATIONS



A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Three cheers for the Colorado Committee for putting on the finest ever AFEES reunion in Denver on May 18-22. In spite of the weatherman a good time was had by all. On Friday, May 20 more than 200 of us traveled to the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs to dedicate the AFEES Memorial Plaque that had been put in place al-

most one year ago. Seven inches of snow failed to deter us from properly dedicating our bronze plaque on the memorial wall of the Academy cemetery. Thanks to Bill Hanchey, chief of gifts and memorials at the Academy, our ceremony was held in comfort in one of the auditoriums. David O'Boyle and John Oliphant are to be complimented for their efforts on behalf of the AFEES with the Air Force Academy.

Congratulations to Harry Dolph and Jim Goebel, our newly elected members of the Board of Directors. Harry is our eager-beaver newsletter editor and Jim was chairman of our very successful San Antonio reunion.

Pleased as I am with the addition of our two new Board Members, I regret that two of our former Board Members were not reelected. Bill Spinning, Vice President and one of our founding members failed to make the cut. Bill was a very conscientious worker for AFEES. Unfortunately the general membership never understood the contribution made to the AFEES by this quiet gentleman. AFEES would never have gotten off the ground had it not been for Bill's time, talents and money. Thanks Bill. I intend to continue to use your time, talents and money on behalf of AFEES.

Claude Murray also failed to be reelected. Claude has been a member of the Board of Directors since 1969, he has been generous with his time and his money on behalf of AFEES and he had worked diligently to locate American airmen shot down in Holland. Claude's wife Shirley had been a most generous contributor to our annual auctions.

1988-1989 looks like another busy year for AFEES. Your Officers and Directors will be working to give you the kind of organization you want; your comments, criticisms and suggestions will be given serious consideration.

Have a good year...RALPH K. PATTON, President

BOB LAUX EXPLAINS THE AFEES EMBLEM

The following was prepared by Robert V. Laux, an originating member of AFEES who came out of France via MGB503 & Reseau Shelburn in March, 1944:

Members of the AFEES proudly wear the emblem of the Society. It appears however that the origin, meaning and history of the patch is not known to all. The need for a symbol or logo for our group was discussed following the first reunion held in Buffalo New York on May 15-16, 1964. At that reunion the

only identification we had was a plastic enclosed name tag and we felt a permanent emblem or crest was needed...

The following is the origin and reasoning behind our emblem.

The blue background represents the blue sky in which we flew. Blue was also chosen since the then recently formed separate Air Force had selected a blue uniform to differentiate it from the old U.S. Army Air Force uniform.

Since we all wore wings representing our different positions or duties in the airplane, it was decided to use a common or general type of wing. The shield of the United States of America is enclosed in a circle for the center of the wings. Silver metallic thread was used since all our wings were made of a silver compound.

AFEES stands for Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society. Air Forces was judiciously chosen to permit eligible men from all U.S. Air Forces to become members. The founding members had all been members of the 8th Air Force.

The small shells on each side of the emblem represent the sea shells on the shore of Plage Bonepart.

The winged boot in the center of the patch signifies that all members walked back from their last mission Fly out--walk back. We felt that no matter how a member came out of enemy territory-whether he walked across the mountains or came out by boat-the winged boot was appropriate for all.

The Latin phrase at the bottom-PRO LIBERTATE AMBULAVIMUS translates to - FOR LIBERTY WE WALKED.

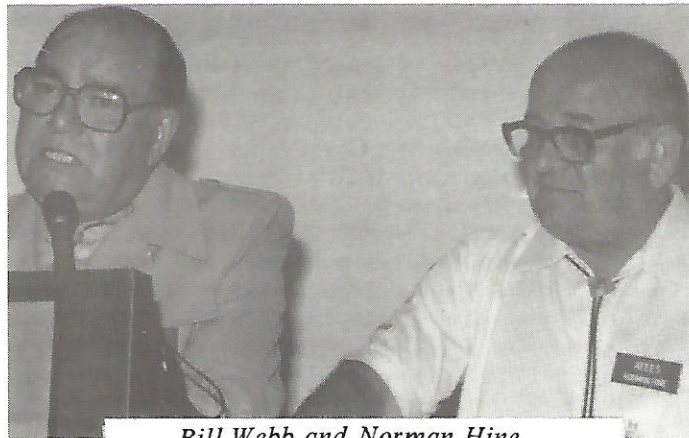
The emblem first was available in about 1966-1967 and was worn on our trip to Europe in 1969. It was suggested that the patch be worn on a Navy blue blazer. A pair of gray slacks was suggested to be worn to complete the "Uniform."

The original design was submitted by Harry Minor an AFEES member who walked over the Pyrenees Mountains into Spain in 1943.

