

RECORD UPDATE

306th Bomb Group Association

(Please complete as much of this form as you wish, and return to
Russ Strong at the reunion, or mail to Russ Strong, 5323 Cheval
Place, Charlotte, NC 28205) Little Rock 1989

Date completed 12/14/90

LAST NAME: BERGERON FIRST NAME: EDWARD TITLE: CREW CHIEF
Street address: RD-2 SOUTH MAIN ST Telephone: (603) 659-5550
City, state, zip: NEWMARKET N.H. 03857

Date of Birth: AUG 1 1913

Wife's name: (CECILE) DECEASED

College(s) attended:

Degree(s):

Year(s):

Last employment and job title:

UNITED SHOE MACHINERY CORP. AGENT.

Reunions attended: (by year or location) ORLANDO 1980 - Ft Paul-1981
THURLEIGH 1982 - OMAHA 1983 - FORT WORTH 1984 SAN ANTONIO 1990

Serial #: 11036058

Squadron: 423RD

Specialty: AIRPLANE MAINT
TECH. 750

Date joined 306th: MAY 1942

If combat, what crew:

Special duties or assignments w/306th:

Number of missions flown:

Date of last mission:

Date left 306th: SEPT 1945

Highest rank/grade with 306th: M/SGT CREW CHIEF

Other 8th AF units served with:

Top service assignments after 306th:

USAF retirement date: OCT 20 1945 Rank/grade: M/SGT - CREW CHIEF

Copies of old 306th orders, either from the Group or Station 111, or any of the
squadrons or other units, will be welcomed by the secretary.

If you know of other 306th people who do not appear in the directory, please add
their names and current or former addresses to this sheet so that we may search
further for them.

TRANSCRIPT OF MILITARY RECORD

TYPE OF CHARGE OR SEPARATION

Honorable

1. LAST NAME (FIRST NAME-MIDDLE INITIAL) Bergman Adlard E						2. ARMY SERIAL NO. 11 036 058		3. GRADE M/Sgt *		4. ARM OR SERVICE AC		5. COMPONENT IUS		
6. ORGANIZATION West Sta Consl Sq						7. DATE OF DISCHARGE OR SEPARATION 20 Oct 45			8. PLACE OF SEPARATION Dep Ctr Ft Devens Mass					
9. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES 5 Spring St Newmarket N H								10. DATE OF BIRTH		11. PLACE OF BIRTH				
								DAY	MONTH	YEAR				
								1	Aug	13	Newmarket N H			
12. RACE			13. MARITAL STATUS			14. U.S. CITIZEN		15. CIVILIAN OCCUPATION AND NO.						
WHITE	NFCRO	OTHER (Specify)	SINGLE	MARRIED	OTHER (Specify)	YES	NO							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Stitching Mach Over 6-27.504						
16. DATE OF INDUCTION			17. DATE OF ENLISTMENT			18. DATE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SV.			19. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE					
			2 Jan 42			2 Jan 42			Manchester N H					
20. REGISTERED		21. LOCAL S. S. BOARD NO.		22. COUNTY AND STATE				23. HOME ADDRESS AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE						
SELECTIVE SERVICE DATA	YES	NO												
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	None		None				See 9					
24. MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY AND NUMBER						25. MILITARY QUALIFICATION AND DATE (i. e., infantry, aviation, and marksmanship badges, etc.)								
Airplane Maint Tech 750						None								
26. BATTLES AND CAMPAIGNS														
Air Offensive Normandy Northern France Ardennes Rhineland Central Europe														
27. DECORATIONS AND CITATIONS														
World War II Victory Medal European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with 6 Bronze Service Stars Distinguished Unit Badge Bronze Star Medal Good Conduct Medal														
28. WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION														
None														
29. TOTAL LENGTH OF SERVICE						30. HIGHEST GRADE HELD		31. SERVICE OUTSIDE CONTINENTAL U. S. AND RETURN						
CONTINENTAL SERVICE			FOREIGN SERVICE					DATE OF DEPARTURE		DESTINATION		DATE OF ARRIVAL		
YEARS	MONTHS	DAYS	YEARS	MONTHS	DAYS									
0	8	27	3	0	22	M/Sgt		5 Sep 42		L T O		11 Sep 42		
32. PRIOR SERVICE														
None														
33. REASON AND AUTHORITY FOR SEPARATION														
Conv of Govt AR 615-365 IA 1-1 Demobilization														
34. SERVICE SCHOOLS ATTENDED														
Grid Factory Tng Course Boeing Aircraft Sch Seattle Wash 5 Jul 42														
35. REMARKS (This space for completion of above items or entry of other items specified in WD Directives)														
* 1 Feb 43 Lapel Button Issued Blood group A														

