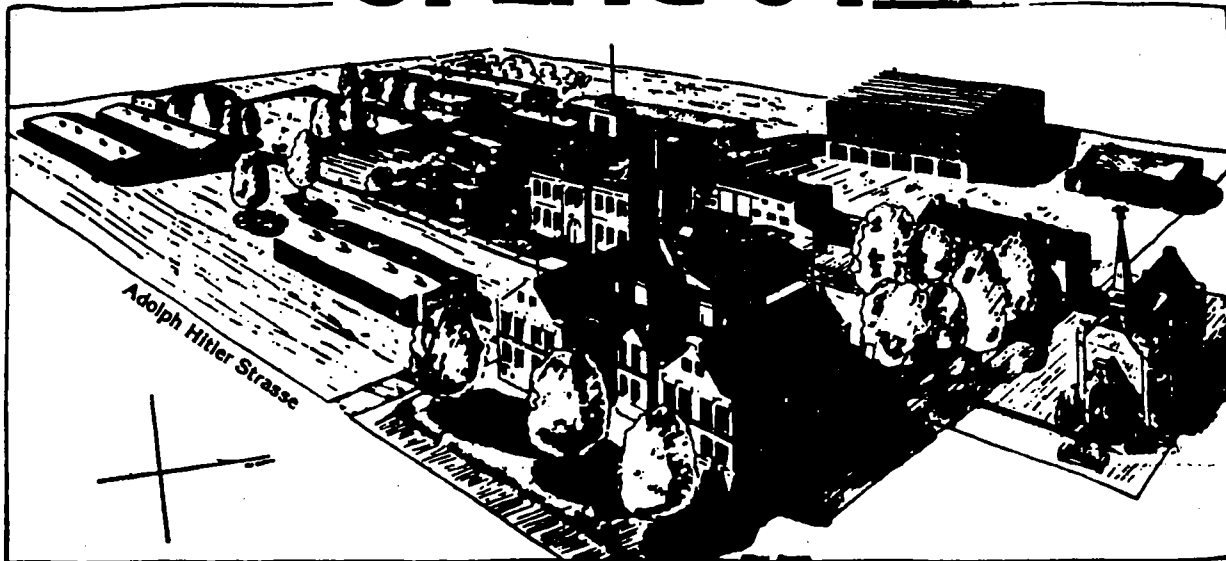


OFLAG 64



Prisoner's drawing of Oflag 64, reproduced from The Item of January 1, 1945

Drawing does not show the three, high, barbed wire fences surrounding the 900 feet by 1200 feet area of the P.O.W. Camp; nor are the eleven guard towers shown.

BY JAMES BICKERS

POST OFLAG ITEM 64 .XXVI N.O. 5 SEPTEMBER, 1989

PAGE 1

GLADWYNE, PA Well, I'm starting this final letter before the end of the month while basking in the sun on the forward deck of the Clipper ship Nantucket while in Nantucket.

A stiff breeze is blowing so I'm real glad for the sun. Should have a nice Vodka cocktail but am settling for an iced tea so that what I write will be understandable.

Having a nice bus/ clippership vacation and am absorbing the great New England atmosphere which is cleaner than Phila.

Hope to see you all at San Diego in October. Have planned to arrive on Monday the 9th so as to take in all the great sights & sounds of San Diego.

If you haven't made your reservations do so now while there is still time.

Oct 12, 11, 13, 14. Holiday Inn Embarradero San Diego.

Get there and enjoy the great time Tom Drake and Jim Sherman and Committe have arranged for us.

There is one guy from California I'm looking forward to seeing and that's John Shirk. Sure hope you can make, John

LAKELAND, FL A nice brief letter from Art Bryant and Vivian to make sure he was receiving all the mailing from both Jim Sherman and my self.

By August he didn't receive any from Jim but I hope we corrected that. I tried to call you several times but received no answer.

I contacted Jim and gave him your new address and am sure he sent out info to you regarding

Reunion in San Diego.

