



# 80TH FIGHTER SQUADRON HEADHUNTER HEADLINES



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\* (706) 324-7360 \*

*Volume V Number 15*

*"AUDENTES FORTUNA JUVAT"*

*February 1, 1995*

Greetings, Fellow **HEADHUNTERS!**

Bonnie & I hope this Newsletter finds all of you in the very best of health and happiness in this most beautiful New Year of 1995!

## headhunter reunion!!



**A**ll right, this is what we've all been waiting for!! Enclosed are the **Reunion Reservation Forms** and the **Hotel Reservation Forms** for our reunion 27 - 30 April in Fort Walton Beach, FL! Please fill each of these two forms out completely. Mail the **Reunion Reservation Form**, with your check for the total made out to "Headhunter Reunion", back to: Col Robert S. Kan; 2516 Edgewater Dr; Niceville, FL 32578.

Mail the **Hotel Reservation Form** and your credit card number or a check for the first night back to: Ramada Beach Resort; Attention; Reservation Department; 1500 Miracle Strip Pkwy SE; Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548-9990, or call 1-800-874-8962.

## LATE BREAKING NEWS!!

**A**mong other organizations and individuals recognized by the Air Force Association at their convention 12-14 September, The Secretary of the Air Force, Dr. Sheila E. Widnal, presented a plaque inscribed as follows:

**"Special Award to the 5th AF in recognition of WWII Intensified Air Campaign waged by the Gallant Aviators and Support Personnel of the United States Army Air Forces, Fifth Air Force, who, despite unusually dangerous and long combat missions flown over mountains, oceans, and jungles, succeeded in enabling Allied Ground Forces to move--Island to Island--"**



**from Australia to the Door-Step of Japan itself which played a major role in the final Victory.”**

The plaque was accepted by Randy Forrester, President of the 5th AF Memorial Foundation, on behalf of the 5th Air Force.

**CHANGE #5 TO MASTER HEADHUNTER ROSTER !!**

**E**nclosed, please find Change #5 to the Master Roster that was sent to you with the 1 November 1993 Newsletter. Please note these few pages are only CHANGES to the Roster--NOT a full new roster!! If you're not on it, don't worry--it only means you didn't have any changes since 1 November.

**80TH HISTORY update!**

**I** can't resist. I gotta tell this story. About a year ago, Kirby received a new computer system as a gift from his son--complete with a CD ROM & modem. Well, a couple of months ago, Kirby sent out electronic mail to the world. "Any Headhunters out there?" "Any JUVATS?" "Anyone that was ever in the 80th Fighter Squadron?" Well, he got a few replies! Their names were passed to me, we sent them "Please Join Us" letters--and they did! GREAT! Then, on the first of November, an incredible thing happened. Kirby received some very interesting electronic mail from an individual named Frank Olynyk. There, on Kirby's computer in front of him, almost 51 years to the day from the actual dates, were exact copies of Kirby's five WWII Individual Combat Reports that documented his five enemy air-to-air victories--and a sixth which credited him with a "probable"!!!! They had been researched from microfilm, retyped, and sent. What a thrill that must have been!! To Mr. Frank Olynyk, I would like to send my personal thanks for his time & effort to research and forward these documents. Small world, isn't it!

Remember the **memoirs** we asked for in the last newsletter? "They weren't for you--they were for your children & grandchildren"? Out of 630 newsletters that were sent, Lt Madaus received--yep, you guessed it--none, so far, but he has received some other useful information. Please keep working on yours, and send them in. Thank you.

