

Wallace Boring, Mayville TN

9 April 1976

Dear Wallace:

Many thanks for all the help which you gave me Sunday. I certainly appreciated having you host the group, and I thought it was a most informative session.

As stray thoughts come to you concerning the whereabouts of individuals, and interesting tidbits, I'd hope that you might jot them down and send them to me occasionally. All such minutiae becomes valuable when placed in with the other pieces of the jig saw puzzle.

Meanwhile, I got to my destination about 11:05, and had two profitable days of looking into a business venture in North Carolina, and then headed back up the interstate yesterday.

I detoured to Winchester, Ky., looking for John K. Hickey, who was a 306th pilot in '43, but could find no trace of him.

Please tell your wife that I appreciated the coffee, and hope that our invasion didn't upset the household too much.

I shall look forward to seeing you Oct. 15-17.

Sincerely yours,

A HISTORY OF THE 306th BOMBARDMENT GROUP - EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Russell A. Strong, 4900 Appleridge Ct., Dayton, Ohio 45424

I am endeavoring to put together a good history of the 306th Bombardment group, an idea which has been in my mind for some years. I am working diligently on the matter, collecting all kinds of data and working through the official history and records of the group. I served as a navigator with the 367th Squadron from June through November, 1944, and currently as Director of News and Information Services at Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio. I solicit your assistance in my project.

I am interested in any special materials which you may have, such as good photographs of personnel, battle damage, plane insignia, etc. I am also interested in commendations (other than the usual Air Medal and DFC) you may have received, special stories which you may have in your possession, letters that are highly descriptive of combat action, or any other documents. I would appreciate receiving a rough copy, but if you do not have such facilities readily available, I would appreciate the loan of materials which I might copy and return to you immediately. I am also interested in manuscripts of memoirs which you may have prepared, particularly if they were done within a couple of years of the events. Again, I would appreciate copies or the opportunity to copy them.

Name Bordner, Ralph E.
 Address 131 East Autumn Lane
 Telephone 309-699-3640 Date 10 March 1976
Elementary
 Occupation School Supt. Employer Robeins School Dist #85
 Address 200 Campus Ave Telephone 309-694-1409
East Peoria, Ill. 61611

Service Record:

Before joining the 306th:

After leaving the 306th:

Refresher course at Midland Texas, Personnel Officer Dodge City
 Kansas-Club Officer at Frederick Okla.- Helped close both bases
 became in active in Dec. 1945. Served as Commander of local
 Reserve Squadron 1955-62 - Director of Material of 182nd Tactical
 Air Support Gp in Peoria, Ill 1962-72 Place in Retire Reserve 1972

306th Record:

Arrival Date _____ Squadron or other unit _____
 MOS _____ Combat Status _____
 Missions Completed _____
 Promotions _____
 Decorations AM olcs DFC olcs SS DSM DSC MH SM
PH Battle Stars _____ other _____

Russ:

I arrived at the 306th in early July 1944. I was assigned to the 368th Sqd'n and flew my first mission to Merseberg on July 28. On my sixth mission I was navigator on the ship that flew in the slot behind the group leader. Shortly after takeoff smoke bomb went off in lead plane and had to abort the mission. We had a bomb-sight in our plane so we moved into deputy group lead - things went ok until after bombs away at Bohlen Germany then the acting group lead aborted and there I was flying group lead with six missions, but with a good flight plan and a bombardier with 28 mission navigating back to the 306th wasn't to bad a job. The next day at the critique of the mission the subject of a bombardier-navigator with only six mission ending up leading the group was 'discussed' - and it was pointed out that it should not happen in the future.

If you notice I flew 19 lead mission -bombardier
4 deputy lead mission -bombardier
4 missions-navigator
3 mission(first missions -bombardier

30 missions

In late Sept and early Oct. the 368th lost a couple lead bombardiers and Ralph Norton the Squadron Bombardier was sent home I was picked to be Squadron Bombardier on Oct 11, 1944. It was a little embarrassing because I was still a Second-Lt. Because I was Sqdn Bomb. and lead my mission were not to frequent in Dec., Jan., and Feb. so I didn't finish until Feb. 16, 1945. I received my Capt - Feb 5, 1945.

My tour had the usual excitement of flack damage to the planes, 4 or 5 mission of fighter attacks and lousy weather in England and over the target. I was happy when it was over ready to head for the states. I did enjoy the friends I made in the 368th Sqdn and the 306th

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
OFFICE OF OPERATIONS OFFICER
APO 557

22 February, 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-E

CONFIDENTIAL

This is to certify that Capt. Ralph E. Bordner O-769248, has completed the following lead missions with the 306th Bombardment Group (H).

<u>DATE</u>	<u>GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONS</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>TYPE OF LEAD</u>
14-Sept. 17	VOLKEL, HOLLAND	6:35	SQ. LEAD
Oct. 2	KASSEL, GERMANY	8:30	SQ. LEAD
6	STRALSUND, GERMANY	10:00	GROUP LEAD
14	KOEN, GERMANY	7:20	SQ. LEAD
19	MANNHEIM, GERMANY	5:45	SQ. LEAD
30	MUNSTER, GERMANY	6:15	SQ. LEAD
Nov. 4	MARBURG, GERMANY	8:00	COMBAT WING LEAD
9	METZ, FRANCE	8:20	GROUP LEAD
16	SCHWEIER, GERMANY	7:15	SQ. LEAD
21	MEPPEN, GERMANY	7:20	SQ. LEAD
Dec. 2	KOBLENZ, GERMANY	7:00	SQ. LEAD
5	BERLIN, GERMANY	9:30	SQ. LEAD
15	KASSEL, GERMANY	8:05	GROUP LEAD
28	SEIGEN, GERMANY	7:00	SQ. LEAD
15-Jan. 17	BIELEFELD, GERMANY	8:00	GROUP LEAD
28	KOEN, GERMANY	5:45	SQ. LEAD
Feb. 6	FULDA, GERMANY	10:30	SQ. LEAD
14	DRESDEN, GERMANY	9:30	SQ. LEAD
16	DORTMUND, GERMANY	8:15	SQ. LEAD

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Thomas F. Witt
THOMAS F. WITT,
Major, AC,
Ops. Officer,
306 Bomb Op(H).

CONFIDENTIAL

G-F-E-N-A-T-I V-A-L S-O-R-T-I-E R-E-C-O-R-D

NAME: BORDNER, RALPH E.

RANK: Captain

A.S.N.: 0-769268

DUTY: Bomb.

GROUP: 300

SQUADRON: 358

Date of Mission	Group Mission Number	Indiv. Mission Number	Geographic Targets	Time	Total Combat Time
July 28		1	MERSEBURG, GERMANY	9:00	
Aug. 3		2	MERSEBURG, GERMANY	7:40	
4		3	ANKLAM, GERMANY	10:25	
8		4	// CAEN AREA, FRANCE	6:35	
12		5	// CHAMPT, FRANCE	7:40	
13			SPARE	2:55	
16		6	// BOMLEN, GERMANY	8:25	
24		7	// MERSEBURG, GERMANY	9:30	
30		8	KIEL, GERMANY	7:40	
Sept. 8		9	LUDWIGSHAVEN, GERMANY	8:00	
10		10	STUTTGART, GERMANY	7:30	
17		11	VOLLEN, HOLLAND	6:35	
25		12	FRANKFURT, GERMANY	7:40	
Oct. 2		13	KASSEL, GERMANY	8:30	
6		14	STRALSUND, GERMANY	10:00	
14		15	KOLN, GERMANY	7:29	
19		16	MANHEIM, GERMANY	5:45	
30		17	MUNSTER, GERMANY	6:15	
Nov. 4		18	MAHBURG, GERMANY	8:00	
9		19	WEIL, FRANCE	8:20	
16		20	ESCHWILDER, GERMANY	7:15	
21		21	MEPPEN, GERMANY	7:20	
Dec. 2		22	KOBLENZ, GERMANY	7:00	
5		23	BERLIN, GERMANY	9:10	
15		24	KASSEL, GERMANY	8:05	
20		25	SEIBERSBURG, GERMANY	7:00	
45-Jan. 17		26	BIELEFELD, GERMANY	8:00	
28		27	KOLN, GERMANY	5:45	
Feb. 6		28	FULDA, GERMANY	10:30	
14		29	DRESDEN, GERMANY	9:30	
16		30	DORTMUND, GERMANY	8:15	71:35

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Thomas F. Witt

THOMAS F. WITT,

Major, AG,

Oper. Officer,

306 Bomb Sq (H).

CONFIDENTIAL

ROBEIN SCHOOL DIST. No. 85

200 CAMPUS AVENUE
EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS 61611

10 March 1976

Dear Russ:

Please excuse the typing but the typewriter is an old Royal which I keep here at home and I am not the best typist. I am sending you a lot of stuff, if you can use it O.K. if not just pitch it. I have started writing a few times and as I write I keep thinking of more thing so I guess the solution is to write less each time and write more often. Thanks so much for the info you have furnished me in the past.

I have recently written Bill Collins and sent some material to him and offered help, ideas, and material such as duplicating materials and methods for the reunion of the 306th and the 8th affair at Dayton in Oct. I hope to hear from him soon because Oct is ~~not~~ far off.

I had dinner (Feb. 2) with a Martin Bremer who served in the 306th Gp Hdq. form early 1943 and after the war. He was a good friend of Arthur Bove (a lot of pictures of his wedding are in Boves book) In fact that night he called Bove at his home in Putnam, Conn. about getting some addresses of the 306th from him. Bove said they were old but he was welcome to use them. Did you ever hear from him?

As for your request I have S.O 188 17 July 1944 in this packet I had the originals reduced for you. If you note the orders were placing me in the 306th - 368th

I am still working on the insignia for the post card. I have patches from the 367th and 368th and excellent picture of the Fightin Bitin of the 369th. I need something on the 423th and the group insignia. The materiel you sent was squadron insignias because I have a copy of National Geographic June 1943. Thanks anyhow for the help.

I have a letter written to DON Ross, he was my Group Bombadier and good friend. He, Sam Hatton, Reg Thayer Jr. the last Sqdn, Bombadier of the 368, were close friends at Thurleigh.

By the way, Russ how about author ,publishing date, publishing company of

Target -Germany
Skyway to Berlin

I will be going up to Genoa, Ill. a town close to St Charles Ill. the home town of Richard Cleays. I would glad to check on information about him. Let me know and I will help.

I including some picture, I have the originals and negatives you can keep these copies and if want copies let me know.

*This is letter to accompany a pile of stuff - So
good luck & let me know if you get
it. Russ. I forget these Thank again*

*is some info on Schweinfurt raid
about 306th - in Double Strike by Ralph.
Jablonski - It quotes Barrufather &
Raper - I have the book*



By PFC. AL GARABEDIAN

Your correspondent is writing his last squadron column, before he departs for Wright Field, Ohio. It was a pleasure and a privilege to represent the personnel these few short weeks.

This squadron is seriously contemplating another steak and "9.9" party sometime the latter part of June. Last year's party was a rousing success. The official date for the shin-dig will be posted in the near future. You're all invited.

A haircut to top all haircuts is being sported by Pfc. William H. Wiggins. He had it trimmed down so there was just enough to protect his scalp from the blazing sun.

... and half-smoked cigar. Many of our men wear his "dark goggles" everywhere, even in the barracks, and will wear them on his forehead rather than encase them. His cigar always seems the same length—about half-smoked, from morning to night. Rumor says that he cuts 'em in two, but last Monday he was actually seen lighting a brand-new full-length cigar!

Let the most impossible thing you can imagine happen, but we'll bet you'll never see Sgt. Mario E. O'Sarty, Pinto going anywhere in the evening without his girl friend, who works in the PX restaurant. Recently, when he was off on a cross-country flight, his girl friend really "sweated out" every plane that flew over the field.

History In The Making

Last Tuesday afternoon, at 3:55 p. m., Cpl. Kenneth T. Ray walked into the North-Section Engineering office and bemoaned the fact that so many of his friends were leaving the line, but he couldn't "make the list." He was told to "sit tight and cool off."

No sooner had he taken the order

... was transferred to permanent day flight on specialized maintenance and T. O. compliance. For several days, the two men went around with red, swollen eyes, complaining that the sunlight was blinding them. However, now that they are wearing dark glasses, they are gradually becoming accustomed to natural light.

Cpl. Carl P. Register finally got the last laugh. All the time he has been in the Army, two of his brothers-in-law, much younger than he, were still "free," as he puts it. Then, his home town paper came out recently with an item mentioning that both men had been placed in the next induction call. Corporal Register says, "I won't feel so much alone now."

Fourth Platoon

By PFC. BOB MORGAN

The platoon softball team is looking forward to some hard competition when the league opens. The opening game will probably find Pvt. George Goethals catching and Pvt. Harry Kirk on the mound. Harry pitched last season for Keen-

... whole year ... old gent ... on remaining in ... and Pfc. Fair will ... and Pfc. Woods is ... turn to San Marcos.

The Future Tech Bombight Mabrion, a few more members are Pfc. Eugene C. ... danger, S/Sgt. Melvin Casimir (Casey) J. ... addition to the ...

An interesting ... Scout's Hobby show ... Charley H. Herring ... Ceremonies. The ... at his peak, since ... Gary had a model ... played at the show, ... of the evening was ... twelve horned heads ... play box, and Sergeant ... to assist in rounding ... escaped captives.

This And That: Pfc. David ... reduce his waist-line ... parent success ...



The Old Outfit . . .



ETO — (from The Stars and Stripes)—The Mediterranean Air Force dropped nearly a half-million tons of bombs on Nazi installations during its 18-month stay in Italy . . . The Desert Air Force recalled its marathon from the Libyan Desert almost to the Swiss Alps in the V-E Day celebrations. April had been a banner month, too, with more than 21,000 sorties flown . . . Checking back on the contributions of various factors to the fall of Germany it has been estimated that fifty-seven per cent of the Ruhr was knocked out by bombing. The RAF and the Eighth AF cooperated in the blows . . . Nominated as the outstanding Egger Beaver of the Eighth AF is Lt. Richard H. Claysy of the 308th BG. Averaging one combat trip for each three days, he spends his rest periods around the operations room sweating out practice missions. He's flown 62 missions . . . 308th BG, a Lib outfit, has completed 309 missions . . . Since arriving in the ETO in May

last year, Lt. George A. King, Jr., has flown 18 missions in a Lib, 17 in a Fort, and is now flying a P-51 with the 20th Mustang Group . . . El Lobo, a B-17 with the 457th BG, has completed 113 missions without a turnback for mechanical reasons.

CHINA—(from The Lantern) — Lt. Col. Charles H. Older of Beverly Hills, Calif., the highest-scoring active ace in the China Theater and now deputy commander of a fighter group, recently added the DFC to his list of aerial decorations . . . At least one Jap truck driver went to visit his ancestors permanently the other night when a plane of the 14th AF 60th Composite Wing was strafing supply columns at night. When it got back to the base the pilot discovered he'd kidnapped a Jap truck driver—or at least the essential parts of him . . . Lt. Col. James W. (Buck) Newsome has assumed command of the 60th Composite Wing of the 14th

AF . . . A bomb container, an oil drum, two P-40 gauges and an old jeep jack were made into an acetylene gas generator at 14th AF base. Gas for the welding equipment at the field formerly was flown over the hump in heavy bottles.

Sports Note: Six teams have been entered in the first organized baseball league in China. The boys have been working out for several weeks and a hot season is in the offing.

ALASKA — (from the Midnight Sun)—An elaborate sports program in which all Ladd Field soldiers may participate, in lieu of calisthenics, has been instituted. Baseball, softball, volleyball, soccer, boxing and other sports are features of the new plan . . . A ping pong tourney has been organized. The top man from Ladd Field will set out to take on the best at Anchutka early in July

PACIFIC—(from the ... crew of Miss Travel ... Lib, figure they ... lives. In a pre-inve ... two a Jap ack- ... through the open ... glanced off a bomb, ... bulkhead and crabs ... of the fuselage, Not ... The amazing ... B-29 in flight was ... recently when a Sup ... more than a thousa ... it had been almost ... though the pilot m ... landing the big plane ... it rolled to a stop. A ... had knocked out ... gines and the dome ... when the propeller ... sliced into the fusel ... Tail surfaces ... don't get banged up ... released fuel tanks. A ... unit has devised a ca ... which flings the em ... safely away from the

Lt R. H. Claysy
317 So. 2nd St
Charles Dellinger

In Air Scoop
Midland A Field
Texas
May 19, 1945

From Picture Book B-17 Flying Fortress
 you are welcome to use
 it if you want to *Ralph*
 Famous Aircraft Series
 FORTRESS DEVELOPMENT Cy-1965



Fortress I (B-17C) of No. 90 Squadron, Royal Air Force; first unit to use the Fort in combat.



B-17E of 19th Bomb Group.



B-17F of 95th Bomb Group.

*I had a photo of this
 plane + lost - I will keep looking
 for it*



B-17G of 306th Bomb Group.



Work No 307 B Spink

306th BOMBARDMENT GROUP

Constituted as 306th Bombardment Group (Heavy) on 28 Jan 1942. Activated on 1 Mar 1942. Trained for combat with B-17's. Moved to England, Aug-Sep 1942, and assigned to Eighth AF. Dur-

179



ing combat, Oct 1942-Apr 1945, operated primarily against strategic targets, striking locomotive works at Lille, railroad yards at Rouen, submarine pens at Bordeaux, shipbuilding yards at Vegesack, ball-bearing works at Schweinfurt, oil plants at Merseburg, marshalling yards at Stuttgart, a foundry at Hannover, a chemical plant at Ludwigshafen, aircraft factories at Leipzig, and other objectives on the Continent. Took part in the first penetration into Germany by heavy bombers of Eighth AF on 27 Jan 1943 by attacking U-boat yards at Wilhelmshaven. Sgt Maynard H Smith received the Medal of Honor for his performance on 1 May 1943; when the aircraft on which he was a gunner was hit by the enemy and fires were ignited in the radio compartment and waist sections, the sergeant threw exploding ammunition overboard, manned a gun until the German fighters were driven off, administered first aid to the wounded tail gunner, and extinguished the fire. Without fighter escort and in the face of powerful opposition, the 306th completed an assault against aircraft factories in central Ger-

many on 11 Jan 1944, being awarded a DUC for the mission. Received another DUC for action during Big Week, the intensive campaign against the German aircraft industry, 20-25 Feb 1944; although hazardous weather forced supporting elements to abandon the mission, the group effectively bombarded an aircraft assembly plant at Bernberg on 22 Feb. Often supported ground forces and attacked interdiction targets in addition to its strategic operations. Helped to prepare for the invasion of Normandy by striking airfields and marshalling yards in France, Belgium, and Germany; backed the assault on 6 Jun 1944 by raiding railroad bridges and coastal guns. Assisted ground forces during the St Lo breakthrough in Jul. Covered the airborne invasion of Holland in Sep. Helped stop the advance of German armies in the Battle of the Bulge, Dec 1944-Jan 1945, by attacking airfields and marshalling yards. Bombed enemy positions in support of the airborne assault across the Rhine in Mar 1945. Remained in the theater after V-E Day as part of United States Air Forces in Europe, and engaged in special photographic mapping duty in western Europe and North Africa. Inactivated in Germany on 25 Dec 1946.

Redesignated 306th Bombardment Group (Very Heavy). Activated in the US on 1 Jul 1947. Assigned to Strategic Air Command. Not manned until Aug 1948. Redesignated 306th Bombardment Group (Medium) in Aug 1948. Equipped with B-29's and later with B-50's. Inactivated on 16 Jun 1952.

SQUADRONS. 367th: 1942-1946; 1947-1952. 368th: 1942-1946; 1947-1952. 369th: 1942-1946; 1947-1952. 423d: 1942-1946.

STATIONS. Gowen Field, Idaho, 1 Mar 1942; Wendover Field, Utah, c. 6 Apr-1 Aug 1942; Thurleigh, England, Sep 1942; Giebelstadt, Germany, Dec 1942; Istres, France, Feb 1943; Furstenfeldbruck, Germany, 16 Aug 1946; Lechfeld, Germany, 23 Sep-25 Dec 1946. Andrews Field, Md, 1 Jul 1947; MacDill AFB, Fla, Aug 1948-16 Jun 1952.

COMMANDERS. Col Charles H Overacker Jr, c. 16 Mar 1942; Col Frank A Armstrong Jr, 3 Jun 1943; Col Claude E Putnam, 17 Feb 1943; Col George L Robinson, c. 20 Jun 1943; Col James S Sutton, Sep 1944; Col Hudson H Upham, c. 16 Apr 1945; Col Robert F Harris, May 1946; Lt Col Earl W Kenling, Jun 1946-unkn.; Lt Col Charles R Heffner, 13 Aug 1948; Lt Col Lorin D Briggs, c. 1 Nov 1948; Col John A Hilger, 1 Sep 1949; Col Michael N W McCoy, Mar 1950-16 Jun 1952.

CAMPAINS. Air Offensive, Europe; Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe.

DECORATIONS. Distinguished Unit Citations: Germany, 11 Jan 1944; Germany, 22 Feb 1944.

INSIGNE. Shield: Per fess enhanced dancette azure and or, in base the Indian idogram for the jaws of a rattlesnake gules. Motto: ABUNDANCE OF STRENGTH. (Approved 6 Jan 1943. This insignie became an element of a new insignie approved 2 Oct 1951.)

I have no idea what the original one was

The above came out of
Air Force Combat Units of War War II (Group
Wing
A.F. Forces
5-6-7 etc)

Edited by Maurer Maurer -
USAF Historical Division
USA - 1960
US Gov Printing office - 1961

369th BOMBARDMENT

old



LINEAGE. Constituted 359th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) on 28 Jun 1942. Activated on 1 Mar 1942. Inactivated on 29 Jun 1946. Redesignated 362th Bombardment Squadron (Very Heavy) on 11 Jun 1947. Activated on 1 Jul 1947. Redesignated 369th Bombardment Squadron (Medium) on 11 Aug 1948.

ASSIGNMENTS. 369th Bombardment Group, 1 Mar 1942-29 Jun 1946. 369th Bombardment Group, 1 Jul 1947. 369th Bombardment Wing, 16 Jun 1952.

STATIONS. Gowen Field, Idaho, 1 Mar 1942; Wendover Field, Utah, c. 6 Apr-1

SQUADRONS

Aug 1942; Thurligh, England, 6 Sep 1942 (detachment operated from Istres, France, 31 Aug-Sep 1945; Marrakech, French Morocco, 6 Sep 1945-Jan 1946); Giebelstadt, Germany, 25 Dec 1945; Istres, France, 26 Feb-29 Jun 1946; Andrews Field, Md, 1 Jul 1947; MacDill AFB, Fla, 1 Aug 1948.

AIRCRAFT. B-17, 1942-1946. B-29, 1948-1951; B-50, 1950-1951; B-47, 1951.

OPERATIONS. Combat in ETO, 9 Oct 1942-19 Apr 1945. Photo-mapping, Europe and Africa, Jun 1945-Jun 1946. Apparently not manned, 1 Jul 1947-1 Aug 1948.

SERVICE STREAMERS. None.

CAMPAIGNS. Air Offensive, Europe; Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe; Air Combat, EAME Theater.

DECORATIONS. Distinguished Unit Citations: Germany, 11 Jun 1944; Germany, 22 Feb 1944. Air Force Outstanding Unit Award: 22 Jun 1953-8 Dec 1955.

EMBLEM. On a turquoise blue disk, a caricatured black bug with green face wings, and markings on stomach, wearing black helmet, black boxing gloves and black shoes, in fighting stance on black irregular figure at base of, and in front of a large white cloud formation. (Approved 10 Aug 1944.)

423d BOMBARDMENT



LINEAGE. Constituted 34th Reconnaissance Squadron (Heavy) on 28 Jun 1942. Activated on 1 Mar 1942. Redesignated 423d Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) on 22 Apr 1942. Inactivated on 25 Dec 1946. Redesignated 423d Bombardment Squadron (Light) on 15 Nov 1952. Activated on 1 Jan 1953. Inactivated on 19 Jul 1954. Redesignated 423d Bombardment Squadron (Medium) on 6 Oct 1958. Activated on 1 Jan 1959. Discontinued, and inactivated, on 1 Jan 1962.

ASSIGNMENTS. 369th Bombardment Group, 1 Mar 1942-25 Dec 1948 (attached to 305th Bombardment Group, 16 Jul 1944-25 Dec 1948). 4490th Air Base Wing (attached to 4400th Combat Crew Training Group), 1 Jan 1953. 4400th Combat Crew Training (later Tactical Bombardment) Group, 1 May 1953-19 Jul 1954. 369th Bombardment Group, 1 Jan 1959-1 Jan 1962.

STATIONS. Gowen Field, Idaho, 1 Mar 1942; Wendover Field, Utah, c. 6 Apr-1 Aug 1942; Thurligh, England, c. 9 Sep 1942 (detachment operated from Istres, France, 31 Aug-Dec 1945); Giebelstadt, Germany, 17 Dec 1945; Istres, France, 26 Feb 1946 (detachments operated from Dakar, French West Africa, Mar-

320

May 1946; Gibraltar, Jun-28 Sep 1946); Lechfeld, Germany, 16 Jul-25 Dec 1946 (detachment operated from Port Lyautey, French Morocco, 16 Jul-26 Sep 1946). Langley AFB, Va, 1 Jan 1953-19 Jul 1954. MacDill AFB, Fla, 1 Jan 1959-1 Jan 1962.

AIRCRAFT. B-17, 1942-1946. B-26, 1953-1954. B-47, 1959-1961.

OPERATIONS. Combat in ETO, 9 Oct 1942-19 Apr 1945. Photo-mapping, Europe and Africa, Jun 1945-Sep 1946.

SERVICE STREAMERS. None.

CAMPAIGNS. Air Offensive, Europe; Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe; Air Combat, EAME Theater.

DECORATIONS. Distinguished Unit Citations: Germany, 11 Jun 1944; Germany, 22 Feb 1944.

EMBLEM. On and over a globe cheery light blue and Air Force blue, a red winged chess knight in profile, highlights and details Air Force golden yellow, nostril and eye white between in dexter an olive branch arched and in sinister a lightning flash arched, Air Force golden yellow, shaded golden brown. Motto: On a red scroll, IMPEDIMUS HOSTES, We Check the Adversary, inscribed Air Force golden yellow. (Approved 27 Jan 1961.)

Old was → new
Sum
Reaper
Cassey Jones
checked
has a
picture of
one

In two pages
of squadrons
insignia were
taken from
Combat Squadrons
of Air Force
World War II
done by
Maurer Maurer
1969
WBAF
US Govt Printer

367th BOMBARDMENT

new



*old one
Clay
Pigeon
Skull
with
helmet*

LINEAGE. Constituted 367th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) on 28 Jan 1942. Activated on 1 Mar 1942. Inactivated on 25 Dec 1946. Redesignated 367th Bombardment Squadron (Very Heavy) on 11 Jun 1947. Activated on 1 Jul 1947. Redesignated 367th Bombard-

368th BOMBARDMENT



old

LINEAGE. Constituted 368th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) on 28 Jan 1942. Activated on 1 Mar 1942. Inactivated on 25 Dec 1946. Redesignated 368th Bombardment Squadron (Very Heavy) on 11 Jun 1947. Activated on 1 Jul 1947. Redesignated 368th Bombardment Squadron (Medium) on 11 Aug 1948.

ASSIGNMENTS. 368th Bombardment Group, 1 Mar 1942-25 Dec 1946. 368th Bombardment Group, 1 Jul 1947. 368th Bombardment Wing, 16 Jun 1952-

STATIONS. Gowen Field, Idaho, 1 Mar 1942; Wendover Field, Utah, c. 6 Apr-1 Aug 1942; Thurleigh, England, c. 6 Sep 1942 (detachment operated from Gibraltar, 18 Aug 1945-Jan 1946); Port

OF THE AIR FORCE—WORLD WAR II

ment Squadron (Medium) on 11 Aug 1948.

ASSIGNMENTS. 368th Bombardment Group, 1 Mar 1942-25 Dec 1946. 368th Bombardment Group, 1 Jul 1947. 368th Bombardment Wing, 16 Jun 1952-

STATIONS. Gowen Field, Idaho, 1 Mar 1942; Wendover Field, Utah, c. 6 Apr-1 Aug 1942; Thurleigh, England, c. 6 Sep 1942 (detachments operated from Lages, Azores, 20 Aug-Oct 1945; Dakar, French West Africa, Sep 1945; Marrakech, French Morocco, Oct 1945); Giebelstadt, Germany, 25 Dec 1945; Istres, France, 26 Feb 1946; Furstenfeldbruck, Germany, 18 Aug 1946; Lechfeld, Germany, 13 Sep-25 Dec 1946; Andrews Field, Md., 1 Jul 1947; MacDill AFB, Fla., 1 Aug 1948-

AIRCRAFT. B-17, 1942-1946. B-29, 1948-1951; B-50, 1950-1951; B-47, 1951-

OPERATIONS. Combat in ETO, 9 Oct 1942-19 Apr 1945. Photo-mapping, Europe and Africa, Jun 1945-Mar 1946, later, courier missions to aid photo-mapping operations of the group. Apparently not manned, 1 Jul 1947-1 Aug 1948.

SERVICE STREAMERS. None.

CAMPAIGNS. Air Offensive, Europe; Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe; Air Combat, EAME Theater.

DECORATIONS. Distinguished Unit Citations: Germany, 11 Jan 1944; Germany, 22 Feb 1944. Air Force Outstanding Unit Award: 22 Jan 1953-8 Dec 1956.

EMBLEM. Gules, a griffin rampant holding in his dexter claw a lightning bolt of four flashes or. Motto: PARATUS PRO RETALIATO. Prepared for Retallation. (Approved 7 Aug 1953)

486

COMBAT SQUADRONS

Lysatey, French Morocco, Feb-15 Jul 1946); Giebelstadt, Germany, 25 Dec 1945; Istres, France, 24 Feb 1946 (detachment operated from Dakar, West Africa, Jan-Mar 1946); Furstenfeldbruck, Germany, 16 Aug 1946; Lechfeld, Germany, 13 Sep-25 Dec 1946. Andrews Field, Md., 1 Jul 1947; MacDill AFB, Fla., 1 Aug 1948-

AIRCRAFT. B-17, 1942-1946. B-29, 1948-1951; B-50, 1950-1951; B-47, 1951-

OPERATIONS. Combat in ETO, 9 Oct 1942-19 Apr 1945. Photo-mapping, Europe and Africa, Jun 1945-Jul 1946. Apparently not manned, 1 Jul 1947-1 Aug 1948.

SERVICE STREAMERS. None.

CAMPAIGNS. Air Offensive, Europe; Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe; Air Combat, EAME Theater.

DECORATIONS. Distinguished Unit Citations: Germany, 11 Jan 1944; Germany, 22 Feb 1944. Air Force Outstanding Unit Award: 22 Jan 1953-8 Dec 1956.

EMBLEM. On a white cloud the representation of the Norse mythological god Thor seated, habited in a red cloak, a gold cap with black horns, resting with his upraised right arm a black chain mace. (Approved 26 August 1942.)

14th BOMBARDMENT



LINEAGE. Constituted 44th Bombardment Squadron (Medium) on 22 Nov 1940. Activated on 1 Apr 1941. Redesignated: 44th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) on 7 May 1942; 44th Bombardment Squadron (Very Heavy) on 20 Nov 1943. Inactivated on 1 Oct 1946. Redesignated 44th Bombardment Squadron (Medium) on 9 May 1952. Activated on 28 May 1952.

ASSIGNMENTS. 40th Bombardment Group, 1 Apr 1941-1 Oct 1946. 40th Bombardment Wing, 28 May 1952-.

STATIONS. Borinquen Field, PR, 1 Apr 1941; Howard Field, CZ, 16 Jun 1942; Guatemala City, Guatemala, 6 Jul 1942; Howard Field, CZ, 16 Jun 1943.

Plant AAFld, Kan, 1 Jul 1943-12 Mar 1944; Chakulia, India, c. 11 Apr 1944-Apr 1945; West Field, Tinian, Apr-7 Nov 1945; March Field, Calif, 27 Nov 1945; Davis Monthan Field, Ariz, c. 13 May-1 Oct 1946; Smoky Hill AFB, Kan, 28 May 1952; Forbes AFB, Kan, 20 Jun 1960-.

AIRCRAFT. B-18, 1941-1942; B-17, 1942-1944; B-24, 1942-1943; B-26, 1943-1944; YB-29, 1943-1944; B-29, 1944-1946; B-29, 1953-1954; B-47, 1954-.

OPERATIONS. Antisubmarine patrols, Dec 1941-May 1943. Combat in CBI, 5 Jun 1944-29 Mar 1945, and Western Pacific, 5 May-14 Aug 1945.

SERVICE STREAMERS. None.

CAMPAIGNS. Antisubmarine, American Theater; India-Burma; Air Offensive, Japan; China Defensive; Western Pacific; Central Burma.

DECORATIONS. Distinguished Unit Citations: Yawata, Japan, 20 Aug 1944; Japan, 5-14 May 1945; Japan, 24 Jul 1945.

EMBLEM. On and over a blue disc edged in gold a falcon affronte in red, white, and black, outlined in yellow, with wings displayed and carrying a yellow aerial bomb. (Approved 7 Feb 1942.)

322d BOMBARDMENT



LINEAGE. Constituted 322d Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) on 28 Jan 1942. Activated on 15 Apr 1942. Inactivated on 7 Nov 1945. Redesignated: 322d Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron (Medium) on 23 May 1950. Activated on 6 Jul 1950. Inactivated on 5 Nov 1957. Redesignated 322d Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), and activated on 15 Nov 1962. Organized on 1 Feb 1963.

ASSIGNMENTS. 91st Bombardment Group, 15 Apr 1942-7 Nov 1945. 91st

Strategic Reconnaissance Group, 6 Jul 1950; 91st Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, 28 May 1952-8 Nov 1957. Strategic Air Command, 15 Nov 1962. 91st Bombardment Wing, 1 Feb 1963-.

STATIONS. Harding Field, La, 15 Apr 1942; MacDill Field, Fla, 13 May 1942; Walla Walla, Wash, 22 Jun-24 Aug 1942; Kimbolton, England, 13 Sep 1942; Bassingbourn, England, 14 Oct 1942-22 Jun 1945; Drew Field, Fla, 3 Jul-7 Nov 1945; Barksdale AFB, La, 6 Jul 1950; Lockbourne AFB, Ohio, 11 Sep 1951-8 Nov 1957; Glasgow AFB, Mont, 1 Feb 1963-.

AIRCRAFT. B-17, 1942-1945; B/RB-29, 1950; B/RB-45, 1950-1953; RB-47, 1953-1957; B-52, 1963-.

OPERATIONS. Combat in ETO, 7 Nov 1942-25 Apr 1945.

SERVICE STREAMERS. None.

CAMPAIGNS. Air Offensive, Europe; Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe; Air Combat, EAME Theater.

DECORATIONS. Distinguished Unit Citations: Hamm, Germany, 4 Mar 1943; Germany, 11 Jan 1944. Air Force Outstanding Unit Award: 8 Sep 1953-8 Nov 1957.

EMBLEM. Over and through an irregular white cloud formation shaded blue, a caricatured figure of "Uncle Sam," in flight, wearing a blue plug hat studded with white stars, rimmed by a red band, blue jacket, and red-and-white striped trousers, carrying in the left hand a yellow aerial bomb and dropping anchor to base with right hand. (Approved 12 Oct 1942.)

91st BOMB GROUP (H) MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION INC.

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Mr. Ralph E. Bordner
131 East Autumn Lane
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RE: 306th Bomb Group

Phone 309-699-3640

Rayh

Dear Ralph,

It certainly was nice to meet you and your wife Nell, at the 8th AF Reunion in Miami recently. Hardly seems like 32 years have passed since Victorville and how (?) most of us got back from England - is another story.

Believe that you will recall we mentioned the fact that our Group was legally organized more than 10 years ago and my personal offer to help the 306th to get started the same way. I have secured permission to send to you, as a contact man for the 306th; those copies of documents needed to incorporate and to file with IRS as "non-profit" to collect dues for the necessary expenses which will occur with all group functions.

Our President, General Wray has OK'd the release of the copies enclosed with his quote of "by all means". Use these as a guide to set down your own objectives and as an aid to prove your 'charitable purposes' for the future.

Should you or your elected President have any further questions in the future; please do not hesitate to ask us. The 91st thinks it would be a good idea for EVERY Group of the 1st Air Division, 8th AF - to stick together and solve our own problems. To this end; we ask that you send to me, the name and address of THAT person who volunteers to 'head-up' the 306th BG.

We will add his name to our Group's growing mailing list and agree to send him ALL of our publications; such as Newsletters, Rally notices, trips back to England, etc. By doing this, he would be responsible to distribute the same information to the general membership of the 306th BG. How does that sound?

Confirmed plans for the next 91st BG National Reunion will be held in Colorado Springs during July 7,8,9, and 10, 1976. We also hope to return to England, "One More Time" in 1977.

Very best wishes to you and our friends of the Triangle H,

For the Committees of the 91st Bomb Group (Triangle A)

Paul Chryst

Paul Chryst, Eastern Division Co-Chairman

the Fortresses took the Germans by surprise and hit the important synthetic rubber plant at Huls. The main force set out on the morning of 22nd June in the same general course that was utilized when the targets were Bremen or Kiel. When the bombers reached a point north of Amsterdam they turned and made straight for Huls.

There were several diversionary flights, which caused some of the German fighters to be pulled away, for the striking force as well as a heavy escort. These set the scene for a most successful bomb run over the target. Of the 422 tons of bombs dropped, more than 88 per cent of them hit inside the plant area. So effective was this mission that the entire rubber plant was shut down for at least a month and it was a good six months before the production of synthetic rubber reached its former level. However, bad weather prevented the bombers from penetrating into Germany for the balance of the month and those missions that were flown were directed at airfields in France and coastal targets.

It was on such an airfield strike on 26th June that the 306th Bombardment Group lost one of its early heroes, Captain Raymond Check, who was flying his last mission. Lieutenant Colonel J W Wilson had chosen to fly as Check's co-pilot on that fateful night to Tricqueville while the regular co-pilot, Lieutenant Bill Cassidy, flew one of the waist gun positions just to 'be-along' on Check's last trip.

While on the bomb run German fighters attacked head-on and Check was killed instantly when a 20mm shell exploded in the cockpit. The explosion started a fire, but Colonel Wilson held the Fortress in position. The heat became so intense that it melted the rubber on Wilson's oxygen mask and burned his hands to such a degree that he couldn't let go of the controls. Fortunately, Lieutenant Cassidy was able to come up from his waist position and bring the Fortress

back to England
Aids on Norway continue

From a paper book - B-17 Flying Fortresses - William Bens - 1974 Ballantine



306 BOMB GROUP (H)



8th AIR FORCE

SERVED JULY 1942 TO MAY 1945, WENDOVER, UTAH. THURLEIGH BASE, BEDFORD, ENGLAND

May 2, 1977

Dear Russ:

It was good to hear from you. I also received my 306 mEchals the other day. My letters with 306 in guys have been increasing this last month. I heard from a Walter Correll, S.A. Calif.; he is member of group called B-17 Combat Crewman & Wingman. I will send a copy of the card along, maybe there could be some 306 in the group. I also heard from a Milton Baumgardner, Carthage Texas. He is the one with the Briefing sheets. I heard from the Air Force Historical Research at the A.V. The reels are now \$7.50 per reel. (more inflation).

I will try to get over to see Bennett in the near future on those orders - He doesn't have much in plane pictures but he may have some orders in his files

Thanks for the news on Banta. I thought
the navigators were from the 308th on his plane.
He slept next to me & he was taking my place
that day because he had more experience &
the target was supposed to be clear for a visual
run.

Jim Cheney was the fellow who put lighter
fluid around my chair ^{to lift it} when I & Tom Witt
waiting for take off. I was acting as Bombardier &
Witt was Group of Officer. The briefing was
over & we were waiting for take off in the
op office. I was setting me soft chair & Witt
was behind the desk. I laid my head back
& closed my eyes. Witt was dozing at the
desk. That is when Cheney - the navigator &
Col Sutton came into the office. Major Cheney
lit the lighter fluid & woke me up. I was
a little flak happy by then & that fire
around the chair scared me to death. Sutton
& Cheney really had a good laugh. ~~at me.~~
I again met General Cheney on a tour
in 1971 in Washington D.C. I talk to him
about the incident & had a nice visit
with him that night & also talked
to him on the phone. I also received
a Xmas card from him.



306 BOMB GROUP (H)

3



8th AIR FORCE

SERVED JULY 1942 TO MAY 1945, WENDOVER, UTAH. THURLEIGH BASE, BEDFORD, ENGLAND

He seem to be a real guy as well as a 2 star General. He quit as Navigator after Korea & then went in law. He had a law degree before World War II & wound up at the Top. I retired a couple years before his term a Top Judge of A.F. was up.

I got the book "Fortress in the Sky" by Peter Bowers. It has a lot of pictures & the history of the B-17 is good but some the captions are wrong like "Rose of York" belong ing to the 307 Bomb Sqdn.

I also got a bulletin of B-17 at War by Freeman. I have no idea about it but I had heard he was writing another book. I am sending a copy of the bulletin.

Bill Collins sent me some money for postage etc & I returned it to him & forward to Keith Paul in England. I got a nice letter from them - thanking me & also telling me about Thurleigh & the town they

help to serve when the 306 members get
back there. Don Sheridan made it last
year & today sent some pictures.

Russ, I am including a check for
\$15. - for some stationery - RALPH E. BODNER
131 E. AUTUMN LANE, EAST PEORIA, ILLINOIS, 61611
I know 500 sheets is a lot, so I write a
lot to old 306 as guys.

These names are
not on Bill's list

My pilot

Robert J. Chrisjohn
R#2
Alden, Iowa
50006

Radio operator
Louis R. Gilbert
5420 East Olive
Rockford
Illinois

Well Russ a gain
I have ^{been} written to much
but I sure enjoy funding
old 306 as guys.
Until later
Ralph

I belong to this organization



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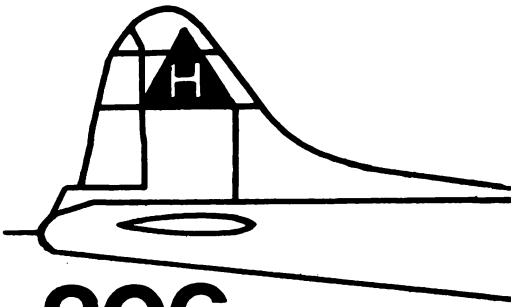
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306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Secretary-Treasurer
William M. Collins, Jr.
2973 Heatherbrae Drive
Poland, Ohio 44514

29 March 1977

Dear Russ:

Well I am back home after a trip to Atlanta & Anderson, S. Carolina. I wanted to drive over to see you but due to the relatives sickness I had to stick close to Atlanta. I did drive over to Montgomery and the Air University and spent 3 to 4 hours reading the 3 micro films on the 306th. It was quite interesting and makes me want to find out more.

Who was Capt Wiley Glass. It mentioned an air craft accident at Wendover but did not go into details. It was the groups first accident so I thought they might have told more. They didn't say to much about the lost plane at Gander on the way over to Eng. I met Al LaChase at both Maimi and Dayton but I didn't know he was ^{an early} P.O.W. in Dec-42. Dr. Shuller was mentioned as one of the early Flight Surgeons. I notice that two 368 planes were lost on the Ruhland mission. The lead Bombadier that day was Robt. Banta he slept next to me and took my place on the mission because he had more experience and they expected to have a visual run. I am not sure if he was on R. H. Farwell or J. W. Sasser crew that day.

I have had good luck lately and have heard from some of my early crew, a Robt. Chrisjohn, Louis Gilbert and Charles Levy. I have been corresponding for some time with a Glenn Korf. On the way to Atlanta I went to visit another Crew member at Moulton Alabama. He has been unable to walk for the last 16 year due to a nerve disorder. He is only 52 but is quite alert and talks quite well, his wife hopes they can drive to St. Louis this fall. Bill Collins has sent him a couple issues of Echoes and he is very appreciative of the info on the 306th. His name is Bill Fuller.

The last directory you sent was appreciated. I notice a fellow on their from our barracks so I wrote him and recieved a letter in return. He sent sent me a couple of briefing sheets and said he would look up some info and pictures. When I go to Louisiana I am about about 110 miles from Carthage Texas. I also received a ~~sample~~ ^{sample} clipping from the Clearing house and plan to put a couple of them in Peoria, and Rockford papers

The pictures from Rudy Skalak sounded very interesting. I am still trying to get pictures of 368th planes or 306th planes showing the tail numbers and letters and the nose name and pictures or lettering. I have a couple large B-17 G models nearly finished and my son in law will sketch in the information. ^{when I get it for him}

I haven't been able to see John Bennett since your last letter but will make it soon. I made a copy of a plane manifest listed on micro film of 368th planes ferried to England when the group went in 42 and John Bennett was on one of the planes. He did mention earlier he lost one of his foot locker when he went on the Casey Jones Map project to the mainland after the war. But I will try to get some info on the accidents

it included pictures

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

Enough chatter for now, If I can help you let me know. Maybe I can get to Atlanta this summer, and slip over to North Carolina. I have reservations to go England with the group this August. I may drive to Poland Ohio and follow Bill Collins to Philadelphia/

By the way I seem to be writing a lot of letter to 306th people and am using up 306th stationery quickly. Is it possible to purchase some of the 306th stationary from you. I prefer your design to the one of Al LaChae had made up and had at Dayton.

How is the new job at N. Carolina . I see by the news that you had 2 of the last 4 teams in the NCAA basket ball tournament. I know you really missed the record breaking snow and cold weather in Dayton this winter. You really picked the right winter to move.

Thanks again for the directory and let me know about the stationery.

Sincerely,

Ralph

I have better copies of these briefing sheets if needed.

4 April 1977

Dear Ralph:

It was nice to hear from you. I have the three microfilms you mentioned. I bought them when I first began researching the group and have used them extensively. Most of the pages I have now printed out, as they are much easier to work with than.

To answer some of your questions:

Wiley Glass was an intelligence officer, probably the oldest man in the 306th group, being 52 in 1943.

Their early history tends not to dwell much on losses. The plane lost on the trip over blew up off Greenland, according to witnesses.

LaChasses was one of three survivors on the first plane lost, 11 Oct 42. The other two evaded capture, but LaChasse didn't have a chance to get away. He was the bombardier. The navigator and engineer also got out of the plane.

Dr. Shuller was the flight surgeon who took the group overseas, actually the second the group had had. He lasted about a year, before becoming flight surgeon for the first air division. His diary is priceless.

Banta was flying with J. W. Sasser on the Ruhland raid. I am unable to determine with any certainty as to whether he survived or not. Only 4 of the crew are definitely labeled as surviving. Two navigators on the raid were never heard from again, both I think in the 367th. I flew that day, too.

As I work through my plane pictures, I may come up with some 368th planes. Most plane pictures were of the nose. I'll run through again and see what I have.

I can get you this letterhead with your name and address on it for \$15 for 500 sheets. Let me know, and I'll get the wheels turning.

Yes, it was a good decision to move South. W got into the middle of the

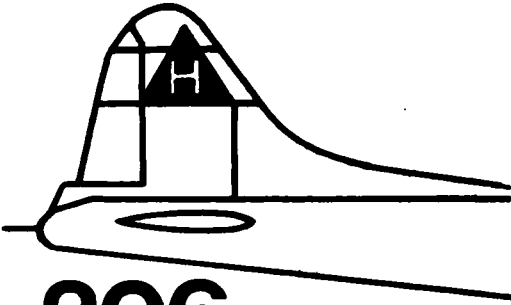
Bordner - 2

basketball wars. I'm afraid the school I work for doesn't do much with it, though, being a division 3 school which can't recruit.

Oh, I was in Florida last week for a meeting and spent an evening with Jim Cheney and his wife. He's the old group navigator, and later was judge advocate general of the USAF, retiring in 1973 with two stars. He is an attorney and practices in Melbourne. It was a delightful evening, and he seemed to enjoy the reminiscing greatly. He also had a number of orders from the pre-December 43 period that I found very useful.

I am enclosing a list of the orders I have, and perhaps when you see John Bennett you can get a look at his 201 file and see if he has some that I am looking for.

Sincerely yours,



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Feb 21, 1978

Dear Russ:

I didn't get the pictures off yesterday. The Post Office was closed here so I am putting them in the mail today. Thanks - I plan tentatively to be in Atlanta area next Easter. So I am taking my camera etc along. I also plan to at the Chicago get-together March 18,

I wrote Tom Kulvick a long note last night & a couple of pictures. One with him & George & alovak. I want to know the other guy. Also a copy of large photo in front of 368 Hq. I also have some nice 8x10 of planes & a crew of Capt Mordak. I will bring them along at Easter. If I don't come I'll send them to you for a copy

I have some questions on the photo. Who labeled the pictures. I think Buckley is on the left & Reagan is on the right in the photo with Robinson sitting down - (note a ball)

What were the following guys Joas

St Cal Lambert

Maye Manning

St Coe Furt

Matt Colman

I have read the last Schweinfurt Book & I see Wm Collins Jr was a contributor. It mentioned Overacker problem & Armstrong replace. It mentioned Capt Schoofield - 369 & his 4 DFC.

Russ, do you have Lasser crew list on your records.

Russ I just looked at the small picture of Reagan & his crew with the King. I guess the picture is right Reagan on left I will ask John Bennett who was a friend of Reagan * Gus Krajick is from Columbia South Carolina, he has made all resumes.

Enough chatter lets hear from you & your new address. I will forward anything good from Chicago until later

Have about some snow & Cold Temp.

Ralph.

30 September 1978

Dear Ralph,

I went through yr list. Thanks for the corrections.

As to some of those missing: Clark, Friend and Thomas were misidentified and were not 306th.

Ezell, Mountain and Bartlett are dead. Hum, too.

Most of the rest I recall are those but Bill has had first class mail returned on. Postal Service does not always forward as it should.

Keep up the sleuthing.

All done!

Page 2

Bardner ZIP code 61611

P. 6

Ford George State is LA

Fralley Robert Printed Twice

P10

Krezevici Louis 624 W. Green. West Hazelton
PA. 18201

I have a letter from him. He contacted M.S.
in secret is now 100% disabled. He & J
roomed in same barracks - Plan to stop to
see him on way back from Wash D.C.

P. 14

~~Frank~~ ~~misheard~~ - correct

Elbert Ode address is 815 S. Union -

I stopped there after our meeting in
Dayton & haven't told anyone 315 is wrong

P15

Pool } have same address in
Porter } 8chaes.

MISSING From Echoes July 1978

1. Clark Robert *not 30672* 1228 E. 165th St. South Holland IL, 60473
2. Ezell, Hershel *deal* Ezell Bldg Midland TX, 79701
3. Fiend, William E. *not 30672* 1904 Ross Pl. S.E. Apt, 3 Albuquerque, NM, 87108
4. Mountain, William *deal* Dexter ME, 04930
5. Thomas, Woodrow *1 hour not 30672* Weems Creek DRIVE Annapolis, MD, 21401

MISSING FROM ATTACHED LISTS

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Burche, C. M. | 5410 Lindberg | St. Louis, MO, 63123 |
| 2. Bartlett, Sy (Friend) | 1010 N, Palm Av | Los Angeles, CA, 90067 |
| 3. Heins, Charles | | Coledale, PA, 18218 |
| 4. Maroney, Henry R. a | 4714 Lexington, Av | Merchantile, NJ, 08109 |

dead
listed?

SURNAME	GIVENNAM	JR STREET1	STREET2	CITY	STATE	ZIPCODE
BERGEN	MAX H	104 W DIVISION		NEILLSVILLE	WI	54456
BERGERON	EDWARD A	S MAIN ST		NEW MARKET	NH	03857
BERGERON	WALTER H	LAKESHORE DR		NORTHWOOD	NH	03261
BERMAN	ALBERT	62 WALNUT ST		WELLESLEY HILLS	MA	02181
BERMAN	WILLIAM	6013 COLFAX		N HOLLYWOOD	CA	91603
BERNER	GEORGE C	3608 IOWA AV		ST LOUIS	MO	63118
BERRY	LESLIE	2633 VICTORIA		WOOSTER	OH	44691
BERTHOLD	WALTER G	5 CLIFF ST		ROCKVILLE	CT	06066
BICE	ALAN R			GRAND RONDE	OR	97347
BICKETT	KENNETH R	60 GARY RD		GYPSYSET	NY	11791
BIGGS	CARROLL G	BOX 550		RUSTON	LA	71278
BISCHOF	JOSEPH A	3750 TIMRICK CT		CINCINNATI	OH	45238
BITTMAN	HAMMOND H	10003 W WASHINGTON BL		CULVER CITY	CA	90230
BLACKSHAW	KENNETH D	1122 WAVERLY WAY		MC LEAN	VA	22101
BLAIR	WILLIAM D	7111 W 3RD ST		SPUR	TX	79370
BLAKE	ROBERT C	108 EASTLAND RD		ROCHESTER	NY	14616
BLANCHETTE	M PRUE	D 119 WANDO DR		SUMMERSVILLE	SC	29483
BLAND	IRIE E	806 HALSEY AV NE		HUNTSVILLE	AL	35801
BLOOM	JOHN P	764 TERRA LN		AMHERST	OH	44001
BLUCHER	EARL L	6918 ROSEMARY		DEARBORN HEIGHTS	MI	48127
BLUCHER	VERNON T	9421 TWILIGHT DR		BALTIMORE	MD	21236
BLUM	FRED C	D BOX 292		HOWELLS	NE	68641
BLUM	JACK D	8 MADISON LN		CARLE PLACE	NY	11514
BLUMENTHAL	HERMAN B	8000 HIGH SCHOOL RD		ELKINS PARK	PA	19117
BOHLAND	RICHARD L	3815 MARTHA		TOLEDO	OH	43612
BOLDING	WOODROW W	304 N. CATHERINE		PICKENS	SC	29671
BOLF	FRANK R	JR 615 GOLIAD		FLORESVILLE	TX	78114
BONADIO	FRANK J	28 CULVERTON		ROCHESTER	NY	14609
BONE	CHARLES W	3212 BLACKHILLS NE		ALBUGUERQUE	NM	87100
BONGIOVANNI	FRANK M	722 E LA SALLE AV		SOUTH BEND	IN	46624
BOONE	DANIEL C	2105 TULLIS DR		MIDDLETOWN	OH	45042
BORDNER	RALPH E	131 E AUTUMN LN		EAST PEORIA	IL	61661 61677
BORGES	WARREN	162 TOPSFIELD RD		IPSWICH	MA	09138
BORING	WALLACE D	2348 OLD KNOXVILLE PIKE		MARYVILLE	TN	37801
BOVE	ARTHUR P	100 S MAIN ST		PUTNAM	CT	06260
BOWLES	JOE	3803 GREENLAND AV		ROANOKE	VA	24012
BOWLEY	ALBERT J	150 LAKE WINNIMISGETT DR		DELAND	FL	32720
BOWMAN	LAWRENCE H	MT VIEW TR CT #19		SHERIDAN	WY	82801
BOYER	NORMAN P	6180 OLDE B		PENINSULA	OH	44264
BRADDOCK	HAYWOOD M	113 S ABERDEEN ST		ARLINGTON	VA	22204
BRAYMER	DONALD	RT 5		LINCOLNTON	NC	28092
BRENNAN	CATHERINE Z	4008 2ND ST SW	(FRIEND)	WASHINGTON	DC	20032
BRENNER	ROBERT F	6 DELL ST		FLORENCE	KY	41042
BRISCOE	CARROLL D	11025 WHISPER VALLEY		SAN ANTONIO	TX	78230
BRITTAIN	WILLIAM D	131 HELMS RD		HOUSTON	TX	77037
BROFFORD	LOUIS	BOX 1		PAYNE	OH	45880
BROTZMAN	ELWOOD M	RT 1 BOX 121		LACYVILLE	PA	18623
BROURMAN	PHILLIP	2289 ELMHILL RD		PITTSBURGH	PA	15221
BROUSSARD	JOSEPH W	RT 1 BOX 86		GRAND CHENIER	LA	70643
BROWER	FRANKLIN J	BOX 162		COLUMBUS	NE	68601
BROWN	BILLY S	D 20937 SATICOY ST		CANDOGA PARK	CA	91304
BROWN	HAROLD	1594 BISHOP		LIVE OAK	CA	95953

SURNAME	GIVENNAH	JR STREET1	STREET2	CITY	STATE	ZIPCODE
FLANAGAN	WILLIAM H	7515 SW 79TH CT		MIAMI	FL	33143
FLANNAGAN	CHARLES A	RT 1 BOX 438		TELL CITY	IN	47586
FLOOD	ROBERT J	65 PARK TERR WEST		NEW YORK	NY	10034
FLYNN	WILLIAM J	25 SE 2ND AV		MIAMI	FL	33131
FOLK	ROBERT D			HOMER	MI	49245
FONTANE	CHARLES	BOX 450		BUNKIE	LA	71322
FONTENOT	MAXINE	5920 COMMON ST		LAKE CHARLES	LA	70601
FOOSE	WILLIAM A	GOOD SAMARITAN HOME	2130 HARRISON	QUINCY	IL	62301
FORD	GEORGE F	12121 CLINE DR		BAKER	LA	70714
FORTIN	RAYMOND W	59 LOVISA ST		FITCHBURG	MA	01420
FORTSON	WILLIAM D	535 DAROCA AV		CORAL GABLES	FL	33146
FOSTER	LAWRENCE C	RT 1		EAST PALESTINE	OH	44413
FOSTER	ROBERT PIERCE	405 THIRD ST		ALEXANDRIA	LA	71301
FOWLER	WARD R	WELLS FARGO BANK	155 CALLAN AV	SAN LEANDRO	CA	94577
FRALEY	ROBERT E	2920 N. HARVEY		OKLAHOMA CITY	OK	73103
FRALEY	ROBERT E	2920 N. HARVEY		OKLAHOMA CITY	OK	73103
FRANK	ROBERT M	417 18TH AV NE	APD	ABERDEEN	SD	57401
FRANZ	JOHN W	JR HQ 4TH TRANS BDE		NEW YORK	NY	09451
FREEL	JAMES W	20215 LARK DR		SOUTH BEND	IN	46637
FREEMAN	HOWARD A	229 SPRING GARDEN ST		ASHEBORO	NC	27203
FREY	ELMER L	630 PLANE ST		COLUMBIA	PA	17512
FRIEDRICH	ANDREW J	1011 BEYER WAY		SAN DIEGO	CA	92154
FRISBIE	BRYCE C	712 FENIMORE AV		KALAMAZOO	MI	49001
FRYER	PETER J	6633 AVONDALE		OKLAHOMA CITY	OK	73116
FUHRMEISTER	DINUJIDDIE	2132 N. ORCHARD		TACOMA	WA	98406
FULLER	BILLY R	BOX 205		MOULTON	AL	35650
FULMER	EDWIN L	RT 1 BOX 281		FRANKLIN	IN	46131
FURAY	JAMES F	5932 GARLOW RD		NIAGARA FALLS	NY	14304
FUTCHIK	WILLIAM D	8100 ALLENTOWN RD SE		OXON HILL	MD	20021
GABRIELSON	MARTIN	JR 22 BETHPAGE CT		BETHEL	CT	06801
GABRISH	JOE P	110 RUXTON AV		MANITOU SPRINGS	CO	80829
GADARIAN	HAIQ	196 EDGE		VALPARAISO	FL	32580
GADD	CRAIG B	6618 MANDERLY DR		CHARLOTTE	NC	28214
GAILEY	ALFRED C	1415 E 100 N		SANDY	UT	84070
GALLARETO	JOHN W	1958 W CARSON		TORRANCE	CA	90501
GAMES	CLAY	BOX 808		WOODWARD	OK	73801
GARNER	STANLEY C	4957 PACIFIC AV		LONG BEACH	CA	90805
GARRETT	JOHN L	3546 E YALE		PHOENIX	AZ	85008
GASLIN	HAROLD M	4341 CECILIA CT		RIVERSIDE	CA	92503
GASTON	RALPH	MAUI SURF HOTEL		MAUI ISLAND	HI	96700
GAYDOSH	JOHN J	325 E 276TH ST		EUCLID	OH	44132
GEDNEY	LESLIE	23 ROSEMERE ST		RYE	NY	10580
GENTLE	WILLIAM H	BOX 112		DOUGLAS	WY	82633
GIBBS	WILLIAM B	26032 18TH ST		SAN BERNARDINO	CA	92404
GILBERT	ERNEST J	538 BOLAN ST		MARIETTA	GA	30060
GILBERT	LOUIS R	5420 EAST DR		LOVES PARK	IL	61111
GILLETTE	DORAN L	8070 W 38TH AV		WHEAT RIDGE	CO	80033
GILLILAND	WALTER	RT 6		GREENVILLE	SC	29607
GILLOOLY	FRED D	1777 UNION RD		BUFFALO	NY	14224
GISE	WILLIAM J	2003 BARTON PKWY		AUSTIN	TX	78704
GOETZ	LEON R	19 GERMANTOWN RD		DANBURY	CT	06810
GOETZBERGER	ERNEST M	4164 N 8TH ST		PHILADELPHIA	PA	19140

note
Printed
Full

SURNAME	GIVENNAM	JR STREET1	STREET2	CITY	STATE	ZIPCODE
KELLY	JOHN M	521 N WEBSTER AV		SCRANTON	PA	18510
KEMBERLING	CLIFFORD C			BRANSON	MO	65616
KENNEDY	HARRY J	JR 84 TERRACE PARK		ROCHESTER	NY	14619
KERN	RICHARD L	2225 MARYLAND		TOPEKA	KS	66605
KESLING	EARL W	2255 HARBOR VIEW		DUNEDIN	FL	33528
KESSEL	GEORGE O	2620 ANZIO BLVD		SOUTH BEND	IN	46615
KESSLER	LELAND J	170 SARATOGA NW		CANTON	OH	44708
KESTER	CHARLES W	BOX 153		BEVERLY SHORES	IN	46301
KICHAK	MIKE	14230 LAKEWOOD HEIGHTS		CLEVELAND	OH	44007
MILCOYNE	MARTIN J	404 S ELM ST		GREENVILLE	NC	27834
KINSEY	GENE	6 ARLENE DR		GREENVILLE	SC	29609
KINGEN	ROBERT	RT 8 BOX 223		GREENFIELD	IN	46140
KIRBY	CHARLES K	JR 10001 BELLEVUE AV		KANSAS CITY	MO	64114
KIRKPATRICK	WALLACE B	245 GREENLAWN DR		SAN ANTONIO	TX	78201
KLEPPER	AUDREY F	1303 CALDWELL		GOODLAND	KS	67735
KLETTE	IMMANUEL	US REP OFF	APO	NEW YORK	NY	09038
KNIGHT	HENDERSON N	15376 PALMER RD SW		REYNOLDSBURG	OH	43068
KNOWLTON	JERRY W	BOX 151		CANTON	MN	55922
KOCUREK	EDWARD W	RT 1		DEVALLS BLUFF	AR	72041
KOLGER	WILLIAM A	BOX 542		LEAKESVILLE	MS	39451
KORDA	STEPHEN J	127 THIRD ST		PITTSBURGH	PA	15225
KORF	GLEN A	7176 LEAD CIRCLE	BOX 133	MT MORRIS	MI	48458
KOSAKOWSKI	JOSEPH E	9 CARRIAGE LN		EAST GRANBY	CT	06026
KOSTAL	JEROME J	315 BARTRAM RD		RIVERSIDE	IL	60546
KOVAC	JOHN A	BOX L95		LARIMER	PA	15647
KRAJCIK	AUGUST J	RT 3 BOX 254		COLUMBIA	SC	29206
KRAMER	ALEXANDER	201 LAKE HINSDALE DR	APT 308	CLARENDON HILLS	IL	60514
KRAMER	LESTER M	735 HEMLOCK ST		SCRANTON	PA	18505
KRISKA	MICHAEL	1733 SUNNINGDALE		MAYFIELD HEIGHTS	OH	44124
KRIVUS	JOHN	1918 ADAMS ST		S. GREENSBURGH	PA	15601
KRZEMJEN	LOUIS J	(624 W. Green)		WEST HAZELTON	PA	18201 x no 6
KYLIUS	ROBERT E	4648 WHIPPLE RD		RIVERSIDE	CA	92506
LA CHASSE	ALBERT W	419 E GLENOAKS		GLENDALE	CA	91207
LAINÉ	JAMES A	1323 CLEARVIEW DR		GREENSBURGH	PA	15601
LALLY	GLENN J	400 IONIC CIRCLE	BOX 604	ENON	OH	45323
LAMB	C. GUS	167 ATLANTIC AV		CARLE PLACE	NY	11514
LAMBERT	JOHN L	408 HARBOR VIEW LN		LARGO	FL	33540
LAME	LOUIS A	2965 N HAVEN BLVD		CUYAHOGA FALLS	OH	44223
LAMONICA	RUSSELL J	3840 COORS BLVD SW		ALBUQUERQUE	NM	87105
LA MOTTA	JOSEPH A	312 SCOTTISH CT		GREENVILLE	NC	27834
LANDHERR	RALPH O	3937 MC DONALD		ST LOUIS	MO	63116
LANER	FRED	2750 IPNAR RD		N. HUNTINGTON	PA	15642
LANFORD	WILLIAM A	5861 E CLUB VIEW DR		FRESNO	CA	93727
LANIUS	WALTER M	JR 14806 PRATT ST		UPPER MARLBORO	MD	20870
LARMER	FRED B	6800 LAKE SHORE DR		RAYTOWN	MO	64133
LATEANO	GUY J	813 VAIL DR		ARLINGTON	TX	76012
LAUGHLIN	JAMES H	JR 3596 FAYETTEVILLE RD		LUMBERTON	NC	28358
LAURI	ANGELO	725 W COURT		ROME	NY	13440
LAVER	FRED	2750 IPNAR RD		NO HUNTINGDON	PA	15642
LAVERY	ROBERT K	60 W LOVELL AV		AKRON	OH	44310
LAVIER	EUGENE C	5800 PLAINVIEW RD		BETHESDA	MD	20334
LAH	ROY J	1803 9TH AV N		FT DODGE	IA	50501

SURNAME	GIVENNAH	JR STREET1	STREET2	CITY	STATE	ZIPCODE
NORTHCOTT	LYNN W	RT 2		BENTON	KY	42029
NORTON	IRVING R	2466 CRESCENT RD		SPRING HILL	FL	33512
NOVINSKY	MILTON	195 DELAWARE AV		FREEPORT	NY	11520
NOWARK	CHARLES O	511 TOWNSEND DR		APTOS	CA	95003
NOYES	HARVEY L	JR 1765 WOODSIDE DR		SHARON	PA	16150
O'BRIEN	LEONARD H	9100 SW 81ST AV		MIAMI	FL	33156
ODLE	ELBERT O	615 S UNION ST 815 S Union ST		WESTFIELD	IN	46074
ODOM	OLIN O	JR 1785 GLENWOOD ST		ABILENE	TX	79605
O'DRISCOLL	PATRICK	KLINGER LAKE	RT 2 BOX 112	STURGIS	MI	49091
OFFORD	DURWOOD F	3911 KILLEEN		AMARILLO	TX	79109
O'HARA	RICHARD K	560 HILLANDALE CIR		MARIETTA	GA	30060
OLAUSSON	TORBJORN	TORASJOVAGEN 33	13500 TYRESO	SWEDEN		
OLBINSKY	PHILIP	4412 N. ST. LOUIS AV		CHICAGO	IL	60625
OLIVER	RALPH L	66 MI-GROUP 93	APD	NEW YORK	NY	09108
OLMSTEAD	WALTER F	JR 630 S 9TH ST		WILLIAMS	AZ	86045
OLSEN	TRYGVE C	1704 HOLLY DR E		HOLIDAY	FL	33590
OLSON	WILLIAM H.	RT 3		SAC CITY	IA	50583
ONNEN	FERDINAND H	D 926 YORK RD		BALTIMORE	MD	21204
ORGAN	FRED T	210 KNOX AV		MONESSEN	PA	15062
ORLANDO	NICHOLAS A	482 OAKLAND AV		CEDARHURST	NY	11516
OSBURN	PAUL V	56-45 VIA JUNIFERO		RIVERSIDE	CA	92506
OVERACKER	CHARLES B	2 BARN RD		BELVEDERE	CA	94920
OWENS	WILLIAM H	704 WESTWOOD DR		TULLAHOOMA	TN	37388
PAINE	ENMETT H	290 STRATHMORE CIR EAST		MEMPHIS	TN	38112
PAINE	ROBERT T	RT 2 BOX 97		VICKSBURG	MS	39180
PALUMBO	VINCENT	17 WEST ST		MEDFIELD	MA	02052
PAPPAS	PETER W	331 BROADWAY		HAVERHILL	MA	01830
PARKER	J. R.	9 EASTLAN DR		GREENVILLE	SC	29607
PARKER	ORLIE	JR RT 3 BOX 60B		BLYTHEVILLE	AR	72315
PATTEN	CHARLES R	117 N BENTON AV		PALATINE	IL	60067
PATTERSON	LEE ROY	1948 MEDINA RD		MEDINA	OH	44256
PAULL	KEITH	2 THE LODGE HIGH ST	CLAPAHM MK41 6AJ	BEDS. ENGLAND		
PEDERSON	GEORGE W	BOX 338		PRINCETON	MN	55371
PEDONE	LOUIS	2535 W 77TH ST		CHICAGO	IL	60656
PELTZ	JAMES L	429 BRASS LAMP DR		BALLWIN	MO	63011
PELZEL	BERNARD	23 N SYLVAN RD		WESTPORT	CT	06880
RENGRA	WILLIAM J	20402 KALAHANI DR		BEND	OR	97701
PENSINGER	WILBUR C	5501 S ATLANTIC AV	APT 212	NEW SMYRNA BEACH	FL	32069
PEREZ	QUILLERMO A	1645 LOMALAND DR		EL PASO	TX	79935
PERIN	EDDIE A	BOX 308		BRIEST RIVER	ID	83856
PERLMUTTER	BERTRAM H	4250 NW 49TH TERR		FT LAUDERDALE	FL	33319
PERRY	WILLIAM F	210 BALDWIN		BELEN	NM	87002
PETERS	FRANK	12940 CARPENTER RD		GARFIELD HEIGHTS	OH	44125
PETERSON	BERKLEY B	812 S 34TH AV		YAKIMA	WA	98902
PETERSON	LOY F	4744 E EXETER		PHOENIX	AZ	85018
PHELAN	HUGH E			DONALDSON	AR	71941
PHILLIPS	DARYL W	2636 E PRINCETON		FRESNO	CA	93703
PHILLIPS	MALCOLM A	JR RT 3 BOX 242		FT WORTH	TX	76140
PHILLIPS	ROBERT B	JR 211 N CABRINI AV		SCRANTON	PA	18504
PIECHOWSKI	THEODORE R	144 157TH ST		CALUMET CITY	IL	60409
PIETROWSKI	NAPOLEON	7189 BEARD RD SE		AMSTERDAM	OH	43903
RIPP	EDWIN O	2207 LAFAYETTE TOWERS E		DETROIT	MI	48231

