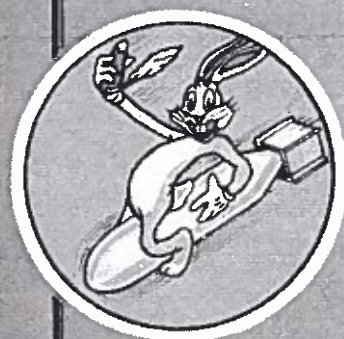


380TH BOMB GROUP



HERKY-528, LIL BEAVER-529, BUGS BUNNY-530, DONALD DUCK-531 SQUADRONS

Francis C. Roberts

This Newsletter is Dedicated to:

*Forrest E. (Tommy) Thompson, Lt. Col. USAF (Ret.)
and
Helen H. Thompson*

*They had the foresight, perseverance, and love of the 380th
Bombardment Group (H) and its history, traditions, and person-
nel to organize, succor, and guide the*

380th Bombardment Group Association, Inc.

*our predecessor organization, for the past eighteen years
(1982-1999).*

Our everlasting thanks and love go out to them.

**THE 380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION
5th AF - RAAF**

AFFECTIONATELY KNOWN AS

The Flying Circus
208 CHIPPEWA ST.
WEST LAFAYETTE IN 47906-2123



NEWSLETTER #18

March 2004

Compatriots and Friends:

Our next major event is the Dedication of the WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C., on Friday and Saturday, May 28-29, 2004. As you know, Pat Carnevale has a block of rooms reserved, transportation arranged, and tickets ordered. Everyone who can should try to come. It will be a once-in-a-lifetime event which I am sure we would all enjoy. I have been watching the construction of the Memorial on my visits to Washington to the Archives for our history data and can tell you it is already spectacular.

Pat tells us things are going smoothly for the Reunion in the Boston area (the hotel is actually in the Braintree area, south of the city).

We have worked up the information requested at the Williamsburg Reunion concerning the 380th's shift from England to Australia for our war service. I think you will appreciate the machinations involved in such a major change.

Best wishes for a happy spring and early summer. We are looking forward to seeing many of you in Washington and in Boston.

To preserve the memory of the 380th.

Sincerely,

Ted
Theodore J. (Ted) Williams

HISTORIANS

Glenn R. Horton, Jr.
Gary L. Horton

HISTORIAN, AUSTRALIA

Bob Alford

**EDITORS, HISTORY PROJECTS
AND QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**

Barbara J. Gotham
Theodore J. (Ted) Williams

Phone: 765/494-7434

Fax: 765/494-2351

Email: tjwil@ecn.purdue.edu

[http://www.ecn.purdue.edu/
IIES/PLAIC/380/380.html](http://www.ecn.purdue.edu/IIES/PLAIC/380/380.html)

BOSTON REUNION INFORMATION

The 380th Bomb Group Association Annual Reunion will be in the Boston area from September 29 to October 3, 2004. Lodging has been arranged at the Sheraton Braintree Hotel in Braintree, Mass., which is south of Boston. Hotel rates are \$99 (single or double occupancy) + 9.7% room tax (total \$108.60 per night).

Activities include the traditional welcome dinner on Wednesday evening, group tours of the Boston historical district and Quincy Market on Thursday, a tour of Lexington on Friday afternoon, and our Members Meeting on Saturday morning. Our Memorial Service will at Hanscom Field on Friday morning, followed by lunch at the Officer's Club at Hanscom Field.

The tentative schedule of events follows the Memorial Day Weekend hotel registration form. Due to lack of room in this issue, the hotel registration form is not included in this newsletter, but will be included in the next issue; however, it can be found on our website at:

<http://fairway.ecn.purdue.edu/IIES/PLAIC/380/REUNION/2004Reunion/Reunion.html>

WWII MEMORIAL - A TRIBUTE TO A GENERATION WASHINGTON, D.C. -- MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 2004

Regarding the WWII weekend (officially called "A Tribute to a Generation") - it's Memorial Weekend with the official dedication of the new Memorial on Saturday, May 29th, and a program called "Salute to Veterans" on Friday at 10:00 a.m., May 28th.

Pat Carnevale has rooms available for 4 nights, the 28th through the 31st at the Holiday Inn at Historic Carradoc Hall in Leesburg, Virginia. The rate is \$99 + 10.5% tax for a total of \$109.40 per night (single or double occupancy).

Pat has also arranged bus transportation from the hotel to downtown DC (approximately 35 miles). Round-trip transportation will be \$12 per person.

We have ordered tickets for both programs (no cost) and will be told the end of February how many we actually have. (We requested 100 in November and they are given out on a first-come basis).

We are also going to have to arrange Metro transportation from the staging area as buses will not be allowed close to the Memorial. There will be a slight charge for the Metro but we're working on getting group rates for that.

At this time we have 14 rooms booked so still have a lot of rooms available. We don't have the actual time yet for the dedication but may try to get box lunches for the attendees if we can work that out.

Hotel registration form on next page. Contact Pat Carnevale for more information by phone (1-800-659-8808) or by email: carne@dakotacom.net.

WWII MEMORIAL DEDICATION WEEKEND

HOTEL RESERVATION FORM HOLIDAY INN AT HISTORIC CARRADOC HALL LEESBURG, VIRGINIA MAY 28-31, 2004

NAME _____

SPOUSE/GUEST _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

ROOM RATE: \$99 + 10.5% tax single/double (\$109.40 total)

ROOM TYPE: _____ Single (one person, one bed)
_____ Double (two persons, one bed)
_____ Double/Double (two persons, two beds)

SPECIAL NEEDS: _____ Non-smoking _____ Smoking _____ Handicap access

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

Credit Card information for hotel guarantee:

CC# _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

NAME ON CARD _____

Please print

Credit card will be used for guarantee only. Your card will not be charged until arrival or unless you fail to cancel on time. If making **hotel guarantee** by check please **make check payable to HOLIDAY INN** and mail to address below.

Cancellation policy is 72 hours prior to day of arrival to avoid penalty.
Reservations made after April 23, 2004, are subject to availability and possible rate change.

Mail or fax this form to: Carnevale & Associates, Inc.
P. O. Box 1230
Sonoita, AZ 85637
Fax: 520- 455-5866
Phone: 800-659-8808
e-mail: carne@dakotacom.net

NOTE: Carnevale & Associates is a full service travel agency. Please call on our toll free number for assistance with your travel plans. If flying, plan to use Dulles International Airport. The hotel will provide complimentary shuttle service to/from this airport.

380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION
2004 REUNION INFORMATION

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
September 29-October 3, 2004

Wednesday – September 29

9:00 am - 1:00 pm	Registration in Hotel Lobby
12:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Optional Tours of Boston
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Hospitality Room Open
6:30 pm	Welcome Dinner - Madison Room
8:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Hospitality Room Open - Suite 1007 and 1008

Thursday – September 30

9:00 am	Buses depart hotel
9:30 - 3:30 pm	Tour of Boston Historical District & Quincy Market
4:00 pm	Buses return to hotel
9:00 am - 10:00 pm	Hospitality Room Open - Suite 1007 and 1008
	Dinner on your own

Friday – October 1

9:00 am	Buses depart hotel
10:00 am	Memorial Service at Hanscom Field
11:30 am	Lunch at Officer's Club - Hanscom Field
1:00 - 3:00 pm	Tour of Lexington
4:00 pm	Buses return to hotel
4:00 - 6:00 pm	Hospitality Room Open - Suite 1007 and 1008
	Dinner on your own

Saturday – October 2

10:00 am	Meeting of Members - Madison Room
Noon	Tours on your own
Noon – 6:00 pm	Hospitality Room Open - Suite 1007 and 1008
6:30 pm	No-host cocktails - Madison Room
7:00 pm	Dinner Dance

Sunday – October 3

Departure day

Charles David Parry-Okeden, RAAF, 531st Squadron

My name is Ian Parry-Okeden. I am the nephew of Flight Lieutenant Charles David (Dave) Parry-Okeden who was a member of the Royal Australian Air Force Liberator Squadrons who served directly with the 380th Bomb Group. His was the 531st Squadron.

I wanted to express my sincere gratitude to you and all who have done such a magnificent job to preserve on the Internet the brave deeds of the men who flew with the 380th Bomb Group. It is superb effort and the information invaluable to the future generations researching details of their family members' lives and their war sacrifice.

Dave was killed when his plane crashed in March 1945 (I understand this was shortly after they had ended their duties with the US 380th Bomb Group.).

I thought your members might be moved to read a diary extract I discovered among some old family papers. It think it illustrates the magnificent character of these men who fought so courageously.

EXTRACT from Flt. Lieutenant David Parry-Okeden's diary dated 10th February 1945.
He was killed 6 weeks later in air operations on 23rd March and requested that should his diary be censored he desired this "Soliloquy" sent to his Father.

"I wonder if one of these days a burst will come up through the bombardier's window when I'm bending over the sight on a run - who knows? It's in the lap of the Gods? It doesn't worry me. There's not much time to worry about things like that on a bombing run.

What better way to die than in fighting for all one's loved ones. Fighting so that they can smile and walk without fear of the ever-present dread word that a loved one has made the supreme sacrifice. That children in all parts of the world will play games and be happy again, without the menace of the whistling bomb or screaming shell. That men and women will be free to live their own lives again. Dear God! If the time should come that I have to die; I'd die gladly if my death is the cost, that I, as one individual have to pay for that.

