

Well, Mr Lamb
I know you
don't like anything
in Texas, but I
after all we are
the ones that make
this ~~great~~ Country
great. Of Course
we are not million
aires like you
and Wall Street
Journal but have
worked hard all
our lives

I hope I get to

to see Mr. Turner
bring David
Brook & Jim Campbell
to TV to tell the
people about all
those lies that
Republicans with
told Tony Snow
they would be
back when they
could find some more
stories in Little Rock -
I cried for a week
after that Sunday
such a disgrace
to this country -

I'm sending
you this clipping
out of our paper -
I know you
wouldn't believe
me if I told you -
of course I can't
get three to C span
you have your
Republicans every
day -

a concerned
citizen -

Bentsen recalls days of dangerous duty in WWII

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versity of Texas in Austin.

When he discovered the Navy aviator was about to be transferred back to the United States, Mr. Bentsen correctly surmised that his rival was headed for New York, where Ms. Longino then lived.

"I immediately went to the personnel officer and said 'I have to go back to the States,'" Mr. Bentsen recalled. "He looked up my file and said, 'You can't do that. You just got here. You're going to be here for two years.'"

Mr. Bentsen said he told the personnel officer it was an emergency. "He said, 'Did someone die?' And I said, 'It's a lot worse than that.'"

"I said 'You've got a Navy fellow who is trying to marry an Army man's girlfriend.' He said, 'That is serious.'"

It turned out that the only way Lt. Bentsen could get out of Brazil fast was to enroll in a training school, and the next one open was flying school.

So he signed up. "I damn near got my fool head shot off because of her," he said.

They were married on Nov. 27, 1943, while he was stationed at Columbus, Miss. He shipped out for Italy early the next year.

Initially assigned as operations officer of the 449th Bomb Group, stationed at Grottaglie, Italy, near

Taranto, the 22-year-old soon became commander of the 717th Squadron. But he was reluctant to worry his family about his missions over enemy territory — which included runs over Germany, Austria and the Ploesti oil fields in Romania.

"I told my wife and my parents that I was over there in a desk job," he said. "But I got back from a mission and began to accept the fact that I might not get back."

"So I sat down and wrote a long letter to my father, figuring somebody should know what I was doing with my time. I put 'personal and confidential' in big script on the envelope."

But when his father received the letter, he ignored the instruction, ripped it open and read it to the rest of the family.

"My wife started crying, and my mother started beating on my father," he said. "That was the way she found out I was flying."

Mr. Bentsen's emergency landing occurred in February 1944 on the way back from a bombing mission over Austria. His B-24 lost two of its four engines, and he began to look for land.

"It was very cold," he said. "I knew I couldn't survive for six minutes in the Adriatic."

Spotting the small island of Viz, which had been identified as usable

2 lawmakers among 1st D-Day wave 56 in current Congress served in the war, newspaper reports

Washington Bureau of The Dallas Morning News

WASHINGTON — The passage of a half-century has thinned the ranks of World War II veterans in Congress.

Although 56 current members served in the war, just two landed in France on D-Day, says the Capitol Hill newspaper *Roll Call*.

Rep. Sam Gibbons, D-Fla., was a 24-year-old Army captain with the 101st Airborne Division. He was among the thousands of paratroopers who landed behind German lines during the predawn hours.

Designated as President Clinton's special representative to the D-Day ceremonies, he will give the keynote address at a June 5 ceremony honoring the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions.

The other lawmaker to land on D-Day was Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., who was a 41-year-old Army 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions.

The other lawmaker to land on D-Day was Sen.

Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., who was a 41-year-old Army major stationed in England as a civil affairs officer.

Volunteering as one of three such officers to join the 82nd Airborne that day, he flew to France aboard a glider that crash-landed in an apple orchard near Ste. Mere-Eglise. Though he suffered minor head and leg injuries, he spent several days in combat before helping to set up provisional governments in liberated towns.

A *Roll Call* survey found that two other lawmakers also served in Normandy.

House Republican leader Bob Michel of Illinois was an infantryman who landed on Utah Beach on the fourth day of the invasion. Rep. Tom Beville, D-Ala., was a logistics officer who helped coordinate decoy landings before arriving in Normandy three weeks after the first attack.

in an emergency, he landed, hoping it was held by the Allies. As he got out, he saw a group of men walking toward him — and promptly recognized one of them.

"I know you," the relieved pilot said. "He said, 'Sure, you're Bentsen. I used to sack groceries for your mother in McAllen when she came in.'"

"So I knew I was home."

Mr. Bentsen said he remembers listening to radio reports of the historic D-Day landing. "We all very much hoped it was the beginning of the end," he said.

In August that year, he flew air cover when the Allies followed up the Normandy invasion with a drive into southern France.

Later that year, he briefly wound up in the infantry.

"The Army had shot at us by mistake and the Air Corps had dropped bombs where they shouldn't, so there was some tension and they wanted people to volunteer for a couple of weeks to swap," he explained.

"I volunteered and went up and spent two weeks in the front lines with the infantry."

