



THE PYRAMIDIENS

The Newsletter of the 98th Bomb Group/Wing Veterans Association

August 2011

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Message from Bill Seals . . .



Greetings to All,

As I get older, I find that few things excite me. Sure there are events that I enjoy. A family birthday, or a holiday together are always enjoyed, but I don't look forward to them the way a kid who still believes in Santa Claus gets excited about Christmas. But folks I'm here to tell you I'm really excited about our forthcoming reunion.

During the process of contacting the Veterans of the Ploesti raids, I've been in contact with numerous people whom I can't wait to meet. To say I'm looking forward to meeting them and hearing their stories is an understatement. I can't wait!

As some of you know, I've become somewhat of a World War II history buff, especially the history of the 98th and its sister groups. Perhaps that's the reason I'm so excited about our reunion, but I can assure you that you don't have to be a history buff in order to find reasons to attend.

I don't know if Blaine Duxbury and Kent Jaquith, or another group, are planning a Seventh Anniversary reunion of the Tidal Wave Veterans. If they are, I hope I get an invitation. But if no one is planning a seventh reunion, ours may be the last major meeting of the Ploesti Veterans, and that is reason enough to attend.

If one needs more reasons to attend, you have to add the opportunity to spend four full days with the truly wonderful people of our association. I can say without doubt that the time I've been able to spend with the folks who come to our reunions is one of the highlights of my year.

Won't you please join us? I promise you will be happy you did.

With Warmest Regards,

Bill

98th Bomb Group Veteran's Association Awards Scholarship

The 98th Bomb Group Veterans Association Scholarship, in memory of Sgt. William Simons, is awarded this year to Miss Kirstie Edwards of Victorville, California. Kirstie has been chosen for her academic performance, dedication, leadership and service to her community. She will be attending Victorville Community College where she plans to study Graphic Art.

To Kirstie, **patriotism** means: "...here and now. To change. To grow. To adapt and readapt. We can do anything with the right morals and mindset. Patriotism isn't about only Democrats and Republicans but 'e pluribus unum'."

The Officers and Members of the Association hope this Scholarship helps to preserve the memory of all the brave men of the 98th Bomb Group, past, present, and future who put their lives in harm's way to fight for the freedom we continue to enjoy today.

Congratulations and best wishes, Kirstie, as you begin this new chapter in your life!

This Scholarship is funded primarily by donations and raffles held at the annual reunions. Any donations are greatly appreciated, and can be sent to the Scholarship Chairman, Suzanne Mioduszewski.

ROSTER UPDATES

Members with New Addresses

| LAST NAME | FIRST NAME | M.I. | ADDRESS | CITY | ST | ZIP | AC | SQD |
|------------|---------------|------|------------------------------|-------------|----|------------|-----------|----------|
| Ahl | James (Col.) | E. | 11158 W Caron Ct | Sun City | AZ | 85351 | Member | B-29 344 |
| Connolly | Tara Copp | | 35 I St SW Apt 503 | Washington | DC | 20024-4268 | Associate | B-24 343 |
| Dean | Debbie | L. | 12362 E Vassar Dr | Aurora | CO | 80014 | Associate | B-24 345 |
| Golder | Theodore | W. | 1715 E Alluvial Ave #142 | Fresno | CA | 93720-3817 | Member | B-47 344 |
| Hammond | Mrs. Jean | S. | 5301 Bryant Irvin Rd Apt 214 | Fort Worth | TX | 76132-4020 | Honorary | B-24 343 |
| Kirschner | Robert | W. | 2714 No Beacon Hill Ct | Wichita | KS | 67220 | Member | B-24 344 |
| Lenker | Mrs. Kathryn | M. | 879 Hickory Ln | Middletown | PA | 17057-4521 | Honorary | B-24 343 |
| Matthiesen | Mrs. Patricia | | 808 E Wright Ave | Tacoma | WA | 98404-1607 | Honorary | B-29 343 |
| Opsata | Mr. Andrew | W. | 929 Trosper Rd SW Apt 215 | Olympia | WA | 98512-6960 | Honorary | B-24 389 |
| Osgood | John | C. | 6832 Fairfield Ave | Boise | ID | 83709-2018 | Member | 344 |
| Park | Mrs. Lois | H. | 2905 N Main St Apt 113 | Paris | TX | 75460-2245 | Honorary | B-24 415 |
| Seal | Kenneth | B. | 615 W Mistletoe Ave | San Antonio | TX | 78212-3335 | Member | B-29 343 |
| Smith | Jack | O. | 24651 Park Dr | Fort Bragg | CA | 95437-4910 | Member | B-29 344 |
| Swift | Robert | L. | 1110 S Highway 80 OFC 1 | Benson | AZ | 85602-6950 | Member | B-29 345 |
| Vanderhoof | Mrs. Merl | | 306 N 1st St | Effingham | IL | 62401-3425 | Honorary | B-24 415 |
| Watson | John | A. | 102 23rd Ave SW Apt B-102 | Puyallup | WA | 98371-7896 | Member | B-29 343 |

New Member

| LAST NAME | FIRST NAME | M.I. | ADDRESS | CITY | ST | ZIP | AC | SQD |
|-----------|------------|------|---------------|----------|----|-------|-------|-----|
| Bowman | Robert | G. | 4048 Fawn Run | Marietta | GA | 30068 | B-47E | 415 |

Deceased Members

| LAST NAME | FIRST NAME | M.I. | STREET ADDRESS | CITY | ST | ZIP | AC | SQD |
|-------------|-------------|------|-------------------------------|--------------|----|------------|------|-----|
| Blanton Jr. | McKinley | Mac | 4429 S 154th Circle | Omaha | NE | 68137-5124 | B-29 | 343 |
| Diehl | William | R. | 57 Maxwell Dr | Rocky Hill | CT | 06067 | B-24 | 344 |
| Farran | Ralph | J. | 6136 Whiskey Creek Dr Apt 508 | Fort Myers | FL | 33919-8728 | B-24 | 559 |
| Gritzle | B/Gen James | C. | 729 East Fordice Street | Lebanon | IN | 46052-1856 | B-29 | 344 |
| Sherman | Leigh | E. | 73 Eclipse Dr | Saint George | UT | 84770-8007 | B-29 | 344 |

McKinley Blanton, Jr. MSgt USAF (Ret)

It is with much sadness that we note McKinley Blanton, Jr. passed away, March 18, 2011. Mac, as he was called by his friends, was an avid supporter and member of the 98th Bomb Group/Wing Association. He participated in annual reunions with his longtime companion Pat Zimmerman who is also a member of the 98th. He spent many years in the U.S. Air Force and was last assigned to Travis AFB in California. He retired from the Air Force as a Master Sergeant in 1969.