The war has taught me much and given me a fuller life, as in the past four years I have learned that all men are equal, sharing danger together with men of all ranks and all stations. I have come to learn the real brotherhood of man, the comradeship that exists among us who fly together. The courage, fear, bravery and make-up of men. The nobleness and gentleness underlying rough exteriors.

War does strange things! It turns men's thoughts to God, their hearts to deeper understanding and their minds to a thirst for knowledge and a way of expressing their feelings through poetry and writing. It has taught me the marvels of God and what an insignificant puny creature is man in the scheme of things. Flying high in the sky for long periods surrounded only by clouds and silence that is broken only by the roar of powerful engines, earth and its worries and material things are far removed from us.

High in the heavens at night, with the sky aflame with its millions of pin points of light, there is an infinite peace and beauty that is only to be found there. After a long night to see the wonder of dawn breaking and the world and earth beginning to unfold and take shape again, as the heavens light up and the golden orb of the sun throws its first questing rays of light and warmth over the hitherto darkened world. One seems to have been in another world for a night and very close to the Creator of all the beauty one has seen and experienced.

And a strange sense of peace and contentment fills one's mind."



Charles David Parry-Okeden is buried at Adelaide River War Cemetery, 113 kilometres south of Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia. It is a well maintained and picturesque cemetery and war memorial which is visited by many people each year.

Because of the family's grief at his loss, I and his other nephews who were born after the war were never really told the details of the crash. But while researching the war service of both Dave and my own father's (Lt Col. W.N. Parry-Okeden, OBE, DSO) I discovered that, while still a mystery, there are some details of the crash, and the crashes of other Liberators, are now on a website. See website <http://home.st.net.au/~dunn/ozcrashes/wa06.htm> The site may be of interest to your members interested in the Australian crews who fought with the 580th.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Parry-Okeden

Business Development Manager

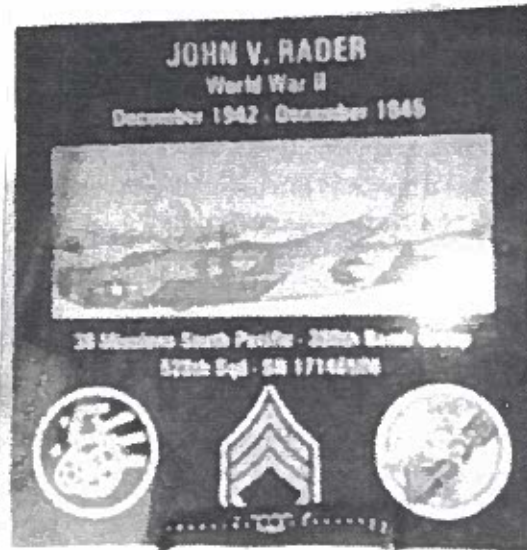
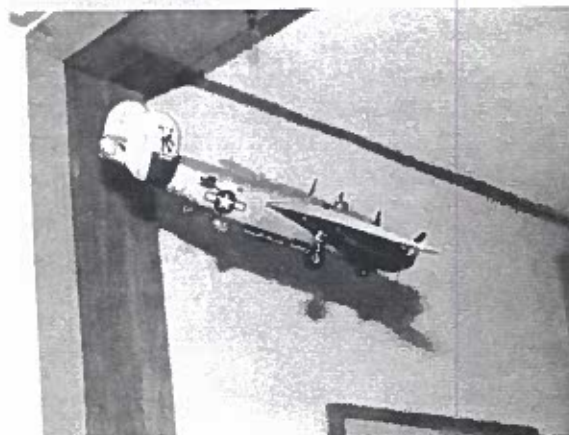
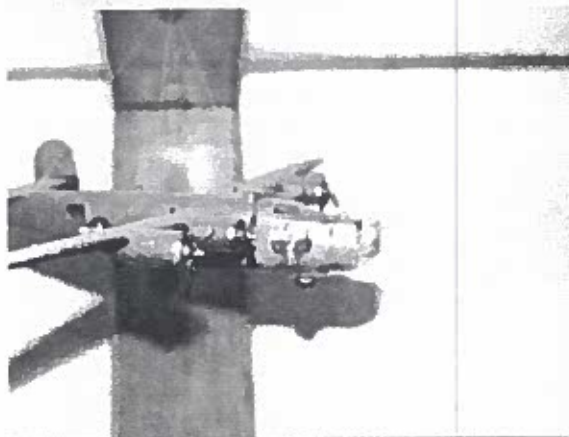
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e: ian.parryokeden@mediamonitors.com.au

MISCELLANEOUS

John V. Rader, 528th Squadron, has the following plaque in memory of his WWII service with the 380th. He wanted to share it with the other members. (right)

Bill Plassman, 530th Squadron, put together a B24J model of ON DEFENSE. He has been kind enough to send us photographs! (below)



George Painter and Don Mullen

When Edward Painter corresponded with Barb Gotham in December 2003 regarding the deaths of his father, George V. Painter, and his uncle, Donald J. Mullen, he related the following story about them while they were with the 380th:

Don and dad shared a tent and one day dad walked in to find Don reading a letter from his sister, she had also sent a picture of herself which was laying on the bed. Dad picked it up and asked Don who it was. Don told him it was his sister. Dad then said "I think I'll marry her." Don said "Like hell you will." Well, needless to say it did happen, mom and dad had been married 52 years when dad passed and had a daughter and three sons.

Both Don and George were on the ground crew, in ordnance. Edward says his father didn't talk a lot about his service time so he's now looking for whatever he can find and will share it with both his dad's family and his uncles. If anyone has information or would like to correspond with Edward, his email address is:
Paintereogau@aol.com

ECHOES OVER THE PACIFIC

**Email received from Craig Bellamy, craigb@hn.ozemail.com.au,
14 Nov 2003, to Ted Williams -- Attachments follow this page**

Ted,

I haven't heard from you for ages so hope that you're OK.

In my quest to learn more about the RCM people and operations I visited an ex RAAF (WWII) ground radar man last week who has written several books on radar in Australia and the SWPA. His name is Ed Simmonds and is an amazing source on WWII radar details. Several of his books have sold out and just are not available.

He has suggested to me that he sells the books via me to those Americans who might be interested. This, I reckon, is a great opportunity as there is so little written about radar down this way and the book is very readable. The book that he is selling is called 'Echoes Over the Pacific'. It is extremely hard to get- I had to go to him to get my copy!

He was wondering if you would be interested in advertising the particular book in the 380th BG Association newsletter. It covers a hell of a lot of stuff on radar (admittedly concentrating on the Aust operators and mostly ground stations). However, there are a number of pages on RCM (with mention to the 380th BG- though there's a typo and it reads '370' which is picked up on the corrections page) and section 22.

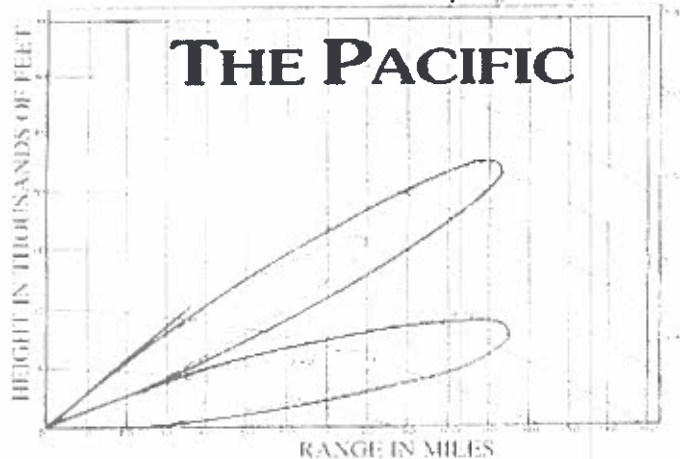
Details:

Author:	Ed Simmonds & Norm Smith
Title:	Echoes Over the Pacific
Publication Date:	1995 (limited run of 1000 copies)
Publisher:	EW & E Simmonds (self published)
Pages:	276
Photographs:	16+ B&W photos
Maps and Diagrams:	Many maps, charts and diagrams
Size:	21cm x 15cm
Price:	Ed has estimated \$20 US (including posting and packaging)
Other Details:	Soft cover. Each copy signed by the author

Attached are some scans of the book

**cheers mate
Craig**

ECHOES OVER THE PACIFIC



Cover page and excerpt
from text

by
Ed Simmonds and Norm Smith

CHAPTER 19

RADAR COUNTERMEASURES - SECTION 22.

Early in the Pacific conflict the Japanese did not appear to make much use of radar. However, the Allies knew that this position would change and were fortunate in that counter-measures had been developed to a high level in the European theatre because the Germans were more technically advanced than the Japanese.

In consequence it was decided to establish a combined services section to locate enemy radar stations so that they could be either jammed when necessary or destroyed. Responses by Allied radar stations to 'jamming' was also of concern so some intentional local jamming was to be addressed.

The use of 'ferret' aircraft were being used in Europe to locate German radar installations and thought was given to introducing a similar procedure in the Pacific. Suitable search receivers had been developed for Europe so saving time before any plan was implemented.

Early Steps in Radar Countermeasures

Dick Graf, the former Sergeant Radio Operator in General Kenney's personal B17, was recently interviewed and it is possible that this plane was the first ferret flight in the Pacific. The timing is placed at July/August 1942, fixed by the fact that it was just prior to a period when Dick was temporarily grounded for a minor medical condition - a cold.

