

Mr. Russell A. Strong: Editor

Daniel Bastida  
5306 CLAREMONT - P.O. 18702  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77023

Dear Russell:

after hearing from Andy Vargalis about 3 months ago and receiving a copy of the "30th. Echoes" I found that I had a few photographs and information which you could use and which I saw was needed. I have several photos of various 17's. My name is Daniel (Danny) Bastida, I was with the 423rd Sqd. - worked on superchargers and was also on ground crew both "Milkrun Special I" & II - I have pictures of both - the serial number for "MILKRUN Special" I is 43-38019 G, I noticed it was missing in the paper - I did the painting of the cows on both "Milkrun Special" I & II and also the one of "Hustling Sue" shown in the paper.

If it will help you any I have information taken from a Rushden newspaper issued on June 15th 1945 -

THURLEIGH FORTS WERE FIRST OVER GERMANY

(Story of the 30th) tells when it arrived.

(note) The paper is crumbling but I transcribed the story for my own use, if you want it I'll send you a copy of it.

"Costly Experience" tells what four groups started the Bombings, first Raid, Losses, no. of fortresses on the mission - How many from Thurleigh  
Low Level attacks

attacks on St. Nazaire - who led group (Col Overacker) other places, dates, and first planes which crossed into German territory. etc, etc. The article mentions all the squadrons and those who made a name for themselves and became heroes - It mentions Capt. Raymond J. check who was killed - Also Lt. Col (now Gen.) James W. Wilson, Sgt Roskavitch (Rosky) and Sgt. Maynard "Snuffy" Smith.

Please inform me what I can do with this information. If you need the pictures for reproduction I will send them if you let me know.

I am enclosing contribution  
Please let me hear from you soon.

Your friend,  
Daniel (Danny) Bastida

6/183

Dear Mr. Strong:

Enclosed are some pictures which you may reproduce for use. 5 of Elizabeth of "Elizabeths Own," 2 MILKRUN Special (in flight and on ground) 1 MILKRUN Special #II, 1 "Donald Duck", 2 of "me" 2 pictures of the "Esquires" special service orchestra - (ALL except one are labeled to the best of my memory)

I hope these pictures will bring nostalgia to some of the veterans of the 306th -

I retired as a Houston school teacher (History) and Band director in Jr. High <sup>in 1982</sup>. I still play professionally and am a long time member of Local 65 A.F. of M - Hope to hear from you soon -  
Daniel ("Dawny") Bastida (over)

return pictures to:

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Thanks

