



Old Salts & Assorted Spies Newsletter, 3rd Quarter 2024

President's Message: Words from Michael Barnes

Since I got my first newsletter from Ronda McCauley in 2011, while I was in Baghdad, I realized that OS&AS was a great organization that provided unique opportunities to communicate and share with our fellow retired intel professionals. Now, as we look at just another great (cruise) reunion, I am more gratified than ever to have the opportunity to provide leadership support for the effort. See the great cruise plans developed by Andy Wallach, and his committee, in this newsletter and get signed up for the cruise. Administrative and fiscal details to follow soon.

Key to our organization's success has been the outstanding efforts of Rick Martinez as our long-time Treasurer. For those of you who don't know that much about him, his bio is featured in this newsletter. Thanks much Rick! BZ!

Finally, in regards to Baghdad, and of some intel interest, my recent research indicates that 2 of the many Iraqi agencies that I served as a "Senior Police Advisor" are still in operation in the Iraqi Ministry of Interior: : Federal investigations and Intelligence Agency" and the "Federal Police". They are reportedly still working to combat terrorism!. Amazing that they have survived the turmoil and good to know.

SEE THE CRUISE NEWS INSIDE AND GET YOUR CABIN RESERVED.

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OS&AS ASSOCIATION - OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT

Michael Barnes
C 817-320-0262
MAB172@AOL.COM

SECRETARY

Pam Harlin
C 850-206-4582
Pharlin@att.net

NEWSLETTER Editor

Robin Barnes
C 817-455-3416
osasnewsletter@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Anna Mae Clark
C 571-212-7484
amcxeno@gmail.com

TREASURER

Richard P. Martinez
H 218-802-3740
rmartx@outlook.com

WEB SITE Editor

Gary S. Powers
C 540-314-0976
gspowers.usn@gmail.com

Editor's Corner:

I am enjoying the work on each newsletter. The articles submitted have been great.

Keeping sending them in to osasnewsletter@gmail.com. I plan to issue 4 newsletters per year.

Robin Barnes

Chairman’s Message:Greetings from Bill Craig

I don’t know about the weather where you are but we are suffering through the dog days of August in South Texas with daily high temperatures regularly exceeding 100 degrees. My dreams of better weather are encouraged by emails from our shipmate Andy Wallach suggesting a sea cruise. During the business meeting at the Annapolis reunion, we decided to explore the possibility of holding our next Old Salts reunion aboard a cruise ship. Andy and his team have come up with a three-day cruise to the Bahamas on Carnival Glory sailing out of Port Canaveral next March. Included in the plans are a tour of the Kennedy Space Center. See Andy’s article elsewhere in this newsletter for more details and save the date on your calendar. No word yet on whether this event will qualify for sea pay.

I recently drove up to Austin to visit Admiral Dickey. He turned 91 in August and he and Fanna Loma have moved to an assisted living facility near their home in Lakeway. As might be expected he is slowing down but we still had a good visit and enjoyed lunch together. He likes to reminisce about time in the NRIP, and I am sure that he would love to hear from his shipmates. His address is:

Gene Dickey
1915 Lohman’s Crossing #316
Lakeway TX 78734



In a more near-term effort to escape the hot weather Laura and I (and our cat Cleo) spent five weeks in July and August on a motorhome road trip to the mountains of north central New Mexico and southwest Colorado. We stayed mostly on back roads away from big cities and enjoyed campgrounds in higher elevations as well as side trips in the Jeep exploring remote forest roads and old mining towns.

Our adventures ranged from 600 ft elevation in San Antonio to over 14,000 ft at the top of Pikes Peak. We experienced temperatures ranging from 45 degrees (Colorado) to 110 degrees (back in Texas).

We did venture into Colorado Springs where we enjoyed an evening of food, libations, and sea stories with OS&AS shipmates Suzanne Brannon and Steve Maffeo at Steve’s son Micah’s VooDoo Brewing Company pub.



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Our one mistake was returning to San Antonio too soon as the summer heat had not yet dissipated. There is hope; the weather forecast promises that the high temperatures next week will only be in the mid-90s! Meanwhile, I am thinking about appropriate attire for a cruise to the Bahamas!