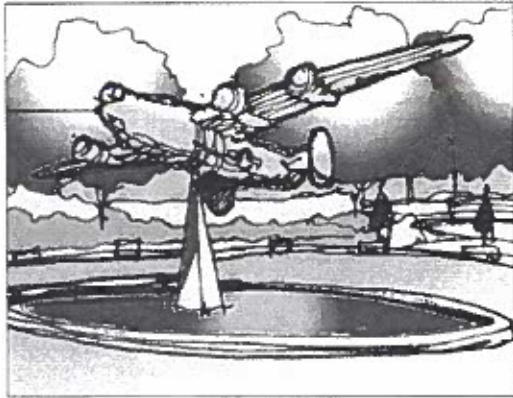
A search receiver was fitted into the aircraft and the associated aerial was mounted near the tail. The level of secrecy was even higher than normal radar operations as the aerial was covered with a canvas cover which was only removed by a crew member just prior to take-off when the aircraft had taxied to the end of the strip. The operator of the search receiver was covered with a black curtain so that the aircrew could not see what he was doing!

Unfortunately the outcome of this mission is not known.

S/Ldr David Swan OBE was interviewed in December 1988 and he was able to supply some background material. Lt Hallett, RN, working out of Port Moresby was in the forefront of counter-measures in 1942. Searching frequencies from about 30 Mc/s to 300 Mc/s he had a mixed team who flew in the planes operating the receivers during bombing missions. The team included two RAAF Wireless Air Gunners, Frank Cooper and Keith Bevan and an operator from the Royal New Zealand Navy, Leading Seaman Page.

The three Australian services thought that they should become involved in ascertaining the extent of Japanese radar and agreed to set up a combined services venture towards the end of 1942. The first three representatives were Lt Mare, RAN, an officer named Finucane the Army and David Swan, RAAF - their first task was to learn about countermeasures.

Early in 1943 Lt Hallett was in a jeep accident in Port Moresby resulting



Design Credit: Veterans Memorial Gardens and Austin Veen Robbins Purshalle

B-24 Memorial SAN DIEGO

MAILING ADDRESS:

B-24 Liberator Club

1672 Main Street, Suite E, PMB-124, Ramona, CA 92065

Tel: (760) 788-3824 • Fax: (760) 789-8911 • Email: b24club@earthlink.net

Veterans Memorial Center & Museum

Tel: (619) 239-2300 • Fax: (619) 239-7445 • Email: sdvmmc@pacbell.net

Visit us at: www.b24memorial.org

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

George B. Welsh
3rd AF, 15th AF - USAF
President, B-24 Memorial
B-24 Liberator Club

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USAF (Ret)
44th BG, 2nd AD, 8th AF

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USAF (Ret)
489th BG, 2nd AD, 8th AF

Maj. James Kieman
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8th AF, 15th AF
B-24 Liberator Club

Tom Splitgerber
USN (Ret)
Veterans Memorial Center
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B-24 Liberator Club

Richard & Peggy Learman
Consolidated Aircraft Corp.
B-24 Liberator Club

B-24 Memorial - San Diego
is an outreach program of the
Veterans Memorial Center &
Museum, San Diego, Calif.
A non-profit 501 (c)(3) public
benefit corporation.

24 October 2003

Ted Williams
380th BG Association
208 Chippewa Street
West Lafayette, IN 47906-2123

Dear Ted,

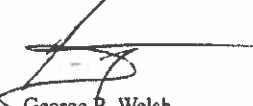
Enclosed you will find an information pack and a donation form regarding the B-24 Memorial to be placed in San Diego, California's Balboa Park. We are inviting all groups associated with the B-24 to be part of this memorial by making a donation towards its completion.

We are asking for a \$1,000 donation in the name of your group or association. Along with the individual donations, we will have a special section on the memorial for groups and associations.

This B-24 Memorial is the only one of it's kind placed in a public park - with complete public access. It will be located in Balboa Park, America's largest urban cultural park. Balboa Park houses over 85 performing arts and international culture organizations along with fifteen world-class museums. The famous San Diego Zoo is located here along with gardens, hiking and biking trails, recreational facilities, and restaurants. The park covers a huge 1,200 acres and is minutes away from downtown San Diego. The bronze Liberator will be prominently placed near a main thoroughfare, clearly visible to the thousands who travel this road daily.

I strongly encourage your organization to be part of this San Diego B-24 Memorial.

Most Sincerely,


George B. Welsh
B-24 Memorial - San Diego

We have reprinted the Individual Donation Form on the next page.
Information on how to participate in other ways can be found at the
B-24 Memorial-San Diego website at:

<http://www.b24memorial.org/participate.html>

B-24 Liberator Club/ B-24 Memorial
1672 Main Street, Suite E-124
Ramona, CA 92065
(760) 788-3624 •

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Name: _____ Rank: _____ Branch of Service: _____

Military Unit or Company (BS/BG/AF): _____

Check if you wish included: ☐ POW ☐ MIA ☐ KIA _____

Your Name (If Different From Above): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Amount of Donation \$ _____ Desired Method of Payment Check ☐ Master Card ☐ Visa ☐ Amex ☐

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date: _____

(Make check payable to: B-24 Memorial – San Diego)

\$500.00 or more: Name to be placed on B-24 Memorial in Veterans Memorial Park.
Complimentary one year membership to Veterans Memorial Center.

\$100.00 or more: Name listed on Donor Honor Roll, on permanent exhibit inside the
Veterans Memorial Center. Complimentary one year membership.

\$50.00 or more: Complimentary one year membership to Veterans Memorial Center.
Six Month Subscription to Veterans Journal.

Less than \$50.00: I just can't afford to be a big contributor, but I'd like to help.*

***All donations will receive a one year membership to the Veterans Memorial Center in San Diego, future home of the bronze B-24 Liberator Memorial, and a six month subscription to the *Veterans Journal* (San Diego County Edition). Memberships and subscriptions to commence upon dedication of Memorial.**

Please note: A receipt will be mailed for every contribution as required by the IRS to make you eligible for an itemized deduction under Sec. 501 (c) (3) of the Federal Tax Code.

WE WENT TO WAR

Part X: The Background of Our Service, Why We Were in the Southwest Pacific Area – A Preview Theodore J. Williams and Barbara Gotham

Introduction

We took to the Williamsburg Reunion, September 2003, the set of documents we had collected to show that the 380th Bomb Group had been first scheduled to go to England to join the 8th Air Force as soon as we finished combat training at Lowry Field, Denver, Colorado, in April 1943. Instead, the Group's Orders were suddenly changed and we joined the 5th Air Force for our combat duty. These findings document that event.

At the Reunion, Tom Hunt and Jim Wright asked Ted Williams to write an abstract of the full story which will appear in Part X: The Background of Our Service, and asked further that it be put in this issue of *THE FLYING CIRCUS*. Here it is.

The Situation Prevailing

The American Air Units that came out of the Philippines and Java Campaigns were woefully inadequate to defend Australia from the expected Japanese onslaught, let alone try to recapture what was lost. In addition, the 7th Bomb Group, also in the Philippines, had been sent to India, leaving only the 19th for the heavy bomber component in Australia at that time. They flew B-17s.

The 43rd, also with B-17s, arrived in Australia in March 1942. The 90th, with B-24s, was sent to Hawaii in September 1942 and on to Australia in October. The 19th returned to the States in December 1942, leaving only the other two as the 5th Air Force complement of heavy bombers then available.

"American air units in Australia and New Guinea were not to be organized into a separate U.S. air force until September 1942, when General Kenney took command. Because the Australians were in a position to furnish the communications and headquarters personnel the Americans lacked, an Allied command incorporating both Australian and American units had seemed appropriate. The American planes were assigned late in May 1942 to the operational control of the commanding general of the land forces of the Northern Territory and to the commander of the New Guinea Force on the understanding that these ground commanders would not interfere with the control exercised by air officers except in the event of an imminent attack.

Except for northeastern Australia, the RAAF assumed responsibility for the defense of the Australian continent and, in addition, full responsibility for reconnaissance and bomber operations flown from the Darwin area against Japanese bases in the Netherlands East Indies. The Fifth Air Force took over the full job in eastern Australia and in Papua on New Guinea. The arrangement, of course, was not intended to be inflexible. RAAF squadrons were attached to the Fifth Air Force and repeatedly participated in its operations, while the Fifth frequently furnished units to its ally on request."¹

Until January 1943, this had involved occasional visits by the 19th, 43rd, and 90th Groups for special reconnaissance missions. In January elements of the 400th Squadron of the 90th were at Fenton for reconnaissance. Elements of the 319th Squadron were to relieve them on January 21, but it was decided then that the whole 319th Squadron would move to Fenton semi-permanently. They remained until relieved by the 380th. They returned to Port Moresby on July 7, 1943.

General Kenney's Plan for the Northwest Area Command²

"To oppose the Jap ring, which stretches from Timor to Rabaul, and leaving the Solomons to South Pacific forces, I can muster from the R.A.A.F. and the 5th Air Force combined about 700 combat aircraft (counting everything that can be used legitimately in a shooting war), which must be spread from Darwin to Horn Island, to Port Moresby, to Milne Bay and around to Dobodura.

With the increased Jap attention to the area between Timor and the west coast of New Guinea I have already found it necessary to station one squadron of B.24's in the Darwin area for reconnaissance and bombing of shipping and aerodromes. I cannot overlook the possibility of Jap attempts to put in a string of aerodromes along the New Guinea west coast and even the seizure of Merauke, where a good dry season aerodrome already exists. I believe such a move is contemplated by the Nips to forestall any attempt by us to work up the coast from Merauke, establish air bases and bomb his installations and shipping along the Tarakan-Wewak line, which are now out of range of a bomber with full load. I'd like to do it if I had the bombers to spare.

