



The Ragged Irregular

91st Bombardment Group (H) Newsletter

Vol. 12 No. 3

October, 1979

Big Plans For California Reunion

The 1980 National Reunion at San Diego, set for September 2 through 6, promises to be a particularly memorable combination of outstanding vacation attractions and 91st fellowship. SMS John R. Paget (Ret) and his Reunion Committee are hard at work putting together a tempting package for Memorial Association members.

Headquarters for the event will be the Town and Country Hotel & Convention Center, with more than 1,000 rooms, multiple swimming pools, several fine cafes, five bars, and a 24-hour coffee shop.

The San Diego region is one of the most historic and exciting vacation areas in California. San Diego was the site of the first white settlement on the West Coast, and the Old Town is filled with historic landmarks. Sea World, the San Diego Wild Animal Park and Disneyland are world famous attractions nearby, and Tijuana, Mexico is within very easy reach. Numerous tours are available inexpensively to all the points of interest. It is hoped that a special tour of the San Diego Harbor can be set up for the group.

It's going to be a great affair, so begin making your plans to be there right now! Especially, contact all your old buddies and encourage them to meet you there. That is what really makes a Reunion great!



Here is a partial view of the Town and Country Hotel, Reunion headquarters for 1980

'Shoo Shoo Baby' Rally Round Shines

Under the dedicated direction of Eastern Division Chairman W.W. Hill, the Shoo Shoo Baby Rally Round at Dover, Del., July 13-14-15 was a huge success. The event attracted 112 members and guests, plus a large number of Air Force Reserve people and Dover base personnel.

Receiving the engraved mug for coming the greatest distance to attend was Tony Starcer of Hacienda Heights, Calif. Tony did the original nose art for Shoo Shoo Baby and for many other 91st planes.

Among the guests present were President Emeritus M/Gen Stanley T. Wray and Mrs. Wray, and Paul McDuffee, original pilot of Shoo Shoo Baby.

The group not only inspected the restoration work on the old 91st plane but toured the base and were shown through the giant C-5 transport.

Two projects to help the restoration were undertaken at the Rally Round. An engraved plate will be placed on the inside fuselage wall just opposite the waist door entrance to identify the plane with the 91st. To help raise funds for the aircraft it was proposed that T-shirts commemorating Shoo Shoo Baby be sent to anyone who contributed \$10 toward the restoration.

A new Life Member was added to Memorial Association rolls when Anne Kamykowski surprised her husband Col. Frank Kamykowski by presenting a \$100 check for his Gold Card membership.

Attending were: Gen. & Mrs Stanley T. Wray, Mr. & Mrs. John C. Flinn, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. W.W. Hill, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. R.R. Ruth, John B. Ventura, Jim Wood, Mr. & Mrs. William A. McGavern, Mr. & Mrs. Elmer Gettis & Jim, Hank Lilley, Mr. & Mrs. Edward C. Greene, Mr. & Mrs. Matt Kryjak, Mr. & Mrs. John Kurylo.

Mr. & Mrs. Sam Cipolla, Mr. & Mrs. Ike Barretta, Troy Young, Len Gibbs, John Capron, Ted Wyzkoski, George H. Odenwaller & George, Jr., Col. & Mrs. Frank S. Kamykowski, Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Petersen, Harry E. Hovermill, Mr. & Mrs. Paul C. Bara & Joseph, James O. Bedwell, Mr. & Mrs. Dominic J. Vitale, Mr. & Mrs. Charles T. Bell, Mr. & Mrs. Walter Scrocki, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Stone, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph A. Camelleri.

Gaylord Henryson & Gary, Tony L. Starcer, Mr. & Mrs. John Hamner, Mr. & Mrs. Roy Sheehan, Mr. & Mrs. Edward Gallagher, Mr. & Mrs. Lou Essner, Mr. & Mrs. Harry Beham, Mike Rheam & Mike, Ardella, Marlin Oberlin, Bob Stanley, Col. John R. Parsons, Jr., Nick Terefenko, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Gerstemeier, Gary and friend John, Glenn Cooper, Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Tannenbaum, Gordon Hunsberger, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Chryst.

