

RECORDS UPDATE

306th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION

(Please complete as much of this form as you wish to, fold and mail as per address on reverse side. Or, if obtained at a reunion, hand to Russ Strong)

LAST NAME: *ARRIETA* FIRST NAME: *MARK* TITLE: *USAF Ret'd*
STREET ADDRESS: *23820 Ironwood AVE* TELEPHONE: *(714) 924 4071*
CITY: *MORENO VALLEY* STATE: *CALIF* ZIP: *92388*

DATE JOINED 306th ASSOCIATION: *1977*

REUNIONS ATTENDED: (Years) *ONE*

WIFE'S NAME: *BETTY*

LAST EMPLOYMENT: *LOS ANGELES DA'S OFFICE*

COLLEGE(S) ATTENDED: *U/MARYLAND - CHAFFEY* DEGREE(S): *BA* DATE: *1971*

SERIAL #: *18044736* SQDN: *368th* MOS: *611*

DATE ARR: *MAY '42 - WENDOVER* CREW: *OTTO BUTTENBAUM*

DATE DEPARTED: *NOV '44* HIGHEST RANK IN 306th: *T/SGT*

SERVICE RETIREMENT DATE: *MAY '45 / (MARCH 51 to AUG 67)* RANK or GRADE: *CMSGT*

DECORATIONS WITH 306TH: *DFC. AIR MEDAL + 4 CLUSTERS*

TOP SERVICE ASSIGNMENT AFTER 306TH: *FIRST SGT - PROVOST MARSHAL*

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS WITH 306TH: *TAIL GUNNER / TOGGLIER*

QUESTIONNAIRE

CATERPILLAR CLUB - IRVING CHUTE COMPANY

NAME:

COMBAT JUMP DATE & MISSION:

HEIGHT WHEN BAILED OUT:

ANY PROBLEMS WITH PARACHUTE:

306th Bombardment Group. SQDN:

A HISTORY OF THE 306th BOMBARDMENT GROUP - U. S. EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Russell A. Strong 2041 Hillsdale Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Name MARK B. ARRIETA
Address 862 W. Locust Street, Ontario, CA 91761
Home Phone (714) 986-1670 Date May 29, 1982
Occupation RETIRED Employer USAF
Address World Wide Bus. Phone _____

Service Record:

Serial No(s): AF18044736

Before joining 306th: I was assigned to the 301st Bombardment Group at Gieger Field, Spokane Washington. I returned from the Midway battle in March of 1942 and joined the 306th Bomb Grp in Windover, Utah and commenced training for thr ETO.

After leaving 306th: Was assigned to the Wash in England as an instructor. From there I return to the USA and was assigned to Kingman, Arizona, Douglas, Arizona and demobilized in Sept 1946. I returned to the USAF in March 1952 and remained until I retired in August 1967.

306th Record:

Arrival date at Thurleigh August 1942
Squadron or other unit 306th Bomb Squadron
MOS# 611 Specialty Aerial Gunner
Missions completed (and date of last) 25 last mission on Sept 3, 1943
Promotions Retired as Master Sergeant

Decorations: 5 AM olcs 1 DFC olcs SS LM SM PH DSC MH

On unusual DFCs, Silver Star and other medals I would appreciate receiving copies of the citations and an account of other details about the incident involving the award. I will have to write to St Luis MO. for copies of orders.

(OTHER INFORMATION): On the back of this sheet I would appreciate receiving any other information about your service with the 306th, or about incidents or people with whom you were associated.

I would also like the opportunity to inspect any pictures or other special materials which you may have in your possession relating to the 306th. Copies of Special Orders issued by any of the units at Thurleigh are especially helpful.

RUSSELLA . STRONG
2041 Hillside
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

DECEMBER 8, 1983

Dear Russell

Would it be possible to obtain a complet roster of names and addresses
of personnel of the 368th Squadron (of the living that is) thank you I
remain yours truly;

Mark B. Arrieta

MARK B. ARRIETA
862 W. Locust St
Ontario, Calif. 91761
PH(714)986-1670

20 December 1983

Dear Mark:

In answer to your recent inquiry, I don't have a roster of 368th people at the moment.

But, we are in the final stages of preparing a 306th directory, and at some stage there I will get a printout of 368th people and send it along.

The book will be mailed to everyone on the mailing list, with a suggestion that they may want to pay for it, but no arms will be twisted. We will use an alphabetical listing for addresses, but I hope that we can also include a list of names by units, as I am sure many would find that most helpful. Each name in the alpha listing will also show the unit to which the man was assigned.

Sorry I can't give you one right away.

Sincerely yours,

Russell A. Strong

PS: I flew over Ontario a week ago on my way into LA, and wish I had either stayed or brought some of your warmer weather back here. Tomorrow comes the heat wave--into the 20s!

GI war brides of '40s see their Britain again

SOUTHAMPTON, England, (PI)—A contingent of the 70,000 war brides who 40 years ago fled to the United States to be with their husbands and sweethearts returned home this weekend jitterbug, sing and reminisce. About 300 women who fell for American servicemen in Britain during World War II arrived back Southampton, the port from which most of them sailed in 1946, for a four-day reunion.

Some 150 husbands and other relatives also tagged along.

The reunion started with a reception dinner Thursday that featured World War II fare: Spam and chips (fried potatoes) and dancing to such '40's tunes as Glenn Miller's "Moonlight Serenade."

Marguerite Couch, once of north London and now from Redmond, Wash., was back in England for the first time in 40 years.

"It is so exciting," she said, her husband, Albert, at her side. "I haven't taken it all in yet."

The reunion drew war brides from 26 states.

For Brenda and Bill Burke, of Deleville, Ill., it was part of their 40th wedding anniversary celebration.