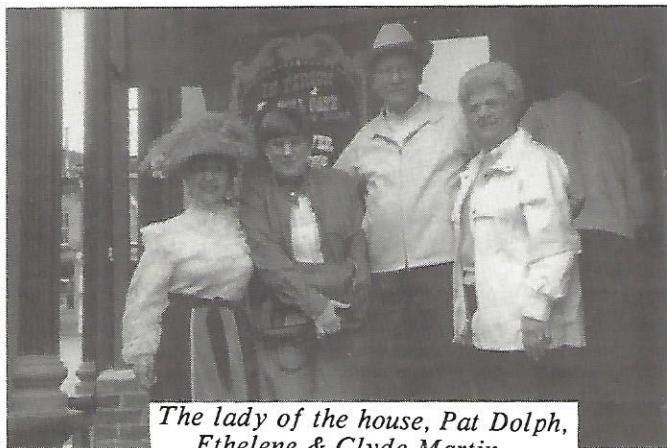




Main Street, Central City, Colorado



*Bill Webb and Norman Hine,
MGB.503 Operation Boneparte Missions*



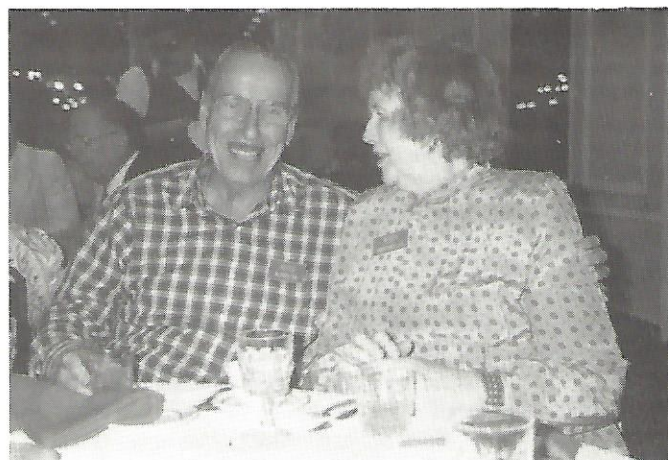
*The lady of the house, Pat Dolph,
Ethelene & Clyde Martin*



Ashley and Marian Ruth Ivey



Scotty & Clayton David



Alfred and Dorothea Lea



Ginny Drollinger bought a doll



Howard Harris, Paulette Pavan, Stan Sokolowski (deceased)

"SEARCH"

Pierre Bauset and Roy Scott of the R.C.A.F. heard the "Search" story of a Dutch Helper in San Antonio, Texas during the A.G.M. and events of the A.F.E.E.S. in May, 1987. Here is Roy Scott's synthesis of her written notes and her taped message.

The lady is: Mrs. Neeltje J. "Case" Hanou
5341 South Jasmine,
Englewood, Colorado 80111, U.S.A.
Telephone, (303) 740-8277
Her maiden name was: van Graafeiland

During WWII she lived on the island of Walcheren, Holland, which was heavily fortified and where the Germans had a V-2 launching station. Some of her Resistance activities focused on the production and distribution of Identity Cards for downed airmen throughout the country and in 1944 she was engaged in escorting downed airmen. She learned where allied aircraft had fallen and went to the locations in attempts to find useful information to help the airmen who had survived. She kept records of these events in a three-ring binder.

Following the liberation of her area in November, 1944 she worked in Middelburg as secretary-interpreter-civil affairs liaison for Town Major and moved on with these civil affairs people as the liberated territory became enlarged, including Breda and she remained with the British Army of the Rhine for two and a half years. While in Breda, she turned the three-ring binder over to the British War-Graves Commission, in particular to a Major Bromley.

Mrs. Joke Folmer, well-known as a Dutch Helper to Canadian Branch members, has been encouraging "Case" to continue in her efforts to find any airmen she had helped; hence this plea to recipients of this mailing.

"Case" thinks there were probably no Americans among those she helped although she says she didn't pay much attention to their accents.

Names, addresses and countries were never mentioned so she relies on media such as this newsletter and others to help find the airmen. As a means of helping airmen identify with her, she recalled several incidents.

"Case" and the airmen she escorted were dressed as members of an athletic club, an activity which the Germans encouraged, and at other times if bicycling in the uniform of the electric company to give the impression that they were technical people.

She recalled taking airmen across a narrow waterway on a ferry from Vlissingen (Flushing) to Breskens, a 20 minute ride connecting with the mainland.

On one occasion, "Case" escorted an airman to that part of the mainland connected by train and a road. They bicycled because the ferry connection was not made in good time. They cycled through Zeeuws-Vlaanderen and through Terneuzen where they connected with Mr. Franz Goedhard, a member of the resistance. From that point the airmen went south.

She is also looking for people who were dropped into occupied Holland, one for the second time. This latter person gave her a small package about the size of a cigarette box containing what she thought was a transmitter and a small silk map of the area as well

as a small instrument which she showed Pierre and me. It was a sterling pen-knife containing other parts which she was taught to use in self-defense.

She also remembers picking up an airman in either Bergen op Zoom or Roosendaal.

On the island of Walcheren, the house in which these airmen were hidden was called "Turf Kaai," with a green door and a shot-out front of the house, the result of a shelling.

She often took airmen to Bergen op Zoom or Roosen-daal by train or by bicycle to a place east of Putte on the Dutch-Belgian border, probably enroute to Brussels.

She remembers an aircraft shot down near Yerseke, probably a Lancaster. She was in the area trying to find the airmen. She was caught and interrogated. Later her group identified the entire crew. It was important that all downed airmen be evacuated from the island because there were only young boys and older men there and a young man of an age who would be considered an airman would stand out indeed.

She also remembers incidents where she helped another island, Zuid-Beveland where transportation of airmen was made via train over a causeway, the only way out.

"Case" is looking for airmen she escorted along any of these routes "with a very good-looking 20-year old Dutch lady," to quote her directly as she spoke in a humorous manner.

Her citation reads as follows:

ROYAL AIR FORCE, ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND AIR FORCE

HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENTS

In the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand gratefully acknowledge the services rendered by

me:juffrouw NEELTJE JOHANNA VAN GRAAFEILAND
in helping to establish the fate of aircrew reported missing in operations.

(Signed by the Secretary of State for Air)



DID YOU KNOW? The first American troop contingent to arrive in France was Base Hospital 4 which sailed from New York City On May 8, 1917. The group arrived at Liverpool England on May 18, 1917 and at Rouen France on May 25, 1917.



LAST GREEN GROCER RETIRES!!!

AT the turn of the century, dozens of green grocers lined the streets of Hanover, PA. Today, in September, 1987, there are none. Mandell's Green Grocery Store, closed shop after 40 years! Why should this make any difference to the AFEES?