30th BG Additions, changes 18 Jan 1978

~~Ashwood, Robert P 250 Conover Rd Hightstown, NJ 08520~~

~~Shingler, Robert W 7338 E Molybdenum Dearborn, MI 48126~~

~~Seemer, Joseph A 6922 Sprucewood Dr Lawton, OK 73501~~

~~Fiend, William E *WJ* 1284 Ross Pl SE Apt 3 Albuquerque, NM 87108~~

Changes:

~~Metz, Carl O 1513 Wisconsin St St Cloud, FL 32769~~

~~Heraty, John P 1305 2nd St Camanche, IA 52730~~

~~Horkulic, John 4117 Warren ~~Davenport, IA 52806~~~~

~~Levy, Charles *(2)* 264 Dennis Ln Glencoe, IL 60022
(Formerly Dudley Press)~~

18 Jan 1978

(1)

Additions to 306th MS roster Jan 22, 1978

~~Blumenthal, Herman E
8555 AMNH KSKHXK QM
8000 High School Rd
Elkins Park, PA 19117~~ *(OK)*

~~Ballard, Allen T Col
6740 Sycamore Way
Sacramento, CA 95831~~

~~Mountain, William
Dexter, ME 04930~~ *(4)*

~~Kosakowski, Joseph E
Old Carriage Rd
Granby, CT 06035~~

~~Shingler, Robert W
7838 E Morrow
Dearborn, MI 48126~~

~~Froutz, Robert J
1102 NE 67 Ter
Gladstone, MO 64118~~

~~Turner, Howard
Rt 2 Box 37
McDonald, PA 15057~~

~~Bickett, Kenneth R
60 Gary Rd
Byassett, NY 11791~~

~~Blood, James L
600 Central Ave
Staughton, MA 01972~~ *(OK)*

~~Ezell, Marshal F Jr
Ezell Bldg
Midland, TX 79701~~ *(D)*

~~Karstaedt, Orville
5912 County 6
Newton, WI 53063~~

~~Batterman, Ervin
95 E Joe Orr Rd
Chicago Hts, IL 60411~~

~~Roberts, Thomas O
PO Box 877
Brookhaven, MS 39601~~

~~Slater, Harry E
1007 Sunset Ave
Murfreesboro, IN 37130~~ *Fring*

~~James, Paul W
706 Teana St
Baltimore, MD 21230~~

~~Bolding, Woodrow
Box 353
Pickens, SC 29671~~

~~Clark, Robert G
1228 E 145th St
South Holland, IL 60473~~ *(N)*

~~Smith, Cecil
Box 309
Grand Isle, NE 68801~~

~~Cox, Harvey L
116 Downing St
Lafayette, LA 70501~~

~~Pensinger, W C Etc
PO Box 245
Mt Lake Park, MD 21550~~ *also name*

~~Sheldon, Russell H
Rt 4 P O Pasco Lane
Okeechobee, FL 33472~~

~~Jones, Ralph E Col
Box 520
Georgetown, VA 22630~~

~~McDow, James W
143 Alarich St
San Antonio, TX 78242~~

~~Wright, R R
101 Cherry St
Lumberton, NC 28358~~ *(N)*

~~McGlinchey, Edward
17 Mendean St
Malden, MA 02148~~

~~Juligley, John
114 Stonetrock, Jr
Greer, SC 29615~~

~~Smith Roy C
2824 Boudwin Ave
Southwyr, PA 19061~~

~~Gregory, J I
1145 Colorado Dr
Livermore, CA 94550~~

~~Wendy, George
100 Clear St
Walden, MA 02148~~

~~Worthen, George
101 W Main St
New Springs, AZ 72515~~

SURNAME	GIVENNAH	JR STREET1	STREET2	CITY	STATE	ZIPCODE
PIRTLE	BYRON W	BOX 667	63 MARION CT	ELUIZIZABETHTOWN	KY	42701
PITBLADO	WILLIAM J	BOX 128		ROSEAU	MN	56751
PLEASANT	LORAN			SAVANNAH	TN	38372
PLUTA	JOHN S	110 CLEMWOOD PKWY		HAMPTON	VA	23367
PLYM	DONALD O	363 W FREMONT		GALESBURG	IL	61401
POLETTI	ADRIAN M	MONASTERY PL		UNION CITY	NJ	07087
POLICH	JOHN J	7718 MINERAL PT RD		MADISON	WI	53717
POLLOCK	EUGENE J	BOX 1115		COCOA BEACH	FL	32931
POOL	WILLIAM H	5814 SOUTHERN AV	3700 Cantrell Rd. 601	LITTLE ROCK	AR	72702
PORR	GEORGE E	72 ORCHARD DR		DOYLESTOWN	OH	44230
PORTER	W. W.	5814 SOUTHERN AV	<i>Both same</i>	SHREVEPORT	LA	71106
POSTON	JAMES V	1458 BROOK VALLEY LN	<i>I don't know</i>	DALLAS	TX	75232
POTTER	FRANK B	JR 13903 KIMBERLY LN	<i>where I got</i>	HOUSTON	TX	77079
POTTS	BENJAMIN F	RT 2 BOX 2839		GRAYLING	MI	49738
POWELL	JOHN R	5266 CORTEEN PL	8308	N HOLLYWOOD	CA	91607
PRATT	GEORGE J	6216 S. KNOLL DR		EDINA	MN	55436
PRATT	HOWARD H	RT 6	<i>Pool new address</i>	AUGUSTA	ME	04330
PRATT	PAUL J	BOX 136		NATCHITOCHE	LA	71457
PRESCOTT	HAROLD L	1030 HILLSIDE DR		KINGMAN	AZ	86401
PREVATTE	ELBERT (CHICK)	108 W 24TH		LUMBERTON	NC	28358
PRICE	GEORGE C	71 ARBOR LN		PITTSBURGH	PA	15236
PRIEMANN	WALLACE W	4655 N. KENTON		CHICAGO	IL	60639
PROCTOR	ROBERT F	2540 RIMROCK DR		COLORADO SPRINGS	CO	80915
PRYCA	JOSEPH F	22308 DAVENRICH ST		SALINAS	CA	93901
PUGH	CARL L	3035 S ROENA ST		INDIANAPOLIS	IN	46222
QUIGLEY	JOHN F	114 STONEDROOK DR		GREENSBURG	PA	15601
QUIGLEY	JOHN F	114 STONEDROOK DR		GREENSBURG	PA	15601
QUINT	HARRY	JR 9209 COLIMA RD		WHITTIER	CA	90605
RABE	ELTON C	105 PARKERCT		(WILMINGTON	IL	60481
RADER	WILLIAM B	1108 KEY DR		ALEXANDRIA	VA	22302
RAMBY	SEYMOUR D	38 PINEHURST		DAYTON	OH	45405
RAMSEY	DAVID B	753 TERRACE 49		LOS ANGELES	CA	90042
RAPP	ERNEST C	1952 ANTIETAM ST	(FRIEND)	PITTSBURGH	PA	15206
RAUENHORST	ERNEST	1326 NELSON PL		WASHINGTON CH	OH	43160
REBER	MARLEN E	1640 SURREY ST		TROY	OH	45373
RECK	ROBERT H	807 WASHINGTON ST		MENDOTA	IL	61342
RECTOR	FRED J	BOX 466		GREER	SC	29651
REECHER	KENNETH A	38 DA-VINCI		(LAKE OSWEGO	OR	97034
REEDER	WILLIAM D	301 TRAHERN CIR		CLARKSVILLE	TN	37040
REEVES	JAMES W			SALT LICK	KY	40371
BEGAN	JOHN M	334 W BELLEVUE AV		(SAN MATEO	CA	94402
REHN	ALBERT F	2873 VEAZEY AV		CINCINNATI	OH	45239
RICHARDSON	ALLAN B	228 WOLFE		WINCHESTER	VA	22601
RICHMOND	JOHN J	JR 1600 49TH ST NW		WASHINGTON	DC	20007
RIEDEL	WILFRED T	300 TIMBER		COLLEGE STATION	TX	77840
RIORDAN	ROBERT P	6805 SANTA MARIA LN		DALLAS	TX	75214
RISBERG	HJALMER F	RT 1 OAKVILLE AV		EAST QUOGUE	NY	11942
RISBO	WILLIAM	580 BOW SPRIT LN		LONG BOAT KEY	FL	33548
RISTAU	RAYMOND J	322 W CHURCH		UTICA	IL	63137
RISTUCCIA	LAWRENCE A	JR 89 WALNUT ST		BELMONT	MA	02178
ROBBINS	JUDSON J	39 FOGARTY DR		TRENTON	NJ	08619
ROBERTS	GEORGE OF	49 30TH ST		GULFPORT	MS	39501

306th BG Additions

18 Jan 78

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

~~Thomas, Woodrow W~~ Weems Creek Dr Annapolis, MD 21401

~~Poston, James W~~ 1456 Brook Valley Ln Dallas, TX 75232

~~West, E F~~ 70 Kent St W Quincy, MA 02169

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

~~Weiter, Robert K~~ 201 Kimrey Moor Fayetteville, NY 13066

~~Leedy, Taylor~~ 3085 SE Grand Prairie Rd Albany, OR 97321

~~Klepper, Aubrey~~ 1303 Caldwell Goddard, KS 67735

Kirby, Charles K. Jr.	10001 Bellevue Av.	Kansas City, MO 64114
Kirkpatrick, Wallace B.	245 Greenlawn Dr.	San Antonio, TX 78201
Kramer, Lester M.	735 Hemlock St.	Scranton, PA 18505
Kyllius, Robert E.	4648 Whipple Rd.	Riverside, CA 92506
Lame, Louis A.	2965 N. Haven Blvd.	Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223
Laner, Fred	2750 Ipnar Rd.	N. Huntingdon, PA 15642
Larmer, Fred B.	6800 Lake Shore Dr.	Raytown, MO 64133
Leasman, Frank	1933 Sunset Ln.	Fullerton, CA 92633
LeBlanc, Gussie	Rt. 3, Box 83	Opelousas, LA 70570
Levy, Joseph N.	86 Woodland Dr.	New Britain, PA 18901
Lockard, Jack	326 Folkstone Way	York, PA 17402
Longworth, Edmund F.	9900 Talbert Av.	Fountain Valley, CA 92708
Maddox, William C. <i>no</i>	PO Drawer 239	Clanton, AL 35045
Malan, Everett	403 N. 3rd St.	Arkansas City, KS 67005
① Malsom, Ralph B.	201 St. 1st St.	Cameron, WS 54822
Manning, William	124 Austin St.	Westbrook, ME 04092
④ Maroney, Henry R. <i>no</i>	4714 Lexington Av.	Merchantville, NJ 08109
Marble, Robert W.	92 Charles St.	Fitchburg, MA 01420
Mariani, Anthony <i>no</i>	12 Manchester Rd.	Eastchester, NY 10709
Marvis, Edward	USAF Hospital, Box 517	Wiesbaden, APO NY 09220
Mason, Gail	4672 E. Shields Av.	Fresno, CA 93726
Matukaitis, John P.	26 Preston	Worcester, MA 01610
May, Chester H.	420 Rome St.	Aurora, CO 80010
Mays, Paul	214 Jefferson Av.	DeSoto, TX 75515
Metz, Carol O.	1515 Wisconsin Av.	St. Cloud, FL 32769
Milakovich, Paul	1046 E. Meda	Glendora, CA 91740
Misterman, Jerry	8538 Werree Rd.	Philadelphia, PA 19111
④ Mitchell, James C.	901 Buckingham	Flint, MI 48502
① Monser, George S. <i>OK</i>	6909 N. Patricia Ln	Peoria, IL 61614
Montana, James <i>OK</i>	920 Winston	Melrose Park, IL 60160

Done
9/18/78

- ~~Amrey, Jack X~~ Holdenville, OK 74848
- ~~Antos, George X~~ 10 Alexander Av Danbury, CT 06810
- ~~Artusy, Ray X~~ 231 Hamilton Palo Alto, CA 94301
- ~~Baillie, Paul X~~ 6812 N. 73rd St Scottsdale, AZ 85253
- ~~Barker, Marvin C. X~~ 2595 N. 400 East N. Ogden, UT 84404
- ~~Bartz, Frederick C.~~ 1102 W. Spring St Appleton, WI 54911
- ~~Bement, James R. X~~ 5520 Shady Ln Demotte, IN 46310
- ~~Bolding, Woodrow W. X~~ 304 N. Catherine Pickens, SC 29671
- ~~Bongiovanni, Frank X~~ 609 W. Marion Mishawaka, IN 46544
- ~~Brenner, Robert F. X~~ 6 Dell St Florence, KY 41042
- ~~Burke, William T. X~~ Southampton College Southampton, NY 11968
- ~~Caldwell, Warren X~~ 202 N. Main Av Maiden, NC 28650
- ~~Campbell, Bennie X~~ 808 Lyndale St Kingsville, TX 78363
- ~~Carter, Loren X~~ Box 44 Chatsworth, CA 91311
- ~~Chapman, Wm. W. X~~ 8718 Ottawa River Cir Fountain Village, CA 92708
- ~~Chrisjohn, Robert X~~ J. Rt 2 Alden, IO 50006
- ~~Cook, Orval L. X~~ 2612 E. Fedora Av Fresno, CA 93721
- ~~Cowley, Louis T. X~~ 326 E. Walnut St Allentown, PA 18103
- ~~Cox, Don W. X~~ 2045 Bryan Av Salt Lake City, UT 84108
- ~~Craig, Richard A. X~~ 7740 Finns Ln, B-1 Lanham, MD 20801
- ~~Currier, Donald F. X~~ Box 562 N. Falmouth, MA 02556 *no*
- ~~Cuvelier, Harley X~~ Dumont, IO 50625
- ~~Dana, Dwight X~~ 619 W. Southern Av Mesa, AZ 85202
- ~~DePew, Charles~~ Paris, AR 72855
- ~~Dvorak, Lad~~ 1100 Taft Av Berkley, IL
- ~~Ellis, Earl C.~~
- ~~Draw, Lionel Jr.~~
- ~~Drew, Lionel, Jr. X~~ 402 Co. Courthouse Savannah, GA 31401
- ~~Dvorak, Lad X~~ 1100 Taft Av Berkley, IL
- ~~Ellis, Earl C. *no*~~ Whitefish, MT 59937
- ~~Ellison, Howard X~~ 1433 Bering Dr Houston, TX 77057
- ~~Ellsworth, Ralph E. X~~ Box 24 Magnolia, IO 51550
- ~~Espitallier, Eddie F. X~~ 745 Lemos Av Salinas, CA 93901
- ~~Fields, Bob X~~ 723 Via Casitas Greenbrae, CA 94904
- ~~Fisher, George D. X~~ 310 Rickey Dr Monroeville, PA 15146
- ~~Flaherty, Harry X~~ 163 LaFrance Av Bloomfield, NJ 07003
- ~~Fronse, Wm. A. X~~ Good Samaritan Home, 2130 Harrison Quincy, IL 62301
- ~~Freeman, Howard X~~ 229 Spring Garden St Asheboro, NC 27203
- ~~Furay, James X~~ 5932 Garlow Rd Niagara Falls, NY 14304
- ~~Galley, Alfred X~~ 1415 E. 100 N Sandy, UT 84070
- ~~Gilbert, Louis R. X~~ 5420 East Dr *over* Rockford, IL 61111 *3/5/79*
- ~~Gray, Wayne~~ Rt. 41 Collins, OH 44826
- ~~Greisinger, Merwyn C. X~~ 726 Maplewood Dr VanWert, OH 43725 *8*
- ~~Guthrie, L. C. X~~ 20 Maplefield St Pleasant Ridge, MI 48069
- ~~Haire, Joseph W. X~~ 515 Columbus Av San Antonio, TX
- ~~Hawkins, Russell O. X~~ 301A W. Nob Hill Yakima, WA 98902
- ~~Haynes, Wyndon S. X~~ Rt. 2, Box 1003 Odessa, FL 33556
- ~~Heins, Charles X~~ Coaldale, PA 18218
- ~~Holscher, Robert G. X~~ American Trust & Savings Dubuque, IO 52001
- ~~Hoser, Harry X~~ 914 Hartel St Philadelphia, PA 19111
- ~~Hulings, Thomas X~~ 2366 Leisure Ct Atlanta, GA 30338

Quigley, John F. ✓
Reecher, Kenneth A.
Reeves, James W.
Roberts, Thomas O. ✓
Ross, Elmer
Roth, Robert H.
Roussin, Wm.
Sackowitz, Francis A. ✓
Sage, Robert C.
Schultz, Wm. J.
Sewel l, Oliver S. ✓
Sheldon, Russel H.
(4) Shingler, Robert W. ✓
Smith, Cecil
Smith, Roy C.
Smith, Sam OK
Spross, Barney
Sullivan, John OK
Terenzio, Anthony
Thach, John O.
Toner, Charles R.
Troutz, Robert J.
Turner, Howard
Vader, Richard
Welter, Robert K.
West, E. F.
Wortham, George

114 Stonebrook Dr
38 Da-Vinci
PO Box 677
1243 Occidental
220 Beacon St
110 Main St
26 Lake Av
45 Wexford Rd
18008 New Hampshire Av
667 Euclid
Rt. 4, 85 Peach Ln
7838 E. Morrow
Box 3398
2724 Boudin Av
1526 N. Harlem Av
Rt. 2
3758 W. 54th St
923 E. 213th St
4172 Southwood Ln
Box 375, Rt. 2
1102 NE 67 Terr
Rt. 2, Box 37
3 Pine St
201 Kimrey Moor
70 Kent St
121 W. Main St

Greensburg, PA 15601
Lake Oswego, OR 97034
Salt Lick, KY 40371
Brookhaven, MS 39601
Burley, ID 83318
Newington, CT 06111
S. Berwick, ME 03908
Tuckahoe, NY 10707
North Wales, PA 19454
Ashton, MD 20702
Newark, OH 43055
Bkeechobee, FL 33472
Dearborn, MI 48126
Grand Island, NB 68801
Boothwyn, PA 19061
River Forest, IL 60305
Columbus, TX 78934
Chicago, IL 60632
Bronx, NY 10469
Lakeland, FL 33803
Chadds Ford, PA 19317
Gladstone, MO 64118
McDonald, PA 15057
Baldwinsville, NY 13027
Fayetteville, NY 13066
W. Quincy, MA 02169
Heber Springs, AR 72543

FRIENDS OF THE 306th

Bartlett, Sy ✓
Brennan, Catherine Z. ✓
McLachlan, Ian

Michaely, Jean
Norman, Cyril J.

Paull, Keith

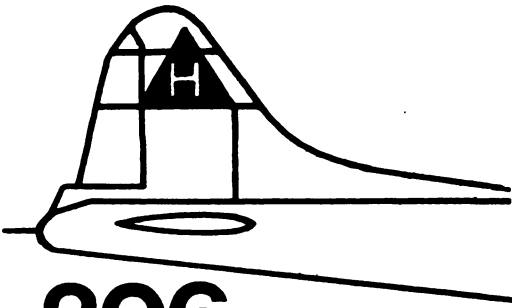
Olausson, Torbjorn
Rapp, Ernest C.
Slater, Harry E.
Whitney, Myrtle L.

1010 N. Palm Av
4008 2nd St, SW
16 Walpole Rd
3141 Cauby St #98
16 Rye Crescent, Cople
2 The Lodge, High St
Torasjovagen 33
1952 Antietam St
1007 Sunset Av
2916 Country Place Cir

Los Angeles, CA 90069
Washington, DC 20032
Old Windsor SL4 2LZ
Berkshire, England
San Diego, CA 92110
Bedford MK44 3TJ
Beds., England
Clapham, Bedford MK41 6AJ
Beds., England
13500 Tyreso, Sweden
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
Murfreesboro, TN 37130
Carrollton, TX 75006

FEB. 5 1978

Yake, Nelson	Glen Forest Cr.	Box Ford, MA 01921
Yarmbrust, Norman A.	6037 Snow Hill Rd.	Washington CH, OH 43160
Barber, Odell	1606 W. 5th Av.	Gastonia, NC 28052
Barberis, Daniel J.	819 Loretta Cr.	River Vale, NJ 07675
Barchard, Charles	Dartmouth College	Hanover, NH 03755
Barron, Eddie	306 Birch St.	Pittsburgh, PA 15238
Barton, Wm. D. X	3040 S. Oak Park Av.	Berwyn, IL 60402
Baskett, Jacob E.	3915 Walnut	Inkster, MI 48141
	520 Birch St.	Vassar, MI 48723
Baxter, James E.	520 Birch St.	Vassar, MI 48723
Belser, Joseph	2210 Oak Forest Ct.	Arlington, TX 76012
Benson, Evald W. <i>NO</i>	3 S. Tionesta Av.	Kane, PA 16735
Beres, Robert C.	687 White Pond Cr.	Akron, OH 44320
Bergen, Luther	201 Victoria Av.	N. Charleston, SC 29406
Berman, Wm.	6013 Colfax	N. Hollywood, CA 91603
Berthold, Walter G.	5 Cliff St.	Rockville, CT. 06066
Blum, Fred	Box 292	Howells, NB 68641
Bolf, Frank	615 Goliad Rd.	Floresville, TX 78114
Bonadio, Frank J.	28 Culverton	Rochester, NY 14609
Brofford, Louis	Box 1	Payne, OH 45880
Brouman, Philip	2289 Elmhill Rd.	Pittsburgh, PA 15221
Brower, Franklin J.	Box 162	Columbus, NB 68601
Burcke, C. M.	5410 Lindberg	St. Louis, MO 63123
Butter, Don	Box 241	Winslow, IL 61084
Cavaness, Wm. F.	702 Cravens Av.	San Antonio, TX 78223
Christian, Clyde	Box 1895	Ada, OK 74820
Ciarlelli, John T.	55 Robbins St.	Waterbury, CT 06708
Comstock, Mitt	3209 Dover Cr.	Plano, TX 75075
Cook, Louis G.	10410 E. Prince Rd.	Tucson, AZ 85715
Corcoran, M. J.	1317 3rd, NE	New Brighton, PA 15066
Corigliano, Horace	1161 Tulip Av.	Franklin Square, NY 11010
Corrigan, James M.	5 E. 67th N	Gladstone, MI 49837



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Sept 19, 1978

Dear Russ.

I has been nearly three months since I talked to you from Atlanta. I guess Bill did not need the labels. I still have the master so if an emergency ever occurs we can use them.

I finally finished comparing my lists against the Echoes and it shows only 17 names that I can't find in the Echoes. I am sending this info to you. Also some errors I noted including the wrong zip code on mine.

I got a note from Don Ross. He informs me Tom Witt recently got a divorce & moved to Texas. He will send me his new address as soon as he gets it.

He also sent me John MacPherson new address. It is 40 Donny Brook Drive Allendale N.J.; 07401

I am driving to Collins on the 17th & then we are going on to Wash. - carry material for the party room. I will use one of the rooms next to the party room. I told my wife to use ear plugs.

Retirement is doing fine. I can't get all my work done.

I want to get the dark room working so I can develop prints I obtain -

Well enough chatter - Hope College is going OK. & hope to see you in Wash. Enjoyed the Echols - hope I can get on the Rich Cleary info. I have copies of the St Charles material

Until later
Ralph

P.S. I also heard from the 368th Sqdn Bombardier prior to my tenure - a Dr. Natan he is retired & living in Florida he had a heart attack in 1975 He was a good friend of Robbie Williams.



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Dear Russ

Thanks for the call the other night. I was thinking about getting organized so we could have our own reunion. Most of my Xmas cards were Shuler, Erb, Houlahan, Bill Flanagan & etc all were in favor of a 306th reunion. I was making a list like you had in Echoes for 306th attendees but you beat me to it.

I think I forwarded that non profit info form first to Bill Collins. Let me know if you need any info from me.

I was looking at my old address etc of Officers etc who I knew at Thurleigh & I have met a Capt Art Varn. He & I were by Bom at the same time. Stan Raes use to make us help with Briefing so we got to know one another. I don't remember how he looked then.

Russ, those micro film have photo in them. Do you know if we can get print make of those pictures. The photo at the end of the war are interesting that one of 368th of (I have print) is on micro film & the one I am sending of 423rd is on micro film. I would like to get 368th supply, armament, medical, 368th Hdq.

Another question, on Dec 5, a pilot was killed when a bullet turret guy charged his guns on the ground & the gun went off & killed his pilot. Did you ever run into that story.

As for Salada. I see in the micro film that Salada went home 3/20/45. Where did he go after he left 368th. Did you ever get an info on him. I didn't know him too well except an Sqdn official business. He left shortly after my becoming Sq Bomb. I could write him but maybe the rest he doesn't write much.

Say Russ, I got a Computer print out from Bill Collins when I was at O.C. Do you have any new one since the last printing of L chads. I am enclosing some money to pay for it if you have one.

Oct 17, 1978



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

I also have a good refinished B-2 Jacket. You know I lost my Eager Beaver patch when we were at Chicago. I saw would like to get another. Some guys had two of them. I would put it on the jacket & give it to the 306th Memorial. If you hear of any guy who has one let me know. Rees. I promised some more pictures at D.C. Maybe after the snow has let up I get you some copies.

Inclosed in article from Aerospace Hestonan. Salada retirement & 423 pictures -
so until later

Best Wishes
Ralph Bordner

If money is not enough
please let me know

Air Force Times January 14
Reserve Retirees

WASHINGTON — The following list reported by the Air Reserve Personnel Center, Denver, is of AF Reservists who qualified to retire with pay under Title 10, USC 1331, effective during the month of November.

- Brig. Gen.**
 Berlin Frank W
 Chamano Francis N
 McPartlin James H
 Sheehan Paul
- Colonel**
 Basin Arthur E Jr
 Bowling Gene H
 Browner Joseph E
 Coedpois James P
 Creasler Robert W
 Davis Carl C
 Dodson William S
 Freeman Melvin D
 Guterman Richard L
 Hural Philip P
 Jonhansen Ernest L Jr
 Katz Irving
 Lawie Richard W
 Lindberger Herbert M
 Margins Victor A
 Marshall Bert W Jr
 Murphy Francis J
~~Salada Maurice V~~
~~Shaw Robert W~~
 Voller Robert H
 Zelden Max
- Lt. Col.**
 Alexander James P Jr
 Ames Roger J
 Anderson Hila W Jr
 Balmer Thomas A
 Balas Charles C
 Bell Garroll L
 Blackburn Jacob F
 Blair Alexander E
 Bohan William E
 Bokner Herbert F Jr
 Bowen David Q
 Bowman Robert C
 Bradford Gordon R
 Brak Stephen B
 Braung William A
 Brown Lloyd R
 Browning William E
 Carson Lloyd S
 Carberry James J
 Can Christopher J
 Chandler Don B
 Cronk Joseph G
 Coker Frank H
 Cornwell John C II
 Cosan Barnett R
 Cozas Basil G
 Croyer William J
 Cushman Thomas W
 Domestras Donald
 Dornedon William A
 Dockry Joseph P
 Edwards Charles A
 Evans Louis J
 Freeman Rodney
 Fries Ernest A
 Galleyway Russell P

- Sheldon Alvin D
 Slack Claude Jr
 Smith Edward S
 Smith Lawrence C
 Sommer Leo J
 Sorenson John R
 Steiner Sidney B
 Steiner Richard M
 Strofer Clifford W Jr
 Stuart Harold K Jr
 Sturm William A
 Sweeney Philip J
 Taketaki Katherine F
 Tappan William R Jr
 Tauber Louis E
 Taylor Howard F
 Taylor Robert A
 Thom Albert N
 Thompson Francis B
 Thorpe Carroll C
 Venti Thomas G Jr
 Wallen Alphonse R
 Walters Kenneth E
 Ward Oscar T
 Wegener Charles W
 Westfall Wilford V
 Williams Charles S Jr
 Wilkins Clarence L Jr
 Wilmington Archie A Jr
- Major**
 Allan Vernon A
 Anderson Clayton M
 Batsler Ralph H
 Barausky Peter P
 Baxter George H
 Belsler Garth H
 Bennett Floyd C
 Benson Stanton
 Botsford Donald S
 Boufford Albert J
 Caldwell Robert G
 Christ George T
 Davis Robert J
 Dejewski Theodous A
 Doty Donald M
 Drawbaugh Walter E
 Farr Preston O
 Gallo John J
 Gilboe Donald A
 Gruver Walter H
 Johnson Elmer O Jr
 Jones Robert H
 Jones Rowland P
 Keksey Mary P
 Labrie Bernard
 Latzy Robert N
 Leftorge Littleton L
 Lucas Richard M
 McCawley Harold G
 Meyer Arthur
 Milan Charles M
 Mueller Otto K
 Nurkus Lloyd W
 Oensam William A
 Paradise Raymond
 Peasant Julian S Jr
 Pictisch Frank C
 Quattricocchi Joseph P
 Rees Clyde R
 Roeder Charles M
 Sacks David W
 Scherrod Robert J
 Shatterly Ruth C
 Sherman George L
 Simmons Allen B
 Smithman Robert S
 Spink William K
 Stern Frank E
 Thompson Ralph P
 Wajda Thomas

- Webb Clinton J
 Whitman Arthur B
 Wilson Philip J
 Wilson Richard L Jr
 Winger Charles W Jr
- Captain**
 Dickerson Melvin R
 Marcol Lucien L
- CWO-W4**
 Garton Norman A
- CWO-W3**
 Welch Artis E
- CMSgt.**
 Bonner William W
 McConvey Marshall F
 Screamstad Raymond M
 Smith Troy A
 Snow Arthur A
 Touchton Joseph C
 Ward Earl V Jr
- SMSgt.**
 Blinick Eugene N
 Earl Richard W
 Duval Earl L
 Kohnman J T
 Kooling John V
 Mills Norman E
 Nasty Frank L
 Nixby Stanley A
 Sanson Wilson O
 Shadle Clifford F
 Theobald Walter P
 Wassinger Samuel J
 Young William A
- MSGt.**
 Andrus William H
 Baker Howard E
 Butts Marshall
 Carless Richard D
 Crawford Samuel F
 Denton Noah M
 Ferry Ross C
 Goodson Thomas G
 Goodwin Harold P
 Hashagen Fred E Jr
 Longo Hector D
 McCallister John E
 Mikulich Stanley
 Miller Harold R Jr
 Miller James L
 Pritz Joseph F
 Shrid Dalbert E
 Steel Roy J
 Wyatt James L
- TSgt.**
 Bowman Coyne L
 Green John G
 Ross Marvin G
 Tibbets Dorence B
 Wheahan Victor W
- SSgt.**
 Ertolan Vernon R
 Lynch Charles G
 Quinn Leo J
 Whyte Edward G
- Sergeant**
 Weiss Arthur C
- Chilian**
 Brennan Charles W
 Crapper William D
 Dabson William M
 Hanson Bert E
 Kelley Robert J
 Meyer Harold F
 O'Neil Clayton R

I made a copy of this Reserve Retiree list from 19, 1979 in an Air Force Times you can see in manual V. Salada names He was my CO when I got O ETO + 160 signed by Sgdm B. Barbacher order I went to a couple of parties with him. He was quite a character

Ralph
Bodner

6 February 1976

Dear Ralph:

Sorry to have been so delinquent in getting this material to you.

None of these are very good, and if needed, I can probably get a better copy of them by having the title page of the book photographed. Let me know.

The group insignia I never saw until Al LaChasse showed me this from a 1943 National Geographic at Miami Beach. I don't believe it was ever used much.

Of course, the Germans objected to the Clay Pigeon and the Grim Reaper. These were both changed in the early 50s, but I sure would use them for what you are doing. After all, they are what the men over there remember.

Sincerely yours,

Russell A. Strong

4900 Appleridge Court Dayton, Ohio 45424

15 March 1976

Dear Ralph:

Many thanks for the envelope full of goddies.

The orders helped clear up some names I could not read on the copy I had available. Wally Borges also sent me a copy, but have yet to hear from anyone else with help.

I've been working on a card file of 306th personnel this winter. Would guess now that I have about 5,500 names in it, and still looking for more. Guess I put a hundred more in the system over the weekend.

One certainly becomes more appreciative of what computers can do in this regard, as compared with manually preparing and filing such information. Eventually I hope to have a fairly comprehensive collection of personnel data, at least enough to background a book.

Most of the materials you sent were of some interest, and several pieces I had not seen before, so they go into the mill.

On anything developed on insignia, I certainly would favor using those that were current in WW II. Later revisions have little meaning to any of us. Looks like the biggest problem is getting a good rendering of the D Grim Reaper. But someone ought to have it.

You asked a couple of questions about books, so I am enclosing a copy of the bibliography I did several months ago. I have since added a few titles, but this ought to tell you quite a lot. Casey Jones said he was giving it to the school librarian where he teaches and telling her to get them all. Unfortunately, many of them are now out of print and quite scarce, available only at premium prices. I have a fair number of them, or have read many of them. I picked up a copy of Skyways to Berlin when I got back to the states in '45, and also far-get Germany. I'm still trying to find First of the Many, which I have seen and which has a lot of 306th stuff in it. Quite a number appeared both in paperback and hard cover, which helps. I haunt paperback shops, looking for copies, and especially a couple of second hand places. Picked up three novels on the Eighth a couple of weeks ago.

What about the present or past whereabouts of your own crew?

Best to you, and I hope you make it to Dayton while I'm still here.

26 July 1976

Dear Ralph:

As Per your request, here is my uptodate list of Illinois people we are looking for.

I am also enclosing some instructions I put together for Bill Collins in dealing with various people.

This list represents everyone I know of at the moment. I went through all the stuff from Bill Raper and picked up quite a bunch of names and home towns. As soon as I get to North Carolina I am going to put a new list together for Bill, with some suggestions as to those he has work on it.

Sorry I couldn't spend more time with you last week, but I guess everything else kind of crowded in.

We are leaving here for North Carolina Thursday to begin some house hunting there, and I'll settle into work on Aug. 2. But I hope to be able to squeeze out some time to work on the @06th a bit, and also to work out plans for the reunion. Hope I make it.

My new address is: Director of College Relations
St. Andrews Presbyterian College
Laurinburg, NC 28352

Let me know how you make out.

Sincerely yours,

Sept 16, 1976

Dear Russ

Thanks for the list, dudonin etc. I & Bob Starynski are checking out the list & have some phone number & he is calling from Chicago, it is cheaper that way.

I stopped to see Elbert Odle on the way home from Dayton. Talked to long & got home late. He has some material

Example

(1) S.P. order #6 Dated Aug 12, 1942 Air Eclon from Westover

(2) May 1942 - Fort George Washington - Rooster of Officer

(3) Annex to no #1 - Operations Order #5 - July 31, 1942

He had some pictures large & small. He said he was getting them in a notebook for you at Dayton.

For my benefit he had pictures of Roy Buchanan - 368th Sqn navigator Aug 1942 & Drv Norton - 368th Sqn Bomber

He has some address & I will check them out.

I talked to Bob Starynski & he had taken a vacation out East this summer. He took a detour & found Snuffy Smith. They went out on the town & he said Snuffy is going to make Dayton.

By the way that crew who went to Sweden
 The officer who visited our barracks was
 a Lt Buck. I am not sure whether he was
 a pilot or not. It's the guy who was in
 Colliers -

Another 368th Crew - I believe the pilot
 was Hathaway & his bombardier James
 Frederick flew a mission around the
 Bulge time in late Dec 1944 or early
 Jan 1945. They had to crash land in
 Belgium or France near the front lines. The
 British Army rescued them & got them
 back to Thurligh about 4 days later.

We thought they were gone & all their
 clothes were shipped out when they got back
 It just a bad but maybe some of the crew
 is around yet.

I got some new names from Bill Collins
 & I am sending names that weren't on your
 list. I have heard from Bill lately but
 his last news letter was just Super

I got a note from Alan Sheridan. It
 was mailed the Sat before he left for
 the Tour Sept 11, 1976. He said he would
 get some material from the trip if
 possible especially of Thurligh!

over

Enough Chatter for this time. Hope
the new job is doing Ok. & maybe
I can get on the West & see how
Maryanne is doing

Ralph

Bob Staszynski helped me get Dec 13, 1976
they really hurt.

Dear Russ:

Well it has been 2 months since
Clayton but I just can't seem to get
things done - I know you feel bad
about not making it there. As you
read in Bill's newsletter we had a
bunch & I think St Louis will be
better. I tried to meet all of the
306 men including Snuffy Smith. He
kiddingly accused me of pushing him
down stairs. He did hit his head
& fell down stairs in front of me &
I did help pick him up, & went
to the party room & got Mr. Wicks
ex 306 Mr. who took him to emergency.
I did push him out of the party room
at one AM when I closed it up.

There were a lot of new faces.
One guy who walked across France
in Early 1943

2

Another guy who was a POW by
Dec 15, 1942. Mr Colston (Casey Jones)
Navyota had an interesting story about
Col Robinson. He wanted to see Robbie
& tell him off. Col Robinson drove up
for the day & ~~went~~ back sat nite.
He asked for you & had some material
to show you. Also Terry Kostal had
some material. Mr Skuller had his
scrap book, he was Flight Surgeon
who went up to Okinawa from the
306th. He was there with Col Overaker.
Casey Jones & I talked to him until 1 AM.

I have some new names for you & Bill.
I had one casualty there at Clayton - Some-
one still my mighty Eighth but otherwise
a wonderful time. Enough chatter. I
know you really wanted to be there & we
all missed you - after 1st of year I
will be working on get more Best of everything
306 member Let hear from
You & Ralph.

8 February 1977

Mr. Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Dear Ralph:

Thought you might like this more up-to-date list of addresses. It is basically what will appear in the next newsletter. Later I'll have a few more pieces for you which you may find useful.

I hope you aren't too cold and uncomfortable this year. The reports reinforce my feeling that I am glad I got out of Dayton when I did.

We haven't had any snow this winter, but quite cold. It was 15° here this morning.

I'm still eyeball deep in the 306th, and planning a trip to Washington soon to delve into archives a bit more, as well as exploring some other areas for more data.

If you ever see John Bennett, you might explore his pictures a bit. I am looking for plane and accident pictures and would like to borrow anything for copying. Got about 800 in one box the other day from Rudy Skalak and have had great fun going through them.

Good luck with the winter weather, and I hope your school is one of those that can stay open.

Sincerely yours,



306 BOMB GROUP (H)



8th AIR FORCE

SERVED JULY 1942 TO MAY 1945, WENDOVER, UTAH. THURLEIGH BASE, BEDFORD, ENGLAND

Jan 2, 1977

Dear Bill

Received your Dec 20 letter on the 30th
When I got back from visiting in laws
in Louisiana. I got 15 cards from 306th
guys at Dayton & all are ready for St Louis
Mr Shullen & Houlahan are trying to get the
Doctors & Nurses of 306th out for the meeting.
Albert Odle sent a picture taken at cocktail
party. I wrote Casey Jones about a set of
pictures but haven't received a word.

I typed up your list - I added Albert Graves
868th adjutant - Charles Sevey my Navigator who
visited late in Nov. and a Billy Fuller who
was our gunner. I am including a copy
of a letter I received from him the other day.
It makes me feel happy & have only a few
aches & pains. I sent the (Fuller) & Sevey the
2 copies of 306th Echoes.

I talked to Glen K²orf the other day &
I included his change of address

These other names I got from Russ &
Bob Stargynski - so when you need more
labels made on them let me know

Have you heard from Russ lately. I
wrote him a note on the X-mas card about
Clayton.

Still trying to find more 300th in Illinois
I think I found my pulat in the morning
Dewa - Jerry Kastal sent me a copy he
put in his local paper.

I hope to get my deposit into Florida
this week & hope to find the next letter -

So until late
Ralph Borden



306 BOMB GROUP (H)



8th AIR FORCE

SERVED JULY 1942 TO MAY 1945, WENDOVER, UTAH. THURLEIGH BASE, BEDFORD, ENGLAND

10 January 1977

Dear Russ:

Received your letter of 4 January. Here's a check for \$50.00 to cover mailing, phone calls etc. If you need more later on advise.

Here's a list of labels Ralph sent - note change of address for Korf. Also Phillips is in Fairchild, WA. I answered his letter.

Don't have anything on a Lenninger. Ganchy is not 306th.

Here's a letter from John Woolnough. It's a good chance to put the 306th in that pictorial history. How about sending him some select pictures that Gentle sent, or anything you have that would enhance the Group.

That little ditto form I send with new leads is really helping the funds. It's mainly the request you put in ECHOES II though. At least we have something to work with.

Will contact Wilkie and Quint.

Sincerely,

Bill Callino

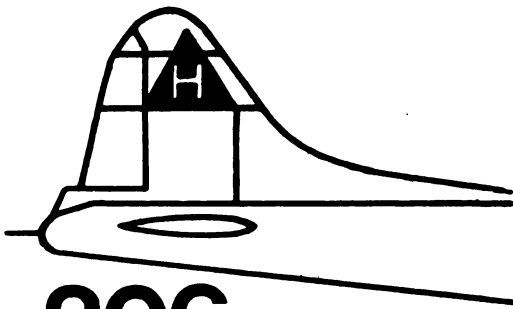
Russ

Inclosed is \$5 money order to help pay some mailing cost. I have a ream of Zerox paper & a machine available to reproduce the 306th history you mentioned in the last letter 250 pages.

I also got a slide of the old 368th of hist taken in June 1979. I have had a couple of \$15 prints ~~made~~ made of it. Could put in Echoes & have people guess the identity.

I hope to call you before dinner. We plan to take in both - may have to borrow a few bucks. Do you want me to take photos to Phoenix

Rayh.



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

March 1, 1980

Dear Russ:

I am sending a lot of material in this envelope. I am sending the 2-5-80 computer list with some additions and corrections

I am also sending a list of names that were on the Oct. 17, 1978 and July 16, 1979 but were not on the Feb 5, 1980 list and were not on any of the deceased list. Albert Rehn, who was Don Ross pilot, was at Dayton also Ray Tripp was at Dayton. I had in my note that Earl Kesling had passed away but I can't find any reason for putting it there. Dr. Colontoni send me a Xmas Card with his new address and I just heard from Arky Evans with his new address, I corrected it on the computer list. I have a note from Walt Correll and he says Thomas Foley and Jim Martin were ex 306th people. I will send them a form to fill on the 306th information

Russ I have John Threadgill ex Group officer on the deceased list On my World War II list of acquaintances ^{Tanals} Art Vann wasn't he your bombardier Was he ever the 367th Sqdn Bombadier? I thought he was when I was the Sqdn Bomb of the 368th.

In reading the history of the 368th Sqdn when I was in the sqdn Pappy Odle went home and Salada went to group and Hulings was brought in a Squadron Commander. Ed Miazza who had been the sqdn since Wendover

ALWAYS FIRST FIRST OVER GERMANY

was transferred to 423 and Willie Williams was brought in from the 369th. It seemed funny because Miazza was doing the same job in the 368 and 423rd. I know Buie went from the 368th to the 423rd, maybe he and Miazza were good friends. *Do you know was there a story on it*

I am sending all material I can include in changes to the computer list. I know I read the lists at least six times and each time I found mistakes I made .

I am sending notes taken from the 368th history and 306th history and my own notes to back up changes in the 368th Staff Officers list. There is a time gap between Maynard Dix (1-29-44) to Roy Buchanan who was Sqdn Nav in July when I arrived in July. I flew my last mission with Warner and the history shows him finishing in March. Also the history list Wagner promotion as 368 Sqdn Nav.

The other blank of time is between Ed Montoya and Irv, Norton . I am writing to those fellow and Don Hoss and Jack Samway . I am also contacting Al Greaves, Slim Boring and John Bennett.

As to the group list. I tried to type over pages 3,4, and 5th page which were hand written. It was a little difficult to read. I also will re read my 306th history to find more changes. I am sending what I have now.

In a follow up letter I will send copies of 368th Staff and 423th Staff The pictures were taken after the war and is included in the 306th history. I also have a Capt R.J. Curran on my promotion list as 368th Sqdn Electronic Officer.

I will include a note to Don Hoss list of 368th Officer list for Tom Witts address.

I know after I finish this note, I will thing of something I forget to tell you or ask you. I got you letter today of the facts for the 8th AF Yearbook.

Does Bill have have the mimi group reservation into the 8th AF. for Orlando.? I also got a note from Andy Vangalis who repeated the

(3)

request for a 306th reunion at the same time as the 8TH
I will try to get on plans for it and contact some Florida
306th guys for help. I will let you know more later .

I want to get this material in the mail to you. When you get
a revised computer address list , I would like a copy.

Until later

Ralph

P.S. I am using my old Royal typewriter and I am a little rusty.
It isn't like the ~~Correctable~~ electric IBM used at

the school

14 March 1980

Dear Ralph:

Attached are a letter from George Roberts and my reply to him.

As you are listed in IRS as president of the 386th Bomb Group Historical Association, I think you ought to take the bull by the horns, and move for some action at Orlando.

Why not appoint a three-man committee, including George, and see what can be accomplished. Jim Cheney might be a good member as he will likely be at the meeting and has been back to Thurleigh (retired Major General), and I am sure you can come up with another.

If they had a firm proposal to make and some ballpark figures as to money, the support would come.

Sincerely yours,

cc: Roberts



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

March 5, 1980

Dear Russ:

I wasn't sure when you were going to Florida but I will get this note off to you.

I got another batch of negatives from John Grimm today. They were taken from Aug 44 to July 45. A lot of them were on sightseeing trips in England. There were quite a few of people of 306th and the 300th mission of 306th. If any look good I'll let you know.

John said he would like to work up a souvenir program for Orlando. It sounds o.k. with me, maybe you might have some ideas and pictures for the program. Anything to bring more 306th people to Orlando, after all some of us are in the 60's. It seems we are leading in attendance and membership in the 8th A.F.. Maybe the 8th ~~CAA~~ have a reunions along with the 306th.??

Russ, I flew a few missions in the 368th "Begin the Beguine" but I recently noticed in the picture section of Boves Ist Over Germany about 4 pages before the one showing the Liberty Run and at the bottom a nose section of a B-17. It has "Begin the Beguine" on it but just below the pilot it has "She Dood It" I don't ever remember old 323 M having ^{two} ~~the~~ names on it. It could have been done after I left.

Also on the next page there is a picture of 4 guys with flight jackets on, the second fellow on the left sure looks like me (way back then)

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

Do you have anything in Bove's file on the picture in this section?

Say did you ever develop those black and white 35mm film I took at Colorado Springs. If they are any good I would like to make some copies and put in an album to take of

Say Jack Grimm had some picture at Dayton and he had "Duke of Paducah" "Man of War" nose section He might know what squadron they belong to.

Also John Corcoran⁽³⁶⁷⁾ flew a lot of his mission in Maryland, Maryland, I have in my notes that Belle of the Blue was in the 368th I could be wrong because flying lead we would fly planes from other squadrons and many times we went to other base to fly a plane for a mission.

Enough for now. Hope things are nice in Florida. Last nite we had a little freezing rain and snow so I am ready for spring.

Thanks for info note to 8th AF on 300th material

Until later
Ralph

P.S. the type write
is an old Royal
about 25 yrs old so
excuse poor typing,
it couldn't be the
typist fault??

most of his time researching into this and not a lot of time on his school work he loves to get dressed up as a hussler or Army man with all his gear. We go to displays and dances and create nostalgia wherever we go.

Enclosed photostat copy of what you wanted. I sent one to Collins and one to Louis Cowley maybe one of them look it to Phoenix anything else you want just write and ask.

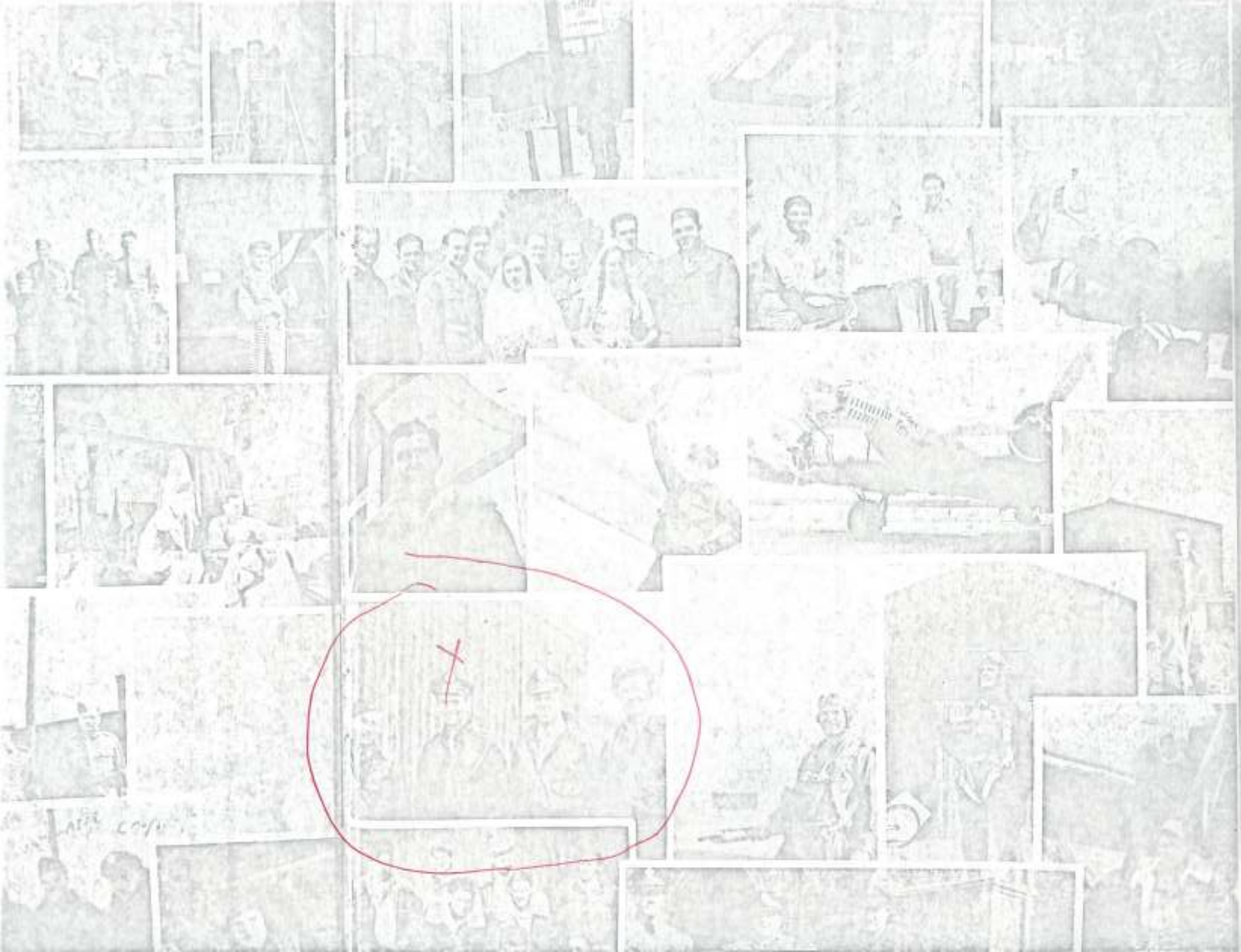
Do you remember the woman at the A.R.C in the article. Still doing my Research into the Glenn Miller Mystery will be thrilled with the tapes will let you know when I get them. If you find any press cuttings of the Miller Band or same could you let me have them please.

I met Glenn Miller when I was kid at Milton Ernest Hall. Some woman has had a heart attack but is recovering don't know whether they'll make it to Orlando. Gordon & I and Lloyd, John Miller. Diane are hoping to attend whenever we get dates. Looking forward to our trip so much now. We have had some special Christmas presents made 306 B.G to bring over, some of the guys have been here have had theirs with

Tea Towels and were delighted, We are going out to Podington 92 B.G tomorrow morning on a (dig) they reckon there is a large piece of B.17 in the wood there that has lain there since the war. Have sent a tape to Bill Collins and some pictures, maybe if you contact him he will let you have a copy of it. Enclosed picture of Lloyd its a bit dark but hes holding the shield we won for Anglo American Relations last year hes wearing one of his uniforms.

If you see Russ Strong tell him we have about 150 pictures of Bedford and the Americans and happenings down
Will if he requires any he must let us know.

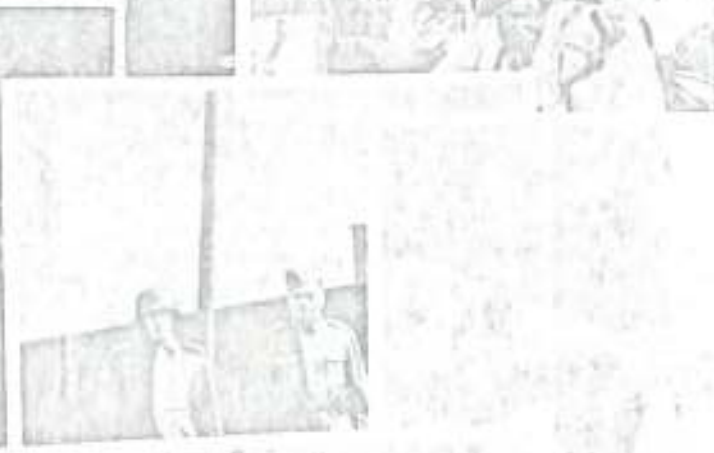
We enjoy all our Research and having you people here wish you could get here more often. Please write soon as we love to hear from you all.



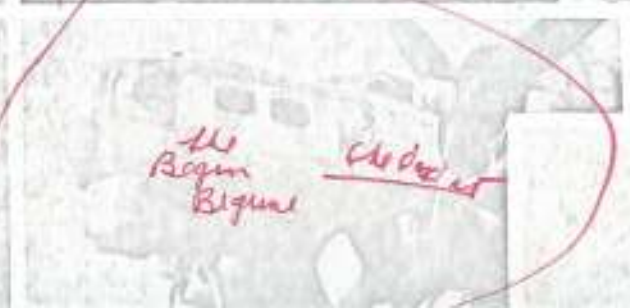
APR 1946



Bill - 5/6/54



Bill - 5/6/54



*The
Begin
Begin*

Chodas

P.S. Thanks for directions, I finally figure out
the different Mustang - Stats, alphabetical & Squadrons



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

April 4, 1980

Dear Russ.

I went try to get the material you requested
this AM into the mail this afternoon.

Last summer I lost my address book with
phone numbers but I did find an invitation
to a Chicago reunion with Starguska address
& phone. I am sure it is the same number.

I also found my folder on 306 B & Assoc.
I am sending all I have in the folder. I
hope nothing is missing.

I am enclosing Don Ross's letter with staff
info plus Tom Witt's address. The letter
from Slim Bouring has the 308th staff list
included. Slim did the underling up ^{to} the time
he was involved with 308th. I think I
sent you "Pappy" Cole letter but I am
including another one. I hope to get down
& see him this May.

I will get a note off to George Roberts
 + will get going on the program ideas.
 I wrote Collins a letter on my ideas
 so I don't think he will mind. I do
 want to get the 306th moving. It is
 nice to have party room but we need some
 306th organization so we can all pull together.
 Another guy with some influence is Wm Flanagan
 the fellow in the wheel chair. He has energy
 + money to get things done. He lives in Florida

I have written Ed Montoya + Jim Watson
 on the 368th staff. I haven't heard from either
 fellow. An came back from Montoya but I
 found his right address later

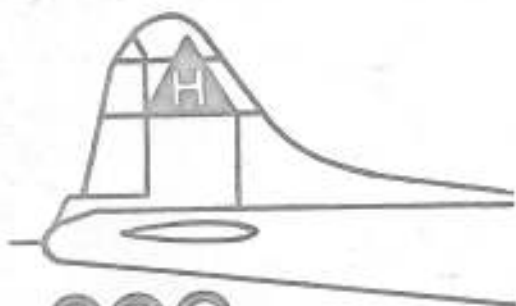
I should get a note off to Massimo
 + Vangelis. I have some pictures for them.

I also heard from Wm Fahrenholz wife
 I said I had a picture of her + Bill at
 Colorado Springs + she wanted a copy of it. She
 wrote me about Bill's death - he had been
 improving + then suddenly he was gone. Had
 check up Jan 28 + had a good report + then
 he died Feb 1, 1980

Ray Russ. I am enclosing a big envelope
 with semi postage. Can you send me the Eckers
 in it. The last two issues have been torn
 up badly. Enough for now. Will write more
 later

Ralph

Book Loan 8 305 22 Use as Reference



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Secretary-Treasurer
William M. Collins, Jr.
2973 Heatherbrae Drive
Poland, Ohio 44514

March 4, 1980

Dear Ralph & Nell,

I was certainly happy to receive your nice letter last week. It was quite a coincidence - the day I received your letter, we had gone down to Tampa to visit some friends from home that are spending the winter in Tampa. On the way down, we went through Spring Hill and looked up Mr. Portere. His wife is working in East Cottage, so we didn't get to meet him. We visited a couple of hours with her, he isn't able to do much, he has had a couple of strokes but seems to be pretty good, gets around good, talks and sounds just like he did 36 years ago.

We were sure sorry that we couldn't make the reunion last fall. There sure were a lot of the old timers that I would have liked to see.

I remember Panzer very well, most of the pilots wanted to know how he missed both times, in fact they just didn't know. In order for him to get his flying time, I used to use him as my co-pilot for test flights, crew ~~training~~ ^{training} engine, airframe, personnel and so on.

I figured I could keep an eye on both seats all the time. I think it would be better as a general idea to be.

Ralph, I don't know how much good I can do in telling in any black places for you till I get back home where I can review the old news, pictures and etc. as you say we aren't getting any younger and after 36 years the old memory needs a bit of prompting.

We plan to go back to Indiana around the middle of April. Perhaps you and Nell can plan to stop by for a day or so and we can take our time going over any information and pictures I have. We have plenty of room and would love to have you for a visit.

I think all of us had more than one job when we first organized at Wendover. Most of the second jobs were "on paper only" in order to complete the organizational charts. I'm sure I didn't really do anything as communications officer while I held that title. I was later appointed "Crygen" Officer and went to Randolph Field, Texas for a weeks special training. I continued in that capacity even after taking over operations. I also served as aircraft accident investigation officer for the Group while in England.

The order you have the Operations listed down through George McVack is correct, he took over from me when I left. Stanley Simonson was never in operations to my knowledge. I think there is a mix up of names. Ed Secgried, a bombardier was my assistant during most of the time that I was in operations. I needed an assistant and I think there was some personality conflict among other things between he and his crew so he was made my assistant. He didn't give any ^{more} missions during the time

I was there. I don't know what happened after that.

I'm pretty sure that Jack Samway served as squadron navigator after Dix and that Ross served as squadron bombardier. I don't recall that Manubue or Logan being assigned any other jobs but perhaps some of my old aces might clear that part up. The way you have the names listed on the card are as I remember them except for Silverstein.

That copper etched B-17 sounds like a thing of beauty. I want to see one when I get home this spring. I didn't bring the paper down with me that has all the information.

We are looking forward to having you visit with us this spring so we can take plenty of time to review things and try to remember some of the hazy areas.

Best to you,

Albert & Jane Ode

DONALD R. ROSS
UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE
OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68101

P.O. Box 307

March 21, 1980

Dear Ralph,

Thanks for your recent letter. I will try to answer a few questions, but my memory is very hazy.

Guillermo Perez was my co-pilot going overseas. On the boat going over he came down with a severe case of the clap and never rejoined our crew. Henry Hanson did fly two tours. I flew his 50th mission with him which was to the Bohlen Oil Refineries on March 2, 1945. I got a special DFC for that and he got one for finishing his second tour. His navigator, Osborne, also finished his second tour that day. Sorry to hear Henry passed away.

I had flown 11 missions on my second tour (from October 1944 to May 1945) when the war ended. I remained as Group Bombardier until about August 1, 1945, when I went home. I was supposed to be Squadron Bombardier when I returned in October 1944, but instead became Group Bombardier when Norton decided to go home. I don't remember who was 368th Squadron Bombardier before Norton. I was never 368th Squadron Bombardier unless it was just before I finished my first tour in June 1944.

X Tom Witt's address is as follows: Box 56, Cookeville, TX 75558

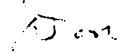
Jack Samway was 368th Squadron Navigator between Dix and Buchanan. I don't know the dates. I don't remember who was Squadron Bombardier between Montoya and Norton, although I may have been in June and July of 1944, but I don't remember. I was promoted to Captain in July so I must have been Squadron Bombardier then when I went home for 30 days.

I thought Hatton was Squadron Bombardier for awhile before Thayer, but I could be wrong.

I spent about three weeks in Arizona altogether and played quite a bit of golf while there, although I also was there during the floods.

Best wishes to you and to Nell.

Sincerely,


Donald R. Ross

Mr. Ralph E. Bordner
131 East Autumn Lane
East Peoria, Illinois 61611

Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Boring
2348 Old Knoxville Pike
Maryville, TN 37801

24 JANUARY 80

Hi Ralph:

SORRY NOT TO HAVE ANSWERED SOONER, BUT WAS ON TRIP TO S. CAROLINA - I SAW 3 OF THE ORIGINAL MEMBERS OF 306th - 2 368th - LUTHER BERGEN - (N) & AUGUST KNATJEK Tail Gunner (my friend) & MILTON P. BLANCHETT (N) 423rd. I HAD NOT SEEN BERGEN OR BLANCHETT SINCE 43 - SO WAS INDEED GLAD TO SEE THEM - KNATJEK I HAD SEEN AT 306th REUNIONS. WE COULD NOT ADD ANYTHING TO WHAT I HAVE HERE - HISTORY WISE -

I RETIRED FROM RES (AF) IN 78 ALSO RETIRED FROM U.S. POSTAL SV - 29 FEB 80 - WILL START SOCIAL SECURITY AUG 80 - SO LIKE YOU I'M ON MY WAY -

WE DO NOT PLAN AT THIS TIME TO GO TO ENGLAND BUT DO PLAN TO GO TO ORLANDO - SO IF I DON'T SEE YOU BEFORE WILL SEE YOU THEN - I HAVE VERIFIED OR CORRECTED YOUR STAFF PEOPLE AS BEST I COULD - I LEFT 368th 17 AUG 43 - AFTER THAT DATE

I HAVE NO INFO -

WHILE IN S. CAROLINA WENT TO CHARLESTON AFB TO CHECK ON SPACE AVAILABLE OVERSEAS TRAVEL (MILITARY) - THEY HAVE NICE SETUP - TERMINAL, CAR COMPOUND - GUNNERS FOOD ETC - GOING TO GO ONE OF THESE DAYS - ALL FOR NOW

SEE YOU IN ORLANDO

Jim Boring
368th - 306th

Adjutant

Edward T. Miazza 6- -42 - 8-16-43 END

Edgar Hallman to 4-19-44

Richard Moore 4-20-44 to

Albert Greaves

Robert Whitney

Charles L. **CRIMES** 7- -42-12-12-42 KIA

*History show killed 11-1842 - Pilot was Lucas * Bordner*

Wallace Boring 12-12-42 to 8-15-43 END

Maynard Dix 8-20-43 to 1-29-44

*Ross letter **

* **JACK SAMWAY**

Roy Buchanan to 1-17-45

Keith L. Warner 1-18-45 to 4-27-45

Paul C. Wagner 4-27-45 to ?

Bombardiers *Van Dyke* **MCKELVEY?**

Joseph E. **K** Kosakowski to 8-20-43 - END

Stanley Silverstien 8-21-43 to 12-20-43

Eduardo Montoya 12-21-43 to 1-4-44

*Ross letter **

* **DON ROSS**

Irv Norton to 1-11-44

Ralph E. Bordner 10-12-44 to 2-20-45

Reginald H Thayer Jr. 2-20-45 to ?

Armament

John E. Bennett ✓

The Underlining was done by Shm Boring

Ordinance

Thurman E. Dawson 7-6-42 ✓

Richard L. Moore

William Winship

Intelligence

JERIMIAH O'Sullivan 7-3-42 - 5 END

Alfred W. Weld

William Van Norman 12-31-44 to ?

R. Schreiter

Supply

Ferguson 4-1-42 to

R. L. Whitney

Medical Officer

Harold D. Mumal 7-27-42 to 10-12-43 END

J.E. McClung 10-13-43 to ?

Personnel

Schulstad 4-1-42 END

Transportation

Edgar S. Hallman 7-7-42 END

Mess & Camouflage

Phillip Kraft 7-7-42 END

Glennon Kreher 8-7-43 to

Personal Equipment

Albert W. Greaves END

Electronic Officer

Robert J. Curran END

92nd Bombardment Group I/II CCRG
Memorial Corp.
9007 Guthrie
St. Louis, Mo. 63134

Mr. Ralph E. Bordner
131 East Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

September 16, 1980

Dear Ralph;

I received your most welcome letter of the 8th. Now with our reunion and dedication out of the way, I have time to write you an answer. We are to meet the Mills and John Hadfield at Orlando and bring them home with us.

As to the running of our group and editing of the newsletter, I can better explain that to you when we meet at Orlando. Would you like for me to meet with your group? I would be happy to do so.

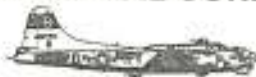
Our group has been organized 10 years now. And last Saturday we reached our goal of dedicating our memorial. It cost about \$12,000. But it is very impressive and the museum people said they never had a dedication program put on by any group that was as impressive as ours. And they received my permission to allow other groups to copy from our program. Well enough of this, I will close for now and see you in Orlando.

Sincerely

Ed

Edward A. Braun
Secretary-92nd Bomb Group Inc.
9007 Guthrie
St. Louis, MO 63134

92nd BOMBARDMENT GROUP
1st - 11th CCRC
MEMORIAL CORP.



_____ is a member of the
"FAMES FAVORED FEW"
for the year of 19 _____.

The 92nd Bombardment Group Memorial Committee has selected the United States Air Force Museum near Dayton, Ohio as the site for a memorial dedicated to the members of their World War II organization.

On September 13th, 1980, members of the World War II 8th AF Flying Fortress unit (ETO) known as "Fame's Favoured Few" will gather at the Museum to unveil the memorial which will feature two sculptured bronze statues. The statues will depict the comradeship between the air and ground crews during the war.

The bronze statues are the first memorial of this type at the USAF Museum according to the Director, Colonel Richard L. Uppstrom. "We are confident," notes Uppstrom, "that as more organizations become aware of this type of memorial program others will be added on the grounds of the Museum. We do have a number of living memorial trees at the Museum and are pleased to see more and more reunion groups coming to Dayton to visit us and establish a remembrance to their organizations".

The 92nd 1980 Reunion will be held from September 11th through the 14th, with the memorial dedication as the highlight on the 13th of September. Reunion headquarters will be Stouffer's Hotel in Dayton.

The head of the sculpture department of Washington University, Mr. H. Richard Duhme, Jr., was commissioned by the 92nd to handle the sculpting of the memorial statues. Mr. Duhme will be present to participate in the dedication activities at the USAF Museum.

Those interested in the dedication and reunion events should contact Edward A. Braun, 9007 Guthrie, St. Louis, Missouri 63134 or Sheldon W. Kirsner, 2603 Cathedral Drive, St. Louis, Missouri 63129.

Tenative Program

1. Introductions of Ex-306th Steff
2. Intro-Talks -England
Gordon & Connie Richards
John Mills
3. Reports
Wm Collins
John Grimm- Memoiral-A.F. Museum
George Roberts-Memoiral -Thurleigh
4. Russ Strong
5. Ralph Bordner-Organization



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Sept 24, 1980

Dear Russ-

I seem to be getting slaver everyday. I have only talked to Bill Collins since I talked to you but have written quite a few letters.

I have written 390 Framlington - 92nd + am writing 351st + 91st concerning their organization + reunion. I will have that info for Orlando.

I did write Luke Jacobs on Tentative program + Bill Collins said it was a good idea to get in touch with him.

I have finally finished my letters to Robinson + Chaney. I notes an ex 306 sq Commander etc John Lambert will be there + of course our old flight surgeon Dr Shuller. I think he should be recognized. There may be others.

I sent the Tentative program to England. I know the Richards will be New York on Oct 20. They will come to Orlando with Masburn from Atlanta. I think Mills will be coming with George Roberts

It has on the second & third row. It omitted Chalfant & others in front & cut Stan Ross off of the second row. I think that picture is in the 306 reels I got from Maxwell -

I made up the attached list of 8 AF members who attend all reunions. Aida Kaye suggested I do that. You can see the 306 is by far ahead you also notice A. Kaye; E. Feuler, R. Burns, J. Worth, & Woolnough had something to do with Ranolung Tour or 8 AF directors that leaves only 6 members who were not 306th members.

Bill also sent me a couple of more copies of John Humms sample programs.

Bill tells me Casey Jones is in Europe. I sent for a msg. I wrote him earlier this year & no answer. In Eckers he was supposed to go to Orlando but I don't see him on last list. I got a note yesterday from Gus Krajick he has his reservations. I am trying to get a note off Ed Elbert Odle. I owe him a letter. He verified my 368th staff also Slim Boring verified some of it. I haven't heard from Stan Ross lately.

Russ more current news - last Tuesday about 6:15 PM. We had a wind - (60 to 75 miles up thru an area about 5 miles by 10 miles I lost one tree near house & 4 or 5 in gully on the next two blocks about 100 trees were knocked down or limbs were torn off

(next)

2-

On the 3x5 card I made up a Tematues program for Fri nights 306th dinner. It is just a suggestion. It can be altered easily or added to I didn't want it too long. I will send a copy to Bill Collins. I have sent copies to Luke Jacobs & England. George Roberts & John Humm were planning on reporting as memorials. I am sending info on the 92nd. Memorial etc. I think \$12,000 is quite a chunk of money.

