

93RD BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION
New Orleans, LA 2017 Reunion
September 27th to October 2nd
Webcast transcripts
4 hours, 58 minutes

0

00:00:00.280 --> 00:00:02.760

A city for the reunion, uh, two years out.

1

00:00:02.780 --> 00:00:05.880

So that'll be important to look through that list as well prior to the business

2

00:00:05.880 --> 00:00:08.560

meeting. And then, uh, most importantly here,

3

00:00:08.620 --> 00:00:11.000

we have a sticker on the inside of the, uh,

4

00:00:11.000 --> 00:00:13.080

folder for emergency contact numbers.

5

00:00:14.380 --> 00:00:18.280

We are always in tune with safety here at our reunions. Uh,

6

00:00:18.390 --> 00:00:21.400

hopefully we won't have any accidents or any mishaps,

7

00:00:22.020 --> 00:00:24.360

but if we do for some reason, you have emergency numbers,

8

00:00:24.360 --> 00:00:27.880

which are cell phone numbers for all of the officers here.

9

00:00:28.340 --> 00:00:31.880

And you can contact us immediately on your cell phone if there's an issue of any

10

00:00:31.880 --> 00:00:35.040

kind or a problem in the hotel or whatever you need.

11

00:00:35.370 --> 00:00:40.040

Don't feel or feel free to contact any of us any time of the day or night, uh,

12

00:00:40.040 --> 00:00:42.080

throughout the rest of the week here. Okay?

13

00:00:44.130 --> 00:00:45.830

So any questions on that?

14

00:00:48.050 --> 00:00:50.110

And then most importantly, keep your name tag on.

15

00:00:50.790 --> 00:00:54.270

'cause the name tag has information inside of it as well for the rest of the

16

00:00:54.270 --> 00:00:55.790

meals and your meal choices.

17

00:00:55.930 --> 00:00:59.710

So that's important if you want to eat for the rest of reunion, uh,

18

00:00:59.710 --> 00:01:03.590

which I'm sure never thought of. Both sides. Yeah, both sides.

19

00:01:03.690 --> 00:01:06.910

We like the both sides. John, previous years, you know,

20

00:01:06.910 --> 00:01:09.790

you get a one side and then always flip to the wrong side. Who are you?

21

00:01:12.030 --> 00:01:14.390

Brilliant. Good.

22

00:01:14.850 --> 00:01:17.350

So now what we'd like to do is the part of the, uh,

23

00:01:17.710 --> 00:01:22.430

introductory welcome night that either love or hate. We, uh,

24

00:01:22.430 --> 00:01:24.110

want to go through, uh, around the room,

25

00:01:24.240 --> 00:01:27.590

table by table with introductions of everybody.

26

00:01:28.330 --> 00:01:30.070

If you don't know somebody yet, we're gonna learn who you are.

27

00:01:32.020 --> 00:01:35.510

We'd like to keep it somewhat brief and particularly of those of you in our

28

00:01:35.510 --> 00:01:39.390

education sessions that we know you'll be speaking for 10 to 15 minutes at the

29

00:01:39.390 --> 00:01:43.070

education session. You don't need to give your, uh, presentation now,

30

00:01:43.290 --> 00:01:44.630

but certainly if you would, uh,

31

00:01:44.880 --> 00:01:49.510

we're gonna pass around a wireless mic and we'll go table by table and speak

32

00:01:49.510 --> 00:01:51.790

your name, maybe where you live. Uh,

33

00:01:51.940 --> 00:01:55.550

this is your first time or not at the reunion, how you're connected to the 93rd.

34

00:01:56.470 --> 00:01:59.350

Anything else you'd like to share with the group about, uh, being here?

35

00:01:59.410 --> 00:02:03.630

Any comments? Everybody willing to do that? Yay. Yes.

36

00:02:04.540 --> 00:02:07.990

Okay. So with that, I'm gonna start. I didn't,

37

00:02:08.070 --> 00:02:12.190

I realize I didn't introduce myself yet. I'm Jim Root, the president of the, uh,

38

00:02:12.300 --> 00:02:16.510

association in my third year, I think, uh,

39

00:02:16.610 --> 00:02:17.443

as president.

40

00:02:17.970 --> 00:02:21.670

My father was the ranking engineering officer of the 93rd Bond group.

41

00:02:21.690 --> 00:02:26.350

He started in the four oh ninth, eventually was promoted to, uh, the whole 93rd,

42

00:02:26.490 --> 00:02:31.070

all four squadrons responsible for the maintenance ground crews, uh,

43

00:02:31.210 --> 00:02:32.670

really all the operations.

44

00:02:33.090 --> 00:02:37.870

He was there in Hardwick in England for almost the full three years. And,

45

00:02:37.890 --> 00:02:42.660

uh, I'm the youngest of six, uh, kids in our family. Uh,

46

00:02:42.680 --> 00:02:46.460

and I've had my brother and my sister, and I guess that's all three of us.

47

00:02:46.550 --> 00:02:49.660

Three of the six have attended in the past. But, um, I live in Michigan,

48

00:02:49.660 --> 00:02:53.340

Holland, Michigan, near Grand Rapids. And, uh,

49

00:02:53.890 --> 00:02:55.620

I've had a lot of fun being the president here and,

50

00:02:55.620 --> 00:03:00.000

and participating since 2009. I first became involved at Shreveport Reunion,

51

00:03:00.450 --> 00:03:04.160

which is the Barksdale Air Force base, of course, where the group was formed.

52

00:03:04.260 --> 00:03:09.080

So we're excited to be back in Louisiana, of course, here, uh, from our, uh,

53

00:03:09.110 --> 00:03:10.360

time. And we're actually,

54

00:03:10.360 --> 00:03:14.320

this is the 75th anniversary of the forming of the group in 1942 as well,

55

00:03:14.820 --> 00:03:18.200

the 93rd. So another reason to come to New Orleans here.

56

00:03:18.300 --> 00:03:21.800

So that's my introduction for now. You'll hear more about my dad, uh, tomorrow.

57

00:03:23.030 --> 00:03:26.810

Cool. So next. Sorry,

58

00:03:28.790 --> 00:03:32.610

you're first. I think somebody has to break the ice. No pressure. Um,

59

00:03:33.150 --> 00:03:37.970

I'm here with, uh, my name is Steve Senator. I'm here with my son Alexander,

60

00:03:38.590 --> 00:03:42.290

and my wife Carrie. Um, my father-in-law was, um,

61

00:03:43.350 --> 00:03:47.610

was in the 93rd Bond group. He was there in, um, in, uh,

62

00:03:47.610 --> 00:03:52.050

44 and the beginning of 45. Uh, so that's why we're here.

63

00:03:52.640 --> 00:03:56.050

Cool. And, uh, we also visited England a couple of years ago,

64

00:03:56.230 --> 00:03:59.530

and I see some familiar faces and we had a great time.

65

00:03:59.910 --> 00:04:02.770

And we like everybody here, your phone. We're all,

66

00:04:02.840 --> 00:04:06.810

everybody's friendly and it's a great group, and we're happy to be here.

67

00:04:07.000 --> 00:04:11.010

Awesome. All right. My name is, uh,

68

00:04:11.120 --> 00:04:15.930

Alexander Ur. I, I'm the son of Karen. Steven,

69

00:04:15.990 --> 00:04:20.410

and then the nephew of George and Liz in the back. Uh, and, uh,

70

00:04:20.470 --> 00:04:24.930

my dad pretty much said everything already. Where you and, uh, I'm from, uh,

71

00:04:24.930 --> 00:04:27.450

Woodland Park in New Jersey. Stand up. Oh, okay. Awesome.

72

00:04:27.700 --> 00:04:32.010

Don't forget to stand up going Sue all. And, uh,

73

00:04:32.410 --> 00:04:36.530

I was the only, uh, president of my generation who could make it.

74

00:04:36.530 --> 00:04:38.810

I think we could get time off, so that's why I'm here.

75

00:04:42.760 --> 00:04:45.540

Hi, I'm Karen, Senator, and as I look around the room,

76

00:04:45.620 --> 00:04:47.780

I see some familiar faces. Um,

77

00:04:48.080 --> 00:04:51.700

my dad was one of the lead navigators with the 93rd,

78

00:04:52.360 --> 00:04:54.500

and as Steven and Alexander have mentioned,

79

00:04:54.600 --> 00:04:59.380

we are in Hardwick and really feel as though it's an honor to be associated with

80

00:04:59.380 --> 00:05:00.213

this group.

81

00:05:00.280 --> 00:05:04.260

So thank you to everyone who's involved with the organization of all these

82

00:05:04.540 --> 00:05:06.820

fabulous meetings, carrying on the legacy.

83

00:05:10.960 --> 00:05:15.060

Hi, I'm Kenneth Root son of this guy over here, uh,

84

00:05:15.300 --> 00:05:19.380

visiting from Brooklyn. Uh, this is actually my second time. I was at Tucson,

85

00:05:19.540 --> 00:05:23.460

I think four or five years ago. And not to reiterate,

86

00:05:23.460 --> 00:05:26.660

but third generation of my namesake, actually, Kenneth Root,

87

00:05:27.360 --> 00:05:30.500

who was a head engineer of the 93rd.

88

00:05:31.720 --> 00:05:32.780

And happy to be back.

89

00:05:37.540 --> 00:05:38.440

We, you, uh,

90

00:05:39.220 --> 00:05:43.920

you heard from the senators and in the number of first timers there,

91

00:05:44.290 --> 00:05:48.470

three of the 13. But as you also heard,

92

00:05:48.470 --> 00:05:52.350

they've been to England, so I kind of didn't count them as first timers.

93

00:05:52.350 --> 00:05:55.390

Exactly. So if you get confused about that,

94

00:05:55.390 --> 00:06:00.240

there's a reason I contributed to it. Um, I'm John Marks. I'm the, the,

95

00:06:00.260 --> 00:06:04.720

uh, vice president of the association and responsible for the reunion.

96

00:06:05.420 --> 00:06:09.560

So whatever goes well, I'll take credit for whatever doesn't go well.

97

00:06:09.670 --> 00:06:12.440

I'll give credit to Gerald Veto 'cause he's not here

98

00:06:14.180 --> 00:06:16.600

and we'll work it that way. But, uh,

99

00:06:16.860 --> 00:06:20.720

if you do have anything that comes up about the reunion and you need help,

100

00:06:21.140 --> 00:06:26.040

please see me. I'll do the best I can to help you. Uh, my, uh,

101

00:06:26.300 --> 00:06:29.360

I'm here with my wife Rayanne, who was sitting right here.

102

00:06:30.140 --> 00:06:34.960

She left to go to the airport to pick up one of our granddaughters

103

00:06:34.960 --> 00:06:38.920

who's flying in tonight. Her name is Avery, and she's 11.

104

00:06:39.660 --> 00:06:41.920

And she left me in charge of Ellie,

105

00:06:42.940 --> 00:06:45.720

who is stand up on the chair,

106

00:06:47.460 --> 00:06:52.240

who is 10. She's the second daughter of my oldest son,

107

00:06:52.740 --> 00:06:56.160

and Avery is the second daughter of my youngest son.

108

00:06:56.220 --> 00:07:00.360

So we'll have those two here with us. Um, we, uh,

109

00:07:00.880 --> 00:07:05.840

I come from Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania. Ellie comes from C North Carolina.

110

00:07:06.170 --> 00:07:10.200

Avery comes from Flowery Branch, Georgia. But we,

111

00:07:10.580 --> 00:07:15.240

we cover three states just in one family out of those 19 that Jim was

112

00:07:15.240 --> 00:07:19.800

bragging on. Uh, I'm related. I'm the nephew of,

113

00:07:20.260 --> 00:07:23.680

uh, first Lieutenant Robert, uh, w Marks,

114

00:07:23.780 --> 00:07:26.600

who was a pilot in the 4 0 9 Squadron.

115

00:07:27.060 --> 00:07:30.520

He was killed in a crash at Hardwick in, uh,

116

00:07:30.840 --> 00:07:35.080

December of 1944. And, uh, if you want to hear more about that,

117

00:07:35.350 --> 00:07:39.960

come to this Saturday session on the last presenter.

118

00:07:41.280 --> 00:07:43.880

I cover everything. I think I'm good. Okay.

119

00:07:49.900 --> 00:07:53.200

My name's Walter Herrick. I'm a nephew,

120

00:07:54.190 --> 00:07:59.000

Glen Martin, pilot of B 24 and World War Hero,

121

00:07:59.540 --> 00:08:02.600

and especially in my eyes. And, uh,

122

00:08:02.600 --> 00:08:07.520

we live in the Houston area and I was at the reunion last year in San Antonio

123

00:08:08.700 --> 00:08:12.440

and had a very good time there and very glad to be here today. Thank you.

124

00:08:15.860 --> 00:08:16.300

Hi,

125

00:08:16.300 --> 00:08:21.040

I'm Jean Kaner and I'm the daughter of Henry Nike who

126

00:08:21.300 --> 00:08:25.800

is a veteran. I don't know what he's a veteran at all. What does you ever do?

127

00:08:26.280 --> 00:08:29.200

Oh yeah, he raised me. Lucky man.

128

00:08:30.120 --> 00:08:35.040

I am a membership chair and I've been coming to the reunions for quite

129

00:08:35.080 --> 00:08:39.600

a few years. And, um, I also have, uh,

130

00:08:40.300 --> 00:08:44.160

the records of any of you. If you want to find out,

131

00:08:44.180 --> 00:08:49.000

if you're up to date with your dues, I can give you that information.

132

00:08:49.820 --> 00:08:53.520

Anyway. I'm glad you're all here and it's always a lot of fun.

133

00:08:54.100 --> 00:08:59.000

And if you get bored, come and see me. 'cause I'll tell you a lot of stories.

134

00:09:02.940 --> 00:09:07.560

If you don't mind, I'll sit still. I'm a low party goer. I,

135

00:09:07.800 --> 00:09:12.760

I started coming to the second Air division back in

136

00:09:12.860 --> 00:09:17.040

the late seventies. And, uh, my wife and I,

137

00:09:17.820 --> 00:09:20.760

um, pretty regular

138

00:09:22.320 --> 00:09:26.600

wherever we were meeting. Um, been back to the old base,

139

00:09:27.220 --> 00:09:30.240

uh, four times in these years. Uh,

140

00:09:33.480 --> 00:09:37.160

I, I was a, a nose gunner on the, uh,

141

00:09:37.900 --> 00:09:40.280

George Bridge Man's Crew. Uh,

142

00:09:41.420 --> 00:09:45.000

and after the war I always said, uh,

143

00:09:46.360 --> 00:09:48.960

I didn't have any brothers when I was growing up,

144

00:09:49.380 --> 00:09:53.840

but I ended up with nine brothers and we've been

145

00:09:54.230 --> 00:09:59.080

just like brothers ever since. I, I really enjoy the,

146

00:09:59.140 --> 00:10:04.040

our meetings and, uh, we you got a party, let let me know.

147

00:10:07.350 --> 00:10:08.183

Nice one.

148

00:10:15.980 --> 00:10:19.600

My name Isett. I'm here with my husband Bud.

149

00:10:20.500 --> 00:10:23.200

And that's how I'm related to this group.

150

00:10:23.290 --> 00:10:28.080

We've been coming for about seven years and it's always fun to

151

00:10:28.120 --> 00:10:30.720

see new faces and a lot of the old ones,

152

00:10:33.290 --> 00:10:34.570

I don't know about that old one.

153

00:10:38.670 --> 00:10:43.610

Hi, uh, all of you don't know me. I'm, I am, uh, three 30th

154

00:10:46.240 --> 00:10:50.730

Wing am successfully the heroes of mine,

155

00:10:51.390 --> 00:10:55.730

but, uh, we share the common bond of being 90 threes. Uh,

156

00:10:55.980 --> 00:10:57.370

we've become, uh,

157

00:10:57.500 --> 00:11:01.170

7, 6, 7 years now and have a ball every time.

158

00:11:01.560 --> 00:11:04.970

Hope you new folks that are here. Enjoy it as much as we do.

159

00:11:09.760 --> 00:11:10.290

I'm, uh,

160

00:11:10.290 --> 00:11:11.740

John Leland Feal.

161

00:11:12.440 --> 00:11:17.020

My dad commanded the 93rd from October of 43

162

00:11:17.450 --> 00:11:22.300

through, uh, most of the summer of 44. He was Colonel Leland g Feal.

163

00:11:23.120 --> 00:11:27.620

Uh, I'm here 'cause I didn't know that much about the 93rd myself,

164

00:11:27.680 --> 00:11:32.660

but I lived in Captain John Maryland and I volunteered to be a tour

165

00:11:32.660 --> 00:11:34.740

guide for World War ii Honor Flights.

166

00:11:35.010 --> 00:11:38.060

I've been doing that for four and a half years now.

167

00:11:38.560 --> 00:11:43.540

And there was an honor flight from Houston in October, 2015.

168

00:11:45.000 --> 00:11:48.740

And it was a two day trip. Normally the Otter flights are one day trips,

169

00:11:49.640 --> 00:11:54.640

and I stayed on the bus at Eagle G Memorial because I needed to study

170

00:11:54.700 --> 00:11:58.480

up on our next site. And two other people stayed on the bus.

171

00:11:59.870 --> 00:12:03.960

Glen Martin and Walter, his nephew, who was his guardian,

172

00:12:05.260 --> 00:12:08.040

and Walter planted the seed. He said, you know,

173

00:12:08.040 --> 00:12:12.480

this guy said his dad was in World War II that did the eighth Air Force.

174

00:12:13.860 --> 00:12:17.640

And so Glenn Mark asked me, what was your dad's day? I said,

175

00:12:17.640 --> 00:12:21.800

it was Colonel Leland Feal. And he said, I, I,

176

00:12:21.960 --> 00:12:22.793

I need to add here.

177

00:12:23.180 --> 00:12:27.880

My dad died in 1948 plane crash when I was four.

178

00:12:29.430 --> 00:12:33.850

And he said, Colonel Lelet fecal, is that Colonel Lelet G Fecal? I said, yes,

179

00:12:34.870 --> 00:12:37.890

that's Leland Gordon. I've John Lelet fecal.

180

00:12:38.510 --> 00:12:43.090

My son is Lelet J Fecal. And he said,

181

00:12:43.920 --> 00:12:47.450

well, John, your dad saved my life. Mean,

182

00:12:47.600 --> 00:12:51.330

I've got goosebumps going up and down by spine.

183

00:12:52.590 --> 00:12:56.130

And Glenn and I have been close friends now for two years,

184

00:12:56.750 --> 00:13:00.290

and we both got involved with the 93rd last year.

185

00:13:00.710 --> 00:13:04.370

I'm pleased to be here a second year, and I'm pleased to introduce him next.

186

00:13:05.500 --> 00:13:05.850

Thank

187

00:13:05.850 --> 00:13:06.683

You. John,

188

00:13:07.430 --> 00:13:09.170

You're gonna stand up. I'm gonna

189

00:13:09.170 --> 00:13:10.010

Stand up if I

190

00:13:10.010 --> 00:13:13.530

Can. Oh, I'm stand up. Let me have one go.

191

00:13:17.970 --> 00:13:22.010

I act like that just to get sympathy. I can pop up if I want to.

192

00:13:25.940 --> 00:13:30.370

Those that are with me here today, I'm so proud that they come. Um,

193

00:13:30.950 --> 00:13:33.210

my nephew Walter. And

194

00:13:34.670 --> 00:13:35.090

What's

195

00:13:35.090 --> 00:13:35.923

Your, what's your name?

196

00:13:37.660 --> 00:13:38.493

Tommy

197

00:13:39.430 --> 00:13:44.010

Tom Elliot. My son-in-law and my daughter. And I'm so proud. And John,

198

00:13:44.070 --> 00:13:49.050

of course, we do have a good relationship. It was great.

199

00:13:50.310 --> 00:13:52.370

But we had a great life together.

200

00:13:52.670 --> 00:13:55.650

My daughter who came with us last year,

201

00:13:55.910 --> 00:14:00.730

she passed away in July of this year. And of course,

202

00:14:00.740 --> 00:14:05.610

we're here without her, and that's kind of bad. But this is my daughter,

203

00:14:05.910 --> 00:14:06.743

Glenda,

204

00:14:07.100 --> 00:14:12.090

she's has almost foregone her family and come and moved in with

205

00:14:12.090 --> 00:14:17.010

me for the time being so that I can make it on my own. But I,

206

00:14:17.130 --> 00:14:21.210

I don't know about her if I'm getting a little perturbed.

207

00:14:22.700 --> 00:14:26.650

She's real good in most ways, but she kind of bad me a lot.

208

00:14:28.550 --> 00:14:28.770

Me

209

00:14:28.770 --> 00:14:33.050

Too. Like, I had a leak in the back bedroom roof,

210

00:14:33.240 --> 00:14:37.970

getting her, she kept after me. I said, well,

211

00:14:38.490 --> 00:14:40.930

I said, I'm going to fix it. I'm going to fix it.

212

00:14:41.350 --> 00:14:44.490

You don't have to keep reminding me every six months about it.

213

00:14:48.550 --> 00:14:52.000

So anyhow, that's a perfect life. And, uh,

214

00:14:52.330 --> 00:14:56.000

we've had such a good relationship and I'm so proud of all my family.

215

00:14:56.370 --> 00:14:59.160

Thank y'all for being here. I think the

216

00:15:00.910 --> 00:15:05.440

ones who set up these things each year, they're doing such a wonderful job,

217

00:15:05.500 --> 00:15:10.280

and it is, it is great to know that they'll be able to do that again. Thank you.

218

00:15:17.140 --> 00:15:21.680

I'm Glenda ett and I'm this gentleman's el oldest daughter.

219

00:15:22.300 --> 00:15:25.160

And I'm so proud of this man, not just for his service

220

00:15:27.190 --> 00:15:29.620

World War ii, but every day of his life.

221

00:15:29.730 --> 00:15:34.420

He's just an example to every one of us, as my husband can even attest to that,

222

00:15:34.720 --> 00:15:37.380

my cousin. But he's a wonderful man.

223

00:15:37.760 --> 00:15:40.300

He was a faithful lord and soldier,

224

00:15:40.960 --> 00:15:45.260

and he's faithful to the Lord God. And I thank you every day for him.

225

00:15:45.960 --> 00:15:50.660

And I just wanna say thank you to all of you servicemen and families and women,

226

00:15:51.280 --> 00:15:53.980
um, for for what you did for our country.

227

00:15:54.560 --> 00:15:59.060
It couldn't have been any harder for you. And we, we appreciate it,

228

00:15:59.060 --> 00:16:03.740
even though we don't always mention it. But this is my husband Tom.

229

00:16:06.920 --> 00:16:09.900
Go ahead. Stand up. You're on camera.

230

00:16:10.640 --> 00:16:15.020
My name is Tom Ick. You're from Houston, Texas. And, um,

231

00:16:16.440 --> 00:16:19.820
um, I'm honored to be among, uh, you people,

232

00:16:19.960 --> 00:16:23.380
you men and the sons of men, them,

233

00:16:23.640 --> 00:16:28.540
us and them like us. Um, I'm very proud to, to meet people

234

00:16:31.610 --> 00:16:35.710
of, of this caliber. You know, when so much is going on in this country.

235

00:16:37.060 --> 00:16:41.710
Hold the microphone. That's all right, baby. I got it. Um,

236

00:16:42.450 --> 00:16:46.710
you know, don't seem to, to hold this country in,

237

00:16:46.810 --> 00:16:51.190

in as high esteem as y'all did. Um,

238

00:16:53.480 --> 00:16:57.900

would you lay down your life for this country? Y'all did.

239

00:16:59.660 --> 00:17:02.900

I saw some people. I, I still remember, uh,

240

00:17:03.000 --> 00:17:06.540

was it Hungary or Czechoslovakia? Both of'em,

241

00:17:06.540 --> 00:17:10.360

I can't remember which of which people standing in the streets,

242

00:17:10.960 --> 00:17:14.800

throwing Molotov cocktails at the communist

243

00:17:16.220 --> 00:17:19.960

people, uh, getting rolled over by communist tanks.

244

00:17:20.710 --> 00:17:24.880

Even a red China here just a few years ago in Tenement Square

245

00:17:26.340 --> 00:17:30.820

for freedom. They don't have, we do have,

246

00:17:31.890 --> 00:17:35.380

because people like you shed your blood

247

00:17:37.930 --> 00:17:42.700

just like Christ. He shed his blood for us. Y'all did too.

248

00:17:44.040 --> 00:17:48.940

And your and your fathers did. Uh, I'm so grateful to be among,

249

00:17:49.580 --> 00:17:53.760

uh, this character and this integrity. It seems to be so,

250

00:17:54.420 --> 00:17:59.200
uh, rare nowadays. And, um, uh,

251

00:17:59.200 --> 00:18:04.120
thank you so much for the opportunity to say something. Um, this man here,

252

00:18:04.230 --> 00:18:08.560
Glen raised me and his wife, uh, Libby,

253

00:18:09.220 --> 00:18:12.920
and, um, when I was very, very young and, um,

254

00:18:14.120 --> 00:18:17.420
um, I've learned so much from Glen, um,

255

00:18:18.920 --> 00:18:23.340
and, uh, I owe him so much. And, and my wife and,

256

00:18:23.400 --> 00:18:28.260
and Walter, we, we've been a close family, uh, all of cousins and,

257

00:18:28.280 --> 00:18:30.460
uh, brothers and sisters, we've lost some of 'em.

258

00:18:30.710 --> 00:18:34.620
Y'all say they folded their wings. Well,

259

00:18:34.660 --> 00:18:36.780
I say they spreaded another pair of wings.

260

00:18:37.370 --> 00:18:41.700
They've got promoted to the fourth degree, and some might say,

261

00:18:43.000 --> 00:18:46.580
and we're left here in the vacuum. Um,

262

00:18:47.650 --> 00:18:50.620

without them, there's a vacuum that, that, that's irreplaceable.

263

00:18:50.920 --> 00:18:55.260

But we learn from them and we learn from people like you. And, uh,

264

00:18:55.440 --> 00:18:58.220

I'm honored to be among the, uh,

265

00:18:58.220 --> 00:19:02.340

the veterans and the heroes of World War II to save this country,

266

00:19:02.410 --> 00:19:07.180

save this world. And, um, you know, uh,

267

00:19:07.280 --> 00:19:11.980

and we got another guy over there in North Korea and, um,

268

00:19:13.800 --> 00:19:18.260

and other places that, that seemed to have taken this place, um,

269

00:19:19.240 --> 00:19:22.620

the world's instilled in conflict. And, um,

270

00:19:23.870 --> 00:19:27.940

thank y'all so much for what y'all did, and I'm so appreciative.

271

00:19:28.860 --> 00:19:30.170

There you go. Thank

272

00:19:30.170 --> 00:19:31.003

You.

273

00:19:35.520 --> 00:19:36.370

Okay, here you go.

274

00:19:37.860 --> 00:19:41.930

Hello, uh, we are the nieces. This is my wife, uh, Amy.

275

00:19:42.470 --> 00:19:46.370

I'm Jeff and that's my mom, Jill. And this is our very first reunion.

276

00:19:46.510 --> 00:19:50.130

So we're very honored that we're able to come here and visit with everybody. Um,

277

00:19:50.140 --> 00:19:54.050

we're here because of my mother's father, uh, Robert Dale Frost.

278

00:19:54.590 --> 00:19:58.370

And he was a pilot with the three 28th. And he was, uh,

279

00:19:58.490 --> 00:20:03.290

Hardwick from April of 1944 through September of 1944.

280

00:20:04.030 --> 00:20:07.210

And I know my mom's put together a really nice book that we left around the

281

00:20:07.210 --> 00:20:07.470

corner,

282

00:20:07.470 --> 00:20:11.810

and we're hoping to get a chance to speak with everybody and found some more

283

00:20:11.810 --> 00:20:15.050

about him. And, uh, I actually, for my mom's birthday,

284

00:20:15.050 --> 00:20:19.650

I was going to school back in England in 1993, and I surprised her.

285

00:20:19.950 --> 00:20:22.610

And when she flew over to pick me up from school, um,

286

00:20:22.810 --> 00:20:27.010

I had arranged for us to go take a tour of the air base at Hardwick.
And, uh,

287

00:20:27.010 --> 00:20:29.570

that was before the internet, so it wasn't easy to do back then.

288

00:20:30.730 --> 00:20:33.210

I don't know how I did that. But, um, somehow we went there,

289

00:20:33.210 --> 00:20:36.970

we had a great time, met the nice family owns the farm. And, uh,

290

00:20:36.970 --> 00:20:38.450

so it kind of got us interested in this.

291

00:20:38.510 --> 00:20:41.690

And we've been going through all the old papers and books and trying
to find out

292

00:20:41.690 --> 00:20:46.170

more about her father. And, uh, so we're hoping to get to talk to
everybody and,

293

00:20:46.270 --> 00:20:49.440

and we really feel very welcome and blessed to be here with you today.

294

00:20:49.860 --> 00:20:51.960

And we're visiting from Orange County, California.

295

00:20:57.700 --> 00:21:00.760

Hi everybody, I'm Jill Meese, as my son said,

296

00:21:01.180 --> 00:21:04.280

and I'm very honored to be here tonight, too. Uh,

297

00:21:04.350 --> 00:21:09.040

it's wonderful to see that there are people that still respect our
country

298

00:21:09.140 --> 00:21:11.560

and respect our flag. And maybe someday,

299

00:21:11.610 --> 00:21:16.480

those that don't will understand that the reason they can have freedom of speech

300

00:21:16.490 --> 00:21:21.160

today is because of their forefathers. I think that day will come, uh,

301

00:21:21.250 --> 00:21:23.840

maybe not in our lifetime, uh,

302

00:21:23.940 --> 00:21:28.840

but I was so blessed when my son kept following this story. You see,

303

00:21:28.860 --> 00:21:32.040

my dad died when he was three four of a massive heart attack.

304

00:21:32.700 --> 00:21:36.000

So I was eight years old and I never really got to know too much.

305

00:21:36.160 --> 00:21:38.440

I just heard stories from my mom, uh,

306

00:21:38.460 --> 00:21:42.760

but I had quite a bit of his memorabilia and put it all together.

307

00:21:42.830 --> 00:21:46.200

It's in an album back there for anybody that cares what about it. Um,

308

00:21:46.780 --> 00:21:49.440

but we're very, very honored and very excited to be here.

309

00:21:49.440 --> 00:21:52.080

And this guy here made it all happen for me.

310

00:21:52.280 --> 00:21:56.560

I was so excited when he surprised me that trip to Hardwick, uh,

311

00:21:56.580 --> 00:21:59.240

and to meet the Woodrow as well. What fabulous people.

312

00:21:59.980 --> 00:22:03.240

And I look forward to meeting all of you. Thank you so much.

313

00:22:10.350 --> 00:22:12.480

Okay, bill, you're up. Thank you.

314

00:22:14.340 --> 00:22:18.200

Uh, God, it's great to see you guys again. It's almost like, uh,

315

00:22:18.200 --> 00:22:22.840

yesterday we were all together and this is now my 16th

316

00:22:22.870 --> 00:22:24.480

reunion with the 93rd.

317

00:22:25.220 --> 00:22:27.920

My name is William Brooker and I was William Sergeant.

318

00:22:28.140 --> 00:22:33.120

My father was killed on the runway on one of your gold star boys.

319

00:22:33.860 --> 00:22:37.040

My mother told me a long time ago that I had a lot of uncles,

320

00:22:38.020 --> 00:22:42.680

and it was the veterans of this outfit, and it's good to be back.

321

00:22:47.180 --> 00:22:51.200

Hi, I'm Joanne, Sergeant Bill's wife. We're from Denver.

322

00:22:52.020 --> 00:22:54.680

Um, I haven't been to as many reunions as Bill,

323

00:22:54.780 --> 00:22:58.800

but it always feels like you're coming home when you're with this group,

324

00:22:59.500 --> 00:23:00.333

so thank you.

325

00:23:05.700 --> 00:23:09.400

Hi, I am George Jung. I'm the son of, uh, George Jung, uh,

326

00:23:09.460 --> 00:23:14.040

who is a navigator in the, uh, three 29th. Uh,

327

00:23:14.230 --> 00:23:18.360

this is my fifth reunion. I think, uh, always, uh,

328

00:23:18.840 --> 00:23:21.880

a pleasure to be here and to see a lot of familiar faces and meet,

329

00:23:22.350 --> 00:23:25.400

meet new people who, who share a,

330

00:23:25.520 --> 00:23:28.960

a rich and storied legacy. Uh,

331

00:23:29.140 --> 00:23:31.680

and we all can learn from each other and share stories,

332

00:23:32.020 --> 00:23:36.120

and it's just a wonderful thing. So, uh, I have a,

333

00:23:36.200 --> 00:23:37.560

I think I have a session tomorrow.

334

00:23:38.320 --> 00:23:41.200

I can tell you a little bit more about my father then. Uh,

335

00:23:41.340 --> 00:23:43.480

and just looking forward to a wonderful weekend.

336

00:23:49.200 --> 00:23:53.960

I am Elizabeth, John, the wife George, and, um, sister-in-law,

337

00:23:53.960 --> 00:23:57.160

and Karen and Steven and my nephew Alex over there.

338

00:23:57.620 --> 00:23:59.520

And I'm very happy to be here as well.

339

00:24:00.270 --> 00:24:04.080

I've gotten to know George's dad, um,

340

00:24:04.190 --> 00:24:08.360

through this experience is my first reunion. And, um,

341

00:24:09.480 --> 00:24:12.120

I never had the pleasure of meeting George's dad.

342

00:24:12.820 --> 00:24:16.720

So through George and the 93rd Bombers,

343

00:24:17.310 --> 00:24:21.880

he's put together a beautiful album, and I've gotten to know more about him,

344

00:24:22.420 --> 00:24:24.280

and it's been a wonderful experience.

345

00:24:24.820 --> 00:24:29.560

And my father too served in World War II and loved this country deeply,

346

00:24:30.220 --> 00:24:34.920

and I'm very honored to be in the presence of the World War II veterans that are

347

00:24:34.920 --> 00:24:36.680

here and their families. Thank you.

348

00:24:41.460 --> 00:24:45.440

Hi, I'm Becky Birch, and my daddy was a bomber pilot,

349

00:24:45.980 --> 00:24:50.960

the 93rd, uh, 4 0 9 squadron. And, um,

350

00:24:51.420 --> 00:24:56.120

he died about five years ago, but he took me, well, that's,

351

00:24:57.100 --> 00:24:59.080

I'm going tell that story later,

352

00:25:01.620 --> 00:25:05.400

not 15 minutes of that. Uh, so, um,

353

00:25:06.560 --> 00:25:09.880

I love goodness. Uh,

354

00:25:10.120 --> 00:25:12.880

I feel like we're all brothers and sisters, you know,

355

00:25:13.070 --> 00:25:17.680

it's just so wonderful together, together every year. And we love,

356

00:25:18.270 --> 00:25:22.720

love, love having new people. Uh, it's,

357

00:25:23.230 --> 00:25:26.360

they add so much to the group,

358

00:25:26.740 --> 00:25:31.240

and I'm so excited to see so many new faces this time.

359

00:25:31.820 --> 00:25:35.080

And now I'm going to pass the mic to my little sister.

360

00:25:38.020 --> 00:25:38.853

Hi, Chris.

361

00:25:42.300 --> 00:25:46.280

That's my oldest sister. She's really old.

362

00:25:52.860 --> 00:25:53.080

You

363

00:25:53.080 --> 00:25:56.080

Know how old she must be. Um, well,

364

00:25:58.300 --> 00:26:03.000

she told me about my dad. And, uh, this is my second reunion. I always,

365

00:26:03.460 --> 00:26:06.800

he always came with Becky. And, um, they had good times.

366

00:26:07.020 --> 00:26:08.240

And then after he passed,

367

00:26:08.260 --> 00:26:13.160

it took me three years to make my way here because he was just and

368

00:26:13.240 --> 00:26:17.800

emotional. And we're from Hot Springs, Arkansas,

369

00:26:18.700 --> 00:26:20.360

and this is my husband's name.

370

00:26:24.810 --> 00:26:28.480

Thank you. Stan McNeely. And my father-in-law is Luke Brown.

371

00:26:28.930 --> 00:26:32.280

We're from Hot Springs, Arkansas, and we're really happy to be here.

372

00:26:32.950 --> 00:26:34.360

Good to see you. Thank. Thank you.

373

00:26:38.220 --> 00:26:42.680

Hi, my name is Pete Ash. My dad was with the 93rd. His name is Al,

374

00:26:42.860 --> 00:26:46.760

was Al Ash. It's still Al Ash. Yeah, he's deceased Al Ash.

375

00:26:47.220 --> 00:26:49.560

He was a pilot with the 93rd. Uh,

376

00:26:49.560 --> 00:26:54.280

went over with the first wave of aircraft to set up the base. And,

377

00:26:54.420 --> 00:26:59.040

uh, yeah, I'll bring this up in my, uh, verbal session on Saturday,

378

00:26:59.200 --> 00:27:01.960

I believe it is. Uh, he also flew, uh,

379

00:27:01.960 --> 00:27:06.840

with the 455th after he left the 93rd. Uh, so he flew two tours,

380

00:27:07.100 --> 00:27:08.560

you'll find out in a couple days.

381

00:27:14.300 --> 00:27:18.440

I'm Ally Brown, I'm the new, um, I'm the treasurer for the group. Uh,

382

00:27:18.580 --> 00:27:23.520

new as of last year in San Antonio, I was railroaded. I'd rather I cheerfully,

383

00:27:23.660 --> 00:27:27.360

uh, uh, volunteered for the position. And it's been a, uh,

384

00:27:27.550 --> 00:27:29.720

it's been a learning experience. Uh,

385

00:27:29.860 --> 00:27:33.440

my connection to the group is my Uncle Bill here,

386

00:27:33.820 --> 00:27:38.120

but I actually have two family members that are both war heroes.

Curiously,

387

00:27:38.120 --> 00:27:42.240

they're both named Bill Brown, my uncle, and my brother.

388

00:27:47.260 --> 00:27:50.600

Hi, I am Bill Brown, the younger, uh,

389

00:27:51.390 --> 00:27:56.080

it's rare someone my age can get that claim in. But here's Bill Brown, senior,

390

00:27:56.620 --> 00:28:01.120

uh, the Elder. Anyway, so, uh, we are here from, uh,

391

00:28:01.570 --> 00:28:03.680

we're in, uh, this is our second reunion.

392

00:28:03.940 --> 00:28:08.800

We were in Omaha for the one missed last year, but we're back for this year. Uh,

393

00:28:08.980 --> 00:28:11.360

we have, uh, we're in New Jersey before,

394

00:28:11.360 --> 00:28:15.560

but we've recently moved to Southern Georgia. So, uh,

395

00:28:15.840 --> 00:28:19.640

a hurricane didn't quite stop us from coming. So, uh, we're happy to be here.

396

00:28:19.860 --> 00:28:24.160

And, uh, we're proud to be, uh, with my uncle and, uh,

397

00:28:24.250 --> 00:28:29.040

supporting him in this, uh, in this efforts. So this is my wife Ellen.

398

00:28:32.260 --> 00:28:36.040

Hi, guys. This is, as everybody has said,

399

00:28:36.060 --> 00:28:40.400

and I'm gonna try to keep it together. But, um, the real honor,

400

00:28:41.120 --> 00:28:43.280

I am so honored. This is my first one,

401

00:28:43.780 --> 00:28:46.960

and I've heard about it from my,

402

00:28:48.290 --> 00:28:51.030

my brother-in-law and my husband. And of course,

403

00:28:51.250 --> 00:28:53.550

I'm here in honor of,

404

00:28:57.430 --> 00:29:00.990

I just love, so I'm gonna stop now.

405

00:29:15.340 --> 00:29:20.050

Well, I don't know what to say. My name is William Brown. They call me Bill.

406

00:29:21.510 --> 00:29:24.170

That's, those are the things that come at the first of the month.

407

00:29:29.110 --> 00:29:29.943

Uh,

408

00:29:30.470 --> 00:29:34.890

it isn't so much a great honor for me to be here. It is,

409

00:29:35.990 --> 00:29:37.930

it is that I am here.

410

00:29:44.020 --> 00:29:44.853

So

411

00:29:48.410 --> 00:29:51.770

I don't know what else to say. You did good, except you did good.

412

00:29:52.430 --> 00:29:57.330

Except I'm grateful that I have my relatives here

413

00:29:57.330 --> 00:30:00.770

with me. They, they keep me on the street and narrow.

414

00:30:11.190 --> 00:30:12.130

Hi, my name is

415

00:30:12.130 --> 00:30:16.530

Susan McClain. Currently live in Dallas, but I am originally from here.

416

00:30:17.470 --> 00:30:20.050

And I am with this wonderful man, my father,

417

00:30:20.990 --> 00:30:23.890

who is the first generation from the 93rd school.

418

00:30:28.670 --> 00:30:28.890

All

419

00:30:28.890 --> 00:30:30.290

Yours. I'm gonna do like Henry

420

00:30:30.310 --> 00:30:31.143

And sit it out.

421

00:30:33.010 --> 00:30:33.240

I

422

00:30:33.240 --> 00:30:34.850

Come from about two miles up the road,

423

00:30:36.150 --> 00:30:39.650

and this is my second reunion in New Orleans. I made the, the loop.

424

00:30:39.670 --> 00:30:41.370

My first was in 2003.

425

00:30:42.610 --> 00:30:47.250

I flew with the three 29th and the 409th. And, uh,

426

00:30:47.920 --> 00:30:50.170

it's been a remarkable experience being with all these people.

427

00:30:57.550 --> 00:31:00.330

I'm Georgia Rech and I'm here with my husband Paul.

428

00:31:00.790 --> 00:31:02.610

His dad was in the 93rd,

429

00:31:02.830 --> 00:31:06.330

and we've been coming for several years and really enjoy it.

430

00:31:10.790 --> 00:31:15.530

My name is Paul Rech. I'm the son of Paul Rech. Well, I'm Paul Rech Jr.

431

00:31:16.190 --> 00:31:21.010

My dad was Paul Reich and he never understood why

432

00:31:21.070 --> 00:31:25.490

he had to use senior when, just because he was dumb enough to name me after him.

433

00:31:26.390 --> 00:31:30.650

Uh, he flew at the three 28th bomb Squadron. He was, uh,

434

00:31:30.650 --> 00:31:33.890

assistant in flight engineer and then flight engineer,

435

00:31:34.580 --> 00:31:38.810

which was left waist. And then top tur, they flew their,

436

00:31:38.950 --> 00:31:43.050

he flew his first mission 24 February. It was the end of big week,

437

00:31:43.460 --> 00:31:47.930

which was a sustained effort to get the German aircraft factories.

438

00:31:48.510 --> 00:31:53.130

His fifth mission was the first daylight rate on Berlin. They watched,

439

00:31:53.310 --> 00:31:57.650

uh, 81 aircraft go down most from B 17 groups.

440

00:31:58.510 --> 00:32:02.050

And he finished up two days before D-Day. Uh,

441

00:32:02.370 --> 00:32:05.770

I guess I'm up Sunday for a briefing, and I'll tell you why.

442

00:32:05.790 --> 00:32:08.090

His crew never wanted to wear the flax suits.

443

00:32:10.640 --> 00:32:11.770

Done. We don't.

444

00:32:15.990 --> 00:32:20.650

I'm Don Morrison, uh, grandson of Melvin Morrison, who was a waste
gunner. Uh,

445

00:32:20.710 --> 00:32:23.530

he has since passed away in oh three. Uh,

446

00:32:23.580 --> 00:32:27.490

first reunion was second Air Division in 91. Uh,

447

00:32:28.040 --> 00:32:30.290

been to many of those, then they ended.

448

00:32:30.550 --> 00:32:32.930

And then I've been at almost all of the 93rd,

449

00:32:33.430 --> 00:32:36.450

and I'm the group historian and newsletter editor.

450

00:32:37.390 --> 00:32:38.223

So,

451

00:32:42.980 --> 00:32:47.680

Hi, my name is Jim Sellers. I'm from Jefferson City, Missouri.

452

00:32:48.740 --> 00:32:53.440

And, uh, I am actually best known for Michael's father.

453

00:32:55.980 --> 00:33:00.320

Uh, yeah, you, I've had that stuck in my face for years.

454

00:33:02.290 --> 00:33:05.240

Sorry. John L. Sullivan was my father-in-law,

455

00:33:06.060 --> 00:33:10.640

and he passed away about a year and a half ago. And this is his
daughter

456

00:33:12.460 --> 00:33:13.293

You're on.

457

00:33:14.620 --> 00:33:19.360

I'm Peggy Sellers. Uh, Jim's my husband, Michael's my son. These are my cousins.

458

00:33:19.540 --> 00:33:21.560

So we were all here in honor of my dad, John,

459

00:33:22.060 --> 00:33:26.680

who passed in May 10th last year. And, um,

460

00:33:27.980 --> 00:33:29.440

that's, he said everything else.

461

00:33:35.860 --> 00:33:39.680

My name's John pr. I'm from Jefferson City, Missouri with my wife Terry.

462

00:33:40.230 --> 00:33:44.760

This is our second time here. And we are here to honor John Sullivan.

463

00:33:45.860 --> 00:33:47.120

One of the greatest people I do.

464

00:33:52.420 --> 00:33:56.900

I am Terry Propst, and I was lucky enough to have John Sullivan for my uncle.

465

00:33:57.880 --> 00:34:00.940

And you know, the rest, they've already told you about him.

466

00:34:01.440 --> 00:34:03.940

And we're happy to be here. And this is my husband,

467

00:34:04.320 --> 00:34:05.900

and we are from Jefferson City.

468

00:34:12.230 --> 00:34:13.063

She's,

469

00:34:15.960 --> 00:34:17.060

I'm not last. I don't

470

00:34:17.060 --> 00:34:17.893

Wanna be last.

471

00:34:19.360 --> 00:34:23.020

My name's Mary McGuire and I, this is my first reunion,

472

00:34:23.400 --> 00:34:28.100

and you are lucky to have me because what I've got is what got rescued from

473

00:34:28.100 --> 00:34:32.440

being flooded. You know, uh, my father was, uh,

474

00:34:32.440 --> 00:34:36.120

Edward Leo McGuire Jr. And at the time, the beginning of the war,

475

00:34:36.140 --> 00:34:39.520

he was in the big red one, and he was in Florida.

476

00:34:39.820 --> 00:34:43.440

He was supposed to be there and stay there. And the next day they said,

477

00:34:43.440 --> 00:34:45.320

you're going to a place called Shreveport,

478

00:34:45.320 --> 00:34:47.880

Louisiana and open up a place called Fort Humbug.

479

00:34:49.660 --> 00:34:52.880

And basically he told the base that, which way do I go?

480

00:34:53.900 --> 00:34:57.280

And he didn't get braked, you know, how could you break a second lieutenant?

481

00:34:57.460 --> 00:35:02.400

So he went out and turned left and ended up going

482

00:35:02.400 --> 00:35:05.240

through the wrong door in Shreveport. And he never went home.

483

00:35:05.520 --> 00:35:10.240

'cause he met my mother. So that's where I was raised. Um,

484

00:35:10.980 --> 00:35:13.240

and I've got a point, and I've got a book,

485

00:35:13.240 --> 00:35:18.080

because he was diagnosed the year after he went to Hardwick with a primary

486

00:35:18.250 --> 00:35:20.240

brain tumor. So when he couldn't drive,

487

00:35:20.820 --> 00:35:25.560

he wrote this out in longhand and we got it published. So it's over there.

488

00:35:26.020 --> 00:35:28.480

And I could tell stories from Canal to Doomsdays,

489

00:35:28.480 --> 00:35:30.560

you're gonna have fun keeping me to 15 minutes.

490

00:35:36.860 --> 00:35:40.560

I'm gonna put it on selfie mode. Uh,

491

00:35:40.700 --> 00:35:45.240

my name's Michael Sellers, my family here, um, uh,

492

00:35:45.780 --> 00:35:49.000

2004, I think we talked about when we started dating.

493

00:35:50.410 --> 00:35:54.010

I think we hit pretty much everyone, maybe one or there when we have.
But, uh,

494

00:35:55.310 --> 00:35:58.810

I'm helping out the group now. I'm on the committee, um, working on
the film,

495

00:35:58.810 --> 00:36:01.370

which you guys will see tomorrow. Um,

496

00:36:02.150 --> 00:36:06.530

my wife Suzanne and Charlotte, we're sitting right here.

497

00:36:07.640 --> 00:36:10.930

They're not there right now, uh, but you'll see them down the road.
Thank you.

498

00:36:15.350 --> 00:36:19.970

I'm Oshima I guess this is our fourth reunion. And, um,

499

00:36:20.550 --> 00:36:23.490

my dad was Forest Lamb. He was a lead navigator.