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Fearheller, Mr. & Mrs. Jim Reed, Mr. & Mrs. Joe Pearce, Eugene J. Rimmell, Bunny Tegler, Joe Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Robert DeGeorge, Paul G. McDuffee, Jan Sibald, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph M. Giambrone, Ray Harding, Kay Bennet, Joan Johnson Fewsmith, Col. & Mrs. Webber, Frank Donofrio, Mike Leister, Dana Lakeman, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Ross, Mr. & Mrs. Emmet Venett, R. Schafer, D. Lafferter, C. Durham, R. Mix, J. Cash.



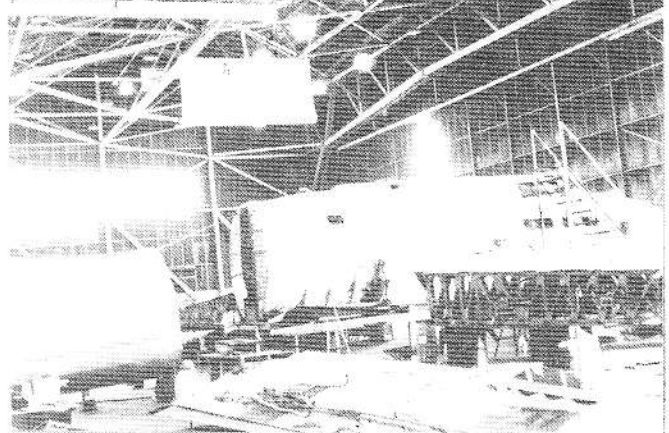
General & Mrs. Wray enjoying another fine Rally Round.



No, it's not a tunnel, but the interior of the giant C-5 transport.



The unbelievable size of the C-5 holds the group in awe.



Still pretty much of a jig-saw puzzle, but Shoo Shoo Baby is making progress.



Just back from the Schweinfurt raid of August 17, 1943, by courtesy of the British Air-Sea Rescue Service is the crew of "Hitler's Gremlin," which had to ditch in the English channel on the way home. They are holding one of the two rubber life rafts in which they floated for four hours before being rescued. The 91st suffered heavy losses on this mission.

Still clad in the clothing given them when they were picked up by the rescue unit, they are: kneeling, 1 to r, 2nd Lt. Granville E. Williams, navigator; 2nd Lt. Clive M. Woodbury, co-pilot; 1st Lt. Eugene M. Lockhart, pilot; 2nd Lt. Robert P. Sheridan, bombardier; T/Sgt Ted R. Cetnarowski, engineer. Standing, S/Sgt George Serafin, ball turret; T/Sgt William C. Darden, radio operator; S/Sgt Chester W. Raphoon, waist gunner; S/Sgt Arthur W. Burns, tail gunner; S/Sgt John Husick, waist gunner.

As a number of disgruntled members have discovered, many names were missing from the revised Directory sheets recently distributed. This was not the fault of the hard-working division secretaries who prepared the master list. The printer missed names with reckless abandon when setting type, and many staunch 91st members suddenly found themselves "missing in action."

In an effort to repair some of the damage The Ragged Irregular is printing the names and addresses of those members omitted in the directory, and also the names of those persons whose changes of address came too late to make the directory or who are recent additions to our rolls. If you are not included here or if your address has changed recently please notify your division secretary: Eastern Division-- John C. Flinn, Jr., Box 131, McClure, Pa. 17841. Western Division-- M/Sgt. George W. Parks (Ret), 109 Wilshire Ave., Vallejo, Ca. 94590.