Nick Mandell 67, is an AFEES member who was shot down on the 13th of November in 1943. His wife Irene, is a constant and fitting companion who has worked along side him since they were married.

He was a member of the 392nd Bomb Group, 578th Bomb Squadron and bailed out over Genemuiden, Holland. On the 11th of May, he finally made it safely over the Pyrenees into Spain guided by "Nemo" and "Franco". After touring Holland, Belgium and France where he made a multitude of friends in the resistance..

I am convinced he had more helpers in Europe than any other evading airman as attested to by the many helpers he met on our European tour in 1985

I'm sure he will see all of us in Pittsburgh.

Monsieur le President" L'Hopital-Camfrout

I am very happy to thank you for the testimonial which you shower on me. In your correspondence in four folds (XMAS Card,) condensed in three words of eloquent significance and remembrance.

I can never know enough to render to the American Nation the homage which is it's due. Twice in a quarter Century, the American Army, at the price of enormous sacrifices, has come to the aid of France in war against Germany. She has liberated French soil from the invading NAZI and returned liberty to the people they oppressed, delivering Europe of the yoke of a

In the region of extreme west France, a clandestine chain was forged under the German occupation, so as to take away and shield, as much as possible, from the grip of the enemy, the Allied combatants in difficulty, notably the American, British and Canadian aviators falling in war-time missions in French territory.

I take the liberty of bringing to your kind attention the names and addresses of those patriots of my group who forged the links of the chain.

Mr. ALBERT RIVIER, 2 boulevard Bougainville,
29119 CONCARNEAT, France

Mr. BERTRAND PETIT, 8 boulevard Laennec,
56100 LORIENT, France

Mr. ALAIN CREO, Troland en Kernevel,
29140 ROSPORDEN, France

Mr. JEAN GARO, Pont-Rhuen en Kernevel,
29140 ROSPORDEN, France

Mr. ANDRE SPRAUEL, Rue National,
29140 ROSPORDEN, France

The five named patriots, friends of a generous America, cherish very grateful memories which they have of your people.

They have taken an effective part in the enterprising actions (of the Resistance.) They have contributed, among others, to the furnishing of the means permitting the aviator, James N. Quinn, fallen in France, to escape to England.

Mr. Sprauel has, besides, assured the transport of an American, with the Gestapo at his heels, saving him from the grasp of the enemy.

The inscription of their names in your rolls and a acknowledgement of such on your part, to their address, would reinforce in them, have no doubt, the conviction of accomplishment and recognition that they have volunteered to a friendly nation, help in a particularly tragic time in the history of France.

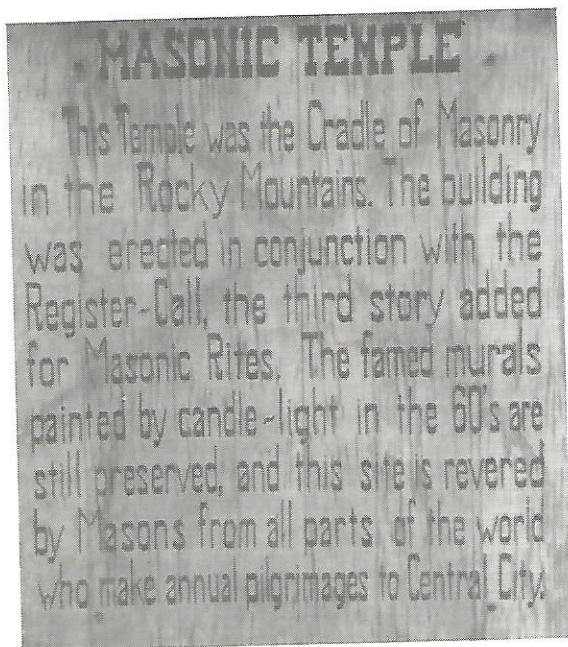
I ask Monsieur le President, that you accept, with my renewed thanks my best wishes for a good and happy year, the expression of my gratitude and the assurance of my sincerely devoted friendship. Signed R. RICCO

STRANGERS IN A STRANGE LAND

The book, "STRANGERS IN A STRANGE LAND," is available at a price of \$10.00.

This book, written by Hans-Heiri Stapfer, details the use of captured and shot down American aircraft by the Germans during World War II. The book chronicles this intriguing subject with well researched text supplemented by fascinating photographs and color illustrations. A limited number of copies are available from President Ralph Patton.

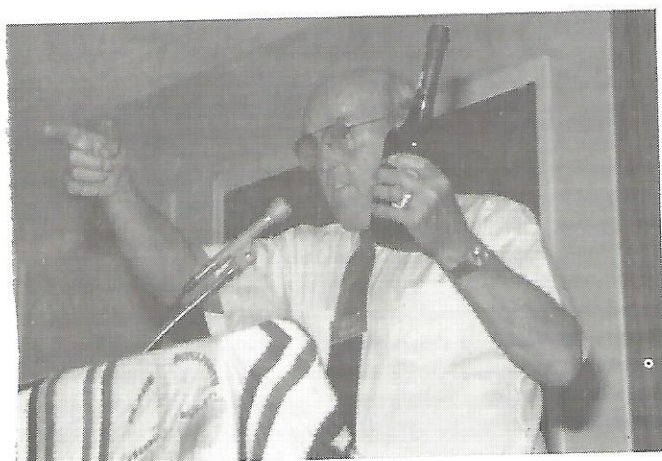
DID YOU KNOW? - The first American General killed in World War II was Major General Herbert Arthur Dargue. He was killed December 12, 1941 in an airplane that crashed enroute to the Pacific area.



