



80th FIGHTER SQUADRON

HEADHUNTER HEADLINES



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Vol. IX, No. 32

"AUDENTES FORTUNA JUVAT"

February 1, 1999

Greetings, Fellow HEADHUNTERS!

Bonnie & I hope this Newsletter finds all of you in the very best of health and happiness, and let us be the last to wish you all a very Happy New Year!

REUNION DETAILS--CHANGE #1!

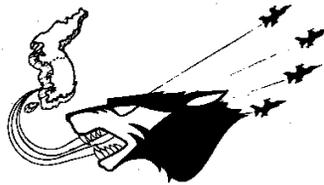
We have changed dates and hotels for our reunion! Our hosts for this 18th get-together, Dr. Jack & Wanda Shelton, have passed this new information to us! It will be in **San Antonio on 4-7 November 1999 at the Menger Hotel!** This very famous, historic hotel, right across the street from The Alamo, is where we had our outstanding 50th Anniversary Reunion in 1992. They're happy to have us back! It's also close to the famous Riverwalk for a unique leisure-time walking, shopping, and/or boating experience. Stay tuned for further details as they develop! **Please block these new dates (4-7 November) on your calendars now to avoid conflicts as we get closer to "R-Day!!"** Now you can put that fishing trip in that other October time slot!

DID YOU KNOW?

The term "*The whole 9 yards*," came from WWII fighter pilots in the South Pacific. When arming their planes on the ground, the .50 caliber machine gun ammo belts measured exactly 27 feet long before being loaded into the fuselage. If the pilots fired all their ammo at a target, it got "*The whole 9 yards!*"

Yesterday is history; tomorrow a mystery,
but today is a gift--that's why it's called The Present!

Squadron has change of command!



The Commander, 8th Operations Group of the 8th Fighter Wing “Wolf Pack” at Kunsan Air Base, Korea, was proud to announce the Change of Command at which Lt Col Rick French relinquished command of the 80th Fighter Squadron to Lt Col Greg Smith on 23 November 1998. See page 6, **Hurtin’ Headhunters** for details.

HEADHUNTER PATCH UNDER ATTACK--AGAIN

We received word from the Squadron in Korea in early December that our official approved Squadron patch is once again under attack—this time because it doesn't have the unit ID on it. The official patch was approved by AF in the mid 80's. It is very similar to the original WWII patch designed by one of our P-38 crewchiefs, Yale Saffro—it has the Headhunter logo on a white field encircled by a brown ring. It is the only approved patch in the USAF that doesn't have the unit ID on it. When Col Dana Duthie was Squadron Commander in the mid 80s, he had Lt Col Richard Woodward take the project to finally get an approved Squadron patch—something we've never had since the Squadron was born in 1942. Many patches were used over the years, but they decided to use the original WWII patch because of its historical significance. The original request was forwarded to AF on 29 Jan 86. The letter of approval from AF was received 9 Oct 86. Nowhere in the package was a waiver mentioned or that it was temporary. Everyone thought we finally had our USAF officially approved Squadron patch. Now, 12 years later, the Squadron received notification from 7th AF that the "waiver" had long expired, and we have to add the unit ID. Col Duthie had sent a copy of the completed approval package to me here for the Association's records. We forwarded a copy of it to the Sq Commander, Lt Col Greg Smith, at his request.

KOREAN WAR MEMORABILIA

We received this message on 6 January: “With the up coming 50th anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War, the United States Air Force Museum is actively searching for permanent donations of items and photographs related to the Air Force in the Korean War. Some suggested items include: uniform items, flight clothing, personal items, maps, diaries, flight logs, letters home and captured material. Color photographs, including

Kodachrome, of all USAF operations in Korea are particularly desired, but black and white prints would also be appreciated. Please extend this call to other members of the Headhunters Association or any USAF Korean War veterans with whom you correspond. If you have any material to offer, please contact Wesley Henry, Chief, Research Division, USAFM/MUA, 2601 E Street, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433-7609 or (937) 255-4644 x737 or SCARLSON@afmsmtp.wpafb.af.mil. I am also available to answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your time and consideration.”

