

July 8, 1986

Dear Bill,

I wanted to drop you a few lines. I have the time as I am on vacation this week. I am still doing my gig with the historical aviation programs. In April I had my 36th program since January of 1982!! I am still being very well received and will continue as long as there is interest. My most ambitious project probably is that on Sunday October 5th I plan on paying homage to the black fighter pilots who flew with the 15th Air Force. I have located a 90 minute film about them and there are a few of those birds around the city of Cleveland. I have written to the film company but haven't had an answer yet.

I have been seeing lots about WWII Air Wars on television cable here and I have recorded to date two full tapes of 12 hours about various subjects. But the biggest surprise of all was that last week I was casually examining the cable tv guide and I see listed a TRIBUTE TO THE B-17. It was on one of the PBS stations and they mentioned Youngstown PBS in the opening. Anyhow, it was pretty well done by an outfit called Azura Productions. Tom Manry of the Dallas Cowboys was interviewed because he was a co-pilot with the 390th Bomb Group (or maybe 393rd?). Anyhow, a pilot from the 306th by the name of James H. Butler from Shreveport, Louisiana was also interviewed. I sure wish I could find a 16mm film of that. Everybody is going to videocassettes now and you just can't show that to a crowd of 100 people.

I hope all goes well with you and your wife. I hope that the reunion comes off real good also. You might mention in your bulletin that the 1987 reunion of the Eight Air Force Historical Society will be held in Pittsburgh. That should bring in lots of the good old Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia guys.

Best regards,

Frank D. Furiga

P.S. CHECK MILITARY HISTORY
MAG. AUGUST ISSUE. GREAT
ARTICLE FORTS OVER GERMANY