Bankovsky, Nicholas	246 Long Hill Rd.	Little Falls	N.J. 07424
Bara, Paul C.	14 Vitaloak Ln.	Levittown	Pa. 19054
Barbotti, Anthony	Market St.	Trescow	Pa. 18254
Barrington, Fred H.	Route 9, Box 308	Pensacola	Fl. 32503
Bartlett, Cy	546 Knollview Crt.	Thousand Oaks	Ca. 91360
Bartolomeo, Dominic J.	21 Bonaire Dr.	Toms River	N.J. 08753
Bartusek, Raymond	2190 John Ln.	Kingman	Az. 86401
Basnight, Arvin O.	1536 Pasco Del Mar	Palos Verdes Ests.	Ca. 90274
Battista, Armand	16 Fordham Rd.	Jackson	N.J. 08527
Beacraft, Charles	1640 McKinley Crt.	Eugene	Or. 97402
Beal, Donald L.	29 W. Smilet Ave.	Shelby	Oh. 44875
Bisson, Raymond E.	Bailey St.	Barre	Vt. 05641
Bullock, James R.	P.O. Box 1911	West Palm Beach	Fl. 33402
	c/o Flagler Marina Landing		
Carboneau, Richard L.	1570 North Brooks #1	Fresno	Ca. 93723
Carey, Merle E.	Rural Route #1	Sterling	Ks. 67579
Carlino, James	22 Bent Ln.	Levittown, L.I.	N.Y. 11756
Cooper, Owen Glenn	P.O. Box 609	Columbia	Md. 21045
Dickson, Carl A.	606 Ave. H	So. Houston	Tx. 77587
Dino, Oscar	1116 S.E. 35th Ave.	Ocala	Fl. 32670
Dugan, Paul F.	608 North Bend	Baltimore	Md. 21229
Ellis, Quentin H.	715 High Ave. South	Renton	Wa. 98055
Evertson, Bryce Col. (Ret)	10008 Arnow Chapel Rd.	Reliance	Va. 22649
Gagliano, Mrs. Joseph S.	1808 Kimbrough	Germantown	Tn. 38138
Gibson, Douglas	2740 Knoxville Ave.	Long Beach	Ca. 90815
Green, William J.	P.O. Box 317	Esparto	Ca. 95627
Grove, Lester E.	P.O. Box 387	Douglass	Ks. 67039
Hackstock, Charles LTC (Ret)	14224 S.E. 288th	Kent	Wa. 98031
Hohler, David L.	879 Agate St.	Pacific Beach	Ca. 92109
Jackman, Edward M/Sgt (Ret)	1937 Garfield Ave.	Terre Haute	In. 47804
Johnson, Raymond LTC (Ret)	20315 Eyota Rd.	Apple Valley	Ca. 92307
Jones, Raymond E. LTC (Ret)	219-401 Athabasea Ave.	Ft. McMurray	
		Alberta T9J-1H1	Canada
Keckler, John W.	8883 Moorcroft Ave.	Canoga Park	Ca. 91304
Kennard, Guthrie S.	1008 Sherwood Dr.	Arlington	Tx. 76012
Kessler, Glen M/Sgt (Ret)	129 Berkshire Ave.	New Port Richey	Fl. 33552
Kirk, Noah C. M/Sgt (Ret)	General Delivery	Camp Connell	Ca. 95223
Kuklok, David M/Sgt (Ret)	111 19½ Ave. South	St. Cloud	Mn. 56301
La Casse, Mrs. Delores	1602 Happiness Dr.	Colorado Springs	Co. 80909
Latva, Reino O.	2300 S. Lewis SP #104	Anaheim	Ca. 92802
Linn, Mrs. Kathryn	5354 Miller Ave.	Dallas	Tx. 75206