Sincerely

SUSAN CARLSON
Research Division
U.S. Air Force Museum

LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM AROUND THE WORLD!



Our highly reliable sources in strategically placed key positions around the globe have informed us that **HEADHUNTERS** at Hill AFB, Utah, have moved up into higher key positions. Lt Col G. Larry “Turbo” Thompson is Chief of Wing Safety, while Lt Col Kurt “Nubes” Neubauer is the Ops O [Operations Officer] of the 4th Fighter Squadron (FS). Across the ramp, Lt Col Jeff “Weird” Harrell is the commander of the 421st FS, with Lt Col Russ “Waldo” Walden as his second-in-command Ops O. When they did Weird’s change of command last month, all JUVATS were in the official party. Col Chuck Oltman the current Operations Group/ Commander (CC) was the officiating official. “Weird”, the new CC; “Monty” Hall, the old CC; and “Waldo”, the Troop Commander filled out the rest of the program.

In addition, our deep moles in clandestine positions in sensitive areas have passed on to us that two of the past senior leaders at Kunsan—Col Mark Welsh, the Wolf [Wing Commander] from April ‘97 to April ‘98 and Col Steve Wood, Viper (the OG [Ops Group Commander] from Jul ‘96 to Jul ‘97) were both on the latest 0-7 [Brig Gen] list that came out in December. Brig Gen (sel) Dave Moody, the previous Wolf to Col Welsh, made 0-7 on the list that came out in December ‘97. The Kun is doing very well. Col Welsh is the commander of CADRE at Maxwell, Col Wood is the commander of the 35th Wing at Misawa, and Col Moody is working at the Pentagon in XO [Plans]. “All three flew with the Juvats while I was there—two I know of flew their EOT [end of tour flight] with the Squadron. Col Moody also flew with the squadron in the early 80s while at PACAF headquarters,” sources say. We wish all of you, and all our other **HEADHUNTER** members throughout the world in their new and highly responsible jobs, the very best of luck. We’re proud of you all!

Also, sources tell us the Juvats in our active Squadron at Kunsan Air Base, Korea, got an overall Excellent (borderline Outstanding) on the Unit Compliance Inspection and Stan/Eval

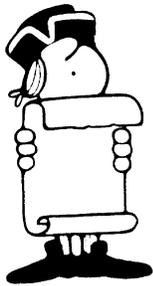
inspection in early December. Congratulations to all our active duty professionals as they continue our Squadron's history of excellence!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

To desire is to obtain—to aspire is to achieve.

It gives us great pleasure to welcome these **14 new members** to our ranks for the **first time** (in the order of "signing up" since 1 November). **Equally rewarding** are the **many** members who have **rejoined** after 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, or even 7 years absence! **Welcome back to all!** As of this date we have 398 Yearly, plus 364 LifeTime Members (LTMs)—**762 Total!!**

Here is the roll call of our **new** members:



- Maj Creig A. Rice (97-98)
- Capt Aaron W. Steffens (94-95)
- Maj Stephen R. Howell (90-91)
- Maj David G. Mullison (48-49)
- Maj Frederik G. Hartwig (90-91)
- Col Michael E. Vanderford (CC 90-91)
- Capt James M. Abatti (98-99)

- Capt Ancel B. Yarbrough (94-95)
- Capt Stuart W. Ramsey (95)
- Capt James R. Cluff (98-99)
- Lt Col Gregory A. Smith (CC 98-99)
- Capt Kirk S. Pierce (98-99)
- Lt Gen W.W. Marshall (Korean Ace)
- Capt David W. Harden (60-62)