I recently got an answer from Andy Vangelis I sent him some pictures but nothing from Joe Marcus. Those two guys I think fell a little let down by not more or separate reunions but all the work they did netted on 60 people and they expect more. I don't think other outfits get many more than the number. I will have answers from other outfits to present at Orland. I am getting older & if the 8th can handle reservation etc & we can have a separate evening & program I am for that. What we need is a organizer that can plan the evening affair & other associated events. but I will have more info at Orlando.

hey I got the recent Impact #4 & in there is pictures of D-Day events & a big picture covering two pages is the photo you had of D-Day briefing 6-6-44. in your Dec 78 Echoes. on the back page

Needless to say we had no phone or lights for some time. Power saw were going all night cutting up trees so we could get electricity. It came on about 8 a.m. They say it wasn't a tornado but Tornado Winds it swirled like a tornado but didn't touch the ground. Big deal. Needless to say I was scared. Now I am still cleaning up.

Will Russ. I will get this info in the mail. Any questions let me know. Or if I can go anything.

Until later
Ralph

P.S.
to you see who is Pres of
92- James S. Sutton
I saw him at St James

Russ - Neil & I hope to head south some time around the Oct 15. We plan to visit some friends both Bob & others on the way. Let us know if you want us to contact any one -
I also have written Bob Starzynski recently but no answer about a month ago -

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Robert Elliott-Vice Pres.
Sheldon W. Kirsner-Treas.
Edward A. Braun-Sec.

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Thomas Griesbaum-CCRC
John Shorrock-446th

EDITORS

Edward A. Braun
Sheldon W. Kirsner

92nd Bombardment Group NEWS



VOL VI

LETTER 2

JULY 1980

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The Reunion-Memorial Dedication arrangements are completed. The bronze figures were delivered to the Air Force Museum on May 23 by the Sculptor. On hand to accept delivery were Ed Braun, Sheldon Kirsner, Paul Short, Charles Hodges, and museum officials. I must admit with a certain amount of button busting that the 92nd Memorial will be something that will be enjoyed by museum visitors for years to come. It is a masterpiece. I am positive that everyone of the 92nd that will be in attendance will be justly proud when the statues are unveiled.

Paul Short, Base Chairman, has reported the bronze figures and plaque are now mounted on the concrete base. We members give Paul a hearty THANK YOU for a job well done. Paul also reports that members of the Eighth Air Force Historical Society were to view our memorial on June 14th. Their intentions are to also place a memorial at the Air Force Museum. Thank goodness the 92nd was first as we have a choice location. The museum officials are more than pleased with our memorial.

If you haven't made your reservations with Charlie Hodges, you had better get on the ball and do it promptly. Charlie and Marge Hodges have the reunion details well in hand. Our reunion in September should be an excellent one. Our many thanks to Charlie and Marge for their efforts in our members behalf. This will be the last newsletter before our reunion. IF YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING THE REUNION, GET YOUR RESERVATIONS TO CHARLIE HODGES RIGHT AWAY. Send REUNION CHECKS to: Charles Hodges, 5146 Oaktree Dr., Kettering, OH 45440. All reunion checks should be made payable to 92nd Bomb Group Reunion. Amount: \$67.50 per person or \$135.00 per couple. This price does not include the cost of your hotel room. Hotel Rate is \$36.00 single occupy or \$46.00 double occupancy - plus tax. Send hotel reservation cards to Stouffer's - not to Charles Hodges. Guaranteed hotel reservations close August 28 - cancellations after that date cannot be honored. Stouffer's limousines available at Dayton Airport. Please send your request for a hotel reservation card to: Edward Braun, 9007 Guthrie, St. Louis, MO 63134. We are planning a very nice souvenir program to be given to all members who attend.

If you wish to bring relatives or friends, please feel free to do so. Since this reunion is a dedication it is not restricted to members only. If you know of a deceased member's relatives who would like to attend, please tell them they are invited. Just be sure they send in their hotel reservations and reunion checks.

Group Representatives - please be prepared to give your reports to the membership.

We will vote whether to have the next reunion in California since this reunion was changed from California to Dayton. If the California committee is still interested in planning the reunion then please advise Ed Braun. If there are any other suggestions for the site of the next reunion and you are willing to serve on the committee, then please write to us or discuss it at the Dayton Reunion. The Group will then decide where they would like to meet in 1982.

THE EIGHTH AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY REUNION

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"THE FORGOTTEN DIARY"

by Sheldon Kirsner

One day in late August of 1979 I received a letter and package in the mail from John Benedict of Lake Forest, Illinois. The package contained a hand written diary of the missions of Lt. Kenneth Booke of the 407 Squadron covering the period December 1943 thru August 25, 1944. Why John sent the diary to me was explained in his letter which reads as follows: dated 8-28-79

"Dear Sheldon,

Lt. Ken Booke visited Doc Kearney in April or May of 1949. He left this book with Doc and said he'd reclaim it later or send Doc an address to mail it to him. Booke vanished after his visit with Doc who was never able to find Ken.

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It may be you know of Ken as he lived in St. Louis and Mt. Vernon.

I wish you would assume ownership as I feel the book (log) might be of interest to others.

Regards, John Benedict"

Well, I eagerly set out to read the contents which I did several times. In addition I studied the various pictures of family and letters that were in the book but not part of the diary and an uncashed money order for \$16 dated May 4, 1949. The letters contained return addresses in St. Louis and Mt. Vernon. The St. Louis address is now a vacant lot and in a slum neighborhood and the Mt. Vernon address yielded nothing nor did inquiries get results. It appeared that the 30 years that had gone by was just too big a gap to bridge in tracing Ken.

With visions of publishing the diary etc. I still felt we had enough members to conduct one more effort to locate the Booke family. I asked Ed Braun to check the Record Center here in St. Louis and see if any information was available. The "freedom of information act" usually halts getting an address, but lo and behold they came up with the info that Ken had died in 1973 in Cardington, Ohio. With this lead I asked Charlie Hodges in Dayton to see if he could get someone into Cardington and trace the Booke family. After several tries the lead turned into a dead end. The Record Center did tell us that Ken's wife's name was Constance. The name in Ken's Preface was Virginia - wife or mother? The Preface reads as follows:

"This is a raid by raid description of a tour of combat operations in the European Theatre.

In the event of my demise I would like to have this book kept by proper authorities until such time as it can be turned over to my family in its complete form.

Lt. Kenneth E. Booke
ASN-O-686885
c/o Mrs. Virginia M. Booke
Main Street
Campbell, NY USA"

The next step was purely a bolt out of the blue. I received dues from Bob Oeder in Campbell Hall, NY, and I wrote Bob giving him the details of the situation and asked him how far he was from Campbell, NY. Bob got back right away and agreed to undertake a trip to Campbell and do some sleuthing - looking for a Virginia Booke or Constance Booke. Apparently Bob lived no more than two hours away from Campbell. On April 15, 1980, I got the news from Bob that he had located Ken's son and rather than try and relate what happened - here is a part of Bob's letter -

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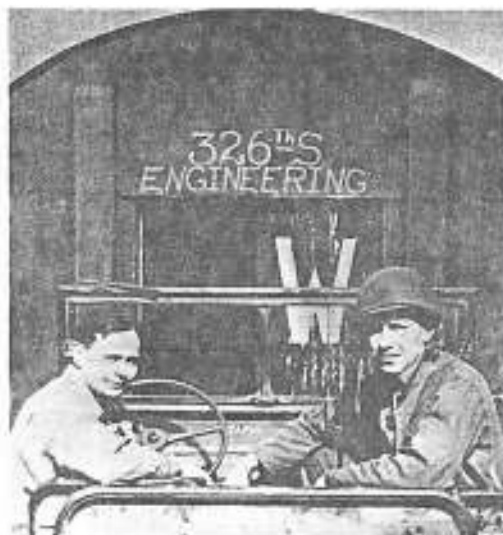
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Ken Boone Crew. Pix taken at Rapid City, South Dakota. Boone 2nd from left front. Diary identifies navigator as Lt. Ralph Davidson, Bombardier Lt. C.R. Watson, Gunners Sgts. Krepps and Benson. 407 B.S.



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Courtesy Mills

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NEWS



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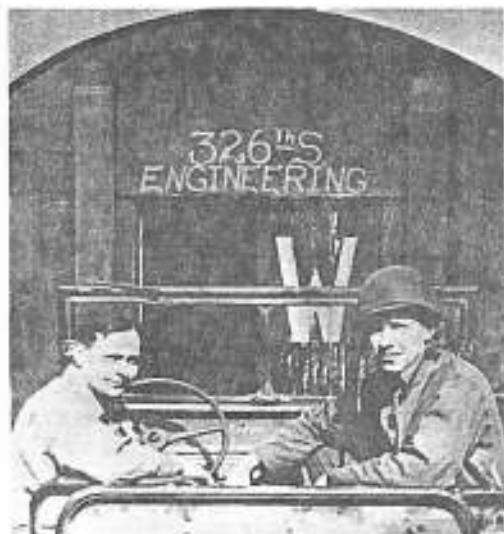
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Send identification to Ed Braun

Courtesy Mills

← Mills, W.L. and Hicks
Courtesy Mills





Needs identification



325th Squadron

Front Row Left to Right: Earl H. Gauthier, Gordon E. Clubb, Fred A. Neff and Charles D. Easley.
Back Row Left to Right: Jack M. Guy, Herman Tushka, Wilbur P. Chambers, Ismael A. Yturralde, and Basil W. Seymore.



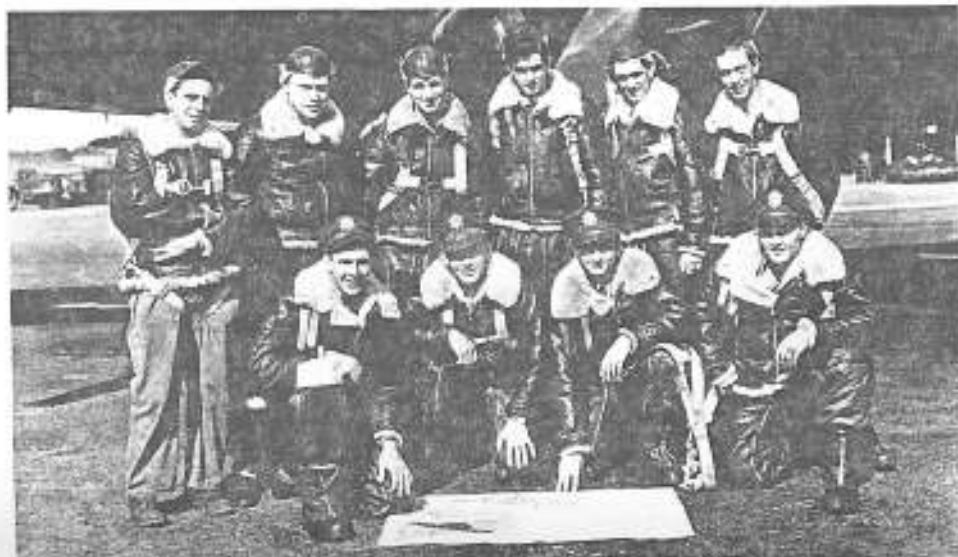
Fanning

Courtesy Mills



Aircraft hit in flight by prop of another aircraft.

Courtesy Mills



Sheldon Kirsner Crew - 325th

Front Row: Peters, Blarton, Kirsnen and Stewart. Rear Row: Laskis, Ulmer, Mohr, Hiemstra, Schuh, and Cote.



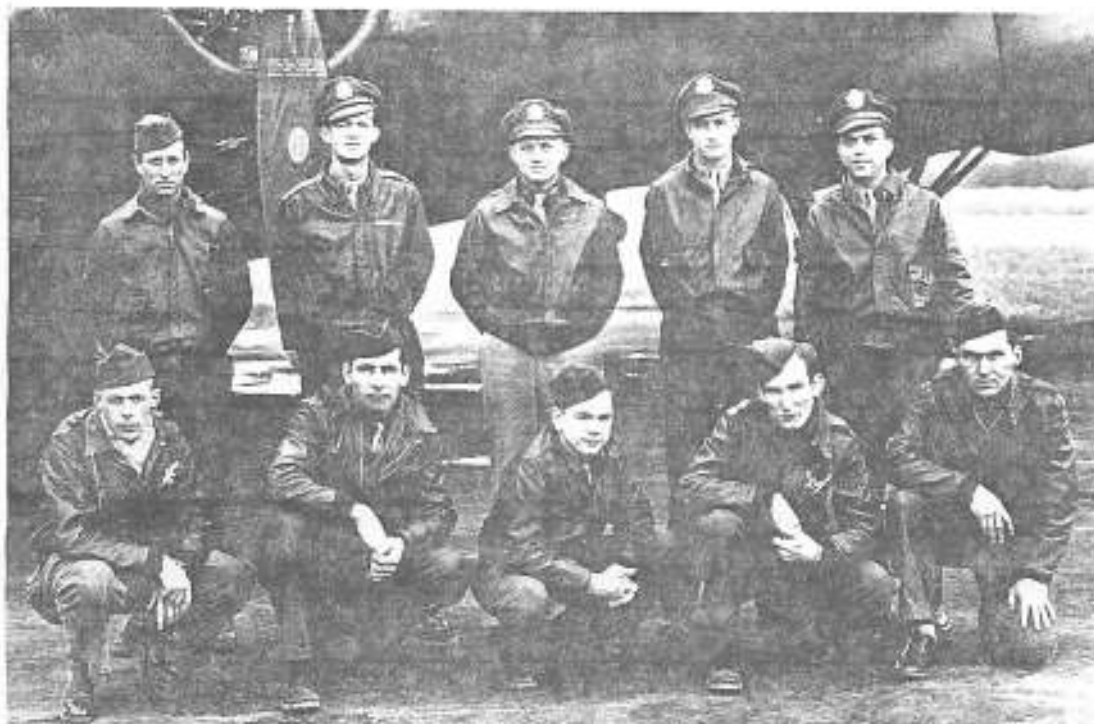
DuPuis

Courtesy Mills



Need information on this group

Gallagher, Brasher, Huber, unknown, unknown and unknown



Back Row Left to Right:
 Rubhen Ball, W.G.; Milton
 Wilson, C.F.; John Harris, P;
 John Goodner, B; and Mar-
 chetti, N.
 Front Row Left to Right:
 Clinton Gill, Radio; Thomas
 Obechina, Eng.; Don Cash,
 T.G.; Roger Fuller, B.G.; and
 unknown, W.G.



Mills, W.L. and Brown, Dale

Courtesy Mills



Need Identification

Courtesy Mills

Return membership blank to: Sheldon W. Kirsner, 2603 Cathedral Dr., St. Louis, MO 63129
 Make ALL checks payable to: 92nd Bomb Group 1/11 CCRC Corp.

NAME _____	(Nickname) _____	Wife's First Name _____
TRIANGLE B LAPEL PIN-TIE TAC	Address _____	
_____ \$5.00 members	City _____ State _____ Zip _____	
_____ \$6.50 non-members	92nd Unit _____ Squadron _____	Dates Assigned _____
B-17 TIE TAC		
_____ \$5.00 members	_____ \$10.00 1980 DUES	POW CAPTURE DATA
_____ 6.50 non-members	_____ "ROUTE AS BRIEFED"	Date _____
MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTION _____	_____ \$ 5.00 members	Place _____
	_____ \$ 7.50 non-members	Stalag Luft _____

PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION

The following was found in the Nov 76 issue of "Ex-POW Bulletin": "John W. Bradley, POW Stalag Luft III, enclosed an article to help airmen locate old buddies. If you want to locate anyone who was in the US Air Force, a \$2.00 money order, made out to the Treasurer of the United States, should be mailed to: AFMPC DPMDRM 2, Randolph AFB, Texas 78148. Give the full name and anything else identifying the subject. They answer in less than two weeks and will tell you if the person is alive or dead." If he is alive, you may send him a letter to them with a copy of the memo they send you and they will forward it on to the individual. The rest is up to your findee - if he wants to be found.

ROSTER ADDITIONS - NEW MEMBERS

Anthony DeCrosta	52 Kingswood Gardens	New Windsor,	NY 12550
Robert N. Einig	1 Sill Lane	Old Lyme,	CT 06371

ROSTER CHANGES - Zip Code or otherwise

Sterling Baumgardner	1320 S.W. 27th K-80	Topeka,	KS 66611
Robert Elliott	32 N. Madrid Ave.	Newbury Park,	CA 91320
H. Goodman	3908 Vista Largo	Las Vegas,	NV 89121
William M. Roche	23 Ave. Prince d'Orange	Waterloo, Belgium	1410
Tyre C. Weaver	Rt. 2 Box 55	Lafayette,	AL 36862
Mrs. Oscar Weber	Rt. 2 Box 2685	Land O Lakes,	FL 33539
Joseph Zima	Gennetti Hotel Room 309	Wilkes Barre,	PA 18703

DELETE

William E. O'Connor	80 Barclay St.	Longmeadow,	MA 01106
---------------------	----------------	-------------	----------

ROSTER ADDITIONS - ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Frank Booke	114 Main St.	Dansville,	NY 14437
-------------	--------------	------------	----------

DECEASED

Oscar Weber

William E. O'Connor

WE OFFER OUR SYMPATHY TO THEIR FAMILIES AND WE WILL MISS ALL OUR FRIENDS

ATTENTION FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR

The American Ex-Prisoners of War, Inc. has written to us wishing to contact all former POWs. If you are interested, please write to:

AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR, INC.
National Headquarters
2620 North Dundee Street
Tampa, Florida 33609

WANTED - ITEMS OF INTEREST TO BE PUBLISHED IN FUTURE NEWSLETTERS - ESPECIALLY STORIES FROM THE SUPPORT PERSONNEL.

92nd Bombardment Group 1/11 CCRC
Memorial Corp.
2603 Cathedral Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63129

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The following list was made up from advanced registration list from
Miami-75, Dayton-76- St.Louis-77, Wash D.C. 78 & Phoenix-79. Reunions

*of 8 AF members who
had made it previous*

8th A.P. Hdq.
* * A. KAYE

8th F.C. Hdq
E. Creeden

55 F.G.

C. Henry

352 F.G.

P. Powell

303 B.G.

* * E. Fessler

306 B.G.

R. Bordner *

W. Borges

W. Collins *

J. Corcoran

R. Holbert

A. Lachese

H. Roth

E. Schwab *

Mrs Catherine Brennan*

351 B.G.

* * R. Burns

J. Wroblewski

44 B.G.

* * J. Warth

466 B.G.

* * J. Woolnough

452 B.G.

A. LaRusse

486 B.G.

B. Williams

* Have signed up for Orlando as of 8-17-80

* * Officers attached to SAFA Rambler

3009

as of 3 Sept 1980

Argo Richard
Badner Ralph
Brennan Cathleen
Brussard Joseph

BRUNSON, Robert T

CARLILE, William H

COLLINS, William H

COWLEY, Louis F & Joan

DAY, Warren F

EVANS, Clifford T

FLANAGAN, William W

GARRISH, Joe P

GRIMM, John R

HARDESTY, Joe

HOFFMAN, Joseph T

HUMPHREY, John H

WILSON, Jack C

JORDON, Charles F

KITCHEN, Henderson F

KUPFERMAN, Saul H

LACE, Gus

LAUREN, John H

Lavery Richard
Lynch James
Marrin Kenneth
Merritt Walter

REYNOLDS, George W

SAGE, Robert C

SCHMIDT, Jack

SCHWACK, Douglas T

SCHWAB, Earl

SCHROCH, Charles E

SERAFIN, Frank A

SHANKEY, Dennis A

SHERIDAN, Donald F

SHULLER, Sherman

SHULTZ, J P

STRONG, Russ

TAYLOR, William A

TURNER, Howard D

WALTON, Al

WELLS, Art

WORTHAM, George Y

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL CARD
GULF LIFE TOWER
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32207

SEE YA
IN
ORLANDO

BETTY NOT
EXPECTED TO
GO AGAIN.



The Eighth Air Force Historical Society



REGISTERED ADDRESS
58 Doat Street
Buffalo, N.Y. 14211
1-716-895-5715

Dear Editor,

Please run this under, Veterans Affairs.

8th AIR FORCE 390th BOMB GROUP SEEK MEMBERS

The 390th Bomb Group (H) stationed at Framlingham (Parham) England during WWII from June 1943 to July 1945 with the United States 8th Air Force, is attempting to locate all Air and Ground Crews. The 8th Air Force Reunion will be held in Orlando, Florida, October 31 thru November 2, in the Sheraton-Twin Towers Hotel. The Guest Speaker will be Col. Joe Moller, of Scottsdale, Arizona, 390th Bomb Group (H) Commander, and the Senior Group Commander of the 8th Air Force.

Patrick Rossi of Buffalo, New York. Said the hotel has scheduled a special weekend for the Air Force Veterans, including a visit to Disney World, a Hanger Dance and 1940's night, a Gala Reunion Banquet with dancing to the Vaughn Monroe's Orchestra.

The Reunion is open to all 8th Air Force Veterans and thier wives. Anyone not now on the mailing list should write Mr. Rossi at 58 Doat Street Buffalo, New York 14211 (telephone 1-716-395-5715).

The 390th Bomb Group was reactivated for the Korean War in 1950, now now is based at DavisMonthan Air Force Base, Arizona.

For reservations contact Murray Feir, Eighth Air Force Reunion, Box 1304 Hallandale, Florida 33009 or Mr. Rossi. or the hotel 1-800-327-2110.

390th Bomb Group Memorial Association



The Eighth Air Force Historical Society
FRAM-GRAM



To all members of the 390th Bomb Group (H),

Last October in Phoenix, at the 8th Air Force Reunion, our CO, Joe Moller had all of the 390th to his home and Club. It was a night I will always remember. Joe and Dorothy were the hosts of all hosts. This year at the 8th Air Force Reunion the Guest Speaker will be Col. Joe Moller, The Senior Group Commander of the 8th Air Force. Before Col. Moller became our CO, he did stour with the 95th Bomb Group. I know the 95th will be in Orlando in Force. I am asking all of the 390th to go to Orlando, to call, write or phone all your crews and friends of the 390th. To be sure that all get the word. Lets make this Reunion the best showing the 390th will ever have. To the members that have never been to a 8th Air Force or 390th Bomb Group Reunion. You are missing a time of your life. The 390th always has a Hospitality Suite of our own. Making it a Mini Reunion for the 390th. A place where the 390th can get togrther, talk and have a good time. Open to all 390th members and friends.

The Reunion begins with a get-acquainted reception Wednesday evening. Thursday you will visit Disney World, jigger- at the Hanger Dance and '40's night. Friday visit 'Wings and Wheels' exhibit of old Aircraft and Cars, 390th Bomb Group Unit Redezvous. Saturday Membership Meeting, visit Sea World, the Gala Reunion Banquet with Col. Joe Moller, 390th Bomb Group, CO as Guest Speaker dancing to Vaughn Monroe's Orchestra.

Don't put this aside, let all be on hand to see and hear Joe. Fill out the Registration form today and send it with your check to the address indicated.



Sincerely yours,

Pat Rossi

Patrick Rossi
President, 390th Bomb Group (H)

ISSUE NO. 1 A

SEPTEMBER 1980



390th BOMB GROUP VETERANS ASSOCIATION

58 DOAT STREET
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14211

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED - RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

Ralph Bordner
1313 E. Autumn Ln.
East Peors, IL 61611

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Permit No. 131
BUFFALO, N. Y.

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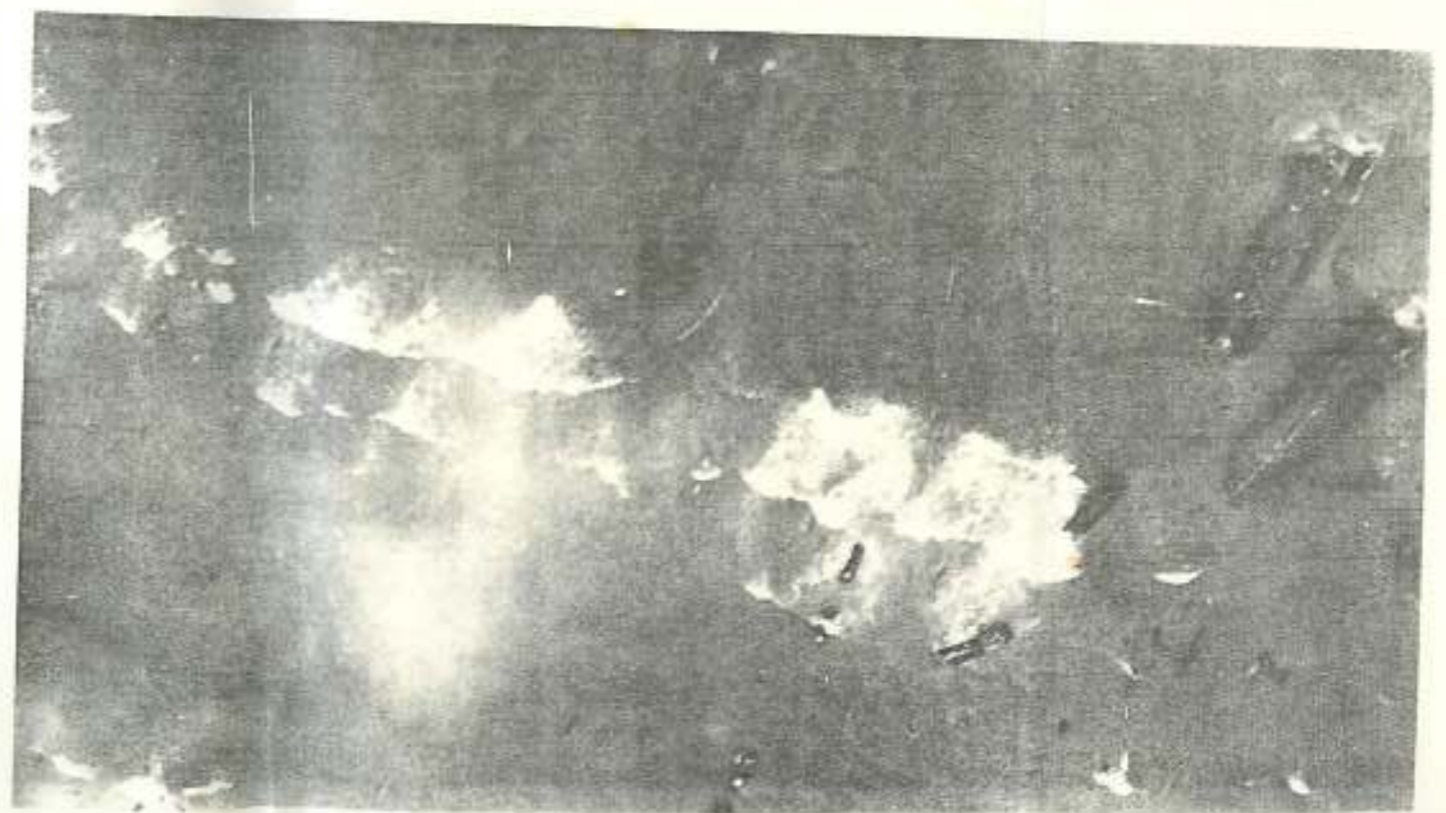
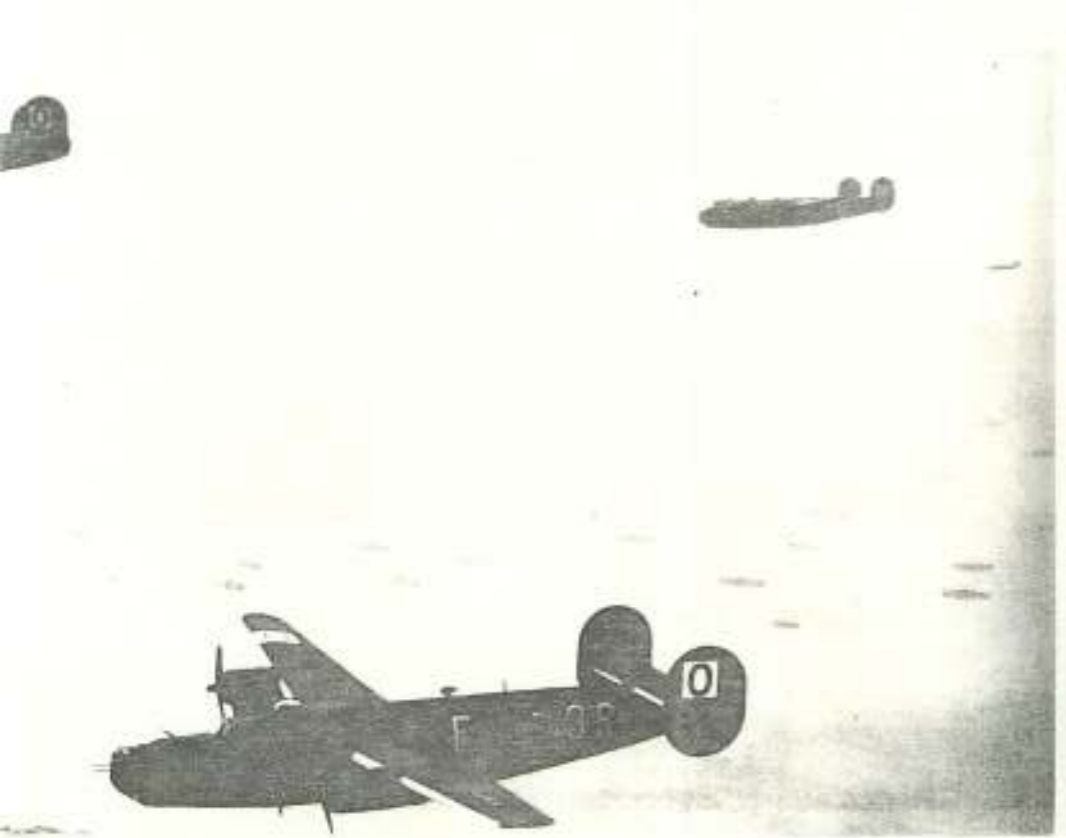
Buchanan

from Impact II Impact Series 1944



GROUP IN ENGLAND GET THE NEWS THEY'VE BEEN SWEATING OUT FOR MONTHS.

CAMERA CATCHES THEM AT INSTANT BRIEFING OFFICER SAYS NEXT TARGET WILL BE BEACHHEADS.





367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Sept 29, 1980

Dear Russ.

I just mailed a letter this a.m. but received this book offer today. I saw other books reprinted at A.F. Museum & they looked pretty good. I didn't see this one there.

Do you suppose a notice in the Echoes would bring out a few orders. I know a couple of guys who would like one (Casey Jones) for one would like one.

But the close out date of Oct 15, 1980 makes it a little short of time. I know an announcement at Orlando would bring in some orders. I know Joe Hoffman & Billie Ben Gardner would want one.

When do you suppose they got my address
Stc Ralph E Bodner - 131 E. Antenna Lane, East Plena
Ill. 61611

The copy I have I got from Robert Ratch (he had
two / at Wash reunion. It was printed in 1946.
do you suppose we could get them to
extend until after next Schaes or after
reunion at Orlando.
Just an idea - so until later

Ralph



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
 Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
 131 E. Autumn Lane
 East Peoria, IL 61611

13 April 1981

To: ~~Russell A. Strong~~
 William M. Collins
 George G. Roberts
 Thurman Shuller
 John Corcoran
 William Flanagan

From: Ralph E. Bordner

Re: Reunion in Minneapolis-St. Paul Oct 1981

I am including minutes of 2 Nov. 1980 meeting in Orlando

I have written letters of inquiries to 390th B.G.; 351st B.G.; and 92nd B.G. concerning their recent reunions. The 92nd and 390th separate of the 8 AFHS and the 351st in conjunction with the 8AFHS.

The 351st B.G. was the only one responding to my inquiry and I have letters from David Litzinger-Pres. and Ben Schohan V.Pres. In 1979 at Phoenix they met at another hotel and had Friday events at their hotel and Saturday they participated with the 8 AFHS. It was quite successful except a few 8AFHS stalwarts like ex 8AFHS President Burns wanted more time to decide, so they met in Orlando and as we did had the same problems. They paid for a party room but did not get access to it as they wanted to as in the past meetings.

At Orlando they decided to go along with the 8AFHS at St. Paul and then own at another place and time in 1982. They don't plan on a yearly meeting because of expense and many members are retiring and are living on a fixed income. They will decide future meeting at the 1982 meeting

As for the 306th this year. I had no response from the 8th AFHS until Bill Collins wrote me a note of an April 11, 1981 meeting in Minneapolis and then Jack Grimm sent me a sample inclosed program. I had planned to go with them to the meeting but they both were unable to go so I was left by myself. I could not see it physically and expense wise to fly or drive a 1,800 mile round trip to the meeting. Thus the 306th was not represented at the meeting. Warren Borges a director of the 8AFHS

ALWAYS FIRST FIRST OVER GERMANY
 and ex 306th B.G. member was in attendance and will report to Bill Collins

I talkd to Russ Strong the other night on information for the Echoes I didn't think I could by myself, contact tour people who could work out arrangements as for the 351st BG. at Phoenix. I told him I could make arrangements to have our own room for business meeting, etc Friday afternoon , Dinner Friday night, and party Room for the rest to reunion

He suggested I get a letter of to you people stating the status of the events. I offer the following alternatives , you may have other ideas.

- (A) In same motel or hotel with Friday night events ~~as in the~~ the described in above paragraph.
- (B) Seperate motel or hotel with Friday night seperate and Sat. with 8th AFHS.

The second idea is very hard to do without an organization with officers and a tour group to handle co-ordination with the hotels and the 8th AFHS I know no one in Minneapolis who could handle the co-ordinationa as the 351st did in Phownix. Maybe you people could offer some ideas or help.

The other denominator to consider is the date and location of the 5 years 8th AFHS meeting. My wife ^{said} many of our 306th friends weren't planning on going to cold Minnesota in late October. The same feeling has been given to our contact Bill Collins by some of the Board of Directors of the 8th AFHS that their isn't to much enthusiam to come to Minneapolis in late October.

I know this is a long note but I do need help with ideas and backing for the reunion. I want to get this to Russ by late April so please check the inclosed for ^{me} and if you want to write in any suggestions. *OK*

I am sorry I am late withe this information

Sincerely

Ralph
Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, Illinois, 61611
Phone 309-699-3640)

REUNION OF THE EIGHTH AIR FORCE 6

Minneapolis/St Paul 1981

All events to take place at the Radisson St.Paul (reunion headquarters hotel) unless specified otherwise.

Tentative Program Schedule

Thurs. 15 Oct.

0830 hrs UNIT CONTACT BREAKFAST
1200 hrs Rendezvous rooms open (Radisson St.Paul & Plaza Hotels)
2030-2330 hrs 40's NIGHT DANCE. Entertainment and music to be provided by the Strategic Air Command. WWII movies & bar service.

Fri. 16 Oct.

0800-0900 hrs 'Sit-down' BREAKFAST (at both hotels)
0900 hrs Busses depart (from both hotels) for panoramic tour of St. Paul & Minneapolis
1130 hrs Memorial Service & Flyby FORT SNELLING NATIONAL CEMETERY. Wreaths to be laid by 8AFHS and all Units holding a Rendezvous
1200 hrs Reboard busses for CIVIC RECEPTION, LUNCH & ENTERTAINMENT
1400 hrs Busses return to both hotels
1430 hrs 'Calling All Ladies'. Off to OMNI THEATER, St.Paul's Science Museum for special showing of 'Genesis' and shopping

Balance of today's scheduled events to take place at both hotels (excluding WWII movies, to be available at the reunion headquarters hotel only.)

1430 hrs UNIT RENDEZVOUS MEETINGS
1600 hrs Refreshment break
1930-2030 hrs RECEPTION (bar service available)
2030 hrs UNIT RENDEZVOUS PRIVATE DINNER
2230 hrs WWII Movies & bar service available

Sat. 17 Oct.

0800-0900 hrs 'Sit-down' BREAKFAST (at both hotels)
0900-1130 hrs 8AFHS Election & Meeting
1200 hrs Busses depart (from both hotels) for 'downtown' St.Paul Airport for Cafe-style LUNCH & AIR-SHOW. Confederate Air Force, Minnesota National Air Guard, Air Force and others will participate
1630 hrs Busses return to both hotels

This evening's festivities to take place at St.Paul Civic Center

1800 hrs RECEPTION (bar service available)
1915 hrs FLAG and OPENING CEREMONIES
1945 hrs 'Flag of Our Heritage' Gala BANQUET
2200-0100 hrs Dancing to original Glen Miller orchestrations

Sun. 18 Oct.

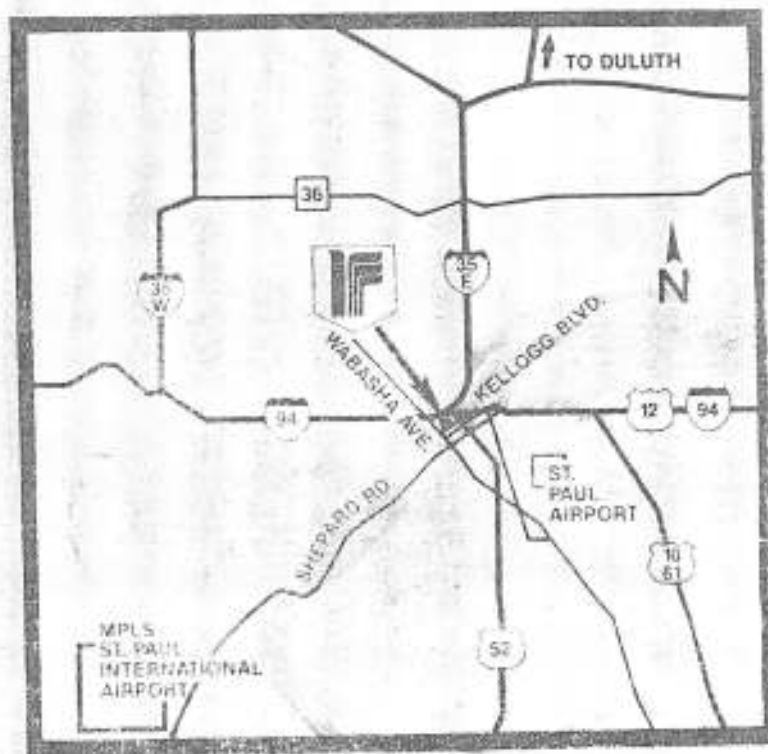
0800-1030 hrs Buffet BREAKFAST (at both hotels)
1200 hrs Hotels' checkout time



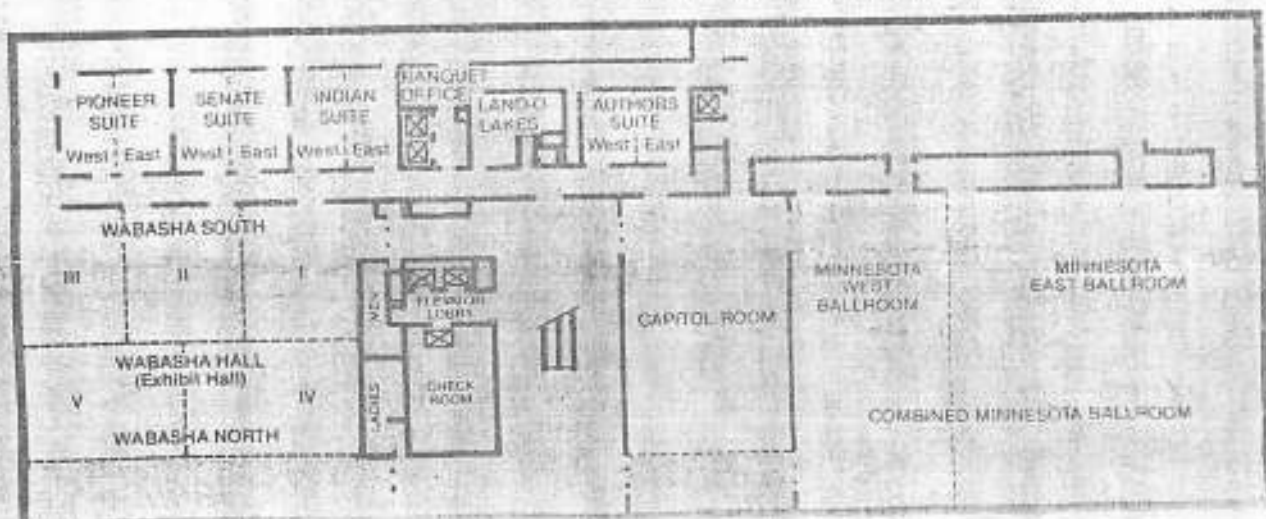
Meeting Facilities

The beautiful Radisson St. Paul is ideal for meetings, conventions and banquets of all sizes.

Unlike most hotels that only have one ballroom, the Radisson St. Paul has three. The ballrooms are designed so that together we can host a huge convention or individually accommodate a reception or banquet.



ROOM	THEATRE	CONFERENCE	SCHOOLROOM	ROUNDS OF 8	ROUNDS OF 10	U-SHAPED	DIMENSIONS	HEIGHTS	SQUARE FEET	ROOM	THEATRE	CONFERENCE	SCHOOLROOM	ROUNDS OF 8	ROUNDS OF 10	U-SHAPED	DIMENSIONS	HEIGHTS	SQUARE FEET
Minnesota Ballroom	1500	600	936	1170			120' x 83'	12' 5"	9900	Pioneer Suite	90	25	50	40	50	47	28' x 26'	7' 6"	728
Minnesota East	800	400	640	800			83' x 83'	10' 6"	6880	Pioneer East	40	20					14' x 26'	7' 6"	364
Minnesota West	350	200	300	300			30' x 83'	19' 6"	3170	Pioneer West	40	20					14' x 26'	7' 6"	364
Capitol Ballroom	300	160	150	200			42' x 68'	10' 5"	2900	Senate Suite	90	25	55	40	58	47	28' x 26'	7' 6"	728
Wabasha Hall	700		560	700			84' x 87'	9' 10"	7308	Senate East	40	20					14' x 26'	7' 6"	364
Wabasha South	300	150	240	300			44' x 87'	9' 10"	3825	Senate West	40	20					14' x 26'	7' 6"	364
Wabasha North	300	150	240	300			39' x 87'	9' 10"	3390	Indian Suite	90	25	52	40	50	47	26' x 26'	7' 6"	716
Wabasha No. 1	100	34	50	48	60	50		9' 10"	961	Indian East	40	20					14' x 26'	7' 6"	364
Wabasha No. 2	50	25	51	48	40	50		9' 10"	830	Indian West	40	20					14' x 26'	7' 6"	364
Wabasha No. 3	100	34	50	48	60	50		9' 10"	999	Authors Suite	60	20	40	30	40	20	17' x 19'	7' 6"	511
Wabasha No. 4 (N.E.)	150	40	85	96	120	50		9' 10"	1716	Authors East	25	15					13' x 19'	7' 6"	347
Wabasha No. 5 (N.W.)	150	40	85	96	120	50		9' 10"	1716	Authors West	25	15					13' x 19'	7' 6"	347
										Land of Lakes Suite	30	12					14' x 19'	7' 6"	246





351st BOMB GROUP Association

8TH AIR FORCE—BOMB SQUADRONS: 508th—509th—510th—511th
POLEBROOK, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, ENGLAND APRIL 1943—JUNE 1945

David W. Litsinger
President

Joe Wroblewski

Vice-President

Ben Schohan

Vice-President

John Greenwood

Secretary

Arthur Schoen

Treasurer

Donald Wassner

Judge Advocate

Charles Fouzie

Chaplain

DIRECTORS:

1981

Joe Anderson

David Litsinger

Carl Stackhouse

1982

John Greenwood

Arthur Schoen

Donald Wassner

1983

James Clements

Fred Dundas

Junior Edwards

PAST PRESIDENTS:

Charles Amos

Les Winchester

FROM: Dave Litsinger
5300 Cortland; #9
Lynwood, CA 90262
Feb. 17, 1981

TO: Ralph Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, ILL 61611

Dear Ralph:

Our Ben Schohan has forwarded to me a copy of your 8 Dec. letter to him regards the 1980 ORLANDO reunion and your request for information on our 'separate' reunion in 1979 in PHOENIX.

We seem to be in agreement on many aspects of an 8th AFHS "reunion"—and my Association finally agreed this last year at ORLANDO that we should take some action for future "reunions" of our Association at a time and place different from 8th AFHS. We realize fully that if it had not been for the 8th AFHS, there would in all probability be no 351st Association. But, you and us see alike: we are the biggest of the units—and big enough to have our own separate "reunions". I feel strongly that the 8th AFHS serves a very distinct and meaningful place in being an "umbrella" organization that can plan and have "reunions" for smaller groups, all at one place, at a cost-factor that is nominal.

Our 1979 reunion in PHOENIX was more or less my brain-child: being a person from the West Coast, I had been urging 8th AFHS to have a "western" reunion.

Thru inquiries of a member of our unit in Phoenix area, we made a contact with his travel agency; my wife & I drove over to Phoenix in February, 1979, had a meeting with the agency person; visited a hotel; liked it; set up our "separate" (but-at-the-same-time) "reunion" at the other hotel. It worked out fine. All we did with 8th AFHS was visit Luke AFB on Sat. p.m.; those that wanted, came to Sat. a.m. business session; and we were at the banquet Sat. eve. I (or we) handled all 351st arrangements.

Now, we have decided that about every-other-year or so, we will have a completely separate 351st reunion. So...in June, 1981, we will have our "own" reunion at Whetita Falls, Texas—near Shephard AFB. One of our members lives there, and heads up the Committee. We will not downplay the 8th AFHS reunion: this year in St. Paul, next year in Pittsburg.

One thing I am plugging with 8th AFHS: in 1985 the 8th AFHS reunion should be in Seattle—on the 50th Anniversary of the first B-17 off the production line at Boeing Aircraft. I am making initial contact soon with Boeing on this. Want to tag along, if 8th AFHS does not do anything about this? (I envision having 8th AFHS out west again, in San Diego, in 1989 or 1990—whenever the first B-24 came off the Consolidated Aircraft line in San Diego).

I am writing Rambling Tours soon, to be sure that the Fine's take care of us in St. PAUL like they did in ORLANDO: our own block of rooms, together; our own Friday evening banquet (like yours), etc.

Let me hear from you, if you wish to correspond. Perhaps you may want to pass this along to your "contact" man and President.

Sincerely yours,

Dave
DAVID W. LITSINGER



6 D-5

351st BOMB GROUP Reunion Association

8TH AIR FORCE—BOMB SQUADRONS: 508th—509th—510th—511th
POLEBROOK, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, ENGLAND APRIL 1943—JUNE 1945

DIRECTORS

David W. Litsinger - Pres.
Ben Schohan - V. Pres.
Joe Wroblewski - V. Pres.
John E. Greenwood - Sec.
Arthur Schoen - Treas.
Donald R. Wassner
Earl L. Brennan
Paul Drake
Joe Anderson
Carl Stackhouse

May 3, 1979

FROM: David Litsinger
President

Dear THREE FIFTY FIRSTER:

Attached find the "plan" for our 351st REUNION in Phoenix, October 25-28, 1979. Our 'man in Phoenix', Bob McCann, and myself have visited THE POINTE RESORTE, and we honestly feel that it is a great place to have our first-ever REUNION!

We are looking forward to a great reunion--and hope you can find it in your schedule to come.

I would urge you to consider extending your trip West--if you can. MUNDUS TRAVEL GROUP (our "girls" in Phoenix, Ann and Sandy) will be most helpful in suggesting and/or arranging trips out of Phoenix. Give them your ideas and let them help you.

Our plans include having another "session" Friday morning, 26th, similar to the one we had last year: questions, answers (if possible!), opinions, etc. Come--and bring your flite book, diary, photos, etc.

!!!SEE YOU IN OCTOBER IN PHOENIX!!!

Have

351st BOMB GROUP MINI-REUNION

PHOENIX, ARIZONA OCTOBER 25 - 28, 1979

DAILY ITINERARY

Thursday, 25 October

Morning/Afternoon

Arrive at Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport where you will be transferred to the luxurious new POINTE RESORT.

Upon arrival at the POINTE, please register at the hospitality desk which has been set up for 351st Members. Then you need only pick up your room key, you have been pre-registered. Your luggage will be delivered to your room shortly. (Remember, baggage tips have already been taken care of for you).

1630 - 1800 hrs.

Complimentary cocktail party in La Cabana Lounge

1900 hrs.

There will be a one-hour private cocktail party (cash bar) for reunion members (room name will be posted at Hospitality Desk upon your arrival at the hotel).

Evening

The remainder of the evening is free.

Friday, 26 October

0630 - 0830 hrs.

A full hot complimentary breakfast will be served informally around the swimming pool. Enjoy breakfast and the first warm rays of the Arizona sunshine.

0830 - 1200 hrs.

There will be a business meeting for 351st Members. The name of the meeting room will be posted at the Hospitality Desk upon your arrival at the hotel.

1215 - 1715 hrs.

* An optional shopping tour is scheduled for those who wish to go. You will leave the Pointe via air-conditioned motorcoach for shopping at World Famous Scottsdale Fifth Avenue. En route you will drive past the beautiful homes of Tatum Canyon and Lincoln Drive. Lunch is on your own. Sample one of the many fantastic restaurants in the shopping area.

1830 hrs.

Tonight Members will be "rounded up" for a real Western Steak Fry. With a bit of special Western attire to set the mood, you will climb aboard wagons for an old-fashioned hay ride into the desert. By the time you see your camp site in the distance, the smell of mosquito wood burning and those delicious T-bones cooking will reach out to greet you. Out on the range you can really work up a thirst, so there'll be margaritas, beer and soft drinks for you to enjoy before dinner. Sit around the campfire and listen to the live Western music and the steaks sizzling on an open fire. After a hearty meal, it's time to mosey on back to the wagons for a relaxing ride returning you to the hotel and the 20th Century.

* Please refer to Optional Shopping Tour

*juice
coffee, milk, tea
cereal, 29¢
toast, of choice
pancakes, muffins
etc.*

351st BOMB GROUP MINI-REUNION

PHOENIX, ARIZONA OCTOBER 25 - 28, 1979

DAILY ITINERARYSaturday, 27 October

- 0630 - 0815 hrs. Again, enjoy a leisurely hot complimentary breakfast around the pool.
- 0830 hrs. *Transfer by air-conditioned motorcoach from the Pointe to Del Webb's Townhouse to join the 8th AFHS Reunion.
- 0900 - 1100 hrs. *General Meeting.
- 1130 - 1230 hrs. *Poolside Bar-B-Que Lunch.
- 1300 - 1630 hrs. *Transfer from Del Webb's Townhouse to visit USAF Base where a special program is planned. At the end of the program, 351st members will be transferred back to the Pointe. This will give you a chance to rest and prepare for the gala evening ahead.
- 1815 hrs. *Transfer by air-conditioned motorcoach from the Pointe to Del Webb's Townhouse to rejoin the 8th AFHS Reunion.
- 1900 - 0100 hrs. *There will be a cocktail reception (cash bar) and an Honor Ceremony featuring the Air Force Band. Following will be a Banquet with unlimited wine and then Dancing to a live band.
- 0115 *Transfer by air-conditioned motorcoach back to the Pointe Resort.

Sunday, 28 October

- 0630 - 0830 Enjoy a full hot complimentary breakfast served around the swimming pool. This is your last chance to catch a glimpse of the beautiful Arizona sunrise. *was this with 8th*
- Morning/
Early Afternoon Transfer back to Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport for the flight back to your home city.

*Please refer to Optional 8th AFHS Reunion

351st BOMB GROUP MINI-REUNION

PHOENIX, ARIZONA OCTOBER 25 - 28, 1979

Your Travel Program Includes:

- * Four days/Three nights deluxe accommodations at the luxurious new **POINTE RESORT** in Phoenix, in mini-suites with bedroom and living room
- * Pre-registration at the Pointe Resort
- * Round trip transfers between the airport in Phoenix and your hotel
- * All baggage handling round trip at your hotel
- * Complimentary full hot breakfast daily served informally around the swimming pool
- * Complimentary hour and a half cocktail party each evening in the La Cabana Lounge
- * One hour private cocktail party on Thursday evening with cash bar
- * Confirmed meeting space for Friday morning
- * Western Evening Friday night including hay ride, bandana, margaritas, beer, soft drinks, 16 oz. T-bone steak dinner and live Western music
- * Registration Fee
- * All state and local taxes and gratuities on all of the above features
- * Complete pre-trip service by Mundus Travel including air reservations and ticketing, confirmation of all payments and preparation and mailing of all final documents
- * Hospitality desk in the Lobby of the Pointe Resort for your entire stay, staffed by an experienced Mundus Travel Trip Director

PRICE PER PERSON: \$158.00 (based on double occupancy)
 \$228.00 (based on single occupancy)

Your Optional Reunion with 8th AFHS on Saturday, October 27 includes:

- * Transfer by air-conditioned motorcoach from the **POINTE RESORT** to **DEL WEBB'S TOWNEHOUSE** Saturday morning, October 27, to join the 8th AFHS Reunion
- * General meeting at the Townehouse on Saturday morning
- * Poolside Bar-B-Que Lunch
- * Transportation from Del Webb's Townehouse to USAF Base (special program planned) in the afternoon including transfers back to the Pointe Resort
- * Round trip transfers by air-conditioned motorcoach in the evening to Del Webb's Townehouse to join 8th AFHS Reunion functions
- * Cocktail reception Saturday evening (cash bar)
- * Honor Ceremony Saturday evening (AF Band)
- * Banquet Saturday evening (unlimited wine plus all taxes and tips included)
- * Dance Saturday evening (live band)

PRICE PER PERSON: \$41.25 (For those who would like to attend only the evening reunion with AFHS on October 27, the price per person including round trip transfers to and from the Pointe is \$28.75)

Your Optional Shopping Tour Includes:

- * Transfer from the Pointe Resort via air-conditioned motorcoach to World Famous Scottsdale Fifth Avenue with leisure time for shopping and enjoying lunch at one of the fine restaurants (lunch on your own)
- * Driving tour en route of the beautiful homes of Tatum Canyon and Lincoln Drive nestled in the foothills of majestic Camelback Mountain
- * Return transfer to the Pointe Resort via air-conditioned motorcoach

PRICE PER PERSON: \$10.00

351st BOMB GROUP
MINI-REUNION

RESERVATION REQUEST FORM

Please complete and return to:

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: August 1, 1979

MUNDUS TRAVEL GROUP DIVISION
101 N. First Avenue, Suite C-129
Arizona Bank Building
Phoenix, Arizona 85003
Attention: Ms. Sandy McNulty

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ (made payable to MUNDUS TRAVEL GROUP DIVISION) covering a deposit of \$100.00 per person for:

NAME _____ TRAVELING COMPANION _____

ADDRESS _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

HOME PHONE () _____ BUSINESS PHONE () _____ Include Area Code

Please (X) one: _____ Double Occupancy _____ Single Occupancy _____ Other

() I (We) would like to participate in the optional Reunion with 8th AFHS on Saturday

() I (We) would like to participate in the optional Evening Reunion with 8th AFHS only

() I (We) would like to participate in the optional Shopping Tour on Friday

Note: Upon receipt of this Reservation Request Form, Mundus Travel will send you a written confirmation with statement for balance due.

AIR TRANSPORTATION: In order to assure you of the best and most economical air fare, Mundus Travel Group Division will be happy to coordinate your air transportation from your hometown round-trip to Phoenix. Upon receipt of this form, we will obtain the best possible air travel itinerary for you and will advise you of your flight schedule and costing.

AIRLINE RESERVATIONS

I (We) wish to arrive Phoenix from (Hometown) _____

on (Date) _____ and return to (Hometown) _____

on (Date) _____ (Additional Requests) _____

() Please BILL me for the airline tickets.

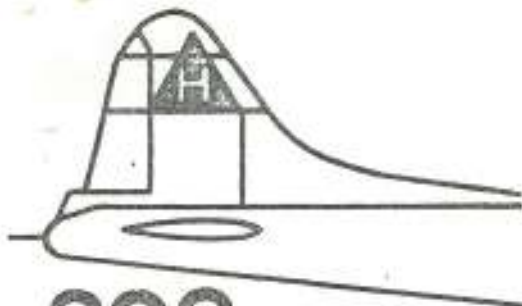
CREDIT CARDS may be used to charge your airline tickets only. Please indicate if you wish to use a credit card for airline tickets.

I wish to charge airline tickets using _____
(type of credit card - and card number)

Expiration date on card _____ Name as shown on credit card _____

Signature _____

PLEASE CHECK IF YOU WILL BE DRIVING () .



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Historian

Russell A. Strong
2041 Hillsdale
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

4 November 1980

To: Ralph Bordner
William M. Collins
George G. Roberts
Thurman Shuller
John Corcoran
William Flanagan
Gordon Richards

From: Russell A. Strong

Re: Meeting of 2 November 1980, Orlando, FL

It was agreed that efforts will be made by Bordner to secure a hotel adjacent to the 8th AF Reunion hotel in Minneapolis, MN, in October 1981 for a 306th Reunion to run concurrently with the 8th AF Reunion. The date is approximately Oct 15-18.

It was agreed that the 306th will maintain a hospitality room throughout the reunion, that it will stage its own banquet, with program, on Friday evening, and such other meetings as Bordner and his committee may determine.

It was agreed that 306th Echoes in its January 1981 and succeeding issues will promote these events in all future issues, endeavoring to build 306th attendance.

It was agreed that the 306th will support the activities of the 8th AF Reunion, but will at the same time maintain its own registration and programming for 306th members.

It was agreed that a slate of officers for the organization of the 306th Bombardment Group Association, and bylaws, will be presented at a Friday business meeting to be acted upon by those in attendance. The slate of officers and bylaws are to be prepared by Strong, with the concurrence of the above group.

It was agreed that the above persons will support the present Memorial program, headed by Flanagan and Roberts, and will consider future Memorial programs, as they seem appropriate.

It think this in some measure summarizes what went on at the Sunday meeting. If there are any digressions, please inform Strong so that the record may be corrected.

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

April 15, 1981
I.R.S. Day -

Dear Russ.

I hope you working people enjoy the check I sent into I.R.S. yesterday. But I guess that is life. One announcer said it cost each taxpayer family \$1,600 for the shuttle flight so I paid my share yesterday. It was a beautiful flight.

This is the third time I have written this note. I have ^{been} straightening up my material + I keep finding material.

This first I checked over the type written list of members + decided to do April 6 print out + I found 5 new ones left out + I see Leo Caffer + Frank Jacknik still an active list. I am enclosing the list.

Next I was looking over the Sept 12-1944 Rubland mission + notes the two ships I was schedule to fly but was taken off. First the lead but I didn't have that much experience because it was to be clear + Robert Banta on Sasser crew took my place - He had a few leads to his credit

also as a toggler on ²major Farwells crew, I was training for lead & was taken off. So I was lucky & as I mentioned before Banta slept next to me - I went thru our correspondence on the matter & found 2 notes - One a crew list of Sasser & the other 4 crew members made it. Last nite I noticed a Virgil Mitchell on top turret on Sasser crew on the April 6, print out. He lives in Taylorville Ill which is like 70 miles from here. So I gave him a call, he told me he had filled out a form for you & sent it back. But I asked him about the mission, he said all but 4 died on crash landing in trees near Berlin. He said John Sasser died later of injuries & he, DR Revolta, & A.C. Schultz were injured but lived thru it. He said he had a couple of badly broken legs which still bothers him. He spent some time in the Goering hospital in Berlin & then transfer to another one out of town for the rest of the war. I didn't want to talk to long to him & he comes to Peoria & I go to Springfield so I may visit him. He has visited Post Banta folks in Soldiers Grove Wisconsin a few times since the war. He also has been in contact with DR Revolta & A.C. Schultz I don't see their names on our list - I will try to get them for the list. Hed you get all the info you want from him -

2-

also I found this report of an article of
Sign-National Catholic Magazine July 1944
written by Adrian Poletti. I picked up in the
party room at Phoenix as I was cleaning up
the room on Sunday before turning in the key -
I have no idea who it belonged to. but I
put it in my folder. I am sending it to you
you may enjoy reading it. I see the picture
on the front is the one in 1st over Germany
of Ed Hennessey crew + the other one on the
first page - a Bernard Ruff from Fondulac Wis-
consin I see by our list he now lives in
Milwaukee. You may have read it before but
I keep it I have made a copy

I am sending you two lists - can you feel me
in on the status of any of them. The info on
Farwell crew I got from Wendell Wilson +
Sassers crew I got from Mitchellson. You have
more access to the info + I would like to know
all I can about the final news on the crews.
Thanks -

Russ - did you get the memorial info from
Roberts - I don't know too much about Granite
etc I will give him an answer but I will
leave it up to you experts to pick the right one
Also I sent out the reunion info with stamped
return envelopes. I will be gone from April 17
to April 24 but will contact you as soon as I
get back.

I have to go to Louisiana⁴ to help wife with
mother she is 86 + in nursing home so the
family is taking turns + going to visit. We
can't do too much because she has trouble
breathing + is under oxygen tent at times.

Say we finally got our rain but
two hail storms + $2\frac{1}{2}$ " of rain is too
much at one time. So far I havent seen
too much damage -

Enough for now -

Until later

Ralph

To: Ralph Bordner

10 November 1980

Re: Minneapolis convention

I thought I'd write this just for you for the moment, before sharing it with others as to some thoughts on Minneapolis.

Assumption: We will have a separate hotel with adequate facilities for housing, special dinners, movies, hospitality room.

We ought to start with: our own name tags
a daily bulletin, 306th Echoes, for Thursday arrivals,
Friday, Saturday that outline calendars, events, times,
places.

We ought to consider any special tours that might be fitted in, also any special shows for wives.

As to a rough schedule:

THURSDAY - Hospitality Room opens at 7 for early arrivals. No events planned.

FRIDAY - Hospitality Room

Meeting at 10, business with committee appointments.

Report from England
Luncheon at noon, seating by squadrons

~~DINNER~~ Afternoon movie: 12 O'Clock High or Stalag 17

Slide program on memorial presentations

Dinner at 7. Speaker from Group
Perhaps Col. John L. Ryan on his evasion experience, with other evadees honored and introduced.

SATURDAY - Hospitality Room

Meeting at 10. Annual business meeting, election of officers
Committees appointed for next year.

Luncheon at noon, seating by MOS

Afternoon slide show of 306th pictures

Presentation of the History of the 306th.

Dinner at 7: Outside speaker

Andy Rooney

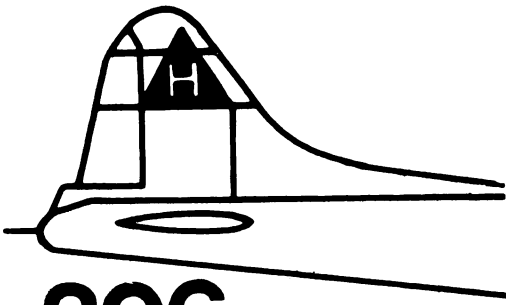
306th Wing Commander

SAC representative

Peter Bowers, Boeing historian

Lamar Gudger, 306th, member of Congress

Registration fee ought to include hotel
dinner
luncheon
x factor



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
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306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Historian

Russell A. Strong
2041 Hillsdale
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

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William M. Collins
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367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

April 11, 1981

Dear Russ -

Well here I am late again. I have just finished redoing my income tax all I need to do is find 2,000. It will surely slow down any travel plans for a few days. I am about convinced my wife quit & start drawing retirement.

Enough of my problems I am enclosing the article sent to me by Dr. Norton. It has the story on Snuffy & also another article by Robert Vickers - You may keep the material. I have made copies - say Russ in your research how you ever run into anything on Charles F. Donahue - of the 368th

Also in Oct or Nov a 1st Lt Eugene C. Favier came to 306th he eventually head 423th, he came about the same time of Hulme, Sutton, & Matyk.

On Nov 21, 1944. We had a cooks tour of Germany with the group leader giving instruction plus altitude & headings over the Air Waves. We eventually bomb Meppen on our own (1st Sqdn) but all the running around & poor weather at home. We had to S.O.S. Mucky for a base no gas - We

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

landed empty - We were ready to head to plan out to see when Mucky contacted us.

2

We eventually worked up at 390th Framingham - The
C.O. at that time was Col. Joe Moller remember him -
Our thoughts at that time were pretty sure on our
Squad C.O. Sutton.

Another 368th name was Capt James Law a
1500 hrs Training Command pilot who arrived in
late Fall 1944. My ex copilot Russ who had led
30 missions flew with him & after one mission went
to O ps & said no more missions with that guy (Law)
shortly after that Law crashed on up at ~~the~~
emergency strip & killed one crew member. He would
we get to was too to land on the extra long
runway but ~~we~~ tried to go around & crashed up.

I see by the 368th history we keep on flying -
Say Russ who keeps up your deceased list
I have a type one done alphabetically taken from
your Echoes. I will send you a copy of mine in
the future -

I have the letter prepared for the Committee
& am sending it out on the return. I have to
be in Louisiana April 17-24 but will contact
you as soon as I get back.

Hope you enjoy the article

Ralph

Oct 24, 1980
Anderson S.C.

Dear Russ

Well we have been here in
Anderson S. Carolina since last
Sunday. I hope to get away here
tomorrow - maybe stopping to see
Gus Kravick & then on down to
Coast. Will wants to see Cape
Canaveral & other places near
Orlando - also one day at Disney
Land won't be enough -

I wrote a lot of letters concerning
the reunion - never heard from
Jacobs at Orlando but will look
up when we get there.

I wrote letters to George
Rodensen & Jim Cheney.



I WAS GOING TO WRITE MORE... BUT I HAVE TO TAKE OFF!

-2-

I got Cheney's letter just before we left. I am including a copy of it in this letter -

I got my issue of Echoes just before we left. I bet that story on Armstrong will bring out some comment. I wonder what Overaker thinks of it

Russ, I will try to see things are OK Friday eve. I want to make sure all the ex 306 staff is introduced. Jim Umable will need to be added to list. I wonder how many walk in will be there -

Well Russ - I will be ready for you when you get there. You can call the Towers if you need anything so until Friday Oct 31. We may check in on Wed - but for sure - Oct 30 (Thurs)

Bill sent me the advance copy.

Until later
Ralph -

Please check one or offer another idea

- (A) In same motel or hotel with Friday nights events as de
scribed in the letter
- (B) In seperate motel or hotel with Friday night ^{events} seperate, and
Sat. events with th AFHS.

Dear Ralph:

April 23, 1981

The same motel or hotel seems to make more sence - no transportation
problems, saves time between meetings and you should get a better
rate. At our meeting on Friday we should make a dynamic pitch
to get our donations over the top. We have about \$4,800.00
at present.

Best wishes old friend,

Bill
Bill Flanagan

Please check one or offer another idea.

Total Vote

- (A) In same motel or hotel with Friday nights events as described in the letter.
- (B) In seperate motel or hotel with Friday night ^{events} separate and Sat. events with 8th AFHs

A Strong, Collins, Roberts, Skuller, Rosdner, Flanagan

B Corcoran - wait^{be}ing this year

Please check one or offer another idea.

(A) In same motel or hotel with Friday nights events as described in the letter.

(B) In separate motel or hotel with Friday night ^{events} separate and Sat. events with 8th AFHs

Ralph - It's not cold in Minneapolis in October,

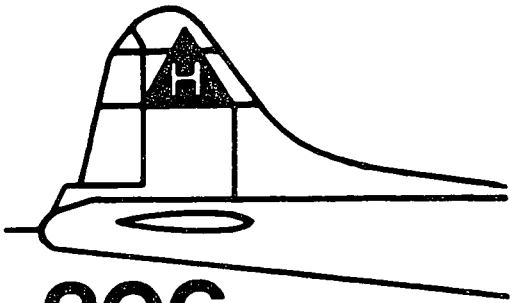
John Brown

PS - Probably want to go this year

Please check one or offer another idea

BILL COLLINS

- (A) In same motel or hotel with Friday nights events as described in the letter
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367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Secretary-Treasurer
William M. Collins, Jr.
2973 Heatherbrae Drive
Poland, Ohio 44514
(216) 757-3463

23 Apr 81

Dear Ralph and Nell:

Received your letter and report. My vote is inclosed also.

I think we lucked out on being by ourselves, at least somewhat. I talked to Warren Borges and he said the larger Groups such as ours will probably be staying at the Radisson Plaza, a new smaller Hotel apart from the larger Radisson St Paul. From all indications it looks like the best yet.

Inclosed are two letters from Warren and Brochures of both Hotels. After review, please forward to Russ for his perusing.

Cincinnati has been approved for '82. Will include the dedication of the Memorial.

Will keep in touch. ECHOES next week.

Betty says hello!

Sincerely,

Betty & Bill

49 30th Street
Gulfport, MS., 39501
April 18, 1981

Dear Ralph:

At this late date, I don't see how we can go off on our own at Minneapolis. While I personally prefer for us to have our own reunion in our own hotel, I doubt if we would get an adequate response from our people. As you say, October in Minnesota is not the ideal spot to be. Accordingly, I think it would be best for us to go along with the 8th for this year, but be sure to get our own meeting room, and hopefully establish one of the nights for a 306th party in addition to the 8th Saturday night banquet. This would still enable the group to get a formal election of officers and get a good start on the reunion in 82 on our own.

I don't know if the wife and I can make it to the 81 affair. It is so far away, and I am committed to participating in the memorial dedication in the UK which should take place about September of 82. I would however hope to still get to Pittsburg for the 8th reunion at that time as it is close to my old home of Johnstown, Pa. In 82, I would hope that we would have our own affair in Pittsburg, taking in only the 8th general meeting and perhaps the Saturday night banquet. If the Saturday night banquet is anything like the one in Orlando, I would also favor the 306th having its own formal banquet. I think the Orlando banquet was nothing but a big money making affair for the Rambling Tours bunch.

Hope this has been some help to you, and don't forget to give me your thoughts on the memorial data which I mailed to you, Strong, and Planagan.

