



The Grow Flight

First Newsletter of the 47th Bomb Sq., 41st Bomb Group, 7th AF, WWII issued November 24, 1996

Kudos to George Tolbert for an Outstanding Reunion....



We started out on Thursday, Oct. 24, 1996 at registration with a neat envelope which included a SCHEDULE OF EVENTS, bumper stickers, a PROPOSED ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION, a nice favor in the form of a metal plaque of the state of Texas, a name tag, and an updated roster. In the evening we had a mixer in the atrium courtesy of Holiday Inn, and then retired to our Hospitality room for an evening of visiting, video and going through a lot of different memorabilia that people had brought to share. Friday was a big day. The bus left the hotel at 8:00 AM. We first went to Lackland Air Force Base for their regular parade at which we had special seating and a very nice little speech on the loud-speaker system honoring our service to the nation. This talk was so moving that it sort of made the tears come into you eyes. After that we went over to a nearby B-25 and had a group picture taken which appears at the end of our newsletter. From there the bus took us to the Lackland AF History and Traditions Museum, the AF Security Museum, and lunch at the Officers Club. We then left Lackland and went to San Antonio where we visited the Mercado, a very old Mexican shopping center which was most enjoyable. From there we bussed to the Lone Star Brewery, our last stop of the day where they had two more small museums. One of these was a sort of hunter's paradise with lots of different wild animals and other things of interest to hunters, and the other was simply a display of about a thousand different varieties of fish. and then back to the hotel. Saturday was a day of free time for many. Several went for a tour of the Nimitz Museum in nearby Fredericksburg. There was a business meeting at the Hospitality Room (more later), then the evening cocktail hour, banquet and more Hospitality Room. Sunday morning brought the final Continental Breakfast, farewells, and departure.

**Have a Great Thanksgiving!!!!
....and Very Happy Holidays!!!!**

Notes from George....

Thanks to all that made our Reunion '96 an apparent success. A special thanks to Ben and Dorothy, Earl, Arnold, Kem, Urb, Smitty and to those that brought memorabilia which brought back many memories. Let's start now getting ready for '98 by locating former members of the Squadron and encouraging them to attend.

I recently read the book, "One Damned Island After Another," written in 1946 by Howard and Whitley. Well written and a fairly comprehensive history of the 7th Air Force. I recommend the book highly. Catalog # 940-544 H8480. The number in the book is 190690.

For those that did not have an opportunity to purchase the video "WWII, 41st Bomb Gp. In Action," I still have a few copies at \$20.00 each.

My hat is off to Kem Sitterley for volunteering to update and mail Squadron rosters and also publish a newsletter. A newsletter will be successful only if we all participate. Your input and suggestions are solicited. Wishing all of you a great Thanksgiving, a Merry Xmas and a happy and fruitful New Year.

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