



U.S. AIR FORCE

**Detachment 8, ICEVG
Richmond, KY 40475**



Issue #20

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DET. 8 DEADLINE

**Memorial Dedication Ceremony at the
Det. 8 Memorial on Blue Grass Army
Depot**



Inside this issue: Det. 8 & CSS Memorial Sites

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Det 8 Memorial Service	Cover	As you can see from the cover picture some changes have occurred since the last reunion here in 2004. Four boxwood shrubs have replaced the pine trees which were overtaking the memorial. The plan was to put 3 shrubs on each side of the memorial but the roots from the pine trees haven't rotted away yet so that job was put on hold. It does present a better view of the memorial. Some more little touches can be added as soon as I get some free time.
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12th Reunion Held Richmond, KY	6-10	All of our work trying to get a MSQ-77 radar for our Combat Skyspot Memorial at the museum on Barksdale AFB seems to been put on hold. I had found two of them on the range at Yuma, AZ but now we can't get the 8th AF Museum to accept them. They have purchased the old National Guard building and property outside the base and plan a move within the next several years. Therefore they don't want any more equipment to move. If we still have the capability to get them once the museum is moved I will work on that again.
13th Reunion, Barksdale AFB, Bossier City, Shreveport. 15=19 Sep 08	11-20	

As you probably know I was in charge of collecting donations to build the Combat Skyspot Memorial at Barksdale. Our final total for donations was \$13,786 of which I am proud to say Det. 8 Association chipped in over \$4,000. The memorial was designed by ArkLaTex Monument of Shreveport and it was installed and unveiled at a ceremony on 9 November. (see picture below) The monument and two granite benches cost us \$11,200 which leaves us with about \$2,586. This will insure that we can see that it continues to receive needed care as time passes. The official dedication is set for the week of 15-19 Sep 06 as we combine it with the CEVG Reunion in Bossier City/Shreveport.



AROUND THE FARM

I guess the big topic around here and other places in the southeast US is the drought we've had this past year. First we had a hard freeze in April where the temperature never got above 32 degrees for over two weeks. Everything had started to bloom and was growing very well. Of course the freeze ruined many things, not only for this year but some things were killed and will have to be replaced or at least dug up and disposed of when they don't come back this year. Now it looks like we're going to have a fairly warm winter and the rains are starting to add up now.

I am getting ready to start feeding the cattle very soon now. By having my farm fenced off into 4 fields now I have been able to move the cattle around and there has been enough grass for them to survive on without feed. I purchased a new Charolais bull last January and his first calves should start dropping after the middle of February. I don't have any heifers calving for the first time so that will be a little relief. We have no pregnant mares this year either. We didn't manage to get any of them bred so that will be another task starting in February.

My creek restoration project was finally completed during July and August. It looks like a picture down there now. All the work was completed except for the planting of trees which will be done this spring. They have 5,000 trees to plant on each side of the creek. The final cost of doing the job is around \$156,000. We got very lucky by getting it done during this drought we had this year and the creek had stopped running for about 2 months. With some recent rains totaling about 6 inches the creek got up to about 2-3 feet from the top of the bank and I think it would have taken a good bit more to send it over the top.



The thoroughbred business is still functioning although the money is still going out with nothing coming in yet. There was one check that did come in to Greg in November. He sold a yearling filly that brought \$1,100. Hardly worth the effort after they take out the entry fee and auctioneer bill. We still have 4 mares and two stallions. We obtained the use of another son of St. Ballado from a man in New York state after I paid the hauling bill from there to here. We have donated two breedings by each of the stallions to the thoroughbred associations of OH, IL, MO, PA and VA. They have auctions to make money for their associations by selling these free breedings and it helps us get offspring out there to the racetrack.

My filly, who is turning 3 years old, has been in training at the thoroughbred training facility at Lexington since 15 Oct 07. I now have 6 other former Air Force partners who help share the cost of training her and we are hoping to see her on a race track in the spring.



We have been to two Reunion Planners Con/Fams this past year. We got to visit Nashville in August and Shreveport in November. This helped provide a lot of the info about each area so I can set up the CEVG reunion in Shreveport this coming September and the Det 8 reunion scheduled for Nashville in September 2009.