Brenda, originally from Manchester, said she met her future

husband at a dance. "It was Oct. 22, 1943," said Bill.

He left England in December 1945, having proposed to Brenda but unable to marry her.

"My father wouldn't give his permission because I was young," Brenda said. "He told Bill to go home, get a job, prove he could support me, and then if he thought he was still in love he could send for me and my father would give his blessing."

Bill sent for his fiancée five months later, and they were married May 11, 1946, in Waterloo, Ill.

Before sailing for the United States, the women had to go through processing, including a medical inspection.

"They made you strip and examined your body with a flashlight to see if you had bugs," one complained. "We were treated like cattle."

The actual transportation in such ships as the Queen Mary was provided by the U.S. War Department. More than 70,000 brides were shipped to the United States and 40,000 to Canada.

Some GI brides recalled that when their ships pulled away a band was playing "The White Cliffs of Dover" and people were shouting from the shore "you'll be

sorry" and "you'll be back."

Pamela Winfield, widowed from her GI sailor, wrote a book about war brides entitled *Sentimental Journey*.

"We were a special act of Congress, a moment in history," she said. "I felt someone should make a note of us."

She and Eunice Upchurch, of Vienna, Va., were processed with 12,000 other brides, receiving customs checks and personal interviews at the Carlton Hotel in Bournemouth.

Winfield in 1946 had a 3-month-old red-haired son, and Upchurch entered the room carrying a 3-month-old red-haired girl to find they both were meeting their GIs in southern Illinois.

"We got out our wedding pictures and discovered to our relief that we had not married the same guy," Winfield said.

As the reunion gained steam, the Syd Lawrence Orchestra provided the Big Band sound of the '40s for jitterbugging on the Guildhall dance floor, originally opened on the eve of World War II.

On Sunday, a mass was scheduled at bomb-scarred St. Mary's Church to give thanks for the safe return of the GI brides.



Associated Press

War bride Betty Arietta of Moreno Valley, Calif., rides in a military jeep with her husband, Mark, in Southampton, England, Friday. She and 300 others are attending the first reunion of women who fell for American servicemen in Britain during World War II.

10 August 1988

Dear Mark:

As you well know, I received your information concerning Ernie Moriarty's book, and your reactions to what he wrote in it.

I have reviewed the matter with the executive committee of the Association, and we are all agreed that your concerns are between you and Mo and that Echoes should not become involved.

I know that you will not be happy with that answer, but we sincerely feel that it Echoes should not become involved in your "fight" with Mo. It is my suspicion that several other people cited in the work may have similar feelings to yours.

Sincerely yours,

BEST IN THE WEST

New Permanent Address

MARK B. ARRIETA 1198
USAF Rtd
23820 IRONWOOD AVE
SPACE 32
MORENO VALLEY, CAL. 92388
ph. 714-924-4071

MR MARK B ARRIETA 49007
862 W LOCUST ST
ONTARIO, CA 91761
306th Echoes - Kalamazoo, MI

Thank you.

BETTY M. ARRIETA
23820 Ironwood Ave
Unit 32
Moreno Valley, CA 92557

Answered
this letter
BMA
8/18/98

8 Aug '98

Dear Mr. Houser:
On 4/17/98 I sent you two checks.
One for \$25.00 for my dear departed
husband Mark, (368th), Memorial Fund.
One for \$20.00 - as a donation to the 306th
to include me as a 306th Family Member.
(I believe my two sons sent you checks
also, in memory of their father. Did
you receive those checks?
The reason I ask is I did not
see my husband's name under "Memorials"
in the July issue. Thank you.
All Best Wishes Betty M. Arrieta

More Issues of 'Echoes'

Here's my help for future issues of Echoes!

I enclose \$5.00 to support the production and mailing of the 306th Echoes. I also want to support continuing reunion activities for those who once served.

Name: MARK B. ARRIETA
Address: 862 W LOCUST ST
Mail to: Wm. M. Collins, Jr.
2973 Heatherbrae Drive
Poland, OH 44514
ONTARIO, ONTARIO
CANADA
91761

BEST IN THE WEST

New Permanent Address
1198
MARK B. ARRIETA
USAF Rtd
23820 IRONWOOD AVE
SPACE 32
MORENO VALLEY, CAL.
Ph. 714-924-4071

Thank you



High Visibility

Joan Tierney

RECYCLABLE

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through government archives, and then searching for men who col
me about their exploits. I count among my friends now the three
group commanders, twelve of the nineteen living squadron comma
a whole host of top staff officers, and hundreds of men who fle
planes, served the planes and worked in the myriad tasks about
base.
As members today of the 306th Strategic Wing, you have a
heritage to uphold. During its combat experience the 306th lo
planes; 738 men were killed in action; 885 became prisoners of w
were interned in Sweden or Switzerland; 44 evaded capture in t
cupied countries, and one escaped from a German prison.
But I would be remiss if I did not also tell you that they were

2 July 1988

Reg
✓ Bill
Dale

Attached is a letter from Mark Arrieta, and a letter which he would like published in the next issue of Echoes.

I have some serious reservations about it, and would like your opinions on the matter.

At this point you may wish to stop reading and read the attached piece before you read my opinion.

Echoes reviewed the book in question. We did not print it or reprint any of it. Therefore, I tend to believe that it is an argument between Arrieta, others and the author, Ernst Moriarty.

I read the book quite some time ago and now my copy is packed for moving, and I can't put a hand on it. So, I am unable to review the parts which offended Arrieta and his cohorts.

