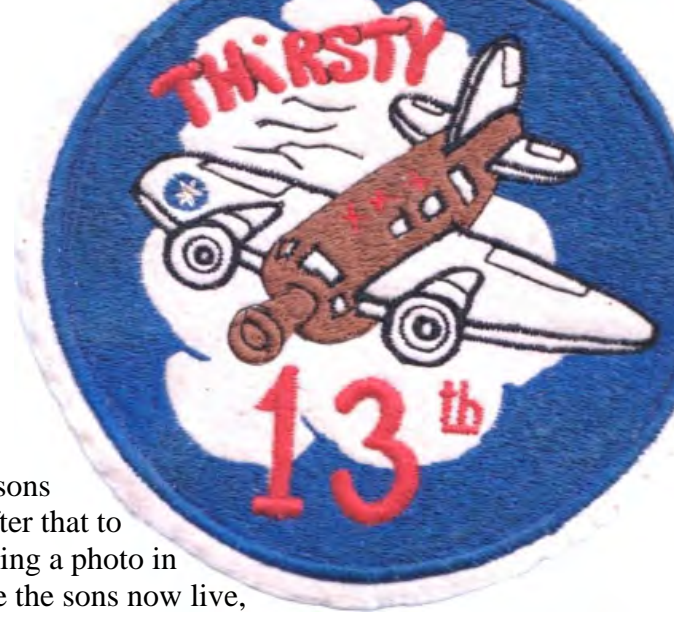


March 2022 Newsletter



Dear Thirsty 13th members, relatives, and friends,

In the newsletter January 31, 2022, I noted I found two sons of our radio operator Irving Abramowitz. It was exciting after that to correspond with them and find items about their dad, including a photo in our camp at Biak. Their dad moved to Israel in 1973, where the sons now live, so it was great to also extend the Thirsty 13th story to a new country and new part of the world.

I also noted in the January newsletter that I found the step-grandson of Irwin Cohen, and that he had a box of Irwin's WWII items. I decided to go right away to try and see these and flew from Dallas to New York February 4. I added visits to relatives of Evans and Lach who shared items in 2016-17, and to Gornbein, all just to say hi, and to the granddaughter of Mullin, who had made a scrapbook, and was delighted to find more Thirsty 13th photos and stories.

With best wishes,

Seth P. Washburne, Squadron Historian
March 1, 2022

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This is the newsletter for the U.S. Army Air Corps 13th Troop Carrier Squadron, 1940-1946, nicknamed “The Thirsty 13th.” This is prepared by Seth P. Washburne, the son of John C. Washburne, navigator 11/42-7/43. Please direct any comments to him at: (212) 289-1506, sethpw1@gmail.com, or 5200 Meadowcreek Drive, Apt. 2060, Dallas, TX 75248.

Page numbers referred to are in the book “The Thirsty 13th” unless otherwise stated.

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To enlarge the PDF to fill the width of your screen, press the CTRL key and “+” at the same time.

Please click the hand symbol to make it easier to scroll down.



Morin?, Lach, McAllister, Mullin, ?, Kelley

1. Additional History

a. 1942-1944: Scrapbook about James M. Mullin, Aircraft Mechanic, 2/42-9/23/44

The photos above are from our second US camp, Drew Field, now Tampa Airport, between 2/42 when Mullin joined and 5/25/42 when we moved. It is the same six in each photo, at least four from Massachusetts. The barracks sign still calls us the 13th Transport Squadron.

Mullin's dates of overseas service, below, show he went over with the mechanics who flew separately to New Caledonia, October 13-18, 1942.

13 Oct 42	New Caledonia	18 Oct 42
-----------	---------------	-----------

Mullin was a mechanic on Lady Eve, and had the photo at right, at Plaine des Gaiac, of radio operator Roy Foster. This is estimated to be from the base of the pink arrow, inset, to where the crew chief moved it before the pilots arrived. The C-47 with the white tail stripe is Billie, Black Cat 13, the Lana T, or Risky.