Sincerely

George
George

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Sincerely

George
George

Contributions to the 306th Bomb Group Memorial Fund

Date Received	Name and address	Amount
	BALANCE 12/1/80	3741. ³¹ / ₁₀₀
12/2/80	KESSLER, LEE CANTON, OHIO	25. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
12/17/80	BORDNER, RALPH E. E. PEORIA, ILL.	50. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
1/8/81	Collins, Bill	50. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
2/24/81	GRIMM, JOHN R. CENTERVILLE, OHIO	25. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
2/24/81	WEISEN, RICHARD J. PHILADELPHIA, PA.	25
	BAL 2/24/81	3916. ³¹ / ₁₀₀
3/3/81	HOWARD, ROY W. AUSTIN TEXAS	25. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
3/3/81	RIRDON, ROBERT P. DALLAS, TEXAS	50. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
3/3/81	HENNESSY, E. J. LAS VEGAS, NEV.	100. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
3/30/81	Goodin, DONALD V. OAK RIDGE, TENN	25. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
3/30/81	VANDEVER, JACKSON W. (MEMORIAL) OSBURN, ID.	25. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
3/30/81	O'DRISCOLL, PATRICK STURGIS, MICH.	5. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
3/17/81	Lockwood, JOSEPH L. NEEDHAM, MASS.	25. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
3/20/81	BORGES, WALTER IPSWICH, MASS.	100. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
3/23/81	COWLEY, LOUIS T. ALLENTOWN, PA.	25. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
3/25/81	SMALL, EDWARD H. VERONA, PA.	25. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
	BAL. 4/2/81	4321. ³¹ / ₁₀₀
4/2/81	PELTMUTTER FT. LAUDERDALE, FLA.	50. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
4/6/81	JACKSON, ROBERT W. HOPKINS, MINN.	100. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
4/8/81	DONAHUE, MARK THE CUPERTINO, CALIF.	50. ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀
4/14/81	POWER, JOHN R. Downey, CALIF.	24



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

4/28/81

Dear Russ -

Inclosed is material I told you
I had on memorial - St Paul meeting - Mrs
Adle. + Warren Berger letter. I hope you
can make something of it.

also copy of Roster of 8th at Orlando -
It shows Warren Berger 25 F.G. also on the
sign in board it listed 25 F.G. However was
he on 306th list. The worse thing is that the
state for his attending goes to 25 F.G. not
306th fund but they had only 10 there so I
guess they could use money -

Again thanks for the early issue of
Echoes. I enjoyed it -

Ralph

Thomas McDonald

REUNION OF THE EIGHTH AIR FORCE

ORLANDO

ADVANCE REGISTRATION LIST (as of 17 October 1980). The numbers following the names show the number in the party that are registered. The alphabetical list in straight type (like this) are those who registered on the blue form and took the regular reunion packages. This group is located in the Sheraton Hotel. *The alphabetical list for each unit in italics (like this) includes those that have used the local registration form (no hotel required).*

The numbers following the unit designation indicate the total number registered (as of 17 October 1980), the number expected to attend the Friday night dinner and the number we expect at the Saturday night Banquet, in that order. Please remember that these numbers will change with cancellations and late registrations.

Have a good time at your 6th 8th AF Reunion. Be sure to find your name on the Locator Board and write in your hotel room number. **RUTH and MURRAY FEIN, Rambling Tours, Inc.**

AFES 46-47-47	D. Mayor 2	J.C. Davis 1	SAFFC 6- 6- 6
E. Anderson 2	R. McClune 2	M.A. Davis 2	E. Creeden 2
L. Arlin 2	J. Millhouse 2	C.F. Franz 2	J. Jewell 2
S. Barr 2	P. Oberdorf 2		A. Young 2
F. Cowherd 2	H. Owen 2	7PG 77-76-81	
G. Erickson 2	J. Pallatin 2	W. Anders 2	20FG 28-27-27
H.H. Gladys 2	K. Parsons 2	P.M. Ayala 1	R. Englehart 1
R. Hauser 2	S. Pope 2	A. Bacyinski 1	A. Haon 2
W. Loring 2	J. Ratcliffe 1	J. Barancyk 2	J. Ilfrey 1
R.L. Mays 2	R. Scott 2	W. Bellows 2	D. Knight 2
J. Munday 2	G. Shultz 2	K. Bliss 2	E. Steiner 2
R.K. Patton 2	E. Stoke 2	R. Brown 2	J. Taylor 2
L. Rodriguez 2	H. Suttin 1	F. Campbell 1	G. Turner 2
K. Shaver 2	C.S. Thwaites 2	R. Centofante 2	E. Wasil 2
R.M. Smith 2	R. Weigle 1	W. Dartez 2	E. Cline 2
C. Spinks 1	J.P. Weirzbolowicz 1	M. Durante 2	W.R. Conyer 2
W. Sutor 2	O. Wrosch 2	F. Gaccione 2	E. Gamanche 2
J. Warth 1	M. Eneck 1	P.F. Keen 1	A. Heiden 2
J. L. Carpenter 2	A. Drew 1	G. Lawson 2	F. Neason 1
J. Larson 2	T. D'Uva 2	A. Leatherwood 1	A.D. Payne 1
	E. Etter 2	G. Lutz 2	E. Planchak 3
AFES Guests	G. B. Gosney 1	J. Mates 1	R.H. Riemensnider 1
P. Beque 2	H. Holmes 2	C. Murray 2	
P. DeAlbert Lake 2	R.W. Korzilius 2	R. Niehus 2	25BG 13-13-13
F. DeClercq 2	J.A. Kovalski 1	A. Pircio 2	W.C. Blackwell 2
J. DeBlomaert 2	J. McCormick 1	S. Quindt 2	W. Borges 1
J. Voges 2	T.A. Miller 2	K. Reed 1	J. Edward 1
	J. Neff 2	A. Roberts 1	R. Herzog 1
G. Britain 13-13-13	D. Paradiso 2	S. Sajdak 2	L. Lakeman 2
J. Hadfield 1	C. Satterthwaite 2	D. Shade 2	A. Lewis 1
R. Handforth 2		G. Slater 2	J. Morrison 2
R. Lee 5	2SAD 1- 1- 1	R.L. Smith 2	R.E. Brown 1
J. Mills 2	S.K. Smith 1	R.R. Smith 2	J.T. Evans 1
G. Richards 3		J.T. Spurlock 1	L.A. Proulx 1
	3SAD 9- 9- 8	W. Starrett 2	
IAD 1- 1- 1	H. Argo 1	C. Wanka 2	34BG 86-88-86
C. Moore 1	J. Clark 2	M. Williams 1	E. Baldea 2
	V. DiYenno 2	R. Yakovac 2	W. Beals 2
BAD1 7- 7- 7	M. Doyle 2	W.D. Beckwith 1	W. Breedlove 2
D.M. Mashburn 2	W. Nobel 1	D. Burrows 1	P. Bresh 2
R. McNett 2		P.J. Campbell 1	P. Buss 2
D. Peterson 2	J.R. Hirsch 1	R. Chapman 2	W. Cheek 2
A.L. Foley 1		J.F. Lennon 2	C. Cohen 2
	4FG 2- 2- 2	V.P. Hartung 2	M. Corum 2
1SAD 1- 0- 2	C. Konsler 2	C. Hawes 1	W. Cheek 2
R. Zorn 1		T.J. Markley 1	E. Crowley 1
	4SAD 30-30-32	R.A. Neault 2	G. Deathrage 2
BAD2 78-80-77	C. Dundore 2	P. O'Donnell 1	A. DiNenno 2
O.W. Bard 2	P.P. Gerhardt 1	E.B. Parsona 1	J. Dwyer 2
W.H. Berkemeyer 2	H. Gourley 2	J. Stachowski 2	J.W. Edwards 2
R. Brunjes 2	J. Gurau 1	D. Svacina 2	W.N. Gray 1
R. Davis 2	T. Keeland 2	W.L. Weitner 2	M. Hansen 2
M. Finney 2	D. MacKellar 2		R. Hartwick 2
W. Fohl 2	L. Marshall 1	SAF Hq 7- 7- 8	J. Hood 2
V. Frazier 2	H. Moody 1	A. Kaye 2	D.B. Jordan 2
R. Fryer 2	H. Pooler 2	J. Kiely 2	H. Jurgens 2
J. Harner 2	J. Rice 1	F. Reilly 2	E. Lawler 2
C. Himes 2	S. Safford 1	K. Karlowski 1	E. Maciel 2
R. Hines 2	S. Sarro 2		J. Martin 1
P. Jackson 1	P. Thone 2	AFCC 4- 4- 4	R. Murphy 2
J. Knight 2	A. Whitehead 1	M. Hunt 1	H. Parrish 2
R. Lounsbury 2	J. Wilson 2	I. Novak 1	G. Ritchie 2
	H. F. Young 2	J. Thompson 2	H. Rutka 2
	M.J. Augustin 1		D. Schrupp 2

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check the
cut?



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

1200 Judson St
Longmont Co.
80501

Aug 14, 1981

Dear Ralph:

Went to hear from you from jolly
old Bedford, really appreciated the card and to see what
Bedford looks like as I spent considerable time on the
river Ouse on some of my Bedford missions.

My wife and I are already making plans to
attend the reunion in St. Paul plus going to my
home town in Wisconsin (Wausau) which is about
200 miles east of St. Paul and I'm looking forward
to it.

Had two long distance calls from former
306th people who obviously don't see go it alone
like we did at the Spring in 1974, who had some
letters the past couple of years asking the same thing.
One fellow in Seattle said he'd like nothing to set one
up there and I'm sure the California boys could do
it. Then also, I think personally that there's no
one to the people who could set up a re union
for the 306th. I still remember a lot of the lads
and...



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

in Colorado - 1974, I'm all in favor of it myself
and I am willing to do what I can to help out in
getting it started.

You mentioned in one of your letters about
bringing up in St. Paul about a separate reunion and I
think this would be a good year to really push it and
like I said you can count on me for help and I'm
sure that guys like Joe Marciano & Johnny Bryan would be
willing to help.

Well, didn't mean to run on this long, also
enclosing a small ad about emblems, sure would like to
get a 368th "Eager Beavers" emblem to put on my
leather jacket or some decal for my car. By the way
God it sounds like it might in your neck of the woods
some place. Best to all this from all here.

your friend

Paul

P.S. Found a place for a hangout to print up
this stationery, took other headspace letter from
St. Louis...

Star Route 1172B
Woodland Park, Colo 80863
16 August 81

Dear Ralph,

A bit late on answering yours of 6 August, however... For whatever it's worth I'd be glad to help out by saying a few words in Saint Paul. I'll try to note down a few anecdotes about some of the old timers which never made it into Russ' history. Perhaps some of them will evoke a laugh or a tear as the case may be. But, for Christ's sake, don't expect any formal speech. Ryan's rambling about the early days will do quite well to describe anything I have to say.

Might I suggest another thought for you. Little is ever said about some of the antics of the 306er's in the bag in Germany after getting blasted out of the sky by the Luftwaffe. In St Louis one night over, I must admit, ^{after} a goodly quantity of Scotch, I about split my sides listening to Al LaChasse and my navigator, Bob Herman, telling tall tales of the activities of the 306th stalwarts in various Stalags. Both of those gents try to make every reunion and perhaps could be prevailed upon to spill some Kriegie secrets. It's just a thought. But the simple technique of disposing of dirt from tunnelling by carrying it out in one's pant legs and spreading it all over the compound under the very eyes of the Krauts is in itself a hilarious story.

You might even put the bite on Doc Shuler to give the troops a few highlights on some of the better and worse days in the station hospital. The doc kept a magnificent diary of the whole shooting match and ought to be able to dig up a few touching episodes which would be of interest to all.

Although I disappeared from the scene in March of 43, I stayed in England after my spring vacation in Paris until December of 43 as asst A-3 of 1st Division and am quite knowledgeable of 306th affairs till that date. However, if you want some remarks about the last year and a half of the war, you'll have to dig up some one else.

Well, that's about it. I'll be in Duluth, Minnesota, for about four days before the reunion starts and will be in St Paul by noon Friday at the latest. I'll also probably be in touch with Russ on/ and off before then. If anything strange comes up or arrangements change, let me know. I'll try to reactivate some old moribund memory banks and see what I can put together that might be interesting.

Sincerely,



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3780 WEST FLAGLER STREET
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33134

WILLIAM W. FLANAGAN
REAL PROPERTY LAW
CORPORATION AND BUSINESS LAW

August 20, 1981

HUGO H. BRAEMER
GENERAL PRACTICE

PHONE (305) 444-5722

Mr. Gordon Richards
14 Pavenham Road
Oakley, Bedford
England, MK 43 7SY

Dear Gordon:

As requested we enclose herewith draft #64539 payable to Geere & Co. Ltd. for 1800 pounds representing the requested initial down payment on the 306th Bomb Group Memorial to be erected at Thurleigh. Please obtain a proper receipt for same with an agreed statement from Geere & Co. Ltd as the balance due upon completion.

Please keep us advised as to the progress of the work. We all appreciate the hard work and dedication we are receiving from our good Friend of the Eighth on the memorial.

Our very best regards to you and your family and to all of the dedicated workers of the FOTE.

Best wishes,

Bill Flanagan

cc to George Roberts
Ralph Bodner

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DRAFT NO. 64539

DATE AUGUST 18, 1981

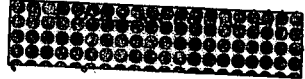
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c/o Mrs. W. Flanagan
7515 SW 79 St.

Approved By *[Signature]*



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Secretary-Treasurer
William M. Collins, Jr.
2973 Heatherbrae Drive
Poland, Ohio 44514
(216) 757-3463

18 August 81

Dear Ralph and Nell:

Got another list of registrees yesterday. So far, the following are in:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Sheridan, Don | Serafin, Frank |
| Bergeron, Ed | Broussard, Joe |
| Howard, John | Kostal, Jerome |
| Corderman, Del | Turner, Leslie |
| Reioux, Paul | Erb, Al |
| Gabrish, Joe | Schmidt, Jack |
| Brennan, Cathy | Hood, Ted |
| Hermley, Judy | Houghton, Russ |
| Leary, Nena | Tramontin, Robert |
| Sharkey, Den | Madsen, Karl |
| Baker, Hollis | Evans, Arkie |
| Gransie, George | |

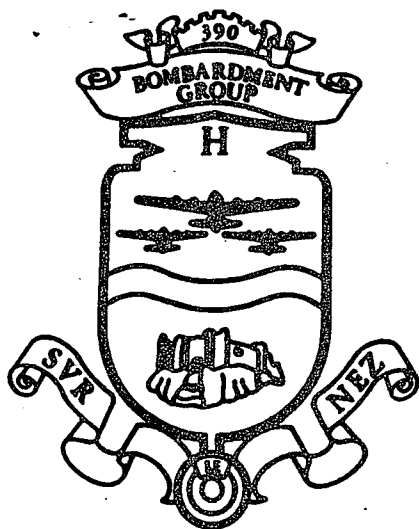
Pretty good start. Have to get mine in soon.

Don't know if Betty will be able to make it this year again. Her Dad is about the same, so we'll have to see how things develop.

Best Wishes,

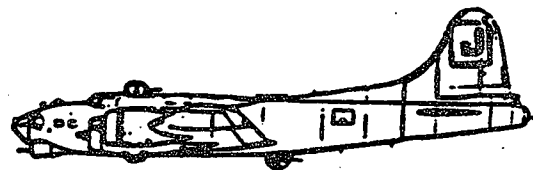
Betty & Bill

To Russ



390th Bomb Group Veterans Association

NEWSLETTER



Vol. 1, No. 1

JUNE 1981

1982 REUNION AT TUCSON, ARIZONA

A great and gala event is in the offing for March 11th through 14th, 1982. The 390th Bomb Group Veterans Association will conduct the annual reunion in Tucson, Arizona, the home of the 390th Strategic Missile Wing. We have reserved 150 rooms at the Ramada Inn and have just confirmed that we will be granted military rates of \$26.00 single and \$34.00 double. Since we are confident that these 150 rooms will not handle the turnout that we expect, Bob and Ellen Waltz are currently negotiating for more rooms in the immediate vicinity, perhaps at some even lower rates. The Ramada, however, will be our headquarters.

Roger 'Hap' Howell is our Eastern Chairman--245 B Boxwood Rd. Apt. 107, Annapolis, MD. 21403, phone (301) 268 9220. Bob Waltz is the Western U.S. Chairman--3529 E. Cannon Dr., Phoenix, AZ. 85028, phone (602) 996 9677.

Some of the many activities that should interest everyone: Western Dinner, with shootout in Old Tucson; tour of the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum; WWII mission movies (specific films for missions such as Regensberg, etc.) TV tapes of the 1981 Reunion and Tower Dedication; dedication of the 390th Memorial Museum; live demonstration by the USAF Thunderbirds (it will be their first show with the F-16 aircraft); simulated launch demonstration of Titan missiles; USAF Aircraft Storage and Disposal with thousands of aircraft; general membership meeting and election of officers; combined banquet with many of today's 390th active duty military personnel; Mexican fashion show; and the greatest of them all, Joe and Dorothy Moller are treating us again to another of their fantastic "Moller Hanger Parties".

This Reunion will feature options for those that would like to spend more time in the area and still have contact with our members. March 10 will be a golf day at Davis-Monthan. The 15th and 16th will provide bus tours to Saguaro National Monument; Tombstone, Arizona; Nogales, Mexico; Kitt Observatory; Colossal Cave; etc.. Your specific desires may be included in your reservation forms when they are returned to our reunion committee. Special mailings will be made in September and October relative to the 1982 Reunion.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Our roster now totals over 1200 members and is growing. Sec.-Treas. Phil Hilson reports as of June 1, 1981 we have only 274 paid-up members. Please send dues of \$10.00 annual membership to R.P. Hilson, 8 S. Friar Pt., Inverness, Florida 32650.

THE 390th MEMORIAL MUSEUM--DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB, ARIZONA

For two years during WWII, the 390th Bombardment Group was a major contributor to the effectiveness of the European air campaign. Flying the B-17, the men of the 390th served a key role in the strategic bombing offensive in Europe which insured the successful conclusion of the war. Since 1962, the 390th Strategic Missile Wing has carried on this proud tradition by maintaining the Free World's most powerful deterrent force, thereby securing America's continued freedom. The Wing is based at Davis-Monthan AFB in Tucson, Arizona. To commemorate the sacrifice and service of these two units, the 390th Memorial Museum has been established. The dedication of the museum is currently planned to coincide with the 1982 reunion of the 390th Bomb Group Veterans Association to be held at Tucson, Arizona.

To support the objectives of the 390th Memorial Museum, a Foundation has been established and Articles of Incorporation filed in the state of Arizona. This nonprofit corporation is currently managed by four former Air Force personnel: Robert W. Waltz, Charles Niblett, Robert Munn, and Lee Tucker. It is anticipated that John Quinn will become a director when he establishes residence in Arizona. The 390th Memorial Museum Foundation is organized exclusively for educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or corresponding provisions of any future U.S. Internal Revenue Law, including for such purpose the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under the above section of the Code of 1954 or corresponding provisions of future U.S. Internal Revenue Law.

The Memorial Museum consists of two main parts; a static aircraft display (a B-17G is being refurbished in the 390th colors and with the square J), and several buildings for display of appropriate memorabilia and artifacts. We have a quonset hut from our base at Framlingham, donated by John Gray, which will be designed as a WWII briefing room. NOTE--We need WWII maps, charts, frag orders, debriefing material, etc. for structuring this room!

Kindly send tax deductible donations of money and/or memorabilia to: 390th Memorial Museum, P.O.Box 15087, Tucson, AZ 85708. Receipts will be mailed to all donors. If duplicate donations of artifacts are received, the donor may choose to donate the item(s) to the Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson AFB or another 15 AF unit museum, such as the History of Bombardment at Castle AFB, California. If the donor does not wish to transfer the item elsewhere, it (they) will be stored by the 390th Memorial Museum for use in future displays or returned to the donor upon request. All items used in displays will have identification of donor by name and place of residence. Rank and unit, if applicable, will be given for active duty and retired military personnel unless requested otherwise.

Voting membership will be encouraged. However, any person, firm, corporation or organization may become a non-voting member in the 390th Memorial Museum Foundation, Inc. by making a contribution to the Foundation, either in money or property. Voting membership categories, except for life, are renewable annually and are as follows: GENERAL; Student..\$5.00, Adult..\$10.00, Sustaining..\$20.00 to \$100.00, Contributing..\$101.00 to \$500.00, Life..\$500.00 or more. BUSINESS; Nonprofit organizations..\$25.00, Corporate..\$200.00.

Additional information can be obtained by calling Bob Waltz (602) 996-9677 or Capt. Geoff Hays (390th Strategic Missile Wing Project Officer) at (602) 748-3676 or 790-4834. Bob Waltz

FOR SALE--REUNION JACKETS \$22.00 each. 1 extra large, 3 large, 5 medium.

U.S. 8th AIR FORCE, B-17 with square J pictured, 390th BOMB GROUP (H), PARHAM-ENGLAND, 1943-1945, printed on back of jacket. Contact: Robert Sorensen, 2368 Barker St., Clinton, Iowa 52732 Telephone (319) 242-0450

*****1982 REUNION OF 390th at DAVIS-MONTHAN, TUCSON, ARIZONA*****

Saturday, May 9, the 390th Reunion Group arrived at the Russell Hotel in London. A short briefing was held in the evening to give instructions for meals and assign the buses we would be travelling on for the next eight days. Our tour guides were introduced, and those choosing to go on the bus tour of London on Sunday got their boarding instructions. That tour included many points of interest and a stop at St. Paul's Cathedral, where a memorial is located in honor of our fallen American comrades.

Monday's special event was the tour of Windsor Castle, with a stop for some at Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum. Many chose to use this free day to shop and sight-see on their own.

Tuesday we departed for Ipswich, visiting enroute the former Eighth Air Force Bomber Command Headquarters in High Wycombe, now a girls' school. Tea was served to us at a reception hosted by the head mistress of the school. Next stop was East Wycombe, a tour of Hells-Fire Cave, and buffet luncheon. After our evening arrival at the Post House Hotel in Ipswich, we enjoyed our 390th Bomb Group dinner. The program featured a combat film on the 8th Air Force in action.

Wednesday the 13th was the highlight of the tour, as we attended the dedication of our restored control tower now known as The 390th Memorial Air Museum. Prior to the ceremony we toured the centuries-old castle of Framlingham, which many of us had previously seen only from the air. At a luncheon reception at R.A.F. Bentwaters we were guests of Maj. Gen. Robert Bazley, C.O. of the 3rd U.S. Air Force. The tower dedication at 2:00 p.m. was a most impressive and emotional occasion. Dick Perry delivered the dedication address preceding the unveiling of the memorial placque located on the face of the tower. Other speakers included Gen. Bazley, John Gray, the Rev. David Pitcher, the Rev. Bernard Chalklen, Martin Thompson, Colin Durrant, and Ron Buxton, President of the 390th BGMAM. Percy Kindred brought down the house with his remarks as he expressed his gratitude for being included as one of the group. Last but by no means least were our own Gen. Dutch Waltz and beloved C.O. Col. Joe Moller. Many placques were given out to the 390th BGMAM participants in appreciation for their outstanding work in renovating our old Control Tower; what a beautiful job they have done!!

The ceremony was interrupted often with Fly-bys of U.S. A-10's and R.A.F. aircraft. A final Fly-by of the only operational B-17 in England, the Sally B, brought the ceremony to a fitting close. All attending were invited to tea at Moat Farm, the home of John Gray.

Thursday's events included a wreath-laying ceremony at the American Military Cemetary at Cambridge to honor fallen comrades. The 390th has 33 graves there, and 60 names on the "Wall of the Missing". Group photos were taken and we spent an hour at this beautiful, sad and peaceful place, an occasion we will never forget. The rest of the day was spent sight-seeing and shopping in Cambridge.

Friday took us to R.A.F.-Mildenhall, Bury St. Edmunds, Duxford Imperial War Museum with four hangers full of every type of aircraft and war machine, then a barbecue by the pool at the Post House.

Saturday was "Hospitality Day" and local families hosted us for the day. This was a new idea, and the co-operation was truly wonderful. Everyone had a host, and the day was a complete success. A farewell party at R.A.F. Bentwaters had to come to an early close as our wake-up time for Sunday's bus trip to London for our flights home came at 5:15 a.m. A great time was had by all, and we will long have many happy memories!

BORDNER, Ralph
131 East Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



PRESIDENT PRO-TEM (submitted by Bob Waltz)

This Newsletter is signed by our president pro-tem, Carl 'Andy' Anderson, of Turlock, California.

Due to a very time-consuming new business venture, Pat Rossi, for some time, has not been able to devote sufficient time to the business aspects of the 390th Bomb Group Veterans Association. Early this year, with the 1981 Tower Dedication ceremony close at hand, the Directors of your Association voted unanimously to install Andy Anderson as our President. The choice by the Directors is an excellent decision and affords us not only an outstanding executive but also an individual that is extremely interested in the organization and has the time and talent to lead us.

As noted in the 1982 Reunion announcement elsewhere in this publication, a regular election will be held in conjunction with our General Membership meeting in Tucson.

Andy has assured the Directors that it is his intent to listen to our comments and recommendations and also to keep us informed; this Newsletter goes a long ways in the right direction.

Pat, we thank you again for the work that you did, together with a few others, in getting our organization off and running. We look forward to seeing you in Tucson, in 1982, where we can pay you the tribute which you so richly deserve for getting us together. And to you, Andy, GOOD LUCK!!!

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT PRO-TEM

Heartfelt thanks to Hap for his dedication and effort---a job well done! Due to high costs of mailing, our next NEWSLETTER will be mailed only to those who have paid their 1981 dues. March, 1982 will be another great reunion, so keep in touch! We feel that our 390th Bomb Group Veterans Association has reached a place in time where we must all get behind it and support it. We have recently dedicated our Control Tower Museum in England, which is a truly magnificent memorial to our service in Europe. It represents over 4 years of dedicated labor by our English friends, for which we will always be grateful. Now we have the younger generation of 390th people at work on a museum at Davis-Monthan in Tucson, to continue to preserve our heritage and carry on the tradition of our famous group. Our continued encouragement and financial support will result in the completion of our stateside 390th Memorial Museum by March of 1982. Let's all plan to attend. See you there!



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Sept 29, 1981

Dear Russ

Inclosed is some material I have
accumulated - from Pappy Odle

Overseas orders -

July 11, 1942 - Rooster Wenden

Flying School Order - I see a lot went to 306th

I have pictures of 8 Bombardier who came to
306th on same Order. also article from Air Force
on Bombardier.

I have 2 letters from Bob Flood. I got
the 1st one after Wash meeting. I can't get to
up tight on his idea - It is too big an
undertaking.

I am enclosing a letter from Murray
Flem - I have a letter to Sharkey to contact
his pilot to get us a party room. Pilot
is Ken Dawell.

over

The picture I got from England. The lady is Elizabeth of Elizabeth Oun. They wonder if you know who the officer is.

The other is Capt. Bondner Club officer at Frederick Okla. It would have been an excellent night club. It was my last active duty job. Club officer was then as it is now a lousy job -

Will Russ - as soon as I have any more news I'll be in touch - I will be getting in touch with Bell soon -

as for Holiday Inn - I will have my car so you can hitch hike a ride -
By the way I will bring Sgt. Banners from last year

Until later
Ralph

There is a lot of material to go thru I have put them in check priority order



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Aug 29, 1981

Dear Russ:

I will get a short note off to you. I am sending a copy of letter from John Ryan. I will get a short note off to him to thank you. His letter was interesting on the comments of Al Lo Chass & Mr Shullen.

I also am sending you Candy Vangelis' comments on the mighty Eighth vs the 306th

I also received a note from Warren Borges but I won't bore you with his non-sense - He thinks the sun rises & sets on the mighty Eighth. He even thinks Joe Worth is great Borges thinks the 306th should stay with the mighty Eighth - He even registers with the 25th

I have to get a note off to Lee Kessler to see if he has the Wendell Hull & Major Sanford films.

I am working a machine to show your picture - I get a note off as soon as I find out.

I hope to have a schedule to hand out to our people at St Paul. If I get it done in time I may mail it to the people from the list I receive from Bill. as of 18 aug we had 23 people signed up.

Russ some time ago you send me a list of plane number ⁽³⁰⁶⁾ we lost during the war. I must have misplaced it. Could you get me another copy of it?

I got a note from England - nothing new it was dated Aug 21, 1981. I will call Lee Kessler tonight to see the status of the film -

Ray did you get John Hadfield on the 300th mailing list. I am sending him the (3) Three issues since last Oct.

So again I'll let you know any late developments

As Ever

Ralph

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Last Issue of Retiree
Reader Exchange

Black Military Historical Society—Seeks to contact white officers who served as commanders of segregated black units of any branch of service from 1910 to 1950. Society also is videotaping remaining black veterans of WW I. Contact Black Military Historical Society, 1793 Geary Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94115, (415) 563-9371.

Jody Calls—Editor compiling collection of jody calls and cadences needs contributions. Write S. Shaffer, 4428 Merry Lane W., Tacoma, WA 98466.

8th Air Force—Info needed on officers serving in England from July 1, 1942 to May 31, 1945 for inclusion in biographical directory. Need commanders of air divisions, wings, groups and squadrons. Also higher headquarters of fighter and bomber commands, and service and support organizations. Send name, rank (highest in 8th AF in WW II) unit and job assignment to R. Strong, 2041 Hillsdale, Kalamazoo, MI 49007.

LTA Personnel—Interested in renewing old acquaintances who served in lighter-than-air pilot or ground positions. Write LCol H. Titus, P.O. Box 309, Goleta, CA 93116.

Denchfield—Raymond Jr. and Gary, sons of Capt Raymond C. Denchfield, KIA in Korea. Names may have been changed to Gomez. Whereabouts sought by Col R. Denchfield, USA-Ret., 3464 Fort St., Lincoln Park, MI 48146.

Retiring Couple—Seeks addresses of adult-only communities within 100 miles of military installations in 11 western states offering individual home construction and/or sales (not condo or mobile). Write S. Randall, P.O. Box 2823, Santa Cruz, CA 95063.

Battle of the Kommandorski Islands—Author writing book seeks any officer on board U.S.S. *Salt Lake City*, *Richmond*, *Bailey*, *Coghlan*, *Dale* or *Monaghan* on March 26, 1943. Contact J. Lorelli, 815 West 5th St. #7, Chico, CA 95926, (919) 343-3087.

Doyle P. Simmons—WWII B-29 radio operator on V0-41, 879th Sqn, 499th Grp, Saipan. Last known address, 214 Semple St., Modesto, Calif. Whereabouts sought in time for 73d Bmb Wg (B-29) reunion in Denver, May 1982. Write LCol A. Williams, 4300 Park Ln., Dallas, TX 75220.

Sgt Martin Fleischer—Lost hearing as a result of fire and explosion in aircraft washrack, July 27, 1943, Gunter Fld, Ala. Assigned to radio shop, 2131st AAF Base Unit, Sqdn C-

1 from 1942-1945. Any officer recalling accident contact Mrs. P. Fleischer, 2701 East Utopia Rd. #110, Phoenix, AZ 85024, (602) 867-8092.

F Co, 2nd Bn, 3rd Marine Regt—Bougainville, 1943. Col Donald M. "Buck" Schmuck and Steve J. Cibik and others attached to unit write Capt C. Kenneday, Box 971, Poulsbo, WA 98370.

467th AAA AW Bn—SP members, Europe, WW II write Col W. McPherson, General Delivery, Postmaster, Hudson, WI 54016.

Col Charles Green—Wife Lilly. Stationed Hartford, Conn., 1946. Korea, 1947-1949. Anyone knowing whereabouts contact Col W. Harrigan, 900 Henderson Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086, (408) 245-2904, collect.

Excursion Inlet, Alaska—Anyone having info about German POW work project between July and November 1945 write LCol L. Woodman, 117 Cook Ave., Anchorage, AK 99501. Particularly interested in who commanded 1933rd Service Cmd Unit in charge of POWs, and where Germans were taken upon completion of project. Material to be used in history of Army in Alaska since 1867.

U.S.S. McFarland (AVD-14)—Hit by dive bombers off Guadalcanal in October 1942. Dead buried on Tulagi. Photo sought of gravestone. Write Cdr F. Dean, 245 S. Barrington Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90049.

Capt B. H. Simmons, USMC-Ret.—Present address sought by V. Simmons, 706 S. 1st St., Hamilton, MT 59840.

Rodman Coast Artillery Gun—15 inch or smaller, smooth bore, circa 1865, wanted for historical preservation purposes at old Watertown, Mass. arsenal site. Cannon originally designed there. Write G. Dean, PAO, Army Materials and Mechanics Research Ctr., Watertown, MA 02172.

722nd Bmb Sqdn (H)—450th Bmb Grp (H), 15th AF Italy, 1943-1945. Former members write LCol C. "Tommy" Thomas, 109 Kings Way, Satellite Beach, FL 32937.

Tac Comd Austria—350th Inf and 4th Recon, 1949-1952. Officers and WOs write LCol T. Kiggen, Box 495, West Kingston, RI 02892. Address, telephone number and current status needed for newsletter and editorial on brownboot Army.

Lt Jules P. Godeau—AACS radio operator, Barksdale AFB, La., 1930-1941. From La-

From Air Force mag - I guess they are really hard up for articles
mal
not

maybe one on navigator ?? in the future

Formal bombardier training was nonexistent in the Air Corps until 1941, and bombing accuracy varied widely. By war's end in 1945, more than 45,000 bombardiers had been graduated. With the "secret-weapon" Norden bombsight, these men achieved phenomenal bombing accuracy for their units in combat operations. This article tells about two essential ingredients for a successful bombing campaign . . .



The Bombardier and His Bombsight

BY MICHAEL J. NISOS

In World War II, the crewman with the "best seat in the house" was the bombardier. His station in the "greenhouse," the unprotected Plexiglas nose of the aircraft, gave him an unparalleled opportunity to watch (and fire at) incoming fighters.

The bombardier's job was to keep the aircraft on a constant course and heading during the bomb run to synchronize his Norden bombsight on the target. Since the bomber's nose was a prime target for incoming enemy fighters and flak bursts, bombardiers needed not only technical skills but also a special measure of courage and dedication.

Let's examine the Norden bombsight and how it worked, and then the bombardier . . . the last of a vanishing breed.

The Norden Bombsight

In World War II, the Norden bombsight became famous for making bombing uncannily precise—it could place one of its bombs inside

a 100-foot circle from four miles up. Bombardiers who worked with the sight described this remarkable performance more graphically; they said it could put a bomb in a pickle barrel from 20,000 feet. When asked if the sight could *really* hit a pickle barrel from that high, Carl L. Norden, the bombsight's inventor, replied: "Which pickle would you like to hit?"

Ironically, Norden had originally developed a bombsight for the US Navy. However, Navy bombing was done at low levels, which made use of the bombsight impractical. The Army Air Forces, in thousands of high-altitude missions, made it a major factor in winning the war.

Made of black metal, roughly cylindrical in shape and studded with knobs and apertures, the bombsight was nicknamed "The Football" by bombardiers in Europe and was referred to as "The Blue Ox" in the Far East.

By the end of World War II, more

than 25,000 bombsights had been built by Norden and thousands more by Sperry and other subcontractors. Each cost the government \$10,000. Twenty years later, the price was \$25 on the surplus market. Today, it is difficult to find a Norden bombsight for sale at any price.

To solve the bombing problem, the bombsight used the ground speed of the aircraft and a particular bomb's actual time of fall (different bomb configurations resulted in different times of fall), and combined with the autopilot to compensate for the effect of wind or drift. (See diagram on p. 108.)

To assure that the bomb hit the target, it was necessary to find the proper point to release the bomb. The Norden bombsight could actually find this point if the proper data had been inserted into it and if the crosshairs were precisely synchronized on the target. This was the bombardier's task.

The bombing problem had two



Far left, one of Ninth AF's top bombardiers, Maj. William E. Smith. Left, Eighth Air Force group donated a plaque to Thetford, patriot Tom Paine's birthplace in UK. Above, the delicate work of loading one of the Norden bombsights aboard aircraft.

parts: the "course" problem and the "range" problem. The course problem was relatively easy. A free-falling bomb falls in the same direction as the aircraft was headed at the



Capt. W. E. Sticklen in his nose "greenhouse" aboard a B-17 of the 91st Bomb Group, April 20, 1944.

moment of release. The problem was solved by placing the aircraft on the correct heading and correcting for the effect of the wind.

The range problem was more complex. When the free-falling bomb was released from the aircraft, it was subject to the actions of gravity, airspeed, air resistance, and wind. These forces determined the path the bomb followed and its point of impact.

Because these forces slowed the free-falling bomb, the bomb would "trail" behind the aircraft after it was dropped. This trail represented the horizontal distance from the intended point of impact to a point directly beneath the aircraft at the instant of impact. Therefore, compensation for trail had to be inserted into the bombsight.

The actual time of fall (ATF) of the bomb depended primarily on the altitude of the aircraft above the tar-

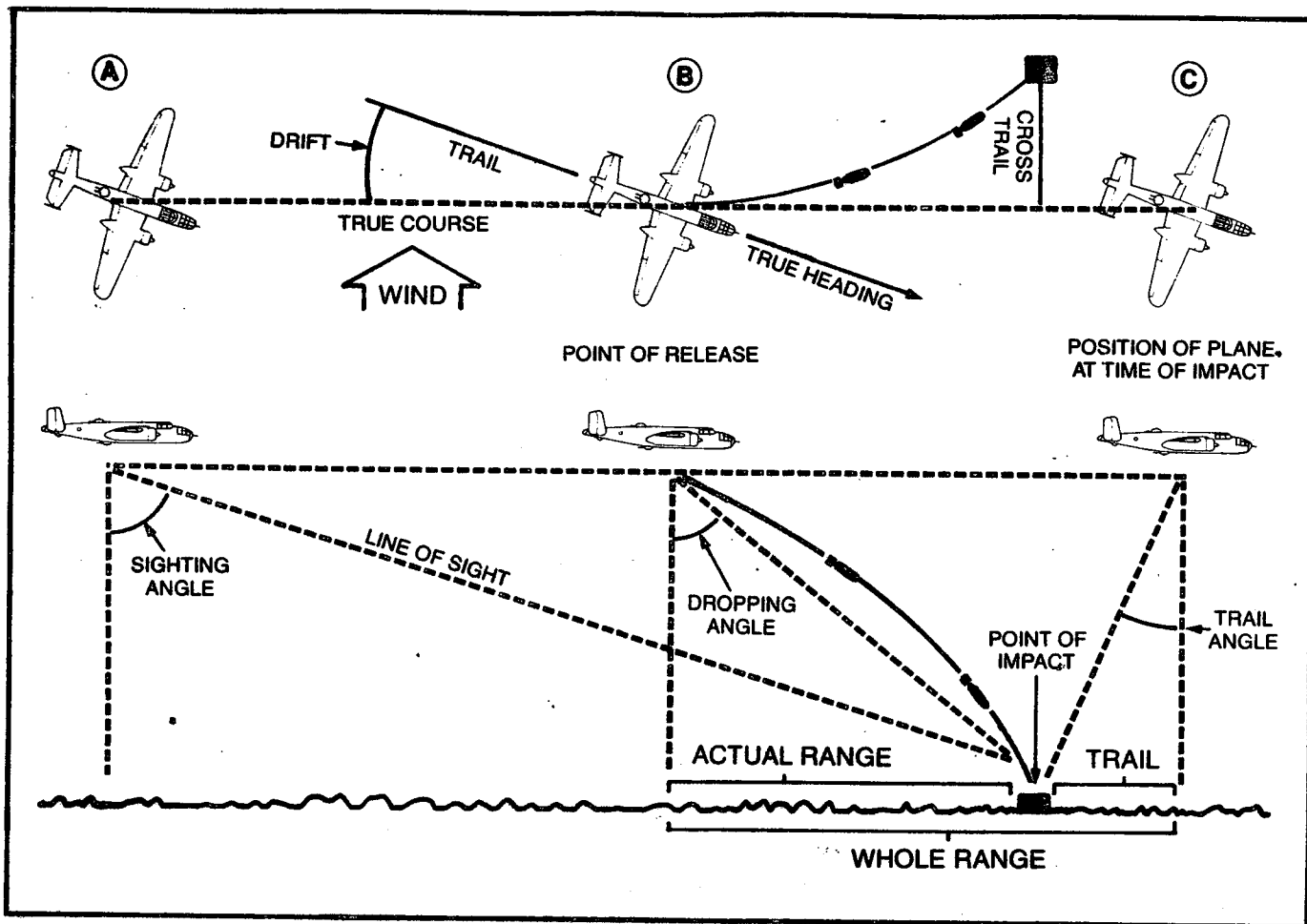
get, its true airspeed, and the ballistics of the bomb itself.

Trail and the bomb's ATF were manually set into the bombsight. Trail was set into the bombsight as a mil value on a scale with an arm on top of the bombsight. The ATF was set into the bombsight as a "disc speed." It was roughly set in using the disc speed drum and refined using a tachometer. Precomputed tables furnished the correct ATF disc speed and trail value for each bombing altitude, true airspeed, and type of bomb.

Once the correct trail and actual time of fall had been set into the bombsight, the bombardier synchronized the vertical and horizontal crosshairs on the target, finitely correcting for course and range. If this was done correctly, the bombsight would find the correct point in space for the bomb release and release the bomb at that point. Synchronization on a target using the bombsight could not be done with precision unless the optics of the bombsight were held in a steady, fixed position relative to the earth.

Uncag® Your Gyro

Since an aircraft pitches, rolls, and yaws or turns, a gyroscope was needed to hold the bombsight optics in a stable position, regardless of the aircraft movement. This gyro was located on the left side of the



Two views of a bomb run. At Point A, the bombardier adjusts course knobs to turn the aircraft into the wind to compensate for wind drift (top) and sights target for range (bottom). At Point B, the released bomb's descent is affected by wind (top); its trajectory (bottom) is determined by the aircraft's groundspeed and the bomb's ballistics. The aircraft is at Point C at the time of bomb impact, and the bomb should fall on target if wind drift (top) and range (bottom) have been computed accurately.

bombsight. A large silver knob just above it was used to "cage" or lock the gyro until the bombardier started on the bomb run. Once "uncaged," the gyro stabilized the optics against pitch and roll of the aircraft. It then established a vertical reference to the ground, which was necessary to align the course and measure the dropping angle.

There were two "bubbles" on the bombsight, much like those used on a carpenter's level. One was placed parallel to the fore and aft portion of the aircraft and the other laterally. Two silver knobs on the left of the bombsight head were used to center these bubbles. Once the gyro was leveled during the bomb run, it would tend to remain level. Leveling of the bubbles was critical. If an aircraft was flying at 10,000 feet and the top of the gyro was tilted one degree to the rear, the bomb would hit about 214 feet short of the target. This was a "bubble error."

While the Norden bombsight stabilized the optics for the pitch and roll of the aircraft, the "yaw" or lateral movement of the aircraft had to be compensated for also. This was accomplished by the stabilizer, the box-shaped equipment on which the bombsight fit and was connected to. When the bombsight was properly fit and the nemesis of the bombardier—"the dovetail locking pin"—was inserted to complete the connections, a directional gyro stabilized the entire sighthead and gave the bombardier control of the aircraft through the autopilot.

With the bombsight connected to the stabilizer and accurate data set into the bombsight, the bombardier was ready to synchronize on the target. Two sets of larger silver knobs on the lower right of the bombsight were used. These "course knobs" were used to make drift and course corrections. When these corrections were made pre-

cisely, the vertical crosshair would remain stationary.

The other set of knobs on the lower right were the rate knobs, which synchronized the lateral crosshair on the target, controlling groundspeed or rate of closure. Groundspeed varies with the heading of the aircraft, since wind causes the differences between true airspeed and groundspeed. Therefore, the aircraft had to be on the correct heading before the closure rate could be accurately synchronized. When this occurred, the lateral crosshair remained stationary.

The Norden bombsight was a precision instrument; likewise, the bombardier had to be precise in his calculations, careful in his insertion of data into the bombsight, and methodical to assure proper synchronization. As much as the Norden bombsight could do, it could only do it if the bombardier was precise.

There were six major causes of errors in synchronous bombing, beyond actual malfunction of the bombsight itself. They were: (1) incorrect vertical of the gyroscope, (2) incorrect actual time of fall of the bomb, (3) incorrect trail, (4) incorrect course alignment and synchronization of fore and aft crosshair on the target, (5) incorrect rate (misalignment and synchronization of lateral crosshair on the target), and (6) incorrect release of the bomb. The bombardier had to be just as precise as the bombsight.

The Bombardier

Although the Norden bombsight provided the key to accurate bombing and made a major contribution to winning the war, it was only as good as the men who made it sing . . . the bombardiers.

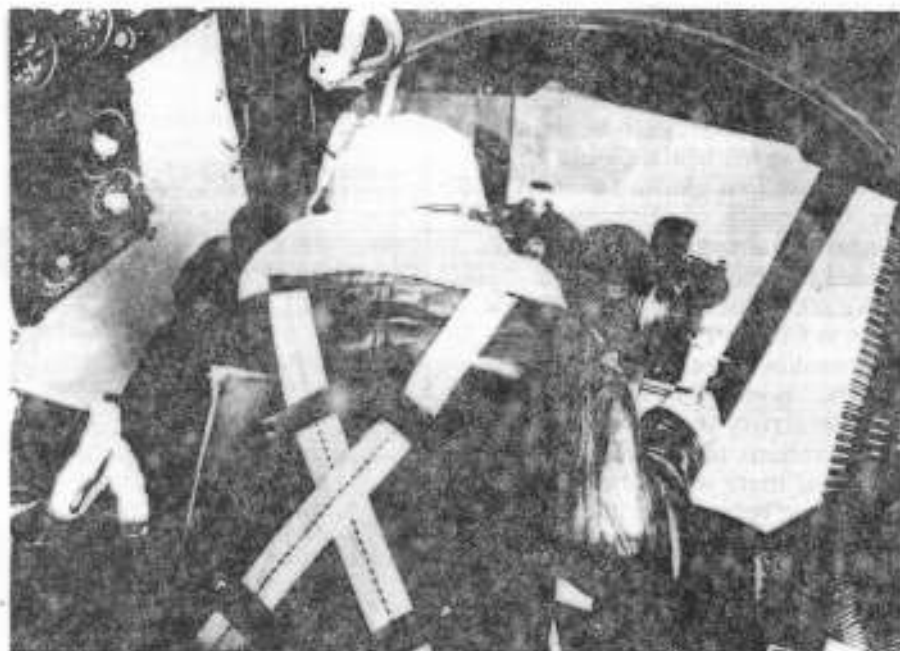
Gen. Lew Allen, Jr., the Chief of Staff, US Air Force, in a letter read at the 9th Biennial Convention of the Bombardiers Alumni Association (BAA), which was held in Washington, D. C., August 20-23, 1980, described the bombardiers' contribution to the war effort:

You are representatives of an elite group that contributed substantially to ending World War II successfully, and with minimum loss of American blood. You lived under enormous pressure, for your comrades depended upon you to put the bombs on target. You flew in exposed positions. And yet, for a mission to succeed, you had to maintain an icy calm even under intense attack. You were calm and you were brave, and you bombed with precision. You set an example for generations of airmen. We thank you.

Who were these incredible individuals who came into the Army Air Forces from across the nation, were trained to use the Norden bombsight and, as General Allen said, ". . . bombed with precision . . . with a special measure of courage and dedication"?

The typical bombardier was usually a happy-go-lucky fellow, unlike

Michael J. Nisos is Managing Director of AFA's affiliate, the Aerospace Education Foundation, and a World War II bombardier.



Interior view of bombardier's station, above. It appears he is about to take control of the aircraft from the pilot and begin his bomb run. Left: synchronizing a bombsight aboard a B-24 Liberator as the aircraft nears its target on Wake Island in the Pacific on April 30, 1944.

the always serious-minded navigator or the unemotional pilot.

In the 1940s, these young men came into the Army Air Forces because they wanted to fly. After basic training and taking those famous "Stanine tests" at one of the Classification Centers, each was classified as a Pilot, Navigator, or Bombardier, or "Qualified for All Three" (QAT). The Stanines consisted of a battery of tests on a variety of equipment to determine if the individual had the aptitude and potential for either or all of these crew positions. These young folks went directly into pilot, navigator, or bombardier training.

I had "qualified for all three," but never got to pilot training be-

cause, like so many others, I was "reclassified" in the midst of training in order to meet the needs of the service.

My memory of what happened is quite clear. One day, while assigned to Hondo Army Air Base, Tex., for "on-the-line" training, which allowed the cadets to get used to being around aircraft, we were all assembled in the post theater. A major made the announcement that too many B-17s and B-24s were returning from combat missions with the aircraft noses missing . . . and, of course, the bombardiers and navigators missing. He explained that inasmuch as there was a glut of pilot trainees, our class would be split up, with one-third going to bombardier training, one-third to navigator training, and the last third to pilot training.

Those of us who were "QATs" were incensed and visited the major to express our indignation. His response is also burned into my memory: "Those of you who don't want to go to navigator or bombardier training will be transferred immediately to the infantry!" Talk about extrinsic motivation! We, of course, went to the training as directed.

World War II Bombardiers Alumni Association

The World War II bombardier is now in his late-fifties or in his sixties. Some are grandfathers. Like a lot of people, he is nostalgic. He thinks of his youth and the years he spent in the Army Air Corps or the Army Air Forces. He is thankful that he was one of the survivors but has deep compassion for his buddies who were not as fortunate as he. Yet, he will never forget that supreme experience or the camaraderie that existed. He remembers... it is part of his life, and it will always be. He wants to associate with his former fellow bombardiers and reminisce a bit. He does it through the Bombardiers Alumni Association (BAA).

This Association was formed in 1962 by two men, William Burmester and Lee Campion. Burmester is now permanent National President; he and his wife Doty keep the Association going.

BAA is a nonprofit organization, not affiliated with any other organization or association. Its purpose is to maintain contact with service buddies and their families. All original members were in Class 45-5B—Childress AFB, Tex., but because of growing interest, membership has been extended to include all bombardiers who served during World War II.

Reunions are held every two years, and members are encouraged to bring their families and guests. Sightseeing tours and various social and recreational activities are planned by a committee. Reunions to date have been held in New York (1964), Chicago (1966), Washington, D. C. (1968), St. Louis (1970), Detroit (1972), Cleveland (1974), Williamsburg, Va. (1976), Dayton (1978), and Washington, D. C. (1980). The 1982 gathering is scheduled for Ocean City, Md.

For further information, contact Mr. William Burmester, 485 E. Lincoln Ave., Mount Vernon, N. Y. 10552.

After going through basic training, classification, on-the-line training, four months at a college or university to refresh our abilities primarily in mathematics and physics (I spent four glorious months at the University of Alabama), and gunnery training, we finally attended bombardier training.

We arrived at Childress Army Air Base in Childress, Tex., where the rattlesnakes were on the runways and the "norther" frequently would whistle across the plains, causing all operations to cease. The story goes that there was only a barbed-wire fence between us and Canada to slow down this bone-chilling wind.

None of us will ever forget the hangar bomb trainer; the AT-11 aircraft; the 100-pound "blue devil" concrete-, sand-, or water-filled practice bombs; or the "wobblers"—bombs not quite filled with water or sand, which wobbled all the way to the ground and inevitably landed on one of the local farms. Did the price of that real estate go up automatically!

My class 45-5B was commissioned on March 22, 1945, as Bombardiers with Dead Reckoning Navigation Training—almost two years from the date I came in as an aviation cadet. Following another selection process, half of my class and I went to navigation school for celestial navigation training because General Chennault needed dual rated Bombardier-Navigators for his Fourteenth Air Force in the Far East. Off we went to Hondo (we just couldn't seem to get out of Texas). We became dual rated in June 1945, and we all know of the events from that month to the end of World War II.

Memphis Belle

There were many stories about World War II bombing missions. The story of a B-17, the *Memphis Belle*, is highlighted in an excerpt from the book *25 Missions*, published by the Training Aids Division, Army Air Forces, July 1943:

"In September 1942, a new Flying Fortress was delivered at Bangor, Me., to a crew of ten eager American lads headed by Robert K. Morgan, a lanky twenty-four-year-old Army Air Forces pilot from Asheville, N. C.

"Proudly, those ten boys climbed

aboard, flew their ship to Memphis, Tenn., christened her *Memphis Belle* in honor of Morgan's fiancée, Margaret Polk of Memphis, and then headed across the Atlantic to join the Eighth Air Force in England.

"Morgan had told them it was rough where they were going. There would be no room in the *Memphis Belle* for fellows who couldn't take

it. The boys said they were ready.

"They took it. Between November 7, 1942, and May 17, 1943, they flew the *Memphis Belle* over Hitler's Europe twenty-five times. Bombardier Vincent B. Evans dropped more than sixty tons of bombs on targets in Germany, France, and Belgium. They blasted the Focke-Wulf plant at Bremen,



Above, left and right, Lt. Jack Mathis and Lt. David R. Kingsley, both bombardiers who were awarded posthumous Medals of Honor for their valor. Mathis was lead bombardier of his squadron that day over Vegesack, Germany, in 1943. He ignored a flak-shattered right arm and a large wound in his side and abdomen, dragged himself back to his bombsight, released his bombs, and died at his post. Kingsley, on a raid over Ploesti, Romania, in 1944, first assisted wounded aircrew and then, when the bailout order was given, unhesitatingly gave his parachute to a wounded man and died in the crash.

locks at St. Nazaire and Brest, docks and shipbuilding installations at Wilhelmshaven, railway yards at Rouen, submarine pens and power houses at Lorient, and airplane works at Antwerp. They shot down eight enemy fighters, probably got five others, and damaged at least a dozen.

"The *Memphis Belle* flew through all the flak that Hitler could send up to them. She slugged it out with Goering's Messerschmitts and Focke-Wulfs. She was riddled by machine gun and cannon fire. Once she returned to base with most of her tail shot away. German guns destroyed a wing and five engines. Her fuselage was shot to pieces. But the *Memphis Belle* kept going back.

"The longest period she was out of commission at any one time was five days, when transportation difficulties delayed a wing change. When the tail was destroyed, the Air Service Command had her ready to go again in two days.

"Only one member of the crew received an injury, Staff Sergeant John P. Quinlan.

"The *Memphis Belle* crew had been decorated fifty-one times. Each of the ten received the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal, and three Oak Leaf Clusters. The fifty-first award was Sergeant Quinlan's Purple Heart."

So goes the *Memphis Belle* story. After World War II, the young bombardiers returned to their chosen professions and carried the bombardier spirit with them.

Dan Devine, once the Notre Dame football coach and a former Army Air Forces bombardier, remembers: "... after so long a period of time, my memory is not so good in remembering dates, missions, etc., so I guess the best comment I can make is to say that my service-connected training certainly prepared me for the career I later pursued. In the service, we learned to cope with 'flak' from the enemy, but in my field of endeavor it has certainly helped me to take the 'flak' from all areas in the football world—the alumni, the fans, news media, etc. I guess I could sum it all up by saying I'm glad I was prepared by Uncle Sam."

Tom Landry, head coach of the Dallas Cowboys and former World War II B-17 combat pilot, who



Above, a stick of bombs hurtles earthward toward strategic targets. Left, "Bombs away"—the mission payoff by a B-24 Liberator of the Fifteenth Air Force.

brought back a pretty badly shot up bird and landed it safely, says: "I must admit, as an old bomber pilot, that we would not have done much damage without the bombardier's help. The only real gripe that I had with my bombardier was when we were approaching a target over Merseburg, or someplace else and all I could see was flak. I never thought that he got the 'bombs away' quick enough. Our country needs the same type of enthusiasm and strength that all of the bombardiers showed during World War II. We need that for a stronger America."

"Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) states, "As a pilot, I know what you bombardiers did in World War II,

and your many, many contributions will never be forgotten by this grateful veteran of that war."

This, then, was the bombardier, the man who made the Norden bombsight do what it was designed to do—put iron on the target.

There you have it, the Norden bombsight and the bombardier—a vanishing breed. ■

Credit is due to the following for their help in preparing this article: Lee Lauren, identified by Beirne Lay, former pilot and author, as "the best bombardier in the Eighth Air Force"; William Burmester, my classmate in bombardier class 45-5B and President, Bombardiers Alumni Association; and personnel of Norden Systems, United Technologies, Inc., for technical help and photographs.

all these Bombadens on
S.P.O. der 1888 - 17 July 1944

only 300th on
S.P.O. 1888



JAMES C. ALEXANDER
East Liverpool, Ohio
The only J. B. who knows Maxwell Field inside out. Left Ohio State U to join cadets. Good man on the basketball court - equally as good at the targets.



RALPH H. ANDERSON
Jamestown, N. Y.
Tall and honest Andy was an ad libber par excellence. Formerly an engraver in the Treasury Dept. before enlisting. A nice low C.E. . . . too.



FRANCISCO A. AVILA
Orangeburg, N. Y.
Francisco, the speed demon, set as fast a pace on the track as he did on the track.



JOSEPH P. BAHNKEN
St. Albans, N. Y.
"Long Giland" to you, local Irishman. Dead-eye on the basketball court. A genius in ground school. More gum than the PX.



DENNIS BAKER
Arlington, Va.
Can't wait until he returns to Washington, D. C., and resumes normal living with his wife and son. Practical joke fiend.



ROBERT BARNETT
Aspinwall, Pa.
"Junior." A former art student from Pittsburgh, was afraid of nothing . . . but women! Hopes to revolutionize . . . window designing.



RICHARD C. BARTLETT
Bridgewater, Mass.
Studied navigation at Worcester. One jump ahead of us. Quiet, easy going. Dick calls Boston home. Likes . . .



ANTHONY F. BARULICH
Bakersfield, Calif.
Ideal when it comes to paring Florida and California, since he lived in both. Her crew chief in A-20.



JOSEPH R. BERMAN
Brooklyn, N. Y.
Typical civilian of the class. Raced with Bryan for the honor of being the last one out for all formations. "There's no sense in hurrying."



LESLIE BERRY
Wooster, Ohio
Former Wooster College man. Grandfather of the class. Quiet, unassuming, and a good guy to know. Did more than his share of details.



GEORGE H. BLAHNIK
San Pedro, Calif.
The baby of the class. Former fisherman deluxe from San Pedro. Favorite hobby: shaving. Wishes he had more to shave, though.



HYMAN BLOOM
New York, N. Y.
Logged more brown time than flight time. He was always willing to help anyone - smoke their cigarettes. Expert pistol shot.



MILTON BLOOM
Los Angeles, Calif.
Los Angeles his home . . . what a lucky dog. A recent father . . . popular in the barracks. Had two cars. insists he is not related to Hyman.



JOHN BODNARUK
Spring Valley, N. Y.
A former bank clerk, smiling Manny made friends a VAAF. A former friend who snopped all the stars at Air Rowhead.



RALPH E. BORDNER
Belyviders, Illinois
Left school in Illinois . . .



GEORGE H. BOWER, JR.
Boston, Mass.



DEWITT F. BROWN
Auburn, N. Y.



FRED WILLIAM BRYAN
Jacksonville, Florida



JAMES DRAPER BURKE



DENNIS ALBERT BYRNE



ROBERT C. CAMPBELL

Resumé of St Paul meeting for Echoes

Friday afternoon:

Business meetings

- (1) Discussion of future meetings -
 - (a) meet at another hotel at same time. Have Friday 300^m activities meeting, dinner, program etc all 300^m
 - (b) Have hot open so people can have the opportunity to meet with 8 in
 - (c) Have our own reunion at a different place & different time.

(b) Picked nominating committee
Don Sheehan chairman
Clay Schraack
Andy Vangalis
Nena Leary

Bill tells me - they picked

Bordner Pres.

Collins Sec

Strong - Treasurer

I am writing Sheehan a note
to verify news

Other Business

Bordner reported on status of Memorial

Bordner distributed latest financial
statement from Flanagan

Bordner reported on Tentative plans for
dedication in 1982

Casey Jones then took Sgdn, & Group
pictures

Friday evening - 306th dinner in Wabarba-roon

We had ab 160 people attending the 306th dinner -

Dinner did not get started until after 8:30 PM.

John Ryan gave a talk on his early experiences in 306 & his experiences while he was a guest of the French in Paris when he was wading.

He also paid tribute to his old boss Col. "Chip" Overacker.

Walt Coons introduced the speaker.

After Col Ryan's speech it was quite late so the film showing was postponed until Sat afternoon.

Sat afternoon.

8 mm film taken by Major Sanford. Christmas period July 1942 through Dec 1942. Pictures taken at Wundaw & Shurlough. Real combat film of early mission. Many faces were recognized including Wm Rader & Lee Kessler who were at reunion.

16 mm film - B/W & color - Taken by Wundaw. It cover quite a long time period. Had a very good picture of a wheels up landing by 19 yr old pilot.

Also had another 16 mm by Bull but did not get to show it.

I still have both of Bull's film & Lee Kessler has the Sanford film. These films should be shown at future meetings.

Russ we had about 25 (300^u) attending for 1st time.

R. Hermann from Elgin attended for 1st time he was John Ryan's navigator. He was captured when Ryan escaped. I go to within 25 miles of Elgin quite often. Sat night he & his wife were at our table. They were a lot of fun. I didn't get to ask him about his P.O.W. time.

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 3780 WEST FLAGLER STREET
 MIAMI, FLORIDA 33134

WILLIAM W. FLANAGAN
 REAL PROPERTY LAW
 CORPORATION AND BUSINESS LAW

HUGO H. BRAEMER
 GENERAL PRACTICE

PHONE (305) 444-5722

TREASURERS REPORT: as of October 11, 1981
 306th Bomb Group Memorial

Total cash contributions

\$ 5,574.00

Deductions:

bank charges	\$ 23.69	
Greere & Co. draft	<u>3,345.00</u>	
	3,368.69	<u>3,368.69</u>

\$ 2,205.31

Balance October 11, 1981
 Coconut Grove Bank, Miami, Florida
 (account #0900 005 406)

* * * * *

Memorial cost:		pounds	3,557
Deposit 8/17/81		pounds	<u>1,800</u>
Balance due upon completion: (dollar equivalent as of 10/11/81)		pounds	1,757
		\$	3,320.00
approximate balance needed for memorial:		\$	1,115.00

* * * * *

Contribution breakdown:

Flight leaders	7	\$	104.00
Squadron leaders	47		1,210.00
Group leaders	27		1,360.00
Wing leaders	<u>28</u>		<u>2,900.00</u>
	109	\$	5,574.00

Respectfully submitted,

William W. Flanagan
 William W. Flanagan

49 30th Street
Gulfport, MS., 39501
November 5, 1981

TO: Ralph Bordner ✓
Bill Flanagan
Russ Strong

Subject: 306th BG Memorial:

Dear Ralph, Russ and Bill: I need your help in regards to several questions posed by our FOTE in Bedford.

First, note the enclosed letter from Wing Commander Holbourn of the RAF. He is requesting a change in the first over Germany motto for reasons stated in his letter. FOTE feels we need to do something about this as the memorial will be on RAF property. John and Gordon Richards suggest ~~we~~ we ammend our slogan (only on the memorial) to read " First USAAF Unit Over Germany" or First US Aircrew Over Germany" What do you think? As to his second request that the number of sorties rather than missions would be more meaningful, I say no. Any ex 306er knows what a group mission was and to research the number of sorties flown would be a gigantic task. Furthermore, group missions is what we are concerned with., This is a group memorial.

Second, There is a conflict of interest in our proposed dedication date of October 5, 1982 with the 8th AF dedication and reunion scheduled for Cincinnati, Ohio. When we proposed the October 5th date, the 8th had their reunion set for Pittsburg later in October, however this has now been changed. Our final date must be given to FOTE ASAP. and Bill you will need to get with the travel people on this. Personally, I thin if we do decide to change the date, it will need to be after September 15 because of the lower travel rates, and availability of hotels in the UK.

Third: FOTE has line up several VIPs for the dedication. Among these are the mayor of Bedford, Lord L. Of Bedfordshire, a representative of the RAF, Ranking Officer of the RAE at Bedford Air Field, and Senior Officer at the RAE Mess where the memorial is to be located. The suggest we invite an American and British Chaplian, and at least one senior Officer from the HQ 3rd Air Force and 306th Strategic Wing at Mildenhall. They also wish to know what senior officer(s) will we have from the group who were CO's during the war years at Thurlleigh.

Fourth, FOTE is arranging with the RAE Mess at Bedford to have a buffet lunch for 306ers and invited guest. We do not need to share in this expense, but perhaps \$50.00 toward same might be a good gesture.

Fifth, Do we want a B-17 flyover with the Sally B ? The 384th had one about 4 years back. The cost was about \$300.00 then, it must be at least \$400 to \$500 by now.

I hope that each of you will consider the above points, and give me your comments/recommendations as soon as possible. Work is being held up on the bronze casting until items one and two are resolved.

For Flanagan, I suggest you get with the travel people to get a final trip/ dedication date. I await your reply George *George*



Procurement Executive Ministry of Defence

Royal Aircraft Establishment

Bedford MK41 6AE

Telex 82117

Telephone Bedford (STD 0234) 55241 ext 8.415

Mr J P Mills
 306th Bomb Group Historical Association
 16 Ibbett Close
 Kempston
 Bedford
 MK43 9BT

Your reference

Our reference

RAE(B)FW/10/9/6

Date

23 October 1981

Dear Mr Mills

306th BOMB GROUP MEMORIAL

After your original request to me, back in April 1980, to erect the Memorial to the 306th Bomb Group, the RAE Bedford Board of Management, of which I am a member, agreed with the proposal and, as you are aware, your application has been handled by our administrators. However I note that the proposed wording on the heading in large print is to be "FIRST OVER GERMANY" or "ALWAYS FIRST - FIRST OVER GERMANY" which could cause offence to widows and descendents of aircrew of the Royal Air Force who fought and died over Germany during the period 1939-41. I would therefore request that consideration is given to a different wording from that in the heading. The text wording appears satisfactory although perhaps the number of sorties flown over Germany would have much more impact than number of missions which is far less definitive and could by modern terminology represent only 341 total flights. I can assure you of my full support in your project and wish you well in your dedication ceremony in October next year.

I would now request a favour from you. Attached is a draft of an inscription that has been produced for me, ultimately to be placed on a plaque in the RAF Officers' Mess itself. I would appreciate your verification of the accuracy of the wording covering the period at which the 306 operated from our airfield and indeed welcome any comments or suggestions by you or your association.

Your sincerely
 Alan Holbourn

Copy to:

General Admin

PMC

Mr Mills

Help: How do we
 make out at the Reunion?

Y



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

November 16, 1981

Dear Russ

I have been home a week since our 10 day trip to Atlanta & South Carolina. I was supposed to play golf with Fred Pector & visit with Gus Kravick. I didn't get any of the project done. My wife's folks plus have daughters 3 children with us at Anderson. We spent Fri-Sun in North Atlanta (Marietta) at a wedding then up to Anderson S. C. for the week. The lake is about 20 ft down. They have had about 2" rain all summer. We got back late Sunday. I don't know when the week passed.

In my mail I had a letter from George Roberts copies went to you & Flanagan. I tried to answer it but finally called him. I didn't have many answers for him. It seems Bill Flanagan wants everything his way. I still think the 8th reunion will hurt the trip more than the 300th will hurt the 8th reunion.

as for the wording. I can't get to execute -
as for the widows of the R.A.F. & it is on their
ground I won't argue. The 306th had a
lot of first why not just a tribute to
those who served.

Russ, I told you on the phone, it is going
to take more than a flin from a Travel agency
to make a trip go. It takes a well organized
public relations campaign with help from
everyone. Starzynski tried it in (good times) only
not the economic outlook today and he had 3 people
interested then. It going to be a shock to Flanagan.

I hate to disappoint the people in England.
but Bill Flanagan can not do it by himself. He
has never been active in other affairs of 306th

As for guests he ~~still~~ needs the support of the
306th I have written Col Robinson in the past &
visited with him. You & I know Jim Cheney ^{Dr. Shuller}
Wm Rader, Robert Williams, Dan Rasmussen & other
staff officers from Reunion. You have visited
with other staff officers James Wilson, Overacker
Reoden, Reagan. Flanagan & Roberts didn't even
know Jim Cheney or Wm Rader.

In Roberts letter he says FOTE wants to
know what seniors officers we will have at
the dedication. Who ~~are~~ they referring to by
the word 'We' It not the the 306th it must
be Roberts & Flanagan

The 4th Question is very minor - Those who make the trip can donate to the Mess, & the fly-over decision should wait until they know how many will come to England. If only 4 or 5 people show up - I think a fly over is out of place.

Now my own feeling, which I will bring when we meet in Dayton in Dec if possible

I don't like to compete with "mighty 8" I know if we go to England at a different time we can get Bill Collins, Jack Gunn & others who are the mighty Eight's dedicatee to back our trip to a dedicatee. I can't see pushing Oct 1982 if the memorial is just being finished I know it's as late as what is wrong with Early Spring March, April or May in 1983

This will give the organization of 300 to get behind it and make it a success. Well I can drive to McHews a dinner or other debarkation points & go spare "A" to Thurlough any time & go out to see the memorial. but I would like to see the dedication a success. but I can't buy Flanagan go it alone attitude, so that is my feeling.

Russ in ~~the~~ will be 2 weeks Tuesday
 It will be Dec 1. I still want to
 meet on the reunion plans. Clayton is ok
 by me. Bill Collins said he would come
 Jack Green is interested in helping also
 We can contact Richard Argo who lives
 in Cincinnati.

Bill & Jack are awaiting a word from
 us on the time. Please let me know soon.
 We don't want wait to late. I also told
 Roberts I would bring up his letter at
 our meeting. I also will write England.


Ray do you want to look at Pappy
 Adles stuff. I can bring it along. Also
 I have Wendell Hells film. I can bring them
 to Clayton.

Russ. I have Mac masterm copy "First of many"
 by McCray & Scherman. It was republished in 1981
 at London by Robson Book LTD. 28 Poland St
London W1V 3DB. Maybe the 300th could work
 a deal to sell some copies to make a little
 money. Anything to make money -

Bill Collins tell you - Jack Schmidt
 offered to buy & sell Baseball hats with dignity
 & on them at St Paul. He wrote Bill Collins
 & Flanagan. The profit would go to the
 memorial. Flanagan told him off but Collins
 said bring them along to the reunion.