OS&AS Officers, Elected by Board of Directors 4-24-24

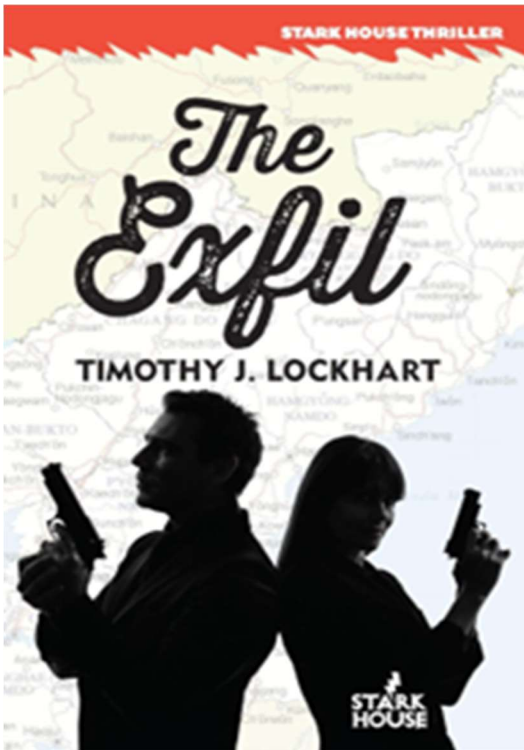
Rick Martinez continues as Treasurer.

Retired as a Captain with 36 years of service (10 enlisted and 26 Officer). Affiliations included Naval Criminal Investigative Service and Defense Intelligence Agency. Most of my officer time was associated with the New Orleans RIA (units and staff).

In civilian life I retired as an internal audit professional having worked for the Government Accountability Office, Texas Eastern Corporation, CenterPoint Energy and Luby's Fuddrucker's. My industry experience included direct reporting to the Finance and Audit Committees of several Boards of Directors. I have a BBA in Financial Management from St. Mary's University and an MBA in Finance from Our Lady of the Lake University. Until recently I was consulting on audits related to restaurant food purchases, franchise royalty compliance, restaurant construction and quality assurance. My professional credentials included Certified Internal Auditor, Certified Fraud Examiner and Project Management Professional.

Bea and I have been married for 47 years and have two daughters and four grandchildren.

The Exfil.....Timothy J. Lockhart, CAPT, USNR, Ret



On June 7, 2024, Stark House Press will publish my sixth novel, THE EXFIL, an international espionage thriller. Available now on Amazon in kindle & paperback formats. Well done Captain!

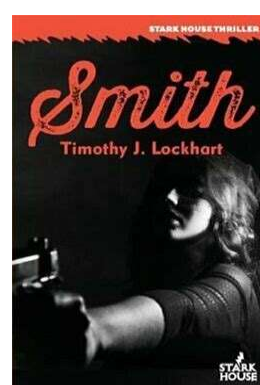
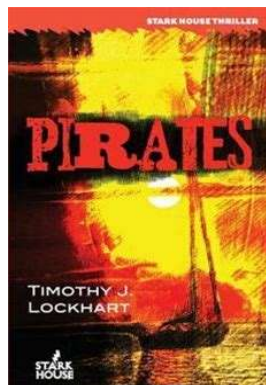
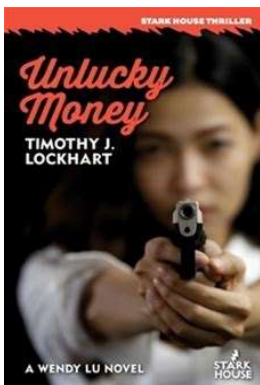
THE EXFIL (excerpt)

When the CIA learns a senior North Korean missile scientist wants to defect, the spy agency hires Hamer, a former Navy SEAL now doing paramilitary jobs, to exfiltrate him. The need for the dangerous mission becomes urgent when the ruthless Colonel Park, aka “The Butcher,” a senior officer in North Korea’s equivalent of the KGB, decides to kidnap the scientist’s daughter in Paris and bring her home to use as leverage against her father.

After a deadly shootout with Colonel Park and his team, Hamer and Mona Jin, a Korean American intelligence analyst, try to convince the CIA’s special ops chief to let them proceed with the exfil. Hamer has his own team, three highly trained SPECOPS experts, but finds himself distracted by his growing feelings for Mona Jin. Meanwhile, at the remote base where Park is holding the scientist, the clock is ticking down on a test to determine whether North Korea’s ICBMs can effectively target the United States.

