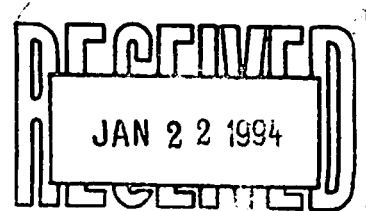


PERSONNEL RECORD UPDATE  
306th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION



Complete as much of this form as you wish, and return to Russell A. Strong, Secretary,  
306th BG Association, 5323 Cheval Place, Charlotte, NC 28205.

Date completed January 20, 1994

LAST NAME: Bennett FIRST NAME: George MI: D. TITLE: —

Street address: 2299 SW. 28<sup>th</sup> Terrace Telephone: (305) 792-8573  
City, State, zip: Fr. Lauderdale, Florida zip + 4: 33312-4440

Date of birth: Dec. 27, 1917 Wife's name: Elizabeth M.  
College(s) attended: Univ. of Cincinnati (Ohio) Degree(s): Commercial Engn Year(s): 1939

Last employment & job title & retirement date: Chief Engineer & Estimator  
for Powell Brothers, Inc (39 yrs + 8 mos) Retired March 1985

Reunions attended: Had no knowledge of any.

Serial #: 0-383397 Squadron: 367<sup>d</sup> Specialty: Navigator

Date joined 306th: About Dec 15, 1942 If combat, what crew: Began w. M. Henry  
Wound up with Geo Buckley

Special duties or assignments w/306th: Squad Navigator

Number of missions flown: 26 Date of last mission: June 4, 1944

Date left 306th: June 6, 1944 Highest rank/grade w/306th: Capt.

Other 8th AF units served with: None

Top service assignment after 306th: Gp Navigator Officer, Hondo AFB Tex.

USAF retirement date: About 1950 Rank/grade: Major

Copies of old 306th orders, either from the Group or Station 111, or any of the  
squadrons or other units serving with the 306th, are sought by the secretary, as  
many of these do not appear in any collections of materials in Federal files:

If you know of others who served with the 306th who do not appear in the current  
directory, please add their names and current/WWII hometowns/or other addresses.  
to the back of this sheet so that searches may be implemented to add them to our  
present 306th roster.



Other personal data:

Married in March, 1941. Have 3 children - all married, 3 grand-children. Am secretary-treasurer and chief engineer of heavy and marine construction company. Returned to Thetford in 1974 but found little of field left. It is active RAF field now.

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?)

Highlight was lasting through it. If my memory serves me correctly we lost 67 crews <sup>in 367<sup>th</sup></sup> while I was in the 367<sup>th</sup>! I knew more Air losses in POW camps than rest of air force.

Always remember 3 special missions - 1) leading 1/2 air force to first Schweinfurt & we got out in one piece, 2) a dead reckoning return from La Pallice to hands End & dropped out of clouds right above hands End - Raper was command pilot, I believe; 3) a radar mission I led that we all got lost on until we passed over cathedral at Chartres & a lead navigator in another group recognized it.

'Pop' Tibus, one of my navigators, has a jewelry store in Panama City Fla. Do you know where Dinwiddie Fuhrmeister is?

Hugh Phelan (bombardier) & I were Col. Robinson's "dummy air field" bombing team. We blew hell out of a dummy field one day!

I used to wonder who was looking out for me, 3 times I had to pick a crew to fly with even tho I was synth nav. because they had none. Each time the other crew was shot down! 3 times my barracks was shot down to about 3 people & I was the only one there all 3 times. Needless to say I moved out!

Would like to be kept posted on your progress finding people of the old outfit.

5 June 1977

Mr. George D. Bennett  
1718 SE 1st Av  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316

Dear George:

Appreciated your reply.

Dinwiddie Fuhrmeister is alive and well, 2132 N. Dechard, Tacoma, WA 98406. I once saw my pilot tell "The Red Fury" off in a squadron meeting, and you never saw a man explode better. One of the highlights of my stay at Thurleigh!

Take a look at the list of orders I have, and see ifb your 201 file has any I don't have. I'd like to have copies, particularly of the first one at Thurleigh, when you arrived and were assigned to a squadron.

Saw a letter recently from Fuhrmeister, saying that he had had a surprise call recently from Duke Jacobs, who lives at Orlando.

I'm also interested in that first Schweinfurt raid. Did you actually practice before the raid for several weeks? Tell me about it. Also, would appreciate any details of the mission you can remember. I spent an afternoon with Bill Raper last summer. Don't believe he has changed much since Thurleigh days. He retired as a one-star.

Sincerely yours,

Russell A. Strong

22 January 1993

Dear George:

I have my fingers crossed that you still have possession of your 201 file. If so, I am interested in receiving copies of any orders that you have issued by the 306th Bomb Group, Station 111, or other organizations which you were stationed in England.

Special Orders were not routinely saved until 1 Dec 43, and those that I have collected prior to that date have come from individuals, and are the only source for many of the names of men who served with the 306th.

You know, the USAAF did not keep rosters of the 306th, or any other unit. I have the film of all the orders after 1 Dec 43, and a smattering of those before, beginning 1 Mar 42.

If you can assist me in any way, I will be eternally grateful.

Thanks for looking,