

Wm McHale

5 May 1990

Dear Bill:

Many thanks for the bundle of material which you sent me. I haven't had time to absorb it all as yet, but I got right to work on the list of 84 names.

I found that 18 were already on our mailing list. Four I had records showing deceased.

Now I have located five and talked to almost all of them, plus Marion E. Frakes of Covington, KY, who told me through his wife that he wasn't interested in anything!

I have found another three are deceased and another 12 I have made an effort on and come up blank.

I'll let you know how I do when I have been through the entire list.

The first man I got was Franklin Beckwith, who returned to his hometown of Hastings, MI, has served as mayor there, and is now retired. As we both knew some of the same people in Hastings we had quite a chat.

I can't tell you how much I appreciate the list. It has been most helpful and I would think I might find another five.

All the best,

858 Acacia Avenue  
Reading, Pa. 19605

30 April 1990

Mr. Russel Strong  
5323 Cheval Place  
Charlotte, N.c. 28205

Dear Russ:

In the April 1990 issue of the 306th Echoes information concerning Henry D. Johnson and Stanley S. Furst of the 39th Service Group was solicited. I will supply what I know about these officers.

Upon being assigned to the 39th in August '42, I first became acquainted with them at Boise, Idaho where the Group was already alerted for overseas duty. At that time Johnson was the CO of the 39th and Furst was a Captain and CO of Hq and Hq Sqn. I believe that Johnson was a Lt Col.

The 39th travelled cross country by train from Boise to Camp Dix, N.J., and embarked at the Port of N.Y. for England in late September '42 on the British liner Strathallen. This ship was later sunk off North Africa. We landed at Greenock Scotland in early Oct '42 and travelled by train and truck to Thurleigh.

Shortly after our arrival at Thurleigh, due to the size of the unit, the 39th was broken-up into 3 detachments. Detachment A remained at Thurleigh, Detachment B went to the 92nd BG at Bassingbourne, and Detachment C wound up in North Africa. I believe that this break-up occurred in early '43. At that time Lt Col Johnson commanded the 39th and Captain Furst was Assistant Executive and Adjutant. See the enclosed copy of So 53 of Hq 39th Sv Gp dated 14 Dec '42. After the break-up of the 39th, I do not know what happened to Lt Col Johnson, as he was no longer at Thurleigh. I believe that Furst became a Major while still at Thurleigh commanding Detachment A. During late '42 and early '43, officers and men of the 39th were assigned to various duties with the 306th BG. Note the enclosed copy of the Order of Command at the time Col Armstrong was CO of the 306th BG showing Johnson as Adm. Exec. and CO 39th Sq. Furst's name does not appear of this document but I'm sure he was Johnson's Adjutant at that time.

Detachment A lost it's identity in Oct. '43 when about half of the personnel were transferred to the 4th Sta Comp Sq or to the Bomb Sqns. See copy of SP Order #216 dated 10-13-43. The other half went to North Ireland with Major Furst who took command of a newly arrived Service Group. He then became a Lt Col and later a full Col. I saw him at Thurleigh several months later, but I cannot recall if he was a Lt Col or a full Col at that time.

I have no background information on Lt Col Johnson, and do not where he served after he left Thurleigh. Regarding Col Furst I heard someone say that he had been at the Citadel before WW11, but I cannot vouch for this hearsay. I do not know what happened to him after the war. For what it's worth, I know that he subscribed to Readers Digest. I have a suspicion that he was from Pa. or had relatives in this State. I got the impression that he might have been related to the family who operated the law firm of Furst and Furst of State College, Pa., but this is only surmise on my part.

In reference to the relatively advanced ages of some of the officers, he advised that the same applied to many of the enlisted men. I was 29 when I arrived at Thurleigh, and I knew many others who were older. Guess they didn't know what to do with us old 'foggies' except to stick us with a desk job. I worked as a clerk for Major Claude L. Hostetter who is mentioned in the article as being station inspector and age 43. I was in a position to come in contact with the officers mentioned, as I worked in the officers records section at Hq and later in the Sgt Majors office. I knew that they were considerably older than me, but I thought the 'grand daddy' of them all was Major Bairnsfather, may he rest in peace. If you have any information on the whereabouts of Major Hostetter, I will be pleased to correspond with him.

I am glad to know that the copy of the roster of the 306th as of July '43 which I gave to you at the Las Vegas reunion was of help in identifying the personnel shown in the picture of the engineering section in the Jan. 1990 edition of the Echoes. This roster was prepared by the writer in the office of Major Hostetter from lists provided by the orderly rooms of the various squadrons and organizations on the base at the time. Inaccuracies in the spelling of names could be the fault of the orderly room clerk or mine. Regarding the quality of the copy, I would like to explain that the copy was made from the 5th copy of the original which I have in my possession

Enclosed are copies of Special Orders and other documents which might be of interest, especially the SO #157 pertaining to Captain Erb who later was transferred to the BG and worked with Major Shuller at the dispensary on the base.

Very truly yours,

*William P. McHale*  
T/Sgt William P. McHale

9 May 1990

Dear Bill:

I have located some information on Stanley S. Furst. He died 9 Dec 70 at Lock Haven, PA, and his widow lives in Harrold, Beds. I shall be writing her asking for information, and will keep you apprised of my reply.

I also have a way of getting information on Henry Johnson, I believe. Going through the St. Louis Records Center is difficult, but my Army officer son has friends there, and perhaps I can get some help.

I noted on the roster you sent me the name of Edward Sanski. My record indicates that Edward J. Sanski was KIA 30 Dec 42 as a member of John Brady's crew. Do you suppose this is one and the same with the Edward J. Sanski on your Oct 43 roster?

Still working with the list, and have found another man. I expect to find more in the next week.

All the best,

acked and damaged three enemy ships  
off the coast of Brittany.  
Six aircraft are missing from all raids.

raised to 552 the number of  
losses of neutral and Allied merchantmen  
in the western Atlantic.

## 'Tally-ho!' Shouted Huntsmen; 'There Goes the - -!' Cried GIs

The sturdy American jeep, which has gone everywhere and done just about everything, played a new role somewhere in England the other day when it joined red-coated British gentry in a traditional stag hunt.

A sergeant at the wheel and two Yankee soldiers standing in the rear, rifles to shoulders, the jeep bounded out of a wood hot in pursuit of a frightened stag.

Following closely was a pack of baying hounds.

Then red-coated English huntsmen burst from the woods, very much out of the money in fourth place.

The huntsmen were shouting, "Yoicks!" and "Tally-ho!"

The Yanks were shouting, "There goes the - -!"

The strange parade dashed between a

squad of Yankee soldiers at rifle practice and their targets. The officer in charge gave the order to cease firing.