Accordingly I have to constantly survey all likely spots from Merauke to the northwest and crack down on any construction that starts. If the Jap occupied Merauke he would be a constant thorn in my side, as he would be right on the Torres Strait shipping lane and could easily raid every aerodrome from Horn Island to Cooktown and around to Port Moresby itself. The place is weakly

WE WENT TO WAR

PART X PREVIEW (continued)

held by a volunteer Dutch company and the Australians do not seem to have any troops to spare to reinforce the garrison.

What is really needed is sufficient heavy bomber strength to keep pounding Jap bases and shipping in the Timor – Ambon – west coast of New Guinea area and at the same time hammer at the same targets in New Britain and New Ireland. One force to keep the enemy from the Darwin area; the other to help us forward in the New Guinea theatre and help Soupac in the Solomons. A seizure of Darwin by the Nip would be bad news. While it may not seem to be a vital point for the defence of Australia, its loss would deprive us of all our advanced bases for the eventual operations toward Timor as well as the area from which a lot of our essential reconnaissance flights are carried out. From Darwin the Jap would dominate the whole north coast of Australia. It would be the devil of a job to oust the Nips if they ever got a foothold there on account of the lack of communications to get at them. I need to maintain a heavy group in the Darwin area all the time with facilities available to throw a second group into the picture at any time from the Moresby area where three groups would be stationed permanently. As soon as we clean up the Lae/Madang/Cape Gloucester (New Britain) area, I want to develop Merauke as a bomber base. Then we would be set to go forward.”

General Kenney's First Trip to Washington

Major General George H. Kenney was given command of the Allied Air Forces in the Southwest Pacific Area on August 7, 1942, and formed the Fifth Air Force on September 3, 1942. He was commander of both since the Allied Air Force was the 5th Air Force plus the RAAF.

He was called to Washington to report to General Arnold and the Joint Chiefs of Staff on March 4, 1943, and arrived in Washington on March 10. In the meantime the Battle of the Bismarck Sea had occurred on March 2-4. This success obviously had a great influence on the succeeding negotiations.

“The conferees listened to our plan to move west and north along the New Guinea coast, capture Lae, and then continue on, seizing both sides of the vital Vitiaz Straits. When the SOPAC forces had advanced north through the Solomon Islands and had gained control of Bougainville Island, we would then be in position to make a two-pronged attack to capture Rabaul.”³

This was before the strategy of bypassing Japanese strongholds was developed.

“On March 17, I was invited to pay a visit to the White House. I talked for some time with President Roosevelt, who wanted to hear the whole story of the war in our theater in detail as well as a blow-by-blow description of the Bismarck Sea Battle. I found the President surprisingly familiar with the geography of the Pacific, which made it quite easy to talk with him about the war out there. He wanted to know how I was making out on getting airplanes. I told him that so far my chances didn't look very good. When he asked why, I said that among other reasons given me was that he had made so many commitments elsewhere that there were no planes left to give me. The President laughed and said he guessed he'd have to look into the matter and see if a few couldn't be found somewhere that might be sent me. He said that if anybody was a winner, he should be given a chance to keep on winning.”³

Arnold called me to his office on the 22nd and told me he had gone over the whole picture and had squeezed everything dry to give me some help. He said I was to get a new heavy-bombardment group, two and a half medium groups, and three more fighter groups. One of these fighter groups would be equipped with P-47s, which no one else wanted. I said I'd take them. The other fighter group would have to be manned by me. Hap said he would give me P-38s to equip it if I could furnish the pilots and the mechanics. I said to give me the planes and I'd find the men if I had to dissolve my own headquarters staff to get the people to fly them. He also promised me another troop-carrier group of fifty-two C-47s, some depot and service outfits, and other odds and ends to balance the organization. Altogether it looked as though, by the end of 1943, I'd have about five hundred more aircraft than I had when I left Australia.”³

The 380th, as the next B-24 outfit in line, was the one noted. He returned to Australia on April 6, 1943.

In the meantime the bureaucratic machine was turning out the necessary stream of memoranda and orders to send the 380th to England as noted in the attached list (Table I) and accompanying extracts of memos and orders. Note that Shipment 2618 is definitely for the United Kingdom and the European Theatre of Operations.

The necessary stream of memos and orders to reverse this situation is shown next in Table II. It is interesting that the first action taken was to see that the aircraft being prepared for the 380th were properly modified. The actual official notification of our personnel is shown in Table III. I would assume that there was a flurry of rumors before that with so important and unexpected a change.

WE WENT TO WAR PART X PREVIEW (continued)

After we arrived, the 43rd converted to B-24s in the summer (Northern Hemisphere) of 1943, going active in B-24s completely by September. The 22nd, originally a B-26 outfit, converted to B-24s in the January 1944 period, thus giving the four B-24 groups we are all familiar with.

The first word the 380th had (except rumors) was obviously those orders shown next in Tables III and IV. The order of March 24, 1943, to Second Air Force (Document 1) would have engendered a corresponding order by Second Air Force to Lowery Field and on to the 380th. Copies of the latter orders are not available, but Documents 2 and 3 bear evidence of the existence and execution by the 380th. The Air Detachment Orders are not reproduced here.

Table III shows that the War Department issued the first movement order for the 380th to Australia on April 7, 1943, superseding the one of March 24, 1946, to England. Second Air Force issued their version on April 10, with Lowery issuing final orders on April 16. The air element of the 380th had been officially notified under date of April 14 of this change.

Ted Williams has a great deal of information concerning the actual movement of both elements to Australia which is much too bulky to include here. It will be included in Part X: The Background of Our Service, to the extent possible.

Note the first official mention of the 380th in the dispatches in Document 15. Not too flattering but better than the others as noted there.

We should all consider the fact that the 380th would probably have gone to Ploesti on the low-level raid in August 1943 instead of the Balikpapan as we actually did. We can wonder what affect that would have had on history – ours and the world's.

(Footnotes)

1 Caver and Cate, *The USAAF in World War II*, Volume 5, Solomons to Okinawa.

2 Letter to Lt. Gen. H.H. Arnold, January 23, 1943.

3 Kenney, George H., GENERAL KENNEY REPORTS.

**TABLE I
CHRONOLOGY OF THE BUREAUCRATIC MESSAGES**

1.	Mid January 1943	380 th First Listed on Deployment Schedule for Shipment to United Kingdom	A copy of this is not available
2.	OPD 370.5 Gr Brit (3-15-43)	Notice of Movement of 380 th to United Kingdom	Copy not available
3.	OPD 370.5 (3-24-43)	Movement Orders, Shipment No. 2618, 380 th and Others to United Kingdom	Document 1
4.		Entrainment of the 380 th Air Element to Topeka, Kansas	Document 2
5.		Other 380 th Actions to Prepare for Deployment	Document 3

**TABLE II
CHRONOLOGY OF THE REVERSAL OF THE EUROPEAN SHIPMENT OF THE 380TH TO AN AUSTRALIAN ONE**

1.	9/gc/3906 (March 27, 1943)	Change in destination of 380 th group and resultant change in modifications	Document 4
2.	OPD 370.5 Aus (3-30-43)	Movement of Air Force Units to the Southwest Pacific Area	Document 5
3.	OPD 370.5 Gr Brit (3-15-43) Letter 3-30-43	Movement of Units to the UK (Deletion of 380 th and 345 th)	Document 6
4.	Memorandum, Mar. 29, 1943	Diversion of Bombardment Group (Note reference on second page to General Arnold)	Document 7
5.	OPD 370.5 (3-30-43) changing document of (3-05-43)	Movement of Units to the United Kingdom deleted Please note handwritten responses at bottom of the page	Document 8
6.	OPD 370.5 Aus (3-30-43)	Diversion of Bombardment Group	Document 9
7.	Headquarters, Fifth Air Force	Announcement of Allocation of 318 th Bomb Group (sic)	Document 10

Authority LND 740112
By MB NARA Date: 12/6/02

①

SECRET

BY AUTHORITY OF A.C. OF S. OF

27 Mar 43

Date

Initials

OPD 370.5/CT (3/24/43)

OPD
EOD
6391

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

Subject: Movement Orders, Shipment No. 2618.

The Chief of Staff directs:

I. That instructions be issued the

Commandant Army Air Forces School of Applied Tactics,
C G, Second Air Force,
C G, Third Air Force,
C G, Western Defense Command,
C G, Eastern Defense Command,
C G, Air Service Command,
C G, New York Port of Embarkation,
C G, Boston Port of Embarkation,
C G, New York Air Service Port Area Command, Newark, N.J.,
Chief of Transportation, Army Service Forces,
Chiefs of all Supply Services

by the most expeditious confidential means of communication available
substantially as follows:

1. It is desired that you take without delay the action for which you are responsible to prepare for foreign service and to move the units listed below and equipment accompanying them to the New York Port of Embarkation and to move other equipment and supplies to the New York Port of Embarkation, the Boston Port of Embarkation or New York Air Service Port Area Command (Newark Intransit Depot), (for further movement by water transportation) as directed by the Commanding General, New York Port of Embarkation.

