

A HISTORY OF THE 306th BOMBARDMENT GROUP - EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Russell A. Strong, Rt. 1, Scotch Meadows Dr. Laurinburg, NC 28352

Name HARRY H BARBER
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Occupation RETIRED Employer _____
Address _____ Telephone _____

Service Record: Serial No(s) 42100555

Before joining the 306th: VOLUNTEERED FOR SERVICE 20 NOV 43
ENTERED SERVICE FORT DIX N.J. - BASIC TRAINING KEESLER AFB BILOXI MISS
AFGS - KINGMAN ARIZ. APR 44 - FLEW FIRST MISSION SEPT 13, 44 - TAIL GUNNER
367th SODN. 30TH & LAST MISSION JAN 8 1945

After leaving the 306th: SENT TO A.A.F.C.S.F.G. LAREDO TEXAS
TILL MAY 45 - INSTRUCTOR AT BUCKINGHAM AAF BASE FT MYERS FLA
UNTIL DISCHARGED NOV 6, 45

306th Record:

Arrival Date ~~Aug 44~~ AUG 44 Squadron or other unit 367
MOS ARMORER RECLASSIFIED GUNNER Combat Status TAIL GUNNER
Missions Completed 30
Promotions SGT - AUG 5 44 S/SGT 1ST SEPT 44
Decorations 1 AM 4 olcs DFC olcs SS DSM DSC MH SM
PH 3 Battle Stars ARDENNES, RHINELAND No. FRANCE other _____

(OVER)

Other personal data: IF YOU WERE THERE FROM JUNE TO NOV.

OF 44 I PROBABLY FLEW WITH YOU. I FLEW WITH JUST ABOUT EVERY BODY IN THE SQDN. BUT I DONT REMEMBER THE NAMES EXCEPT MY OWN CREW I SEE A PICTURE OF THE FIRST PLANE WE WERE ASSIGNED TO WHEN I JOINED THE SQDN - OLD FIGHTIN, CARBARN HAMMERSLAW, IN THE PAPER YOU SENT ME. - IT DISAPPEARED ON ITS 79TH MISSION, FLOWN BY ANOTHER CREW - NO ONE EVER TOLD ME HOW.
Description of Air Missions: (What were the highlights of your combat career? What was your role? What heroics did you witness? What events were there of which you have special knowledge?)

CREW WAS CLASSIFIED AS A LEAD CREW UNDER CAPT. HOWARD O BALCOM
Co-PILOT C. Q HILLS (DECEASED) ^{SINCE} ~~NAVIGATOR~~ BOMBARDIER "POP" KELLEY (CAPT)
NAVIGATOR (LATER REMOVED FROM CREW) F/O NORMAN STRAND. ENGINEER - ROBERT WALDRON - RADIO MAN ROBERT McHAY - BALL TURRET ROBERT SIAOY - MYSELF IN TAIL AND THE WAIST GUNNERS NAME IS FORGOTTEN BECAUSE NO ONE EVER CALLED HIM ANYTHING BUT "SMITTY".

THE MOST MEMORABLE MISSION, I THINK WAS ON DEC 5TH OVER BERLIN. WE FLEW A BRAND NEW B17 FROM ANOTHER SQDN BECAUSE IT WAS EQUIPPED WITH RADAR. OUR NAVIGATOR FOR THAT MISSION WAS KILLED, AND THE NEW B17 CAME HOME WITH MAJOR BATTLE DAMAGE

THERE WERE OTHERS BUT MY MEMORY IS TOO HAZY TO PROPERLY EXPLAIN THEM

Navy H. Barber.

I HAVE ALREADY SEAT IN ALL THE ADDRESSES I HAVE OF MY CREW
BUT HERE THEY ARE AGAIN.

Pilot HOWARD O. BALCOM

57 FISHER ST PHON 617-653-4945

NATICK, MASS. 01760

RADIO ROBERT MCKAY

19450 LORAIN RD. 308W

FAIRVIEW PARK

OHIO - 44124

FROM HARRY H. BARBER
FORMER S/SGT TAIL GUNNER (367TH)
ASN 42100555 - RR#1 Box 79
NORWAY, ME. 04268

MR. BILL COLLINS
2973 HEATHERBRAE DR.
POLAND OHIO 44614

DEAR BILL:-

JUST TALKED TO MY OLD PILOT - HOWIE
BALCOM - ON THE TELEPHONE, AND WE BOTH DECIDED
THAT THE ORGANIZATION (306 BOMBARDMENT GROUP
ASSOC) NEEDS SOME MONEY.

I THINK THAT HE WILL TRY TO GET YOU
SOME MORE ADDRESSES OF OUR CREW, HOWEVER
MOST OF US HAVE LOST TOUCH OVER THE YEARS
AND IT IS DOUBTFUL IF HE CAN ~~SEE~~ CONTACT
ALL OF THEM AT THIS TIME.

BE THAT AS IT MAY - I AM VERY GRATEFUL TO
GET THE NEWSPAPER OCCASIONALLY, AND SO IS HE.
KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.

I DOUBT THAT I COULD MAKE ANY OF THE
REUNIONS UNLESS THEY WERE HELD IN PORTLAND
ME, OR BOSTON MASS, BUT I AM GLAD TO HEAR
ABOUT THEM

SINCERELY

Harry H. Barber

8/25