

Feb. 24, 1992

WHO WENT FIRST

We boarded the Queen Elizabeth Monday evening after sundown Monday, August 31, 1942. Arrived in the River Clyde Sunday September 6. Barges took us to shore and a train was there.

The ground Personnel of three squadrons was in this group. The other squadron (I believe the 368) came over the next week on the Queen Mary. Beside the Ordnance men the only person I remember was Jack Wood. He let me carry his typewriter. He probably knew I went to typing school at Aberdeen. That was the last time I touched a typewriter until I Volunteered and transferred to the Infantry.

Although we may have been the last aboard, Andrew T. Seman was the first on the first lifeboat ready for lowering when a Sub Pack alert was sounded.

Russ: Pardon the brevity. Want to get this bit in the mail.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John".

CH
CUMBERLAND
HOTEL

Marble Arch, London W1A 4RF
Telephone 01-262 1234, Telex 22215 CUMLON

Tuesday, Sept.15,92

Russ

I finally #ed the 21 rolls I SNAPPED IN England. Here are those taken in the Bedford area plus a few London gems. I was disappointed with the results and blame it on the metal detectors, cloudy weather, batteries or the photographer. Take your pick.

I did get to Wimbledon, Brighton, a Thames boat to Greenwich and Hendon. Plus the regular stops to refuel.

See you in Seattle

John
John Krische



18 September 1992

Dear John:

Packages keep coming!

The other day we received the two little cases from you, via Shirley Langley, and we thank you for your thoughtfulness.

Today the mail came through the slot in the door and dropped with a thud. As I leaned over to pick it up the door bell rang. I opened the door, and there inside the screen, was this heavy box from you.

As you can see, I am returning it--but not until after extracting 50 or more pictures. These are the first I have received of the reunion, except for my own, and I will hold on to yours until I have done the special insert for the January issue of Echoes.

I plan to run stories in the October issue, but will hold the pictures for January, giving me more time to acquire and to sort and put them together in some manageable fashion.

Ultimately, I will return most of your prints to you: probably in two batches, one after the final sort and one after Echoes is printed.

I hope that you are sending one of the Casey Jones pub to Casey himself. He will treasure it.

Well, on to Seattle! Look forward to seeing you there.

All the best,

Russ

JOHN KRISCHE
GLENDALE, N. Y. 11385

When the BBC man asked me for a story I told him to stick with the combat crews. He persisted that he wanted to know what happened on the ground too. For 2 days he had me repeat some and add more. He promised to send a copy to the 306. The enclosed tape is a copy of one I received from Sheila & Bob Pope of Keysoe. I also sent a copy to Warren Wilson who was with me most of the time in the Bedford area.

As to my complicity, I take the fifth.

OH, TO BE IN ENGLAND
1994 ?

See you in Seattle

John K

R & R: I slipped on ice last winter and
old bruises acted up. Also Old age.
Know any good senior citizen clubs.

Note from Ray Yerak 3/4/96

To John Krische file

T W I M C

Don't get around much anymore. Finally able to put on socks and tie my shoelace. Bones ache. Advil, Aleve & Tylenol helped but made me lightheaded. Now doing without and depend on aspirin instead. I'd rather not go into details.

1992 I brought home 85 pounds that I thought of using on the next England visit. Now I see 306 is going without me. Enjoy. I'll hold the queens' money for a future date.

Healthwise I am fine. Trying to keep my weight down since I stay away from Manhattan. I may write the true story of what went on at Thurleigh thru the eyes of the lowest of the low yardbirds.

Thank for Des M. Folders.
J