Unit	Code Designation (Shipment No)	Station	Agency to Issue Move- ment Orders	Strength Off WO EM	T/O
351st Bomb Gp (H) (less Flight Echelon) (Shipments 2618-F, G, H, I, J) Hq	2618-A	Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho (AAB, Pueblo, Colo. (Temp)	CG, Second Air Force	66 1109 (164)(1) (239)	1-112 (7-1-42) C-1(8-15-42) C-2(9-21-42) C-3(1-25-43)

RETURN TO O. P. D. SHOWING ACTION

SECRET

343

Authority IND 740112
By 43 NARA Date 12/6/02

SECRET

Unit	Code Designation (Shipment No)	Station	Agency to Issue Move- ment Orders	Strength Off WO Civ EM	T/O
508th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-B	Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho (AAB, Pueblo, Colo. (Temp)	C G, Second Air Force		1-117 (7-1-42) C-1(8-8-42) C-2(1-25-43)
509th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-C	"	"		"
510th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-D	"	"		"
511th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-E	"	"		"
379th Bomb Gp (H) (less Flight Ech) (Shipments 2618,P, R,S,T,V) And less Adv. Det. Hq	2618-K	Geiger Field, Spokane, Wash. (Temp. AAB, Sioux City, Ia.)	"	62 7 *1 1133 (162)(1) (215)	
				(4)	1-112,(7-1-4 C-1 (8-15-42 C-2(8-21-42) C-3(1-25-43)
524th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-L	"	"		1-117(7-1-42 C-1 (8-8-42) C-2(1-25-43)
525th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-M	"	"		"
526th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-N	"	"		"
527th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-O	"	"		"
380th Bomb Gp (H) (less Flight Ech) (Shipments 2618-PF, GG,HH,II,JJ) And Less Adv. Det. Hq	2618-AA	Davis-Monthan Field, Tucson, Ariz. (Temp. Lowry Field, Denver, Colo.)	"	58 1 1136 (166) (212)	
				(4)	1-112(7-1-4 C-1(8-15-42 C-2(9-21-42 C-3(1-25-43)
528th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-BB	"	"		1-117(7-1-4 C-1 (8-8-42 C-2 (1-25-4
529th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-CC	"	"		"
530th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-DD	"	"		"
531st Bomb Sq (H)	2618-EE	"	"		"

~~SECRET~~

-2- **SECRET**

343

Authority RND 740112
By 43 NARA Date 12/6/02

SECRET (1)

II. That you inform the

C G, European Theater of Opns., London,
C G, New York Port of Embarkation,
C G, Boston Port of Embarkation,
Chief of Transportation, Army Service Forces,
Chief, Opns. & Plan. Sec., Censorship Br., G-2,
Chief, Logistics Gp., Opns Div., W.D.G.S.

only, and by separate secret communication as follows:

1. The destination of Shipment 2618 is UNITED KINGDOM, for assignment to the European Theater of Operations.
2. Code designation (Example: 2618-1) will be used in lieu of destination and/or designation of units.
3. The Commanding General, European Theater of Operations, will report to this office when Shipment 2618 has been completed to his command. This is of the utmost importance.
4. The Chief of Transportation, Army Service Forces, will make the necessary transportation available for Shipment 2618 and coordinate with all concerned.
5. The Commanding General, New York Port of Embarkation, and/or Commanding General, Boston Port of Embarkation will take all necessary action to move Shipment 2618 to overseas destination.

III. That you inform the Station Commanders concerned; the Director, Army Postal Service (2 copies); the Commanding General, New York Port of Embarkation; and the Destination Commander only and by secret communication of the A. P. O. number and Postmaster address to be used for personnel of units listed in this order in compliance with paragraph 5, Section I.

IV. That the following be informed of Sections of this directive indicated below:

	S E C T I O N S		
	I	II	III
Chief of Transportation, A. S. F.	X		X
C G, Army Air Forces	X		
C G, Army Service Forces	X		
C G, Eastern Defense Command	X		
C G, Western Defense Command	X		
C G, Air Service Command	X		
Commandant Army Air Force School of Applied Tactics	X		
C G, First Air Force			

SECRET

(343)

HEADQUARTERS
380TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF

Lowry Field, Colorado
April 5, 1943

SUBJECT: Troup Movement.

TO : Air Echelon, 380th Bombardment Group (H) AAF

1. Air Echelon will entrain at 1745 on Monday, April 5, 1943. Squadron Commanders will form their Squadron Air Echelons in front of their respective Orderly Rooms, by crews, at such time as to have all taken by 1715.

2. Air Echelon will eat supper before 1700.

3. Air Echelon will entrain in Class "A" Uniform with gas masks slung and one piece of hand luggage. All other baggage will be taken to baggage cars and loaded at 1200. This includes organizational equipment and records to be taken by air.

4. 2nd Lt. Henderson, R. A. is appointed baggage officer. Lt. Henderson will supervise loading of baggage at 1200, and will obtain one E. M. from each squadron to serve as baggage car guards.

5. 1st Lt. Philibosian, L. M. is appointed Officer of the Guard, and will appoint such other officers as are necessary to help maintain discipline during the movement. Lt. Philibosian will coordinate his activities with Squadron Commanders.

6. No Officer or E. M. will be allowed off the train during the movement.

[Signature]
Major, A. C.
Train Commander.

CHARGES 380TH BOMB GROUP (H) AAF
Office of the Material Officer
Lowry Field, Colorado

April 6, 1943

SUBJECT: In Connection With Overseas Movement Orders.

TO : Base S-4 Officer, Lowry Field, Colorado.

1. This is to inform you that the 380th Bombardment Group has conducted almost weekly inspections of personal clothing equipment.

2. In compliance with directives in FOM the complete physical show-down inspection of all equipment in all branches of Supply of the 380th Bomb Group was made on Friday and Saturday, April 2nd & 3rd, 1943.

3. The following personnel conducted these inspections for their respective branches of Supply:

Property	528th Sq	529th Sq	530th Sq	531st Sq
Q.M. & ENG.	Lt. Allagri Sgt. Smith	Lt. Levato Sgt. Kaplan	Lt. Weinberg Cpl. Miller	Lt. Zike Pvt. Intravia
AIR CORPS	Lt. Smith Sgt. Davis	Lt. Donnelly Sgt. Miller	Lt. Duncan Sgt. Childers	Lt. Bush Sgt. Danhart
SIGNAL	Lt. Barter Sgt. Pulcher	Lt. Updike Sgt. Spaid	Lt. Bartley Sgt. Hsworth	Lt. Fonseca Sgt. Dunlap
ORDNANCE	Lt. Mowery Sgt. Douling	Lt. VanCheri Sgt. Mathews	Lt. Henderson Sgt. Anderson	Lt. Messard Sgt. Siegel
MEDICAL	Capt. Butte Sgt. Hakes	Capt. Hubbard Sgt. Isa	Capt. Garron Sgt. Coker	Capt. Glass Sgt. Flein
CHEMICAL	Personnel supervised by Lt. Cox, Group Chemical Officer.			

JULES E. SIMON,
1st Lt. Air Corps,
Asst. Group S-4.

Authority NMD 746112
By SARA Lisc 12/5/02

QDR SECRET

4

452.4 (3-27-43)
Subject: Change in destination of 380th group and resultant change in modifications.

War Organization & Movement, Aircraft Division (Attn: Maj-
Slatcher) TREN A-3, Asst. C of A/S.
Bombardment

Mar. 27, 1943

9/gc/3906

1

1. It is requested that the modification for the 38 airplanes for the 380th b bomb group - heavy - receive modification suitable for the Australian Theatre, instead of the Bolero modification which the airplanes for this group had been scheduled to receive.
2. The change in the destination of this group is in accordance with directive from Major General Stratemeyer.
3. It is the understanding of this office that none of the airplanes for this group have as yet been completed and indicated as available for movement from modification center.

E. L. BURANK
Brig. General, U. S. A.

Coordinated by:

OPD - J.E.U.

MAR 28 P.M.



OUT
OPD. WDGS

D-7153

To AAF (Cape Vank, Room 4-E-116)

9/18

File

SECRET

4

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 730061
By KS NARA Date 9/12/02

HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SECRET

4

TALL NO.	SECRET
FILE NO.	4/12
DATE	MAR 31 1943

SUBJECT: Diversion of 380th Bomb. Group (H)

TO: Materiel Division
FROM: Bombardment Branch, Requirements Division.

DATE March 30, 1943

COMMENT NO. 1
22/cpw/72485

1. It is desired to inform your office that subject Group comprising 58 B-24 airplanes, project Number 36082, now at the modification center, Tuscon, Arizona, (Est. date completion, April 18) has been diverted from United Kingdom, Eighth Air Force, to the Australian theater, Fifth Air Force.

2. In view of the above, immediate action must be taken to provide in the airplane the following equipment.

a. SCR 535 IFF radio equipment.

b. Two leak proof bomb bay tanks instead of one.

c. SCR 522 VHF is a new requirement for Australia. No doubt, this is installed in most of the subject airplanes. If this assumption is correct, it should remain installed in the airplanes having same. This item is classified as "desirable" for this project in those airplanes which do not now have the SCR 522 installed.

3. The project number of this movement to the Fifth Air Force is 36082; before the change of theater assignment, the number was as is indicated above.

Concurrence:

Communications gus-127
Movement and Operations W

WDSB
ALFRED R. MAXWELL,
Colonel, Air Corps,
Bombardment Branch.

APR 5 43 PM

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DATE	March 30, 1943
COMMENT NO.	1
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Phone RAC	
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Pub. Rel.	
Dir. Pers.	
Int. Aff.	
Cl. Sec.	
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J. Sec.	
Eng.	
Finance	
Adm. Serv.	
Adj. Gen.	
Org. Pl.	
Stat. Pl.	
Log. Pl.	
Med. C.	
A. I. C.	
P. C.	

322 gus-127

3-1109 A

Authority NMD 740112
By 44 NARA Date 12/5/02

5
SECRET

BY AUTHORITY OF A COOP S. OPD

GCL

ASQ5

Date

Initials

OPD 370.5 Aus (3-30-43)

March 30, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY AIR FORCES,
COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY SERVICE FORCES:

Subject: Movement of Air Force Units to
the Southwest Pacific Area.