He had the photo below of Henderson Field on Guadalcanal, looking north on the east end, where inset, titled "Damaged planes and bomb holes after Jap Naval bombardment." He would have landed here after 10/19/42, so perhaps this was the bombardment 10/22/42. I thought planes were on NW and SW sides of Henderson. It is interesting to see planes here, too, and see what this area looked like.

Bottom right he titled "Behind Jap lines, Guadalcanal, 1942," perhaps on a drop mission inland, or on a long final to Henderson.



DAMAGED PLANE + BOMB
HOLES AFTER JAP NAVAL
BOMBARDMENT
GUADALCANAL - 1942

BEHIND JAP LINES
GUADALCANAL
1942



Mullin (per granddaughter, Bethany, a story in her scrapbook): "One day [Mullin] and his crew were flying above the Solomon Islands when their fuel tank ran out of gas. They switched to their backup tank, but the backup tank would not work. [Mullin] and another mechanic began pumping the second tank to get it to work. Just as they were starting to descend into a crash landing, the backup fuel tank started working."

The book on page 332 describes ceremonies at Tontouta Air Base, New Caledonia, to award the Air Medal to 76 of our air crew members. These were presented by General Rush B. Lincoln, Commanding General of the 1st Island Command.

At right, Mullin is pinned with the Air Medal on August 2, 1943. A photo of Merriott, inset above, shows a wing and the nose of an A-20 behind them. The vertical lines are folds in the photo.

After the ceremony, photos were taken of men grouped with others from the same state to send to local newspapers. Mullin (Brookline, Mass.), Lach (Willimansett), and Kelley (Monponsett), posed, below, with Gen. Lincoln, and in reverse order with our C-47 "Bastard," titled "My tent mates."

The book on page 355 has a photo of men from Ohio with Gen Lincoln, and I wrote they may have been away during the ceremony. The word "Mass." on the back of Mullin's at left revealed these were by state after the ceremony. The location of the photo below left is still not determined.



Mass.
Lach
Gen Lincoln
Sgts 1 Lin
Kelley



NEW CALEDONIA
1943
MY TENT MATES





b. 1942-1945: Additional Items from Henry Lach, Aircraft Mechanic, 2/42-1/16/45

The son of Lach (pronounced like “latch”) shared scans of his dad’s items in May 2016. I visited him February 11, and found additional helpful items, four shared here.

Above left, at our third US camp, Pope Field, NC, in the tent city, is McAllister. Lach had a photo of Mullin by this, tent, too, so the three of them, all from Massachusetts, were tentmates.

Above right, on the parade ground at our second main overseas camp, Espiritu Santo, is a master sergeant (based on his stripes), estimated to be Ando, sitting in a small tree. It provides another view of the supply building in this camp, with its parachute drying tower.

Below left, also at Espiritu Santo, on Squadron Street, estimated as tentmates, are Mazzone (from Malden, Mass.), Lach, Lawyer (from Ohio), and Mullin. (Their uniforms would be khaki.)

Forty years after the ~12/43 photo below, estimated in 12/83, Lawyer sent the Season’s Greetings note below right to “Hank” Lach. He wrote: “As you can see, I’m still writing (or trying) poetry [he attached a poem he wrote]. I attended my first 13th reunion in Columbus this year. Had a nice time, but did miss the likes of you, Kelley, and Mullin.”



Dear Hank: ★
As you can see I'm still writing (or trying) poetry.
I attended my first 13th reunion in Columbus this year. Had a nice time but did miss the likes of you Kelley and Mullin.
Helen joins me in extending warm Season Greetings to you and Lana.
BHL

REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE
This is to certify that in accordance with the Selective Service Proclamation of the President of the United States

Form approved Budget Bureau No. 53-2013-42

Irwin Cohen
(First name) (Middle name) (Last name)

2309 HOLLAND AVE. K.S. N.Y.
(Place of residence)

(This will be identical with line 2 of the Registration Card)

has been duly registered this 10th day of FEBRUARY, 1943
(Signature of registrar)

Registrar for Local Board 102 B.S. N.Y.
(Number) (City or county) (State)

