



885 Bomb Sq (H) (Special)  
2641 Special Group (Provisional)

"A unique squadron in the 15th Air Force"

Predecessors

122 Bomb Sq. (H)

122 Liaison Sq/ 68 Tactical Recon. Gp.

122 Liaison Sq/ 68 Recon. Gp.

122 Observation Sq/ 68 Observation Gp.

This newsletter is dedicated to our great French friend Philippe Castellano, who without him and his wonderful team we would not have the information we have today on "Miss Charlotte" and "Dallas Lady" and many many more planes of the Allied Airforces that went down in his area. With him and his team checking into every lead possible, they have found many crash sites and documented each one with the squadron and the group; and found the relatives of each crew member that was lost. On top of that, they make sure each site is properly marked and the proper ceremonies are held to honor these fliers that lost their lives.

His team:

- Christian Vigne & Veronique
- Daniel Ellena
- Brian Syvoct
- Bernard Dartout
- Alain & Helena
- & others.

They have formed an organization called:

AERO-Re. L.I.C.  
B.P. 925  
06210 La Napoule  
FRANCE

THEY ARE CERTAINLY WORTHY OF SUPPORT.

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AERO-Re. L.I.C. was kind enough to issue a special certificate to me called:

"DIPLOME NATIONAL DU RELIQUEUR"

A very nice gesture from a very nice organization. An honor to be part of their team.

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Philippe Castellano has just published a wonderful large book called : 'LIBERATOR' and it has many stories about the many planes they located and recorded. It is highly recommended and especially to one that has some French language background. The 885th is honored in his 150 page book starting on page 119 and ending on page 139 with many pictures. If you would like to purchase one of these, please write to Philippe at the above address or at his home: 500 Rue Leo Brun, Numero 7, 06210 Mandelieu, FRANCE. Am sure you will be very pleased.

On the inside cover of my copy he wrote:

"Thank you to the 885th men, who risked their life over the very bad Alps' peak and by night! The French people Don't forget that... for Ever!"

Philippe Castellano  
Cannes, France  
November 15, 1994

A fine tribute to our squadron!!

15th AF "SORTIE" Vol. IX #3 tells about Philippe & his team and the great work they are doing!



ALLA MEMORIA DEI NOVE UOMINI DELL'EQUIPAGGIO  
DEL B-17 "MISS CHARLOTTE" MORTI IN QUESTO LUOGO  
DURANTE LA NOTTE DEL 10 SETTEMBRE 1944

IN MEMORY FROM THE NINE CREW MEMBERS  
FROM THE B-17 "MISS CHARLOTTE" KILLED IN ACTION  
IN THE AREA THE NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER 10, 1944

A LA MEMOIRE DES NEUFS HOMMES D'EQUIPAGES  
DU B-17 "MISS CHARLOTTE" MORTS EN CES LIEUX  
DANS LA NUIT DU 10 SEPTEMBRE 1944

B-17 SERIAL 42-30560-885 1st SQUADRON SPECIAL-15 1st USAAF  
ASSOCIATION AERO-Re L I C FRANCE 05210 MANDELIEU-LA MAPOULE



**LIBERATOR'S MONUMENT**

*Remembering :*

*The Crew of "Miss Charlotte"*  
*10 September 1944*  
*10 September 1994*

*The Crew of "Dallas Lady"*  
*12 September 1944*  
*12 September 1994*

14 July 1944  
R.A.F. Station  
Blida, North Africa

To : Officer Commanding  
No. 885 Bomb. Sq.  
U.S.A.A.F.