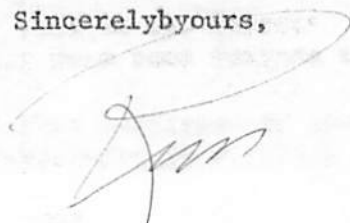
I believe that the argument should not be aired in Echoes because of the virtiolic statements involved, and because such an action might well breed a host of other comments on this and other published material.

It seems to me we have enough more-or-less legitimate things to air without asking for more trouble.

FAGREE WITH YOU, PUSS
Bill Houlahan

I await your replies before answering Mark on the subject.

Sincerely yours,



Taps

*Day is done, gone the sun
from the lake, from the hill,
from the sky.*

All is well, safely rest. God is nigh.

*Thanks and praise for our days
'neath the sun, 'neath the stars,
'neath the sky.*

As we go, this we know. God is nigh.

In Loving Memory
Mark Beltran Arrieta

Entered This Life
July 19, 1918
Big Bend, Colorado

Entered Eternal Life
January 4, 1998
Moreno Valley, California

Graveside Service
Friday - January 9, 1998
2:00 P. M.
Riverside National Cemetery
Riverside, California

Officiating
Father Morquillas
St. Patrick Catholic Church

Final Resting Place
Riverside National Cemetery
Riverside, California

Arrangements By
Moreno Valley Mortuary
Moreno Valley, California



In Memory

Schuman Fine Papers is dedicated to the environment and
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Victoria

Marcel Schuman
THE ART OF SOCIAL EXPRESSION®



There may be no dues, BUT

It does take money to keep the 306th Association flying. Those who are able are asked to make an annual contribution to keep everything running smoothly. No one is dropped from the mailing list for non-payment! Your gift is tax deductible.

Please accept my gift to the 306th BG Association: \$ 20.00 *RMN*

NAME MRS. MARK B. ARRIETA (BETTY)

23820 IRONWOOD AVE LOT 32
STREET AND NO.

MORENO VALLEY, CA 92557
CITY, STATE & ZIP

999-924-4071
TELEPHONE NO.

368th
306TH UNIT

Send to: Robert N. Houser, Treasurer

306th Bomb Group Association

P.O. Box 13362

Des Moines, IA 50310

4/20/98
DATE

Mark died Jan 4th 1998 - I would like to be part of the 306th Family members. B



BETTY M. ARRIETA
23820 Ironwood Ave
Unit 32
Moreno Valley, CA 92557

4/19/98
Dear Mr. Houser: \$ 25 *RMN*
The Enclosed Gift check
is in memory of my dear
husband of fifty five years.
Mark B. Arrieta - 368th.
Mark passed away on
4 Jan '98.

*2 chks
Donation \$20
Memory \$25
RMN*

God Bless
Betty Arrieta

862 W. Locust Street
Ontario, California
91761

Russell Strong / Bill Collins

1 July, 1982

Dear Russell or/and Bill:

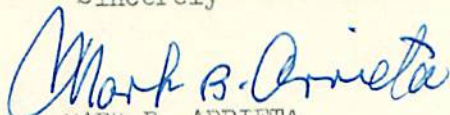
Just received the April '82 issue of "Echoes", I am really enjoying reading and re-reading this first issue received to date. It certainly brings back a lot of memories, even the names mentioned in the issue, of whom I remember so well...

We were in England 1st year, met a charming gentlemen who is also writing a book on the Eighth, He told us of the friends of the Eighth, and had been to several of their meetings. We never had the time to meet them, although we intend too this year.

I am very interested in the reunion at Bedford planned for this year, I would consider attending, since my wife and I were married there 39 years ago, while I was at Thurlleigh. (We are still together). Is it possible to obtain more information on this reunion and from whom? would appreciate hearing on this. Or, would you put me in touch with the Organizer to receive full details.

I am enclosing a donation for ALL past issues of "Echoes"
I am now a full fledge member on your growing Roster, right?
Anxious to hear, and Thanks for the Memories.....

Sincerely


MARK B. ARRIETA
MSGT USAF RET.

Mark B. Arrieta
23820 Ironwood Avenue
IL Sorrento Lot # 32
Moreno Valley, CA 92388

June 28, 1988

Russell Strong
Secretary/ Editor
306th ECHOES
2041 Hillisdale
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Dear Russ:

Hope this letter finds you well. We are looking forward to seeing you again at the next Reunion in Las Vegas.

Russ, the enclosed 'Letter to the Editor' is more than self explanatory. I'm sure as you read it, you will be able to understand the feelings I am expressing. As an Editor, I am fully aware that you can cut and/or edit as you see fit, but I would prefer to have the letter inserted in the ECHOES as it is.

If you want me to pay for the space to have it printed, I shall. It deserves merit, especially to me, Liscavage and Guthrie, and Horstmann. We were all true buddies.

I am enclosing an SASE, Russ, you can let me know what your decision is. I appreciate your time. Thanks.

Sincerely,


Mark B. Arrieta

Mark B. Arrieta
23820 Ironwood Avenue
IL Sorrento Lot # 32
Moreno Valley, CA 92388

June 28, 1988

Ph. 714-924-4071

Russell A. Strong
Secretary/Editor
306th ECHOES
2041 Hillsdale
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Subject: Letter to the Editor
SOUND OFF

Lately, I've been getting more mail than usual from a few of my old buddies of the 306th. Apparently, they recently read Moriarty's self published book, One Day Into Twenty Three, and decided to sound off like me.

So many books are written these days by former short-term crew members who were at Thurleigh. All were brave young men, but some fail to get their facts straight in their interpretation cited in their ill-conceived pages. Moriarty falls into this category.