Marcus, Albert	2008 W. Laurel Ln.	Visalia	Ca.	93277
Martin, Lloyd W.	9550 Ella Lee Ln. #1057	Houston	Tx.	77063
McFadden, Henry LTC (Ret)	2255 West Burnside Campbell Hill Hotel	Portland	Or.	97210
Michel, Roland R.	1150 2nd St. Park West	West Fargo	N.D.	58078
Miller, William R.	11th & Spaulding #32	Sheridan	Wy.	82801
Modell, CMSgt Robert L.	2015 Solar Ln.	Bossier City	La.	71112
Moody, Thomas M/Sgt (Ret)	13942 Victoria Crt.	Victorville	Ca.	92392
Morse, Dana E.	Route 3, Box 158	Lithia	Fl.	33547
Newlin, Charles E.	c/o Good Sam Club P.O. Box 404	Agoura	Ca.	91301
Nichols, Robert E.	109 Mira Mar Ave.	Long Beach	Ca.	90803
Peters, Gerald J.	Route 7, Box 716	Alexandria	Mn.	56308
Phillips, Charles J.	28 Strong Dr.	East Hartford	Ct.	06118
Phillips, Charles R.	53 Hillcrest Rd.	Glastonbury	Ct.	06033
Romano, Leonard	P.O. Box 903	Clarksburg	W.V.	26301
Russo, Anthony A.	115 Second St. North	Virginia	Mn.	55792
Ryan, John W. Maj. (Ret)	Box 666	Coupeville	Wa.	98239
Smith, Arthur G.	P.O. Box 182	Jamul	Ca.	92035
Smith, Mrs. Clara M.	14751 Alder Lane	Tustin	Ca.	92680
Sommer, Calvin A.	5568-E, Lakewood Circle	Margate	Fl.	33063
Walker, Bob G.	1480 Westwood Dr.	Mound	Mn.	55364
Wallace, John	2500 One Indiana Square	Indianapolis	In.	46204
Williams, Cecil E.	2802 Homestead	Ponca City	Ok.	74601
Williams, Samuel P.	General Delivery	Oak Ridge	La.	71264
Wise, Erbon W. MGen (Ret)	P.O. Box 99	Sulphur	La.	70663
Worstall, Walter H.	106 East Dakota	Spring Valley	Il.	61362
Wray, Mack K.	2629-A Regent St.	Berkeley	Ca.	94704
Yocuis, Albert J.	c/o 8112 New Jersey	Kansas City	Ks.	66112
Young, James G.	630 Broadway	McKeesrocks	Pa.	15136
Zbieszkowski, Frank	544 Gilmore St.	North Tonawanda	N.Y.	14120
Zebrowski, George Col. (Ret)	23986 Hemlock Ave.	Sunnymead	Ca.	92388
Zicarello, Jess LTC (Ret)	29 Sunset Drive	Whippany	N.J.	07981
Zillmer, Evan J.	P.O. Box 436	Woodruff	Wi.	54568
Zimmerman, Joseph P.	9813 Citadel St.	Clackamas	Or.	97015
Zimmerman, Paul	1210 Robin Lane	Mt. Prospect	Il.	60056
Zucco, George L.	232 SW 13th St.	Pompano Beach	Fl.	33060

New Addresses

Badman, Ben Jr.	71 Welles St.	Forty Fort	Pa.	18704
Barnett, Mrs. Juanita W.	6822 Larmanda #126	Dallas	Tx.	75231
Bedavas, Charles A.	889 Georgetown Ln.	Harrington	Il.	60010
Bender, Allen S.	2221 Worthington Ave.	Bethlehem	Pa.	18017
Blume, Thomas M.	11774 Applewood Knolls Dr.	Lakewood	Co.	80215
Bolocich, Chester B.	3537 South 54th Court	Cicero	Il.	60650
Brawner, John H.	510 N. San Marcos	Seguin	Tx.	78155
Cameron, Walter R.	5812 Halbrent Ave.	Van Nuys	Ca.	91411
Cash, John W.	Apt. H-32 Lake Club Apts.	Dover	Del.	19901
Chessman, Arthur R.	10330 Long	Shawnee Mission	Ks.	66215
Crown, Hoyt P.	Route 2	Loganville	Ga.	30249
Daniel, Mrs. Mary Kay	P.O. Box 331	Truscott	Tx.	79260
Davis, Joe E.	140 Belaire Dr.	Pearl	Ms.	39208
DeHart, John H.	2805 Alkay Drive	Shreveport	La.	71118
Delanoy, Mrs. Peggy	279 Dobbs Ferry Rd.	White Plains	N.Y.	10607
Dillon, Levi. G.	Box 56, Route 2	Providence Forge	Va.	23140