Hamer and Mona can exfiltrate the scientist and ruin the test—but only if they get there in time and then stay alive. The odds are long and getting longer by the minute

Other Books by Timothy J. Lockhart:



OS & AS – Mar 2025 Cruise Reunion

Andy Wallach & Belton Jennings

Our next reunion will be in Orlando/Cape Canaveral, Florida with a fun, 3-day cruise to Nassau, Bahamas. **If you want to come have fun with us, contact Andy Wallach, wallach@whro.net, 757 408-4497.** The projected schedule is:

Thursday, 6 March 2025

1500: Hospitality Suite Opens. (We plan to use a hotel near Orlando airport with shuttle service for two reasons: Easier access for later arrivals; Cut costs by combining the usual one-hour bus transfer from Orlando to Port Canaveral with a stop off to visit the Kennedy Space Center).

1830: President's Reception, including food and drinks.

Friday, 7 March 2025

0900: Bus (with handicap lift) leaves for Kennedy Space Center.

1000: Tour Kennedy Space Center. Included with admission:

- Gateway™: The Deep Space Launch Complex featuring Spaceport KSC
- Space Shuttle Atlantis® and the Shuttle Launch Experience®
- Kennedy Space Center Bus Tours (KSC buses have handicap lifts)
- Apollo/Saturn V Center
- Heroes and Legends featuring the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame®
- Astronaut Encounter
- Planet Play
- Rocket Garden guided tours
- Journey to Mars
- 3D Space Films
- Character Appearances
- Other scheduled presentations and film

1230: Lunch at Kennedy Space Center.

1400: Bus leaves for Cape Canaveral Cruise Terminal.

1430: Embark the "Carnival Glory"

Saturday, 8 March 2025, 1000-1900: Visit Nassau, capital of The Bahamas.

Sunday, 9 March 2025

0900: Breakfast Business Meeting

1300: "Banquet"

Afternoon/Evening - Fun Day at Sea

Monday, 10 March 2025

0800: Disembark at Port Canaveral

TBD: Transfer to airport (if enough interest, we can arrange group transportation or Carnival can arrange). Suggest flights no earlier than 1300.

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The Carnival Glory carries up to 2,980 guests, relatively small compared to the newer cruise ships. While some of us are used to river cruises with 180 guests or ocean vessels with 900 passengers, these vessels are not available for 3 or 4-day cruises. We picked the Glory because of

its smaller size, availability, and that it operates from a port near major airports. The ship features two pools, a 214-foot water slide, six whirlpools, and a 13,300 square foot spa. In late March 2024, the casino was expanded and redesigned and the cabins were refurbished. The Glory has a "Tribute to Heroes" bar and lounge that supports and honors the military and their families. Should be a good place for some great sea stories. The ship also holds a Military Appreciation Gathering.

Some members have expressed mobility issues. Being handicapped myself, I know your concerns. We will handle your needs. A humorous anecdote: Recently Cynthia and I asked for a handicap hotel room. Outside the door was this button. I thought, perhaps after you unlock with your key card, the button will open the door automatically. Did not work. So, I went into the room. The door shut and Cynthia decided to keep trying the button. Inside the room I was blasted with this extremely loud alarm and flashing lights. She could not hear my screams to stop. Be careful what you ask for. It was a hearing-impaired room, not a wheelchair accessible room.

The infamous Belton Jennings will be the Master of Ceremonies at the reunion gatherings. He is a hoot. Belton entertained the RIA 15 troops in Norfolk before moving down to Florida.

Right now, there is plenty of space available. **If you want to come have fun with us, contact Andy Wallach, wallach@whro.net, 757 408-4497.** Please respond soon so we can firm up plans. The benefits (freebies) that a hotel and Carnival provide depends on the number of rooms/cabins we can guarantee.