500

00:36:24.070 --> 00:36:28.290

He flew in 30 bombing missions. And, um, I just,

501

00:36:28.680 --> 00:36:30.050

several of you have heard this before,

502

00:36:30.070 --> 00:36:33.570

but he used to get the newsletter and I looked at it and I, oh, okay,
whatever.

503

00:36:33.910 --> 00:36:38.330

And then one year, he passed away about 20 years ago, but one year, uh,

504

00:36:39.070 --> 00:36:42.010

the reunion was going to Dayton, Ohio. And I told my husband, Hey,

505

00:36:42.070 --> 00:36:46.610

you're gonna go to Dayton, Ohio at the, uh, Wright Patterson Air Museum.

506

00:36:46.910 --> 00:36:48.490

And my husband says, great, let's go.

507

00:36:49.310 --> 00:36:52.010

So we went and there was stuff going.

508

00:36:52.240 --> 00:36:54.730

It's really a fantastic organization,

509

00:36:55.030 --> 00:36:58.850

and the committee works so hard at doing so many things. And, uh,

510

00:36:58.850 --> 00:37:02.210

we also went to hard work a couple years ago, and that was a fantastic trip.

511

00:37:02.310 --> 00:37:04.890

And I've seen many familiar faces from that.

512

00:37:05.150 --> 00:37:07.250

But I like to tell this one story that I've said before,

513

00:37:07.250 --> 00:37:12.210

that I was looking at one of George's dad's, the album that he put together.

514

00:37:12.430 --> 00:37:16.450

And George's dad was in a photograph with a

515

00:37:17.410 --> 00:37:21.330

airplane that was, uh, the same as what my dad was in. I said, George,

516

00:37:21.610 --> 00:37:24.410

I have a picture of this, of my dad in front of this exact plane.

517

00:37:24.990 --> 00:37:29.850

And so it turns out that they were both lead navigators and they would put lead

518

00:37:29.850 --> 00:37:34.450

navigators with the best equipment, the rest radar equipment.

519

00:37:34.510 --> 00:37:39.250

And so they flew in the same planes and we looked at their bombing

520

00:37:39.250 --> 00:37:43.170

missions and several were overlapping. So they were in kind of at the same time.

521

00:37:43.350 --> 00:37:46.450

But the thing that I went was fascinating. But you talk to people here,

522

00:37:46.710 --> 00:37:48.170

you'll find some connection.

523

00:37:48.480 --> 00:37:52.610

There's always someone else whose dad or uncle or whatever that did the same

524

00:37:52.610 --> 00:37:56.930

thing that your dad or uncle did. And it's just really interesting to see the,

525

00:37:57.670 --> 00:37:59.250

the connections that we can make here.

526

00:37:59.310 --> 00:38:02.570

And it's just been wonderful experience for, for my husband and I.

527

00:38:08.800 --> 00:38:12.770

Yeah, there's not much more to say. So I, anyway,

528

00:38:12.790 --> 00:38:15.210

I'm Dave Oshima, as I say,

529

00:38:15.210 --> 00:38:19.570

every year I'm with her and I pass the mic. We're from California,

530

00:38:19.570 --> 00:38:20.650

but don't hold that against it.

531

00:38:26.350 --> 00:38:27.970

My name is, uh, d Friesen,

532

00:38:28.560 --> 00:38:32.050

some of you that I've been talking to on the telephone from the top of a hill in

533

00:38:32.050 --> 00:38:34.970

the Black Canyon, the Gunnison National Park. I'm starting to see who you are.

534

00:38:36.060 --> 00:38:37.640

So I'm coordinating the, uh,

535

00:38:37.640 --> 00:38:41.120

education sessions for tomorrow and Friday and Saturday.

536

00:38:41.280 --> 00:38:45.080

I think they're gonna be very exciting. Looking forward to that. Uh,

537

00:38:45.140 --> 00:38:48.000

I'm a retired Air Force pilot, Vietnam Vet,

538

00:38:48.540 --> 00:38:53.120

and my association with this group is the Air Force sent me to

539

00:38:53.120 --> 00:38:56.640

Leavenworth. And while I was at Leavenworth,

540

00:38:56.840 --> 00:39:01.720

I took a course with the Army called History of Battle. And I studied the,

541

00:39:01.780 --> 00:39:06.320

uh, air raid and fte, and that's how I got involved. So, looking forward,

542

00:39:06.390 --> 00:39:09.720

this is, I think my fourth reunion. Looking forward to it.

543

00:39:09.720 --> 00:39:13.880

This is a great group and I think we all feel that together.

544

00:39:13.980 --> 00:39:17.560

We share something that people that haven't been through these things do not.

545

00:39:18.420 --> 00:39:22.520

And I just went to my first Vietnam pilots reunion two weeks ago,

546

00:39:23.000 --> 00:39:26.640

hadn't done that in 40 years. And I met people that I hadn't seen for 40 years,

547

00:39:26.720 --> 00:39:29.720

a wingman of mine. I'm surprised they's still alive.

548

00:39:30.380 --> 00:39:34.080

And so it was great to just do that. So we'll have a great reunion.

549

00:39:34.080 --> 00:39:34.913

Thanks for coming.

550

00:39:40.340 --> 00:39:41.920

I'm, I'm Will Payne,

551

00:39:42.980 --> 00:39:47.960

my father was the flight surgeon for the 93rd for the whole time they were at

552

00:39:47.960 --> 00:39:50.640

Harford. Uh,

553

00:39:51.350 --> 00:39:54.320

I've noticed how many of you have said

554

00:39:56.960 --> 00:40:01.260

in your learning about the 93rd, you've seen a side of your own

555

00:40:03.180 --> 00:40:07.000

family, a member of your family, who you never suspected before.

556

00:40:08.220 --> 00:40:09.920

But I'm gonna tell you my story tomorrow.

557

00:40:15.780 --> 00:40:18.800

Hi, I'm Michelle Timor from Grand Rapids, Michigan.

558

00:40:19.340 --> 00:40:22.200

I'm here with my husband Nick, who can tell you about his uncle.

559

00:40:22.340 --> 00:40:24.280

And one of these days, I don't know,

560

00:40:24.440 --> 00:40:26.400

tomorrow he'll tell you a little more about his uncle.

561

00:40:26.500 --> 00:40:31.320

But we're happy to be here. It's great to see old friends when we

come. Um,

562

00:40:31.500 --> 00:40:36.280

and there are plenty that are missing tonight that, that we wish were here.

563

00:40:40.220 --> 00:40:41.600

Boy, do I need a potty break.

564

00:40:44.780 --> 00:40:49.640

1, 2, 3. That's it. We're all gone. Um,

565

00:40:50.540 --> 00:40:55.080

and you know what, dawned on me, we have a lot of movie stars in this group,

566

00:40:55.940 --> 00:40:57.440

and tomorrow we're gonna see 'em. I,

567

00:40:57.550 --> 00:41:02.120

I've just seen part of the movie and a lot of you are in there and

568

00:41:02.440 --> 00:41:06.400

I think did an incredible job. So we're really looking forward to that.

569

00:41:06.420 --> 00:41:09.920

I'm Nick Timmer. I'm secretary of this group.

570

00:41:10.780 --> 00:41:14.520

My uncle Bob was a co-pilot with the 93rd,

571

00:41:14.530 --> 00:41:19.520

three 30th and, um, died, um,

572

00:41:19.610 --> 00:41:23.040

after being shot down in Roman Germany in 1943.

573

00:41:24.510 --> 00:41:28.720

Will Alto tell our stories tomorrow? Glad you're here. Um,

574

00:41:29.180 --> 00:41:33.480

always look forward to this group and seeing people who become

575

00:41:33.510 --> 00:41:34.343

Very good friends.

576

00:41:35.480 --> 00:41:36.313

Thanks Nick.

577

00:41:40.710 --> 00:41:44.340

Hello, my name is Jim Lux and I'm delighted to be here. Uh,

578

00:41:44.640 --> 00:41:48.820

I'm honored that they've invited me to be a member of the 93rd Bombardment Group

579

00:41:48.850 --> 00:41:50.980

because I don't have a family member.

580

00:41:51.500 --> 00:41:56.140

I do have two uncles that participated in World War ii. One was in the C P I,

581

00:41:56.440 --> 00:42:00.860

he was an engineer, uh, an engineer gunner on a B 24.

582

00:42:00.920 --> 00:42:05.020

And I believe from all the records we have that he was one of those that bombed

583

00:42:05.020 --> 00:42:07.260

the ridge over the River Koi and a few of the other places.

584

00:42:07.720 --> 00:42:11.660

And I also had another uncle that was in the three 16 Troop Carrier group,

585

00:42:12.120 --> 00:42:15.020

and they did Operation Husky and, uh,

586

00:42:15.230 --> 00:42:17.860

D-Day and Market Garden and a lot of the others.

587

00:42:18.680 --> 00:42:23.300

But I'm here because of a dear friend of mine by the name of Robert
Jake

588

00:42:23.540 --> 00:42:24.280

Jacobson.

589

00:42:24.280 --> 00:42:28.620

He was a bombardier on the B 24 liberator in the 30th bomb squadron.

590

00:42:29.000 --> 00:42:30.660

The bomber was called Hot Stuff.

591

00:42:31.080 --> 00:42:35.100

And I found out it was the first to complete 25 missions in the eighth
Air Force

592

00:42:35.480 --> 00:42:39.980

and decided to try and do something about it and get to get
recognition,

593

00:42:39.980 --> 00:42:41.340

proper recognition for them.

594

00:42:41.360 --> 00:42:46.180

And then when I learned that General Frank Maxwell Andrews was on
board and

595

00:42:46.260 --> 00:42:47.420

I didn't know who he was,

596

00:42:47.490 --> 00:42:50.260
even though I spent five years in the Air Force myself.

597
00:42:50.760 --> 00:42:53.460
And when I learned what a great military leader he was,

598
00:42:54.020 --> 00:42:56.980
I decided that it's time that we revive revived his legacy.

599
00:42:57.520 --> 00:42:59.140
And so I've been working on that project.

600
00:42:59.240 --> 00:43:04.220
You'll hear more about it whenever I'm about to speak. I'm not sure when it is,

601
00:43:04.400 --> 00:43:06.740
but I'm looking forward to it. Thank you.

602
00:43:11.660 --> 00:43:15.860
I get the last word. Thank you so much for

603
00:43:17.370 --> 00:43:21.620
gathering every year to remember your parents, your grandparents,

604
00:43:22.210 --> 00:43:25.980
your uncles, your cousins, and what they did during World War ii.

605
00:43:26.110 --> 00:43:30.260
Appreciate that. Very much needs to be kept up and we don't,

606
00:43:30.360 --> 00:43:33.500
we never need to forget. Um, we're from Austin,

607
00:43:33.550 --> 00:43:37.100
Texas and I've been married to this guy for 52 years.

608
00:43:37.260 --> 00:43:39.820

I still can't tell you what he is gonna do next. Thank you so much.

609

00:43:40.790 --> 00:43:41.623

Thank you.

610

00:43:48.460 --> 00:43:51.820

December. So, uh, it's a little bit different now.

611

00:43:51.850 --> 00:43:54.540

Something that we don't talk about very often,

612

00:43:54.880 --> 00:43:59.860

and I think it is because largely that the wings were administrative

613

00:43:59.860 --> 00:44:01.940

organizations is that, uh,

614

00:44:02.370 --> 00:44:06.820

each bomb group was assigned to a bomb wing or bombardment wing.

615

00:44:07.400 --> 00:44:10.340

The 93rd was assigned to the 20th bombardment wing,

616

00:44:11.120 --> 00:44:12.900

as was the four 46th.

617

00:44:13.280 --> 00:44:17.540

So they were in the same wing along with the four 48th at seething,

618

00:44:18.320 --> 00:44:22.540

the four 89th at Haworth. Uh, the 4 46 was at Bunge,

619

00:44:22.540 --> 00:44:27.420

which is about five miles by air from Hardwick by

620

00:44:27.420 --> 00:44:31.440

road. It's a little further. You've gotta do some turns and all that.

Uh,

621

00:44:31.460 --> 00:44:34.280

so they were all assigned to the 20th bombardment plan.

622

00:44:35.020 --> 00:44:39.040

And late in, um, 1944,

623

00:44:39.840 --> 00:44:44.360

a decision was made to consolidate the lead crews with the

624

00:44:44.360 --> 00:44:47.000

93rd so that they could do lead crew training.

625

00:44:47.780 --> 00:44:52.120

And that's why my uncle moved over to, uh, the, the 93rd.

626

00:44:54.180 --> 00:44:56.840

And when he moved, he moved with his entire crew.

627

00:44:56.980 --> 00:44:59.320

So let's step back a little bit about who he was.

628

00:44:59.980 --> 00:45:03.800

He was born in December of 1921. Uh,

629

00:45:04.220 --> 00:45:09.160

the fifth of 10 children. Uh, that's my grandparents there. He is born in,

630

00:45:09.380 --> 00:45:12.840

uh, beaver Falls, PA where I'm from, from where I was born.

631

00:45:13.500 --> 00:45:16.960

He was a graduate of a high school graduate of May of 1940.

632

00:45:17.900 --> 00:45:22.640

And had, was working at the, uh, b Babcock and Wilcox to Company,

633

00:45:22.640 --> 00:45:27.200

which is one of the four steel mills that were active in our city at that time.

634

00:45:28.900 --> 00:45:30.080

He, uh, he,

635

00:45:30.220 --> 00:45:34.440

my father and he were basically one year apart in age,

636

00:45:34.870 --> 00:45:39.160

were very close in their their lives, and, uh,

637

00:45:39.210 --> 00:45:41.560

spent a great deal of time together. Um,

638

00:45:41.560 --> 00:45:44.680

in addition to my Uncle Bob being in the service, uh,

639

00:45:44.780 --> 00:45:48.920

his older sister Mion served as a Navy nurse

640

00:45:49.980 --> 00:45:54.720

and his younger brother, uh, Pete served as a Navy CB in the Pacific.

641

00:45:55.500 --> 00:46:00.080

Uh, and I'll just say yesterday when they, we were doing the, uh,

642

00:46:00.590 --> 00:46:02.680

four in the Pacific and the road to Tokyo,

643

00:46:03.270 --> 00:46:05.880

they had a fabulous display on the cbs.

644

00:46:05.940 --> 00:46:07.720

And I don't know how many of you saw that, but I,

645

00:46:07.960 --> 00:46:10.720

I was very impressed and very interested because of what he has done.

646

00:46:11.780 --> 00:46:15.280

My uncle Bob wasn't married, depending on which letter you read.

647

00:46:15.340 --> 00:46:19.560

He had a girlfriend and he didn't have one. So, uh, like all things.

648

00:46:19.660 --> 00:46:23.200

And he was a member of the church that was closest to his house.

649

00:46:25.340 --> 00:46:27.960

He entered the Army Air Corps in May of 43.

650

00:46:28.140 --> 00:46:32.720

So he worked from May of 40 to 43 at, you know,

651

00:46:32.720 --> 00:46:36.800

at the Babcock and Wilcox plant. So he had some experience. Um,

652

00:46:37.340 --> 00:46:39.480

you can see the dates of, uh,

653

00:46:39.540 --> 00:46:43.440

his different training and where he was located, uh,

654

00:46:43.590 --> 00:46:48.200

that this information is in his, in his flight records. So he was, um,

655

00:46:49.270 --> 00:46:53.440

awarded his wings and stoop guard Air Arkansas,

656

00:46:53.930 --> 00:46:58.480

which is I think is near Little Rock. Where's my Arkansas crowd? Southeast? Yes,

657

00:46:58.780 --> 00:47:03.600

yes. Called Stu, pardon me, in Germany,

658

00:47:03.900 --> 00:47:04.880

it St Stuga.

659

00:47:06.020 --> 00:47:10.960

So in Arkansas it's Stuttgart and it is near Little Rock, right? Yeah,

660

00:47:10.960 --> 00:47:14.040

exactly. Um, second largest.

661

00:47:15.630 --> 00:47:20.520

Alright. So he was, that's where he earned his wings. Uh, left them,

662

00:47:20.630 --> 00:47:22.760

went to, uh, Maxwell Field, uh,

663

00:47:22.810 --> 00:47:26.840

still very large and active base today for, uh,

664

00:47:27.300 --> 00:47:31.840

and then went for crew training to Colorado Springs, uh,

665

00:47:32.250 --> 00:47:34.800

where the crew were brought together an crew training,

666

00:47:34.800 --> 00:47:37.880

which is right down the road from you guys in Denver. Uh,

667

00:47:38.140 --> 00:47:42.440

and then they staged for overseas deployment in Lincoln,

668

00:47:42.760 --> 00:47:45.640

Nebraska where we were two years ago. And I didn't,

669

00:47:45.760 --> 00:47:48.480

I didn't actually go to looking for Lincoln Army Airfield.

670

00:47:48.680 --> 00:47:51.080

'cause I think it's now the airport in Lincoln. Correct.

671

00:47:51.300 --> 00:47:52.880

For those of you from mass Nebraska.

672

00:47:56.430 --> 00:47:59.350

I, I mentioned my aunt, aunt Marian because,

673

00:48:00.610 --> 00:48:05.510

and nobody can tell me this for some reason, she was in Stu Dart

674

00:48:07.180 --> 00:48:12.150

when he was going to receive his wings and she actually pinned

675

00:48:12.150 --> 00:48:14.590

his wings on, which was, I think,

676

00:48:14.590 --> 00:48:18.430

pretty unusual that a family member would be present and be there to,

677

00:48:18.890 --> 00:48:23.510

to put the wings on. And, uh, that, the second thing about this is,

678

00:48:23.570 --> 00:48:28.550

it was my father's birthday, December 5th. So it was a nice, uh,

679

00:48:28.660 --> 00:48:33.150

nice closer this picture appeared in our local newspaper and, uh, you know,

680

00:48:33.210 --> 00:48:34.990

got a lot of attention from folks there.

681

00:48:37.210 --> 00:48:40.830

So he was with the 4 46, uh, bomb squadron.

682

00:48:40.830 --> 00:48:43.310
These are the missions that he had.

683
00:48:45.130 --> 00:48:48.150
I'm not sure about the number of missions he was credited with.

684
00:48:49.250 --> 00:48:52.550
At the end of this, you'll see, uh, he's killed an action.

685
00:48:53.180 --> 00:48:57.000
And those pilots didn't get a certificate at the end that says,

686
00:48:57.260 --> 00:49:00.880
here's all your missions. 'cause they weren't there to receive 'em.

687
00:49:01.420 --> 00:49:06.400
So I don't have an official summary from the Army that says,

688
00:49:06.570 --> 00:49:08.400
these are the missions that you have. So I,

689
00:49:08.400 --> 00:49:12.360
but I do have his flight records and you can look at the different missions,

690
00:49:12.550 --> 00:49:17.040
compare 'em to what the group was doing on those days. And you can guess.

691
00:49:17.420 --> 00:49:19.480
Now I know from talking with Don,

692
00:49:20.060 --> 00:49:24.920
if I go to the mission records with the organ for the organization,

693
00:49:24.920 --> 00:49:27.480
they'll show me that Exactly. And I just,

694

00:49:27.960 --> 00:49:30.640

I need to do that research and figure it out. So these are,

695

00:49:30.930 --> 00:49:35.440

these are the missions he flew that I think he was credited for,

696

00:49:36.220 --> 00:49:39.760

um, the August 30th mission of Berlin.

697

00:49:40.540 --> 00:49:42.040

It was accredited mission,

698

00:49:42.740 --> 00:49:47.680

but it was recall they got so close to Berlin and then they called 'em

699

00:49:47.680 --> 00:49:49.920

back for some reason. Uh,

700

00:49:50.220 --> 00:49:54.920

the August 31st mission was the first mission he did

701

00:49:55.220 --> 00:49:57.800

as a grocery run.

702

00:49:58.220 --> 00:50:03.000

And they actually hauled flour and yeast into France,

703

00:50:03.660 --> 00:50:08.520

uh, near Paris. 'cause the people were starving there. And, uh,

704

00:50:08.900 --> 00:50:10.720

the allied forces had just gone through.

705

00:50:11.070 --> 00:50:16.000

They were able to get flights in and they, uh, did some resupply that way away.

706

00:50:17.900 --> 00:50:22.760

Uh, then, um, which might be pronounced incorrectly,

707

00:50:22.760 --> 00:50:24.640

like Stuard. Uh,

708

00:50:24.940 --> 00:50:28.360

he did another grocery run and they just hauled flower on that one.

709

00:50:30.230 --> 00:50:34.170

During September. He had two missions,

710

00:50:34.950 --> 00:50:39.410

but he had a lot of flying and they qualified him as an instructor pilot.

711

00:50:40.320 --> 00:50:45.060

So most of those missions that he flew in September were two, three hours long,

712

00:50:45.200 --> 00:50:48.700

not long enough to go over, uh, over to, uh,

713

00:50:48.880 --> 00:50:52.580

France or Germany and do a mission, but long enough to, uh, to work.

714

00:50:53.080 --> 00:50:56.660

So he passed his instructor check on September 29th.

715

00:50:57.520 --> 00:50:59.660

And all this is still with the 4 46.

716

00:51:02.810 --> 00:51:06.780

Then he continued, did four more missions with them in October,

717

00:51:09.160 --> 00:51:13.940

and then in November transferred to the 93rd for training as a lead

718

00:51:13.970 --> 00:51:14.803

crew.

719

00:51:15.200 --> 00:51:20.180

The first mission that it looks like he was on in November was all the way

720

00:51:20.240 --> 00:51:22.260

at the very end of November.

721

00:51:23.240 --> 00:51:26.780

So the lead crew training took up that period of time,

722

00:51:27.400 --> 00:51:30.820

and they were certified as a lead crew, uh,

723

00:51:31.160 --> 00:51:35.820

on December 5th. Now this is 93rd. So on December 5th was his,

724

00:51:36.360 --> 00:51:38.420

uh, second mission in 93rd.

725

00:51:38.960 --> 00:51:43.700

And Ted's traveling circus does on that date, mentions him.

726

00:51:44.080 --> 00:51:48.260

And the quote there is Lieutenant Robert W. Marks of Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania,

727

00:51:48.890 --> 00:51:53.100

leading high right, was beset by navigational problem.

728

00:51:54.360 --> 00:51:57.700

So I, it's a comment in Ted, I don't,

729

00:51:58.260 --> 00:52:03.060

somebody obviously thought that was on note. And then on, uh, December 10th,

730

00:52:03.730 --> 00:52:08.060
captain Amos Dover and Lieutenant Robert W. Marks provided

731
00:52:08.370 --> 00:52:11.340
pathfinders for the neighboring 4 46 group.

732
00:52:12.040 --> 00:52:16.100
So he actually flew with the 4 46 and I,

733
00:52:16.260 --> 00:52:21.260
I believe the idea of the lead crews was to assign them back to their original

734
00:52:21.260 --> 00:52:24.740
parent organization. Although they would stay in the 93rd,

735
00:52:24.740 --> 00:52:27.540
they would go back and fly with those, uh, those groups

736
00:52:29.180 --> 00:52:32.720
on December 16th. That's the start of the Battle of the Bulge.

737
00:52:33.580 --> 00:52:38.400
And it, it was a, uh, difficult weather period in Europe. Uh, both,

738
00:52:38.980 --> 00:52:42.440
uh, they had trouble getting flights out of, out of England,

739
00:52:42.440 --> 00:52:46.800
but they also had trouble finding targets in Germany 'cause of the cloud cover

740
00:52:46.860 --> 00:52:51.120
and the snow and so forth. Uh, so they, but they kept pushing to get missions,

741
00:52:51.700 --> 00:52:56.400
uh, off on December 18th. They had a recall mission,

742

00:52:57.060 --> 00:53:01.000

so they didn't actually, uh, weren't able to hit their targets. They,

743

00:53:01.070 --> 00:53:02.040

they were recalled.

744

00:53:06.890 --> 00:53:11.620

Okay. But on December 19th, 1944, uh,

745

00:53:13.240 --> 00:53:16.460

uh, and this is the quote from Ted's traveling circus,

746

00:53:16.880 --> 00:53:21.620

the horrible Hardwick weather determined the fate of Bob Marks and his

747

00:53:21.650 --> 00:53:26.560

crew as the circus stormed out on another effort to retard the

748

00:53:26.560 --> 00:53:30.520

bear, mocked take him off fully loaded at, uh,

749

00:53:30.700 --> 00:53:35.360

1,000 hours with 12 R D x 500 pound bombs.

750

00:53:36.060 --> 00:53:40.280

Bob Marks' craft crashed at the end of the runway. Fog was stiff,

751

00:53:40.730 --> 00:53:43.760

thick, and instrument takeoff was necessitated.

752

00:53:44.410 --> 00:53:47.840

Eight bomb exploded. All crewmen,

753

00:53:47.950 --> 00:53:52.880

five officers and six enlisted them were instantly killed. And that's,

754

00:53:53.020 --> 00:53:56.880

that's the report. Ted's, Ted's traveling service. Um,

755

00:53:58.620 --> 00:54:03.550

this is the existing picture of the crash site.

756

00:54:04.290 --> 00:54:07.950

It was taken by, uh, captain Glenn Tester.

757

00:54:08.730 --> 00:54:12.670

He was a, uh, amateur photographer.

758

00:54:12.690 --> 00:54:15.630

And every chance he got, he took pictures. Uh,

759

00:54:15.660 --> 00:54:19.910

there's not much to see there when you look at it. Uh, there was,

760

00:54:20.690 --> 00:54:25.390

um, part of the Bombay door is,

761

00:54:25.490 --> 00:54:27.430

is visible. And I've actually seen it.

762

00:54:27.460 --> 00:54:31.990

Some guy in England's got it in his garage. He offered it to me, you know,

763

00:54:32.250 --> 00:54:34.030

you want to take this home? I'm going, you know,

764

00:54:34.030 --> 00:54:37.430

which airplane am I gonna put it on and take it? It's big. Um,

765

00:54:38.890 --> 00:54:43.310

so this was, uh, at Burnt Oak Farm,

766

00:54:44.390 --> 00:54:49.310

actually. The plane crashed and the Ted just says at the end of the

runway,

767

00:54:50.170 --> 00:54:54.790

it was a mile and a half after takeoff at the end of the runway.

768

00:54:55.450 --> 00:55:00.310

So the plane did not get enough lift to get up

769

00:55:00.310 --> 00:55:03.910

into the air at the mile and a half point.

770

00:55:04.180 --> 00:55:08.830

They hit a tree at about 40 feet and they turned the plane down and they went

771

00:55:08.830 --> 00:55:11.790

through a row of trees crashing in a, in the farmer's field.

772

00:55:12.410 --> 00:55:16.790

And that's of course when the explosion happened. Uh, the,

773

00:55:17.650 --> 00:55:21.430

the field was a, a, uh, near a farmhouse.

774

00:55:22.210 --> 00:55:26.990

The farmhouse was cracked and damaged from the explosion. Uh, but,

775

00:55:27.210 --> 00:55:30.950

uh, nobody was injured there. And, uh, the,

776

00:55:30.970 --> 00:55:35.670

as the plane exploded, one of the engines flew another mile and a half.

777

00:55:37.770 --> 00:55:40.030

So they recovered it a long way away.

778

00:55:40.170 --> 00:55:43.670

The other three engines were recovered in the, in the air of the crash site.

779

00:55:44.170 --> 00:55:46.150

It dug a pit that was, uh,

780

00:55:46.150 --> 00:55:50.390

they set up to 20 feet deep where the explosion was.

781

00:55:50.650 --> 00:55:51.483

So there was no,

782

00:55:51.850 --> 00:55:56.430

the men on aboard didn't have any chance at all to recover from it.

Now,

783

00:55:56.430 --> 00:55:57.263

later years,

784

00:55:57.830 --> 00:56:01.230

I talked to some of the English folks that were there at the time of the crash.

785

00:56:01.430 --> 00:56:04.550

I talked to some of the, some of our guys too. Um,

786

00:56:04.920 --> 00:56:08.910

there was one man who introduced himself when I was there for the 50th

787

00:56:08.910 --> 00:56:12.430

anniversary of the crash. He said, I'm 51 years old.

788

00:56:13.860 --> 00:56:17.470

Okay, that's a nice way to start the conversation. He said,

789

00:56:17.870 --> 00:56:22.230

I was a baby asleep in the farmhouse next to the crash site.

790

00:56:23.540 --> 00:56:26.200
He said, I heard about this all my life,

791
00:56:26.250 --> 00:56:30.520
about how close it was that I was nearly killed. He said,

792
00:56:30.520 --> 00:56:35.320
but the irony is I didn't even wake up. Well,

793
00:56:35.420 --> 00:56:38.440
the next guy that comes to me says, I'm 64.

794
00:56:40.260 --> 00:56:45.160
And I'm thinking, okay, 64, then make him 14. What's his story? He said,

795
00:56:45.180 --> 00:56:48.600
and there's like three guys crowding around him. He starts telling me, he says,

796
00:56:48.750 --> 00:56:49.583
yeah, he says,

797
00:56:49.600 --> 00:56:53.760
I was plowing the field where the plane crashed

798
00:56:54.580 --> 00:56:59.080
and I was on a tractor. And when the plane crashed,

799
00:56:59.360 --> 00:57:04.240
I didn't hear it. The sound just went over me. I didn't hear it.

800
00:57:04.940 --> 00:57:08.440
And, uh, his buddy said, yeah, he was asleep on that tractor.

801
00:57:10.380 --> 00:57:14.760
So that was his story. And then the final one was a, a woman said she was,

802

00:57:15.560 --> 00:57:19.240

I think 58 and she was in school.

803

00:57:20.460 --> 00:57:23.760

And while she was, uh, when the plane exploded,

804

00:57:24.540 --> 00:57:26.560

all the windows in the school blew out.

805

00:57:27.670 --> 00:57:31.290

And that was a mile away from the, from the crash site.

806

00:57:31.510 --> 00:57:33.650

So this was a massive explosion,

807

00:57:34.010 --> 00:57:38.930

a fully loaded plane of fuel and, and bombs. And,

808

00:57:39.350 --> 00:57:42.690

you know, they just, they just didn't have a chance to survive it.

809

00:57:44.790 --> 00:57:46.930

But this was the crew that was lost.

810

00:57:47.860 --> 00:57:51.650

There were five officers. So there was an extra,

811

00:57:52.800 --> 00:57:54.700

or there, I'm sorry, there were, yeah,

812

00:57:54.700 --> 00:57:59.700

five officers assistant listed that there was an extra officer who

813

00:57:59.760 --> 00:58:03.420

was the PN or pilotage

814

00:58:04.370 --> 00:58:09.140

navigator, and at least on his crew who has a lead crew,

815

00:58:09.140 --> 00:58:10.100

they added an ex,

816

00:58:10.170 --> 00:58:14.580

he's like an extra navigator to help the other ones because everybody was going

817

00:58:14.740 --> 00:58:18.300

to bomb on their, their guidance. I put radar on there,

818

00:58:18.480 --> 00:58:22.220

but Don talked me out of that. So that's really an error where it says radar.

819

00:58:22.600 --> 00:58:26.420

He wasn't a radar operator, he was a pilotage navigator.

820

00:58:26.800 --> 00:58:31.580

So William Young and John Camp would work together to make sure that the

821

00:58:31.580 --> 00:58:35.340

plane stayed on track. Uh, and then you can see the,

822

00:58:35.440 --> 00:58:39.300

the names of the other crew members, those that are in asterisk are,

823

00:58:40.200 --> 00:58:42.820

are asterisk, are buried at the, uh,

824

00:58:43.300 --> 00:58:47.020

American Military Cemetery in Cambridge. And, uh,

825

00:58:47.040 --> 00:58:51.860

you can see the marker from my uncle Bob is, uh, is there on the right.

826

00:58:52.440 --> 00:58:56.180

Uh, the other five are in the vicinity. Uh,

827

00:58:56.440 --> 00:58:58.740

we were always led to believe they're all buried together,

828

00:58:59.520 --> 00:59:04.300

but that isn't how they handled it on in this particular case. Uh,

829

00:59:06.580 --> 00:59:07.720

Are you gonna talk about Leland,

830

00:59:08.470 --> 00:59:09.300

Talk about

831

00:59:09.300 --> 00:59:10.440

Leland at the reunion?

832

00:59:10.940 --> 00:59:14.640

Oh, yes, good point. Uh, I dunno if I have that on the,

833

00:59:15.820 --> 00:59:20.720

and I'll talk about it on this slide. So on December 20, every,

834

00:59:20.860 --> 00:59:22.360

in every case where there was a crash,

835

00:59:22.950 --> 00:59:25.960

they appointed a board of officers to investigate the cause of the crash.

836

00:59:26.820 --> 00:59:30.240

And that crash report was filed on December,

837

00:59:30.620 --> 00:59:33.960

on December 22nd. So three days later,

838

00:59:34.300 --> 00:59:38.950
the investigation was done and they concluded that the crash was

839
00:59:39.110 --> 00:59:43.310
caused by weather 50% and pilot air 50%.

840
00:59:44.290 --> 00:59:48.030
And the truth is they don't know. They did have some, uh,

841
00:59:48.160 --> 00:59:49.910
discussion about the engines.

842
00:59:50.010 --> 00:59:54.070
You heard earlier today that if an engine loses power and a key key
point,

843
00:59:54.130 --> 00:59:56.550
you can have a crash as a result. Uh,

844
00:59:56.720 --> 01:00:01.630
there was one witness said he heard the end, one of the engines
misfiring,

845
01:00:01.630 --> 01:00:05.590
and it went past the tower. They took all the engines into the shop,

846
01:00:05.740 --> 01:00:08.430
they took 'em apart. They checked 'em,

847
01:00:08.430 --> 01:00:13.270
found no evidence of any problem with the engines. The, uh,

848
01:00:13.730 --> 01:00:14.563
Leland Spencer,

849
01:00:14.700 --> 01:00:19.510
when we were in England on the last trip was one of the veterans who
was

850

01:00:19.510 --> 01:00:23.790

along. And we, we got to be talking and he, he said,

851

01:00:23.910 --> 01:00:24.790

I didn't know your uncle,

852

01:00:25.610 --> 01:00:30.470

but I knew of the crash because I was involved in the investigation.
And he,

853

01:00:30.610 --> 01:00:32.790

he had a theory that there was a,

854

01:00:32.790 --> 01:00:37.310

there was a switch at the foot of the pilot that if you hit it at the
wrong

855

01:00:37.310 --> 01:00:40.550

time, would cut the power to the engines. And he,

856

01:00:40.730 --> 01:00:44.030

his theory was that that happened causing the plane to crash.

857

01:00:45.460 --> 01:00:49.430

Most of the pilots I've talked to have said how that it's difficult to
take off

858

01:00:49.850 --> 01:00:53.510

on, uh, instrument, instrument takeoff.

859

01:00:54.010 --> 01:00:58.990

And then probably there was just a slight hesitation somewhere in that
process,

860

01:00:59.250 --> 01:01:02.990

and that could have contributed to the crash, but ultimately the
weather was,

861

01:01:03.290 --> 01:01:06.350
uh, adverse. So now that's, that was the conclusion.

862
01:01:06.650 --> 01:01:10.910
Rayann never likes me to talk about that. 'cause she's, you know, is,
is there,

863
01:01:11.020 --> 01:01:14.230
it's just part of what, what happened, you know, in,

864
01:01:14.410 --> 01:01:19.150
in the war there were hundreds of people that just little mistakes

865
01:01:19.300 --> 01:01:21.510
made the difference between whether they lived and died.

866
01:01:21.650 --> 01:01:23.830
And that's how warfare is everywhere.

867
01:01:24.690 --> 01:01:28.830
So on January 2nd, 1945, my grandfather died.

868
01:01:30.130 --> 01:01:34.590
My uncle's father passed away, uh, suddenly in,

869
01:01:34.980 --> 01:01:38.230
back in Beaver Falls. And he didn't know about his son's death.

870
01:01:38.970 --> 01:01:43.790
The message came to the, so that the family, you know,

871
01:01:43.790 --> 01:01:46.870
went, they have, they're having a funeral, they're at the funeral
home.

872
01:01:47.170 --> 01:01:51.510
And the message messenger message came in by Western Union.

873

01:01:52.050 --> 01:01:55.870
The Western Union Boy was told they're not at home.

874
01:01:55.980 --> 01:01:59.550
They're at the funeral home. Take it to them there.

875
01:02:00.350 --> 01:02:03.430
'cause that's the policy. You had to deliver it right away.

876
01:02:03.540 --> 01:02:06.950
That was Western Union's contract with the government.

877
01:02:07.610 --> 01:02:11.790
So the Western Union Telegraph boy walks into the funeral home.

878
01:02:12.770 --> 01:02:17.470
And even before my mother or my grandmother read

879
01:02:18.290 --> 01:02:22.720
the, the telegram, she said, oh, not that too.

880
01:02:23.020 --> 01:02:27.720
And she passed out. And, uh, it was,

881
01:02:28.140 --> 01:02:31.640
it was just, you know, a terrible experience for the family.

882
01:02:32.180 --> 01:02:34.440
And it was something that, uh, you know,

883
01:02:34.440 --> 01:02:37.200
I didn't hear about that story until much later, you know,

884
01:02:37.200 --> 01:02:39.640
when my dad was able to, to talk about it.

885
01:02:40.940 --> 01:02:45.840
So years later, after all the processing was done,

886

01:02:45.860 --> 01:02:50.120

and they returned the remains of those men who the families asked for the return

887

01:02:50.130 --> 01:02:52.400

their remains to come back to the states.

888

01:02:53.190 --> 01:02:57.000

Then they finished the new cemetery,

889

01:02:57.050 --> 01:03:00.240

which is the one that we go to today. That was the,

890

01:03:00.240 --> 01:03:02.960

the new cemetery replaced the temporary one.

891

01:03:03.590 --> 01:03:08.000

They invited family members to come to England for a ceremony.

892

01:03:09.020 --> 01:03:13.680

And my grandmother and my aunt were able to travel as part of

893

01:03:14.000 --> 01:03:14.833

that program.

894

01:03:15.420 --> 01:03:19.840

And they were the first to visit the grave of my uncle and

895

01:03:20.620 --> 01:03:23.960

my aunt's brother. Uh, since then,

896

01:03:24.400 --> 01:03:27.160

I had the privilege to take my father and mother there,

897

01:03:28.260 --> 01:03:30.840

and I also was able to take my, uh,

898

01:03:31.030 --> 01:03:35.920

another of my uncles there for the 50th anniversary of the death of my,

899

01:03:36.140 --> 01:03:38.440

of Uncle Bob. Uh,

900

01:03:38.660 --> 01:03:41.200

and those experiences are all very meaningful,

901

01:03:41.940 --> 01:03:46.160

but I can't talk about him or any of his memories. There's,

902

01:03:46.160 --> 01:03:50.960

there's nothing that, uh, really exists out there. We do have lots of letters,

903

01:03:51.300 --> 01:03:54.560

you know, and they were the typical letters written home, your mother, and,

904

01:03:54.900 --> 01:03:57.760

you know, I'm doing fine and how are you? Send me 50 bucks,

905

01:03:57.820 --> 01:04:01.840

or send me this or that, you know, those kind of letters, which are great. Um,

906

01:04:03.100 --> 01:04:05.680

and, uh, you know,

907

01:04:06.220 --> 01:04:10.520

we really didn't know much until we started back in the nineties

908

01:04:11.400 --> 01:04:14.440

starting to investigate. And the first thing that I,

909

01:04:14.800 --> 01:04:19.720

I did was I went to the cemetery in England and they

910

01:04:19.720 --> 01:04:21.760
told us about two organizations,

911

01:04:21.980 --> 01:04:24.560
the Second Air Division and the 93rd Bomb Group.

912

01:04:25.380 --> 01:04:30.360
And then they also told us about the fact that there was still

913

01:04:30.360 --> 01:04:35.040
some remains of the air base at Hardwick and put us in touch with, uh,

914

01:04:35.260 --> 01:04:36.760
but Hardwick and Bunge.

915

01:04:36.860 --> 01:04:39.880
And they put us in touch with John Archer and David Woodrow.

916

01:04:40.740 --> 01:04:44.200
So that trip kind of set the stage for everything else that followed.

917

01:04:44.580 --> 01:04:49.000
But many people over the years have been started on that very

918

01:04:49.660 --> 01:04:52.680
way. Yeah, it's, uh, it is pretty amazing.

919

01:04:53.840 --> 01:04:55.920
I think that's it. Okay.

920

01:05:06.190 --> 01:05:07.023
This

921

01:05:08.010 --> 01:05:08.843
Looks

922

01:05:15.670 --> 01:05:16.680

okay. Find a seat,

923

01:05:16.710 --> 01:05:17.960

Make yourself comfortable.

924

01:05:27.550 --> 01:05:31.160

There's some lady coming in back here that's really got a really nice bag that

925

01:05:31.160 --> 01:05:34.000

she's carrying Now,

926

01:05:34.000 --> 01:05:37.800

what the recognition that he received from the French government this year.

927

01:05:38.740 --> 01:05:39.573

And I said,

928

01:05:40.780 --> 01:05:45.400

I'd like to see the award that you received. I'd really like to see that.

929

01:05:45.400 --> 01:05:48.080

He said, well, it's in a frame. I said, well,

930

01:05:48.110 --> 01:05:51.720

take it off the wall and bring it in. He said, oh, I don't wanna do that.

931

01:05:51.740 --> 01:05:55.520

He said, people think I'm bragging. And I said, no, I,

932

01:05:56.000 --> 01:05:58.040

I want to see it. I want to show it to everybody.

933

01:05:58.660 --> 01:06:00.920

So that's what I have in my hand. I'm gonna show you in a second.

934

01:06:01.100 --> 01:06:01.960

But before I do,

935

01:06:02.500 --> 01:06:05.920

not only was George recognized by the French government this year,

936

01:06:06.100 --> 01:06:08.440

but Henry Amp also was recognized,

937

01:06:08.580 --> 01:06:12.120

and I presume he's got the same thing at home, but he's from New Jersey,

938

01:06:12.460 --> 01:06:14.560

so I couldn't really get him to go home and get his,

939

01:06:15.220 --> 01:06:19.600

George is from here like two miles away, I think. And, uh,

940

01:06:20.000 --> 01:06:23.680

I wanted to, uh, give you the opportunity to, to see this award.

941

01:06:24.020 --> 01:06:25.120

It is beautifully done.

942

01:06:25.180 --> 01:06:30.000

It was presented by the French government for services rendered to the

943

01:06:30.000 --> 01:06:31.720

French during the war.

944

01:06:31.940 --> 01:06:36.680

And so a program that they've been running for several years, and, uh,

945

01:06:36.900 --> 01:06:39.880

it is something that's, uh, really worthwhile getting involved in.

946

01:06:39.940 --> 01:06:43.680

So for the veterans who have not received this award,

947

01:06:44.600 --> 01:06:48.720

I believe that they're still process open to get the award, right?
Yeah.

948

01:06:48.820 --> 01:06:49.160

You know,

949

01:06:49.160 --> 01:06:53.120

they're still accepting and you have to present them with evidence
that you

950

01:06:53.120 --> 01:06:57.440

served in or over France. Right. You didn't have to touch it,

951

01:06:57.440 --> 01:07:02.160

you just had to be over. Right. And, uh, some people did touch it,

952

01:07:02.260 --> 01:07:05.360

but some, some just went over. In any case, they,

953

01:07:05.430 --> 01:07:10.320

they do a award ceremony. The one for Henry was in New York City.

954

01:07:11.100 --> 01:07:14.800

Um, George. Where, where was yours at?

955

01:07:14.800 --> 01:07:16.120

I've lost track of where you went to.

956

01:07:16.460 --> 01:07:18.120

At the National World War

957

01:07:18.120 --> 01:07:21.520

II Museum. At the museum here in New Orleans. Okay. So, uh,

958

01:07:21.520 --> 01:07:24.840

they do 'em in different locations as they have people that they wanna

959

01:07:25.280 --> 01:07:29.160

recognize. I'm gonna turn it around. I'm building up,

960

01:07:29.910 --> 01:07:34.640

this is the anticipation. So very good.

961

01:07:34.670 --> 01:07:35.640

This is the award.

962

01:07:39.630 --> 01:07:40.463

Okay.

963

01:07:45.420 --> 01:07:50.200

And it's presented by the Republic on the back,

964

01:07:50.290 --> 01:07:53.640

which you can't see are cross French flags.

965

01:07:53.640 --> 01:07:58.230

So the back is as beautiful as the front and, uh,

966

01:07:58.650 --> 01:08:03.590

the upper is the honor APAC tree. I you like my French.

967

01:08:04.450 --> 01:08:08.710

And which means honor and homeland is their motto. So this is,

968

01:08:08.780 --> 01:08:13.030

this is what was presented. Do you have something like this, Henry?

Yes,

969

01:08:13.530 --> 01:08:14.363

But I,

970

01:08:14.650 --> 01:08:18.280

My daughter had mine frame, but mine is like this.

971

01:08:21.060 --> 01:08:22.440

She does go overboard.

972

01:08:24.740 --> 01:08:25.160

That's

973

01:08:25.160 --> 01:08:25.993

True.

974

01:08:26.580 --> 01:08:29.760

But she did a beautiful job on it. And, and the metal is,

975

01:08:30.260 --> 01:08:34.760

is glass covered. And, and so the medal itself is,

976

01:08:35.270 --> 01:08:40.120

that section is cut out and it's hang just hanging there.

977

01:08:40.740 --> 01:08:43.480

That's a beautiful job she had done. Okay,

978

01:08:43.480 --> 01:08:44.140

Great.

979

01:08:44.140 --> 01:08:48.680

Now there is some urgency for the veterans to do this because

980

01:08:49.140 --> 01:08:52.760

you have to be alive to receive the award. No,

981

01:08:53.740 --> 01:08:58.200

You, it is, you can have it post what, what do you call it?

982

01:09:00.620 --> 01:09:05.200

Uh, but you, you, you need the information that, uh,

983

01:09:05.780 --> 01:09:08.800

uh, they require. And, and it's, uh,

984

01:09:09.320 --> 01:09:14.200

I only had one mission to France, and yet that, uh, that qualified,

985

01:09:14.310 --> 01:09:19.040

that qualified me, evidently because I sent it in and, and they,

986

01:09:19.950 --> 01:09:24.080

they didn't notify me that I was accepted or anything.

987

01:09:24.140 --> 01:09:27.680

One day I get a letter in the mail says, we are,

988

01:09:27.980 --> 01:09:31.680

you're invited to Central Park, uh,

989

01:09:31.820 --> 01:09:36.560

New York on such and such a date for the presentation of the medal too.

990

01:09:36.940 --> 01:09:39.960

So that, that was it. Alright.

991

01:09:40.620 --> 01:09:43.200

Uh, I'm gonna walk around and show this to you.

992

01:09:43.380 --> 01:09:47.800

I'm not gonna pass it around because I, one of you dropped it.

993

01:09:47.980 --> 01:09:51.800

I'd get in trouble if I drop it. I'm gonna get in trouble too,

994

01:09:51.940 --> 01:09:53.680

but I'm gonna hold on tight. Becky,

995

01:09:54.420 --> 01:09:58.160

The ninth's first mission to live France,

996

01:09:58.710 --> 01:10:01.640

They had a number of missions to France. Uh,

997

01:10:01.700 --> 01:10:05.640

so most everybody that was on a crew would've served

998

01:10:06.790 --> 01:10:11.200

over France at some point in time. The question was,

999

01:10:11.820 --> 01:10:12.653

uh,

1000

01:10:13.070 --> 01:10:17.440

then wasn't one of the first missions for the 93rd to France,

1001

01:10:17.780 --> 01:10:21.880

and the very first mission was to Lil France, I believe.

1002

01:10:22.460 --> 01:10:26.440

So that's an example. But you know, in my uncle's records, there's,

1003

01:10:26.640 --> 01:10:31.240

I don't know, six or seven missions to France and he was flying in 44.
So, uh,

1004

01:10:31.710 --> 01:10:33.680

most everybody would've had at least one.

1005

01:10:34.420 --> 01:10:38.960

The, the only requirement is if you were flying before D-Day,

1006

01:10:39.460 --> 01:10:43.240

you are almost, uh, uh, uh,

1007

01:10:44.750 --> 01:10:49.400

awarded the medal regardless of how many missions you had after

1008

01:10:49.770 --> 01:10:52.920

D-Day, they required you to, uh,

1009

01:10:53.550 --> 01:10:57.760

have a mission into France. And, and in our case, we,

1010

01:10:57.820 --> 01:11:01.040

we bombed the, uh, submarine pens a couple times,

1011

01:11:01.860 --> 01:11:06.800

but I don't remember that, whether that was in France or in Belgium.
But anyway,

1012

01:11:06.800 --> 01:11:11.560

that, that's, I I only had the one mission in the France, but I, and,
uh,

1013

01:11:11.840 --> 01:11:12.673

I sent it in

1014

01:11:13.340 --> 01:11:17.320

And evidently qualified me. Alright, great. Well,

1015

01:11:17.320 --> 01:11:21.000

congratulations to George and to Henry for the awards that received.

