



475th NEWS

June 1971

Best Reunion!

Make your plans to attend! It's going to be the "best one ever"! That's the way Pete Madison describes the 475th Fighter Group's forthcoming 1971 reunion, Oct. 1, 2, and 3, at Newport Beach, Calif. And Madison ought to know. He's attended every reunion of the famed World War II unit, going back to the first one in 1965.

And many other members obviously agree with him. More than 150 have sent in advance registrations or written of their plans to attend.

And more commitments are being received every day.

"It's like a snowball gathering moss," Madison beamed, happily mixing his metaphor. "We're predicting the biggest turnout ever!"

Letters of interest are coming in from all over the world. Col. P. J. Dahl, for example, will be coming in from Vietnam, with his wife, Bobbie.

And former Group CO John Loisel will be chairman of the 1971 get-together, with Madison, Ken Holdren, Bascom Jones, and an expanding committee structure completing plans for the three-day-plus affair.

Activities include a golf tournament, parties, tours, shopping and sight-seeing for the ladies, banquet and farewell "end-of-the-reunion" breakfast.

Site of the 1971 reunion will be Del Webb's Newporter Inn, overlooking Balboa Bay. With swimming pools, golf course, dancing, shops, and complete convention facilities, the famed Newporter Inn is one of America's most beautiful hotels.

The Newporter is close to Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, Marineland, Hollywood studio tours, and Mexico, and the reunion can be the start of an extended vacation, if you choose, Madison points out.

Send your reservations, or questions, to Pete Madison, Satan's Angels Reunion, 144 South Mission Road, Los Angeles, Ca. 90033. But DO IT TODAY! And BE THERE!

And Past Successes!

By C. R. "Bob" Anderson

As the throttles are being slammed toward the firewalls in planning for the 1971 Satan's Angels Reunion, memories of the fabulous 1969 get-together in Colorado Springs linger and are savored again.

For the many meeting in the Fall of 1969, it was 27 years since the activation of the 475th Fighter Group at Amberly Field, near Ipswich, Australia.

With thinning hair and with more than a few strands of gray at the temples, the aerial warriors of yesterday were reunited in camaraderie at the Palmer House in Colorado Springs.

Veterans of the embattled skies over Wewak, Rabaul, Madang, Jefman Island, the Philippines, and the China coast, they recalled the eucalyptus trees, the Aussie beer, and the cold winter nights in mid-June. And they talked.

John Babel renewed friendships with Col. Warren R. Lewis, "Louie" of the 433rd Fighter Squadron, while Owen Giertson, formerly of the 431st AND the New Britain Back-Packing Expedition Company, LTD, reminisced with two former Hades types, Hal Gray and Pete Madison, about his walking excursion with John Czarnecki over hill and dale with the Aus- (Cont'd on page 2)

Souvenir Photo Ready

Specially-enlarged photographs, suitable for framing, have been made up of the P-38 picture that was autographed by participants at the 1969 reunion.

The enlargements will be given out to attendees at the 1971 get-together at Newport Beach.

Prominent among the signatures, of course, is that of 1969 attendee Charles

A. Lindbergh, honorary member of the 475th Fighter Group.

Lindbergh flew more combat missions with the 475th than with any other group.

Of the 50 combat missions he flew during World War II, 25 were in P-38s of the 475th.

Lindbergh's other 25 missions were in F4Us of various Marine groups.

SUCCESSSES, PAST MEMORIES

(Cont'd from page 1)

tralian Coast Watchers. Another tall one, former 432nd Honcho and Group CO, Col. John Loisel was seen in earnest conversation with Col. Joe Foster of the 432nd, perhaps re-flying a certain Balikpapan raid in late 1944.

Former Sgt. James Fazzi flew all the way out from the East to once again recall the days at Dobo when he and his arm-

ament lads primed the guns for the aces of Clover Squadron. Fazzi had an apt audience in Mike May and "Doc" Wainer, Clover men all.

Former Sgt. Tom Ruiz could be found joking with Bob DeHollander and Wright Maxwell about Possum Squadron and the evening dietary supplement, Smoko.

The 433rd mob congregated in a big huddle near the bar, where else, as they re-fought the Battle of Sydney - and lost again!

Looking closely you would have found Jack Purdy, Bill Grady, Herb Cochran, Bob Tomberg, C. J. Rieman, Carroll Anderson, Bob Morrell, Cal Wire, and Pierre Schoener to name but a few.

Nearby, Hal Gray, the reunion ramrod, got matters straight with Gen. Frank Nichols and former group headquarters staffer Dennis Cooper.

Col. John York flew in from Andrews Air Force Base. Shortly after, he was chinning with Thomas McGuire Sr.

And someone wanted to know, "What happened to 'Fish' Miller"?

Jim Moreing, distinguished and successful, was there, too. And (Cont'd page 3)

MADISON SEEKING INSIGNIA ART WORK

Hey, if any of you are hoarding GOOD art work from which reproductions of the insignias of the 432nd and 433rd Fighter Squadrons and the 475th Fighter Group can be made up, Pete Madison wants to get in touch with you!

