



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

AFFECTIONATELY KNOWN AS

# The Flying Circus



## NEWSLETTER #47

Summer 2011

### *Contents of this Issue*

#### 2011 Reunion Information & Deadlines

Detailed Reunion Schedule

High Altitude Tips

Event Registration Form

Hotel Registration Information/Form

Patches, Jackets, Caps, Visors Order Form

Shady Lady Documentary Update

Mail Call

WWII Posters Available at Northwestern University

TAPS

Address Changes

New Members

Web Links (YouTube & Colorado Springs)

#### HISTORIANS

Bob Alford

Glenn R. Horton, Jr.

Gary L. Horton

#### HISTORY PROJECT

Theodore J. Williams

#### 2011 REUNION COORDINATOR

Barb Gotham

**Colorado Springs, Colorado**

**August 3-7, 2011**

#### NEWSLETTERS –

#### WEBPAGES – FINANCIAL

Barbara J. Gotham

Phone: 765/463-5390

Email: [bjgotham@gmail.com](mailto:bjgotham@gmail.com)



Next issue: Autumn 2011 (to be mailed October 2011)

Note that this Summer issue is early due to upcoming Reunion deadlines

380th Bomb Group Association, 130 Colony Road, West Lafayette, IN 47906-1209 USA

<http://380th.org/>

[bjgotham@gmail.com](mailto:bjgotham@gmail.com)

---

---

## 2011 REUNION

---

---

**Location:** Colorado Springs, Colorado

**Dates:** August 3-7, 2011

**Hotel:** Marriott

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/cosmc-colorado-springs-marriott/>

*We hope you will be able to bring your family to the 2011 Reunion (especially since this year's reunion is before most schools start their fall semester/term).*

*THE REUNION IS FAST APPROACHING!!! August is just around the corner!*

### **NOTE THE FOLLOWING REUNION DEADLINES!!**

In order to ensure a room at the Marriott, your **HOTEL RESERVATIONS** should be made before **Monday, JULY 4, 2011**. Reservations made/received after this date will be provided on a space available basis (hotel will honor the rates for our group, provided they have rooms available at the time of the reservation).

**EVENT REGISTRATIONS** are encouraged to be submitted by **Thursday, JULY 28**. Registrations received after this date will be accepted, but may not guarantee you a spot for the requested event (e.g., Thursday morning tour).

**CANCELLATIONS** will be refunded only if request is submitted before **Friday, JULY 22**.

Only a limited quantity of **GEAR ITEMS** (particularly jackets, caps, visors) will be available at the 2011 Colorado Reunion. So please place your order before **Wednesday, JULY 20** in order to have before/at the Reunion.

See order form in this issue and also online at: <http://380th.org/REUNION/Gear.pdf>

Please see **Newsletter #46 and/or our website** for additional details, and travel discounts (from **American Airlines and Avis**).

<http://380th.org/REUNION/2011Reunion/Reunion.htm>

---

### **FLYING TO COLORADO SPRINGS**

**Colorado Springs Airport (COS)** - Serves the following airlines: Allegiant Air, American Airlines, Continental, Delta, Frontier Airlines, and United      Phone: 1-719-550-1972

Because hotel has no shuttle service to/from the airport, they suggest the following for transport from COS to hotel: Meet & Greet Colorado Springs (from COS): fee \$50 one way, reservation required.  
Estimated taxi fare: \$50 one way.

**Denver International Airport (DEN)** - All major airlines (approximately 83 miles northeast from Colorado Springs)  
Phone: 1-800-247-2336

Because hotel has no shuttle service to/from the airport, they suggest the following for transport from DEN to hotel: Meet & Greet Colorado Springs (from DEN): fee \$180 one way, reservation required.  
Estimated taxi fare: \$160 one way.

### **GROUND TRANSPORTATION**

The hotel has no shuttle service to/from the airport. **HOWEVER, they do offer local shuttle service within about a 7 mile radius of the hotel** - so if, for example, you are unable to make the Thursday Garden of the Gods tour, you could take the hotel shuttle there another time on your own (like Saturday afternoon).