Well in the party room the ladies took over the project - We had help from Pat Rossi the last day but we sold out + had many request for more. The last day I ^{tho} could have sold more 3 times. They made at least \$3 on each hat. We really upstage the migration Eighth had sold one to Cass Koenig for 10 the guest speaker. We made over 300 on the hats + the memorial ~~can~~ could have us it

Also that tea towel with 8th Boxes on it was in demand. I had a few requests when they could get one.

The  stickers we had at Orlando could have sold like hat cakes -

So you can see the 306^u can make money + we have a lot of people who would get behind it. The hats were Jack Schmidt's idea + the women did the rest - The women don't take no for an answer -

Russ have you seen Roger Freeman's latest 8th War Slavery. It is not too bad. He has some 306^u pictures I haven't seen before now. I will bring it along to Clayton -

I just got the mail. I ordered 2 more film reels of the 306^u for the people in England. They are now \$12 a reel - I got B0-217 + B0 218 for them. I didn't think they would be entered in B0 219

They put me up for 10 days & they were interested in the reels. I had men with me -

Will Russ I have rambled enough -

If you have any question on the resumés of the resumés ask me in Dayton. I know you want to print about the resumés in the Echoes -

Until I hear on the meeting -

Ralph

Russ -

a Joyce (Asplen) Smith who now lives in Wisconsin was born & raised at Fitchburg, she & her sister work at the American Red Cross on the base. She knew Joe Sabuch & Lee Kersey from England. She was at the resumés - She is on our list

Also a Mrs Frank Lewis & her husband attend resumés with Ed Leahy. They are on the list.

Also Robt Williams says has about another Chicago dinner -



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Aug 7, 1981

Dear Russ -

Well I finally got a note of to Col John Ryan
I am sorry about my tardiness, I will let
you know when I hear something.

I still plan to have a business meeting Fri
afternoon. I hope we can elect some officers.
I hope to have Maya Sanford film + Wendell
Hells film to show during the week end.
If I don't have the Pauls copy I have a letter off
to Gordon Richards - he has a copy of it.

Russ - I still like the idea of showing
some selected photo's do you still want to
try it. I think I can get a machine from
her. I will have room in my car to carry
it. Let me know so I can get the machine

I have a letter of to Warren Borges concerning the room for the dinner + also room for a social time. If you have any ideas please let me know - I wonder if anyone has signed up yet from St Paul. I have heard from only one or two people so far.

Russ do you still want to look at Pappy Odles material? I am putting his picture back into a good scrap book (his fell apart). I have his 207 file in order. Let me know.

I presume Roberts + Flanagan has sent you info copies on the Memorial set up. The travel agent had not been to England yet to look over the housing facilities. A Paul Christ of the 91st is conducting tours for a travel outfit he took over the 355th Fighter Op + 390 B. Group

Russ how is the book coming along, I wonder if you could give a little resume at either the business meeting or evening meeting. Those fellows at Colorado Springs enjoyed it + it would create an interest in the book.

Say you said Casey Jones does your re printing, as he said anything about coming to St. Paul. He said last year he would have taken group pictures if he would have been asked.

I will get a note off to him. ^{my wife} just framed a large photo he made of me at St Louis. He does a better job than any of the Mighty Eight.

Russ how is the state of affairs best coming along. I know anybody can do better than I have this year.

Are we funding any more 300's. In the last Air Force Times, I saw a John Bodnarick, reaching 604 receiving retired pay. He was a Bombadier in my class + came to Furlough with a pilot H. W. Carragan. Carragan + a William Evans are on the active 300's list. I don't presume you can get addresses from the Air Reserve Personnel Center who printed the list in the AF Times. Let me know if there is any way to find the address -

Russ I am inclosing a check for to help on the publication of the book. I hope to get another one before you finish the project. Maybe Regan will let me keep my social security check. It is a few bucks over the \$122 minimum but I am not refusing it.

So enclosing if you have any ideas
 please let me know - I know you are still
 holding a position at the college but I
 will appreciate any idea

As Ever
 Ralph

I know typing is
 faster but it is
 much slower -

Russ I saw a reprinting of
First of the many by McCarty & Scherman
 it was done by Robson Books
 28 Poland St
 London W1U 3DB

have you seen it - Gordon Richards
 has a copy - a better reproduction than
 the first over Germany was done.



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

June 21, 1980

Dear Russ

Just a short note to let you know I got the address changes. I also got another Echoes from Bill. That (2) I got from him.

I have been talking & getting info from George Roberts on the Memorial. I suggested Bill Flanagan (wheel chair) also John Corcoran who has attended all reunions & visited England on the memorial committee. The John Mills & Gordon Richards last year in England. I can't think of their names but I gave him 2 other ones.

I am making mailing labels of people who have attended reunions & visited England. I thought maybe that would be a start to get funds for the ~~new~~ Memorial

He is waiting to get a ball park price for the memorial etc from England.

Say Reuss was with those 2 fellows Bill Collins mentioned offering to help at the Orlando meeting. I misplaced the names. If you remember let me know. I want to contact them.

I am including the article on Ed Woellner & 2 addresses & phone numbers I found in the Houston Directory. Maybe you can use them. I don't see his name on the directory.

Say we had a little rough weather like you had few weeks ago. My Olds was hit with golf ball hail. I have a lot of dents on the hood & trunk. I have to get estimates to fix it. Also the hail just wrecked trees & our little garden. We had 2 1/2 inches of rain yesterday & 4 1/2 inches today. I am sure glad I live on high ground. Many homes were flooded. Well enough for now

Until later
Ralph

P.S. How did the storm affect you a few weeks ago

Reuss I just found those names in Florida Wilson Elliott & Luke Jacobs Jr. I think you said Jacobs would be best bet -

220 Beacon St.
Newington, Conn. 06111

Dear Russell Strong

Enclosed are the copies of the orders once we arrived in the U.S. after leaving England. I do hope the addresses etc will be of some use to you in your research of the history of the 306th and the men that comprised that great outfit.

It is with a common purpose, not really so common when you think about it, that brings us all together each year and remind ourselves, not so much what we did, but what those, who did not come back sacrificed.

I enjoyed meeting and talking with you at the dinner that Sat. night and hope some of the things mentioned will help you in your book.

We do want to thank you for the labor of love you are putting into this history because I am sure it is not just for the business reward that you are doing this research etc.

I hope we may be able to meet at the future meetings and chat some more. May you and yours enjoy good health and an enjoyed Christmas & New Years.

yours in comradeship
Robert & Barbara Roth

ES

sity. He completed his degree program at America River College, Calif. At the time of his death, he was manager of the NCO Club, Pope AFB, N.C.

Surviving are four children, Katie Walters, Karel, Janet and Joseph.

COL. BEIRNE LAY JR. (USAF Ret.), 72, died May 26 of cancer in Los Angeles, Calif. He was a pilot in WW II, and he commanded the 487th Bombardment Group stationed in England.

Colonel Lay was shot down over northern France and hidden by the French underground until he was able to rejoin the allied forces following D-Day landings. Later, he published a book entitled, *Presumed Dead*, which recounted his adventure.

Colonel Lay also wrote, *I Wanted Wings*, and coauthored one of the most renowned novels of WW II, *Twelve O'Clock High*. He wrote the screenplays for both motion pictures.

After he retired from the Air Force, Colonel Lay became active

as a motion picture and TV script writer. He received two Academy Award nominations.

He received the Distinguished Flying Cross, Purple Heart, Air Medal, Distinguished Unit Citation, Commendation Medal and the USAF Exceptional Civilian Service Award.

Surviving are his wife, Philippa (2059 Huntington Ave., No. 1109, Alexandria, Va. 22303); two daughters, Philippa and Frances, and two sisters, Mrs. Robert McClanahan and Mrs. W. Brown Morton Jr.

MARLENE VAN DYKE, 46, wife of Capt. Kelly Van Dyke, died May 7 of leukemia at the University Medical Clinic in Cologne, Germany.

Surviving is her husband (Box 4891, APO New York, N.Y. 09132).

Donations to her memory may be sent to the American Cancer Society.

TYPED OR PRINTED obituaries may be sent to Obituaries, Air Force Times, 475 School St., SW, Washington, D.C. 20024. When sending information, include the date and place of death, age and rank (if available). No charge is made for publication of such notices.

HS

SALLIS, Lierre J., CMSgt., March 9, 1982, Mrs., March 31, 1971.

SANDERS, Paul L., SSgt., March 11, 1982, Ohio, May 21, 1986.

THOMPSON, Chale J., A1C, March 15, 1982, N.C., Sept. 20, 1956.

THOMPSON, Robert C., Maj. Gen., March 19, 1982, Va., June 30, 1978.

THOMPSON, Cecil B., TSGM, March 18, 1982, Fla.



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

July 28, 1982
Marion, I.A.

Dear Russ

I tried to call you & Bill the night of July 23, but no answer. I left a tape recording with Collins. I had mailed U.P.S. on Friday, July 23 - the three rolls of film from Wendell Hull - 2 were 16mm & the other was 8mm. I think we ought to take money out of treasury to put them on video tape - then get Wendell Hull to narrate on a cassette & play along with showing, especially at reunions. The large 16mm is excellent color Kodachrome for 1943-1945.

I still have Pappy Odles stuff - I will call Jane when I get back & OK shipping up 201 & picture album to you.

I am still interested in a meeting in Chicago or future meeting of 306th. It is only a 2 1/2 or 3 hr drive for me -

We could discuss Offutt & other areas. Also get some organizational idea for future endeavors. With more & more people arriving at 60. They can take over for us who are turning 65. Just give me a phone call & I can run up to Chicago in a few hours.

I had a call a couple of weeks ago from Kellan Bumgardner. He works for Champion Gas Co & lives in Houston. I had sent him & Casey Jones their address. He had contacted Casey. Things weren't going to good for Casey. He had lost his original job - was looking for another - looking into teaching. Kellan said he was selling concessions at Houston Astro dome. He was doing anything for work. It is to bad a man at his age has to refer to selling peanuts at a ball park. Kellan was staying in contact with him. I trying to help him. Kellan was a pilot who lived in my barracks in 368th. I have been in contact with him since 1976. He use to live in Carthage Texas near Shreveport. He was trans to Houston in 1979. I recently wrote Casey.

Say I mailed Stan Ross that article that Dr Horton sent me from Florida on Snuffy Smith - He is going to forward it to Tom With. Stan & Tom are still in contact with one another. Stan is very willing to help.

I asked you about the Kaufman accident on Dec 5 1944
 to Berlin listed in your book. I haven't gotten back
 to my reels on that one but going over seas. Georgi
 was listed as the Bombader - When we arrived at
 Alexandria a Milton Bloom was lost (not Heyman)
 but when we left (Bloom was gone) (Georgi assigned)
 I had heard that Heyman Bloom was the bombader
 that day & wouldn't fly after that. But in the
 306 movie reels Georgi was to appear before a
^{Medical} Board to get off flying. I led high 3000 that
 day & I see Art Vann led the group. That was
 the day Lt Marsh was killed in an area with
~~sluggs~~ slugs from his bell turret. The plane
 was near us in one of the other parking areas near
 the trees.

Russ I had planned to mail film when you got
 back from Europe but on July 5. We received a phone
 call from my wife sister in Andersen S.C. (100 miles NE
 of Atlanta) Her 29 yr old son had been swimming
 in lake by house. He was getting out the water & was
 lifting himself out with hands on boat & dock. His
 hand on the dock slipped & he grabbed an electrical
 conduit to dock. Well it had a short in it &
 110 current plus water electrocuted him. Her
 brother-in-law was near by but it was too late
 so on July 6th we drove 765 miles - the funeral
 was the 7th. We got back the following week
 end.

at St Paul he gave his banquet tickets to a down & out 8th AF guy. We saw the guy at banquet & had to show him his table. Gus Lamb helped me with the guy. Gus is always willing to help.

Say in last Echaes I saw a Anthony Barulich listed. He was a flight mate of mine at Bombader school. I had his World War II address as Bakersfield - now it is Buttwell. You had him in 368 but on our order he was in 369. He came over to UK with us & is listed on special order 188 - George, Bowers & Hyman Bloom went to 367. Leslie Berry & George Blank to 323, Joe Berman, John Bodman & Tony Barulich to 369 & only Bodman to 368. It was date July 17. Also July 28, 1944 - I made my 1st trip to Germany - 38 yrs ago today. I think you were a Veteran by then.

Also a Slunis took of 368th was listed. He was a bombardier for me as one of the three messengers I flew as navigator.

I haven't written George the last yet. He was Sq af after Pappy Ode in lived in our barracks I use to get notes to af with him he had a Jeep assigned. I did write Tony Barulich to find more 306th guys

We were supposed to come down to Hells Falls on the 12th but I was just to travel so we came the 24th. We will be going back the 29th & 30th. The boy that was electrocuted - had had some problem the last 4 or 5 yrs. but a year ago got straight out & had received \$1000 scholarship. It too bad it happen after he had got things going. It was sure a tough 3 days.

What do you hear on tour. I know some who are going - Others will meet them & others it is too expensive. I haven't hear from Flanagan for a long time like 1st of year. Roberts did answer my letter. I sent him a reprint of Out Boxes First Over Germany but no answer. I guess they are made I am ^{not} going but I can't afford it now. I got ticked more the last two month from state & Federal F.R.S. The state penalized me \$19 for not estimating last year & Federal - \$203 this month. I guess I didn't read the small print.

I wrote England a few weeks ago. Storzynski told them I could not make it & I guess they don't ~~know~~ ^{know} that money doesn't grow on trees in the U.S.A. It is too bad Flanagan & Roberts didn't come to a meeting in St Paul so plans could have been worked out. Tamarac man didn't show or send material. & I had nothing to tell group.

They should call the term of memorial a George Roberts & Wm Flanagan affair. I was on committee but was asked for my opinion after those two had decided. All I can do is wish them luck.

I am including article from A.F. Times I know & the A.F.H.S does not print deaths other than their members - I think Col. Berner Fay after 12 O'clock might had some association with 306th idea.

I am including an address from England on a 306th & Catherine's Brennan's new address.

I will write Bill & also contact you after I get home. I got a note from John Humm he will be a Cincinnati. I wrote sleek Argo on other places to stay other than the new areas of the mighty Eighth. I got one of the local registration form from Bill. It is much cheaper. I surely

can find rooms for 3 eve for \$246. Which is different between local registration than the 8th 3 day PKg.

P.S. I got notice from the Univ. Class of 1942 will be having its 40th reunion.

As Ever
Ralph

How was Europe

Catherine Brennan

6137 Leesburg Pike apt 207

Falls Church VA 22041

get to you in time.

Love till next time and do write soon we look forward to your news love to Nell and to Lee Kessler and everyone

Conie Singh
Dwij

Tell Bill to
tell him about
Memorial Dedication
as well

love to Bill.

(P.S.) Will you phone Bill Cillis for me
Just found another 306er, married a girl from
my village. Not in the 306th Hist Ass.

Jim. B. Wetherhead. (Fitin Bitin)
Box 581, CROWELL
TEXAS 79227

Obviously does not know of the existence
of the Group. Her name was Sylvia Willars
She lived in my village, his wife.

Audie - J. H. Rosta



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Sept 23, 1982

Dear Russ -

I am sorry I didn't get the best off to you sooner. Talked to Bill Collins & Richard Argo last Monday. Forgot to ask Bill about Major Langford film with Lee Kessler -

I got a slow down last Sat. The daughter (87 yrs) of the people who raised me had a stroke. She is paralysed on right side of head & face & left side of body. The Dr. said she is incapable of handling her affairs - she has to have a legal guardian & then she has to go to the place in nursing home. We were in Rockford last Sunday & back tomorrow. It not going to be any fun getting her in a nursing home. She thinks she is O.K. but her memory slip at times.

The Dr. said after her congestive heart failure in Jan. She hadn't been back to

see him - she was suppose to see him in May

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

-2-

Also she hasn't been taking her pills for the last 6 wks - I hated to see it happen she didn't have much but she thought 60 for pills was too expensive - some people think money is important. So I have another job getting her situated.

Say I got a letter from Mrs Bull she thinks the film is in England. I will inform her when they are & what you are doing to them. I'll let you know at Cincinnati.

I also had a call from Jan Ode. I said I was taking ~~them~~ Elberts material to Cincinnati & then I can drop them off when we come home thru Indianapolis. It is only 15 miles off the road. She also said you could take any thing & mail it back to her. She won't be going to Leesburg Florida until the end of October.

Well enough for now. So until Cincinnati - or if something else comes up I will contact you.

Got new 8 AF news today.

Plus I bring check for the book for library to Cincinnati.

As Ever
Ruff



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Jan 3, 1983

Dear Russ -
Well it is about mid nite but I'll try to get off a note. I presume our meeting in Chicago is still on for after 11 AM at O'Hare better on Jan 8, 1983. I received the same letter from Russ that you + Bill received.

Things are touch & go with Nell + her mother condition. We were there from Dec 18 to Dec 28, in Louisiana. Her mother is very weak + has trouble breathing. I will contact you if anything serious happens between now + Jan 8.

With my wife's mother + getting rid of the house etc up in Northern Illinois have really kept us busy. Also Caterpilla a strike has forced us to keep baby sitting. + the strike picture doesn't look bright

I am inclosing a recent letter I got from Thurman Shullen. He had some suggestions which I have underlined on the copy inclosed.

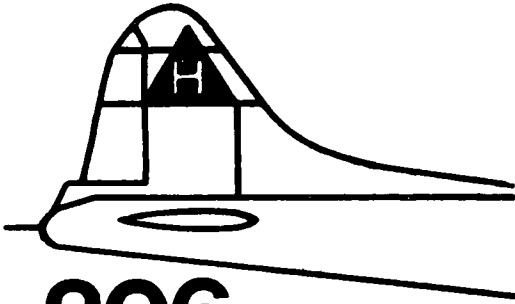
I have had some interest in our reunion noted on Xmas cards a couple of fellows were planning on going to both. When is the 8th reunion this year? But the majority are interested in Omaha -

I also talked to the Richards on the 19th of Dec. I guess Flanagan + Roberts put on a good show they acted like a couple of babies. I will bring the Richards letter to Chicago.

Also I just finished reading 'Kap' by Coffey. I got it from the Western Ill. Library + Thousand Shall Fall by Peder from Univ. of North Dakota. I really enjoyed the last one. Temper was near Red ford. He really had a variety of flying for his Tair.

Will I close this scribbling for now. Did you ever find the picture of the "Eagle Beaver" Squadron with the names of the individuals - a gain until next.

Ralph



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

February 16, 1983

Dear Russ;

I will practice with my birthday present I got my self a month early. The typing my not be errorless but it will be clearer than my writing.

I have talked to Bill a couple of times and recently I sent him my 368th patch. I sent in my registration fee the other day. I haven't heard or talked to Don. I have received your material and have my reservations in for some of the books. I haven't looked over the new 306th Rooster ~~and~~ I see B/G Barney Rawlings address. I think he was in the 367th when you were there.

I am including some material with comments on them. I see George Roberts got his article on the memorial. The one that irked me was the Thanks for the party George, Bill, and Bert. I have a folder of letters and few phone calls on the design etc on the memorial. I even met with the Geere people in England. Also they have decided on a museum in England. I am sure glad they are the voice of the 306th. I am going to write Mr Flanagan for a financial report. I was the chairman at Orlando, St. Paul and Cincinnati. I also will be running the business meeting at Omaha. If "windy" Flanagan wants to raise money for a museum he can come to Omaha. Don't you think a 306th museum should be presented to a 306th reunion? What have you heard from the boys? *George Robert a Wm Flanagan*

I am sending the latest letter from the Richards, she sure runs a lot of ideas together. On my phone call to her and in my last letter I had some questions which she failed to answer. She also brought up the museum idea, I think I'll write her and send a copy to the great Flanagan to make some inquiries on place, location, renovate a old bldg, a new building etc. so we can present in Oamha. if the want the 306th backing.

Have you heard from Thurman Shuller lately. I will include one page from his note at Christmas. The article in the Echoes was good. I wonder how the reservations are coming in to Don. The Olin Mills idea sounds good, have you a copy of one of their complete projects?

I have sent to Houston on the 306th Patch for a price on different size orders. Bill is getting some prices on squadron patches. He had good pictures on all but the 368th patch which I furnished him. I ask England about the decals and also a price on the 8th Tea Towel. If some one carry them back from England we can get them cheaper. Also Chicago has three flights to Mildenhall before the reunion if the Richards can get the package up to Mildenhall, I can get on the auto-von to Chicago ANG to carry the material back to Chicago. and I get some to go out O'hare and pick them up. *Including cost of flights*

I get via Aloua Air Guard Operations

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

2nd Air Division
8th Air Force
Caterpillar Club
Escape & Evasion Society

Charles Joseph Warth



5709 Walkerton Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45238
Phone (513) 451-1684

I see where
the megat
Eighth is
selling the
Tea Towels
that Joe Warth
Quote -
Well - you can
buy them on
my street corner
to me at Phoenix
reunion ha! ha!
maybe we can get
them cheaper!!



8th AF Tea Towels. JHW Photo

TEA TOWELS FOR SALE

The 8th AF PX picked up a supply of colorful towels for sale in the Cincinnati PX. The five-color towels, designed for us, went well in Cincinnati. They are now available to all members through mail order (see the PX page, inside rear cover). The photo above gives a clear view of the design printed on the towels. Beside showing the location of each station, the map identifies the major unit assigned to that location.

These 21" x 29" towels make an excellent display item in your office or home. They can be framed or merely

From
Hansell -
An Plan that
defeated
Heller

control of the automatic flight control equipment and all the other airplanes in tight formation, awaiting the signal of the Lead Bombardier, when a heavy flak shell burst just in front of his plane. The plexiglass nose of the bomber was shattered and lethal fragments of shell made a sieve of the nose compartment. Jack Mathis was blown back against the bulkhead, his side pierced and crushed and his oxygen mask torn away. He crawled back to his sight, completed his bomb run, and called "bombs away." He died at his post—but he put his bombs on the target.

He earned and received the Congressional Medal of Honor.

A third instance of morale comes to mind, I found, after some time, that one of my Group Commanders was flagrantly violating the spirit of my published policy. He obeyed the letter of the order—he did not lead the 306th more often than once every five missions. But he went on the other missions as a gunner, in order to see for himself what his group was doing in combat and be better able to improve its performance. Although I believed very strongly in air discipline—and this involved rigid adherence to current Tactical Doctrine and Standard Operating Procedures—I could not take issue too firmly with the spirit which prompted Claude Putnam to be with his Group.

True
or
not

These instances are, to me, examples of the real meaning of morale. This is the stuff of which our combat crews were made.

This was the general condition in the Eighth Bomber Command just prior to the third strategic plan for the air offensive against Germany—the Combined Bomber Offensive.

Quite an interesting book. Maybe
We can discuss it. at times I
I felt that the plan was bent
to fit the War or Vice Versa. also
how they down played the omission
of fighter protection from these
plans.

Russ did you ever find the names of the people on the 368th Eager Beaver picture.? If you happen to see it I would like to finish my list of the names Do you have a picture of the Eager Beaver (368th) taken at Wendover.? I have a copy of it. It was taken in June 1942. You might of seen it with Pappy Odles pictures. That is where I got the picture. *you might have seen it in Odles material*

Say you mentioned you might have pictures of the 368th Planes that Don Ross & I mentioned in Chicago.

250 N Debbie Lt Hataway crashed landed in Belguin Jan 10,1945
323 M Begin the Beguine Over 100 mission finished war

512 A She Has To
690 Belle of Brawl

~~Flown by Major Farwell on 9-12-44~~
Name similar to 423 plane shot down the same day Belle of the Blue

438 Tailwind

~~Flown by John Sasser on 9-12-44~~
I think Don Ross said he had something to nameing this plane

890 Cap't & His Kids

Pappy Odle had picture of it nose.
He flew in it many times This is the plane Lt Donkin borrowed on 9-12-44 and crashed 1 landed in England.

As I stated earlier a lot of my sissions were flown Nov. - Feb and as you might have heard a lot of scrubbed mission and those flown were over clouds so most of my planes were with a radar dome on the bottom . It seemed like I was getting to a truck or a recon car early in the morning and going to pick up a plane. So I didn't fly to many late in my tour of 368th or 306th planes.

I know you are busy with your regular job but any thing more on Dallas or Ft. Worth in 1984. Anything more on list of "Wheels invitation for Omaha. Commander Sqdn, Group Staff Officer etc.

Any thing new on the last roll of film of Wendell Hull, I am holding the other two and will contact Mrs Hull when I get the other one.

How was the video tape of the reunion. I think I will borrow one instead of buying one.

Well Russ I think I will end this for now before I think of of something else. If you need any help or ideas let me know?

Caterpillar is still on strike and we are still baby sitting. So I have about 10 letters to answer.

as Until later

Ralph

Dear Russ;;

Here is a little pin I got from England. I sent 369 to Collins and the the 368 th to Don Ross. I still have 423 patch Maybe I can send it to ex Flight Officer Warren Borges of the 423!

I talked to Don Ross last week , Wilson Elliott has some ideas like getting Gregory Peck. but Don checked it out and decided against even trying I guess Peck didn't even know about ~~and~~ and he is booked up then. Don said he had 70 reservations. I talked to Starzynski Sat. he didn't even know about the reservation idea. I told him ~~they~~ were going fast and get one in soon. He will bring it up at the dinner in Chicago. I sure would like to go but we have to go and see Nells mother. Bob sure didn't give much lead time. I think it was 10days to the dinner. So until later If you need andy help or ideas let me know.

I sent in my hotel reservation

Ralph



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

30 August 1983

Dear Russ.

How about coming down into Illinois and have a little of this high 90 or low 100 degree heat. We did get a little rain today but just enough for the weeds.

Things are busy here son is coming in from Florida this week-end and renting a truck and taking family and furniture to Vero Beach Florida. He is driving truck and taking one child and wife is taking car and a one year old son and a 11 year old son following truck to Florida. So we have a little worry for a few days. P.S. Car has no air-conditioning.

I got your notes and have worked on my jobs. I have typed up the 8-2-83 list in accordance of sqdns and others. I am including the Gp and others in with the 368th. I have asked Andy Vangalis for 368th, Gus Lamb for the 367 and Bob Crane to cover the 369th party room. I have to pick one for the 423d. I can add to the list when I get an up date. My list show only 223 registrations.

Don called Nell the other day when I was gone about either a dinner & style show or a trip to a shopping mall. She favors a trip to a shopping mall.

On the group pictures I made up a form for someone to get names of the people in the group pictures. All some one has to do is to pass the clip board and get the fellows names. I have pictures taken at other reunions with no names all one can do is guess the names a month after the picture is taken. I will be glad to type up the list for the pictures.

I am including a letter from Bill Flanagan. I wrote him in early April on the memorial matter and just recdntly received the letter. I did get a letter from Roberts and I also talked to him about the memorial and the 306th museum. I think I sent a copy to you earlier. I will include them on the business meeting.

I also am including some info from Thurman Shuller. He did a little promoting fo the reunion. He sent special invitations to Dr. Mumal and Dr. Simpson. He wrote Dr. Manning but received no answer. He didn't Dr. Wiehe address. Also Dr. Erb is attending. and he says Houlihan is only medical e,m attending ,He said 5 attended the reunion at Cincinnati.

He said he and Joan would be in there on Friday A.M. and planned to go to the afternoon trip to the base.

Slim Boring called John Regan but Regan wasn't to warm to the idea. He also wrote an early 368th Sqdn Bomb. Kososaski but no answer.

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

I wrote Jim Chaney on contacting Jim Veneable and John Lambert in the Orlando. I also mentioned George Robinson but didn't push the idea. I haven't heard from Jim, he usually answers my letters.

I see a quite a few from Iowa coming to the reunion. I also found the list from Maimi 1975 and compared it to the Omaha list of 1983 and I came up with the attached list of repeats from both reunions. Those are the regular supporters of the 306th reunions.

I haven't heard from Bill lately. Bob Hermann called me the other night, he had heard from England and was trying to get hold of Bob Crane. Bob Crane called me the other night to tell me he would help with the 369th party room.

I still haven't written England but do have some material to mail them. I do see some one on the list coming from England. A Theodore Allanson Harkin, from Sussex England. an ex-423d troop.

I just sent off my acceptance to Len Ross Sunday Bruch - I am still going out early Monday or Tuesday to help Len on final plans.

*As Ever
Peep*

P.S. I just got a call - my mother is in extensive care & is not doing well - she is 87 yrs old & has some heart problems. Will let you know if anything come up to interfere with Omaha

P.P.S. Russ I am adding the last long list of correction

to the 306th Directory, boy what a lot of changes on it now. In some area there are a lot of changes.

August 21, 1983

Dear Ralph,

Sorry not to have answered your last letter sooner. Glad to hear that the up coming reunion is in good hands and the program looks very inviting. We will be there of course.

I believe a time period should be set aside for discussion of all members concerning the proposed museum in Bedford. George and I will have a few words to say and then we can turn the matter over to the members present.

I plan to arrive by car on Wednesday around dinner time. So if you are there then look me up and if there is anything that needs to be done by me I'll be happy to oblige.

The Western living is quite a contrast to Florida living. We have been very pleasantly surprized at how nice the weather has been. We expected desert type of weather but it is ever better than expected. 90 in daytime and down to 65 at night and with the low humidity we really like it. Quite a contrast compared to Miami's 85 and up humidity. And of course the crime rate here is nil and its nice to be able to go out at night again.

All for now, take care and see you all soon.

Bill

*W.W. Flanagan
P.O. Box 1567
Las Cruces NM 88004*

Other units including
Group. Hdqs; 4th Hq., 352 Ser; Sqdn.; 414 Air Serv.
& Unknown registrants units.

Name	Address	Unit	Date of Reservation
Kadovitz, Harold S.	2019 Lowell Blvd. Denver ,CO, 80211	GP Hq.	6/13/83
Shuller, Thurman & Joan	1312 East Miami McAlester, OK, 74501	GP Hq.	4/21/83
Upchurch, Don & Eunice	505 Roberts Drive Vienna, VA, 22180	GP. Hq.	4/21/83
Brenner, Robert & Estelle	6 Dell St. Florence,KY, 41041	352 Serv Squad (39th Serv. GP)	7/12/83
Carlile, William R. Jr.	1304 Dartmouth Ave. Baltimore,MD, 21234	4th Hq.	2/15/83
Sheridan, Donald, F.	1203 N. Expressway.77,#410 Harlingen,TX, 78550	449 Sub Depot	2/15/83
Suchy, Donald K.	201 5th St. NE Mandan, ND, 58554	414 Air Ser.	7/19/83
Evans, Janet E.	Apt 9B 17 Stuyvesant Oval New York,NY, 10009	_____	5/6/83
Shutz, J. P.	248 El Dorado Dr. C.R.C. Lusby, MD, 20657	_____	6/13/83

I have the following issues of Echoes

1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
		Jan		Jan	Jan	Jan	Jan
	Mar		May	Apr	Apr	Apr	APR
Aug	Jul	Jul	Jul	Jul	Jul	Jul	
Oct		Dec		Oct	Oct	Oct	

Rusq: Am I missing any Echoes?

Inclosed is the following.

1. Letter from Don Sheridan on committee on election of officers at at St. Paul. Group said who committee selected would be officers. Not much of an election. Maybe we can do better at Omaha.
 2. Last letter from the Richards.
 3. Confederate Air Force schedule (Dellon Bumgardner -ex-368-306 member) he is co-pilot on Texas Raider- stationed at Houston- They will be in Rockford July 16-17 1983- Wish he could make Omaha. I will mention it to Don Ross & Dellon Bumgardner.
 4. Correct address for Lawrence Knight 1842 East 138th Ave, Tampa, FL, 33612
 5. Three pages from FORGED IN FIRE - I mentioned the remarks on Overacker and others by Baker.
 6. Pages of First Over Germany - Dresden- Low Sqdn making second run on the target- a Bordner over run with new radar navigator.
 7. Article on 306th Movies by Alan King. out of Bedford paper
- 8th Last inclosure the 368th picture . It looks like I am missing about 10 names. Some are flying officers and others are ground officers I am not sure who the Ordance Officer 2 from the left second row. Most of the names were identified by Odle. Others who helped were Slim Boring, Ed Montoya. Can you help me with the rest. Thanks.

Sorry I forget the letter from George Roberts - Note on page 2 How great Wm Flanagan was in the memorial???

I got a list from Don Ross today (June 23, 1983) with a 162 162 registrations.

Russ; Hope you get this material before you leave for your tour. Tell the Richards may writing has slowed down but I am alive? ~~When~~ I go out to Pennsylvania next week, I will probably be in contact with Bill Collins. Say did you get your flier the 8th reunion. The 306th will be paying \$ 77 (double) night for a room. No wonder the Feins are retiring on this one. If I go I definitely will take the invitation to stay with the Bumargdners in Houston?

You all have a good time on the tour and we will be in contact after the July 17, 1983

P.S. - When are the costs for the events to be sent out to the registrator?

II4

Lawrence Knight
1842 (East) 138th Avenue
Tampa, FL 33612

Rayh



Donald F. Sheridan
1203 N. Expressway 77
#410
Harlingen, Texas 78550

Mar. 19, 1981

Dear Ralph,

Herewith your letter with
the letters of the 449th Sub Depot
officers filled in. The picture must
have been taken about March or April
of 1944.

Now I'm in trouble. I ^{found} lost my
note somewhere along the line. I know
you were to be president and Bill
Collins, secretary-treasurer. He had a
name for vice president and he agreed
to serve but I didn't know him and
can't remember the name. Maybe

another member of the nominating
committee can remember. So far as
I know, you have all the names of
the committee members.

Sorry I can't be more helpful.

All the best,

Wm

Henry Schmidt CO. 449th Sub Depot
Robert Stevens Engineering Office
Wm Sory Supply Office Dec 13 1964
Arnold Sherman Asst Supply Office
Helen Shendan Adjutant
— Frye Asst Engineering Office

14 Pevenham Road

Cakley Bedford

England MK 43 7 SY

Sunday 15 th May 1983

Dear Ralph and Nell

Just a quickie someone is coming to the States tomorrow and will post this letter to you, you wanted a picture of the Memorial and so on we hadnt got a suitable one when we wrote to you a few days ago the letter you should have gotten by now with all the questions you wanted answering and the Podington picture and so forth. By the way havent had an answer to that yet ha ha, you are slipping with your correspondence enclosed paper cutting from our this weeks paper reading you will enjoy very bad picture of me I look seven months pregnant, by the way I am NOT no way, Give our love to Bill Collins tell him we had Senator Ted Hallock here on Wednesday for a flying visit with his wife Ted was in the 423 rd Sqd he is from Oregon what a sad day for him but beautiful we took him up to the memorial and he laid six carnations at the base and was very touched cried for a few moments then that made us all shed a few tears was terribly impressed with what we do here couldnt believe it, Wanted to know what he could do to help us he was only here a couple of hours but certainly it took him back in time we showed him the video of the dedication ceremony he again was so touched by it, had a tape from Hollis Baker yesterday, We have some more peices of the stone mementoes if anyone wants them for a keepsake, Bob Crane wrote to us for some decals they were sent to him hope he got them, he also sent us a Patch with the triangle H on very good design anything that any one want let us know. As to Onsha we are in Lumbo at the moment I shall probably come on my own Gordon cant get away then as car trade is so bad and jobs are hard to get here so if he cant make it ill come on my own how ill fare I dont know but ill have to get some info as how to get there and what airport to arrive at and the costings and so forth we all wont be able to come together Lloyd will be in the Harvest period of his job and cant have time off, but we shall see I want so badly to come, dont think that the Mills or John Hatfield will make it either

not sure about Cyril he is not too well again, not heard from the Levys hope that they are well hope that you get all things going for Omaha good picture in the Echoes
Russ is supposed to be here in July so are the 8th tour only know of Cathy Breenam coming on that score as yet, we have the 379th Kimbolton tour coming here in Sept and we are helping them out as the committee that was set up in Kimbolton has now found out that its a lot of work and they dont want to know so we cant have vets here with no one to look after them so all our gang are helping out ththere, weather here atrocious rain all the time, today is Sunday ans its still raining I have freinds for lunch and have a great big staek and kidney pudding cooking with home grown rhubarb pie for afters

Let us know if you want anything and give our love to all you meet along the way we love you all

Love

Connie Gordon and Lloyd and the Gang

Connie Gordon & Lloyd

xxx

Hope Nell is OK. give her a big kiss from us.

ay more additions to the Border family.

The lady Policewomen here in Bedford are missing "The Bloody Yank" ha ha

let us know when this letter was posted and how long it took to get to you, and where it was posted Should have been posted in Mass



43

CHIEF OF MAINTENANCE B-17
COL. DELLON BUMGARDNER CAF GCW

2901 Bammel LN No. 37

HOUSTON, TEXAS 77098

Home (713) 624-5840

Office (713) 654-2579





GHOST SQUADRON CONTRAILS

OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE
CONFEDERATE AIR FORCE

CONFEDERATE AIR FORCE

P. O. BOX CAF

HARLINGEN, TEXAS 78550

Volume 5, No. 2

April 1983

1983 AIRSHOW SCHEDULE

Included in this issue of CONTRAILS is the proposed 1983 schedule of airshows with which the CAF will be involved. The schedule, effective as of 15 March, lists major airshows, unit-sponsored exhibits or airshows, and other airshows in which CAF units or members are invited to participate.

Major airshows are planned for the following dates:

25-26 June	Colorado Springs, Colorado	Springs Aero Festival of '83
9-10 July	Denton, Texas	Dallas-Fort Worth Wing Airshow
16-17 July	Rockford, Illinois	Hosted by Area Units
24-25 September	Latrobe, New York	Latrobe Airshow
1-2 October	San Marcos, Texas	Alamo Wing/Cen-Tex Wing Airshow
6-9 October	Harlingen, Texas	AIRSHO 83

These events will be complemented by many smaller airshows and static displays sponsored by Wings and Flights. As of this date, several aircraft are also planning tours that will cover the majority of the United States. In planning to attend or participate in any of these events, please remember that **this schedule is subject to change at any time without notice.** Updates of the airshow schedule will not be published in CONTRAILS, so contact HQ to confirm dates and locations.

Each event — whether a tour stop, static display or airshow — is an integral part of the AMERICAN AIR POWER HERITAGE PROGRAM. WWII veterans, the families who waited at home for servicemen, children of the post-war baby boom, and even those children's children will come out in large number. They may believe they are just coming to see old airplanes, but they will see — and feel — much more. They will be able to experience an important part of America's history by seeing these historic aircraft fly as they once flew in domination of the world's skies.

The philosophy of preserving WWII aircraft as the "Ghost Squadron" may seem mystical or magical, but the accomplishment of CAF goals is not reached by waving a magic wand. This summer, it will take hundreds of volunteers to coordinate the scores of details associated with planning airshows and making arrangements for touring aircraft. The teamwork among members — men and women working together for the accomplishment of a common goal — is a primary asset of the CAF, and its importance to the AIR POWER HERITAGE PROGRAM is never so prominent as during the airshow season.

As a member of the CAF, you are encouraged to join in the planning of events in your area. We need more than just pilots and aircrew. We need public relations people, chauffeurs, ticket takers, money counters, ad salesmen, sign painters, security patrols and folks who are willing to just talk with visitors. If you would like to help, contact your Wing, Flight, Squadron or Detachment Leader or Headquarters for more details.

PROPOSED 1983 AIRSHOW AND PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE

The following is the proposed schedule for 1983 airshows with which the CAF is involved or has been invited to participate. Boldface indicates major airshows. Each event is classified as one or more of the following:

- A CAF-sponsored airshows
- B CAF Unit-Sponsored Exhibit or Airshow
- C CAF-Contracted Airshows
- D CAF Member Aircraft Participation Encouraged
- E CAF Unit Participation
- F Information Only — No CAF Participation Scheduled
- G CAF Participation Not Confirmed

NOTE: THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME WITHOUT NOTICE!

Lone Star Wing Static Display, Tyler Pounds Airfield, Tyler, TX-B.....	4-23 April
Tail End of Texas Chili Cook-Off, Elk's Lodge, Brownsville, TX-E.....	16 April
Cactus Flight "Warbird Exhibition," Municipal Airport, Graham, Texas-B.....	16-17 April
Cajun Wing Airshow, Jennings Airport, Jennings, LA-B.....	17 April
Air Command and Staff College Wing Ding, Maxwell AFB, Montgomery, AL-F.....	22 April
Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station Air Show, Cherry Point, NC-E.....	23 April
Cajun Wing Airshow, Houma Airport, Houma, LA-B.....	23-24 April
Barksdale AFB Open House, Bossier City, LA-E.....	24 April
Lake Jackson Airshow, Dow Airport, Lake Jackson, TX-E.....	7 May
Charleston AFB Open House, North Charleston, SC-E.....	9-15 May
DOD Joint Service Open House, Andrews AFB, Washington, DC-E.....	13-14 May
Gainesville Airshow, Gainesville Municipal Airport, Gainesville, TX-F.....	14-15 May
440th Tactical Airlift Wing Open House, Billy Mitchell Field, Milwaukee, WI-E.....	14-15 May
Armed Forces Day Open House, Naval Air Station, Corpus Christ, TX-E.....	21-22 May
High on Kalamazoo 1983 Air Show, Kalamazoo, MI-E.....	21-22 May
Randolph AFB Open House, San Antonio, TX-E.....	21-22 May
Johnsville Naval Air Development Center Air Show, Johnsville, PA-F.....	28-30 May
Breckenridge Airshow, Stephens County Airport, Breckenridge, TX-E.....	4 June
Bomb Groups 461 & 484 Reunion, Williamsburg, VA-F.....	3-5 June
Great Big Rapids Balloon Rally & Air Show, Robin Hood Airport, Big Rapids, MI-G.....	3-5 June
Wichita Airshow 83, Augusta Municipal Airport, Wichita, KS-F.....	4 June
Navy Relief Society Festival, NAS Chase Field, Beeville, TX-E.....	4 June
New Mexico Wing Airshow, Lee County Airport, Hobbs, NM-B.....	4-5 June
Show Group Air Show, Oakland Pontiac Airport, Pontiac, MI-G.....	4-5 June
Sesqui-Centennial, Lancaster, NY-F.....	10 June - 4 July
Killeen Rotary Club Airshow, Killeen, TX-G.....	18 June
Canadian Warplane Heritage Air Show, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada -E & D.....	18-19 June
Navy Relief Air Show, Kingsville NAS, TX-E.....	25 June
Indiana Wing Gathering of the Eagles, Mt. Comfort Airport, Indianapolis, IN-B.....	25-26 June
Springs Aero Festival of '83, Municipal Airport, Colorado Springs, CO (tentative)-C.....	25-26 June
Derby Centenary 1883-1983, Derby, Inberley, Western Australia -F.....	July
Country Time '83 Festival, Panama, FL-F.....	2-3 July
50th Anniv. Air Show and Open House, NAS Moffet Field, Mountain View, CA-E.....	2-3 July
Maxwell AFB Air Show and Open House, Montgomery, AL-E.....	4 July
Colorado Air Show, Arapahoe County Airport, Denver, CO-B.....	2-4 July

PROPOSED 1983 AIRSHOW SCHEDULE (Continued)

(See previous page for key to A, B, C, D, E, F and G designations.)

Dallas-Fort Worth Wing Airshow, Denton Airport, Denton, TX A.....	9-10 July
Offutt AFB Airshow, Omaha, NB-E & D.....	12 July
Chicago Lakefront Airshow, Meigs Airport, Chicago, IL-E.....	12 July
Open House, Pickaway County Memorial Airport, Circleville, OH -E.....	16-17 July
Rockford Air Show, Greater Rockford Airport, Rockford, IL-C.....	16-17 July
Quad-Cities Flight Static Display, Moline, IL-B.....	18-22 July
American Legion Convention Fly-Over, McAllen, TX-E.....	22 July
Trade Show & Air Races, Anchorage, AK-F.....	23 July
Dayton Air Fair, Dayton, OH-E & D.....	23-24 July
Wisconsin Flight Static Display, Billy Mitchell Field, Milwaukee, WI-B.....	23-24 July
Rendezvous Balloon Rally & Air Show, Riverton, WY-F.....	24 July
EAA Convention, Wittman Field, Oshkosh, WI-E.....	30 July-6 August
Southern Minnesota Wing Static Display, Downtown St. Paul Airport, St. Paul, MN-B.....	5-7 August
Heart of America Flight Static Show, Richards-Gabaur Airport, Kansas City, MO-B.....	9-11 August
Missouri Wing Static Show, Spirit of St. Louis Airport, St. Louis, MO-B.....	12-14 August
Blue Angels Air Show - Flight '83, Schenectady County Airport, Scotia, NY-F.....	13-14 August
Mississippi Flight Airshow, Hawkins Field, Jackson, MS-B.....	13-14 August
Bootheel Flight Static Show, Cape Girardeau Airport, Cape Girardeau, MO-B.....	16-18 August
Gathering of Warbirds, Madera, CA-E & D.....	19-21 August
Razorback Wing Airshow, Grider Field, Pine Bluff, AR-B.....	27-28 August
Oklahoma Wing Airshow, Lawton, OK-B.....	3 September
Cleveland Air Show, Air Force Association, Cleveland, OH-E.....	3-5 September
Desert Flight Airshow, Regional Airport, Midland, TX-B.....	4-5 September
Amigo Air Show, El Paso International Airport, El Paso, TX-E.....	10-11 September
97th Bomb Group Reunion, St. Louis, MO-E.....	16-17 September
Reno Air Races, Reno, NV-G.....	16-18 September
Lynchburg Municipal Airport Air Show, Lynchburg, VA-F.....	17-18 September (or 24-25)
Air Force - BYU Game, 783rd Squadron Reunion Fly-Over, Colorado Springs, CO-G.....	24 September
Arizona Aerospace Days, Davis-Montham AFB, Tucson, AZ-E & D.....	24 September
Golden Triangle Wing Airshow, Jefferson County Airport, Beaumont, TX-B.....	24-25 September
Latrobe Airshow, Westmoreland County Airport, Latrobe, PA (tentative)-C.....	24-25 September
380th Bomb Group Reunion, Plattsburg AFB, New York, NY-G.....	29 September-1 October
Cen-Tex Wing/Alamo Wing Air Power Demonstration, Gary Field, San Marcos, TX-B.....	1-2 October
Airshow & Fly-In, Quincy Municipal Airport, Quincy, IL-D.....	2 October
AIRSHO 83, Valley International Airport, Harlingen, TX-A.....	6-9 October
8th Air Force Historical Reunion, Houston, TX-F.....	13-16 October
Jackson County Airshow, Pascagoula, MS-F.....	15-16 October
Edwards AFB Open House, Rosamond, CA- E & G.....	30 October
Headquarters Wing Static Display, Brownsville, TX-B.....	November
Oklahoma Wing Veterans Day Fly-In, Duncan, OK-B.....	5 November
Annual Praha Veterans Commemoration, Praha, TX-E.....	5 November
Veterans Day Parade Fly-Over, Mission, TX-E.....	11 November

* NOTE: ANY PART OF THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE
AT ANY TIME WITHOUT NOTICE! *

wards the front. However, all landed in safe hands and 9th AF provided transportation home.

The next day the group headed for Wesel, but bombed a fuel dump at Dulman, Germany, instead. 2nd Lt. A.A. Lomar's plane had the upper half of the nose blown off by flak and Sgt. Charles F. Hitchcock, nose gunner, had flesh wounds on his face. F/O Richard W. Sprunger's plane lost two engines and he landed the crippled craft at St. Trond, Belgium. Sgt. Smedley D. Rile, ball turret gunner for 2nd Lt. William B. Winslow, caught an arm in the turret mechanism and was hospitalized at Sudbury. 2nd Lt. Wallace W. Young became ill, landed his plane at Hardwick, and was hospitalized for an appendectomy.

The 306th flew one of the much-talked-about raids to Dresden on 14 February and experienced its first fighter attack in many, many missions when three FW-190s hit the formation. Trouble developed when the low squadron did not drop on its first run over the target and turned to make another pass. The Luftwaffe hit the small formation. Lt. Harold R. McGahan's plane was straggling and the fighters jumped it, but the defensive fire turned them away. They then attacked Lt. William D. Carder's plane and damaged it severely. Lt. Robert H. Wood's 369th plane also appeared as a likely target, but the fighters got too close and the engineer, Sgt. Edward P. Richards, shot down one of the planes. Crews gave the P-51 escort credit for shooting down the plane that had hit Carder's aircraft.

Capt. Boylston B. Lewis' 369th plane left the formation over the target and was seen heading east. The Focke Wulf's had hit this aircraft hard, severing control cables, setting the number 4 engine on fire and starting a blaze in the waist of the plane. Sgt. Alfred B. Lubojacky, ball turret, was severely wounded and died. First to bail out were Sgt. Frank L. McDonough, waist, and Sgt. Leon Nahmias, tail gunner. The remainder of the crew bailed out over Czechoslovakia, about seventy-five miles southeast of Dresden: 2nd Lt. Robert S. Whitelaw, copilot; 1st Lt. Lester A. Harrison, navigator; F/O Joseph R. Sicard, bombardier; T/Sgt. James F. Standlee, Jr., engineer; and Sgt. Hardin F. McChesney, Jr., radio. Whitelaw and Standlee met several hours after bailing out and were free for more than twenty-four hours before being captured.

Another 369th aircraft, that of 2nd Lt. Jack S. Henley, left the formation and was reported on the way home. A message was relayed to First Air Division (the designation had been changed from First Bomb Division 1 January 1945) that this ship would land at Field B-53 on the continent as it was running short of fuel. Late checks through 8th AF Service Command concluded that the plane never arrived, nor had any subsequent messages come from it. Henley left the formation

because two engines were shot out by flak. Slowly the crew made its way unescorted across Germany and, in trying to reach the front lines and beyond, flew across the Ruhr Valley and was shot down over Coblenz when flak took a third engine. S/Sgt. Frederick Piepenbrink, flying as tail gunner with a crew unknown to him, landed fifty or so miles on the German side of the front lines. He was captured immediately by the crew of a flak battery and was quickly joined by Sgt. Herbert R. Whitaker, nose gunner. Within four or five days the entire crew had been gathered together. Besides Henley there were 2nd Lt. Roy H. Stewart, copilot; F/O Warren A. Becker, navigator; S/Sgt. Victor J. Coppa, engineer; S/Sgt. Daniel F. McCarthy, radio; Sgt. Raymond C. Hanson, ball turret; and Sgt. Albert Harcarik, waist.

By 20 February the flying schedule had begun to intensify and missions were to continue on an almost daily basis throughout the remainder of February. It was on 22 February, however, that the 306th reached a special plateau when Col. James S. Sutton took thirty-six planes of the 40th "A" CW, leading the First Air Division, and marked the 300th combat mission of the 306th Bomb Group since Col. Charles B. Overacker, Jr., had led the first mission of twenty-four airplanes to Lille on 9 October 1942.

This time the target was Wittstock, northwest of Berlin, where the assembled air forces from England, France and Italy made a major attempt to disrupt the still existing German ground transportation system. Marshalling yards were in the bombsight for Capt. Donald R. Ross, group bombardier, but a mistake was made in the nose and the lead group missed its target. Word got to the high group before it dropped and Maj. Earl W. Kesling, 367th commander, turned his planes away and towards Ludwigslust where they bombed the center of the city most effectively.

During the rest of the month the 306th planes went to Hamburg, Plauen, Berlin, Leipzig and Hagen, one oil (Hamburg) and four rail targets. On 26 February Capt. Edward W. Magee of the 367th was the air commander on his ninth mission to Berlin. This had to be something of a record. This was the group's twelfth trip to Berlin and Magee probably missed three missions in May and June when he was on R & R leave in the States between his first and second combat tours. He had flown on the raid of 6 March 1944, the first that the group made to the German capital.

Newsweek for ten years through its grave difficulties to allow our hired men now to use the Magazine to express their narrow, uninformed or insidious ideas."

He was insisting, he said, "on a complete showdown with the editorial staff." Either it could accept his policies as he set them down or get out. "I do not care how valuable the man who objects may appear to be from a business standpoint, he is to be given his week's pay and assisted out of the office."

There were four overall points of acceptance Harriman insisted on. Among them, he wanted "the now proven fact that U.S. and British day and night bombing of Germany is an essential and effective part of the strategy for the defeat of Germany. Full support of our combined operations in this should be given."

He wasn't attempting to dictate from London, he said, but by God, his philosophies had better be followed!

Eaker had trouble of a similar nature at the same time. He had come to believe that the single most important trait in any subordinate was loyalty. Pessimism, criticism which reflected on the accepted policies of command, even describing the negative aspects of combat operations was not showing loyalty. He saw it as more in the nature of a stab in the back.

When Colonels Chip Overacker and Frank Robinson had been relieved as group commanders, Eaker asked them to make a study and then prepare a report for him showing the deficiencies in the equipment and training of Fortress and Liberator crews, recommending improvements in both. His plan was to send the pair back to the States to give their report to Gene Eubank, the Director of Bombardment, and to Bob Olds, who headed the Second Air Force and was in command of training bomber crews. They would then return to England, Overacker to head up the B-17 Combat Crew Replacement Center, and Robinson the B-24 CCRC.

As related, Eaker had known Overacker a good many years, and Ruth, his wife, was friendly with Overacker's wife and daughter. Aside from the personal, he had no reason to believe that either man would offer criticisms that would reflect on his command. Yet when they returned to Washington and spoke to a group of ranking officers in the Air Room at Army Air Forces headquarters, they presented a harsh picture which did not accentuate the positive and, to Eaker, was badly distorted. A third group commander, Colonel McGuire, who had been operating in Cairo in support of the British since May, concurred with all that was said. The two stressed a large formation of negatives: poor bombing accuracy; the effectiveness of enemy ground and air defenses; the imbalance in speed between U.S. bombers and German fighters; the greatly exaggerated claims of enemy planes shot down; skepticism toward heavily armed and armored B-17's to act as escort; lack of training as a fundamental reason

for lack of bombing success combined with unflyable weather; even with adequate training, 8-10 percent losses; squadron commanders being lost daily due to a lack of replacements; neither day nor night attacks on sub pens successful, the proper ordnance still lacking; equipment lacking for operating at minus-45-degree temperatures; under present conditions, of thirty-five combat crews that begin operations, only five would survive. They recommended the number of combat missions be cut to fifteen. Finally, both Overacker and Robinson believed "the most successful way of making daylight bombing raids over . . . Europe is to use a thousand light plywood planes such as the Mosquito in fast low level attacks."

Whatever they believed, when their remarks reached Eaker, he was infuriated. In his reaction to Gene Eubank he said he had not realized how "completely licked, demoralized and scared the two were." He called them "isolated cases" and told the story of how Frank Armstrong in taking over Overacker's group considered its morale so low he didn't think it could be saved, but how in less than six weeks he had worked an astounding change. Eaker further told Eubank he not only didn't want the pair back, he was also asking that they have "no contact with any groups coming here."

His reaction, which some might have viewed as overreaction, was understandable. Naturally, he was defensive, as evidenced by his response to Colonel Malcolm Grow, of his staff, who had requested Flight Surgeon Captain Donald W. Hastings to make an investigation into the morale of the combat crews. Hastings had also recommended that combat missions be reduced to fifteen, which Eaker said would be "tantamount to discontinuing operations." He was sharply critical of the doctor, remarking that he might know his medicine but he didn't know his military, and the next time Grow sent someone to do an inspection into such a sensitive area, he should make sure of the inspector's qualifications.

Whereas Hastings reported that most of the original combat crews had been lost, Eaker put the figure at "some 46 percent," and then told Grow he had always been greatly concerned in the welfare of the combat units. He was making regular visits to bases, assuring himself that living conditions and flying tactics were sound. The average loss factor he cited, of 4.6 percent per mission, was not only less than anticipated, it was also less than the RAF figure. Moreover, he had found the leadership of his tactical units excellent. There was only one kick in the teeth to high morale: "the failure to provide units with replacements to match their losses. This is beyond our control," he admitted, but he was doing all he could to change that.

To Eaker's way of thinking there were two kinds of courage: the kind the young men of his combat crews were called on to exhibit and the kind a commander must possess in sending them out knowing full well that some would never return. The question of how many that "some" meant

loomed ever larger in his mind. And no matter how remote WIDEWINGS was from the squadron briefing room or how far distant personally his rank and age placed him from the crew members, his concern was a constant weight in the night whose heaviness could be measured in numbers of airmen lost. It was a figure that could only rise, and if the other figures did not rise with it—the number of planes going out, the tons of bombs dropped, the percentage of hits, the overall results—then the lives lost were forfeit to poor judgment. Only a commander could experience this kind of unceasing pressure. He could suffer decision fatigue just as pilots could suffer battle fatigue, and he must have the inner resolve to keep the effects under control.

Eaker knew that at all costs he must keep personal depression from showing. Like the flu, it was very contagious and spread rapidly. Whether things were good or bad, he must be upbeat, positive, and when he heard what he considered were negative voices rising, he reacted swiftly, fiercely, as he had with Overacker and Robinson and, to a lesser degree, Hastings. Three promised groups were lost to him in March, and at the beginning of April he learned that the 157 replacement crews assigned for the month were to be reduced to twenty-five. However, he did not despair now, for through Andrews he knew a real change was in the wind. It would be up to him and to his most astute planners to make it meaningful.

Near the end of March, Colonel Charles Pro Cabell, of Arnold's Advisory Council, had personally delivered to Andrews a two-page letter whose significance was basic. It had been prepared by the Council during Arnold's recuperation, its focus on targeting and air strength. The latter projection was in essence a refinement of discussions on the subject Arnold had held with Andrews, Eaker, and Spaatz at Casablanca. They all knew that while a great deal of lip service had been paid to building up a large bomber force in England, no finalized numbers had ever been nailed down to accomplish the objective. As Arnold and Andrews recognized, both the Joint and Combined Chiefs of Staff had looked upon the Eighth Air Force "as a reservoir from which the demands of other theaters could be met." The way to change this "untenable view" was to design a definite program of operations from the U.K., get it approved, and then allocate the number of airplanes necessary to do the job. The Good Lord knew there was nothing new or unique in Arnold's suggestion—Eaker could recite it in his sleep, as they all could—but to get through Navy thinking and Army ground consideration on the Joint Chiefs of Staff was like trying to bomb Berlin with a group of B-18's. And Arnold well knew the value of putting everything down on paper, as did the recipients, no matter at what length it had already been hashed over.

Arnold had already informed his colleagues on the Joint Chiefs of Staff that three hundred heavies was the absolute minimum "that must be in the air within supporting distance of each other on any penetration deep

Superstars will light the sky over Thurleigh

THERE will be superstars over Thurleigh in Spring this year.

Gregory Peck, Burt Lancaster and Deborah Kerr are due to come to the village for the filming of an epic which follows the lives and fortunes of Americans who flew with 306 Squadron during World War II.

The news leaked out when a chauffeur-driven car arrived at The Jackal pub in Thurleigh.

Landlord Sam Hill said "I recognised one of the passengers as Alan King who I had seen on television

in 'Live at Her Majesty's' only last Sunday."

Mr. King is a comedian, better known in America than here, a producer and entrepreneur. He heads the King-Hitzig film company, an MGM subsidiary.

Mr. Hill added: "He was very taken with the village. I heard him talking about their plans and, realising it would bring work and trade to the village, asked him straight out, and he confirmed the details."

Filming is due to start in April. Mr. King has now returned to America.

Please excuse the
scribbling - no typewriter
at work, P.

Wed. June 8, 1933
47-30th Street
Durport, Ms.

Dear Ralph:

Many thanks for your letter of
25 May. It was good hearing from you again
and look forward to seeing you in C. make
this September. I think as you do that we
are proceeding in the right direction with a
group endeavor and anticipate that it will
get bigger. I personally don't know Don
Ross, but he gives evidence of being a

great organizer

Now Ralph in regards to your
questions about the memorial, proposed museum
and financial status:

First: these items need to be on the
agenda, and I will be glad to assist in
any way.

P. S. Don Rossman has told me he and

his wife plan to be in Omaha.

Third: Memorial Finances: I asked Flanagan to provide Eckers with a financial statement after all bills were paid. This he has done, and that's all I can tell you about money. I do know that Bill cannot write a check without our signature. When he was appointed treasurer in Orlando he insisted on this protection so that all 306th people would know he could not touch the fund by himself. Since Orlando he has done a tremendous (and thankless) job in raising and disbursing memorial funds. This came at a time of great personal turmoil. In addition to hospitalization for back problems, he was forced to give up his home and law practice and move to a different part of the county. "The memorial project would never have succeeded without Bill Flanagan."

Fourth: Museum. Our friends in England (Mills, Richards et. al.) have collected many items of 2nd or 3rd millennium which they are storing in their

home. Others of us have items we have promised to donate providing a suitable location for their display is obtained. Add to this all the items given by Bedford, Thurleigh & Keysoe while we were there last year, we have enough to open a museum tomorrow. I could not possibly bring the pictures, drawings memorial cover & books that were given to me on behalf of the group. Accordingly, Ralph Franklin, a member of the 306th USAFHS and employed by the R.A.E. at Thurleigh was given this material to hold for the group pending some museum decision. To further abet the project, all those in attendance at the memorial dedication could think of no more worthy ~~use~~ for memorial monies remaining, and voted so. This statement was forwarded to Echoes for publication solely to express the views of the contributors present. The people in Bedford had hoped to get a building located just on the Thurleigh Air Base perimeter and hoped that the fence could be altered to include this building from the security area. I wrote to the Member of Parliament, Mr. Trevor Skeels, for help in this regard, but was told that the Air Ministry frowned

on this approach. The Air Ministry suggested we
use the existing museum at Hendon (site of
another group). In discussing the Air Ministry
position with the 306th Hist people in England and
Bill, we thought if we were to have a 306th
museum it should be solely for us and if
we could not get a bldg. on the base perhaps
Bedford or Thurleigh would be the answer.
This is where we are now - and the consensus
of the group needs to be taken at Omaha
and the Direction of movement provided by
Ralph Franklin & others in Bedford.

Fifth: Memorial Perpetuity: I also wrote to the
M.P. asking the House of Commons to enact a law
granting the 306th land rights of the memorial site
in the event the R.A.E. moved out of Thurleigh (this
was a distinct possibility last year). ~~Mr.~~ Mr.
Skete advised me that this was not possible,
but assured me that the memorial could be

5.

moved to another public site in the Anurup area if the old 40 CBW site were sold to a private buyer.

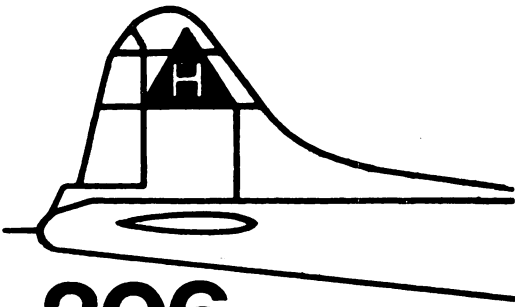
That about brings you up to date with me on your questions and I hope I have been of some help. It is not possible to provide you with all the details in a letter, but will be glad to discuss any of this with you in person.

Your idea to have Squadron rooms at O maha could cause a problem. An artist from R.A.F. Chicksands painted four Squadron posters for the memorial week and this back-fired. We were advised by no less than 10 attendees that they were assigned to none of the Squadrons, yet were apart of the 306th. Some of these people were Control Tower Operations M.P.'s, et al. This is one reason why we did not use Squadron insignias on the memorial.

Finally Ralph: there has been some grumbling about the memorial dedication coming at the same time as the 100th anniversary in Cincinnati (Sp). You will recall

at Orlando that the ^{6.} memorial dedication was decided on when the 8th USAFHS picked Pittsburg, Pa. in Sept of 82 as their reunion time and city. Our friends in the U.K used this criteria in selecting October 82 as the best time for memorial dedication. It had to be after Sept. 15 because of travel costs and hotel availability. When we learned of the change in 8th USAFHS plans to switch the date & time - there was little the people in the UK could do. The conflict in dates was not the fault of the memorial committee or our friends in England.

As for our personal life Ralph, Norma and I stay quite active. I still work alternate weeks at a job, do much volunteer work coaching + church. Norma is president of her ladies P.E.O. chapter, chairperson of the worship committee in Church and an area ladies singing group. We plan three weeks to the East in July for my 45th High School reunion, and the drive to Orlando in September. I doubt if we will make Houston. Write me your letter and let me know if



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England — September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Oct 31, 1983

Dear Russ:

I will add a few or two with the list of names for the photo. I have checked all names against the photo I have here (367, 369, 423 & Hq) I ordered them last & got them Thursday. I ordered the 368th at Omaha but do not have it yet. I did include the 368th list. You have the negatives so you can correct any mistakes. In the front row the 1st two names & also Stem Borng is shown twice. If I had the picture I could correct it. But I have double checked the other photos. I have my cancelled check for \$11 for the 368th but no picture.

I am also including the pre registration list from Houston. I know Reg Robinson did not make so I have only 32 plus friends which I noticed at the Fri dinner there weren't many wives at the meal. I did get my money back on Banquet meal (39x2) and one Friday mtg (25) I see our Fri meal was 20 &

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

but was \$21 compared to \$39 at 8th

I know the 2nd rule at SAC was only 5 less
than the 8th but the 8th was not to warm &
didn't have the variety or the atmosphere.

I am checking over a B-17 log register from
the C.A.F. I see some 300thers not on our list
& will get it to you. I have your other info &
question & will work on it this week. I also
have gotten all of Stan Ross letter.

I have a letter from Hamilton, Lee Keeter & a
copy of one from Jim Cheney.

I have to get some other letters written. I have
25 from Glen Boung for the 306th Friends Fund.

I will get a Committee & by laws this
week. I got your directory & will check it over.
Also the memorial committee selection.

I am still try to ~~make~~ make up my own personal
problem. We have daughter & 3 children here this
week.

On the Eager Beavers picture I have all names but
no. 10 is second from left in second row on Ordance
man. I am not sure when photo was taken but I think
- May - Sept 43. Maynard Alex fell in the vacant frames

Russ, all Group navigators were there except Robert
Salitnik (KIA) Casey Jones, John Dexter, Jim Cheney & Jack
McPherson. Group Bomber: Yansen, Coons, & Ross. Mission,
Cherita May & Hugh Toland.

Russ I class for now & will work on other
info. Thanks for all the info -

P.S. Did you develop 300th
officer picture yet -

Reef.

another B-17 crashed, along with two German fighter planes. Descending, Ledgerwood watched eight or ten home guardsmen following him, and he was captured immediately. While he was still lying on the ground, Ledgerwood was kicked several times in the ribs, but his captors finally let him stand up and get rid of his chute. Then they walked a considerable distance, meeting several other crewmen before all the Americans were finally put on an old truck.

That it was a rough mission can be appreciated by inspecting the two combat check forms which try to place the fighter attacks in perspective. They show that all planes were under vigorous attack throughout a forty-minute period. When the P-47s reappeared at 1531 the Luftwaffe immediately departed. The 306th gunners were credited with fifteen E/A destroyed, five probables and ten damaged. Gunners in the 367th earning laurels were S/Sgt. Duane J. Foster (Zias Davis, pilot) at 1450; T/Sgt. John W. Walkenhorst (Laek Robinson) at 1452; T/Sgt. Loren McCullar (Davis) at 1506; S/Sgt. Edward DeBuyser (William Bisson) at 1517; and S/Sgt. Walter R. Clark (Robinson) at 1518.

368th gunners awarded victories were T/Sgt. James K. Herman (William Katz) at 1445; 1st Lt. L.P. Blatnica (Paul Paulsen) at 1500; T/Sgt. Thaddeus V. Powell (Paulsen) at 1515; S/Sgt. Richard C. Litherland (Paulsen) at 1520 and again at 1527. Litherland knocked a wing off the first plane, then hit the second in the left engine. A piece of the stabilizer came off the second attacker, the plane started into a spin, then went into a vertical dive to the ground. Lt. Roger D. Barton (Clarence Munger) led off the 423rd defenders at 1440, followed by S/Sgt. Harry R. Shutts (Kenneth Bickett) at 1445; S/Sgt. Willard H. McQuarrie (Robert McCallum) at 1502; S/Sgt. Donald Richardson (George Reese) at 1516; and S/Sgt. Lester B. Parks (Munger) at 1527.

Lt. J.E. Voehringer was flying as the navigator for Lt. Oleron S. Linn whose plane was in the center of the low squadron. During the fury of the attack, Voehringer was hit by a bullet from an ME-109 and killed. To even the score, Lt. Joseph P. Ryan, bombardier, who had been firing at the attacker, succeeded in setting it on fire.

1st Lt. John H. Lewis, high squadron leader, had more than his share of trouble, as three stabilizer cables were cut by enemy action and the window in front of the copilot, 2nd Lt. Daniel H. Carey, was broken. One of his waist gunners, S/Sgt. Almond Weed, was wounded in the left leg, arm and ear by fragments from a 20 mm cannon shell. Also wounded on the mission were 2nd Lt. Raymond Feilbach, a navigator in another plane, and S/Sgt. Bernard J. Nitti, a tail gunner in the formation.

As one of the squadron diaries said, "Again the 369th missed a helluva fight." The "Fightin' Bitin'" was not operational that day.

Briefing the following morning, 9 October, was at 0530. Maj. Robert

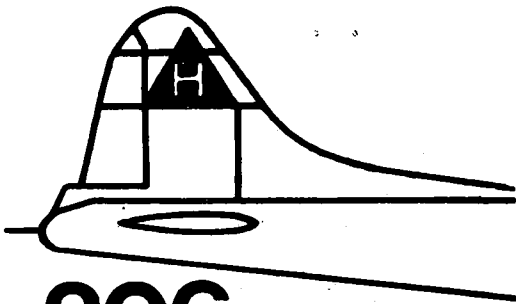
bruck area, en route to the target, the 306th was a few minutes ahead of schedule and the fighter escort missed its rendezvous, a factor which cost the group the leaders of its high and low squadrons. 2nd Lt. Loren E. Page and 1st Lt. Norwood L. Garrett and their crews went down as the result of a head-on attack by about thirty ME-109s. Flying in pairs, it appeared to men in the downed planes that the Luftwaffe fighters had by prior agreement decided to concentrate on these leaders.