Old Salts & Assorted Spies 2022-2024 Treasurer's Report As of June 30, 2024		
2022 Financial Activity		
Beginning Balance 1-1-2022		\$12,860.37
Donations	\$3,363.00	
Ship Store Sales	\$119.57	
2022 Reunion 2 nd Advance	(\$2,100.00)	
2024 Reunion Advance 1	(\$3,000.00)	
Rocky Mtn Honor Flight**	(\$2,500.00)	
2022 Reunion Proceeds	\$4,710.96	
Ending Balance 12-31-2022		\$13,453.90
**\$1,503 cash from the floor		
2023 Financial Activity		
Beginning Balance 1-1-2023		\$13,453.90
Donations	\$1,625.00	
Ship Store Sales	\$16.00	
2024 Reunion Advance 2	(\$1,500.00)	
2024 Reunion Advance 3	(\$2,000.00)	
2024 Reunion Advance 4	(\$900.00)	
Ending Balance 12-31-23		\$10,694.90
2024 Financial Activity		
Beginning Balance 1-1-2024		\$10,694.90
Donations	\$700.00	
Arundel Lodge (Foot Print Donation)	(\$2,000.00)	
Ending Balance 6-30-2024		\$9,394.90
Treasurer's Note: Three years are shown to account for the 2024 Reunion advances. Proceeds from the 2024 Reunion will be included in the Q3 report.		

Old Salts & Assorted Spies 2023-2024 Contributors' Report July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024	
Ann & Edward Gilbride	Laurie Forbes
Anna Mae Clark	Lester & Robbye Alfortish
Bill & Bonnie Anderson	Mack & Linda Cox
Bill & Laura Craig	Michael & Ann Alin
Bill & Jean Mitchell	Michael Halbig
Candace Vessella	Mike & Robin Barnes
Charles Cheney	Mike & Shirley Winkler
Dale & Suzanne Willey	Mikeal Johnston
Daniel Cross	Nick Schaus
Dennis Selig	Norm & Peggy Lussier
Doug & Pamela Newton	Pam Harlin
Drew Jones	Paul & Judy Pappenheim
Gary Powers	Ralph & Nina Ross
George Nelson	Richard & Barbara Williams
George & Susan Snyder	Richard Alexander
Glenn Yeck	Richard Juda
Irvin Christopher	Rick & Bea Martinez
James & Barbara Boyd	Robert Cordova
Jeff & Stephanie Johnson	Robert Dolezal
Jennifer & Rick Shay	Steve Nichols
Jerry & Cynthia Wiens	Thomas Whitaker
Jim Manzelmann	Tim Kathka
John & Catie Geist	Timothy & Janet Manning
Jon Meek	Timothy Riggins
Joseph & Barbara Maggiore	Trevor Hess
Kenneth & Lynn Newton	William & Jean Malicki
Larry Poe	William Hoyle
William Hunt	

Continuing NRIP History Project – input needed.....Anna Mae Clark

History of Naval Reserve Intelligence

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1izrTePVgXPq0uMgsRR5ZCL-d2jRLI_Mvt5L0xTqv8OM/edit?usp=sharing

DRAFT Last worked: May 2024

**Please send corrections / additions to CAPT Anna Mae Clark at amcxeno@gmail.com
(Include page / paragraph numbers)**

Things in Green still need verification

Part One was created by CAPT Dick Zickafooze and CAPT Tucker Coughlen and edited by CAPT Anna Clark and includes material from RADM Colwell to RADM Dickey

Part Two IS A WORK IN PROGRESS....and starts on page 19 with RADM Black. A few tours are still under construction. Included will be information from RADM Poe, RADM Manzelmann, RADM Gilbride, RDML Broadway, RADM Russell, RADM MacDonald, RADM Butler and RADM Price.

Looking for input from 1990 to the present. Requests have been sent to NRIP Leaders as they would be the best to relay the changes and accomplishments under their leadership. If this works, future leaders could each add their information at the conclusion of their tour when it is fresh in their mind. Thus, the History of Naval Reserve Intelligence would be preserved and the project continued.

The planned structure is to show what each tour had to deal with and how the responses kept the Program moving forward. **The goal is to capture personal accounts written in third person narrative. What were the challenges and successes? Who went above and beyond and deserves personal recognition? Who had exceptional expertise? This program has grown because of the blood, sweat, and tears of the Part One personnel, and the expertise they brought with them to the job. It is still growing more and more every year and that's what needs to be captured.**

Would appreciate any help those reading this can provide. Submissions should include dates and page numbers. Send in a Word document or a Google drive document and it will be incorporated.