You can rent a car at either airport (see discount offer from Avis in Newsletter #46 and on our website), or there is shuttle, limo, and taxi service to Colorado Springs.

FOR A LIST OF TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS, PLEASE START WITH THIS WEBSITE:

<http://www.visitcos.com/meetings/colorado-springs-transportation>

If you are unable to attend, but would like to support the reunion, you can help by sending a donation to our Reunion Fund. Please make your checks to "380th Bomb Group Association," and mail to: Barb Gotham, 130 Colony Road, West Lafayette IN 47906-1209
--

---

## 2011 REUNION

---

### DETAILED REUNION SCHEDULE

#### ***Wednesday, August 3***

1:00 pm - Registration in Hospitality Room (open afternoon/evening)  
Afternoon - sightseeing on your own  
Dinner on own

#### ***Thursday, August 4***

Morning optional Garden of the Gods Tour  
9:00 AM - tour bus departs hotel  
1:00 PM - tour bus returns to hotel

1:00 - 5:00 PM - Registration/Hospitality Room open  
Afternoon - sightseeing on your own

Welcome Themed (Murder Mystery!) Banquet  
(on patio at Marriott)  
5:30 - 8:00 PM - cash bar  
6:00 - 8:00 PM - dinner

#### ***Friday, August 5***

8:45 AM - buses depart for US Air Force Academy  
10:00 AM - Memorial Service at Cadet Chapel, USAFA  
10:30 - 11:30 AM - optional chapel tours  
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM - luncheon at the Falcon Club (Sunrise Room), USAFA

1:00 PM - to Visitor's Center  
Those wishing to return to hotel will stay on bus at Visitor's Center  
Remainder stay at Visitor's Center for shopping, film, and await return of bus for USAFA grounds tour  
3:30 PM - bus returns to hotel

Afternoon/Evening - Hospitality Room open  
Dinner on own

#### ***Saturday, August 6***

10:00 - 11:00 AM - Members Meeting (Hospitality Room)  
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM - Hospitality Room open  
Afternoon - sightseeing on your own

5:30 - 10:00 PM - Banquet (at Marriott) (cash bar at 5:30, dinner served at 6:00, program and dancing following)

***Sunday, August 7*** - departures

### HIGH ALTITUDE TIPS

High altitude has its benefits. Our bodies use more calories and burn more fat. But, for lowland travelers who are new to our area, altitude can produce some unusual sensations such as dizziness, nausea and headaches. Colorado is a state consisting of various and extreme altitudes with 54 peaks over 14,000 feet. Colorado Springs climbs to an altitude of 6,035 feet. Manitou Springs, just five miles to the west of Colorado Springs, is 6,320 feet. Further west, the towns of Victor and Cripple Creek are over 9,500 feet. The summit of Pikes Peak towers above them all at 14,115 feet.

To enjoy your visit here in Colorado Springs, here are a few things to keep in mind to give your body time to adjust to the altitude and prevent altitude sickness:

Stay below 7,000 feet the first day (the city of Colorado Springs is 6,035 feet above sea level).

Give your body time to adjust (there's lots to see and do at lower altitudes).

- Avoid strenuous exercise the first day.
- Limit alcohol intake. Alcohol binds oxygen and water and robs your body of these two important nutrients.
- Drink more water. The air is drier and your body will dehydrate much more quickly. The higher up you go, the more water you should drink.
- Stay hydrated, inside and out. Don't forget the chapstick, body lotion, and sunscreen!
- Always travel with a companion. If someone begins to experience severe coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath or chest pain, get him or her to a lower altitude as quickly as possible.
- The effects of some drugs such as tranquilizers can be greatly increased at higher altitudes. Be sure to check with your doctor first before exerting yourself at higher altitudes.
- Get plenty of good rest and enjoy yourself!