At 1218 Garrett's plane was out of formation with its number 2 engine on fire. Two chutes were seen by others in the group, but in fact Garrett and seven of his crew got out; 1st Lt. Robert N. Muri, copilot; 1st Lt. Joseph Elgin, navigator; 1st Lt. Robert J. Shurilla, bombardier; T/Sgt. Joseph Vinciguerra, engineer; T/Sgt. Alvin E. Dilts, radio; S/Sgt. William J. Carroll, Jr., waist; and S/Sgt. Lawrence L. Yator, tail. Those killed were S/Sgt. Jim A. Glenn, ball turret, and S/Sgt. Almond A. Weed, waist.

Ten minutes later Page had his number 1 engine feathered, number 2 engine on fire and part of his left wing tip missing. This crew was not as fortunate, as only four survived; T/Sgt. Edgar E. Harbour, engineer; T/Sgt. James R. Merson, radio; S/Sgt. Ralph L. Whiteside, waist; and S/Sgt. Ted D. Dixon, tail. In addition to Page, other casualties were 2nd Lt. Thomas P. Kenny, copilot; 2nd Lt. Joseph E. Feeley, Jr., navigator; 1st Lt. Henry B. Holt, bombardier; Sgt. George A. Morehead, ball turret; and S/Sgt. Bennett E. Ball, waist.

When the group hit the initial point and started on the bomb run the lead bombardier was unable to pick up the target. The group continued on across Schweinfurt, made a 360° turn and followed the remainder of the 40th CW across the target, dropping its bombs this time. One of the things gained by this maneuver was a lot of extra flak holes in the planes. Fighter claims were confirmed for S/Sgt. Philip D. Vaught, 423rd; S/Sgt. Charles G. Smith, 367th; T/Sgt. Ernest B. Jackson, 423rd; and S/Sgt. Philip Brouman, 368th.

There was no rest for the 306th in the push to complete "Big Week" bombing schedules on 25 February. Capt. Thomas Witt and Capt. William S. Kirk of the 367th were in the lead ship, flying low in the 40th CW, as the 8th headed deep into Southern Germany to bomb the ME-410 assembly plant at Augsburg. About 1210, on the way in, the planes were greeted by accurate and unexpected flak from Saarbrücken. This split the group open and, before it could properly reform, two diving attacks by German fighters took a 368th plane on each pass. F/O James R. Coleman and his crew went down at 1210 near Charleville, France. Three FW-190s missed the plane with 20 mm fire on the first pass, but, coming from three o'clock on the second, put incendiary shells into the bomb bay and into the nose. 1st Lt. Louis Rodriguez, navigator, tried to put out the flames with a fire extinguisher, but could not. The fire melted the intercom cable and, when Rodriguez looked



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

15 November 1983

Dear Russ.

I am inclosing some suggestions on the by-laws and comments. Also suggestions on members for the executive board.

I talked to George Roberts the other morning and he is willing to head the museum committee. He said Perlmiuter is O.K. a sort of nusiance but will go all out on the project and he will contact Bill Flanagan to be on it. He said to go ahead and announce it that way and he would like to include Richards, Franklin, Normans and Mills as the Friends of the 306th on the committee. Franklin is doing all the contacting for the real estate in England. He would report in the near future on the progress. I mentioned to him the Perlmiuter called on the affair and the idea of a Reunion in 1985 for the museum. I told George, that I informed Perlmiuter that was not a one mans decision to make now that we have officers of the 306th and it would have to a 306th decision in the future if it was to be. I am not interested in benefiting D'Amato or any other tour outfit. At ~~the~~ present time I am interested in the establishing a 306th museum.

Russ. at the Fri nite meal at Houston a fellow came in looking for a Almond Weed of the 423th or any one knowing of his whereabouts or relatives. I took the guys name, he was from another outfit. His name was Wm Shields, P.O.Box 568, Azle, TX, 76020. Well when I got home I looked in the directory and saw no Weed. So I looked in the First Over Germany and saw on the 24 Feb 1944 to Schweinfurt a Lt Garrett plane was shot down and a S/Sgt Almond Weed was killed. I made copies of the pages and sent them to Wm. Shields. He said he had some medals etc belonging to Weed. I told Shields that was all I knew, that was in the book, and if he wanted any info he could contact you but maybe that was all you knew about Weed. I don't like to refer people to others so I apologize.

Russ I had a call from Dellon Bumgardner I think I told you that on the phone so I contacted Reg Robinson and gave him the info Bumgardner had given me and if they wanted the B-17 at the reunion he should get going with the idea. Reg said he was having a meeting this week-end and would bring up the idea. I also said Chris Christianson and Bumgardner were together at Houston and knew one another in fact Christianson and Bumgardner and I lived in the same barracks in the 368th area. So the B-17 idea is in the reunion committee. *hanto*

Aslo Reg had contacted Don Ross on the SAC dance band and Don had gotten not for one night but two nights at Dallas-Ft. Worth next year.

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

So I guess we will have music for next year and Not Tex Benecke at \$ 8,000 for the evening like at Houston with the 8th A.F.

Reg said he would keep us up to date on their progress with the plans for the next reunion

I got a note from Andy Vangalis . He and the other fellows thought it was great to have some one at the airport to greet them. It made them they were something special to have some ther to show *them* where to go and greet them. I will have to inform Don Ross, it was his idea to have some out there. Also he mentioned a Elmer Brotzman living near where the "Eager Beaver" plane was used by a college for mechanic training, and now had the part of the plane with the "Eager Beaver" on it. Maybe being able to get it and put it in the future museum. He said some director was an ex Army vet and would be sympathetic to the idea. I wrote and told Andy it was O.K. by me.

Well it is getting past 11 P.M. so I will close this chatter and get it off to you . If you have any question please let me know and when you think we should get together on the phone . Or maybe you want to go over some things before we have a conference call.

I will be home except from Nov 21 until Nov 29th we will be in Pennsylvania. I may give Bill a call or stop by as we pass thru Youngstown.

How is all the snow up there. We had a little Sun. A.M. but it was gone by 11 A.M.

As ever

Ralph

Sheet No. _____ War Diary, _____ Sqdn. _____
 Month of June 1945. Prepared by Lt. ALBERT WILD

DAY	EVENTS
22	<p><u>MUS</u> - This was a perfect job all round, except for 2 of our Crews who had to abort. Capt. Reber, and Lts. Balzer, Husband, Linn, McIntire, and Robinson watched the compact Huls Plant - vital source of Germany's artificial rubber - go up in flames and a great column of smoke. Fighters were pretty thick, and Lt. J. T. Harrison, S/Sgt. W. D. Barton each celebrated by wiping out an Fw 190 from A/C 498, Lt. Balzer, Pilot. S/Sgt. J.C. Lotti got another from the tail of 793. T/Sgt. R. L. Bohland celebrated his 25th. with this perfect raid.</p> <p><u>2nd. Lt. Klawns, Ordnance Officer, joined the Squadron and T/Sgt. Krajoik and T/Sgt. Bohland, and T/Sgt. Crowther, other graduates of the Continental Flak and Fighter School went off en route home.</u></p>
25	<p><u>TARGET OF OPPORTUNITY</u> - A trip over a solid cloud layer made for uncertain bombing but brought Fighters up over Germany and netted our Squadron 1 "killed" and 1 damaged Fw. S/Sgt. Connolly, and T/Sgt. Kiltbride did the shooting. Lts. Balzer, Husband, McIntire, Paris and Robinson made the trip.</p>
26	<p><u>TRIQUEVILLE</u> - Only 4 of our A/C with Lts. Paris, Cook, Husband, and Linn as Pilots joined this raid, which on its face looked so easy, and which nevertheless brought plenty of eager fighters out of the sun. S/Sgt. Fred H. Nabors probably destroyed 1 ME 109 which went down in flames. The fighter attack upset our bombing considerably.</p>
28	<p><u>ST. NAZAIRE</u> - This Target is almost as familiar as Pleadilly now, but its teeth seem to have been pulled, and our Crews went in for the 2nd time in succession without loss. The race to hit the new lock before the Jarries covered it was a real success, 3 direct hits being scored. P - 47's escorted handsomely to Floermal. Lts. Paris, Balzer, Linn, McIntire and Cook and their Crews went along.</p>
29	<p><u>VILLACOMBLEY</u> - Capt. Reber, Lt. Bergen and T/Sgt. R. G. Adams celebrated a dry run over France by completing their 25th. Mission together. While they couldn't hit the target, which was invisible under cloud cover, they did on return, hit the Pool outside the Interrogation Rooms - dressed chiefly in Mae Wests - and found it plenty wet. Lts. Fryer, Paris, Balzer, Robinson and Cook joined in on this spin over the clouds.</p>

Sheet No. 3 War Diary, 1943 Sqn. 305 Bomb Group

Month of April 1943 Prepared by Lt. Veld

DAY	EVENTS																														
17th (Cont'd)	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>1st Lt. Theodore A. Jankowski</td> <td>T/Sgt. Benedetto G. Benigno</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1st Lt. William E. Scheil</td> <td>S/Sgt. Charles E. Doll</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd Lt. Reginald E. Wigham</td> <td>S/Sgt. William G. Gelnett</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S/Sgt. Thomas B. McDonnell</td> <td>S/Sgt. Charles E. Wylie</td> </tr> <tr> <td>T/Sgt. James B. Stelsor</td> <td>S/Sgt. John E. Chinlund</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1st Lt. Glenn J. Lejly</td> <td>T/Sgt. Eugene A. Lanning</td> </tr> <tr> <td>F.O. Ben R. Hopkins</td> <td>S/Sgt. Leno Off</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1st Lt. Frank E. Ross, Jr.</td> <td>S/Sgt. Robert J. McGeage</td> </tr> <tr> <td>T/Sgt. James R. Curry, Jr.</td> <td>S/Sgt. Leo L. Gallegos, Jr.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>T/Sgt. Jesse R. Downard</td> <td>S/Sgt. Alvin C. Johnson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1st Lt. Robert C. Miller</td> <td>T/Sgt. Joseph A. Spiro</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd Lt. John D. Teare</td> <td>S/Sgt. William J. Phillips</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd Lt. Jack D. Shearer</td> <td>S/Sgt. Edwin A. Truscott</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd Lt. James C. Shalley, Jr.</td> <td>S/Sgt. Jesse E. Wade</td> </tr> <tr> <td>T/Sgt. Edward H. Small</td> <td>Sgt. Milton K. Williams</td> </tr> </table>	1st Lt. Theodore A. Jankowski	T/Sgt. Benedetto G. Benigno	1st Lt. William E. Scheil	S/Sgt. Charles E. Doll	2nd Lt. Reginald E. Wigham	S/Sgt. William G. Gelnett	S/Sgt. Thomas B. McDonnell	S/Sgt. Charles E. Wylie	T/Sgt. James B. Stelsor	S/Sgt. John E. Chinlund	1st Lt. Glenn J. Lejly	T/Sgt. Eugene A. Lanning	F.O. Ben R. Hopkins	S/Sgt. Leno Off	1st Lt. Frank E. Ross, Jr.	S/Sgt. Robert J. McGeage	T/Sgt. James R. Curry, Jr.	S/Sgt. Leo L. Gallegos, Jr.	T/Sgt. Jesse R. Downard	S/Sgt. Alvin C. Johnson	1st Lt. Robert C. Miller	T/Sgt. Joseph A. Spiro	2nd Lt. John D. Teare	S/Sgt. William J. Phillips	2nd Lt. Jack D. Shearer	S/Sgt. Edwin A. Truscott	2nd Lt. James C. Shalley, Jr.	S/Sgt. Jesse E. Wade	T/Sgt. Edward H. Small	Sgt. Milton K. Williams
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20th	<p>1st Lts. Hennessy, Pilot; and MacIntire and 2nd Lts. <u>J. K. Levy</u> and <u>J. P. Ryan</u>, T/Sgts. Drennan and Wiley, S/Sgts. Adams, Connolly, Spellman and Klek transferred from the 369th Squadron to our own.</p>																														
21st	<p>1st Lts. Balsor, Field, Husband and Robinson, ^{and} 2nd Lt. Linn is also a pilots, 2nd Lts. Dalessi, Eford, Jones, Logue and Shingler, co-pilots; 2nd Lts. Arnold, Chaussen, Bycott, and Slater, Navigators; 1st Lt. Young and 2nd Lt. Harrison, Lamb, Montoya and Silverstein, Bombardiers; and 11 enlisted combat crew men joined the Squadron.</p>																														
25th	<p>14 enlisted men of combat crews from States joined the Squadron.</p>																														
28th	<p>Capt. Kirk, Pilot; 2nd Lts. Haas, Hoffer and Evensen and 6 combat crew men joined the Squadron.</p>																														

Row 1-1

Note: During the month S/Sgts. Crowther, Downard, Gabrish, Graziano, Keeler, Small, and Spiro were promoted to T/Sgts. There were 8 other promotions. S/Sgt. Ernest T. Moriarty, waist gunner on Lt. Buddenbaum's crew, re-joined the Squadron only 23 days after being shot down last month, and thus became the 368th's first escapee.

(letter from Ed Leahy)
about Joe Montana
sent to Richards

Christmas 1980

Dear Ralph + Nell,

We were certainly sorry to miss the reunion this year. My commitments at work caused it all. Mary had plans to visit her brother and wife not far from Orlando after the reunion, and of course it didn't happen. Next year, we will be at Minneapolis, even if I have to sell the Edison Co. to make it possible.

I have heard from Houlihan and ~~Lennon~~ Lenaghan who reported a great time; also Bob Shultz (all 367th). I am going to phone Bob Stargynski as soon as the card writing is finished. Save me a space at the bar.

I lost a very good friend

-2-

over a month ago--Jim
Montana, a 369th gunner who
was shot down on his second
trip to Schweinfurt (also his
last mission). After the
war, and the B. W. Camp, ~~both~~
Jim went into the advertising
typesetting business with two
Chicago friends, and made it
big until two family deaths
in short order left him
with just one son, and
a disabling illness. He
wanted so much to go to a
reunion, and I had hopes
that I could get him, and
his son to join us for the '81
gathering, but his son said
he wasn't well enough to
even plan it. Well he is gone.
Jim flew on "Wahoo". You
probably were alongside
him on some of your
missions.

Here, I have to know

Jim's name; Ed. Keen

Russ.

Your copy of the Eagle Beavers really helped. The date July 15, 1943 narrowed the history to that time. So I researched the 368th history

Row 1 - #1 & 2.

There was J.W. Levy transferred with ^{Henneman}
" " J.P. Ryan " " " "

I think Row 1 #4 is about ^{Henneman} ~~Henneman~~
Row 2 #2.

The margin in the Ordance Flame +
Klawahan was assigned 6/22/43

Row 2 #4

I don't have any names. I have
seen a picture of him before but
I don't know Will Write Dix

Row 2 #17

I don't find a J.W. Belche
but I do find a J.W. Belses

My picture had no sales. I
am sending this info to M Dix
Will let you know

368th B. Squadron "Eager Beavers"

Taken July 15, 1943

Row 1	Row 2	Row 3
J.W. Lynn <i>LEVY</i>	1. Lewis McIntyre	1. W.D. Barton
J.P. Ryan	2. ROBERT KLANAHAN	Sax Mower
A.W. Weld	3. F.R. Harrison	George Arnold
H.G. Taylor <i>Travers</i>	4. ???	R.W. Shingler
J.V. Routh	5. C.K. Logue	Ed. Montoya
Robt. Stevens	6. C.G. Cook	A.O. Bycott
J. Kosakowski	7. Wm. Widlansky	Toy Bane Husband
Ed Miazza	8. Leak Robinson	Wm. Dooley
John Regan	9. R.R. Lamb	Wm Jones
Wallace Boring	10. Carl Holmes	Leon Feldman
Elbert Odle	11. Wm. Katz	E.L. Maslanska
Jermiah O'Sullivan	12. Wesley Peterson	George Paris
Dr. Mumal	13. Herschel Ezell	Slater
Edgar Hallman	14. M. D. Dix	Stan Silverstin
Robert Fryer	15. August Winter	George Mungel
John Bennett	16. O.S. Linn	George Reese
Ughe Swapp	17. J. H. Belcher	
Roy C. Rock	18. <i>Belcher</i>	
	19.	
	20.	
	21.	
	22.	

I think omitted names are X

Row	Name	Position	Notes
1.	J, M, Levy	Nav	Transferred from 369th 4-20-43 with Hennessy Maynard Dix had J.M. Lynn
2.	J, P, Ryan	Bomb	Trans from 369th (4-20-43) with Hennessy
3.	A.W. Weld	Intell	
4.	H.G. Taylor	Ground	<i>Russ I have an 8x10 of Eager Beavers Sqdn after war this fellow looks like Albert Greaves. I can write him he sent drug photo</i>
5.	J, V. Routt	Ground	
6.	Robt. Stevens	Sqdn Eng.	
7.	J. Kosakowski	Sqdn Bomb	
8.	Ed. Miazza	Sqdn Exec.	
9.	John Regan	Sqdn C.O.	
10.	Wallace Boring	Sqdn Nav	
11.	Elbert Odle	Sqdn Opns.	
12.	Jemiah O'Sullivan	Intell	
13.	Dr. Munal	Sqdn Flt Surgeon	
14.	Edgar Hallaman	Sqdn Supply	
15.	Robert Fryer	Pilot	
16.	John Bennett	Sqdn Armn	- lives in Peoria
17.	Ughe Swapp	Flt Position	??? Promoted 9-15-43 368th History
18.	Roy C. Ranck	60- Pilot	Promoted 9-15-43 368th History Shot down 10-8-43 - Strong Book Joined Sqdn 7-4-43 with Mungy, Barton & Feldman
19.			
20.			
21.			
22.			

368th Bomb Sqdn "Eager Beavers" Taken July 15, 1943

Row 2

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|------------|---|
| 1. | Lewis McIntyre | Pilot | Trans from 369th with Ed Hennsssy |
| 2. | Robert Klawahn | Ordance | 2 Lt Klawahn - ordance officer joined Sqdn June 22, 1943 (308 Heston)
1st one. Germany was then common best
insignia looks like Ordance
Russ looking at insignia with magnifying
glass they are Ordance flames on his lapel |
| 3. | F.R. Harrison | Bomb | Orders on 3-21-43 368th History |
| 4. | ??? | | |
| 5. | C.K Logue | Co-Pilot | |
| 6. | C.G. Cook | Pilot | |
| 7. | Wm Widlansky | Ass't Eng. | Identified from other pictures of Elbert Odle |
| 8. | Leak Robinson | Pilot | "" from Odle pictures |
| 9. | R.R. Lanb | Bomb | 368th History |
| 10. | Carl Holmes | Bomb | |
| 11. | Wm Katz | - Pilot | 368th History |
| 12. | Wesley Peterson | Pilot | 1210 - 9/6/43 First on Mission |
| 13. | Herschel Exell | Bomb | Ident from Odle pictures |
| 14. | M.D. Dix | "Nav. | Ident by Dix at Omaha 1983 |
| 15. | August Winter | Bomb. | Ident from Odle pictures |
| 16. | O.S. Linn | Pilot | Ident from Odle pictures |
| 17. | J.H. Belser | Pilot | M.D. Dix had J.H. Belcher but I found no one by that name but a
B elcher was in the Sqdn then |
| 18. | | | |
| 19. | | | |
| 20. | | | |
| 21. | | | |
| 22. | | | |

368th Bomb. Squadren "Eager Beavers" Taken July 51, 1943

Row 3

- 1. W. D. Barton Co-Pilot
- 2. Sax Mower Pilot R.A.F. Wings
- 3. George Arnold Nav. 368th History 7-21-43 assigned
- 4. R.W. Shingler Co_pilot Odle pictures
- 5. Ed. Montoya Bomb. Ident by Montoya St. Paul 1981
- 6. A.O. Bycott Nav. Odle pictures and 368 history
- 7. Toy B. Husband Pilot
- 8. Wm. Dooley Pilot Odle pictures oh Dooley
- 9. Wm Jones- Pilot
- 10. Leon Feldman Bomb - with Menge, Rank & Barta 7/4/43
- 11. E.L. Maslanska Co-Pilot Evade - 9/6/43 with A Wank & Mauer & Solt
- 12. George Paris Pilot
- 13. Slater Nav.
- 14. Stan Silverstin Nav.
- 15. George Munger Pilot
- 16. George Reese _ Pilot
- 17.
- 18.
- 19.
- 20.
- 21.
- 22.



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

August 2, 1984

Dear Russ;

I will get a short note off to you before you leave for your tour. I got the Echoes and thanks I have read them thoroughly yet. We got back from Penn on the 24 of Jul late and left early on the 27 for Wisconsin. We spend the weekend with my newly found step-brother at Richland Center Wis. On Sat we went to the Air Show at Oskosh Wis. It was its first day and what a mob. There were around 14,000 planes parked in the area . plus many other expermental air craft. and I have never seen so many World War II aircraft. There must have been 25 (P-51), 2 (P-47) and one P-38. . There were two B-17s. One from Wisconsin and the other from Ft.Worth. It was "Chuckie" I think it is privately owned by W.D.Hospers. I met him and told him about our reunion at FtWorth . He wondered if we would be interested having his plane available so if any one wanted to take a B-17 plane ride He said he had done it at others reunions. I told him we had a committee at Ft.Worth and I would forward his name to them. If they were interested they would contact him. At the Air show they had an Old 1931 Tri Motor passenger plane giving rides at \$ 20 a clip and there seemed to be quite a few taking up the ride.

The Air Show was quite good . The stunt show was about 1 and 3/4 hrs long and then the War birds came over and made passes with bombs going off all over the place. The stunt show had some excellent flying exhibitions. They reported that they had about 300,000 people in attendance and the show was to go all week. It was well handled and we had no troulbe getting in and out of the parking area.

Russ at one of the stores at the show I bought a book "TARGET BERLIN" Authors Jeffrey Ethell and Alfred Price. Mission 250 6 Mar 1944. I see you and Bill Collins were contributors. I see they have two pictures of Charles Smith "Liberty Lady" that landed in Sweden. I think I told you I met Stan Buck when he passed thru after he let out of Sweden. He stopped in the barracks. The book was price at \$ 19.95 and was selling for \$ 6.95. My wife gave the business that I buy all the World Wa^{II} available. Have you seen the book? Would you like to read it? I will be glad to sent it to you. It seems O.K. It seems to have a lot of writing about the planning, background of both sides etc and then the mission. It takes a lot of fill in to make a book just about one mission I haven't started reading it yet.

While I was in Penn the Peenemunde Raid by Middlebrook. came to the library It came from the Army Base At Ft. Levenworth I have to finish it by Aug 14 so I am reading it first. So far again quite detailed in

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

setting up of the mission. Background on both sides German and British for the mission. I didn't realize that the Regensburg-Schweinfurt and the Peenumude were on the same date. It is quite slow reading because as I said earlier a lot of descriptin etc of ezents leading up to the mission It was well researched by the Autuhor. I think he had to work harder on this book than he did on the Schweinfurt-Regensburg book. I am sending the info on the book. I notice in your last Echoes that you mention the inter-loan system of the Library. That is how I get most of my books. It usually takes about 2 wks. Some come from a distance and other come just across the river at Peoria,

I got a long note from Lee Kesler yesterday and haven't read it completely yet. He seems O.K. but has some family problems but is doing O.K. and apologized for not writing sooner. I also heard form Gus Krajcek he may have to miss the reunion. I also got an up date from Reg Robinson. He gave me an up date on the reunion and said he had signed me up for the afternoon tour of Carswell. I have to get a note off to him.

I didn't get to call Bill Collins from Penn. but will get in touch from him soon. to see how things are with him. I wrote another note off to Eng. but no answer yet. I also will get a note of to George Roberts to get an up date on the museum.

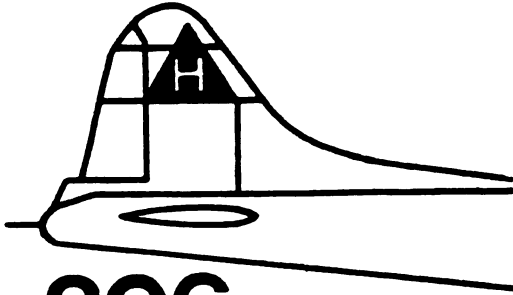
I know this is a hurried note but I wanted to get it to you before you took off on the tour. Am enjoying the gymnasts at the Olympics. I remember seeing the 1976 gymnasts at your house at Akron. It doesn't seem that long ago.

You and your wife have a good trip in Europe. Nell and I really enjoy traveling. We might go with her brother and wife on a tow or three weeks drive thru the West in late Aug and Eadly Sept.

As Ever
R. Depp

P S

I was going to mention inter-loan to John Woolvaugh as getting book but that may cut into the \$ to money making projects



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

1984 Reunion Committee
P. O. Box 16917
Fort Worth, TX 76162

COMMITTEE MEETING 28 June , 1984

Progress report to committee indicated over 300 registered for reunion with 141 attending Carswell afternoon session and 20 in morning session. We have received \$675.00 for FOTE and have 5 golfers registered. Ladies activities for Saturday morning were reviewed and complete. Displays, registration, office activities, transportation, golf tournament, ticket events and General Dynamics tours are on schedule.

A number of items will be available for our attendees in the reunion office including bronze etchings of B-17's, 306th Key chain emblems, caps, jackets, patches and pictures of B-17's. Brigadier General Regis Urschler will have a P-51 from 55th Fighter Group, 343rd Fighter Squadron at Northampstead, England in 1944 colors at our reunion. We will continue to check on getting a B-17.

We received a suggesting and approved a ceremony for all former P.O.W.'s of the 306th.

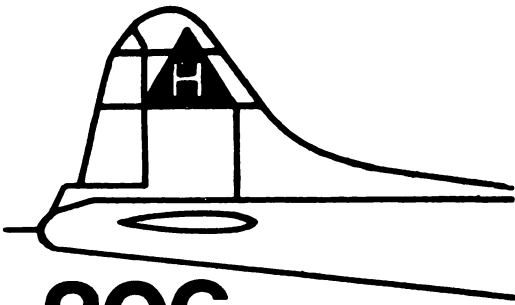
Bill Collins informed us that Bill Elloit will be taking pictures during reunion same as in Omaha.

Committee approved a Memorial Service for recently deceased Snuffy Smith, the first CMOH awardee in 8th AF.

We Discussed the possibility of having a magazine with pictures of reunion published after reunion. No decision made.

Discussed sending special invitations to former 306ers encouraging them to attend. We will proceed with this further.

Next meeting set for 9 August at 11:30 at Green Oaks.



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Oct 3, 1984

Dear Russ -

In closed is some material I received
concerning 306th activities.

Bob Seelas letter supported Warren Wilson
on the Boling affair.

Jack Munin letter has some merit on
a stone at Wright Pat. A F Museum.

I talked to Bill Collins - Monday AM
before 8 - cheaper rates. He sure got turned off
at the 8th he has resigned from the Board +
isn't going to L.A. He said not many ^{306th} had
signed for 8th. Seelas + John McKee were playing
golf but Al LaChasse + Frank Yausse were coming
to Ft Worth.

Things are OK. here - trying to get caught up
on lawn etc. Will try to call you on the 13/14 Oct
Week end -

Until

Ralph.



306th BOMB GROUP HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

An Association formed to commemorate the history of the 306th Bomb Group of the U.S. Army
8th Air Force and the achievements of its personnel based at Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England 1942-45.

14 Pavenham Road
Oakley Bedford.

England MK43 7 SY

August 31st 1984

Dear Ralph and Nell

Couldnt beleive it when we got your letter that you had replied before we wrote to you. ha ha. but anyway glad that you both are well and getting you affairs sorted out. No we didnt see that film Those fine young men but heard about it from Hollis Baker said it was a good film will have to see it when we come there we are really looking forward to our trip now we have the tickets and we leave here on the 17th of Oct Flight No 99 via Pan Am. into Miami. we shall stay with Dick Amato then go to see Bert Perlmutter and then fly to Ft Worth on the 23rd see you all then hope to bring news of the Museum with us and of course all the news from this end from all the gang here. Really dont know what is happening via the tour from the US next year via the opening of the museum there is a lot to do this end tying up loose ends. and getting things sorted out we have gotten another building as the other one was too big and would have cost the earth to run and keep going for perpetuality we have to think on those lines as the money wont be forthcoming for ever for this project we shall talk about this when we get there at some sort of meeting with everybody so that we should get everyones views and not just a fews views on this subject. We know that there is money there that was left over from the Memorial but again this wont last for ever and a thing like this that will be dedicated for ever will have to be looked after in the years to come and the futuere. Anyway enough of that till we get there we have had loads of visitors here this last few weeks and they have all had a ball. Don Medonald and his wife. Wilson Elliot and his wife. 306th Alan Sternberg and his wife no relation to the 306th but a Glenn Miller fan. then Paul Gaudette and his wife from Tucson a bookseller who we deal with, Then we had a guy turn up who was stationed at Sharnbrook so we couldnt leave him on his own. then we had Dave Wheeler and his wife so you can see we keep pretty busy busy all the time. Lloyd has passed all his exams from colledge for farm agricultural machinery and he works hard its now 11oclock at night and he has just come home from work they are on harvest

go down when they go back to short time in a couple of weeks. We do not do the Lakenheath shows anymore or the big shows because of the importance of the collection of militaria we have. we do not want to lose anything and as you know the cartage of stuff about we could lose one or two articles and that would be a terrible thing if we lost one peice so we limit what we do. We are going to Lakenheath on the 13th of Sept as the BBC are doing a film documentary on the Glenn Miller film and the life of Glenn and they are reconstructing the hangar scene where the band played in the hangar and we are all extras in our uniforms we are also supplying half the top notch officers with WW2 gear so should be a good night wll let you know all the news later when weve done it.

Weather here has been awfully hot this last few weeks no rain at all for 10 weeks we have had feild fires and grass fires. we have so many apples on our trees this year that if we dont get them picked and sold before we come to the U S A we shall have carpets on the floor when we return. the plums are many anyway so guess Ill have stomach ache before long eating them. The gang here are OK all send their love Have called Bill Collins twice he does not seem to be there someone answers the phone but its not him have not heard from him in a long time we are awaiting the Echoes now. hope its a bit more newsy we keep sending pictures to Bert for print bu they never seem to get in the Echoes. hope Nell is wellll give her our love also give our love to the Levys dont ever hear from them now

Keep well and will write again before leaving if there is anything you want let us know before we come OK

All our love

Connie Gordon and Lloyd

Connie Gordon & Lloyd
XXX

When Wilson Elliott was here he filmed Madrugly this year Cambridge Memorial day. will show it in Ft Worth. it will be good for those that havent been there to see what happen. it was a beautiful day two ex 306th Vets laid our wreath on behalf of the 306th BGM anyway wont tell you too much because youll see the film. We had Elliott here for 3 or 4 days they enjoyed our hospitality.
XXX

Dear Ralph,

Just a note to let you know that I plan to attend both reunions this year so I hope I'll see you at one or both.

I've enclosed an article about the 50th anniversary of the B-17 that might interest you. I understand that the 15th AF ~~Boys~~ Boys plan to be here to help celebrate. See you soon

Sincerely

Wane

Don Brannon

Museum of Flight

WIDE WORLD



Viewed from inside, the Great Gallery will offer an array of aircraft and space exhibits in a glassed-in building the size of a football field and six stories high.

"We're off to a good start, and I have little doubt we will become an important attraction to Seattle visitors and take our place in Seattle's heritage," says Howard Lovering, director of the Museum of Flight. Visitors drive, pedal, and some even fly right to the front door. Why, Douglas "Wrong Way" Corrigan made a visit in July! The young museum already boasts of guests from all over the world. That's not bad for a facility that just opened its doors last September. Visitors come as individuals and in groups, and they range from oldsters, nostalgic over the stick-and-wire days, to wide-eyed kids who do not yet realize that they, too, will have a part in aerospace.

Even before the tourist season began and the air shows started, visitors to the Museum of Flight averaged 10,000 a month. As a result, the Museum of Flight is nearly self-sustaining, with operational revenues meeting more than 80% of its operating costs. "We're proud of that," says Lovering, explaining that 50% is normal for most American museums. The largest income source is admissions, followed closely by gift-shop sales, then membership fees and other income such as conference room rental fees.

The Museum of Flight is an independent entity, a world-class flight museum that has close ties to Boeing. Located on East Marginal Way at the southwest corner of Boeing Field and on the very same land where, in 1910, one C.K. Hamilton made the first airplane flight in Seattle, the Museum of Flight facilities are dominated by the "Red Barn," Boeing's original factory built in 1909. The Red Barn was transplanted from the banks of the Duwamish River and painstakingly restored for its new use: telling the story of aeronautical development from the first balloon ascension 200 years ago.

From a historical standpoint, the museum is well stocked and growing. New material comes in at the rate of about two dozen items a day, reports curator Vic Seely. What is lacking is a place to display them. The refurbished Red Barn contains scores of exhibits, and hundreds of additional items are stored in archives across the nation awaiting construction of new display facilities.

Expansion Plans

In order to display these planes and new features in an appropriate environment and out of the weather, museum supporters are conducting a nationwide campaign to raise \$26 million to build the "Great Gallery." This will be a glassed-in facility the size of a football field and six stories high. The gallery will contain 25 to 30 planes, space equipment still to be obtained, and a variety of aerospace products and displays. It will highlight the Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress of World War II fame.

The addition, adjacent to present facilities, will include other galleries, an auditorium, library, conference rooms, more space for archives, a restaurant, and an observation deck overlooking Boeing Field.

Fundraising

Boeing Chairman T Wilson is leading the funding drive that is supported by national committees led by top people in several fields. Committees include Boeing employees (who have nearly reached the \$5 million goal for employee pledges), the financial community, professional groups, the aerospace community (companies and suppliers), and foundations. Each committee has specific funding goals

and methods of generating support. The professional committee, for example, is sponsoring a pro-amateur celebrity golf tournament in Seattle this summer. Among the players will be former President Gerald Ford and top professionals on tour.

A variety of other fundraising measures are being conducted across the country. Within Boeing, both the Seattle Professional Engineering Employees Association and the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, Lodge 751, have endorsed the Great Gallery. Lovering says the funding drive is expertly planned and documented. "The Boeing management influence is present and the campaign is being conducted in the same manner as a major Boeing program," he says. As of July 1, some \$9.2 million, or 35% of the goal, had been received or pledged. Plans call for Great Gallery construction to begin next summer, with early site preparation work to begin this fall.

In addition, 9,000 supporters of the museum have joined the foundation as dues-paying members. Supporters of the museum view it as much more than a repository of historical artifacts and a place for nostalgia; it is seen as an investment in the future.

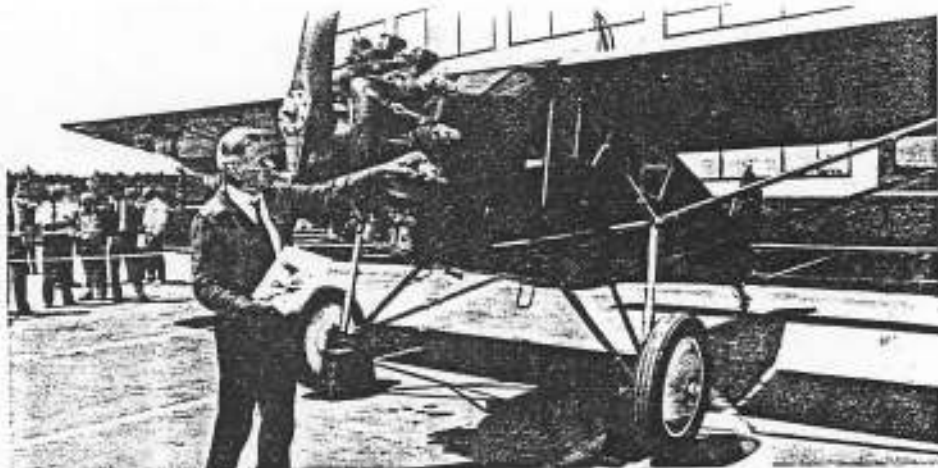
"One of the areas in which our country still leads is aerospace technology," Lovering says, adding that to maintain that edge requires a continuing flow of bright, capable youth into the technical world.

Education and Inspiration

Looking ahead, Lovering says, "We want this museum still to be operating 100 years from now." Fitting into this goal is the educational program of the museum. Two or three school buses a

day roll up to the museum doors, spilling out energetic young people whose interests and careers are being shaped by what they observe early in life. "We want to reach these kids early for motivation and awareness," says Lovering. During the first 9 months of operation, more than 13,000 elementary and secondary students participated in tours and/or classroom experiences at the museum. Education director Georgia Franklin and her assistants reached another 6,000 at their schools.

In museum classrooms and demonstration labs, students are introduced to aeronautics, space, and technology in general. The kids are able to assemble and disassemble components of a small airplane; try on flight garments; study models; and learn the rudiments of design, structure, and basic aerodynamics. Franklin is aided by an assistant and 30 volunteers. In addition, Boeing technical people and a NASA representative make presentations.



Douglas "Wrong Way" Corrigan describes the Curtiss Robin he flew from New York to Dublin in 1938. Corrigan was at the Museum of Flight in July to help dedicate the museum's Robin replica, shown here. Now 77 years old, Corrigan still claims his unauthorized transatlantic flight was caused by a malfunctioning compass—he really wanted to go to California.

"We at the museum feel that by tying the romance of aviation history to the excitement of air and space travel in the future, we can help generate real enthusiasm for the world of technology among

those who are choosing careers," Lovering says. "That can provide rewarding jobs for them, build a pool of resources for technology, and help the United States stay competitive." ■

Next year, in July 1985, the 50th anniversary of the Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress—one of World War II's most famous airplanes—will be celebrated in Seattle, its birthplace. The 3-day birthday party will honor the people who designed and built the planes and were involved with them during the B-17's distinguished history.

The Flying Fortress became known worldwide for the vital part it played in helping to win World War II and as the airplane that came back many times "on a wing and a prayer" after fierce battles in the thin, cold air high over the world's battle zones.

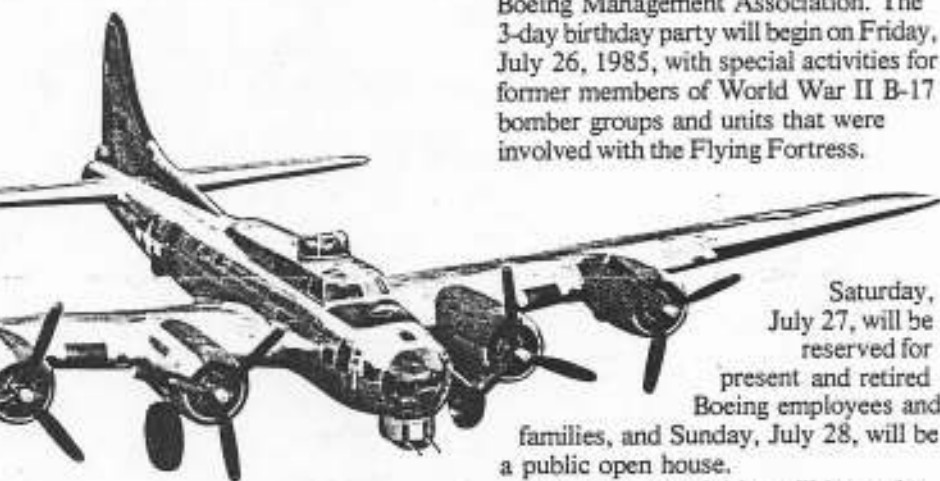
This bit of history started on July 28, 1935, when the Boeing 299—the grandfather of the B-17—first lifted

off from Boeing Field.

This company-funded prototype was a one-of-a-kind test airplane built for the Army Air Corps' competition to design the "bomber of the future." The prototype was lost just 3 months later in an accident during testing at Dayton, Ohio, but in that short time had proved the concept for bombers of the future.

During a period with a world largely at peace and money for defense difficult to find, 13 YB-17's were ordered early in 1936 for further tests (even though the

Celebration Planned for 50th Anniversary of the Flying Fortress



Boeing 299 had not won the Army bomber competition). A further small order for improved B-17's was placed in 1938, followed by small orders for even later versions, the B-17C and B-17D, in 1940.

It was not until 1941, with Europe embroiled in war, that the first large order was placed for the big bomber—510 B-17E's. So great and urgent was the growing need for this vital new bomber that a production pool was formed to combine the manufacturing capabilities

of Boeing, Douglas, and Lockheed for mass production of the Flying Fortress. By the end of the war, the three manufacturers had produced 12,726 Flying Fortresses.

The Flying Fortress' 50th anniversary commemoration in Seattle is being sponsored by The Boeing Company and the Boeing Management Association. The 3-day birthday party will begin on Friday, July 26, 1985, with special activities for former members of World War II B-17 bomber groups and units that were involved with the Flying Fortress.

Saturday, July 27, will be reserved for present and retired Boeing employees and families, and Sunday, July 28, will be a public open house.

All of these activities will be at the Museum of Flight. Many special displays are planned to feature the Flying Fortress and its history. One or more flyable B-17's are expected to be on hand, along with other historic aircraft. Many famous people who made history with the B-17 are being invited to attend the 3-day celebration.

As plans progress, additional details will be announced. ■



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

1984 Reunion Committee
P. O. Box 16917
Fort Worth, TX 76162

SEPT. 10, 1984

HELLO RUSG,

HERE IS LATEST LIST CONTAINING 238 NAMES. MOST ARE FORMER 306ERS WITH A FEW WIDOWS, ASSOCIATE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS. WITH A 90% RATIO OF SPOUSES COMING WE SHOULD HAVE APPROXIMATELY 450 REGISTRANTS.

PLEASE EMPHAASIZE THAT THIS LIST (ENCLOSED) DOES NOT INCLUDE SPOUSES. ALL 306ERS THAT MADE RESERVATIONS FOR SPOUSES AND FRIENDS, ALSO FAMILY MEMBERS, ARE IN ORDER AND OK. AGAIN STATE ALL RESERVATIONS REQUESTED ARE OK. ENCLOSED RESERVATIONS AND REGISTRATIONS ARE COMPLETE (RECIEVED IN FORT WORTH) AS OF SEPT. 11, 1984.

ABOUT OCT. 1, 1984 A STATUS AND INFORMATION LETTER WILL BE MAILED TO ALL REGISTRANTS. THE LETTER WILL INDICATE STATUS OF REGISTRATION, TICKETS, HOTEL, POW, CARSWELL TIME, GOLF AND OTHER INFORMATION REQUESTED. ALSO ENCLOSED WILL BE A SHEET SHOWING SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS ON 306TH FURNISHED TRANSPORTATION FOR OCT 25 AND OCT 28. ALSO INFORMATION ON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION.

PLEASE CONSIDER ADDING THESE ITEMS:

1. ALL FORMER POW'S WHO HAVE NOT NOTIFIED US PLEASE DO SO AND REGISTER AS AN EX POW AT REGISTRATION
2. ALL GOLFERS SHOULD ARRIVE ON 24TH TO PLAY ON 25TH
3. FOTE CONTRIBUTIONS ARE STILL NEEDED AND ACCEPTED
4. ALL CANCELLATIONS WILL BE REFUNDED

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

1984 Reunion Committee
P. O. Box 16917
Fort Worth, TX 76162

5. REGISTRATION INCLUDES SPOUSE



A DIVISION OF TMS

14 September 1984

RE: 306th BG - England, 1985

Ralph Bordner,
President,
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Dear Ralph,

I've owed you a letter for a long time; but find it difficult to write to you as a friend from Victorville - without trying to become businesslike with the open suggestion for your 306th Group to travel back to Thuleigh with me as an escort and Galaxy Tours paying the bills along the happy way.

I hope that you will remain in office as the 306th President for another year; to make the above suggestion - more likely to happen. However; I notice that your 1984 Reunion is scheduled for 22 October next in San Antonio, TX. Can it be that you may be re-elected for another term in office?

Like you, perhaps; I get a lot of letters from different organizations each week and I'd like to share some of the copies enclosed with you.

We are living through a period which dates back some 40 years ago for me. (and for you) In that, we both flew our combat missions during the summer, fall and winter of 1944 - now it's '84. Gosh, those memories are still very vivid in my crazy head!

Seriously, Ralph - your Group has done the Tamarac experience; now try the professionals at Galaxy Tours. I, rather; we will do all of the work with flyers, reservations, air ticketing, etc. and etc. - and I would be pleased to offer YOU a complete free trip from Chicago for each group of 40 persons or more that you recruit!

We've done this for more than 24 years, Ralph and have made tremendous strides with our British counterparts in the UK; due to the large number of different types of Army, Air Force, Armored, Paratrooper, Navy and other veteran groups that have traveled with Galaxy successfully in the past. How 'bout it; ole buddy? Let's go!

Please call me some day on our toll free number listed below. I really would like to take the 306th back to England; even those who traveled last time will note the big difference in the two tour operators.

Meanwhile; I hope that you and the family keep well. Haven't seen you for a long while; but remain ready to help you and the 306th with a return next year. Why not invite me to your Texas Reunion; so I can make a serious presentation to your Board of Directors? Think it over, Ralph and know that it would be my pleasure to help you guys - anytime.

All the best and sincerely,

Paul Chryst (91st BG, Bassingbourn)
Vice President

306th BGr

Zuidwolde (Gr.) 8071, Netherlands,
8 April, 1974

Dear Paul,

Thank you for your photograph of 42-3111, the B-17 which crashed on 27 September 1943 in the vicinity of Delfzijl.

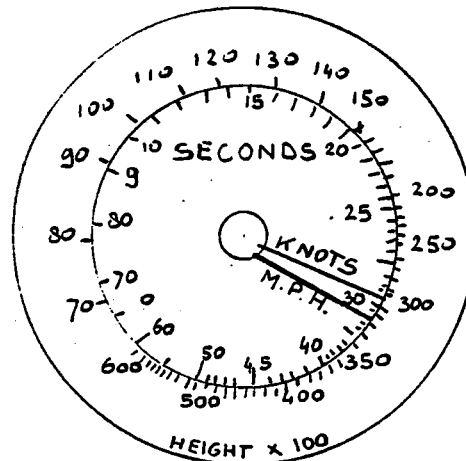
Last week I send my payment for membership 1975 of the 91st Bomb Group Memorial Association Inc. by International Money Order to the address: P.O. Box 909, Auburn, Alabama 36830. In your previous letter you wrote that I could make my payment to you, but sometimes things go wrong.

Herebelow I write down the crashes of USAAF-aircraft, which occurred during WW II in the province (county) of Groningen, Netherlands.

B-17		94th BGr	21 May 1943	
B-17F	42-3110	95th BGr	21 May 1943	
B-17F	42-5390	303rd BGr	25 June 1943	
B-17F		BGr	25 June 1943	
B-17F	42-30156(423 ⁴⁹)	306th BGr	26 July 1943	{ came over from Bodmer list 6423
B-17F	42-30032	384th BGr	28 July 1943	"Sky Queen"
P-47C	41-6199	56th BGr	27 September 1943	
B-17F	42-3111	91st BGr	27 September 1943	"Local Girl"
B-17		BGr	8 October 1943	
P-47D	42-7911	4th BGr	8 October 1943	
B-17F	42-3531	305th BGr	26 November 1943	
B-17F	42-30667	390th BGr	11 December 1943	
B-17F	42-30816	385th BGr	11 December 1943	
B-17G	42-39859	94th BGr	11 December 1943	
B-17F	42-31020	388th BGr	11 December 1943	
B-17F	42-30418	94th BGr	11 December 1943	
B-17G	42-39768(367 ⁴⁹)	306th BGr	13 December 1943	Wesley Brinkley crew
B-24H	42-7613	446th BGr	22 December 1943	
P-51B	43-12197	354th FG	15 April 1944	
B-17F	42-39786	381st BGr	3 March 1944	
B-17			24 May 1944	

(over)

I like very much to contact the Memorial Associations of the 95th, 381st and 390th Bombardment Groups. Especially ex-members of 390th BGr are interesting, for in autumn 1973 and 1974 after the harvest I was able to make an excavation and found little parts, serial numberplates of certain instruments and much scrap. Herebelow I make a sketch of a dial, which I also found. May be you can indentify the instrument, I think it is the dial of the bombardiers's computer, but of course I am not certain.



Attached is the xerox of the Missing Air Crew Report of the B-17 42-3111, "Local Girl", which came down on 27th September 1943 in the vicinity of Delfzijl, Netherlands, during a raid on Emden.

I hope once to receive a manufacturer's nameplate of a B-17, but I am afraid that I have little chance to find such a plate in the bottom, for the Germans were there also enthusiastically looking after during the war.

Hoping to hear soon again from you, I remain

Sincerely,


Klaas Niemeijer

Klaas Niemeijer
Sickinghestraat 2
Zuidwolde (Gr.) 8071
Netherlands

Thank you for your interesting letter which dusted off memories of my participation in the 2nd World War.

Perhaps I can answer a few of your questions. My combat flying was with the famed United States Eighth Air Force, first as a pilot and Flight Commander in the 369th "Fitin' Bitin' " Squadron, 306th Bombardment Group. Later I flew with the 324th "Klette's Wild Hares" Squadron, which I commanded and which was in the 91st Bombardment Group which I later commanded. We flew B-17E, B-17F, B-17G, and B-17H aircraft -- Flying Fortresses. My number of missions totaled 91 at war's end, which was a record for B-17 pilots in the European Theater of Operations.

Many of those missions stand out in my memory, such as:

- The March 1943 mission to bomb the German submarine manufacturing capability at Vegasack. This was led by Curt LeMay, and the bombardier, Jack Mathis was killed seconds after he uttered "Bombs Away".
- The first mission to bomb the ball bearing complex at Schweinfurt, Germany. We lost 59 aircraft on that one in August 1943.
- The mission which I led to Ludwigshafen, Germany in 1944 which put the I.G. Farben Chemical Company out of business.
- The mission in 1944 to Merseberg-Leuna where I led over 2000 bombers and over 1000 fighter escorts. We were scheduled to bomb at 27,000 feet but weather at that altitude was atrocious so I took the force down to 17,000 feet. Needless to say the flak was most intense, but we did more damage to the German synthetic fuel industry on that mission than any other. My boss, Jimmy Doolittle, personally commended the 8th AF for that effort.

8-9 SEPT 44

21 NOV. 44

My fervent hope has been that we learn something from the history of wars, namely, that it is so much better to talk out world problems than to fight over them. I was more fortunate than many of my comrades who did not return from the war.

All Best Wishes,

I. J. Klette
I. J. Klette

WWII bomber pilot a hero in Holland

John Bruce, a logistics engineer on TADS/PNVS, is a master of understatement.

In recollecting the sunny morning of July 30, 1943, he said simply, "Things seem to be going from bad to worse real fast."

Indeed.

Bruce and the rest of the 10-member crew of his "Flying Fortress" B-17 bomber had just completed a bombing run on a munitions plant in Germany when flak knocked out an engine, crippling his plane. Copilot Bruce watched as the rest of the U.S. 8th Air Force formation left him and his companions behind as they sped towards home base in Basingbourn, England.

As the bomber limped across the sky of German-occupied Holland, suddenly Bruce spotted two German FW-190s. Like sharks picking off a straggler, they closed in for the kill.

Another engine was hit. A tail gunner screamed, and fire erupted in the bomb bay area and raced towards the cockpit. Out of control, the plane began to plummet in a spiral, smoking.

Pilot Keene C. McCammon ordered the crew to bail out.

When Bruce jumped, his arm caught in the shroud lines of his parachute. He tried to untangle it, but couldn't. Pain stabbed his shoulder.

Then the FW-190s returned - this



CREW MEMBERS of the 323 Squadron of the 91st Bomb Group, U.S. 8th Air Force, gather in front of their WWII B-17 for what was to be their last time together. Lt. John P. Bruce (fourth from left), now a logistics engineer for TADS/PNVS, could not have known that he and the pilot would be the only survivors of a bombing mission over Holland a few days later.

time to strafe his comrades as they dangled helplessly from their parachutes. The bombardier, Dan Ohman, was unharmed but the bullets penetrated his chute, ripping it. He fell like a stone through the thatched roof of a farmhouse, and died. Of the 10-member crew, only Bruce and McCammon survived.

"I didn't see the other crew members getting strafed," said Bruce. "That was happening away from me. And my shoulder was hurting, and I was wondering where I was going to land. In a situation like that, your attention is diverted elsewhere."

Landing in the Dutch town of Varik, near Opijnen, Bruce blacked out. When he regained consciousness, he discovered he had injured his knee.

Staunchly anti-Nazi, the farmers of Opijnen ran out to the fields to check the burning wreckage of the plane for

survivors. They knelt beside the bodies of the fliers, searching for signs of life. Irritated Nazi officials sent a hail of bullets over their heads, sending the villagers scrambling into nearby irrigation ditches for cover.

Captured by the Nazis, Bruce and McCammon spent the remainder of the war in Nazi prisoner-of-war-camps.

Ordinarily, the story would end here. But this one does not.

The people of Opijnen, regarding the fallen Americans as their would-be liberators, requested special permission from Berlin to bury the bodies in the little farming village. They gathered the remains and lifted them into a horse-drawn farm wagon. They buried the eight fliers in the place of honor: within the walled cemetery next to Opijnen's 17th-century Dutch Reformed Church.

On May 30, traditional American

Memorial Day, the fallen liberators are honored by a memorial service, a fly-over, and the singing of the Star Spangled Banner. In past services, over 107 Dutch school children have filed past the graves, placing wreaths and bouquets of flowers on them. This past year, in honor of the 40th anniversary of the tragedy, the American Women's Club of Amsterdam invited John Bruce and Keene McCammon to attend the ceremony in Holland.

Addressing the dignitaries and villagers assembled at Opijnen this year, P. D. Bruijn, pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church, summed up the feelings of his community when he wrote,

"The dead can no longer speak, but they do have a message for us. They fell, that we should be able to stand. Their lives ended,

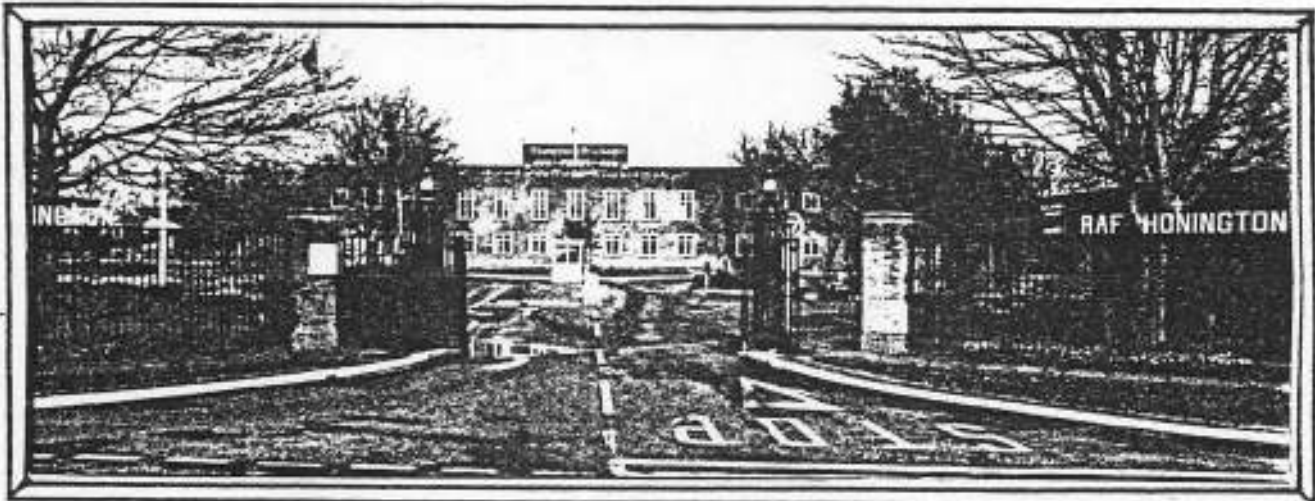
May 1983

as time goes by

Some time ago, a group survey indicated a large number of 1st SAD members were seriously interested in our FIRST group return to England scheduled for next September 18-25, just a few short months away. Today, we proudly boast (20) persons who hold confirmed reservations on this fun-filled trip into the past. BUT we're still concerned about YOU - because we've had no response since then.

Perhaps some of these tour highlights will re-stir your immediate interest:

- scheduled air carrier flights from convenient Gateway cities in the USA
- deluxe hotel accommodations, Royal Lancaster, London and Gonville Hotel, Cambridge
- London panoramic city tour, with professional guide on private coach throughout tour
- special visit, RAF Hendon Museum with Buffet Dinner, cash bar and entertainment
- 'free time' London for optional tours, shopping and/or more sight-seeing.
- "Welcome Party" first night of arrival with Tour Manager's briefing
- Lunch and Lager in a 400 year old country Pub enroute
- IWM, Duxford visit with all it has to offer
- Official Reception visit - RAF HONINGTON - with plaque presentation, etc.
- invitational visit to the Duke of Grafton Estate
- walk tours through beautiful CAMBRIDGE Colleges and lovely city, markets, shops
- impressive wreath laying service at American Military Cemetery, Madingley
- Hotel "Farewell Dinner" celebration, before departure to the USA - or - extend your stay in the U.K. or Europe on your own and return independently.
- Mayoral Reception planned - Bury St. Edmunds Town Hall



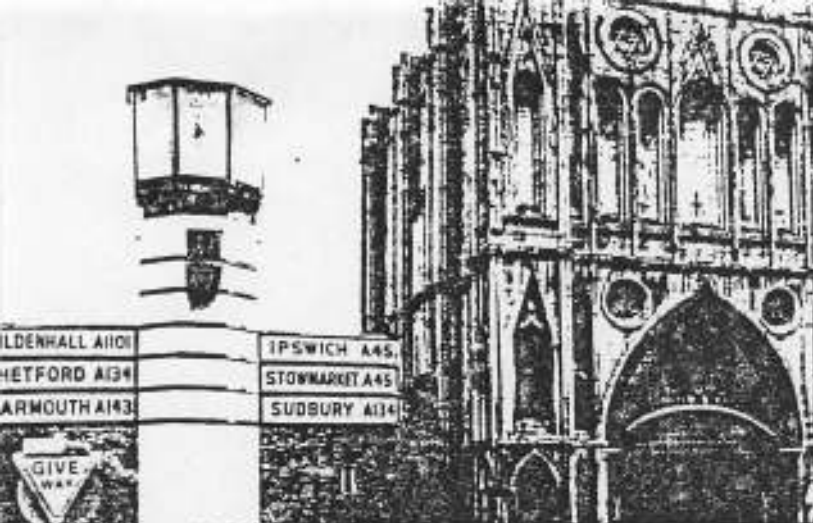
This is HONINGTON in April 1983 - where YOU once served; some 40 years ago.

Don't YOU long to join with your friends to see it again - one more time? Air space, hotel and tour reservations are still available; but YOU must re-act NOW. So please sign-up TODAY. You'll be glad you did get started on 'this trip of a lifetime'!

DEADLINE TO ASSURE CONFIRMED SPACE IS 6 WEEKS BEFORE DEPARTURE = August 7, 1983

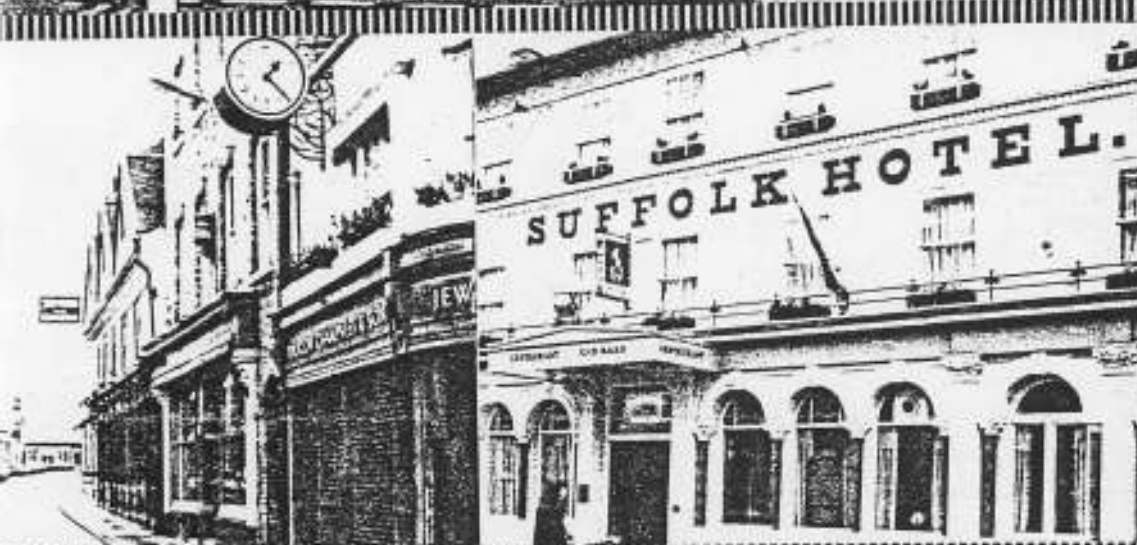
the GALAXY TOURS STAFF

GALAXY TOURS, 600 DeKalb Pike, Suite 235 - Mailing Address: P.O. Box 326 - King of Prussia, PA 19406, USA
Telephone: (215) 265-2778 / (800) 523-7287 - Telex: 84-6116



ILDENHALL A101
HETFORD A19
ARMOUTH A193
GIVE WAY

IPSWICH A45
STOWMARKET A45
SUDBURY A134



Sapiston 1/2 →

← R.A.F. Honington

A1088 EUSTON 3
THETFORD 6

IXWORTH 3
STOWMARKET 15 A1088

come along & join the fun



Chapter 18

An American Airman's Prayer

Dear God, please listen as I begin my prayer to You. As I start, I do not find it difficult to express my thoughts. Phrases of truth, constructed in my mind, easily find their way through my heart and on to You.

Bless us, Lord and Savior, not only we men in this bomber; but every man up here in Your cold blue backyard of clouds. We're climbing now; higher and higher to the sun, feeling more and more Your Holy presence.

Slowly, but steadily, we continue to approach enemy territory. Here we ask for guidance . . . as well as forgiveness. Please, dear God, help steer us through the flak-filled course in and out. Protect us in this vast sky en route and from the enemy fighters who lie in wait, like unto the tiger stalking his prey in the jungle.

Forgive us also, for what we are about to do; the spreading of death, horror and destruction among a people . . . forced by crazed leaders to continue a war of bloodshed, hunger, disease and continual strife.

God grant Thy loving kindness and grace that someday soon we may all return to our homes and loved ones. Those who are single to their girls and sweethearts; those of us who are married to our wives, waiting in anxiety and patience; those who have neither, but yearn for the guardian love of a mother or father; those who have no parents or friends, but yearn, fight, and die for a Nation that will live forever for freedom, justice and equality.

Some of us, it is true, may not be so fortunate to come back. But we who are still left to carry on the struggle know that they have not died in vain . . . that their souls and spirits will shine brightly in the heavens at night . . . watching over us who remain to lead the struggle onward to final victory.

Humble and insignificant as we may appear now, high in this unfriendly sky above the crazy patchwork quilt of enemy soil below us; we do solemnly ask that Thou grant us . . . this prayer of an American airman.

Amen.

(From the original pencilled copy written by Lt. Paul Chryst, Bombardier, 91st Bomb Group's Fortress Time's A'Wastin', on the back of his Flight Log Book while en route to the primary target of Merseburg, Germany, 2 November 1944).

*Copied from
Target: Munster
by Ian Hawkins*

14 Sep 84

Dear Ralph:

Been meaning to write but had an emergency trip to the Hosp. Between pancreas & gall bladder stayed a couple of weeks. All OK now and recovering at home. Dr. just let me start to drive again.

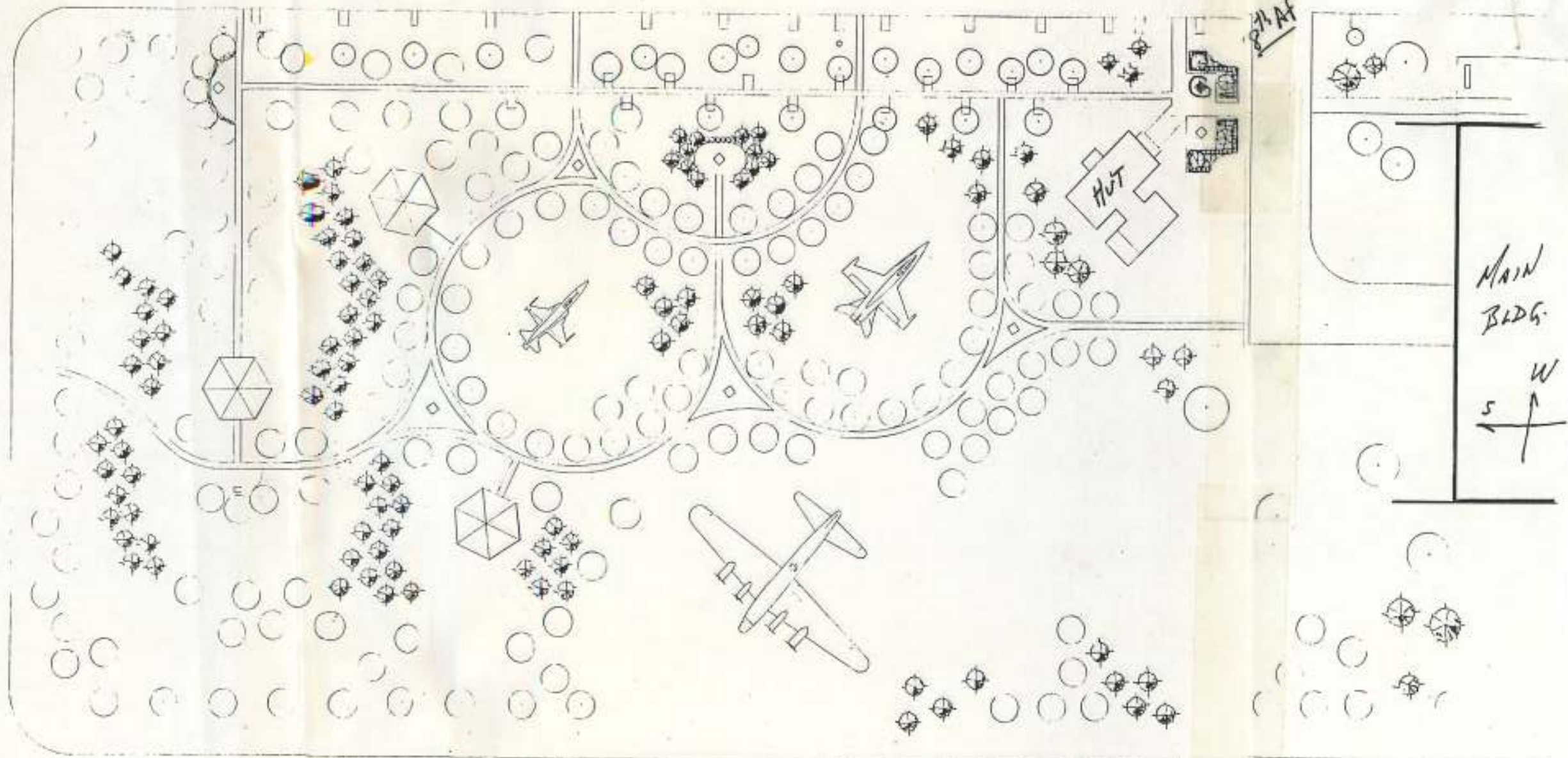
Two things you might want to discuss with Executive Committee prior to Reunion.

1) Memorial at Museum - attiled plan is now underway. More units are coming in. Think 306th should consider something in the next year. We would have better selection of sites. Cost still \$1000 - 1500 for base, plaque & tree. I will pick up more detail.

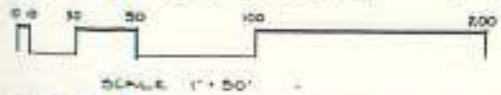
2) New Bldg now just about assured for 1985. at Museum. 306th should make some donation to the Bldg fund. - Large or small.

Ruth & I still plan to be a reunion. Drs have said all looks good. Will send additional info as available.

Museum is to get new 17 - Shoo Shoo Baby - combined w/c in restoration at Dover. -
As Ever
Auch



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE MUSEUM - WPAFB



Books referred by Russell Strong

1. Schweinfurt & Regensburg Mission

by Martin Middlebrook- Scribners NY 1983

Leased from Principia College,

2. Point of No Return

by Wilbur H. Morrison. New York Times Book, 1983

Leased from State of Illinois Library- Springfield

3. Tibbetts Stroy

By Paul W. Tibbetts -Stien & Day Pub. NY 1978

Leased from Mackinaw TWP Library Mackinaw, Ill. 61751

4. The Peenemunde Raid -The Night of 17-78 Aug 1943

By Martin Middlebrook

This Edition Pub 1983-Bobbs-Merrill Co

Indianapolis-New York

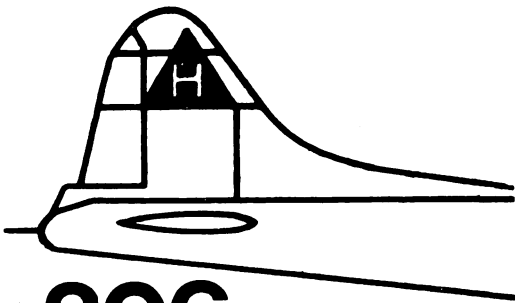
First Eng. Ed Pub in 1982 by Allen Lane

Penquin Books Ltd, London SW 10 0uh

Leased from Command & General Staff College

Combined Arms Research Library

Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, 66027



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

15 Oct 1984

Dear Russ;

Just a short note to accompany John Ryans comments and suggestions to the by-laws you had suggested earlier. He really went ~~in~~ more detail than I did on suggested changes. I tried to re-type them with his suggestions inserted. I may have missed a few points or have added a few that were not included. Maybe you ^{can} ~~have to~~ add to the by-laws.

He definitely has firm ideas on the importance of the officers of the association and also the position of the executive committees and Board of Directors in the command structure.

I am agreement with a firm agenda that will cut down on the town meeting effect when everyone wants to get his two cents in on the meeting, like Bert Perulmuter etc. As soon as we get there we can get together and set a time for the agenda talks.

I will probably be leaving the area on Monday, getting there late Wed or early Thurs. I will probably give you a call sometime this week end. I also checked with the Ill National Guard Assoc. and ~~came~~ came up with some ideas of meeting places in the Chicago area. I am forwarding the info to Bob Starzynski.