THE LAW REQUIRES YOU TO HAVE THIS CARD IN YOUR PERSONAL POSSESSION AT ALL TIMES

D. S. S. Form 2
(Revised 6/9/41) 16-21631-1

DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT

RACE	HEIGHT (Approx.)	WEIGHT (Approx.)	COMPLEXION	
White	6'4 1/2"	145	Blue	Blonde
			Gray	Red
Negro			Hazel	Brown
			Brown	Black
Oriental			Black	Gray
				Bald
Indian				
Filipino				

Other obvious physical characteristics that will aid in identification _____

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-21631

c. 1944-1945: Items from Irwin Cohen, Aircraft Mechanic, 7/10/44-9/22/45

Cohen had the Registration Certificate above (front and back) which states:

“This is to certify that, in accordance with the Selective Service Proclamation of the President of the United States, Irwin Cohen has been duly registered this 10th day of February 1943. “The law requires you to have this card in your personal possession at all times.”

He was born 2/16/25, and so registered at 17. He was called to duty on 4/15/43, at 18 and 2 mos.

He had an Application for Family Allowances, below, dated 6/23/43, at the 1182nd Training Group in Greensboro, NC. Wikipedia says it opened in November 1941, and was Army Air Forces Basic Training Center No. 10, which was the official name of boot camp.

WAR DEPARTMENT
APPLICATION FOR FAMILY ALLOWANCES
(Servicemen's Dependents Allowance Act of 1942)

Do not write in this space
APPLICATION NUMBER
 X-

Date June 23, 1943

I. (a) Soldier Cohen Irwin (NMN) 32889985 Private
(Last name) (First name) (Middle name) (Army serial number) (Present Army grade (private, corporal, sergeant, etc.))

1182nd Training Group, BTC #10, Greensboro, N. C. Single White
(Soldier's Army mailing address) (Single, married, divorced) (Race)

The Army Air Force had their own Basic Training Centers (boot camps) apart from those for the Army. Wikipedia states the first was at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., opening 2/21/41. In Fall '41 two were added at Kessler Field, Miss., and Sheppard Field, Tex., which already had airplane mechanic schools. By Spring 1943, the Army Air Force added Atlantic City, Greensboro, St. Petersburg, Miami Beach and five others. AAF boot camp was 6 weeks with a curriculum of:

- Military general orders, military conduct, close and open order drill.
- Familiarization with standard weapons, assembly, cleaning and use.
- Rifle range qualification on the .30-caliber [M1] carbine rifle.
- Physical training with obstacle course.
- Gas mask training and procedures.
- One week of field training.

After boot camp, Cohen was sent to Airplane Mechanics School in Gulfport, Miss., 13 miles west of Biloxi. He had the Certificate of Proficiency at right, dated 12/4/43, listing twelve areas of study, for 672 hours, with a score of 82.5, categorized as “Very Satisfactory.”

On 12/15/43, he was relieved from attached to the 490th Tech School Sq. and ordered to Baer Field, Fort Wayne, 12/29/43, after a 10-day leave. He was assigned to the I Troop Carrier Command 307th TCS, a training unit.

TSOP Form No. 86

TECHNICAL SCHOOL
ARMY AIR FORCES TECHNICAL TRAINING COMMAND
GULFPORT FIELD, MISS.

CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY
 Date 12/4/43

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT:

Cohen Irwin NMN
(Surname) (Christian) (Middle)

32889985 PFC 1C11
(Serial No.) (Rank) (Org. or Arm)

WAS GRADUATED FROM THE
AIRPLANE MECHANICS COURSE
 ON 12/4/43

SUBJECTS COVERED	HOURS	GRADES	
Airc. Maintenance Fundamentals	48	84	Subjects covered and grades made are as listed.
Airplane Structures	72	81	
Airplane Hydraulic Systems	60	80	
Aircraft Engines	54	89	
Aircraft Fuel Systems	36	87	
Aircraft Electrical Systems	66	77	
Aircraft Instruments	42	85	
Aircraft Propellers	42	76	
Aircraft Engine Operation	60	85	
Aircraft Inspection I	72	85	
Aircraft Inspection II			
Airc. Inspection III & IV	96	85	
Total Hours and Final Grade	672	82.5	

For the DIRECTOR OF TRAINING:

Raymond H. Williams
 G. S. STUBBS
 Captain, Air Corps
 Secretary, Tech. Sch.