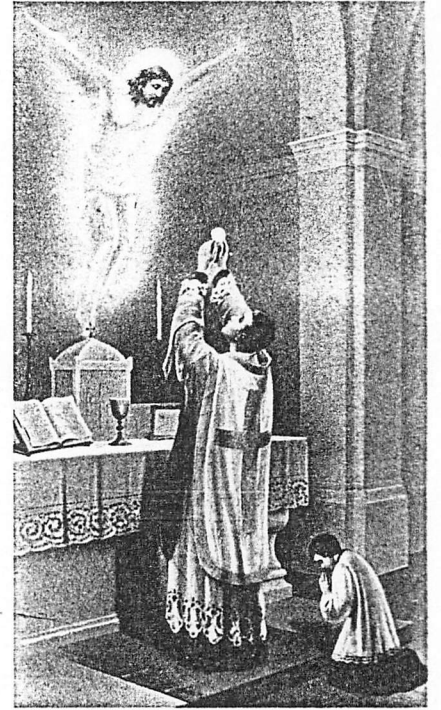
"Hold it up, men. Hold it!"

The soldiers stood and looked in amazement as the harassed stag fled wildly across a stream, through a meadow and up a hill, with the jeep-borne amateur Robin Hood hot on its trail. The jeep jumped the stream with equal ease and blazed a new trail across the meadow in its hazardous chase.

The hungry Yanks didn't get the stag. But they did get a strong reprimand from the officers who halted their hunt and the admonition that "one doesn't hunt in England unless one is invited."

The red-coats advised the Americans that stag hunting in jeeps is definitely frowned upon.

"Gad, sir!"



Hoc est enim Corpus Meum.  
Printed in England

**Remembrance of the  
Mission Conducted for  
306 Bomb Group**

**"SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND"**

given by

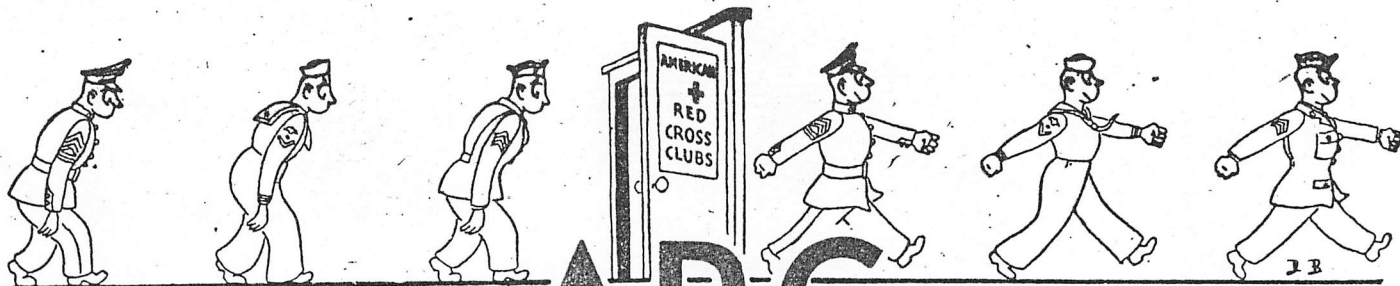
**Chaplain Matthew Meighan,**  
and *Redemptorist*

**Chaplain Adrian Poletti,**  
*Passionist*

**Mission Resolutions:**

- (1) To pray daily.
- (2) To hear Mass Sundays and Holy Days.
- (3) To receive the Sacraments once a month.

*May the Passion of Jesus Christ  
be always in our Hearts.*

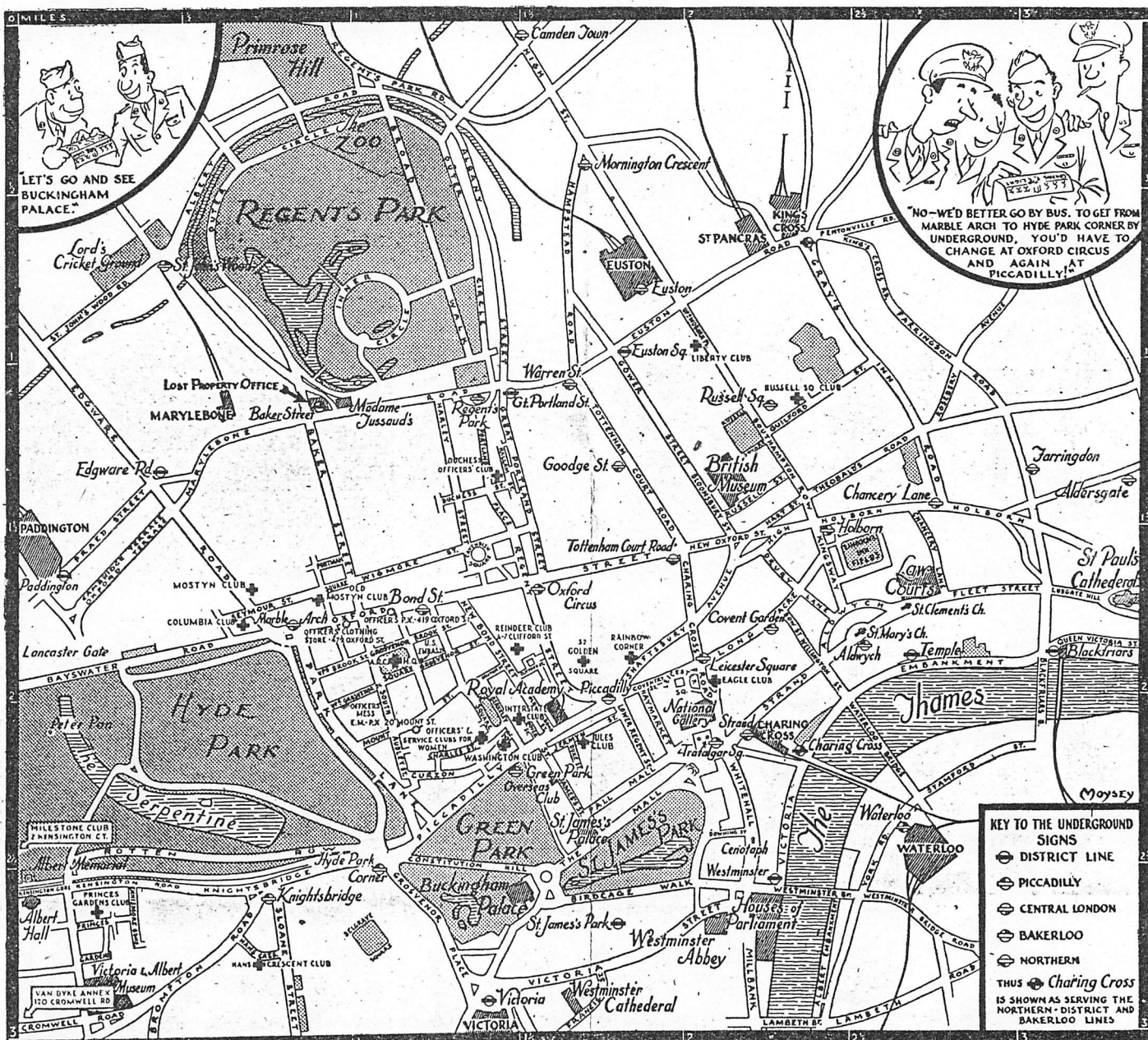


# LONDON A.R.C. LIGHT

VOL. 3, No 36.