*From: <http://www.visitcos.com/colorado-springs/travel/high-altitude-tips>*

---

---

## 2011 COLORADO SPRINGS REUNION - EVENT REGISTRATION FORM

---

---

*Registration fees are collected from all attending, to defray miscellaneous costs of Reunion (like registration packets, room rental and setup fees, etc.)*

**Registration Fees:**

Adults	\$20.00 per person	x _____	=	\$ _____
Children <18	\$10.00 per person	x _____	=	\$ _____

**Hospitality Room Fund:**     **Optional** – Suggested \$10.00 per person     x \_\_\_\_\_     =     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*This is to help pay for snacks, refreshments, and drinks in the hospitality room for the entire reunion. It is optional.*

*Sign up for events below - pick and choose what works best for your schedule, interests, and budget!*

**August 4 - Thursday –**

– Morning Optional tour: Garden of the Gods, Manitou Springs, Old Colorado City (includes transportation)

All ages     \$35.00 pp     x \_\_\_\_\_     =     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

– Welcome Themed Dinner (Murder Mystery): Marriott Hotel patio (buffet)

All ages     \$25.00 pp     x \_\_\_\_\_     =     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**August 5 - Friday –**

– Morning: Memorial Service, US Air Force Academy, followed by optional chapel tour

Bus transport cost per person (round trip) to the US Air Force Academy

All ages     \$10.00 pp     x \_\_\_\_\_     =     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

– Noon: Lunch at the Falcon Club, USAFA (price for meal only)

All ages     \$16.00 pp     x \_\_\_\_\_     =     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

– Afternoon Options: (transport cost included in morning trip cost)

(1) Bus back to hotel after luncheon     # Persons taking this option = \_\_\_\_\_

(2) USAFA gift shop, film, and grounds bus tour, then return to hotel (includes stopping to see  
380<sup>th</sup> plaque on the Academy grounds)     # Persons taking this option = \_\_\_\_\_

**August 6 - Saturday –**

– Banquet: Marriott Hotel (buffet)

All ages     \$35.00 pp     x \_\_\_\_\_     =     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL DUE FOR ALL EVENTS:**     =     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

---

PRINT NAMES FOR NAME BADGES ON THE LINES BELOW:

---

---

---

Squadron Number \_\_\_\_\_ If family member, name of veteran & your association with him (son, daughter, widow, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

*Additional guest names can be written on a separate sheet or on the back of this sheet*

---

**Refunds:** No refunds will be made if cancellation occurs **after 5:00 PM EDT, Friday, July 22, 2011**

**Please make checks payable to:**     **380<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group Association**

**Mail form with payment to:**     Barbara Gotham, 130 Colony Road, West Lafayette IN 47906-1209

*Payment can only be made by check, money order, cashier's check, or cash – no credit cards.*

---

Questions? Call Barb at 765/463-5390 (home) or 765/412-5370 (cell) – or send email to [bjgotham@gmail.com](mailto:bjgotham@gmail.com)

---

## 2011 COLORADO SPRINGS REUNION - HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

---

### 380th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION – 2010 REUNION

August 3-7, 2011 – Colorado Springs, Colorado

Colorado Springs Marriott

5580 Tech Center Drive, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80919 USA

Phone: 1-719-260-1800 Fax: 1-719-260-1492

Reservations can be made by phone 24 hours a day by calling the **1-800-932-2151 Reservations** office. Please mention you are part of the **"380th Bomb Group Reunion"** (Group code: bgrbgra).

A **reservation web link** has been created to assist with the booking process. You will be directed to the property's home page with the code already entered in the appropriate field. All you need to do is enter your arrival date to begin the reservation process. <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/cosmc?groupCode=bgrbgra&app=resvlink&fromDate=8/3/11&toDate=8/7/11> **NOTE: The online reservation link is only set up for the contracted room block dates (August 3-7).**

Anyone needing other dates must call the hotel directly at 719-260-1800 as this request is based on availability.