He was hit only once, when a mortar shell struck the corner of a

building, sending bricks and debris flying. "But I didn't get any metal in me," he said.

Flying wasn't any safer. "I had planes blown up in front of me and behind me," Mr. Bentsen recalled. But he noted that Winston Churchill once remarked, "Nothing is as exhilarating as being shot at and missed."

When Mr. Bentsen ended his overseas service in 1945, he did so with a flourish.

It was traditional, he said, for returning pilots to fire red flares if they had wounded aboard and green if the mission was successful.

As he prepared for a ferry flight to Rome after his last mission, the pilot asked whether he wanted to fly the plane. "I said, 'Sure,'" Mr. Bentsen said. "I got into the front seat and told the control tower to keep the planes out of the area (because) I'm going to come back over the field."

"So I dropped real low and I came back and told the gunner to fire the green. The next day, the next crew came up, and the major told me the colonel said he'd court-martial you if you weren't on the way home."

"I asked, 'Because I buzzed the field?' And he said, 'You were flying so low that the flares didn't have a chance to go out and they started a grass fire all the way across the field.'"

Plano class of '84 reunites, recalls days of tragedy

Continued from Page 1A.

suicides."

How could she not? Plano became the eye of what was a national suicide storm during those years. In 1984, suicide trailed only accidents as the leading cause of death among people ages 15 to 24.

It happened in places like Clear Lake, near Houston, where six teen-agers killed themselves in 1983 within 2½ months. It happened the following year in Westchester County, N.Y., where five teen-agers from neighboring communities killed themselves within 20 days.

"Teen-age suicide was the AIDS of that period," said Sherman Millender, who was Plano Senior High principal during 1983 and 1984.

For many of his students, the suicides were their first experience with death. Reactions ran the gamut. Some took time off to grieve. Others skipped athletic practices, because they couldn't stop trembling after a funeral. Many roamed the hallways wondering why.

Dodging reporters became a daily after-school activity. On some days, 16 media outlets were represented on campus, from as far away as Australia and Japan.

Students learned to resent having



Rebecca Utley-Baker
in 1984



Robert MacDonald
in 1984

into depression. He asphyxiated himself in the garage of his west Plano home.

His classmate Ms. Wilcox, 28, remembers that day.

"We saw how he was and couldn't reach him," said Ms. Wilcox, a cheerleader who now lives in San Antonio. "We said, 'Come to lunch with us. Do this with us.' Nothing worked. And then that afternoon he killed himself. God, that was so frustrating."

Six months and four suicides later, she drove past a classmate's home and saw emergency trucks in front of his house. "And I just knew it was a suicide," she said, "because they had been happening so often."

She was right.

A week after the first suicide, an 18-year-old A student asphyxiated himself for what his father later said was



The Dallas Morning News: Beatriz Terrazas

Rebecca Utley-Baker and Robert MacDonald, former classmates at Plano Senior High

School, talk Saturday during the 10-year reunion of the class of 1984.

"I remember like it was yesterday going over to his house (a classmate) and watching as they wheeled him out on a stretcher with a sheet over him."

— Robert MacDonald, member of the Plano Senior High class of 1984

A year ago he retired from stripping. He now works in real estate in McKinney. Looking back on high school, he said he was puzzled by the killings.

"Nobody had the answer. So we tried to avoid it. I think I was like many kids 17 or 18 years old. I thought

Texas' Leading Newspaper

Days of duty, danger

Bentsen recalls his WWII experiences

By Carl P. Leubsdorf

Washington Bureau of The Dallas Morning News

WASHINGTON — Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen said he became a pilot in World War II to outwit a rival for the hand of his future wife.

But once overseas, the former Texas senator flew 50 bombing missions, surviving frequent enemy fire and an emergency landing on a small island in the Adriatic Sea.



Lloyd Bentsen he conceded.

At one point, Mr. Bentsen said, he even volunteered for a stint as an infantryman.

"I had much less judgment in those days,"

One of just two members in President Clinton's Cabinet with World War II service — the other is Secretary of State Warren Christopher —

Others who served.

9A

Mr. Bentsen will accompany the president on part of next month's trip to commemorate the 50th anniversary of D-Day.

In July, after the economic summit in Naples, Mr. Bentsen will visit southern Italy, where he flew four-engined B-24 Liberator heavy bombers for the U.S. Army Air Force. He earned the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medals with three oak leaf clusters.

That sort of duty seemed far away early in the war when Mr. Bentsen found himself assigned to Brazil as an intelligence officer. He was posted there because he spoke fluent Spanish; Brazilians, however, speak Portuguese.

