

INDIVIDUAL FLIGHT RECORD

(1) SERIAL NO. 0-757151 (2) NAME Bennett, Francis H. (3) RANK 2nd Lt. (4) AGE 1918
 (5) PERS. CLASS 18 (6) BRANCH Air Corps (7) STATION 105, APO 557
 (8) ORGANIZATION ASSIGNED 8th AF 8th PG 1st BD 10th CW 305th HOp 422nd BSq
 (9) ORGANIZATION ATTACHED _____
 (10) PRESENT RATING & DATE Pilot 1 October 1943 (11) ORIGINAL RATING & DATE Same
 (12) TRANSFERRED FROM 306th Bomb Gp (13) FLIGHT RESTRICTIONS None
 (15) TRANSFERRED TO 422nd Bomb Sq (14) TRANSFER DATE 24 June, 1944.

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

PERS CLASS	RANK	RTG.	A. F.	COMMAND	WING	GROUP		SQUADRON		STATION	MO.	YR.
						NO.	TYPE	NO.	TYPE			
:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

(17) MONTH June 1944

DAY	AIRCRAFT TYPE, MODEL & SERIES	NO. LANDINGS	FLYING INST. (INCL. IN 1ST PILOT TIME) S	COMM. PILOT C CA	CO-PILOT CP	QUALIFIED PILOT DUAL QD	FIRST PILOT		RATED PERS.			NON-RATED		SPECIAL INFORMATION				
							DAY P	NIGHT P OR NI	NON-PILOT			OTHER ARMS & SERVICES	OTHER CREW & PASS'GR	INSTRUMENT I	NIGHT N	INSTRUMENT TRAINER	PILOT NON-MIL AIRCRAFT	
																	OVER 400 H.P.	UNDER 400 H.P.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
30	B-17G	2						3:40										

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

John D. Collins, Jr.
 JOHN D. COLLINS, JR.,
 Captain, Air Corps,
 Ass't Opns Officer.

COLUMN TOTALS

3:40

(142) TOTAL STUDENT PILOT TIME	(143) TOTAL FIRST PILOT TIME	(144) TOTAL PILOT TIME	NON
	3:40	3:40	3:40
(137) THIS MONTH	328:05	328:55	476:20
(138) PREVIOUS MONTHS THIS F. Y.	332:45	332:35	480:00
(139) THIS FISCAL YEAR	256:10		256:10
(140) PREVIOUS FISCAL YEARS	256:10		735:40
(141) TO DATE			9:15

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

AIRCRAFT	NI	CARD NO. 1					CARD NO. 2					CARD NO. 3					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36

Wm. M. Collins Jr.
2973 Heatherbrae Drive
Poland, OH. 44514

Hey!!! I was just given a copy of the 306th Echoes. After 33 years who would have thought that you would meet another ex-pilot that had served in the same Group and Squadron and at the same time. And on the golf course to boot. Obviously we didn't recognize each other but during the course of the round it came out that both of us had been in the Fighting Biting 369th.

I'd love to get on the roster and receive copies of the newsletter. Bill me for any charges or subscription fees. Also if there is a directory list available, I would like a copy.

I'm enclosing a couple of orders and documents to establish authenticity. Although I have no orders assigning my crew to the 306th I do have our overseas assignment orders. Also my mission log indicating my first twenty one (21) missions with the 369th at which time I was transferred to the 305th Bomb Group to assist in activating a new combat squadron.

Thanks



Frank Bennett
206 Mukilteo Blv'd.
Everett, WA. 98203

SECRET

GRENIER FIELD
MANCHESTER, N.H.
ST. 16, N.S. ATC

SECRET
AUTH: CO Sta. 16
4-5-44

OPERATIONS ORDERS)
NO.....44)

EXTRACT

5 April 1944

** ** * * * * *

18. The following named crew WP by air in the aircraft as indicated below at the proper time from Grenier Field, Manchester, New Hampshire, via North Atlantic Route to the European Theatre of Operations, London, England, reporting upon arrival thereat to the Commander, 8th Air Force Service Command, Air Transport Command Terminals of Arrival, British Isles, for further assignment and duty with the 8th Air Force.

Shipment No. FZ- -J 109
Project No. 92644-R
APO No. 12945-J 109

B-17G

Crew No. FZ- -J 109 42-102495

Pilot	2nd Lt. James H. Griffin	0810809
Co-Pilot	2nd Lt. Edward R. Roberts	0819173
Navigator	2nd Lt. Arthur C. Thomas	0703585
Bombardier	2nd Lt. David G. Gargo	0761397
Engineer	S/Sgt. Elbert L. Jenkins	34598610
Radio Op.	S/Sgt. Henry L. Brooks	32604931
Arm. Gunner	Pvt. Robert L. Thompson	39127206
Gunner	Sgt. Albano (NMI) Tripodi	33437550
Gunner	Sgt. Clifford C. Roekeman	36440931
Gunner	Sgt. Mack S. Ritchie	14182575