Plaque on Masonic Temple, Central City, Col



There was a face on the barroom floor



Dick Smith, sellin' booze



Mary Sweatt, Charlene Rotondo and Bob Sweatt



Jeanette Howard, Anne Pavan, Paulette Pavan and French Exchange student, Cendrine, Georgaud



Davud O'Boyle, Air Force Representative and President Ralph Patton



Lilly Miller and Greg Trough, Auctioneer

FOLDED WINGS

ADAMS, RICHARD D.
ALHEIM, RICHARD F
ARLIN, LEO
ASHMAN, HAROLD
RBIRDWELL, JOSEPH A.
BLYE, KENNETH O.
BLYTHE, LEON
CARPENTER, J. L.
CONTOPODIS, HOMER
COON, CHARLES W.
COSS, JOSEPH D.
COTTER, JAMES F.
DAVITT, RICHARD S.
DIMINNO, ALBERT T.
DOLINSKY, JACOB J.
ERNST, HARRY
FURFARO, ERNEST W.
GEORGE, JOHN W.
HAMMERSLY, CLIFFORD K.
HARTIN, FOREST D.

HATHAWAY, ANDREW A.
HOUSER, RALPH
HUBBARD, THOMAS H.
ISGRIG, BENJAMIN C.
JONES, ARTHUR
KATZ, MILTON
KELLEY HOWARD W.
KINGIG, RICHARD
MANION, CLYDE
MAUPIN, HOWARD P.
MCCRARY, JOSEPH E.
MCLEOD, DONALD D.
MELE, ALPHONSE M.
MIELKE, CARL W.
MILLER, JULIUS D.
MONTGOMERY, ROBERT P.
MULLINS, CHARLIE H.
NICHOLS, DONALD L.
NICHOLSON, HAMP
OLYNIK, MIKE
ZENGERLE, JAMES E.

QUINN, WILLIAM M.
RABINOWITZ, LOU
RASMUSSEN, DARWIN E.
RICHARDS, LAWRENCE
ROBINSON, ALLEN N.
ROSATI, LORIS P.
SANDUSKY, ROBERT D.
SCHRAEDER, IVAN L.
SCOTT, WILLIAM E.
SIMMONS, THEODORE S.
TOVREA, ED
WALL, FRANCIS C.
WARNER, ROBERT E.
WESELOH, ELDO C.
WILCOX, VIRGIL
WILLIAMS, LEO
WILLIS, DONALD K.
WINTERS, AUGUST
YANZEK, WILLIAM J.
ZAETZ, IRWIN "ZIPPER"

Ed. Note: We know there are more deceased members of AFEES than are listed. We'd like to have an accurate record of our departed brothers. Please keep me updated by writing to the Editor, AFEES Communications, 2210 Donegal, Deer Park, Texas 77536. Thanks, Harry...

"Communications" has been contacted by the "Discovery Channel" on Cable TV. Starting on July 5th and running through August 12th, episodes running through FIVE DECADES OF WAR PLANE DEVELOPMENT will be aired. The program incorporates footage from inside the cockpits of airborne fighting machines as well as shots taken on the runways, GREAT PLANES balances the past with the present as both former crew members and modern warfare strategists offer their ideas and experiences. During the B-29 sequences, the crew of the ENOLA GAY will give a commentary regarding the famed airplane and their infamous 1945 atomic bomb mission over Hiroshima. An account of the April 1986 bombing of Libian military sites is given. Pilots and bombardiers also offer their insights.



The schedule is as follows:

GENERAL DYNAMICS F-111

Tues., July 5, 11PM to Midnight - Friday July 8, 7PM-8PM

BOEING B-29 SUPERFORTRESS

Tues., July 12, 11PM to Midnight - Friday July 15, 7PM-8PM

NORTH AMERICAN XB-70 ROCKET PLANE

Tues., July 19, 11PM to Midnight - Friday July 22, 7PM-8PM

GRUMMAN F-14 TOM CAT

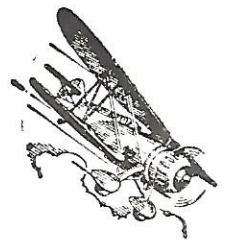
Tues., July 26, 11PM to Midnight - Friday July 29, 7PM-8PM

GENERAL DYNAMICS F-16

Tues., Aug. 2, 11PM to Midnight - Friday Aug. 5, 7PM-8PM

LOCKHEED P-38 LIGHTNING

Tues., Aug. 9, 11PM to Midnight - Friday Aug. 12, 7PM-8PM



DID YOU KNOW? The first pilot to bail out of a disabled airplane was Lieutenant HAROLD R. HARRIS, chief of the flying section of McCook Field, Dayton, Ohio, who jumped from a Loening monoplane on October 20, 1922 while at 2,000 feet over North Dayton, Ohio, before his plane crashed....And, DID YOU KNOW...The first American pilot to shoot down a German fighter plane during WWII (a confirmed victory) was 2nd Lt. SAM F. JUNKIN of Natchez, Miss., who shot down a Focke-Wulf 190 over Dieppe, France, in a Commando-Ranger raid on August 19, 1942. Junkin was wounded and jumped from his disabled plane. He was picked up by a returning Commando barge. On the same date, a similar plane was shot down by FRANK A. HILL of the 31st Fighter Group, but it was listed as "probably destroyed," since observers didn't see the plane hit the ground or explode in the air, or see the pilot bail out...