Flemming, Thomas	1131 Lafayette Ave.	Wyomissing	Pa. 19610
Fredrickson, Elmer H.	2355 Brigden Rd.	Pasadena	Ca. 91104
Gannon, Thomas J.	37 Harbor Ave.	Madison	Ct. 06443
Genotti, George J.	1400 Mathews Drive	Woodridge	Va. 22191
Goldberg, Marvin M.	5530 S. Shore Dr. Apt 19-c	Chicago	Il. 60637
Griswold, Harold	R.R. 2, Box 2236	Prescott	Mi. 48756
Hemmings, Vincent A.	48 Meadow Way, Letchworth,	Herts SG6 3HX	England
Hetteema, David R.	1489 New York Dive	Altadena	Ca. 91001
Hohing, Conrad Jr.	310 Burleigh St.	Charlotte	N.C.28211
Jochem, Donald E.	6714 Old Collamer Rd.	East Syracuse	N.Y.13057
Kelly, Arthur J.	6 Fremont Rd., Bodicote,	Banbury, Oxon	England
Kerr, John	5273 W. 148th St.	Brook Park	Oh. 44142
Knowles, Joseph T/Sgt (Ret)	3501 Garden Oaks Dr. #204	New Orleans	La. 70114
Krainski, Thaddeus E.	2670-A North Carolina Trail	Brown Mills	N.J.08015
Kummel, Vernon M. Col (Ret)	324 Elliott Rd. SE	Ft. Walton Beach	Fl. 32548
Kurylo, John	R.D. 1, Box 31	Ringoos	N.J.08551
	Iron Horse Dr.		
Lardin, Thomas C. Jr.	P.O. Box 2022	Hendersonville	N.C.28739
Larson, Russell T.	107 Terry St.	Indian Harbor Beach	Fl. 32937
Lechner, Richard A.	2607 Williams Ave.	Sioux City	Ia. 51102
Lombardi, Bruno D.	2508 "I" Street	Petaluma	Ca. 94952
McGovern, James J.	827 Brookside Dr.	Orange	Ct. 06477
Milan, Carrol	Box 234	Keeling	Va. 24566
Morrison, William F.	1756 Corcoran St. NW #3B	Washington	D.C.20009
Nitardi, John	2324 Alsace Rd.	Reading	Pa. 19604
Pengelly, Jack SMS(Ret)	Box 21	APO	N.Y.96235
Peterson, John R.	177 N. Crafford St.	Bushnell	Il. 61422
Phillips, Edward J.	6333 Loftus N.E.	Albuquerque	N.M.87110
Roundtree, Robert L.	2028 Virginia Ave.	Augusta	Ga. 30906
Rukas, Albert J.	3722 North 6th St.	Philadelphia	Pa. 19140
Sherwood, Thomas P	515 Woodland View Rd.	York	Pa. 17402
Simbaldo, Armando J.	2402 Chippewa Crt.	Lisle	Il. 60532
Sterle, Leonard J.	5909 Williamsburg Dr.	Highland Heights	Oh. 44143
Stevens, Jewell LTC (Ret)	1503 Johnson Crt.	Denver	Co. 80226
Tyrriver, Carl	Route 1	Suring	Wi. 54174
Wolfenbarger, Bert	3128 E. 30th	Spokane	Wa. 99203
Yarborough, Benjamin H.	P.O. Box 263	Aberdeen Proving Grd.	Md. 21005
Dunlap, John V. LTC (Ret)	Andrews Federal Credit Union	APO	N.Y.09757
	91st BOMB GROUP (H) MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION OFFICERS		
PRESIDENT EMERITUS.....Maj. Gen. Stanley T. Wray (Ret)	14 Country Club Dr.	Shalimar, Fl.	32579
PRESIDENT.....Col. Thomas H. Gunn (Ret)	1024 Woodland Dr.	Arlington, Tx.	76010
EDITOR-HISTORIAN.....Paul C. Burnett	P.O. Box 909	Auburn, Al.	36830
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Secretary-Treasurer.John C. Flinn, Jr.	P.O.Box 131	McClure, Pa.	17841
WESTERN DIVISION			
Chairman.....Lt. Col. John R. McCombs (Ret)	2334 Platt Drive	Martinez, Ca.	94553
Co-Chairman.....Glenn V. Boyce	1874 S. Hoyt St.	Lakewood, Co.	80226
Secretary-Tresurer.MSGT. George W. Parks	109 Wilshire Ave.	Vallejo, Ca.	94590