We also had a wonderful time at the Det. 8 reunion in Richmond, KY this past September. There were approximately 60 people there and we finally got to dedicate the Det. 8 Memorial at Blue Grass Army Depot. And as always, we made the short trip to the Gault House Hotel in downtown Louisville for the Farm Bureau Convention in December.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Please let me know if I haven't given you credit for any dues you may have paid. We have 20 folks who are getting behind on your dues for 2005-2007. I will notify you if you can't check the Det 8 Association Listing on our web site. Of course we are now going into 2008 and we only have 35 of you who are paid up thru 2008. Please try to pay your dues by March if possible. If everyone pays up thru 2008 we should be in good shape. For those who will be reading the newsletter from our web site I'll post a message letting everyone know what they owe. For those who get the newsletter via mail I'll include an addressed envelope to send your dues in. I will post this newsletter on our web page prior to mailing it out. For those who are members of the web page I will post a message letting you know it is posted for downloading and you should let me know when you have it. If you can't download it you should tell me you need it in hard copy format. For those who are not a member of the web page and I don't have an email for them, I'll have to send it hard copy. Again, I hope using the web page will decrease the cost for the newsletter.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

I currently have 65 of our 84 members with e-mail addresses. Please check the roster to see if I have your e-mail address listed. If your e-mail address is not shown and you would like to get on the list, just send me an e-mail and I'll get you added to the list. When you change service providers please remember to let me know. An updated roster has been posted to the files on the web site. I'll mail out a hard copy to those not on-line.

DET. 8 YAHOO WEB SITE

If you haven't joined us you should. Normally there are not a lot of messages generated so you don't have a lot of e-mails to go through. We've had our Det 8 Yahoo web site for over five years now and the membership is up to 52 who are members of the association. We also have 54 members who are not members of the association. This is a place where you can post pictures for everyone to see. I can help post them for you if you have trouble. I have just recently updated the roster info in the files section. If you haven't joined yet and want to become a member let me know. I'll send the invitation out so you can sign up. It is free and you can keep up on everything that is happening. If you're worried about getting more Spam by signing up forget about it. This is a members only club and everyone must go through me to get an invitation to join. It is great for emergencies. When there is an illness or death in the family you can keep us all informed by posting a message.

DEATHS AND ILLNESSES

During 2007 our group has felt the loss of long time friends and former members of Det. 8. This past year we lost Harold Adams in March. He was assigned to Richmond in the 60's. We lost Maj. George Jackson who was assigned in the late 1970s. We also lost Jack Morris who was assigned to both Lynchburg, VA and Richmond, KY. During April Jim Speller lost his mother. As we all reach those golden years it seems we are being attacked by various diseases and maladies. We need to also remember the Wise's and Bill Dreggors in our prayers. We need to continue to remember all our members who are having health problems.

NEW MEMBERSHIP

Our membership is still fluctuating around the 80 mark as some join and some lose interest and are dropped. Please check your dues currency and try to keep them up. We seem to lose at least one or two each year for not making contact, attending reunions or paying their dues. I can only notify you your dues are getting behind and wait for your reply to see if you still are interested in being a member. Please look at the membership roster in the FILES section on the Det. 8 site to find out your current status.

DET. 8 MEMORIAL

The remains of those two pines have never rotted yet and I will try again in 2008 to get them removed. There are now 4 boxwood shrubs in their place and the memorial is looking a lot better. It was indeed looking nice for the memorial dedication held last September.

We still have the only detachment memorial site but now there are two Combat Skyspot sites. The one on Guam has been there for quite a few years and pictures can be found on the CEVG Yahoo site. Sad to say the dish was ripped away during a typhoon and the base and two concrete and bronze plaques are what is left. The new CSS Memorial at the 8th AF Museum at Barksdale AFB was unveiled in November 2007. If you're in town just let me know you're coming and I'll see that you get on the depot to see the Det. 8 Memorial.

SKYSPOT MEMORIAL

The plan is to dedicate it at the reunion at Barksdale in Sep 08. The actual dedication ceremony will occur on 19 Sep, the final day of the reunion. I hope to see more than 200 people there for this ceremony and I know that Det 8 will be well represented as always.