Given by the Department of The Army, Washington, D. C., on 22 June 1948

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Edward F. Witsell
EDWARD F. WITSELL,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

To be completed for enlisted personnel only.

TRANSCRIPT OF MILITARY RECORD

TYPE OF DISCHARGE OR SEPARATION
Honorable

1. LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE INITIAL
Bergeron Adelard E

2. ARMY SERIAL NO.
11 036 058

3. GRADE
M/Sgt *

4. ARM OR SERVICE
AC

5. COMPONENT
AUS

6. ORGANIZATION
71st Sta Compl Sq

7. DATE OF DISCHARGE OR SEPARATION
20 Oct 45

8. PLACE OF SEPARATION
Sep Ctr Ft Devens Mass

9. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES
5 Spring St Newmarket N H

10. DATE OF BIRTH
DAY MONTH YEAR
1 Aug 13

11. PLACE OF BIRTH
Newmarket N H

12. RACE
WHITE NEGRO OTHER (Specify)

13. MARITAL STATUS
SINGLE MARRIED OTHER (Specify)

14. U. S. CITIZEN
YES NO

15. CIVILIAN OCCUPATION AND NO.
Stitching Mach Oper 6-27.504

16. DATE OF INDUCTION

17. DATE OF ENLISTMENT
2 Jan 42

18. DATE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SV.
2 Jan 42

19. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE
Manchester N H

SELECTIVE SERVICE DATA

20. REGISTERED
YES NO

21. LOCAL S. S. BOARD NO.
None

22. COUNTY AND STATE
None

23. HOME ADDRESS AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE
See 9

24. MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY AND NUMBER
Airplane Maint Tech 750

25. MILITARY QUALIFICATION AND DATE (i. e., infantry, aviation, and marksmanship badges, etc.)
None

26. BATTLES AND CAMPAIGNS
Air Offensive

Normandy

Northern France

Aruennes

Ihineland

27. DECORATIONS AND CITATIONS
Central Europe

World War II Victory Medal

European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with 6 Bronze Service Stars

Distinguished Unit Badge

Bronze Star Medal

Good Conduct Medal

28. WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION
None

29. TOTAL LENGTH OF SERVICE						30. HIGHEST GRADE HELD
CONTINENTAL SERVICE			FOREIGN SERVICE			
YEARS	MONTHS	DAYS	YEARS	MONTHS	DAYS	
0	8	27	3	0	22	M/Sgt

31. SERVICE OUTSIDE CONTINENTAL U. S. AND RETURN		
DATE OF DEPARTURE	DESTINATION	DATE OF ARRIVAL
5 Sep 42	E T O	11 Sep 42
17 Sep 45	U S A	26 Sep 45

32. PRIOR SERVICE
None

33. REASON AND AUTHORITY FOR SEPARATION
Conv of Govt AR 615-365 RR 1-1 Demobilization

34. SERVICE SCHOOLS ATTENDED

Grad Factory Tng Course Boeing Aircraft Sch Seattle Wash 5 Jul 42

35. REMARKS (This space for completion of above items or entry of other items specified in WD Directives)

*** 1 Feb 43
Lapel Button Issued
Blood group A**

Given by the Department of The Army, Washington, D. C., on **23 June 1948**

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Edward F. Witsell
**EDWARD F. WITSELL,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.**

