



The Crow Flight

Eighth newsletter of the 47th and 48th Bomb Squadrons, 41st Bomb Group (M) issued April 5, 1999

REUNION MEETING, JAN 26, 1999

Attendees at this meeting included from the 41st, Murray Bywater, from the 47th, Polly and Kem Sitterley, 48th Helen and Paul Hopson, Esther and Keith Galyean, and Dick Monzingo, 396th LaVerne and Keith Ingstad, and Walt Winner, and from the 820th, Skip Thrune. Dorothy and Don Haskell could not make it because a horrible storm had the grapevine closed (for those not familiar with the local terminology, the grapevine is the mountain freeway connecting the San Joaquin Valley with the San Fernando Valley and Los Angeles area.).

Much of the meeting centered around the program... and with so much of that, it seemed that Murray Bywater had more contacts and knowledge of these items that anyone else, so we just sort of asked Murray to take over almost all of the research.

MAIN SPEAKER... Murray has written a letter to General Kross, former commanding general of the 15th Air Force, asking him to talk on the US Air Forces of today and how it contrasts with the Army Air Corps that we knew while the 41st Bomb Group was activated.

COMEDIAN MONOLOGUE.... We wondered if Tony Romano might be available?... remember Bob Hope's old guitar player? Tony talked for about ten minutes at the dedication of the 41st Bomb Group Memorial Dedication at March Air Force Base Museum... and he was a really funny guy... mostly telling true life stories about the USO tours with Bob Hope. We also asked, "Would it be agreeable with everyone to dedicate this reunion to Bob Hope? ... and if so we would surely invite him, however we understand that at 95 he is probably not physically fit enough to attend.

TOM BROKAW? ... Murray commented that his boss... that's wife Frankie... suggested this one. As

many of you know, Brokaw has written a best seller, "THE GREATEST GENERATION," a book about us and how modest and great and unselfish we all are. It has also been reported that he is in the process of writing another book about our generation in the Pacific. Murray has also written him inviting him and suggesting that this would be a good place for him to get some interviews with veterans that had served in the Pacific. THAT'S US! Murray has written that letter... we'll see!

TOURS – The Getty Tour according to everyone we've talked with and the post card response continues to be the main attraction, so we anticipate that there will be a bus load going there both Saturday and Sunday. The second tour one day would be to Universal, and the second tour the other day is still being debated. Surely there will be a stop at the March Air Force Museum where the 41st Bomb Group Memorial is located. The second stop that day could be either at the Palm Springs Air Museum located at the Palm Springs Airport or at the Chino Air Museum at Chino Airport. Probably the deciding factor here is the pricing and convenience of the B-25 rides. We have a list of six different local outfits that have flying B-25's, and Walt Winner is doing the research on this.

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