Link to document: (link not active in .pdf format; type URL into your browser)

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1izrTePVgXPq0uMgsRR5ZCL-d2jRLI_Mvt5L0xTqv8OM/edit?usp=sharing

**Faschini Wallach Center
For Restorative Therapy
Grand Opening.....**

Andy Wallach



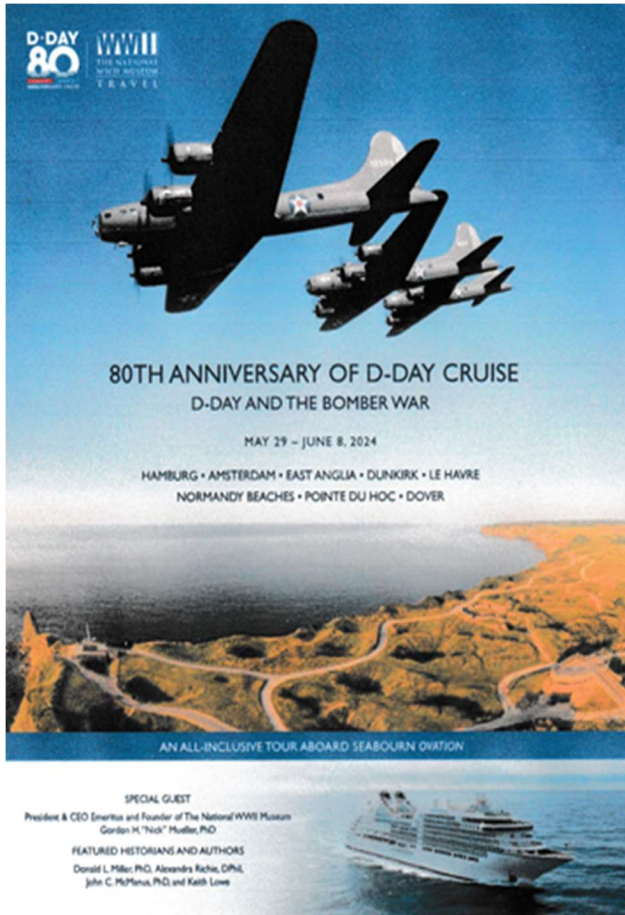
The Faschini Wallach Center for Restorative Therapy at Old Dominion University will have its grand opening on 21 September 2025. The Center is part of the new Health Sciences building. The 11,000 square foot center discovers, evaluates, trains, and implements the latest methods and equipment to restore human functions. As part of Virginia Health Sciences, the Center serves as a resource to therapy centers throughout Virginia. It provides services outside of standard therapy

to include counseling, group therapy, and activities.

The Center includes a large therapy gym, a pediatric treatment area, a community re-integration room, an activities of daily living apartment, 11 treatment rooms and a therapeutic garden. It provides physical, occupational and speech therapy services for children and adults with a wide variety of orthopedic and neurologic conditions. Advanced assessment and rehabilitation services include robotics, body weight support systems, virtual reality, and telehealth. It also provides clinical education for students and supports clinical research that fosters interprofessional collaboration among faculty, clinicians, and students.

Cynthia and I are honored to have this center carry our names. We were in an accident four and a half years ago and have worked diligently to improve my functionality after suffering a spinal cord injury. The therapy center has been instrumental in my regaining some use of my arms and legs. Even though initially paralyzed from the chest down, I can now walk short distances with a walker.

“80th Anniversary D-Day Cruise and the Bomber War”Michael Barnes



On board the “Seabourn Ovation” all-suites luxury cruise ship, May 29-June 8, 2024.

General Observations –

Note that the 80th D-Day Anniversary is one of 2 WW2 Museum tours we took, and this was the most rewarding. The other tour may be covered in another edition.

JUST THE HIGHLIGHTS OF AN INTENSE 10-DAY TOUR

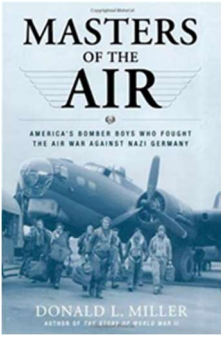
The flight - We flew to Hamburg in “Premium Economy” on board a Scandinavian Airlines, non-stop from San Francisco to Copenhagen, changed planes to Hamburg. Smooth until a stuck jetway delayed plane debarkation, then we had to run across half of Denmark to reach our connecting gate, for immediate boarding!