The Chief of Staff directs:

1. That necessary action be taken to prepare the units listed below for service with the Fifth Air Force (Australia) and to move them to the Port of Embarkation designated by the Commanding General, Army Service Forces at the proper time.

<u>UNITS</u>	<u>RESPONSIBLE AGENCY</u>
1 Bomb Gp (H)	AAF
1 Bomb Gp (M)	AAF

2. Units will move at T/O strength and with T/BA equipment.

3. Flight echelons of the units listed above will be dispatched to destination by air at the earliest practicable date. Ground echelons will be prepared to leave home stations by April 20, 1943. Dispatch of ground echelons to destination will be by water. Simultaneous arrival at destination of flight and ground echelons of these units is not required.

4. Commanding General, Army Service Forces, will:

- Inform those concerned as to designation of the port.
- Furnish transportation for the movement of the ground echelons.
- Make the overseas movement based on priorities to be furnished separately.

5. The above units are not included in the list of units required for overseas service, projected six months into the future.

✓ OPD File Gfy

175

authority NMD 746112
by NAARA Date 12/5/02

(5)

SECRET

OPD 370.5 Aus (S-30-43)

Memo to CGs, AAF & ASF, 3-30-43 - Subj: Command of AF Units to the SWPA.

Dated February 27, 1943. These units will be included in the new six months projected list to be published in the near future, under the month of April.

THOS. T. HANDY,
Major General,
Assistant Chief of Staff.

J. E. UPSTON
Brigadier General,

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

Deputy Chief, Theater Group, OPD, G.S.

1. This directive implements movement of one Bomb Gp (H) and one Bomb Gp (M) to SWPA in accordance with the approved new deployment of Air Force Units for this Theater.

2. CG, AAF has indicated that the units designated are the 380th Bomb Gp (H) and the 345th Bomb Gp (M); AAF (Captain Talbott - 71790) states that flight echelons of heavy bombardment group are ready to depart now, that flight echelons of medium bombardment group will be ready the latter part of April, that ground echelons of both heavy and medium bomb gps will be ready the latter part of April. AAF (Captain Talbott - 71790) concurs in the readiness date of April 20 for ground echelons; this readiness date assigned in order to take advantage of any additional shipping that might become available late in April. These units are being given highest priority for movement in early May shipping.

cbs

NR3043 PM



D-1205 AAF
ASF Del by hand (Gy. Ch. Liaison Br.)
G-3 D-1206
G-4 D-1210 } egr
DUT. By TAs By Hand

OPD WDGS

SECRET

Authority NND 740112
By AK NARA Date 12/5/02

(6)
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OPD
BY AUTHORITY OF ACT OF S. 120
HCC
72869
Date Initials

OPD 870.3 OF BRIT
(3-15-43)

March 30, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY AIR FORCES,
COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY SERVICE FORCES:

Subject: Movement of Units to the United Kingdom.

The Chief of Staff directs:

That memorandum, this office, dated March 15, 1943, above subject, addressed to the Commanding Generals, Army Air Forces and Services of Supply, listing units for movement to the port of embarkation not later than May 1, 1943, be amended as follows:

Delete the following units listed in paragraph 1:

380th Bomb Gp (H)

848th Fighter Gp (SS) plus one month's attrition

FRANK T. SANDY,
Major General,
Assistant Chief of Staff.

NOTE FOR RECORD:

These units have been diverted to another theater.

JS

MAR 31 43 PM



OPD WDGS

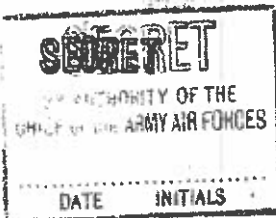
AAF- D-7227
ASF- Del by hand
G-5 D-7256
G-4 D-7234
TAG Del by hand

C. B. FERREBAUGH,
Colonel, General Staff,
Chief European Section,
Theater Group, OPD, GS.

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355

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 730061
By KS NARA Date 9/2/02



Program Branch, 00
REK:ej 73085

7

MAR 30 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, OPERATIONS DIVISION,
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF:

Subject: Diversion of Bombardment Group.

1. It is recommended that the following diversion be accomplished:

a. Diversion of the 380th Bombardment Group (Heavy) from scheduled movement to United Kingdom in April, 1943 to movement to Australia in May, 1943.

b. Diversion of the 345th Bombardment Group (Medium) from scheduled movement to United Kingdom in March and April, 1943 to movement to Australia in May, 1943.

2. It is requested that a directive be issued to effect the above diversions.

MAR 29 43 PM

For the Commanding General, Army Air Forces:

Dispatched

MAR 30 1943

AAG

Egd

JOHN B. COOLEY,
Colonel, A.G.D.

Assistant Air Adjutant General.

RECEIVED
MAR 30 43 AM

MEMO FOR RECORD: This action is initiated upon receipt of an R & R from Director of Bombardment to AFROM, Subject: Diversion of Heavy Bombardment Group from UK to Australia, dated 2-29-43, which states that a directive from Joint Chiefs of Staff and also General Arnold requests the Diversions of the units. Paragraph 1b. above says "United Kingdom in March and April" because Air Echelon of 345th Bomb Group (M) was scheduled for March and Ground Echelon of the Group was scheduled

RECEIVED
CLASSIFIED FILE UNIT
448-222

OFFICE SYMBOL	1	2	3	4	5	6
SIGNATURE OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICER						
DISPATCH OFFICE COORDINATION						

SECRET

Authority NNG 740112
By NARA Date 12/6/02

Combined Routing-Information-Filing Form
Operations Division

SECRET

War Department Decimal Classification:

OPD 370.5 Gr Brit (3-3-43)

X 32151
X 321.19007
X 321.19057

Subject: Movement of Units to the United Kingdom (Deletion of 345th Bomb Group)

Date 3-30-43 Origin European

To OAF vast

Digest:

Action: Memorandum to the Commanding Generals, AAF and ASF amending memorandum above subject dated March 3, 1943.

European
Section

- To:
- ☐ African-Middle Eastern
 - ☐ Asiatic
 - ☐ European
 - ☐ Latin American
 - ☐ North American
 - ☐ Pacific
 - ☐ Southwest Pacific
 - ☒ Troop Movements
 - ☐ Current
 - ☐ Resources & Require.
 - ☐ Troops
 - ☐ Combined Subjects
 - ☐ Future Operations
 - ☐ Strategy

Comments: Noted by Gen. Hapston

Recommendation:

Section Chief
Group Chief

Date 3/31/43

Date 1943

MAR 31 1943

Concurrence:

☒ Theater

I am impressed that a military necessity. However, the number of units being deleted from the orders and being placed on other orders for a different destination. The ASF must be considered in connection with the deletable components in ASF especially.

☐ Logistics

☐ Executive, OPD

☐ Deputy A.C. of Staff

☐ A.C. of Staff

☒ Dispatch Desk

☒ Dispatch
☐ File

Action by Lt Col Chuck

Signed

Date March 30, 1943

MAR 31 1943

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
Authority MM746112
WD NARA Date 12/4/02

WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
DISPOSITION FORM
OPERATIONS DIVISION

SECRET

BY AUTHORITY OF A.C. OF S. OPD

Date 74675 Initials MLL

OPD 370.5 Ans (3-30-43)

Division of Bombardment Group.

March 31, 1943.

MAR 31 43 PM



OPD WDGS

AAF-D-7237
AAF. Cal by hand
G-4 O-7237
G-3 O-7236

☒ X ON ARMY AIR FORCES

☒ X Necessary action

1. Diversion of 380th Bomb Gp (H) and 345th Bomb Gp (M) from United Kingdom to Australia as recommended in Memo AAF to OPD, dated March 30, 1943, subject as above, is approved.

2. Memo OPD 370.5 Gr.Brit.(3-15-43) dated March 31, 1943, subject: Movement of units to the United Kingdom, deletes these units from movement directive.

3. Memo OPD 370.5 Ans (3-30-43) dated March 30, 1943, subject: Movement of Air Force Units to Southwest Pacific Area, directs movement of these units to SWPA.

1 Incl.

AAF Memo to OPD 3-30-43.

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

MEMO AAF to OPD dtd Mar 30, 1943, subject: Diversion of Bombardment Group, recommends diversion of 380th Bomb Gp (H) and 345th Bomb Gp (M) from UK to SWPA. ~~From the memorandum with new JCS deployment.~~

This D/F advises AAF of action taken.

obo

THOS. T. HANDY.

Major General.

Assistant Chief of Staff.

Deputy Chief of Staff.

Deputy Chief of Staff.

Deputy Chief of Staff.

Deputy Chief of Staff.

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HEADQUARTERS
FIFTH AIR FORCE
APO 925

(10)

9 April, 1943.

SUBJECT: 318th Bomb Group (H)

TO : Commanding General, Advanced Echelon, Fifth Air Force.
Air Officer Commanding, R.A.A.F. Command, A.A.F.
Commanding General, Air Service Command.
Commanding General, V Bomber Command, APO 929.

1. The 318th Bomb Group (H) has been allocated for assignment to this theater. Information available at this time indicates:

a. This group will be composed of 35 B-24 airplanes with combat crews.

b. Delivery of airplanes and combat crews begins in April at an unknown rate of delivery.

c. The ground echelon of this group is scheduled for shipment in May which indicates that the middle of June is the earliest they could arrive in the Southwest Pacific Area.

d. Combat crews will need orientation and training before entering combat.