STOCK LOCATION	ITEM	QUANTITY		UNIT	PART NO.	NAME	UNIT COST	TOTAL COST
		ORDERED	CHANGED TO					
	1	1		Ea	8300-022000	Bag A ssy Type B-4		
	2	1		Ea	8300-027000	Bag Assy Type A-3		
	3	1		Pr	8300-298650	Gloves Flying Winter Type A-10 9 1/2		
	4	1		Ea	8300-439050	Helmet Flying Winter Type B-9 X Large		
	5	1		Ea	8300-492705	Jacket Flying Winter J-4 Sz. 38		
	6	1		Ea	8300-792000	Suit Flying Wummer Size 34		
	7	1		Ea	8300-879505	Trousers Flying Winter T-5 Size 38R		

On 1/4/43, at Lawson Field, Fort Benning, Ga., Cohen received the articles above. By 1/27/44 he was at the Army Air Field, Grenada, Miss., and had the pass at right.

On 2/11/44, still at Grenada in the 307th TCS under the 10th TCG, he was promoted temporarily to corporal. On 4/4/44, still under the 10th TCG, but now at Alliance, Neb., he was promoted to Sergeant. Also there and promoted were our mechanics Joseph Edelstein and Homer Swatzell.

An order 4/11/44 at Alliance, required Cohen, Edelstein, and Swatzell, as members of combat crews, to participate in regular and frequent aerial flights:

3. UP AR 35-1480 and AAF Reg 35-29, fol-named EM, Hq, 10th Tr Carr Gp, members of combat crews, are hereby required to participate in regular and frequent aerial flts, off this date, to continue in force until reld therefrom by competent auth:

An order 4/15/44 authorized the three mechanics to wear the Air Crew Member Aviation Badge, the official name for the wings of the enlisted air crew.

AAF Regulation 35-30, dated 11 following named RTU Enlisted Per-Air Crew Member Aviation Badge:

On 6/5/44, Cohen's Individual Issue Record was updated, at right, when he was about to go overseas.

Cohen and Edelstein together were assigned and joined the 13th TCS at Espiritu Santo 7/10/44. At Biak, on 1/29/45, he had a Motor Vehicle Operator's Permit.

He had signatures on short snorters, below, from mechanics Clouse and Vento and radio operators Lenard Davis and McDonough, all four who joined 12/7/44, five months after Cohen, and Oliva, his friends or tentmates.

PASS 27 Jan. 1944

ARMY AIR FIELD
GRENADA, MISS.

Name Cohen, Irwin NMI Grd. Pfc.
Signature Irwin Cohen 32889983 A.S.N.
Organization 307th Troop Car. Scdn.

Francis R. Thompson
MAJOR A.C. COMMANDING OFFICER.

TYPE, PART, OR STOCK No.	QUANTITY	DATE ISSUED
Bag, assy, flyers, type B-4	1	1944
Bag, flyers, kit type A-3	1	
Cylinder, 662	2	JUN 5
Gloves, flying, winter all (w/wool insert)	1	
Gloves, flying, summer B-3	1	
Goggles, assy, flying B-8	1	

Helmet, flying, summer type ANH-15	1	
Helmet, flying, inter, A-11	1	
Insert, glove, rayon	1	
Jacket, flying type A-2	1	
Jacket, flying, inter B10	1	
Kit, emergency, parachute	1	13A6
Mask, oxygen A-8-B	1	
Mask, oxygen, XXXXXX A-14	1	
Parachute, comp, seat type	1	13A7
Shoes, flying, winter A-6	1	

James Nelson Clouse.



near to the P.X. My friend Lily Du the daughter of a Chinese and her family are living in your club before. There are so many houses besides the street

Cohen had a 403rd Troop Carrier Group memo 4/11/45, that he could keep the Japanese Good Luck Flag at right. This was a traditional gift before induction or deployment. The four letters on the top are on many of these and mean "May the good luck last forever." The fifth means "this gift is given to." The bottom right five are "Mitsuyoshi Takeda."