1016

01:11:26.700 --> 01:11:28.240

I'm gonna turn this over to, uh,

1017

01:11:31.400 --> 01:11:32.440

I have a picture of the,

1018

01:11:42.580 --> 01:11:47.480

I'm gonna do two things. That's the front, the back.

1019

01:11:48.060 --> 01:11:49.200

It looks so French.

1020

01:11:56.770 --> 01:12:01.420

Okay. Is this one on? Hello? Okay. Nope. Does it have to be one or the other?

1021

01:12:02.440 --> 01:12:05.660

Go ahead. Okay. Well, good morning everyone. Um,

1022

01:12:05.690 --> 01:12:10.500

welcome to our education sessions, the first of three plus we have one with the,

1023

01:12:10.500 --> 01:12:13.260

uh, the veterans as well. Uh, this morning

1024

01:12:15.880 --> 01:12:20.860

we have five, uh, presenters, including myself. I'm gonna start off. And, um,

1025

01:12:21.680 --> 01:12:26.020

we decided this year's education session would be in this kind of format. Uh,

1026

01:12:26.330 --> 01:12:27.163

many years past,

1027

01:12:27.240 --> 01:12:32.060

we looked to the outside for maybe an external history expert of

1028

01:12:32.060 --> 01:12:35.500

some kind, uh, related to the 93rd Bond group. We've had many, uh,

1029

01:12:35.740 --> 01:12:40.580

speakers come in. Uh, this year. We wanted to try this vignette story,

1030

01:12:41.160 --> 01:12:45.940

uh, format for members of the association telling stories about their veteran

1031

01:12:46.600 --> 01:12:50.580

who may not be with us anymore. Obviously, veterans that are here,

1032

01:12:50.770 --> 01:12:52.140

like to tell their stories in that,

1033

01:12:52.160 --> 01:12:54.500

in that panel discussion question in a format.

1034

01:12:54.920 --> 01:12:57.820

But we thought it'd be nice to help continue the legacy and carry on,

1035

01:12:58.150 --> 01:13:02.800

perpetuate the stories by you all telling it directly to us.

1036

01:13:03.900 --> 01:13:05.080

And if you're like me,

1037

01:13:05.080 --> 01:13:08.480

you could probably spend three or four hours up here talking about the stories,

1038

01:13:08.540 --> 01:13:12.000

the experiences, et cetera. So this is intended to be a, a vignette,

1039

01:13:12.120 --> 01:13:17.120

a a short story, if you will, by the members. Uh, we welcome any photos,

1040

01:13:17.430 --> 01:13:21.920

stories, memorabilia, et cetera of the veteran. And, uh,

1041

01:13:22.460 --> 01:13:26.520

we have actually 17 presentations to go through here starting this morning.

1042

01:13:27.340 --> 01:13:31.000

And then certainly any kind of informal question and answer afterwards.

1043

01:13:31.300 --> 01:13:34.360

So again, the officers felt this is a very important part of, uh,

1044

01:13:34.610 --> 01:13:37.520

continuing our legacies. Okay,

1045

01:13:37.980 --> 01:13:39.960

so I'm gonna start talking about my dad.

1046

01:13:45.260 --> 01:13:48.200

My father, major Kenneth Weeks Root Jr.

1047

01:13:48.340 --> 01:13:51.320

Was the ranking engineering officer of the 93rd.

1048

01:13:51.940 --> 01:13:56.400

He was born in 1917, grew up in Cooperstown, New York. And you heard, uh,

1049

01:13:56.420 --> 01:14:00.360

Jim Luxe talk about Bill Gross. Ironically, bill Gross grew up, uh,

1050

01:14:00.360 --> 01:14:04.920

just a few miles away from Cooperstown. But my dad was active in sports,

1051

01:14:05.620 --> 01:14:10.360

was one of the first Eagle Scouts back in 1935, uh, 1935.

1052

01:14:11.300 --> 01:14:14.440

Uh, and he worked in, uh, my grandfather,

1053

01:14:14.500 --> 01:14:16.560

his father's hardware store at Ton Cooperstown.

1054

01:14:16.820 --> 01:14:19.080

He went on to m i t after high school,

1055

01:14:19.830 --> 01:14:24.760

graduated in 1939 with a mechanical engineering degree. So his,

1056

01:14:24.820 --> 01:14:28.000

uh, love for engineering,

1057

01:14:28.000 --> 01:14:30.000

and you can see some photos there of him growing up.

1058

01:14:30.460 --> 01:14:32.640

We always like to point out his ears.

1059

01:14:32.740 --> 01:14:35.280

You can always tell my dad because of his ears sticking out so far.

1060

01:14:36.700 --> 01:14:39.280

And that's important for one of the, one of the photos I'm gonna show you.

1061

01:14:43.620 --> 01:14:46.480

He was one, he was one of the original members at Barksdale,

1062

01:14:46.940 --> 01:14:50.920

was assigned there in 1942. He actually met my mom there.

1063

01:14:51.020 --> 01:14:54.160

She grew up in Louisiana here, uh, near Mansfield.

1064

01:14:54.180 --> 01:14:58.160

And then right outside of there, Barksdale after college, uh,

1065

01:14:58.160 --> 01:15:00.880

she worked on the base in the accounting department.

1066

01:15:01.300 --> 01:15:04.960

My dad had gone to Connecticut. You're about to be shot, Jim. Pardon me?

1067

01:15:04.960 --> 01:15:06.360

You got a laser on here in the,

1068

01:15:09.960 --> 01:15:11.640

I was pushing the button back. So thank you all.

1069

01:15:14.880 --> 01:15:18.760

Somebody's targeting me. Okay. Uh, anyway,

1070

01:15:18.760 --> 01:15:22.160

he wants to Connecticut to Pratt and Whitney School Engine school for four

1071

01:15:22.160 --> 01:15:25.840

weeks. On his return, he went into the accounting office, uh,

1072

01:15:25.900 --> 01:15:29.480

to pick up his pay voucher. And that's where my mom, he met my mom.

1073

01:15:30.310 --> 01:15:33.600

Kind of the rest is history, right? Uh, they met on March 22nd.

1074

01:15:33.630 --> 01:15:38.080

They were married on May 16th. So, you know, six weeks later,

1075

01:15:39.340 --> 01:15:42.240

uh, they were married right there on the base in the chapel.

1076

01:15:43.710 --> 01:15:47.680

It's a picture of their, uh, wedding day. That's May 16th. Saturday.

1077

01:15:48.340 --> 01:15:50.520

On Sunday, they headed to Florida.

1078

01:15:50.700 --> 01:15:54.880

The whole unit shipped out to go to Florida for the training from summer. Okay?

1079

01:15:55.740 --> 01:15:57.160

And that's a picture of my mom and dad.

1080

01:15:57.160 --> 01:15:59.440

The last picture before he went overseas.

1081

01:16:02.260 --> 01:16:06.040

So they went out to Florida, they spent the summer on Bel Island.

1082

01:16:06.470 --> 01:16:10.200

Most of the officers apparently were on the island, uh, for the training.

1083

01:16:10.610 --> 01:16:14.480

After the summertime was over, they headed to, uh, New Hampshire.

1084

01:16:14.830 --> 01:16:18.080

Like everyone knows the history there. Uh, we're there approximately two weeks.

1085

01:16:18.700 --> 01:16:21.800

And, uh, one of the stories my mom always said, by the way,

1086

01:16:21.800 --> 01:16:24.240

some photos here from Florida, they stayed in a,

1087

01:16:24.240 --> 01:16:28.840

in a cottage called the Jewel box. And that's actually Porsche Wilkinson.

1088

01:16:29.220 --> 01:16:34.050

And, um, uh, I forgotten now who that is. Anyway, there's my mom sitting out.

1089

01:16:34.520 --> 01:16:37.770

This was on and off. Uh,

1090

01:16:37.790 --> 01:16:42.010

my mom always said that when they flew out and they took off from Graner Field,

1091

01:16:42.510 --> 01:16:47.210

all wives whi along defense and all the, and my dad was in the lead plane,

1092

01:16:47.230 --> 01:16:49.690

and they all dipped their wings to the wives as they took off.

1093

01:16:49.790 --> 01:16:53.570

So that was their last, uh, the last session.

1094

01:16:53.750 --> 01:16:57.490

So he was assigned as an engineering officer for the four oh ninth,

1095

01:16:57.490 --> 01:17:00.250

originally the first squad. And then in 44,

1096

01:17:01.250 --> 01:17:04.090

promoted to major and over all of the ninth, third, uh,

1097

01:17:04.090 --> 01:17:08.770

bond group squads from his resume from back at that

1098

01:17:08.770 --> 01:17:11.800

timeframe, he was responsible for the maintenance shop,

1099

01:17:11.860 --> 01:17:15.680

the ground crews administration, the technical supply, chemical,

1100

01:17:16.780 --> 01:17:19.560

uh, communication, all the parachutes and armament,

1101

01:17:19.660 --> 01:17:24.080
and the sheet metal fab shop. So that time, about 228, uh,

1102
01:17:24.080 --> 01:17:24.913
total folks,

1103
01:17:30.020 --> 01:17:32.800
The famous on the week photos of the four squadrons.

1104
01:17:33.190 --> 01:17:35.440
This one is actually of the, uh,

1105
01:17:35.940 --> 01:17:38.160
sub depot is what they call the maintenance shop.

1106
01:17:38.620 --> 01:17:41.760
So the 4 4 60 first sub depot,

1107
01:17:42.460 --> 01:17:45.480
that's actually because of the ears. Like I can pin out when I zoom
in.

1108
01:17:46.780 --> 01:17:51.680
And I can see on his, uh, actually on his, uh, uh, joke, uh,

1109
01:17:51.680 --> 01:17:53.960
not jokes, but his coveralls, you can see the name roots.

1110
01:17:54.100 --> 01:17:58.200
That's our dad right there on the wing. Uh, he, like many,

1111
01:17:58.220 --> 01:18:01.920
he received the Brown Star and a photo of him with Major Humphreys or
Colonel

1112
01:18:01.920 --> 01:18:04.960
Humphreys. Uh, there's my dad sitting out in Hardwick.

1113

01:18:05.660 --> 01:18:07.360

You can see the shot there with the fences when,

1114

01:18:08.620 --> 01:18:12.520

and that is bunk of Harwick in Christmas time where he, uh, displayed,

1115

01:18:12.520 --> 01:18:14.680

sent a picture of my mom of all the presents he got.

1116

01:18:19.910 --> 01:18:24.070

Okay, so, uh,

1117

01:18:24.070 --> 01:18:27.590

so now I've got about three or four quick stories. And again, I've got many.

1118

01:18:27.690 --> 01:18:31.550

But, um, in April 12th, 1943,

1119

01:18:33.690 --> 01:18:37.910

he wrote in some of his letters that he was summed, uh,

1120

01:18:38.050 --> 01:18:41.950

to the headquarters where he was told he was going to London. Great.

1121

01:18:42.050 --> 01:18:43.950

Get a chance to go to London, right? Well,

1122

01:18:43.950 --> 01:18:48.110

what happened was they were the Syracuse radio station in Syracuse,

1123

01:18:48.170 --> 01:18:53.150

New York was putting together a broadcast of Central

1124

01:18:53.210 --> 01:18:56.670

New York soldiers, right? Not just for our group,

1125

01:18:56.850 --> 01:19:00.510

but there were two out of the tent from the 93rd. Uh, actually,

1126

01:19:02.850 --> 01:19:06.430

uh, Harold Seacor, who also used to attend the reunions,

1127

01:19:07.050 --> 01:19:11.830

was invited along with my dad. So they went to London, they met the, you know,

1128

01:19:11.830 --> 01:19:14.030

the B B C folks, they met everybody there.

1129

01:19:14.060 --> 01:19:17.870

They had a nice dinner and they planned out their scripts. And they actually,

1130

01:19:18.010 --> 01:19:22.470

uh, on live, uh, transmission was back then was through, uh,

1131

01:19:22.470 --> 01:19:26.630

short Wave Radio through Long Island Beam to Syracuse. Uh,

1132

01:19:26.630 --> 01:19:30.350

they actually had an hour and a half program to help kick off the second war

1133

01:19:30.350 --> 01:19:35.110

bond drive in the us and we had to have a

1134

01:19:35.110 --> 01:19:39.990

recording of that. My mom had always said at the conclusion of the,

1135

01:19:39.990 --> 01:19:43.230

uh, of the broadcast, they recorded and sent two albums,

1136

01:19:44.090 --> 01:19:48.330

one to my mom and one to my grandparents. And for 35 years,

1137

01:19:48.350 --> 01:19:51.330
we couldn't ever locate them. Never found the original albums,

1138
01:19:52.570 --> 01:19:55.090
although my mom said we always had 'em somewhere, right? You know, in our house,

1139
01:19:55.090 --> 01:19:57.930
farmhouse full of stuff and my grandparents' house.

1140
01:19:58.390 --> 01:20:02.330
So I worked for about 10 years to try and track, track it down anywhere. And,

1141
01:20:02.350 --> 01:20:04.890
um, you know, working through the Syracuse,

1142
01:20:04.890 --> 01:20:09.520
through the B B C through N B C U, bought out part of the B B C archive,

1143
01:20:09.740 --> 01:20:14.400
et cetera. Finally, I located, or through about five different channels,

1144
01:20:15.000 --> 01:20:19.910
somebody suggested I go to the belfer lab at Syracuse University and asked

1145
01:20:20.110 --> 01:20:23.310
'em about it. So I sent an email, I talked to the director,

1146
01:20:23.730 --> 01:20:25.230
and I'll be darned in two days,

1147
01:20:26.070 --> 01:20:30.870
I got a disc in the mail with full recording of both the broadcast plus the

1148

01:20:30.870 --> 01:20:34.510
segment of my dad. So this is the only voice recording we have of my
dad,

1149
01:20:35.820 --> 01:20:39.190
even ever, not alone, just of the World War ii. So I'm gonna play it
here.

1150
01:20:39.190 --> 01:20:42.950
It's a minute and a half and you can hear, uh, hear the recording,

1151
01:20:44.330 --> 01:20:45.510
uh, person here

1152
01:20:47.850 --> 01:20:52.070
all set talking about what you've been doing. Well,

1153
01:20:52.670 --> 01:20:54.550
engineering missed the intro.

1154
01:21:02.650 --> 01:21:03.483
The

1155
01:21:06.090 --> 01:21:08.270
ibe known as the first place of baseball,

1156
01:21:14.390 --> 01:21:19.230
a special that well before I joined the Army I worked

1157
01:21:19.230 --> 01:21:24.030
in for a year and a half company. Matter of fact,

1158
01:21:24.190 --> 01:21:28.950
I a, he's a great guy, and

1159
01:21:32.230 --> 01:21:34.670
s tell something, well,

1160

01:21:36.970 --> 01:21:39.270
you're the guy tell

1161
01:21:42.130 --> 01:21:46.470
I'm in charge of a mechanic. And those are the guys who good,

1162
01:21:48.700 --> 01:21:53.150
well, yes and no. Our group came over last fall,

1163
01:21:58.260 --> 01:21:59.093
came

1164
01:22:00.970 --> 01:22:03.470
jacket on the other side of the You're

1165
01:22:05.930 --> 01:22:06.763
six

1166
01:22:19.370 --> 01:22:23.630
is the first ship we lost, been activated record, yeah,

1167
01:22:24.090 --> 01:22:24.923
record

1168
01:22:34.820 --> 01:22:39.230
something, something there. Now I don't know why he calls him.

1169
01:22:41.590 --> 01:22:44.070
I don't know why he calls, calls 'em, calls him Al at the very end there.

1170
01:22:44.090 --> 01:22:47.910
But I do know one of the, uh, other soldiers was named, uh,

1171
01:22:48.680 --> 01:22:51.310
Allen Doubleday, a uh,

1172
01:22:51.520 --> 01:22:55.470

descendant of Ner Doubleday founded baseball. And I actually,

1173

01:22:55.470 --> 01:22:59.350

I set this recording after I've, I researched and found the addresses for.

1174

01:23:00.130 --> 01:23:03.830

So that was kind of cool. And one of 'em was out at Alan Doubleday Jr.

1175

01:23:04.320 --> 01:23:07.680

Who's a grandson. Um, so

1176

01:23:10.320 --> 01:23:11.730

That was pretty exciting. Uh,

1177

01:23:11.730 --> 01:23:14.930

obviously I didn't mention I'm the youngest of six kids

1178

01:23:16.630 --> 01:23:21.010

and, uh, my dad survived the war, came home to New York State,

1179

01:23:21.010 --> 01:23:22.410

started the farm up,

1180

01:23:22.590 --> 01:23:27.050

and unfortunately died in the early age of 51 in 1968 when I was only 11.

1181

01:23:28.190 --> 01:23:32.690

So, um, certainly quite a treasure for me to be able to find that. Oops.

1182

01:23:32.910 --> 01:23:35.730

So here's a couple other clips, uh, in Africa.

1183

01:23:36.470 --> 01:23:38.570

My mom's maiden name is Slauson.

1184

01:23:40.070 --> 01:23:42.530
So he named his Jeep Sloss,

1185

01:23:42.870 --> 01:23:47.330
all his letters going somewhere in Flossy, uh,

1186

01:23:47.390 --> 01:23:50.730
in Africa on the trip, uh, to Libya. He was a tent mate, if you will,

1187

01:23:50.730 --> 01:23:55.610
of Dick Wilkinson. And, uh, one of his best friends who was shot down
at Este.

1188

01:23:57.590 --> 01:23:58.930
And then in 2009,

1189

01:23:58.930 --> 01:24:01.810
when we first became involved with the group in Shreveport reunion,

1190

01:24:01.910 --> 01:24:04.770
the first one I attended, Um,

1191

01:24:06.250 --> 01:24:10.130
everyone was gathered around, I think Becky even Luton your dad, uh,

1192

01:24:10.130 --> 01:24:13.290
with Joe and Phyllis and everybody. I think Michael was there. And,
uh,

1193

01:24:14.040 --> 01:24:16.370
kind of interesting, quick little wow, aha moment,

1194

01:24:16.760 --> 01:24:19.170
everybody where they were reviewing this, uh,

1195

01:24:19.370 --> 01:24:24.250
film from Hap Kendall who was recovered from archive

1196

01:24:24.250 --> 01:24:28.070
somewhere in California. And, uh, they're all looking through the video,

1197
01:24:28.590 --> 01:24:32.190
watching to identify people, and they thought this was Lou Brown.

1198
01:24:32.210 --> 01:24:34.590
And my sister and I were standing there watching and all of a sudden we just go,

1199
01:24:34.650 --> 01:24:36.230
wow, that's our dad. So we've got a,

1200
01:24:36.550 --> 01:24:41.110
a ten second video clip of my dad here pushing the motorcycle, uh,

1201
01:24:41.130 --> 01:24:43.150
in Africa. So let me, uh, pull that up quick.

1202
01:24:44.320 --> 01:24:47.790
Dunno if it's gonna play here or not. It should

1203
01:24:50.210 --> 01:24:54.550
get it to start here. Just back it up and hit play to left. There

1204
01:24:54.550 --> 01:24:58.310
We go. It is working. So that's not him in the motorcycle,

1205
01:24:58.310 --> 01:25:01.470
but he walks up to push. I'm not, we never, never did identify,

1206
01:25:02.080 --> 01:25:04.670
never did identify who's there he is. That's my dad.

1207
01:25:15.530 --> 01:25:17.870
Um, so that's a ten second clip of my dad.

1208

01:25:23.210 --> 01:25:24.910
Anyway, that was exciting as all for us.

1209
01:25:25.090 --> 01:25:27.710
We wouldn't have been able do they listener here at one of the reunions,

1210
01:25:27.710 --> 01:25:29.150
obviously. So that's a pretty remarkable,

1211
01:25:32.660 --> 01:25:34.030
okay, uh, let me

1212
01:25:34.030 --> 01:25:34.863
Grab my book here.

1213
01:25:35.810 --> 01:25:37.870
Lastly, I wanna share just some stories about

1214
01:25:39.510 --> 01:25:43.230
a book I published my dad. Not that I'm here to sell it per se,

1215
01:25:43.290 --> 01:25:47.150
but I just want you to be aware that my dad wrote almost every day to my mom.

1216
01:25:47.770 --> 01:25:50.950
He used the format called the Mail or Victory Mail.

1217
01:25:53.530 --> 01:25:57.790
Unlike a lot of the crews that went over, flew your missions, then came home.

1218
01:25:57.930 --> 01:26:02.470
He was there the whole time. The Ground Nation, six brothers, pardon me, six,

1219
01:26:03.110 --> 01:26:07.920
exactly. So in his letters, which I published the book in his own

handwriting,

1220

01:26:08.740 --> 01:26:13.360

uh, 800 plus letters is really kind of a love story. A little bit of history.

1221

01:26:14.980 --> 01:26:16.120

Um, again,

1222

01:26:16.120 --> 01:26:18.800

it's in his own handwriting where the publisher wanted me to retype every

1223

01:26:18.800 --> 01:26:23.120

letter. I said no, to take away from the, the effect of it. Uh,

1224

01:26:23.120 --> 01:26:25.960

his handwriting was very good. But in his, all of his letters,

1225

01:26:26.780 --> 01:26:30.950

I'm convinced that what kept him going was, uh,

1226

01:26:31.230 --> 01:26:36.030

dreaming about owning a dairy farm, having a big family, getting home,

1227

01:26:36.380 --> 01:26:40.110

obviously to my my mom. But they'd only been together, you know,

1228

01:26:40.110 --> 01:26:43.350

for a short three months. Uh, but, uh,

1229

01:26:43.500 --> 01:26:46.590

they always dreamed of having a large family. And because he was from the north,

1230

01:26:47.370 --> 01:26:49.630

he always referred to the boys as Yanks.

1231

01:26:51.130 --> 01:26:54.550

And my mom from the south, he referred to her as my little rebel.

1232

01:26:55.010 --> 01:26:57.470

So they always talked about having girls rebels.

1233

01:26:57.470 --> 01:27:00.950

So I always wanted a big family. Six and six. Well, I got close.

1234

01:27:01.010 --> 01:27:03.550

He got four sisters and 2, 2 2 boys.

1235

01:27:03.730 --> 01:27:08.710

So he always referred to the B 20 fours as his babies also in the book,

1236

01:27:09.370 --> 01:27:14.100

in his letters. So a couple of things also in the, uh, what put

1237

01:27:15.760 --> 01:27:19.540

pocket, pocket one pockets. Thanks.

1238

01:27:20.220 --> 01:27:24.100

I knew it was somewhere. I'm glad he's here. There it is. That's a deep pocket.

1239

01:27:24.290 --> 01:27:28.660

Alright, so a few wet search real quick and then I'll finish up.

1240

01:27:29.400 --> 01:27:33.980

Uh, we're all aware of hot stuff in general, Andrews, he was there on the base,

1241

01:27:34.160 --> 01:27:36.340

uh, several weeks before the crash.

1242

01:27:37.360 --> 01:27:40.900

My dad always in the letters talked about him being there and how good he was to

1243

01:27:40.900 --> 01:27:45.060

the boys. Uh, but after the crash on May 6th,

1244

01:27:45.420 --> 01:27:49.100

a letter to my mom from England, he wrote, and I put it in quotes,

1245

01:27:49.100 --> 01:27:53.580

you no doubt had read all the tragic read of the tragic crash in Iceland,

1246

01:27:54.350 --> 01:27:57.980

which killed General Andrews and crew. It was a heavy loss to all over here,

1247

01:27:58.560 --> 01:28:02.960

and especially this group. He said, that's another one of Bitner is gone.

1248

01:28:03.020 --> 01:28:07.480

I'm not sure who Bitner was. I now have 10 babies to worry about,

1249

01:28:07.500 --> 01:28:08.960

but I'm well organized and doing okay

1250

01:28:10.740 --> 01:28:13.200

on the PTI mission, right?

1251

01:28:14.220 --> 01:28:16.790

Somewhere in the Middle East on August 8th. Of course,

1252

01:28:16.790 --> 01:28:20.710

the Este mission was August 1st. While darling,

1253

01:28:21.020 --> 01:28:24.830

this has been a week, I hope I never have to relive it all.

1254

01:28:24.830 --> 01:28:27.230

Started with a daring attack on the Romanian oil fields.

1255

01:28:27.230 --> 01:28:28.870

And of course my babies had a big part of it.

1256

01:28:29.610 --> 01:28:32.870

We don't know exactly what our losses were yet, but they were heavy.

1257

01:28:32.890 --> 01:28:36.790

And of course, some were mine. I don't expect to go back in the same plane,

1258

01:28:38.220 --> 01:28:42.810

which was Dick Wilkinson's plane, because Dick was shot down and became a, uh,

1259

01:28:44.050 --> 01:28:47.530

actually escaped finally through Turkey, I guess. Uh, but hi, uh,

1260

01:28:47.530 --> 01:28:50.610

for little Diane came mighty close to never seeing her daddy.

1261

01:28:51.100 --> 01:28:54.690

Diane was Dick and Portia's firstborn daughter, uh,

1262

01:28:54.690 --> 01:28:59.530

that had just been born on D-Day, June 9th, 1944,

1263

01:28:59.530 --> 01:29:02.280

somewhere in England. Strange as it may seem,

1264

01:29:02.280 --> 01:29:04.400

everything is quite normal around here.

1265

01:29:05.180 --> 01:29:08.680

And our work has been noticeably slack. Of course,

1266

01:29:08.700 --> 01:29:11.840

we know there's an invasion going on, but that is about all I imagine.

1267

01:29:11.860 --> 01:29:14.880

The US is more excited and better informed than we are.

1268

01:29:16.570 --> 01:29:19.960

And then on February 19th, towards the end of the war in 1945,

1269

01:29:21.700 --> 01:29:25.680

he was for one day the temporary commanding officer of the whole on the whole

1270

01:29:25.680 --> 01:29:29.320

base. Uh, and he wrote in, in from England,

1271

01:29:29.320 --> 01:29:33.280

major Hump and Major Hume. I'm not sure if I had the spelling of Hume,

1272

01:29:33.280 --> 01:29:37.120

who that was, but the nicknames for Major Humphreys are on their leave now.

1273

01:29:37.220 --> 01:29:40.640

So I am acting co some stuff, eh,

1274

01:29:42.860 --> 01:29:43.693

so

1275

01:29:45.820 --> 01:29:48.760

he returned on the Queen Mary with, uh, much of the crews.

1276

01:29:48.760 --> 01:29:53.280

My mom said there was as usual, like 30,000, you know, packed everywhere on the,

1277

01:29:53.280 --> 01:29:57.320

on the shift to get home. Most of the, uh, uh, maintenance and most of the, uh,

1278

01:29:57.320 --> 01:30:02.040

ground crews came back. And Queen Mary arrived in New York City on June 21st.

1279

01:30:02.170 --> 01:30:06.480

Ironically, my mom's birthday, um, she said after the war,

1280

01:30:06.480 --> 01:30:09.240

he never talked about the war, of course, but at,

1281

01:30:09.420 --> 01:30:10.840

but in the first couple of three years,

1282

01:30:10.900 --> 01:30:13.520

he would always wake up very often at night screaming,

1283

01:30:14.450 --> 01:30:18.340

hearing the buzz bombs coming over. So again,

1284

01:30:18.360 --> 01:30:20.980

I'm the youngest of six kids, two Yanks and four rebels.

1285

01:30:21.600 --> 01:30:24.540

And I mentioned that he had passed away in in 1968.

1286

01:30:26.400 --> 01:30:29.260

So if you're interested in, uh, taking a look at the book,

1287

01:30:29.260 --> 01:30:31.060

it's back on the back. If you want to purchase one,

1288

01:30:31.180 --> 01:30:35.620

I take all the proceeds and donate to the group. It's also out on Amazon. But,

1289

01:30:35.640 --> 01:30:39.260

uh, I'm glad to get your name and mail one. So any questions?

1290

01:30:40.540 --> 01:30:45.230

That book fits very nicely in one of those tote bags. Thank you,

1291

01:30:45.280 --> 01:30:49.190

Wally, that that book would fit in the tote bags. Good.

1292

01:30:50.890 --> 01:30:54.430

Any questions? Other questions? If not,

1293

01:30:54.430 --> 01:30:57.070

I'll turn it over to Dee for the next presentation here.

1294

01:31:04.280 --> 01:31:05.113

Thank you.

1295

01:31:05.190 --> 01:31:09.510

I think it's only appropriate to note that the ears appear to be a hereditary

1296

01:31:09.510 --> 01:31:14.350

factor. Yeah, Ken, all Kenneth, uh, you met Kenneth yesterday,

1297

01:31:14.350 --> 01:31:17.790

of course. Kenneth is, uh, grandson named say, for, for my dad.

1298

01:31:18.350 --> 01:31:23.270

I don't think Kenneth's got the years, though. I will add a comment.

1299

01:31:23.450 --> 01:31:27.510

As a pilot, we very much appreciate what your father did, those types of people,

1300

01:31:27.700 --> 01:31:29.150

what keep the missions going,

1301

01:31:29.890 --> 01:31:32.910

and there's nothing worse than getting in an airplane that doesn't work.

1302

01:31:33.770 --> 01:31:35.350

So even though it's behind the scenes,

1303

01:31:35.460 --> 01:31:37.670

long hours and they spend a long time there.

1304

01:31:37.770 --> 01:31:40.870

So that's a very great contribution. We thank you, Jim. Welcome.

1305

01:31:41.940 --> 01:31:45.510

This is gonna be an interesting educational session because you're gonna be able

1306

01:31:45.510 --> 01:31:49.830

to listen to your fellow members talk,

1307

01:31:50.490 --> 01:31:53.030

and some of 'em will probably talk better than others,

1308

01:31:53.690 --> 01:31:55.430

but let's give them a little bit of slack,

1309

01:31:55.740 --> 01:31:58.030

give them the opportunity to share their views.

1310

01:31:58.250 --> 01:32:00.240

And I'm very excited about what's gonna happen.

1311

01:32:00.260 --> 01:32:03.480

And the next person up is gonna be George Jones. George, there you are.

1312

01:32:03.740 --> 01:32:07.040

And he's gonna talk about his father who was a navigator. What squadron?

1313

01:32:07.410 --> 01:32:10.240

Three 29th. Three 29th. So George, you got

1314

01:32:11.940 --> 01:32:13.920

be prepared to ask questions. Do

1315

01:32:13.920 --> 01:32:16.040

You want the wireless or you want to sit up to that one?

1316

01:32:16.180 --> 01:32:19.400

Uh, yeah. Um, you're probably walking around. Yeah.

1317

01:32:20.290 --> 01:32:23.040

Thank you, Pete. So anyway, uh,

1318

01:32:23.550 --> 01:32:28.520

when I volunteered to to speak today, uh,

1319

01:32:28.720 --> 01:32:29.553

I wanted to speak,

1320

01:32:29.580 --> 01:32:33.640

not because there aren't any extraordinary stories to talk about my dad,

1321

01:32:34.780 --> 01:32:39.000

but because his and his story is actually probably very ordinary

1322

01:32:40.050 --> 01:32:44.750

and is probably, uh, was is replayed in thousands,

1323

01:32:44.750 --> 01:32:48.590

hundreds of thousands, even millions of homes, uh, after the war.

1324

01:32:49.870 --> 01:32:53.550

'cause because when my dad came home from the war, uh,

1325

01:32:53.850 --> 01:32:58.630

he got on with his wife. And I think probably all of us, uh,

1326

01:32:58.630 --> 01:33:02.670
second generation, uh, children,

1327

01:33:03.910 --> 01:33:08.150
probably experienced the same thing. Uh, my dad came home, he got married,

1328

01:33:08.890 --> 01:33:12.910
uh, had children, uh, went to, went to school,

1329

01:33:13.690 --> 01:33:17.470
got a job, got on with his wife. And to me,

1330

01:33:17.470 --> 01:33:18.910
that's the extraordinary thing,

1331

01:33:19.740 --> 01:33:24.710
because these ordinary men and women who

1332

01:33:24.850 --> 01:33:26.510
did extraordinary things,

1333

01:33:27.730 --> 01:33:29.910
but never considered it to be extraordinary,

1334

01:33:30.050 --> 01:33:34.670
it was just a matter of doing what they had to be done.

1335

01:33:35.390 --> 01:33:38.550
I see Henry nodding his head, because I know Henry is that kind of guy.

1336

01:33:39.270 --> 01:33:43.390
I know Bill is that kind of guy I know. Um, George Martin is that kind of guy.

1337

01:33:43.410 --> 01:33:47.670

All the, all the veterans I've met over the years here, they're all to me

1338

01:33:49.550 --> 01:33:53.090

heroic. Not because they did heroic things,

1339

01:33:53.910 --> 01:33:58.410

but they did, they did heroic things, but they're, but they're not,

1340

01:33:58.720 --> 01:34:02.890

they're heroic because they were ordinary people who did heroic things. And,

1341

01:34:02.910 --> 01:34:04.650

and to me, that is, uh,

1342

01:34:05.680 --> 01:34:10.170

that is why they are the greatest generation. Anyway,

1343

01:34:10.670 --> 01:34:15.490

so my dad came home, uh, like I said, got on with his wife, got married, uh,

1344

01:34:15.490 --> 01:34:18.570

married. The woman that he met, uh, while he was in training,

1345

01:34:19.350 --> 01:34:22.890

as I found out later, uh, had, uh,

1346

01:34:22.890 --> 01:34:26.090

went to a place called Red Square Pie Institute,

1347

01:34:26.090 --> 01:34:29.850

which is an engineering school in upstate New York. Uh,

1348

01:34:30.140 --> 01:34:33.490

there he had time to, uh, have my sister.

1349

01:34:34.510 --> 01:34:37.690

She was born there while he was, while he was in school. Uh,

1350

01:34:38.750 --> 01:34:41.890

but he never talked about the war. And I never knew anything about the war.

1351

01:34:42.050 --> 01:34:45.370

I never knew anything about his service during the war. Uh,

1352

01:34:45.790 --> 01:34:49.650

and unfortunately in around 1968,

1353

01:34:50.750 --> 01:34:55.210

he contracted, um, colon cancer, uh,

1354

01:34:55.310 --> 01:35:00.080

and spent the next two years, uh, struggling with that, uh,

1355

01:35:00.270 --> 01:35:02.920

very painful thing. And back in that time, if you,

1356

01:35:02.940 --> 01:35:06.720

you probably know that that basically is a death sentence. Uh,

1357

01:35:06.730 --> 01:35:10.440

maybe not so much anymore, but back then it was a death sentence. Uh,

1358

01:35:10.620 --> 01:35:15.120

and so he died when I was 15. So a lot like, uh,

1359

01:35:15.930 --> 01:35:20.680

Jim's experience. Uh, but, and,

1360

01:35:20.700 --> 01:35:24.640

and so for many years after that, I got on with my life. My,

1361

01:35:24.780 --> 01:35:28.200

my mom got on with her life, and Karen got on with her life. And,

1362

01:35:28.940 --> 01:35:33.830

and I gotta fast forward to about 2004 when,

1363

01:35:33.970 --> 01:35:38.110

uh, my son was, uh, doing a school research project,

1364

01:35:38.170 --> 01:35:42.390

and he had to do talk about his grandparents, his grandfathers, and their role.

1365

01:35:42.700 --> 01:35:46.990

They had any role in the war. And so I said, well, I don't know.

1366

01:35:47.750 --> 01:35:52.110

I don't know how to help you. Uh, so we tried to do a little research. Uh,

1367

01:35:52.270 --> 01:35:55.350

I had known that my father flew in in B 20 fours.

1368

01:35:55.390 --> 01:35:58.430

I knew that he was a navigator. Uh, but that was about it.

1369

01:35:58.450 --> 01:36:01.310

So it was a very sketchy report, to say the least.

1370

01:36:01.770 --> 01:36:06.670

My mom was not a big help either, but it piqued my interest, you know?

1371

01:36:07.330 --> 01:36:10.910

So this is how many years after, after, uh, after he passed away,

1372

01:36:10.910 --> 01:36:15.550

that I finally got interested enough to, to wonder what,

1373

01:36:16.700 --> 01:36:21.190

what his career was like and what his life was like during World War ii.

1374

01:36:22.210 --> 01:36:26.560

Um, and I'm gonna fast forward again another couple of years.

1375

01:36:27.700 --> 01:36:31.040

Oh. So, uh, when I did that,

1376

01:36:31.200 --> 01:36:36.150

I contacted the, uh, the Veterans Administration.

1377

01:36:36.970 --> 01:36:39.110

Uh, there, there's a archives in St.

1378

01:36:39.110 --> 01:36:42.990

Louis that has all the military records for, for all the servicemen,

1379

01:36:43.070 --> 01:36:47.230

I think going back forever, right? Back to the Civil War. Uh,

1380

01:36:47.450 --> 01:36:50.670

and so I was hoping to get some of, some, some understanding of what he did.

1381

01:36:51.610 --> 01:36:55.510

And they sent me back a very polite letter. He said, well, we're very sorry. Uh,

1382

01:36:55.510 --> 01:36:57.670

but there was a big fire in 1974,

1383

01:36:58.730 --> 01:37:03.500

and it destroyed like 85% of the records of, of,

1384

01:37:03.840 --> 01:37:08.220

uh, US servicemen from World War II and, and,

1385

01:37:08.280 --> 01:37:12.680
and back. So we don't have anything. So I said, well,

1386
01:37:13.260 --> 01:37:16.840
you know, I guess I gotta move on from that too. So,

1387
01:37:17.740 --> 01:37:22.080
and now, fast forward a couple years later, my mom passed away in
2008.

1388
01:37:23.510 --> 01:37:26.930
And, um, so when she passed away,

1389
01:37:27.070 --> 01:37:31.370
we were busy cleaning out her apartment and stuck up in the back
corner,

1390
01:37:32.670 --> 01:37:37.130
way back when. And that's my phone, I'm sorry, uh,

1391
01:37:38.310 --> 01:37:41.170
was a brown paper bed,

1392
01:37:42.640 --> 01:37:47.350
which was torn old, dusty.

1393
01:37:48.290 --> 01:37:49.310
And then it was a,

1394
01:37:49.410 --> 01:37:53.390
it was a battered old scrapbook and a and a press board

1395
01:37:54.370 --> 01:37:58.120
folder filled with papers of that old newsprint.

1396
01:37:58.230 --> 01:38:01.800
They were old and crumbling and brown and falling apart.

1397

01:38:01.860 --> 01:38:05.720

And I was afraid to open it because I was afraid it was all gonna fall apart.

1398

01:38:07.020 --> 01:38:10.280

But in that scrapbook, there were two pictures,

1399

01:38:12.100 --> 01:38:16.880

and, and these are copies of them, and they were crew photos

1400

01:38:18.380 --> 01:38:19.520

of, of my dad.

1401

01:38:20.520 --> 01:38:24.620

And it was my first clue of that. He was, in fact,

1402

01:38:25.380 --> 01:38:29.980

a veteran in World War ii, that he did fly on B 20 fours. Uh,

1403

01:38:30.000 --> 01:38:34.820

but I still didn't know anything about what it was and where he flew and

1404

01:38:35.000 --> 01:38:39.440

who he flew with. Uh, but at this time it was, uh, the,

1405

01:38:39.750 --> 01:38:42.640

with the, the internet was, was booming and,

1406

01:38:42.660 --> 01:38:44.640

and all of a sudden you could find things online.

1407

01:38:45.220 --> 01:38:49.920

And so I started doing lots of searches on B 20 fours,

1408

01:38:50.380 --> 01:38:53.440

on my dad's name, things like that.

1409

01:38:54.800 --> 01:38:58.680

I eventually came across a, uh, a website, uh,

1410

01:38:59.420 --> 01:39:04.280

that's, that's run by, uh, Daniel Stockton, which is a, a pretty comprehensive,

1411

01:39:05.100 --> 01:39:09.920

uh, although not totally complete list of all the B 20 fours that were

1412

01:39:09.920 --> 01:39:14.480

manufactured and flew, uh, during, during, during World War ii.

1413

01:39:15.580 --> 01:39:20.560

And I eventually found a picture of a plane

1414

01:39:21.310 --> 01:39:24.560

that had the same markings as this one. You can barely see it. If you,

1415

01:39:24.620 --> 01:39:26.840

if you look in the book, in my in scrapbook,

1416

01:39:27.820 --> 01:39:31.400

you can see it says snow and you can't really see what's underneath it, but it,

1417

01:39:31.620 --> 01:39:34.720

at least that's a hint. There was an aircraft called Snow White,

1418

01:39:34.780 --> 01:39:39.040

and I guess there were probably several aircraft, uh, during the war, uh,

1419

01:39:39.540 --> 01:39:44.280

and all different bomb groups, all, uh, named after Disney characters and, and,

1420

01:39:44.300 --> 01:39:45.100

and like that.

1421

01:39:45.100 --> 01:39:50.040

But this one was attached to the 93rd Bond group.

1422

01:39:51.360 --> 01:39:55.140

And, uh, so I had my first clue. Uh,

1423

01:39:55.520 --> 01:39:59.140

so after much more research and after much more searching,

1424

01:39:59.900 --> 01:40:01.420

I eventually came to

1425

01:40:02.920 --> 01:40:07.420

the 93rd Bond Group Association. Uh, and

1426

01:40:08.940 --> 01:40:12.740

I was very happy to do that and find them. And I wrote them,

1427

01:40:13.050 --> 01:40:17.930

there's a message board, you can put my messages on the website.

1428

01:40:17.990 --> 01:40:22.970

And I wrote a message. I said, I think my dad was in the 93rd, and, you know,

1429

01:40:22.970 --> 01:40:27.080

do you know anything about 'em? And yada, yada, yada. And,

1430

01:40:28.020 --> 01:40:32.400

and weeks later, no answer, months later, no answer,

1431

01:40:33.190 --> 01:40:35.380

but that's okay. Um,

1432

01:40:36.280 --> 01:40:40.470

but now my curiosity was peaked. And I,

1433

01:40:41.630 --> 01:40:44.590

I went back to that sheet of papers

1434

01:40:46.370 --> 01:40:49.190

and I started going through them, and it's yay thick.

1435

01:40:50.260 --> 01:40:52.960

And I started putting 'em in some kind of chronological water.

1436

01:40:54.020 --> 01:40:57.880

And what I found out as I, once I got 'em all together,

1437

01:40:58.540 --> 01:41:01.360

it was actually a stack of orders,

1438

01:41:03.400 --> 01:41:08.300

uh, and orders of transfer, orders of assignment, uh,

1439

01:41:08.330 --> 01:41:11.580

promotion, couple other things, uh,

1440

01:41:12.060 --> 01:41:16.780

multiple copies of, of, uh, multiple copies of,

1441

01:41:16.800 --> 01:41:20.700

of the same document in many cases. And I started piecing 'em together.

1442

01:41:21.680 --> 01:41:22.500

And from them,

1443

01:41:22.500 --> 01:41:27.500

I concluded that they were the record of my father's,

1444

01:41:28.610 --> 01:41:32.390

uh, career from his time that he enlisted in the, in the army.

1445

01:41:32.410 --> 01:41:35.670
He enlisted when he was found out, when he right outta high school,

1446
01:41:35.670 --> 01:41:39.230
when he returned 18, he enlisted, he went with my uncle,

1447
01:41:40.290 --> 01:41:44.280
who is a year older and had deferred his enlistment. They, they,

1448
01:41:44.280 --> 01:41:49.280
they enlisted and they, they were, uh, went to Air Cadet training in,
uh,

1449
01:41:49.600 --> 01:41:52.560
Arkansas, university of Arkansas. Um,

1450
01:41:54.310 --> 01:41:58.480
but all the way through, I was able to, uh,

1451
01:41:59.160 --> 01:42:00.400
document or,

1452
01:42:00.460 --> 01:42:05.200
or check the documentation to see where he was when he was
transferred, what he,

1453
01:42:05.200 --> 01:42:09.120
what happened. So, so now I have the most complete record of my
father,

1454
01:42:10.260 --> 01:42:14.080
uh, that exists, that even the US government doesn't have,

1455
01:42:14.080 --> 01:42:17.280
because all their records are burned up. Uh, and I,

1456
01:42:17.440 --> 01:42:20.480
I found out a couple of things I found out, uh,

1457

01:42:21.390 --> 01:42:25.600

that I think that multiple copies of these documents,

1458

01:42:25.910 --> 01:42:30.560

because I think as he, as you traveled from one place to another place,

1459

01:42:30.580 --> 01:42:35.360

you had to stop at other bases, maybe to, to get a place to, to sleep or,

1460

01:42:35.420 --> 01:42:36.253

or get a meal.

1461

01:42:36.500 --> 01:42:40.840

And you had to present your orders to show that you were on legitimate business.

1462

01:42:41.380 --> 01:42:41.960

So I'm,

1463

01:42:41.960 --> 01:42:45.840

I'm assuming that they had to pass these things out as they went from point A to

1464

01:42:45.840 --> 01:42:50.520

point B. Uh, and, uh,

1465

01:42:51.540 --> 01:42:56.080

and, and so it was great. It, it is been wonderful. I was able to, another,

1466

01:42:56.110 --> 01:42:59.040

another thing that was in that, in that list is, was a,

1467

01:42:59.680 --> 01:43:03.870

a copy of my father's flight lock. Okay?

1468

01:43:04.090 --> 01:43:08.070

And so I have a record of every hour he spent in the air

1469

01:43:08.930 --> 01:43:11.910

at the time he was in training through the end of the war.

1470

01:43:12.770 --> 01:43:15.630

And it showed all the missions he was on. It showed all the training missions,

1471

01:43:15.690 --> 01:43:18.790

all the training flights. He was on number of hours. Uh,

1472

01:43:19.210 --> 01:43:23.830

and it correlates all obviously to his, uh, his service.

1473

01:43:24.810 --> 01:43:26.990

Uh, the certificate, the certificate he got that,

1474

01:43:26.990 --> 01:43:28.870

that certifies a number of missions that he flew.

1475

01:43:30.290 --> 01:43:34.750

So eventually I found out he flew 22 missions from, uh,

1476

01:43:35.000 --> 01:43:38.590

after joining the 93rd Bomb group in December of 44, December 1st,

1477

01:43:40.090 --> 01:43:44.830

uh, through, uh, March of 45, uh, spent his,

1478

01:43:46.090 --> 01:43:50.430

uh, 20th birthday, uh, flying his third mission,

1479

01:43:51.210 --> 01:43:54.080

which to me is just an amazing thing. Uh,

1480

01:43:54.200 --> 01:43:58.560

I think that none of us can really appreciate what, that we had, uh,

1481

01:43:59.280 --> 01:44:03.200

17, 18, 19, 20 year olds flying aircraft,

1482

01:44:03.970 --> 01:44:07.680

navigating aircraft. Uh, and I'm not sure that,

1483

01:44:08.900 --> 01:44:13.040

um, we can appreciate now,

1484

01:44:13.370 --> 01:44:17.400

given this generation what they did.

1485

01:44:17.910 --> 01:44:22.760

They're at that generation. Um, and I just wanna spend the,

1486

01:44:22.760 --> 01:44:25.760

the rest of the time, you can go through this. I be,

1487

01:44:25.870 --> 01:44:29.520

this book has been out for the last several reunions that I've been to
Leaf

1488

01:44:29.520 --> 01:44:34.080

through it, it's, it's, uh, it's interesting to me.

1489

01:44:35.520 --> 01:44:40.260

But the other thing I want to bring out is the value of this
organization

1490

01:44:41.040 --> 01:44:45.550

to all of us. Because even though I, I found these records, and I,

1491

01:44:45.630 --> 01:44:47.550

I kind of documented them, it,

1492

01:44:47.810 --> 01:44:52.510

it took this association and speaking with veterans

1493

01:44:52.610 --> 01:44:56.910

and speaking with the children of veterans and getting to know Don Morrison,

1494

01:44:57.680 --> 01:45:02.250

who's really completed, completed this record because, uh,

1495

01:45:02.250 --> 01:45:06.770

what Don was able to do, it's not only did I have those list of missions, and I,

1496

01:45:06.790 --> 01:45:10.370

uh, but Don was able to tell me what aircraft they were. Uh,

1497

01:45:10.590 --> 01:45:14.770

Don provided with me with a list of, of all those missions,

1498

01:45:15.590 --> 01:45:17.330

of he's got, um,

1499

01:45:18.790 --> 01:45:21.450

the mission assignments that showed which aircraft were on that mission,

1500

01:45:22.040 --> 01:45:26.610

what the crews were that made up that mission, not just my father's crew.