Published Weekly

JUNE 9, 1945



## You are welcome at these A.R.C. Clubs in London SEE PROGRAMS OVERLEAF

SERVICE CLUB FOR WOMEN, 48, Charles Street, W.1  
 OFFICERS CLUB FOR WOMEN, 10, Charles Street, W.2  
 COLUMBIA CLUB, 75, Seymour Street, W.2  
 DUCHESS OFFICERS' CLUB, Duchess Street, W.1  
 EAGLE CLUB, 28, Charing Cross Road  
 GOLDEN SQUARE CLUB, 32, Golden Square, W.2  
 HANS CRESCENT CLUB, Knightsbridge, S.W.1  
 INTERSTATE CLUB, 37, Dover Street, W.1

Grosvenor 3302  
 Grosvenor 4921  
 Paddington 1212  
 Langham 2557  
 Temple Bar 5307  
 Gerrard 8863  
 Kensington 8831  
 Regent 6543

JULES CLUB, 85, Jermyn Street, W.1 (Officers)  
 LIBERTY CLUB, 12, Upper Woburn Place, W.C.2  
 MILESTONE CLUB, 2, Kensington Court, W.8  
 MOSTYN CLUB, 32, Edgware Road, W.1  
 PRINCES GARDENS CLUB, 16, Princes Gardens, S.W.7 (Officers)  
 RAINBOW CORNER, 23, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.1  
 REINDEER CLUB, 6-7, Clifford Street, W.1 (Officers)  
 RUSSELL SQUARE CLUB, 14, Bedford Way, W.C.1

Abbey 5636  
 Euston 6084  
 Weston 4805  
 Paddington 8854  
 Kensington 7212  
 Gerrard 5616  
 Regent 3141  
 Museum 9641

WASHINGTON CLUB, 6-7, Curzon Street, W.1 Grosvenor 4901

# Program Features at A.R.C. Clubs in London

WEEK JUNE 10 to JUNE 16

## DANCING

Sunday, June 10

Open House and Tea Dance, Interstate, 3; Tea Dance, Mostyn, 3; Tea Dance, Hans Crescent, 3.30; Golden Square, 7; Rainbow, 7.30; Columbia, 7.30; Reindeer,\* 8; Officers' Club for Women, 8.

Monday, June 11

Lessons, 2.30; Rainbow, 7.30.

Tuesday, June 12

Class, Columbia, 5 & 7; Class, 7; Dance, Milestone, 8; Class, 7, Dance, Columbia, 8; Golden Square, 8; Dance, Milestone, 8; Washington, 8.15.

Wednesday, June 13

Class, Mostyn, 6-7.30 (Isobel Powell); Rainbow, 7.30; Class, Hans Crescent, 7.30; Interstate, 8; Mostyn, 8; Reindeer,\* 8.

Thursday, June 14

Supper Dance, Officers' Club for Women, Floor Show, 7; Dance, Hans Crescent, 7.30; Hostess Night Dance, Liberty, 7.30; Dance, Duchess, 8; Rumba Class, Advanced, Columbia, 9.30.

Friday, June 15

Lessons, 2.30; Rainbow, 7.30; Columbia, 7.30; Dance, Milestone, 8; Dance, Golden Sq., 8; Class, 7-8, Dance, 8; Fancy Dress Ball, Columbia; Dance, Milestone, 8.

Saturday, June 16

Rainbow, 7.30; Hans Crescent, 7.30; Interstate, 8; Mostyn, 8; Cabaret, Reindeer,\* 8; Washington, 8.15; Informal Dancing to Victrola, Officers' Club for Women, 8.30.

## DISCUSSION AND INSTRUCTION

Sunday, June 10

Bridge Classes, Columbia, 3.30; Beginners' Bridge Class, Hans Crescent, 7.

Monday, June 11

Conversation Piece: German and French, daily at Interstate, ex. Sat. and Sun., 2-4; German Conversation, Duchess,\* 7.30; Russian, Mostyn, 8.

Tuesday, June 12

Advanced French, Columbia, 3; French, Mostyn, 7.30; German, Mostyn, 7.30.

Wednesday, June 13

French Conversation, Duchess,\* 7.30; Russian, Mostyn, 8.

Thursday, June 14

Beginners' French, Columbia, 3; French, Mostyn, 7.30; German Conversation, Duchess,\* 7.30; Bridge Lessons, Golden Sq., 8; Games Night, Mostyn, 8.30.

Friday, June 15

Bridge Lessons, Mostyn, 7.30; French, Mostyn, 7.30.

Saturday, June 16

Bridge Lessons, Columbia, 11.30 a.m.

## ENTERTAINMENT AND SOCIAL

Sunday, June 10

River Trip, Windsor to Hampton Court, Washington, 9.30 a.m.; Hostess Picnic, Swimming, leaving Rainbow, 11 a.m.; Hayride, Columbia, 12 noon; Social Hours, Liberty, 3-6; Pencil Sketches, daily ex. Fri. and Sat., Rainbow, 6; Arts Theater Party, Interstate, 6.30; Open House, Golden Square, 8. Date Night, Interstate.

Monday, June 11

Bridge, Columbia, 7; Zittila Petulengro, Columbia, 7; Reunion Dinner (Hudson Falls, Glensfalls, Saratoga, New York), Mostyn, 7.15; Games Night, Milestone, 7.30; Bridge, Mostyn, 7.30; Bridge, Reindeer,\* 7.30; Delino, Russell Square, 7.30.

Tuesday, June 12

Fortune Teller, Reindeer,\* 7; "The G.I. Girl" Music, Games and Smiles, afternoon and evening, daily, ex. Monday, Interstate; Reunion Dinner (Tri-Towns, Abington, Rock-

## ENTERTAINMENT AND SOCIAL (cont.)

land, Whitman, Massachusetts), Mostyn, 7.15; G.I. Wives Party, Rainbow, 7.30; Delino, Hans Crescent, 7.30; Bridge, Hans Crescent, 7.30; Cabaret Night, Columbia, 8.

Wednesday, June 13

Pencil Sketches by Colleen, Rainbow, 6; Nan, Sketching in Lounge, Mostyn, 6-8; Zittila Petulengro, Fortune Teller, Rainbow, 7; Reunion Dinner (Middletown, Monticello, Newburgh, New York), Mostyn, 7.15; Informal Bridge Tournament, Hans Crescent, 8; Bridge and Table Games, Milestone, 8; Games Night, Officers' Club for Women, 8; Bingo, Washington, 9.

