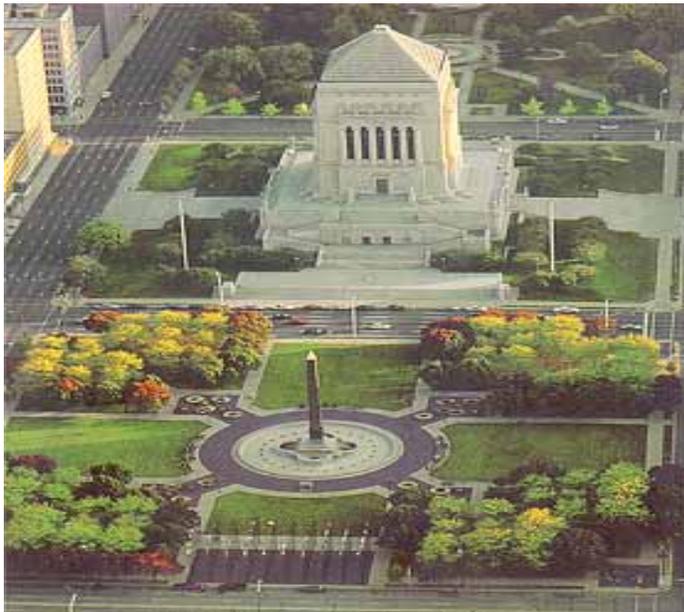


Hello 307th BG Veterans and Members!



The Indianapolis Report

Well, if you didn't make the Indianapolis reunion trip, we missed you dearly! And you sure missed a good one. We can report that we all had a lot of laughs, learned a few things from our veterans and everyone had a great time. We met some old friends and made some new ones and we all got a whole lot closer. But, isn't that what it's all about?

A special thanks go out to our Youth Ambassadors, Luke 'Sky' Warner and Bella Rotella, for hosting the reunion. They were seen scurrying about recording interviews and video recording everything that you may have missed. Be sure to visit the 307th BG webpage to view all the videos.

<http://www.307bg.net/reunion/index.asp>



Luke & Bella



A Show-Stopper!

There's no question that Jim McCabe stole the show, by showing some of the veterans, family members and guests how easy it is to search the 307th BG Historic Archives. There wasn't a moment that the wide screen monitor didn't display a video or a mission report, as they worked together to search for personal detail. We can use your help getting a message out about the 307th Archives. Be sure to see the last page of this newsletter.

The debut of the Long Ranger's Show was a sure hit. Jim interviewed Jack Palmer, Lewis Smith and Ben Waldo as they told a few stories that haven't been heard before.

Ben Waldo, Navigator, 424th BS, encountered 85 young cadets who were participating in a paramilitary exercise at the Indiana State Museum and he was invited to speak to them about the Norton Bomb Sight on display at the museum as they ate their lunch. We sure wish we could have filmed it. Ben was a hit and he looked like he had fun doing it as his daughter looked on.



Visit the new PX Store

There are a few new items posted in the new 307th Bombardment Group PX Store
Log on to the 307th BG website at [307bg.net] and click on **PX Store!**

Here you can browse our collection of 307th Bombardment Group memorabilia like books, hats, jackets, pins, patches, bumper stickers and special services for members and guests. You can even apply for membership or renew your membership. Do it NOW!



Watch for some important news

About the re-activation of the 307th Bomb Group.

A trip is being planned in the spring of 2014 to Shreveport LA.

We will send more details as soon as they are available.

* * * * *

Please help us promote the 307th BG Historic Archives

As we get closer to Veteran's Day, more and more elementary and high school teachers will be focusing on Veterans and their activities during the war.

We have something that can be an exciting project for any history class, studying WWII, especially the Pacific Theater.

We need to get an email campaign out to elementary and high schools and with only a month to get it done, we can do it only with your help.

Please copy and forward the email that is posted on the next page to your children, grandchildren and great grand children, friends and associates.

Have them send the email to their school's history department, or just take a copy with them to school and deliver it personally.

If you will take just a few minutes to look up the email addresses of the schools in your community, please forward the email to as many elementary and high schools as possible.

Proceeds from this promotion will help us build a communication platform that will allow the veterans to get together as frequently as they may wish.



Veteran's Day is soon Approaching!

Greetings

As a family member of a veteran of WWII, I am sending this email as an invitation to your school's history department to take advantage of some of the most treasured historic data about the Pacific Theater of WWII; some of which has only recently been released for public viewing

The 307th Bombardment Group was one of the first group of bomber squadrons activated in 1942 by the Army Air Corps, which later became the US Air Force.

Today the veterans of this remarkable group are proud to be in possession of an archive filled with previously [Secret] documents, mission reports, photos, videos, personal memoirs and much, much more.

