# RETURN TO HARDWICK

**HOME OF THE 93RD BOMB GROUP** 

A FEATURE LENGTH DOCUMENTARY

THE 93RD BOMB GROUP WAS THE MOST DECORATED, THE MOST TRAVELED, AND THE MOST EFFECTIVE B-24 BOMB GROUP DURING WORLD WAR II.

THIS FILM DOCUMENTS A NEW GENERATION RECAPTURING THE GROUP'S HISTORY AND EXPLORING ITS LONG FORGOTTEN AIR BASE – HARDWICK AERODROME 104.

NARRATED BY MICHAEL CUDLITZ FROM HBO'S WWII SERIES BAND OF BROTHERS.





www.hardwickfilm.com



### Synopsis

The 93rd Bomb Group was the most decorated, most traveled and most effective bomb group of WWII. Crippling Hitler's Europe from the air, they executed some of the most daring bombing raids in the war. Along with the group's rich history, sons, daughters and grandchildren travel to England and explore the 93rd's long forgotten airbase - Hardwick Aerodrome 104.

#### **Director's Statement**

This project is very close to me. My grandfather was a veteran of World War II and eighteen years ago I attended my first 93rd Bomb Group reunion in England with him. I was awestruck at finding out what he did as a bombardier during the war. A twenty year old kid flying high above enemy territory in an oversized tin can and at the same time dropping 500 pound bombs into the sky. On top of that, finishing a 35 mission tour and returning home alive was beyond impressive. I got hooked on the 93rd's story and my grandfather's connection to it.

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Michael Sellers is a producer and editor in New York City. He was nominated for a Daytime Emmy Award for "Outstanding Achievement in Editing" and has contributed his editing talents to over 300 episodes of popular television programming. In the last few years Michael started shifting his attention to producing. He created and produced the Man Fire Food series for Food Network and produced the independent feature film Sabbatical starring Robert Longstreet (Take Shelter, Ain't Them Bodies Saints) and Thomas Jay Ryan (Henry Fool, Eternal Sunskine of the Spotless Mind). current project is Return To Hardwick.





Hollywood actor Michael Cudlitz (The Walking Dead, HBO's W W II series Band of Brothers) sparked a deep interest in the 93rd's story and has been gracious enough to introduce the film and provide narration.



## FRIESS AND FESTIVALS



Return to Hardwick is a respectful look at a moment in history. It focuses on the descendants of the 93rd who return to stand on the site of the former compound where their relatives were stationed. The film is professionally edited and photographed. Many of the interviews invoke honest emotions, but manage to avoid sentimentality. The movie is a fitting tribute to the heroes of World War II who changed history for the good.

The film shows a remarkable assortment of historical photos and does a good job of blending them in with modern footage. Several sequences pair historical with modern photos, making the modern scene come alive for the viewer. As Americans are acknowledging the importance of WW2 history even as we are losing our last living links to that conflict, it is easy for documentaries to become mawkish. This one does a good job of letting the sacrifices of the combatants and their families speak for themselves.

Cleveland International Film Festival - Selection Committee

