I was assigned to Lt. Otto Buddenbaum's crew at Gieger Field. We flew our B-17 to Thurleigh in September of '42. My position was tail-gunner. Biggs, Wilkins, Guthrie, Horstmann and Liscavage were also permanent crew members since inception. Edris, Huddle, Smith and Moriarty, all became replacements after the original crew had flown two or three missions.

Our first mission was to ROUEN. Dec 12, '42.

No. 2 was to ROMILLY. Dec 20

No. 3 was the ill-fated mission to ST. NAZAIRE on Jan 3, '43.

No. 4 was LILLE- Jan 13, '43

No. 5 was the All-American raid over WILHELMSHAVEN, on Jan 27, '43, We all remember that one, don't we?

To date, 'Bud's' crew had flown a total of five missions. How could Moriarty have flown Eight?

I was frozen on the Wilhelmshaven raid and hospitalized for five days. I flew my sixth mission to EMDEN, on Feb 4, '43. And there were nineteen others that I flew--including BREMEN and SCHWEINFURT, and a lot of other places that I still have nightmares of. Twenty-five missions in all.

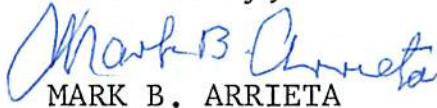
I was never a FORMER TAIL-GUNNER. That's a damn lie!

Some of Moriarty's quotes are exaggerated, defamatory and totally false on his irrevocable pages. Especially on pages FIFTY TWO AND FIFTY THREE respectively. They are demeaning to a man who lost a real buddie, as I did in Liscavage. We went everywhere together and would never refer to one another as outlined on these two pages of gibberish. As for me being timid and pathetic--well, you've rustled my feathers Moriarty, and you just don't mess with a Basque with balls.

Too many of these self-published writers are still trying to live the war we all fought so bravely in. Instead, they should silently think of their fellow crew members as the heroes they all were--I know I do, with every thought of the buddies I once knew and learned to respect more and more with every mission we flew together.

I don't need to stand up and be counted, for I know what my twenty-five years in the Air Force was. What I don't need is for someone else to write about me without even asking or obtaining a release form in order to fill their pages with a lot of crap.

Yours Truly,


MARK B. ARRIETA

NEW ADDRESS

MARK B. ARRIETA

23820 Ironwood Avenue
IL Sorrento # 32
Moreno Valley, Calif. 92388

23 October, 1986

OLD ADDRESS:

862 West Locust St.
Ontario, Calif. 91762

New Ph. 714-924-4071

Russell A. Strong
2041 Hillside
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Dear Russ:

I didn't make the Reunion this year, but Moriarty from Mass. just wrote and told me he attended and a great time was had by all. Next year I'll be there!

Russ, I have changed my address, thought I would let you know so I can keep up with the news in the Echoes, which, needless to say, I enjoy very much. Also enclosing my annual contribution.

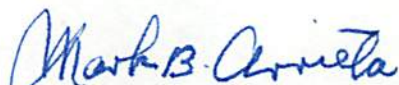
Betty and I were recently in England at another Reunion, along with the Upchurch's and other old Thurleigh boys. We had a ball. Visited our Cemetery at Cambridge and paid my respects to those not as fortunate as we. We renewed our vows at Bedford, and enjoyed going back there again.


Thought I would enclose one of our clippings for you, just incase you want to include it in an upcoming issue of Echoes. Who knows, some of the old crew may recognize me and write a few lines.

By the way Russ, one of my buddies sent me a copy of your book last birthday. It's super reading.

All the very best.

Sincerely,


Mark B. Arrieta


P.S. See 20/20, (in November sometime) on TV, for some of the 306 boys at the Southampton Reunion.

23820 Ironwood Ave
Sp #32 Il Sorrento
Moreno Valley, Ca 92557

9 January, 1993

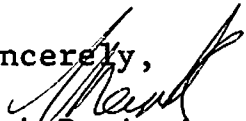
Dear Russ:

Thanks for calling my attention to Ed Becker. You really stirred my memory, and I needed that. I sent a card off the same day, also one to Guthrie, and Liscavage, whom I received one from after fifty years! I met Guthrie in the 60's while stationed at Pease AFB...What a reunion that was! ...but I never heard from Liscavage until this year.

As I recall, and I could be wrong, when we flew over to England, Buddenbaum was Pilot. Judas, co-pilot. Guthrie flight engineer, Hertzman, radio operator, Liscavage, ball-turret gunner, Becker, left waist gunner, Little Joe was bombardier, I was tail gunner, and I don't remember who the Navigator was! Anyway, there are more than three of us left of the original crew/ I was frozen, and recuperating in base hospital when our crew went on fateful mission. Moriarty had by then replaced Becker, but there are still Judas, Becker, Guthrie, Liscavage, and myself left that I know of. I think I am the only one who finished their '25', and here's a picture of that blessed mission on Sept '43, and I don't have the slightest idea who the other guys in the picture are!!! Do you? or do any of your readers know?... If you can copy this, and send it back for the old scrap-book, fine... Another picture I found was of this wedding... One of the very first GI Brides weddings for Thurleigh... Regan is next to groom. Guthrie, Liscavage, and I are to far left..Bohland is on right... Marvelous what one can find when they start looking through old files... I even found Special orders for my DFC, Air Medals, and 4 clusters, plus one 'kill' dating back to April '43.

Anyway, Russ, thanks for the memories. Betty and I wish you and yours every happiness in the New Year, and hope to see you in Seattle.

Sincerely,


Mark B. Arrieta

P.S. Russ, there's a guy in Sarasota, FL selling "Tiles" depicting B-17's - He has history of 306th wrong... He is advertising - 'Activated March 1, 1942 at Gowen Field, Idaho. Assigned 8th Air Force Aug - Sept '42, operating from UK' - (Thomas Tiles Inc. 2572 Arboretum Circle, Sarasota.FL.34232)

C-O-M-B-A-T R-A-T-I-O-N-A-L E-I-S-S -S

NAME ARRIETA, MARK B. SQUADRON 368th Bomb. Sq. (H)
 RANK S/Sgt. GROUP 306th Bomb. Gp. (H)
 DUTY Gunner SERIAL NUMBER 48044736

DATE	GROUP MISSION NUMBER	INDIVID. MISSION NUMBER	REMARKS	TIME	TOTAL TIME
Dec. '42	10	1	Rouen, France	5:15	5:15
	20	2	Ronilly, France	5:15	10:30
1943 Jan. 3	13	3	St. Nazaire, France	13:00	23:30
	13	4	Lille, France	4:00	27:30
	27	5	Wilhelmshaven, Germany	6:30	34:00
Feb. 4	18	6	Emden, Germany	5:30	39:30
Mar. 12	26	7	Rouen, France	5:00	44:30
	13	8	Amiens, France	5:05	49:35
	18	9	Vegasack, Germany	6:30	56:05
	22	10	Wilhelmshaven, Germany	6:00	62:05
Apr. 16	34	11	Lorient, France	7:15	69:20
May 13	37	12	Maaulte, France	5:30	74:50
	19	13	Kiel, Germany	7:00	81:50
	29	14	St. Nazaire, France	5:40	87:30
June 11	44	15	Wilhelmshaven, Germany	6:00	93:30
	13	16	Bremen, Germany	7:00	100:30
	29	17	Paris, France	4:50	105:2
July 10	52	18	Caen-Carniquet, France	4:50	110:10
	14	19	Villacoublay, France	5:00	115:10
	26	20	Hanover, Germany	7:00	122:10
Aug. 12	59	21	Ruhr Valley, Germany	5:20	127:30
	15	22	Flushing, Holland	3:50	134:20
	17	23	Schweinfurt, Germany	7:15	138:35
	24	24	Villacoublay, France	5:10	143:45
Sept. 3	67	25	Ronilly, France	6:05	149:50

NOV 2 1961

MARK B. ARRIETA
M/SGT USAF RT'D
862 West Locust Street
Ontario, California 91761

2 July 1988

Reg
Bill
Dale

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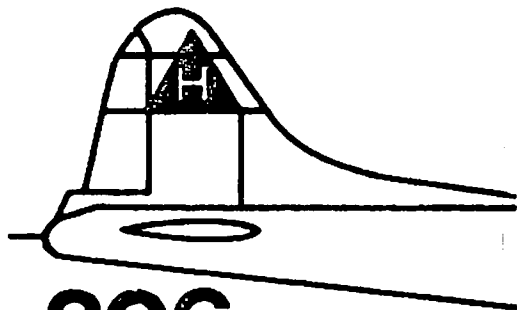
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It seems to me we have enough more-or-less legitimate things to air without asking for more trouble.

I await your replies before answering Mark on the subject.

Sincerely yours,



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Historian

Russell A. Strong
2041 Hillsdale
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

7 June 1984

Author

First Over Germany

Editor

306th Echoes

Dear Mark:

I make no apologies for the 306th Directory. I think it came out damn well, and if I failed to get a few names in the right place, so be it.

I'm not hostile, but a tremendous amount of work goes into producing such a document--and you can believe that me when I tell you that it is the best directory produced by an 8th AF bomb group or fighter group. No one else has such listings, or is likely to.

Such errors will not be corrected in the next Echoes, but only in the next directory, which will likely make its appearance in about two years.

The computer listing was no problem, but each of the special listings--unit and geographical, took me at least a week to prepare and it was tough sledding.

Sincerely yours,

Russell A. Strong

Mark B. Arrieta
862 W. Locust Street
Ontario, Calif. 91761

3 June 1984

Russell A. Strong
2041 Hillside
Kalamazoo. MI 49007

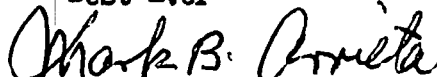
Dear Russell:

Just received the Directory and, you and the new crew are to be congratulated it is a fine reference. I as many others, probably started thumbing through the pages with anticipation and hopeful expectation as soon as it was received. Yes, it is with great joy that I can now write to a few of the "Old Buddies" that were as fortunate as me and finished their '25'.

I was just a little miffed, probably like a few others, after all you did say the "Last Group is most fraught with error". I am listed in the alphabetical section, also the geographical section under Calif. Ontario. However, low and behold, where I should be between Arnold and Artusy in the 368th.. I AM NOT / ??? I WAS IN THE 368th. In fact, I am enclosing a copy of my Combat Missions. In most of my Citation orders they had me listed as a ssgt living in Delta Ohio. I was a T/Sgt hailing from Delta, Colorado.

Anyway, want to get the record straight and hope it can be corrected. ~~next~~ Echoes. After I finish my ongoing radiation treatments I am hopeful to attend the reunion this year. Will let you know in a few weeks.

Best Ever


MARK B. ARRIETA

P.S. I was one of the original 368th Crew Members formed at Wendover Utah in 1942.

RENO VALLEY

Life

Friday, October 10, 1986



Courtesy of Mark and Betty Arrieta

Mark and Betty Arrieta, who donned a wedding dress for photographers at reunion of war brides in England.

Reunion turns back clock for war bride

By ELENITA RAVICZ
The Press-Enterprise

Betty Forbes fell in love with Mark Arrieta while jitterbugging with him in London during World War II. A lot has changed since then — but not everything.

Last month, the couple — married and still in love — was back in England and still jitterbugging. The Arrietas were among more than 350 people who attended a 40-year reunion for war brides sponsored by the city of Southampton, England, where shiploads of war brides sailed for America after the war.

An estimated 70,000 British women moved to the United States after marrying American servicemen during World War II. Those who returned to England for the five-day reunion were greeted with air raid sirens (all too plentiful during the war) and gifts of nylons and chocolates (rare commodities in the early '40s). It was the first European reunion for English war brides.

The event was covered by the British

Broadcasting Corp., ABC, NBC and CBS. When Betty Arrieta, 62, put on a wedding dress at the request of an English newspaper photographer, cameras zoomed in from all angles. "Everywhere we went afterwards, people would say, 'I saw you on the telly,'" Arrieta said.

But it is the emotion, not the attention, that she remembers most. "There was a lot of tears and hugging at the reunion," said Arrieta, whose voice still retains a faint English accent. "There was so much nostalgia in the air."

Her feelings were especially stirred by listening to Dame Vera Lynn sing the songs of her youth — tunes like "We'll Meet Again," and "The White Cliffs of Dover." Lynn, dubbed Wartime Sweetheart of Song, performed the same numbers during World War II.

Arrieta said when she closed her eyes during the singing, she almost felt she had returned to the '40s. Arrieta said the feeling persisted when she and her 68-year-old husband "danced up a storm"

during the reunion.

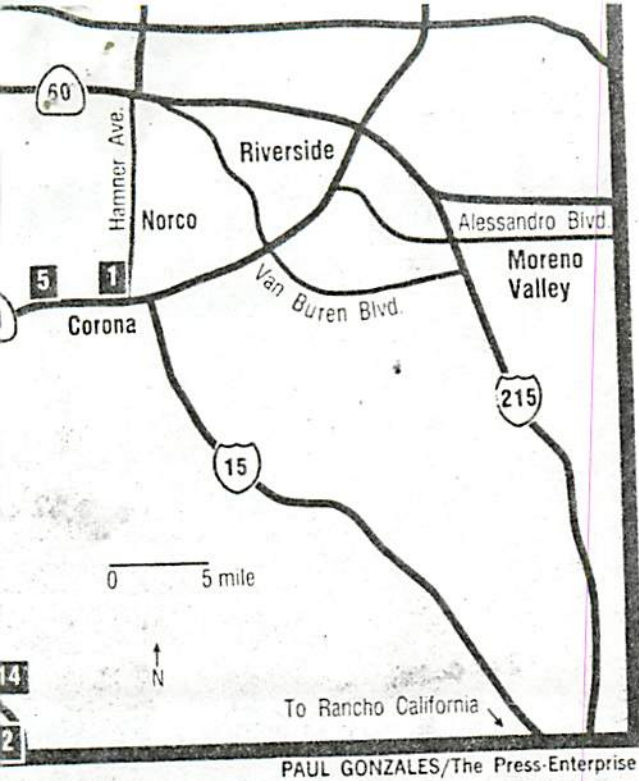
It was reminiscent of the couple's meeting at a dance in 1943. "He looked like Clark Gable," Betty Arrieta recalled. "He was a marvelous dancer. The minute we jitterbugged across the floor, I knew this was it."

Mark Arrieta said, "I never had a steady girlfriend. But, when I saw her, it was just one of those things — bam."

Instead of giving his petite blond girlfriend an engagement ring, Arrieta pinned his wings on her. The couple dated for six months and then married. A day after the ceremony, Arrieta, the 24-year-old tail-gunner on a B-17, returned to flying bombing missions over Germany. Only eight of the 360 men in his squadron flew 25 missions without being killed, shot down, losing their nerve, or being felled by severe frostbite, Arrieta said. He was one of the eight.

His 18-year-old bride used to get up early to watch him fly out. "I'd worry

(Please see BRIDE, Page 2)



PAUL GONZALES/The Press-Enterprise

ON RUSH-HOUR HIGHWAY CONDITIONS

will be closed from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

number one lane of the northbound I-5 at Artesia Ave. will be closed from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

number three lane of the northbound I-5 from Broadway to the Harbor overcrossing, will be closed from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Crown Valley offramp of the northbound I-5, will be closed from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wednesday
The number one lane of the northbound I-5, from Artesia to Main St. in Buena Park, will be closed from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The number one lane of the northbound I-5, from Katella to Main St. in Orange, will be closed from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The transition road from the northbound I-5 to northbound Pacific Coast Highway, will be closed from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The number four lane of the northbound I-5 from Main St. off-ramp to Main St. overcrossing will be closed from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Crown Valley offramp of the northbound I-5 will be closed from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Thursday
The number three lane of the

northbound I-5 from South St. on-ramp to Magnolia Ave. offramp, in Orange, will be closed from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

San Diego (I-405) Freeway Today

16 The Harbor onramp of the southbound 405 will be closed from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday

17 The number four and five lanes of the northbound 405, from Harbor to 1/4 mile south of the Santa Ana River, will be closed from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wednesday

18 The Springdale offramp of the southbound 405 will be closed from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Newport-Costa Mesa (55) Freeway Thursday

19 The number four lane of the southbound 55, from the eastbound 91 to the Lincoln Ave. off-ramp, will be closed from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Garden Grove (22) Freeway Tuesday

20 The Trask onramp of the westbound 22 will be closed from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Thursday

21 The northbound Beach off-ramp of the westbound 22, will be closed from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Jean Weaver, 17 months, won a 2nd place ribbon in The Beauty Show, sponsored by the Navy Mother's Club of Chino last month in Ontario.



Weaver

parents, Willie and Robin Weaver of Moreno Valley, was one of 30 girls competing in her age category.

She has qualified to compete for the Royalty Division in the 15th Annual Baby Pageant and Pre-teen show on Oct. 18 in Upland.

Week in review . . .

(From Page 1)

Nov. 4 City Council race showed little financial activity.

Tuesday, Oct. 7

The City Council has given an Orange-based developer conceptual approval for a 70-acre auto center between Alessandro Blvd. and Cactus Ave. east of Interstate 215.

Thursday, Oct. 9

Mary Hudson and Martha Waddell, owners of the Cracked Cup Cafe north of Alessandro Blvd. in Moreno Valley, are worried that the long-planned reconstruction of Interstate 215, a project that will shift the highway — and much of the Cracked Cup's customer traffic — several hundred feet away from the cafe's doorstep.

Bride . . .

(From Page 1)

about Mark," she said. "The odds were not in his favor. The planes would go out in marvelous formation and come back shot up and struggling. The losses were great."

Mark Arrieta had several close calls. Before he was married, his crew had to ditch its faltering plane in the English Channel. The crew was later shot down while Arrieta was in the hospital recovering from frostbite sustained during a high-altitude flight.

"Anyone who says he wasn't scared, wasn't up there," Arrieta said. He earned the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters for his efforts.

English civilians faced danger too. At 4 p.m. on Jan. 3, 1941, Betty Arrieta and her parents crouched in a bomb shelter behind their London home. Arrieta's mother remembered she had left the tea caddy in the house. As she stepped out of the shelter to get it, a bomb blast leveled the neighborhood. Arrieta, 14, and

her father were buried for seven hours. Her mother was killed.

The loss of her mother made it easier for Arrieta to leave England. She has never regretted her decision, although she said English sailors used to yell, "You'll be sorry," to war brides sailing to America.

Arrieta arrived in America in 1945. She was stunned to see vegetables and racks full of clothes in store windows. "I hadn't seen fresh vegetables in years," she said. "I couldn't believe you could just walk in and buy clothes. In England, everything was rationed."

At war's end, Arrieta was reunited with her husband in California. The couple has three children and five grandchildren. They were stationed in numerous places including England and Moreno Valley until 1967, when Mark Arrieta retired from the Air Force. The former senior master sergeant was an investigator for the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office until 1979.

Last year, the Arrietas went to a war brides' reunion held on the Queen Mary in Long Beach. Betty Arrieta enjoyed the occasion but was even happier when a reunion was scheduled in her native England.

Robert Lynn — 242-5057.
Mayor Judith Nieburger —

ings are open to the public.
Commission members and their telephone numbers are as

MORENO VALLEY
Life

If you have news for us . . .

STAFF

Jan 9th '98

OBITUARIES

Moreno Valley

Mark Arrieta

Services for Mark B. Arrieta, 79, will be at 12:30 p.m. today at Moreno Valley Mortuary. He died 4 JAN ← Sunday of heart disease at his home in Moreno Valley.

Burial will be in Riverside National Cemetery.

Mr. Arrieta, who was born in Big Bend, Colo., lived in Moreno Valley for 11 years. He joined the U. S. Army Air Forces in 1941 and retired as a first sergeant in 1967 from the Air Force. He served during World War II and during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

He received the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal.

He later worked as a fraud investigator for the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office for 10 years before he retired in 1979.

He enjoyed doing volunteer work.

Mr. Arrieta was a member of Toastmasters.

He is survived by his wife, Betty, a daughter, Dorothy Stangle of Tampa, Fla.; two sons, Mark of Medford, Ore., and Jeffrey of Oregon City, Ore.; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; two brothers, Phillip of Modesto and Paul of Ypsilanti, Mich.; and a sister, Laura Sooth of Hayward.



Mark was Eulogized by his Granddaughter Deborah. We had a service for him at the Chapel - Also, we had Full Military Honors bestowed upon him at the VA Cemetery, followed by a graveside service. We shall mourn him forever. Mark was loved by us all. Mark was a member of Otto Buddenbaum's original crew.



The Twenty Third Psalm

*THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD; I SHALL NOT WANT.
HE MAKETH ME TO LIE DOWN IN GREEN PASTURES:
HE LEADETH ME BESIDE THE STILL WATERS.
HE RESTORETH MY SOUL: HE LEADETH ME IN THE
PATHS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR HIS NAME'S SAKE..
YEA, THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF
THE SHADOW OF DEATH, I WILL FEAR NO EVIL:
FOR THOU ART WITH ME; THY ROD AND THY STAFF
THEY COMFORT ME. THOU PREPAREST A TABLE
BEFORE ME IN THE PRESENCE OF MINE ENEMIES:
THOU ANOINTEST MY HEAD WITH OIL; MY CUP
RUNNETH OVER.. SURELY GOODNESS AND
MERCY SHALL FOLLOW ME ALL THE DAYS
OF MY LIFE: AND I WILL DWELL IN THE
HOUSE OF THE LORD FOR EVER.....*

SAFELY HOME

I am home in Heaven, dear ones;
Oh, so happy and so bright!
There is perfect joy and beauty
In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief is over,
Every restless tossing passed;
I am now at peace forever,
Safely home in Heaven at last.

Did you wonder I so calmly
Trode the valley of the shade?
Oh! but Jesus' love illumined
Every dark and fearful glade.

And He came Himself to meet me
In that way so hard to tread;
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,
Could I have one doubt or dread?

Then you must not grieve so sorely,
For I love you dearly still:
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,
Pray to trust our Father's Will.

There is work still waiting for you,
So you must not idly stand;
Do it now, while life remaineth—
You shall rest in Jesus' land.

When that work is all completed,
He will gently call you Home;
Oh, the rapture of that meeting,
Oh, the joy to see you come!