N. H. Brothers Keep Forts Flying, Win Bronze Stars

Experience Walt and Ed Bergeron Gained Working on Own Plane at Newmarket Pays off at 8th Bomber Base

AN 8TH AAF BOMBER STATION, ENGLAND — Several years ago the people of Newmarket, N. H., used to joke about the Bergeron brothers, Walt and Ed, being crazy about airplanes. The brothers, who lived with their mother at 5 Spring street, were always hanging around the airport, watching with undisguised envy as the planes took off and landed. Then one day, they decided they would no longer be denied the thrill of flying; they, too, would have their own plane.

There followed a period of scrimping and of saving every penny they could lay their hands on, until, after an interminable period of self denial and frugality, the memorable day arrived when they bought their own plane—a tiny two seater.

Experience Pays Off

It was second-hand and somewhat decrepit; but to their eyes it was the most magnificent ship in existence. Of course there was plenty of work to be done before it would be air-worthy, but they looked forward to that with enthusiasm. And the experience these boys gained while working on their plane has paid big dividends. It enabled them to take over vitally important jobs in the 8th Air Force's daylight, precision bombing offensive — the offensive that crippled the German war machine and paved the way for the invasion of Western Europe.

It enabled them to carry out their jobs in such a meritorious manner that they were recently awarded Bronze Star Medals for their contribution to the success of the daylight bombing offensive.

Walt and Ed are still working around airplanes at this veteran Flying Fortress base, but the tiny two-seater has given away to a huge, 30-ton, four-engined Flying Fortress.

M/Sgt. Edward A. Bergeron *CREW* chief, and M/Sgt. Walter H. Bergeron, *LINE* chief, are two of the men who keep the great armada of Fortresses in the air. The importance of their work to the all-out success of the daylight bombing offensive was stressed by Col. George L. Robinson, their group commander, when he pinned the Bronze Star Medals on their blouses.

"Sergeant Bergeron's superior skill and expert leadership are well exemplified by one B-17 aircraft entrusted to his care that completed 25 consecutive operational

missions without mechanical failure," he said in decorating Ed.

When one of his Fortresses returned from a mission on March 25, badly damaged by flak and machinegun bullets, Ed demonstrated his outstanding devotion to duty by working throughout the night with his crew to have the aircraft in condition to take off the following day on another assault against strategic targets.

Walt didn't do so bad himself. Here's what his citation said: "Sergeant Bergeron has vigorously performed his duties in such an outstanding manner that he was an admirable example to the remainder of the maintenance personnel of his squadron. His achievements and ingenuity have earned for him the highest respect of both ground and flying personnel."

Walt and Ed want to go back to that airport in Newmarket. They want to get back to their little two-seater. In case anything goes wrong with it they shouldn't have too much trouble making repairs.

The Bergeron brothers' careers have run along parallel lines ever since they enlisted. Their promotions to corporal, sergeant, staff sergeant, technical sergeant and master sergeant came on the same day and on the same orders. Walt is line chief in the *GRIM REAPERS* squadron, and, at the present time, Ed is chief of the crew that handles the repairs on the B-17 *CHOO-Z-Suzy*.

SGT. BERGERON WINS BRONZE STAR

Master Sgt. Adelard E. Bergeron, USA AF, son of Francis Bergeron of 5 Spring street, Newmarket, has been awarded the Bronze Star at an Eighth AAF bomber station in England.

The award was made by the group commander, Col. George L. Robinson of Los Angeles, Cal. Sergeant Bergeron is a crew chief of a B-17 Flying Fortress bomber.

His Bronze Star citation read, in part, "for meritorious service during the performance of his duties."

Before entering the armed forces Sergeant Bergeron was a machine operator at a local shoe company. He attended Newmarket High school.

GO #449, Hq 3AF,
8 June 1944.