MESSAGES TO RALPH:

Dear Ralph: Holland, June 4, 1988

A few days ago I arrived back home after the most marvelous holiday I ever had. It was kind of you to invite me to your reunion. I enjoyed every minute of it. I was very impressed with the Ceremony at the Academy. It does bring it home to you how lucky we are. I sincerely hope that you will come over here in 1989. It would be nice to meet again. I have been searching in my archives for the address of the office that keeps the Eisenhower certificate list and will write to Heyward as soon as I have found it. Two of our helpers have been to Australia for the Anzak day celebrations. It must be rather unique that we are still in touch after all these years. Thank you again for everything. I have loved every minute of it.
Kindest regards, Elsa Caspers, Netherlands

Dear Ralph Patton: June 1988

The "Reunion" in Denver was an indescribable experience for me. As I said once before: never in my seven years of American residency - (though I have found some wonderful very dear and close friends,) have I experienced among any large group of Americans this intense feeling of kinship, of belonging. I do want to express my gratitude for the marvelous and warm reception your group gave me. Not less should I like to thank all those who must have worked so very hard and ceaselessly to make this reunion such a success. "Bravo!" And thank you.

"harkelijk deank," et "Merci." I am already looking forward to the next reunion in Pittsburgh or in Europe, wherever it may be. Until then, gratefully yours,
Charlotte Ambach - Arizona

Dear Mr. Patton:

Just a small note on photopictorial card of my town to tell you how much your convention in Denver was a success and how we appreciated the freindship we met again. Thanks and take care, Frans Caubergh, Belgium

Dear Ralph:

Safely arrived in my home-town. I want to thank you for the marvelous time we spent in Denver. I enjoyed every minute of your perfect programme, the charming way I was received by members of the AFEES. The Badge and Citation of Remembrance you presented me when I drink my whiskey-on-ice in the AFEES glass, I will surely remember all you did for the Dutch helpers. After the conference I stayed with Joke Folmer in the house of Bert and Case Hanou and in the sunshine they showed us a lot of beautiful Colorado. Then we enjoyed the fascinating City of New York. I just met Paul Veersman and he asked you if you will be so kind as to let him know on what dates you will arrive with the AFEES in the Netherlands in 1989. RAFES-Great Britan is planning to come to France, Belgium and the Netherlands and if that is possible we think it's better you arrive not on the same dates.
Affectionately, Nel. E. Lind - The Netherlands.



We have been advised by Mme Gabrielle Meunier of Charente, France that each Memorial day more than 20 villages in the south of France hold a joint ceremony at the American Cemetery in Draguignan to honor the Americans lost in the liberation of France. Mme Meunier wants her American friends to know that the

French have not forgotten their brothers in arms. For many years Mme Meunier was the delegate for the town of Grasse to the ceremony. The ceremony took place in the American Cemetery near the town of Frejus on the south coast of France. This is near the southern invasion beaches. The X marks Mme Meunier.

AIR FORCES ESCAPE AND EVASION SOCIETY

Summer 1988 communications

DENVER MEETING HUGE SUCCESS!

Next meeting Pittsburgh, Europe,
or BOTH?

There were 278 AFEES, helpers and guests in attendance for the Denver reunion. The Writer's Manor hotel was most gracious in their care of our group. The accommodations were first rate and the hospitality room left nothing to be desired. After unpacking we went to the Hospitality room and were greeted by a smiling Heyward Spinks, Case and Bert Hanou and Bill and Lilly Miller. Our amiable host David O'Boyle was busy at the bar serving liquid refreshments. Our tickets and credentials were given to us. Comradery prevailed as we mingled with our peers. There was an afternoon thundershower accompanied by hail, probably as bad as any we had ever seen.

Thursday, we boarded the buses promptly at 8:30 a.m. It was cold and wet. By the time we arrived at Central City, we had gone through snow storms and the plows were working on the roads. The Grey Lines bus drivers were most informative, telling us about Colorado and the areas we were visiting. People costumed in Wild West garb greeted us and directed us to the Teller House where we saw the "Face on the Bar-room Floor," some former houses of ill-repute and for our Masonic Brothers, FAAM Lodge No. 17 is still active in Central City. With all hands loaded down with souvenirs, we boarded the buses and had a wonderful lunch at the Mount Vernon Country Club nestled in the foothills above Denver. A short distance away at Lookout Mountain we visited the graves of Buffalo Bill Cody and his wife Louise as well as the museum filled with mementos of the famous man's life. We slept during the ride back to Denver.

Dinner was served in the huge dining room and the auction was held immediately after. It brought in a total of \$4,150.00. The best yet!

Friday morning, promptly at 8:15 a.m. we again boarded the five buses. An hour and

fifteen minutes later unloaded at the Air Force Academy visitor's center after which we were taken to an auditorium for the dedication of the AFEES Plaque. It was held inside because of the inclement weather. The Plaque, already in place on the cemetery wall, was officially accepted by the Air Force Academy. Hearts stood still when the lights were lowered and a solitary Cadet stood in a spotlight and played Taps. It was a very solemn moment. After a fantastic lunch in the Officer's Club, we went to the cemetery and saw the Plaque then to the All-Faith Chapel and the campus itself. Our bus driver kept a running narrative on the Academy. There are 4,400 cadets enrolled, 10% women. 30% wash out and do so usually within 90 days. They train hard for a variety of duties in the USAF. Upon completion they must serve with Uncle Sam for at least seven years, nine if they become pilots. We were on our own Friday night, enjoying dinner with friends and strangers alike.

During this time, the Officers and Directors conducted their Board meeting. Much was accomplished during the session and will be reflected in the future of the AFEES.

Saturday after breakfast we held our annual meeting. A new Board of Directors was voted in and their names announced at the banquet Saturday night. Joy Kayler's "Brass Beat" band was one of the high-lights of the reunion playing songs from the "Big-Band" era. They played till we yelled "Enough!" for we could dance no more. We all thank them wholeheartedly! What sweet music they played!

Sunday morning we said our goodbyes, with tears in our eyes. It will be another year till we meet again. We pray all hands will be either in Pittsburgh, Europe, or both for our next reunion.

Nobody was hurt or injured or even stubbed a toe. A real safe reunion!...Ed.