The monument stands 6 feet tall and is 10 feet wide. A short history of Skyspot is engraved on it and the 19 names of those lost in SEA are engraved their also. It consists of 4 pieces of gray granite and has two granite benches in front of it. It is located between the two B-52's in the 8th AF Museum. It has a pad of small stones around it due to the museums plan to move in the future. Once it gets to it's new location we will work to get a concrete pad poured around it.

12TH REUNION HELD - SEP 12-16

Our twelfth reunion was held in Richmond, KY 12-16 Sep 07. There were close to 60 folks here to enjoy some interesting things. We welcomed several old members of Det. 8 here for their first reunion.. We used the Jameson Inn again as we did in 2004. They seem to provide a great atmosphere and I don't believe there was the first problem while we were here.

Wednesday afternoon was arrival time for most of us. It was great to see everyone again as well as see some new faces for the first time. Those that were here for the first time were Jim Closs, John Crouch, Ron Fox and Chris Zarcone. Another long time missing member who hadn't been here since the first reunion in 1988 was Jerry Fye. And returning again from southern Indiana was a non Det 8 member, Rich Hazlewood. Late afternoon we had a welcome reception of sub sandwiches, chips and soft drinks furnished by the Jameson Inn. Later we all made our way to the King Buffet for another great Chinese dinner buffet.



Thursday was our travel day as usual and we made a 45 minute trip to the southeast up to the mountains where we visited Oakwood Acres. This was a village of old buildings of the early 1900s put together by one man. It had things like a gas station, post office, train depot, school house, church, etc. He had all these buildings furnished with items from that era. He also had several old vehicles which would still run. In his variety store he had a lot of old items for sale. Everyone found something to interest them in this quaint but original looking old town.



HARDWARE

GROCERY & POST OFFICE

Thursday afternoon and evening we visited the Acres of Land Vineyard and Restaurant. We had a nice wagon ride around the vineyard with the owner explaining about everything. We also got a tour of the bottling plant where they make the wine and bottle it for shipping. We finally got into the restaurant where we had a chance to sample some of the fruit of the vine. Then we made it into the dining room where we had some great food. It was a very fun day we had.



Friday was a day for everyone to roam the county looking for old friends and seeing how things had changed since they had last been here in Madison County. There is a lot of construction going on and I'm sure there will be a lot of change before we return here for the 2010 reunion.

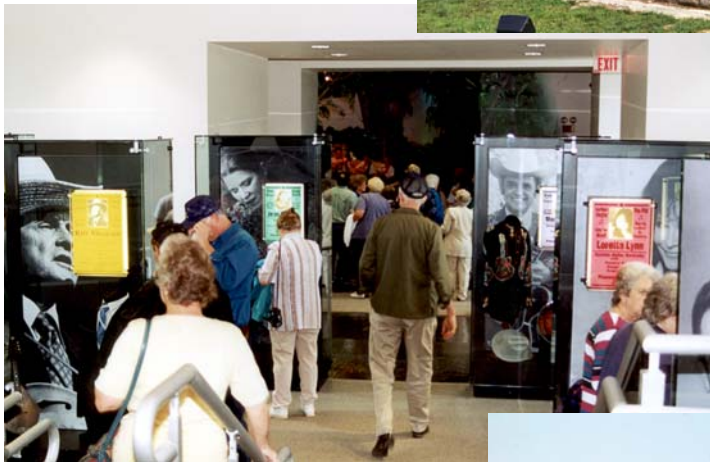
Friday evening was once again one of the highlights of the reunion, as some have told me. We all gathered at Briarcliff Farm for the Potluck Dinner, music and a lot of old stories and pictures. I did notice that Larry Bryant was armed with some books with a lot of pictures and memorabilia. Brad Burchett from Harrodsburg was here once again to provide the live music.

Saturday morning at 11:00AM we finally got good weather and were able to dedicate the Det. 8 Memorial. The sun was shining brightly but the wind was whistling pretty hard which made it just a little nippy for some of these folks. Richard Hamilton's son was here in his Army uniform and was drafted to help with posting the colors. We also invited Eastern Kentucky University's Pershing Rifles who did a 24 gun salute. I don't know how that happened but I think they shot off 8 rounds.