Pls. feel free to contact me again if you still have no info. Hope to see you in S.D.

FT. WORTH, TX In a previous newsletter I indicated that I had not received any previous information about Robrt Henry's death. I was wrong, Mrs. Henry wrote me in March at the time of Robert's death, along with the obituary that I had published when Roy Chappell sent it to me. The letter and obituary were placed in the wrong pile. Sorry about this and am getting better organized each day. Mrs Henry wrote that Bob was in a nursing home for the last 17 months prior to his death. He enjoyed receiving the ITEM as it helped him remember names from the Oflag days. We indeed extend our sympathy to Mrs. Henry in this loss.

LAS VEGAS, NV Alan Dunbar wrote in June about Irvin Juster whose name has been added to our list. Welcome to Irvin.

Alan also noted his plans for going to S.D. but I'm not sure that these are the final plan. Any way, have a nice trip Alan & Lila. We are looking forward to seeing you in S.D.

SAN ANTONIO, TX My latest info on Father Bra indicates he is holding his own. Roy & Helen still feel the best way to

communicate is to write a letter or post card. I published his current address last letter but here it is again so get the ball point pen out now and send a picture post card or a pretty card to Father as your good deed for the day.

Father Stanley Brach
St. Francis Nursing Home
2717 N. Flores
San Antonio, TX 78212

He does have a phone in his room (512) 736-3177.

But letters are still preferable.

So writes "Quiet Tex" Chappell.

Look forward to seeing both Roy and Lovely Helen in San Diego:

MONTGOMERY, AL Quite a nice information packed letter from Ted Rinehart as well as a contribution for the P.F.

Thanks much Ted. Sure be glad to see you in San Diego.

He suggests that those of our group who were former members of the 3rd Infantry Div would be interested in the following as well as those who may have been captured at Anzio, Italy.

On May 19, 1989 a pool at West Point was dedicated in memory of Major Robert Watson Crandall. Major Crandall was captured at Anzio returned thru Odessa and returned to the Fifth Army where he was given command of a Battalion in the 10th Mountain Div. He was killed in Action on April 25, 1945.

He was the last member of the Class of '39 to be killed in the ETO.

Ted obtained the program from Lt. Gen John W. Carpenter III who lives in Montgomery Al.

Ted also writes that on a recent visit to Ft. Benning he visited the Infantry Museum which is located in the old Hospital. Of particular interest is a room dedicated to B. G. William Many Bond who known (fondly I hope) as Captain Basher Bond in the Oflag. He died of wounds commanding a separate Infantry Brigade in Vietnam. Thanks again Ted for this informative letter.

VALLINGBY, SWEDEN. Although the latest letter from Henry was from his summer place Boda Ulversund. I thought I had better use Henry's more familiar address in the heading.

In reply to your statement regarding Frank Diggs book I think as many others do, that the sale of the book has been not necessarily all because of the author but also because of the subject matter, namely Henry Soderberg. Both the author & the subject matter made a great team.

Right! fellows.

We certainly hope that the problems that are facing both you & Clair at the present will have been worked out sufficiently to free you both to have you come to San Diego and be with us.

Henry also noted that Ken Johnson's son Don who has a Swedish background visited Henry at his summer place. Henry enjoyed Don's stay with them. Ken's Son is a Luthern Minister. Great 2nd generation visit.

VESTAL, N.Y. A nice Post card note from Roger Conant who ordered one of Jerry Sage's book that he eventually received from Jerry from Enterprise, AL.

Remember when you order a book from Jerry you receive an autographed copy as well as a hard bound copy. The price is less than \$ 20.00 and I guess its still one of the few places from which the book can be ordered.

Bob says he is enjoying Jerry's book so far and was looking to reading the part about Of 64. Bob I know you'll enjoy the whole book. Thanks for the card. Hope you can make San Die

GAINESVILLE, FL The "tough guy" Ken Johnson ordered more books for his son who lives in Hawaii.

