

Bud,

In the Torretta Flyer No #10, page 25 in the lower right hand corner, I am the airman photographed with Donald E. Lundberg. I believe this was taken after my last mission to the Brenner Pass in February of 1945. I flew as a replacement radio operator on this mission.

Sincerely,
Dalton A Verner 764 Sq.



Dear Bud

No #22, 824 Squadron, lost in the Adriatic on August 7, 1944. Spinney, the tail gunner and Bombson, radio operator did not survive the ditching. The crew was later picked up by a German Hospital boat, their wounds dressed and put back in the water to be rescued by a friendly flying boat. Forest A. Parkins Photo 824 Sq.



This B-24 from the 824 Squadron is reported to have been piloted by Lt. Gilpin. It was so named because the story goes because they were always last. Reader comment is invited. Photo via Forrest Nance.

This photo is of a crew in the 824 Squadron. From left to right 1) Major Mialam, C/O 824 Sq; 2) ?; 3); 4) ?; 5) Standing Phelps, Engineer; 6) Spinney, Tail Gunner killed 50th mission, 7) ?; 8) Bombson, Radio Operator, killed 49th mission. The crew was shot up over the target and ditched in the Adriatic. One gunner went back inside to rescue another crew member and both were lost. They paddled their rubber boat all night and next morning saw a big white ship with a red cross on it, but when they got up close they saw a German flag flying. They were taken on board, bandaged and given German cigarettes. They were given a choice to remain on board and become POWs or being put back in their raft.

The pilot asked if they would radio their position. The crew was advised that the Germans would be notified also. They then got back in the rafts and in about two hours a flying boat picked them up. They were escorted back to base by 22 P-38s. Forest A Parkins, 824 Sq. who submitted this photo reports that he sat in on the debriefing and smoked one of the German cigarettes. Reader comment : urged to help identify the others shown in this photo.



The sad end to ship #82 of the 827 Squadron. No other details are available at press time. Photo by Forrest Nance 824 Sq.