Bob Conner tried to get the Air Force Military Personnel Center (AFMPC) to authorize the blanket approval for all our WWII people to wear the Presidential Unit Citation (PUC) with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters (OLC). Bob researched the procedures, sent in his request, and was informed in a 24 Oct 94 letter from AFMPC that he was authorized to wear the PUC with 2OLC's. Unfortunately, a great many records in the National Personnel Records Center were destroyed by fire in 1973. Although AFMPC has researched to find the 80th Fighter Squadron was awarded

the PUC for action in Papua, New Guinea, and New Britain during 1942-1943, many individual records of our people that proves they were there may have been destroyed. Therefore, anyone interested in authorization for these 2 OLC to the PUC will need to fill out a Standard Form 180 "Request Pertaining to Military Records" (Call either Bob or Jay Riedel for a copy), then send, along with any papers you may have to prove you were in the 80th during that time, to: National Personnel Records Center, 9700 Page Blvd.; St. Louis, MO 63132-5100. If anyone has some orders, morning reports, etc., that lists others of our group, copies can be made and sent to them for their use. AFMPC regrets there isn't an easier way, but each member's records must be researched to ensure authorization for these awards. Good luck in your research.

Gordon Casamajor sent in a letter and three great photos from the WWII era! He writes; "While doing some cleaning out, I have uncovered some photos that should be in the archives. On 19 August 1945, pilots of the 80th were assigned the task of escorting the Japanese surrender team from Kyushu to Ie Shima where they were to transfer to General MacArthur's C-54 for the ride to Manila. Maj John Breeden was CO and leader. He is the big guy in the middle of the back row in the first picture. They were supposed to pick up the Betty bomber for escort the final 300 miles to Ie Shima, but the Betty was so fast that they almost missed it. The second photo shows the Japanese delegation standing under the C-54 wing. The third photo is the entire pilot complement of the 80th taken at the strip on Ie Shima, October 1945. Forty-six pilots, but only 25 P-38's assigned. Somewhere I have some other photos taken on that day (8/19/45) and if I ever uncover them I will send them along."

Thank you very much, Gordon, for the letter & historic photos. I'll have them available at the reunion, and I'll make sure they get in the 80th Squadron archives!

**HEADHUNTER LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP GOIN' STRONG!!**

**A**s you can see in your Master Roster, including all the Changes, we now have 442 Yearly Members and **213 LifeTime Members (LTMs)**! Don't feel left out--get your LTM today!!

**LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM AROUND THE WORLD!**



**O**ur highly reliable sources have informed us that Capt John Breazeale was accepted into the Fighter Weapons School last month at Nellis AFB. For those of you not familiar with the Fighter Weapons School, this is where only some of the best of the best are selected to go get the equivalent of a Ph.D. in fighter weapons & tactics. It's quite an honor to be chosen for this school, and we all wish John & Shannon the very best of luck in this tough course. After graduation, they will be on their way to Germany for three years!

Five squadrons from Korea and Japan competed December 2 in the first annual Pacific Air Forces command bombing & strafing competition, called *Combat Spirit '94*. Of the six categories, our 80th Fighter Squadron won three, while the 25th FS from Osan Air Base won the other three! Our Squadron Standard!! Keep up the great work--we're all proud of you!!

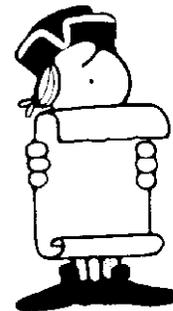
Lt Mark Madaus (who has done most of the Squadron History) has won the "617th Regional Support Wing Company Grade Officer of the Quarter" for the 4th quarter of 1994 at his base in Germany. They honored him by letting him work 24-hour alert shifts on December 19th, 21st, 23rd, Christmas, 27th, 29th, & New Years Eve!! Oh well, it keeps you off the street corners at night, anyway!! Congratulations, Mark! If you keep winning all those awards, you won't be a lieutenant much longer!

Dave "Hustler" & Cynthia Pedersen have had a great year! They're out at Luke AFB near Phoenix, AZ. Dave is D-Flight Commander in the 308th FS, Cynthia was elected President of the Luke Officers' Wives Club, and their new little girl Hollye "Hollywood" arrived three weeks before her TOT!! They're trying to organize an RV convoy to the April Reunion, so if anyone is interested in joining the formation, please write to them at: 11444 S Santa Fe Lane; Goodyear, AZ 85338.

