

## SELECTION OF SCHOLARSHIP CANDIDATES FOR 1987 HAS BEGUN

Professor Albanese Initiates Massive Publicity Campaign

The publicity campaign announcing the 1987 awards has begun in Italy. The scholarship notices have already appeared in the Local and National newspapers. The broadcast and TV media has also been notified.

It is hoped that the selection for this year's recipients can be completed in ample time to enable some Association members to travel to Italy to be present at the awards ceremony before the commencement of the next school term and long before the 1987 reunion in October. Hopefully this can be arranged before August, when much of Italy goes on vacation.

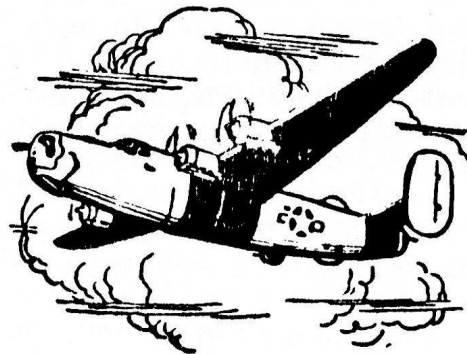
The scholarship committee, Chris Donaldson (765 Sq) and Ed Goree (764 Sq) reports that the selection process for scholarship candidates for 1987, has begun and again three finalists will be chosen. The first choice is for candidates who presently reside on, or near the former air field at Torretta, Italy, or are descended from persons who lived on or near the field during 1944-45, or who somehow were connected or employed at the field during 1944-1945. This would include descendants of the 3rd Company Italian Airport Interior Guard who were employed at the base for a short time in the spring of 1944. Candidates may also be chosen from a larger geographical distance from the base.

When the airbase farmland was leased by the Army Air Force at Torretta 1944-45, many farm families were displaced when their homes, barns and outbuildings were taken over causing extreme hardships for most of them. The land was used in the production of

wheat, that employed some farm families. Some were share croppers, as the land was privately owned by Baron L Zezza. Italian civilians also crossed the base property in going from their homes to work. Nowadays some grapes are grown in the area formerly occupied by the 824 squadron, and Italian tomatoes are grown around the 765 area. But most of the land lays fallow. After the war, the large land holdings were broken up into small sections and were parcelled out to many private citizens. Unfortunately economic conditions changed rapidly after World War II making it difficult for families to support themselves wholly from the reduced acreage. It is from this combined population pool that the scholarship candidates are drawn. It can be seen from the foregoing that the scholarship grants are most deserving and are supported wholeheartedly by the Association members.

Contributions to the Memorial Scholarship Fund are always welcome at any time. Make checks out to the 461st & 484th Bomb Groups Association, marked Scholarship Fund, and mail to the Association office at: 1122 Ysabel St. Redondo Beach, CA 90277

The End



### New Contributors to the Scholarship Fund

The list of contributors to the Scholarship Fund shown at right, is in addition to the list published in Torretta Flyer No 13.

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