



# The Crow Flight

Fifth newsletter of the 47<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron, 41<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group (M) issued February 1, 1998

## REUNION INFORMATION

### 5 THINGS TO CONSIDER IF YOU'RE GOING TO COME--

1) **REGISTRATION**— Complete the form on page 9 of this newsletter and mail \$50.00 per person to your respective squadron as shown on the form. Please make out the check to the person—not to the squadron (this makes all kinds of trouble with the bank). This covers the banquet dinner, one breakfast buffet, the place mats as favors, hospitality amenities such as booze, beer, snacks, etc.

2) **HOTEL**— Call 1-800-HOLIDAY to make you reservations at the Holiday Inn Northwest at 3233 Northwest Loop 410, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78213. Remember two things here A) make sure you call out the address of the hotel, for there are two with the same name, and B) make sure you tell them which squadron you are with. Rate is \$69.00 per day plus tax. San Antonio's famous Fiesta starts about the time our reunion ends... you may want to stay over for a day or two.

3) **TOURS**— Complete the form on Page 7 of this newsletter and deal directly with Churck Meade. We highly recommend the Friday morning tour which includes the dress parade at Lackland. We are honored guests, with preferred seating, and a very moving short history of the four squadrons is given over the PA system.

4) **GOLF**— Let Gutts (that's Urban A. Gutting) know so he can keep his tee time reservations current. You can indicate on the registration form or call him at (210) 647-1651.

5) **PLACE MATS**— It would help us plan on how many to order (one per person will be given as favors), if you, assuming you like them, would give us an idea of how many more you would order at \$3.50 each. You can get a little bit of an idea of what they'll be like from pages 8 and 10 of this newsletter, but you must remember that they will be in color and twice as big.. And hopefully with many improvements from what you see here.

## Notes from George....

### Welcome 48<sup>th</sup> Bomb Sq. Readers!!

Hey! We're on the WEB ... check it out!  
<http://www.linkline.com/personal/ksitterley>

We have had a lot of complaints in the past about our reunions being "boring!" The planners have gone all out to make it more interesting... for instance 1) all four squadrons will be present, and many of us have very good friends in the other squadrons; 2) we have increased the tours from one to four; 3) we have a golf game which has proven quite popular; 4) we're planning an internet corner. Maybe you want to look for a long, lost relative or friend. Or look up a medical term. 5) We're also planning a music corner where we can play 40's and 50's big band selections. As always we do invite everyone to bring along old snapshots, scrapbooks, memorabilia of any kid to share. We welcome any other ideas!

**I will look forward to seeing you all in  
San Antonio, April 16-19, 1998!**

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**THE SEARCH GOES ON**— Everyone pitches in. George is working the internet, Gutts is working through Randolph Field research group, Bill Zingery (396<sup>th</sup>) is working with software and forwards stuff he finds on the 47<sup>th</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup>, Jean and Bill Childs send us stuff their search engines find on our two squadrons, etc. We're getting help from all over the place and we need it, and we are grateful. Most of these folks we have addresses on and will be on the mailing list to receive this newsletter. Their names will be added to our roster, which, hopefully will be distributed to those at the reunion; if not, it will be included in the first newsletter after the reunion.

A HEARTY WELCOME to our new finds who are:-----

John Hudelson  
James S. Richmond and wife, Patti  
Marvin B. Watts and wife Jane F.  
Charles W. Pevato and wife, Ruby  
Paul Hopson  
Wilmer Deitrick and wife, Betty  
Austin E. Wampler  
Lloyd W. Tourville  
Earl C. Willis  
Gerald D. Quarles and wife, Betty  
Joe F. Roop  
Raymone W. Tripkos and wife, Lois  
Guy Haltenhof and wife, Viola  
Victor H. Reff and wife Mariam  
George R. Kinney and wife, Josephine  
Lester Daniel Adams and wife, Ann  
John W. Anderson and wife, E. Jean  
Vincent J. Barger and wife, Mildred  
Wayne G. Chamberlain and wife, Greta  
Kenneth Farner and wife, Clara  
John Hyde  
Edward J. Kirkwood  
Robert Taxler  
John M. Welfare and wife, Lois  
Reginald A. Gauthier  
Robert W. Gollnitz and wife, Opie