From The Editor's Desk...

Paul C. Burnett Box 909 Auburn, Al. 36830

The 512th MAW, working on the restoration of Shoo Shoo Baby, is much interested in additional 91st memorabilia to displayed in a special case set up in the hangar. Bob Fife has already agreed to donate the control column insignia from "Sweet Seventeen" and a service manual covering the B-17-F. If any members have material to contribute contact Michael D. Leister III, 30 Orchard Acres, R.D. 3, Felton, Del. 19943.

Ted Wyzkoski, ex-323rd Sqdn., who recently donated his uniform blouse to the Tower Museum at Basingbourn, has suggested that 91sters send their favorite picture postcard with their signature and hometown on the front to help fill an empty wall in the museum. Cards should be sent to Mr. V. Hemmings, 48 Meadow Way, Letchworth, Herts, SG6 2HX, England.

Aviation writer Jeffrey L. Ethell, who wrote "Komet," the book on the Nazi Me163, which featured the 91st's "Outhouse Mouse" on the cover, is doing a book on the 8th AF's first major mission to Berlin 6 March 1944. He would like to contact anyone, not just flight crews, that was involved in this mission in any way at all. The 91st was lead group that day. Contact him at 2403 Sunnybrook Road, Richmond, Va. 23229.

At the Dover Rally Round Col. Frank Kamykowski recalled the time the commanding officer went on a Liberty Run to a certain English city. When he and the driver parted company they agreed to meet at a certain parking area at a certain time. The name of the driver was Cpl. Howard Rape. At the appointed time the C.O. was unable to find his driver in the blackout and was forced to wander around the parking area shouting "Rape! Rape!" Needless to say Cpl. Rape never drove the c.o. again.

Tony Starcer, famous for the nose art he painted on so many 91st planes, won the engraved drinking mug for travelling the greatest distance to attend the Dover Rally Round. The engraver made a slight boo boo and the mug read:

91st Bomb Group
Shoo Shoo
Baby Rally Round
July 13-15, 1979

While Tony insists it was not a Baby Rally Round he attended he wouldn't agree to let the committee have the mug corrected, since what he had was a real collector's item.

Every memorial association member should be sporting the group decal in color on the rear window of his car. They're great for any sort of decoration, too. The 4-inch decals are four for \$1.

If you're in the market for Christmas gifts the Group tie tac in color, 5/8" in diameter, makes a great one for \$2.50.

These items may be obtained from the Western Division sec.-treas. M/Sgt. Geo. W. Parks (Ret), 109 Wilshire Ave., Vallejo Calif. 94590.

"Impact," the USAAF's picture history of Aerial Battle in WWII, once a "confidential" publication, is being issued in eight hardbound volumes containing more than 2000 pages and 3,436 photographs. The publication is sponsored by The Air Force Historical Foundation and The National Historical Society.

The volumes will be issued at six-week intervals beginning in January, 1980, priced at \$12.95 each. Orders may be placed with The National Historical Society, Book Service Dept., Box 1831, Harrisburg, Pa. 17105.