To avoid any availability issues, please have all reservations made prior to the **July 4th, 2011, cut-off date.**

---

**If you prefer that I make your reservations for you, please fill out this form:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse or Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

Number of rooms required: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of adults per room: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of children per room: \_\_\_\_\_

Room Type: (All rooms are non-smoking) \_\_\_\_\_ 1 King Bed (\$99/night plus tax)  
\_\_\_\_\_ 2 Double Beds (\$99/night plus tax)

Special Needs: \_\_\_\_\_ (For example, handicap accessible room; crib/rollaway bed)

Guarantee by credit card # \_\_\_\_\_ exp date (Mo/Yr) \_\_\_\_\_

Circle type of card: MasterCard, Visa, Discover

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_ (Please print)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

---

- ALL ROOMS ARE NON-SMOKING AT THIS HOTEL
- Hotel cancel policy for this event: 24 hours prior to arrival to avoid penalty
- Complimentary on-site parking (self-park)
- Check-in: 3:00 pm
- Check-out: Noon
- Pets not allowed (although service animals are allowed for persons with disabilities)
- Services & amenities: coffee/tea in room; concierge desk; full-service business center; room service 6:30 am-11:00 pm; safe deposit boxes at front desk
- High-speed internet free in meeting rooms; \$9.95 charge/night in guest rooms

**Reservations due before **July 4, 2011.** Reservations after this date will be provided on a space available basis.**

---

**Please mail or fax reservation form to:** Barbara Gotham, 130 Colony Road, West Lafayette IN 47906-1209

Fax: 765-494-6298

Email: [bjgotham@gmail.com](mailto:bjgotham@gmail.com)

2011 Reunion: <http://380th.org/REUNION/2011Reunion/Reunion.htm>



---

## SHADY LADY DOCUMENTARY UPDATE

---

Fact Not Fiction Films in England, set up in 2006 by two former British airline captains is planning to make a feature length documentary about one of the 380th finest moments -- a story many of you will know but which is yet to be told as a documentary.....

### 'Shady Lady'

On 19 February 1942, 10 weeks after leading the attack on Pearl Harbor, Japanese bomber pilot Mitsuo Fuchida, flying from same aircraft carriers, attacked Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia. Captain Fuchida made sure they did not repeat the mistakes made at Pearl Harbor. The Japanese air raids on Darwin -- often called the "Pearl Harbor of Australia" -- used more aircraft, sank more boats and dropped more bombs than at Pearl Harbor and dealt a psychological blow to the Australian population, just weeks after hostilities with Japan had begun.

Australia was determined to strike back and therefore welcomed the 1943 arrival of the American 380th Bombardment Group and their long range B-24 'Liberator' bomber aircraft. The 380th was placed under the control of the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) command in Darwin.

The B-24 was a heavy bomber, which ended World War II as the most produced Allied heavy bomber in history, and the most produced American military aircraft at over 18,000 units. It was the weapon needed to strike at the heart of the Imperial Japanese Army.

In evaluating how to strike back at the Japanese, RAAF intelligence knew that half of all lubricating oils used by the Japanese military, and 60% of all their aviation gasoline, came from refineries in Borneo; hundreds of miles behind enemy lines and almost an impossible target to reach - but it had to be done. With a lot of luck, the B-24 bomber might just be able to reach the target, but would they be able to get back?



'Shady Lady' is the epic story of the B-24 bomber aircraft called 'Shady Lady', that set off from Darwin on Friday, 13 August 1943, on what was at that time the world's longest ever attempted bombing mission of WWI, to the oil refineries at Balikpapan, Borneo.

'Shady Lady', with a crew of 10 and one RAAF photographer, was one of eleven bombers that chased the setting sun westward past Timor, into heavily defended enemy territory.

The crew of 'Shady Lady' under the command of First Lieutenant, Doug Craig, had a hazardous journey to the target. Flying through numerous tropical thunderstorms that caused severe turbulence and greatly hampered navigator, John Nash's ability to carry out celestial navigation. Despite all the odds, all 11 aircraft arrived individually at their target. 'Shady Lady' was the last to arrive and was tasked with not only attacking the target, but to also photograph it.