1501

01:45:27.390 --> 01:45:31.810

Uh, and also that, um, he was,

1502

01:45:32.710 --> 01:45:37.490

uh, so, which, which, um, squadron they left. They, they,

1503

01:45:37.490 --> 01:45:41.010

they, uh, led, uh, 'cause as I found out, my dad, uh, was,

1504

01:45:41.510 --> 01:45:45.530

was named as a lead navigator. And the three 29th, his pilot,

1505

01:45:45.800 --> 01:45:49.490

bill Penn was the lead pilot. Uh, and, uh,

1506

01:45:50.400 --> 01:45:53.170

bill Bounds, who was the, the bombardier was the lead Bombardier.

1507

01:45:53.270 --> 01:45:57.410

So I know that they led either groups or they led, um,

1508

01:45:58.270 --> 01:46:02.170

the, the, the, the sub squadrons, if you will. I don't, you know, there was, uh,

1509

01:46:02.720 --> 01:46:05.970

high left, low right, or whatever. So

1510

01:46:07.830 --> 01:46:12.250

he, he Don was able to provide me with all that information. So it's,

1511

01:46:12.250 --> 01:46:16.010

it's all documented here. So now I know where he was, when he was,

1512

01:46:16.100 --> 01:46:20.810

where he flew. Uh, and it's just, uh, an amazing thing,

1513

01:46:21.510 --> 01:46:24.370

uh, to me that out of,

1514

01:46:25.470 --> 01:46:29.450

for the first 50 some odd years of my life, without knowing, uh,

1515

01:46:29.510 --> 01:46:31.370

any of this information, how much,

1516

01:46:31.750 --> 01:46:36.610

how much richer I've become through the 93rd Bond Group association in

1517

01:46:36.610 --> 01:46:41.370

the last, uh, eight years that I've, I've been associated with them.

Uh,

1518

01:46:41.430 --> 01:46:44.210

and, and just as a highlight that once more, I just wanna,

1519

01:46:44.910 --> 01:46:49.800

for those of you who know me, you also know that I'm, I'm the, um, uh,

1520

01:46:49.880 --> 01:46:51.600

I call myself the Ball of fire mailman.

1521

01:46:52.460 --> 01:46:56.320

So I'm the guy who sends out the newsletter that don, um,

1522

01:46:57.130 --> 01:47:01.960

edits. So if you get the newsletter, uh, that's up to me.

1523

01:47:02.500 --> 01:47:03.560

If you don't get the newsletter,

1524

01:47:03.560 --> 01:47:08.160

that's also up to me because I messed up somehow. So I apologize for that. Um,

1525

01:47:09.100 --> 01:47:10.200

but also, uh,

1526

01:47:10.780 --> 01:47:14.520

my email address happens to be the one that's on the message board.

1527

01:47:15.640 --> 01:47:19.720

I don't know how I got there, Michael. But anyway, uh, you did.

1528

01:47:19.740 --> 01:47:22.320
That's where it is. And, uh,

1529
01:47:23.540 --> 01:47:26.280
and now that I'm talking about it, I can't find a piece of paper.

1530
01:47:26.320 --> 01:47:30.880
I want you missed that. Uh, oh, okay. That must be it. Uh, so anyway,

1531
01:47:31.640 --> 01:47:36.320
I got, uh, an email one time from this gentleman, and he said,

1532
01:47:36.440 --> 01:47:40.940
I have a scrapbook I think is associated with your bomb group.

1533
01:47:41.480 --> 01:47:46.220
Are you interested? And I wrote back right away, I said, very, very much So,

1534
01:47:46.220 --> 01:47:50.480
he says, what is it? And he after corresponded a little bit, he sent me,

1535
01:47:50.500 --> 01:47:54.520
he actually sent me the scrapbook. And, uh,

1536
01:47:55.620 --> 01:47:59.960
and, and this is the letter that he wrote with it. He says, uh, George,

1537
01:47:59.960 --> 01:48:04.080
here's the story. How I ended up with this book. In case of s to my knowledge,

1538
01:48:04.080 --> 01:48:07.080
bill Richardson, who was the author of the scrapbook,

1539
01:48:07.720 --> 01:48:10.120
returned to Denver after the war and lived there the rest of his life.

1540

01:48:10.880 --> 01:48:13.820

My aunt got to know Bill in the seventies when they lived in the same apartment

1541

01:48:14.100 --> 01:48:17.180

building, and went to social events together and traveled the world together.

1542

01:48:17.770 --> 01:48:22.500

Bill died in the nineties. He had no children. His parents and sister had,

1543

01:48:22.790 --> 01:48:27.500

preed had pre predeceased him and my aunt wound up with the book

1544

01:48:28.450 --> 01:48:30.860

when she died last year, we were going through her belongings,

1545

01:48:30.860 --> 01:48:35.540

and I found this scrapbook, and I inquired to the executor about it, and he,

1546

01:48:35.640 --> 01:48:39.620

and was told that if I didn't want it, it would be thrown out. I,

1547

01:48:39.700 --> 01:48:43.100

I took it because history, and it seemed to be too important to be thrown away,

1548

01:48:43.950 --> 01:48:48.060

which was why I'm very happy to pass this on to you so that others may benefit

1549

01:48:48.250 --> 01:48:49.860

from its recordings of events.

1550

01:48:50.580 --> 01:48:52.980

I only wished I had the stories behind the pictures, postcards,

1551

01:48:52.980 --> 01:48:54.140

and other items to pass on.

1552

01:48:54.610 --> 01:48:59.260

Perhaps those items will fold in and enhance information you already have.

1553

01:49:00.160 --> 01:49:04.140

And was, uh, from Tim Kennedy. Kennedy, who's also a, uh,

1554

01:49:05.010 --> 01:49:09.220

he's also a veteran. Uh, and it turns out that Bill Richardson,

1555

01:49:10.080 --> 01:49:14.740

uh, served with Eck. Oh, and they are on, they were on the crew. And, and I,

1556

01:49:15.300 --> 01:49:16.940

I, I took a couple of pictures and,

1557

01:49:16.940 --> 01:49:20.940

and scanned him in and send 'em to Ray and said, uh, Ray, is this you?

1558

01:49:22.040 --> 01:49:25.260

And he said, he wrote me back. He says, yeah, that's me. That's me. He says,

1559

01:49:25.260 --> 01:49:27.500

bill Richardson. I was trying to find him after the war,

1560

01:49:27.500 --> 01:49:32.300

but I never could find him. So, so this is,

1561

01:49:32.410 --> 01:49:37.300

this is a connection and this is why this, this group exists. And, and so that,

1562

01:49:37.300 --> 01:49:40.460
that scrapbook is over there as well. You may wanna look through it,

1563
01:49:40.490 --> 01:49:45.340
some really cool pictures of, of life around the base. Uh,

1564
01:49:46.300 --> 01:49:49.360
a lot of pictures of them on r and r postcards and things like that.

1565
01:49:49.420 --> 01:49:54.320
But a really fascinating, uh, little snapshot of, of life,

1566
01:49:55.430 --> 01:49:59.410
maybe not in the war, but during the war. Uh,

1567
01:49:59.410 --> 01:50:01.290
the other story I wanna share real quickly

1568
01:50:02.830 --> 01:50:07.410
is that through this association, uh,

1569
01:50:08.130 --> 01:50:12.010
a few years ago as I was sending out the newsletter, uh,

1570
01:50:12.340 --> 01:50:17.290
right around Christmas time, right before the Omaha,

1571
01:50:18.070 --> 01:50:21.330
uh, reunion, I forget what year that was, uh,

1572
01:50:21.450 --> 01:50:23.250
I woke up early,

1573
01:50:23.600 --> 01:50:28.530
very early one morning and turned on my smartphone as I think

1574
01:50:28.530 --> 01:50:32.240
all of us probably do. And I saw that I got an email,

1575

01:50:34.140 --> 01:50:38.320

and it was from, uh, a veteran and said,

1576

01:50:38.320 --> 01:50:42.040

thank you so much for sending me the ball fire. Really enjoyed getting it,

1577

01:50:43.070 --> 01:50:46.360

yada, yada, yada. And he said, by the way,

1578

01:50:47.900 --> 01:50:52.720

are you the George Ju that I flew with during the war? And it sent,

1579

01:50:52.780 --> 01:50:57.080

uh, it sent the chill down my spine because, uh,

1580

01:50:57.160 --> 01:50:58.000

I had been hoping to,

1581

01:50:58.140 --> 01:51:01.960

to connect with somebody who knew my dad since I didn't really know him that

1582

01:51:01.960 --> 01:51:06.880

well. And here he was, was a gentleman, Tom Nicholas,

1583

01:51:08.700 --> 01:51:11.920

who, uh, who not only knew my dad, but flew with my dad,

1584

01:51:11.920 --> 01:51:15.560

was another fellow navigator. He was a Mickey Navigator, radar navigator.

1585

01:51:16.780 --> 01:51:21.760

And, uh, we corresponded for several months. And, uh,

1586

01:51:21.860 --> 01:51:25.080

he lives in, in, um, Kent City, Missouri.

1587

01:51:26.220 --> 01:51:30.000

And he made his way up to our Omaha reunion,

1588

01:51:30.850 --> 01:51:33.840

where I got a chance to spend a marvelous weekend with him,

1589

01:51:34.500 --> 01:51:39.320

as with you guys too, as very happy to be here, but especially with Tom.

1590

01:51:40.340 --> 01:51:41.173

And, and I,

1591

01:51:41.240 --> 01:51:45.520

I got the chance to sit down with him and talk to him about his experience,

1592

01:51:45.550 --> 01:51:49.280

talk about his friendship with my father. As he said they were best friends.

1593

01:51:49.280 --> 01:51:53.680

They went on r and r together. They, um, did a lot of things together,

1594

01:51:54.820 --> 01:51:59.680

uh, told me some, some stories about my dad. Uh, and I was just,

1595

01:52:00.020 --> 01:52:00.853

uh,

1596

01:52:01.380 --> 01:52:06.240

so thrilled to be able to have that opportunity to,

1597

01:52:06.420 --> 01:52:09.760

to talk to somebody who was there, who I know is there with him.

1598

01:52:10.340 --> 01:52:14.120

And it really brought my father very much closer to me.

1599

01:52:15.660 --> 01:52:20.600

Um, so, uh, that is, that's really it.

1600

01:52:20.660 --> 01:52:23.760

Uh, like I said, there's not, there's not enough things I,

1601

01:52:23.840 --> 01:52:28.720

I can say about this association and all of you out there. Uh,

1602

01:52:28.980 --> 01:52:30.720

the veterans that I've gotten to know, the veterans,

1603

01:52:30.800 --> 01:52:34.600

I haven't never got the opportunity to meet. And,

1604

01:52:34.660 --> 01:52:38.080

and the families of those veterans, uh, my,

1605

01:52:39.100 --> 01:52:43.560

my heartfelt thanks to all of them, to all of you. Uh,

1606

01:52:44.100 --> 01:52:48.200

and uh, someone said yesterday that we are a family.

1607

01:52:49.020 --> 01:52:52.900

And I felt that ever since the day that I walked into my first reunion when

1608

01:52:52.900 --> 01:52:57.780

John Marks greeted me, uh, I knew I was part of a family.

1609

01:52:58.000 --> 01:52:59.300

And I thank you for that.

1610

01:53:00.680 --> 01:53:01.513

Thanks.

1611

01:53:09.420 --> 01:53:13.140

I think what we just witnessed is the fact that this is not just historical,

1612

01:53:13.530 --> 01:53:16.780

it's personal. And that's why we're here. And I, George,

1613

01:53:16.780 --> 01:53:18.980

that was a great presentation. Thank you very much.

1614

01:53:20.040 --> 01:53:23.460

Our next speaker is Will Pink. I met him yesterday.

1615

01:53:23.480 --> 01:53:25.820

We ran into each other at the Dallas Airport, and I,

1616

01:53:25.960 --> 01:53:28.500

he figured how we could get here together as a pilot.

1617

01:53:28.640 --> 01:53:30.140

He always went to the flight surgery.

1618

01:53:30.320 --> 01:53:31.820

He never wanted to go to the flight surgery.

1619

01:53:31.880 --> 01:53:34.620

So he's a guy that could ground you so you couldn't fly,

1620

01:53:35.320 --> 01:53:37.540

but Will didn't talk about that. So will you're up next.

1621

01:53:46.640 --> 01:53:47.473

Got it.

1622

01:53:47.720 --> 01:53:49.700

Trying to get the pointer going again.

1623

01:53:50.370 --> 01:53:51.203

It's uh

1624

01:53:55.360 --> 01:54:00.300

oh, okay. I'm too far down. All right.

1625

01:54:02.770 --> 01:54:06.900

Okay. This is the pilot was Roy Stahl came from Maine.

1626

01:54:07.720 --> 01:54:09.700

Dad said he had allowed a lot of hours.

1627

01:54:09.960 --> 01:54:12.460

He could really grease the plane in on landings.

1628

01:54:13.120 --> 01:54:14.500

He was a little hard on the crew.

1629

01:54:14.500 --> 01:54:19.260

He held up their promotions till the co-pilot got in the hand of out.

1630

01:54:19.880 --> 01:54:24.780

On the other hand, he was offered to be lead squadron, lead ship,

1631

01:54:24.950 --> 01:54:28.140

which would've been a promotion, but he took a vote.

1632

01:54:28.480 --> 01:54:32.020

And since that's a unhealthy position, every vote,

1633

01:54:32.020 --> 01:54:36.580

he voted against it and he went along with it. That's more Ashton,

1634

01:54:36.600 --> 01:54:39.620

the navigator. He came from southern Indiana.

1635

01:54:40.280 --> 01:54:43.540

He enlisted before the war. And I believe he was the only one who was married.

1636

01:54:44.120 --> 01:54:48.540

He was damn good. He got taken away from the plane Later.

1637

01:54:48.690 --> 01:54:50.860

I'll explain that. And uh,

1638

01:54:50.880 --> 01:54:55.140

he was the only one shot down even later than that, flying a mission.

1639

01:54:55.400 --> 01:55:00.140

He didn't need to fly. Tommy O'Brien from New Jersey was Bombardier.

1640

01:55:01.400 --> 01:55:06.140

That's Charlie ler, the co-pilot. And dad said he was a natural pilot.

1641

01:55:06.880 --> 01:55:10.460

He just had, uh, natural skills. Bob Long Radio,

1642

01:55:11.340 --> 01:55:16.170

I think was from Texas. Uh, he's the tallest man on the crew.

1643

01:55:16.440 --> 01:55:21.050

This is dad's best friend, Isadora Lazarus. They called him Izzy.

1644

01:55:21.830 --> 01:55:26.290

He was from uh, Brooklyn. And this is, uh,

1645

01:55:27.050 --> 01:55:31.530

Estelle Perkins was from Arkansas. He was the Bal jury. Gunner.

1646

01:55:32.040 --> 01:55:36.490

There's my father, Paul Reich. He was left waist as I said.

1647

01:55:37.190 --> 01:55:41.330

And later on when a flight engineer took Ill,

1648

01:55:41.790 --> 01:55:46.310

he became top tur. He grew up in Connecticut. Well,

1649

01:55:46.310 --> 01:55:50.310

he grew up in, uh, New York, but they moved to Connecticut just before the war.

1650

01:55:51.170 --> 01:55:55.710

That's Eddie Diller from Dakota, South Dakota. He was a tail gunner.

1651

01:55:56.370 --> 01:56:00.590

And that's, uh, Matthew Moore. They called him Sam.

1652

01:56:01.370 --> 01:56:05.710

He was from North Carolina and he was the top turret.

1653

01:56:09.420 --> 01:56:13.070

Okay? Now as since I was a kid,

1654

01:56:13.650 --> 01:56:16.790

dad would talk to me, all his crew came back.

1655

01:56:16.850 --> 01:56:21.150

He didn't have any bad memories, but uh,

1656

01:56:22.410 --> 01:56:27.030

he would tell these stories and then as books come out like the mighty eighth

1657

01:56:27.030 --> 01:56:30.910

and Cal Stewarts, we would get talking and I'd talk even more.

1658

01:56:30.930 --> 01:56:34.350

And that's what this base is based on. It's his opinion.

1659

01:56:34.610 --> 01:56:39.590

His experience is now that notebook I showed

1660

01:56:39.590 --> 01:56:44.550

earlier, this is it. I had his original notebook.

1661

01:56:44.570 --> 01:56:49.030

He looked a number of things and a lot of the pictures I show

1662

01:56:49.380 --> 01:56:52.110

were this size. He had a stack of 'em.

1663

01:56:53.060 --> 01:56:55.590

Some others that I'm going to use, I took out of books,

1664

01:56:59.310 --> 01:57:03.770

but got through the names. Okay? Uh,

1665

01:57:11.540 --> 01:57:16.160

Here's a brief, uh, look at some of the stations.

1666

01:57:16.220 --> 01:57:21.120

Was he, he was in the crew, did their training in Alamogordo,

1667

01:57:21.310 --> 01:57:23.560

went to Nebraska, picked up their aircraft,

1668

01:57:23.660 --> 01:57:28.560

and then they went to Southern Route Florida, Trinidad, Brazil at Senegal,

1669

01:57:29.270 --> 01:57:32.840

Morocco, and then up to England. When they got to England,

1670

01:57:32.900 --> 01:57:36.520

the plane was taken away. They were told in the states they could keep it.

1671

01:57:36.710 --> 01:57:38.360

They named her the Pink Lady.

1672

01:57:38.940 --> 01:57:42.440

And I guess that was a big joke in the Army Air Force at the time.

1673

01:57:43.030 --> 01:57:46.440

They tell you in the states, you keep it. Once you got dangling,

1674

01:57:46.440 --> 01:57:49.080

it was taken away. They went by Trey Hardwick.

1675

01:57:49.470 --> 01:57:51.760

They got there in January of 44.

1676

01:57:56.910 --> 01:58:01.160

This is uh, a later crew.

1677

01:58:01.620 --> 01:58:05.760

And what happened, uh, in 1990,

1678

01:58:07.300 --> 01:58:11.560

we found his copilot. His copilot flew at the, uh,

1679

01:58:11.930 --> 01:58:14.160

dad's last five missions as pilot.

1680

01:58:15.340 --> 01:58:19.200

And Daddy either didn't remember or didn't realize, but uh,

1681

01:58:19.350 --> 01:58:23.720

Charlie LER said that the officers were only flying

1682

01:58:23.720 --> 01:58:27.200

25 missions. The enlisted were flying 30.

1683

01:58:28.060 --> 01:58:30.080

So you see all the enlisted are the same.

1684

01:58:31.220 --> 01:58:35.600

The only officer is Charlie. That might be the Bombardier,

1685

01:58:35.740 --> 01:58:36.680

but I'm not certain.

1686

01:58:41.420 --> 01:58:42.600

And to go into

1687

01:58:47.000 --> 01:58:47.833

what?

1688

01:58:54.520 --> 01:58:55.353

It's the orange button.

1689

01:58:57.270 --> 01:59:00.850

You're forgetting that. Okay, this is the ground crew

1690

01:59:03.160 --> 01:59:04.610

that is Howard Thompson.

1691

01:59:05.510 --> 01:59:09.650

He wrote the Ball of Fire with small articles just before the Seattle

1692

01:59:10.200 --> 01:59:12.650

reunion. And I called him,

1693

01:59:12.650 --> 01:59:16.250

turned out he lived in Albuquerque where I'd been stationed till I
went to

1694

01:59:16.270 --> 01:59:20.930

Tucson, to Mary Georgia. This person is unknown.

1695

01:59:21.120 --> 01:59:24.210

This is Billis. They call him Scout.

1696

01:59:24.910 --> 01:59:29.090
And this is the crew chief, uh, Della, d e l l a.

1697
01:59:29.610 --> 01:59:32.610
Revere. Dad says they liked the ground crew.

1698
01:59:33.550 --> 01:59:36.530
He said they were pretty good. He said, uh,

1699
01:59:36.680 --> 01:59:39.650
they got gum to take on the plane to clear their ears.

1700
01:59:39.840 --> 01:59:44.690
He'd take two sticks and give the other three to the ground crew and to help

1701
01:59:44.850 --> 01:59:46.810
'em out. If they had a minor problem,

1702
01:59:46.870 --> 01:59:50.050
they'd just hand it on a slip of paper rather and uh,

1703
01:59:50.460 --> 01:59:52.930
write it up in the logs to make 'em look better.

1704
02:00:02.480 --> 02:00:02.830
Okay?

1705
02:00:02.830 --> 02:00:03.970
Now when they got there,

1706
02:00:06.880 --> 02:00:11.250
they shared a Hutt with some esti veterans and they said they were strange.

1707
02:00:11.910 --> 02:00:14.930
One of 'em was telling 'em he ran outta ammo for his fifties.

1708

02:00:15.310 --> 02:00:18.490

He was throwing wrenches from the toolkit out the waist window.

1709

02:00:19.750 --> 02:00:21.490

But they were real nice to him.

1710

02:00:21.950 --> 02:00:24.890

One of the things they said is don't wear the,

1711

02:00:24.950 --> 02:00:29.890

the shearling wool flying outfit. It was too heavy and bulky.

1712

02:00:30.600 --> 02:00:35.170

Wear the heated suit. And that's what this is. This is,

1713

02:00:35.560 --> 02:00:39.730

they had to nickname the blue bunny suit. It was considered an undergarment.

1714

02:00:40.100 --> 02:00:44.890

Later suits had wool outer added to 'em. So if you bailed out,

1715

02:00:44.910 --> 02:00:47.050

you had something warm when you got to the ground.

1716

02:00:52.210 --> 02:00:55.460

This is the shearling outfit.

1717

02:00:55.800 --> 02:00:57.980

And I put it in mainly to show,

1718

02:01:01.990 --> 02:01:05.680

show what you look like. You had your helmet, your oxygen mask,

1719

02:01:06.640 --> 02:01:10.640

I think this is what they called the walkaround bottle. You had three bottles.

1720

02:01:10.640 --> 02:01:13.520

There was the bale out on your chute, the walkaround bottle.

1721

02:01:13.660 --> 02:01:16.600

If you had to leave your position in your position,

1722

02:01:16.660 --> 02:01:20.120

you hooked your hose into a receptacle on the wall.

1723

02:01:22.750 --> 02:01:24.330

And this is the victory bell.

1724

02:01:24.840 --> 02:01:28.810

This was taken some time in February before dad's crew got her.

1725

02:01:29.390 --> 02:01:32.930

He remembered it had some missions before they took it over.

1726

02:01:33.960 --> 02:01:37.730

They didn't name it until much later because they wanted to make sure it

1727

02:01:37.730 --> 02:01:40.000

wouldn't get taken away like your first plane.

1728

02:01:41.070 --> 02:01:45.960

This aircraft is the one that Don's grandfather was on when it crashed

1729

02:01:45.980 --> 02:01:50.140

on takeoff Don Morrison. And back here,

1730

02:01:50.570 --> 02:01:55.100

I've counted, it may be hard to see, there are 64 other aircraft,

1731

02:01:55.560 --> 02:01:57.340

it seems to me to be two groups.

1732

02:01:59.100 --> 02:02:02.400

Now that is the aircraft is called the Victory Guide.

1733

02:02:05.610 --> 02:02:08.300

This is just a closeup of that same shot.

1734

02:02:09.480 --> 02:02:12.300

And here she is with about 15 missions.

1735

02:02:13.730 --> 02:02:18.700

Here she is the oldest picture or the youngest picture I can find.

1736

02:02:18.840 --> 02:02:21.060

She has uh, 30 mission symbols.

1737

02:02:21.860 --> 02:02:26.060

I think those two were for D-Day dad's crew had just finished up

1738

02:02:26.880 --> 02:02:31.460

and somebody added the lady about the time with the new crew, I believe.

1739

02:02:31.740 --> 02:02:33.540

'cause it wasn't dad's crew that put her on.

1740

02:02:45.340 --> 02:02:48.890

These are some other aircraft that were in the group. This was MAs worry.

1741

02:02:49.030 --> 02:02:53.050

He said he knew somebody who was on this aircraft, but he didn't tell me,

1742

02:02:53.150 --> 02:02:56.170

or I can't remember. Willie's worry,

1743

02:02:56.450 --> 02:03:00.170

I assume he knew someone else 'cause the picture was in his possession.

1744

02:03:02.770 --> 02:03:05.500

This is the group getting ready to take off.

1745

02:03:07.190 --> 02:03:10.530

And this is just a picture of a squadron coming in.

1746

02:03:12.020 --> 02:03:15.000

So that get into flight engineer.

1747

02:03:18.070 --> 02:03:21.170

Uh, it's uh,

1748

02:03:23.020 --> 02:03:27.720

The difference between Sam Moore top Turt and dad is Sam

1749

02:03:28.560 --> 02:03:30.520

actually trained for B 20 fours.

1750

02:03:30.580 --> 02:03:35.400

Dad thought he was going into twin engine light attack, A 20 havocs.

1751

02:03:36.260 --> 02:03:41.040

And I saw another guy in the magazine article had the same thing happen to him.

1752

02:03:41.100 --> 02:03:43.840

All of a sudden he was sending the B 24 heavies.

1753

02:03:44.500 --> 02:03:49.400

And at first dad didn't like it 'cause oh B 17, I want to go B seventeens.

1754

02:03:50.020 --> 02:03:52.800

But once he flew 'em, he loved the B 24,

1755

02:03:54.420 --> 02:03:58.320

the job of the flight engineer. I couldn't find anything specific.

1756

02:03:59.580 --> 02:04:04.320

But uh, it was to advise the pilots at times they would, uh,

1757

02:04:04.410 --> 02:04:09.160

watch the air speed on takeoff and read it off to the pilot.

1758

02:04:09.300 --> 02:04:10.880

So they didn't have to look at that

1759

02:04:13.510 --> 02:04:15.210

And start the putt putt.

1760

02:04:15.320 --> 02:04:20.290

This was an auxiliary power supply that provided hydraulic power

1761

02:04:21.590 --> 02:04:23.970

to the hydraulic systems. Now,

1762

02:04:24.290 --> 02:04:28.450

normally it ran off the number three engine was the engine pump,

1763

02:04:29.550 --> 02:04:31.610

but on takeoffs and landings,

1764

02:04:31.630 --> 02:04:35.130

you turn this on is a home light generator.

1765

02:04:35.880 --> 02:04:39.480

Home light made, uh, generators for ranches and farms.

1766

02:04:39.720 --> 02:04:44.400

'cause not everybody had electricity then. And later they made, uh,

1767

02:04:44.430 --> 02:04:49.160

lawnmower engines and, you know, uh, uh, chainsaws.

1768

02:04:49.980 --> 02:04:53.880

But it then powered a hydraulic pump. And that was a case,

1769

02:04:54.200 --> 02:04:57.000

I guess in case the engine driven pump failed.

1770

02:04:57.100 --> 02:04:58.920

And it took some of the load off of it.

1771

02:05:00.020 --> 02:05:03.840

So it operated just like your lawnmower. You had a cord, you pulled it,

1772

02:05:03.860 --> 02:05:07.440

it started. And he says no matter how cold it was, 40 below,

1773

02:05:08.060 --> 02:05:10.840

you might have to give a second pull, but it always started.

1774

02:05:13.360 --> 02:05:18.330

Another thing, you had to monitor the generators and fuel

1775

02:05:21.380 --> 02:05:24.600

Up at the top here at the fuel transfer switches.

1776

02:05:25.140 --> 02:05:27.880

And you could select between the four tanks.

1777

02:05:27.880 --> 02:05:32.560

There were three cells in each and transfer fuel between

1778

02:05:32.880 --> 02:05:35.960

'em. You could transfer fuel to different engines.

1779

02:05:36.780 --> 02:05:40.720

You could transfer fuel from a tank into Bombay,

1780

02:05:41.820 --> 02:05:45.760

but you couldn't transfer their auxiliary tanks in the outer way and

you

1781

02:05:45.760 --> 02:05:50.720

couldn't transfer from there. They also had monitored gener, uh,

1782

02:05:50.820 --> 02:05:52.840

the generator amped, uh,

1783

02:05:53.440 --> 02:05:57.960

amperage and voltage here. And uh,

1784

02:05:58.420 --> 02:06:03.160

but uh, the flight engineer didn't have a seat there like the, uh,

1785

02:06:03.450 --> 02:06:07.120

radio operator. And he also had to fill in his top turret gunner

1786

02:06:09.620 --> 02:06:14.160

and a transfer auxiliary fuel. It's hard to see.

1787

02:06:14.440 --> 02:06:16.320

I think those are the pumps back here.

1788

02:06:16.460 --> 02:06:21.380

But it was above the wing and you had to go in and you timed it.

1789

02:06:21.380 --> 02:06:26.020

When the main tanks got down, you would transfer from the auxiliaries.

Now,

1790

02:06:26.240 --> 02:06:27.700

one time he was up here,

1791

02:06:27.880 --> 02:06:31.860

he started feeling dizzy and I guess his altitude chamber testing

1792

02:06:32.920 --> 02:06:33.753

worked out.

1793

02:06:33.800 --> 02:06:38.580

He started feeling dizzy and he said he realized what was wrong.

1794

02:06:38.640 --> 02:06:42.220

He looked down the hose had pulled out of his, uh, walk around bottle.

1795

02:06:43.160 --> 02:06:46.060

So he got it before he passed out. He said no,

1796

02:06:46.060 --> 02:06:49.540

that the crew probably would've known he was even, even down there.

1797

02:06:54.280 --> 02:06:59.020

So, quick thing, mission list. I'm only gonna cover Berlin

1798

02:07:02.300 --> 02:07:05.240

Strasberg and

1799

02:07:07.220 --> 02:07:11.080

his third Berlin. Here is the total combat hours,

1800

02:07:11.180 --> 02:07:15.160

almost 186 hours in missions.

1801

02:07:18.900 --> 02:07:21.640

Now, the first Berlin, what he remembered

1802

02:07:24.000 --> 02:07:27.220

Was more parachutes in the air than he ever saw before.

1803

02:07:27.280 --> 02:07:32.220

81 aircraft went down that day, nine fighters and 72 bombers.

1804

02:07:33.120 --> 02:07:37.400

The B seventeens caught, caught the bulk of it, but over the target,

1805

02:07:38.160 --> 02:07:41.240
a plane named Deicer was shot down.

1806
02:07:41.660 --> 02:07:46.640
And he remembers a guy parachuting into the heart of the city and he just

1807
02:07:46.640 --> 02:07:49.040
prayed the civilian get it, didn't get him.

1808
02:07:49.700 --> 02:07:52.720
And somewhere in the late eighties, early nineties,

1809
02:07:52.880 --> 02:07:54.840
I found a book called Target Berlin

1810
02:07:56.380 --> 02:08:01.120
and it correlated dad's group against the

1811
02:08:01.120 --> 02:08:03.200
German battery that shot at 'em.

1812
02:08:04.340 --> 02:08:07.680
And instead of the famous 80 eights, it was two batteries,

1813
02:08:07.800 --> 02:08:11.120
128 millimeters. And he said to me,

1814
02:08:11.260 --> 02:08:13.160
I'm glad I didn't know that back then.

1815
02:08:19.450 --> 02:08:23.590
So this is his first mission to got, I'll just put that up for a minute.

1816
02:08:24.850 --> 02:08:27.790
Now, Strasberg, I don't know if I should mention this.

1817

02:08:28.690 --> 02:08:33.350

It was actually a mission to ate Shoffen. They were,

1818

02:08:33.730 --> 02:08:34.563

uh,

1819

02:08:37.590 --> 02:08:41.770

20 minutes or 20 miles off course when they hit the enemy coast.

1820

02:08:43.590 --> 02:08:46.730

And the whole eighth, eighth Air force had messed up.

1821

02:08:46.960 --> 02:08:48.450

They were scattered all over.

1822

02:08:48.680 --> 02:08:53.370

Guys tried to get back to the original target and they ran out of fuel.

1823

02:08:54.230 --> 02:08:58.650

And dad's crew always believed they hit ow in Switzerland,

1824

02:08:59.270 --> 02:09:04.170

the 44th and 3 96, 3 90 second bomb group got

1825

02:09:04.170 --> 02:09:07.010

blamed for that. When they got back,

1826

02:09:07.010 --> 02:09:11.410

they were shown photos and the navigators said he was the only one in the

1827

02:09:11.530 --> 02:09:14.970

squadron who said they didn't bond the right target.

1828

02:09:15.310 --> 02:09:19.290

So he got moved to squadron lead. Uh,

1829

02:09:19.480 --> 02:09:21.090
this second Berlin,

1830
02:09:22.150 --> 02:09:25.210
or actually third was a red letter day.

1831
02:09:25.270 --> 02:09:30.010
That's the day Sam Moore cut his hand cleaning

1832
02:09:30.210 --> 02:09:31.890
a 50. It got infected.

1833
02:09:33.630 --> 02:09:38.610
And so dad went to top Turt. Now on the mission, dad was top turt.

1834
02:09:38.610 --> 02:09:43.530
First time he didn't know that you'd put the fifties level and

1835
02:09:43.530 --> 02:09:44.610
they'd protect your head.

1836
02:09:45.520 --> 02:09:49.730
He'd just gotten 'em that way by chance when flat bursts and embedded
in the

1837
02:09:49.850 --> 02:09:52.090
side of the 50 or it would've gone in his head.

1838
02:09:53.600 --> 02:09:55.700
Now when they landed,

1839
02:09:57.480 --> 02:10:00.860
the crew chief walks over and says, here, you forgot something.

1840
02:10:00.880 --> 02:10:05.740
And hands him his parachute in the waist. You had a chest pack.

1841
02:10:06.160 --> 02:10:09.940

And the top turn he said he should have taken, uh,

1842

02:10:11.140 --> 02:10:15.140

a uh, a seat pack. I'll just go briefly.

1843

02:10:16.170 --> 02:10:18.460

Damages flack fighters.

1844

02:10:19.160 --> 02:10:22.220

He says he always had flack and they're always hits.

1845

02:10:23.200 --> 02:10:26.940

And most of 'em were around his position. They called him the jinx,

1846

02:10:28.880 --> 02:10:31.220

uh, fighters. You didn't always see 'em.

1847

02:10:31.220 --> 02:10:35.040

You'd hear some other group got chewed up, but you wouldn't see 'em.

1848

02:10:35.710 --> 02:10:39.610

And the worst one they had a 20 millimeter came through the wing.

1849

02:10:40.110 --> 02:10:44.290

Nobody saw the fighters till they got hits. When they landed,

1850

02:10:44.830 --> 02:10:46.170

the crew chief found it.

1851

02:10:46.270 --> 02:10:50.930

It was unexploded up in the wheel well near one of the supporting struts.

1852

02:10:50.930 --> 02:10:53.810

If it exploded, the gear would've collapsed on landing.

1853

02:10:54.680 --> 02:10:59.570

They also had a hydraulic land, uh, hydraulic line punched on another

mission.

1854

02:11:00.520 --> 02:11:04.570

They got the chewing gum, wrapped it around there, froze it at altitude.

1855

02:11:04.830 --> 02:11:08.610

It was just enough to get the gear down. They came in hot without flaps.

1856

02:11:09.270 --> 02:11:13.490

And so that was some of the things the engineer was supposed to fix.

1857

02:11:14.760 --> 02:11:18.170

Another thing time that they lost electric power,

1858

02:11:18.630 --> 02:11:23.330

it was a short mission and dad had a diagram, I still have it.

1859

02:11:23.330 --> 02:11:24.530

They would flash the field,

1860

02:11:24.630 --> 02:11:29.450

he got some of the power back enough to keep the instruments and the engines

1861

02:11:29.450 --> 02:11:31.650

going and they cranked the turrets by hand.

1862

02:11:32.790 --> 02:11:34.810

So I was starting to run a little late,

1863

02:11:35.510 --> 02:11:40.010

but I was gonna go over two things. Uh

1864

02:11:42.160 --> 02:11:43.300

oh, okay, back.

1865

02:11:46.250 --> 02:11:50.100

This is a piece of flack embedded itself in the leading edge of the prop.

1866

02:11:51.280 --> 02:11:55.220

It didn't stop. It didn't cause it from running. Didn't cause any problems.

1867

02:11:55.240 --> 02:11:56.820

It made a funny worrying noise.

1868

02:11:57.360 --> 02:12:01.570

And I got this picture from Sam Moore's son and

1869

02:12:02.460 --> 02:12:06.090

dad's crew was lucky, but he played pool with a guy.

1870

02:12:06.910 --> 02:12:09.530

His name was Andrew Mk.

1871

02:12:09.670 --> 02:12:13.090

He called him Smiley on 22. April,

1872

02:12:14.520 --> 02:12:19.310

they got shot up real bad and they tried to make a landing at

1873

02:12:19.330 --> 02:12:22.430

an uh, emergency field. But uh,

1874

02:12:22.810 --> 02:12:26.030

the third time wasn't the good time.

1875

02:12:27.120 --> 02:12:31.740

Two attempts they couldn't get down. The third time they crashed was killed.

1876

02:12:32.480 --> 02:12:35.060

That's the only time dad got real quiet.

1877

02:12:35.650 --> 02:12:40.140

When we were talking for about 15 minutes. He wouldn't say anything.

1878

02:12:42.330 --> 02:12:43.910

The only other thing that,

1879

02:12:43.970 --> 02:12:48.870

the only one that got in injured on their crew was Izzy, the right waist.

1880

02:12:50.570 --> 02:12:51.403

And uh,

1881

02:12:55.060 --> 02:12:58.230

now that's the one you can see here.

1882

02:12:58.920 --> 02:13:01.870

There is a hatch at the top. When you came in the land,

1883

02:13:01.930 --> 02:13:05.550

you pulled the 50 and stowed it. You lowered the hatch,

1884

02:13:06.860 --> 02:13:07.693

latched it,

1885

02:13:07.770 --> 02:13:12.550

and then there's this deflector here to keep the wind out of the coming

1886

02:13:12.740 --> 02:13:16.630

full force into the aircraft. But when he pulled that in,

1887

02:13:16.910 --> 02:13:21.070

apparently he hadn't latched the hatch hard enough and it flew in,

1888

02:13:21.130 --> 02:13:25.470

hit him in the head. Dad hears thump, thud. He looks around,

1889

02:13:25.620 --> 02:13:28.910

he's busy with a big gash in his forehead. He calls the pilot.

1890

02:13:29.560 --> 02:13:33.000

Pilot tells the tail gunner come forward and administer him.

1891

02:13:33.060 --> 02:13:37.160

Dad went for the first aid kit. As Izzy's waking up,

1892

02:13:37.450 --> 02:13:41.960

dad's looking at the kit and he says, uh, we got iodine,

1893

02:13:42.100 --> 02:13:45.280

we got sulfa powder. Iodine's. Good enough.

1894

02:13:47.000 --> 02:13:51.080

Izzy wakes up, looks at it and says, SFA powder, you fool.

1895

02:13:53.380 --> 02:13:57.640

So they bandage him up, he walked off the plane, the medics come running out.

1896

02:13:57.870 --> 02:14:01.080

Well, pilot ordered two flares up first to land.

1897

02:14:01.470 --> 02:14:06.080

Everybody else peels off. And medics say, who's wounded?

1898

02:14:06.140 --> 02:14:10.160

As he goes, I am. And he points at his bandage. They look under it and they say,

1899

02:14:10.940 --> 02:14:14.400

get on the stretcher. You go in the hospital for observation.

1900

02:14:15.690 --> 02:14:19.830

And he tried to get the purple heart, but it wasn't enemy action.

1901

02:14:19.850 --> 02:14:22.150

He couldn't get it. But he never let 'em forget.

1902

02:14:22.500 --> 02:14:24.390

That was the only time they landed first.

1903

02:14:25.930 --> 02:14:30.430

And I'm just gonna to quickly go one more photo later on.

1904

02:14:31.480 --> 02:14:34.150

Let's finish up all that's what I'm trying the other way.

1905

02:14:34.290 --> 02:14:35.150

I'm trying the other way.

1906

02:14:39.940 --> 02:14:40.290

Great

1907

02:14:40.290 --> 02:14:43.450

Pictures. Oh,

1908

02:14:43.470 --> 02:14:48.130

let me just show this if I might. This is his last mission,

1909

02:14:48.440 --> 02:14:53.090

dunk, dunk, completion of the last mission. That's his copilot.

1910

02:14:53.270 --> 02:14:57.290

And he wrote this a dunking in the pond after that last mission.

1911

02:14:57.310 --> 02:15:01.130

That's me coming up for air. Was it his? What is his chicken closing?

1912

02:15:01.230 --> 02:15:02.290

All that was worth it.

1913

02:15:05.070 --> 02:15:08.690

And I just wanted one more. Okay. Back here.

1914

02:15:09.710 --> 02:15:13.410

The contrast is bad, but I like it. Shows 'em on the hard stand.

1915

02:15:13.890 --> 02:15:18.170

Probably coming back from a mission. I think that's Sam Moore,

1916

02:15:18.570 --> 02:15:23.170

Izzy dad, co-pilot, and Bob on radio.

1917

02:15:23.630 --> 02:15:26.090

And I just love this photo. Thank you.

1918

02:15:42.630 --> 02:15:44.650

Our next speaker is Wess Cable.

1919

02:15:45.640 --> 02:15:49.930

This is his first 93rd bond reunion. So let's welcome we,

1920

02:15:55.080 --> 02:15:58.650

Yeah, that's film. But Michael,

1921

02:15:58.930 --> 02:16:02.730

I know he's got be on them there. I do.

1922

02:16:05.380 --> 02:16:08.610

We'll start as soon as uh, the people get their pictures taken.

1923

02:16:10.260 --> 02:16:13.770

Smile Glen.

1924

02:16:13.820 --> 02:16:14.653

Smile.

1925

02:16:15.530 --> 02:16:16.363

I forgot how,

1926
02:16:20.770 --> 02:16:23.290
I dunno. But I'm having fun. Whatever.

1927
02:16:44.900 --> 02:16:45.120
We

1928
02:16:45.120 --> 02:16:46.280
Appreciate. This is the

1929
02:16:46.280 --> 02:16:51.200
Highlight of the watching you guys screw up. Yeah.

1930
02:16:52.750 --> 02:16:55.960
Must a lot. This is the other mic. Yeah.

1931
02:16:55.980 --> 02:16:59.400
You can go back and forth. This is the, you gotta hand it one to them.
Yeah.

1932
02:16:59.820 --> 02:17:02.120
One you use and the one they'll use. Okay.

1933
02:17:02.120 --> 02:17:06.720
Alright. When I hand you the mic,

1934
02:17:06.880 --> 02:17:09.800
I will have it turned on. Okay. You just,

1935
02:17:11.420 --> 02:17:12.800
and if you hold it about like,

1936
02:17:13.020 --> 02:17:17.440
so you can look over it and they'll let you know haven't got it right.

1937
02:17:17.910 --> 02:17:19.120
Yeah, they will. Yeah.

1938

02:17:24.280 --> 02:17:28.500

They'd like to welcome you to what is undoubtedly the highlight of the

1939

02:17:28.500 --> 02:17:32.180

conference. That's the opportunity to hear these gentlemen.

1940

02:17:33.040 --> 02:17:33.580

And they're,

1941

02:17:33.580 --> 02:17:38.220

they're quite young and I want to introduce them and I'm gonna give you two

1942

02:17:38.530 --> 02:17:43.010

ages, how old they are now, how young they're now,

1943

02:17:43.710 --> 02:17:47.010

and how old they were when they flew their missions.

1944

02:17:48.550 --> 02:17:52.970

So on this particular side, well,

1945

02:17:52.970 --> 02:17:56.490

I'll start over here with, uh, with Bud. Bud, uh,

1946

02:17:57.030 --> 02:17:58.570

is 87 years old,

1947

02:17:58.590 --> 02:18:02.610

so he's a young one of the group and he, uh,

1948

02:18:02.670 --> 02:18:06.570

was 20 years old when he joined the 93rd in

1949

02:18:06.850 --> 02:18:10.210

1951 in Castle, California,

1950

02:18:10.210 --> 02:18:12.450

which was the last place they were at at that time.

1951

02:18:13.070 --> 02:18:15.770

So he really came after the war. But he's a veteran.

1952

02:18:15.790 --> 02:18:19.250

He served and in peace time and so we welcome up.

1953

02:18:20.040 --> 02:18:24.610

Alright, all we congratulations.

1954

02:18:26.150 --> 02:18:29.450

And Bud was an engine mechanic. Uh,

1955

02:18:29.450 --> 02:18:32.410

then we have George McLean.

1956

02:18:33.080 --> 02:18:37.110

He's currently 92 and he was, uh,

1957

02:18:37.470 --> 02:18:41.470

19 years old when he flew his 30 missions as a waste gunner.

1958

02:18:42.130 --> 02:18:46.190

The three 29th and the four. So, hello George.

1959

02:18:52.900 --> 02:18:54.030

Then we have Glen Martin.

1960

02:18:54.250 --> 02:18:58.310

He showed up last year and surprised us and we're very delighted that he's back.

1961

02:18:58.810 --> 02:19:03.230

We look forward to what he'll say next year. He is 96.

1962

02:19:05.210 --> 02:19:06.630

He was a little bit older,

1963

02:19:07.050 --> 02:19:12.030

22 when he flew his 33 missions as a pilot in the three 29th.

1964

02:19:12.970 --> 02:19:15.910

And he is an interesting story about missions to Scotland,

1965

02:19:16.130 --> 02:19:17.510

but we will get to that later.

1966

02:19:25.050 --> 02:19:29.800

Our senior statesman is Bill Brown, 97 years young Today.

1967

02:19:30.860 --> 02:19:35.720

He was 24 when he flew his 35 missions as a pilot in the three

1968

02:19:35.720 --> 02:19:36.553

28th.

1969

02:19:44.210 --> 02:19:46.680

Henry Amp is only 94.

1970

02:19:51.700 --> 02:19:56.400

He and Martin are gonna have a formation, uh, Walker race when this is over.

1971

02:19:58.690 --> 02:20:03.320

Henry was 20 years old when he threw his 35 missions as the nose gunner in the

1972

02:20:03.600 --> 02:20:06.120

four oh ninth. So hello Henry.

1973

02:20:11.780 --> 02:20:12.613

Oh, sorry.

1974

02:20:13.260 --> 02:20:16.000

So I said I was gonna start out with Glen

1975

02:20:18.050 --> 02:20:21.910

and, uh, we talked a little bit about, uh,

1976

02:20:22.020 --> 02:20:23.830

what he should talk about,

1977

02:20:24.450 --> 02:20:28.390

but I'm gonna ask him to tell us about your missions to Scotland.

1978

02:20:29.980 --> 02:20:30.780

To Scotland.

1979

02:20:30.780 --> 02:20:31.613

Yes, sir.

1980

02:20:32.590 --> 02:20:37.520

Well, that was after the war. I, no, not after the war, but after I was, uh,

1981

02:20:37.760 --> 02:20:42.120

finished my tour and it was in wing headquarters. Uh, general Timberlake,

1982

02:20:42.930 --> 02:20:47.550

uh, asked if I would mind flying to Glasgow,

1983

02:20:47.830 --> 02:20:49.630

Scotland. And I said, well, no, I don't mind.

1984

02:20:49.930 --> 02:20:54.030

So it was in a Nordine Norman little single engine plane. He said,

1985

02:20:54.290 --> 02:20:58.510

go up there and see Captain Pelus. I said, okay.

1986

02:20:59.530 --> 02:21:03.540

He said, he is the only, uh,

1987

02:21:05.120 --> 02:21:09.420

way that we can get liquor for the officers in the Airman's Club.

1988

02:21:11.520 --> 02:21:12.620

So I took this plane,

1989

02:21:12.680 --> 02:21:15.980

it was a seven passenger plane and it hold a lot of liquor.

1990

02:21:18.540 --> 02:21:22.620

I made two trips up there for 'em and it was in the wintertime, pretty cold.

1991

02:21:23.440 --> 02:21:27.900

So I landed on a grass strip there and it was snow and ice on it,

1992

02:21:27.960 --> 02:21:29.900

but no problem there.

1993

02:21:30.120 --> 02:21:34.820

So they loaded up the plane and I flew back down there and got it

1994

02:21:34.900 --> 02:21:39.580

unloaded. And about three months later

1995

02:21:41.200 --> 02:21:43.000

I went back for the same mission.

1996

02:21:43.580 --> 02:21:48.440

So apparently he had a big connection with his seven. Stop us, whoever he was,

1997

02:21:48.590 --> 02:21:51.440

because liquor was hard to find over there at that time.

1998

02:21:53.670 --> 02:21:54.503

Okay,

1999

02:21:55.540 --> 02:21:56.960

That's a good one. Thank you.

2000

02:21:57.500 --> 02:21:58.333

No problem.