Cohen moved to Dulag 9/4/45. On 9/23/45, when the original 13th TCS was being disbanded, he was transferred to the 63rd TCS nearby, which on 11/1/45 was renamed the 13th TCS. He departed from the Philippines to the US on 12/6/45, and so was in Dulag until around 11/23/45, for 2 months.

Some men enjoyed the friendliness of the Filipinos. One woman wrote Cohen on 3/2/46, and he sent her a card 7/2/46. She wrote him again 8/10/46, and he saved this. Her return address at right was Elem. School Barrio Cobato-an, Dulag Leyte, P.I. This is now next to our camp as shown far right. Excerpts she wrote (and shown above) are:

*Elem. School
Barrio Cobato-an
Dulag Leyte
P. I.
Aug 10/46*



"Cohen, I know that you are happy to be home again, with your parents, and to enjoy the walks in the moonlight with the one dearest to the heart who is by your side to comfort you and make you happy. You are more happier to be the boss of your own destiny.

"I and my sister, Lucky, often go to the dances, but in the midst of our happiness we remember you and Fred [Oliva], and the past memories and our friends. I know that the states is wide enough to roam around and an ever-blooming paradise where to be in the midst of those happiness they forgot us. [Cohen's only photo of himself was postwar, at right.]

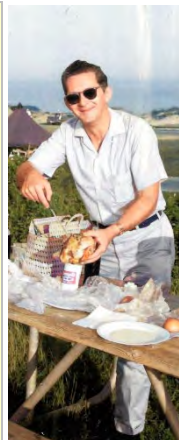
"Cohen, our house is just in-front of the club of the 13th before and very near to the P.X.

"My friend, Lily Du, the daughter of a Chinese and her family, are living in your club.

"Cohen, I'm proud to tell you that I'm in school now. We began our class before the Independence day. I am in the Grade V (5), but before the war I was in that grade, and now I go back to that grade again. Lucky was the valedictorian in the sixth grade. And now she is in the first year, in the high school in Tacloban.

"Your friend who is struggling or striving hard for her studies, Dening.

"P.S. This only my advice to you. Remember dear, clouds may vanish, rainbows may disappear, but our true friendship will never disappear."



*Your friend who is struggling or striving hard for her studies
Dening*

He had the Notice of Classification, below (front and back), dated 3/15/46, from the Armed Forces, that he was Class "1C Disc," meaning honorably discharged. Similar to the card in 1943, this states "The law requires you to have this notice, in addition to your Registration Certificate, in your personal possession at all times—to exhibit it upon request to authorized officials."

NOTICE OF CLASSIFICATION App. not Req.

Isidor (First name) *Cohen* (Middle name) *Cohen* (Last name)

Order No. *13154* has been classified in Class *1C-Disc*

(Until _____, 19____)
(Insert date for Class II-A and II-B only)

by Local Board.
 Board of Appeal (by vote of _____ to _____).
 President.

3-15-46 19 **ISIDOR POPIK-CHAIRMAN**
(Date of mailing) (Member of local board)

The law requires you, subject to heavy penalty for violation, to have this notice, in addition to your Registration Certificate (Form 2), in your personal possession at all times—to exhibit it upon request to authorized officials—to surrender it, upon entering the armed forces, to your commanding officer. DSS Form 57. (Rev. 12-10-43.)

Selective Service

Local Board No. 103 23
Bronx County 005

MAR 15 1946 103

2191 Bolton Street
Bronx, 60, New York

(LOCAL BOARD DATE STAMP WITH CODE)

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

2D LT	(1051)	WALTER K BRIDGES, JR	0 769 381	(MCO 00:999)	P
2D LT	(1051)	RONALD V BEGG	0 777 558	(MCO 05:801)	CP
Pvt	(2750)	Vibraschl Averson	12 220 507	(MCO 480)	CC
Cpl	(2756)	Irving Abramowitz	12 120 023	(MCO 373)	RO



d. 1944-1945: Irving Abramowitz, Radio Operator, 12/7/44-6/10/45

Abramowitz went to radio school at Sioux Falls. His airborne training was in Sedalia, Mo., then Bergstrom Field, in Austin, Tex. He is pictured above at Bergstrom with pilots Begg and Bridges. They sailed on the USS *Admiralty Islands* to New Guinea 11/2/44.