MEMBERS AND GUESTS FROM THE UNITED STATES

Abbot, Bette & Louis	Adcock, Nona & Charles	Alford, Dorothy & David
Ashman, Violette	Bealle, Sylvia	Ben eda, Elinor & Glen
Blake, Georgiana & Roger	Blakely, Margo & Milo	Bogard, Wayne
Bradley, John	Breitenbach, Annamae & Louis	Buckner, Betty & John
Buckner, Mary & George	Busoom, Jeanette & Lloyd	Campbell, Vera & Bill
Cannon, Pat & Thomas	Chernosky, Etta & John	Clifford, Charlotte & Jack
Coffel, Diane & Ted	Davey, Alice	David, Scotty & Clayton
Davis, Jerry & Jack	DeChambre, Midge & Jerry	Dickens, Paul
Dolph, Patricia & Harry	Dorr, Opal & Eugene	Drollinger, Ginny & Lynn
Drysdale, Martha & Doug	Dulberg, Betty & Herb	Elskes, Minnie & Sidney
Feingold, Leah & Lou	Fier, Ruben	Fink, Phil
Fruth, Wilma & Bob	Georgeaud,	Gleason, Evelyn & Fred
Goan, Vera & John	Gobel, Joan & Jim	Goldfeder, Ada & Milt
Grauerholz, Ruth & Larry	Grimes, Mary & Robert	Haines, June & Ken
Hannan, Olga & Bob w/Joan,	Harris, Jeanette & Howard Hayes	Julia & Bill
w/Sicker, Mary Lou & Turpin	Hogan, Mary & Peter	Horning, Janet & Art
Hugonnet, Barbara & Ernest	Ivey, Ruth & Ashlet	Keeffee, James
Kenney, Dorothy & Paul	Keshishian, Jacques	Kleinman, Dorothea & Ted
Krengle, Dot & Robert	Larkin, Jack	Laux, Bob
Lawhead, Faye & Duane	Lea, Dorothea & Alfred	Lincoln, Mildred & Bill
Loring, Helen & Bud	Lowe, Evelyn & Charles	Mahan, Margaret & Laymon
Manos, Dorothy & Joe	Martin, Ethelené & Clyde	McDanal, Janet & Homer
McDonald, Sybil & Frank	McMichael, Dorothy & Lloyd	Melancon, Blanche & Sam
Miller, Genevieve & Edward	Miller, Lilly & Bill w/Rose,	Murray, Shirley & Claud
Naughton, Dorothy & Don	Walters	Neu, Marie & Edward w/Kenny
Oliphint, Etta & John	Palencia, Max	Patton, Bette & Ralph
Pederson, Irja & Arnold	Peters, Margaret & James	Punches, Margaret & Joel
Ramsey, Hazel & Frank	Rendall, Scotty	Richardson, Virginia & Clyde
Rogoff, Irma & Manny	Schafer, Jean & Dick	Schallehn, Eunice & Lynn
Shaver, Ken-Carpenter, Melba	Sherwood, Renee & Morton	Shoss, Doris & David
Smith, Margaret & Dick	Sokolowski, Joan & Sam	Solomon, Claire & Philip
Speva, Aylene & Ed	Spinks, Heyward Claud	Spinning, Katy & Bill
Stump, Hazel & Everett	Sweatt, Mary & Robert	Thomas, Thomas
Tronson, Geneva & James	Tucker, Bob	Vitkus, Audrey & Ray
Vogle, George	Vukovich, Georgia & Joe	Walker, Lillian & Roy
Warner, Dave	Warren, Margaret & Charles	Weyland, Francine & Russel
Williams, Mary & Clifford	Wilschke, Rosemary & Jim	Wilson, James
Wilson, John	Wood, John	Woodrum, Alberta & Henry
Wright, Norman-Seitz, Shirley	Yandura, Ethel & John	and Gil Millar (in spirit)

OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO OUR HOSTS, THE O'BOYLES, SHIRLEY & DAVID

A.F.E.E.S. HELPERS IN ATTENDANCE

Ambach, Charlotte (Arizona)	Netherlands	Barnsdale, Henriette	France
Baudou-Rosseman, Yvonne & Gi	Belgium	Brink, van Horne, Trees	Netherlands
Beaudet, Henri & Wife	France	Caspers, Elsa	Netherlands
Caubergh, Frank	Belgium	DeKeyser, Willy & Niece	Belgium
Delens, Joseph	Belgium	DeWitt, Janny & Bass	Netherlands
Folmer, Joke	Netherlands	Galembush, Rae & Stephen (OSS)	Yugoslavia (N.Y.)
Griseti, Elsie	Netherlands	Hanou, Case & Bert (Colorado)	Netherlands
Hardy, Armand	Belgium	Hine, Cynthia & Norman	Great Britan
Jamblin, Roger	Belgium	Jasperse, Cornelis	Netherlands
Lind, Nel	Netherlands	Manion, Elly (Minnesota)	Netherlands
Navarra, Philippe	Belgium	Pavan, Anne & Paulette	France
Poels, Bert	Netherlands	Rotondo, Charline & Al	France
van Horne, Anne	Netherlands	Vatel, Simone & Robert	France
Vrij, Latti & Jacques	Netherlands	Webb, Jesse & Bill	Great Britan

GOD BLESS OUR HELPERS, ONE AND ALL

DID YOU KNOW? The first American Bombadier over German-occupied territory during WWII was Bernard L. Bell,

CANADIAN GUESTS ATTENDING DENVER REUNION

Dalphond, Mel H.
Llewellyn, Margo & Bob
Patrick, Mary & Ed
Trottier, Mary & Ernest

Leslie, Lois & Stuart
Moran, Florence & Alex
Thomas, Francis & J.C. (Tommy)
Wilby, Delice & Tom

Lindsay, Lynne & Bob
Morgan, Barbara & Bob
w/ MacLean, Margery

We thank our Canadian friends for attending the reunion. We hope you enjoyed yourselves and our get-together lived up to your expectations. Don't forget next year we'll meet in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. All the RAFES, Canadian Branch are invited to attend.