Thursday, June 14

Portraits by Eileen, Reindeer,\* 7; Duplicate Bridge Tournament, Columbia, 7; Social, Golden Square, 7; Reunion Dinner (Brooklyn, New York), Mostyn, 7.15; Cabaret, Rainbow, 7.30; U.K. Base Chamber Music Group, Columbia, 8; Fortune Teller, Milestone, 8; Games Night, Mostyn.

Friday, June 15

Sphinx Night, Officers' Club for Women, 7; Reunion Dinner (Memphis, Nashville, Tennessee), Mostyn, 7.15; Columbia Birthday Celebrations. See "Highlight."

Saturday, June 16

Columbia Birthday Celebrations. See "Highlight." Social Hours, Liberty, 7-10; Fortune Teller, Service Club for Women, 7-10; Fortune Teller, Officers' Club for Women, 8; Milestone Varieties, 9.

## SPORTS

Sunday, June 10

Golf Match, Hans Crescent, 9 a.m.; Tennis, Softball and Badminton, Hans Crescent, daily; Table Tennis, Golden Square, 7.

Tuesday, June 12

Informal Pingpong Tournament, Columbia, 11.30 a.m.; Mostyn Riding Club, 1.30; Pingpong, Russell Square, 7.30.

Saturday, June 16

Informal Pingpong Tournament, Columbia, 3.

## MUSIC

Sunday, June 10

Sunday Music,† Columbia, 11 a.m.; Hymn Singing, Mostyn, 11 a.m.; Play your favorite record, Washington,† 2-6; Concert, 3; Mary Cook at Piano, Hans Crescent, 7.30; Song Fest, Hans Crescent, 8.30.

Monday, June 11

Classical Music,† Milestone, 8; Music and Songs, Snack Bar, Officers' Club for Women,\* 9.

Tuesday, June 12

Concert,† Washington, 7; Symphonic Hour,† Rainbow, 8; Informal Piano Concert, Reindeer,\* 10.30.

Wednesday, June 13

Mary Cook at Piano, Officers' Club for Women, 8; Classical Concert,† Hans Crescent, 9.

Thursday, June 14

Trudie at Piano, Service Club for Women, 8; Classical Music, Interstate, 8; Rite at Piano, Mostyn, 8; Accordionist, Columbia, 8. Oxford String Quartette, Washington, 8.30.

Friday, June 15

Judith Dolman at Piano, Columbia, 3.30; Melville, Pianist and Singer, Hans Crescent, 6; Stanley Wolff, Pianist, Mostyn, 8.

Saturday, June 16

Concert,† Washington, 7; Symphonic Hour,† Rainbow, 8.

## TOURS OF LONDON

DAILY Tours

Strolling Tours, Hans Crescent, 9.45

## TOURS OF LONDON (contd.)

a.m. daily, 10.30 a.m., ex. Tues. and Thurs. Daily except Saturday and Sunday. Taxi Tour, Washington, 9.30 a.m., 11.30 a.m. and 2.30; Rainbow, 9.45 a.m., noon, 2 and 4, by taxi. Columbia, 10 a.m. (Mons., at 9.15 a.m.). Taxi Tours, Milestone, 10.15 a.m. and 1.15 Interstate, 10.30 a.m., 1.30 and 3.30, by taxi; Liberty, 10.30 a.m. Jules\* Reindeer,\* by arrangement. Tower of London, Columbia, 1.30 daily. Taxi Tours, Mostyn, 10 a.m. and 2; Taxi Tour, Duchess,\* 10 a.m. and 1.30. Taxi Tours, Russell Square, 10 a.m. and 1.30; Horse and Wagon Tour, Washington, 10.30 a.m.

## INCIDENTAL INFORMATION

For Divine Services in London Churches consult the Information Desk at any Club.

Movies daily, 10.30 and 2 p.m., at Rainbow; Ex-P.W. Tea, daily, Rainbow, 4.

Every Thursday at 3 "The American Eagle in Great Britain" is broadcast from Rainbow Corner to the U.S.A.

"Jive Hour," daily (recorded), Rainbow, 3-4.

V-Mail Portraits Daily, ex. Monday and Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 1 at Rainbow, and 2 to 5.

Mostyn Workout Room open at 19, Portman Square, 2-8 Daily. Rainbow Daily.

Secretarial Service, Reindeer,\* every Sunday from 11 a.m. till 3; Duchess,\* every Friday, 8-10; Mostyn, Wednesdays, 7.

The Free Ticket Bureau for West End Shows, daily, Rainbow, until 11 a.m., ex. Sun.

Small trips outskirts London, Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri., with A.R.C. girls—picnic—Interstate, 1; Gym Instruction Daily, Col'bia.

Home Letter Service, Monday, 6.30, and Saturday, 2, Columbia.

Sunday Rambles, Liberty Club.

Afternoon Outings, Hans Crescent, Mon., Wednesday, Friday, also Swimming, Saturday, Roehampton.

Home Hospitality Service, Daily, all Clubs.

ARC Country Club at Kingston. Summer program includes tennis, swimming, boating and summer dances.

## HIGHLIGHT FLASHES

June 15, 16 and 17, Anniversary Celebrations, Columbia Club. June 15, Grand Picnic, 12 noon, Fancy Dress Ball, 7.30. June 16, Outdoor Carnival, 4-8 p.m. Variety Show, 9. June 17, Inter-Club Tennis Tournament, 10 a.m. Tea Dance and Reception, 4 p.m. Grand Anniversary Formal Dress Ball, 7.30.

## MOVIES

Sunday, June 10  
SKYLARK (Claudette Colbert): Washington, 8.30.  
NO TIME FOR LOVE (Claudette Colbert): Rainbow, 10.30 a.m.  
BUFFALO BILL (Maureen O'Hara): Rainbow, 12.30.  
NO TIME FOR LOVE: Officers' Club for Women, 8.  
Monday, June 11  
CRAZY HOUSE (Olsen & Johnson): Columbia, 3.  
BUFFALO BILL: Golden Square, 8.  
GOING MY WAY (Bing Crosby): Hans Crescent, 8.15.  
Tuesday, June 12  
BUFFALO BILL: Jules,\* 8.30.  
GOING MY WAY: Mostyn, 8.15.  
CRAZY HOUSE: Officers' Club for Women, 8.  
Wednesday, June 13  
BUFFALO BILL: Liberty, 7.30.  
GOING MY WAY: Columbia, 7.30.  
CRAZY HOUSE: Golden Square, 8.30.  
Thursday, June 14  
BUFFALO BILL: Duchess,\* 7.30.  
Friday, June 15  
BUFFALO BILL: Reindeer,\* 8.  
GOING MY WAY: Washington, 8.30.  
CRAZY HOUSE: Hans Crescent, 8.30.  
Saturday, June 16  
CRAZY HOUSE: Rainbow, 10.30 a.m.  
GOING MY WAY: Rainbow, 12.30.