Abramowitz per his son: “He first tried out for pilot training. He did not make pilot but remained aircrew as a radioman.

“Our father was raised in the Lower East Side of Manhattan and later in Brooklyn, in a traditional Jewish home. He was a regular guy, but also an observant Jew who ‘knew his stuff.’

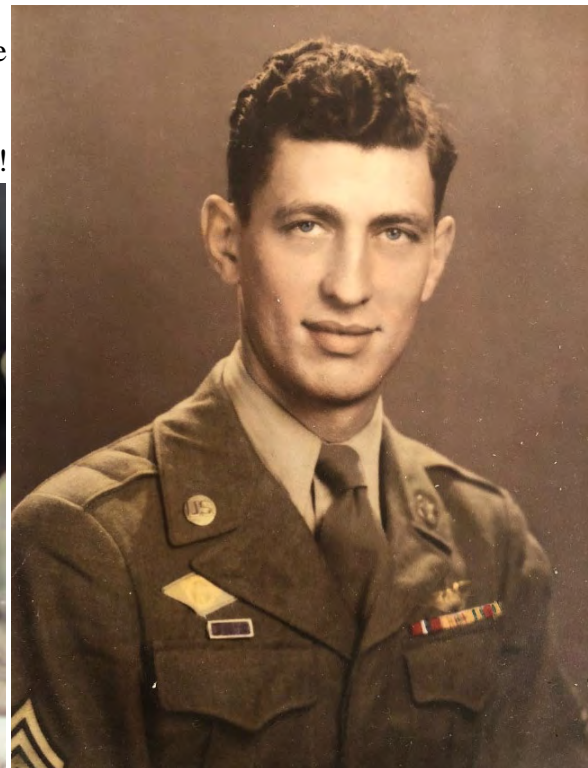
“He had a lovely voice and led services on Passover and holidays wherever he was stationed. While overseas, he would swap canned beef for vegetables with his buddies to keep Kosher.

“He could still tap out a Morse code in his eighties, to the delight of his grandchildren.”



Abramowitz flew 7 multi-day missions with us 2/23 to 5/25, all to the Philippines, including Leyte, Palawan, and Mindoro. It seems he was the back-up radio operator on one of our C-47s. He was photographed at right for the photos of air crew members in “*Two Years c/o Postmaster*” as described on the book’s p. 544. On 6/10/45, he transferred to flying missions for the 13th AF HQ.

He is pictured below on Biak at the officers’ mess of one of the General Hospitals on the island used for religious services. At right, he wears the Distinguished Unit Citation he helped us earn. Thank you, Irving, for all you did as a member of The Thirsty 13th!



Libraries with the Book "The Thirsty 13th"

#	Name	City	St	Zip
1	Library of Congress	Washington	DC	20540
2	Smithsonian Institution Libraries	Washington	DC	20560
3	USAF Maxwell AFB, Air University Library	Maxwell AFB	AL	36112
4	Fort Bragg, John L.Throckmorton Library	Ft Bragg	NC	28310
5	USAF Scott AFB Library, FL 4407	Scott AFB	IL	62225
6	USAF Little Rock AFB, Library 4460	Little Rock	AR	72099
7	USAF McConnell AFB, Library F14621	McConnell AFB	KS	67221
8	USAF Academy, McDermott Library	USAF Academy	CO	80840
9	US Army War College	Carlisle	PA	17013
1	St. Joseph's College, Callahan Library	Patchogue	NY	11772
2	Rochester Public Library	Rochester	NY	14604
3	Marshall County Public Library	Benton	KY	42025
4	Saint Paul Public Library	Saint Paul	MN	55119
5	Hennepin County Library	Minnetonka	MN	55305
6	Saint Louis Public Library	St. Louis	MO	63103
7	University of Texas at Dallas, Eugene Mc	Richardson	TX	75080
8	Bayerische Staatsbibliothek	Munchen		Germany