2. The following program for installation of this Group will be effected:

a. The permanent station of the 318th Group is Fenton, Darwin Area.

b. The first arrivals of airplanes and crews of the 318th Bomb Group will be despatched by Headquarters Fifth Air Force direct to Fenton, until a total of twentyfour (24) B-24's including those assigned the 319th Bomb Squadron are stationed at Fenton. These airplanes and crews will be attached to the 319th Bomb Squadron now at Fenton.

c. After completing a strength of 24 aircraft at Fenton additional airplanes and crews of the 318th Group arriving will be attached to the 90th Bomb Group until that Group has 36 B-24's in the Moresby Area.

d. After 90th Group has received a quota of 36 B-24's in the Moresby Area additional crews of 318th Group arriving will be attached to the 43rd Bomb Group until that Group has a total of 48 airplanes.

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e. After 43rd Group has received a total of 48 airplanes additional crews of the 318th Group arriving will be attached to Charters Towers pool. From this Pool they will be despatched to maintain the strengths indicated in above paragraphs.

f. The ground echelon of 318th Bomb Group will be immediately despatched to Fenton upon arrival in this theater.

g. After ground echelon of 318th Bomb Group is established at Fenton and one squadron of 318th Group at Fenton is ready for combat then the 319th Squadron will be returned to its permanent station at Port Moresby. After the ground echelon of the 318th has become established, as the remainder of 318th crews become ready for combat they will be moved individually to Fenton by the Commanding General, V Bomber Command.

3. It is desired that the combat crews of the 318th on temporary duty with other organizations retain their identity as members of the 318th Bomb Group.

4. For the purpose of supply and administration the 318th Bomb Group Headquarters will be temporarily assigned to Fifth Air Force upon arrival of the air echelon in this theater. Its permanent assignment will be Fenton. The Headquarters of the individual squadrons of the Group will be picked up upon the arrival of the ground echelon and permanently assigned to Fenton. Therefore, in effect, no squadron organization will exist until arrival of the ground echelon. Until such time as the ground organization arrives administrative channels concerning combat crews attached to 90th or 43rd Bomb Groups for training will be direct from those Bomb Groups to V Bomber Command.

For the Commanding General:

DONALD WILSON,
Brigadier General, A.U.S.
Chief of Staff.

Information copy: Commanding General, USAFPE.

TABLE III
NOTIFICATION OF 380TH OF DIVERSION OF OVERSEAS ASSIGNMENT

1.	WD 370.5 (4-7-43) OB-S-E-M	Movement Orders, Shipment 2960, 380 th to Australia	Copy not available
2.	370.5 (E-3) April 10, 1943 Second Air Force	Movement Orders, Shipment 2960 Note statement concerning equipment already sent to New York on second page	Document 11
3.	Special Orders, Topeka AAF, Kansas, April 14, 1943	Shipment 2960, Air Element – First Official Document to Air Crews of 380 th	Copy not available
4.	Special Orders 102, Lowry Field, April 16, 1943	Shipment 2960, Air Element – First Official Document to Ground Element of 380 th Directly	Document 12
5.	Telegram, Fifth Air Force, April 23, 1943	Announcing Arrival of 380 th Aircraft and Correcting Document 10	Document 13
6.	Fifth Air Force, Troop Movement, Directive 32	Transfer from Sydney to Darwin of Ground Element	Document 14
7.	General Arnold distribution of Letter from General Kenney	First notes of 380 th in Dispatches	Document 15

TABLE IV
NOTIFICATION TO AIR DETACHMENT OF 380TH – DEPLOYMENT TO AUSTRALIA

1. Letter of Instruction, Headquarters, Air Transport Command, Washington, D.C., March 2, 1943.
 2. PAC Special Order 101, Headquarters, Topeka Army Air Base, Topeka, KS, April 12, 1943.
 Project 96054-R, Shipment 2960-P
 Project 96082-R, Shipment 2960-R
 Report CG, Hawaiian Department, Army Air Forces for further dispatch to destination
 3. Operations Order 273, Headquarters, 11th Ferrying Group, Army Air Forces, Air Transport Command, Hamilton Field, CA, April 14, 1943
 TDN 31 P 432-01-02-03-07-08 A 0425-25
- Also
- Par 1, Opns Order 286, April 17, 1943, 11th Ferrying Group
 - Par 1, Opns Order 293, April 21, 1943
 - Par 1, Opns Order 305, April 24, 1943
 - Par 2, Spec Ord 45, Hqs, 19 Ferrying Group, ATC, APO 953, April 26, 1943

IMMEDIATE ACTION

HEADQUARTERS SECOND AIR FORCE
Office of the Commanding General
Fort George Wright, Washington

IN REPLY
REFER TO

WAR DEPARTMENT

370.5 (E-3)

April 10, 1943.

SUBJECT: Movement Orders, Shipments 2960-K, L, M, N, and O.

TO : Commanding Officer, Army Air Base, Lowry Field, Denver, Colorado.

1. Pursuant to the authority contained in Confidential War Department letter, file WD 370.5 (4-7-43) OB-S-E-M, subject: "Movement Orders, Shipment 2960", dated April 7, 1943, it is requested that you take the necessary action and/or issue the necessary orders to prepare for foreign service and to move the below listed organization and equipment accompanying it to the SAN FRANCISCO PORT OF EMBARKATION (for further movement by water transportation), so as to arrive at the time, date and place designated by the Commanding General, San Francisco Port of Embarkation. The Commanding General, San Francisco Port of Embarkation has already called for this shipment and the pertinent information reference this call has been relayed to you.

UNIT	CODE DESIGNATION (SHIP. NO.)	PRESENT STATION	STRENGTH			T/O
			OFF	WO	EM	
*380th Bomb Gp (H) **(Less Flt Ech)		AAB, Lowry Fld, Denver, Colo. (Last Perm Sta: AAB, Davis-Monthan Fld, Tucson, Ariz.)	56 (172)	1	1140 (208)	
Hq	2960-K	"	1748 229 1577			1-112 (7-1-42) C-1 (8-15-42) C-2 (9-21-42) C-3 (1-25-43)
528th Bomb Sq (H)	2960-L	"				1-117 (7-1-42) C-1 (8-15-42) C-2 (1-25-43)
529th Bomb Sq (H)	2960-M	"				"
530th Bomb Sq (H)	2960-N	"				"
531st Bomb Sq (H)	2960-O	"				"

P-23

Q. M. C. Form 356 (Old Form 453)
Approved December 1, 1922

- 1 -

IMMEDIATE ACTION

3-5424

4/10/43 - Cont'd

(2) To be Obtained at the Port:

- ✓ Headnets (1 per individual)
- ✓ Bars, mosquito (1 per individual)
- ✓ Glasses, sun (1 pair per individual; plus 50% maintenance)
- ✓ T/A heavy tentage
- ✓ Cots, canvas (1 per individual)
- ✓ Protective clothing (see paragraph 10 a (1) below)

e. The following items are not authorized for this movement:

X — Tent stoves

f. To Accompany the Units from Present Station:

(1) Clothing and equipment as prescribed in paragraph 8 above except that the following items will not accompany the units:

Items authorized in paragraph 8 d (2) above
General purpose motor vehicles (as listed in POM)
Heavy tentage as prescribed in T/BA

NOTE: Any organizational equipment shipped by the 380th Bomb Group to the New York or Boston Ports of Embarkation as directed in Movement Orders, Shipment 2618, will not accompany the unit. This equipment is being remarked and shipped to the San Francisco Port of Embarkation under instructions issued separately to the Commanding Generals, New York and Boston Ports of Embarkation.

9. Instructions Reference Shipments to the Port:

a. To be Shipped to the San Francisco Port of Embarkation:

NOTE: Any organizational supplies and equipment shipped by the Chiefs of Supply Services for the 380th Bomb Group as directed in Movement Orders, Shipment 2618, respectively, to the New York and Boston Ports of Embarkation are being remarked and shipped to the San Francisco Port of Embarkation. Letter, WD 370.5 (4-2-43) OB-S-E-SPOPT-M, April 5, 1943, Subject: Amendment No. 1 to Movement Orders, Shipment 2618, deleted the 380th Bomb Group from that Movement Order.

(1) The Chiefs of Supply Services will ship the following:

(Based on 90 days' Theater of Operations Maintenance, and 30 days' Zone of Interior Maintenance).

RESTRICTED

12

SPECIAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 102)

HEADQUARTERS LOWRY FIELD
Denver, Colorado
April 16, 1943.

