

considerable of course, and I reported this directly to Col Glanzberg, the 461st BG CO. I accompanied many of these ferry flights to Lyon carrying gasoline and other supplies to the ground troops. People were almost starving at the time. One French lady gave me a small hand painted Cross of Lorraine on leather and a fine city map of downtown Lyon, both of which I still have.

The photo on page 26 lower left of Torretta Flyer No 12 was taken at the 461st BG NCO club. I may have taken it. I've forgotten some, but as memory serves me they are from Left: Standing with the beer can in his right hand, dressed in a flight suit and wearing glasses is John Gore of Long Beach, California, an aerial photographer. He became a casualty and was sent home. Standing in the middle holding a beer in his right hand with the dark hair and mustache is Sgt John Pegg 1st/Sgt 765 squadron. Standing at near far right with the glass in his left hand is Chief M/Sgt Claude W Hisey 461st B G HQ. Seated at left is an ex Brooklyn Eagle photographer who was sent home because of age. Seated center right is St/Sgt Herman Muhlmann, West Virginia, from the group photo lab. Seated next left is Tom Faherty, group photo lab from Manchester, New Hampshire

Regards,
Jim Van Nostrand 765 Sq

Dear Bud and Bea.

Please excuse the delay in responding to the picture and short note regarding the Tailender, in the Spring 86 Flyer.

The origin of the name refers to the date of departure from the Z.I. (Zone of the Interior, USA) and not to any particular position in the flight formation. The reason for the



late departure from Lincoln, Nebraska was a bad tooth. I know because the tooth was mine. The base dentist required an extra day to fashion a removable bridge so I could bite my nails if 109's or flak came too close.

The following day (approximately April Fools Day) we departed from West Palm Beach, but after digging out the left main gear which had managed to find a soft place in the taxi strip. The "Jackass" was the handiwork of a sergeant based at Fortaleza, Brazil. His artistic skill may have been subject to question, but his work adequately expressed our feelings regarding the delays.

Incidentally, the dental masterpiece which made us late was so uncomfortable that it resides under several fathoms of Caribbean water. Our crew, which flew all but one of its missions in the "Tailender" was rotated back to the states for "R & R" and later reassigned to the Z. I.

I am enclosing a crew photo taken at Harvard AFF, Nebraska just before the fly aways were received.

Incidentally the photographer credited with the photo was the original pilot of the crew when it was formed at Gowan Field, Idaho. I refer to Forrest Nance.

Larry Weakley 824 Sq.

Crew members in the photo are as follows from left: Standing Yvon R Lemay-Eng, William B Taylor-Ball/Gun, Fred W Allen-Radio, Louis A Eimer-Top Gun, and Peter J McMahon, Nose Gun. Kneeling: George R Gilpin-Pilot, Delmar L Conner-Co/Pilot, Don L Kavanaugh-Navigator, and Lawrence P Weakley-Bombardier. S/Sgt William P Dunn-Tail Gun joined the crew at Torretta.

Dear Bud:

In writing the history of the 484th Bomb Group I thought that you would like to know what happened on May 10, 1944.

LIKE SHOOTING FISH IN A BARREL

It was May 8, 1944 and we had flown four sorties, our first being April 30, 1944. "Bud" Noel and crew were awakened early and walked to group headquarters for briefing for the day's mission. When the map covering was pulled back the map revealed a long red line going north to the western edge of Hungary and turning northwest to a town near Vienna, a place called Wiener Neustadt, Austria. The target was an aircraft factory and surrounding aircraft parked on the outside. We were to hit it with #6 frag bombs.