2. Members and Relatives

a. Library Dedication Page

On February 2, I received a reply to the newsletter from the niece, Terry, of Marion B. Ferguson. She wrote she had greatly enjoyed the Thirsty 13th book about her uncle, but recently donated it to the Volusia County Library in DeLand, Florida, its Genealogy Room, as a reference book. She wrote she is President of the Genealogy Club there and volunteers for the Genealogy Room.

I sent her the dedication page above right, to be printed out, and glued in the front on the endpiece, and she replied she would be sure it was added. If any of you wish such a dedication, please let me know and I can email you the template.

There is a website worldcat.org which lists all the books in libraries around the world. If one types "The Thirsty 13th," one can see the 17 libraries which have it, and these are above left. The first two are in Washington, and the next 7 are on Air Force bases or with the Army. There are only 7 books at public libraries. If any of you are thinking about the next home for your book, please consider a public library. Please be sure they will add it to their shelves, because many donated books do not make it into the card catalog. There are also many members for whom no relative has ever seen the book, and if you want to send one to one of them, please let me know.

b. Five Thirsty 13th Visits – to Gornbein, Evans, Cohen, Mullin, and Lach

In the last newsletter, I wrote that on January 21 I spoke with the step-grandson, Doug, of Irwin Cohen, and he had a box of Irwin's WWII items. On February 4, I flew to Newark, and rented a car. On Saturday, Feb 5, I had a beautiful drive to Katonah, NY, as shown below.



To David-

Feb 5, 2022

I wrote this for you and all your dad's descendants, so you may learn and know where he served in World War II, on Biak, in the near tent section on page 516, and as an Airplane Mechanic at Mokmer Airfield on page 586. He flew missions throughout the Philippines especially for the Southern Philippines Campaign on p. 633.

Long live the memory of Joseph Gornbein and

The Thirsty 13th!

Scott P. Washburn



On February 1, the son, Alfred, of Aircraft Mechanic, **Joseph Gornbein**, emailed me a thank-you for the Jan 31 letter. I replied and let him know I would be in the NY area in 5 days, and would enjoy meeting his brother, David, who lived near Katonah, and cc'd David. David replied that he hoped this would work out, and that he appreciated all of my work.

When I got to Katonah February 5 around 10 a.m., I called Cohen's grandson (I had not confirmed with him in 7 days), and he had gone out, and suggested I stop by in the afternoon. I asked David if I could drive to him, in Westport, Ct, and he said yes! I visited him from 11:15 a.m. until 1 p.m. His sister, Cindy, both of them pictured above right on this day, was visiting, so I met her, too. We sat at his dining room table, and I told them all about the squadron. David had only a few photos, which I scanned, two of which are here. Alfred's daughter was also visiting. It was great to meet all three of these relatives.



David asked me to add a dedication in his book, which was an honor. He suggested I include the page numbers relevant to his dad, which was brilliant. I wrote what I thought was one of my better dedications, and it is above left. Less the specifics, this applies to everyone. It is:

"To David - I wrote this for you and all your dad's descendants, so you may learn and know where he served in World War II, on Biak, in the near tent section on page 516, and as an Airplane Mechanic at Mokmer Airfield on page 586. He flew missions throughout the Philippines, especially for the Southern Philippines Campaign on page 633.
"Long live the memory of Joseph Gornbein and The Thirsty 13th!"

I had planned to have lunch in Peekskill around noon with the daughter, Carol, of our **Willard Evans**, but did not arrive up there until 1:45 p.m. - she was kind to be understanding. We had lunch nearby, below, with her husband, Bob. Carol's dad wrote amazing letters, many of which I scanned in August 2017, and I have been eager to scan the rest. These are now with her sister-in-law, so this visit was just to meet Carol. It was great to meet her after many years.