Mac is survived by two sons, a sister, a brother and seven great grandchildren. He is remembered for his active participation in the Masonic Lodge and was also a Shriner. Many active members of the 98th will remember his participation in annual reunions.

The Editor

... from our ... Secretary/Treasurer

A very 'warm' hello to all of you from Ann Arbor in the very sultry summer of 2011! It is much easier to tolerate the heat because summer means that we are that much closer to being together again, and this time in a place with so much history and memories for our group and its members — Shreveport, Louisiana and Barksdale Air Force Base.

It's exciting to be honoring those who were the foundation of this organization, and made possible the freedom we know today. If we did nothing else but share time with the men of the Ploesti Raids, it would be more than worth the trip for the rest of us. Those men, and what they did that we honor, are the reason for my involvement and service in this organization. With each passing day it is more important that we all ensure that their service and sacrifice is never forgotten.

Thank you to all of you who have been renewing your dues, which are only \$15.00 per year. Should you have any questions as to your membership status please contact me, because you would not want to miss any of our absolutely wonderful newsletters. Also, don't forget to let me know of any address changes.

See you in Shreveport!

Susie Mioduszewski

1136 Joyce Lane
Ann Arbor, MI 40103-8869
suzannes@me.com



I Pledge Allegiance
to the Flag of the
United States of America, and
to the Republic for which
It Stands, One Nation
under God, Indivisible, with
Liberty and Justice for All!

General Jacob E. Smart Was Ploesti Raid Strategist

During World War II many famous Generals emerged to contribute their essential talents to the war effort. General Jacob E. Smart surfaced as the architect of the famous "Operation Tidal Wave." He was born in Ridgeland, South Carolina, educated in the public schools of South Carolina and the Marion Military Institute in Alabama. After graduating from the United States Military Academy in 1931, his flying career began with the Army Air Corps. After joining the Air Corps Advisory Council in 1942 he served on the staff of General "Hap" Arnold, Chief of Staff of the Army Air Force. In this capacity he was involved with the Invasion of Europe.

During World War II the military hierarchy leadership were concerned with ways and means to destroy the oil fields that were supporting the Nazi war machine. Finally, Jacob E. Smart, then a Colonel, conceived a strategy for achieving this goal. He believed that aircraft flying excessively low would be successful in destroying the oil fields that were supplying Hitler's oil. Due to the fact the area was heavily defended many commanders disagreed with this plan. General Smart argued that flying at tree-top level provided greater accuracy and therefore would be more successful. Finally, this plan was submitted to General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander, who favored and approved this approach. After much planning and preparation the raid took place on Sunday, August 1, 1943 and was deemed a **success** as the refineries at Ploesti were severely damaged. However, this operation called "Tidal Wave" saw a loss of 54 aircraft out of 178 bombers, 532 airmen were lost and 58 aircraft were heavily damaged. Five Medals of Honor were awarded, the most for any single military action.

General Smart was not allowed to fly on the Ploesti mission because his superiors were fearful of his capture. He possessed extensive knowledge of allied war plans. However, he later began to fly extensive missions over enemy territory. On his 29th mission flying a B-17 Flying Fortress on a mission to bomb aircraft factories near Wiener Neustadt, Austria his aircraft was hit by anti-aircraft fire and exploded. Smart was thrown from the aircraft mid-air and managed to open his parachute. Captured by the Germans he became a prisoner of war. Of the seven man crew, only he and his bombardier



Jacob E. Smart
May 31, 1909 –
November 12,
2006
(Died at the
age of 97)

survived. He was however, covered with shrapnel wounds needing medical attention. When the Germans recognized his status and connection to higher-ups he was placed in an excellent hospital and treated very well. Although being constantly interrogated he divulged nothing. Upon his repatriation to the United States he continued as a top aide to General Arnold. As the new United States Air Force was formed and separated from the Army, he rose rapidly in rank. On June 5, 1963 President John F. Kennedy, in a speech at the Air Force Academy, praised General Smart as one of our outstanding generals. At that time, he was Commander in Chief, Pacific Air Force.

General Smart retired from the Air Force in 1966 and served as an administrator with NASA for several years. He died on November 2, 2006 in the house in which he was born. He had four children, three daughters and one son. He is survived by one daughter and his son.

When he retired for good to his hometown in the mid 1970s, he was greeted by three bands and Main Street was renamed in his honor. He received numerous decorations during his career including: Distinguished Service Cross; Air Force Distinguished Service Medal; Legion of Merit; Distinguished Flying Cross; Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters. He was also awarded the decoration of ULCHI by the Republic of Korea and also was an honorary Knight Commander of the British Empire.

By: Dolores J. Haritos, Colonel USAF (Ret)

TARGET: PLOESTI

August 1, 1943

The following photos were contributed to the Editor by a German National friend, Rainer Kliemann, Researcher and Historian who resides in Neusaess, Germany. The photos are from German Archives and Luftwaffe Archives and are illustrated to demonstrate the damages inflicted by the crews of the U.S. Army Air Force.