Planning to see us all in San Diego. that's the way to go. Kenny. See you there.

ENGLAND, ARK I'm combining two of Billy Bingham's letters into one. Thanks much Billy for the address of Joe Green. We sure need to keep Joe's address on our list. Hope to see you in San Diego, Joe and bring Billy with you have not heard, but Billy had a stroke on the 12th of May and then subsequent carotid artery operation. The stroke left him speechless for two weeks as well as unable to write. Call him when you finish this letter and he sounds great with better than 70% of his speaking ability returned.

Thank the Lord for that!
Thanks, Billy for suggesting that we all contact by letters or phone. Ed Maschel. Excellent thought and I hope others will do so. I know Edward is not in good shape. I have much sympathy for him as I have a brother in the same condition. It's rough. Get in touch with Joe Green and both of you come to-gether to San Diego.

I had a little difficulty figuring out how a letter of yours was getting to me from Clemson, S.C. Then I saw there were two handwritings and realizez that Ellen had

The purpose of this list is to try to LOCATE members of our group who have been on our LIST or may have been mentioned in correspondence. LOOK IT OVER carefully and then try to locate someone you remembered or lives nearby. Do it by phone or town records or any other neat way that you may know. The list is getting longer please help to reduce it THANKS. Your Editor

NEED NEW ADDRESS	NEED NEW ADDRESS	NEED NEW ADDRESS	NEW ADDITIONS OR CHANGE OF ADDRESS
George Maibach 9 Melrose St Unit 2D Melrose, MA 02176	Lt. Charles E. Burn 42 Superior Rd Bellerose, LI N.Y. 11426	Gus Ferris	Arthur D. Morrow 33838 East River Dr. #89 Creswell, OR 97426
	Louis H. Tankin, M.D. Park Tower East 711 Park Heights Ave Baltimore, MD 21215	Bob Wernette	
	Jack A. Pontillitz 1730 Lyman Pl. N.E. Washington, Dr	Al Booney	
James M. Gillersie Wilimatic, CT 06226	or 2115 Bennarrwiet Ave Rockford, IL	Arthur Mallory, Jr. 29 Lafayette Sq. LaGrange, GA 30204	
Lt. Edward Baker 549 Hellman St Phila, PA	J. O'Neil 26044 Dundee Royal Oaks, MI	Mason Helmer R. H. Wise Vernon Burlingame	
Thomas Rush	Ernest M. Gruenberg, M.D. 22 W. 168 St New York, NY 10032	Paul Miller 1729 K. St Lincoln, Neb	
Fred Weigang	Lt. Charles J. Batton USA RET 23340 Koths St Inkster, MI 48141	Harvey A. Todd 1057 S. 21st Decatur, IL	
Lt. John C. Crown Lt. Edward B. Haney	Lt. T. Holland 737 Hall Ave Benton Harbor, MI 49022	Ralph R. Gann Box 390 R1 Pearse Rd Schnectady, NY	
Lt. R. R. Anderson 1604 Parker St Amarillo, TX 79210	Lt. J. M. Lloyd 934 W. Main St Norrirston, PA	John Simms P.O. Box 1560 Easley, SC 2964	
Edward Berlinski 47 Williamson Ave Bloomfield, NJ 08003	Capt John R. Martin Hotel Eagle 9 (no such hotel) Eagle Pass, TX	Bruce Nunnally	
Fred Sommers 115 Wroe St Dayton, OH	Lt. Paul C. Wiley 29 Federal St So. Portland, ME		
Clifford G. McKeon 7 Summer Rd Cambridge, MD	Lt. Robert M. O'Neil 290 Washington Ave Santa Monica, CA		
Edor Nelson 544 26th Ave. So. Minneapolis, MN 55417			
Cap;t John S. Rodda 1526 N. E. 24th St Portland, OR 97232			
Cap't Henry Crellin 640 East Grand Springfield, OH 45044			

had written very appropriate comments on your letter to her. It was real cute of her to do this.