EMIL L. JOHNSON, O-663300, Captain, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Lead Navigator for a formation of Flying Fortresses on a bombardment mission over Germany, 22 March 1944. The specially equipped aircraft in which Captain Johnson was flying held the lead position of an entire Division. Though a dense undercast prevailed, obscuring all check points enroute, and his equipment was not functioning properly, he skilfully navigated the formation to the assigned target. His perfect coordination with the bombardier enabled the Division to accomplish an accurate bombing run through an intense barrage of flak. The courage, determination and high degree of technical skill displayed by Captain Johnson contributed materially to the success of this operation. Entered military service from Maryland.

IV. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Letter, No., USSTAF, AG 200.6, 3 April 1944, Subject: "Awards and Decorations", the BRONZE STAR is awarded to the following-named Enlisted Men:

ANDREW M. ASTOLAS, 32387300, Master Sergeant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For meritorious achievement as crew maintenance chief of heavy bombardment aircraft in connection with aerial operations against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations from 7 January 1944 to 1 May 1944. Entered military service from New Jersey.

VICTOR L. BAKER, 17067562, Master Sergeant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For meritorious achievement as crew maintenance chief of heavy bombardment aircraft in connection with aerial operations against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations from 13 December 1943 to 1 May 1944. Entered military service from Iowa.

ADEIARD E. BERGERON, 11036058, Master Sergeant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For meritorious achievement as crew maintenance chief of heavy bombardment aircraft in connection with aerial operations against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations from 8 January 1943 to 19 May 1944. Entered military service from New Hampshire.

HERMAN J. BIR, 6990523, Master Sergeant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For meritorious achievement as crew maintenance chief of heavy bombardment aircraft in connection with aerial operations against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations from 14 October 1943 to 25 April 1944. Entered military service from Virginia.

MELVIN D. CHRISMAN, 18053599, Master Sergeant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For meritorious achievement as crew maintenance chief of heavy bombardment aircraft in connection with aerial operations against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations from 29 January 1944 to 25 April 1944. Entered military service from Oklahoma.

RICHARD L. COLLINS, 11033777, Master Sergeant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For meritorious achievement as crew maintenance chief of heavy bombardment aircraft in connection with aerial operations against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations from 6 September 1942 to 20 May 1944. Entered military service from Connecticut.