Your students will have full access to explore the site and research the assets of this incredible archive.

For an annual fee of only \$75 your school and all of your students will have access to an unlimited amount of historic data, which can be read, copied and downloaded for their WWII history assignments. The Archive took thousands of hours to compile and is the only one of its kind available.

Proceeds from the subscription of our 307th Archives will benefit the remaining members of the 307th Bombardment Group and their efforts to provide as much detail about their part of WWII as possible.

Please Subscribe today— <https://www.wepay.com/stores/307th-bomb-group-px-store/item/archive-full-access-annual-subscription-962771>

Or visit: <http://www.307bg.net>

Thank you,

The Veterans of the 307th Bombardment Group - WWII



Here's what's in the works!

But it is going to take some help from you!

Grand-dad or great-grand dad was surely one of our heroes, and he may not be the most computer savvy member of the family, but with a little help from you or one of your own, he can have one heck of a time visiting face-to-face with other veteran members of the 307th, 13th Air Force and more.

The proceeds from our campaign to promote the 307th Historic Archives will help us to build and maintain the first ever:

307th BG Video Chat Room

Some vets will need assistance, but here's how it will work!

A Scheduler will be posted on the 307th Site. A vet will mark a few days that he will be available. As a few more vets select the same date and time, the "chat" is set.

Then, with a little help from a techie offspring to assist with logging in, they will be "On-Screen" in a live conversation. Sharing stories and keeping company, without ever leaving the comfort of their easy chair.

As we develop the site, our veterans will be able to use the Chat Service with family members and even chat with students in a classroom setting, studying WWII.



Historian's Corner

Hello 307th BG Members:

If you have any questions about your or your loved ones military records with the 307th BG, let me help you find the details that will make your search complete. I may be reached through the website or directly at 307thbg@comcast.net or by phone: [\(804\)277-8014](tel:8042778014).

My address is:

Jim McCabe, Historian
307th BG Assoc.
9260 Guenevere Place
Mechanicsville, VA 23116-2782

Recent Communications:

September 27, 2013-email to Tom Bonney, son of an 868th BS Snoopers

Tom,

I enjoyed meeting you at the 13th AF/307th BG Reunion. If you haven't already, I hope you will consider joining the 307th BG Assoc. I have considerable information about the Snoopers including a film with a Snoopers B-24 among the bombers on the mission. Do you have your father's mission log? If so, shoot me a copy and we will cross-reference for records/films etc. With

some luck, we will find some film of your father on mission(s). As promised, below is the link for the database of Snoopers aircraft complete with Serial #'s and known Nose Art. I'm sure your dad would have flown on many of these B-24's. If you are aware of others not included, please let me know and I will do my best to find them. Please send me both you and your father's complete info; name, rank, MOS (position on bomber), ASN (Army Serial Number), snail mail address, home email, phone numbers, etc., and I will add it to our database. Our database, some of which you began to see at our reunions, is available to all our members and we are adding to it on a daily basis. Here's the membership link:

<http://www.307bg.net/member/>

Here's the link to the Snoopers B-24's, let me know which ones your dad flew:

<http://search.freefind.com/find.html?lang=en&id=47862833&pageid=r&query=868>

Jim McCabe, Historian

Saturday, September 7, 2013

My uncle, SSgt. Robert N. Furtwangler was the assistant engineer of the above entitled bomber. He and the crew were MIA on June 30, 1943. They were members of the 307th BG, 370 BS. They flew missions from Carney Field on Guadalcanal. The name of their plane was: "Momentary Dysentery".

I am researching a book about my uncle and the missions the 370th flew in the Pacific. I am looking for any after action reports, mission orders etc. that will assist me in reconstructing the types of missions the crew flew while on Carney. Any assistance you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

Sgt. Thomas C. Robison
United States Army Rangers (retired)

Tom,

Have you seen these?

<http://www.pacificwrecks.com/aircraft/b-24/42-40254.html>

<http://www.307bg.net/aircraft/inventory.asp> -On this

attachment, see line 180 for A/C Data tab and line 157 for Crew Losses tab. So far I have found these 370th Bombardment Squadron records. See pages 11 and 16.

Jim, Thank you for your help. I now know that my uncle's plane made a water landing 1/4 mile NW of Rendova Is. and that he was awarded the Air Medal for the Wake Island raid on December 24, 1942.

Tom,

If you (Robert's family) do not have this medal, it and the others he was awarded can be replaced free of charge through:

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/replace-medals.html> Please

send me your contact information (address, phone #'s) and I will add you to our database. There are a few veterans who were on the Wake Mission with Robert. If you would like, I can put you in contact with them. His loss is also documented in Sam Walker's book, Up the Slot. I hope you will consider joining the 307th BG Assoc. and attending a reunion. Both this book and membership information is available on our website; www.307bg.net

Jim,

I would love to talk to anyone who knew my uncle Robert or to anyone who was on the mission when his plane was lost. Also, I would be honored to join the 307th BG Association. Please send me membership information.