2001

02:22:02.170 --> 02:22:06.440

We've got, uh, the way we're gonna, the way we're gonna do this test,

2002

02:22:06.620 --> 02:22:09.750

get this back on here,

2003

02:22:09.750 --> 02:22:12.070

It's a sticky source where we'll do this.

2004

02:22:12.170 --> 02:22:14.190

I'm gonna ask the major couple questions,

2005

02:22:14.260 --> 02:22:17.030

then we will open it up to the audience for questions.

2006

02:22:17.570 --> 02:22:20.030

So be thinking about what it is you would like to ask.

2007

02:22:20.760 --> 02:22:22.710

We've actually got two gunners in our group,

2008

02:22:22.770 --> 02:22:27.000

and I thought it would be interesting to kind of compare what was different

2009

02:22:27.000 --> 02:22:29.520

about being a nose gunner and being a waist gun.

2010

02:22:30.540 --> 02:22:34.680

So I asked Henry if he would talk a little bit about what it was like to operate

2011

02:22:34.680 --> 02:22:35.513

the nose gunner.

2012

02:22:38.170 --> 02:22:39.003

There you go.

2013

02:22:40.590 --> 02:22:45.360

Well, the only thing he had to know is where to turn the switch on so that the

2014

02:22:45.860 --> 02:22:50.640

mat turt would move and you could aim the, the, uh, guns.

2015

02:22:51.480 --> 02:22:55.720

I had two 50 caliber, uh, machine guns on it, well,

2016

02:22:55.740 --> 02:23:00.360

on each side of me. And I sat in between and I had a toggle or, uh,

2017

02:23:00.670 --> 02:23:03.760

what do you call it, joystick in the middle that, uh,

2018

02:23:03.850 --> 02:23:08.040

controlled the turret and the aiming of the, of the guns.

2019

02:23:08.820 --> 02:23:13.560

The, uh, basic, uh,

2020

02:23:15.170 --> 02:23:19.760

thing that I was concerned with was we would bomb drop our

2021

02:23:19.890 --> 02:23:24.840

bombs when the lead bomb, uh, lead bomber would drop theirs.

2022

02:23:25.340 --> 02:23:30.000

And they had a smoke bomb on there that signaled the rest of the flock

2023
02:23:30.140 --> 02:23:32.200
to drop their bombs. And,

2024
02:23:32.260 --> 02:23:36.800
and I had a toggle switch there that I could flip it and

2025
02:23:37.280 --> 02:23:38.000
I would,

2026
02:23:38.000 --> 02:23:42.360
I could drop the bombs if the bomb bearer bombardi deer didn't see it.

2027
02:23:43.180 --> 02:23:44.800
Anyway, uh, uh,

2028
02:23:45.230 --> 02:23:49.880
that there was no instance of that in that case. The, uh,

2029
02:23:49.980 --> 02:23:54.840
the only thing we had was I was in charge of pulling the pins on the

2030
02:23:54.850 --> 02:23:59.800
bombs after we took off. And, and in this case, uh,

2031
02:23:59.970 --> 02:24:02.560
there was times when we had to bring the bombs back.

2032
02:24:02.660 --> 02:24:07.520
We couldn't salvo them in the channel anymore because of the, our,

2033
02:24:07.740 --> 02:24:09.360
uh, boats, uh,

2034
02:24:09.640 --> 02:24:14.400
ships along back and forth from England to the French Coast. So,

2035
02:24:14.580 --> 02:24:17.920

uh, uh, this one time we,

2036

02:24:18.140 --> 02:24:19.720

we were stood down and,

2037

02:24:20.340 --> 02:24:25.030

but there was a mission and they came back with 2000 pound

2038

02:24:25.160 --> 02:24:26.310

bombs in the bomb bay.

2039

02:24:27.090 --> 02:24:31.350

And evidently this one plane landed with a pretty hard jolt.

2040

02:24:31.730 --> 02:24:36.510

It broke the 2000 pound bomb broke

2041

02:24:36.510 --> 02:24:38.910

loose from the, uh, rack,

2042

02:24:39.490 --> 02:24:42.630

and it slid down the runway along with the airplane.

2043

02:24:43.250 --> 02:24:48.230

And us guys that was watching the landing and so on took off in

2044

02:24:48.230 --> 02:24:51.710

the mighty fast run to get away from that place that, uh,

2045

02:24:51.780 --> 02:24:56.270

nothing ever happened. So, uh, but outside of that, uh,

2046

02:24:57.270 --> 02:24:59.270

I pretty, pretty mundane.

2047

02:25:11.630 --> 02:25:14.030

I ask now. Pardon a question.

2048

02:25:14.930 --> 02:25:15.763

We have a question.

2049

02:25:16.910 --> 02:25:20.430

I thought you were never supposed to come back with your moms. Pardon me?

2050

02:25:20.710 --> 02:25:22.870

I thought you were never supposed to come back with

2051

02:25:22.870 --> 02:25:23.703

Your bonds.

2052

02:25:24.390 --> 02:25:25.030

That was,

2053

02:25:25.030 --> 02:25:28.920

That was before D-day. After D-day,

2054

02:25:29.140 --> 02:25:32.040

the microphone Allied shipping in

2055

02:25:33.750 --> 02:25:35.180

after D-day. The bond,

2056

02:25:35.360 --> 02:25:40.300

the allied shipping in the channel was such that they didn't want to take

2057

02:25:40.380 --> 02:25:42.860

a chance on us dropping a bomb on,

2058

02:25:42.960 --> 02:25:47.500

on our own soldiers or allies as we were going along.

2059

02:25:47.920 --> 02:25:51.460

So as a result, we had to bring our bombs back.

2060

02:25:51.520 --> 02:25:55.380

If we didn't or didn't, uh, hit the, uh, get to the target,

2061

02:25:58.150 --> 02:26:01.980

Gonna move from the nose gunner to the waist gunner. George,

2062

02:26:02.120 --> 02:26:03.500

how did you aim those guns?

2063

02:26:05.690 --> 02:26:06.540

Very carefully.

2064

02:26:10.120 --> 02:26:12.940

You refer to the waist gun because the sight on it,

2065

02:26:13.150 --> 02:26:17.780

allar was a little different because you had computer sight and your controls

2066

02:26:17.780 --> 02:26:21.980

were up over your head and your knees were under your chin and, uh,

2067

02:26:22.720 --> 02:26:24.540

you operated theoretical with your foot.

2068

02:26:26.450 --> 02:26:29.940

Yeah, I forgot he operated both the ball tur and the waist gunner.

2069

02:26:29.960 --> 02:26:31.460

So it's good information.

2070

02:26:32.680 --> 02:26:33.900

Are you done? Okay,

2071

02:26:34.710 --> 02:26:37.900

We'll move on to Bill. We'll get a pilot question here. I'm

2072

02:26:37.900 --> 02:26:41.860

Trying to give the veterans that one. Yeah, give the veterans that one. Okay.

2073

02:26:43.500 --> 02:26:46.560

The other question I have for you, since I'm a pilot also,

2074

02:26:47.190 --> 02:26:50.560

what was the most difficult thing about flying the B 24?

2075

02:26:54.590 --> 02:26:55.100

Getting

2076

02:26:55.100 --> 02:26:56.480

Up in the morning and going,

2077

02:27:00.580 --> 02:27:03.360

Yes, it,

2078

02:27:04.500 --> 02:27:08.440

It wasn't really, it wasn't really a hard plane to fly.

2079

02:27:10.390 --> 02:27:12.270

I didn't find that hard to fly anyhow.

2080

02:27:13.130 --> 02:27:13.430

You know,

2081

02:27:13.430 --> 02:27:18.270

there were some reports from the B 24 came out after the 17 that it was a box

2082

02:27:18.370 --> 02:27:21.070

car and all kinds of things that people criticized,

2083

02:27:21.130 --> 02:27:23.870

but the pilot never criticizes the airplane. They fly.

2084

02:27:25.250 --> 02:27:28.350

You want to comment on that or let Glen comment on it?

2085

02:27:29.410 --> 02:27:30.120

Well,

2086

02:27:30.120 --> 02:27:34.740

He, whoever that was said that evidently didn't like the fly.

2087

02:27:38.090 --> 02:27:39.700

Glen, would you carry a comment on that?

2088

02:27:40.720 --> 02:27:41.553

On flying?

2089

02:27:41.730 --> 02:27:43.180

Yeah. Was it hard to fly? Well,

2090

02:27:43.880 --> 02:27:48.300

We didn't know anything about power steering and all of this power now.

2091

02:27:48.640 --> 02:27:49.900

We didn't have any power.

2092

02:27:51.040 --> 02:27:54.380

It was muscle power if you had any.

2093

02:27:55.040 --> 02:27:59.980

So it was a little bit difficult to fly for me at least. And I thought it was,

2094

02:28:00.080 --> 02:28:04.780

uh, a challenge, but we got through it. You know,

2095

02:28:05.080 --> 02:28:05.913

if I,

2096

02:28:06.360 --> 02:28:10.860
if I get long-winded and it time on my time here,

2097
02:28:11.400 --> 02:28:15.100
you just raise your hand. I'm not gonna stop,

2098
02:28:15.240 --> 02:28:16.780
but I'll send you to the restroom.

2099
02:28:20.680 --> 02:28:24.480
So it was, it was a good plane to fly, uh,

2100
02:28:25.180 --> 02:28:30.080
the only beach when the only four engine bomber I ever flew. But, uh,

2101
02:28:31.120 --> 02:28:33.680
I love flying. I still do.

2102
02:28:34.000 --> 02:28:37.760
I just like to sit out here and listen and watch the plane go over.

2103
02:28:38.530 --> 02:28:41.520
Can't get it out of my blood. Anyway,

2104
02:28:42.640 --> 02:28:43.920
I think Bill has another comment.

2105
02:28:45.780 --> 02:28:49.240
Uh, as far as flying is concerned, the,

2106
02:28:49.480 --> 02:28:54.320
I think the hardest part of flying was the formation flying.

2107
02:28:54.630 --> 02:28:59.080
Yeah. It took a lot of anticipation.

2108
02:29:00.980 --> 02:29:04.440
You can't, when you get away and try to catch up,

2109

02:29:04.900 --> 02:29:08.200

you have to go faster than the group's going

2110

02:29:09.830 --> 02:29:11.050

and you have to stop,

2111

02:29:12.790 --> 02:29:15.370

let off the power sometime before you catch up.

2112

02:29:17.240 --> 02:29:19.130

Otherwise you're going right on bio.

2113

02:29:21.110 --> 02:29:23.050

And that was a hard part about it,

2114

02:29:23.530 --> 02:29:27.490

anticipating when to slow down, when to speed up.

2115

02:29:28.960 --> 02:29:29.500

Well,

2116

02:29:29.500 --> 02:29:30.370

You'd be the lead

2117

02:29:30.370 --> 02:29:31.330

Plane then if you

2118

02:29:31.350 --> 02:29:32.370

Go back. Yeah, yeah.

2119

02:29:32.580 --> 02:29:33.413

Right.

2120

02:29:36.320 --> 02:29:41.210

Okay. Let's go ahead. Any questions from the audience that all at once?

2121

02:29:41.240 --> 02:29:43.410

Yeah, hold on. I'll bring you the mic.

2122

02:29:46.010 --> 02:29:49.810

I gotta kick the mic back to them. So go ahead and ask the question. I wasn't,

2123

02:29:49.810 --> 02:29:54.810

so Henry, uh, you said you controlled the, the 2050s with a joystick,

2124

02:29:55.180 --> 02:29:57.730

right? Alright. Uh, was the,

2125

02:29:58.150 --> 02:30:02.490

was the firing mechanism on the joystick also, or was et cetera? What did it,

2126

02:30:02.550 --> 02:30:04.450

did it both work the turret and the

2127

02:30:04.450 --> 02:30:08.410

Trigger? Yes. It ever, the whole control was there, uh,

2128

02:30:08.430 --> 02:30:12.850

of control of the turret as well was firing the guns.

2129

02:30:13.600 --> 02:30:18.010

Okay. And you said you were, you were in charge of pulling the pins to arm the

2130

02:30:18.020 --> 02:30:19.170

Bombs, right. But

2131

02:30:19.200 --> 02:30:21.290

When you returned with the bombs,

2132

02:30:21.640 --> 02:30:24.210

were you able to put the pins back in?

2133

02:30:24.240 --> 02:30:26.570

Yeah, that was the responsibility of,

2134

02:30:26.590 --> 02:30:31.050

of mine that I had to put the pins back in. So, uh,

2135

02:30:31.930 --> 02:30:33.210

I I never dropped any,

2136

02:30:38.550 --> 02:30:42.250

Uh, how many farm would that be? Eight. Oh,

2137

02:30:44.290 --> 02:30:45.820

Well, we, with, with, uh,

2138

02:30:47.630 --> 02:30:48.463

There you go.

2139

02:30:48.920 --> 02:30:52.900

The, uh, 2000 pound bombs, usually we carry two,

2140

02:30:53.400 --> 02:30:58.180

but we could carry three. Uh, but then it, uh,

2141

02:30:58.340 --> 02:31:03.300

a hundred pound bomb. There might be as many as 40 or 50 in the bomb bay.

2142

02:31:03.640 --> 02:31:07.780

And each one had a pin, uh, that had had to be, uh,

2143

02:31:08.610 --> 02:31:12.380

removed before that it was svod or, or,

2144

02:31:12.560 --> 02:31:17.460

or dropped on the target. So they all had to be put back in, uh,

2145
02:31:17.720 --> 02:31:18.660
before we landed.

2146
02:31:20.720 --> 02:31:22.260
Now, when you released the bombs,

2147
02:31:22.260 --> 02:31:25.700
did they just all went up one time or did they trickle up one after
the other?

2148
02:31:26.890 --> 02:31:30.620
Well, it, it that I never saw 'em, I don't know what,

2149
02:31:30.640 --> 02:31:31.940
how they dropped out there.

2150
02:31:32.770 --> 02:31:33.220
That was

2151
02:31:33.220 --> 02:31:33.660
All behind

2152
02:31:33.660 --> 02:31:34.493
Me.

2153
02:31:37.530 --> 02:31:38.363
Alvo,

2154
02:31:39.360 --> 02:31:40.380
Go ahead, bill. What?

2155
02:31:41.510 --> 02:31:43.850
It was just, just in as a salvo.

2156
02:31:43.850 --> 02:31:46.530
They all went one after the other.

2157

02:31:48.190 --> 02:31:51.650

So if you had 40 bombs, how long would it take for them all to be released?

2158

02:31:52.600 --> 02:31:53.970

Seconds, seconds,

2159

02:31:53.970 --> 02:31:55.010

Seconds. Okay.

2160

02:31:55.580 --> 02:31:56.413

Other questions?

2161

02:31:56.850 --> 02:31:59.250

I think Glen wants to talk real quick. Yeah.

2162

02:31:59.550 --> 02:32:01.890

On the bomb run, of course, uh,

2163

02:32:03.480 --> 02:32:06.890

each plane did not drop their bombs individually.

2164

02:32:07.000 --> 02:32:11.090

Usually Dr dropped it on the leader when they saw his planes go out,

2165

02:32:11.090 --> 02:32:15.930

they would salvo theirs. So it was tattered bombing in most cases.

2166

02:32:16.890 --> 02:32:18.760

And, uh, the,

2167

02:32:19.940 --> 02:32:24.620

the bombs were not armed until we got

2168

02:32:25.130 --> 02:32:26.820

over into intermittent territory.

2169

02:32:27.360 --> 02:32:32.060

And the engineer would go down the catwalk there and pull,

2170

02:32:32.930 --> 02:32:35.380

they call 'em a pen, like a coter pit,

2171

02:32:35.890 --> 02:32:39.980

pull 'em out from each bomb because the bomb had a little, uh,

2172

02:32:41.480 --> 02:32:44.880

uh, windmill on it, propeller.

2173

02:32:45.020 --> 02:32:49.800

And on the way down it would spin and arm the bomb on the way down.

2174

02:32:50.050 --> 02:32:50.520

Drill a

2175

02:32:50.520 --> 02:32:51.400

Hole into yeah,

2176

02:32:52.720 --> 02:32:54.880

A hole propeller to keep the from spin. Yeah.

2177

02:32:55.280 --> 02:32:56.840

A little propeller on it. Yeah.

2178

02:32:57.620 --> 02:33:01.520

So they were not armed until that happened.

2179

02:33:01.580 --> 02:33:05.760

But if we avoided a mission and had to return,

2180

02:33:07.620 --> 02:33:10.160

we couldn't land with them on board. They were live.

2181

02:33:11.500 --> 02:33:13.920

So we had to do something to solve all 'em,

2182
02:33:13.920 --> 02:33:18.320
either into the English channel or opportunity, uh, uh,

2183
02:33:18.380 --> 02:33:20.640
target of opportunity or something like that.

2184
02:33:22.440 --> 02:33:24.390
Other commissioners. Jim, you had a question

2185
02:33:24.390 --> 02:33:25.870
Really quick? Really quick. We got a

2186
02:33:25.870 --> 02:33:27.270
Comment from Walter

2187
02:33:27.450 --> 02:33:28.310
And F Hughes.

2188
02:33:30.160 --> 02:33:35.020
Palms were ear yearly dropped with two second 0.2

2189
02:33:35.020 --> 02:33:40.020
second intervals so they wouldn't contact in the bomb bay. So what,
what this,

2190
02:33:40.230 --> 02:33:41.063
who's that from?

2191
02:33:41.280 --> 02:33:43.500
That's from Walter F. Hughes from Hawaii.

2192
02:33:43.640 --> 02:33:45.500
In Hawaii, okay. On the internet. He's in

2193
02:33:45.500 --> 02:33:46.050
Hawaii.

2194

02:33:46.050 --> 02:33:49.420

Okay. That was a comment sent in on the internet. And what,

2195

02:33:49.420 --> 02:33:54.180

what he's talking about is there was just enough timing between the bombs so

2196

02:33:54.180 --> 02:33:57.900

that one wouldn't hit the other when they were released. I think that's agenda.

2197

02:33:57.900 --> 02:34:01.860

Do you have a question? Walter's one of our pilots. Yeah. Okay. Comment.

2198

02:34:02.020 --> 02:34:02.820

I told him you were on

2199

02:34:02.820 --> 02:34:06.690

Facebook, so nice. There you go. Comment. And

2200

02:34:06.930 --> 02:34:09.370

I would like to say, I would

2201

02:34:09.370 --> 02:34:11.170

Like to say that the lead one second

2202

02:34:11.590 --> 02:34:13.530

One at a time. Uh, bill,

2203

02:34:13.550 --> 02:34:14.370

Go ahead.

2204

02:34:14.370 --> 02:34:18.600

I would like to say that the lead blame didn't carry bombs.

2205

02:34:19.750 --> 02:34:24.480

They had a load of navigation equipment

2206

02:34:24.510 --> 02:34:29.480

that, uh, so they did all the steering, you might say,

2207

02:34:30.380 --> 02:34:34.320

and they had smoke bombs on the wings,

2208

02:34:34.420 --> 02:34:36.680

and when they dropped the smoke bombs,

2209

02:34:37.650 --> 02:34:39.460

everybody dropped their bombs.

2210

02:34:41.070 --> 02:34:42.490

Got George, go ahead, ahead,

2211

02:34:42.490 --> 02:34:44.810

George. We were talking about the a hundred pound bombs.

2212

02:34:45.520 --> 02:34:48.730

They had either 20 or 24 releases in the Bombay.

2213

02:34:49.670 --> 02:34:51.250

So to carry a hundred pound bombs,

2214

02:34:51.250 --> 02:34:53.570

that would string 'em together with a snap hooks and cables,

2215

02:34:53.570 --> 02:34:54.850

like a string of beads.

2216

02:34:55.550 --> 02:34:59.250

And they'd have it all hanging up like that in the Bombay and get big cluster.

2217

02:34:59.310 --> 02:35:01.010

And sometimes when you release it,

2218

02:35:01.910 --> 02:35:06.330
the top would release first and the others would jam and you had to pull 'em

2219
02:35:06.330 --> 02:35:07.770
out, get rid of 'em, like that.

2220
02:35:10.250 --> 02:35:12.530
Questions from the audience. Yeah,

2221
02:35:16.930 --> 02:35:21.830
I'd just like, um, any or all of you to tell us one of your scariest moments?

2222
02:35:24.410 --> 02:35:29.350
Who wants to start? We'll just go right down the line. Give him that one.

2223
02:35:31.800 --> 02:35:36.310
Every time I got in the B 24, that was the scariest moment of my life.

2224
02:35:40.820 --> 02:35:43.790
It's hard to pick any scariest moment.

2225
02:35:45.610 --> 02:35:48.390
Uh, I was scared all the time.

2226
02:35:53.210 --> 02:35:54.350
Uh, most of the

2227
02:35:56.140 --> 02:36:00.870
time on the bomb run was really scary

2228
02:36:01.260 --> 02:36:06.230
because you had us fly straight and no turning

2229
02:36:06.300 --> 02:36:10.710
away or anything. So they had a good shot at you,

2230

02:36:12.210 --> 02:36:14.150

So no, no ability to do any evasive

2231

02:36:14.350 --> 02:36:16.990

Maneuvering. If they were gonna hit you, they were going to hit you.
Then

2232

02:36:21.950 --> 02:36:23.510

I, I forgot what I was going to say.

2233

02:36:25.630 --> 02:36:26.990

Scariest moment. Scariest

2234

02:36:26.990 --> 02:36:31.750

Moment. Mike. I guess my fir very first mission,

2235

02:36:33.550 --> 02:36:37.830

I was very green at that time and I got there, the squadron and,

2236

02:36:38.610 --> 02:36:42.950

uh, Colonel Feal, who's the commander there, said,

2237

02:36:43.560 --> 02:36:47.390

we've got a crew here whose pilot refused to fly.

2238

02:36:47.480 --> 02:36:48.870

Would you take his crew?

2239

02:36:55.590 --> 02:36:56.423

You know,

2240

02:36:59.950 --> 02:37:03.610

as a pilot you had to know the duties of each member

2241

02:37:04.800 --> 02:37:09.490

just so you would know if they were doing their job or not.

2242

02:37:10.200 --> 02:37:12.330
Well, they had to know their pilot too.

2243
02:37:13.630 --> 02:37:18.280
So that was the, the mission came off Okay. But it was,

2244
02:37:18.540 --> 02:37:20.880
wasn't comfortable for me or for them.

2245
02:37:24.180 --> 02:37:25.040
That's a good story.

2246
02:37:27.510 --> 02:37:29.360
Yeah. I think the fear started when you released

2247
02:37:29.360 --> 02:37:30.440
The brakes on takeoff

2248
02:37:31.980 --> 02:37:35.120
And they had to hang on until you got back. That's what you're hoping for.

2249
02:37:38.510 --> 02:37:43.210
I'm gonna ask about a question because Bud's very interesting because as a

2250
02:37:43.210 --> 02:37:47.130
youth, you watched these guys, you learned from them, you respected them,

2251
02:37:47.240 --> 02:37:50.770
then you became a member of them, and you worked on engines.

2252
02:37:51.310 --> 02:37:54.730
So I'd like for you to talk about the first time you replaced an engine,

2253
02:37:54.760 --> 02:37:56.050
whether it was difficult.

2254

02:37:58.470 --> 02:38:02.690

Uh, let's see. I I can't remember anything being that,

2255

02:38:02.760 --> 02:38:07.210

that d at all. Uh, yeah, it was a big monster to move around 28,

2256

02:38:07.230 --> 02:38:10.090

so cylinder dirt. But, uh,

2257

02:38:10.160 --> 02:38:14.690

with the hoist equipment we had compared to what these guys had to work with,

2258

02:38:15.270 --> 02:38:19.930

uh, it was kind of a breeze. Just hook it up with the hoist,

2259

02:38:20.870 --> 02:38:25.530

get behind with a couple of good big wrenches and break loose the mount boats.

2260

02:38:26.160 --> 02:38:29.810

Pull it out, get yellow, roll it up, hook it on the ho,

2261

02:38:30.620 --> 02:38:34.610

slide it in, put my bolt back in, ready to roll.

2262

02:38:38.160 --> 02:38:40.010

Something I've always wondered about,

2263

02:38:40.150 --> 02:38:42.570

and I've read stories and we've seen the movies and things,

2264

02:38:43.270 --> 02:38:47.130

but when did you actually find out what your target would be?

2265

02:38:47.270 --> 02:38:50.450

My understanding it wasn't until you went to the briefing. Is that

correct?

2266

02:38:50.980 --> 02:38:52.010

Would you comment on that?

2267

02:38:54.240 --> 02:38:58.170

Well, when they took the cover off the map and showed us where we were going,

2268

02:38:58.750 --> 02:39:00.970

it was holy crap.

2269

02:39:07.320 --> 02:39:09.970

Well, and in our case,

2270

02:39:10.190 --> 02:39:13.530

in the officer's club, they had

2271

02:39:15.090 --> 02:39:18.690

a mug with a face on it, sitting on the mantle,

2272

02:39:20.110 --> 02:39:23.050

and the face was always facing the room.

2273

02:39:24.470 --> 02:39:29.130

And if you went in there one evening and the mantle was

2274

02:39:29.390 --> 02:39:33.650

facing the wall, you knew there was a mission on in the morning. Mm-hmm.

2275

02:39:35.390 --> 02:39:39.130

And that's all you knew until you went to the briefing.

2276

02:39:44.660 --> 02:39:48.680

In the briefing room. Of course, they had the big, uh,

2277

02:39:49.330 --> 02:39:53.120

route up on the wall with a cover over it, like a sheet.

2278

02:39:54.180 --> 02:39:57.840

And we didn't know until they dropped that sheet where we were going.

2279

02:39:57.870 --> 02:40:02.440

They had the route on plant. There's a lot of moaning and groaning after that.

2280

02:40:03.310 --> 02:40:08.240

They, I saw how deep the mission was, so that's the first we knew about it.

2281

02:40:08.240 --> 02:40:12.760

And the Bombardiers and navigators would then know their job was

2282

02:40:12.860 --> 02:40:17.720

coming up to the route, the bombs and all of that. But it was,

2283

02:40:17.820 --> 02:40:19.280

uh, uh,

2284

02:40:19.820 --> 02:40:24.800

not known until we saw that sheet drop where we were going.

2285

02:40:25.140 --> 02:40:27.040

So it was kind of scary that way.

2286

02:40:27.790 --> 02:40:29.640

Were there ever rumors, like you said,

2287

02:40:29.740 --> 02:40:33.280

we think tomorrow we're going here or there, would you second guessing?

2288

02:40:34.500 --> 02:40:35.333

I'm sorry, what,

2289

02:40:35.710 --> 02:40:38.400
What, were there rumors like, okay,

2290
02:40:38.440 --> 02:40:41.880
I know in two days we're going to Frankford Berlin or something like that?

2291
02:40:41.940 --> 02:40:42.800
You just know.

2292
02:40:43.060 --> 02:40:46.680
We didn't know. Didn't know at all. Didn't know at all until we got there.

2293
02:40:47.260 --> 02:40:47.780
Of course,

2294
02:40:47.780 --> 02:40:52.680
the ground crew had already service the plane with the proper amount of

2295
02:40:52.680 --> 02:40:57.480
fuel and the bombs were loaded. They've done their job way before daylight.

2296
02:40:58.540 --> 02:41:01.600
And, uh, a lot of the crew members,

2297
02:41:02.350 --> 02:41:06.960
some who were a little apprehensive about flying,

2298
02:41:07.130 --> 02:41:12.000
would have to stop by the latrines, of course. And,

2299
02:41:12.100 --> 02:41:16.550
uh, sometimes it was a little bit scary that way.

2300
02:41:16.810 --> 02:41:21.470
But all in all, it was great. Uh,

2301

02:41:22.650 --> 02:41:23.590

can I have a few minutes?

2302

02:41:24.290 --> 02:41:28.070

Yes. Let's go ahead, sir. Yes, sir. Mm-hmm. You do, whatever.

2303

02:41:29.890 --> 02:41:33.950

It may, it may rock on a little past a few minutes, but anyhow,

2304

02:41:34.590 --> 02:41:38.230

I want to tell you in the book Ted's Traveling Circus,

2305

02:41:39.900 --> 02:41:44.070

there's a photo in there with me and General Timberlake,

2306

02:41:45.490 --> 02:41:49.910

and underneath it says, major Martin flew the, uh,

2307

02:41:52.020 --> 02:41:56.140

PTI mission, what was it called?

2308

02:41:57.100 --> 02:41:59.940

Tidal wave. Tidal wave. I forget.

2309

02:42:00.640 --> 02:42:02.260

But I did not fly that mission.

2310

02:42:03.000 --> 02:42:05.660

And the reason was because I wasn't there

2311

02:42:07.670 --> 02:42:08.980

until 10 days later.

2312

02:42:10.460 --> 02:42:14.860

I was there as a replacement pilot for maybe some of the, uh,

2313

02:42:15.410 --> 02:42:18.580
ones that were lost. But that was a terrible thing.

2314
02:42:19.160 --> 02:42:23.780
But the reason I was 10 days late and Band Maine is I was

2315
02:42:23.820 --> 02:42:28.780
beginning to go across the sea. Uh, the crew,

2316
02:42:28.800 --> 02:42:33.060
ground crew was servicing the plane with gasoline and tore the

2317
02:42:34.720 --> 02:42:37.500
deicer, which is on the leading edge of the plane.

2318
02:42:37.880 --> 02:42:41.020
So they had to repair that took 'em three days

2319
02:42:42.650 --> 02:42:44.540
from there, we went to Newfoundland.

2320
02:42:45.410 --> 02:42:49.860
Just wait until a favorable wind tailwind

2321
02:42:50.430 --> 02:42:52.780
could blow the B seventeens across

2322
02:42:57.120 --> 02:43:01.380
any B 17 lovers. Okay?

2323
02:43:03.000 --> 02:43:03.500
Not in this

2324
02:43:03.500 --> 02:43:06.580
Crowd. They did not have the range that we had,

2325
02:43:07.400 --> 02:43:12.080
so they had a little help. But anyhow,

2326

02:43:12.100 --> 02:43:15.240

we did, we took off from Luther one, seven days later.

2327

02:43:15.500 --> 02:43:20.300

So that's seven there, and three in Bangor,

2328

02:43:20.310 --> 02:43:24.020

Maine. So at, at Este,

2329

02:43:24.180 --> 02:43:26.980

I was 10 days too late. That's those 10 days.

2330

02:43:30.480 --> 02:43:31.313

The Lord

2331

02:43:32.450 --> 02:43:37.420

protected me that way on so many other occasions. Also, I can, numerous,

2332

02:43:37.900 --> 02:43:40.100

numerous, but that at least

2333

02:43:47.810 --> 02:43:51.430

George, you didn't get a chance to comment about the mission, uh,

2334

02:43:51.530 --> 02:43:55.350

boards and things like that. When you found out about where you were gonna fly,

2335

02:43:55.410 --> 02:43:56.510

did you want say anything about that?

2336

02:43:57.580 --> 02:43:58.413

Pardon me?

2337

02:43:58.990 --> 02:44:01.200

When did you first find out what your mission was? Oh,

2338

02:44:01.800 --> 02:44:04.080

I, I been said before when I looked there,

2339

02:44:04.080 --> 02:44:08.800

you sat down and they dropped the sheet off the, off the, off the map.

2340

02:44:08.820 --> 02:44:11.400

And they had their head thread go from here to there, whatever.

2341

02:44:12.700 --> 02:44:15.240

And on one occasion, uh, when they dropped the sheet,

2342

02:44:15.340 --> 02:44:18.240

it showed we're going back to the road valley to the third day in a row,

2343

02:44:19.460 --> 02:44:23.240

and probably in an effort to comfort the guys to briefing off and said,

2344

02:44:23.570 --> 02:44:27.560

those guns can only fire somebody rounds and they have to replace the barrel.

2345

02:44:28.270 --> 02:44:30.240

Some nice guy in the back of the room says, yeah,

2346

02:44:30.240 --> 02:44:31.640

but they're making 'em across the street.

2347

02:44:34.900 --> 02:44:35.760

That's pretty good.

2348

02:44:36.280 --> 02:44:39.480

Questions from the audience? Yeah, hold on.

2349

02:44:42.550 --> 02:44:43.540

Shane question.

2350

02:44:45.620 --> 02:44:47.380

I don't think this was an fire

2351

02:44:49.600 --> 02:44:50.433

Ask anyway.

2352

02:44:51.460 --> 02:44:55.420

I wanted to ask Dad if he would like to talk about, uh,

2353

02:44:55.480 --> 02:44:58.500

the time his airplane decided to land in Belgium.

2354

02:44:59.480 --> 02:45:00.313

Oh,

2355

02:45:03.250 --> 02:45:07.740

Well, that was one of the occasions where the flack did a lot of damage to our

2356

02:45:08.020 --> 02:45:12.020

airplane. And it, and it, uh, our guest, uh,

2357

02:45:12.350 --> 02:45:13.860

tanks were punctured,

2358

02:45:14.200 --> 02:45:17.180

so we didn't have a good enough gas to get back across the channel.

2359

02:45:17.570 --> 02:45:20.860

Luckily it was, uh, we found that, uh,

2360

02:45:21.130 --> 02:45:25.380

fire base base that we landed at and, and, uh, the,

2361

02:45:25.520 --> 02:45:30.260

the tanks were printer empty. But by when we, we landed, uh,

2362

02:45:31.160 --> 02:45:31.993

we, we,

2363

02:45:32.090 --> 02:45:36.980

they did some repairs and as we were waiting

2364

02:45:37.120 --> 02:45:41.820

to take off, the fighter planes took off and, and,

2365

02:45:42.000 --> 02:45:46.220

and buzzed the airfield and then took off.

2366

02:45:47.040 --> 02:45:51.380

So on their mission. But, uh, our pilot says,

2367

02:45:52.570 --> 02:45:54.980

heck, we can show those guys how to buzz a field.

2368

02:45:57.240 --> 02:46:02.140

And so when we took off, he circled around and came down pretty damn close.

2369

02:46:02.340 --> 02:46:04.220

I, I could almost drag my feet

2370

02:46:04.240 --> 02:46:04.960

In it.

2371

02:46:04.960 --> 02:46:05.540

It was that

2372

02:46:05.540 --> 02:46:06.373

Close to the ground.

2373

02:46:07.640 --> 02:46:08.000

But

2374
02:46:08.000 --> 02:46:10.720
Anyway, there was no workers on the,

2375
02:46:10.900 --> 02:46:15.640
on the runway and they were really scattered when this so big B

2376
02:46:15.640 --> 02:46:18.920
24 come around down the the runway wagon.

2377
02:46:23.010 --> 02:46:23.560
Other

2378
02:46:23.560 --> 02:46:26.190
Questions, Jim?

2379
02:46:27.780 --> 02:46:28.100
Okay.

2380
02:46:28.100 --> 02:46:32.110
Yeah. I wonder if you could comment on this. I read an interview with,
uh,

2381
02:46:32.220 --> 02:46:33.390
Colonel Timberlake,

2382
02:46:33.890 --> 02:46:38.790
and he was asked to compare the B 17 to the B 24. And he said,

2383
02:46:38.820 --> 02:46:39.290
well,

2384
02:46:39.290 --> 02:46:43.270
the advantage they had is they could get off the ground faster than we
could.

2385
02:46:43.650 --> 02:46:48.350
He said, but we carried more bombs, we flew faster and higher, he
says,

2386

02:46:48.350 --> 02:46:51.870

and as far as being difficulty of staying in formation,

2387

02:46:51.930 --> 02:46:56.350

the reason was that they were overloaded. And most of the time that, and I,

2388

02:46:57.070 --> 02:47:00.670

I, uh, I didn't realize that, but he said, uh, almost every mission,

2389

02:47:00.970 --> 02:47:04.470

the B 20 fours were carrying more than they were designed for.

2390

02:47:07.050 --> 02:47:08.870

Now it's a fine time to find out

2391

02:47:19.690 --> 02:47:21.910

In connection with Jim's statement there,

2392

02:47:22.610 --> 02:47:27.470

the only thing better about the B 17 is they had a

2393

02:47:27.470 --> 02:47:28.910

better public relationship.

2394

02:47:29.100 --> 02:47:33.830

Yeah, that's true. Amen. I

2395

02:47:36.220 --> 02:47:41.190

Mentioned general, uh, Colonel Gel while ago. Uh,

2396

02:47:42.430 --> 02:47:47.390

I, I got to know him so well because he was a gentleman's gentleman.

2397

02:47:47.490 --> 02:47:51.230

He was a wonderful commander, and, uh,

2398

02:47:51.370 --> 02:47:55.630

his son is here with us today. You know him, don't you? John,

2399

02:47:55.680 --> 02:47:56.590

would you stand up?

2400

02:48:05.750 --> 02:48:06.583

I salute you.

2401

02:48:07.780 --> 02:48:12.630

John was a light colonel and I was only a major, so I,

2402

02:48:12.690 --> 02:48:17.430

he outranked me. But, uh, his father,

2403

02:48:20.170 --> 02:48:21.230

you've heard the story.

2404

02:48:21.530 --> 02:48:26.470

I'm sure his father was killed when John was four years

2405

02:48:26.570 --> 02:48:31.190

old. So he never didn't know much about him.

2406

02:48:32.090 --> 02:48:33.990

So I got to fill in a whole lot

2407

02:48:39.590 --> 02:48:42.300

about his dad that he would never have known,

2408

02:48:47.340 --> 02:48:48.760

and that's special to me.

2409

02:48:50.190 --> 02:48:54.320

This is obviously one of the tremendous things about this organization is that

2410

02:48:54.320 --> 02:48:56.400
we can make these kinds of connections,

2411
02:48:56.820 --> 02:49:00.960
we can support each other and help each other. And so we thank you all
for that.

2412
02:49:01.370 --> 02:49:03.040
Other questions, please? Yeah, Paul?

2413
02:49:03.910 --> 02:49:06.160
Yeah, my dad flew, hold on, hold on.

2414
02:49:07.020 --> 02:49:11.960
My dad flew left waist and at the time the window was open,

2415
02:49:12.740 --> 02:49:17.320
so when the temperature was outside, it was inside. Can anyone say,

2416
02:49:17.500 --> 02:49:22.440
was it any better up in the pilot's area or the nose turt?

2417
02:49:22.440 --> 02:49:26.640
Or was it just as cold? Who wants,

2418
02:49:31.140 --> 02:49:33.000
The only thing I can say is

2419
02:49:35.110 --> 02:49:38.800
they didn't call the B 24 a whistling outhouse

2420
02:49:40.780 --> 02:49:41.220
For

2421
02:49:41.220 --> 02:49:44.600
Any other reason than they air blew right through 'em.

2422
02:49:47.350 --> 02:49:48.183

Where's your answer

2423

02:49:49.980 --> 02:49:53.000

If, does anybody else wanna talk about the whistling up that ice?

2424

02:49:53.000 --> 02:49:56.520

That all I say,

2425

02:49:56.580 --> 02:49:59.920

You're gonna turn, you at least closed up if you're standing by waist,

2426

02:50:00.650 --> 02:50:03.640

quite drafting. When they opened the Bombay doors,

2427

02:50:04.300 --> 02:50:07.320

the doors to the Bombay opened up two and you had a real good craft going.

2428

02:50:10.370 --> 02:50:11.760

Other questions, please? Yeah.

2429

02:50:18.030 --> 02:50:23.010

Uh, this Hello. Switch. Hello? Uh,

2430

02:50:23.350 --> 02:50:26.850

you said there was a hundred pound bombs, thousand pound bombs.

2431

02:50:27.240 --> 02:50:30.810

Were there also like five hundreds. Okay. Uh,

2432

02:50:31.640 --> 02:50:34.010

were those mission specific? I mean,

2433

02:50:34.150 --> 02:50:37.530

you said that you were in the briefing room and at that time the, uh,

2434

02:50:37.790 --> 02:50:42.410

the planes had already been surfaced, gassed and bombs. Correct. So

the,

2435

02:50:42.410 --> 02:50:46.130

so the ground crew was told to put this many hundred pounders or this many

2436

02:50:46.370 --> 02:50:48.450

thousand pounders on there, right. And that,

2437

02:50:48.470 --> 02:50:51.370

and that's all they knew because you were the only ones privy to the mission.

2438

02:50:51.430 --> 02:50:52.263

Is that correct?

2439

02:50:56.130 --> 02:50:57.180

Well, from the load,

2440

02:50:58.650 --> 02:51:01.900

they had pretty good idea how far you were going or

2441

02:51:03.570 --> 02:51:05.700

what you were carrying, what you were trying to hit.

2442

02:51:06.250 --> 02:51:07.980

Were they, were they target specific,

2443

02:51:08.400 --> 02:51:10.380

But they weren't target specific? No

2444

02:51:15.830 --> 02:51:19.140

Other questions? Yeah.

2445

02:51:20.660 --> 02:51:21.660

Somebody here, yeah,

2446

02:51:23.600 --> 02:51:26.780

We have a guest from another organization that we will let him ask

2447

02:51:26.780 --> 02:51:27.613

The question. Yeah,

2448

02:51:29.350 --> 02:51:31.540

Sorry. Uh, just a quick follow up on that. The,

2449

02:51:31.540 --> 02:51:34.020

the British were noted for having quite a mixture of bombs,

2450

02:51:34.530 --> 02:51:37.060

4,000 pounders in the incendiaries at the same time.

2451

02:51:37.560 --> 02:51:41.740

Was your bond load consistently five hundreds or 100 or did you have a mixture?

2452

02:51:44.150 --> 02:51:44.983

Youand,

2453

02:51:45.310 --> 02:51:48.370

The question was, would, would you have a mixture of bonds frequently?

2454

02:51:48.660 --> 02:51:52.090

Would you have 2005 hundreds or was it always all of one kind?

2455

02:51:52.310 --> 02:51:53.000

No,

2456

02:51:53.000 --> 02:51:57.770

They were not met. They were, uh, all of one size,

2457

02:51:57.950 --> 02:52:00.090

but occasionally, uh,

2458

02:52:00.840 --> 02:52:04.890

they would remove the two front bomb bays and load them with

2459

02:52:05.620 --> 02:52:10.600

larger ones so that the photographers could

2460

02:52:10.660 --> 02:52:14.520

see where the bombs really hit, where the initial point was.

2461

02:52:15.180 --> 02:52:18.240

So we did have that, and occasionally, of course,

2462

02:52:18.240 --> 02:52:22.920

they would remove the two front bombays and add fuel

2463

02:52:23.210 --> 02:52:26.920

tanks to it for longer missions. Uh,

2464

02:52:27.060 --> 02:52:31.400

we had 11 and a half hour mission to win north that Austria

2465

02:52:31.980 --> 02:52:35.980

to bomb the mission factory there. And, uh,

2466

02:52:36.810 --> 02:52:40.740

that was one of the worst, uh, I think

2467

02:52:42.690 --> 02:52:46.420

because they had the,

2468

02:52:46.430 --> 02:52:49.580

their fighter planes didn't attack them at the time.

2469

02:52:49.730 --> 02:52:54.660

They flew up our altitude at our air speed and

2470

02:52:54.660 --> 02:52:59.460

our headache that obviously they were radioing back to the,

2471

02:52:59.560 --> 02:53:03.780
to the, uh, air the ground crew to,

2472
02:53:03.880 --> 02:53:07.820
to focus on us, our plane. And it was, it was really bad.

2473
02:53:08.400 --> 02:53:13.020
And my navigator, uh, sustained glass, uh,

2474
02:53:13.080 --> 02:53:16.830
damage from a shell through the nose of the plane.

2475
02:53:16.980 --> 02:53:21.670
That was the only accident that I ever had of any of my crew

2476
02:53:21.670 --> 02:53:26.670
members. My navigator that I went overseas with was, uh,

2477
02:53:26.690 --> 02:53:29.430
loaned to a different crew if flying mission,

2478
02:53:29.730 --> 02:53:33.750
and they all crashed and died. So I lost him,

2479
02:53:33.770 --> 02:53:35.030
but not on my flood.

2480
02:53:37.820 --> 02:53:39.990
Michael, can we get this picture, Jeremy?

2481
02:53:40.890 --> 02:53:45.310
We can, but it was for Bud. Okay. Bud wants to talk about it, I think,
right?

2482
02:53:46.490 --> 02:53:51.400
Any other questions here? Yes, I have a question. Uh,

2483
02:53:51.460 --> 02:53:54.200

I'd like to know that you talked about webinar mission.

2484

02:53:54.700 --> 02:53:57.360

Do you recall your longest mission in terms of hours?

2485

02:53:59.680 --> 02:54:01.320

I, I, in my journal,

2486

02:54:01.560 --> 02:54:05.360

I have a record of one was a 10 hour mission,

2487

02:54:06.420 --> 02:54:10.920

but I, I, I, right off the top of my head, I can't recall where it was,

2488

02:54:11.100 --> 02:54:15.800

but it, uh, I was glad when it was over, that's for sure.

2489

02:54:16.620 --> 02:54:18.800

So that would probably have been Germany or Wall Street then?

2490

02:54:18.980 --> 02:54:19.813

Oh, yeah.

2491

02:54:21.270 --> 02:54:24.480

Well, like Henry, like Henry said,

2492

02:54:25.800 --> 02:54:27.760

I can't recall where it was now,

2493

02:54:27.900 --> 02:54:31.520

but my longest one was about 11 and a half hours.

2494

02:54:32.980 --> 02:54:33.813

And

2495

02:54:38.190 --> 02:54:41.520

That was mine too, bill. We were stationed in,

2496

02:54:42.000 --> 02:54:46.600

in North Africa and had this mission schedule for being in North stand in

2497

02:54:46.600 --> 02:54:49.800

Austria, which I was still moment ago with the bad one.

2498

02:54:50.460 --> 02:54:51.800

But they did take the

2499

02:54:53.730 --> 02:54:58.620

frontline bays out and put extra gas because it was a 11 and a half

2500

02:54:58.620 --> 02:55:02.900

hour mission formation all the way. And it was really

2501

02:55:03.060 --> 02:55:07.120

Bad. So, uh, one mission out of, uh,

2502

02:55:08.280 --> 02:55:12.680

Benghazi was to, um, no, it was,

2503

02:55:13.260 --> 02:55:18.120

was Tunis. We bombed piece of Italy.

2504

02:55:18.830 --> 02:55:21.280

There's a leaning tower there now.

2505

02:55:30.940 --> 02:55:35.680

We bombed the Marshing yards, railroad yards in southern Italy,

2506

02:55:36.300 --> 02:55:41.200

and we lost an engine, had to feather the prop. You know what feather it is,

2507

02:55:41.630 --> 02:55:44.280

turn it into the wind, no drag.

2508

02:55:45.900 --> 02:55:50.760

So we were short on fuel getting back to Tuni, and it was getting late,

2509

02:55:51.780 --> 02:55:53.680

so we had to make a decision there.

2510

02:55:54.900 --> 02:55:59.840

And it was to land on the island of Malta in

2511

02:55:59.840 --> 02:56:04.840

the Mediterranean for overnight repairs and, uh,

2512

02:56:05.100 --> 02:56:08.920

to proceed on the next day, which we did without incident.

2513

02:56:10.060 --> 02:56:11.880

But the island was bombed

2514

02:56:15.370 --> 02:56:20.360

every, every night by the Germans because it was English territory.

2515

02:56:21.180 --> 02:56:24.760

And they had dump trucks with loaded, filled,

2516

02:56:25.180 --> 02:56:28.960

they'd fill in those holes because the,

2517

02:56:29.300 --> 02:56:33.840

the r a f the spit fires were up trying to knock, shoot them down.

2518

02:56:34.060 --> 02:56:38.880

They'd have to have the place to come in land. So it was kind of,

2519

02:56:41.660 --> 02:56:45.280

uh, touch to go there where they had them were filled in time or not,

2520
02:56:45.820 --> 02:56:48.720
but we enjoyed our little stay there overnight.

2521
02:56:51.900 --> 02:56:53.480
George, what was your longest mission?

2522
02:56:54.800 --> 02:56:57.920
I, long, largest mission started on Christmas of 1944.

2523
02:56:57.980 --> 02:57:00.000
We got back to the base on New Year's Eve.

2524
02:57:01.860 --> 02:57:03.160
You must have landed somewhere.

2525
02:57:04.060 --> 02:57:06.720
We had to. We ran on the sky.

2526
02:57:10.220 --> 02:57:12.240
He was real high. Yeah.

2527
02:57:15.650 --> 02:57:17.400
These guys are still young, aren't they?