Friends of yours? You bet!! Look 'em up in your new Master Roster Change #5 (enclosed), give 'em a call, write 'em a letter, or beam an e-mail message over to them. Or better yet, ask them to meet you at the **next reunion—in San Antonio 4-7 November 1999!** Great to have you **all** in formation—and what a **super** one it is!! **Welcome!** Do you have **Headhunter** friends that aren't members? If so, please let me have their addresses, and I'll send a "Please Join Us" letter to them. **Thank you!**

THE MAIL BAG

JayBird! 11/1/1998

My apologies for the tardiness of this response. I have heard of the Headhunters Association for years, and have always intended to join. It was most fortunate that you sent an e-mail, as it gives me the opportunity to do just that. I have been in a few fighter squadrons now, and there is no way that any can match the brotherhood and history of the Juvats! I will never be caught without my Juvat nickel.

Here is my snail mail address [to send a "Please Join Us" letter to], and I appreciate being included in the Headhunter e-mail system. Thanks again for the info, and I am looking forward to the next Headhunter reunion. Garvin...Out! [Maj Fred Hartwig—new member 23 Dec]



This E-mail came in on 16 December 1998:

Maybe you can help me. I'm looking for information about my uncle 1st Lt Kenneth Paul Tallant. He was stationed at Suwon, Korea base K13 Oct 52. Died May 18, '53. I am working with Hal and Ted Barker, Korean War Project, the Douglas Museum and various web sites. I was browsing the web And found your page. He is not listed as a Korean War Casualty. There is conflicting evidence concerning his death. Can you help me or point me in another direction. Kenneth was a pilot with the 80th Fighter Bomber Sq. Trained at Camp Stoneman in California. Thanks for your time. Linda **Ed Note:** Please send any info to JayBird, and I'll forward. Thanks.

A clear conscience is a soft pillow.

This e-mail message came in from Robert J. Swartz on 25 November 1998:

I am a member of the Headhunters, and I would like to pass on my e-mail address for your listing: SWORCI@aol.com. I was in the 80th Fighter Bomber Squadron on 25 June 1950 when the North Korean attack took place and flew 141 missions until I left Itazuke AB in February 1951. Please add my e-mail to your list.

An e-mail message from Daryl E. Brown received Thanksgiving Day reads:

I understand Amos Leslie Sluder was the commanding officer of the 80th Fighter Bomber Squadron at the start of the Korean War and was MIA on first mission. I am his second cousin, although I wasn't even born at that time. I am an aviation history enthusiast and this connection makes my hobby even more interesting. I would appreciate any information you can share about him or the squadron in general. Thanks very much.

We answered:

Hello Daryl,

Thanks for the contact—great to hear from you! Yes, Maj Amos L. Sluder was commander of the 80th Fighter Bomber Squadron from 11 Oct 1949 - 5 Jul 1950 when he was lost. Our Squadron History reads, in part:

North Korea invaded South Korea on 25 June 1950, and the "Headhunters" once again entered combat. The day after the invasion, the 80th and the rest of the 8th Fighter Bomber Wing provided air defense for the frantic evacuation of American forces from Seoul as it was being overrun. Other than these initial air defense missions, the 80th spent the rest of the war flying bombing and close air support missions (which accounts for the very few air-to-air victories.) The 80th was the first American unit to employ jet fighters in combat, another "First" for the "Headhunters." On 5 Jul 1950, the 80th's commander, Maj Amos L. Sluder, became the first American pilot to give his life in the new war when his F-80 was hit by a tank shell during an attack on an enemy column, a not-as-happy "First."

I have included Bob Swartz as "CC" on this msg. He was in the 80th at the same time. He may have more info for you.

This message came in on 13 December:

My name is Dr. Richard Saffro. My father, Yale Saffro, was in the 80th fighter squadron in New Guinea from 1942-1944. He designed the Headhunters patch. He named me after Richard Bong [American Ace-of-Aces-40], and my middle name Kenneth, was named after the pilot of his P-38, Kenneth Ladd. My father died 8 years ago, but he would have been exceedingly proud to see his patch on your [Headhunters'] web page. Thanks.