We already have art work from which we can make up the insignia of the 431st.

If suitable art work can be found, the plan is to make up the insignias as souvenirs for distribution at the 1971 reunion.

Dig through your old wartime files and papers. The art work must be reasonably clean, the colors accurate, and the detail and lettering fairly sharp and well-defined.

Photographs of old signs won't work, unless you're an artist and can rework the art onto paper.

James Barnes Dies

Dr. James H. Barnes, 46, a former member of the 431st Fighter Squadron, died Dec. 24, 1970, in Glendale, Calif.

Dr. Barnes, known both as a physician and an educator, attended the 475th Fighter Group's first reunion in 1965.

MEMORY OF OTHER TIMES

(Cont'd from page 2)

a roar of laughter went up as Joe Morrow and Eddie Henson recalled the POM POM Theater at Dobo.

John York and Clarence Rieman compared notes on the depth of the mud at Finschafen, while "Bo" Reeves and Tom Olson recalled the big fight over Balikpapan.

Bob Weary and Ken Holdren remembered the bomber moons over Hollandia when we arrived there. And Pete Madison wasn't wearing any ten-gallon hat in those days to ward off the falling chunks of shrapnel.

Neither was Paul Peters. He was hiding in the slit trench Anderson built, whilst Pierre Schoener ran around in the moonlight, bare, trying to put something more substantial over his body than a beat-up hospital tent.

Stan Asplund and Wally Arbanas found much to discuss about the group during their time in it. George Jerrold was there, too.

We fought the battles over again, and laughed a lot and lied a little.

Remember how the showers never seemed to have enough water, and the last guys in it wound up washing off the soap in the stream at Dobo?

Or how the 475th left its mark in the Markham Valley at Nadzab with the biggest dust hole in the SWPA? And who will ever forget the day the ammo dump blew up?

In corners, at the bar, through the corridors, over dinner — every conversation seemed to start with that wonderful word...."remember"!

Remember the night the hungry Japanese wandered into our temporary campsite on the kunai grass plain overlooking Hollandia Strip and got away again scot free after scaring everybody half to death?

Kind of hope that little guy made it through the war. He had guts! And re-

Addresses.....

If you're in contact with any former members of the 475th, remind them about the 1971 reunion.

And if you have current addresses of former members, we need them!

member the beautiful coral strips, Mokmer and Boroka? We never had it so good!

And who will forget the day that our distinguished, civilian visitor flew around with his gear down and locked, until some joker in the 433rd, probably Joe Price, offered the classic comment:

"Hey, Lindy! You aren't flying the Spirit of St. Louis now. Pick up your landing gear!"

And, dutifully, he did!

Yessir, we fought all those battles and many more!

And we toured the (Cont'd on page 6)

MANY CONTRIBUTE TOWARD MAILING

Reunion mailing cost money — but not THAT much, Cal!

Cal and Eva Wire were among the many heeding our plea for donations to help defray reunion postage and mailing costs.

Their uniquely large contribution was much appreciated but was returned with the request that it be reduced to a few dollars. We hope to get a little from a lot.

While we think it is more equitable to get a few dollars from many, the Wire's enthusiasm is the type of thing that has become a hallmark of the 1971 reunion.

So, a tip of our halo to Cal and Eva, and our special thanks also to:

Julios Rosen, Pete Long, Richard Wal-kup, Jack "Fox" Olson, Bob Tomberg, John Babel, Bob DeHollander.

Leon Lenard, George D. Weaver, Tom Cherro, Ken Holdren, John Coody, Dr. Frank Bosse, Herb Cochran.

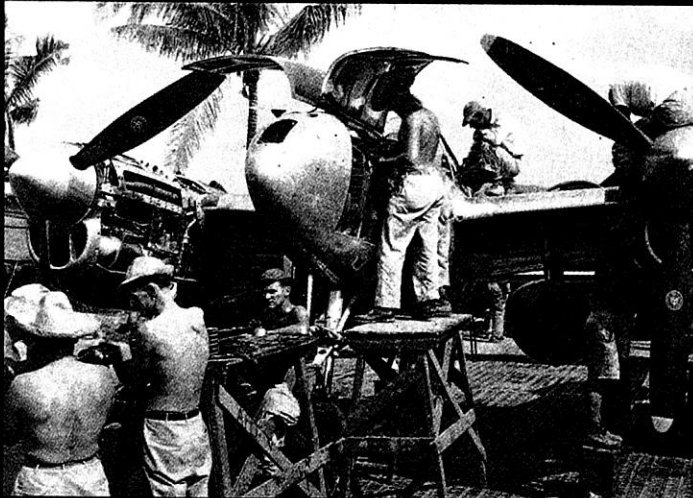
Donald Ashlock, George Hjerreld, H. B. "Bo" Reeves, C. R. "Bob" Anderson.