Ploesti, Romania was the prime oil-producing city in Nazi controlled Romania and as such was critical to the German war machine. The Allies had in fact bombed Ploesti in June of 1942 but this raid was relatively ineffective so renewed planning began in January of 1943 for a substantial raid on the Ploesti oil refineries. The Germans also realized Ploesti's value and set out to defend it accordingly with almost 120 88mm guns, 150 rapid fire 20mm and 37mm cannons, wing-severing and target obstructing barrage balloons, in addition to three Luftwaffe fighter squadrons as well as Romanian fighter aircraft. Led by Col. Walter Stewart's Bomb Group, 54 out of the 178 bombers that participated in the raid were lost and another 58 were damaged. The Allied losses were so high in the operation that it would be nicknamed "Black Sunday." *See more photos on following pages.*

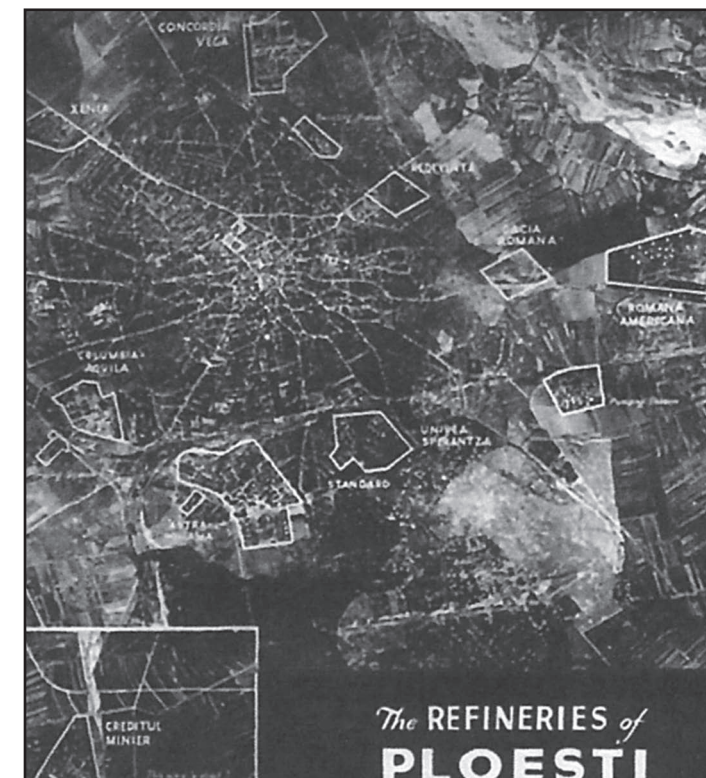
Romania refineries under American attack, August 1, 1943.

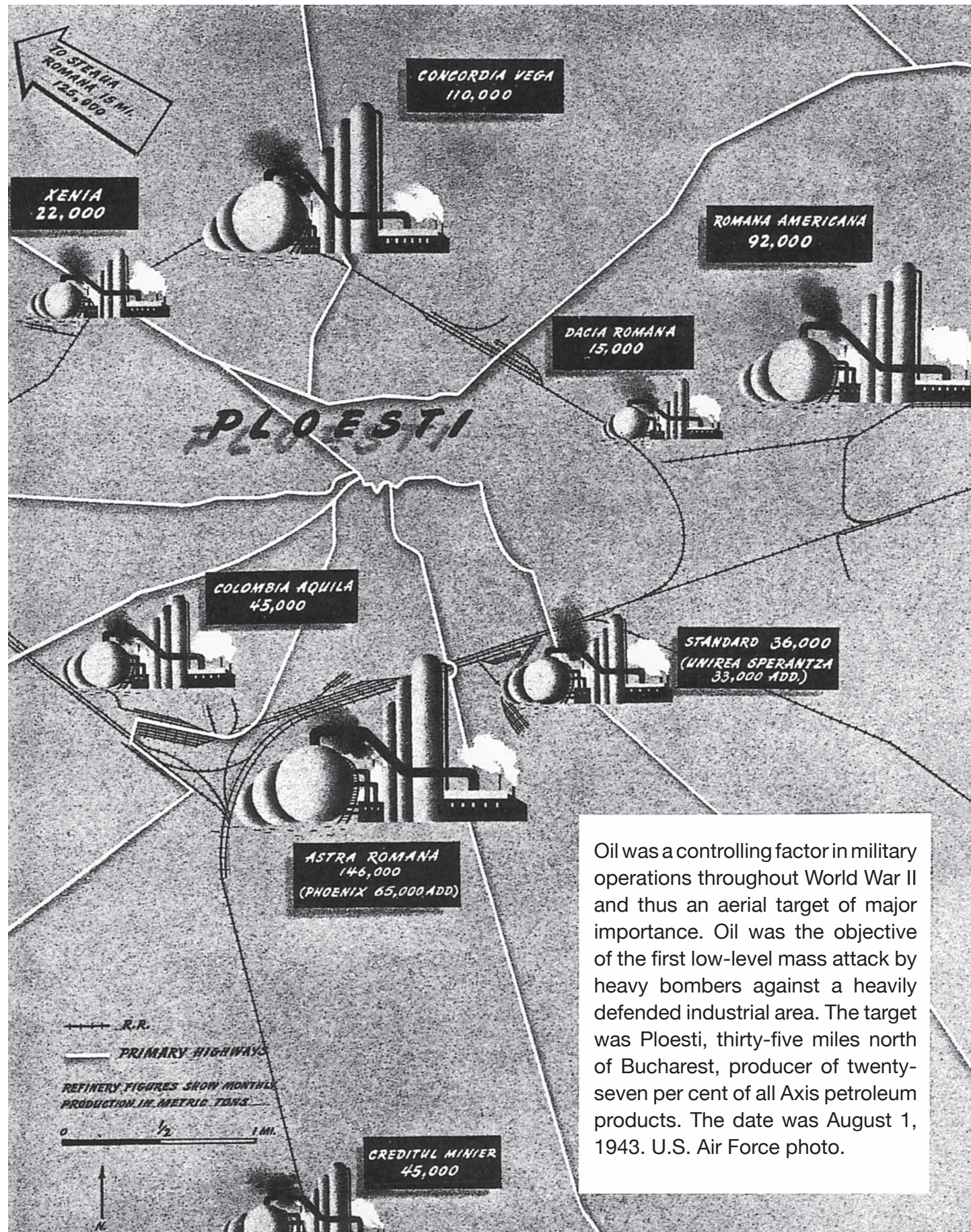
- Campina: Steaua Romana ("Target RED")
- Ploesti: Romana Americana ("WHITE I")
- Ploesti: Concordia Vega ("WHITE II")
- Ploesti: Standard Petrol Block, Unirea Speranta ("WHITE III")
- Ploesti: Astra Romana, Unirea Orion ("WHITE IV")
- Ploesti: Columbia Aquila ("WHITE V")
- Brazi: Creditul Minier ("Target BLUE")

The most costly attack of U.S. Air Force in WWII.