Hamburg – Arrived day before the boarding of the cruise. Overnight in a local hotel of our choosing, and got on the WW2 Museum shuttle to the ship.

The ship and Museum crew - The entire Seabourn Ovation, all-suites ship was chartered for the WW2 Museum 80th D-Day Cruise. There were approximately 600 passengers (the ship was essentially full). WW2 Museum staff including guides, lecturing scholars, experts, etc. numbered at 30-40 personnel. There were approximately 10 actual sponsored D-Day veterans who were to be honored in appearances on board and at the Normandy D-Day ceremony.



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Featured Author on the Bomber Wars – Donald L. Miller, PhD, author of “Masters of the Air: America’s Bomber Boys Who Fought the Air War Against Nazi Germany” and primary source for Apple TV miniseries of the same name, based on his book . Miller was onboard and a featured presenter.

Boarded Ship - Day 1 May 29th

Once on the ship/tour, the Museum tour and events occupied most of our waking hours, so we did not spend much time enjoying the luxury. The Museum events on board, and the tours, occupied pretty much an entire 10 hr. day, with chow breaks. We got our money’s worth. However, we did enjoy the drinks, which were included, and the food, which was also included universally, and was excellent and abundant at all times. See Link to Seabourne Ovation for an idea what an “ordinary” luxury cruise on Seabourne is all about. <https://www.seabourn.com>



Day 2 At Sea – May 30, theme: “The Buildup”



An intense day of presentations and symposiums. The first highlight was a D-Day veterans panel consisting of 9 D-Day veterans, from every service, including the Merchant Marine. The honored veterans also included one holocaust survivor. One of the veterans was a B-17 crewman who flew out of a base In England, flying missions on D-Day and during the Battle of the Bulge. Amazing stories these people did tell, supported by Museum staff and historical experts. (NOTE: these veterans were featured

in a number of events and presentations too numerous to detail. They were honorably presented as a critical part of thinking about D-Day).

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Other topics in lectures that went on into the night included “The War Up to D-Day”, “Holocaust Survivor Interview”, “The Road to D-Day” (building and training a citizen-soldier army). Throughout, Dr. Miller presented the air/bomber war significance in all presentations. All presentations and events were hosted and managed by the experts from the Museum Staff and other who were selected for their background, experiences, and expertise. Wow, what an amazing first day of historical background and personal histories!!

OVERNIGHT TO AMSTERDAM.

Day 3 – Amsterdam - May 31st



Toured sites related to the Holocaust and the Resistance. Over 100,000 Jews were deported to death camps. There was a significant resistance, and we were able to tour sites where the citizens helped hide and protect Jewish citizens, such as the Amsterdam Zoo. (We did not tour the Resistance Museum or the Holocaust Museum until our later independent tour following the WW2 Museum tour.)

We also learned that there was a significant element of the citizenry that supported the Nazis and betrayed the Jews. A “large” number of Dutch actually joined the Nazi party, and some 22-25,000 thousand actually joined the SS and carried out atrocities across the war zone.

Also, after the German invasion of the Netherlands in May 1940, a civil administration was installed under SS auspices. Arthur Seyss-Inquart was appointed Reich Commissar. He presided over a German administration that included many Austrian-born Nazis. They in turn supervised the Dutch civil service. There was a Seicherdeinst, a Nazi secret intelligence/police organization that operated in collaboration with the Dutch government.

The level of participation of the Dutch in collaboration with the Nazis is not a well-publicized aspect of the war in the Netherlands. Now we know how tough it was for the Jews to survive. OVERALL, A GRIM PICTURE OF LIFE IN THE NETHERLANDS UNDER GERMAN OCCUPATION, WITH SOME DUTCH COLLABORATION.

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Overnight, Day 3 Presentation of “Masters of the Air”. Enroute to England

Onboard presentation by Dr. Donald Miller, author of *Masters of the Air...* Dr. Miller laid the historical foundation for considering the operational impact of the bomber wars in Europe. From the massive industrial effort on the home front, to the massive effort to house and operate the bomber forces in England, Dr. Miller laid out just how complex and huge the effort was.