Upper left shows the left side of the audience. Upper right shows the right side of the audience. Lower left is a picture of the memorial and the plaque with 40 names on it. The lower right picture

After the memorial ceremony we all gathered at the Igloo Club for the usual All American lunch of burgers, dogs, fries, slaw and beans. There were approximately 60 folks gathered for lunch before we dismissed and headed to Renfro Valley.



About 30 of us went on a tour of the Kentucky Music and Hall of Fame Museum. This was a great collection of items from many Kentucky music entertainers from other venues as well as country music.

From the museum we all met across the street at the Restaurant and had an old fashioned boarding house dinner.



Fried chicken, mashed taters and gravy, green beans, desert and tea/coffee.

That night we completed a full day of activity by attending the Renfro Valley Barn Dance. It had been four years since we had been there as a group and a lot of the in the show had changed but there were still several regulars who were still performing. The show has a mixture of some of the old country and new country with several segments of comedy. Some of the jokes are old but they still get a good laugh when performed right. After that it was back to the motel for some more stories and reliving old times.



Sunday we all gathered at the Briarcliff Farm for one last shot. At 1:00 PM we had a nice Sunday dinner catered by Uptown Catering in Berea, a service owned and operated by the owner of Mario's Pizza. I believe we had several entrees with all the trimmings. There were about 20 people left and we had a lot of old reliving to do before we ended this 12th reunion.

SHREVEPORT/BOSSIER CITY, LA

13TH DET. & ASSOCIATION REUNION

1CEVG REUNION—15-19 SEP 08

Monday at 3:00 PM is the opening time for sign-ins and registration. This will take place in the hallway between the swimming pool and the restaurant. Then we hope to have a welcome reception in the ballroom from 5:00-6:00 PM for everyone who has registered for the reunion. At 6:00 PM the hospitality suite across from the ballroom will open for everyone to join in the fun of snacks, soft drinks and a couple of kegs of beer. You may bring in your own bottles but we remind you that drinking and driving can be a disaster for the reunion. Use caution.

You are also invited to bring in any pictures, news articles or memorabilia. There will be tables to place it on for all to see. The room will be locked when we are not around. We ask that you do not remove any ones property without their approval. The hospitality suite will close each night at 11:00 PM. Anyone who wishes to continue can move to the pool area, the Sports Bar or the night club, all in the hotel. The hospitality suite will reopen daily at 8:00 AM and will close for the final time at 5:00 PM on Thursday, just prior to a cash bar opening in the ballroom at 5:30 PM. Please have all your personal items removed from the Hospitality Suite by 5:00 PM.



Tuesday is a full day of fun discovering some of the interesting sights around Bossier City & Shreveport. The bus departs at 9:00 AM and will return about 5:00 PM. We will visit the Libbey Glass outlet store where you may stock up on some bargain items for your home or gifts for family and friends. Plenty of room under the bus to get them back to the hotel.



Next we will stop at the Louisiana Mardi Gras Museum which has a vast array of costumes used in past parades. You will even be able to try some of these items on and take a picture. Plus there are some items for sale in their gift shop. You can visit there garage area where some of the crews floats are stored. While there will we have lunch catered in, which is all part of the tour cost.

After that we will visit the American Rose Center and Gardens which should be starting their second blooming season about that time. If you like to walk there will be plenty of time to casually stroll through the gardens or if you can't walk they have a limited number of carts for rent and some free wheel chairs for those in need. Following this we will depart for approximately 1 hour for a historic bus tour of the Shreveport area with a walk-on guide.



We should return to the hotel around 5:00 PM for a little rest and freshening up before we head out at 6:30 for a fantastic dinner. We will be going to Don's Seafood and Steakhouse for your choice of entrée. You will have a choice of rib eye steak, catfish, shrimp, or chicken done the way they cook it in Louisiana. Meal includes salad, entrée, vegetable, bread, drink and desert. We should return to the hotel before 9:00 PM.

Wednesday will give those ladies wanting to get away with just the girls or the men wanting to get away with just the men a great opportunity for just that. We leave the hotel at 9:00 AM again and will return about 6:30 PM. For the first tour of the day we will all be together as we visit the Memorial Auditorium. This building was the home of the Louisiana Hayride where Elvis Presley got his start. There are many displays inside of his memorabilia as well as many others.