2528
02:57:26.960 --> 02:57:31.000
I wanna ask about a question because I think it gets a rare opportunity of

2529
02:57:31.000 --> 02:57:35.840
people that actually saw these men as youth and then served

2530
02:57:35.950 --> 02:57:40.720
with them. When, when you got with the, uh, the 39th,

2531
02:57:41.100 --> 02:57:45.920
was there still people nine or 93rd? See, I've got problems too. 93rd,

2532

02:57:45.990 --> 02:57:49.920

were there, uh, people in the unit that had been in Europe? Oh,

2533

02:57:50.780 --> 02:57:54.680

Oh, yes. Uh, I would guesstimate Mrs. Eson guess because I,

2534

02:57:54.920 --> 02:57:59.480

I never counted them. Uh, probably two thirds were,

2535

02:57:59.820 --> 02:58:03.600

as we referred to 'em, 'em, retreads because, uh,

2536

02:58:03.950 --> 02:58:05.640

mean we needed them from Korea.

2537

02:58:06.260 --> 02:58:10.560

We didn't have enough experience pilots or gunters or anything else.

So, uh,

2538

02:58:10.710 --> 02:58:14.520

they called 'em back in. And then some of the guys just stayed in.

They,

2539

02:58:14.520 --> 02:58:19.040

they never did get out after, uh, end of the war. But bottom line,

2540

02:58:19.600 --> 02:58:22.840

I wish you guys could feel what I feel sitting up here with these guys.

2541

02:58:23.410 --> 02:58:25.960

These guys were my heroes when I was a teenager.

2542

02:58:26.820 --> 02:58:31.340

And to sit with 'em and be a part of, it's unbelievable.

2543

02:58:31.980 --> 02:58:32.813

Unbelievable.

2544
02:58:41.060 --> 02:58:45.900
I might tell you a story about the mentality of the,

2545
02:58:46.360 --> 02:58:50.100
the English people on one mission.

2546
02:58:51.520 --> 02:58:52.940
We didn't get back to base.

2547
02:58:53.120 --> 02:58:57.260
We had a land at an English base and stay overnight,

2548
02:58:58.760 --> 02:59:01.780
but when we landed, it was still daylight.

2549
02:59:04.040 --> 02:59:08.580
And the English came out to the plane and picked up

2550
02:59:09.400 --> 02:59:11.460
me and the crew by, in a truck.

2551
02:59:12.320 --> 02:59:16.300
And we go roaring off across a big field.

2552
02:59:18.760 --> 02:59:22.620
We get to the middle of the field, the truck stops,

2553
02:59:24.600 --> 02:59:28.500
and these Englishmen pile out. And I said to 'em,

2554
02:59:29.050 --> 02:59:33.300
what are we stopping here for? They said, tee time,

2555
02:59:33.610 --> 02:59:34.620
yank tea time.

2556
02:59:37.000 --> 02:59:37.833

All right.

2557

02:59:43.680 --> 02:59:48.620

Hey, we're gonna have one more question from President Jim. Actually,

2558

02:59:48.700 --> 02:59:53.580

a comment first, another question. Uh, the, uh, for those of you who may get it,

2559

02:59:53.580 --> 02:59:57.700

the eighth Air Force Historical Society Magazine this month, uh,

2560

02:59:58.020 --> 03:00:02.260

M**k and Mike had a really nice article about the differences between the B 24

2561

03:00:02.260 --> 03:00:06.100

and the B 17. So if you get a chance, take a look at that. Go ahead.

2562

03:00:08.480 --> 03:00:11.740

My question. Excuse me. Yeah, thank you. We'll have here, okay.

2563

03:00:11.890 --> 03:00:15.940

Know you brought that with very nice. Uh, my question actually is, uh,

2564

03:00:16.000 --> 03:00:20.860

for the bald turt gunners on the return of the mission on your way home,

2565

03:00:20.920 --> 03:00:23.420

on your way back, after a successful mission bombing,

2566

03:00:23.640 --> 03:00:25.100

did you get a chance to get out of the Turt?

2567

03:00:25.100 --> 03:00:27.100

Is there an access to the bomb bay area?

2568

03:00:27.120 --> 03:00:28.860

You could get out and stretch and move around?

2569

03:00:29.320 --> 03:00:31.340

Or did you have to man the guns all the way home?

2570

03:00:32.560 --> 03:00:36.580

You had to, man, you had to man, stay with em until you cross the battle line.

2571

03:00:37.370 --> 03:00:41.400

Okay. And the battle line was where,

2572

03:00:42.960 --> 03:00:46.760

Wherever, wherever the Germans and Americans were fighting on the ground.

2573

03:00:48.340 --> 03:00:51.800

So typically it'd be about, uh, just prior to the English channel,

2574

03:00:54.470 --> 03:00:55.960

Well, you'd start out, uh,

2575

03:00:56.740 --> 03:00:59.460

you could probably get partway across France before you got into it,

2576

03:00:59.460 --> 03:01:01.560

and then the rest of it,

2577

03:01:01.560 --> 03:01:04.520

then you got into it and you stayed till you get back out of em territory.

2578

03:01:05.030 --> 03:01:09.440

What, what if you're flying over Belgium? Was it closer than home plate?

2579

03:01:10.000 --> 03:01:10.833

I really don't know.

2580

03:01:12.470 --> 03:01:14.960

Okay. If they, somebody would tell you now you can get out,

2581

03:01:15.620 --> 03:01:18.600

They'd tell us some approach, most time to get into church and stuff.

2582

03:01:19.260 --> 03:01:23.160

So about what, how long typically would you be sitting in that ball?

Trip hours,

2583

03:01:23.400 --> 03:01:24.233

I assume?

2584

03:01:24.470 --> 03:01:26.880

Yeah. Yeah.

2585

03:01:27.030 --> 03:01:29.680

Take from take off till you got until approach the battle line.

2586

03:01:29.680 --> 03:01:32.320

You can stay out of it, but once you approach the battle line,

2587

03:01:32.320 --> 03:01:36.080

you gotta get in and you stay back till you get back

2588

03:01:37.210 --> 03:01:38.230

in the safe territory.

2589

03:01:39.050 --> 03:01:43.790

Wow. This was tough duty for these guys. Okay. We're, we're,

2590

03:01:43.840 --> 03:01:46.430

we're good to the point. Now, I want everybody make one last comment,

2591

03:01:46.530 --> 03:01:49.430

if you prefer. If not, that's okay. You can pass it to the next person.

2592

03:01:51.660 --> 03:01:52.190

Well,

2593

03:01:52.190 --> 03:01:54.030

I guess the, uh, the,

2594

03:01:54.050 --> 03:01:58.870

all the crux of the problem was all solved and you got a three day pass to

2595

03:01:58.870 --> 03:01:59.703

London

2596

03:02:01.260 --> 03:02:04.470

Done on stage. Yeah. Right.

2597

03:02:05.220 --> 03:02:09.750

Well, you always hear stories about pilots,

2598

03:02:12.580 --> 03:02:15.230

hunters, people like that.

2599

03:02:17.490 --> 03:02:19.470

The one thing you don't hear enough about

2600

03:02:21.930 --> 03:02:26.510

is that is the crew chief. Without them,

2601

03:02:26.890 --> 03:02:28.070

we would never get in the air.

2602

03:02:31.380 --> 03:02:32.870

Yeah, you just depended.

2603

03:02:36.690 --> 03:02:41.190

You depended that your plane was ready to fly and that everything was

2604
03:02:42.740 --> 03:02:45.230
full gas and bombs, everything was ready.

2605
03:02:45.290 --> 03:02:50.150
All you had to do is get in there and take off to get airborne.

2606
03:02:52.370 --> 03:02:56.870
You had 4,800 of horsepower to get you off, to get you airborne.

2607
03:03:00.010 --> 03:03:04.670
But with 6,000 pounds of bombs and 2,700 gas,

2608
03:03:05.980 --> 03:03:08.070
hundred and 10 octane fuel,

2609
03:03:10.380 --> 03:03:14.440
you had all of that horsepower. You had to have it to get off.

2610
03:03:14.580 --> 03:03:15.720
You wouldn't get airborne.

2611
03:03:17.020 --> 03:03:19.800
But if you didn't have it on one engine,

2612
03:03:19.800 --> 03:03:23.920
perhaps at the end of the runway, you would get airborne.

2613
03:03:26.090 --> 03:03:28.220
When the bombs and the gasoline went off,

2614
03:03:30.390 --> 03:03:33.100
there was a wave started over there,

2615
03:03:33.720 --> 03:03:38.580
midway through the missions of pilots going

2616
03:03:38.680 --> 03:03:42.300

to the, uh, flight surgeon and saying,

2617

03:03:42.530 --> 03:03:45.460

I've got a fear of flying. I need to go home.

2618

03:03:47.880 --> 03:03:51.660

But how could you have a fear of flying after all the

2619

03:03:54.630 --> 03:03:58.240

flying you did, preparation for going over and all of that.

2620

03:03:59.270 --> 03:04:03.570

What they had was a fear of dying. And that's, to me,

2621

03:04:03.670 --> 03:04:05.890

is cowardice in front of the enemy.

2622

03:04:07.390 --> 03:04:09.490

And you know what that was before,

2623

03:04:09.800 --> 03:04:12.890

what that occurred during the war.

2624

03:04:13.760 --> 03:04:16.650

That was a terrible thing. But we had to go through that.

2625

03:04:20.360 --> 03:04:24.770

Yeah. We had, our first bombardier was he managed to make six missions with us,

2626

03:04:24.790 --> 03:04:29.730

and he had to get off the flight. He couldn't take it anymore. And he,

2627

03:04:29.830 --> 03:04:33.330

he used to frighten me because he, he had near panic on the intercom,

2628

03:04:34.190 --> 03:04:38.290

and I was in the chart and I couldn't see what the hell was going on.

And, uh,

2629

03:04:38.310 --> 03:04:39.610
it used to upset me a little bit.

2630

03:04:44.780 --> 03:04:45.613
Let's give,

2631

03:04:46.260 --> 03:04:47.690
Let's give our veterans a big hand.

2632

03:05:09.340 --> 03:05:13.970
We're gonna take a short break, about five minutes. Bathroom break.
Thanks,

2633

03:05:13.970 --> 03:05:18.050
Senator. And then, uh, we'll reconvene here for our last educational
Thank

2634

03:05:18.050 --> 03:05:18.883
You, mark

2635

03:05:18.950 --> 03:05:20.850
And I, president Ruth,

2636

03:05:20.850 --> 03:05:25.730
that we'll finish on time so that we can all go to clean shirts on

2637

03:05:25.730 --> 03:05:26.563
for the,

2638

03:05:26.990 --> 03:05:27.450
Can we get

2639

03:05:27.450 --> 03:05:28.970
That? Jim, did you wanna say, so

2640

03:05:29.270 --> 03:05:31.890

That's not a B 29. B 28,

2641

03:05:32.030 --> 03:05:35.610

that's a B 50 model. One, one thing

2642

03:05:35.610 --> 03:05:40.090

We've done in the past sessions real quick, after a, a session with the owners,

2643

03:05:40.200 --> 03:05:41.610

feel free to walk past 'em,

2644

03:05:41.610 --> 03:05:43.930

shake their hands in the receiving line format real quick,

2645

03:05:43.950 --> 03:05:45.090

and thank them for the service.

2646

03:06:03.180 --> 03:06:06.970

Thank you so much. My pleasure.

2647

03:06:09.580 --> 03:06:11.770

Thank you, George. Thank you, bud.

2648

03:06:15.660 --> 03:06:20.610

Thank you so much. You're welcome, Georgia. Thank

2649

03:06:22.830 --> 03:06:27.650

you. Thank you again. Enjoy your talking. Thank you. Thank you.

2650

03:06:28.100 --> 03:06:30.890

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you, ma'am.

2651

03:06:32.750 --> 03:06:35.370

You're welcome. You're welcome.

2652

03:06:43.280 --> 03:06:44.113

Bill,

2653

03:06:55.220 --> 03:06:59.600

how you doing? Good to see you. So great.

2654

03:07:00.090 --> 03:07:02.320

Thank you. I appreciate it, bill. Thank you very much.

2655

03:07:05.740 --> 03:07:06.573

Thanks.

2656

03:07:12.280 --> 03:07:17.160

Pleasure. You're a great, great man. Good man. Thank George's the great.

2657

03:07:19.420 --> 03:07:22.360

And bud, you're the best. You take care of yourself.

2658

03:07:27.780 --> 03:07:32.720

What's your name? Right? South Memphis' Subdivision of Memphis.

2659

03:07:34.580 --> 03:07:35.520

Oh, I love you too.

2660

03:07:39.800 --> 03:07:43.320

I have question. I wanted them to tell that. Thank you so much, George.

2661

03:07:43.960 --> 03:07:46.600

I appreciate. Which fighter group did you like to escort you the most?

2662

03:07:47.730 --> 03:07:52.160

Which fighter or did you like to escort you the most? You're still Walker.

2663

03:07:52.590 --> 03:07:57.520

Yeah. Was anybody here in the 3 28? Right here. Right here. Oh,

2664

03:07:57.520 --> 03:07:58.680

that's what mom's dad was

2665

03:08:08.990 --> 03:08:09.823

here. Here.

2666

03:08:26.880 --> 03:08:31.350

Thank you, Glen. Thank you. I'm sorry you Yes, absolutely. I know.

2667

03:08:31.670 --> 03:08:33.910

I heard it's a little pricey. Thank you for your service, bud.

2668

03:08:34.100 --> 03:08:38.910

Much for your service. Thank you. Thank you. I'm glad you're here.

2669

03:08:41.400 --> 03:08:42.233

Thank you, bud.

2670

03:09:03.070 --> 03:09:06.670

I mean, I'm a woman who really had no idea of what you,

2671

03:09:07.870 --> 03:09:10.270

I just learned so much. It's good. I feel so,

2672

03:09:13.360 --> 03:09:17.190

sweetheart. Great story, Glen. Appreciate it. Thank you, sir.

2673

03:09:17.320 --> 03:09:21.550

Thank you so much for all your help. My, your story. George,

2674

03:09:22.920 --> 03:09:27.630

enjoy those soy machines. Put 'em to good use. You dirty.

2675

03:09:30.170 --> 03:09:34.230

Thanks so much, bud. Yeah, thank you. Thank girl.

2676

03:09:36.340 --> 03:09:40.230

What I get. Thank you. I,

2677

03:09:40.670 --> 03:09:41.670

I one

2678

03:09:46.250 --> 03:09:48.670

on the what? Amazing work. I,

2679

03:09:53.120 --> 03:09:56.360

I want you all to give your best smile. Yay.

2680

03:09:58.510 --> 03:10:00.640

Okay. Oh, that's great.

2681

03:10:01.720 --> 03:10:06.320

I got the B 24 up there. We already all,

2682

03:10:08.380 --> 03:10:10.120

I'm gonna give you a, I gave

2683

03:10:14.230 --> 03:10:18.720

this makes it all worthwhile. You're so precious.

2684

03:10:21.770 --> 03:10:22.603

Thank you.

2685

03:10:35.420 --> 03:10:36.960

You did so great job.

2686

03:10:37.780 --> 03:10:38.613

Oh, thank you.

2687

03:10:39.580 --> 03:10:40.600

So proud of you. Thank

2688

03:10:40.600 --> 03:10:44.600

You very much. You guys are the show. You guys are the show. That's what,

2689

03:10:44.600 --> 03:10:45.560
that's what it's all about.

2690
03:10:46.670 --> 03:10:51.000
Well, we have a million of them

2691
03:10:51.230 --> 03:10:54.320
Left. Yeah, I know you do. I know you do.

2692
03:10:55.260 --> 03:10:56.280
But it's good to get it

2693
03:10:56.280 --> 03:11:00.640
Out. Get it out a little bit. Yep. It's good. We like, we enjoy hearing it.

2694
03:11:00.660 --> 03:11:02.120
So it's worth it. It's

2695
03:11:02.120 --> 03:11:04.440
Worth it. 40 he flew.

2696
03:11:05.700 --> 03:11:07.840
Ga Flew Commando.

2697
03:11:09.350 --> 03:11:10.183
Okay.

2698
03:11:14.270 --> 03:11:14.560
Good

2699
03:11:14.560 --> 03:11:17.640
Job. Maybe the good news is that it wasn't successful.

2700
03:11:17.860 --> 03:11:21.560
We had a tremendous amount of multiple,

2701
03:11:21.590 --> 03:11:26.000

continued problems with planning, organizing, agreeing on events.

2702

03:11:26.820 --> 03:11:30.560

We specified our requirements to the eighth Air Force Historical Society that

2703

03:11:30.560 --> 03:11:34.880

could not be met. Uh, John worked diligently for four or five months.

2704

03:11:35.100 --> 03:11:39.480

So we both were in contact with the folks planning their reunion,

2705

03:11:39.480 --> 03:11:41.680

which coincidentally, and if you recall,

2706

03:11:41.680 --> 03:11:45.080

we scheduled the dates this year to coincide with the dates.

2707

03:11:45.300 --> 03:11:48.640

So the eighth or fourth Historical Society is conducting their reunion as,

2708

03:11:48.660 --> 03:11:50.720

as we are here. Um,

2709

03:11:52.220 --> 03:11:56.160

so we finally came to a point of suspended that planning with them directly and

2710

03:11:56.160 --> 03:11:59.720

completed our own planning for this reunion. So again, uh,

2711

03:12:01.180 --> 03:12:04.480

not, you know, many of the veterans probably are gonna say I told you so,

2712

03:12:04.580 --> 03:12:07.920

or the ones that said that last year. But, uh, you know, it was, you know,

2713

03:12:07.920 --> 03:12:10.120

half the group wanted to try it, half the group didn't.

2714

03:12:10.120 --> 03:12:12.040

It was a very contentious kinda issue. But, uh,

2715

03:12:12.300 --> 03:12:15.200

we tried our best and unfortunately wasn't successful at this point in time.

2716

03:12:15.860 --> 03:12:16.080

You

2717

03:12:16.080 --> 03:12:16.913

Understand why,

2718

03:12:17.740 --> 03:12:20.640

And there's a whole history around that bill. Absolutely. Uh, we understand,

2719

03:12:20.860 --> 03:12:24.520

you know, the veterans position from 15, 20 years ago and, and et cetera.

2720

03:12:24.540 --> 03:12:28.280

But again, the group last year felt it was time to maybe give it a try again.

2721

03:12:28.980 --> 03:12:31.240

The second element of the long-term strategy was, uh,

2722

03:12:33.350 --> 03:12:36.870

centered around membership retention, keeping members, and getting new members.

2723

03:12:36.890 --> 03:12:40.030

So we thank you all new members, certainly, uh, for this year.

2724
03:12:40.450 --> 03:12:41.283
And then part of that,

2725
03:12:41.660 --> 03:12:45.030
also creating a formal technical manager position as an officer.

2726
03:12:45.690 --> 03:12:49.950
You all voted on that in the bylaws. Uh, we've changed the bylaws and,
uh,

2727
03:12:50.520 --> 03:12:52.560
after the film work, or during this next year,

2728
03:12:52.560 --> 03:12:57.080
we're gonna focus on social media even stronger, trying to touch
future members.

2729
03:12:57.380 --> 03:13:02.240
You know, we're over 600 members in the Facebook group. Um, and again,
it's in,

2730
03:13:02.500 --> 03:13:06.440
in progress primarily with, uh, with Facebook. Okay.

2731
03:13:07.180 --> 03:13:11.480
And now I'd like to have Jim Luxe come up and give us a brief overview
on hot

2732
03:13:11.610 --> 03:13:13.760
stuff and

2733
03:13:16.180 --> 03:13:19.520
go back to the slides here. Hang then. Oh, before I give,

2734
03:13:19.570 --> 03:13:24.440
begin the presentation. I, here's a mic. Is it on? Let me go on.

2735
03:13:24.440 --> 03:13:29.440

I'm getting that up for you. Okay. Before I begin the presentation, I'd like to,

2736

03:13:29.500 --> 03:13:34.480

uh, let you know that this afternoon, uh, we're going to show the film,

2737

03:13:34.780 --> 03:13:38.760

uh, the story of Triumph and Tragedy. And if I have enough time after that,

2738

03:13:38.960 --> 03:13:41.000

I will cover what I was asked to cover.

2739

03:13:41.060 --> 03:13:45.440

And that is the individuals that were involved in the crash of hot stuff.

2740

03:13:45.680 --> 03:13:48.320

I have some information, uh, that I've, uh,

2741

03:13:48.320 --> 03:13:51.040

been able to locate over the years that describes them.

2742

03:13:51.460 --> 03:13:56.080

But I think that it'd be, uh, I was asked to possibly show the film,

2743

03:13:56.700 --> 03:14:00.320

uh, because there are so many new members here. And, uh,

2744

03:14:00.630 --> 03:14:05.040

also that film I'm going to be modifying for Joint Base Andrews.

2745

03:14:05.430 --> 03:14:10.240

They are putting up a demonstrate, uh, display of hot stuff, uh, wreckage.

2746

03:14:10.740 --> 03:14:14.960

Uh, Nancy and I were at, uh, uh, Dallas, uh,

2747

03:14:15.210 --> 03:14:17.280

wings over Dallas Air Show last year.

2748

03:14:17.700 --> 03:14:21.600

And the crew chief for Air Force one happened to be there. And, uh,

2749

03:14:21.640 --> 03:14:25.720

I told him the story of hot stuff and that I had pieces of bridge,

2750

03:14:25.980 --> 03:14:30.080

and he contacted Base Commander and they said they would like to have it.

2751

03:14:30.540 --> 03:14:34.800

So he drove all the way down to Austin. I gave him the, all of what I had left,

2752

03:14:34.860 --> 03:14:36.880

except that one piece that you see out here.

2753

03:14:37.380 --> 03:14:42.080

And it flew back on Air Force One and is going to be put on

2754

03:14:42.080 --> 03:14:46.560

display shortly. They just received a display case, and in fact,

2755

03:14:46.660 --> 03:14:51.560

the historian went over and to Iceland and they picked up pieces of rocks

2756

03:14:51.560 --> 03:14:54.960

to add to the display. So it should be quite an interesting display.

2757

03:14:57.300 --> 03:15:01.070

Uh, this is a, uh, which was,

2758

03:15:02.700 --> 03:15:07.510

okay, first of all, I'd like to tell you that the,

2759

03:15:07.830 --> 03:15:11.470

a fundraiser has been an incredible success. Uh,

2760

03:15:11.850 --> 03:15:16.630

we owe \$14,842 the last payment on the monument,

2761

03:15:16.890 --> 03:15:21.470

and we have the money to cover it. So, uh, and I have,

2762

03:15:26.170 --> 03:15:26.710

and I,

2763

03:15:26.710 --> 03:15:31.190

I hope she's watching because Nancy Stranger did an incredible job.

2764

03:15:31.650 --> 03:15:35.070

Few people realize what it takes to manage a fundraising account.

2765

03:15:35.290 --> 03:15:39.110

We have little tiny expenses, we have fairly big expenses,

2766

03:15:39.610 --> 03:15:41.310

and we have all kinds of little problems.

2767

03:15:41.410 --> 03:15:46.190

And she's kept track of every donation and every individual and company that

2768

03:15:46.210 --> 03:15:49.320

has made a donation and write it down to the penny.

2769

03:15:49.740 --> 03:15:53.280

And all I can say is every dime that's gone into that fund,

2770

03:15:53.280 --> 03:15:55.240

with the exception of little minor expenses,

2771

03:15:55.390 --> 03:16:00.000

like postal expenses that we've had to pay for people who have donated more than

2772

03:16:00.000 --> 03:16:04.520

\$250, we have to send 'em a tax form or whatever so that you can write it off.

2773

03:16:04.980 --> 03:16:09.560

But all of the money has gone into the account and none has been used for

2774

03:16:09.800 --> 03:16:10.920

anything other than the monument.

2775

03:16:15.270 --> 03:16:15.900

This, uh,

2776

03:16:15.900 --> 03:16:20.600

for those of you who are new here and have and haven't read the hot stuff,

2777

03:16:21.060 --> 03:16:24.000

uh, general Andrews newsletter, by the way, George,

2778

03:16:24.400 --> 03:16:28.000

I would appreciate it if you can, when I send you the copy of the newsletter,

2779

03:16:28.060 --> 03:16:31.600

you could forward it to all members so that they can, uh, uh,

2780

03:16:32.100 --> 03:16:34.640

be keep abreast of what's happening. But anyway,

2781

03:16:34.640 --> 03:16:39.120

the stainless steel model of hot stuff was actually completed last year. And,

2782

03:16:39.220 --> 03:16:43.600

uh, Iceland Air shipped over free of charge to Iceland.

2783

03:16:43.940 --> 03:16:45.240

And there's more to the story.

2784

03:16:45.540 --> 03:16:50.280

It turns out that we had a certain size that we had to fit the, uh,

2785

03:16:50.700 --> 03:16:54.400

the stainless steel model in. And, and Terry Hein, the sculptor,

2786

03:16:54.400 --> 03:16:56.800

built this special box for it and everything else.

2787

03:16:57.420 --> 03:17:01.560

And then when we sent them the actual size of the box, they came back and said,

2788

03:17:01.560 --> 03:17:05.920

well, we've changed airplane types. We no longer have a freighter.

2789

03:17:05.940 --> 03:17:07.360

We use 7 67,

2790

03:17:07.660 --> 03:17:12.400

and the door is three inches shorter than than the the box that you created.

2791

03:17:12.940 --> 03:17:15.080

So Terry had to, to recreate the box,

2792

03:17:15.100 --> 03:17:19.440

he had to take the guns off the nose and the tail, it fit in the airplane. And,

2793

03:17:19.620 --> 03:17:23.680

uh, it's now in Iceland at a hangar, uh,

2794

03:17:24.040 --> 03:17:26.320

a courtesy of Iceland. There. They're holding it.

2795

03:17:26.320 --> 03:17:29.880

They said they'll hold it for as long as they have to. Oops,

2796

03:17:30.030 --> 03:17:34.700

push your calling button here. Uh, for those of you who hadn't seen it,

2797

03:17:34.810 --> 03:17:37.940

it's an eight foot stainless steel model. Handmade, uh,

2798

03:17:37.940 --> 03:17:40.900

it's absolutely incredible. It's got details on it.

2799

03:17:40.900 --> 03:17:45.180

You can actually see the cylinder cooling fins on the engines. And, uh,

2800

03:17:45.750 --> 03:17:48.980

Terry Hin, who did it, uh, just built another model,

2801

03:17:49.540 --> 03:17:54.380

a J model that's now on display. Actually, it's a monument in chapel, uh,

2802

03:17:54.820 --> 03:17:59.340

Nebraska where, uh, uh, B 24 crashed in 1944,

2803

03:17:59.360 --> 03:18:02.660

and all 10 were killed. So he built a second model for them.

2804

03:18:04.240 --> 03:18:09.140

And this is the actual crate containing the, uh, the polished, uh,

2805

03:18:09.140 --> 03:18:13.140
the black granite that will be used. There's two pieces of it. Uh,

2806
03:18:13.140 --> 03:18:16.220
they had just arrived in Iceland a couple of weeks ago. They actually,

2807
03:18:16.320 --> 03:18:18.300
the Iceland company that, uh,

2808
03:18:18.400 --> 03:18:22.540
is building the monument flew down to Italy and picked out the stone,

2809
03:18:22.790 --> 03:18:27.460
which came from South Africa. And, uh, did you need that? I'm sorry.
No,

2810
03:18:27.460 --> 03:18:28.700
that's fine. Oh, okay. Uh,

2811
03:18:29.200 --> 03:18:33.260
and this is the final version of what the monument is going to look
like.

2812
03:18:33.560 --> 03:18:38.420
And we did make a couple of changes on a additions, I should say. Uh,

2813
03:18:38.480 --> 03:18:40.460
we added the actual, uh,

2814
03:18:40.460 --> 03:18:44.300
picture of hot stuff on its third mission that we have.

2815
03:18:44.440 --> 03:18:49.120
And I think that came from you, Don. I'm not, I can't remember where I
got it.

2816
03:18:49.140 --> 03:18:51.960
But anyway, I modified it and photoshopped it.

2817

03:18:52.300 --> 03:18:55.680

And then the second thing are the patches there, uh,

2818

03:18:55.900 --> 03:18:59.440

Don brought it to my attention that the second air division wasn't,

2819

03:18:59.820 --> 03:19:02.800

it didn't exist at the time that US stuff crashed,

2820

03:19:03.100 --> 03:19:06.760

so we removed that from there. But I had a,

2821

03:19:06.920 --> 03:19:10.000

a gentleman that I found on the internet, actually, he found me,

2822

03:19:10.460 --> 03:19:14.200

he builds models and he's a, a graphics designer,

2823

03:19:14.620 --> 03:19:18.760

and he recreated all of those that are very nicely done. Uh,

2824

03:19:18.820 --> 03:19:20.360

the other thing is I, uh,

2825

03:19:20.370 --> 03:19:24.160

asked Jim Root if there's something we could add to the monument,

2826

03:19:24.380 --> 03:19:28.000

and he suggested we put on fallen, but not forgotten.

2827

03:19:28.220 --> 03:19:33.120

And so we added that to the monument as well. Uh, so we have black granite,

2828

03:19:33.120 --> 03:19:36.600

it's gonna be polished black granite, and that this is a native,

2829

03:19:36.700 --> 03:19:39.240
native basal that from Iceland,

2830

03:19:39.240 --> 03:19:41.720
and they're actually gonna drill a hole down to the top.

2831

03:19:41.860 --> 03:19:45.200
We have a pipe that's gonna hold that stuff in place.

2832

03:19:47.630 --> 03:19:48.640
This is, uh,

2833

03:19:48.990 --> 03:19:53.520
what hopefully the final design actually is gonna look like for the monument.

2834

03:19:54.120 --> 03:19:59.120
I realized after we had the monument that the background is all black

2835

03:19:59.430 --> 03:20:04.120
lava. And I thought, well, to just have that sitting out there wouldn't be,

2836

03:20:04.260 --> 03:20:06.880
you would notice it that, well. So, uh,

2837

03:20:07.360 --> 03:20:11.680
I decided to put a design together for a 20 by 10 foot base,

2838

03:20:12.460 --> 03:20:17.440
and I asked for, I submitted an R F P, this is about three weeks ago.
And, uh,

2839

03:20:17.920 --> 03:20:22.400
I asked them for a response and the Monument Company said they'd get it back to

2840

03:20:22.400 --> 03:20:22.900
me.

2841

03:20:22.900 --> 03:20:26.520

And they said they had four or five companies that were interested in doing it,

2842

03:20:27.060 --> 03:20:31.160

and we guesstimated it was gonna be between 10 and \$12,000.

2843

03:20:31.870 --> 03:20:35.480

Well, I got a, an email back a week ago, Friday, last Friday,

2844

03:20:36.020 --> 03:20:39.960

and the Monument Company said that the company that is going to install the

2845

03:20:40.160 --> 03:20:42.120

monument is donating the base.

2846

03:20:46.540 --> 03:20:51.320

And all I have to provide is the flag poles and the security poles,

2847

03:20:51.320 --> 03:20:55.240

the poles that will prevent cars from accidentally, uh, moving into it.

2848

03:20:55.240 --> 03:20:59.600

So we've got a, a little, uh, barricade, two poles that we'll set up in front,

2849

03:20:59.780 --> 03:21:03.320

and we didn't want to put chains around it so people could take pictures of it

2850

03:21:03.580 --> 03:21:06.000

and also stand up there and get their own pictures taken.

2851

03:21:09.870 --> 03:21:14.370

Uh, we're getting tremendous support and, and we'll get more, I think, in the,

2852

03:21:14.430 --> 03:21:15.263

in the near future,

2853

03:21:15.630 --> 03:21:19.810

but right now I'm working with the United States Air Force military

2854

03:21:20.400 --> 03:21:24.770

attache to Norway and Iceland that he is really behind the effort.

2855

03:21:25.270 --> 03:21:26.010

We are.

2856

03:21:26.010 --> 03:21:30.770

I wanted to get the Air Force Thunderbirds over there for our dedication. Uh,

2857

03:21:31.010 --> 03:21:34.970

I tried, I actually did the application more than a year ago,

2858

03:21:35.390 --> 03:21:38.290

but I got a feedback that said that the Air Force, uh,

2859

03:21:38.490 --> 03:21:43.370

Thunderbirds were not going to fly overseas. That, uh, they,

2860

03:21:43.400 --> 03:21:45.680

they were limited to flying in the us.

2861

03:21:45.820 --> 03:21:48.760

And then a couple of months ago on Bastille Day,

2862

03:21:48.920 --> 03:21:53.720

I looked and saw on the news here is the Air Force Thunderbirds flying down the,

2863

03:21:55.380 --> 03:21:58.080

and so I contacted him, I said, what's the story here?

2864

03:21:59.740 --> 03:22:04.240

And so he's trying our chances of getting them a slip and,

2865

03:22:04.460 --> 03:22:08.320

but he is going after an Air Force demonstration team.

2866

03:22:08.500 --> 03:22:12.400

So we should have something like F 22 F sixteens,

2867

03:22:12.400 --> 03:22:15.480

or maybe even F 30 fives. I they are,

2868

03:22:15.510 --> 03:22:18.880

they do have aircraft now over there at, uh, uh,

2869

03:22:20.000 --> 03:22:21.400

international Airport.

2870

03:22:21.540 --> 03:22:25.520

We just signed an agreement with Iceland because of the problems we're having

2871

03:22:25.520 --> 03:22:29.320

with Russia. And so, uh, we have aircraft over there,

2872

03:22:29.380 --> 03:22:31.880

and so I'm sure we'll have some kind of air support.

2873

03:22:32.460 --> 03:22:36.080

And he has also been working with the Pentagon because I got received a call

2874

03:22:36.080 --> 03:22:40.920

about three weeks ago from the Pentagon asking what they could do to help.

2875

03:22:41.100 --> 03:22:42.880

And of course, I gave them a long list,

2876

03:22:45.100 --> 03:22:48.560

but that's only the beginning because what happened was, uh,

2877

03:22:48.640 --> 03:22:53.280

I had a connection to, um, uh, Barksdale Air Force Base, uh,

2878

03:22:53.310 --> 03:22:57.600

general Rand, who's the head of, uh, I can't remember the,

2879

03:22:57.900 --> 03:23:02.760

the organization, the whole of all of our bombers and, and missiles.

And,

2880

03:23:02.860 --> 03:23:07.240

uh, I talked to him for a good 45 minutes, and he's behind our whole operation.

2881

03:23:07.800 --> 03:23:11.200

I couldn't use his name in any of the publications and things that I have

2882

03:23:11.270 --> 03:23:14.480

because he's active military, but he's behind it.

2883

03:23:14.800 --> 03:23:18.680

I know that because I talked to the Eighth Air Force, uh,

2884

03:23:18.750 --> 03:23:20.520

historian about it.

2885

03:23:20.660 --> 03:23:25.600

And he recently received a copy of Ted's Traveling Circus and Be, and before,

2886

03:23:25.660 --> 03:23:30.000

uh, before the Bell. Uh, and, uh,

2887

03:23:30.880 --> 03:23:35.320

I got a call from him and said that they are the eighth Air Force is going to

2888

03:23:35.320 --> 03:23:37.760

support the, the, uh, dedication.

2889

03:23:38.500 --> 03:23:41.800

And then I also have been working with Bob s Fires,

2890

03:23:41.850 --> 03:23:45.760

who's the historian at Joint Base. Andrews one of the historians,

2891

03:23:46.100 --> 03:23:50.080

and he's the guy that is, uh, leading the effort for the display,

2892

03:23:50.300 --> 03:23:54.360

but there's also another historian, and he's been talking it up to him.

2893

03:23:55.060 --> 03:23:59.040

And he is the one before the base Commander Cher, I believe is his name,

2894

03:23:59.040 --> 03:24:02.320

Colonel Cher. And he called me and said,

2895

03:24:02.350 --> 03:24:05.480

Colonel Cher intends to be at the dedication.

2896

03:24:05.900 --> 03:24:08.760

So we're gonna have a representative from Joint Base Andrews as well.

2897

03:24:09.260 --> 03:24:13.640

And the other one I like to mention is Keer Institute of Technology therein in

2898

03:24:13.950 --> 03:24:18.920

Iceland. They're at, in Iceland. They set up the, the, uh,

2899

03:24:19.400 --> 03:24:23.600

presentation that we had and the memorial dedication for the plaque in

2900

03:24:23.600 --> 03:24:24.760

2013.

2901

03:24:25.220 --> 03:24:28.960

And I'm working with him on the actual dedication day.

2902

03:24:29.700 --> 03:24:33.360

And he, he's incredible, uh, just a wonderful individual.

2903

03:24:33.900 --> 03:24:35.600

And they teach, uh,

2904

03:24:36.540 --> 03:24:40.280

flying and teach pilots mostly for European Airlines,

2905

03:24:40.580 --> 03:24:44.360

and they have 12 aircraft. And he said, Jim, if the Air Force doesn't show up,

2906

03:24:44.380 --> 03:24:45.280

we will. So

2907

03:24:48.200 --> 03:24:51.200

I can't say enough good things about Iceland people,

2908

03:24:51.200 --> 03:24:53.880

especially my friend Ty and all of her,

2909

03:24:54.160 --> 03:24:57.760

Ollie Martinson Olley is a retired executive from Iceland Air,

2910

03:24:57.780 --> 03:24:59.920

and he just went back to work. They hired him.

2911

03:24:59.990 --> 03:25:04.280

They wouldn't let him stay retired. He buys and sells their airplanes,

2912

03:25:04.700 --> 03:25:09.440

and so they needed him. But DTI has just been incredible, his brother,

2913

03:25:09.580 --> 03:25:14.160

and he's taken friends out and contacts out to the crash site and to the

2914

03:25:14.360 --> 03:25:16.200

monument for us, and he's promoting it.

2915

03:25:16.300 --> 03:25:20.520

And he said he's gonna retire in April and work entirely on the project

2916

03:25:21.100 --> 03:25:24.520

so that we'll be ready for our dedication. Uh, I,

2917

03:25:25.570 --> 03:25:28.880

we've been also working to get General Anders promoted.

2918

03:25:29.580 --> 03:25:34.160

He was a three star Lieutenant General. He was in line for his four star, and,

2919

03:25:34.220 --> 03:25:36.400

uh, he was, uh, we,

2920

03:25:36.420 --> 03:25:41.040

we don't exactly know why he was going back to Washington,

2921

03:25:41.340 --> 03:25:46.160

DC but we can, uh, guesstimate in that,

2922

03:25:46.180 --> 03:25:49.200

uh, the Trial Cons conference was about to take place.

2923

03:25:49.700 --> 03:25:53.480

He was about to get his force fire and also General Arnold was having heart

2924

03:25:53.480 --> 03:25:56.560

problems, and they needed somebody either to assist him,

2925

03:25:56.960 --> 03:26:00.320

possibly or take his place. Uh, he,

2926

03:26:00.430 --> 03:26:03.840

this is the photograph that's actually going to be on the monument.
Oops.

2927

03:26:04.460 --> 03:26:08.940

Can I go backwards here? Yep. Upward,

2928

03:26:09.880 --> 03:26:12.820

uh, I'm kind of proud of this. I'm bragging a little bit here,

2929

03:26:13.120 --> 03:26:17.860

but this is the photograph that's going to be used, uh, on the monument. And,

2930

03:26:17.880 --> 03:26:21.900

uh, it's not just one photograph, it's a composite. Uh,

2931

03:26:22.420 --> 03:26:25.380

I a I sent out and I think Don sent me a picture.

2932

03:26:25.660 --> 03:26:28.660

I got something from the National Museum, the Air Force, this photograph,

2933

03:26:29.100 --> 03:26:33.620

I got a photograph from the Andrews family. I got a pho, I got a dozen of 'em,

2934

03:26:33.620 --> 03:26:37.660

I think, at home, and I couldn't use any of 'em because when you blow 'em up,

2935

03:26:37.660 --> 03:26:40.500

they all had scratches and all kinds of problems on them.

2936

03:26:41.160 --> 03:26:44.940

But I was able to find one photograph that the background I could fix.

2937

03:26:45.540 --> 03:26:48.660

I took all the scratches out and I took all the other things out,

2938

03:26:49.080 --> 03:26:53.100

and then I found one that I could work with the face, his face,

2939

03:26:53.720 --> 03:26:58.220

and it was very clear. And so I was able to circle his eyes, not to use them,

2940

03:26:58.280 --> 03:27:02.220

but able to fix the rest of his face. Part of it was, uh,

2941

03:27:02.950 --> 03:27:05.500

right here. It was completely blotted out.

2942

03:27:05.560 --> 03:27:08.460

It was washed out from the hotspot on there.

2943

03:27:09.040 --> 03:27:13.940

And so I was able to fix his face and add the hair and all the other things

2944

03:27:13.950 --> 03:27:17.140

using Photoshop, superimposed it on the background.

2945

03:27:17.520 --> 03:27:21.900

And so we have a composite of General Andrews and I sent copies of it to his

2946

03:27:21.900 --> 03:27:24.940

family, and they were just so appreciative because they,

2947

03:27:24.970 --> 03:27:28.220

they can now have a large photo of it. But, uh, anyway, that's, uh,

2948

03:27:29.120 --> 03:27:30.180

I'm kind of proud of that.

2949

03:27:31.240 --> 03:27:35.860

We have 68 people who have already signed up to, uh, for the tour package,

2950

03:27:36.560 --> 03:27:40.780

and I expect quite a few more. Uh, and, uh,

2951

03:27:41.700 --> 03:27:46.240

uh, several of 'em are family members that will be attending General Andrew's

2952

03:27:46.240 --> 03:27:50.080

family's attending, uh, as well as, uh, uh, Hondo.

2953

03:27:50.100 --> 03:27:53.000

And I'll be discussing that more in detail this afternoon.

2954

03:27:53.940 --> 03:27:58.120

The deadline for the tour registration is February 1st, 2018.

2955

03:27:59.060 --> 03:28:02.560

And, uh, in, in the tour itself,

2956

03:28:02.630 --> 03:28:06.840

it's gonna include a four star hotel, transportation, uh,

2957

03:28:07.140 --> 03:28:07.973
and Will,

2958
03:28:07.980 --> 03:28:12.600
the welcome party is really a buffet in the afternoon after
registration, uh,

2959
03:28:12.620 --> 03:28:16.720
the tour of, uh, Reiki mc area will actually take place in the
morning.

2960
03:28:16.780 --> 03:28:21.600
You arrive almost all of the aircraft from the US ride between six and
seven

2961
03:28:21.600 --> 03:28:22.680
30 in the morning.

2962
03:28:23.220 --> 03:28:27.320
So you'd be flying over there at night and then six or seven 30,

2963
03:28:27.320 --> 03:28:31.600
hopefully you'll have slept some. And because we won't be,

2964
03:28:31.700 --> 03:28:33.920
we won't be checking into the hotel until the afternoon.

2965
03:28:34.140 --> 03:28:37.800
And so what we've done is arranged for the buses. Pick everyone up,

2966
03:28:37.990 --> 03:28:41.640
take you to a brunch. Right now it's scheduled for a, uh,

2967
03:28:42.120 --> 03:28:46.280
a restaurant that's on top of six, uh, five or six water towers.

2968
03:28:46.280 --> 03:28:47.680
There's a dome on top of it,

2969

03:28:48.140 --> 03:28:52.680

and you get a complete 360 view of the city of Uvic. It's really,

2970

03:28:52.680 --> 03:28:57.080

really a neat place. And, uh, then from there you'll get a tour,

2971

03:28:57.280 --> 03:29:01.520

a bus tour of the town and are in the surrounding area around Vic.

2972

03:29:01.520 --> 03:29:05.800

That will include If you watch the film this afternoon, you'll see two churches.

2973

03:29:06.580 --> 03:29:10.760

Uh, one is the National Church of Iceland, another one, a Catholic, uh,

2974

03:29:10.790 --> 03:29:15.600

cathedral, where they took the, uh, the, those who had,

2975

03:29:15.660 --> 03:29:18.160

who were killed in the crash for the memorial service.

2976

03:29:18.620 --> 03:29:23.440

So you'll get to see some of those in other locations as well. Uh, the, uh,

2977

03:29:23.950 --> 03:29:28.240

most of the meals are covered and, uh, it, it, uh,

2978

03:29:28.380 --> 03:29:31.160

it should go extremely well. It's, it's a busy day.

2979

03:29:31.740 --> 03:29:36.120

The day of the dedication you'll have, the morning will be, um,

2980

03:29:37.190 --> 03:29:40.440

when you, uh, it, it will include breakfast.

2981

03:29:40.860 --> 03:29:45.240

And then I've arranged for a, uh, he's a historian, an author.

2982

03:29:45.660 --> 03:29:50.040

He works for the equivalent of the f a A in Iceland. He works for, uh,

2983

03:29:50.350 --> 03:29:51.640

NATO on the NATO base,

2984

03:29:52.260 --> 03:29:55.560

and he knows the history of Iceland and the history of World War ii,

2985

03:29:55.840 --> 03:29:59.560

probably as well as anybody on the planet. And he's going to give us a lecture,

2986

03:30:00.380 --> 03:30:01.440

or you can, uh,

2987

03:30:01.440 --> 03:30:05.280

easily walk into town from within 10 minutes you'll be downtown to the old

2988

03:30:05.280 --> 03:30:09.120

beautiful section. Yes, sir. Starting interrupt. I just got a text message.

2989

03:30:09.420 --> 03:30:12.960

The live feed show. What's that?

2990

03:30:13.180 --> 03:30:18.010

The live feed check cut off. Is that, I just got a text message. Thank you.

2991

03:30:19.140 --> 03:30:23.570

Check. It says we're live. Let me check. Uh,

2992

03:30:23.890 --> 03:30:26.330
I just looked it up. Yeah. Okay. I, I'll, I'll, uh,

2993
03:30:29.160 --> 03:30:31.490
this is the, uh, the hotel where we'll be staying.

2994
03:30:31.490 --> 03:30:36.090
It's within 10 minutes of downtown. And after the, uh, lecture, uh,

2995
03:30:36.180 --> 03:30:40.920
we'll have lunch and then board the buses for the dedication at the monument

2996
03:30:41.140 --> 03:30:45.520
itself. And after the dedication, we'll be driving to the Andrews Theater,

2997
03:30:45.690 --> 03:30:49.000
which is a converted, uh, uh, base theater.

2998
03:30:49.600 --> 03:30:52.760
'cause it was a NATO base at one time. It's now Andrew's theater,

2999
03:30:55.980 --> 03:30:58.360
The banquet. Anyone, by the way,

3000
03:30:58.420 --> 03:31:01.480
if you want to make your own reservations and go over, that's fine. You know,

3001
03:31:01.720 --> 03:31:03.880
anything you can do. The only thing I would advise you to do,

3002
03:31:03.880 --> 03:31:06.040
if you're going to do it, do it rather it quickly,

3003
03:31:06.740 --> 03:31:10.640
not just because of the hotels, but because of the airlines. Uh,

3004

03:31:11.580 --> 03:31:14.440

the, uh, tourism has exploded in Iceland.

3005

03:31:14.860 --> 03:31:18.080

Prices are gone up through the roof as well. I mean,

3006

03:31:18.440 --> 03:31:19.920

compared to the last time we were over there.

3007

03:31:20.260 --> 03:31:22.280

So what I thought was an expensive tour.

3008

03:31:22.330 --> 03:31:25.200

Turns out not to be quite so as expensive as I thought.

3009

03:31:25.760 --> 03:31:28.960

'cause we were over there a couple months ago, and just to give you an example,

3010

03:31:29.240 --> 03:31:31.640

I, I went to, we couldn't find a place. I,

3011

03:31:31.760 --> 03:31:35.000

I decided to go out and find some food for breakfast over there,

3012

03:31:35.420 --> 03:31:37.440

and I couldn't find the bakery that was open,

3013

03:31:37.540 --> 03:31:39.920

but I found a place that was selling Dunking Donuts.

3014

03:31:40.480 --> 03:31:44.520

I went in and I ordered and ordered a dozen of Dunking Donuts. And the guy says,

3015

03:31:44.520 --> 03:31:47.800

well, you know, they're kind of expensive. And I said, that's okay. He gets it.

3016

03:31:47.800 --> 03:31:51.680

I'll go up to the register up there, \$36 for a dozen donuts.

3017

03:31:54.420 --> 03:31:58.880

So I give you an example. But, uh, anyway, uh, the, uh,

3018

03:31:59.180 --> 03:32:02.520

you can go to their travel, uh, site GT travel,

3019

03:32:02.660 --> 03:32:07.480

and you can either just sign up for the banquet or you can sign up for the

3020

03:32:07.480 --> 03:32:09.920

pole tour. And there are some options on the tour.

3021

03:32:10.300 --> 03:32:13.840

One of the things I would recommend that you do if you go on,

3022

03:32:13.840 --> 03:32:17.680

on one of the options is go the Golden Circle Tour.

3023

03:32:17.810 --> 03:32:20.640

It'll give you a pretty good idea of what, uh,

3024

03:32:21.040 --> 03:32:22.960

Southern Iceland is all about.