From: Mr. John R. Breeden

Date: Wednesday, August 05, 1998 7:38PM

I was never in the 80th, but my father was—during WWII. He was The 80th's commander in 1945 while on Ie Shima 'till the end of The War. He was known as Major "Black Jack" Breeden. His Air Force career ended in the 1960s when he retired as a Full Bird from The California Air National Guard after starting an air sea rescue unit with General Ames. He passed away two years ago.

While I was growing up he used to relate a story concerning his P-38 fighter group escorting the Japanese truce aircraft in route to surrender talks with Gen MacArther. The attached article was written documenting the event. I thought The 80th might find it of interest. Most people aren't familiar with the action and it puts The 80th in it's proper historical light as a fighting unit crucial in ending WWII (and as you will see, causing WWII to last a day longer than it should have).

I have most of the supporting documentation including photographs of The 80th at Ie Shima if you are interested. I'm looking for places to send it for it's historical value.... Hope you like the attached.....

John R. Breeden Jr.

(ED Note: An outstanding, highly detailed account of that action, which was incorporated in our Sq History!)

HURTIN' HEADHUNTERS



Back towards the end of August, 1998, Lt Col Rick “Frenchman” French, Commander of our active Squadron in Kunsan, Korea, and a new LifeTime Member, injured his lower back. He ended up herniating two of the disks at the bottom of the spine. It caused lots of pain and weakness, and he hasn't flown since then. The decision was made to get it fixed. A change of command was held 23 November. He departed Kunsan on 25 November to have more tests & surgery at Wilford Hall—probably in March. His next assignment will follow after his 4-5 month convalescence. Rick, we all wish you the best of luck, and we look forward to your complete recovery. See you at

the reunion!

One of our WWII LifeTime Members, Phil DeBolt, had a heart attack on 20 November. They rushed him to the hospital for triple bypass surgery. He returned home after two weeks, but reentered the hospital on 8 Dec with kidney problems and some other complications. As of 10 Dec, he was feeling better. We all wish Phil a speedy recovery, and look forward to seeing him and Jolene at the reunion.

One of our new members, Capt “Woody” Yarbrough, had back surgery in December. His e-mail stated, “I've had back problems for many years. While at Kunsan back in '94, I woke one day and was unable to move without great pain. Since then I have lived with a constant pain which flared up at times. Starting this May, I had increased pain and trouble actually walking. I finally stopped flying in September. I had an MRI which revealed a herniated disc between L4/L5. The pain was excruciating for 3+ months. We tried steroid injections, PT, massage therapy, and tons of pain pills. Finally I convinced everyone that surgery was what I wanted. Because I gutted it out all those years I have done some pretty good damage to the nerves down my right leg. My surgery was 9 December. I am still in some pain and only work half days due to this. I will do rehab from the operation in March and we'll go from there.” We all wish you a speedy recovery back to full OR status, Woody! Hope you can make the reunion, too!

Late Breaking News—26 Jan:

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan (AFPN) -- 35th Fighter Wing officials here identified Maj Richard O. Fenton as the pilot of the F-16 that crashed during a training mission Jan 21. Fenton ejected safely from the aircraft, which crashed in a wooded area near Kamaishi City in Iwate Prefecture, Japan. He is in good condition at Misawa Air Base, Japan. Moe, by the time you read this, we hope you're feeling better!

There is no
the right thing.

MASTER ROSTER CHANGE #5!

wrong time to do

Enclosed is your Master Roster Change #5. Please note this is only a **change**, and not a complete new roster! Only information that has changed since the last (1 November) newsletter is included. If you have any additions/corrections to any of the information, please send to me for updating. Thanks.

head headhunter corner



My thanks go out to all those who sent in information on our missing members listed in the last newsletter. I would especially like to thank Lt Col Bill “Sherlock” Miller, who gave me 7 contacts—5 of which have rejoined! Thanks, Sherlock!