Charles Damisch and wife, Elsie  
Albert Eger, Jr., and wife Anna M.  
Clarence M. Huff and wife, Marcella M.  
Norris E. Warden  
John Mahan and wife, Jeri  
Rodney I. Rosebrook and wife, Edith  
James C. "Dutch" McLendon  
Paul E. McLaughlin  
Ralph E. Trout  
Paul E. McLaughlin  
Francis J. Lisak and wife Evelyn

As always when you do research such as this you must be prepared to be sad. Our old comrades in arms who we have gone on before are:

Alvin P. Nye  
Howard D. Cummings  
Henry E. Kislia  
John Grandstaff  
James Farrell  
Edward Frank  
James R. Hayley  
John C. Olsa  
Daniel G. Moore  
Michael C. Datko  
Jack C. Sullivan  
David J. Haney  
Clayton E. Klassy  
James H. Hayley (widow Marjorie)  
Henry E. Kislin  
Vick Orrin  
Donald G. Behnke (widow Katherine R.)  
Roma J. Bronson  
Orrin Vick (widow Zona)  
Dale Cummings (widow Carmen)  
James R. Farrell  
Edward Frank (widow Mrs. Frank)  
John Grandstaff (widow Mrs. Grandstaff)  
Verne L. Stacy  
Harvey W. Eddy



### Our new web site address is:

<http://www.linkline.com/personal/ksitterley>

I tried to get the address in the name of the group, but that would have been a cost of maybe \$20 per month. I could put it in under my personal name because one of the benefits of the internet provider is that you get 5MB of Web Site space included in your membership. I made several calls to different providers, and this was the best deal I could get. Inasmuch as I had planned on having a family site anyway, it's okay with me... and the 5 MB is more space than I can see using for some time. I wonder if they even keep track of it?

You can see in the upper left hand margin the name, "47th Roster," which is underlined in blue. That means that it is a hot link, which means that if you click on it, you will immediately be taken to the roster of the 47th Bomb Squadron. I would like to have hot links (sometimes called hyper links) for a roster of each of the four squadrons, plus one for the latest newsletter of each, plus maybe some for my family. Our roster listed right now is the old October '96 one that we had for the reunion then. I'll replace it as soon as I get it done--target date reunion time!

Disregard the page numbers. On the internet it is all one page, and you just scroll down and no page numbers are shown.

We are also listed with several search engines. We started out with about a dozen which we listed with including three of the largest--Excite, Alta Vista and Yahoo. All of the search engines monitor all the other search engines on a regular basis, so hopefully, we are listed with a hundred or so by now. We are listed under 41st Bomb Group, 47th Bomb, 48th Bomb, 396th Bomb, 820th Bomb, bomb squadron, and bomb group. So that will give anyone looking for us a good shot of getting our page and then getting a phone number to get connected!

**Place mats**-- I have used the back of the two forms like pages 8 and 10 of this newsletter to give you a rough idea of what we're trying to do. You have to imagine a bit... the place mats will be more than twice as big at 17"x11". There will also be a lot of color. A few more good ideas have come in, too, especially one from **Fred Emmert**, 48<sup>th</sup> pilot... a note written on a University of Connecticut letterhead, and I quote, "At one time I dabbled a bit with the paint pots, with the B-25 often a subject--Thought you might find the color prints of interest and showing them may provoke a memory or two..." Well... lemme tell yuh, Fred send several photos of his painting, and they're all great. One very special one catches everyone's eye, and that is one of 3 B-25's flying toward the atom bomb. You can see Fred's depiction of the white flash and the mushroom cloud in the background. It is a very dramatic picture, and it is the favorite of everyone that sees the collage... Of course it didn't get here before I had all the printing done that you see here, but you can bet that it will be the biggest picture in the collage. Another thing in its favor is that it enlarges well, and my other pictures do not. Ennyway, I'm sure you'll like the place mat a lot. **Gus Anderson**, 820<sup>th</sup>, who had the original idea of the place mat also came up with the idea of maybe a larger picture of the collage, suitable for framing and hanging.