Among the numerous "firsts" set by the 91st was the first direct aviation gasoline line to any airfield, American or RAF in the United Kingdom, which opened 19 April 1944. Gasoline was then pumped directly to the base from tankers at the docks. The line delivered 14,700 gallons per hour, and replaced 500 trucks of 2000-gal. capacity formerly used to make the delivery.

The 355th Fighter Group Association is planning a return to Steeple Morden, England, during May, 1981, and members of the 91st Bomb Group and the 78th Fighter Group have been invited to join the tour. Members interested should contact Gordon H. Hunsberger, Secretary, 355th Fighter Group Association, 75 Congo Road, Box 71, Gilbertsville, Pa. 19525.

The son of ex-91ster Earl William Scofield, who flew with the group in 1945, is eager to contact any members who knew his father then. If you can help, contact Earl Scofield, 4615 Tumbling Water, San Antonio, Texas 78238.

Rice C. Linn, who served with the 322nd sqdn. and the Air Inspector's Office of the 91st from 1942-45, died at his home in Dallas, Texas, August 11. M/Sgt. Linn was communication inspector. Since the war he has been an equipment repairman for Southwestern Bell Telephone Co., and attended several 91st reunions.

Former Sgt. Jim Brown has passed along this poem he composed in memory of the beloved mascot of the group, "Redline."

DO YOU REMEMBER "REDLINE?"

Do you remember "Redline"?
 Was this fate's fickle finger
 Which moved to stop you pay
 When unit moved but records had to stay
 Who wants to remember this?
 One "Redline" brings a smile as we
 remember
 His Queen Mary trip in 1942,
 His entrance into Britain in the
 pocket of a coat
 (No bar - no quarantine)
 His growing up at Kimbolton-
 later at Bassingbourn
 His faithful waiting for the crewmen's
 return
 From Lorient or St. Nazaire or some
 other target.
 This "Redline" now brings a tear
 As we remember a picture
 Of a neatly made bed and a black dog
 lying, waiting.
 It is hours since the planes came back-
 most of them -
 "Redline" - ever faithful - still waits
 As many mothers do at home across the
 sea
 But this crewman is not to return -
 Not today, anyway -
 This is the last that I remember about
 our beloved mascot
 Has it made you happy to remember
 "Redline"?

Flash failures on the cameras covering the Dover Rally Round kept us from getting shots of the events at the dinner.

The Night Before Christmas

Twas the night before Christmas,
 And all through the group
 The "big wheels" and "wing"
 Were grinding out poop.
 The bombers were parked
 On their hardstands with care,
 Waiting for ammunition
 Soon to be there.
 The fliers were nestled
 All snug in their beds
 While visions of "milk runs"
 Danced in their heads.
 When out of the darkness
 There came quite a knock,
 We cursed the O.D.
 And looked at the clock.
 Briefing will be in 2 hours, he said,
 And if you are late
 You'll wish you were dead.
 Time marches on and the minutes fly by,
 So it's out of our beds
 To get ready to fly.
 We rushed to the mess hall
 As quick as a flash
 And ate cold powdered eggs
 And hideous hash.
 Then a long, bumpy ride
 To the group briefing room
 Where the 'big wigs' preside
 And dish out our doom.
 The target is told
 And the first six rows faint
 For lo and behold Berlin--it ain't!
 The 'brains' had slipped up--
 Oh my poor aching back!
 We're bombing a place that
 Throws up no flak!
 So it's back to the truck
 And off to the line,
 The road is now smooth
 And the weather is fine.
 The crew is at stations
 The checklist is run,
 The engines run smooth
 As we give 'em the gun.
 Then suddenly the pilot
 Wails in despair,
 "Look at the tower--
 They just shot a flare!"
 We dash to the window
 With heart full of dread.
 The pilot was right--
 And the darn thing is RED.
 So it's back to the sack
 And we swear at our fate
 For there's a practice formation
 At a quarter past eight!