I think I already have a picture of the Chappell Big House. There are about forty members or more in the family now, so of course a Big House is needed on top of which Roy comes from Texas so you have to follow the Texas pattern.

Incidentally, Wright is over 84 now and doing fairly well.

Thanks Billy, Ellen, Joe Green & Ed Moschell for this commentary.

Hope to see some of you in San Diego.

CRESWELL, OR Just a short note from Art (Clip Board) Morrow advising me of a change of address. Thanks Art and also thanks for the contribution to the Postage Fund. I'm pleased that you enjoy the newsletters and sure hope you can drive down the coast and join us in San Diego. Won't be much closer to you than this to join in a reunion.

BROCKTON, MASS. Chet Russell wrote me from West Dennis Beach on Cape Cod and I'm writing this to them from Block Island not far from Cape Cod. We started this cruise on the Nantucket a Clipper Ship of the Clipper Cruise Line of St. Louis, Mo. Hope to wind up the trip tomorrow at Newport having dinner with Bill Rudel and his wife who hopefully will join Mary & me from his home in Waquoit Ma.

Thanks Chet for the nice contribution to the P.F. I'll see that the checks get deposited on my return. Glad you still write so well at your tender age of 80+. Keep going!

Thanks for your pleasant and congratulatory comments about the newsletter and my efforts to get it out to you all.

We missed you at San Antonio and sorry to hear your not up to San Diego.

Next year were planning one in Atlantic City so hope we can count on seeing you there.

Sorry about the Zip Code. The mailing list was just recently revised a couple of transitions were made in the re-typing.

Had I realized in advance that you were also on Cape Cod, I would have made plans to try to get to-gether with you. A phone may be the best we can do.

Thanks for all of the well wishes and I'm looking forward to many more years of a labor of love.

SAN ANTONIO, TX Always an interesting letter when I hear from "Chum" Williamson. Questions which need answers and info also. A nice contribution to the P.F. which is always thankfully & prayerfully received from each.

Thanks much! Now the questions.

I have a newspaper article which tells the story. I would have to dig it out but as I recall the article Chum, it did tell the story about a hunting accident regarding Col. Yardley's death.

Any one knowing any thing about a Belgian Citizen arriving in Oflag 64 in late 1944 wearing a U.S. Army uniform with Lt's bars?

He cleared security, but where did he go after getting in the Oflag.

Any of you Kriegies knowing answers to the above queries of "Chum" write the info and mail it to:

Col. C. A. Williamdon
12633 King Oaks
San Antonio, TX 78233

ENGLAND, ARK /CLEMSON, S.C. Ellen Bryon is doing at 85 on or about 21st August 1989. I beleive she still attends Board of Directors meetings of the Girl Scouts, U.S.A. Billy Bingham corresponds with the Bryan's quite frequently and thèh Ellen writes Billy's letters and sends them to me. This is the best of both worlds. Sure Hope Ellen convinces Billy to come to Diego. It's going to be a great reunion.

Hope to see you, Billy. Love to see Ellen & Wright but I'm sure thats too much to ask of Wright. Our best to each of you in Clemson & England.

DAYTONA BEACH, FL A nice note from Dick Meskill our Orlando Reunion Chairman. Been following his son around who is playing a golf tournaments. He's sorry he won't be with us in San Diego. I have to make sure I take a box of prunes with me in case Jack Hemingway gets to San Diego as Dick says he owes him a couple of prunes from time spent with him in Stuttgart hospital.

Thanks very much Dick for the very fine contribution to the P.F. Sorry we'll miss you both.

GLADWYNE, PA The enclosed brochure from Toni Drake is the latest from Reunion City. See you all in San Diego. October 9 thru 15.