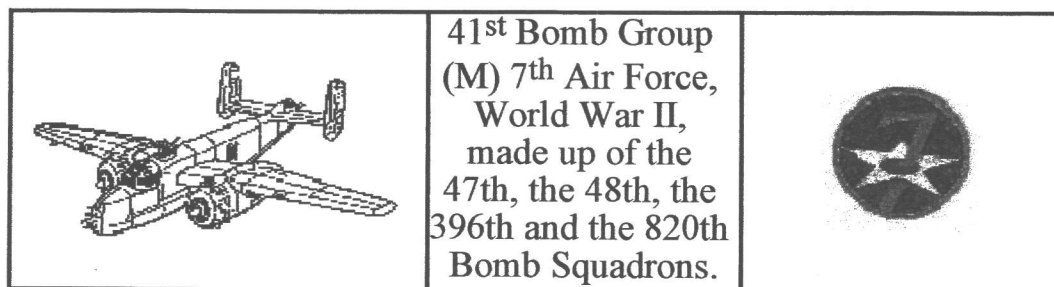
**Sad note, and I quote**, "Dear Sir: Unfortunately my Uncle and Aunt Tom M. and Elizabeth J. Bradshaw are in a nursing home and unable to respond. Please delete them from your mailing list. Thanks, Major W. Bradshaw"

**Ralph E. Trout, LT/COL USAFRR** saw our ad in the AIR FORCE TIMES and wrote a nice letter telling us that he was with the squadron very early in 1942 at Muroc Dry Lake as a mechanic. He then went through the Western Flying Training Command, took B-25 transition training, and then took Replacement Training for the A-20 Havoc flying 75 missions up through New Guinea & the Phillippines. Glad to hear from you Ralph!

# 41st Bomb Group

47th Roster

Flying B-25's to their own special place in history!



## **REUNION!!!! APRIL 16-19, 1998 SAN ANTONIO**

Home Page of Kem Sitterley

The purpose of this Web site is to be a forum for the expansion of the history of the Sitterley name.

It is also to be a source of information for all those that I served with in the 7th Air Force, World War II, 41st Bomb Group with its four combat squadrons, the 47th, 48th, 396th and the 820th.

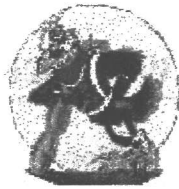
The opening date of this site is December 26, 1997. We will work to improve it and keep it updated.

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Kemble Urban Sitterley  
20449 Blue Mountain Drive  
WALNUT, CA 91789-1001  
(626) 965-2129 or (909) 595-4451

E-mail to: [KSitterley@linkline.com](mailto:KSitterley@linkline.com)

I can receive a fax on the 909 number, but call first so I can press a button.



47<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron  
 "The Crow Flight"  
 "The Glide Torpedo Squadron"  
 Contact:  
 Kemble "Kem" U. Sitterley  
 20449 Blue Mountain Drive  
 WALNUT, CA 91789-1001  
 (626) 965-2129 or (909) 595-4451



48<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron:  
 "Lefty's Wolf Pack."  
 Contact:  
 John Helmer  
 2122 S.W. Vista Avenue  
 PORTLAND, OR 97201  
 Home phone (503) 222-4614  
 Business phone (503) 223-4976



396<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron  
 Contact: Bill Zingery  
 P.O. Box 5930  
 COLLEGE STATION, TX 77844  
 (409) 694-9584



820<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron:  
 "The Alley Oop Squadron"  
 Contact: Bill Childs  
 3637 Patsy Ann Dr.  
 RICHMOND, VA 23234-2951  
 (804) 275-6012

Last updated January 7, 1998





**Alley Oop News**  
published by Jean and Bill  
Childs for the 820<sup>th</sup>

we quote excerpts, “ On our sick list: Lou (Sammy) Miller, Everett and Geraldine Drummond, Elmer and Polly Littrell, June Lovell, Paul and Lois Means.

We have learned of the following deaths:

Stephen J. Navis, July 25, 1997  
James A. Laughlin, November 1, 1997  
Edward D. Fern, December 3, 1997

To our sick we wish a speedy recovery and extend heartfelt sympathy to the families and friends of the deceased.”

Recently found:

Robert D. and Florence Ringer  
10656 A Ladypalm Lane  
BOCA RATON, FL 33498-1676  
(561) 483-8720



48<sup>th</sup> Bomb Sq.  
Lefty's Wolf Pack

**John Helmer— 48<sup>th</sup> ...**

Advises that he has received \$280 so far for the 48<sup>th</sup> treasury. That includes one \$100 and two \$50

contributions from a total of about ten people. That's great! He has not, however, had good luck in getting someone to do some of the work— he needs help bad... (Editor's note— remember that John still works sixty hour weeks and that doesn't leave him with much time for squadron duty) He will, now, of course receive the reunion registrations and money. He is in the process of opening a bank account.