Say did you ever find a picture of the 368th Squadron Office. I have a couple that are not too good and will bring them to the reunion to give you an ideas of the Bldg.

*Thanks for comments
but etc.*

*Until later
Ralph*

11 Oct 84

Chama NMex.

Dear Ralph -

I'm sorry I haven't been able to get to this set of By-laws sooner but I've been up to my butt with a B-47 Bomb Wing Revision of which I was a one-man committee and which was perhaps larger than what we'll have in Ft. Worth. Thank God it's now over.

I've pondered over these by-laws and don't like them one damn bit. They appear to me to be some sort of a deliberate attempt to sabotage the elected officers of the association by dilution of the president's authority, by fragmentation of central control by the creation of an executive committee, and by a self-perpetuating Board of Governors which by its size could negate anything the elected officers wanted to do. I've put my recommendations and suggestions on the attached sheets for your perusal.

I think your tentative agenda needs a meeting of the present "bd of governors" ~~at~~ in advance of the general meeting (perhaps early in the morning of the 17th) to get some concrete proposals to be presented on the floor. There's no point in letting the general meeting degenerate into a town meeting.

That's about it for now. I'll drop this in the mail on my way to the Carson Nat'l forest to cut wood. Again, sorry about being so late.

Best regards,
Jack

a) Title, 310⁰ B G Historical Association.

Art 1, Sect 1: The principal office of The Corporation...

Comment: Contradiction in terminology - Either we're an association or a corporation. Whatever we are should be standardized throughout the text.

b) Art 1, Sect 1: The principal office of The Corporation shall be located at the address of the Secretary of the Corporation.

Comment: Russ Strong may not always be the Secretary. No point in mentioning either his name or address. Keep it flexible to avoid having to amend the By-laws every time we have an election.

c) Art 1, Sect 2: No change

d) Art 1, Sect 2: May be a bit extraneous but I don't object to it. It does have the effect of providing legal status to such elements as the Reunion Committee.

e) Art 2, Sect 1: The officers of The Corporation shall be: President, Vice-president, secretary and Treasurer.

Comment: Agree. Simply recognizes present organization.
(President:)

f) Art. 2, Section 2: ^ Delete "subject to the control of the Board of Directors."

Comment: This statement emasculates the authority of

2

the President. As this paragraph is written it produces management by committee, not centralized direction by the senior elected official. If the statement can't be deleted, it should at the very least be watered down to "with the advice of the Board of Directors."

g) Art II, Sect 2. Same paragraph, last line. Delete "prescribed" and substitute therefor "recommended."
Comment: same as above.

h) Art 2, Sect 2. (Vice-President-Treasurer) second par. Delete "-Treasurer"

i) Art 2, Sect 2. (Vice-President-Treasurer) Third par. Delete "-Treasurer"

j) Art 2, Sect 2. Same par. Delete "at the close of each fiscal year" and substitute "as of thirty days prior to the annual reunion."

Comment: To insure the availability of a current fiscal position to respond to queries during the annual meeting.

k) Art 2, Sect 2. Same par. Delete: "and of change."
Delete: "fiscal year" and substitute "fiscal reporting period" in both places where the term appears. Insert "recommended" between "or" and "by the board of directors" in last line of par.

Comment: Same as in f. above.

(3)

2) Art 2, Sect 2. (Secretary) 4th par. Delete "such directors" in line 8 and substitute "the members of the Board of Directors"

Comment: Can't say such directors when there's been no previous mention of them.

Insert "recommended" between "or" and "by the Board of Directors" in last line.

Comment: Same as in f. above.

3) Art 2, Sect 3. Delete first sentence and substitute therefor "The officers shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Association held in conjunction with the annual reunion."

Comment: Recognizes existing procedure.

Delete in second sentence: "and qualified."

Comment: It doesn't mean anything. If it's left in qualifications for holding office must be spelled out or someone or some committee must be appointed to determine the fitness for office of the elected official.

Delete: Entire last sentence

Comment: Extraneous with recommended change to first sentence.

4) Art III, Sect 1. Delete entire par and substitute:
"General powers. The business and affairs of the Association shall be managed by the President as outlined in Art II, Section 2, assisted by a

4
Board of Directors and such Executive Committees as may be established pursuant to these by-laws."

Comment: Another dilution of the president's authority already spelled out above as to "supervise and control the management of the corporation."

o) Art II, sect 2. Delete entire paragraph and substitute:

"The Board of Directors shall consist of the four officers of the Association, three Directors at large, the chairman of the current reunion committee and the chairman of the previous reunion committee. Directors at large shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Association to serve a three year term with one director elected at each annual meeting.

Comment: We've got to get the reunion chairmen on the Board of Directors to provide continuity in reunion matters and know-how. We also need to hold the numbers down.

p) Art II, sect 3. Insert between "by" and "The Board of Directors" "The President with the advice of."

Comment: More dilution of the President's authority.

q) Art III, sect 4. Strikethrough.

r) Art III, sect 5. Delete in its entirety -

The Executive Committee is the President. Committees do nothing but make camels out of horses!

- s) Art IV, sect 1. Delete "as the Board of Directors may designate" and substitute "at the call of the president"
- t) Art IV, sect 2. Delete in its entirety and substitute:
 "Upon written request from any three members of the Board of Directors, the president will call a special meeting of the Board of Directors."
- u) Art IV, sect 3. 1st par. Delete "may be held without notice" and substitute "will be held in conjunction with the annual reunion of the Association."
 2nd par. Delete in its entirety and substitute:
 "A special meeting of the Board of Directors must be preceded by at least seven days notice by any usual means of communication and such notice must specify the reason for the which the meeting is called"
- v) Art IV, sect 4: Stet.
- w) Art V, sect 1. Delete in its entirety and substitute:
 "All committees shall be appointed by the President with the advice of the Board of Directors."
- x) Art VI, sect 1. Delete "annual" and substitute "regular."
 Add par 2: "All amendments made under this article must be approved by the general membership of the Association conducted in conjunction with the annual reunion."

BY-LAWS
OF
THE 306th BOMB GROUP HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

*with John Ryan's
correction*

ARTICLE I.

- Section 1. Principal Office: The principal office of the Association be in the Secretary office.
- Section 2. *Office report*
- Section 3. *Notice Committee*

ARTICLE II

- Section 1. The officers of the Association shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- Section 2. The duties of the officers shall be:

President: The President shall be the principal officer of the Association and with the advice of the Board of Directors, shall supervise and control the management of the Association in accordance with these by-laws. He shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors. He shall sign, with any other proper officer, any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, or other instruments, which may be lawfully executed on behalf of the Association except where required or permitted by law to be otherwise signed and executed and except where the signing and execution thereof shall be delegated by the Board of Directors to some other officer or agent; and, in general he shall perform all duties incident to the office of President and such other duties as may be recommended by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Vice-President: The Vice-President shall, in the absence or disability of the President, perform the duties and exercise the powers of that office. In addition, he shall perform such other duties and have such other powers as Board of Directors shall prescribe.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have custody of all funds and securities belonging to the Association and shall receive, deposit or disburse the same under the direction of the Board of Directors. He shall keep full and accurate accounts of the finances of the Association in books especially provided for that purpose; and he shall cause a true statement of its assets and liabilities as of thirty days prior to the annual reunion, and of the results of its operation and of changes in surplus of such fiscal reporting period in reasonable detail, including particulars as

to convertible securities then outstanding, to be made and filed at the registered or principal office of the Association within four months after the end of such fiscal reporting period. The Treasurer shall, in general perform all duties incident to his office and such other duties as may be assigned to him from time to time by the president or recommended by the Board of Directors.

Secretary: The Secretary shall keep accurate records of the acts and proceeding of all meetings of the board of directors. He shall give all notices required by law and these by-laws. He shall in general be in charge of the association books and records and of the association seal. and he shall affix the association seal to any lawfully executed instrument requiring it. He shall have general charge of the membership books of the association and shall keep at the registered or principal office of the association a record of the members of Board of Directors, showing the name and address of each director. He shall sign such instruments as may require his signature, and in general, shall perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as may be assigned him from time to time by the President or recommended by the Board of Directors.

Section 3 The officers shall be elected at the Annual meeting of the of the Association held in conjunction with the annual reunion. They shall assume the duties of their office as of election, and shall serve for one year, or until their successors are elected.

Section 4 Any vacancies created by death, resignation or other causes shall be filled by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE III

Directors

Section 1 General Powers; The business and affairs of the Association shall be managed by the President as outlined in Article II, Section 2, assisted by Board of Directors and such Executive Committees as established pursuant to these by-laws.

/ Section 2 The Board of Directors shall consist of the four officers of the Association, Three Directors at large, the chairman of the current reunion committee and the chairman of the previous reunion. Directors at large shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Association to serve three year term with one director elected at each annual meeting.

Section 3 Any vacancies created by death, resignation, or other causes shall be filled by the President with the advice of the Board of Directors.

Section 4 ~~STEP~~ Removal: Directors may be removed from office with or without cause, by a vote of two-thirds of the Board of Directors.

SECTION DELETE

ARTICLE IV

Meetings

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall meet from time to time at the call of the President

Section 2. Upon written request from any three members of the Board of Directors, the President will call a special meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Notice of Meetings: Regular meetings of the Board of Directors will be held in conjunction with the annual reunion of the Association.

A special meeting of the Board of Directors must be preceded by at least seven days notice by any usual means of communication and such notice must specify the reason for the which the meeting is called.

Stet.

Section 4 Stet

ARTICLE V.

Section . All committees shall be appointed by the President with the advice of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI

Section 1 Amendments: Amendments to these by-laws may be made at the regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors, provided that two written notice is given to the Board of Directors.

All amendments made under this article must be approved by the general membership of the Association conducted in conjunction with the annual reunion.

Agenda

Old Business

a. Museum Committee Report

George Robert - USA

Gerden Richards - Eng

b. By-Laws

a. discussion -

b. Election of officers.

OTHER TOPICS

1985 - Reunion:

B-17 - Boeing 50th, Seattle
etc

Museum Tax - Eng.

300th Plaque at Wright Pat
Dayton.

Russ

Martin Middlebrook

*THE
PEENEMÜNDE
RAID*

The Night of 17-18 August 1943

*The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Inc.
Indianapolis / New York*

770
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1007
11

Contents

List of Plates 7

List of Maps 9

Introduction 11

1 Peenemünde - The Sleeping Beauty 14

2 The Foreigners 29

3 The Intelligence Hunt 35

4 Bomber Command Planning 46

5 'Peenemünde? Never heard of it!' 63

6 The North Sea 81

7 The Luftwaffe 86

8 Denmark 102

9 Berlin 109

10 Over the Target 112

11 Under the Bombs 133

12 The Air Battle 154

13 The Homeward Flight 182

14 The Aftermath 192

15 The Reckoning 209

16 The Years that Followed 224

Appendix 1 The Original Bomber Command Operation Order 235

Appendix 2 R.A.F. Operational Performance and Roll of Honour 239

Appendix 3 Luftwaffe Night-Fighter Unit Performances 250

Acknowledgements 253

Bibliography 258

Index 259

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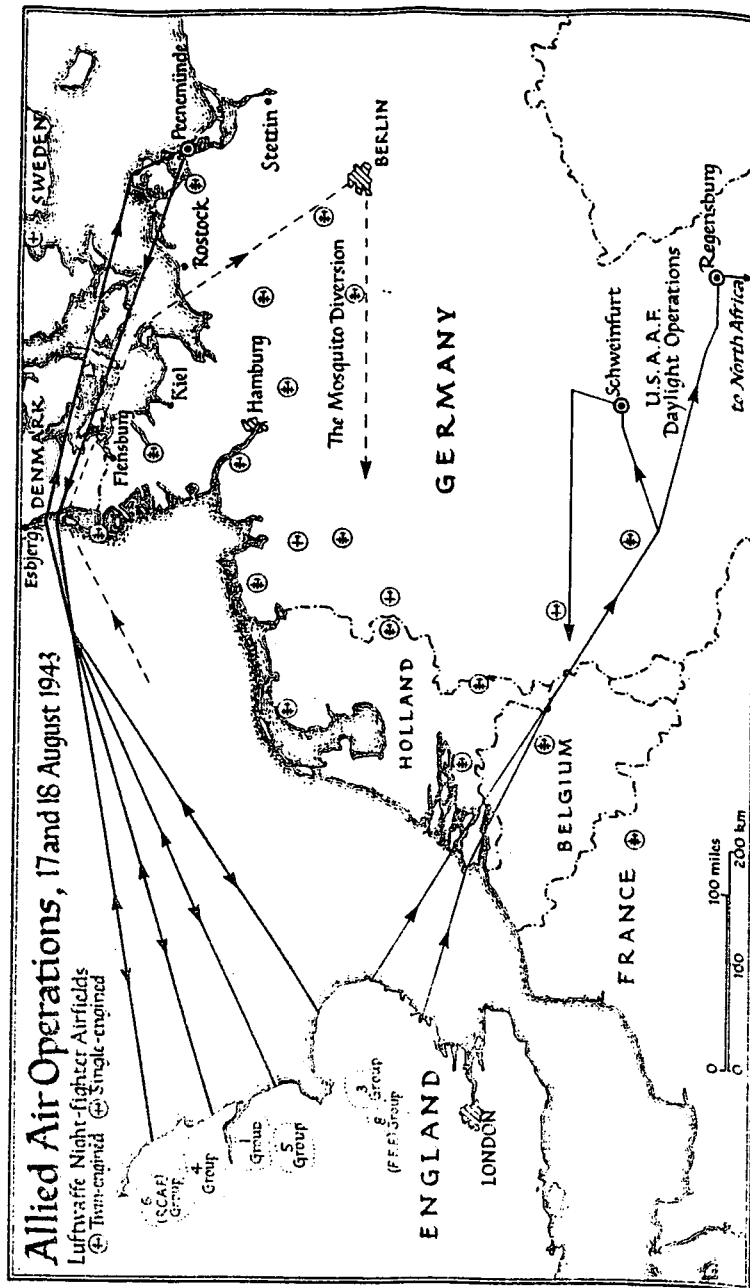
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1. Peenemünde (Germany)—Bombardment, 1943.
 2. World War, 1939-1945—Aerial operations, British.
 3. World War, 1939-1945—Germany (East)—Peenemünde.
- I. Title.

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ISBN 0-672-52759-6



Sweden, only forty miles from the outward route at one point, was a comforting thought in case of aircraft being seriously damaged or suffering mechanical trouble.

The first Pathfinder markers were due to be released at eleven minutes past midnight, R.A.F. time; German time was one hour ahead. The Main Force would start bombing four minutes later, and their attack was to last for forty minutes. As has been said, the targets were three separate areas of Peenemünde, known as 'Aiming Points' in tactical parlance; the three attacks on them were called 'waves'.

The manner and order in which the three Aiming Points were to be dealt with posed several problems and had obviously been the subject of much thought. Bomber Command normally attacked downwind, so that the wind would blow smoke away both from the Aiming Point and from its approaches. At Peenemünde, however, the presence of not one but three Aiming Points in a line down the narrow peninsula and the position of the navigational checkpoints on the island of Rügen to the north dictated an approach from the north-north-west. Should these Aiming Points be attacked in turn from north to south or in the reverse order? The original operation order, issued on 9 July, had clearly envisaged that the wind would be blowing from the south or the south-west and that the three targets would be attacked from north to south so that, at each stage, the wind would keep smoke away from the next Aiming Point. The following table shows the order intended in the original plan and the forces of bombers allocated to each target.

Aiming Point	Target	Bombers
1st	Experimental Works	Nos. 3 and 5 Groups
2nd	Production Works	No. 1 Group
3rd	Housing Estate	Nos. 4 and 6 Groups

Now, however, the wind was forecast as blowing from the west-north-west (the actual forecast was from 290 degrees), and the order of attack had to be reversed. But 5 Group had practised its time-and-distance bombing with the intention of attacking the Experimental Works, so its position in the timing of the original plan was also changed. The new plan was:

Aiming Point	Target	Bombers
1st	Housing Estate	Nos. 3 and 4 Groups
2nd	Production Works	No. 1 Group
3rd	Experimental Works	Nos. 5 and 6 Groups

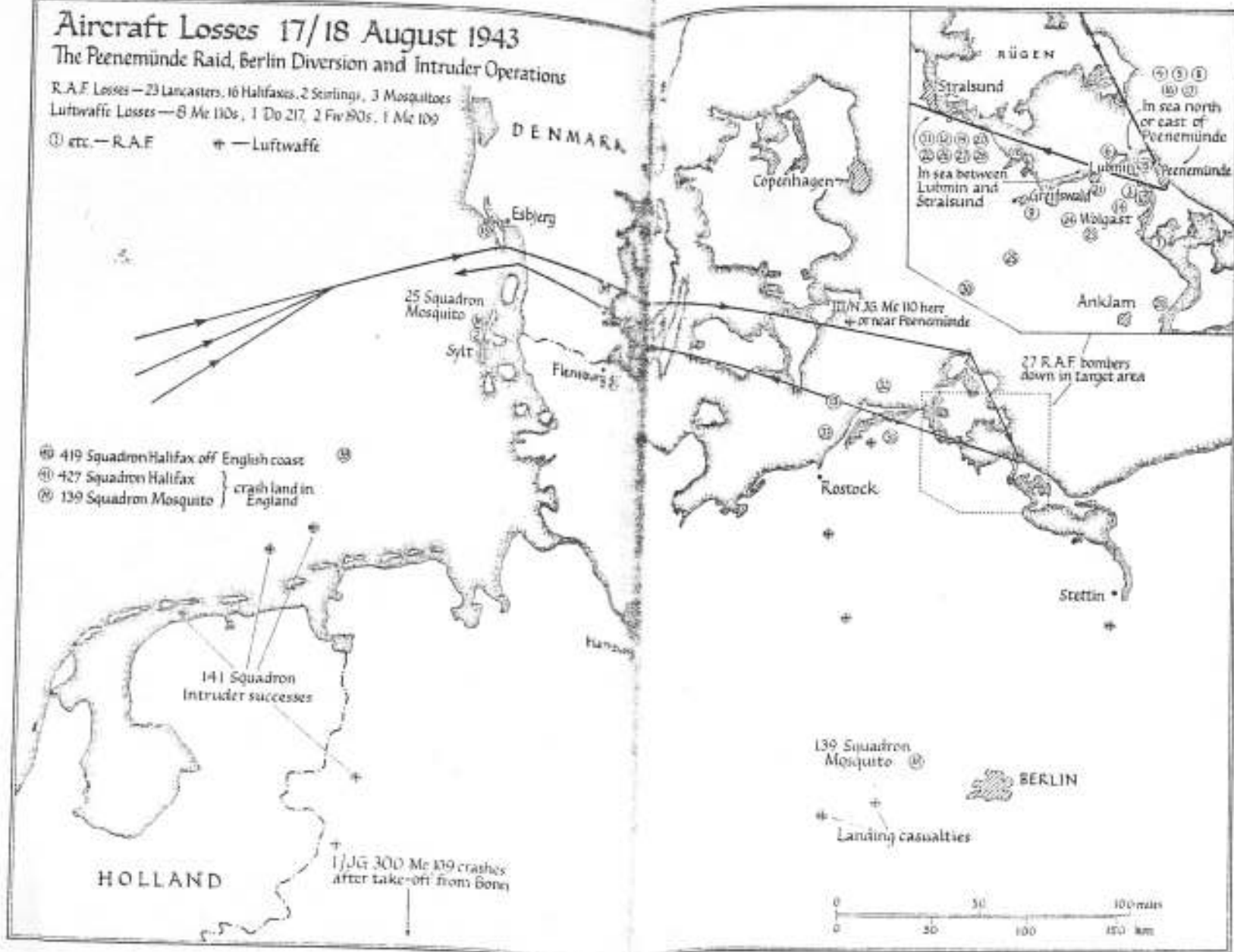
The allocation of entire groups to waves in this way was contrary to Bomber Command routine. A normal attack on a city consisted of six waves, with the aircraft of each group spread over two, or sometimes

Aircraft Losses 17/18 August 1943

The Peenemünde Raid, Berlin Diversion and Intruder Operations

R.A.F. Losses — 23 Lancasters, 16 Halifaxes, 2 Stirlings, 3 Mosquitoes
 Luftwaffe Losses — 8 Me 110s, 1 Do 217, 2 Fw 190s, 1 Me 109

① etc. — R.A.F. + — Luftwaffe



Books referred by Russell Strong

1. Schweinfurt & Regensburg Mission
by Martin Middlebrook- Scribners NY 1983
Leased from Principia College,
2. Point of No Return
by Wilbur H. Morrison. New York Times Book, 1983
Leased from State of Illinois Library- Springfield
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W. D. Hospers
Aircraft Commander

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306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd, Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England — September 1942-April 1945

Lee Kessler
170 Saratoga Ave. N.W.
Canton, Ohio 44708



Dear Ralph & Nell:

What a surprise just a bit ago to go to the mail box and get your package. I just came back from a printer friend who when I mentioned my plight as I did to you he said draw up what you want and give it to me. I did and since he owed me a favor, made me some of the above. Since I am Vice Commander of the XVII-B organization I will use this for that group, but will definitely use what you sent me for writing to the Williamsport College as it is more impressive as the 306th. I want to thank you for all your trouble. I am compiling a letter to send them now.

I have gone through my diary and letters and have come up with some interesting facts about how we came to end up with the 368th insignia and the previous one that I drew for Lanford when the Sqd was first formed. Also how did we ever end up being called the "Eager Beavers" which is alright in it self but should never been put under the insignia of Thor the God of War. He looks nothing like a beaver. I am putting together the story as someone at Omaha mentioned the first Sqd insignia that I did which was the Bats Out O Hell. We were turned down as a fighter out fit some where already had that. I will send the story to Russ. If he wants it OK but I am writing it in my memoirs as I have the facts from Lanford. I was reminded of it as we talked about it at the POW convention in Seattle as our 306 guys got together. I also have compiled all the pictures and write ups from the Williamsport Gazzett of 1946 and also Colliers Magazine at that time when the Eager Beaver first came on the scene in Pennsylvania. As far as I can tell she had more combat time then the Memphis Belle or the Susie "Q" but of course all that is left of her is the logo. I will write Russ to see if he is interested.

Thanks again for your trouble Ralph.
I really appreciate it. Take care and we will be seeing you in Ft. Worth.

Yours in friendship

Lee



306th Bomb Group Historical Association

An Association formed to commemorate the history of the 306th Bomb Group of the U.S. Army 8th Air Force and the achievements of its personnel based at Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England 1942-45.

Minutes of a meeting held at Mill Hill, Keysoe, on Wednesday 4 July 1984.

Present: Ralph Franklin - Museum Co-ordinator
Daphne Franklin
Diane Mills
John Mills
Cyril Norman
Connie Richards
Gordon Richards

Apologies: John Hadfield
Mary Norman

Action

1. Ralph requested Diane to take notes and produce minutes.
2. Ralph advised the meeting that the RAF Officers Mess had offered us alternative accommodation in a building which houses "overflow bar and function facilities".

It was agreed that this was an attractive alternative, for a variety of reasons including:

- a. It is in closer proximity to the Mess buildings in daily use and therefore more secure.
- b. Although some work is needed, it is already maintained to a higher standard than the building originally proposed.
- c. The existing bar could be used for functions and the Mess management have even suggested it could be christened the "306th Bar".
- d. The 306th display could be made more easily accessible to Mess visitors and guests.
- e. Heating and lighting would probably be less of a problem.

Ralph was therefore instructed to confirm, subject to the agreement of the 306th Historical Association (USA) that this building was preferable.

RF

3. Ralph then stated that he had a few questions:
 - a. What memorabilia is available?

John referred to George Roberts' letter of April 3, 1984, in which he asked us to state our requirements.

Gordon stated that both he and Russ Strong are aware of what is available, for example Col Overacker's complete uniforms.

Connie felt that, in view of lack of space, no more items should be sent until museum space is available.

Ralph stated that, once approval for the use of the building is given, it could very quickly be brought into use, if only for storage.

- b. Finance. Where will funds be held? Should they be held by one of the UK-based veterans?

Gordon stated that he had already approached Joe Albertson, who is willing to undertake this responsibility.

John asked how much longer would Joe continue in US Government service and was he remaining in the UK after retirement?

Gordon confirmed that, even when retired, Joe intended to remain in the UK and would continue to have access to on-base US banking facilities.

Gordon suggested that all the UK-based 306th veterans should become co-opted Museum Committee members. No discussion ensued and no vote was taken.

- c. Refurbishing the building. Had anybody any suggestions?

The following suggestions and offers of help were made:

Gordon suggested enlisting the help of village craftsmen.

Cyril could obtain timber from his employer.

Ralph's son is a carpenter and joiner.

John's son-in-law is a painter and decorator.

Ralph undertook to send photographs of the interior and exterior to the USA.

RF

Connie suggested that it would be advisable for one of the US Committee to visit the building.

- d. Security - what is necessary?

John said that the requirement would be less than for the original building, but still important.

Ralph confirmed we would need window bars and high grade door locks.

- e. Display cabinets and other equipment. What can we get?

Gordon suggested an approach to the Chamber of Trade who could ask shops to donate redundant items.

GR

John asked that tailors' dummies be included in this request.

Gordon recalled that RAE Farnborough Museum had offered two display cabinets some years ago; it was not known whether they were still available but Ralph undertook to enquire.

RF

f. Insurance. What cover do we need?

Ralph undertook to ascertain the position regarding building insurance, in view of the fact that the suggested new building is in current MOD use.

RF

Connie pointed out that the display items would need adequate cover.

John said it would be difficult to arrive at a valuation figure, as their true worth and irreplaceable nature far exceeds their intrinsic value.

4. Cyril asked for an estimate of the amount of adaptation the RAE authorities would permit us to carry out.

Ralph replied that the Chief Superintendent, Mr Mike Dobson, was totally in favour of the project, especially as it could only benefit the Establishment, although he cannot of course guarantee security of tenure "for a hundred years"!!!

5. On this happy note, the meeting closed.



306th BOMB GROUP HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

An Association formed to commemorate the history of the 306th Bomb Group of the U.S. Army
8th Air Force and the achievements of its personnel based at Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England 1942-45.

Mill Hill
Keysoe
Bedford
MK44 2HP
England

Mr George Roberts
49 30th Street
Gulfport
MS 39501
USA

1 August 1984

Dear George and Members of 306th Museum Committee

This is a very belated reply to your letter of April 3 1984.

Confirmation was eventually received from Chief Superintendent RAE Bedford for us to utilise the building at the rear of the Officers' Mess for our museum project. For many years this building has only been used for storage by the RAE Drama Club, and has not been maintained, it will therefore need considerable renovation.

In discussing the project with fellow members of the Mess Committee an alternative idea has developed. As you know the Mess itself is unable to accommodate a large number of people comfortably, and to overcome this problem for our larger functions we have been renovating, on a self help basis, yet another wartime building adjacent to the Mess; (I enclose floor plan sketch and photographs) this has become known as the Garage Bar. The thoughts are that this building could be renovated to a much higher standard and be officially known as the 306th Bar. To the right hand side of the entrance the building is still used as garages for Mess members, and it is suggested that part of this building be partitioned off to form the major part of the Museum. This would give a room approximately 28' x 30'. Combining this with the main hall 28' x 90', which could also be used for 306 memorabilia, we would have an impressive layout dedicated to the memory of the 306th.

I firmly believe that this proposal will be of benefit to both the Museum project and to the Officers' Mess, and of course as a suitable venue for a reunion.

I would ask you to put these suggestions to the Committee, to consider them along with your thoughts on the original building and comments made at our recent Committee meeting - copy of the Minutes enclosed.

/Now

Now that the basic arrangements have been agreed with the RAE, I will be in a much better position to expedite the work on the project.

We look forward to receiving your thoughts on the proposals.

Our best wishes to you all.

FOR MEMBERS OF 306th HS

Ralph Franklin

R FRANKLIN
Museum Co-ordinator

woman who ever served or worked a day at any time to "keep them flying." The bibliography used will make one seek further knowledge in this sphere of aviation, but it also must be noted that a glossary of British terms and slang would be a welcome addition to the next edition. This book will be one that you will read and re-read.

C. JOSEPH WARTH
Governing Trustee, AFHF
5709 Walkerton Dr.
Clarendon Hills
Cincinnati, OH 45238

DIE DEUTSCHE LUFTWAFFENFUHRUNG 1935-1945: GENERALSTABS-AUSBILDUNG- FUHRUNGS-PROBLEME- SPITZENGLIEDERUNG, Horst Boog, Beiträge zur Militär- und Kriegsgeschichte, 21 Band (Stuttgart: Deutsche Verlags-Anstalt), 1982, 724 pp., biblio., ind., DM 78.

The leadership of the Luftwaffe has been sharply criticized almost from its inception to the present. First the Nazis, then after the war many of its former officers, and now academics have pinned the blame for most of the Luftwaffe's shortcomings on the leadership corps. In this the latest and most exhaustive account of the leadership, Horst Boog of the Freiburg Military History Research Office has focused his interest on the preparation and training of the general staff and the mentality of the leaders. Despite its obvious academic bulk, Boog has constructed a very delicate and finely tuned account of how the leadership went wrong. The emphasis on operational activities, the preference for combat command officers, and the extolling of the martial qualities coupled with the traditional disdain for engineering, administrative, and logistical experience meant that the Luftwaffe suffered from a shortage of technical competence at the highest levels. The top leaders like Göring and Udet were the worst. As the war progressed, the Luftwaffe compounded its errors by markedly reducing training in the very areas it needed it most. The results were predictable.

Boog maintains that the Luftwaffe just did not have the time to develop a mature leadership corps. What is equally fascinating is how the offensive-mindedness of the Luftwaffe inhibited the development of aerial defense and the concepts of strategic bombing. Despite its prewar claims, the Luftwaffe was committed to only a tactical use of airpower and lacked the vision of seeing airpower in all of its manifestations — a failure of its training procedures for its general staff. But Boog does admit that given the conditions of working with Hitler

and Göring, it would have been difficult for the general staff to function as it should have. Done by an able historian who has looked at almost all of the existing archival materials and arrived at very balanced and objective conclusions, this book should remain the definitive work.

EDWARD L. HOMZE
University of Nebraska, Lincoln

FIRST OVER GERMANY — A HISTORY OF THE 306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP, by Russell A. Strong (Winston-Salem, NC: Hunter Pub. Co., Copies available from Russell A. Strong, 2041 Hillsdale, Kalamazoo, MI 49007), 1982, 328 pp., biblio., ind., illus., \$20.00.

This book chronicles the history of a pioneer B-17 Group of the 8th AF in WWII. The 306th Bomb Group of the 1st Air Division was stationed at Thurleigh, England, from which 341 missions were flown between October 1942 and April 1945. During this period, 177 aircraft were lost, 776 airmen were killed, 885 were taken prisoners of war, and 69 were interned in neutral countries.

On 27 January 1943, the 306th Bomb Group, under the leadership of Col. Frank A. Armstrong, was chosen to lead the first 8th AF raid on the German homeland. Wilhelmshaven was the target, and 55 B-17s, of which 14 came from the 306th BG, attacked the target — and thus the book's title, *First Over Germany*.

The narrative relates to 100 missions on which crew members and aircraft were lost due to enemy action, weather, and operational accidents. The August 1943 Schweinfurt mission is included, even though the 306th lost no crews. On the October mission, they lost 10 aircraft — truly a "Black Thursday."

The author, Russell Strong, flew 34 missions as navigator with the 306th Bomb Group and is now with Western Michigan University. His intensive research and seven-year effort with 500 contacts has produced one of the best unit histories I have read. To illustrate, the 24-page index lists over 2,500 names. There are 80 representative photographs. The appendices list the 341 missions flown and the command and staff officers of the group and four squadrons. The three-page bibliography is quite complete.

This publication is a must for all former members of the 306th BG and 8th AF veterans, and will be a valuable addition to the air historian's library.

COL. JOHN E. GREENWOOD,
PRESIDENT
The Eighth Air Force Historical Society
607 State St.
Alton, IL 62002

CONFLICT OF DUTY, by Jeffery M. Dorwart (Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press), 1983, x, 262 pp., biblio., ind., illus., \$18.95.

In *Conflict of Duty*, Jeffery Dorwart, associate professor of history at Rutgers University (Camden), continues his history of U.S. Naval Intelligence (begun in his 1979 book, *The Office of Naval Intelligence, 1865-1919*). His work rests on extensive archival research.

The intelligence dilemma Dorwart defines has a now familiar ring. Between 1919 and 1945, the Office of Naval Intelligence repeatedly faced the choice between investing time and resources in "the natural manifestations of any intelligence organization, such as spying, surreptitious entry, communications intercepts, and surveillance" or, rather, in "its primary function [of supplying] the Navy with technical and strategic information." Dorwart directly correlates periods of ONI involvement in domestic operations (sometimes extra-legal if not simply illegal in nature) with intervals of inadequate contribution to technical, tactical, and strategic concerns of the Navy and the nation, including the prelude to Pearl Harbor.

This is an important story, well told. ONI's problem in getting the interwar Navy even to care about protecting information now sounds quaint, but was serious. The role of ONI as the public's principal source of information about the U.S. Navy, rather than possible threats, and as a public advocate of U.S. naval power, is both surprising and significant. And there is much more of interest as well as substance.

Although this book would have been better with a more extensive political and diplomatic context, it is indispensable reading for students of the interwar period and WWII, for those concerned with the evolution of modern intelligence agencies and functions, and for naval intelligence officers and commanders. The latter, especially, can profit from a reflective reading of this book.

DR. THOMAS H. ETZOLD
Naval War College
Newport, RI 02840

From the Control Tower

Richard S. Shevell's *Fundamentals of Flight* (Prentice-Hall, 1983, 405 pp., illus., n.p.) is a well illustrated, up-to-date text by a Stanford University aerodynamicist. About half of each chapter becomes pretty technical and involved with mathematical formulae, but a great deal of it is put in good plain language comprehensible to the ordinary reader. For instance, the 156 lb sq ft

mine-laying program had been begun sooner, with the success achieved, it is quite possible the Joint Chiefs might have concluded that a massive invasion of Japan's home islands was not necessarily saving the United States billions of dollars in unnecessary supplies and equipment.



CHAPTER 24

Dawn of the Atomic Age

The eminent scientist Albert Einstein realized in 1939 the potentialities of atomic energy for military purposes, and informed high officials of the U.S. Government. He warned that the Germans were carrying out such experiments, and that the United States should immediately start a program of its own.

President Roosevelt agreed and the Manhattan Project was established. It eventually cost \$2 billion, but was successful in winning the race for discovery of an atomic bomb that could be carried in an aircraft.

In September 1943, Arnold recommended that the B-29 be selected as the atomic bomb deliverer because it was the most suitable airplane even though it was just entering production.

Arnold personally picked Lieutenant Colonel John B. Montgomery, Hansell's deputy, to head the 509th Composite Group, which would be trained to drop atomic weapons. Although Hansell wasn't completely aware of the nature of the project, he voiced a vigorous protest to Arnold about losing his ablest staff officer.

Arnold then selected Colonel Paul W. Tibbets, Jr., who was the only one for some time to know the group's true mission, to head it. Tibbets had a fine record of serving with the pioneering 97th Bombardment Group in England and North Africa, and was testing B-29s in the summer of 1944 when he was appointed to head the group. He picked Lieutenant Colonel Thomas J. Glassen, a Pacific war veteran, as his deputy, and handpicked other officers with whom he had fought for their special qualifications to form the nucleus of the 509th.

Montgomery, who did such an outstanding job later as LeMay's oper-

ations officer, would certainly have run a more disciplined organization than Tibbets unfortunately was able to do.

Early in 1944, Boeing selected 15 B-29s to be specially fitted for their new role, although no radical changes were needed in the airplanes.

Possible Japanese targets were selected by the end of 1944. Arnold recommended Kyoto, Hiroshima, Niigata, and Kokura, and ordered LeMay not to bomb these cities. They were of medium size with important manufacturing operations. Secretary of War Stimson objected to Kyoto because it was a national religious shrine and a cultural center. LeMay substituted Nagasaki; although he knew it was not an ideal target, it was one of the cities that had suffered little damage.

President Truman learned of the Manhattan Project only after Roosevelt's death April 12, 1945, when he was briefed by Stimson. The Secretary of War recommended that the President appoint a special civilian committee to set guidelines for use of atomic bombs and Truman agreed.

An interim committee report was completed June 1 and it advised the President unanimously that the atomic bomb should be used as soon as possible and against a military target surrounded by other buildings and without prior warning.

Some scientists disagreed; believing that the United States would alienate many peoples of the world who would view use of such a weapon with revulsion. These scientists, who were part of a Committee on Social and Political Implications, told Stimson that the atomic bomb should not be used until after it was demonstrated to members of the Allied nations on a desert or barren island.

The President's advisory panel of scientists, including A. H. Compton, Enrico Fermi, E. O. Lawrence, and J. R. Oppenheimer, told Truman they disagreed with their colleagues. They said they could not foresee an alternative to military use because of the danger that the bomb might prove to be a dud if dropped before officials of the Allied nations. Such an occurrence, they said, might stiffen Japan's resistance.

The President said Stimson agreed with the interim committee's report, and the President's civilian advisers were virtually unanimous that an unannounced test in the New Mexico desert should be held in July, with the first bomb released on a Japanese target in August.

Admiral William D. Leahy, who served President Roosevelt as chief of staff, and now Truman in the same capacity, had been against the atomic program from the start. He called it a "professor's dream." He told Truman, "This is the biggest fool thing we've ever done. The bomb will never go off, and I speak as an ordnance expert."

Leahy was one of those who hoped that an air and sea blockade, and air attacks against the home islands, would end the war without an invasion. He said an invasion couldn't be justified because Japan was

already defeated. Arnold and LeMay agreed with him; troops had often demonstrated their tenacity in battle and the main Japanese Army was still a military force to be reckoned with.

Admiral King, chief of naval operations, offered mild support to allay Leahy's fear of excessive losses in the invasion during discussions with President Truman. King never opposed the air offensive, but he never expressed the opinion that the war could be won by airpower.

MacArthur wrote to Marshall April 20 in support of an offensive against Kyushu because such a course would bring the full power of naval, and air forces to bear on Japan whereas a year's struggle to make Japan more difficult to invade. He called for a combination of offensive methods which, he said, had proved so successful in previous campaigns. "Reliance upon bombing alone," MacArthur said, "is an unproved formula for success." He cited the failure of the air offensive against Germany, which had not forced the Nazis to surrender without a ground invasion. He said that a ring of bases around Japan and intensify air attacks would disperse Allied forces even more. The seizure of bases on the China coast would only escalate the struggle on the Asiatic mainland without any military benefit.

Marshall, who had supported Arnold in the hope that a bomber offensive against Germany would make an invasion of the continent unnecessary, now agreed with MacArthur's view. Accidently, Truman relied upon Marshall's views about the invasion of Japan following extensive discussions with the general. The latter had weighed conflicting views and voted unanimously that an invasion of the home islands was necessary. Thereafter, plans for the invasion of Kyushu were adopted with further intensification of the blockade, tighter blockade, and plans to persuade the Russians to enter the war soon.

General Arnold wasn't present at President Truman's meeting at the Potsdam Conference, in which the American position on the strategy was discussed. He was represented by Lieutenant General Eaker, who queried Arnold while he was visiting bases in the Pacific. Arnold told him not to oppose the position taken by General Marshall because he had been such a firm supporter of the Army Air Corps. He didn't want to risk alienation on such a vital matter.

Inasmuch as Marshall was supporting MacArthur's view of the invasion so strongly, and had already indicated to Arnold that he supported an independent air force after the war, Arnold's position was understandable. It is possible that Arnold felt that an invasion that airpower could end the war would be resented by the Army. He didn't want to lose Marshall's support.

After the atomic bomb proved itself

ared his wing commander that he was clearly within his proper doing so and that he owed it to himself, the 73rd Wing, and to well was aware that if the situation resulted in disaster, and if he had failed to warn him of his convictions, that he, Hansell, had every right to say "Why didn't you tell me?"

Problem wasn't that simple for Hansell because he had strategic options to weigh which not only included but transcended the problems.

Before Hansell had departed for Saipan, Arnold had sent for him, General Marshall wanted to see him. At their meeting, Marshall told Hansell that the first operation of the Twentieth Air Force in the Pacific was a joint operation, coordinated with the surface operations of the Army and Navy. He stressed the importance of carrying out the Twentieth Command's mission on time.

He asked point-blank, "Can you carry out your share?"

Hansell told him unequivocally that they would do so.

On the eve of the command's first mission, if Hansell ordered the execution of his command's prescribed part, and changed the mission to night operations against Japanese area targets, he knew this was an open admission that the Twentieth Air Force could not do what it was created for. Such a decision would destroy at one stroke the Air Force arguments for a strategic air command dedicated to the destruction of targets in Japan—targets whose destruction the Joint Chiefs of Staff had approved. The structure of the Twentieth was shaky. Theater commanders continued to make strong demands for more B-29s. Hansell had to consider that the whole concept of strategic air warfare as a war-winning strategy, carried out by a unified command, was hanging in the balance.

These thoughts in mind, he told Rosey of his deep concern with the mission involved, and shared them with him, but that the strategic considerations outweighed the tactical obstacles. He said, "I am determined to go ahead with daylight attacks against our prescribed targets." He looked at O'Donnell's face thoughtfully. "Are you reluctant to lead the mission on the forthcoming mission?"

O'Donnell listened to assure him that he was not. He expressed his willingness to lead the mission although he had felt impelled to voice his concerns.

Hansell accepted that position and each returned to his headquarters. O'Donnell asked for a second meeting with members of both of the commands. At this session, O'Donnell recommended minor changes in the operational plan as conceived originally in order to simplify it and increase the chance of success. Hansell agreed to all proposed changes. He set the morning of November 17 to send the B-29s on their mission against Japan but a typhoon at Saipan prevented the takeoff.

For a week of on-again, off-again, schedules the crews waited impatiently for the weather to clear. It finally did so on the 24th.

"Dauntless Dottie," with General O'Donnell and Major Robert K. Morgan, pilot of the famed "Memphis Belle" B-17 in the copilot's seat, took off at 6:15 A.M. O'Donnell had to use every foot of runway, and some of the ground beyond before "Dauntless Dottie" decided to take to the air.

Another 110 B-29s followed with 277.5 tons of bombs. The typhoon, which had grounded planes for a week, now lay between Saipan and Iwo Jima so all planes had to fly a western route instead of two routes that would converge from east and west on Tokyo.

After forming up after takeoff, the line of squadrons with nine airplanes in each loose formation headed for Japan on the 1,500-mile trip. B-29s soon began to drop out because of overheated engines and headed back for Saipan until 17 returned.

Close to landfall on Japan the formations started to climb to 35,000 feet and now engine troubles increased, particularly during the last 5,000 feet.

The black-haired, blue-eyed Irishman from Brooklyn, General Rosey O'Donnell, led the wing over Tokyo. Weather was bad over the target as the formations tried to get through at altitudes of 27,000 to 35,000 feet. Wind velocities of 150 mph raised downwind ground speeds to 445 mph, making it almost impossible for the 24 bombardiers who could not spot the target to synchronize.

Major Jack Catton led his 498th Group as it turned on its initial point over Mount Fujiyama. He and his navigator, Lieutenant Campbell, noted the tremendous right-hand drift during the turn into the downwind leg toward the target. They were experiencing the jet stream for the first time although it wasn't known by that name. Few airplanes had ever flown at such high altitudes so they were caught by surprise. Once the wind was behind them they rapidly approached the target at a speed so high that bombardier Robert Canfield barely had time to identify the target before the indices on his bombsight crossed and the bombs headed earthward.

Catton hadn't expected fighters at their altitude but as they pulled away from the target and headed for Choshi Point he heard the cry, "Fighters at 11 o'clock!" They attacked almost head-on with cannon and machine guns on a perfect interception and several shots struck home before they were over the Pacific and out of reach of those murderous guns.

The plane piloted by Lieutenant Sam P. Wagner was raked by guns of a Japanese fighter shortly after it left the target. Other planes in the formation tried to ward off another attacker as a "Tony" (Japanese fighter) headed in for the kill while the guns of three B-29s zeroed in on

2 MARCH 1985

MR RUSSELL STRONG
2041 HILLSDALE
KALAMAZOO, MI, 49007

DEAR RUSS;

I AM TRYING TO TYPE A LETTER ON A APPLE II COMPUTER AND PRINTER. MY SON-IN-LAW AND I HAVE BEEN LEARNING A LOT THE LAST FEW DAYS. WE WILL BE LEAVING HERE ON MONDAY AND GETTING BACK ON TUES. MY DAUGHTER SAYS I HAVE A PACKAGE AT HOME FROM YOU. AS I TYPE THIS I WILL TRY TO CATCH THE MISTAKES. AFTER YOU FINISH TYPING ALL YOU DO IS PUSH THE RIGHT KEY AND IT PRINTS ON THE PRINTER. LAST NITE WE GOT LETTER WITH NO PARAGRAPHS THEN HALF THE LETTER PRINTED ETC. BUT IT BEATS WRITING AND THE RECEIVER CAN READ IT BETTER.

I AM INCLOSING TWO LETTER ONE FROM THE RICHARDS WHICH I THINK DISCLOSES THE FACT THAT THE MUSEUM BUILDING IS NOT GOING TO BE AVAILABLE FOR SOME TIME. I PLAN TO SEND A COPY TO ROBERTS. AS AN EX-COMMITTEE MEMBER OF THE MEMORIAL. I HELPED RAISES THE ORIGINAL MONEY FOR THE MEMORIAL AND IF THE MUSEUM IS IN THE FUTURE I THINK THE ORIGINAL MONEY AND THE MONEY RAISED AT FT. WORTH SHOULD BE PUT IN THE 306 TH TREASURY. I AM ONLY A MEMBER NOW BUT IT WAS JUST AN IDEA.

I ALSO AM INCLUDING A NOTE FROM A WALT CORRELL WHO IS ANOTHER WHO THINKS REUNIONS JUST COME ABOUT YOU WAVE A WAND AND IT JUST HAPPENS. HE WAS IN MY BARRACKS AND AS YOU WILL NOTE HE IS IN A B-17 ASSOC. HE HAS ATTENDED ONE EVENING MEETING AT PHOENIX BEFORE HIS DAY AT L.A. THE NOTE FROM BILL MUST REFER TO THE 8TH 85 MEETING AT WICHITA. WOOLNOUGH STATED RECENTLY THAT THE 8TH PLANNED 3 YRS IN ADVANCE WHICH IS A LOT OF NONSENSE. THEY CHANGE FROM PITTSBURGH TO CINNCINNATI AND I KNOW THEY WEREN'T DEFINITE ON WICHITA LAST YEAR WHEN THEY WERE AT HOUSTON. I WROTE CORRELL AND TOLD HIM I THINK BILL REFERED TO THE 8TH AND THE 306TH IS OPEN TO AND GROUP WHO HAS A WORKING COMMITTEE WHO WANTS A REUNION IN A CERTAIN AREA.

RUSS, I JUST READ BOMBER COMMAND, HAVE YOU READ IT. IT IS WRITEN BY THE SAME AUTHOR AS OVERLORD. IT IS VERY SIMILAR IN IT METHOD OF BEING CRITICAL OF BOMBER COMMAND AS HE WAS OF THE COMMAND ON D-DAY AND AFTER. I DIDN'T READ OVERLORD TO CLOSELY SO I AM READING IT AGAIN OUT HERE. THEY HAVE A NICE LIBRARY HERE IN DUBOIS. IT WOULD BE INTERESTING IF SOME SEARCHED INTO THE 8TH BOMBER DEBATIONS AND PLANS FOR CARRY ON THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST GERMANY AS MAX HASTING DID IN BOMBER COMMAND.

RUSS I AM INCLUDING A POST CARD. I HAVE A LETTER FOR GEORGE DEVAK AND I HAVE AN ADDRESS FOR SAN JOSE AND I NOTICED HE LISTED AS REWOOD CITY, CA AS HIS ADDRESS. DO YOU HAVE A NEW ONE ON HIM? I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU HAVE A NEW ONE SO SEND IT TO ME ON THE CARD. CORRELL SAID HE HAS HEARD FROM A REG THAYER A BUDDY OF DON ROSS AND I AND I WILL TRY TO GET HIS ADDRESS.

WE ARE BEING TAKEN OUT FOR SUPPER, THEY SAY TO PAY US FOR BABYSITTING 3 CHILDREN AND A HORSE AND PONY FOR 10 DAYS. HA' HA' SO I WILL CLOSE FOR NOW HOPE I HAVEN'T MADE TO MANY MISTAKES AND IT PRINTS THE LETTER WITH PARAGRAPHS AND THE RIGHT LENGTH. ALSO HOPE YOU ARE RID OF MOST OF THE SNOW. IT LEFT HERE IN DUBOIS IN ABOUT 4 DAYS LAST WEEK WHEN IT WAS IN THE 50 AND 60 SO UNTIL LATER WHEN WE GET HOME AND I LOOK AT THE PACKAGE. NELL SENDS HER REGARD AND IS LOOKING FORWARD AND GETTING HOME WE HAVE BEEN GONE OVER HALF THE YEAR SINCE JAN 1, 1985.

SINCERELY,



RALPH



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

29 July 1985

31 July 1985

Dear Russ;

Well in a little over a month we will be in Colorado Springs for the reunion. Thanks for the advanced copy of the Echoes. I haven't the copy sent out by Bill yet. How is he doing? I had planned to call him when we were in Pennsylvania but I never got around to it. We left on July 13 and got back on July 22.

I am sending you Jane Odles new address and a clipping from the the Aug Air Force Magazine . A Mr. Saunders wonders if there is a 306th ~~unit~~ I sent him a note plus a couple of copies of old Echoes. If I had an extra one of the latest I would have sent it to him. It funny how people set around and wonder about unit meetings. I haven't seen our reunion advertised too much. I didn't see it in the A.F. Times. I did see it recently in the ^{A.F. Museum News} ~~Retired Officer Mag.~~ Say I see RegThayer on the list to attend the reunion. I still haven't had an answer from him. I dropped Don Ross of a note the other day. I wonder if he is comeing/ to the reunion. I didn't see Bill Collins name on the list. I never did hear from the museum chairman George Roberts on the status of the museum. I see the finance man is attending(Wm Flannagan)

In the last Echoes I saw my pilot name the one who I flew most of my lead missions. Before the war he lived in Spokane and the address in the Echoes is Honolulu, Hawaii. Padriac.Evans is his name.

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

He was quite a character and a crazy pilot. I teamed up with him after I had about 5 missions. Our co-pilot was Harold McGahan, he finished his mission and was on orders to ship home with me but at the last minute he had his name scratched from the orders and my Navigator was a Orlo Trude I saw him at Stone on the way home. He borrowed a pair of pants and shirt from me until he could buy some new ones. It seems on the way to Stone he changed trains at Rugby and he asked a Limey to watch his bags while he visited with a lady he met on the train. Well when the lady left, he went back to the train area and the Limey was gone and so was his clothes?? Well I haven't heard from Trude since then. He was from Minneapolis and McGahan was from Lemmore Calif.

I have read two books recently "Eagle Against the Sun" by Spector and "Yeager" by Janos and Yeager. I put some comments on a card for you. Both were interesting in a different way. I never did hear from Bob Herman on the author of the book SAGE. Maybe I can get it from him at Colorado Springs.

I don't know for sure when Nell and I are going to leave but it will probably be right after Labor Day.

I will close for now. Hope weather up here Ok. We are Ok could use a little more rain. So I can mow lawn??

*As Ever
Reef*

*Again Thanks
for the Echoes*

I am including a copy of Paul Chrypt

*Wendy letter -
P.S. How could SATURN turn down Kalamazoo
& Peoria for Spring Hill Tenn??*



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

29 April 1986
11:30 P.M.

Dear Russ,

I know it late but I usually work late when we are traveling. We are going down to New Orleans (Sliddell) Nell's brother has a camp site there and her 3 brothers and 2 sister have a family get together once a yr. We should be back Wed next week.

Thanks for the early Echoes. I have my registration in for the reunion and I also have my confirmed hotel rooms for the affair. If we go early we can get a room nearby like we did at Colorado Springs

me I see Bill Flanagan is registered for the event. I wonder if we will Dick D'Amato at this one. I see he still advertises in the *8th AF* News letter. I haven't hear from England but I guess if you don't write you don't get answers I did receive a Xmas card and sent one to them I got cards from Richards and John Mills. It is too bad that John Mills can't get back to a reunion. He has put up a few 306th visitors to England He put me up one night and drove me down to Basingbourne. He is quite active with the 92nd Group. *Lee Kessler offered to put him up if he comes*

Say I got an interesting letter and drawing from Lee Kessler. I am sending it along in this letter. I made a copy of it. I don't know if is news worthy. It has had some national publicity and I think the 95th Gp used it. I thought the article was quite interesting. You may have already seen this from Lee. I am sending it along.

I see the publicity is showing up. I think I have seen it in the AF Times and Retired Officer. I get the USAF After burner which comes out every 3 months They have a list of reunions. All Air Force retirees get it and I would be glad to put it for the group if any body wants me to do it or maybe some one has the job. I know Jack Grimm get the AFTERBURNER

Thank for the up to date directory. It is much smaller in size and is easier to handle. I see the number is still getting larger in numbers. I see a Sandercock from my barracks is new on the list. He was a pilot in the Sqdn. I also see Reg Thayer is registered again. Do you hear anything from Reg Robinson lately? I wonder how he and the oil business is doing? My friend Bumgardner says things are not too good in Houston.

I am interested in seeing how the vote turned out for the future reunions. As I stated in my vote. I like the Crystal City area for location It is 100 % better than the Sheraton where the 8th had thier reunion

When we were in Florida in Jan we went to Sarasota and stayed a couple days and had dinner at the 306th Restaurant. They still have crowds and the food was quite good. and the manager seemed interested in any one who was in the 306th Nell and I spent a couple hours in the afternoon looking at pictures and visiting with other in the lounge. They were people from another group and were from Southern Ill.

What you doing this summer? Are you taking a group on a tour? Why don't you compete with D'Amato and take a 306th group to England? I just can't seem to take D'Amato maybe he reminds me of the 8th Friends and their method of doing things.

It is getting near midnight and we are driving to Memphis tomorrow and then the next day to New Orleans. So I had better cut this note off. Thanks for the Early Echoes and the Directory. I appreciate the favors. How is John Ryan doing. Is he warming up to the England a little now?

If I can be of any help let me know.
 I am still reading Wald War II books also
 I just finish a book on Barbarossa by Clark
 on Russia & Germany War. Also Gordon Prange
 books at Saw We Slept 1981
 Miracle at Midway 1984
 Pearl Harbor - Verdict of History 1986

I still have
 Target Tokyo to Read

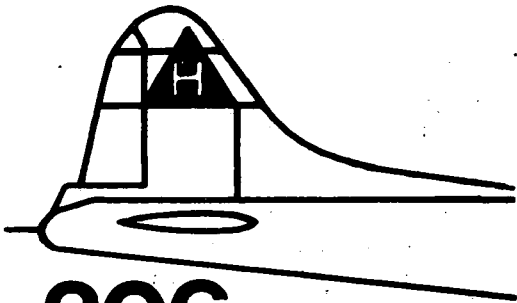
If you have any other as you list
 let me know - so until later Thanks
 for the Echoes

P.S. - How is Bill
 Collins doing. I guess
 I could write him. Betty
 write on the Xmas Card.

As Ever
 Ray

Russ. Do you have any info on the following

1. Money collected at Ft. Worth by Flannagan for the Museum. I am including the balance shown in the Echoes.
2. Have you heard from Roberts (Chairman) of the museum committee. Connie Richards didn't sound very encouraging on the matter.
3. Museum Dedication Tour - Perlmutter (1985 ????)
4. Monument or plaque at A.F. Academy
5. Monument at Dayton



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England — September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

14 May 1985

Dear Russ;

I am still with the living but just don't seem to get things done. Thanks for all the good info you have sent to me. Appreciate the early Echoes. I talked to Reg Thayer and sent him some pictures but no answer from him. On the phone he mentioned a couple names that are not on our list. I finished "Skyways to Berlin" and Nell has put plastic cover on it for my book shelf. Thanks. I got "Overlord" again and have read parts of again.

I sent John Gordon some pages out of the 368th history which he requested at Ft. Worth. I think it covered the time his brother was with the unit. He sent a nice note of Thanks. I also sent Curtis Oakes some copies I had of the Echoes. I got a nice note from him. Also a remark or two concerning the absence of the 306th from the Boeing celebration. Gus Krajcek called to see if I was going to *it*

Walt Correll of the B-17 Combat Crewmen & Wingman Assoc. of South Gate, Calif. sent me a lot of info concerning the event. Boeing is setting aside \$ 250,000 for the 3 day event. I informed him every one had a chance to form a committee and the event at Seattle but every one had the idea but no one wanted the responsibility and the work of handling the reunion. I got an answer from him but it wasn't to friendly. He also sent me Reg Thayer address.

I got a letter in March from Connie Richard and a big tube of 5 (17x30) pictures (Colored) showing the B-17's with British marking RAF Sqn 90. I had no idea they were coming. I was to send one to Starzynski, Levy, Bob Herman, Collins and one for me. It cost her about \$ 8 to send them. I don't know what I will do with my copy. I didn't get off easy, it cost me about \$ 2 to send each picture. Ha!! *ha!*

I am including copy of part of the letter and a picture of Connie and the Lord Mayor of Bedford. You can keep the picture after you are thru with it.

I know you will appreciate the article "Bombadiers, Inc." I got it out of the last issue of A.F. Times. Bill Mace (Victorville 44-3) was in my class.

I have yet to send Bill Collins the (17x30) pictures. I will try to get it done soon. I also have to send an answer to Connie that I received the pictures and have sent them to people here in the States.

Some years ago I got this picture of the Operations staff of the 368th B. Sqn. I put the names on the back. You might want to put it in the Echoes some time. I believe it is the same pictures which is

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

on the 306th Micro film. Probaly taken late May or early June 1945

I thought Reg Robinson gave an excellent resume of the Reunion and the suggestion for future reunions was great. As you and I have discussed he mentioned to allow more time for visiting, less scheduled events, and some optional events which they have taken care at Colorado Springs.

What is the latest out of Colorado. How many have signed up for it? I got my name in and sent in my registration. I haven't sent in my motel reservation but will soon.

Say you were wrong about the 8th Biographical Directory it wasn't \$ 20 but \$ 25 per copy. Thanks for my copy, I have it covered with plastic as my other books. I have referred to it many times. I won't tell the 8th wheels.

I see the 8th reunion will run from Tuesday thru Sunday. I should send them my copy of suggestion for future reunions by our Ft. Worth committee. That is just too long a time for a reunion, and I noticed in small print on the plans. "The prices should be right this time"

As for the Bordners we were gone Jan 17-Feb 5, 1985 Fla and S. Carolina Babysitting in DuBois, Pa. Feb 15-March 5 then back to Fla and New Orleans April 4-Apr 23, 1985. . So you can see we were gone a little time, I have plenty to do here. I started paneling my basement in mid Nov 1984 and am trying to finish it now.

How did your meeting go at Dayton's? 10 people to work on a reunion seem to be great. I'm sure was a lot more than at Omaha.

I am send Don Ross a copy of Bombadier Due

How are your questionnaires doing on P.O.A.?
Do you have suggested reading for me?

I can use a few more when you have time
Again Russ. Sorry about the slowness in the writing. I sure appreciate all the info. If I can help with anything let me know.

Hope I haven't sent
to much stuff. I
probably have forgotten
something

As Ever
Rayh

P.S. Larry Ames said "He could
furnish an orchestra for the
reunion??"

Couples



Mr. and Mrs. Bordner

Bordner anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Bordner of East Peoria will celebrate their 40th anniversary June 22, with a reception given at First United Methodist Church, 154 E. Washington Ave., in East Peoria.

Mr. Bordner and the former Flora Nell Reeves were married Feb. 1, 1946, at First Methodist in Marengo.

A celebration in honor of the couple was given by their children.

They are the parents of Lillian Marie Smith, DuBois, Pa.; JoAnn Oetzel, Germantown Hills, Metamora; and Edward Bordner, Vero Beach, Fla. They also have eight grandchildren.

Mr. Bordner was the superintendent of Robein Grade School in East Peoria.

Mrs. Bordner was employed by Fondulac Library in East Peoria.

The couple request no gifts.



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

1 August 1986

Dear Russ:

I have appreciated all the info sent to me this summer. I am sorry I didn't get a note off sooner. The whole month was shot with anniversary events held here. My step sister arrived June 3 and stayed a few days before traveling around seeing firends. My family started to arriving June 17 and we had 8 grandchildren around the area or here until June 28th. We also had about 10 other relatives here. Nell went down to see her sister July 11-18 in S. Carolina. She found the ~~bad~~ cancer had enlarged to a grapefruit size and she wanted to visit her now. She is doing fair considering the size of the cancea.

Your letter to Dellon Bumgardner was a nice invitation. Nell and I got a call from him about the 25 th of June. He was going to at an Air Show in Mt. Comfort Indiana. He wanted Nell and I to come down. His wife was along so we went down and spent Sat, Sun with them. The plane really looked good. They had it down for three years. The flew it in the Air Show. They were going on to Liberty Celebration but he said it had been out of the shop for ~~only~~ a couple of weeks and their was still some bugs in the engines. I was chicken I turned down a ride but their were a lot of wheels and host of the air show who wanted rides so I turned it down. Nell and I help around the plane. Nell helped sell T-Shirst etc. and I helped with the tours thru the plane. They stopped at Memphis on the way up and had diner at the 91st Restaurant. He says the Memphis Belle really looked in bad shape. He wished he had it at an Air Show. He said the Name would draw peopl like flies. He get \$2 for a Texas Raider but he thinks he could get \$ 10 for the Memphis Belle. In all the plane looked in great shape but they went back to Houston and are going out for Air Shows and then back home.

I got a letter from John Ryan, appointing me to the nominatin committee. I have already sent in my nominations for the positions. Shuller, Bordner, Robt Williams, Andy Vangalis and Joe Consolmango were on the committee. John was going to write Bill a note on the Treasurer job. He was going to ask him about his health and if he wanted to give up the job for health reasons. I wonder how the nominations turned out. John made some suggestions. One for Pres was one you and I talked about last year. I think Reg would make a good Pres.

Say your article by Kenneth Yass was interesting to me. Donald Sandercock slept across from me Oct, Nov, Dec before I moved to the Sqdn Bomb room in Jan. I droped him a note. Also Lou Krezemien was his bombardier. So far C. Levy, C Holt, D. Bumgardner C. Niblack, Wm Breslin, and Chris Christiansen are some from our old barracks in the 368th on our list.

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

I appreciated the letter of Delmar Wilson and the article on Armstrong. I have both Few Great Captains and Forged in Fire and read many times the description of the events effecting the 306th. I guess when the Air Force expanded many friend of friends got positions in the service. I presume the Army and Navy had the same problems but I don't think they expanded a fast and as large as the Air Force. It would be interesting to see who was on Eaker staff and the background of the people. In your directory of the 8th AF. I see a Col Talma Imalay He was my last CO in Sept 1945 at Federick Okla. He left there for Randolph. He wanted me to go there and get in the Education Field. I said No Thanks. I was club officer and many mornings we had to send breakfast over to the guest rooms(VIP) for the Col. It seems he couldn't make it home. I don't know what an ASST Air Insp for 8th BC or 8th AF. qualification were but he wasn't much of a C.O. Your article on the Antwerp was interesting, Bob Seelos told me a little about it but his remarks were of Gen Armstrong running home and leaving his crews to fight their way home. His remarks were ~~not~~ kind of Armstrong.

The article on the 306th BG. Restaurant was given to last Friday, My son-in-law grandfather lives only about 1/2 mile from the restaurant and saw the artilce. I guess when you are in the restaurant business you take any customers even hippies. We were their around the end of Jan this year and they seemed to be doing a good business.

Thanks for the IRS info. it is as clear as any of the IRS info. Last year they filled out a form for me and this year I filled it out as they did it last year, I showed it to them this year and lo! behold! they said I couldn't do it that way. So you never know.

I still havn't heard from England. Maybe their Xmas card was a letter. I see where Bill Flanagan will be here this year. I hope he has a report on the museum money for this year? Is the Tamarac fellow coming this year? I didn't see Perlmutter name on the list or George Roberts on the list. I will miss D'Amato's cigar????

I am including some article I have received from other people "Memphis Belle" it was in the Memphis paper when I was there in April. I don't know if they raised any money yet. As I stated Earlier Dellon Bumgardner saw it in late June and it still looked the same and it didn't appear that anything was being done.

Did you hear anything on the "Rose of York" from the Woolnough.? I saw the plane many times park in the 367th area when I was at Thurleigh. Maybe their was another plane of the same name. Say have you seen Eaker new book. I will try to get at the library system. Also Aerial Gunners: The Unknown Aces of World War II I didn't know Snuffy Smith flew enogh missions to shoot down 5 Planes.

I am looking forward to the reunion. Nell and I plan to leave on Tues and be in the area a day early. We plan to go east to see daughter and family after the reunion in Pennsylvania. Again thanks for all the good info and if you find any more please sent it on. It is appreciated here.

I see where Collins is registered. I haven't heard from Bill for nearly 2 yrs. He used to send me a note or two. I think Xmas Cards from Betty

As Ever your friend

Ralph

P.S. also a letter from Bob Dodge. a little politics you see Bob matched Hurling & Sutton friend got the job after Levak left. Sam Hatten had more time than Thayer but Thayer got the Sqdn Bomb Job.

~~Don Pembold (423) Oil City P.A. 16301 (pilot)~~

Richard S. Gray Upper Marlboro, MD, 306th

↓
11208 Brooklee drive

I saw the above names in the Texas Raider sign in book. I looked up Grays name in Upper Marlboro telephone book. I dropped both a line and told them I was sending their names to you.

Sam Hutton was lead bomb before me
He, Ross & I were close friends. They
came to 368th after a tour was 15th
in Sept, 1944. I thought Sam
would get the job after I left
in late Feb 1945. I was really
surprised when I got the 368th
history that Sam didn't make
it - I wasn't included in the
offer that ha!

17 August 1985

Dear Ralph:

Enjoyed your long letter, and will try to respond to it.

Bill Collins called me Friday night and we had a long conversation. He sounded more like himself than he has in quite some time. On several occasions I have wondered if he was still in an alcoholic cloud of some kind. But this time he sounded cold sober. I shall try to reach Betty some time soon and see if there is any improvement.

He has resigned as 306th treasurer, with some urging from Ryan, and thinks they may have trouble finding anyone. But, I think Demetrius Chakiris may take the job. I have taken over several duties that Bill had performed, I guess thinking that I can do them better as long as I handle addresses, mailing, etc. We have had a ton of address changes since the directory came out, plus losing about thirty names. I will publish the names in the next Echoes and perhaps someone can help us locate them. Also have a number of deaths to report. The directory, again, shook some out that we had not known about.

I wouldn't have passed up a chance to fly in the 17! June might not have been happy, but I'd have gone.

Today is our 40th, but no pictures in the paper or any announcement of it.

Have you seen the new LeMay biography? Del Wilson is reviewing it for the next issue of Echoes, which may be interesting, as Wilson saw him close up many times in the 8th, and probably crossed paths with him a bit later, as well.

As to Seelos' remarks--Armstrong wasn't flying the plane, and it was bad form to pull a group out to try to rescue planes in trouble. It would only have meant that more planes were shot down. Wilson and Regan were flying the airplane, and I am sure that Wilson made the hardnosed decision, correctly, to keep right on flying. Seelos' plane, and the others, weren't going home anyway, and to slow down or to circle to try to save them would only have promoted more losses.

The reunion registration is up to about 575 names now and growing, as it will until the event opens, and I think we will see some other new names. Perlmutter, along with Ed Gregory, won't come back often because they can't run the whole affair. Ryan wants to try to get the money away from Flanagan this year and have it all in one treasury, which is what should happen. I don't know how he will maneuver it.

Bordner - 2

Haven't heard if D'Amato is coming or not. I really don't care one way or the other. Last year in the board meeting he said nothing. Also, I don't know about the Richards. I haven't heard from them in about a month.

I talked to Woolnough about the Rose of York, and then wrote him the letter you saw in Echoes. Gregory and George Roberts both wrote to straighten out the Molesworth aspect. The plane went over there for the afternoon as the King and Queen were there, and the Molesworth CO needed something to bolster his act. Woolnough is very prone to not checking his facts when he publishes things. I suspect he doesn't keep a very good file on anything and therefore can't trace stuff back.

Snuffy didn't shoot down five planes. He flew five missions and got an Air Medal, and then quit combat. His son is now trying to write a book about him. I hope he doesn't put too much garbage in it that was a large part of Snuffy's story as time passed on. The facts were good, his embellishments tended to ruin it.

We will be arriving in Dayton by ~~winnertime~~ on Wednesday, and then leaving for home on Sunday about midday, unless I have to stay for something.

Well, must get to a party, and then think about calling Ryan tonight to get some matters settled.

All the best,



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

13 August 1986

Dear Russ:

Just a short note to inform you of a few things. I have not seen the ["]Grim Reaper sign lately. I have seen it before but I can't remember when. I know ~~the~~ 423rd emblem was changed after ~~the~~ War. I will keep checking on it.

I got a beautiful drawing of me last week it was a B-17 at the top then logo's on the left and then a 5 x 8 drawing of me. I have to give ^{Kessler} Lee a call. I understand he made one of you. I ~~remember~~ he had some at the Ft. Worth meeting. I think there was one of Casey Jones. It sounds like his health isn't too good. He is coming with Wm. Melton. I guess it will be Melton's first trip. We seem to be getting more of the old timers.

The Holiday Inn is filled up and Kessler was refer^{red} to the Ramada Inn. I am glad we got our reservations in early. I ~~had~~ that problem twice with the 8th AF. The one at Phoenix was a late reser^{va}tion but the one at Cincinnati was my own choice to stay across the river at the low rent district. Say on those names of Pembold and Richard Gray. I got the letter back from Pembold and no answer from Gray. The addresses were about 3 yrs old so I guess people ^{has} have changed. The plane was laid up for three years. I told him to get new ones to me in the future. I will forward them to you. Say I have Freemans 8th AF Dairy of Mission and

in it is the picture of Queen Elizabeth, Doolittle, Robinson and others
ALWAYS FIRST **FIRST OVER GERMANY**

in front of the Rose of York at Thurleigh home of the 306th. Woolnough never checks his sources before he prints his mail call.