Gary Oskamp, Bill Kuhlme, Leo Blakely, P. J. Dahl, and Al Stone.

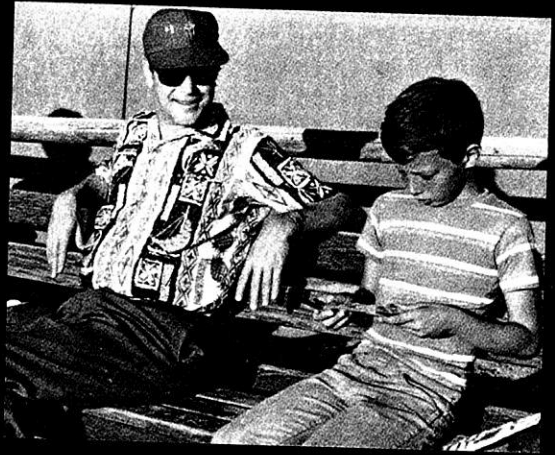
And thanks to those whose contributions for postage have come in after this mailing piece was in preparation.

Postal rates have been hiked. If any one else has a buck or two....HELP!

THEN



NOW



MEMORY OF OTHER TIMES

(Cont'd from page 3)

magnificent Air Force Academy with its inspiring chapel.

We attended the Air Force-Wyoming football game, and our good guys lost, as we got sunburned through thinning hair.

But who will forget the thrill of the marching cadets and the strains of the Air Force song wafting through the clear, Fall air?

Then the night of the banquet, when all 128 strong we sat and listened to our general, Frank Nichols - still a "tiger" in the tradition of Satan's Angels.

The next day NORAD was scheduled and many of us headed for home, each with a

promise of meeting again in 1971.

And all too soon Al Stone was shaking hands with Leon Lenard. Dale Thisted was seen softly speaking to old friend Eddy O'Neill.

It was over.

And former crewchiefs, cooks, clerks, pilots, supply sergeants, connoisseurs of KP, and the "General" said their goodbyes.

Hades, Clover, and Possum. The three greatest.

And they will be together again this year at Newport Beach.

Be there!

Everyone else will be!

'The Fork-Tailed Devil'

Martin Caidin, considered to be one of the best aviation writers in the business, has written a new book, which is being published by Ballantine Books.

The book is called "The Fork-Tailed Devil" and it is about the P-38.

Reportedly, there is a great deal of information in the book about the 475th Fighter Group and Maj. Tommy McGuire.

Caidin, whose books include "Samurai!" and many in-depth looks at both Air Force and space histories, will probably attend

the 1971 Satan's Angeles reunion at the Newporter Inn.

Writing about his latest book, Caidin says, "I'll wager that the 38 jocks will find in it a history and lineage in detail even they never knew."

MOREING FLINGS GOLF CHALLENGE

"I can beat anybody in the 475th!"

Those are the challenging words of low handicapper Jim Moreing.

This former Satan's Angel (which somehow gives substance to the theory that golf is a game "devised by Satan to be played with inadequate tools") spends most of his waking hours with golf clubs in hand.

He is quite serious about his challenge. For those who might want to pick up his gauntlet, plans are being completed for an "early-arrival" golf tournament.

If you want to challenge Moreing - or, club in hand, you would like to play around and keep him honest, drop a note to the reunion committee.

The plan would be to play Thursday, but we need to get some idea of the number of starting times required.

Lindbergh Invited; May Attend Again

Those of you who would like to add to your library of information and material about the 475th Fighter Group should get a copy of "The War-Time Journals of Charles Lindbergh."

Lindbergh attended the 1969 Satan's Angels reunion. He has been invited to attend the 1971 get-together.

His book contains many pages and pictures about the 475th.

Acknowledging an invitation, he wrote: "I have felt myself pretty much a member of the Group ever since flying with the squadrons...during 1944."

Send Your Reservations NOW

DEL WEBB'S NEWPORTER INN

1107 JAMBOREE ROAD

NEWPORT BEACH

CALIFORNIA 92660

RESERVATIONS OFFICE

ROOM RESERVATIONS	
Arrival Date _____	Departure Date _____
Name _____	
Address _____	
City _____	
State _____	Zip Code _____
Convention SATAN'S ANGELS	
Number in Party _____	Number of Rooms _____
Amount of Deposit Enclosed \$ _____	
This Reservation Must Be Received by the Newporter Inn on or before: Sept. 15th, 1971	

Please check type of accommodations desired:

- Single occupancy
- Double occupancy
- Queen Size Bed
- Twin (2 double beds)
- Suite (Parlor and Bedroom)

Rates:

Single: \$19 - 21 - 23

Double: \$24 - 26 - 28

Suites: \$45 - 55



Additional contributions from:

Mike May
Bill Haessig
Jim Moreing

John Loisel
Marvin Rose
Eban Dale

George Rath
Hal Gray
Bert Roberts

Pete Madison
SATAN'S ANGELS REUNION
144 South Mission Road
Los Angeles, Calif. 90033

TO: