

September 16, 1992

Mr. Paul D. Schlundt
3149 N. Winfield Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46222-1953

Dear Paul,

Forgive my delay in responding to your letter of August 4th. My wife and I both have had some family matters that seemed to take priority over all other activities. We hope things are under control now, and we can get on with our lives.

I will try to answer your inquiries in the order in which they were asked. Upon graduation from Cadets at Patrick AFB in Albany, Georgia, I was assigned to B-17 Transition School at Chanute Field, Illinois. After graduation from Transition School, I went to Tampa, Florida, where I picked up my crew and thence to Avon Park, Florida, for combat training. Upon leaving there, I went to Hunter Field in Savannah, Georgia, picked up a new B-17 and flew with my crew to England via Bangor, Maine, and Gander Bay, Newfoundland. Upon arriving in England, I was assigned to the 351st Bomb Group. I flew my first mission on July 6, 1944. My crew and I finished thirty-five actual missions on November 6, 1944. I was then assigned to Hendricks Field, Florida, where I instructed in B-17 Emergency Procedures until I exited the Air Force in July 1945. Subsequent to this date, I enrolled in Law School at the University of Mississippi, where I received my law degree in August 1948. Thereafter I practiced law in Clarksdale, Mississippi, until I was recalled to the Air Force when the 516th Troop Carrier Group in Memphis, Tennessee, was activated in the spring of 1952. I remained on active duty until my retirement on 1 September 1968. Since that time I have lived in Prattville, Alabama, where I was a real estate broker until health problems developed, and I sold my business in 1980. This pretty much summarizes my Air Force career.

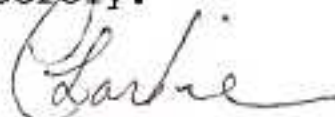
I am sorry to say I have not kept in touch with any of the other students from my Primary Class at Douglas, Georgia. The only members of the class that I recall seeing were the Wegener twins (Kenneth and Willis, or Ike and Mike, as we called them). They visited me here in Prattville in the early 1960's when I was on the faculty at the Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell AFB.

I will check my records and determine if I have a set of the orders sending my class from Maxwell AFB in 1943, to the Raymond-Richardson School in Douglas, Georgia. Many of my records were destroyed in a fire in 1945, but I have been able to replace some of them. If I find the orders, I will bring them with me to Jekyll Island.

My wife, Imogene, and I plan to arrive at the Holiday Inn, Jekyll Island, on 18 October, and depart Wednesday morning, 21 October. We will not be able to remain for the entire week, as we have other commitments here. I am, therefore, not enclosing my check for the reunion activities, but will pay upon arrival for those activities we will attend. I am forwarding your enclosed Holliday Inn reservation card to Jekyll Island to take care of our three nights there.

For your ready reference, my phone number is (205) 365-9680. Feel free to call me collect if you feel the need. We are looking forward to seeing you and maybe reestablishing contact with some of our old cadet classmates.

Sincerely.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charlie", written in dark ink.

CHARLES E. WHITTEN