\*Officers' Clubs. † Recorded Music.

All times are p.m. unless otherwise listed

Printed and Published for the American Red Cross, London, by the Fanfare Press, London, W.C.2.

RATES OF PAY ON OFFICERS

RANK	PAY PERIOD							ALLOWANCES			
								MARRIED		SINGLE	
								Subs	Rental		
Maj. Gen.		666.67	666.67	666.67	666.67	666.67	666.67	42	120	21	105
Brig. Gen.		500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	42	120	21	105
Lt Col & Col. over 30 yrs.	6	333.33	350.00	366.67	383.33	400.00	416.67	42	120	21	105
Major & Lt. Col. over 23 less 30 yrs	5 <i>11. Col</i>	291.67	306.25	320.83	335.42	350.00	364.58	63	120	21	105
Capt. & Major over 17 less 23 yrs	4 <i>11.7</i>	250.00	262.50	275.00	287.50	300.00	312.50	63	105	21	90
1st Lt & Capt. over 10 less 17 yrs	3 <i>Capt</i>	200.00	210.00	220.00	230.00	240.00	250.00	42	90	21	75
2nd Lt & 1st Lt. over 5 yrs less 10 yrs.	2 <i>1st Lt</i>	166.67	175.00	183.33	191.67			42	75	21	60
2nd Lt.1.		150.00	157.50	165.00	172.50	180.00	187.50	42	60	21	45

FLYING PAY: ~~AAA~~ 50% on base , longevity, medal and foreign service.  
 FOREIGN SERVICE: 10% on base pay only.

AUTHORITY FOR ORDERS

For Promotion or Reduction of EM - AR 615-5, UP of  
For lv of abs for Officers - AR 605-115, PAC in  
For appointment of Investigating O, Summary Court O to investigate circumstances  
attending death, and Summary Court O for purpose of disposing of effects - Par 18, 19  
and 25 respectively of AR 600-550.  
For appointment of Class "A" Agent O to a Sta Finance O - Par 3b, AR 35-320  
To detail O to count and verify the balance actually in the custody of a Class "B"  
Agent Officer for A Postal Finance O - UP of AR 35-320 and AR 35-1100.  
To appoint an Aircraft Accident Board - PAC in par 4, AR 95-120, and AAF Reg 62-14, as  
amended.  
To appoint a PX Council, - UP of par 19, Sec II, AR 210-65, dd 1 Jun/44  
To reclassify EM - PAC in 1st Bomb Div Instr 35-2, dd 21 Jan/44  
To suspend O from flying duties - UP of par 2, AR 35-1480  
To put EM on monthly flying status - UP of AR 35-1380  
To appoint a Flying Evaluation Board - PAC in Ltr, Hq, 8th AF, File No. 200.9x373,  
Subj: "Disposition of Individuals unsuited for Operational Flying for reasons other than  
Physical Disability", dd 29 Oct/42

Authority - Appropriation No. for Travel allowances - 60-136 F 432-02 A 212/50425

TDY in London -

Officers - Off will rpt to billeting O, CBS, 5 North Audley St, for billets, and to  
Grosvenor House, Upper Grosvenor St, and 44 Grosvenor Sq, for messing facilities.  
EM - EM will rpt to Casual Center, 44 Cadogan Place, for billeting and messing fac-  
ilities.

Reimbursement for Travel:

For Officers - Reimbursement not to exceed \$4.00 per day is auth if govt qrs or billets  
are not avail and an alws of \$1.25 per day is auth if govt messing facilities are not  
avail while in travel status.

For EM - Reimbursement for EM while trav, if govt rats or qrs are not avail, will be  
in accordance with Cir 63, Hq ETOUSA, as amended.

For flying Officers - The same as other officers except that when going to Flak Home  
they receive \$1.25 per day for add cost of subs while at Rest Home.

For flying EM - The same as other EM except that they receive \$2.25 per day for add cost  
of subs while at Rest Home.

Per diem of \$7.00 is usually auth upon departure fr this theater, if travel is by air  
Reimbursement on arrival in U.S. will be in accordance with WD Cir No. 260, 26 Jun/44,  
as amended

Auth for shipment of baggage - Cir No 61, Hq ETOUSA, US Army, 4 Jun/44

858 Acacia Avenue  
Reading, Pa. 19605  
October 24, 1990

Dear Russ:

I am sorry to report that I cannot locate any more papers concerning the theft of Colonel Sutton's car by the prisoners at Thurleigh. I did find some other papers which might be of some interest, and copies are enclosed.

Special Orders #222 & 234 mention yours truly. The latter authorized a TDY for a flight to Gibraltar and Casablanca. The enclosed booklet published by North Africa Division Air Transport Command at Cazes Army Air Base will probably bring back memories to members of air crews from Thurleigh who might have been on TDY at that base either during the war or on mapping operations afterward. I have another copy of this booklet, so you can keep this one.

I believe that the enclosed newspaper clipping concerning the American Jeep and the English stag hunt is from a copy of The Stars & Stripes. I do not know the date of issue. Note the end of the preceding story about damage to three enemy ships and loss of six aircraft.

While life was lived at a fast and loose pace during the war, religion did have an active role at Thurleigh. Father Poletti did his best to keep the Catholic men on the straight and narrow, and Reverend Simester did the same for the Protestant boys. The Jewish boys usually attended services at synagogues in nearby cities. A copy of the Mission for the 306th at Thurleigh is enclosed. I recall that on the open-night of the Mission Chaplain Meighan gave the sermon and used GI language in calling a spade a spade. He sure got the attention of the troops because the next night the Chapel overflowed with GI's wanting to hear him speak.

I thought that the enclosed copy of the pay scale of Officers might be of some interest. I must have acquired this while working in the Officers Record Section at Hq. Note also the sheet pertaining to authority for orders, TDY in London, reimbursement for travel and per diem.

A copy of the London ARC Light for June 9, 1945 is enclosed for memories sake. If I find any more memorabilia, I will send copies to you.

Hope you had a pleasant trip home from San Antonio.

All the Best,

*Bill*  
Bill McHale.

R E S T R I C T E D

C  
C-4-3

HEADQUARTERS  
AAF STATION 111  
APO 557

SPECIAL ORDERS)  
NUMBER 222)

1 Sep 1945

1. Fol EM, orgns indicated are aptd to temp gr of Technical Sergeant.  
(AR 615-5, as amended):

S/Sgt William P. McFalls 13081741 Hq & Base Serv Sq, 414th Air Serv Group  
S/Sgt Frank D. Pabis 11266744 Hq 306th Bomb Group (H)

2. Fol EM, Hq & Base Sv Sq, 414th Air Serv Group are aptd to temp  
gr as indicated. (AR 615-5, as amended):

S/Sgt Edward N. Bailey 33131985 APTD TO:  
T/Sgt  
T/Sgt Ludwig (NIL) Gulbrantson 36314260 M/Sgt

3. 1st Lt GLENN E. McNEELY, 0569191, Hq & Base Sv Sq, 414th Air Serv  
Group is aptd Station Savings O, in add to other ay, vice Capt ROBERT F.  
MORRIS, 0649098, reld.