This building is still used for periodic music shows as well as other functions. You might even get to stand in the very spot where Elvis sang for the first time on stage. We will have a tour guide for this or you may tour the building on your own. This building is not equipped for the handicapped beyond the first floor.

We will be splitting the men and women when we go to lunch. However, that is not to say some of you may want to go together especially if you have a spouse in a wheel chair. For the men we have set up a man's lunch at a famous delicatessen by the name of Fertittas. They have been in operation by the same family since 1929. They serve a version of the Louisiana-Sicilian Muffaletta that Sam Fertitta registered back in the 1950's as "The Muffy". We will be having the Muffy, chips and drink for lunch today.



Meanwhile the ladies will be eating in an authentic British tea room that has been featured in Southern Living Magazine and on television on the Travel Channel. They will be eating at the Glenwood Village Tea Room. Yours will be a little more fancy than the men's. You will have some tasty finger sandwiches with a choice of some interesting soups. Tea and desert is also included.



After lunch the men will head over to the McNeil Street Pumping Station. The McNeill Street Pumping Station, located near downtown Shreveport on the banks of Cross Bayou, is Shreveport's original waterworks and is still owned by the City. The first water plant facilities, including steam-driven pumps, were installed on the site in 1887 as part of the construction of Shreveport's first municipal water system, which was only the second such municipal system in the entire state. Portions of that original installation, along with major additions from the 1899-1921 time frame, continued to operate until 1994, although the steam pumps were finally retired in 1980.



The McNeil Street station in 1926



Aerial photograph taken in early 1980s



#1 low service engine in 1980

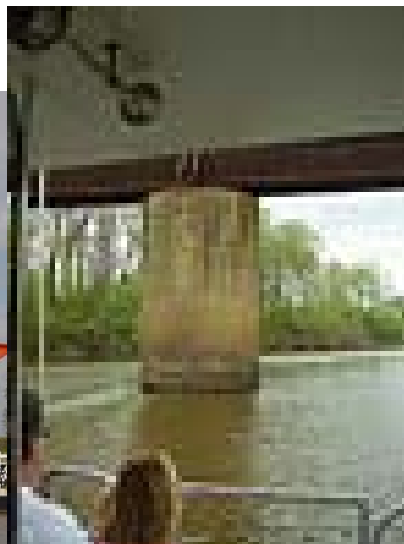
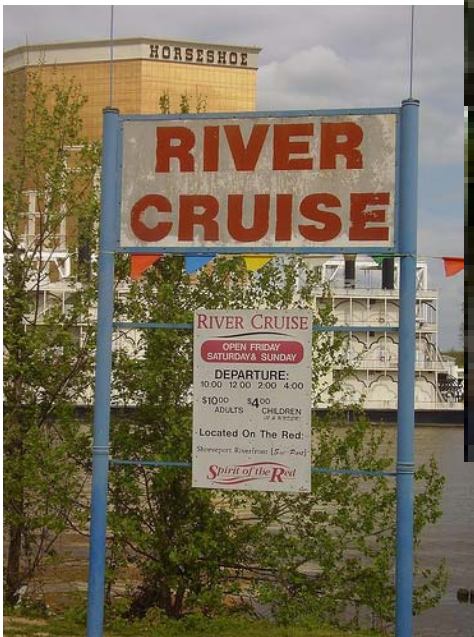


Front of three water tube boilers

What could be more fun than touring a haunted house? In downtown Shreveport near Oakland Cemetery there's the Logan Mansion at 725 Austin Place owned by Vicki and Billy LeBrun. The home has been covered in the local media a couple of times. One feature included a paranormal investigation done in the house by the folks at Louisiana Spirits Paranormal Investigations. The ladies will get to take the tour after their lunch.



Next the men will get to take a cruise on the Red River. Passengers will learn interesting Red River facts and see historic landmarks and wildlife as we take a cruise on Capt. Sam's boat. You'll get to see Shreveport and Bossier City from the river.



The ladies final show will be conducted at the Rodeway Inn by Ms. Jan Pettiet. Yesterday's Lady bridges the past with the present. Clothing presentations include elaborately detailed displays of authentic vintage fashions plus an entertaining program.