At first, the British had some resistance to the size of the American bomber forces in their country, complaining that the American airmen were “Overpaid, oversexed and over here”. Over time, the massive effort took its toll on the bomber crews. While sources on casualties vary somewhat, the British Imperial War Museum stats indicate that 55,573 killed out of a total of 125,000 aircrew with a further 8,403 wounded in action and 838 became prisoners of war. This was for all combined bomber command forces. You did not want to be a waist gunner or a tail gunner without making your peace with God. We also saw the movie “Memphis Belle”, about a B-17 crew’s amazing exploits.

Day 4 – Great Yarmouth England. Tours of restored WW2 bomber bases - June 1st.

From 1942–1945, the east of England was the most heavily trafficked air space in the world. Airfields popped up every few miles, creating miniature cities populated with young American flyers and the ground crews that sustained them- dubbed “The Friendly Invasion”. We toured 2 of these honorably restored and operated time pieces, run by British volunteers. Their effort afforded us a realistic glimpse into the life and duties of bomber crews in those times. The preceding lectures by both Dr. Miller, and the D-Day veterans, had really set the stage for these tours.



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During our tours, we were treated to a terrific lunch at a farm near one of the bases, and entertained by the local big band playing WW2 dance music joined by the Museum's trio "The Liberty Belles", singing patriotic and nostalgic songs from the WW2 era. WW2 Museum really does it grand!!!



Day 5 – Great Yarmouth, England for visit to Duxford Imperial War Museum, an important WW2 air war site. June 2nd.



Tour of "Imperial War Museum Duxford" and attend the annual air show. Tremendous static displays of WW2 planes and military equipment, all operational. Also, a fantastic air show featuring fly-bys and parachute drops, all

from WW2 planes. AND, we had excellent accommodations for a deluxe lunch and ongoing refreshments. Further, we were able to tour the American Air Museum, part of the Duxford site, which displayed American Air power from WW2. An amazing, amazing day.



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Onboard, enroute overnight to Dunkirk, we watched “The Bloody Hundredth” a documentary narrated by Tom Hanks, honoring the real-life heroes of the 100th Bomb Group. (We had one veteran of the 100th on board to tell us his stories live!)

Day 6 – Dunkirk – June 3rd. The Evacuation

From May 27 to June 4, 1940, the British Expeditionary Force mounted Operation Dynamo, a dramatic evacuation of Allied soldiers who were trapped by the Nazis near the beaches of Dunkirk. Augmented by air support over the English Channel, hundreds of ships ferried nearly 340,000 British and French soldiers away from Dunkirk to ports in England.

The 2017 film Dunkirk dramatized this rescue with points of view from the beaches, the English Channel, and the cockpit of a Spitfire. On tour, we visited the evacuation beaches, the East Mole, and a few of the film sites. The amazing thing was to actually stand on the huge stark beaches where the troops were constantly under attack, while trying to embark on any type of vessel that could get them off the beach.



Overnight, enroute to Honfleur, France, presentations on American planning and preparation for D-Day, in some detail.

Day 7 – Honfleur, France, June 4th - Tour of Dieppe related to “Operation Jubilee”

We chose this excursion because the alternate tour was to Pegasus Bridge, where the Allies had successfully done an air assault on a critical bridge early in the invasion. Operation Jubilee was a planned attack on Dieppe in early 1942, as a sort of test of allied forces capability to attack from a landing beach in Europe.

In the end, the raid on Dieppe was a disaster. Over half of the force was killed, wounded, or captured. Of the 50 American rangers involved, 3 were killed, 3 captured, and 5 wounded. These were heavy losses considering that only 15 of the rangers actually landed on the beaches. The raid was not intended as a practice run for the landings in Normandy, nor did it provide any new techniques or problems to overcome that guaranteed the success of Overlord.

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The problems faced at Dieppe were well known before the raid, and planners would have worked out such problems over the course of planning for Normandy. Unfortunately, Dieppe was launched more out of a desire for action rather than as a dress rehearsal for further development of tactics. For American forces, Dieppe marked the beginning of US involvement in ground combat in Europe and the first painful losses of a war that was just starting to heat up.