In all of these newsletters, I make reference to God—usually in the “**HEADHUNTERS at rest**” section on page 11. Some of you may be offended by this, but not too many, I hope. While we're young, wild, and speeding through life with our “hair on fire,” it's hard for many of us to take time to think about God. However, as we get older and experience combat, and/or other daily trials of military and civilian life in the world around us, we very soon realize there is Something bigger than all of us affecting our lives and surroundings at all times. It depends on our individual culture what this Something is called. I call Him God. The POW's who spent many years confined, stated, almost to a man, that if it wasn't for their faith and belief in God, they wouldn't have made it. For some of you that haven't thought about this, you probably will someday. For those of us who finally slowed down enough “to smell the flowers,” we have. I saw a sign outside one of our local churches a couple of months ago that helps me accept things when they go wrong: “God always answers our prayers, but the answer isn't always ‘Yes.’” Thank You.

My Dad always told me, “Never discuss religion or politics with family or friends.” I’ve been very conscious of his advice and have tried not to make these newsletters religious or political papers. Nevertheless, now that I’ve touched on religion in the paragraph above, I’ll touch on what some people may think is politics. However, our problem in Washington for the past year or so has absolutely nothing to do with politics—it’s way beyond that. I can’t believe the American public. They have completely missed the boat by thinking “It’s only a sex thing—no big deal....” (which, in itself, doesn’t say much for the morals of our people.) They don’t even consider that he has continually lied under oath—to the Congress and Independent Prosecutor. **The topic makes no difference!** It could be “The Price of Cheese in Siam”—if he lies about it under oath, and suggests others do the same, that’s a felony, and raises the stakes to a much higher level—it’s no longer “just a sex thing” that has already cost the Tax Payers tens of millions of dollars, disgraced the Office to which he was elected, and tarnished the hallowed sanctity of the White House. For the sake of our Nation and our respect around the world, I truly hope he elects to try and salvage a flicker of dignity and resign. If he doesn’t, then we must let our Constitution work and remove him from office—period. Republican or Democrat—it’s completely irrelevant! Tomorrow wouldn’t be soon enough. Does this have anything to do with politics? I don’t think so, but, pathetically, listening to the news, many of our near-sighted politicians in the House and Senate are undecided as to what to do—they’re worried as to what the political impact on them will be if they vote for or against the President! All you hear is, “The Democrats say this”, and “The Republicans want that....” They’re so wrapped up in politics and their political futures, they seem to be completely oblivious to the big picture—the President of the United States committed perjury and obstruction of justice—not once, but *repeatedly* over many months—and to this day is saying, “*Yea, I made a mistake, but let’s forget it and move on!*” What is it that our people don’t understand about these repeated felonies? So sad. As I write this on 15 December, three days before the House vote on impeachment, I can only hope they come to their senses and vote for the good of the Country and not in a way they think will better their political future. We’ll see. Think of the alternative—allowing him to stay in office—to our people, history, the Office of President, and the rest of the world. Perjury will no longer be a punishable crime in our legal system—what a novel precedence.... Many of you are on active duty and have seen the effect of this debacle on our military, but have you been around school children lately? They are convinced that lying and cheating are now O.K.—a normal, acceptable way of life. Do it well, and you, too, can become *President of the United States*. God help us and our Country. Think about it.

HEADHUNTER STORE!!