A personal note from the President

If we didn't get a chance to spend some private time together during the Indianapolis trip, please let me take a few lines to let you get to know me. Yes, I am an Italian. If you were in Indy, you may have noticed a great deal of hugging going on. I was brought up by a little Italian man whom I admired for such a long time. In fact, I admired him long before I came to understand his relationship with the 307th Bomb Group, which helped me to admire him even more. He was Dominic Calarco, 424th Bomb Squadron, Nose Gunner on the Weisleder Crew. For those of you who remember him, he was the one treating you like family.

Family is a very important part of Italian's life. We seem to carry it into every part of our existence. We learn at a young age that family means support, protection and love. I am fortunate enough to have lunch twice a month with twelve other guys with whom I spent my early childhood. These are friends so dear I would give my life for each one of them. And if one of us needed help, they would all show up ready to contribute sweat equity or whatever else it would take to solve the problem.

Ha ha, we even wear all the same shirts when we go to lunch and after all the hugging, other diners must think we are just the most loving bowling team around! (We don't bowl). Although we are all on Medicare we relish in the reminiscence of stories of days gone by and over 55 years of memories.

My father was one of nine children, so you can only imagine how large my paternal family is. My mother is one of seven and my maternal side is just as large. With three daughters and six grandchildren of my own, I tend to keep pretty busy telling stories that need to be heard, just to keep the memories alive.

After returning from the Indianapolis trip, I pondered a great deal about the similarity between the 307th BG members and my own family and extended family.

The theme for our Indianapolis trip was “Youth”. I think the message was heard loud and clear, as we began to realize that we (the family members) are the “children”. Even those of us who have made it to Medicare age are the children. And we are the grandchildren and the great grandchildren of our heroes!

I was brought up knowing that if I can depend on anyone, it would be someone in my family. It's very hard for me to imagine a family that doesn't stand together in time of need!

My siblings and I were brought up on some pretty slim pickin's, but you would still consider us spoiled. What we didn't have in material goods we made up for in love and support. And in that, we were very rich!

I did a lot of hugging in Indy. I even surprised Jack Palmer when I wrapped a hug around him and told him I loved him. What's not to love? We are a family. All of us! Some of us still have the joy of having their dad or granddad with them, and of course, many of us don't.

Men like Jack, John Wright, Milt Potee and Ben Waldo filled a very special void for me in Indianapolis. Just being with them made me feel like my dad was present and enjoying every minute of the fun, and I just know my sister and her children and grandchildren felt it too.

My lunch buddies are very strong on tradition. For instance, we sit in the same rotation every week, no matter what table we land on. And we tease each other the same way we did in 6th grade! We have some unique traditions that were thought up before we reached our teens, and we still keep them. One in particular was followed when the first among us, “Irish” passed away after a long struggle with Cancer. We tilt his chair for each lunch and his place setting remains untouched. A few weeks ago his wife and son attended our lunch and we presented them with an engraved silver plated fork that simply said “Irish, you will be missed”. We also gave his son one of our shirts, with his name on the breast and “Irish” on the left sleeve. His memory will be with us until it is our turn to return home!

From my point of view, there is an opportunity facing the 307th BG Association which is disguised as a challenge. I am told that we were once 1500 strong. Well that included many of our heroes whom have since taken their final flight. But we can't be counted out. Each one of those veterans had family. Where are they? And why aren't they here with us?

We, as the children and as a family, have a choice. We can sit back and wait for the next few reunion trips to be smaller and smaller each year, or we can get involved with our 307th family in a way that is meaningful and full of tradition. We can help it to grow!

Frankly, we need some help from our 307th family. We do need to grow our membership.

Over the next few months we will be testing a few opportunities to build our membership. We are seeking family members of 307th BG veterans. We have a message for them. We are the children and they are part of our family. We are looking for them!

Two of our campaigns can use a little help from anyone and everyone who has a computer and knows how to use it. It doesn't take much.

One thing you can do is spend a few minutes once or twice a week and just Google this search phrase: [WWII Forums] . You will connect to hundreds of WWII forums. If you drill down a bit you will come to WWII – Pacific and a few dozen more.

Open one and post this comment on as many threads as you can:

“ATTENTION: We are the children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of the Long Rangers. The WWII / 13th Air Force / 307th BG Heavy veterans who fought in the Pacific Theater. We are seeking to connect with other veterans and family members of 307th BG crews. Let us share some stories with you about your 307th BG hero. You'd be surprised how much we know about him. We keep the memories alive. Just stop by to visit at www.307bg.net or request a history search from our Historic Archive. Then stop by the PX <http://307bg.net/store.asp> and join us to see how we can keep a family alive!”