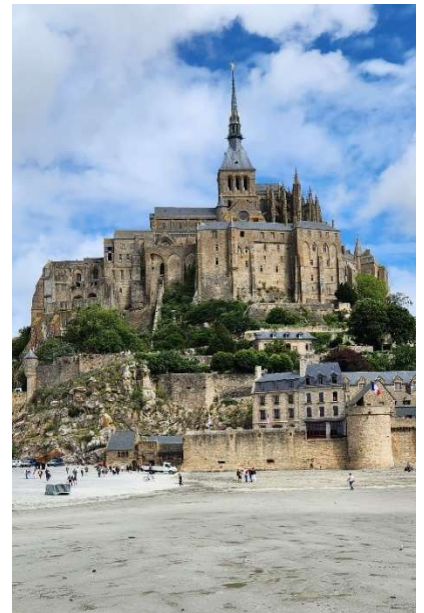
Onboard, presentations on D-Day topics, including a history of the development of Boeing as a major industry partner in WW2 aviation.

Day 8 – Cherbourg, France – June 5th. Cultural tour of Mont Saint Michel.



We had previously toured the D-Day invasion site of “Point du Hoc” and studied related sites and WW2 historical data. So, we elected to take a cultural tour to Mont Saint Michel. A very interesting cultural site.

The 11th century Abbey of Mont-Saint-Michel Became a renowned center of learning, attracting some the greatest minds and manuscript illuminators in Europe. Vast numbers of pilgrims visited, despite endless cross-Channel conflict; in fact, the ramparts at the base of the island were built to keep the English forces out. At times, the island is surrounded by tidal waters. The Mont Saint-Michel is a real French commune, with a mayor, a priest, a postman, municipal policemen, and even waste services. In total, there are around twenty Montois residents, plus a small community of cats! It is an imposing structure, at times surrounded by tidal waters. I climbed to the top of this monster, and survived to join Robin at the base town for a nice lunch. Whew, what a climb and what a view!



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Day 9 – Normandy – June 6th, D-Day Memorial Celebration – THE BIG DAY



The entire WW2 contingent was bussed from the ship to the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial for the 80th Anniversary memorial to D-Day. There were as many as 12,000 people in attendance, including President Biden and French President Macron, Secretary of Defense Loyd J. Austin III. Chaplain (COL) Karen Meeker, U.S. Army, opened the commemoration, and introduced Charles K. Djou, American Battle Monuments Commission.

U.S. President Biden, French President Macron, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, Britain’s King Charles, President Zelensky of Ukraine, and many other political figures took part in the memorial at the American Cemetery at Omaha Beach.



Biden and French President Emmanuel Macron honored nearly a dozen D-Day survivors and other World War II veterans on a stage set before an enormous crowd. The crowd on stage included service members, U.S. officials, members of Congress and Hollywood’s Tom Hanks and Steven Spielberg, who dramatized searing World War II scenes on film.

Caretakers and active-duty military members helped the veterans stand before Macron as he pinned France’s Légion d’Honneur, its highest military honor, on their shoulders. Biden shook each veteran’s hand upon receiving the medal. All the veterans who were onboard our cruise were honored. There was much stirring patriotic music and speeches, and there was an overflight of many WW2 aircraft and American fighters in the “missing man formation”.



Continued on Page 18

It is reported that only 1% of those who participated in D-Day are still living. There is some concern about the availability of veterans for the next major memorial scheduled for 2029 (the 85th memorial) There is a ceremony at Normandy every year, but the major celebration has been done every 5 years.

Day 10 – Tour of the “Contentin’ where the 101st Airborne led the invasion

The capture of Cherbourg was a primary objective for the Americans who landed at Utah Beach and for the paratroopers who seized the bridges, causeways, and crossroads. In towns and villages such as Sainte-Mère-Église, Sainte-Marie-du-Mont, La Fièvre, Amfreville, and Picauville, heroic actions paved the way for the eventual capture of Cherbourg. The first Americans to enter the port city found the docks in disarray. Engineers arrived shortly after the front-line soldiers, and repairs put the port into operation by August 1944.



An AMAZING story of a small chapel in the invasion zone where the Germans allowed the invading troops to establish an aid station, and where the Americans in turn cared for some German wounded.



OVERNITE to Dover England and Day 11 Disembark a fabulous journey!

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MAILING ADDRESS AND INFORMATION FORM

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CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

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**I would like to donate \$ _____ to the Operating Fund for the Association of Old Salts & Assorted Spies.
A yearly donation of \$25.00 is suggested for the Operating Fund. Any amount is appreciated!**

**Make checks payable to OS&AS and mail to: Richard P. Martinez, Treasurer
248 Palomino Court
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