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!**

It gives us great pleasure to welcome these **23 new members** to our organization for the **first time** (in the order of "signing up" since 1 November). **Equally rewarding** are the many members who have **renewed** after 1, 2, or even 3 years absence! The roll call of **new** members are:

Lt Col Sidney M. Yahn	Edward R. Rowe, Jr.
Maj Lance D. Undhjem	Alfred E. Troop
Robert M. Kuhns	Capt Russ H. Larned
Col Edward E. Nowogroski	Lt Col Richard W. Corzine
Maj C. John "Vector" Hartke	Maj Jeffrey R. "Mama" Kass
Joseph L. "Jose" Oberle	Capt Tom "Rufus" Kahle
Capt Bob "Bobaloo" Rickard	1Lt Dan "Boy" Muir
Capt Robert "Gozur" Paulakaitis	Capt Ed "Hamster" Hammil
Capt Brian "Chainsaw" McCullough	Capt Tim "Spino" Conklin
Capt Al "Chops" Wimmer	2Lt Dan "Cro" Magidson
Capt Dave "Quan-Su" Doucet	Capt Merrill "Sketch" Fink
Msgt Arthur R. "Ivan" Nowicki	



Friends of yours? You bet!! Look 'em up in your new Master Roster Change #5 (enclosed) and give 'em a call, or write 'em a letter. Or better yet, tell them you'll meet them at the reunion! Great to have you all back in formation--and what a great one it is!! **Welcome!**

Nothing makes you feel older than the discovery that today's children are studying in history class what we studied in current events!

## HURTIN' HEADHUNTERS

QUIET  
PLEASE



**B**ill “Horrible” Hagar’s wife, Helen has had a very hard year. She has had both knees replaced and a very serious abdominal obstruction. She is feeling much better now, and both Bill & Helen are planning on coming to our April Reunion--along with Bill Jr. & Gary. All the best to you, Helen, and we all look forward to seeing you then!!

Sid Adelstein asked us to please pass on to all with gratitude, those who sent supportive words to him on the passing of his wife Pearl back in September. See you at the Reunion, Sid.

Don Fritze has had a rough time also with his back that he broke last year. He had an operation in November which didn’t turn out all that well, and he’s scheduled for another shortly. He has been bed-ridden for a few weeks, but is still looking forward to getting to Fort Walton Beach in April. Don, we all wish you the very best of luck with your depot maintenance on your main wing spar, and we do look forward to seeing you “on the beach!!” Don is staying with his son at 1796 W 5th Street; Piscataway, NJ 08854--Phone (908) 968-2639. Drop him a card!

## head headhunter corner



**Y**ep, you guessed it. We’ve been burnin’ the midnight oil remailing about 50 newsletters that were returned with old addresses. A couple have even come back “Moved--Forwarding Order Expired--Return to Sender”. Ah, but not to worry, right? Right--I have their **MEMBER INFORMATION** sheet on file with their permanent home address that was returned in the envelope provided a few months ago.... Wrong! This sheet was never returned to me. Now we’ve lost these members. Please, Y’all, when you move, make believe we’re important and drop us a **change of address card**. Thanks!

Are there any other **headhunters** where you live or where you’re stationed? Are they members? If not, please ask them to join us! Let me know their names & addresses, and I’ll send them a “Please Join Us” letter. To those of you who have sent addresses --**Thanks!**

Don't worry about avoiding temptation. As you grow older, it avoids you!

**A tribute to John L. Jones**

**J**

John L. Jones was born in Hazard, Kentucky on 17 November 1917, but spent his younger years in Leonia, New Jersey where he completed grade and secondary schools. He acquired a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Kentucky.

In November of 1941, he entered the United States Army as an Aviation Cadet at Fort Thomas, Kentucky. He received all of his flight training in Texas and was graduated as a 2nd Lieutenant in July of 1942. After a short check-out tour in the P-39, he was sent to the Southwest Pacific where he was assigned to the 80th Fighter Squadron. All of his combat tour was with this famed "Headhunter" Squadron, primarily in P-38's.