The Ploesti oil refineries were notorious targets because of the heavy German AA fire and losses inflicted on the AAF. The photo above shows the result of several bombing raids. It was taken, October 4, 1944.

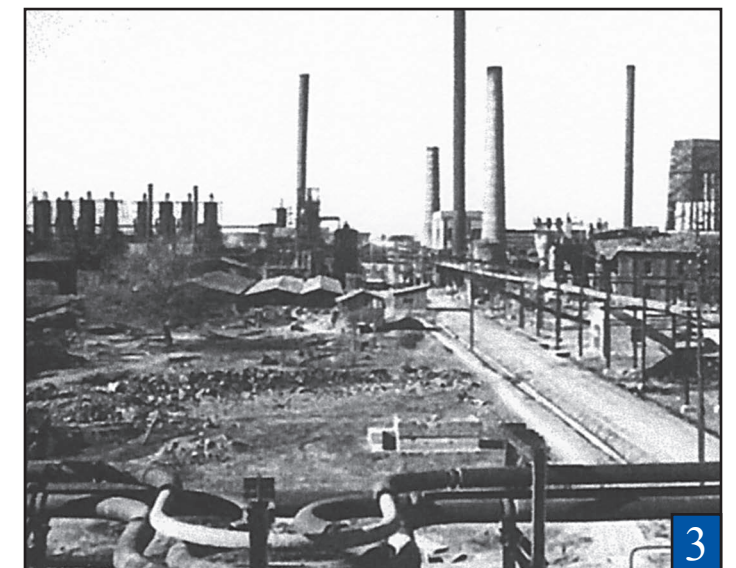
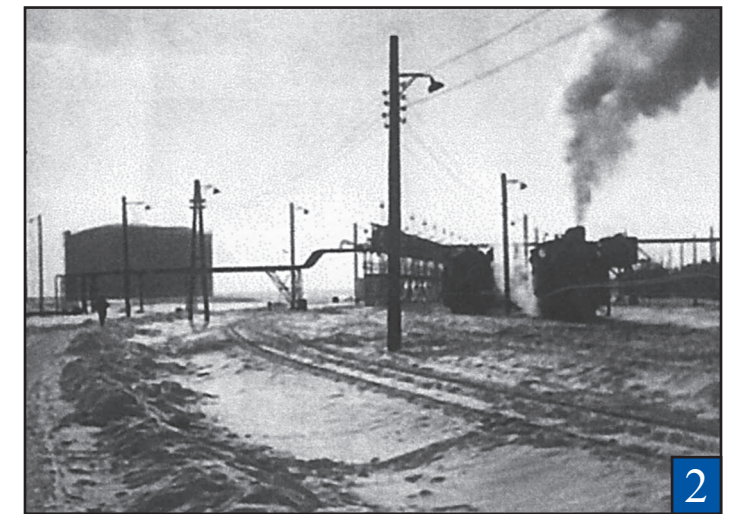
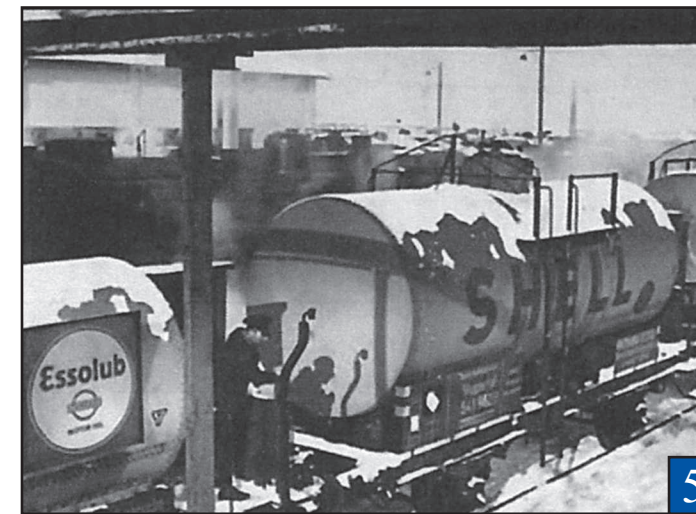




TARGET PLOESTI

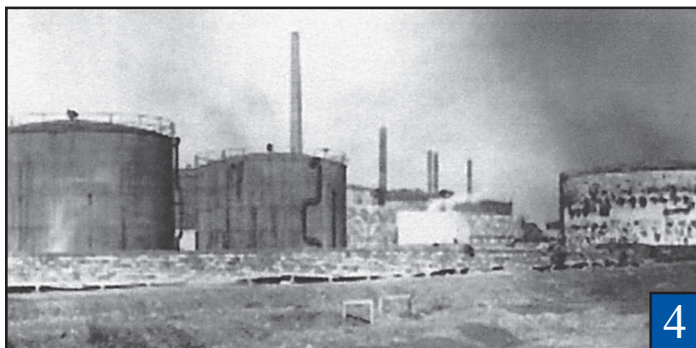
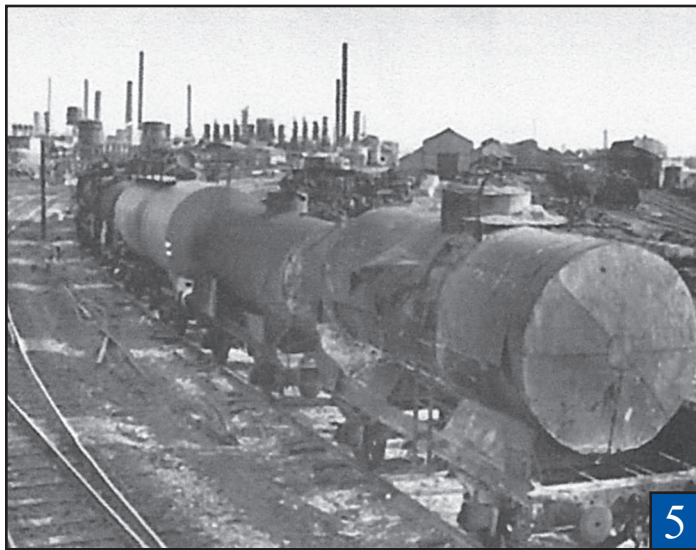
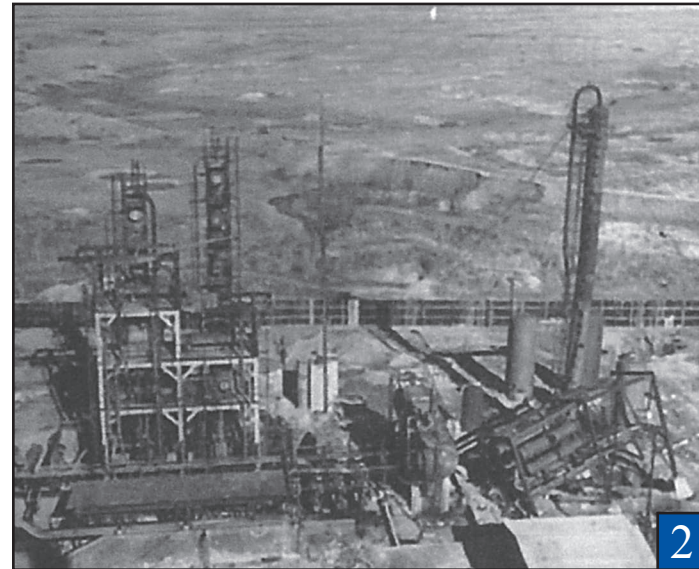
Pictured this page, beginning at right and moving clockwise:

1. The Astra Romana Refinery under attack. Photographed before attack . . .
2. Creditul Minier oil storage tanks next to railroad yard of tank cars filled with oil bound for Germany to fuel Hitler's war — 1940.
3. Overall view of Romano-Americana oil refinery.
4. Creditul Minier employee in railroad yard filling tank cars with oil bound for Germany to fuel Hitler's war.
5. Oil bound for Germany to fuel Hitler's war waiting in German tank cars (labeled with American Essolub and British Shell logos) in Romania owned Creditul Minier oil yards in Ploesti — 1940.



TARGET PLOESTI

Before the United States Army Air Force Attack

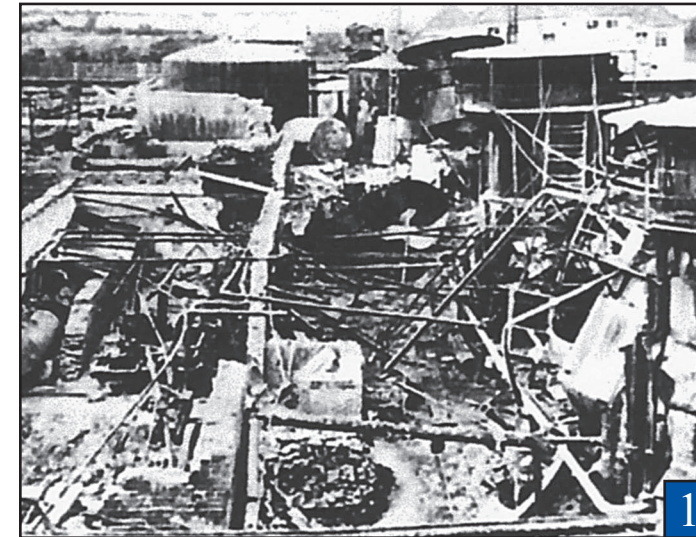


Pictured this page, beginning top, left and moving clockwise:

1. Astra Romana Refinery.
2. Bird's eye view of Romana-Americana Refinery.
3. More of the Romana-Americana Refinery.
4. More of the Astra Romana Refinery.
5. Oil tankers at the Romana-Americana Refinery.

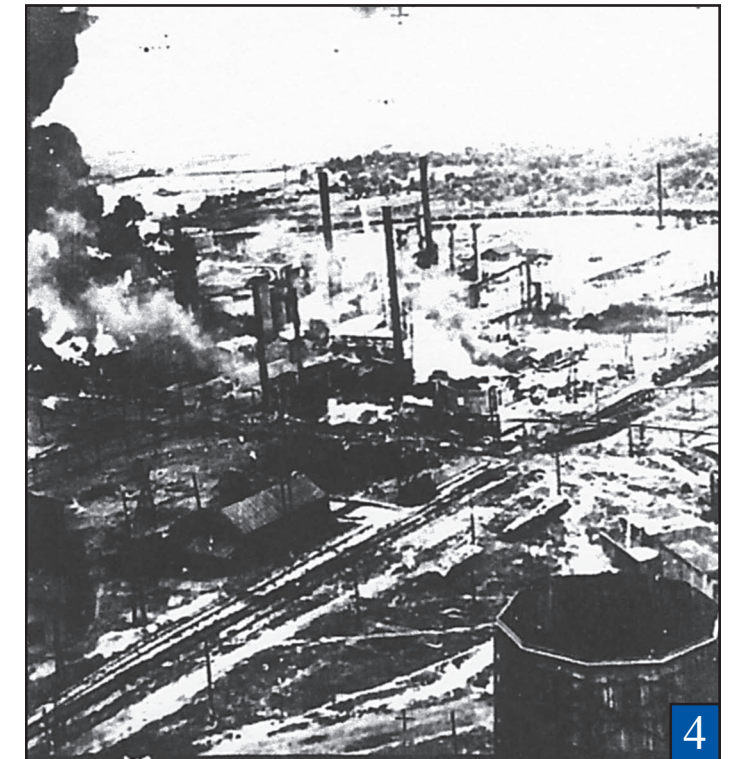
TARGET PLOESTI

After the United States Army Air Force Attack



Pictured this page, on the left, top and bottom:

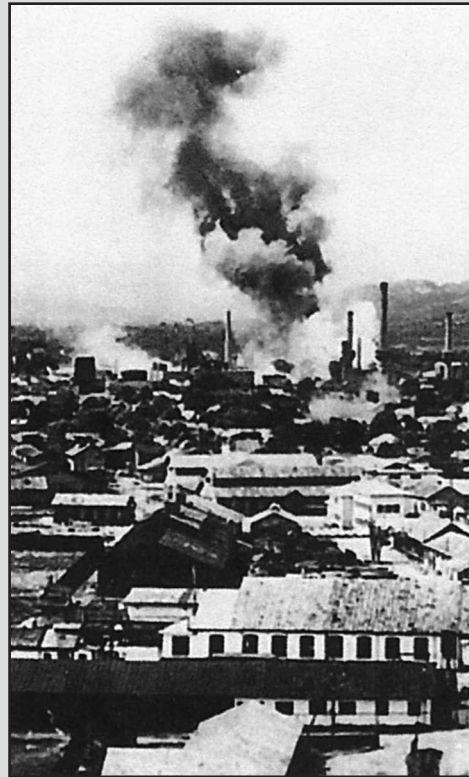
1. Creditul Minier Refinery under attack.
2. Concordia Vega Refinery after a hit.



Pictured this page, on the right, top and bottom:

3. Close-up of bomb dropped next to a refinery.
4. Creditul Minier Refinery under attack.

TARGET PLOESTI



Images from (Campina) the Steaua Romana Refinery under attack.

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE MEMORIAL

This poem is authored by Lolete Barlow, the wife of an Air Force officer who is now deceased. Mrs. Barlow attended the October 2006 dedication of the Air Force Memorial and was inspired to write this poem. She recently finished the poem and gave it to the Air Force Memorial Foundation so that it could be shared with all of you.

They're not as tall, nor fleet of foot.
Their hair no longer dark, has thinned
Or disappeared perhaps,
And yet the spark of who they were,
These warriors of old, radiates from each of them,
The skilled, the brave, the bold.

Long years ago when they were young
They flew through foreign skies
And fought for home and country,
For freedom and the lives
Of loved ones left behind.

These pilots, gunners, bombardiers,
Ground support and engineers
Fought valiantly a world away
Defending what we have today
Half a century later.

From all the missions that were flown
Too many never made it home.
Instead they sleep 'neath foreign soil
With fellow airmen—comrades all.
None will be forgotten.

To all who wore the Air Force blue,
To all the men and women who,
Though gone before us, live on still
In memory upon this hill.
We gratefully salute you.

Now spires of stainless steel curve high
And yonder pierce the wild blue sky,
A hilltop tribute all can see
A monument to victory
And heroes who secured it.

GOD BLESS THEM ALL

MISSION TO: Kwaksan, North Korea

The mission was planned in order to bomb the rail bridges at Kwaksan, North Korea on June 1, 1951. Things went wrong on that bright sunny morning. There was a malfunction on our first bomb run. We had to go around and were on our second run when the F-86s left us. To the best of my knowledge there was no engagement between F-86s and MIG-15s that morning. I was sitting in the tunnel watching the MIG formations out of the blister (plexiglass). They looked ghostly white against a blue sky. I watched the first MIG strike, then scampered down to my radio position, grabbed my flak suit and helmet and hunkered on the floor.

Captain Cook had already made the decision to close the bomb bay doors and make a run for it. We were at the mercy of thirty MIGs. All I could do was listen on the intercom to the gunners' calls and empty shells falling into the turret from our four 50 caliber machine guns above my head. The tail guns were knocked out on the first pass. It seemed like this battle would never end. Finally, it was over and the tail gunner position had taken a direct shell hit. Thankfully the gunner was not wounded.

The A/C, Aircraft Commander told me to get off an S.O.S. "We're hit in the wing tank, on fire. Do not know the extent of damage. Will try to make South Korea."

We were sprinkled with flak somewhere along the route, but no major damage. We had taken three shell hits: in the tail, in the fuselage behind the left gunner (hence the fire in the radar compartment) and in the wing between the Number 1 and Number 2 engines.

God bless the Marine Corps! They came up in a plane and looked us over. They said the fire was out and we



Wingman bomb drop over North Korea.

looked fine, except our bomb bay doors were hanging open. We got to an airfield and told the tower we'd like to land except that we might bum on the way in. The crew was given a choice again of bailing out or riding the plane down. One of the crew said "hell, we've come this far. We've got faith. Let's go in. We made a normal landing. Only one of the four B-29 bombers was lost. I don't know why we didn't blow up. Three MIG shells had hit us. You could look in the hole in the

MISSION TO: Kwaksan, North Korea

continued from previous page

wing and could see gasoline. You could reach right in and grab a handful. But if one is really trying there are times when there is always a way out of these types of situations.

We dropped our bombs on Sariwon probably at the lowest altitude we had ever dropped. A 1000 pound bomb stayed on the front bomb bay shackle. I told the A/C. The bombardier tried to salvo. It was a no go. The A/C said to close the bomb bay doors and take the bomb with us. About 10 minutes later there was a loud boom. Sunlight hit me in the face through the bulkhead doors. For an instant, I thought the bomb had exploded. The bomb had fallen free and buckled the doors so badly they wouldn't close. Gunners said they saw it explode on a mountain top below.

All four B-29s in our group were damaged. One went down, one went back to Yokota, one went to Kimpo or Taegu and we landed at Pusan. The A/C told us to get out fast after landing as there was concern a live shell might still be in the plane. No nose wheel exit for me as I went out the front bomb bay and ran. No shell was found.



Pictured above — The Miss Tampa Crew, standing left to right: Capt. Warren G. Cook, AC; 2nd Lt. Kay J, P; 1st Lt. Leonard Gad, N; Capt. Robert Savage, B; 1st Lt. Wallace Stephens, VO. Kneeling left to right: Cpl. Richard Rodgers, LG; Cpl. Robert Busshman, TG; Sgt. Leon Johnson, FE; S/ Sgt. Warren Tessmer, CFC; Sgt. Howard Whitley, RO; S/ Sgt. Edward Fitzpatrick, RG.

Photo left: TDY Widow on Tarmac at Yokota AFB, Japan.

Page 13, top photo: wing tank damage, Pusan AFB, South Korea.

Page 13, bottom photo: shell hole from MIG 15, knocking out guns, Pusan AFB, South Korea.