**Bob Morse**— a new find for the 48<sup>th</sup> writes to ask to be put on the mailing list for the newsletter.

**Paul Hopson**— 48<sup>th</sup> was kind enough to mail a “Brief History of the 41<sup>st</sup> Bombardment Group. 1940-1946,” prepared by USAF Historical Division, Research Studies Institute, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, June 1957. Thank you, Paul.



**Bill Zingery 396<sup>th</sup>** — just keeps rolling along with that newsletter of his, churning one out about every month! I struggle to get one out every three or four months. Bill wrote a very moving tribute in his last letter and we would like to echo his sentiments:

**TO OUR WOUNDED**

From my contacts with many of those on our newsletter distribution list, I have learned that many of our old friends are in great medical distress. Many have internal cancers, Parkinson's disease, Lou Gehrig disease, serious heart problems, deteriorating eye problems and other very serious medical problems. Many are immobile or recovering from surgery.

To these great men and women we want you to know that our thoughts and prayers are with you

May God Bless

Bill Zingery and all the 396<sup>th</sup> family

# Hospitality Tours

Hospitality is Our Business

Texas (210) 695-2702, 24 hours

FAX (210) 695-9741

Life Member: Disabled American Veterans

Major (Ret.) Charles Meade

17204 Laurel Crossing

Helotes, Texas 78023

Member: The Chamber

Specializing - Military Reunions

LBJ Ranch / Adm. Nimitz Museum

Alamo / Historical San Antonio

San Antonio Arts / Flowers

## 41st Bomb Gp (M), Tour Reservations

The following is an outline of 41st Bomb Gp reunion tours for Fri. and Sat. the 17th and 18th of April 1998. Friday we will attend the parade at Lackland AFB. visit the museums on base, have lunch at the club and stop at Alamo/Riverwalk Mall. On Sat. we will visit the Adm. Nimitz Museum in Fredericksberg, Texas which is dedicated to all who served in the Pacific Theater of Operations. On each day we will host an optional History Tour of San Antonio for those who may have been to Lackland AFB or the Nimitz Museum. Please fill in the registration form at the bottom of the page and mail it direct to Hospitality Tours, 17204 Laurel Crossing, Helotes Texas, 78023. Please make your check payable to Hospitality Tours. We will send you tickets as a receipt, should you forget your tickets at home we will have a master list at the hotel.

17 April 1998, Tour One, Lackland AFB with lunch and Museums plus shopping. 08:00 Depart hotel by coach, 09:00 Parade begins honoring the 41st Bomb Gp. 10:00 visit WWII aircraft display (picture time). Next we will visit the Bas Museum and stop for lunch at the Officers Club at ETA 12:00, Following lunch we will go downtown to the Alamo and free time at River Center Mall till 15:30 with arrival back at the hotel at 16:00 or 4PM. All included for \$35per

18 April 1998, Tour Two, Adm. Nimitz Museum and shopping in Fredericksberg 09:00 Depart hotel for Fredericksberg Texas. Arrive at the walk of the Pacific War, 9 acers of WWII equipment, very impressive. Next we travel to the main museum to see the 25 min. movie The War in the Pacific. At 11:30 you have free time to visit the three story museum, the Plaza of the Presidents, Memorial Wall, and the Peace Garden. Lunch is dutch treat with free time to shop or return to the museum. We depart at 2:30 with arrival at the hotel ETA 3:45 PM. Cost is \$25 per person.

Tours Three and Four are the same tour being conducted on both Fri. and Sat. 09:00 Depart for Mission San Jose, it has a new visitors center/museum with an excellant movie about the missions. Next we will tour Ft. Sam Houston historical sites followed with lunch at the Hometown Buffet. After lunch we will tour the San Antonio Botanical Gardens and shop at the Mexican Market with return to the hotel by 4:30PM. Cost is \$35 per person all included.

-----  
41st Bomb Gp., Squadron #\_\_\_\_\_. Your Name\_\_\_\_\_.

Your Address\_\_\_\_\_, Your Phone#\_\_\_\_\_

Tour One 17 April, Lackland AFB, \$35 per x \_\_\_\_\_ = Total of \_\_\_\_\_.