From : Flying Control Officer  
R.A.F. Station  
Blida, N. Africa

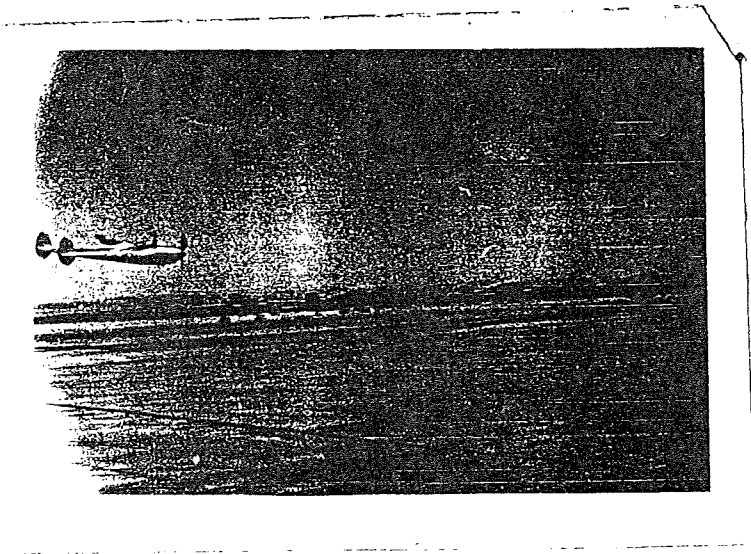
Dear Sir;

Re: P-38 #135

I have the honour to report that this aircraft flew along the runway at zero feet, with no intention of landing. According to Flying Control Orders of the Royal Air Force, Sec. 23 (IV) aircraft when in the vicinity of an airfield and awaiting permission to land, are not to fly below 1000 feet, except in an emergency. I should be very grateful if you would inform the pilot of this aircraft, and any others who are not familiar with it, of this order. I am, Sir,

Yours obediently

/s/ A.S. Hezp  
Duty Flying Control Officer



Rick Matlick, son of Ben, original member of "Miss Charlotte", was kind enough to make up a masthead for this newsletter. Appreciate that very much. Also he sent me a letter and picture that his Dad had and was very proud of: Ben buzzing the field at Blida with a P-38 that Col. MacCloskey let him fly but got into a little trouble with the RAF for doing it. Believe the P-38 was assigned to the 885th as a weather ship for a time.

The RAF squadron stationed with us at Blida was 624 Squadron. We worked closely with them in the early days of our formation in this type of work. Couple of their ground radio operators sure helped us get started.

Was fortunate enough to make contact with a number of them in the last few months and really enjoyed hearing from them. They like to hear from us "Yanks" too!

There are:

Arthur Andersen (Flight Mech.-  
71 Cypress Rd. Rigger)  
Southport  
Merseyside  
Lancashire PR8 6HB  
England

Ken A. Bedford (Bomb Aimer)  
14 Exeter Gardens  
Bourne  
Lincolnshire PE10 9NY  
England

Ernie Bethell (Flight Engr.)  
14 St. Lukes Grove  
Humberston  
Grimsby DN36 4DU  
England

Stanley M. David (Air Gunner-  
10 Nimbus Close Dispr.)  
Littlehampton  
West Sussex BN17 6RX  
England

Frank Edkins (Wireless Operator)  
1630 Bay Meadows Lane  
Lady Lake, Florida 32159  
USA

J.R.A. (Bob) Huxstep (Navigator)  
7, New Road  
Rye  
E. Sussex TN 31 7LS  
England

Harry Jenner (Fitter IIE)  
56 Sheldrake Road  
Mundeford  
Christchurch  
Dorset BH2 34BP  
England

Cecil W. A. Keys (Wireless Operator)  
5 Millbrook Walk  
Roseville Est.  
Lisburn BT27 4XS Co. Antrim  
N. Ireland

C. C. Ogilvie (Flight Engr.)  
50 Foggyley Gardens  
Dundee  
Angus DD2 3LS  
Scotland

Bob Pritchard (Air Crew) *Flight Mechanic*  
55 Pim's Ave.  
Belfast BT4 1PJ  
N. Ireland

William Rae (Air Gunner Dispr.)  
2 Kiniver Drive  
Blairdardie  
Glasgow G15 6RF Scotland

Jack White (Flight Engr.)  
Pilgrim's Cottage  
Cothelstone  
Taunton  
Somerset TA4 3EA England

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It is time to fully retire - again!! Audery and I are moving to Colorado!!

Effective about <sup>Feb. 2nd</sup> ~~March 1st~~ 1995 our address will be : 613 Harding Ave.  
Canon City, CO 81212

Wonderfull new experience for us!!

*J. R. Mattison #7*

Hope everyone has a very nice Holiday Season and a Great New Year coming up!!

*15 December 1994 (my 5 day pass in Rome started 50 years ago today)*