We flew back to Tachikawa AFB that night on a NAT C-54 and took a bus to Yokota AFB arriving at 3:00 AM. Our tent was the center of attention that morning. It seemed like every 343rd flight crew descended on our tent in jubilation. We were told that they heard we were shot down. Our missions dwindled after that. When our plane was brought back from Pusan it was never the same. TDY Widow #6335 was a damaged lady.

Captain Warren Cook as A/C came to Yokota early in 1951 from Travis AFB to replace Major Edward Dickinson who was transferred to operations. The crew that went down this June 1st 1951 was Captain Cook's old crew from Travis AFB with a new A/C. Our crew was designated to pack up their belongings for shipment to their home. They were our next door tent neighbors. This same crew of TDY Widow #6335 with Captain Warren Cook as A/C led four B-29s in



a flyover for General Douglas MacArthur on April 15, 1951 when he was leaving Haneda Airport in Tokyo. Colonel David Wade, 98th Bomb Group Commander, was on board that day. The only reference to this flyover that I can find is in the paperback, "MacArthur's War: Korea and the Undoing of an American Hero" by Stanley Weintraub (page 354).

Captain Cook and his crew flew both aircraft on different missions. Thus I have attached pictures of Miss Tampa and TDY Widow with its crew members.

Submitted By: Howard Whitley, B-29, 343rd

European Town Pays Tribute to **WWII AMERICAN FIGHTERS**

Have you ever wondered if anyone in Europe remembers America's sacrifice during World War II? There is an answer in a small town in the Czech Republic. The town is Pilsen (Pizen).

Every five years, Pilsen conducts the **Liberation Celebration of the City of Pilsen** in the Czech Republic. May 6th, 2010, marked the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Pilsen by General George Patton's 3rd Army. Pilsen is a town that every American should visit because they love America and the American Soldier.

Even 65 years later . . . by the thousands.

Each year, a different military hero will be honored in tribute to General Patton's memory and their mission to liberate Europe. This award will be presented to a graduating senior who will be entering the military or a form of community service such as fireman, policeman, teaching or nursing — a cause greater than self. The student will be from one of the five high schools in Pilsen, Czech Republic.

Pictured at the top of the facing page is the crash site of Lt. Virgil P. Kirkham, the last recorded American USAAF pilot killed in Europe during WWII. It was Lt. Kirkham's 82nd mission and one that he volunteered to go on. At the time, this 20-year-old pilot's P-47 Thunderbolt plane was shot down, a young 14-year-old Czech girl, Zdenka Sladkova, was so moved by his sacrifice she made a vow to care for him and his memory. For 65 straight years, Zdenka, now 79 years old, took on the responsibility to care for Virgil's crash site and memorial near her home. (Pictured on page 16).

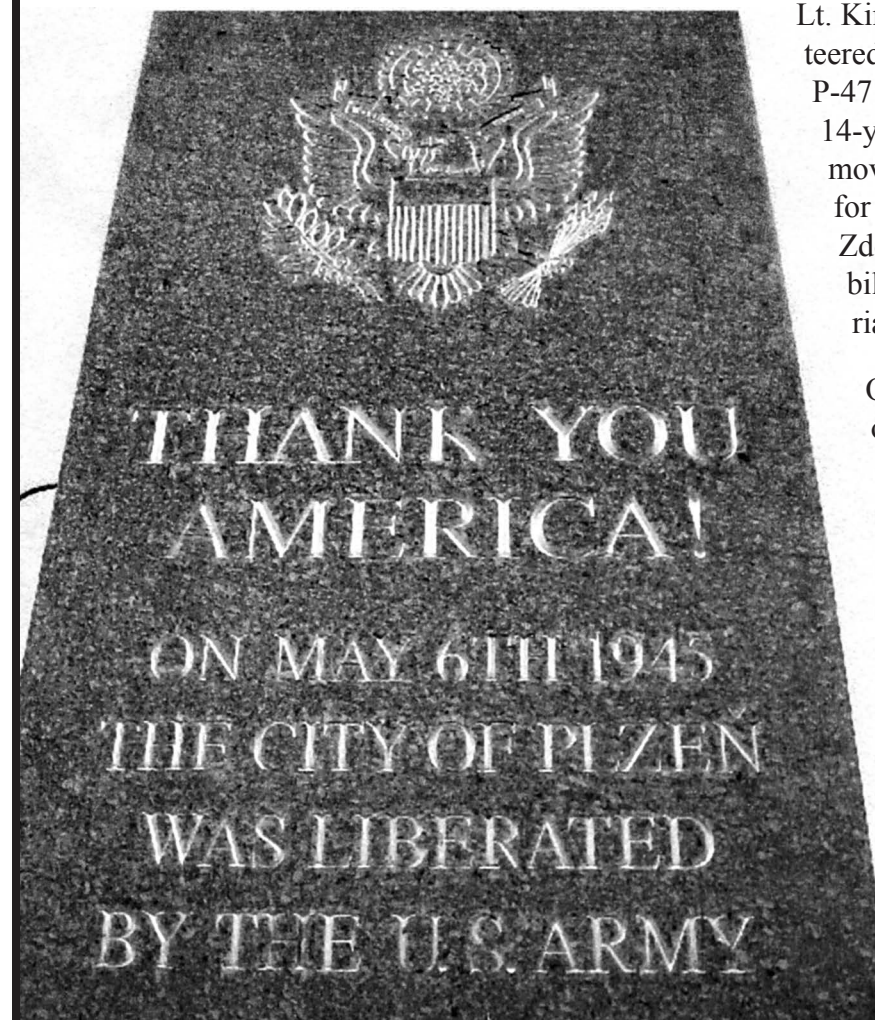
On May 4th, she was recognized by the Mayor of Zdenka's hometown of Trhanova, Czech Republic, for her sacrifice and extraordinary effort to honor this American hero.

Left: A Pilsen (Pizen) memorial to America's WW II efforts.

Facing page:

Top: Lt. Kirkham's crash site in the Czech Republic.

Bottom: The Pilsen Liberation Celebration in 2006.



Remembering
American Sacrifice

Honoring U.S. WW II Soldiers in the Czech Republic

continued from previous page

Pictured this page:

Right:
The memorial to Lt. Virgil P. Kirkham, the last recorded American USAAF pilot killed in Europe during WWII.