THE ADVENTURES OF JAN SMIT AN AMERICAN IN MUIDEN, A RESCUE FROM IJSELMEER

Through a citizen of Muiden, a Mr. Regtuyt, we received some American papers. These told of the adventures of Lt. Claude C. Murray, who lived in Muiden under the name of Jan Smit. This pilot, who was known only to a very few people came unexpectedly from the underground on the day of liberation. Our readers, and especially those in Muiden will be interested to know of his experiences here.

THE MONTHS OF ADVENTURE

Lt. Murray told that in the beginning of October, 1944, while on his fourth flight over Europe, one of the engines of his plane caught fire forcing him to jump out of the plane. Then he paddled around in his rubber boat on the river IJselmeer for about fifteen hours until he finally reached Pampus. All his efforts to attract passing ships failed. Then he decided to row toward shore. On his way he met three small boys, Jaap and Jan Dobber and Gosse Bijl in a small fisherman's boat. The boys realized their own dangerous position in helping an Allied pilot and even moreso because of the likelihood of meeting a German Patrol boat, but nevertheless they did their duty.

"The boys knew exactly what to do," says Lt. Murray. They hid him under their fishing nets in their little boat. The boys fastened their boat to shore and went after help. After a half hour they came back with a member of the Dutch Underground, who confirmed Lt. Murray as an Allied flyer. At this time Minister Douma became the interpreter. The Underground gave Lt. Murray civilian clothes and an Identification card which stated he was deaf and dumb and also that his name was Jan Smit.

After staying two months in Narden, he left in the middle of December to go back to Muiden where he got a job as a farmer's helper for G. Regtuyt, who resides at the Korten Muiderweg. Lt. Murray stayed there for four months.

Now that we look back on what happened it seems relatively unimportant, but, nevertheless we did undergo severe hardships. Lt. Murray praised the Regtuyt family and also the Dutch Underground. His praise for the Dutch is seen in the statement; "The Holland people were very much in sympathy with the Allied soldiers as they would give food to the soldiers when they themselves were short.

LIBERATED

In the middle of April, fifteen German Soldiers were quartered at the Regtuyt farm. Therefore, Jan Smit had to look for another place to live until the day of liberation. So now he became the guest of a Mr. Roozendaal with whom he had been in contact previously.

Lt. Murray told also of how he received the first notice of the German capitulation from a French Dispatch carrier. On the day of liberation he donned his uniform and was carried through the streets of Muiden in triumph

Ed. The above is a translation of an article that appeared in a Netherlands Newspaper.

WRITTEN BY AN UNKNOWN AMERICAN AIRMEN HIDING WITH THE DUTCH UNDERGROUND

IN DAYS LONG AGO
BEFORE THE GESTAPO
BEFORE MEN HAD EVER LEFT THE GROUND
THE SPANISH INQUISITION
WAS THE ONE THING TO AVOID
TODAY IT IS THE DUTCH UNDERGROUND

BY A P.O.W.

Our country is at war as you are well aware
I've received my clothing free, also my bill of fare,
I've attended G. I. Schools, greatly increased my knowledge,
And many things I've learned couldn't be learned in college.
Now I leave you with my stripes and flying things,
But what I treasure most are my little silver wings,
I'm sending one pair to the one I love best,
I know she'll wear them faithfully on her tender breast.
So I'll close now dearest, till our wings come tip to tip,
And thanks for the prayer you offer, I'll need them every trip.

LETTER FROM DICK SMITH

Saturday late afternoon in Denver, I received a phone call in my room from Scotty David, telling me that a young man (45 years is still young?) was in the hospitality room and wanted to see me. I finished dressing and went down:

I found the son of my Bombardier (Richard Tarkington is the son) Warren Tarkington. I had not seen his father or mother since Dec. 30th, 1943, when I had tried to find his father after the war, and had the AFEES try - no luck. Found he had died in 1964, and was planning to come to the organizational meeting in Niagra Falls. At this time I don't know how he found out about that meeting, but at any rate he died before it came off.

In the course of the conversation, I found he was born November 12, 1943, so of course none of our crew new that Richard was a reality. Also found out that his mother had named him after me. Some deal eh? I visited with Richard for a bit, had him come to the banquet, and to meet some of our people. Among them were Lou and Leah Fiengold, Lou was our Navigator and had spent two months in France together day after day. Louie then arranged to spend Sunday with Richard and clue him in on his father's journey in the underground. The results of that day I do not know at this writing. End of human interest.

Ed. Note. Dick and Lou, please let us know more about this hero's son. Maybe a pic. Thanks, Ed.

LETTERS

Dear Mr. President Les Mesnuls France 2 Nov 1987

I write to you as the leader of the French Delegation who were present at the reunion of the 100th Bomb Group Association of the U.S. 8th Air Force at Long Beach California from the 5th until the 9th of September 1987.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the honor that has been paid to each of us in solemnly receiving the AFEES decoration that you have so kindly bestowed on each of us; a decoration which represents the great friendship that we have between our two countries and also the numerous memories we have of the terrible times of the 2nd World War.

Please accept, Mr. President, the expression of my very warm sentiments. Toland Fouillet, France.

Dear Ralph: Paris, France 29 Nov. 1987

You cannot imagine the honor and the pride felt in my heart when my brothers of the 100th Bomb Group sent me the AFEES Citation of Remembrance. Ralph, I am an authentic eye-witness of the heroism and gallantry of the wonderful U.S. boys, (the Nazis power was terrific) good soldiers, good training, perfect weapons, airplanes, cars and material !!!