He had dated his future wife, Beryl Ann Longino, in New York before he went to Brazil. Soon after his arrival, he ran into a Navy flier who also had dated her at the Uni-

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Thousands
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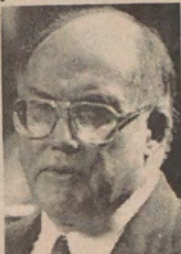
Please see BENTSEN on Page 9A.

golf course, just like his *Murphy Brown* Frank Fontana might be settled for a instead. "I wanted to *Murphy Brown*. You were responsible for into the White Regalbuto said of at Riviera Country just shook his hand." Bush administration, own aimed a few rbs at former Vice President Dan



Joe Regalbuto

YOURSELF: Federal appellate judges on are abuzz over reports that Chief Justice Rehnquist and Judge Cynthia Holcomb 9th U.S. Circuit Court are dating. The two seen together on occasions in recent they have known each years, since Judge Hall a U.S. Judicial



William H. Rehnquist

ance committee. The chief refused to comment. Hall, contacted at her na, Calif., office, said, "I ly would not comment on anything rning my personal life, or his."

ON A LIMB? Shirley MacLaine is hoping to put er a movie musical for the '90s. She won't say about the project itself, other than "I've got l things in development.

even a musical." But she did day in New Orleans that the generation's musical will have very different sort of show y *Fair Lady*, *Mary Poppins* hits of the '60s. "They're rd to do . . . because with the of MTV and sort of ic realism, audiences t believe a man stopping on et and breaking into song about the house she lives," she said.



Shirley MacLaine

WARP: On this date in 1430, Joan of Arc was ed by the Burgundians, who sold her to the a. In 1533, the marriage of England's King Henry Catherine of Aragon was declared null and void.

WHAT HILL?: Bandleader Artie Shaw is 84 Actress Betty Garrett is 75.

— Compiled by Haywood McNeill

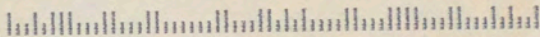
SALE ON NKs

INSIDE

NEW



Brian Lamb
400 N Capital St. 650 NW
Washington D.C. 20001



The paper and TV news report there is 150,000 Haitians in Miami, Fla. Surely there is 50,000 able bodied males in that group. I think the U.S. should train them, give them guns and transportation and let them invade the Homeland and return to wherever they choose. No need to send our young men to clean up a mess that belongs to Haitians. It's my personal opinion that the embargo is stupid - non-productive and the "drug" shant on this mess is garbage.

Thursday, May 19, 1994

LAS VEGAS SUN 3B

METRO

Gangs are accepted at Horizon High as a culture

By Debra D. Bass

LAS VEGAS SUN

Schools that teach students to stop being gang members are doing a disservice to students, according to gang members and specialists.

"How can you tell someone to not be what they are? Gangs are a culture. There is a whole belief system that goes along with it," said Melanie Alexander, the district's gang specialist.

She explained that gangs are not a fad and should not be treated like something kids will outgrow.

A quick way to alienate a student, who is a gang member, is to tell them to quit being a gang member or to advise them to leave that part of themselves outside of the classroom, she said.

Alexander, also known by the moniker on the end of her gold chain as the "Gang Lady," spoke about gangs in schools at Horizon High School's first student summit meeting

for its program, "Teens, Crime and the Community."

Horizon students, a large number of whom are gang members, and teachers, agreed that learning can't take place in the classroom without mutual respect.

Horizon is an alternative education Clark County school established for students who dropped out or were on the verge of dropping out of regular school.

"You guys are the only ones that take the time and listen to us. Most of us got babies and things to take care of, and because we're gangbangers, people don't even want to sit down and talk with us," said one Horizon student.

The objective of TCC is to teach students to be responsible citizens. Being a gang member doesn't mean that they can't get a "good job and contribute to your community," said Maria Chairez, director of the four Horizon campuses.

Other students who weren't in gangs participated in the programs to develop an understanding of gangs and a sense of civic responsibility.

"Once you listen to someone it's hard to disrespect them," said Suzann Marrazzo, a criminal justice teacher at the south Horizon campus. "Most people hate too easily and talk too little."

Horizon students in Marrazzo's class launched a letter writing campaign to free an inmate who "received an extremely harsh sentence (for armed robbery) because he was a gang member," Marrazzo said.

She and her students said they feel that the correctional system isn't going to rehabilitate him. If anything, most agreed that a prolonged sentence would break his spirit and probably lead to more crimes.

Their letter writing got Ramont Williams sent to a less restrictive

honor camp and they hope to have him released by Christmas. Williams plans to work in an at-risk youth program.

Steve Rytting, 18, has two children, two jobs and hasn't yet graduated from school. He said he tells students that school is for learning, not fighting, because their education will be the most important job qualification when they graduate.

Alexander added that students in gangs with a criminal record are going to have a harder time getting good jobs. But she said that community service activities and good references can be "worth their weight in gold."

To give students a sense of ownership and pride, one classroom at the Horizon East campus is decorated as a Hall of Fame.

Students from rival gangs usually use the classroom to "tag" their territory. It contains their gang name, slogan, and pays tribute to members

"Gangs are a culture. There is a whole belief system that goes along with it."

Melanie Alexander
• Gang specialist

who have died.

The prominent display also deters students from spray painting the walls of the school, teachers say.

The Teens, Crime and the Community program was started after a Horizon student was charged with murdering his girlfriend.

"It's too bad that it took a horrible event to really get us started, but I don't want to ignore it like business as usual," Chairez said. "We wanted our teachers to learn how to deal with this and our students to learn from it."