Tour Two 18 April, Nimitz Museum, \$25 per x \_\_\_\_\_ = Total of \_\_\_\_\_.

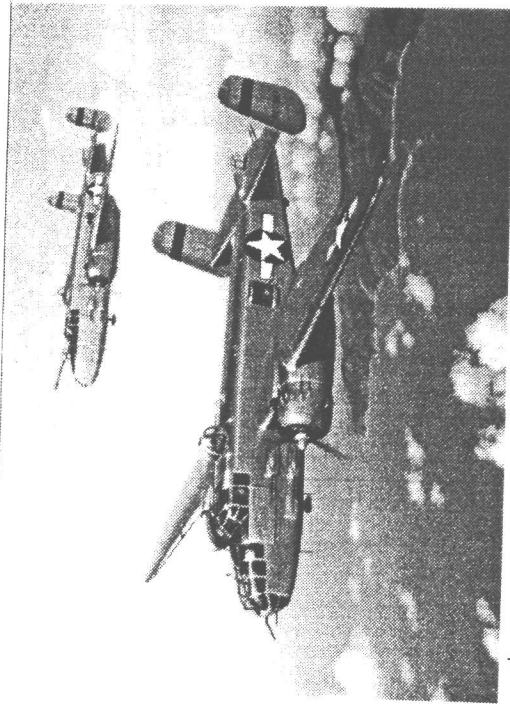
Tour Three 17 Apr, History Tour, \$35 per x \_\_\_\_\_ = Total of \_\_\_\_\_.

Tour Four 18 Apr. History Tour, \$35 per X \_\_\_\_\_ = Total of \_\_\_\_\_.

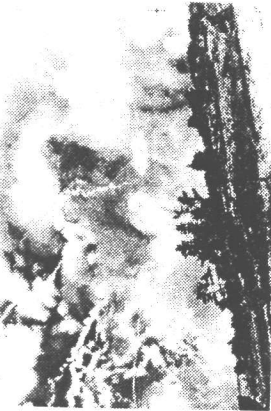
Grand total for all tours is \_\_\_\_\_.

Please register prior to 16 March 1998. Refund can be given up to 24 hours before the tour. Our goal is to have a great reunion, have fun and stay safe. Hope to see you'al in San Antonio. Remember the Alamo, Remember the 41st.

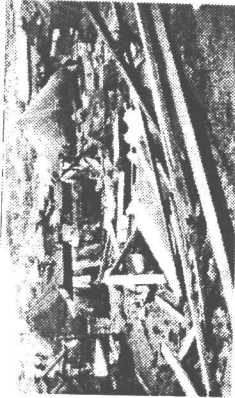
Chuck Meade, Owner Hospitality Tours



48<sup>th</sup> B-25J's over southeast tip of Kyushu

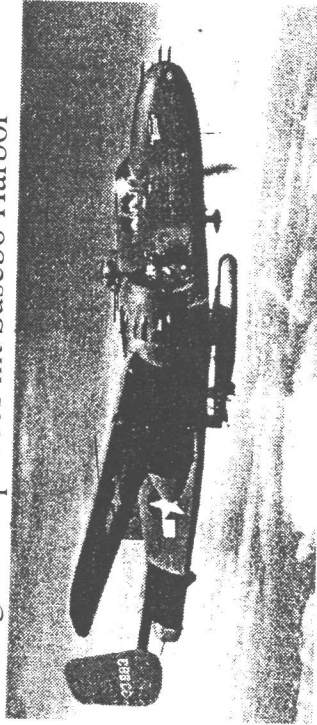


July 4, 45, ammo dump blew!!!!

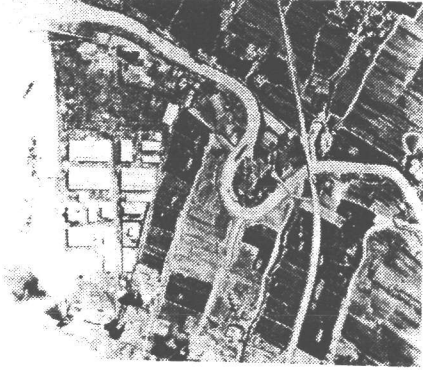


Typhoon!!