After 100 combat missions and promotion to Captain, Jones returned to the United States in February of 1944 where he served as a tactics instructor at Bradley Field, Connecticut, and as a gunnery instructor at Suffolk Field, New York, until his separation from the service in July 1945.

Captain Jones accepted a position with the New Jersey Air National Guard in January 1947 and became a full time technician in 1948. During his service with the Air Guard, he served in many capacities, such as flight commander, operations officer, aircraft maintenance officer, squadron commander, and director of materiel. He was also the personal pilot for some of New Jersey's governors.

This service afforded him access to the following Air Force Schools: Air Tactical School; Aircraft Maintenance Officer's Course; Air Command and Staff School; Installations Engineering Officer's Course; and the Air War College.

Continuous service with the Air National Guard, interspersed with numerous short tours of active duty, culminated with his retirement as a lieutenant colonel in January 1976. He was an Ace with 9 Japanese Zero fighters to his credit. His decorations include the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross (2 OLC), and the Air Medal (1 OLC). He was a member of the American Fighter Aces Association, The Retired Officers' Association, the Air Force Association, and a LifeTime Member of the Headhunters Association.

His son, Stephen Jones, said that his father was humble about his military accomplishments and rarely made mention of them.

"As a youngster and while I was in high school, he never really talked about it," Jones said. "About the only ones he'd talk about it with was when he'd get together with some of his old pilot buddies."

Jones said he knew little of the details of his father's military career until he read a scrapbook the colonel's mother had put together. It was through newspaper clippings that he discovered his father won the Silver Star in an air battle in which he put his life on the line to save the flight commander.

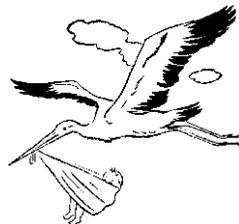
"He intercepted a couple of Japanese Zeros who were closing in on his commander," Jones said. "Dad had lost one of his guns, and he couldn't drop his fuel tanks. But regardless, he came around, and by hanging in there and doing his job, he saved the captain."

Lt Col John L. Jones died 6 September 1994. He was 76. We'll all miss you, Johnny.

"What's your handicap these days?" Paul Murphy asked Jay Robbins. "I'm a scratch golfer," replied Jay.

"I write down all my good scores and scratch out all my bad ones!"

## THE STORK CORNER!



We take great pride in announcing the birth of the world's youngest **HEADHUNTERS!**

\* \* \* \*

Capt "Twig" & Suzanna Foley are the proud new parents of their first "wingman"-- a daughter Catherine Mae Foley born 8:45 p.m. on 24 May 1994. Her gross weight was 9 lbs 1 oz with a wing span of 21 inches. Twig just returned from "The Gulf" in mid November. We congratulate both of you on your new daughter!

Dave "Spock" & Christine Youtsey are very proud to announce the birth of their first child. Chloe Earl Youtsey was born 15 October 1994, and she weighed in at 7 lbs, 3 ozs & was 20 inches long. They have also been reassigned to Moody AFB, GA. Their new address & phone number are listed on the enclosed Master Roster Change #5! Congratulations to Dave & Christine!

\*\*\* CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL! \*\*\*

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The next **HEADHUNTER HEADLINES** will be dated 1 June 1995.

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"Your Squadron reunion isn't until April 27th. Aren't you ready a little early?"

SEE Y'ALL ON "THE BEACH" 27-30 APRIL!!  
(This is the last correspondence before the Reunion!)

✓ 6,

Col Jay E. "Jay Bird" Riedel, USAF Ret

**P.S. Please don't forget to:**

- 1) Return your **RAMADA** Reservation Form **NLT 27 March**
- 2) Return your **REUNION** Reservation Form **NLT 27 March**
- 3) Send your memoirs to Lt Madaus!!



80th Fighter Squadron  
**"HEADHUNTERS"**  
905 Arapaho Ct  
Columbus, GA 31904

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

**FIRST CLASS**

**REUNION REGISTRATION FORM**

**NAMES** \_\_\_\_\_  
 (TO APPEAR ON BADGES)

NUMBER X COST = TOTAL

**ALL** REGISTRATION/HOSPITALITY FEE ----- \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 25 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 (ROOM, REUNION BOOK, GIFTS, DRINKS, SNACKS, ETC.)