4. VOCO of 28 Aug 45 as fol: "Fol EM, orgns indicated, WP o/a 29 Aug 45  
to Baverstock and to Oxford, England for purpose of delivering supplies.  
TBGAA, TDY approx 2 days, CTDRS. In accordance with par 14 AR 55-4610  
EM auth alw for qrs and subs not to exceed \$2.00 per day for qrs and \$5.00  
for subs where govt qrs and subs are not avail. TONT under auth Cir 113  
Hq ETOUSA dd 22 Nov 44. TMA. 60-136 P 452-02 A 212/60425.  
Sgt Vernon L. Adams 38085136 840th Air Engr Sq, 414th Air Serv Group  
Cpl Raymond W. Foss 39387798 664th Air Mat Sq, 414th Air Serv Group"  
is confirmed and made of record. The exigencies of the service having  
prevented the issuing of written orders in advance.

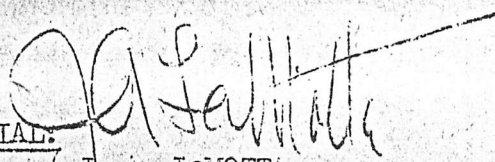
5. 1st Lt ROBERT L. FIDLEY, 0354624, Hq & Base Sv Sq, 414th Air Serv  
Group is aptd Station Information and Education O pdy, vice 1st Lt GEORGE F.  
HOSEETER, 0333058, reld.

6. 1st Lt LLOYD W. ROBINSON, 0569966, Hq 306th Bomb Group (H) is  
aptd Station Special Services O pdy, vice 1st Lt WILLIAM F. ARTHUR,  
0564435, reld.

7. Pfc Paul W. Emmons 39138706 664th Air Materiel Sq, 414th Air  
Service Group is placed on TDY for 10 days eff o/a 4 Sep 45 with American  
Legation, Copenhagen, Denmark. E1 WPL, GAV, and/or Mil acft. CTDRS.  
TONT under auth Cir 113 Hq ETOUSA dd 22 Nov 44. TMA. TDN. 60-136 P 452-02  
A 212/60425. (Auth: 6th Ind Hq USEET (Rear) APO 887 dd 21 Aug 45 to ltr  
this sta dd 19 Jul 45 subject: "Request for furlough to Denmark").

BY ORDER OF COLONEL UPHAM:

OFFICIAL:

  
J. A. Lamotta  
Major, Air Corps  
Assistant Adjutant

J. A. Lamotta  
Major, Air Corps  
Assistant Adjutant

R E S T R I C T E D

858 Acacia Avenue  
Reading, Pa. 19605

Dear Russ:

It was my pleasure to have seen you again at the San Antonio Reunion of the 306th. As promised I am sending to you a copy of the Report of Investigation and Report of the Board concerning the escape of Prisoners, Taylor and Cumbie. However, I cannot find the exhibits which, of course, would provide the human interest part of the story. Also, somewhere there was written, and I remember reading about the escapade of the prisoners before and after they drove away from the Station in the Colonel's car. This reported how they broke into the EM's Mess, stole two quarts of vanilla extract, drank same, met two girls in Bedford, left the girls, traveled on the Old North Road toward Scotland, started to run out of petrol, met a hitch-hiking RAF sergeant who took them to his Station and filled the car with petrol, continued on to Edinborough with the Scottish Police in pursuit, and finally being captured when the car's wheels sank in the sand on the beach of a seaside resort near Edinborough. It's a shame that I lost or mislaid the exhibits attached to the Report of Investigation, as these provided the humorous and interesting part of the "Great Escape".

I am also enclosing a copy of the investigation of an accident on 12-27-42 involving a GI truck from Chelveston and one from Thurleigh resulting one death and several injuries including a sprained back by the writer. It didn't pay to go to church that evening! I doubt that this has any story value except to record an early event involving personnel and vehicles from two AAF Stations.

Russ, I will continue to scour my attic to see if I can locate more papers concerning the prisoner's escape, but I doubt if I will be successful. I will advise.

I am sorry for the delay in getting these papers to you but my wife and I spent two weeks in Tucson visiting a daughter after leaving the reunion in San Antonio.

All the Best,



Bill McHale

858 Acacia Avenue  
Reading, Pa. 19605

May 18, 1990

Mr. Russell A. Strong  
5323 Cheval Place  
Charlotte, N.C. 28205

Dear Russ:

Thank you very much for yours of May 9, 1990 regarding the information on Stanley S. Furst and Henry Johnson. I had a suspicion that he resided in Pa. but did not know that he had married an English girl. I will be pleased to know what further information you develop from his wife, and also to know what happened to Henry Johnson.

Concerning your inquiry regarding Edward J. Sanski, be advised he was a member of Hq Sqn 39th Sv Gp who transferred to a Bomb Sq shortly after we arrived in England. As the records show he was KIA 30 Dec 42. I believe that his death occurred on his second or third mission. He was one of the younger members of our group. He was a tough but likeable kid who came from S. Philly. I am sure he fought to the very end. It was my pleasure to have known him.

I would also like to advise that another member of Hq Sqn 39th went on combat with one of the Bomb Sqns. He was George Monser. His plane was shot down over France, but he managed to evade capture. I later saw George at Thurleigh where he related his experiences with the French Underground and his escape through Spain. It was also my honor to have known George, and I will be pleased to know if you have any record of his whereabouts.

I will be sending you a photo of Hq & Hq Sqn 39th Sv Gp taken at Boise, Idaho. This photo includes pictures of Sanski and Monser. I will try to identify the others in the picture as far as possible.

The enclosed copy of the warrant making me a corporal was signed by Stanley S. Furst, Major, 39th Sv Gp. The Good Conduct Award was also signed by him, but as Lt. Col. I believe he later became a full Col. when he took command of a Gp in North Ireland.

Thanks very much for writing to me.

All the best,

*William P. McHale*  
William P. McHale

HEADQUARTERS  
39TH SERVICE GROUP  
DET "A" APC 634  
Office of the Commanding Officer

15 August 1943.

SUBJECT: Award of the Good Conduct Medal

TO : Sgt William P. McHale, ASN 13081341

1. Under the provisions of AR 600-68, dated 4 May 1943, you are hereby awarded the Good Conduct Medal.
2. In lieu of the Medal and Ribbon, which will not be furnished during the present emergency you are authorized to purchase and wear the ribbon.
3. The award of this medal indicates that your behavior has been exemplary, your character excellent and you have proven your fidelity by continuously performing your duties faithfully and efficiently.
4. As your Commanding Officer I am proud that your record is of such character as to merit this award. Please accept my personal and sincere congratulations.