17th's glide torpedoes hit Sasebo Harbor



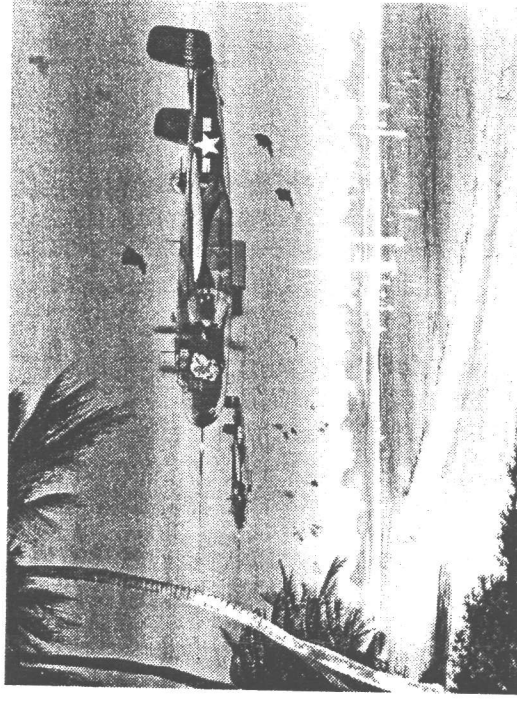
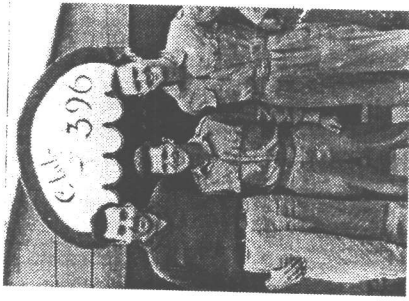
PLANES OVER OKINAWA, 22 JULY 1945



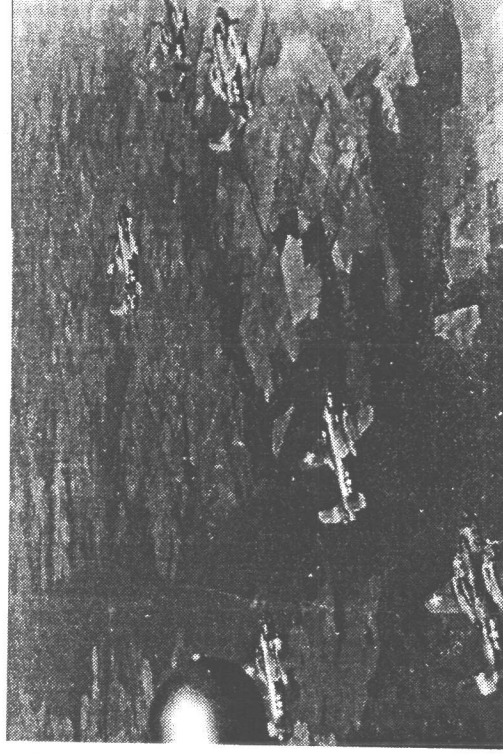
## Ruf draft..

... need more and better selection of pics and captions... remember the final place-mat will be twice this big... most pics do not enlarge well... want to credit folks that sent in pics... will have more room with larger size...do not plan any personal pics in final draft... Would like everything in color, but black and white does have its charm... very little color film in 1945... Colorizing costs about \$150 per pic... **HELP!!!!** hope to improve captioning by getting into each photo...so far, haven't figured it out!

Too much Kickapoo Joy Juice? ... L to R, Ramaker (48<sup>th</sup>), Sternberg (396<sup>th</sup>) Sitterley (47<sup>th</sup>)

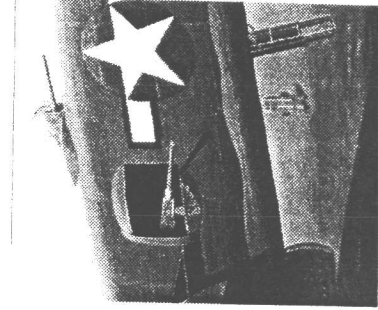
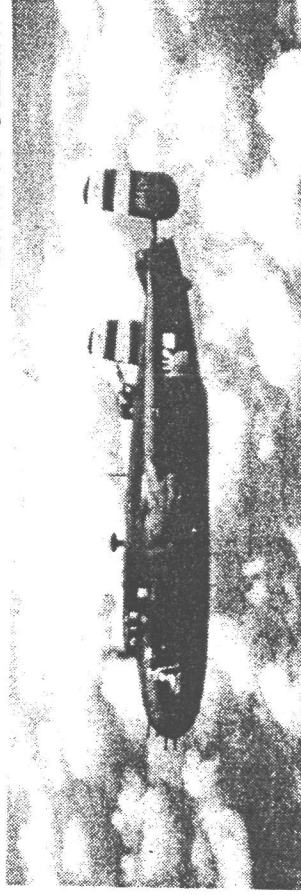