3025

03:32:23.110 --> 03:32:27.040

There's some spectacular waterfalls and things like that. It's a, it is a,

3026

03:32:27.040 --> 03:32:29.040

it is a pretty good, uh, pretty good deal.

3027

03:32:31.000 --> 03:32:35.640

I would like to thank the 93rd Bombardment Group for several reasons.

One,

3028

03:32:35.900 --> 03:32:39.880

I'm just, I'm just delighted to be a part of it. But number two,

3029

03:32:40.200 --> 03:32:44.760

I was able to use 93rd Bomb Group Association, the 5 0 1 C three,

3030

03:32:45.000 --> 03:32:49.720

a lot of tax deductible donations were made. And, uh, and,

3031

03:32:49.720 --> 03:32:52.800

and every presentation I was able to, uh,

3032

03:32:52.910 --> 03:32:55.880

tell the story of the 93rd as well. Uh,

3033

03:32:57.300 --> 03:32:59.520

it would not have happened without your support,

3034

03:32:59.900 --> 03:33:01.920

but now we know it is going to happen.

3035

03:33:02.200 --> 03:33:04.720

I had my doubts at first when I made that, uh,

3036

03:33:05.190 --> 03:33:09.160

when we were on the mountain in Iceland, and the, uh, Icelander said,

3037

03:33:09.160 --> 03:33:12.480

there ought to be a monument here. And then I told 'em I would raise the money.

3038

03:33:12.510 --> 03:33:16.200

Well, let me tell you, there were some doubts for a while. But anyway,

3039

03:33:16.540 --> 03:33:20.160

any questions? Yes. Yeah. Jim, can you go back to the mind?

3040

03:33:21.100 --> 03:33:24.720

Can you go back to the monument for a second and explain to the audience if they

3041

03:33:24.720 --> 03:33:28.720

don't know the relationship between the monument and the crash? Oh, yes.

3042

03:33:40.830 --> 03:33:43.440

Okay. You'll notice there are two sides to the monument.

3043

03:33:43.900 --> 03:33:47.680

On the left side is the story of huts stuff in the crash,

3044

03:33:48.260 --> 03:33:49.600

and the crew of huts stuff.

3045

03:33:49.600 --> 03:33:53.680

And the fact that they were the first in the eight Air Force to complete 25

3046

03:33:53.680 --> 03:33:55.560

missions. They were actually in the fir,

3047

03:33:55.560 --> 03:33:59.120

the first and the eighth Air Force to complete 30 missions. And, uh,

3048

03:33:59.460 --> 03:34:03.840

and so that's the story, and that's, that's the crew. Whoops. Blew

3049

03:34:05.470 --> 03:34:07.240

this is the crew, and that's hot stop.

3050

03:34:07.420 --> 03:34:10.600

And on the right side is the crash itself and the story,

3051

03:34:10.860 --> 03:34:13.280

and all those who are involved in the crash.

3052

03:34:13.540 --> 03:34:17.240

You'll see it in the film this afternoon. But just to give you an example,

3053

03:34:17.240 --> 03:34:19.840

there were 15 on board, 14 were killed.

3054

03:34:20.260 --> 03:34:25.120

The si survivor being George Isel, and he's historian in himself,

3055

03:34:25.420 --> 03:34:29.600

uh, that I'll be telling you about. But it, it lists all those who were killed,

3056

03:34:30.020 --> 03:34:34.800

and it included three chaplains. And by the way, I also sent a note,

3057

03:34:34.860 --> 03:34:35.693

and, uh,

3058

03:34:35.700 --> 03:34:39.920

I'm trying to get the chief of chaplains of the Air Force to participate because

3059

03:34:40.020 --> 03:34:42.120

the Army Chief Chaplains was killed,

3060

03:34:42.420 --> 03:34:45.640

and the chairman of the Corps of Army and Navy chaplains was killed.

3061

03:34:45.980 --> 03:34:50.960

And another chaplain who was Ed and w Leonards aid, the chief, uh,

3062

03:34:50.960 --> 03:34:54.760

the, uh, chairman of the Board of Chapels. But that's, that's it.

3063

03:34:54.760 --> 03:34:57.160
That's why it's, you see the two sides on there,

3064
03:34:58.470 --> 03:35:02.280
doesn't it point to the crash? Yes. Right over the, behind it.

3065
03:35:02.370 --> 03:35:06.320
Right behind it on the hill is where the crash site is. By the way,

3066
03:35:06.450 --> 03:35:09.280
those mountains look like they're way off of the distance.

3067
03:35:09.280 --> 03:35:12.040
They're only about two and a half miles away. Uh,

3068
03:35:12.140 --> 03:35:16.080
and we decided to do that because my, my Icelandic friends who suggested,

3069
03:35:16.080 --> 03:35:20.720
by the way, this was not my idea. It was Iceland's idea to have a monument.

3070
03:35:21.300 --> 03:35:25.920
And we were on the mountain, and I was looking toward, uh, revic, uh, Vic,

3071
03:35:25.980 --> 03:35:28.200
I'm sorry. You could see the airport way about, oh,

3072
03:35:28.200 --> 03:35:30.960
about eight to 10 miles away. And I thought, well,

3073
03:35:31.190 --> 03:35:34.000
it'd be nice to have a monument, but who we are in the middle of nowhere.

3074
03:35:34.640 --> 03:35:36.720
I said, I don't think it would fit here. I said,

3075

03:35:36.720 --> 03:35:40.600

but we can find a place along the highway. So you go to the next slide.

3076

03:35:40.600 --> 03:35:45.170

Does it show the mountain on the next slide? Yeah. That simulation way,

3077

03:35:48.290 --> 03:35:49.510

No wrong way,

3078

03:35:52.300 --> 03:35:53.560

It would crash right there.

3079

03:35:55.060 --> 03:35:59.080

And so we have a plaque there that describes the, describes it, right?

3080

03:35:59.080 --> 03:36:03.400

And that'll be right next to it. And there's an X on the mountain,

3081

03:36:03.400 --> 03:36:07.800

and people can look and see right? Where, where it went down right there. But,

3082

03:36:07.900 --> 03:36:12.040

uh, it, it was, it is only 1100 feet high. But, uh,

3083

03:36:12.740 --> 03:36:16.920

it, uh, and they, they got within a hundred feet of the top of it,

3084

03:36:16.920 --> 03:36:20.960

another hundred feet, and they, it cleared it, you know? And so, uh, it's, uh,

3085

03:36:21.180 --> 03:36:24.600

but it, anyway, that's the story. If you have any questions,

3086

03:36:24.760 --> 03:36:29.120

please feel free to ask. I would advise you if you are planning on going,

3087

03:36:29.190 --> 03:36:32.120

make a decision fairly soon, because right now,

3088

03:36:32.180 --> 03:36:36.320

if you look now airline reservations are being booked, A lot of seats are gone,

3089

03:36:36.940 --> 03:36:39.160

uh, for Iceland, the air, and there's a,

3090

03:36:39.160 --> 03:36:43.360

there's a less expensive airline called Wow Airlines. But let me tell you,

3091

03:36:43.360 --> 03:36:47.640

they go, wow, after your wallet for everything that you do. And so, uh,

3092

03:36:47.740 --> 03:36:51.160

and they only, and the other thing is Iceland Air has been so good to us.

3093

03:36:51.840 --> 03:36:56.640

I would like you to spend maybe consider spending the extra money to, to help,

3094

03:36:56.640 --> 03:36:58.440

because they've saved us a ton of money.

3095

03:37:08.620 --> 03:37:10.880

Oh, thanks. Yep. Got it.

3096

03:37:19.370 --> 03:37:23.470

We have a remote mic. Oh, yeah. Oh, to the, uh, it's right here. Yeah,

3097

03:37:23.470 --> 03:37:27.750

it's right there. Yeah. That I need, but I need, oh, you need a mic?

3098

03:37:28.230 --> 03:37:29.063

A mic.

3099

03:37:31.700 --> 03:37:33.830

Okay. It's very appropriate, uh,

3100

03:37:34.220 --> 03:37:39.110

that we follow the hot stuff discussion with a short greeting from

3101

03:37:39.450 --> 03:37:41.830

the 91st bomb group, who are, they're,

3102

03:37:42.100 --> 03:37:46.430

they're doing taking part in the Eighth Air Force Historical Society reunion,

3103

03:37:46.450 --> 03:37:50.430

but they bring you greetings from one of the 93rd guys that they,

3104

03:37:50.690 --> 03:37:54.270

so I promised them a couple minutes,

3105

03:37:56.370 --> 03:37:59.350

And they, they had to listen to all of our meetings to get to this.

3106

03:38:00.050 --> 03:38:01.750

Thanks for letting us crash the meeting.

3107

03:38:01.770 --> 03:38:03.670

We saw you getting off the bus yesterday. And I said,

3108

03:38:04.250 --> 03:38:07.430

my best friend's in the 93rd, I just have to come over and talk to you guys.

3109

03:38:07.890 --> 03:38:11.790

So I called Walt Hughes up last night and I said, Hey, I've run across the 93rd.

3110

03:38:11.850 --> 03:38:15.430

He said, would you please go over there and give my greetings? Okay.

3111

03:38:15.790 --> 03:38:19.030

I worked with, so that's, that's the main reason I came over. Um,

3112

03:38:19.150 --> 03:38:23.910

I worked with the Collins Foundation, uh, who flies witchcraft and 9 0 9, uh,

3113

03:38:24.610 --> 03:38:27.630

for various reasons I ended up being the president of the 91st Bomb group.

3114

03:38:27.630 --> 03:38:31.950

But I highly respect the 24 on so many levels. It's a fantastic plane. Uh,

3115

03:38:31.980 --> 03:38:34.790

I've always loved both of them. And wall's very special to me.

3116

03:38:34.790 --> 03:38:38.150

But I wanted to let you know that. The other thing is, being in the 91st,

3117

03:38:38.590 --> 03:38:43.430

I often comment on the fourth aircraft to finish 25 missions being

3118

03:38:43.430 --> 03:38:47.910

the Memphis Bell gave the third being Hell's Angels,

3119

03:38:48.970 --> 03:38:52.110

the second being Delta Rebel two, which very few people know about.

3120

03:38:52.210 --> 03:38:54.350

And I always mention hot stuff, sorry.

3121

03:38:54.530 --> 03:38:57.230

But if there many in the 93rd bomb,

3122

03:38:59.910 --> 03:39:00.743

I,

3123

03:39:04.290 --> 03:39:08.390

So thank you for giving, thank you for giving me that minute. And, um,

3124

03:39:09.480 --> 03:39:09.830

We're

3125

03:39:09.830 --> 03:39:11.990

Gonna, we're gonna stick around for a while because, uh,

3126

03:39:12.110 --> 03:39:13.870

I got some 24 stories to share.

3127

03:39:14.250 --> 03:39:15.190

All right. Thank you. Thank you,

3128

03:39:15.190 --> 03:39:15.870

Sir. Thank

3129

03:39:15.870 --> 03:39:16.703

You.

3130

03:39:20.830 --> 03:39:24.530

One last very important thing. My dad was forced labor in Germany.

3131

03:39:25.110 --> 03:39:28.090

My mom was with the Dutch resistance. If it hadn't been for you guys,

3132

03:39:28.090 --> 03:39:29.810

freeing them, I wouldn't be here.

3133

03:39:36.390 --> 03:39:40.960

That was Mike Panow au This is

3134

03:39:40.990 --> 03:39:44.160

Mike Webster, and he's 56 Fighter Group.

3135

03:39:44.360 --> 03:39:47.640

I don't think we've ever had a fighter guy at our reunion. So you're the first.

3136

03:39:53.500 --> 03:39:57.040

It is always very emotional for me to come to these because, um,

3137

03:39:57.420 --> 03:40:00.040

my uncle was in the 56 fighter,

3138

03:40:00.140 --> 03:40:04.820

or his father was in the eighth Air Force Staff Command,

3139

03:40:05.080 --> 03:40:06.500

and it was his second war.

3140

03:40:07.640 --> 03:40:10.980

He flew in World War I with the 13th Pursuit Squadron,

3141

03:40:11.160 --> 03:40:13.540

and was the only age from the state of Mississippi.

3142

03:40:14.360 --> 03:40:16.620

His instructor in France was Carl Spots,

3143

03:40:17.320 --> 03:40:20.500

and Carl Spots went and flew with my grandfather in his unit.

3144

03:40:22.040 --> 03:40:24.780

The interesting thing is, my grandfather also knew Monk Hunter,

3145

03:40:25.120 --> 03:40:26.420
who was head of fighter command.

3146
03:40:26.840 --> 03:40:31.700
He was known him and know him as a personal friend before

3147
03:40:31.700 --> 03:40:34.820
the war started. They went and enlisted together in Memphis.

3148
03:40:35.720 --> 03:40:40.700
So the connections for the Air Force run deep in my

3149
03:40:40.700 --> 03:40:42.660
family. The thing is,

3150
03:40:42.840 --> 03:40:46.260
my grandfather and his son both served in the eighth.

3151
03:40:46.720 --> 03:40:49.580
My grandfather had a fond affection for the fighter units,

3152
03:40:49.800 --> 03:40:54.700
but don't think that he did not respect and have a great care for the

3153
03:40:54.700 --> 03:40:55.940
folks that flew the bombers.

3154
03:40:57.120 --> 03:41:01.180
And it was his job to write the letters home to the down,

3155
03:41:01.180 --> 03:41:05.980
missing and dead air families. And it absolutely just brutally tore
him up.

3156
03:41:07.360 --> 03:41:08.260
But beyond that,

3157
03:41:09.040 --> 03:41:13.180

my uncle was killed in action over Germany on December the 31st,

3158

03:41:13.580 --> 03:41:14.413

1944.

3159

03:41:15.240 --> 03:41:20.060

And his father searched for his remains for five months and found

3160

03:41:20.060 --> 03:41:24.780

him, rather than go to the German surrender ceremony on May the seventh,

3161

03:41:24.880 --> 03:41:29.540

he climbed into a Jeep in Paris and drove to Bergstein from Germany and located

3162

03:41:29.540 --> 03:41:31.220

where his son's grave site was.

3163

03:41:32.680 --> 03:41:36.420

So when I started picking up all this information

3164

03:41:37.680 --> 03:41:39.590

years after my grandfather had died,

3165

03:41:40.290 --> 03:41:45.230

it was to me an amazing thing that that gentleman would serve

3166

03:41:45.250 --> 03:41:48.540

in two world wars. But beyond that,

3167

03:41:49.080 --> 03:41:53.700

it is a tribute and a testimony to all of the men who are bedrooms here

3168

03:41:53.830 --> 03:41:56.380

today. What he thought about you when you were young,

3169

03:41:57.680 --> 03:42:02.260

he said it was because of the determination and the guts and the courage

3170

03:42:02.840 --> 03:42:07.220

of the youth who served in World War ii, that we won that war.

3171

03:42:08.740 --> 03:42:10.180

Absolutely, 100% true,

3172

03:42:10.180 --> 03:42:14.940

because we all know what the bombers suffered as far as the

3173

03:42:15.010 --> 03:42:17.660

attrition rate. It was absolutely horrendous.

3174

03:42:19.330 --> 03:42:20.420

That being said,

3175

03:42:21.440 --> 03:42:25.540

the thing that just amazed him the most was for two years,

3176

03:42:26.080 --> 03:42:30.510

the Air Force took it to the Germans. Not on one front,

3177

03:42:30.690 --> 03:42:31.523

but on two.

3178

03:42:32.860 --> 03:42:37.440

And it was unbelievable to think that they did this with a watch, a compass,

3179

03:42:37.780 --> 03:42:41.840

and a radio just staggers my imagination.

3180

03:42:42.490 --> 03:42:46.680

Everything that had to come down to make this

3181

03:42:47.150 --> 03:42:51.740

succeed. And it was through the cost of a lot of blood, sweat, and tears.

3182

03:42:53.170 --> 03:42:56.230

So my hats is off to all of the deaths.

3183

03:42:56.890 --> 03:43:00.510

And there's a friend of mine whose father flew with the liberators,

3184

03:43:00.650 --> 03:43:03.470

his last name is romantic. He's from Pennsylvania.

3185

03:43:04.330 --> 03:43:09.310

He was a liberator pilot, and I am from Memphis.

3186

03:43:09.930 --> 03:43:12.110

And the Memphis Bell, when I was a little boy,

3187

03:43:12.230 --> 03:43:16.630

I used to climb into it and sit in the seat, in the pilot's seat.

3188

03:43:17.890 --> 03:43:19.950

And of course, it's up in Dayton.

3189

03:43:20.530 --> 03:43:23.990

My father-in-law the other few weeks ago said,

3190

03:43:23.990 --> 03:43:27.550

I've got something I want to give you. I said, what is it?

3191

03:43:27.690 --> 03:43:30.590

He put these keys in my hand, and he said, here,

3192

03:43:30.590 --> 03:43:34.470

these are the original set of keys that go to the Memphis Bell. And I said,

3193

03:43:35.690 --> 03:43:40.390

and he was an association member. And I said, he said, I kept 'em. I said,

3194

03:43:40.390 --> 03:43:44.390

you gotta be kidding me. So next year when I go up to Dayton,

3195

03:43:45.090 --> 03:43:48.510

I'm gonna make sure that I put the keys in the hand of the folks that have the

3196

03:43:48.510 --> 03:43:52.590

bell. Uh, much to our regret of the bell left Memphis,

3197

03:43:52.940 --> 03:43:56.030

unfortunately. But I'm glad that it's being restored.

3198

03:43:56.970 --> 03:44:01.590

But my hat's off to all the guys in the bomber groups, you guys, something else.

3199

03:44:01.920 --> 03:44:02.753

Thank you.

3200

03:44:13.410 --> 03:44:17.830

Uh, Mike mentioned Walter Hughes and his greeting to you all.

3201

03:44:18.290 --> 03:44:22.990

He has written a book called a Bomber Pilot of World War ii. Uh,

3202

03:44:23.090 --> 03:44:27.590

and it is out there on Amazon. I actually, uh, sent a wave for it. Got it.

3203

03:44:27.810 --> 03:44:31.390

And I wrote a review for it in the Ball of Fire Corp Express.

3204

03:44:32.490 --> 03:44:36.950

I'm sure you saw it, g Uh, in any case, it was,

3205

03:44:37.470 --> 03:44:38.510

I thought it was very well done.

3206

03:44:38.570 --> 03:44:42.550

It gets into a lot of the detail things that I don't hear normally, just the,

3207

03:44:42.690 --> 03:44:46.990

the routine items. But if you're looking for a good, uh,

3208

03:44:47.700 --> 03:44:50.870

tale about the war and his experiences,

3209

03:44:51.210 --> 03:44:55.310

I'd highly recommend it as Walt. Uh, and Walter lives in, uh, Hawaii,

3210

03:44:56.310 --> 03:45:00.220

which isn't so bad either. So he'll ship you a book from Hawaii if you, uh,

3211

03:45:00.400 --> 03:45:05.180

and you do get one. Well, let me move into, go ahead, Paul. John,

3212

03:45:05.180 --> 03:45:09.220

just real quick. The 56 Fiber Group, 47

3213

03:45:10.870 --> 03:45:13.940

second division, and the highest number,

3214

03:45:18.490 --> 03:45:22.830

the highest total of those were that? Mm-hmm.

3215

03:45:23.450 --> 03:45:28.310

So the 56 had the most number of aerial kills in the

3216

03:45:28.330 --> 03:45:32.640

war as part of the second air division. Correct. Great. Europe.

3217

03:45:32.980 --> 03:45:37.200

In In Europe. In Europe. You knew that, right? The,

3218

03:45:37.300 --> 03:45:40.320

the 56 had war kills in the air,

3219

03:45:41.070 --> 03:45:45.400

more air air than other group. Right. Good. Well,

3220

03:45:45.890 --> 03:45:50.680

could you repeat the name of the, and the title of the book? Okay.

3221

03:45:50.780 --> 03:45:53.080

Walter F. Hughes,

3222

03:45:53.600 --> 03:45:58.360

h u g h e s s bomber pilot in World War ii.

3223

03:45:58.900 --> 03:46:03.160

And the title actually goes on and something about experiences and, you know,

3224

03:46:03.160 --> 03:46:06.280

so it's a longer title that'll bring it to your attention.

3225

03:46:06.280 --> 03:46:09.960

You'll be able to pull it up. Okay. Um,

3226

03:46:11.110 --> 03:46:15.810

we will move into, uh, the reunion report for this year. Uh,

3227

03:46:16.050 --> 03:46:19.970

I just want to call your attention to, uh, kind of the big numbers.

3228

03:46:20.230 --> 03:46:25.210

We started out a balance from last year's reunion, just under \$2,000, uh,

3229

03:46:25.210 --> 03:46:27.810

which wasn't enough to pay all those deposits up front,

3230

03:46:27.860 --> 03:46:32.290

which is why we owe Wally and the General Treasury so much money

3231

03:46:32.760 --> 03:46:36.690

that was all required payments before we started to receive registrations from

3232

03:46:36.710 --> 03:46:37.890

you all. Uh,

3233

03:46:37.890 --> 03:46:42.250

we received a total of registrations of 28,190

3234

03:46:43.590 --> 03:46:46.610

and our expenditures, and are, as you see there,

3235

03:46:47.370 --> 03:46:48.650

slightly less than that.

3236

03:46:49.110 --> 03:46:54.050

So our balance will be just over 2000 when we conclude. Now,

3237

03:46:54.050 --> 03:46:58.330

these aren't numbers, so there's a couple of those numbers,

3238

03:46:58.360 --> 03:47:01.050

like the shipping and the registration expenses.

3239

03:47:01.590 --> 03:47:03.490

We still don't have all the receipts in,

3240

03:47:03.710 --> 03:47:07.170

and we're still incurring costs to ship material back at the end.

3241

03:47:07.270 --> 03:47:10.410

So that's estimates. But basically this is,

3242

03:47:10.600 --> 03:47:14.450

this is the how it's gonna appear. The next qualifier,

3243

03:47:14.450 --> 03:47:16.730

we will have the final report on the reunion.

3244

03:47:16.990 --> 03:47:21.930

All of the accurate numbers and the good, our goal is to break even.

3245

03:47:22.710 --> 03:47:26.290

And that's where we're at on this, on this reunion. So, uh,

3246

03:47:27.110 --> 03:47:28.210

it was a day longer,

3247

03:47:28.390 --> 03:47:32.210

so it was a little bit more expensive than some of our others have been. Uh,

3248

03:47:32.230 --> 03:47:34.570

but nevertheless, uh, you all stepped up and,

3249

03:47:34.670 --> 03:47:36.250

and we've been successful doing that.

3250

03:47:41.350 --> 03:47:43.330

So next year, somebody,

3251

03:47:43.540 --> 03:47:46.850

Wally I think mentioned we signed the contract for next year's reunion

3252

03:47:47.520 --> 03:47:50.770

yesterday. Uh, Wally and I did visit all three.

3253

03:47:51.130 --> 03:47:54.210

I was gonna tell you a lot of the good stories, but I will tell you one,

3254

03:47:54.860 --> 03:47:57.410

after we had the short start discussion,

3255

03:47:57.880 --> 03:48:01.490

then I pointed out to him that the other thing that happened to women in the war

3256

03:48:01.490 --> 03:48:05.930

is that they no longer, none of the nylons could be used for nylons.

3257

03:48:06.550 --> 03:48:11.170

So they came up with this deal where you would paint on a seam on the back of

3258

03:48:11.170 --> 03:48:14.970

your leg and act like you had nylons on, but you didn't.

3259

03:48:15.870 --> 03:48:20.650

So the short starts and the known islands were a real shock to everybody at the

3260

03:48:20.650 --> 03:48:22.770

beginning of the beginning of the war. Uh,

3261

03:48:22.830 --> 03:48:27.760

our reunion next year will be October 18th, the 21st. Uh,

3262

03:48:27.940 --> 03:48:32.600

it will be held at the Hyatt Regency Dulles, uh, uh,

3263

03:48:32.600 --> 03:48:36.360

within two miles of the airport shuttle surface, uh,

3264

03:48:36.530 --> 03:48:37.800

about 20 hours a day.

3265

03:48:37.800 --> 03:48:42.080

They don't do shuttle from 1230 at night until four in the morning.

3266

03:48:42.220 --> 03:48:45.240

So your flights really delayed until the middle of the night.

3267

03:48:46.030 --> 03:48:49.680

They won't be available for that short window. Uh, they're,

3268

03:48:49.690 --> 03:48:53.920

we're within five miles of the National Air and Space Museum, um,

3269

03:48:54.870 --> 03:48:56.160

display of aircraft.

3270

03:48:56.270 --> 03:48:59.880

There's another National Air and Space Museum downtown.

3271

03:49:00.150 --> 03:49:03.120

This is with the one that's got all the aircraft in, uh,

3272

03:49:03.840 --> 03:49:07.080

considered one of the best aircraft museums in the country,

3273

03:49:08.260 --> 03:49:12.760

shy of B 24. They don't have that,

3274

03:49:12.760 --> 03:49:16.360

but they got a lot of other good points. Not the best. It's nearly the best.

3275

03:49:17.180 --> 03:49:21.480

One of the best. Uh, they have three restaurants on site, uh,

3276

03:49:21.720 --> 03:49:24.680

rated 124, including breakfast,

3277
03:49:25.210 --> 03:49:27.840
which really amounts to, um,

3278
03:49:28.180 --> 03:49:32.720
the two breakfasts are valued about \$10 each. So you're really paying
104,

3279
03:49:33.460 --> 03:49:37.240
and then the breakfasts are included. Otherwise we do the breakfast
separately.

3280
03:49:37.340 --> 03:49:42.320
It actually increases the cost a lot. So we try to include that. Uh,

3281
03:49:42.390 --> 03:49:47.120
that will be, uh, more information will come out in the ball of fire.

3282
03:49:47.210 --> 03:49:51.560
We'll give you a, a site on how to go and register and, you know,

3283
03:49:51.560 --> 03:49:55.640
that detail, uh, in the next, uh, the next one is that with,

3284
03:49:55.640 --> 03:49:59.640
or that text? That's without tax.

3285
03:50:00.390 --> 03:50:03.560
Alright, so there's still tax on top of, of that,

3286
03:50:03.740 --> 03:50:08.680
and I think it's about 12% when you add all the occupancy

3287
03:50:08.820 --> 03:50:13.680
tax and the local tax and the, you know, and the state tax. So, uh,

3288
03:50:13.850 --> 03:50:16.120
we'll give you a final number when we get that,

3289

03:50:16.120 --> 03:50:17.480

but that's the rate we're working to.

3290

03:50:18.380 --> 03:50:22.520

So I'm gonna move right into new business and projects. And, uh,

3291

03:50:22.780 --> 03:50:23.960

Jim said I could do that.

3292

03:50:24.860 --> 03:50:29.520

I'm gonna talk about the reunion candidate cities for 2019.

3293

03:50:30.950 --> 03:50:35.920

Next year. Next year, 2018 will be in Virginia,

3294

03:50:36.620 --> 03:50:40.520

but the following year we will be wherever you decide to go.

3295

03:50:41.260 --> 03:50:44.560

So I'm gonna go through the cities quickly. You have this in your packets,

3296

03:50:44.940 --> 03:50:47.480

so you've had 'em for a while. If you really care.

3297

03:50:47.480 --> 03:50:49.600

Hopefully you read through those. Um,

3298

03:50:50.470 --> 03:50:54.160

this is where we have been since we started holding separate reunions.

3299

03:50:54.880 --> 03:50:58.760

I found out today that they actually held another reunion

3300

03:50:59.740 --> 03:51:02.520

as a separate reunion in 1997,

3301

03:51:03.260 --> 03:51:07.360

and that was held at Arlington Cemetery in Virginia. But tell you about that.

3302

03:51:07.550 --> 03:51:11.280

It's not, it's never been on the list. I didn't know about it. I was there.

3303

03:51:11.720 --> 03:51:15.160

I didn't know that's what it was. So, um,

3304

03:51:16.180 --> 03:51:20.680

so starting back at the bottom, Savannah Georgia was the first separate one.

3305

03:51:21.100 --> 03:51:22.960

And then going through all the,

3306

03:51:22.980 --> 03:51:27.480

all the years we've had four return trips to England.

3307

03:51:27.980 --> 03:51:31.760

You see the date there, last one being 2015. So we're getting,

3308

03:51:32.090 --> 03:51:36.520

we're about due to, to another one. Uh, that's not on the slate yet,

3309

03:51:36.520 --> 03:51:40.080

but we're thinking about it. Uh, so the Kansas Cities,

3310

03:51:40.080 --> 03:51:42.400

there are six Sacramento.

3311

03:51:42.400 --> 03:51:45.520

California was second place last year.

3312

03:51:47.320 --> 03:51:51.240

National Capital Region won out. Uh, these are some of the things that, uh,

3313

03:51:51.270 --> 03:51:53.080

some of the details. Um,

3314

03:51:54.580 --> 03:51:59.040

the Castle Air Museum has a B 24 with our market zone.

3315

03:51:59.270 --> 03:52:04.080

It's a hundred miles south through the Central Valley. Um,

3316

03:52:05.110 --> 03:52:07.840

yeah, I'm still not sure that it's a good idea to do that,

3317

03:52:08.020 --> 03:52:12.050

but that's a possibility. And we've never visited there.

3318

03:52:12.510 --> 03:52:17.050

Second City is Salt Lake City, Utah. This has been on the Considered before.

3319

03:52:17.430 --> 03:52:21.010

It was off for a couple years. Uh, back on again.

3320

03:52:21.160 --> 03:52:25.690

They have a B 24 there. It's a, it is not. Mark has no markings.

3321

03:52:25.840 --> 03:52:29.530

Unnamed, uh, it was recovered from the Lucians. Um,

3322

03:52:30.310 --> 03:52:32.730

that's at Hill Air Force Base. Uh,

3323

03:52:33.670 --> 03:52:38.450

Rayann said she's never been to Utah, so we might know where her vote went. Go.

3324

03:52:38.490 --> 03:52:41.090

I don't know. We've never visited Salt Lake City.

3325

03:52:41.910 --> 03:52:46.130

Kansas City three is Savannah, Georgia. Put this back on.

3326

03:52:46.790 --> 03:52:49.650

We have been there three previous times, uh,

3327

03:52:49.680 --> 03:52:53.890

last time in 2010 when we dedicated the memorial window.

3328

03:52:54.630 --> 03:52:58.450

Uh, so it's been a good while since we've been in Savannah. And, you know,

3329

03:52:58.760 --> 03:53:03.210

it's got the mighty eighth Air Force Museum is there, and it's a great city.

3330

03:53:03.310 --> 03:53:06.530

So that, that's certainly worth considering. Um,

3331

03:53:07.810 --> 03:53:12.650

Dearborn, Michigan is, has been on for several years, as you recall.

3332

03:53:12.790 --> 03:53:14.530

We funded, uh,

3333

03:53:14.550 --> 03:53:18.130

the restoration of the Willow Run aircraft plant.

3334

03:53:18.190 --> 03:53:22.650

We did that last year or two, two or three years ago, I guess.

3335

03:53:23.270 --> 03:53:28.010

Uh, they're gonna, we believe that will be open by 2019.

3336

03:53:28.710 --> 03:53:33.490

So this, that would be a good time to go. It's, it's, uh, visit that

location.

3337

03:53:34.150 --> 03:53:37.570

It, it's actually not, you know, this is kind of,

3338

03:53:37.570 --> 03:53:39.610

everything's near Detroit Airport,

3339

03:53:40.350 --> 03:53:44.130

but Detroit's a a good ways away if you've ever been up there. Uh,

3340

03:53:44.200 --> 03:53:46.130

some other things that you couldn't do are listed there.

3341

03:53:47.510 --> 03:53:52.210

Canada City five is Tucson. Uh, we visited there in 2011.

3342

03:53:53.030 --> 03:53:57.250

Uh, again, that's been a good while since we were there. They have, uh,

3343

03:53:58.470 --> 03:54:02.290

the, uh, 300 airplanes from the Penman Air Space Museum,

3344

03:54:03.230 --> 03:54:08.050

Sonora Desert Museum, old Tucson. Uh, that's where the bone yard is. You know,

3345

03:54:08.050 --> 03:54:11.530

if you want to go and see where all the B 20 fours disappeared from,

3346

03:54:12.310 --> 03:54:14.930

that's the place. They're not there anymore. But that's the place.

3347

03:54:15.600 --> 03:54:19.410

They also have a two missile museum. That's correct.

3348

03:54:19.440 --> 03:54:24.080

They have largest liquid. Yeah. Uh,

3349

03:54:24.080 --> 03:54:27.720

that's, there's a Titan two Missile Museum there. So I, I didn't,

3350

03:54:27.760 --> 03:54:29.960

I didn't put everything on. Could be on.

3351

03:54:30.340 --> 03:54:35.320

And then the final one is another city we had visited previously, San Diego,

3352

03:54:35.370 --> 03:54:36.203

California.

3353

03:54:36.500 --> 03:54:41.000

We were there in 2005 for the dedication of

3354

03:54:41.740 --> 03:54:46.400

the memorial in, uh, Balbo Park. And it's a,

3355

03:54:46.420 --> 03:54:51.240

it is an air, it's a model of a B 24. We were there as part of,

3356

03:54:51.960 --> 03:54:55.560

I think that was the second, a d a or was the eighth.

3357

03:54:55.930 --> 03:55:00.000

There was a lot of groups. Was it ation of that? It was,

3358

03:55:00.380 --> 03:55:04.120

but so different groups just arranged to be there. So, uh,

3359

03:55:04.140 --> 03:55:07.880

we did a separate reunion with that one. Uh, so you have that,

3360

03:55:07.950 --> 03:55:12.760

that model to look at, to go to. But you also have Old town San Diego.

3361

03:55:12.940 --> 03:55:17.240

You've got the, uh, maritime Museum, u s s Midway, which is a great,

3362

03:55:18.380 --> 03:55:21.440

uh, aircraft carrier to spend time on.

3363

03:55:21.940 --> 03:55:26.360

And that's where the original consolidated B 20 fours were built.

3364

03:55:26.750 --> 03:55:31.320

Most B 20 fours actually weren't built in San Diego, but that's the original,

3365

03:55:31.620 --> 03:55:35.080

uh, site. And if anybody's been to San Diego,

3366

03:55:35.110 --> 03:55:37.200

they have the best weather in the United States,

3367

03:55:37.540 --> 03:55:41.360

except when the wind turns around and comes out in the desert and then it's hot

3368

03:55:41.360 --> 03:55:44.680

and miserable. Uh, so that's the, the sixth city.

3369

03:55:45.380 --> 03:55:48.240

But here's the city summarized. Here's how it works.

3370

03:55:48.980 --> 03:55:53.800

We vote twice the first time we vote. You vote for the city you want, and we,

3371

03:55:54.220 --> 03:55:59.160

we then look at the top three, and then you vote again. And you're not,

3372

03:55:59.160 --> 03:56:01.320
you don't have to vote for the same one both times.

3373
03:56:01.500 --> 03:56:04.880
You can do whatever you like. If you're in the room,

3374
03:56:06.740 --> 03:56:09.440
you are eligible to vote except for the 91st.

3375
03:56:11.790 --> 03:56:16.760
He's in the room, buddy. He is not allowed to vote. You do Sacramento in May.

3376
03:56:16.870 --> 03:56:20.080
I'll bring witchcraft over. If we do Sacramento in May,

3377
03:56:20.110 --> 03:56:24.280
he'd bring witchcraft over. Oh, there's something to think about.

3378
03:56:25.000 --> 03:56:28.600
Although we don't normally do our reunions in May, we do 'em in the fall.

3379
03:56:28.700 --> 03:56:31.960
So I don't think that would necessarily be an option. Wally. Uh,

3380
03:56:32.330 --> 03:56:35.880
we've did this three times. We have. Okay.

3381
03:56:36.460 --> 03:56:40.720
And has it always been the same hotel that we've gone to? No,

3382
03:56:41.360 --> 03:56:42.920
I don't think we've been to the same one twice.

3383
03:56:44.580 --> 03:56:47.760
But you've been back there three times, so it must be really nice. Uh,

3384

03:56:47.760 --> 03:56:50.800
the museum is really nice and the city is really nice. They,

3385
03:56:52.510 --> 03:56:55.280
they treat the, uh, bomber groups,

3386
03:56:55.750 --> 03:56:58.800
anybody from the eighth Air Force very well. So, um,

3387
03:56:59.300 --> 03:57:03.880
and the reason I put it back on is many of you have not been there
with us.

3388
03:57:04.260 --> 03:57:08.280
You have come into the group since we were last there. Um,

3389
03:57:09.510 --> 03:57:12.680
Paul and Jan were instrumental in doing the,

3390
03:57:13.260 --> 03:57:16.810
the getting the funds raised and getting the,

3391
03:57:17.070 --> 03:57:19.010
the stained glass window put in place.

3392
03:57:19.590 --> 03:57:24.520
But that was longer than I realized ago that, that that took place.

3393
03:57:24.620 --> 03:57:27.520
So, um, these are your six cities.

3394
03:57:28.490 --> 03:57:32.600
Jim's gonna keep take count. So yes, I gonna count separately. Okay.

3395
03:57:32.600 --> 03:57:37.240
So you raise your hands really high there. Don't wiggle around.

3396
03:57:37.250 --> 03:57:40.680

Don't play. Just keep straight there until tell you to put it back down.

3397

03:57:40.990 --> 03:57:44.040

Alright. First, number one, city of Sacramento

3398

03:57:49.250 --> 03:57:53.320

witchcraft is really temp. Anybody else?

3399

03:57:59.280 --> 03:58:01.090

Okay. Salt Lake City.

3400

03:58:03.210 --> 03:58:04.850

I guess I was wrong about Anne's vote.

3401

03:58:09.570 --> 03:58:12.970

Somebody's gotten to her. Somebody,

3402

03:58:15.490 --> 03:58:16.323

Savannah, Georgia.

3403

03:58:28.980 --> 03:58:32.510

Okay, put 'em down. One 12 Dearborn,

3404

03:58:32.750 --> 03:58:36.910

Michigan or Ypsilanti or Detroit, whatever you want call it.

3405

03:58:42.950 --> 03:58:47.330

We sure that museum's gonna be open. They say they will be open. Well,

3406

03:58:47.330 --> 03:58:49.810

the museum, museum is open. It's just a question.

3407

03:58:49.810 --> 03:58:51.730

Will it be in the new facility or the old?

3408

03:58:52.160 --> 03:58:56.010

They say they will be in the new facility, so it's not yet.

3409

03:58:57.360 --> 03:58:59.650

Okay, thank you. Put it down. Tucson, Arizona.

3410

03:59:04.830 --> 03:59:07.720

This could change around in a second go, although, yeah,

3411

03:59:07.720 --> 03:59:12.280

won't be in there put down. Thank you. Okay. San Diego, California.

3412

03:59:13.540 --> 03:59:17.560

Uh, that's who got three in San Diego. Visitor Bureau.

3413

03:59:17.630 --> 03:59:18.600

Must have called you up.

3414

03:59:23.510 --> 03:59:26.560

Good. Thank you. Put 'em down. Okay. The top three are,

3415

03:59:27.960 --> 03:59:32.760

I have a tie with Savannah Dearborn at 12. And then the next one is San Diego.

3416

03:59:33.620 --> 03:59:38.160

So we've got the top three. Savannah, Dearborn, and San Diego.

3417

03:59:38.950 --> 03:59:41.890

Alright, so I see a hand,

3418

03:59:43.090 --> 03:59:46.090

I just so you know, I spent a week on the midway in San Diego,

3419

03:59:46.590 --> 03:59:50.450

the end of July this year. Awesome experience, awesome time.

3420

03:59:50.750 --> 03:59:55.370

And even though I didn't, and a piece of hot stuff is on display in San Diego,

3421

03:59:59.500 --> 04:00:04.090

there seems to be some campaigning for San Diego. I don't understand.

3422

04:00:05.080 --> 04:00:07.290

Okay. So beautiful. In October.

3423

04:00:10.600 --> 04:00:14.530

Wait a minute, we're gonna cut off the campaigning and we're gonna vote.

3424

04:00:15.750 --> 04:00:19.680

Go fishing. What's her first one?

3425

04:00:19.940 --> 04:00:20.840

Get the rates on.

3426

04:00:21.830 --> 04:00:22.663

Damn.

3427

04:00:23.080 --> 04:00:27.040

Savannah. Savannah one vote again.

3428

04:00:40.950 --> 04:00:44.200

Arms up please. Again. Sergeant, what are we? Double check. This is Savannah,

3429

04:00:44.200 --> 04:00:44.840

right? It's

3430

04:00:44.840 --> 04:00:45.673

Savannah. Okay.

3431

04:00:51.230 --> 04:00:52.180

Again, please.

3432

04:00:52.720 --> 04:00:53.580

I'm sorry, what's this for?

3433

04:00:53.580 --> 04:00:58.140

Important? Savannah. Savannah. So we got Georgia in front one.

3434

04:01:03.890 --> 04:01:07.860

Okay, good. Thank you. And the next one is, uh, Dearborn.

3435

04:01:08.500 --> 04:01:09.333

Dearborn.

3436

04:01:13.920 --> 04:01:15.130

This is getting interesting.

3437

04:01:19.680 --> 04:01:20.610

John, did you vote?

3438

04:01:21.170 --> 04:01:26.010

I my lack of voting an indication. My vote

3439

04:01:26.310 --> 04:01:27.143

Was trying to get his,

3440

04:01:27.470 --> 04:01:28.410

Trying to get your vote.

3441

04:01:35.070 --> 04:01:40.050

San Diego actually.

3442

04:01:40.360 --> 04:01:42.130

Where's your kids? I always,

3443

04:01:42.570 --> 04:01:44.890

I always get disappointed because you don't pick the other five.

3444

04:01:45.040 --> 04:01:46.210

This might be close, actually,

3445

04:01:47.830 --> 04:01:49.370
You notice we have a voting block.

3446
04:01:56.080 --> 04:02:00.810
Okay, thank you. So we have 12 for Savannah,

3447
04:02:01.240 --> 04:02:04.570
15 for San Diego winner,

3448
04:02:14.670 --> 04:02:17.970
and now we have to get witchcraft to fly to Dearborn in October.

3449
04:02:18.360 --> 04:02:19.090
Yeah, that

3450
04:02:19.090 --> 04:02:19.923
Should be no problem.

3451
04:02:28.760 --> 04:02:29.250
They're

3452
04:02:29.250 --> 04:02:30.170
Usually, uh,

3453
04:02:30.170 --> 04:02:34.930
witchcraft is usually in Dearborn for the wings over Michigan show,

3454
04:02:35.380 --> 04:02:39.970
which is in August. Yeah. So we're probably not gonna go in August.

3455
04:02:39.990 --> 04:02:43.690
We need 'em to come back in October. Alright. That takes care of,

3456
04:02:44.070 --> 04:02:45.010
of that

3457
04:02:47.830 --> 04:02:50.730
for the reunion next year. This is next year.

3458

04:02:51.830 --> 04:02:56.130

I'm looking for some people, we had a discussion about this the other night,

3459

04:02:56.790 --> 04:02:58.770

and I'm looking for some interest in,

3460

04:02:59.830 --> 04:03:03.250

if you'd like to add either a pre or post reunion trip.

3461

04:03:04.000 --> 04:03:08.810

Nothing to do with airplanes or B 20 fours or

3462

04:03:10.450 --> 04:03:11.030

anything.

3463

04:03:11.030 --> 04:03:12.010

Is there something else?

3464

04:03:12.640 --> 04:03:17.280

This is something else. Pay attention to me. This will be in the ball of fire.

3465

04:03:19.050 --> 04:03:20.000

She's not gonna read it.

3466

04:03:20.250 --> 04:03:22.040

There are, when you're in Virginia,

3467

04:03:22.040 --> 04:03:26.920

you're in the heart of the Civil War area and a lot of you have not

3468

04:03:27.020 --> 04:03:31.920

had the opportunity to go to civil war sites in your,

3469

04:03:31.940 --> 04:03:32.800

in your past life.

3470

04:03:33.260 --> 04:03:38.240

So what we're looking for is interest in a two or probably a three

3471

04:03:38.340 --> 04:03:43.320

day duration trip that would go to the Antia battlefield,

3472

04:03:43.330 --> 04:03:48.000

where the largest number of casualties in the history of our country took place.

3473

04:03:48.820 --> 04:03:53.320

And then going on north to Gettysburg. Where,

3474

04:03:53.700 --> 04:03:57.960

uh, which would be considered the turning point of the Civil War. Uh,

3475

04:03:58.340 --> 04:04:02.360

the concept would be to get the appropriate size transportation.

3476

04:04:02.620 --> 04:04:07.160

So we'd all have to share the cost of the transportation that it would leave

3477

04:04:07.230 --> 04:04:11.200

from Virginia. So if you were flying in for the reunion to fly in there,

3478

04:04:11.200 --> 04:04:15.400

that the transportation would depart, uh, we would stay in Gettysburg.

3479

04:04:15.460 --> 04:04:19.880

So the first day we'd go through Anam on the way to Gettysburg Meals.

3480

04:04:20.260 --> 04:04:24.120

We would schedule meals in restaurants, but they'd be on your own.

3481

04:04:24.140 --> 04:04:28.360

You make your own payment. Uh, and then we, at both sites,

3482

04:04:28.380 --> 04:04:30.240

we could get professional tour guides.

3483

04:04:30.240 --> 04:04:33.640

Couldn't really give us a good understanding of the, the, uh,

3484

04:04:34.370 --> 04:04:35.480

sites that you can see.

3485

04:04:36.060 --> 04:04:40.720

So the question really is today and for the next several weeks is are you

3486

04:04:40.720 --> 04:04:42.160

interested if,

3487

04:04:42.380 --> 04:04:46.680

I'm gonna put a sign up sheet up here and ask you if you're interested.

3488

04:04:46.710 --> 04:04:50.840

This isn't a commitment, this isn't. Yeah, I'll, here's my money.

3489

04:04:51.310 --> 04:04:53.120

It's nothing like that. It's,

3490

04:04:53.280 --> 04:04:56.080

I want to know if there's enough interest that it's worthwhile to do the

3491

04:04:56.200 --> 04:04:59.960

planning and the work to get it to, to happen. So, uh,

3492

04:05:00.910 --> 04:05:05.080

between now and then the reunions, you can go to the sign up sheet. Otherwise,

3493

04:05:05.340 --> 04:05:10.240

uh, you can let me know about it later by email or phone call burg.

3494

04:05:12.000 --> 04:05:13.170

Okay. Uh,

3495

04:05:13.220 --> 04:05:17.850

final thing I said that there was another reunion of the 93rd,

3496

04:05:18.830 --> 04:05:22.890

and it took place October 10th, 1997,

3497

04:05:23.510 --> 04:05:26.410

almost 20 years ago today.

3498

04:05:27.310 --> 04:05:32.130

And the purpose of that reunion was to dedicate a living

3499

04:05:32.570 --> 04:05:35.370

monument, a living memorial,

3500

04:05:35.550 --> 04:05:38.770

to the 93rd in Arlington National Cemetery.

3501

04:05:39.410 --> 04:05:42.610

A living memorial is a holly tree. And that,

3502

04:05:42.610 --> 04:05:47.610

that holly tree has grown up to be a pretty significant

3503

04:05:48.340 --> 04:05:51.690

trade. We were there a couple years ago, and there's a plaque there.

3504

04:05:52.210 --> 04:05:55.690

I couldn't get pictures off off the internet of either one of those.

3505

04:05:55.710 --> 04:05:59.810

All they had was a ball of fire, so I apologize for not having that picture. Uh,

3506

04:06:00.130 --> 04:06:03.050

Al Ash organized the fundraising,

3507

04:06:03.600 --> 04:06:08.010

organized the reunion, and, uh, put,

3508

04:06:08.190 --> 04:06:10.970

put everything together. They had, you know,

3509

04:06:11.010 --> 04:06:15.320

a number of key people from the 93rd were speakers. And, uh,

3510

04:06:15.740 --> 04:06:19.880

as it happened, I was stationed in that area, heard about it,

3511

04:06:20.340 --> 04:06:23.680

and Rayanne and I went to the ceremony. We didn't go to the reunion,

3512

04:06:23.900 --> 04:06:26.560

but we were at the ceremony and the di dinner afterwards.

3513

04:06:27.100 --> 04:06:31.240

So I now know I can pinpoint my first event,

3514

04:06:31.460 --> 04:06:33.200

the 93rd, uh,

3515

04:06:34.080 --> 04:06:38.720

I put a list of some of the people that attended. That's not everybody.

3516

04:06:39.420 --> 04:06:44.240

And I have a picture of Henry and I on one

3517

04:06:44.240 --> 04:06:48.560

side of that picture. And George Bridgeman, who's a, was, uh,

3518

04:06:48.560 --> 04:06:51.320

the pilot of Henry's crew on the other side.