These items are now available in our “**HEADHUNTER STORE.**” The “**Blazer Emblem**”, “**Squadron Unique Tie**”, and “**Ladies Floppy Bow**” **were designed and made especially for our Squadron—with our inputs!!** Get them now, and wear them proudly—not just at the reunions, but whenever you get dressed up!! It’s a great way to find other **HEADHUNTERS**, to!! Unless purchased at a reunion, a small fee of **\$3 should be added** for postage to all orders:

Blazer Emblem (men’s or ladies)	\$35	Golf Shirt (specify size)	\$25
Squadron Unique Tie	\$30	T Shirt (specify size)	\$12

Ladies Floppy Bow (matches tie)	\$30	Squadron Print	\$20
Squadron "Nickel" Coin or Keychain	\$ 4	White Hat	\$10
* <u>Personalized</u> Sq coffee mug	\$17	Black Hat	\$10
* <u>Personalized</u> Sq beer stein	\$20	Squadron Memorial Plaque	\$10
*Mug & Stein set as above	\$35	Korean-era Sq Patch	\$ 5
Current Squadron Patch	\$ 5	** <u>Personalized</u> Sq beer mug	\$25
Squadron Golf Balls (sleeve)	\$ 5		

●●●●● Las Vegas Reunion Souvenir Book (only 2 left).....original (cost) price \$20 ●●●●●
 (Full color 16 pages of reunion pictures of our largest reunion to date!!)

* Please include **name and/or callsign** desired on your mug/stein (up to 20 letters), and **right/left** handed with your order. **Unless otherwise stated**, the Squadron logo & your first name in Old English will be on the front (handle left for right-handed drinker), and an F-16 will be on the back.

** Large 25oz mug is beautiful **etched glass**. Please indicate **Squadron logo** or our **Association logo** desired, choice of **P-38, F-86, F-4, or F-16**, and include **name and/or callsign in "HEADHUNTER" or standard bold font**, and **right/left** handed, with your order. Other aircraft may be available. **Personal markings** (tail number/markings, aerial victories, etc.) available. Please call for quote.

Please send check to **"The Headhunters"; 905 Arapaho Ct; Columbus, GA 31904-1242**. Please don't forget to include **\$3 postage** on all orders.

Fighter pilot songs (Rated G) on CDs and/or tapes are available from our fellow **HEADHUNTER** Dick Jonas. Contact him at: *Erosonic*; 2001 Mountain View Glen; Ft Mojave, AZ 86426-8833.

HEADHUNTERS GETTIN' HITCHED!



Check 6!!

Lt Col Frank P. Bianca, one of our Juvat members, and Lt Col L. Denise Lange of the California Air National Guard joined up in matrimony on Saturday, 14 November. Lt Col Mike Brandt, former Panther from Kunsan, was best man. Denise has a Ph.D. in Chemistry and University of Missouri at St. Louis. e-mail continues: "She now teaches at the Uni-Louis. Frank's 20 Nov and I just purchased a new '99 Corvette convertible and plan to travel North America as it never has been traveled before."



Also, since I fly the Boeing 777 for United out of Chicago, she plans to travel with me on my trips. Plans are to go to Frankfurt on 23 Nov and Paris on Thanksgiving." Congratulations to Frank & Denise, and many happy, safe miles together in that [red?] Corvette convertible!

THE STORK CORNER!



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

Capt Jeff “Jethro” & Kelly Schroeder are very proud to announce the arrival of their new daughter, Ashley Reese Schroeder, at 0242 on 10 October! Ashley’s launch weight was 9 lbs 3 oz with a wingspan of 21¾”. Kelly said little Ashley had a black flat-top haircut just like her Daddy! Jethro was in Weapons School at the time in Las Vegas, and got home to Phoenix just a few hours before the roll-out—great job! **Congratulations to you both!!**

Maj Rob “Gozur” & Valerie Paulukaitis “Officially added another member to our flight crew:” Daniel Joseph Paulukaitis, weighing in at 8 lbs 8 oz, was born 4 November at 0643! Gozur writes, “Mom and baby are all doing well!” **Congratulations to the Paulukaitis Crew!!**

Jacob Thomas Crawford, was born at 0432 MST on 6 December ’98. “We were just blessed with the arrival of our second son.” wrote Maj Chad “Crusty” & Cheryl Crawford. Jacob weighed in at 9lbs 3oz on his 22” frame! All are doing just fine—even Dad! The Crawfords moved to Dallas just after Christmas to start a new career. **Congratulations to you all!!**

Maj Ned “Flanders” & Linda Linch sent an e-mail, “We have a new family member in the Linch family. God sure has blessed us!” She is 8lb 3oz, 20” Caroline Elizabeth Linch born 8 December ’98. Ned concluded, “Kelley and Brian can not wait to kiss their new sister.” **Congratulations to your family!!**

Congratulations to all new Moms, Dads, & “Wingmen”!!!!
All the flowers of all the tomorrows are in the seeds of today.