As she flew over her target for 45 minutes, searchlights tracked 'Shady Lady' to help the anti aircraft gunners destroy her. As anti aircraft fire exploded around 'Shady Lady' and rocked the aircraft violently, waist gunner S/Sgt. Maurice "Slim" Powers, with nerves of steel, decided to inject a little humor into the tense situation. He pretended to take a curtain call at his gun window. Much to the other gunner's amusement, he repeatedly bowed in the limelight, shouting, "Thank you, Thank you very much."

---

## ***SHADY LADY DOCUMENTARY UPDATE (continued)***

---

On her journey back to base, more tropical thunderstorms threatened to tear the wings off 'Shady Lady'. When day finally came, the 'Shady Lady' crew realised they were miles off course and had no choice but to overfly a main Japanese air base in Timor, if they had any chance of getting back to Australia alive.

Japanese fighters had no intention of letting 'Shady Lady' fly back in one piece. After an hour-long, very stressful dogfight that tested the crew to the very limit, 'Shady Lady' finally escaped and headed for Australia. With fuel all but gone and running on empty, the aircraft was in a dire situation. The aircraft commander was preparing to ditch the aircraft when the northern coast of Australia was sighted.

With just minutes of fuel remaining, the commander spotted a saltpan near the coast and prepared the crew for an emergency landing. The commander had to land the aircraft in impossible circumstances, with no second chances. Apart from the nose wheel collapsing and the resulting damage to the front of the aircraft on landing, there were, incredibly, no serious injuries. It was 0945 hrs, sixteen hours and thirty-five minutes since their departure from Darwin. This had become the longest ever bombing mission ever carried out to that day.

Miles from anywhere, the crew and aircraft had to now be rescued. Radio contact was eventually established with Darwin and provided the stranded air-men with the hope of rescue the following afternoon. This hope materialized in the form of Father Sera-phim Sanz, the priest at a local mission. A new race against time had started. The saltpan where 'Shady Lady' landed was due to flood soon as the season changed. Engineers were brought in to make temporary repairs to the aircraft in extreme conditions of

heat, little water, and limited facilities. This was one of Australia's harshest locations. Under constant attack from thousands of 'sand flies' crews worked around the clock to fix and lighten the aircraft by removing unnecessary parts such as armament and ammunition.

New parts and fuel had to be brought to 'Shady Lady' and this was done by Aborigines who carried them over very difficult terrain for tens of miles. With only days to spare, 'Shady Lady' was finally pushed back and prepared for what sadly became her final take-off. 'Shady Lady' was never to fly again in combat, too badly damaged from the crash landing. The site where 'Shady Lady' landed is today an Australian Heritage Site with parts of the aircraft still there and the tracks from her landing still visible, frozen in time due to the geological features of the area.

Filming is to take place this summer at the actual site in Australia where Shady Lady landed and where the tyre marks and parts of 'Shady Lady' still remain, 68 years later.

Fact Not Fiction Films is grateful to the 380th Bomb Group Association, the family members of 'Shady Lady', Barbara Gotham, our sponsors and many many others who have helped piece the story together. We believe this will be a wonderful documentary that will captivate audiences around the world. For more information please visit our documentary section at: [www.factnotfictionfilms.com](http://www.factnotfictionfilms.com)

Captain Tristan Loraine  
CEO  
Fact Not Fiction Films

Fact Not Fiction Films Ltd  
Business Resource Centre  
Mile Stone House  
86 Hurst Road  
Horsham  
West Sussex  
RH12 2DT

FACT NOT FICTION FILMS

**CHECK OUT OUR  
LATEST PRODUCTIONS**  
[www.factnotfictionfilms.com](http://www.factnotfictionfilms.com)

Tel: 01403 734550 (Int'l +44 1403 734550)  
Fax: 01403 733150 (Int'l + 44 1403 733150)


VAT Number: 895 7375 56 Company Number: 5962244  
Registered office address: 55 Worthing Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1TD

# PATCHES, JACKETS, CAPS, VISORS

## 380th Bomb Group Association

### GEAR ORDER

Please place your order before July 20 in order to have before/at 2011 Reunion.

