Notes on Catch 22 Adendum
by Ryan O'Brien, 825 Sq

Richard Hugo was a highly regarded poet in literary circles and Universities before his passing some years ago. The Catch 22 Adendum is a combination of his critical review of the book Catch 22 by Richard Heller with his own combat experiences of the December 3, 1944 mission. This story has been published in book form previously.

The target was the Innsbruck marshaling yard in Austria at the top of the Brenner Pass. We flew a single ship mission and were briefed to turn back if the weather cleared up and we became visible from the ground. The interphone went dead and we could not bomb by PFF. We dropped the bombs nine miles East of the target on the return route. We tried to find Bergesgarden, Hitler's Retreat, on the way back. The bomb load was four 500 pound time release bombs with booby trap fuses, two 500 pound general purpose bombs with one-tenth of a second delay in order that they would bury about ten feet before they exploded, and one load of leaflets. We never did know what was printed on leaflets as they were always packaged up and none available. Ryan O'Brien 825th

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825TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (N)
Office of the Operations Officer
APO 520 U.S. Army

3 December 1944

OPERATIONS ORDER
NUMBER 1632

1. The following Aircraft and Crew participated in
Aerial Flight on December 3, 1944:
A/C 41-28765 Sq #301 Pathfinder

P: Steinberg, H., 1st Lt.
C: Sjornson, R.J., 2nd Lt.
R: O'Brien, R.N., 2nd Lt.
H: Hospitality, S.V., 1st Lt.
B: Hugo, H.F., 2nd Lt.
E: Galf, R.J., T/Sgt.
R: Stewart, R.P., T/Sgt.
T: Ketstone, L.W., S/Sgt.

By order of Major Gorton:

JOH N. MOE
Major, Air Corps
Operations Officer

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Official Orders showing the Richard Hugo crew On December 3, 1944,