LOVE MARK

Jan. 9. 1998

Grandpa's Eulogy

My grandfather led a very interesting life and as his ^{Granddaughter} and I feel privileged today to share with you some of his accomplishments, some of his adventures, and the things he loved most in life. I'm sharing this with you because as a family we all loved him so much and feel a deep sense of pride in him.

Mark Beltran Arrieta was born in Big Bend Colorado on July 19, 1918. He was one of seven children and the eldest son. His father, Paul Arrieta (his Spanish name Apalonia) was from the valley of Aratia - what we know as northern Spain or the Basque country) His father was a bull fighter and picador and traveled all over fighting bulls. While in Mexico City he met grandpa's mother Maria Beltran, a school teacher. They were actually chased out of Mexico by none other than Pancho Via and went to Las Crusis, New Mexico and finally ended up in Colorado where my grandpa was born. There, ^{he his father} became a rancher and had a little ranch.

Life, in the early years was hard. They had difficult times starting with the death of grandpa's sister, Angela who at 2 years old died of drowning in their well. And the loss of his father when he was only ten years old. Mark, being the oldest boy in the family, hitched a ride on a freight train at age 14 to go live with his oldest sibling Laura, in San Louis Obispo, California so that he could work as a rancher and earn money to send back home. It was here that he finished school graduating from San ^{Ynez} high school.

ARMY AIR CORPS
World War Two started Sun. Dec. 7th, 1941 and it was the very next day that my grandpa and his brother Phillip enlisted. My grandpa in the airforce and Phillip in the Marines. My grandpa had a very distinguished military career being one of the original members of the 8th Airforce. As a "tailgunner" he got all his training for the B-17 and knew it "inside and out." It would be a total of 25 missions that my grandfather completed and as it turned out it was my grandpa and his longtime friend, Bob Liscavage becoming the only two survivors of the original crew. Bob is alive in Pennsylvania but is here in sprit.

At the end of the War he received a distinguished flying cross, an air medal, and four oak leaf clusters. He also received a certificate of valor signed by General Eaker. We are all very proud his remarkable military career as you will hear it didn't end here.

On a pass to London grandpa was on a different mission. He met my grandma and the love of his life, Betty Forbes. Once he jitterbugged across the floor to Betty and asked her to dance that's all it took. They were married Aug. 2nd, 1943 and exactly one year later to the day my mom, Dorothy was born in England. The three of them relocated to the state of California where grandpa held a job at San Quetin prison working with Warden Duffy as a Deputy, still remaining in the reserve for the Airforce.

Mark Phillip Arrieta was born Nov. 15, 1946 in Richmond, CA. Shortly afterwards they bought their first home in San Leandro and three years later Jeffrey John Arrieta was born. March 5th, 1949. The Arrieta's were enjoying their family life when my grandpa was recalled to serve his country in the Korean War. At first they were stationed right here in Moreno Valley at the March Airforce Base. But that didn't last very long. Before they knew it, they were off on their very own world tour. They would start in Guam, and then over to England for 5 years, and back to the US in Moses Lake WA. and then to Peese Airforce Base in New Hampshire. During these years my grandfather was a devoted father and husband and was their every step of the way with his family. He was a little league coach, a Boy Scout Master and very involved in the lives of his children during their growing up years.

They finally settled back here in Southern California in Rolling Hills. His final involvement with the military would be a one year tour in Viet Nam. Even during times of war grandpa remained an extremely compassionate man. (especially when it came to children) There was an orphanage way out in the boonies that was run by two old French nuns that just couldn't do it anymore. So, my grandpa and some of his friends got together and scrounged up lumber, mattresses, food, medical supplies and kept it running for many years. My grandma Betty even sent baby clothes, food, and packaged items to him to help in his efforts. One of the highlights at this time was a phone call from Robert Mitchum expressing his appreciation for all their help etc. . .

After a safe return home, my grandpa decided to retire from the airforce for good in 1967. Before going to work for the LA County Sheriff's Dept. he owned a doughnut shop on PCH in Torrance. One of my proudest moments to this day is the field trip I took my entire Kindergarten class where my grandfather showed all my friends how to make doughnuts! The doughnuts didn't have a negative effect on grandpa's physical fitness by the way. As the oldest man ever to go through the LA Sherriff's training he passed number one in the class at the age of 49!

After one year he transferred to the LA special investigation unit where he spent the next 10 years. He retired at the age of 62.

If there is one thing I will always remember about my grandfather is the compassion and love that he had in his Big heart. He loved his family first, and always was there to help people in need. He supported the mission in LA and would always be there for anyone in need. (Especially when it came to a child) Some of my grandpa's hobbies including collecting old world maps, atlas' etc. which goes along for his love of adventure. In their motorhome, he and Betty explored North to South, East to West, hitting almost every state in the country. They traveled through Australia, New Zealand, and Spain where they visited the museum of bull fighting where his father's picture is. They also drove on the street leading to the University of Medicine in Madrid, called Avienda De Arrieta.

(Arrieta Avenue)

In 1986, one of his fondest memories was going back to South Hampton England for the 40th anniversary for the reunion of the War Brides. But I think I can top this one the day he celebrated his 50th anniversary party to his wife Betty, in Aug '93.

Above all, my grandpa led a very interesting, adventurous life and had a great impact in the lives of many, many people. He may have been know as Mark B. Arrietta to most but this family he will always be Bumpa.

on behalf of our family we would
like to Thank

~~1/11/11~~

* In 1986, I was fortunate to have my grandpa
invite me to his 50th birthday party. He
invited all the children around the
world to his party. So a Grace in Spanish, wishing
everyone well with love, health + lots
of pesetas! Then he would toast +
smile + his smile lit up the room
He was a hero