<b>PATCHES</b> (Mark on line # requested) <b>Squadron/Group patches:</b> <b>\$10.00 ea.</b> Group: _____ 528th: _____ 529th: _____ 530th: _____ 531st: _____	 Group  528 <sup>th</sup>  529th	 530 <sup>th</sup>  531st
<b>Wings patches:</b> <b>\$3.00 ea.</b> Pilot: _____ Navigator: _____ Bombardier: _____ Gunner: _____ Air Crew Member: _____	 Pilot  Navigator  Aircrew	 Bombardier  Gunner
<b>Shoulder patches:</b> <b>\$4.00 ea.</b> 5th Air Force: _____ USAAF: _____	 5th Air Force	 USAAF
<b>CAPS, \$8.00 ea.</b> One size: _____		
<b>VISORS, \$5.00 ea.</b> <b>(new reduced price!)</b> Pink with blue lettering _____ White with blue lettering _____		
<b>JACKETS</b> <b>Blue nylon, \$25.00 ea.</b> (Mark on line # requested) Small _____ Medium: _____ Large: _____ XL: _____ 2XL: _____		
<b>REUNION PATCHES</b> <b>\$3.00 ea.</b> Colorado Springs/2011: _____ Branson/2010: _____ Older: Year _____ Place: _____	 Sample reunion patch	

Limited # of items will be available at the 2011 Colorado Springs Reunion. Place your order now!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Choose one option: \_\_\_\_\_ Deliver to my home address \_\_\_\_\_ I will pick up my order at the 2011 Reunion

Send your order to: Barbara Gotham, 130 Colony Road, West Lafayette, IN 47906-1209

Cash or checks only, made payable to: 380th Bomb Group Association (no credit cards)



---

## MAIL CALL

---

May 2, 2011

Thought you guys would appreciate this new painting I've done of a Liberator on the bottom of a tropical reef, somewhere off the coast of some south Pacific island...

It has been professionally scanned and is on my website...

Ken Dahl

*"We go where we think we can go,  
and we become what we believe we  
will become."*

<http://www.kennethdahl.com>

*(Color version will be on our website)*



---

Wed, Apr 20, 2011 at 1:33 AM

Subject: My father in WWII

Hello, Barbara and Theodore.

I found your contact information on the 380th Bomb Group Association web site. As you might be able to guess from the subject line, my father was in WWII. He was a gunner in a B-24 and was in the 531st Squadron of the 380th Bomb Group. His name was Robert E. Walters. I have already found some information on him on your website and for that I would like to thank you very much. I am amazed and awed at the amount of information available and very impressed when I think of the amount of effort it has taken.

I have a cutting from a newspaper which states that my mother received a letter from General Kenney regarding my father's service. I do not have a copy of that letter. Is it possible that General Kenney's correspondence has been archived somewhere and that I might be able therefore to obtain a copy of the letter? The article also mentions 47 missions flown by my father but I have only found records of 3. Do you have any suggestions for where else I might look?

Under References on your website, you list publications and microfilm records. Are any of those available to me and if so how do I access them?

Thank you for the efforts you have already made in compiling and making accessible so much information. And also, in advance, for any help you might be able to give me.

Sincerely,

Judy Moore

[myrtle\\_s\\_m@hotmail.com](mailto:myrtle_s_m@hotmail.com)

---

## MAIL CALL

---

Mon, Apr 25, 2011 at 3:19 AM  
Subject: The Search for HAZEL

Dear Barbara.

Further to my letter published in newsletter 43 (summer 2011) I'd like to update you on our progress with the "HAZEL" project.

A request to aviation museums Australia wide for assistance with parts to help with the restoration of one of our turrets resulted in the very generous offer of two damaged turrets from "The Aviation Historical Society of NT" in Darwin. One from a burnt aircraft (believed to be "Bebe") and another with HAZEL painted on the front. We both agreed that it was important to try & find out who Hazel was.