*Stanley S. Furst*  
STANLEY S. FURST,  
Lt. Colonel AC,  
Commanding.

T E M P O R A R Y

# Army of the United States



To all who shall see these presents, greeting:

Know ye, that reposing special trust and confidence in the fidelity and abilities

of Pvt William P. McHale (13081341), I do hereby appoint him  
\* Corporal, ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,

to rank as such from the Fifteenth day of December  
one thousand nine hundred and Forty-two

He is therefore carefully and diligently  
to discharge the duty of † Corporal by doing and performing all manner of  
things thereunto belonging. And I do strictly charge and require all Noncommissioned Officers  
and Soldiers under his command to be obedient to his orders as Corporal

And he is to observe and follow such orders and directions from time to time, as he shall receive  
from his Superior Officers and Noncommissioned Officers set over him, according to the rules and  
discipline of War.

Given under my hand at Station AAF-111, APO 634

this Fifteenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine  
hundred and Forty-two

Stanley S. First

Major, 39th Service Group

HEADQUARTERS  
A.A.F. STATION 111

REPORT OF BOARD

1. In compliance with par. 3, SO# 126, Hq, AAF Station 111 dated 28 May 1943, (copy of which is attached and marked exhibit "A"), a Board consisting of Major CLAUDE L. HOSTETTER, O-338058, President; Captain FRED H. PAYNE, O-1577677, and 1st Lt. HENRY R. SIBLEY, O-448564, met and investigated the escape of Pvt. LYLE C. TAYLOR, Jr., 16048202 and Pvt. IRA E. CUMBIE, 34202663 from the Station guardhouse on 28 May, 1943 and found the following:

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE

(1) That at approximately 2100 hours on 28 May, 1943, the prisoners from the Station guardhouse were playing ball in the street south of the guardhouse. Pvt. 1st Lt. HENRY B. GILES, 38178363 and Pvt. CHARLES E. MASON 36061903 were the guards in charge during the playing. The ball was thrown against the right outside door loosening a panel. Pvt. MASON got a hatchet and nailed the panel back on the door. (Exhibit "B")

(2) At approximately 2200 hours the prisoners were returned to the guardhouse, the door which had been struck by the ball being closed and bolted on the outside, a vertical bolt being dropped through the hasp and the nut applied by hand. (Exhibit "B")

(3) At approximately 2230 hours Pvt. MASON accompanied Pvt. TAYLOR TO THE LATRINE USING THE INSIDE DOOR, while Pvt. GILES remained in the guard room. Taylor was dressed only in underwear. After about 5 minutes, MASON returned with TAYLOR to the guardhouse. TAYLOR went to bed immediately. (Exhibit "B" and "C").

(4) At approximately 2300 hours, Pvt. MASON checked the prisoners and found everything to be in order. (Exhibit "B" and "C").

(5) Privates MASON and GILES remained in the guard room from 2300 until notified of the escape of the prisoners as hereinafter described. (Exhibit "B" and "C").

(6) At approximately 2400 hours a call came into the Military Police Desk Sergeant from the Bedford Military Police saying that they had word that Pvt. TAYLOR had escaped. (Exhibit "D" and "E"). They had received this information from two girls who had come to the Station and told them that he had escaped and had "the Colonel's car". (Ex. "D" & "E")

(7) The Desk Sergeant sent Cpl. A.W. Smith, 36246895, into the guard room to check the prisoners. (Exhibit "F").

(8) Cpl. SMITH found Pvt. MASON and TAYLOR at their post, both being awake and on duty. He asked if all the prisoners were there and on duty. He asked if all the prisoners were there and was informed by Pvt. MASON that they were. Upon check, he found that TAYLOR and CUMBIE were absent. The door from the cell block to the outside was slightly ajar, the broken panel having been forced out and the bolt removed. A blanket was rolled into the shape of a human form and rested upon Pvt. TAYLOR's bed. (Exhibit "C" and "G").

(9) Cpl. C.E. FREEMAN, 35376141, Colonel PUTNAM's driver, left the Colonel's car at the "A" Mess at about 2335 hours and went to bed. The keys were left in the car and it had five new tires and was full of gas and oil. (Exhibit "H").

(10) The six gates leading from the Station ( the Main Gate, The R Risely Gate, Thurleigh Gate, Dirt Road Gate, Cement Road Gate and Bomb Dump Gate) were all properly manned and Colonel PUTNAM's car did not pass through any of these gates after 2300 hours. (Exhibit "I" to "O" incl.). However it was seen by the sentry on the Main Gate to come from the direction of Thurleigh at about 2330 hours, turn right at the Crossroads and go down the road leading to Site 4. (Exhibit "J").

(11) A diagram of the Guardhouse is attached hereto. (Exhibit "P" )

#### FINDINGS

(1) That Privates TAYLOR and CUMBIE escaped from the Station Guardhouse between 2330 and 2400 hours on 28 May, 1943.

(2) That the escape was made through the double door leading from the cell block to the outside, on the right door of which the panel had been broken.

(3) That passage through side door was effected by loosening the broken panel on the right door from the inside and reaching through the opening, unscrewing the nut from the bolt and removing the bolt.

(4) That having freed themselves from the cell block, Privates TAYLOR and CUMBIE left the Station between the hours of 2330 and 2400 presumably in Colonel PUTNAM's car. Exit from the Station was made by going down the road leading to Site 4, turning right at the abandoned farm house and proceeding across the trafficable area leading to the main Thurleigh Road.

(5) That the Guardhouse was not in proper condition to insure the safe custody of the prisoners.

(6) That the guards at the guardhouse were not properly placed to insure the safe custody of the prisoners.

(7) That the guards on duty at the Guardhouse at the time of the escape performed their duty properly and fully in accordance with their orders with the exception that they may not have exercised due caution in replacing the broken panel on the door.

(8) That the area between the road leading to Site 4 and the Thurleigh road was open for traffic on and off the Station and was not guarded or patrolled.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That steps be taken to render the guardhouse safe for the custody of prisoners. It is understood by the Board that such steps have already been instituted. In such case, it is recommended that they be expedited.

2. That one guard be stationed immediately outside the guardhouse.

3. That all guards standing watch at the guardhouse be thoroughly impressed with the necessity of exercising proper caution in all matters that affect the safe custody of the prisoners.

4. That proper measures be taken to prevent or control traffic on and off the Station over the area between the road leading to Site 4 and the Thurleigh Road.

In witness of the foregoing Summary of Evidence, Findings of Fact and Recommendation we, the undersigned, have hereunto set our hands this 31st day of May, 1943.