Bottom Left:
A close-up photo of Lt. Kirkham which is part of the memorial to him in the Czech Republic.

Bottom Right:
Just two days before the Liberation of Pilsen Celebration, Zdenka Sladkova was recognized by the Mayor of her hometown of Trhanova, Czech Republic for her sacrifice and extraordinary effort in maintaining the memorial and crash site of Lt. Kirkham.



Should I salute or place my hand over my heart?

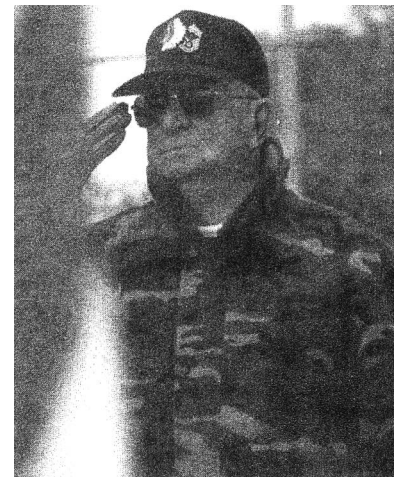
The following text comes from Afterburner – 9/2010.

Public law 110-181 states “all persons present in uniform should render the military salute. Members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute.

All other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, or if applicable, remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart.

Citizens of other countries present should stand at attention. All such conduct toward the flag in a moving column should be rendered at the moment the flag passes.”

To clarify, retirees may salute or place their hand over their heart to render respect to the U.S. flag.



U.S. Air Force Photo by Josh Plueger

98th Bomb Group / Wing Veterans Association Ploesti Raiders

Reunion : October 17th – 21st 2011

Will you be joining us in Shreveport? See registration forms on the following pages.



Reunion Schedule • October 17th – 21st, 2011

98th Bomb Grp/Wing Veterans Association

Ploesti Raiders

Registration Fee \$100.00

- Day 1 – Monday** **October 17th**
 2:00 PM Meeting with Hotel staff (Pre-Con)
 4:00 PM Association executive board meeting
 6:30 PM Cash Bar opens for Welcome Dinner
 7:00 PM Welcome Dinner, greet old friends and make new ones.
 We will have the latest news and any schedule updates.
- Day 2 – Tuesday** **October 18th**
 9:30 AM City Tour & Lunch
 Learn the reasons Shreveport came to be and how it got
 it's name. Where did Elvis get his start???
- Day 3 – Wednesday** **October 19th**
 9:30 AM Barksdale AFB Tour & Lunch
 Learn why Barksdale is so important to the 98th???
 Today it's on the National Register of Historic
 Places!!!
- Day 4 – Thursday** **October 20th**
 9:30 AM Join us in the Hotel Ball Room to hear the story of
 of the Ploesti raids from those **who were there!!!**
 A discussion period will give everyone an opportunity
 to participate, so rehearse your best **war stories!!!**
- Day 5 – Friday** **October 21st**
 9:00 AM Ladies event
 9:10 AM Executive Board Meeting
 9:30 AM Association Annual Business Meeting
 6:00 PM Depart for Association Banquet at Barksdale AFB

Reunion Hotel

Holiday Inn Downtown

102 Lake St • Shreveport, LA. 71101

(318) 222-7717

Our rates are \$98.00 inc until August 15, 2011.

Directions to Hotel:

From Interstate 20, use Exit 19A. Hotel is on the right.

Reunion Registration • October 17th – 21st 2011

98th Bomb Grp/Wing Veterans Association

Ploesti Raiders

Ladies & Gentleman, please understand the importance of registering ASAP. This is for everyone's benefit and especially the one putting this event together. Remember, all money is refundable for illness or good reason if you can't attend!!!

Last Name _____ First _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Ph# _____ E-Mail _____

Bomb Grp _____ Sqdn _____ Year _____ Location _____

Spouse/Guest Last Name _____ First _____

Name as you want it to appear on the name badge _____

Spouse/Guest name as you want it on the name badge _____

Banquet Food Request Two (2) Choices Per Person:

#1 Chicken Piccata #2 Beef Medallion in Mushroom Sauce #3 Salmon in a Citrus Glaze

Your Choice # _____ # _____ Guest Choice # _____ # _____

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------|---------|---|-----------------|------------|
| Oct 17 th | Day 1 | 6:30 PM | Welcome Dinner | x _____ persons | |
| Oct 18 th | Day 2 | 9:30 AM | Depart – Tour & Lunch | | |
| | | | Tour Historic Shreveport \$45.00 | x _____ persons | = \$ _____ |
| Oct 19 th | Day 3 | 9:30am | Depart – Tour & Lunch | | |
| | | | Barksdale AFB \$35.00 | x _____ persons | = \$ _____ |
| Oct 20 th | Day 4 | 9:30 AM | Join us in the Hotel Ballroom for a day of Remembrance and the stories of those “Who Were There” | | |
| Oct 21 st | Day 5 | 9:00 AM | Depart Ladies Event \$25.00 | x _____ persons | = \$ _____ |
| | | 9:15 AM | Association Executive Board Meeting | | |
| | | 9:45 AM | Association General Meeting | | |
| | | 6:00 PM | 1 st Bus departs for our Banquet at Barksdale AFB | | |

This year we will be shuttling the Bus to our Banquet (it's football time in LA) no Buses on Friday or Saturday unless it's Football !!!

| | | |
|--|--------------------------|------------|
| Registration | \$100.00 x _____ persons | = \$ _____ |
| For 98 th Association Members Annual Dues | \$15.00 x _____ persons | = \$ _____ |
| Total Amount Paid | | = \$ _____ |

Please make all checks payable to: 98th Bomb Group/Wing Veterans Association

Please mail all completed Registration Forms and Payments to:

Suzanne Mioduszewski 98th Secretary, 1137 Joyce Ln, Ann Arbor MI 48103



SHREVEPORT

The Pyramidiers is the newsletter of the 98th Bomb Group/Wing Veterans Association. If you would like more information about our Association, visit our website at: <http://www.pyramidiers.com> or THE PYRAMIDIERS.