MASTER SERGEANT ADELARD E. BERGERON, FOR MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT WHILE SERVING AS MAINTENANCE CREW CHIEF OF B-17 AIRCRAFT FROM 8 JAN., 1943, TO 19 MAY, 1944. DURING THIS PERIOD THE AIRCRAFT IN SGT BERGERON'S CHARGE HAVE PARTICIPATED IN 96 OPERATIONAL MISSIONS WITH ONLY THREE ABORTIONS. IN NO INSTANCE HAVE GROUP OR HIGHER ECHELON INSPECTORS DIRECTED ANYTHING BUT PRAISE TO SGT BERGERON'S AIRCRAFT. SGT BERGERON'S SUPERIOR TECHNICAL SKILL AND EXPERT LEADERSHIP ARE WELL EXEMPLIFIED BY ONE B-17 AIRCRAFT ENTRUSTED TO SGT BERGERON'S CARE WHICH COMPLETED 25 CONSECUTIVE OPERATIONAL MISSIONS WITHOUT ABORTION; FROM 1 JAN., 1944, TO 29 MARCH, 1944. DURING THIS PERIOD SGT BERGERON AND HIS CREW KEPT THE ENGINES IN SUCH SUPERIOR CONDITION THAT NOT EVEN A SUPERCHARGER HAD TO BE CHANGED. ON 20 FEB., 1944, SGT BERGERON'S SHIP RETURNED FROM LEIPZIG, GERMANY WITH SERIOUS DAMAGE; TOKYO TANKS IN THE LEFT WING WERE SHOT UP, NECESSITATING AN OUTBOARD WING CHANGE; DAMAGED BRACKETS AND THE CORRUGATION ON NO. 2 ENGINE HAD TO BE REPAIRED; THE VERTICAL STABILIZER WAS TORN BEYOND INSTALLATION REPAIR AND IT WAS REPLACED; THE EXHAUST PUSHROD AND HOUSING OF NO. 3 CYLINDER ON NO. 1 ENGINE WAS SHOT OUT, NECESSITATING CHANGES IN BOTH PARTS; THE PLEXIGLASS NOSE WAS SPLATTERED WITH FLAK NECESSITATING A NOSE CHANGE. BY EXERTING ALL OF HIS PHYSICAL AND MENTAL ABILITIES SGT BERGERON WITH HIS CREW COMPLETED ALL OF THIS WORK AND HAD THEIR AIRCRAFT IN STATUS IN TWO DAYS. ON MARCH 26 HIS SHIP AGAIN RETURNED WITH SEVERE BATTLE DAMAGES. THE DAMAGES INCLUDED FLAK DAMAGE TO THE NAVIGATORS ASTRODOME; A RIGHT WING TIP SO BADLY DAMAGED IT HAD TO BE CHANGED; THE SAME WAS NECESSARY FOR A BADLY DAMAGED RUDDER AND E-5 TOKYO TANK SHUT OFF VALVE. (THE VALVE ITSELF ORDINARILY TAKES AT LEAST 6 HOURS TO CHANGE.) ONCE AGAIN SGT BERGERON SHOWED HIS CONDUCT TO BE ABOVE THE ORDINARY BY WORKING ALL NIGHT WITH HIS CREW AND HAVING HIS AIRCRAFT PREPARED TO TAKE OFF AGAIN ON THE NEXT DAY FOR ANOTHER HEAVY BOMBARDMENT MISSION. ON 27 MARCH, 1944, MISSION TO LA ROCHELLE, FRANCE, SGT BERGERON'S AIRCRAFT AGAIN RECEIVED BATTLE DAMAGES NECESSITATING ANOTHER HORIZONTAL STABILIZER CHANGE AND A NO. 3 BULKHEAD CHANGE. AFTER WORKING ALL NIGHT THE PREVIOUS NIGHT SGT BERGERON AGAIN WORKED BOTH DAY AND NIGHT FOR TWO DAYS AND HAD HIS AIRCRAFT READY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 29 MARCH, 1944 MISSION. IN ADDITION TO FOUR TRIPS TO BERLIN, THIS AIRCRAFT PARTICIPATED IN THE FIRST DIVISION HALBERSTADT BATTLE OF 11 JANUARY, 1944. IN SPITE OF THE HARDSHIPS AND HANDICAPS OF BAD WEATHER, STRICT BLACK-OUT REGULATIONS AND AT TIMES THE LACK OF REPLACEMENT PARTS FOR DAMAGES INHERENT IN COMBAT FLYING, SGT BERGERON WORKED AND SUPERVISED TO KEEP HIS AIRCRAFT IN UNIFORMLY SUPERIOR CONDITION TO COMPLETE 25 OPERATIONAL SORTIES WITHOUT MECHANICAL FAILURE. HIS EFFICIENCY AND DEVOTION TO DUTY REFLECT THE HIGHEST CREDIT BOTH ON HIMSELF AND ON THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Bergeron, Edward A *

423

Crew Chief

Arrival Promotion Departed Death
to M/Sgt

42-03-00

43-02-01

45-08-00

2-1-42

1-2-43

9-26-45

Marital Status: WIDOW Wife's Name: _____

If you have a copy of the order promoting you to Master or to First Sergeant, I would very much like to receive a copy of such, as these are difficult to find. While I have some orders prior to 1 Dec 43, I need more. I do have all orders issued after the above date. I have a group picture of 367th Masters, but have never seen one from another squadron. Have you?

Russell A. Strong, Secretary
306th Bomb Group Association
5323 Cheval Place
Charlotte, NC 28205