3519

04:06:52.220 --> 04:06:56.920

And they also unveiled the painting, uh, this painting of the,

3520

04:06:56.940 --> 04:07:00.520

of the plaintiff. This was at the, uh,

3521

04:07:00.750 --> 04:07:05.280

post event or the, uh, luncheon at the officer's club at Fort Mine.

3522

04:07:06.020 --> 04:07:09.560

So, and I was just amazed.

3523

04:07:10.000 --> 04:07:13.200

I met a whole bunch of people that were important in the 93rd.

3524

04:07:13.460 --> 04:07:16.760

And I didn't know what I was doing. I was just, I just showed up.

3525

04:07:17.180 --> 04:07:18.640

But I,

3526

04:07:18.840 --> 04:07:23.280

I knew that I knew Henry for a long time and now I know I've known him for 20

3527

04:07:23.280 --> 04:07:24.800

years, almost as long as Gene has

3528

04:07:29.140 --> 04:07:30.680

In the ball of fires. Yeah.

3529

04:07:31.580 --> 04:07:32.380

Uh, that one

3530

04:07:32.380 --> 04:07:33.440

Is in the ball of fire.

3531

04:07:34.780 --> 04:07:39.000

You gotta go back to the winter of 1997 and that's where it's at.

3532

04:07:39.580 --> 04:07:42.680

So with that, I think I'm done. Thanks

3533

04:07:42.700 --> 04:07:43.533

Sir.

3534

04:07:50.350 --> 04:07:54.000

Okay. It's almost doing time. And just a couple last minute details here.

3535

04:07:54.630 --> 04:07:58.480

Okay. Well let's, let's start shooting. Start shooting please.

3536

04:07:58.480 --> 04:08:02.720

We're gonna start setting up for the shot. The,

3537

04:08:02.720 --> 04:08:04.240

Uh, the vets are gonna be in the front

3538

04:08:04.380 --> 04:08:05.213

Row.

3539

04:08:17.270 --> 04:08:21.100

We've got George and Glen.

3540

04:08:29.160 --> 04:08:30.740

How many vets do you have? Okay. Henry,

3541

04:08:34.530 --> 04:08:35.363

take a seat. Henry,

3542

04:08:38.810 --> 04:08:39.100

Take

3543

04:08:39.100 --> 04:08:39.933

A seat. I'll get to seat.

3544

04:08:40.430 --> 04:08:41.420

Henry dates us.

3545

04:08:45.330 --> 04:08:49.020

Alright. You guys dress up pretty good.

3546

04:08:49.320 --> 04:08:52.940

Hey. No, the term is, we clean up Very. Yeah, you

3547

04:08:52.940 --> 04:08:53.820

Clean up. Yes.

3548

04:08:55.260 --> 04:08:57.260

I, well, I first moved to Missouri.

3549

04:08:58.140 --> 04:09:02.060

I had meals on almost every day. Yeah. Almost every day.

3550

04:09:02.060 --> 04:09:05.220

Even was working in the clothes shop. I was wearing boots.

3551

04:09:05.650 --> 04:09:08.700

Then we went to this lady's birthday party and

3552

04:09:10.590 --> 04:09:12.340

there was, you know, tables like this. Yeah.

3553

04:09:12.370 --> 04:09:15.800

This lady from this table over here can by, and she said, I

3554

04:09:15.800 --> 04:09:16.633

Wanna tell you

3555

04:09:16.980 --> 04:09:19.520

The lady over me. I think you clean up really good.

3556

04:09:19.980 --> 04:09:23.040

That's the first time I ever heard that again. You clean up. Really?

3557

04:09:28.160 --> 04:09:28.993

I

3558

04:09:36.180 --> 04:09:38.600

Try to position family members behind

3559

04:09:40.530 --> 04:09:45.430

their veteran. Have a seat.

3560

04:09:45.430 --> 04:09:46.263

George.

3561

04:09:47.220 --> 04:09:47.570

Bill

3562

04:09:47.570 --> 04:09:48.190

Is on his

3563

04:09:48.190 --> 04:09:49.023

Way.

3564

04:09:50.330 --> 04:09:51.163

No, no. You

3565

04:09:56.900 --> 04:09:57.733

up.

3566

04:10:14.280 --> 04:10:14.630

We're

3567
04:10:14.630 --> 04:10:15.463
Setting

3568
04:10:26.460 --> 04:10:27.293
keep.

3569
04:10:28.210 --> 04:10:30.830
So well rush.

3570
04:10:32.400 --> 04:10:33.233
Susan,

3571
04:10:59.210 --> 04:11:00.043
here's my,

3572
04:11:02.050 --> 04:11:03.310
Who else should we put in front?

3573
04:11:05.850 --> 04:11:07.670
Bill's at end.

3574
04:11:13.420 --> 04:11:14.253
Where's George?

3575
04:11:16.740 --> 04:11:21.670
Bill? Sergeant. Lieutenant Sergeant. Seat

3576
04:11:24.060 --> 04:11:24.893
Bill.

3577
04:11:26.580 --> 04:11:30.830
Next. Bill. Bill.

3578
04:11:32.100 --> 04:11:36.510
That bill. Bill. Bill. By bill.

3579
04:11:42.540 --> 04:11:43.110

Bill, bill.

3580

04:11:43.110 --> 04:11:43.943

I know

3581

04:11:44.420 --> 04:11:48.150

He's got the camera in your face way. You're

3582

04:11:48.150 --> 04:11:48.983

All right.

3583

04:11:50.960 --> 04:11:55.350

We're chubby here. Yeah, go.

3584

04:11:55.530 --> 04:12:00.230

And we only have such a wide lens on that camera over there. Oh,

3585

04:12:00.690 --> 04:12:04.750

wow. Move it back. Yep. She's got, they kept going back and back.

3586

04:12:15.390 --> 04:12:18.280

Somehow we have to fit all these people in this shot.

3587

04:12:19.940 --> 04:12:23.960

You guys look terrific. Uh,

3588

04:12:23.960 --> 04:12:27.120

let's just start filling in. Uh, gentlemen are gonna be the, the taller,

3589

04:12:27.260 --> 04:12:32.040

the tallest gentlemen. Take a, take a spot. And this right here.

3590

04:12:32.370 --> 04:12:34.280

Start filling in. That's a work in progress.

3591

04:12:39.790 --> 04:12:40.623

What

3592

04:12:45.450 --> 04:12:46.283

these guys

3593

04:13:01.790 --> 04:13:05.760

next is Sergeant. Sergeant, Lieutenant Sergeant. What? I get to sit.
Yeah.

3594

04:13:05.760 --> 04:13:10.680

Have a seat. Where's Jim?

3595

04:13:10.700 --> 04:13:12.080

We need Jim. John

3596

04:13:29.670 --> 04:13:34.280

members, I guess along with Charlotte.

3597

04:13:34.590 --> 04:13:38.360

Where's your daughter? There you go.

3598

04:13:38.590 --> 04:13:41.520

Just have a seat there and we'll, uh,

3599

04:13:44.420 --> 04:13:48.800

not in the shot. Sorry. My bad. Come here girl. Stand up.

3600

04:14:00.000 --> 04:14:00.833

Actually, no.

3601

04:14:05.700 --> 04:14:07.600

Can they be in their knees? That'll work. That'll work.

3602

04:14:07.990 --> 04:14:10.040

They just need to All right. Go back. Just get a little,

3603

04:14:10.040 --> 04:14:12.440

just get as tight as you can to these guys. Sit there. Right there.

3604

04:14:14.430 --> 04:14:17.600

They may ask you to move backwards. You're good.

3605

04:14:26.060 --> 04:14:26.893

The end.

3606

04:14:38.840 --> 04:14:43.140

You guys start inching in. Okay. I don't know where. Well, Wally has to,

3607

04:14:43.140 --> 04:14:46.940

to see it. End frame. End of frame is here.

3608

04:14:49.870 --> 04:14:54.740

Let's go, Annette. Okay.

3609

04:14:55.720 --> 04:15:00.140

Uh, that chair End of frame. End of frame is this chair. So if you're,

3610

04:15:00.240 --> 04:15:03.300

if you're this side or that side of the chair, you're not in the shot.

3611

04:15:03.940 --> 04:15:05.660

I know it's a work of progress.

3612

04:15:05.660 --> 04:15:09.360

Trying to try to position heads between heads and tighten up.

3613

04:15:11.340 --> 04:15:14.080

You somebody saying you're not gonna be in the shot.

3614

04:15:40.720 --> 04:15:42.930

Where's the drone shot? Yeah,

3615

04:15:44.250 --> 04:15:46.250

I got the 360 shot here.

3616

04:15:53.720 --> 04:15:54.770
Make sure you're in there.

3617
04:16:40.920 --> 04:16:43.000
I could be do this.

3618
04:17:13.240 --> 04:17:17.810
Good. Good. Good. Yeah. Need ahead right here, director.

3619
04:17:18.160 --> 04:17:21.730
Okay. Fill in. Okay. Uh,

3620
04:17:23.390 --> 04:17:27.810
you gonna be there? Mike? You want me to be in here? Yep. I'll be in here.

3621
04:17:27.940 --> 04:17:28.773
There we go.

3622
04:17:39.140 --> 04:17:41.570
Could I have your attention please? If you take your seats.

3623
04:17:42.780 --> 04:17:43.130
Could

3624
04:17:43.130 --> 04:17:44.010
I have your attention? Please?

3625
04:17:45.460 --> 04:17:45.810
Can't

3626
04:17:45.810 --> 04:17:47.370
Hear Georgia in the background. Says

3627
04:17:47.370 --> 04:17:51.410
You can't hear. Yeah, I I don't have any control in them. Mic, you don't? No,

3628

04:17:51.410 --> 04:17:55.330
that's like plugged in. That's why. Oh, sir, that

3629
04:17:55.830 --> 04:17:58.690
Should I have your attention, please? Is that better, Georgia? Yeah.

3630
04:17:59.720 --> 04:18:01.130
Barrier. I'll just get closer.

3631
04:18:02.280 --> 04:18:04.060
Very good. Well,

3632
04:18:04.060 --> 04:18:07.720
welcome to our 93rd Bombardment Group Association Memorial dinner.

3633
04:18:11.180 --> 04:18:15.480
Please stand for the posting of the colors and our national anthem.

3634
04:18:23.630 --> 04:18:24.520
Advance the colors.

3635
04:18:39.310 --> 04:18:40.720
Yeah, just

3636
04:18:44.420 --> 04:18:45.253
Oh,

3637
04:18:46.970 --> 04:18:48.560
Ready, set.

3638
04:18:52.730 --> 04:18:54.320
Color turn. Whoa

3639
04:18:59.830 --> 04:19:03.000
wait. Set. Oh,

3640
04:19:07.830 --> 04:19:10.280
Will pay will now lead us in the national anthem.

3641

04:19:12.330 --> 04:19:16.320

Close to the mic. Please join me.

3642

04:19:18.020 --> 04:19:21.560

Oh, say, can you see

3643

04:19:23.140 --> 04:19:28.000

by the what?

3644

04:19:28.140 --> 04:19:28.973

So

3645

04:21:14.430 --> 04:21:18.320

take it out. Oh, retire.

3646

04:21:20.340 --> 04:21:24.160

Retire. Fall out.

3647

04:21:44.300 --> 04:21:45.133

You may be seated.

3648

04:21:57.820 --> 04:21:58.050

In

3649

04:21:58.050 --> 04:22:01.320

Honor of our fallen comrades,

3650

04:22:02.140 --> 04:22:06.600

we will have the candle lighting ceremony traditionally done

3651

04:22:07.020 --> 04:22:11.000

at every 93rd bomb group reunion. Candlelight,

3652

04:22:11.180 --> 04:22:12.320

please come forward

3653

04:22:19.740 --> 04:22:20.573
All

3654
04:22:33.640 --> 04:22:34.650
your first bills. First

3655
04:23:00.390 --> 04:23:04.370
The table Before you represents those who are killed and missing,

3656
04:23:05.470 --> 04:23:10.410
we set 10 places representing the typical B 24 crew.

3657
04:23:11.300 --> 04:23:15.450
Their places are set in recognition of their unfulfilled lives.

3658
04:23:17.590 --> 04:23:21.970
The glasses and cups are turned over for they will never be filled.

3659
04:23:24.080 --> 04:23:28.120
A red rose at each place setting honors their ultimate sacrifice.

3660
04:23:29.420 --> 04:23:31.280
The single candle already lit,

3661
04:23:32.360 --> 04:23:36.000
represents all those in the 93rd bombardment group, but not,

3662
04:23:36.180 --> 04:23:40.200
but not assigned to one of the flying squadrons. From it.

3663
04:23:40.420 --> 04:23:44.640
We will light a candle in honor of each of our squadrons

3664
04:23:45.980 --> 04:23:48.120
for the three 28th. Bill Brown.

3665
04:24:02.480 --> 04:24:07.400
Hold it down. A lower bill. Right down, down. A little bit lower in

the fire.

3666

04:24:07.540 --> 04:24:10.200

Put it in the fire. Can't get here.

3667

04:24:20.500 --> 04:24:22.760

What's, you got it? Perfect.

3668

04:24:28.450 --> 04:24:31.400

Thank you, bill for the three 29th. Glenn. Martin.

3669

04:24:37.880 --> 04:24:38.713

Excellent.

3670

04:24:44.600 --> 04:24:49.190

You can grab this one here. This one will go.

3671

04:25:09.510 --> 04:25:14.300

Thank you Glen for the three 30th squad of Minette.

3672

04:25:18.360 --> 04:25:19.193

That's it.

3673

04:25:24.790 --> 04:25:25.623

Other,

3674

04:25:35.360 --> 04:25:36.860

we like, we like the white.

3675

04:25:40.690 --> 04:25:41.523

Perfect.

3676

04:25:45.430 --> 04:25:49.900

Thank you bud. Representing the four oh ninth George McClain.

3677

04:25:58.990 --> 04:25:59.960

Last one. There is,

3678
04:26:11.070 --> 04:26:11.903
yeah.

3679
04:26:17.550 --> 04:26:22.120
More of an angle. There you go, George. I hope. Yeah, it's tough to see.

3680
04:26:44.050 --> 04:26:44.883
Thank you, George.

3681
04:26:48.180 --> 04:26:52.120
In front of the candles that were just lit, are they squadron patches?

3682
04:26:52.220 --> 04:26:55.760
For those of you who can't quite see that, thank you very much. Seat

3683
04:27:00.030 --> 04:27:00.890
1 5 4.

3684
04:27:04.900 --> 04:27:05.733
Oh, that's

3685
04:27:27.100 --> 04:27:29.480
At this time we'd like to invite Nick Tim up to the podium

3686
04:27:30.980 --> 04:27:33.240
to read a poem from his

3687
04:27:34.550 --> 04:27:35.160
Wonderful

3688
04:27:35.160 --> 04:27:37.080
Book for 20 Nick.

3689
04:27:46.690 --> 04:27:47.790
Pretty close to the mic

3690

04:27:53.410 --> 04:27:55.470
In memory of my uncle Robert j Timmer,

3691
04:27:56.730 --> 04:27:59.350
second lieutenant from the three 30 squadron.

3692
04:28:00.810 --> 04:28:01.750
And in memory of

3693
04:28:03.640 --> 04:28:06.020
all those that were lost from the night of your bound.

3694
04:28:07.720 --> 04:28:08.860
Little close to that mic,

3695
04:28:10.350 --> 04:28:12.340
Weary eyes. Look through misty glasses

3696
04:28:13.760 --> 04:28:14.040
At

3697
04:28:14.040 --> 04:28:16.660
The smiling face in the yellow wing photo.

3698
04:28:18.600 --> 04:28:23.320
It never goes old. And as we eyes grow older,

3699
04:28:24.900 --> 04:28:28.560
the face seems younger still forever 20.

3700
04:28:30.350 --> 04:28:31.400
Somehow this,

3701
04:28:31.420 --> 04:28:36.280
the fate you knew might come with your flying and your

3702
04:28:36.380 --> 04:28:37.213
war.

3703

04:28:38.140 --> 04:28:43.000

You were a boy and fast became a man too fast.

3704

04:28:44.270 --> 04:28:45.360

They made you a warrior.

3705

04:28:48.540 --> 04:28:53.360

But instead of soaring with eagles and flying to the stars over mountains,

3706

04:28:53.700 --> 04:28:58.280

oceans, rivers, and cities, seeing the beauty in what God has made

3707

04:29:00.380 --> 04:29:02.760

you flew where a few would ever go,

3708

04:29:04.100 --> 04:29:07.600

places where there was no beauty, only fire,

3709

04:29:07.810 --> 04:29:10.120

blood destruction and death.

3710

04:29:11.550 --> 04:29:13.240

Your friends went with you.

3711

04:29:15.310 --> 04:29:17.000

Your machine was uncomfortable,

3712

04:29:17.670 --> 04:29:20.320

cold and noisy and scary.

3713

04:29:22.060 --> 04:29:26.800

You were afraid, but you went to your place over and over again

3714

04:29:30.170 --> 04:29:33.000

until it seemed there couldn't be a tomorrow for you.

3715

04:29:33.950 --> 04:29:38.360

Because so many fell around you, but it mattered,

3716

04:29:38.380 --> 04:29:41.620

not you and your friends went still.

3717

04:29:43.510 --> 04:29:48.490

And then it was you trapped in your place,

3718

04:29:49.770 --> 04:29:54.690

twisting and spinning and falling from the sky in an

3719

04:29:54.690 --> 04:29:57.570

instant. Your future became your past.

3720

04:30:00.750 --> 04:30:02.240

What are those metals anyway?

3721

04:30:03.740 --> 04:30:06.520

Pieces of metal now Dusty and stained?

3722

04:30:07.940 --> 04:30:09.880

Did they heal a heart of a crying girl?

3723

04:30:13.220 --> 04:30:14.680

Did they dry a mother's tears?

3724

04:30:16.920 --> 04:30:21.660

Do they tell of children who never were or projects never

3725

04:30:21.660 --> 04:30:26.650

started a future full of promise and love,

3726

04:30:27.980 --> 04:30:29.800

no longer given or received.

3727

04:30:32.530 --> 04:30:36.040

Those you left behind believed that your sacrifice was for a reason,

3728

04:30:37.220 --> 04:30:40.880

but in their sadness, wondering, was this the will of God?

3729

04:30:43.810 --> 04:30:45.600

There were no bands to play for you,

3730

04:30:47.020 --> 04:30:49.040

nor did you march to people's cheers.

3731

04:30:51.150 --> 04:30:55.990

Only a lonely flag is there A silent symbol of shattered dreams.

3732

04:30:58.960 --> 04:31:03.380

The worry eyes returned their gaze to the worn image of so long ago
and asked,

3733

04:31:04.690 --> 04:31:06.820

what do you want from us? From us

3734

04:31:08.760 --> 04:31:13.540

And lips forever Silence seem to whisper. Remember me.

3735

04:31:15.100 --> 04:31:15.933

Remember me.

3736

04:31:30.940 --> 04:31:31.773

I need to pull.

3737

04:31:34.450 --> 04:31:35.500

Each year

3738

04:31:38.200 --> 04:31:43.100

the 93rd Bond Group reunion takes time to memorialize the men

3739

04:31:43.160 --> 04:31:47.620

who lost their lives during World War II in the service of their

nation.

3740

04:31:48.360 --> 04:31:51.980

We also paused to remember our comrades who have completed their life journey

3741

04:31:52.000 --> 04:31:53.460

and passed away ahead of us.

3742

04:31:54.370 --> 04:31:58.580

This year we remember our fallen friends by the folding of the American flag.

3743

04:32:00.840 --> 04:32:03.740

Our form is a traditional military soul ceremony,

3744

04:32:04.010 --> 04:32:06.660

most often seen at military funeral services,

3745

04:32:06.800 --> 04:32:11.740

but also used at the daily retiring of the colors and military bases around the

3746

04:32:11.740 --> 04:32:12.573

world.

3747

04:32:17.260 --> 04:32:19.510

Flag folders. Please come. Please come forward.

3748

04:32:56.750 --> 04:33:01.480

The flag Before you was flown over the Mattingly American Military Cemetery

3749

04:33:01.510 --> 04:33:02.343

near Cambridge.

3750

04:33:04.630 --> 04:33:08.120

This flag retired due due to its condition,

3751

04:33:09.700 --> 04:33:13.520

was presented by the cemetery director to the ninth third mile group
in May of

3752

04:33:13.520 --> 04:33:17.640

2010. As a reminder of the nine three bond group,

3753

04:33:18.290 --> 04:33:21.920

59 men buried in the cemetery and

3754

04:33:22.020 --> 04:33:26.280

1 103 commemorated on the granite walls.

3755

04:33:27.020 --> 04:33:30.240

The 93rd roll honor, listening to all of 680 men,

3756

04:33:30.830 --> 04:33:35.200

this tattered flag was SW for many days over our men's remains.

3757

04:33:36.380 --> 04:33:40.720

Our flag folders are Glen Martin, bill Brown. John Mark, sorry.

3758

04:33:40.770 --> 04:33:45.680

Let's start and is the narrator for the flag.

3759

04:33:45.790 --> 04:33:46.623

Folding

3760

04:33:51.180 --> 04:33:55.920

The flag Folding ceremony references the same religious principles
from which

3761

04:33:55.920 --> 04:33:58.440

our Greek country was originally founded.

3762

04:33:59.300 --> 04:34:04.160

The portion of the flag denoting honors the can of blue containing the
stars

3763

04:34:05.200 --> 04:34:10.000

representing the states are veteran served in uniform in the armed forces

3764

04:34:10.140 --> 04:34:14.760

of the United States. At the ceremony of retreat, the flag is lowered,

3765

04:34:15.260 --> 04:34:20.200

folded in a triangle and kept under watch throughout the night as a tribute to

3766

04:34:20.200 --> 04:34:24.600

our nation's honor dead the next morning it is brought out

3767

04:34:25.020 --> 04:34:29.640

and at the ceremonial revel run aloft as a symbol

3768

04:34:29.860 --> 04:34:32.440

of our belief in the resurrection of the body.

3769

04:34:33.620 --> 04:34:37.000

The first fold of our flag is a symbol of life.

3770

04:34:38.960 --> 04:34:42.860

The second fold is a symbol of our belief in eternal life.

3771

04:34:45.360 --> 04:34:50.220

The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veteran departing

3772

04:34:50.220 --> 04:34:54.660

our ranks and who gave a portion of life for the defense of our country

3773

04:34:55.200 --> 04:34:57.340

to attain peace throughout the world.

3774

04:34:58.840 --> 04:35:02.300

The fourth fold represents our weaker nature.

3775

04:35:02.920 --> 04:35:05.460

For as American citizens trusting in God.

3776

04:35:05.640 --> 04:35:10.500

It is to him we turn in times of peace as well as in times of war

3777

04:35:11.160 --> 04:35:12.540

for his defined guidance.

3778

04:35:14.480 --> 04:35:17.100

The fifth fold is a tribute to our country.

3779

04:35:17.880 --> 04:35:20.460

For in the words of Stephen Decatur,

3780

04:35:20.720 --> 04:35:24.900

our country in dealing with other countries, may she always be right,

3781

04:35:25.240 --> 04:35:27.780

but it is still our country. Right or wrong,

3782

04:35:29.920 --> 04:35:33.260

The sixfold is for where our hearts lie.

3783

04:35:33.720 --> 04:35:37.580

It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the

3784

04:35:37.580 --> 04:35:40.740

United States of America and to the,

3785

04:35:40.880 --> 04:35:45.540

to the republic for which it stands. One nation under God,

3786

04:35:46.010 --> 04:35:46.843

indivisible,

3787
04:35:47.120 --> 04:35:51.500
and with liberty and justice for all the

3788
04:35:51.610 --> 04:35:54.140
sevenfold is a tribute to our armed forces.

3789
04:35:54.840 --> 04:35:59.080
For it is through the armed forces that we protect our country and our
flag

3790
04:35:59.080 --> 04:36:00.520
against all enemies.

3791
04:36:00.790 --> 04:36:04.920
Whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our
republic.

3792
04:36:07.660 --> 04:36:12.560
The eighth fold is a tribute to the one entered into the valley of a
shadow of

3793
04:36:12.560 --> 04:36:15.360
death that we might see the light of day.

3794
04:36:15.780 --> 04:36:19.720
And to honor our mother for movement flies on Mother's Day,

3795
04:36:21.340 --> 04:36:26.120
the Ninefold is a tribute to womanhood. For it has been through their
faith,

3796
04:36:26.550 --> 04:36:27.640
love, loyalty,

3797
04:36:27.820 --> 04:36:32.000
and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made
this country

3798

04:36:32.330 --> 04:36:34.080

great have been molded.

3799

04:36:35.900 --> 04:36:39.040

The tenfold is a tribute to Father For who?

3800

04:36:39.180 --> 04:36:44.040

For he who too has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our

3801

04:36:44.040 --> 04:36:47.000

country since he or she was first born.

3802

04:36:48.620 --> 04:36:53.400

The 11th fold in the eyes of the Hebrew citizens represents the lower

3803

04:36:53.400 --> 04:36:57.440

portion of the seal of the King of David and King Solomon

3804

04:36:58.260 --> 04:37:01.800

and horrifies the God, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

3805

04:37:03.380 --> 04:37:07.880

The 12 fold in the eyes of a Christian citizen represents an

3806

04:37:08.160 --> 04:37:13.040

emblem of eternity and glorified God, the Father, the Son,

3807

04:37:13.140 --> 04:37:17.460

and the Holy Ghost. When the flag is completely folded,

3808

04:37:17.600 --> 04:37:22.380

the stars are upper mos reminding us of our national model in

3809

04:37:22.400 --> 04:37:25.900

God we trust, completely folded and tucked in.

3810

04:37:26.320 --> 04:37:31.260

It takes on the appearance of contact every reminding us that the soldiers

3811

04:37:31.440 --> 04:37:36.100

who served under General George Washington and the sailors and marines who

3812

04:37:36.100 --> 04:37:38.660

served under Captain John Paul Jones,

3813

04:37:39.170 --> 04:37:43.420

were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the armed forces of the

3814

04:37:43.420 --> 04:37:47.420

United States, observing for us the rights, privileges,

3815

04:37:47.680 --> 04:37:49.660

and freedoms. We have joy today.

3816

04:37:59.050 --> 04:38:00.060

That it? That's it.

3817

04:38:04.090 --> 04:38:04.923

Take your time.

3818

04:38:17.920 --> 04:38:19.980

Do you wanna start closing this now? Totally.

3819

04:38:19.980 --> 04:38:24.260

Leave one open so you can access it. Okay. Do you wanna do it now? Yeah.

3820

04:38:25.010 --> 04:38:27.460

He's working on Sure. Thank you.

3821

04:38:37.290 --> 04:38:40.580

Apologize for the inter interruption here, but I thought we'd get a little bit,

3822

04:38:40.600 --> 04:38:45.580

uh, less noise and less music from the other, uh, banquet room.

3823

04:39:08.040 --> 04:39:12.840

American Patriots have always answered our nations call to defend not only

3824

04:39:12.900 --> 04:39:15.800

our nation, but the nation for those who cannot defend themselves.

3825

04:39:17.580 --> 04:39:18.020

To date,

3826

04:39:18.020 --> 04:39:21.640

nearly 2 billion men and women have given their lives in our nation's defense.

3827

04:39:23.020 --> 04:39:27.800

We remember and honor those heroes we remember and honor our

3828

04:39:27.800 --> 04:39:31.640

friends and loved ones. May God give our warriors wisdom, strength,

3829

04:39:31.740 --> 04:39:36.400

and endurance and watch over their families while they place themselves in

3830

04:39:36.420 --> 04:39:39.680

harm's way while defending our freedoms and liberties.

3831

04:39:41.820 --> 04:39:44.840

The following have folded their wings since our last reunion.

3832

04:39:47.860 --> 04:39:48.693

No stand.

3833

04:39:50.220 --> 04:39:52.560

Please stand. Thank you.

3834

04:40:04.540 --> 04:40:08.720

The following names from the 93rd Binder Groupel Bill

3835

04:40:09.580 --> 04:40:13.560

Robert Hick Robert Bob Warren Brown,

3836

04:40:15.040 --> 04:40:18.640

c Dean Cavitt, William H. Francis

3837

04:40:20.420 --> 04:40:24.920

Sam Harris, will Willard Zeer,

3838

04:40:25.950 --> 04:40:27.120

Jack Skis

3839

04:40:28.720 --> 04:40:33.000

Vernon Red Swain and Elmer

3840

04:40:34.170 --> 04:40:35.003

Bangs Nest.

3841

04:40:38.150 --> 04:40:41.560

Join us now in a moment of silence as we remember and honor those
unable to

3842

04:40:41.560 --> 04:40:42.440

adjoin us this evening

3843

04:41:05.510 --> 04:41:08.930

for our American warriors. Past and present.

3844

04:42:00.120 --> 04:42:03.040

I would like to now invite Tom Eck up to the podium

3845

04:42:05.980 --> 04:42:06.200

For

3846

04:42:06.200 --> 04:42:07.040

The blessing of our meal.

3847

04:42:14.130 --> 04:42:15.160

Close to the microphone.

3848

04:42:21.580 --> 04:42:22.060

Father,

3849

04:42:22.060 --> 04:42:26.040

we humble ourselves before the throne and praise your precious and holy name to

3850

04:42:26.040 --> 04:42:29.640

give thanks for your many blessings and to bless his food to the nourish from

3851

04:42:29.640 --> 04:42:30.100

our bodies,

3852

04:42:30.100 --> 04:42:33.560

and give us strength to worship you With every breath and every thought and

3853

04:42:33.560 --> 04:42:38.200

every deed. Father, we've got so many, so much to be thankful for. Father,

3854

04:42:38.330 --> 04:42:42.680

we've got this wonderful country. And Father, we, we pray for our servicemen,

3855

04:42:43.180 --> 04:42:46.400

the ones on the shark point of the, of the Spirit,

3856

04:42:47.380 --> 04:42:52.070

and they're defending our, our freedom. And Father,

3857

04:42:53.170 --> 04:42:56.550

we praise your precious and holy name and pray for your special blessing of your

3858

04:42:56.550 --> 04:43:00.990

wonderful Holy Spirit on this 93rd bomb group, family. Father,

3859

04:43:01.560 --> 04:43:02.910

these, these heroes,

3860

04:43:03.200 --> 04:43:07.630

these patriots that have given so much to defend this country

3861

04:43:10.390 --> 04:43:12.130

and we're still under attack. Father,

3862

04:43:12.270 --> 04:43:14.930

we pray for your protection and your guidance,

3863

04:43:16.110 --> 04:43:20.770

and that this country remains a beacon to the rest of the world of freedom

3864

04:43:21.350 --> 04:43:24.130

and of hope. Father, um,

3865

04:43:24.420 --> 04:43:26.890

we're so grateful for the opportunity to,

3866

04:43:29.990 --> 04:43:34.650

to preserve this, this memory and for your Holy Spirit,

3867

04:43:34.750 --> 04:43:35.390

father,

3868

04:43:35.390 --> 04:43:40.170

to keep us ever mindful and keep us in your

3869
04:43:40.240 --> 04:43:44.810
care in the hollow of your hand. Father, we praise your holy name.

3870
04:43:45.240 --> 04:43:46.073
Amen.

3871
04:43:46.700 --> 04:43:47.533
Thank you. Time.

3872
04:43:53.280 --> 04:43:55.810
Okay. You may be sitting seated. Let's enjoy dinner

3873
04:44:01.460 --> 04:44:06.130
seats. Bill, bill, Sergeant, would you mind closing the back door?
Thank you.

3874
04:44:07.580 --> 04:44:08.690
Lieutenant Sergeant.

3875
04:44:09.930 --> 04:44:11.130
Sergeant Bill or Bill Sergeant.

3876
04:44:15.150 --> 04:44:15.370
You

3877
04:44:15.370 --> 04:44:16.730
Lose Jill and Jeff.

3878
04:44:35.860 --> 04:44:36.830
Okay. How's dinner

3879
04:44:46.050 --> 04:44:48.990
You take? What? One more That panels out. Oh, okay.

3880
04:44:51.100 --> 04:44:52.360
He needs to take another panel out.

3881

04:44:56.250 --> 04:44:58.400
Where did those guys go? In the back. Okay,

3882
04:44:58.400 --> 04:45:01.880
we're gonna take another panel out for you. This is fine. Is it

3883
04:45:03.400 --> 04:45:07.930
okay? Quiet everybody's it says fine.

3884
04:45:08.780 --> 04:45:10.520
Its okay. When you say it's okay, he say it's fine.

3885
04:45:13.190 --> 04:45:17.120
Okay. Well first of all, what a fabulous, uh, family reunion, right?
So

3886
04:45:23.250 --> 04:45:23.720
Thank you

3887
04:45:23.720 --> 04:45:26.680
And everyone attending the course presenting. We've got, uh,

3888
04:45:27.600 --> 04:45:29.000
optional tours tomorrow and events.

3889
04:45:29.070 --> 04:45:31.080
John will go over the schedule at the very end here.

3890
04:45:31.540 --> 04:45:33.080
But I want to recognize first of all,

3891
04:45:33.080 --> 04:45:35.080
the officers throughout the year that have helped, uh,

3892
04:45:35.340 --> 04:45:39.400
helped put this together and help, uh, work, uh, very hard throughout
the year.

3893

04:45:39.420 --> 04:45:40.400

So thanks to the officers,

3894

04:45:47.420 --> 04:45:52.240

the author of, uh, Ted Trailing Circus, Cal Stewart, uh,

3895

04:45:52.300 --> 04:45:55.560

his son, Scott Stewart runs the Nebraska Printing, uh,

3896

04:45:55.560 --> 04:45:57.600

center in Nebraska every year.

3897

04:45:57.830 --> 04:46:02.760

He's wonderful to donate and support us with the, uh, printed materials.

3898

04:46:02.760 --> 04:46:06.400

So the place mats that are here, the posters for the reunion,

3899

04:46:06.400 --> 04:46:11.160

some of the cards and materials inside the, uh, registration packets.

Uh,

3900

04:46:11.700 --> 04:46:15.200

so, uh, yeah, the big posters as well. Uh,

3901

04:46:15.200 --> 04:46:17.400

tremendous help and support from Scott. And they, uh,

3902

04:46:17.550 --> 04:46:20.160

he's always done that and very appreciative of that. So thank you Scott.

3903

04:46:20.190 --> 04:46:23.120

Hopefully you're watching, if not very much appreciated.

3904

04:46:30.860 --> 04:46:33.840

Two years ago we implemented, as you may recall,

3905

04:46:35.300 --> 04:46:40.200

the highest recognized, uh, award from the 93rd Bond Group Association.

3906

04:46:40.660 --> 04:46:43.240

We named it the Ted Timberlake Timberlake Award

3907

04:46:45.940 --> 04:46:50.440

To be eligible, we wrote 93rd Bond Group Association member,

3908

04:46:50.980 --> 04:46:55.720

family member, a guest, associate member. Uh, we agreed to, uh,

3909

04:46:55.850 --> 04:46:59.320

award an make an award every year. So it's an annual award.

3910

04:47:00.540 --> 04:47:04.160

The award itself is an acrylic plaque, uh,

3911

04:47:04.160 --> 04:47:07.360

which has a beautiful inscription on it. We'll show you in a minute. Now.

3912

04:47:07.360 --> 04:47:12.360

The criteria could be any or all of the following, uh, would be,

3913

04:47:12.500 --> 04:47:16.640

uh, considered uh, criteria for nomination and selection. So,

3914

04:47:16.640 --> 04:47:20.560

exceed expectations of volunteer work in support of the 93rd Bond Group

3915

04:47:20.560 --> 04:47:25.440

Association and veterans exceed financial support in support of the

3916

04:47:25.440 --> 04:47:27.200

93rd Bond Group Association.

3917

04:47:28.120 --> 04:47:31.800

Demonstrated loyalty and commitment to furthering the mission of the 93rd Bond

3918

04:47:31.800 --> 04:47:32.720

Group Association.

3919

04:47:34.000 --> 04:47:37.800

Excellent leadership of a special project of the 93rd Bond Group Association.

3920

04:47:38.310 --> 04:47:42.960

Outstanding representation of the 93rd Bond Group Association to other

3921

04:47:43.030 --> 04:47:46.760

organized, uh, other outside organizations or affiliations,

3922

04:47:47.490 --> 04:47:50.970

other outstanding services that we deem, uh,

3923

04:47:50.970 --> 04:47:54.930

appropriate to the 93rd Bond Group Association, veterans members or guests.

3924

04:47:56.230 --> 04:47:58.530

The process for the selection. Every year we, uh,

3925

04:47:58.530 --> 04:48:02.210

solicit nomination sought by myself, the president. Uh,

3926

04:48:02.230 --> 04:48:06.010

we then discuss it at the officer's meetings. We make a final selection,

3927

04:48:06.640 --> 04:48:11.250

certainly purchase the awards, and then again, culminating in, uh,

3928

04:48:11.250 --> 04:48:12.770
presenting the awards at the reunion.

3929
04:48:14.590 --> 04:48:19.090
We consider this to be the highest honor awarded by the 93rd Bound
Group

3930
04:48:19.090 --> 04:48:22.810
Association and is a tribute in recognition of the, uh,

3931
04:48:22.810 --> 04:48:27.810
winner for their ongoing commitment and dedicated service. Two years
ago when,

3932
04:48:27.810 --> 04:48:31.330
uh, we reviewed this with Ted Timberlake,

3933
04:48:32.050 --> 04:48:36.410
grandson of General Ted, he wrote back and said,

3934
04:48:36.410 --> 04:48:37.850
needless to say, my family.

3935
04:48:37.950 --> 04:48:40.970
And I think your idea for the name of the outstanding service award is

3936
04:48:40.970 --> 04:48:43.650
wonderful. And what greatly honor my grandfather,

3937
04:48:44.230 --> 04:48:49.090
who first and foremost recognized and appreciated those who gave their
all

3938
04:48:49.550 --> 04:48:52.930
as the members of the 93rd, like your father did, time and time again,

3939
04:48:53.760 --> 04:48:57.290
many thanks for your hard work and dedication to the 93rd Bond Group
Association

3940

04:48:57.670 --> 04:49:01.810

and the officers and the legacy of those who served warm regards to Ted

3941

04:49:02.060 --> 04:49:03.690

Timberlake. So that was very nice.

3942

04:49:06.350 --> 04:49:10.890

So now we have to make the award This year

3943

04:49:13.390 --> 04:49:18.050

we actually have three awards, the first award,

3944

04:49:19.870 --> 04:49:23.690

and you can see the very nice acrylic, uh, plaque

3945

04:49:26.510 --> 04:49:31.500

We had hoped he would be watching from England. He might be many of you.

3946

04:49:31.640 --> 04:49:35.660

He might be. Many of you have heard about Colin Mann. Dear Colin,

3947

04:49:35.760 --> 04:49:39.860

on behalf of the 93rd Bond Group Association is my pleasure to recognize your

3948

04:49:39.860 --> 04:49:43.820

many contributions over the years to the association as our Hardwick

3949

04:49:44.330 --> 04:49:47.340

caretaker and liaison. Without question,

3950

04:49:47.770 --> 04:49:51.700

your dedication to the organization and its mission has been an inspiration to

3951

04:49:51.760 --> 04:49:56.740
all your ability to help guide the Bond Group Association and our veterans

3952
04:49:57.440 --> 04:50:01.100
during group tours and individual visits has been outstanding and is very much

3953
04:50:01.100 --> 04:50:05.660
appreciated. Your personal volunteer time is fabulous. Also,

3954
04:50:05.690 --> 04:50:10.220
your contribution to support host, co-lead,

3955
04:50:10.220 --> 04:50:12.780
and provide assistance during the early stages of the production of the film.

3956
04:50:13.780 --> 04:50:17.460
Hardwick Air Drum 1 0 4 has been a great representation of your dedication

3957
04:50:19.310 --> 04:50:21.210
and loyalty to the 93rd Bomb Group.

3958
04:50:22.480 --> 04:50:25.970
Your hard work and support of the film is paying off with the production of a

3959
04:50:25.970 --> 04:50:28.050
world-class film documenting our history.

3960
04:50:28.510 --> 04:50:32.370
So as we conduct our reunion in New Orleans this year, 2017,

3961
04:50:32.980 --> 04:50:34.850
we're thrilled to be able, uh,

3962
04:50:34.850 --> 04:50:39.730

to recognize your contributions by awarding you this beautiful plaque and award,

3963

04:50:39.990 --> 04:50:42.170

uh, the Timberlake Award and Honor General Ted,

3964

04:50:43.150 --> 04:50:46.040

we can't begin to thank you enough. So congratulations, Colin.

3965

04:50:59.340 --> 04:51:01.760

At one point we hope Colin would be here in attendance this year,

3966

04:51:01.760 --> 04:51:02.440

but it didn't work out.

3967

04:51:02.440 --> 04:51:06.200

Hopefully we'll see him next year and we'll definitely get the award to him, uh,

3968

04:51:06.310 --> 04:51:07.560

over in, over in England.

3969

04:51:17.380 --> 04:51:21.780

If I could have, um, Don,

3970

04:51:22.040 --> 04:51:23.420

Don Morrison, please come forward.

3971

04:51:39.360 --> 04:51:41.900

On behalf of the 93rd Bond Group Association, Don,

3972

04:51:41.970 --> 04:51:45.380

it's our pleasure to recognize your many contributions over the years to the

3973

04:51:45.380 --> 04:51:48.860

association as our historian. Without question,

3974

04:51:48.860 --> 04:51:52.140

your dedication to the organization and its mission has been an inspiration to

3975

04:51:52.140 --> 04:51:55.020

us all. Your ability to help guide the bond group, uh,

3976

04:51:55.020 --> 04:51:58.340

association and our veterans to higher levels of technical information,

3977

04:51:58.410 --> 04:52:02.740

knowledge, and history, uh, has been outstanding, is very much appreciated.

3978

04:52:03.330 --> 04:52:06.700

Also, your contributions, uh, to conceptualize,

3979

04:52:07.410 --> 04:52:11.100

co-lead and support the production of our film has been a great representation

3980

04:52:11.120 --> 04:52:14.060

of your dedication and loyalty to the 93rd Bond group.

3981

04:52:14.250 --> 04:52:18.380

Your hard work and support of the film is paying off. And again,

3982

04:52:18.380 --> 04:52:19.940

as we conduct this reunion in New Orleans,

3983

04:52:19.950 --> 04:52:23.060

we're thrilled to able be able to recognize you. So, congratulations,

3984

04:52:32.850 --> 04:52:36.060

Michael. I've gotta ahead you. Give that to Wally for a minute if you want.

3985

04:52:38.490 --> 04:52:39.323

What do you expect?

3986

04:53:01.180 --> 04:53:02.580

I know it's our pleasure again,

3987

04:53:02.580 --> 04:53:05.900

to recognize you and your many contributions over the years to the association

3988

04:53:06.520 --> 04:53:08.180

now formally as our technical manager,

3989

04:53:08.450 --> 04:53:12.380

without questioning your dedication to the organization and its mission has been

3990

04:53:12.380 --> 04:53:13.620

an inspiration to all of us.

3991

04:53:13.650 --> 04:53:17.660

Your ability to help guide the Bond Group Association and our veterans to higher

3992

04:53:17.660 --> 04:53:21.740

levels of technical expertise, uh, through management of our websites,

3993

04:53:22.570 --> 04:53:25.940

reunion, live streaming, Facebook,

3994

04:53:25.940 --> 04:53:29.420

social media support and membership support has been outstanding and very much

3995

04:53:29.420 --> 04:53:33.700

appreciated. Also, your contribution to conceptualized Coline,

3996

04:53:33.720 --> 04:53:36.780

create and produce our film Harper.

3997

04:53:36.880 --> 04:53:41.780

Virgil 1 0 4 has been a great representation of your dedication and lordly to

3998

04:53:41.780 --> 04:53:46.520

the 93rd. Your hard work in support of the film is paying off obviously as, uh,

3999

04:53:46.940 --> 04:53:50.320

uh, with the production of a world class film, uh, documenting our history.

4000

04:53:50.630 --> 04:53:51.560

Your grandfather,

4001

04:53:52.070 --> 04:53:55.480

John Sullivan and all of us are very proud of the volunteer work you're doing.

4002

04:53:55.480 --> 04:53:56.880

So congratulations. Thank you.

4003

04:54:19.540 --> 04:54:20.290

Get a shot of that,

4004

04:54:20.290 --> 04:54:21.440

Wally. Very nice.

4005

04:54:35.510 --> 04:54:39.720

Very nice. Alright, party over. Alright, party. Party. There

4006

04:54:39.720 --> 04:54:43.800

We go. Not quite. The party's not quite over. Um, we want to thank, uh,

4007

04:54:43.800 --> 04:54:48.200

some folks here including, um,

4008

04:54:49.670 --> 04:54:53.680
including the Louisiana National Guard who provided tonight's color
guard and

4009
04:54:53.940 --> 04:54:54.773
bug board.

4010
04:55:00.900 --> 04:55:03.840
The Color Sergeant is First Sergeant Robert McMurtry.

4011
04:55:04.460 --> 04:55:08.440
The color guard is Sergeant Staff, Sergeant Rosales. Um,

4012
04:55:10.720 --> 04:55:13.440
Sergeant First Class Rodriguez, Sergeant First Class Fisher,

4013
04:55:13.860 --> 04:55:18.600
and the Bugler Chief Warren Officer Wade Furnace of the one 56th Army

4014
04:55:18.630 --> 04:55:20.640
Band. Very much appreciated. Thank you.

4015
04:55:27.460 --> 04:55:29.400
So please stand now for the retiring of the colors.

4016
04:55:42.390 --> 04:55:43.370
Retire the colors.

4017
04:55:46.500 --> 04:55:47.333
Hello. Turn.

4018
04:56:04.430 --> 04:56:04.650
You

4019
04:56:04.650 --> 04:56:05.483
May be seated.

4020
04:56:16.480 --> 04:56:19.930

Okay, a couple more announcements and recognition. First of all,

4021

04:56:20.220 --> 04:56:24.130

let's give John Marks a great hand for the Reunion planning Committee.

4022

04:56:32.410 --> 04:56:37.210

Secondly, I can't stress enough how much we'd appreciate continued support,

4023

04:56:37.360 --> 04:56:39.410

financial support of the funding of the film.

4024

04:56:39.990 --> 04:56:42.600

We have a lot more to do in post-production as I mentioned earlier.

4025

04:56:42.630 --> 04:56:46.040

Just a reminder, please give, give well, everything you can give, we need it.

4026

04:56:46.340 --> 04:56:50.000

Uh, it'll be so much appreciated and Wally likes to handle all that money.

4027

04:56:50.140 --> 04:56:54.080

So we need, uh, need the help and support. So please, please consider any size,

4028

04:56:54.500 --> 04:56:59.360

uh, contribution, uh, for the film, uh, to continue that and finish it off Um,

4029

04:56:59.660 --> 04:57:02.800

now I'm gonna do something that I did last year, which I know is kind of goofy,

4030

04:57:02.980 --> 04:57:07.200

but, um, you saw it in the welcome video, but for the folks that aren't here,

4031

04:57:07.200 --> 04:57:09.080
even though they hopefully are watching streaming,

4032
04:57:09.160 --> 04:57:13.920
I still like to have a video clip of everyone waving as I walk around
the room

4033
04:57:14.150 --> 04:57:15.480
wave, when I get to your table,

4034
04:57:16.340 --> 04:57:21.160
say hi to Fernly or Joel and Phyllis or Ray Ecker, whoever you want
to. Okay.

4035
04:57:21.740 --> 04:57:22.520
So I'm gonna come

4036
04:57:22.520 --> 04:57:23.520
Around the room. Here we go.

4037
04:57:24.510 --> 04:57:25.343
It's gonna be

4038
04:57:30.490 --> 04:57:32.600
going too fast out all

4039
04:57:35.820 --> 04:57:38.200
Ray Jonie, right?

4040
04:57:43.830 --> 04:57:44.663
Very nice.

4041
04:58:01.130 --> 04:58:04.200
We'll do the, uh, rose, the Rose Bowl, uh, queen.

4042
04:58:20.270 --> 04:58:22.360
Okay, cool. Very nice. Thank, go.

4043

04:58:23.530 --> 04:58:27.480

Thank you all for doing that. So that concludes my comments and notes.

4044

04:58:27.480 --> 04:58:30.400

John's gonna come up here and talk about the schedule and, uh, again,

4045

04:58:30.400 --> 04:58:34.200

what a wonderful reunion so far. Looking forward to tomorrow as well, and, uh,

4046

04:58:34.710 --> 04:58:36.440

fantastic memorial service here.

4047

04:58:36.440 --> 04:58:40.200

We really appreciate everyone's participation and help. So John,