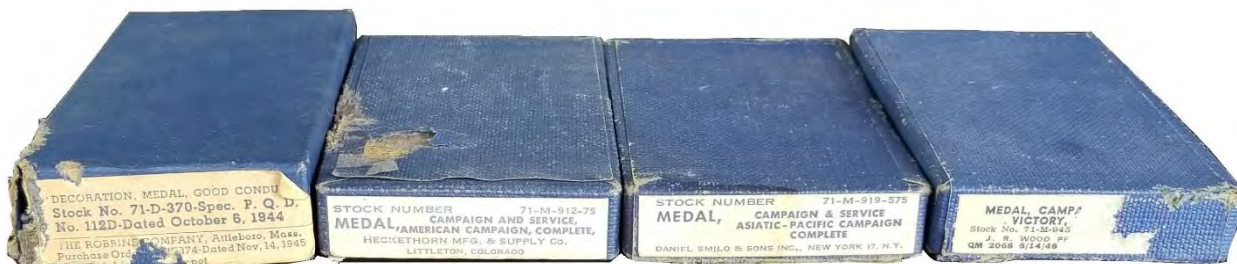
On Saturday, February 5, after lunch with Carol Evans and Bob, I drove back to Katonah, to meet the step-grandson, Doug, above right, of our 1944-1945 aircraft mechanic, **Irwin Cohen**. Irwin built the house above on what in the 1930s was a turkey farm. His first wife passed away at a young age. He remarried a wonderful woman who had a son and daughter, and Doug is the daughter's son. Doug was quite close to Irwin, who passed away in 2015. I wish I had found him when he was still living and could have heard his stories.

Below left is the box of Irwin Cohen's items which inspired this trip. Doug let me take this back to my hotel to review, photograph, and scan the items, to return it the next day. This took from 8:30 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. February 6. Below center are the contents. At the top are the boxes for his ribbons, shown up close at the bottom, for his Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign, and World War II Victory Medal.



In the second row are, first, identification cards and passes, foreign currency, and 13 photos: 4 of the Old Boulder cartoons, and 9 from the Fifth AF Shangri-La rescue. He had a Japanese flag. He had documents and orders, and a letter from someone in Dulag. He also had the Life Magazine, Feb 9, 1948, "Jungle Junk Yard" article about the Biak junkyard for aircraft.

Cohen added to the history the items on pages 5-7. Thank you, Irwin, and thank you, Doug.





On Friday, February 11, I visited Broadview Assisted Living, above left, in Winchendon, Mass., and its Executive Director, Bethany, above right, granddaughter of our **James Mullin**.

Bethany had put together a scrapbook, at right, on her grandfather, including photos from his time in the 13th TCS. He was assigned to our C-47 “Lady Eve,” and she had a page on this, in the photo above right. She let me remove the photos and scan them, and they are on pages 2-3. She had photos of Guadalcanal in October 1942, and one with General Lincoln, and the title on the back of this revealed the reason for it and one for men from PA: that they were by home state. Thank you to Bethany for sharing items from her granddad about the 13th TCS.



Back in 2016, the son, Henry, of **Henry Lach** was great to scan his dad’s photos and email me the scans. I promised I would still visit him sometime. In August 2017 and June 2019, I was on Thirsty 13th trips in Massachusetts, but had no time to spare. On February 11, at 11:20 a.m., I called Henry and left a message I would be driving near where he lived in a couple of hours and would enjoy meeting him. I apologized for the short notice. He called back and said this would be fine. I arrived at his home, below left, which was also his dad’s, at 2 p.m.

Henry had my book prominently displayed, with pages marked, at right. He had ten photos he had not scanned in 2016, and it was great to see these and scan them, too, and three are on page 4. It was also nice to learn about his dad. Thank you, Henry!



3. Conclusions and Thanks

Thank you to Mullin’s granddaughter Bethany, Lach’s son Henry, Cohen’s step-grandson, Doug, and Abramowitz’s sons Dov and Moshe for sharing items. Thank you to Gornbein’s son, David, and Evans’ daughter, Carol, for hospitality during this Thirsty 13th trip. With best wishes,

Seth