#### 16 Exhibits:

Exhibit "A" - Special Order # 126  
Exhibit "B" - Statement of Henry B. Giles  
Exhibit "C" - " Charles B. Mason  
Exhibit "D" - " Peter J. Mullin  
Exhibit "E" - " Gwinn Mason  
                  " Kathleen Higgins  
Exhibit "F" - " William Roussin  
Exhibit "G" - " A.W. Smith  
Exhibit "H" - " C.E. Freeman  
Exhibit "I" - " Dean E. Kuns  
Exhibit "J" - " Floyd J. Pumphrey  
Exhibit "K" - " Elmer W. Reed  
Exhibit "L" - " Perry S. Boggs  
Exhibit "M" - " Dennis M. Dunlea  
Exhibit "N" - " Millard Moor  
Exhibit "O" - " Arthur J. Labarge  
Exhibit "P" - Drawing of Guardhouse

CLAUDE L. HOSTETTER,  
Major, AC, President.

FRED H. PAYNE,  
Captain, QMC, Member.

HENRY R. SIBLEY, JR.  
1st Lt, AC, Recorder.

858 Acacia Avenue  
Reading, Pa. 19605

June 7, 1990

Mr. Russell A. Strong  
5323 Cheval Place  
Charlotte, N.C. 28205

Dear Russ:

As mentioned in my letter of May 18th, I am sending to you a copy of a picture of Hq and Hq Sq, 39th Sv Gp taken at Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho in Sep 1942 about a week or two before we left for England. I have marked on the photocopy of the picture the names of some of the fellows whose faces I can still identify. Many others look familiar, but I cannot remember their names.

In your letter of May 9th you advised that Stanley S. Furst died at Lock Haven, Pa. on Dec 9, 1970. Last week I had occasion to visit that town while driving to a nearby town to visit my sister. A friend of mine who operates an insurance and real estate business in Lock Haven told me that Furst's wife might have returned to England before he passed away. If you do not have a reply from her and want more information on him, my friend suggested that we contact Frank D. O'Reilly, Jr., 1313 W. 4th St., Lock Haven, Pa. 17745. He was the Editor of the Lock Haven Express for many years, and wrote the obituary on Stanley Furst.

In reviewing some of my mementoes of my days at Thurleigh I came across the enclosed papers. I do not remember how I came to possess the list of officers and their home addresses, but it must have been early, as the list includes such names as Overacher, Wilson, Robinson and Armstrong. Also enclosed is a picture of the Station 111 football team with a list of the players and home towns. If you have any interest in the original picture, I can send it to you to have copied. Another paper is a copy of the P & O menu for Sunday 27th Sep 1942. This menu came from the Officers Dining Room aboard the Peninsula and Oriental liner, Strathallen. I remember obtaining this from another GI who had done KP duty at the Officers Mess on that date. After eating cold beans and bread for supper I was glad to know that somebody aboard the ship was eating better than I was. Actually, this British class distinction was an embarrassment for our officers.

All the best,

*William P. McHale*  
William P. McHale.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER  
WASHINGTON, DC 20307-5001

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

20 January 1999

Russell A. Strong  
5323 Cheval Place  
Charlotte, NC 28205

Dear Mr. Strong:

I am writing at the suggestion of my father, William P. McHale, who was with the 39th Service Group of the 306th Bomb Squadron at Thurleigh, England during World War II. A group of us from Walter Reed have an interesting and privileged opportunity to retrace a portion of military history. A friend of mine who is a professor at Oxford, Mr. Christopher Bulstrode, has invited myself and a few of my residents to a graduate medical education course at Great Windsor Park. I thought it would be a great opportunity to see the places which not only changed history but the care of combat injuries (the Army directives for the care of combat injuries was issued after the D-Day invasion). My Dad thought you might have some suggestions for me for our upcoming tour of East Anglia and on to the Normandy beaches.

Six years ago when your group had its reunion in Bedford, my older two sons and I accompanied my Mom and Dad to the event. At that time Thurleigh was still an RAF facility. I understand that it is no longer a military installation. I suspect that this is the case with many of the old airfields. Even our remaining modern Air Force bases in England seem quieter these days. Perhaps we should say, "Thanks God!". I wish that my residents could see and feel what we did during that event. We really are still Allies.

Our group will take an Air Force "hop" from BWI to Mildenhall on 3 February and stay overnight in the BOQ on the 4th. We hope to cross through "the Chunnel" the next day to see the Normandy beaches and perhaps some of the Cotentin area if we have time. One of our guys was with the 82nd Airborne before he went to medical school, and I am sure he will want to see some of the places they jumped into. We'll cross back on the Sunday for the course, and then have more time for touring the next week.

I realize there is not much time before we go. However, if you do have some ideas, I would really value them. I can be best reached at my home address: 6004 Bitternut Drive Alexandria, VA 22310. My phone number is 703 971-9589 at home and 202 782-5848 at the hospital. FAX 202 782-6845. Our E-mail at home is [pjmcilva@erols.com](mailto:pjmcilva@erols.com).

Thank you for all your efforts!

Sincerely,

Kathleen A. McHale, M.D., F.A.C.S.  
COI/MC/USA  
Chief, Orthopaedic Surgery  
Orthopaedic Consultant to the  
Surgeon General of the Army



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER  
WASHINGTON, DC 20307-5001

22 January 2000

Russell A. Strong  
5323 Cheval Place  
Charlotte, NC 28205

Dear Mr. Strong:

It was about this time last year that I contacted you regarding the Walter Reed Orthopaedic Surgery junket to East Anglia and Normandy. On behalf of my colleagues and for myself, I would like to thank you for your help and guidance in planning our tour. It was particularly special that you called Mr. Franklin in introduction. We met up with him at Thurleigh, and he gave us quite an interesting tour. We also saw his cottage and the old school that he and his wife have refurbished. What a day!

The beaches at Normandy were both eerie and exciting. How difficult the invasion must have been! We saw Omaha and Utah beaches and stopped at Ste. Mere Eglise for a long lunch and significant wine sampling at the Sgt. Steele Restaurant. The Hotel d'Argouges in Bayeux (Tel 02 31928886) is a charming, very reasonably priced 2 star 17<sup>th</sup> Century hotel in Bayeux for your future reference.

I have been invited to give a lecture on limb salvage after mine injuries to the Belgian Army at the end of February this year. I took the brash American approach and asked the seminar chairman if some of my residents and staff could attend. They of course said "yes". I think the Europeans get a kick out of how forward we are about inviting ourselves. So, about 6 of us will be going to Brussels and then on through to Bastogne to remember "The Bulge". I guess I will have to find an invitation to Berlin so we can move further inland!

Thank you so much for your interest. We appreciate our veterans. We are very glad that you have preserved the memories for us. I only hope that we can do as good a job as you did.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathleen McHale".

Kathleen A. McHale, MD, FACS  
COL/MC/USA  
Chief, Orthopaedic Surgery  
Orthopaedic Consultant, OTSG