Shipment No. FZ- -J 97
Project No. 92644-R
APO No. 12945-J 97

B-17G

Crew No. FZ- -J 97 42-102490

Pilot	2nd Lt. Francis H. Bennett	0757151
Co-Pilot	2nd Lt. Albert V. Mullenheaux, Jr.	0819269
Navigator	2nd Lt. Darrell W. Mier	0709429
Bombardier	2nd Lt. Donald F. Borchardt	0761391
Engineer	S/Sgt. Alvin H. Kasberg	16089477
Radio Op.	S/Sgt. John H. Westhues, Jr.	37501694
Arm. Gunner	Sgt. Nathan (NMI) Chadkoff	12126769
Gunner	Sgt. John V. Incaruso	33575025
Gunner	Sgt. Howard E. Parks	18169897
Gunner	Sgt. Erwin V. Locher	32761091

-1-
SECRET

NAME **BENNETT, FRANCIS H.****RESTRICTED**SQUADRON **369th. Bomb.Sq. (H)**RANK **2nd. Lieut.**GROUP **306th. Bomb.Gp.(H)**DUTY **Pilot**SERIAL NUMBER **0-757151**

Date	Group Mission Number	Individ Mission Number	R-E-I-A-R-I-S	Time	Total Time
1944					
May	10	Abandoned		4:05	
	12	154	1 Merseberg, Germany	8:20	
	13	Spare		4:30	
	20	157	2 Orly, France	5:20	
	22	158	3 Kiel, Germany	7:50	
	24	160	4 Hamburg, "	6:10	
	25	161	5 Thionville, France	6:55	
	27	162	6 France, Spec. Target	3:40	
	28	164	7 Ruhland, Germany	7:45	
	29	165	8 Cottbus, "	10:00	
June	2	167	9 France, Spec. Target	4:30	
	3	169	10 "	4:00	
	6	171	11 " (A)	5:10	
	6	173	12 " (C)	5:35	
	8	174	13 Rennes, France	5:20	
	11	175	14 Illiers L'Eveque, "	5:20	
	12	Spare		4:00	
	14	177	15 Etampes, "	5:30	
	15	178	16 Nantes, "	6:10	
	17	Spare		3:45	
	18	180	17 Hamburg, Germany	7:40	
	19	181	18 France, No Ball	4:25	
	20	182	19 Hamburg, "	8:00	
	20	"	22 1st. Bomb. Div. Teletype		
	21	183	23 Berlin, Germany	10:15	
	22	184	24 Ghent, Belgium	4:55	149:10

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Toy B. Husband
 TOY B. HUSBAND,
 Major, AC,
 Operations Officer,
 306th. Bomb.Gp.(H)

RESTRICTED

~~422nd Bomb Sq~~ ~~305th Bomb Gp~~

MISSION RECORD
LEAD CREW MEMBER

NAME Bennett, Francis H. RANK Captain A.S.N. 0-757151

CREDITED MISSIONS

Pilot NO.	DATE	TARGET	POSITION	RATING
1.	12 May 44	Merseburg	306th BGP	
2.	20 May 44	Orly	306th BGP	
3.	22 May 44	Kiel	306th BGP	
4.	24 May 44	Berlin	306th BGP	
5.	25 May 44	Thoinville	306th BGP	
6.	27 May 44	Special targets	306th BGP	
7.	28 May 44	Ruhland	306th BGP	
8.	29 May 44	Cottbus	306th BGP	
9.	2 June 44	St Cecily	306th BGP	
10.	3 June 44	Special targets	306th BGP	
11.	4 June 44	Invasion Targets	306th BGP	
12.	5 June 44	Invasion targets	306th BGP	
13.	8 June 44	Reunen	306th BGP	
14.	11 June 44	Esper	306th BGP	
15.	14 June 44	Special targets	306th BGP	
16.	15 June 44	Nantes	306th BGP	
17.	18 June 44	Homburg	306th BGP	
18.	19 June 44	Calais	306th BGP	
19.	20 June 44	Hamburg	306th BGP	
20.		Credited		
21.		Credited		
22.		Credited		
23.	21 June 44	Berlin	Deputy Wing Lead 306th BGP	
24.	22 June 44	Ghent	306th BGP	
25.	6 July 44	Special targets	Squadron Lead	Performance of
26.	7 July 44	Leipzig	#2 low Squadron	duty as Lead Pilot
27.	16 July 44	Munich	Deputy Group Lead	is rated excellent
28.	17 July 44	Doullens	Deputy Wing Lead	
29.	20 July 44	Kothan	Deputy Group Lead	
30.	25 July 44	St. Lo	Group Lead	
31.	5 Aug 44	Hannover	Group Lead	
32.	7 Aug 44	Bordeaux	Deputy Wing Lead	
33.	12 Aug 44	LaPerche	Group Lead	
34.	26 Aug 44	Gelsenkirchen	Group Lead	
35.				