With the help of the Darwin team & research by one of our members we found reference to this incident in the excellent book "The Best in the Southwest" by Glenn Horton Jr. who has kindly allowed us to reproduce photos and text for our display.

In brief. On 17th January 1944 six of the 529th aircraft took off from Long's runway, NT, Australia. 1/Lt Thomas Jones declared an emergency and requested an immediate return. Waiting their turn to take-off at the warm up station was three of the 531st aircraft. Unfortunately, during the attempted landing, 1/Lt Jone's main gear struck the nose turret of Cmdr Frank Seale's aircraft, "Sack time" almost tearing the nose off the aircraft and slashing along the fuselage with his props. He then struck the next in line, "Bebe" and as a result this aircraft burned. 1/Lt Jone's aircraft crashed onto the runway but unfortunately all on board perished while those on Sack Time and Bebe escaped unharmed.

While searching the "Taps" listings we found Cmdr Seale and in the spouse listings there was a reference to Hazel Seale, his wife. A big part of our story was coming together. Without your help in forwarding my address and a request that I be allowed to contact Cmdr Seale and his wife's Daughter, also Hazel, the story might have stalled.

We are in regular contact with Hazel who, along with her family, has been very generous supplying us with information, photos and artefacts that enhance our display. Hazel is allowing us to copy some of Cmdr Seale's personal letters to his then Girl, Hazel where he asks her permission to paint her name on his aircraft and another where he casually comments that he can no longer fly his aircraft due to an incident. I guess wartime censorship led to some people becoming the masters of understatement.

As our display grows it attracts a lot of interest from our hanger visitors and we think it's important that younger generations understand the contribution made by the 380th bomb group along with the Australian aircrews to keep Australia safe. Everybody can relate to a guy wanting to write his girls name on his aircraft. We have kept our 400 + members (worldwide) aware of the project via our newsletter and have had positive feedback.

Our own B24 restoration is progressing slowly and we are about to reach a milestone that we are all very proud of. The external restoration of the fuselage is almost finished. It is our aim to restore this aircraft to as close as original as possible however in a slight deviation and in an effort to preserve the aircraft we have progressively removed all fuselage skins, cleaned and treated any corrosion, and where possible replaced the original skin after undercoating (being careful to preserve the signature of one of the workers during initial assembly). The interior will then be painted with an aluminium paint to resemble the original unpainted finish.

Barbara, while I hope that our ongoing story is of interest to your membership I wonder if you could publish my Email address and a request that if any member was at Long when this incident occurred or was part of Bebe or Sack Time's crew I would love to hear from them.

Yours sincerely,

Ron Taaffe  
Home: ron-kay@bigpond.com  
B24 restoration: b24@b24australia.com.au

My address is :-

Ron Taaffe  
44 Signature Blvd,  
Sanctuary Lakes,  
Victoria 3030  
Australia.



At a recent ANZAC Day celebration I met a vet who remembered Frank Seale when he was Co of the 531st & commented that he was well respected & a "good bloke". High praise indeed from an Australian!



---

## MAIL CALL

---

Mon, Apr 18, 2011

Subject: CHESTER A KAPUSCINSKI

While reviewing last month's 380th Bomb Group Association newsletter requesting any information on (among others) the above subject, I offer the following. "Kappy" was the nose turret gunner on my first mission as first pilot. If I recall correctly, he was from either Ithica or Utica, New York. He was adamant that he survive so that he could return and kill his local draft board who had forced the closing of his two illegal gambling sites in his home city. I'm not sure whether he accomplished this vow but I do know that he survived. He contacted me at my home, Told me that he was working on his plan to build a car with retractable wings. He asked me if I would test hop it. I told him to let me know when it was ready and if I thought it would work I would test hop it. I never heard from him again. For the record, his name was Cheslau Andre Edvard Kapuscinsk.