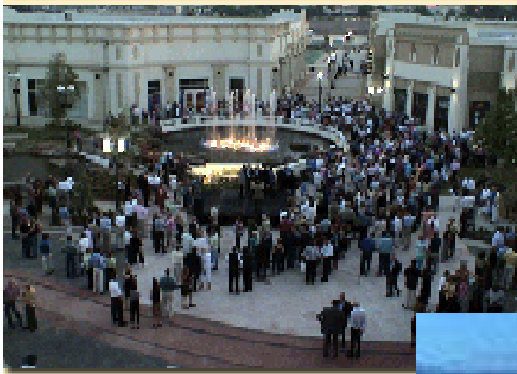
Spectacular Displays of clothing, hats, shoes, fans, gloves, purses, photographs, etc., including many very rare items from the Victorian era.



For the final tour of the day we will all meet again at the Louisiana Boardwalk for some leisure time to shop and relax. Men at the Pro Bass Shop and ladies at who knows which of the many stores. If you have time try the Cheesecake Factory. Mmm, mmmm!



A new way to get around the Boardwalk begins this Friday!



Thursday we will gather at the 8th Air Force Museum on Barksdale AFB at 9:30. We will be given a briefing about the museum and then you will be on your own to tour the museum until you're wore out. There is a special case inside the entrance that houses the Combat Skyspot Trophy, pictures and other items pertaining to !CEVG. They have a short movie about the museum which you should have plenty of time to watch before taking the walk out to view our Memorial. Since the rest of the afternoon is free time spend as long as you like.



THE COMBAT SKYSPOT MEMORIAL IS LOCATED AT #23 BETWEEN THE B-52S

8th Air Force Museum Outdoor Display Descriptions Barksdale AFB, Louisiana

www.8afmuseum.net



Thursday evening the Hospitality suite will close for good at 5:00 PM. You must have all of your memorabilia removed by that time. At 5:30 a cash bar will open in the Ballroom as we open for seating for the banquet. The banquet and memorial ceremony will start at 6:30 PM. You must get your reserved seats for the banquet in advance. The size of the crowd may not allow for any empty seats to be available at the door. So don't be disappointed by not getting your seats in advance. We plan to have a high school Air Force JROTC unit perform in our memorial ceremony.



Friday morning at 10:00 AM we will gather at the Combat Skyspot Memorial for the dedication service. We plan to have a high school Air Force JROTC unit here for presentation of the colors. Speakers for this event are not firm at this point. Corrections on the monument should have been completed by this time. We hope to have the commanders of the 2nd Bomb Wing and 8th Air Force present for this ceremony. A request has been filed with the Air Force Public Affairs office and has received a request number. It is being coordinated at this time through the FAA and Commander of the 2nd



BW. Due to Barksdale closing their runway for repairs during the month of September every year we may not be able to get the flyover from them. If this is true we will attempt to get the other B52 BW from Minot AFB, the B-2 wing from Missouri, or the B-1 wing from Texas.

Gone but not forgotten



A widow of one of the men killed at Lima Site 85 places a rose in a vase as a role call of the names of the men lost in the attack are read by monument coordinator Emerson McAfee last Friday. Eric Pulsifer/Press-Tribune

The pictures you see here are from the Bossier City Newspaper of the unveiling ceremony held 9 Nov 07. The picture on the previous page shows the crowd of a little over 100 people as the Airline High School Air Force JROTC present the colors for the national anthem. The picture to the left shows Norma Blanton placing a carnation in the vase in memory of her husband, Col. Clarence Blanton who was killed during the losses at LS-85 in 1968. She is escorted by her niece and members of the JROTC are distributing the carnations to family and friends of the 19 men who were lost in SEA.

DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR PRE-REGISTRATION FORM FOR THE REUNION. YOU'LL FIND ONE IN YOUR PACKAGE WITH THE NEWSLETTER, OR YOU CAN FIND IT ONLINE AT THE YAHOO DET. 8 ASSOCIATION WEB PAGE OR THE COMBAT EVALUATION GROUP PAGE JUST CONTACT ME IF YOU HAVE ANY TROUBLE GETTING THE FORM. THE REUNION BROCHURE AND REGISTRATION WILL BE MAILED OUT IN APRIL. SO GET YOUR NAME ON THE LIST BEFORE THEY GO OUT. DEADLINE FOR FINAL REGISTRATION IS 15 AUG 2008.