Operations Officer
305th Bomb. Group (H)

TO BE ENTERED ON FORM 5'S AS PERMANENT RECORD

MISSION RECORD
LEAD CREW MEMBER

NAME Bennett, Francis H. RANK Captain A.S.N. 0-757252

CREDITED MISSIONS

Pilot				
NO.	DATE	TARGET	POSITION	RATING
1.	12 May 44	Kornsburg	306th BGP	
2.	20 May 44	Orly	306th BGP	
3.	22 May 44	Kiel	306th BGP	
4.	24 May 44	Berlin	306th BGP	
5.	25 May 44	Thainville	306th BGP	
6.	27 May 44	Special targets	306th BGP	
7.	28 May 44	Ruhland	306th BGP	
8.	29 May 44	Cottbus	306th BGP	
9.	2 June 44	St. Gailly	306th BGP	
10.	3 June 44	Special targets	306th BGP	
11.	4 June 44	Invasion Targets	306th BGP	
12.	5 June 44	Invasion targets	306th BGP	
13.	6 June 44	Ramona	306th BGP	
14.	11 June 44	Berger	306th BGP	
15.	14 June 44	Special targets	306th BGP	
16.	15 June 44	Nantes	306th BGP	
17.	18 June 44	Hamburg	306th BGP	
18.	19 June 44	Calais	306th BGP	
19.	20 June 44	Hamburg	306th BGP	
20.		Credited		
21.		Credited		
22.		Credited		
23.	21 June 44	Berlin	Deputy Wing Lead 306th BGP	
24.	22 June 44	Ghent	306th BGP	
25.	6 July 44	Special targets	Squadron Lead	Performance of
26.	7 July 44	Leipzig	#2 low Squadron	duty as Lead Pilot
27.	16 July 44	Munich	Deputy Group Lead	is rated excellent
28.	17 July 44	Houllens	Deputy Wing Lead	
29.	20 July 44	Kothan	Deputy Group Lead	
30.	25 July 44	St. Lo	Group Lead	
31.	5 Aug 44	Hamover	Group Lead	
32.	7 Aug 44	Bordeaux	Deputy Wing Lead	
33.	12 Aug 44	LaPerche	Group Lead	
34.	26 Aug 44	Geleenkirchen	Group Lead	
35.				

Transferred To
305th B.G.

Operations Officer
305th Bomb Group

June 3, 1993

To: Russell Strong

You asked why I was transferred from the 306th Bomb Group:

As I understand it:

In July 1944 the 422nd Squadron of the 305th Bomb Group was de-activated as a "nickel carrying" (propaganda leaflet) night flying unit, and was re-activated as a regular Combat Flying Squadron. Four experienced crews were transferred from other Bomb Groups of the Wing to serve as a nuclei of the new 422nd Combat Squadron. While the remainder of the squadron was composed of new replacements directly from the states.

Major Charles Flannagan, acting C.O. of the 369th Squadron - 306th Bomb Group assigned my crew, with twenty-one missions flown, as a representative crew from the 306th B.G. One of the reasons he gave me (which I took with a grain of salt) was that because of the number of pilots with more seniority in the 369th ahead of me, that it would be difficult, if not impossible for me to attain the rank of Captain, during my tour of duty, and the transfer to the 305th would virtually assure higher promotions for all of my crew. We were transferred with great reluctance on our part, and finished our tour of thirty-four missions with the 422nd Squadron - 305th B.G.

The unfortunate part of it, from our standpoint, was that because we were training new, inexperienced crews we had only a few more missions as an intact, cohesive crew. We were then broken up as individual instructors flying with various crews as lead pilots, navigators, bombardiers etc. Luckily we all finished our tours, and returned to the United States in the latter part of 1944.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "F. H. Bennett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "F".

Pilot Survey

Name F. H. Bennett

Cadet Class F3 - I

Adv. Trng. Location MARFA TX

Combat Missions 21 306TH
13 305TH

Date leaving 306th July 1944

Rank on leaving 306th 1ST LT

Did you fly with the Casey Jones
Project in 1945-46? No

Send to Russell A. Strong
5323 Cheval Place
Charlotte, NC 28205

once stretched along one side of the field.

Tuesday night's welcome reception will only, as that old structure that echoes will only hold we Americans and a short stroll from the two hotels to the

A major event will be the memorial service at Thurleigh, which stands in Wing headquarters. As space is very limited, we will be admitted to the area until our buses arrive so that they can be seated or find good places to park there.

Donald R. Ross, 306th president and chaplain will offer the invocation, and I will come from RAF Chicksands, an American commander of the Third Air Force at RAF Strong will present a short history of the

Lunch will be provided at the base. We will visit the base, with particular attention to those who served there. Then people will reassemble at each of the buses. Then people will reassemble before going out to the hangar dance.

It is hoped that during the time we will see a few "antique" and current aircraft.

On Thursday morning we will go back

Reunion in