J. W. DALLY

dallysdilly@yahoo.com

May 28, 2011 at 9:50 AM

Subject: Passing of Adelbert Haggas

One of my grandfather's proudest accomplishments in life was fighting for his country during WWII. He shared his stories about this phase of his life any time he had a chance. I was fortunate enough to accompany him to Australia in 1992 on one of his reunions. We traveled all over the country visiting places he had been during the war. Every place we went, the Australian people treated us like royalty. I learned more about the war in those weeks than I had learned in all of my history classes in school. One day I hope to return to Australia with my own children to show them where their Great-grandfather fought in the last world war.

Jeremy Haggas

101 Clinton St.

Whitesboro, NY 13492

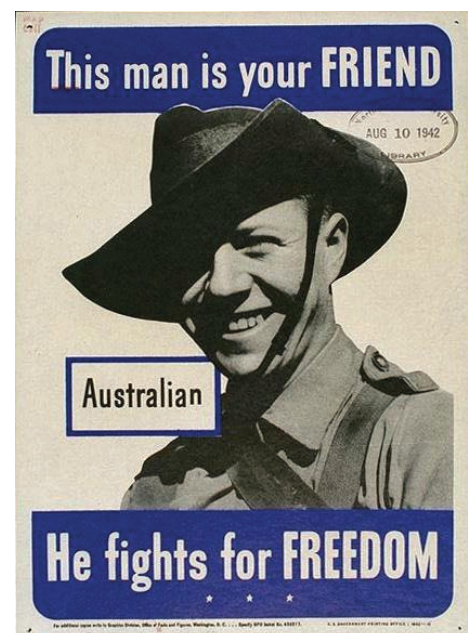
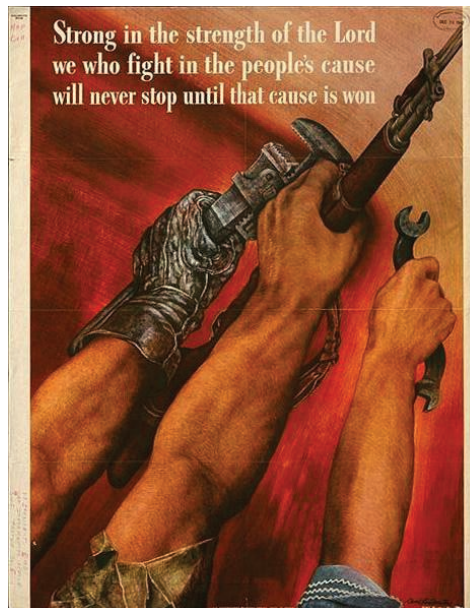
---

## WWII POSTERS AVAILABLE AT NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

---



The Government and Geographic Information and Data Services Department at Northwestern University Library has a comprehensive collection of over 300 posters issued by U.S. Federal agencies from the onset of war through 1945.



<http://digital.library.northwestern.edu/wwii-posters/>



## 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***

---

528th - **Roy J. Ramsey**, Photographer, Various Crews, and Ground Staff, Heavy Equipment Operator, DOD May 4, 2011, Alturas, California, reported by his daughter, Nancy Griffin

529th & Group - **Leo M. Pabst**, Cryptographic Technician (529th), and Medical Supply NCO (Group), DOD October 23, 2010, Parkersburg, West Virginia, reported by his son, Douglas E. Pabst

529th - **James E. Temple**, Assistant Flight Engineer, Morabito Crew (41), DOD January 26, 2011, Alamo, Texas, reported by his widow, Jo Ann Temple

530th - **Adelbert "Del" Haggas**, Bombsight Mechanic, DOD May 16, 2011, Rome, New York, reported by his grandson, Jeremy Haggas

531st - **Frank L. Berkowitz**, Assistant Flight Engineer/Gunner, Lenihan Crew (81), DOD January 6, 1977, Atlanta, Georgia, reported by his son, Dr. Ralph Berkowitz



News #47 - SUMMER 2011

Please send all TAPS listings to:

Barbara Gotham  
130 Colony Road  
West Lafayette IN 47906-1209  
Phone: 765/463-5390  
Email: [bjgotham@gmail.com](mailto:bjgotham@gmail.com)