Another equally important and very easy task is to participate on our campaign to promote the 307th BG Historic Archive. Details are in the Newsletter. Please help us with this task and get your other family members and friends involved to do the same. It's just a simple email that gets sent or delivered to the History Department of your community elementary and high schools.

Please help if you can. We need this promotion done in Advance of Veteran's Day!

Some just deserved kudos!

I can't imagine anyone who participated in this year's reunion not noticing the seamlessness of the execution performed by the Executive team of the 307th BG.

Everything that was planned came off like clockwork. And the things that didn't rolled off our back and we improvised.

Christine Hoover: (affectionately nicknamed "the voice of reason") handled a lot more behind the scenes than was seen by our guests. From scheduling our food service and delivery to hosting the Commemorative Presentation at the Indiana War Memorial, she didn't get too much time to rest. We owe our thanks to Christine for being there when her wisdom is needed most. Thanks Christine.

Jim Walsh: That authentic smile on Jim's face was surely a proud smile. Of course having his fiancée Greta on his arm for a few days explains a good portion of that smile. As you know, Jim assumed the position of Secretary Treasurer earlier this year and the upgrades that we had planned for the bookkeeping of the 307th BG Association are finally completed. We are now totally electronic. Jim handled the relationship with the hotel, arranged and managed the transportation and hosted the final banquet. I'm so proud to have family like Jim and Christine at my side.

Jim McCabe: Perhaps one of the hardest working among us, Jim McCabe is a walking history department. His care and appreciation for the 307th BG Historic Archives can't be matched. He stole the show in Indianapolis as he does every year. If you have a question about your veteran, just ask Jim. He will easily guide you to where you can find an answer on your own, and if you just nod at him, he'll search it for you. This core group is such a great team and their dedication to our association is so commendable.

Parliamentarian Jack Palmer: Jack has become a father figure to many of us. His guidance and words of wisdom are so appreciated by us all. If you haven't yet seen his brief interview with Bella Rotella, be sure to listen to the advice he gives to an 11 yr. old girl. As simple as it sounds, it struck my heart as some of the best words of advice for life I have heard in a long time. Thanks Jack, for all that you do and all that you represent!

Our Volunteers and Advisors: Jim Grochowski, Katie Rotella and her video crew, Gino and Bianca Rotella deserve applause for scheduling and recording as much as we could for our members who missed the trip.

Very special thanks go out to Dave Schmidt for the extensive work he did in preparing the Indiana Memorial for our event, not to mention shuttling passengers to and from the airport, securing our beverages and ice each day and a score of other assignments that helped to make each day run smoothly. John Poggi is a strong and dependable member of our advisory team and his input and contribution to proper decision making is a key to our success. Fellas, thanks for all your help. Don't stray too far!

Our Youth Ambassadors:

I could not be more proud of Luke Warner and Bella Rotella, our youth ambassadors. These two kids did so much to proclaim the mission and purpose of the members of the 307th BG

Association. Luke and Bella had a voice and we hope their message was heard. They said “We are the children, come help us keep the memories alive.” So very proud of you two! Thanks. for all you hard work.

Speaking of Volunteers: The 307th website can use a facelift and if you or someone you know has the talent, and is willing to help out, we would all appreciate it. If you are interested in any other volunteer activities, please contact Christine Hoover via email at:

Dadwasinthe307thbg@hotmail.com

If you have a talent or an ability that may be of some support for the 307th, just let Christine Hoover (Dadwasinthe307thbg@hotmail.com) or Jim Walsh (gatorjw@gmail.com) know, and we'll put you on a standby list, in case we need some help on a project.

A final note:

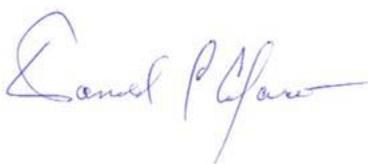
As you may know one of our primary objectives during this tandem reunion with the 13th Air Force was to get to know the management team and their members at leisure. We knew we needed to ask and answer a few questions and afterwards make a determination if a merger of the two associations was a viable option for our membership to pursue. We had a good time with the members of the 13th Air Force Association and found them to be kind and sweet and worthy of our respect and very willing to mix and mingle. We had some fun together. We also welcomed seven (7) of the 13th Air Force members who joined the 307th BG Association during the trip, which was a nice tribute to our reunion team.

However, it was decided by all members of the executive team, as well as a few members who joined and participated in a round table discussion that the decision of a merger with the 13th Air Force is inconclusive at this time.

Thank you all for all your support.
We all look forward to being together again soon!

See you soon.

“Never let your engines go to idle”



Donald 'Don' Calarco
President