HEADHUNTERS AT REST

Last, but certainly not least, we would like to take this opportunity to pass on to all members the names of those **HEADHUNTERS**, who we know of, that have made their last takeoff in this lifetime since our last newsletter.

Anthony R. Liberatore	WWII	1989
Dennis G. Stanford	Juvat	29 Oct 1998
Gregory Martineac	Juvat	9 Nov 1998

Date: Saturday, October 31, 1998 9:43 PM
Subject: Pancho's Release

JayBird, Juvats and Headhunters,

Pancho flew with God as his Pilot. After flying his missions down on earth, God directed his plane towards the sky. Last Thursday night, October 29, 1998, Pancho passed away at 11:30. He was on oxygen; and went very quietly. That Thursday, he was breathing very short and fast breaths. Actually, we think that the cancer was arrested, as the tumor on his shoulder had gone down half the size.

Unfortunately, it was pneumonia. We as a family--and our friends--thought he would be healed. This was the 5th time the doctor gave up on him, and in my mind was thinking that he would surprise the doctors once again. However, when God gives his orders, you don't hesitate.

We really appreciate all the messages...which were so sincere. Thank you everyone for your love and support.

God bless you all,

The Stanfords
6876 Greenleaf Drive
North Richland Hills, TX 76180
(817) 656-0448

Ed Note: We received this e-mail message the day after the last newsletter was mailed out. Denny "Pancho" Stanford was in the 80th with me in 1979-1980. Pancho & Janet were regulars at our reunions for the past several years, and we had a great time together at the Las Vegas reunion last March. We of the **HEADHUNTERS** will all miss Pancho—especially me. Rest in peace, my Friend.

E-Mail received 16 January 99:

Dear Sir,

I am searching for information about my father, Anthony R. Liberatore. According to my father's Honorable Discharge from World War II, he served as a Sergeant in the 80th Fighter Squadron, 8th Fighter Group from May 18, 1944 to December 17, 1945. My father passed away in 1989, but he never said much about his participation with the Headhunters. We do have some photos, but my sisters and I really just wanted as much information as we could possibly get because according to his discharge form, he received the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon with six bronze stars, Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one bronze star, Good Conduct Medal, the Purple Heart, Distinguished Unit Badge, and Victory Medal World War II. We are so very proud of him as we are of all the men who fought for this country and we just wanted as many details as possible about his injury and his participation in World War II.

If you can help us in any way, we would very much appreciate it!!

Thank you for your help!

Rebecca Renee Liberatore; 2304 Los Angeles Avenue; Pittsburgh, PA 15216 e-mail: sales@foilpro.com

(Ed Note: If anyone has information on Tony Liberatore, please contact Becky at her address.)

On behalf of the entire Squadron, we wish to officially pass on to these families our deepest sympathies and sincere gratitude for the outstanding contribution each of these individuals made to the Squadron and our Country. May they rest in peace and forever soar with the Eagles.

May God bless and keep them in His Flight forever.



The next **HEADHUNTER HEADLINES** will be dated 1 May 1999.



Valentine's Day - 14 Feb



President's Day - 15 Feb



St. Patrick's Day - 17 Mar



Easter - 4 Apr

REUNION CHANGE:—4-7 NOVEMBER!!

✓ 6,



Col Jay E. "JayBird" Riedel, USAF (Ret)
The "Head Headhunter"



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

**ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED**

FIRST CLASS