YOUR EDITOR
JOHN F. SLACK

28 August 1989

Dear Kriegies:

I would like to report to all of you that my heart surgery went extremely well. I am also fifty pounds lighter and feel better than I have felt in years. Now, I can assist Jim Sherman in completing all the tasks associated with the reunion. Needless to say, Jim has done a terrific job, even flying down to San Diego to coordinate matters. Thus, we are able to report that most of the preparations are essentially complete.

The rest is up to you and time is short. Included is an itinerary of the reunion as we see it now. There still may be small changes made, but essentially it is correct as listed. The only day which may be changed materially is Friday, 13 October. Unfortunately, a major naval exercise is being held in October which, for the first time to my knowledge, will take all of the carriers out of port at the same time. Therefore, we have scheduled a Harbor Cruise with brunch in its place. Nevertheless, we are still pursuing the possibilities of visiting another type ship, or perhaps, the "TOP GUN" facilities at nearby Miramar Naval Air Station.

Now here is what you need to do:

- a. Decide to come and send \$115.00 per person as your advance deposit to:

Mr. Jim Sherman
3056 Roxbury Ave.
Oakland, CA 94605

- b. Make your reservations with the hotel NOW! Reservations must be received before 25 September to have priority. After that date reservations are subject to availability. (\$80.00 per day - standard room; \$90.00 per day - Bay side room; prices are for single or double occupancy.)

Holiday Inn Embarcadero
1355 North Harbor Drive
San Diego, CA 92101-3385
(619)232-3861

- c. Note on the itinerary there are days in which optional tours are offered to you. Attached is a sheet for you to indicate which tours you wish to take. You must provide the costs for those tickets direct to the tour guide organization in advance. They will provide guides, entry fees and transportation from that amount. Just follow the instructions on the sheet. Keep a copy of the tours you requested with you in the event any discrepancy should arise later.

For your information, here is what your advance deposit of \$115.00 per person will provide:

- a. Necessary reunion identification.
- b. Coffee and tea in the hospitality room.
- c. Finger food at the no-host cocktail part on Wednesday, 11 October.

- d. Guides, entry fees and transportation for the San Diego Zoo tour Thursday, 12 October.
- e. Buffet dinner and entertainment Thursday evening, 12 October.
- f. Harbor Cruise and Brunch on Friday, 13 October.
- g. Sit down dinner and entertainment and dancing provided by a seven piece "Hit Paraders" band on Saturday evening, 14 October.
- h. Full buffet breakfast for all on Sunday, 15 October.

We are anticipating a gala time and are looking forward to you being here. We want you to have a great time in America's Finest City with your close friends. We anticipate good weather during your visit.

See you soon!

Thomas D. Drake II

Thomas D. Drake II
6059 Tulane Street
San Diego, CA 92122
(619)453-4257

ITINERARY

OFLAG 64, 1989 REUNION

TUESDAY - 10 OCTOBER

Arrival
Registration - 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
*Optional Tour - Sea World 12-5 p.m. \$32.00/person
Afternoon and evening free

WEDNESDAY - 11 OCTOBER

Registration - 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
*Optional Tours - Best of City Tour 1-5 p.m. \$13.00/person
Tijuana with Lunch 11-4 " \$25.00/person
No-Host Cocktail party 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Dinner on your own at one of several nearby restaurants

THURSDAY - 12 OCTOBER

Registration - 9:00 a.m.
San Diego Zoo Tour - 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Afternoon free
No-Host Cocktail party 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
Photographs - 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Buffet Dinner - 7:30 p.m.
Entertainment - 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

FRIDAY - 13 OCTOBER

Registration - 9:00 a.m.
Harbor Cruise and Lunch - 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Afternoon and evening free

SATURDAY - 14 OCTOBER

Registration - 9:00 a.m.
*Optional Tour - Wild Animal Park - 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. \$27.00/per
No-Host Cocktail party 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Sit Down Dinner 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.
Entertainment 7:30 to 11:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, 15 OCTOBER

Men's Buffet Breakfast - 7:45 to 8:45 a.m.
Women and Children's Buffet Breakfast - 8:00 to 9:30 a.m.
Kriegies Meeting - 8:45 to 9:30 a.m.
Memorial Service (All) - 9:45 to 10:30 a.m.
Departure - 10:30 a.m.