EXTRACT

* 32. Under auth of * * Shipment Nos 2960 K-L-M-N-O this sta consisting of C and enlisted personnel (in gr) listed below, with organizational equipment and impedimenta, is trfd (perchng of str) to San Francisco PCE for foreign service WP by rail * *:

TRAIN COMMANDERS:

1ST LT STANLEY M WHITCRAFT 0911965 2960-K - Section 2
2ND LT JOHN E LAMOR 0569041 2960-O - Section 1

2960-K

✓ CAPT HARRY M. ROARK 0472682
✓ 2D LT DANIEL F CHENEVERT 0567645
✓ 2D LT MILTON C HILL 0568550
✓ 2D LT HENRY G SCHIFF 0857098
✓ 2D LT GEORGE E COX 01036922 atchd
✓ 1st/Sgt Robert M Cagney 6913905
✓ 1st/Sgt Robert W Mulholland 39172944
✓ 1st/Sgt Carl M Benjamin 31164921
✓ 1st/Sgt Orville G Monzingo 19037736
✓ 1st/Sgt Roger Caputo 16073115
✓ 1st/Sgt Donald E Hayward 39182395
✓ 1st/Sgt Henry A Sliwinski 32360070
✓ 1st/Sgt Neil O Holstad 37303382
✓ 1st/Sgt Charles F Dick 35352705
✓ 1st/Sgt Fernando Martinez 19050306
✓ 1st/Sgt Eugene J Wirtz 17029794
✓ 1st/Sgt Chalmers G Coleman 34494664
✓ 1st/Sgt Luis B Gomez 38143494
✓ 1st/Sgt Vaught C Knight 34129727
✓ 1st/Sgt Fred Keys 33527161
✓ 1st/Sgt Harold W Henderson 37428944

✓ CAPT GEORGE A HUNT 01701082
✓ 1ST LT JOE BURNS 0906510
✓ 2D LT JAMES J GORTZ 0868317
✓ 2D LT THOMAS E OUELLE 0954091
✓ 2D LT LEROY A SHETLER 01061709
✓ 1st/Sgt Thomas W Gamble 39090282
✓ 1st/Sgt Benwick H Ballenger 34123266
✓ 1st/Sgt Russell W Boertzel 32423324
✓ 1st/Sgt William J Blum 33314115
✓ 1st/Sgt Ralph J Finch Jr 31126651
✓ 1st/Sgt Wade E Sublett 17052374
✓ 1st/Sgt George Zivkovich 33158450
✓ 1st/Sgt William C Desmond 35507514
✓ 1st/Sgt Edward L Grahame 33324105
✓ 1st/Sgt Clarence H Klund 39186517
✓ 1st/Sgt Jerry Petrizzo 32536296
✓ 1st/Sgt Ben Ervin 35562372
✓ 1st/Sgt Robert J Jones 31269105
✓ 1st/Sgt Clarence E Tyler 36702232
✓ 1st/Sgt James W Veatch 36370951
✓ 1st/Sgt Robert H Westmoreland 39905309

2960-L

✓ CAPT WILLIAM S BUTTS 01702368
✓ 1ST LT JULES E SIMON 0562052
✓ 2D LT DANIEL ALLEGRI 0565483
✓ 2D LT RALPH W HOLMES 0568666
✓ 2D LT ELWOOD J MCNERY 01551279
✓ 2D LT LEOBOLD C SMITH 08583550
✓ 1st/Sgt Raymond R Birney 39254956
✓ 1st/Sgt William L Berzetti 34162267
✓ 1st/Sgt Thomas L Casey 38069354
✓ 1st/Sgt Rollin J Fulcher 16011830

✓ 1ST LT WILLIAM D SMITHLEY 0385935
✓ 1ST LT JOSEPH M SIMONE 0162775
✓ 2D LT CURTIS W CROW 0951955
✓ 2D LT THOMAS L HOWARD JR 0872077
✓ 2D LT ROBERT T RUST 0576123
✓ 1st/Sgt Pershing J Berthelot 16071357
✓ 1st/Sgt William J Brewer 39603404
✓ 1st/Sgt Leonard A Castor 37029595
✓ 1st/Sgt Edward Gaudet 34231057

RESTRICTED

25

Lieut ant Colonel Miller. (13)

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PRIORITY

x

23 April, 1943.

REB/inf

COMAFADVON FIVE (RELINT) COMBOMCOM FIVE

INITIAL INCREMENT OF THREE EIGHT ZERO BOMGR PAREN PREVIOUSLY REFERRED TO AS
THREE ONE EIGHT GROUP PAREN ARRIVED BRISBANE TWENTYTWO APRIL PD REFERENCE
LETTER SUBJECT THREE ONE EIGHT BOMGR NINE APRIL ADDRESSED TO ADVON AND
BOMCOM CONCERNING DISTRIBUTION OF THIS GROUP PAREN AA PAREN
INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSIGNMENT CONTAINED THEREIN WILL BE ADHERED TO PD
ALL COMBAT AIRCRAFT AND CREWS WILL BE PROCESSED THROUGH BOMGR REPLACEMENT
CENTER CHARTERS TOWERS PD FIRST TWELVE AIRCRAFT WILL BE ASSIGNED FENTON
PD THE GROUP COMMANDER LIEUTENANT COLONEL MILLER WILL PROCEED FENTON
FOR INITIAL ESTABLISHMENT THEN REPORT TO BOMCOM AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE PD
IN WHICH COMBAT AIRCRAFT IS THIRTYFIVE PLANES BETWEEN TWENTYSECOND APRIL
AND FOURTH MAY PD IN ADDITION THREE EXTRA AIRPLANES ASSIGNED THIS GROUP
FOR TOTAL OF THIRTYEIGHT PD GROUND ECHELON AT PORT OF EMBARKATION
DATE OF ARRIVAL UNKNOWN PD HEADQUARTERS THREE EIGHT ZERO BOMGR BEING
ASSIGNED THIS DATE TO BOMCOM WITH PERMANENT STATION FENTON UNDER OPERATIONAL
PD
CONTROL BAAFCAAF IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBJECT LETTER SQUADRON ORGANIZATIONS
WILL NOT BE ASSIGNED UNTIL ARRIVAL OF GROUND ECHELON PD REQUEST NECESSARY

-1-

SECRET (13)

PRIORITY

x

23 April, 1943.

REB/inf.

-2-

INSTRUCTIONS FROM BOMCOM TO BOMGR REPLACEMENT CENTER PD COLONEL
MILLER PROCEEDING TO CHARTERS TOWERS WITH COPIES OF THESE INSTRUCTIONS
TWENTYFOUR APRIL

COMAAF

OFFICIAL:

GUY N. SAUNDERS,
Lieut. Colonel, Air Corps,
Acting Adjutant General.

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

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HEADQUARTERS
FIFTH AIR FORCE
APO 925

20 May, 1943.
SECRET
Auth CG
Init *2742*
Date 20 May, 1943.

TROOP MOVEMENT DIRECTIVE)

NUMBER.....32)

1. The 380th Bomb Group (H), (less Air Echelon) is directed to prepare for movement from Sydney, New South Wales, to Fenton, Northern Territory. Immediate preparation for this movement will be inaugurated to insure the proper equiptage and ability of the unit to move on further orders.

2. Initiation of this movement will be effected by a USAFFE Administrative Troop Movement Directive, or by instructions from the Commanding General, Fifth Air Force.

3. Upon receipt of further instructions, the Commanding Officer of the 380th Bomb Group (H), will contact the Commanding General, Base Section 7, for the necessary instructions pertaining to this move.

4. This will be a permanent change of station.

5. Logistical Data, approximate:

Personnel

56 Off
1 L.O.
1140 E.H.

Organizational equipment

1350 Ship tons
310 Long tons

6. All organizational equipment (except vehicles) and thirty (30) days of supplies will be taken.

7. Transportation will be by water.

8. The Commanding Officer of the 380th Bomb Group (H) will report to this Headquarters, "Attention A-4 Transportation", time and date of departure prior to departure, and time and date of arrival immediately upon arrival at destination.

9. Unit report of change will be submitted to the Second Machine Records Unit (Mobile), Base Section No. 3, APO 923, in accordance with Paragraph 16b, LA 345-800.

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Prepare suggested reply for me to make to him.

H. H. A.

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380TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION
2004 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM

Date _____

Your Name _____

Squadron _____ 380th Duty _____

Please check if you are a * Regular Member _____ or an **Associate Member _____

****Associates:** 380th Veteran's Name: _____

Relationship: _____ Sqdn: _____

Your Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Spouse's Name _____

* *Regular member* means an original member of the 380th Bomb Group.

****Associate member** means a family member (or other affiliation) of an original member. If you are an Associate, please give the name of the original member, your relationship to that person, and his squadron number.

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TAPS

*Day is done, gone the sun, from the lake from the hill
from the sky. All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.*

*Thanks and praise for our days 'neath the sun, 'neath
the stars, 'neath the sky. As we go, this we know
God is nigh.*

LEST WE FORGET



Please send TAPS information to:
Theodore J. Williams, 208 Chippewa St.,
West Lafayette IN 47906-2123
Phone: 765/494-7434, 765/463-7828

528th Bullock, Charles E., Navigator, G. Hill Crew,
Texas, DOD 09/20/2003, reported by Solon Graham

528th Mullen, Donald J., Ground Staff, Ordnance,
Columbus, Ohio, DOD 01/25/1982, reported by his
nephew, Edward Painter

528th Painter, George V., Ground Staff, Ordnance,
Columbus, Ohio, DOD 08/01/1997, reported by his
son, Edward Painter

529th Burris, Marvin G. ("Pete"), Gunner,
Nakardo's Crew, Timonium, Maryland, DOD
12/26/2003, reported by his friend, Ginny Roper

529th Cox, James L., Squadron Commander,
Gastonia, North Carolina, DOD 04/25/1998, reported
by Al Busedu and Bud Offerle

529th Johnson, Robert W., Assistant Flight
Engineer, Gunner, Horn's Crew, Haledon, New
Jersey, DOD 02/05/2004, reported by his son-in-
law, Joe Giangrasso

529th Wehenkel, Kenneth, Gunner, Levandoski's
Crew, St. George, Utah, 08/2003, reported by John
Seckar

530th Heyden, Donald L., Bombardier, Dallas
Crew, Racine, Wisconsin, DOD 06/01/1992,
reported by his son, Richard Heyden

531st Moore, Byron, Navigator, Smolek Crew,
Bartlesville, Oklahoma, DOD 12/02/2003, reported
by George Gerards and Emil Smolek