820<sup>th</sup> Mitchells over Maloelap



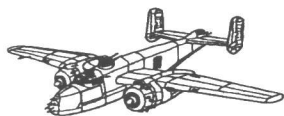
41<sup>st</sup> mission over Japan

396<sup>th</sup> from Tarawa to Okinawa



Waist gun, from painting by Fred Emswort / 40<sup>th</sup>





## Registration for 41<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group Reunion San Antonio, Texas, April 16-19, 1998



Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State and zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

How many in your party? \_\_\_\_\_

How many will play golf? \_\_\_\_\_

Mode of transportation \_\_\_\_\_

Each registrant will receive one place mat as a favor...  
assuming you like the place mat, how many more might you  
order at \$3.50 each? \_\_\_\_\_

This will help us try to figure out how many to produce....

There is an excellent selection of tours available. They are  
described on a separate form attached. Please make your  
tour plans direct with Chuck Meade, owner of Hospitality  
Tours. Please fill out this form (page 7) and remit the tour  
money direct to Chuck.

DEADLINE: MARCH 15, 1998. Beyond this date we can no  
longer guarantee rooms, tours, name tags, etc. The earlier  
you can make your plans the easier it is for the planners.

GOLFERS: You'll probably want to arrive on the 15<sup>th</sup>  
because you need to meet Gutts at 8AM on Thursday, the 16<sup>th</sup>

Please see Newsletter #4 for the schedule and the  
arrangement with the hotel.

HOTEL: Call 1-800-HOLIDAY and remember two things,  
1) make sure that you tell them what squadron you are with  
and 2) make sure you have the right HOLIDAY INN, which  
is at 3233 Northwest Loop 410, San Antonio, 78213. It may  
help to use the following codes:

Hotel code .....	SATNL
47 <sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron .....	B47
48 <sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron .....	B48

(This is an assumption, for it had not  
specifically been assigned at press time)

396 <sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron .....	B39
820 <sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron .....	EBS

Please send \$50.00 per registrant to your  
respective squadrons as follows:



47<sup>th</sup> make checks  
payable to and mail to:

Urban A. Gutting  
7047 Autumn Chase Drive  
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78238  
(210) 647-1651  
E-MAIL: [URBANG@JUNO.COM](mailto:URBANG@JUNO.COM)



48<sup>th</sup> make checks payable  
to and mail to:

John Helmer  
2122 S.W. Vista Avenue  
PORTLAND, OR 97201  
Home phone (503) 222-4614  
Business phone (503) 223-4976



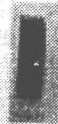
396<sup>th</sup> make checks  
payable to and mail to:

Bill Zingery  
P.O. Box 5930  
COLLEGE STATION, TX 77844  
(409) 694-9584  
E-MAIL: [b25mitch@myriad.net](mailto:b25mitch@myriad.net)



# 41<sup>st</sup> Bombardment Group (M), 7<sup>th</sup> Air Force, WWII

Flying B-25 Billy Mitchells to their "very special place in history"



Presidential Unit Citation



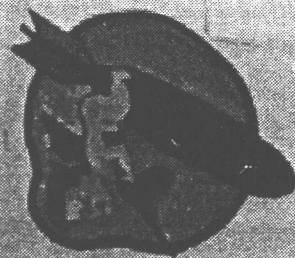
Including the 47<sup>th</sup>, the 48<sup>th</sup>, the 396<sup>th</sup>, and the 820<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadrons



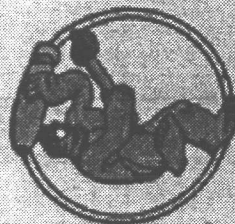
47<sup>th</sup> Bomb Sq.  
"The Crow Flight"  
Glide Torpedo Sq.



48<sup>th</sup> Bomb Sq.  
"Lonesome Wolves"



396<sup>th</sup> Bomb Sq.



820<sup>th</sup> Bomb Sq.  
"The Alley Oop"