Ralph if the U.S. boys had not arrived, I am absolutely sure that the Nazis would still be in Europe. The German power was particularly good; the FLAK, 20x4, 88's and the 105's, shell was terrible for allied airmen.

I remember the many days when I did not go to school. I watched with my father's binoculars (a gift from an English Officer in 14-18) with a military reticule, the FLAK nest on the roofs of Paris houses.

Forty-five minutes before the official alert for the civilians the Nazis were ready. I watched the soldiers remove the camouflage cloth, bring up the shells and scan the skies waiting for the allied planes. I went to the phone and spoke with my comrades and their mothers, "Hey, the Liberty Birds arrive"--45 minutes later the air raid horns sounds and everyone goes into the basement; I do not go, I remain to observe in case one plane is shot and there are parachutes.

Ralph, these are emotional memories I assure you and when I see your magnificent Citation, I hear engines, guns, machine guns, and I see a parachute, also the burials at which the French women cry and wipe their eyes with their handkerchiefs. I also see the SS, furious at the cemetery door--Yes Ralph, our liberty was bought with the blood of valorous AAF boys; never, never will I forget.

Ralph, God bless and send joy, love, prosperity, and much money to all these heroes who escaped from the Hell. God bless and protect all of those heroes killed in combat, injured, M.I.A. in flames with arms, legs and bodies cut by shell parts. Forever and to the end of the world, respect, remember, gratitude and admiration for these heroes alive or dead.

And now, many thanks Ralph for the honor you have sent to this little man who is not a hero.

God bless your family, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 1988. Your French Friend, Leon Croulebois

THE SEARCH IS ON, CAN YOU HELP?

During the German occupation in France, in WWII, specifically on July 12, 1944, my father, ROLAND BOITEUX, risked his life in helping five American pilots, whose plane was shot down to escape from the occupying army. They were hiding in the hardware shop of Mr. CHARLES VUILLAUME, in the small town of JARNY (Department of Meurthe et Moselle) not far from VERDUN in the Northeast of France. He transported them hidden in a van, among empty baskets or crates and a ladder to a little partisan camp, a distance of about thirty kilometers.

The country road was blocked by German soldiers. He turned back and stopped by a cherry-tree. With the baskets and ladder he began to pick the fruit. The pilots stayed in the van. Meanwhile two Germans on a motorcycle drove from the road-block and told my father the cherries were not ripe. My father said it would ripen in the baskets and the Germans drove on. After a short time, the road-block was lifted and my father delivered the pilots to the partisan camp.

According to my father, the Americans were dressed in civilian clothes but they still had their Army shoes on. Afterwards they would have left the partisan camp for another unknown destination. It is not known either when and where their plane had been shot down.

If by chance, there is a survivor of these five aviators who recognizes himself in the above description, please write to: Mr. Robert Boiteux, 5, rue de Malines, 54500 Vandoeuvre, France

DID YOU KNOW? The first Japanese airplane destroyed in WWII was a twin-engine bomber downed December 9, 1941 by a Grumman F4 of the Marines?



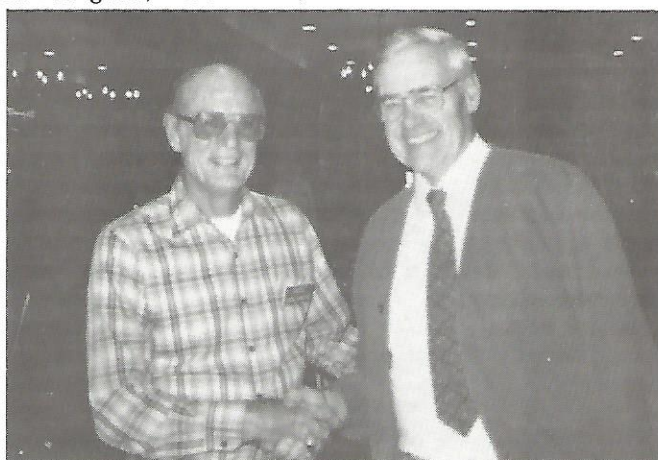
24 Max Palencia, Jacques Vrij



Lou Feingold, Dick Smith, Warren C. Tarkington (deceased)



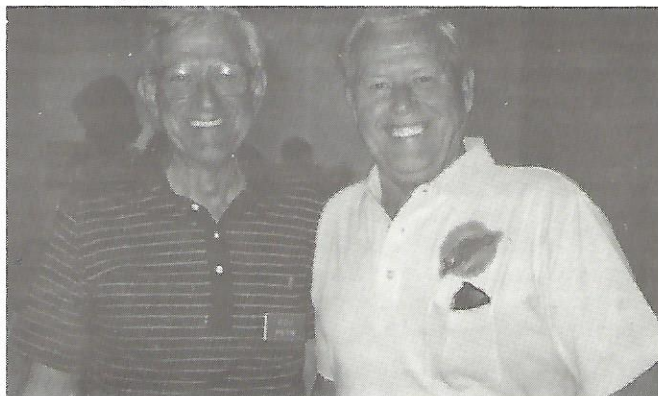
Ashley Ivey, Bas DeWitt



Duane Lawhead, Harold Thompson



Laymon Mahan, Monsieur Henri Beaudet



Fred Westlake, Phil Fink



Floyd Stegall, David Alford, Louis Breitenbach



Art Horning, Charlotte Ambach



The whole g



*Letti Vrij, Charles Lowe, Ellie Manion,
Jacque Vrij, and Evelyn Lowe*



Jacques & Lettie Vrij



ing eating lunch



*Nell Lind, Cornelis Jasperse, Bass & Janny DeWitt
Jacques Vrij, Clayton & Scotty David, Joke Folmer*



Bob Laux, Genevive Miller, Al & Charline Rotondo