**THU PM:** THINGS TO DO ON YOUR OWN ANY TIME:  
 - GOLF (2 X 18-HOLE COURSES EGLIN AFB) - \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 19 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 (GREEN FEES & CART PER 18 HOLES)  
 - BEACH, POOL, SOCIALIZE, VOLLEY BALL, TENNIS  
 - GULFARIUM (LIKE SEAWORLD) ----- \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 13 = \_\_\_\_\_

**FRI AM:** GOLF: "**HEADHUNTER OPEN**" ----- \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 35 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 (GOLF, CART, PRIZES, TRANSPORT)

AM/PM: AEROCLUB ORIENTATION RIDES ----- \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 10 = \_\_\_\_\_

**SAT AM:** DEEP SEA FISHING (HALF DAY) ----- \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 27 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 RIDE ONLY (NO FISHING) ----- \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 13 = \_\_\_\_\_

**OR:** SHOPPING AT "SILVER SANDS" (FABULOUS) -- \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 5 = \_\_\_\_\_

AM/PM: GOLF AVAILABLE ----- \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 19 = \_\_\_\_\_

PM: BANQUET: (COAT & TIE) (ALL YOU CAN EAT)  
 POLYNESIAN CHICKEN & SEAFOOD BUFFET - \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 25 = \_\_\_\_\_

**SUN AM:** FAREWELL "GET ON YOUR WAY" BRUNCH -- \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 8 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 (ALL YOU CAN EAT)

**TOTAL ENCLOSED \$** \_\_\_\_\_

MY **REAL** GOLF HANDICAP IS: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM NLT 27 MAR WITH YOUR CHECK MADE OUT TO THE:**

**HEADHUNTER REUNION  
 2516 EDGEWATER DR  
 NICEVILLE, FL 32578**

**RESERVATION REQUEST**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Resort

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

make

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ TEL: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

to

CONVENTION NAME: **80TH FIGHTER SQUADRON**

ARRIVAL DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRIVAL TIME: \_\_\_\_\_ # NIGHTS: \_\_\_\_\_ # ROOMS: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CIRCLE REQUESTED LOCATION. Prices Subject to Florida Sales Tax.

Resort

\$75	\$80	\$85	\$100
Parking Lot	Court Yard	Poolside-Towers	Gulf Front

RESERVATIONS NOT RECEIVED BY **27 MARCH '95** WILL BE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. RATES QUOTED ARE FOR SINGLE OR DOUBLE OCCUPANCY.

Credit Card # or 1st Night Deposit Required \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card will be charged first night deposit upon receipt.

Location requests are on First come, First Served basis.

Call Ramada Beach

at **1-800-874-8962** to

reservations or mail form

**RAMADA** Beach

Attn: Reservation Dept.  
1500 Miracle Strip Pkwy SE

Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

**RESERVATION REQUEST**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Resort

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

make

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ TEL: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

to

CONVENTION NAME: **80TH FIGHTER SQUADRON**

ARRIVAL DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRIVAL TIME: \_\_\_\_\_ # NIGHTS: \_\_\_\_\_ # ROOMS: \_\_\_\_\_

Call Ramada Beach

at **1-800-874-8962** to

reservations or mail form

PLEASE CIRCLE REQUESTED LOCATION. Prices Subject to Florida Sales Tax.

**RAMADA** *Beach*

*Resort*

\$75	\$80	\$85	\$100
Parking Lot	Court Yard	Poolside-Towers	Gulf Front

Attn: Reservation Dept.  
1500 Miracle Strip Pkwy SE

RESERVATIONS NOT RECEIVED BY **27 MARCH '95** WILL BE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548  
RATES QUOTED ARE FOR SINGLE OR DOUBLE OCCUPANCY.

Credit Card # or 1st Night Deposit Required \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card will be charged first night deposit upon receipt.  
Location requests are on First come, First Served basis.