PRISONERS OF WAR OF '64

San Diego, CA - October 1989

SEA WORLD TOUR

TUESDAY, 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

San Diego welcomes you to one of the premier aquatic parks in the world. This 100-acre facility contains many exhibits where a variety of marine life can be observed. You can even pet and feed a dolphin or a baby whale. There will be time to take in the marvelous exhibits and a number of shows which are offered daily: Shamu the Killer Whale; Sea World's salute to urban America, City Streets, with dancers, singers, free-style skateboarders, magic and more; New Friends, a new multi-species presentations with whales and dolphins; the Seal and Otter Show, featuring the Pirate King; Japanese Pearl Divers; and much, much more!

BEST OF SAN DIEGO CITY TOUR

WEDNESDAY, 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Begin your tour where the West began - historic Cabrillo Monument at the end of Point Loma. Explore the restored lighthouse and enjoy the sweeping view of the city and bay. Then enjoy a historical tour through Old Town with its lovely adobe homes and romantic courtyards. Visit the Bazaar del Mundo where shopping is varied and exciting. Then on to beautiful Balboa Park for a drive through the Prado. Here you'll see the classic buildings created for the California-Panama Exposition of 1915 - beautiful gardens, reflecting ponds and the Organ Pavilion.

TIJUANA SHOPPING AND LUNCH

WEDNESDAY, 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Enjoy a trip into colorful Old Mexico and take back some real bargains. You'll visit the international free port shops where you'll find everything from French perfume, British woolens and Steuben glass to handcrafted baskets, leather works and embroidered dresses. And you'll discover the fantastic prices! Professional CCE guides will accompany you with information, shopping hints and maps. You'll savor a typical Mexican combination plate and delicious margarita at one of the fine restaurants so popular with experienced American connoisseurs.

WILD ANIMAL PARK TOUR

SATURDAY, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

The San Diego Wild Animal Park is an 1,800-acre wildlife preserve where many species of exotic animals may be seen in their native surroundings. Enter the park through African-inspired structures of Nairobi Village where there are special exhibits, food services, gift shops, animal shows performed in the amphitheater, the entrance to Kilimanjaro Hiking Trail and Tropical America, and a jungle biome with animals native to Central and South America. Then hop aboard the Wgasa Bush Line Monorail for a five-mile narrated tour of the Park. After your tour there will be time to explore the many animal enclosures or stroll the many trails or walkways in and around the Nairobi Village.

PRISONERS OF WAR

DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1, 1989

DATE/TIME	EVENT	PRICE	NO. TIX.	TOTAL
Tue., 10/10 12:00pm - 5:00pm	SEA WORLD	\$32.00		
Wed., 10/11 1:00pm - 5:00pm	CITY TOUR	\$13.00		
Wed., 10/11 11:00am - 4:00pm	TIJUANA SHOPPING/LUNCH	\$25.00		
Sat., 10/14 9:00am - 2:00pm	WILD ANIMAL PARK	\$27.00		

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

Name: _____

Phone: () _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

MAIL THIS FORM WITH
CHECK DIRECTLY TO:

California Convention Events, Inc. 619/222-8308
3940 Hancock St., Suite 112, San Diego, CA 92110

If space permits, late reservations may be made at the CCE Hospitality Desk in the Registration area. Tickets will be held for pick-up at the CCE desk. **REFUND POLICY:** Requests for refunds will be honored if received in writing 14 days prior to the event. California Convention Events, Inc., is acting as an independent tour operator and is solely responsible for all aspects of tours herein. Itineraries will be followed as closely as possible; however, are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. CCE reserves the right to cancel any tour that has not met the minimum number of participants required. Complete refund will be made should this occur.