Haven't heard from Bill Collins? Wonder how he will answer John Ryans letter? Will we have a financial report from Bill Flanagan on the money he has collected over the years. He had \$ 4,000 after the memorial and I don't know how much he collected at Ft. Worth. I did get a note off to the Richards? I don't know who owed who a letter.

I got my other copy of the Echoes. Did Bill send those copies. I think I told you I wrote Don Sandercock a note I wonder if I will get a note from him .

I reread some of 'Forged in Fire' to see if I could see some names of Eaker staff in 8th HDQ. Delmar Wilson remarks made me wonder who the 8 millionaires on Eakers staff. I wonder what other at 306th Hdq had to think of 8th Hdq. Robt Wilson, Rip Riordon, Thurman Shuller for a few who served under Overacker. I know John Ryan was friend of Overacker to the end. Walt Coons seems to be quite frank on his opinions. of things. I know Walt was only Sqdn people but he was there from Wendover. I think I told you I got a note from Bob Dodge who was DeVak asst ops officer and expected to the next 368 OPns Officer but Huling put in his friend Robt Matzke. I expected Sam Hatton to take my place but Reg Thayer got the job. Reg is coming th Dayton. Maybe I find out the scoop after 42 yrs.

Politics were everywhere 8th, Group & Sqdn.
Well I have rambled on enough. Thanks for the info. If I get any on Grim Reaper I will let you know.

*As Ever
Ray*

Oct 27, 1986

Dear Russ:

I am really sorry I forgot to include the article on Snuffy Smith. I mentioned it in the last letter. I sent one to Don Ross, I told him he would probably would *want* to save the article!!!!!!

We were in DeKalb Sunday. The people who raised me ^{*their daughter*} is in a nursing home there. I read that ~~MI~~ lost another game. Two weeks ago they play the Univ of Miami. That Athletic Director must be out of his mind. He said "They need tough games to get with it." Outside of Notre Dame they have schedule that they won't win game one. Well every one like a loser.

Sorry I forgot the article.

Have you heard from England
I'll be looking for a letter from you!



NOTES ON A MEETING OF THE 306TH BOMB GROUP HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
HELD ON FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER 1980

Present: Cyril Norman
Gordon, Connie & Lloyd Richards
John & Diane Mills

In attendance: John Hadfield

Apologies from: Keith & June Paull; Mary Norman

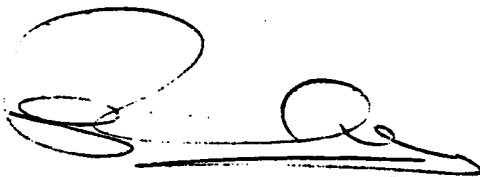
- 1 The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the 306 BG Memorial project, review progress and plan for the future.
- 2 It was agreed that notes of the meeting, and of subsequent meetings, would be circulated to all members of 306 BGHA and to the following 306 BG members who were present at a meeting at Orlando on 2 Nov 80:
- Ralph Bordner
Bill Collins
George Roberts
Thurman Shuller
John Corcoran
Bill Flanagan
Russ Strong
- 3 It was agreed that, in recognition of his great interest and the considerable assistance which he had already rendered, John Hadfield should be offered full membership of 306 BGHA. John accepted this and took his place at the table.
- 4 Gordon gave a resume of the points discussed at the Orlando meeting. Briefly, we are authorised to proceed with arrangements for the erection of a memorial on the site proposed, to be dedicated during a Group UK reunion, hopefully in the Autumn of 1981. Donations had been called for from 306th members attending the Orlando reunion and the sum of \$4030 had already been given.
- 5 John Mills then read a letter received from George Roberts, in which it was stated that George is to be our main contact in the USA, but that Bill Flanagan is looking after financial matters and cheques would be co-signed by Bill and George. In the UK, it is their wish that decisions should be the consensus of Gordon and John Mills and all bills should be approved by these two. In subsequent discussion, it was agreed that any major decision would however be put to a full meeting of 306 BGHA rather than left just to Gordon and John.
- 6 Gordon reported that he had already contacted Geere & Co Ltd, Stonemasons, of Luton. Their representatives recommend the use of granite, rather than the Bedfordshire stone which had been suggested, as the latter does not weather well in the open. They are to draw up two or three alternative designs for submission to the USA Committee. Their initial rough cost estimate is £3000 + Value Added Tax at 15%. Gordon discussed the question of Value Added Tax with a representative of HM Customs and Excise, hoping to find a way to avoid liability, but this seems unlikely; however, we will continue to pursue this point until we are absolutely certain, one way or the other. We await the final version of the inscription from George and Bill.

7 The black and white photographs of the site which had been requested for publication in "Echoes" have already been sent; it was felt best to send negatives, as prints of the most convenient size could then be produced as required.

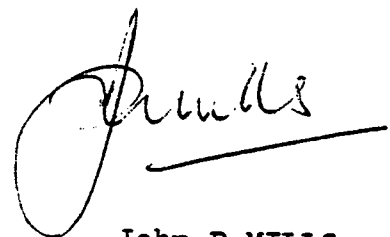
8 Gordon reported that at the Orlando meeting it was suggested that as we would need a Petty Cash float, the balance remaining in the UK 306 BGHA a/c could be applied to this. It was therefore agreed to transfer the Balance of approximately £48 to a current account at the National Westminster Bank, Allhallows, Bedford; this branch was chosen as no member of 306 BGHA currently has any other account there, as far as is known. Co-signatories would be Connie and Di. A Petty Cash account would be kept.

9 John Mills expressed doubt as to whether the Autumn 1981 target was realistic. If there was to be a Group UK trip involving possibly 200 or more people, we would need to make hotel reservations quite soon, apart from all the other arrangements; however, we could not possibly proceed with such matters until we had a much better indication of the likely time necessary for the formalities over the memorial and its erection. We must also remember that any dignitaries whom we may wish to invite would inevitably need a considerable period of notice in order to fit the engagement into their diaries. We must avoid at all costs committing ourselves to a firm 1981 date, only to find that the project takes longer than expected. Should we not plan instead for a dedication in the Spring of 1982, thus ensuring that we have sufficient time? It was then suggested that other FOTE members have had recent experience in these matters and we should ask advice. David Crow in particular has already played a large part in the erection of the 91 BG Memorial and is now engaged in a similar project for 355 FG; John undertook to contact him and ask his advice, possibly setting up a meeting at which this and other helpful points could be discussed.

10 It was agreed that a comprehensive photographic record of the project would be kept, primarily in "still" form but with possibly some movie, especially of the actual erection and dedication.



Gordon B RICHARDS



John P MILLS

After-note David Crow was contacted on 23 Nov 80. He has just recovered from an operation and is unable to travel at present. However, on the specific subject of the time necessary for such a project, he considers that a realistic minimum period of two years is required. He gave this opinion ~~before~~ before the specific question was asked. As we are already part-way along the road, we could perhaps get by with eighteen months, but less than a year does seem a little optimistic.



31 December 1980

Members at 2 Nov 80 meeting

Ralph Bordner
Bill Collins
George Roberts
Thurman Shuller
John Corcoran
Bill Flanagan
Russell Strong

I am inclosing some minutes from the 306th Bomb Group Historical Assoc, in England. I am writing John Mills suggesting a correction in minutes as inclosed. I have underlined the sentence which says "but that Bill Flanagan is looking after financial matters and cheques would be co-signed by Bill and George." I would correct the part to read as follows " cheques are to co-signed by any two of the three registered signatures, Bill Flanagan, George Roberts, and Ralph Bordner."

I know this is a small item but to an ex-old school administrator who has had experience with auditors, I would suggest this correction and in addition now that the project has grown to 3000 quid or about \$ 7,000 all financial reporting should be clear, accurate, and correct on all items.

Report on 1981 Reunion

I have written to 92nd, and 390th on their separate reunions and the 351st who had their 1979 reunion in conjunction with the 9th at Phoenix. I had an answer from the 351st before Xmas and hope to hear from the others after Xmas. I will try to get copies of answers to included names in this letter plus a copy to England. I will then start forming plans for the 1981 Reunion. at Minneapolis. I will also get news items to Russ. Strong. I have already have some offers to help in in planning, typing etc for the reunions which is very nice.



Ralph E. Bordner
131 East Autumn Lane
East Peoria, Illinois,
61611



306th Bomb Group Historical Association

Info on to Bordner

An Association formed to commemorate the history of the 306th Bomb Group of the U.S. Army 8th Air Force and the achievements of its personnel based at Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England 1942-45.

action ltr to Flanagan & Permutter
G.

Minutes of a meeting held at 16 Ibbett Close, Kempston on Saturday, 3rd March 1984.

Present : Ralph and Daphne Franklin
John Hadfield
John and Diane Mills
Cyril and Mary Norman
Connie Richards
Apologies: Gordon Richards (sick)
Lloyd Richards

orig

- | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------|
| 1. | <u>Mildenhall Air Display, 9/10 June</u>
Agreed that we will exhibit the 306th display on Sunday 10th June, provided we are assured of suitable accommodation unlike last year. JPM undertook to contact 306 SW and discuss | <u>Action</u>

JPM |
| 2. | <u>Chicksands Fete, 30 June/1 July</u>
Agreed that we would exhibit the 306th display on Sunday 1st July. It was hoped that we could be allocated the Orangery, as for the last two years. The 39/45 Military Vehicle Group are also appearing on 1st July. JPM undertook to liaise | JPM |
| 3. | <u>Other displays, functions etc.</u>
a. Henlow Spring Bank Holiday Gala. If an invitation is received, we should think very hard, as this is not a very suitable venue for our style of exhibit.
b. Agreed that we should not for the time being undertake any other commitments in the form of village or school fetes, as we may be fairly heavily committed to museum work in the foreseeable future.
c. Glenn Miller Commemorative Dance, Corn Exchange, 14th August April . The organisers had invited us, through Connie, to stage a 306th exhibit. It was felt that the feasibility and advisability of this was doubtful and that our participation could be best limited to the provision of suitably uniformed personnel to lend "atmosphere".
Connie will liaise. | CR |
| 4. | <u>Memorial Day Celebrations</u>
Confirmation was awaited of the date of the Madingly Ceremony. However, it was believed that it may be a week earlier than usual in order not to clash with the D-Day 40th Anniversary celebrations in early June. | |
| 5. | <u>306 BG Museum Project</u>
DI read George Roberts's letter of 16th November 83. Ralph confirmed that verbal approval had been given for our use of a building on the RAF Officers Mess Site. Written confirmation was awaited. The designated building is very suitable, being an original WW2 structure of "barrack hut" | |

size and construction. It is in fairly sound condition, although needing some work to fit it for the purpose. Ralph foresees few or no legal problems over its take-over as the Ministry of Defence has already written it off and its status is that of a "non-building". Ralph will advise developments as they arise.

RF

Other points:

- a. As our representative at RAE, it was felt that Ralph was best suited for the position of Museum Co-ordinator. This he accepted.
- b. No action should be taken towards renovating the building or setting up the museum until written MOD approval is received. Agreed.
- c. Finance

- i. What funds are at present set aside for museum purposes and should they now be remitted to us for investment in the UK so as to be readily available when required?
- ii. What arrangements must we make to cover future ongoing expenses such as maintenance, heating, lighting, insurance?
It was felt that as 306 BGHA members will be giving freely of their time and skills, they should not be expected to contribute financially. There should therefore be a contingency fund, suitable invested. This must be discussed further.
- iii. Should we undertake fund-raising activities locally?
- iv. We should canvass for as much voluntary help as possible from friends, especially for building maintenance, decorating, provision of display facilities, etc.

Comments
please,
George.

d. Security.

This is obviously very important. Whilst the building is on an inhabited site and is therefore hopefully not too vulnerable, it must nonetheless be made as secure as possible by means of door and window protection.

- e. Consideration should be given to the disposition of museum exhibits in the event of the winding up of the operation, for whatever reason. The action to be taken would depend first on whether an exhibit had been given outright or placed in the museum on long-term loan. Discussion regarding disposition of outright gifts must be the responsibility of the joint Anglo/US Committees, but individual lenders should be given the option of stating their instruction for disposition of items on loan. John Mills suggested that all donors and lenders should be requested to complete a form setting out their instructions.

The major options appear to be:

- a. Outright gift: Future disposition at discretion of committee.
- b. Loan. Possible future disposition:
 1. Return to lender or his heirs

- 2
- ii. Donate to 8AFMMF exhibit, Duxford.
 - iii. Donate to 8AF museum, Barksdale.
 - iv. Donate to AF museum, Dayton.
 - v. Any other instruction by lender.

Opinion
please,
George

Copy to US Museum Committee, through George Roberts

RF/DJM

Afternote 6 March 1984

Gordon has heard from the Chicksands Fete Organiser that

- a. Because of the risk of disruption by unruly and politically-motivated elements, there is doubt as to whether the Chicksands Fete will be held this year, and
- b. If it is held, it will be a week later than originally thought, i.e. 7/8 July.

We await further news from Chicksands.

Date of Madingley Memorial Day celebrations is Sunday 3 June.

49 30th Street
Gulfport, MS. 39501
March 6, 1984(Mardi Gras)

Dear Ralph: Thought I would keep you up to date on the museum progress. I talked with John Mills last Friday, March 2 and they have received the OK from the RAE to take over the building at Thurleigh. They still do not have a written agreement and as a result are proceeding slowly. They(306th friends in the Bedford area) were meeting Sunday, March 4 to get the thing in contract form and lay out a plan/timetable for building restoration and museum organization.

In writing to both Mills and Franklin(he works for the RAE) I asked for the following:

1. Identify my contact at their side on all museum matters. At the same time, I advised them that I am the contact for the group over here.
2. As soon as possible give me some cost estimates, museum needs and a timetable for project start to completion.

In talking with Mills, this information would be forthcoming shortly. My concern Ralph is we do not want to offend anyone as happened with the memoria. There were too many individual contacts and independent actions that neither the officers or the memorial committe knew about.

Had a call this morning from Bert Perlmutter. He wants to set up a reunion to the UK in May 85 supposedly for museum dedication and opening. Seems that the travel agent near him Dick D'Amato, is pushing for this and has already tentavily reserved spaces in the Moat and Swan. I told Bert that any group efforts toward a reunion should be coordinated with and approved by the 306th officers, and suggested that he and D'Amato contact you. My interest is not with reunions, rather with getting the museum completed.

I read with interest that the last issue of Echo's stated we had \$50 in the museum fund. This is an error. Flanagan has over \$2000 in this fund left over from the memorial and this is to be used for the museum. He is also ready to raise more when the need arises. Incidentally, he and Perlmutter have agreed to help on the project. Bert sort of wormed his way in, but he is a good worker.

Mills also advised me that the 306th people over ^{there} are very much opposed to the fund set up by Hollis Baker.

Ralph. have you advised Russ and Collins about the museum committee? They need to know about this so they aren't dealing with other individuals about museum matters. I will submit progress reports to Echoes as needed.

This has been a bitter winter and still cold in March. We are expected to get into the low 30's tonight and here I am with a house full of tomatoe plants and can't plant them.

I trust everything is OK in Illinois, should you get near Slidell again give me a ring, or better yet come see us.

Sincerely,


George

Ralph Franklin
Mill Hill
Keysoe Road, Bedford
MK 44 2HP

49 30th Street
Gulfport, MS 39501 USA
April 3, 1984

Dear Ralph & All Members of the 306th HS:

This is in reply to those minutes of the 306th HS meeting pertaining to the planned 306th BG museum. (these were provided our committee in USA by the Mills'.)

1. We agree that no formal actions toward museum realization should be started until written confirmation on use of the building is received from MOD.
2. As soon as this is received we will need estimates for:
 - a. Building renovation and purchase of needed furniture, display cases etc.
 - b. Annual costs for maintenance, lighting, heating and insurance.

The above estimates are necessary so that we may determine our financial needs and the extent of fund raising required among former 306th members.

3. We concur that the 306th HS should have a bank account in the Bedford area from which to draw renovation funds. (When MOD written is received we will need the following information in planning for a funds transfer:
 - a. Where are funds to be deposited?
 - b. Names of two or three signatories required for funds withdrawal?
 - c. What amount is needed to get the account opened and the project started?
(Note) we require two of three signatures over here (Flanagan, Bordner or myself)
4. We would like a photo of the building inside and out with a brief floor plan sketch ^{that} we would like to submit to Echoes with our recurring progress reports.
5. Are there any critical items (memorabilia) needed for the museum, and what is not needed? As an example there is apt to be too many flight jackets or caps etc.
6. When things get under way please advise us of any peculiar item needed for the building, perhaps we can help. As an example, Perlmutter may have a lead on de-humidifiers which will probably be needed to prevent rotting of cloth and leather items.
7. We suggest contributions be accepted under one of the following conditions:
 - a. Return to lender in the event museum is closed.
 - b. Forward to another museum in the event our museum is closed.
 - X c. Give to the 306th HS for their use as determined by the membership.

*Note from Search
Roberts*

8. Bert Perlmutter called me in regard to a proposed reunion dedication in May 1985. Please be advised that any date for an opening or a dedication must be whole heartedly approved by your organization and approved by the 306BG officers. We would recommend such date or event to our officers only after your blessing is received. I am fully aware of the lead time required to secure hotels, transportation etc., but suggest you not rush into any commitment which may be difficult to honor.

In the event a Bedford reunion becomes a reality in conjunction with the museum opening, we would like, of necessity, ^{to say} in the promotional expenses to be incurred. While I anticipate no great difficulty in mounting a fund drive, the majority of our veterans are now in their mid-sixties and retired. Additionally, our numbers are decreasing. Finally, we need to plan for those recurring expenses enumerated previously in paragraph 2b. This will require a substantial savings account in the coming years.

I hope that I have not put too much of a damper on the eagerness of all of you with my requests for information etc. We appreciate so much the efforts of everyone in the best support organization in the UK. Feel free to call on us as needed and keep a brief record of your out-of-pocket expenses. We will see to it that you are reimbursed for any pictures, correspondence, postage, and if needed long distance calls.

Our grateful thanks, and best wishes to you all.

For the 306th Museum Committee

George Roberts

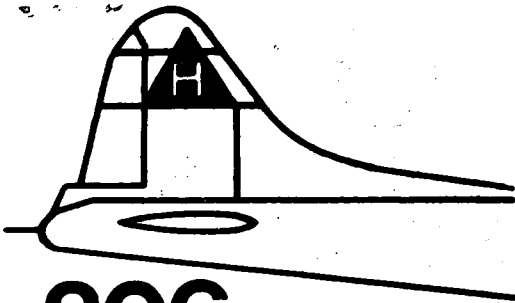
George Roberts
cy: Bordner, Flanagan, Perlmutter

of which:

No doubt Perlmutter has contacted you regarding proposed 85 dedication, reunion in Bedford. I think you & explain my position. This is a decision to be made by you, Strong, Hollins et al. We will make a recommendation in due time, but advise you to not let Tamara travel rush us into something we cannot meet. We do not
(over)

- Even have a building or mess my funds
out. Also note my second part, page 8.
on spending - I thought we paid out entirely,
100, many honorariums, hundreds in flowers,
see tickets etc. I know Bill and I were
caught by surprise on the cost.

R.



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Oct 24, 1986

Dear Russ:

I will add a cover letter to some material I dug out of my memorial and museum file. I just wanted to give you, John Ryan and Don Ross some idea of my involvement in the matter. I hope it isn't too boring and I hope it can be resolved in the near future. Wm Flanagan has been bugging me at every reunion since Orlando, He missed St. Paul, and Cinn. but hasn't missed any since then. As I stated in my resume he seems to put it off if he doesn't get his way.

Now to personnel things. Nell's sister health is very serious. She is bed ridden, IV feeding, one lung is filled with liquid and really it is a matter of time for her. So we will be going to Anderson S.C. soon.

We were in Penn until Sept 23 and then came home. My heal with the bone spur is still bothering me, will probably go to foot specialist in the future.

Have been getting letters and pictures since the reunion. John Krische sent me pictures taken of the Memorial at Battery Park in New York. The pictures show the names of John Leahy crew lost on the way to England. I sent Earl Schwab a copy of the memorial we got at Colorado Springs and he wrote me a note. He was like others, George DeVak etc who got in reservations too late and got his check back. He was going to the 8th in Hollywood. I got pictures from Reg Thayer and Bob Dodge. Dodge sent me some pictures taken in 1944-45. He is going to send me more. He had picture of he and Don Ross plus some Site #6. He is also researching some material on the crazy rocket propelled bombs that we worked with in late 1944. It was a British invention very long bomb with a rocket booster to penetrate the Sub pens. By Sept 1944 the Sub scare was over but we had to practice with them. Well they were a flop if you didn't put the concrete in the middle the bombs went so deep they didn't even raise the ground when they exploded.

Bob Dodge reported he saw Roy Buchanan ex 368th Sqdn Nav at the classification at Santa Anna in March 1945. I went thru there but I guess I missed him. Charles Niblack (pilot of Dellon Bumgardner) in 368th called me the other morning. I had talked to him since Aug 1944 when he went home. Believe it or not he was trying to find out why the flight surgeon turned him down for a second tour in Aug 1944. I told him to look for his form 5 or his service records either in Denver or St. Louis. In the late 50 I saw my records at Denver and they were very, very complete.

I saw the article on Snuffy Smith in the late AFTimes. I knew he had an English wife (Saw a picture in scrap book of our English friends at Orlando) But I knew of no children. Thought you might like the picture

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

ha' ha!

Well I have read both the Iron Eagle and Air Force Spoken Here Two very interesting people. Eaker had quite a differnt task than LeMay. Both had to deal with Arnold which was quite a task. I guess all three had to be respected for job's they held and the manner they carried them out. Eaker in my mind was smart to not get involved with the politicians like Arnold had earlier and LeMay did after SAC. LeMay just didn't belong in the Washington Circle when he was Chief of Staff. He soon found out the Military didn't run the war's and he was fighting a losing battle with them. But I did enjoy the book up to then. Eaker was smart to retire when he did and not get involved with the Politicians. I purchased the LeMay book. With the local library I got it for (\$12.13) So I can re read things of events which I want to refresh my mind. Did you get the book? You can use mind if you want it? Just let me know.

Thanks for the info on minutes, directory changes etc. I got a list of names from Dellon Bumgardner, I am going over them to see if we have them listed. I have corrected my directory from the list you sent me.

Thanks for the Rose Of York picture. Nell has put it in a frame. I have a place in my room for it by my desk. Also Nell and My daughter got a frame the picture painted by Lee Kessler. By the way I called him one noon and before I got off the phone the bill was \$ 16.96) That will no way pay for the picture but Lee liked to talk Aganin thanks for the picture. Also did you see the latest in the 8th AFNews on the Rose. I guess the pilot gave the reason for the plane was up at Molesworth. I was down on the line when the planes came back from Berlin and the Rose went down.

Say I just got another note from John Krsche. The Mounment at Battery Park says for Americas son who leep in the Atlantic Ocean. He got me photos of the names except Charles Carlton. He also sent me history of his enlistment in the Service. It is quite interesting/ I am sending you a copy.

It is people like John Krsche that I am happy we got the 306th reunions going. It was either at Omaha or Ft. Worth that I met him He had seen our reunion advertised in the Am.Legion Mag and attended and I have made a point to talk to him at all reunion and the pride he has to attend and the friends he has made makes it all worth while.

Also Glenn Korf and his wife could not get to our table so he went to another table at the banquet. After wards I apologized to him he said forget it. When he and his wife sat down they were strangers but after the dinner I felt like they were old friends. Again that is another plus for the 306th reunions. Russ they are getting so big I have troulbe getting around to see old friends. And I don't miss old friends like Warren Borges!!!! I see he is contact man for the 25th BG and Mass Chapter of the 8th Af. I agree with John Ryan our money should go for the 306th activities and future things at the AF Academy.

Russ. I have to^{go} over town with Nell(a trip I don't enjoy) but thanks for all the info. I hope the material on the memorial and the museum is too overbearing but I just had to get the info out to the Past Pres, New Pres and you. Again I hope it can be resolved in the near future.

*As Ever
Relfe*

P.S. That instrument between the bombsdiers Bordner and Thayer is the famous Norden Bombsight!!!!!!!I thought you navigators might like to know!!!!!!!

Resume of Ralph E. Bordner involvement in Memorial & Museum Fund of
the 306th BG. Association

On March 1980 I received a copy of a letter dated March 1980 from Russ Strong written as a response from a letter from George Roberts dated Feb 14, 1980. The main subject of both letters was a 306th Memorial to be built in Thurleigh England. As I was listed a Pres of the 306 B.G. Assoc for IRS purpose Russ thought it would be a good idea for me to contact George Robertson the subjects and if possible have some idea for the mini reunion with the 8AFHS at Orlando in Oct 1980. In late 1979 I had talked with John Grimm on a memorial for the 306th at Dayton so I had two memorials in mind when I went to Orlando.

Well after 5 Or 6 letters from George Roberts and from the Friends of the 306th in England we came to Orlando with a ball park figure for a memorial plus a place for the memorial at the old 40 CBW area (now the RAE Officer mess area) Also during the time from March 1980 and Oct 1980 William Flanagan joined the comittee with myself, Roberts and the Friends in England.

So at Orlando I had John Grimm with figures for a memorial at Dayton and the idea for Thurleigh. So the idea for England was presented first John Grimm and I decided to put the Dayton idea on hold for now.

As you all know the idea was put through and the money was raised and the memorial was dedicated in Oct 1982 in spite of the fact that the state side 306th mini reunion was decided with the 8th AFHS before the date was set for the Memorial dedication in England.

I am inclosing some copies of letters concerning money and other things about the memorial in England. One concerns the cheques co-signed by George Roberts and Wm Flanagan and my answer that it should be co-signed by 2 of the registered signatures of George Roberts, Wm Flanagan and Ralph Bordner. I am sorry I did not follow up on the idea so I don't know if two signatures were ever on the cheques. I know George Roberts was in Gulport, Miss. and Flanagan was in Miami Florida.

Well you know from the report on finances printed in the Echoes that about \$4,000 was left over from the memorial fund. The group that was at the dedication decided that the balance would go on a fund for a museum.

The matter was brought briefly at Omaha reunion and as usual for a lack of time and our first 306th reorganization use up quite a bit of time at the business meeting. The matter was carried over to FT. Worth meeting. At Ft. Worth meeting we put over the memorials at AF Academy and one at AF Museum in Dayton. And then we got the museum pitch from Gordon Richards and Wm Flanagan in England. More money was raised and Richards went home and pursued the idea for land and building for the museum. I was still on the comittee and so was George Roberts and Wm Flanagan. Well during the year up to Colorado Springs the idea was hung up on legal matter with the land in England.

I was not at the Directors meeting at Colorado Springs but the idea ~~to~~ to the floor at the business meeting of the 306th BG Assoc at Colorado Springs.

Again prior to the Dayton meeting the museum idea ran into more legal problems and George reported that the museum idea was "Dead" So at the Board of Directors meeting at Dayton, Wm Flanagan was told that museum idea was "DEAD". Also that the Board of Directors decided that the money should be put in the 306th General Fund. Wm Flanagan protested strongly on the idea and finally settled for an article to be printed in the nest 306th Echoes asking donators of their wishes concerning the money before Wm Flanagan would turn over the money to the 306h Treasurer.

continued Memorial and Museum Funds Subject

As I was leaving the banquet room at Dayton Sat Eve Wm Flanagan called me over to his table. He proceeded to give me his feeling on the Board of Directors of the 306th B.G. He started out on Keith Jackson and others on the Board. He said "He would ~~any~~ donee their money back if they wanted it." I asked him "if he had a list" and he said "He remembered every one who donated money." "

Wm Flanagan co-hort Wm Hogan asked him, "How much money was earned on the money" and Flanagan replied "No interest has been earned on it." I can't believe it and I only hope he said that to me for some reason *that* I can't imagine. *how*

In conclusion he was so incensed with hate toward the Board of Directors he broke out in a sweat and had to wipe his face with a handkerchief. Also his wife always stays with him. she left half-way through our conversation.

Looking back as Pres I should have had further investigation into the museum idea but the idea was brought back from England and was let slide along until the fund grew quite large and the legal matters began to arise. to complicated the subject.

I know this letter is quite long but I just want to go over the history of the Memorial & Museum Funds from my association as Pres and a member of the committee.

I hope it can be solved in the near future but my own personnel feeling after listening to Wm Flanagan that night of the banquet, he does not want to give up the memorial & museum fund money to the present Board of Directors. I think he feels that he is the sole protector of the money and he wants the last say in how the money is dispensed. Again in closing I hope this time I am wrong and he turns over the money.

Inclosed are copies of letters from England, George Roberts and a letter from Ralph Bordner to the Committee

Copies of this to
Russell Strong
Donald Ross
John Ryan

From Texas Rebel Log

Trenton N.J. 7-16-86

- 1 Feeney, Eugene J. 409 Linden Ave. Riverton New Jersey, 08077, 368, Hathaway Crew
Wilmington. Airport 7-31-86
- 2 McGonigle (Gunner) 338 Shagbarh, Bear Delaware
- 3 Davis Bob (Radar) 6 Majestic Ct. Wilmington, Del, 19810
Burlington, Vermont
- 4 Danaher, Edward F. (Ball) 368th, Bx 667, Burlington, Vermont, 0541. Hathaway Crew
Roanoke, VA, 8-24-86
- 5 Glassell, J.F. (Pete) Oxy Spec. 1318 Morton Ave. S.E. Roanoke, VA. @4013
- 6 Brooks, Robert B. (tail) 6435 N. Barrens Rd. Roanoke, VA

ROSTER OF BOMBADIERS

- 7 Dowden, Leland A. (Bomb) 4427 Mallard Creek Circle, Stockton, CA, 95207 (369)
- 8 Graham, Andrew L, Jr (Bomb) 708 Wren Dr., Pulaski, VA, 24301, (423)
- 9 Massengale, Herbert W. (Bomb) Rt#3, Box 80, Rpkdale, Texas, 76567 (368)
- 10 Neary, William F. (Bomb) 713 Matchpoint Drive, Virginia Beach Virginia, 23462 (423)
- 11 Orr, Clifford D. (Bomb) 6021 Shenandoah Ave, Calif, 90056 (423)
Baltimaore MD, 7-18, 1985 Texas Rebel Log
- 12 Moore, Harry C. (Eng) 48859 Cherrytree Lane, Sykesville, Maryland, 21784

Strange, Sterling T. 308) P.O.W. Pilot David Ramsey Strange was Bombadier and wounded on mission. P236 First Over Germany

Old list Kansas City Aug 9, 1983 Texas Rebel Log

Brown, Claude R. 71 Seashore Rd, Cape May, New Jersey

Incomplete Wilmington AirPort July 31, 1986

Toomb C.R. Pilot Chaddsford

Strange, Sterling T. was a 306th Bombadier with David Ramsey on the 24 of April 44 to Oberpfaffenhofen. Wounded and became P.O.W He was listed in the Bombadier directory but no address only 306th B.G.

I am including the pages of 300-301 of your book, Carl Hathaway crash landing in Belgium. I bunked next to his bombardier when that happened and Hathaway also lived in the barracks. In your book you describe Danaher being hurt and Feeney offering first aid. Well on 7-16-86 Eugene Feeney signed the log at Trenton N.J. (Texas Rebel) and on Early August Ed Danaher signed the log at Burlington Vt. I just wonder ~~if~~ both were aware of each other. .

The Bombadier names came out of a directory I received recently. Many of 306th Bombadiers are listed (Art. Vann) is included. They are having a big reunion in San Antonio March 26-29 1987



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

24 March 1987

Dear Russ:

I got the vote on the reunions in the mail today. I had planned to include it in this note. I turned 69 yrs today and the selection of reunion sites will effect the attendance to the reunions. We should realize that effect and move the reunions to area so that all that are able can get there. There may be some areas that will not affect it but in the long run as the years go along the effect of those who can not get around as they use to will effect the attendance. I kinda like Atlanta or New Orleans this year but the idea to get West now instead of down the road in a few years. Made me vote to get out there.

Thanks for the info on the picture. Some one mentioned Wiley Glass for the missing name on the upper left. I have no pictures of him with out his hat so I can't identify him. I am including a picture of 423 Staff with some names, Mack McKay was suppose to contact J.W. Wilson at Xmas on the names but I haven't heard anything from him infact I wrote him a follow up note about a month ago. but no answer yet.

I am still working on planes of the 306th but am a little slow and need new avenues to follow. I have many pictures of Planes and names that were not on Clift Bishops book. It is a time consuming effort as you well know in researching your book.

I am working on names of our old Bombardier class. I dropped Hyman Bloom a note the other day and I got a call a few days later. I was questioning another 306er John Bodnaruk who went to 369th on my orders. You had list listed in the Spring Valley NY area so I wrote Hyman. He gave a name and number of a John Bodnaurak in Tappan NY but that wasn't him John lives in Pearl River, NY, 10965 but no address or phone. The fellow said John has a unlisted number but he gave me Bankers Trust is where John worked before he retired. So I am going after that angle. I am also checking out the list you sent out to all I have found a couple who were not 306th ers. Also looking for ex class mates of 44-3 Bombardiers I went back to my order and found out some info I had not been aware of. I knew there were Officers and Flight Officers. Some assigned as instructors, others to replacement units. And one group to 87B Hq. & A B report to directory of Tng. and they were not the one assigned to instructors. In fact a Dean Townsend came to the 368th 28 Jul 1944 (in our barracks.) but back then I didn't ask questions as to how he got there. We went to the 4AF, 18th Repl Wing at Salt Lake City and then to Alex for OTU. I haven't seen Dean Townsend name on our list. Also on the Bombardiers list some were in Italy in 15th and another was in the 5th in the Pacific.

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

On a list sent to by Paul Chryst a JW Clark who was assigned as Inst wound up in Saipan. Say I met a fellow who lives next to John Bennet our Arment Officer. He got out after the war but He had a rough war time I think he was in one of the early Nav Classes at Hondo Tex. 41-17 or some number but most of his class mate wound up on the Pōlesti raid and he stayed as Instructor and flew with ATC states side for the rest of the war. I am including a copy of a letter Paul Chryst wrote to a classmate. I got a kick out of it. His Reserve time was touching. He should have been stuck with 1,000 Guardsmen at summer camp. The C.O and Deputy for Ops were flying up to Alaska and Bordner was stuck with the problems back at the base. Also quote "I'm proud tha the 91st BG Station remains active today" He is right that the base is intact but I think the 306th base is still in business. I will have to inform him of that information. This is the first letter I have received since St. Paul in 1981 when he was bugging everyone for tours. I don't think there are any names on his list that we donot know about.

I am including a copy of a letter I sent to England "Questioning the no answer from England for two years. I got answers from Mills, Richards, and Hadfield but nothing from Cyril and Mary Norman. As you will note I mentioned hearing from Keith and June Paul every year, I know that didn't go over to big with the Richards. I can't find Richards answer but I think I sent that to you earlier. The Mills letter didnt mention too much on the 306th but there involvment with the 92nd but John Hadfield did let the hat out of the bag on the feeling for the big wheeler and dealer Richards. I have met the Franklins but they may be like the Normans and not to much to make waves especially with Connie and Gordon. I always wondered who decided that the Richards take all of the money for the trip to England. I would have like to have it spread out. Lee Kessler said once it ould have been nice if the Mills could have gotten some of the money. You and I know that Cryil and Keith Paul were in this 306th long before the Richards took over. Knowing June Paull, she wasn't one to be bossed by Connie Gordon. I still write them vevery Xmas and get a note in return. I always like Cyril and Mary Norman I made a point to see hime when I was over in 1981 and we had a long talk about the 306th. When I get my list of Planes I am going to send him one copy. I don't know how they are financially but with his sickness that kept him out of work for sometime, They may not be too well off. It would have been nice if he could have made the trip in 1983? That is past history but I thought you would be interested in John Hadfield letter.

Russ I wrote Leon Risk, George DeVak, Robert Dodge, Walt Correll on any info on Rich Cleays but to this date no answers. I even sent return Envelopes but nothing. I wrote the Chicago Public Library but no answer. I plan a follow up. The last try was Richards Claeys class mate Karl Madsen and still no anser. I suppose you have run into the same problems. I am still trying. All I have know is the copy of the St. Charles paper of his death.

Thanks for the picture of "Little Savage" I am inclosing a \$10 to help on getting info on the plane. I am writing John Grimm on Maryland, Maryland, I have a picturd of the plane with Lt Hoover, Ordance in a jeep in front of it. But I have no tail number of the bird.

I guess I have covered a lot of subjects. I wanted to get the info on Friend of the 306th to you. You probably have sensed the feeling from them. Also in the voting on reunios I meant to mention the ideas of help from some firm to handle the reunions, like reservations, buses, etc. I know it was mentioned at Cincinnati. We still plan to be here until late

April - At first we thought the baby was due April 23 but now April 29th. Thanks a ga for all the info. P.S. Will us taking me out for dinner??

As Ever
Ralph



RALPH BORDNER

In August 1977 Nell and I met some wonderful people in Bedford, England. Over the years we have met some of you people twice in the U.S.A.; I had the opportunity to visit the Richards in 1981 for a wonderful 10 days in Bedford for which I will always remeber.

This December we wrote Xmas cards and notes to the Richards, Mills, Normans, Paulls, and John Hadfield. We got one response from the Paulls. We don't expect return Xmas cards from everyone but not response was received from these friends in England. Nell and I only hope everyone is not ill or some other sickness

Nell and I wrote cards and notes to our friends in England, We are Ralph & Nell Bordner and we consider it a privilege to have you people as FRIENDS of BORDNERS. We did not refer in any of the cards or notes to the 306th B.G. Assoc. We did not write the notes or cards as members of the 306th B.G. Assoc but as Ralph and Nell Bordner

Nell and I remeber the short time we had with you people in Bedford and evenings at the Cambridge Motel. I remember the Wonderful 10 days in 1981 in the Bedford area . In particular the trip to the mayors office, lunch at MacDonaldis, and the bus rides to and from Bedford. I also remeber the evenings with John and Di Mills and John taking me to the Airfielld at Bassingborne The Sunday trip to Poddington and picking up strawberries at a road stand coming home. The Richards having Cyril Norman to visit with me before I left for the states.

We will close this note by saying we wish you all had a nice holiday season even though we waited every day hoping to receive some new from our Friends in England.

9 Brook Lane,
Harrold,
Bedford MK43 7BN
4th March 1987.

Dear Ralph & Nell,

Thank you for your letter of 9 Jan. 1987. Well what can I say - I was somewhat embarrassed, but afterwards thought some explanation may help. First of all I certainly appreciate any letters, cards etc that I receive from America, it makes you think that you are remembered - that's nice. In the past I have sent Christmas cards to everyone that I have met from the U.S.A. But now, the cost approx. \$100 can soon mount up when you have 40/50 or so cards to send. Then the 306 over here decided that if we all join together we can spread the cost. The year of 1984, the cost to me was still \$25/30.00 or so, and I have only ever received 10 or so cards/ replies from the U.S.A. Not v. good at all. So the past years I've cut it right back to the "regulars." I know this may sound

terrible, but I had to do something. | For the past
two Christmas's we have not done a joint
306 card because, to be blunt and truthful, we
do not get on at all well with Gordon Richards.
He has dominated the 306 group here and when
any 306 people have come over we have not
had the opportunity to meet them. At this time
I really do not know what is going on - we
only hear about things or even read about
activities in the "306 Echoes". I for one am
very disappointed and leave Gordon to do his thing -
what can I do.

Anyway enough of that; - we read in the
Echoes the 306 are coming back to Bedford in
May 87. That's all I know - and I look forward
to the reunion, and hope that I find out, what
the program is.

In June '87, I get married, here in a local
church, my home is up for sale, as we want
to move away to a town near Oxford, (due west
1 hour, of Bedford.)

Very best wishes to you both,
regards, John Hadfield.
P.S. these comments re-306uk are for your "ears only" - it's our problem.

John and Di Mills
16 Ibbett Close
Kempston
BEDFORD
MK43 9BT
UK

January 1987

Dear *Folks*

Here it is, another New Year, and once again we realise we have failed in our good intentions to keep in regular touch with all our friends, especially those in the USA. To tell the truth, it is becoming impossible - there are so many of you! Oh dear, that is not meant to sound big-headed, but year by year our circle of friends expands as a result of our various interests and activities, especially those connected with the 8th Air Force. This year the family kept us busy during the run-up to Christmas (see below); as a result, one or two cards didn't get sent and news was skimped on those we did send. Hence this mimeograph - please excuse.

1986 was a pretty good year. The family thrives. Di's mother is back with us after her latest trip to New Zealand visiting with her other daughter. For a 75 year old, she sets us an example that's hard to beat; in the past three years, she's been to New Zealand (twice), Canada and the USA. Now she's already planning her next jaunt. She spends so much time away that we wonder whether it was worth extending the house to accommodate her in comfort! Younger daughter Joanne produced her third child just before Christmas; she now has Marcus (5½), Claire (3½) and Christopher. Virginia (daughter number 1), not to be outdone, had already warned us to prepare for another one from her in June 87, to join Stuart (2½ but acts as if he is already about 6). They all spent Christmas with us and it took several days to unwind afterwards; it was great.

We bought a 1942 Jeep in very good condition, in which we attended several military vehicle shows. Although we know it served during WW2 with the US 4th Armored Div in Europe, we are true to the 8th AF and have marked it as a vehicle of the 982nd MP Company which served at Thurleigh with the 306th Bomb Group and was responsible for providing the MP Detachment in Bedford town. Not content with this, we have also got a new car; this^{is} a Polish (yes, honestly) FSO Polonez. That may seem unpatriotic, but the fact is that it is a very well-equipped and stylish compact hatchback for about two-thirds the price of an equivalent British, West European or Japanese vehicle. So we now have two fairly valuable vehicles but only a one-car garage; guess which one is kept in the dry. The jeep, you say - quite right. At present, John is carrying out a few winter maintenance jobs on it which will culminate in a complete repaint.

In June we wound up our part time militaria dealership which we had been sharing with John Hadfield (most of you will remember John). Life was getting just a little too complicated and something had to go; also, John needs to move away from this area for business reasons so running a weekend partnership would have become rather difficult. However, we are all still collecting WW2 militaria, especially anything with 8th AF connections. When we extended the house, we had the loft enlarged and converted into a den to accommodate the collection and aviation library; now we've got lots of space, we said! Guess what - it's full up.

We hoped to visit the USA and possibly attend the 8th AF Reunion in 1986. However, the money just wouldn't quite stretch that far, so we consoled ourselves with two weeks in Crete, where we spent the first half of October in a small fishing village away from the bright lights and went native, sunbathing on the shores of the Mediterranean by day and carousing with the local people at night. The food was good, the booze even better and John can speak more Greek than before (Di still can't fathom it out).

Now we are looking forward to, and planning for, the 92nd Bomb Group visit to Bedford and Podington in May. Preparations are well ahead and if any of the 92nd veterans who are reading this plan to come, we can't guarantee fine weather but we know you will enjoy it nonetheless.

We hope to see at least some of you in 1987. If you are planning a UK trip, please let us know. We didn't extend the house just to make room for Mother, but also to be able to welcome guests. The guest room is not large, but it can accommodate two and has recently been done over. You are welcome.

Our own vacation plans are by no means finalised. We may manage to spend some time in September in the Washington area and take in the 306th Reunion, but are still working on the economics of it. What we both need is a big raise or promotion at work, but that's not very likely. Neither the National Health Service nor the defense contracts world is very lucrative at present; however, we must count our blessings - we could be unemployed.

Have a happy 1987.

Your friends

John & Di

22 February 1987

Dear Ralph & Nell

Believe it or not, we drafted this letter before we received yours of 9 January, but events conspired to delay its despatch until now - the main problem being the new grand-son's hospitalisation for a time with chest trouble. Jo had to stay with him as she is breast-feeding which left us to look after the other two (or I should say Di had to!). Happily he's fine now and all is back to normal. Your letter sure made us stop and take stock. We can only apologise sincerely, refer you to para. 1 overleaf and ask your forgiveness! We do still love you!

Attendance at the 306th Reunion is now unlikely, not only for financial reasons but as a result of the date change announced in Echoes. The new dates clash with other people's vacations in John's office.

Congratulations on the forthcoming grand-child #9. We still have some way to go, don't we? Love ya.

A list of People going to England
Oct 1982

306th Bomb Group

Name List

April 21, 1982

Not on list

Mr. W. Madsen PA 104 9:25 am
700 Robin Ave. JFK.
Palm Harbor Fla.

Mr. Mrs. R. Edels Tw 704 8:45 am
9000 S.E. 6th Oke.
Midwest City Okla. 73130

Mr. Mrs. W. Bornig 040
2348 Old Knoxville Pke
Maryville, Tennessee 37801

Capt. W. Futchik X cell
8100 Altentown Rd.
Fort Washington M.D. 20744

Mr. Mrs. E. Bergeron Tw A 754 7:25 am
South Main St. Boston
New Market N.H. 03857

Mr. Mrs. Wm. Flanagan Tw 770 9:05 am
7515 S.W. 79th Ct. Chicago
Miami Fl. 33143

Mr. W. Bergeron Tw 754 7:10 am
Lakeshore Drive Boston
Northwood N.H. 03857

Mr. Mrs. A. Haapa 040
710 Jasmine Ave.
Corna Del Mar, Calif. 92625

Mr. Mrs. J. Broussard PA 104 9:25 am
Rt. #1 Box 86 JFK.
Grand Chenier, Houston 70643

Mr. Mrs. R. Hermann PA 104 9:25 am
7175 Royal Blvd. JFK.
Elgin, Ill. 60120

Mr. Mrs. L. Cook PA 104 9:25 am
19301 Worchester Lane JFK.
Huntington Beach, Ca. 92646

Mr. Mrs. Wm. Johnson 040
34 Plantation Rd.
Myrtle Beach S.C. 29577

Mr. Mrs. H. Corigliano PA 104 9:25 am
5110 Walnut Park Dr. JFK.
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93111

Mr. Mrs. J. LeRoy PA 104 9:25 am
215 Larkspur JFK.
Portage, Michigan 49081

Mr. Mrs. J. Consolmagno PA 98 7:45 am
751 Cara Drive Tampa.
Englewood Fla. 33533

Mr. Mrs E. Lanich >
3473 Dell Drive
Madison Wis. 53704

Mr. M.T. Donahue PA 104 9:25 am
7545 Rainbow Drive JFK.
Cupertino Calif. 95014

Mr. C. Metz PA 104 9:25 am
1515 Wisconsin Ave. JFK.
St. Cloud Fla. 32769

Mr. Mrs. E. Edwards PA 98 7:45 am
8256 Annwood Rd. Tampa.
Largo Fla. 33543

Mr. Mrs. B. Perlmutter PA 104 9:25 am
4250 N.W. 49 Ter. JFK.
Ft. Lauderdale Fl. 33319

2 circled names not in directory

306th Bomb Group
continued

Name List

April 21, 1982

- ✓ Mr. Mrs. M. Phillips PA104 9²⁵/_{am}
D 424 Garden Acres Dr. JFK.
Forth Worth, Texas 76140
- ✓ Mr. Mrs. W.T. Peckham TW900 8⁴⁵/_{am}
1207 Euclid Dallas.
D P.O. Box #08
Augusta, Kansas 67010
- ✓ Mr. Mrs. R. Roth PA104 9²⁵/_{am}
D 220 Beacon St. JFK
Newington Conn. 06111
- ✓ Mr. Mrs. G. Roberts PA104 9²⁵/_{am}
D 4930th St. JFK.
Gulfport, Mississippi 39501
- ✓ Mr. Mrs. F. Serafin PA104 9²⁵/_{am}
D 118 Lincoln Rd. JFK
Hempstead N.Y. 11550
- ✓ Mr. Mrs. J. Sanders TW900. 8¹⁵/_{A.}
D P.O. Box 834 Dallas
Eldorado, Texas 76936
- ✓ Mr. Mrs. E. Smith TW900 8¹⁵/_{A.}
D Rt. #2 Box 439S Dallas.
Pottsboro, Texas 75076
- ✓ Mr. Mrs. M. Schrader TW560 6⁴⁵/_{am}
D P.O. Box 4 SHL.
Sutter, Ill. 62373
- ✓ Mr. Mrs. R. Sage X Old
D 1853 Rampart Lane
Lansdale, Pa. 19446
- ✓ Mr. W. Carlile TW708 7⁴⁵/_{am}
D 1304 Dartmouth Ave. DE A
Baltimore, Md. 21234
- ✓ Mrs
Mr. D. Sharkey, Jr. TW714 8⁴⁵/_{am}
D 570 North Michael St. JFK
St. Marvs Penn. 15857
- ✓ Mr. Mrs. J. Wirth PA104 9²⁵/_{am}
D 3668 Gay Way JFK.
Riverside, Ca. 92504
- ✓ Mr. R. Zimmerman TW560 6⁴⁵/_{am}
D 531 Flanders Dr. STL.
Warson Woods, St. Louis Mo. 63122
- ✓ Mr. Mrs. R. Welter X Old
D 2649 James St.
Syracuse N.Y. 13206
- ✓ M/M/ E. Goetz PA104 9²⁵/_{am}
D 9 Crestwood Road JFK
Danbury, Ct. 06810
- ✓ Mr/L. Goetz PA104 9²⁵/_{am}
D 19 Germantown Rd. JFK
Danbury, CT. 06810
- ✓ Mr. M. Beck PA104 9²⁵/_{am}
D 19 Germantown Road JFK.
Danbury, CT. 06810
- ✓ Mr. G. T. Antous PA104 JFK. 9²⁵/_{am}
D 10 Alexander "D" Ave.
Danbury Ct. 076810
- ✓ Mr. H. Blank TW756 6⁴⁵/_{am}
D 1517 Lardner St. Phil.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19149
- ✓ M/M/ H. Dolesoy D
D P. O. Box 452
Grant Fl. 32949

✓ M/M/ W. Hoser TW 756 6⁴⁵ am
914 Hartel St. Phila
✓ Phil. Pa. 19111

✓ Mr. K. Cavedo PA 106 7²⁵ am
D Box 748 Dulles
Luray, Va. 22835

✓ Ms. E. Mc Ewan TW 756 6⁴⁵ am
914 Hartel St. Phil
Phil. Pa. 19111

✓ Mr. J. Hammer BA 93 7⁴⁵ am
D 14 California St. Meriden
Woodland Ca. 95695

✓ M/M/ R. Hopper OYO
D 1325 Montclair Way
Los Altos, Ca. 94022

✓ Mr. E.J. Hennessy OYO
D 1 Crossroads of Commerce
Rolling Meadows, Ill. 60008

✓ M/M/ J. Kostal OYO
D 315 Bartram Rd.
Riverdale, Ill. 60546
SIDE

✓ Mr. E. Maliszewski OYO
D 21435 Mark Ave.
St. Clair Shores, Mich. 48080

✓ M/M/ A. La Chasse PA 104 9²⁵ am
D 1321 Howard St.
Glendale, Ca. 91207

✓ Mr. F. Ross OYO TW 714 8²⁵ am
D 4526 1st Ave
Seattle, Wa. 98105

✓ M/M/ T. Leedy OYO
D 95059 Ayres Lane
Junction City, Or. 07448

✓ Dr. Wm. Colontoni TW 714 8⁴⁵ am
D Pitts. Pa.

✓ M/M/ Rader OYO am.
D 1108 Key Drive
Alexandria Va. 22302

✓ M/M/ R. Thomas TW 212 8⁴⁵ am
D RT # 1 Denver
Morrill, Ne. 69358

16

✓ M/M/ D. Wheeler OYO
D 515 Windsor Dr.
Yuba City, Ca. 95991

✓ Ms. C. Young TW 440 9⁰⁵ am
D 1113 Country Club Omaha
Bellevue, Ne. 68005

✓ Mr. R. Zimmerman TW 500 9⁴⁰ am
D 531 Flanders Dr. St. Louis
Warson Woods, Mo. 63122

S2P Prder 251

24 Sept 1944

Hathaway, Carl

Morris, Harold

Poland, Theodore

Fredericks, James

Seaman, Meade, Jr.

Danaher, Edward

Feeney, Eugene

Sohn, Harry

Nordheim, Raymond Jr.

Papevackak

Hathaway Carl died Dec 1967, Jim Frederick use to live near here, Worked for State Farm Ins.

Eugene Feeney. 409 Linden Ave. Riverton, NJ, 08077

Edward F. Danaher, Box 667, Burlington, VT. 05401

According to Strong's book, Seaman Meade was killed on the mission you crashed landed in Belgium

We (306th) has no info on the rest (Poland, Theo) (Morris Harold) (Sohn, Harry) (Nordheim, Ray) and (Popevackak, Marion)

BARKSDALE'S 3RD BOMB GROUP 1940 BOMBARDIER SCHOOL

Edgar L. Pillard, now of 507 Arlington Road, Savannah, GA 31419 (tel: 912/925-2112) falls into the category of being one of the "old timers of bombardiering".

He has a letter dated 27 April 1940 from the 3rd Bombardment Gp (Light) then at Barksdale Field, LA, which expresses the gratification of the group commander for "Sergeants Edgar L. Pillard and James J. Parkman having completed the [bombardier] course with ...excellent scores." The letter concludes by saying "The scores made would have qualified these men as 'Expert Bombardiers' under the provisions of TR (Tenative) 440-40 dated November 26, 1935."

Pillard, who recently joined our organization, took his post graduate work with the 3rd's 13th Bomb Sq in B-25s flying out of Charters Towers, Australia, and Port Moresby, New Guinea in 1942 and 1943.

Bombardiers, Inc., desires to contact and recognize as many of these early-WWII enlisted bombardiers as is possible. If you know of others in this category, get them to contact us or better still, sends their names and addresses to us!

*** IMPORTANT P.O.W. INFORMATION

DOWDEN, Leland A., Big Spring class 43-5, is making his POW name and address information available to anyone interested.

Leland was with the 369th Sq of the 306th Bn Gp. He flew two missions—the first to Gdynia, Poland, and the last on 'Black Thursday' to Scheinfurt, Germany on 14 Oct 1943. The rest of the war he spent in German Hospital camps.

While in each of three camps, Leland composed lists of names with 1940s addresses. He has about a 100 names but there is no linkage to what their units were since this would have been of interest to captors. The camps from which he obtained names and the span of time involved is listed below:

Camp	From	To
Obermassfeld, Ger	21 Oct 43	19 Jul 44
Meiningen, Ger	19 Jul 44	1 Dec 44
Annaberg, Ger	1 Dec 44	14 Jan 45

Anyone desiring to contact Leland on this subject can reach him at 4422 Mallard Creek Circle, Stockton, CA 95207. Space permitting, CROSSHAIRS will carry photographs. Leland is sending.

SOME 1944 CHILDRESS MUSINGS

Arthur A. Thompson, Jr., 11 Aug 1944 graduate in Childress class 44-11, pens some poignant memories of his time at Childress..Share his words:

* Lt. ?? Williams, great instructor, saved two cadet fannies for taking commissioned (female) officers to graduation dance.

* Always hungry when I flew; my nameless cadet partner always throwing up when I would eat a candy bar.

* As far as I know, I was the only cadet ever thrown off of, and run over by a bomb trailer! Happened while in the maneuver area while I was in class 44-9...Hence my graduation with 44-11.

* Take off in AT-11...practice bomb comes loose and falls out of shackle..completed take off holding 100 lb practice bomb in arms.

* Another nameless cadet running across street to another barracks..hit with golf-ball size hail stone and knocked unconscious.

* Tallest man in class ended up in Martin Marauders.

SOME INTERESTING POOP

Ronald E. Lambert, Childress class 44-3, gives us the following tidbits of information.

NATE-THE-FOX, fictional character similar to, but before "Sad Sack", was invented by Childress class 44-3. "Nate-The-Fox" was often called upon to cancel night flying by causing a night fog to engulf the field even though the forecast was for clear weather! [Ed Question: Does anyone have any concept of what "Nate" looked like?]

WINSTON CHURCHILL was aboard the Queen Mary which transported Ronald to England after Roger and others shipped out of Fort Hamilton, New York. Ronald et al proceeded to cross the English Channel on a Liberty Ship. They landed on Omaha Beach (what is now the American Military Cemetery). He was then flown to Cambrai, France as a replacement in the 584th Sqdn of the 394th Bomb Group.

BOMBARDIER AS SQDN NAVIGATOR! After flying 2 or 3 missions with his original crew, Ronald was taken off to take navigator training. He then became squadron navigator and flew his first lead navigator mission as a 2nd Lt. He completed 31 lead missions, 15 as group!

[Ed Question: Are there other cases where a bombardier became sqdn navigator over navigator trained personnel?]



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

2 March 1987

Dear Russ:

I have your book in the box and am sending it U.P.S. today so you will have it back. I am sorry I kept it so long. I have gone over it and have found a few names that he doesn't have for the planes. I ~~have~~ been working on the planes after March 31, 1944 and recently I found the forms of planes assigned to the 306th after March 1944. They are at the end of the 306th history it is the 3rd reel which goes to end of 1946. It has other forms earlier than March 1944 but they are not clear. The only problem is that it doesn't tell what happened to the planes only the planes on board at that time of the month. I have quite a complete picture as of 6 July 1945. I will let you know how I am doing. Did you find any more names that you got after the Echoes articles? I have a couple and will send them to you. Also I have found a couple of names on your look for 306th people.

Russ I am sending a list of names that are not on the 306th list. I think they are quite valid. One source is Texas Rebel Log and the other is the latest Directory of Bombardiers Inc. and I think that is quite real.

I wonder if Danaher and Feeney were aware of the signing of the log of the Texas Rebel. I roomed with Hathaway and his bombardier slept next to me when they crashed. In fact their clothes were gone when they arrived back so we had to lend them some until they came back. Jim Frederick is the fellow who I lent my Bove book in the 60s and he never returned it I couldn't trace him thru the State Fram Ins. Co.

I am still trying to find out names of pictures you gave me that Fran Waugh took. I am including one taking I think down by group Hdqs. I have listed some names I know and some I am guessing. Do you have any name on the picture?

Nell got a letter from Jane Odles daughter. Jame is in a nursing home and is not doing very good. Her ~~emotional~~ attitude is not too good and is not trying to hard to get well. Her daughter ask us to write but make it short and ^{not to} cover too many subjects because she get tired and despondent trying to remember what she is reading.

I have sent in my reservation and am soon ^{Well and in} ~~get~~ my hotel reservation to the hotel. I can always cancel if something comes up. I wonder how reservations are coming in at Washington. I bet some who got caught short last year will get them in earlier this year. Did you discuss anything on next year? Is the idea of having a firm handle the reunion in the future come up lately? I know there are plenty of groups interested After the small reunion at Colorado Springs, a couple of outfits called me on handling our reunions in the future. So I know there are plenty out there even TAMARAC TRAVELS????? *ha! ha!*

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

I am doing O,K, The weight is down to around 186 after over 192 a couple of weeks ago. The loss of weight ~~has~~ helped ease the back pain Nell did put longer straps on my girdle with the metal braces on it and it has ease the pressure on my back. It will just take time for the ~~As~~ ~~ness~~ to go away but the loss of weight will help.

Hope you had a good trip. We will probably leave around the 20th of April the baby is due on April 23. We will want to be there a few days ahead of time.

Say I am reading THOSE WHO FALL by John Muirhead. The library got the book on Feb 15th and I asked for it on Feb 23 so I was lucky I guess I was the first on who signed it out. It is quite interesting and really gives the pilots view of the Air War. It gives the view of different command positions of the air war. I would say it is quite similar to emotions that the 306th went thru in the early 1943 missions. This event took place in early 1944 in the 15th.A.F. It is easy reading compared to Eisenhauser book . Thank for sending me the article on the book.

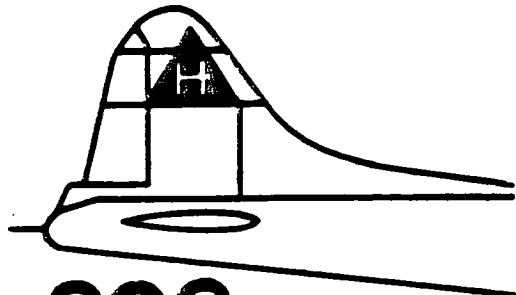
~~Say~~ I have letters to DeVak, Dodge, Risk, And Karl Madsen on Rich Claeys I also sent a letter to the Chicago Public Library. I should be getting some~~in~~ in the near future. Will forward it to you.

Say how is your winter. It is 58 right now and will get to nearly 70 by Sat. We have~~had~~ real mild winter. It was the warmest and driest Feb I think we ever had here.

Until later

As Ever
Ralph

to pass to Russ & Bill



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Secretary/Historian
Russell A. Strong
2041 Hillside
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Author
First Over Germany
Editor
306th Echoes

Ralph:

As you will note from the enclosed copy of a picture, there was a "Little Savage". It appears in the lengthy listing of 306th planes that I have, but no information as to when it appeared or what happened to it. AC# 42-5420.

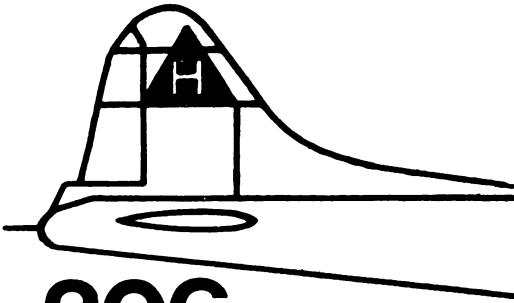
I do not have the # of Judas' plane that crashed on 20 May 43.

According to Bishop #42-29786 - assigned 20 April 1943 (368 BS-N)

As you can see from the accompanying sheet, his crew was flying 42-3214 on the 21st when they were MIA. *a. 423 BS - F.*

For \$10 I could probably ascertain the true facts, and at some point I may send along a check to the proper agency for more detailed information on 42-5420.

*PICTURE ^{on (p.57)} of plane after it "Belled" in
on May 20 1943 (42-29786) (368 BS-N)
Fortresses of the Big Triangle Front*



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

11 April 1987

Dear Russ:

Just a note along with some question on MARYLAND, MARYLAND. I don't know if I told you I had a note from Bill Carille the other day. I question a picture in Bove book of Bill and other tower operators. He said, "He was the good looking one." Also questioned the incident on take off when two planes on the take off runway had a problem. It was on the left side. I was in a plane on the right side. One plane was parked awaiting take-off flares when the plane behind brakes failed and ran into left elevator and then up to the Tokoyo Tanks on the left wing. The planes did not explode and we took off. I don't know what happened to the planes. but I do know they were 368th planes. Bill remembers the incident and still wonders why he stayed in the tower and didn't run. He wonders if the tower kept a log of incident and accidents on the runway

He also put in a pitch for a reunion in Baltimore. He listed some people including himself to head the committee.

Russ before I got your note today I thought of Bill Carille who lives in Baltimore, Maybe he can find out if the Baltimore Sun has it paper on micro film and if it has an index on certain news. Maybe there is a record of a correspondent who was interested in any Maryland news. I finally got a letter from the local library to Chicago Library and am getting the micro film for 1946. I will make copies when I get it. Bill Carille seems to be interested in 306th news. He sent me two pictures the last letter. It was just an idea to find more on Maryland.

I didn't know that Les Turner had died. Nell and I had breakfast with him at Omaha. He said then he hadn't been feeling to good but he made Ft. Worth and Colorado Springs reunions with his wife. He had signed up for Dayton because his name was in the July Echoes I think Russ Houghton mentioned that Les had canceled because health reasons. If he had picture taken in front of his plane like Earl Schwab. It might reveal the Serial Number of the plane. It was just some more ideas to find out more on Maryland, Maryland. I wrote Jack Grimm who gave me the picture but no answer yet.

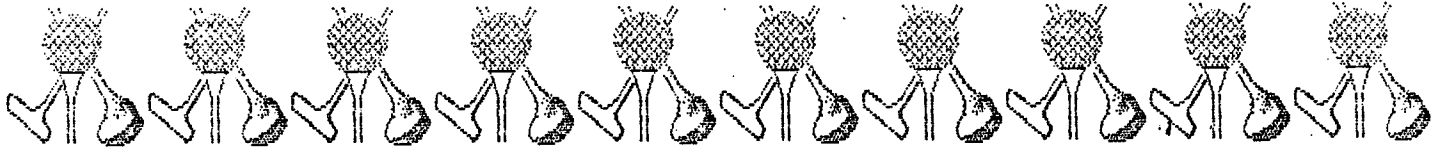
Things are about the same here. It is still the last few days of April 29 or 30 for the new baby to arrive in DuBois Pa. She wants us to wait until about the time before we come out there.

So I will close for now. Thanks for all the info. I will be in touch with you. Hope everyone voted for Las Vegas.

until later

ALWAYS FIRST FIRST OVER GERMANY

Ralph



RALPH BORDNER

11 April 1987

Subject: MARYLAND, MARYLAND


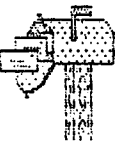
Thanks for information on MARYLAND, MARYLAND. Serial # 42-3363-G
367th BS F Model B-17. Assigned Aug 8, 1943 MIA Dec 22, 1943
Pilot James Winter

Question 1. on above information. According to your book "First Over
Germany" James Winter was flying "Punchy" on a
mission of Dec 22, 1943 to Osnabrook. The plane was
shot down killing Pilot James Winter and co-pilot
Ashley.

Question 2 on above information. From Bishop's book Fortress of
Big Triangle First. Page 242. Plane 42-3363 = F Model
assigned to 306th 14 Aug 1943 367BS "Punchy"
MIA 22 Dec 1943 Pilot James E. Winter

Question 3 on above information. Also Bishop's book Page 176
42-3363 B-17 F Model New Rept 14 Aug 43--MIA 22 Dec 1943

Russ I just looked at the July 1979 and Jan 1980 issues of
Echoes You list MARYLAND, MARYLAND G and PUNCH in July 1979
issue.



131 EAST AUTUMN LANE
EAST PEORIA
ILLINOIS 61611

✓ Letter fr

the plane that was hit and feeling the heat from the very hot exhaust (#1 engine) and also see 100 octane running from the wing rather near that hot exhaust and calling the crash crew to hose that hot area down.

For that action I was mildly chastised because a mere ~~lieutenant~~ "lieutenant" does not make major and Lt. Col's look bad like that. ^{We did a lot of towing of and turning them around to finally get the mission done. Your thing (late 44) seems OK.}

Let's face it Thurligh was a great place to fight a war. (If that action is necessary and it was) and being one of four FCO's on the base certainly had advantages, but being in the tower was a bit dangerous and I have a fairly good sized hole in my right leg to prove it! Believe it or not I got that "wound" by being the only casualty of the 306th one day and I didn't even go on the mission. Fired the signal mortar in front of the tower and the ^{can of} black powder (about 30 lb.) exploded from the concussion. A major standing next to me never got a scratch - RHTIF.

Been turning something over in my mind lately and I wonder if the log from the tower is still available at the base. If we could get those books the 306th would have a marvelous daily listing of events that took place there. Will pursue this straight further with our contacts in Bedford. Maybe they can get the RAF people there to do a little record searching.

We are trying to get the next reunion going as best we can. Here in Baltimore Chuck Hill, Stan Silverstein and myself are on the committee. Genl. Radu is the ramrod and seems to be progressing fairly well. So far I have purchased a 15 ft banner to welcome your people and today ordered a batch of

△ deals that can be applied to four auto or windows at home. They are almost identical to the insignia on the front of our hats. My only concern with the D.C. area location is costs, food etc. is quite expensive and we have had to raise the banquet price to cover and I feel the cost of "libation" ~~is~~ is a little high. You might consider bringing a fifth with you to the party.

Since I now have a form of writers cramp guess I'll close this rambling letter
 Couple enclosures for you. #C 2102969 "X" was called "Mithusla" because he lived 969 years. It went down on it's 13th mission, piloted by a Capt from (I believe) the 368th, lives in Ohio now, met him in Dayton. The other picture, of course, we were given at various reunions and #231454 "B" was Chris Christanson's plane. Our Bedford friends Gordon and Louise Richard's have a complete list of 306 #C and what happened to them, why not contact them.

Your friend
 Bill Leville

Looking forward to lunch next September, if not sooner. —

Retirement was Aug 20, 1980 and I too am not proud - stayed in reserve and had 1 1/2 years during Korea active det.



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

3 May 1987

Dear Russ:

I have received the 423, 367 and 369 histories. the last few days I also received the April "Echoes" and the computer list of 11 planes. I also received two issues of Air Space magazines. I won't run out of things to do in the future. I think I told you I made micro film copies of status reports of 306th Planes starting April 1944. I may make some later of planes before that time.

Say I got a letter from Charles Bradley concerning the "Eager Beaver" logo that was on the nose of the plane. He sent me a nice colored picture of it. I wrote Lee Kessler about the school wanting to get rid of it. I also will write Dusty Reber about it. He has the Emblem of it on his boat. I don't know who in the 306th would be interested. Maybe the 8th Museum at Shreveport would want it.

I got my check off today for my Buffet dinner and Banquet dinner at Washington. I sent in my Registration on Feb 14, 1987 and I have my returned check and I also have confirmed reservations at the Hotel. I know it is early but it is done.

We are definitely leaving for DuBois Pa in the A.M. The baby was due on the 29th of April but it didn't cooperate. My daughter said to come Monday the 4th and we will see what happens. Their last child was 10 days late. So I have loaded up my busy material and work on it out there.

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

I want to get my histories in notebooks. I have a lot of ~~plum~~ info to sort out. I also have to help my wife with the duties of taking care of a 12yr, 10yr and a 6yr old. Two boys and one girl. Also my son-in-law has ~~two~~ horses and a pony. So I won't get bored.

Russ that 305th book is smomething else. I can't figure out where he got his material. I was always under the impression that the two 305th planes ran into each other over the 306th base. In his book he said it was over Chelveston? I will get it to you after you get back from your tour.

Russ I appreciate the info you are getting me. I know it is a slow and tedious job. I had a little experience in researching for material doing my master degree and then doing the Air War College course.

Yes, I did 4 research papers for the Air War College, and they really did a good job in grading the papers. In each preceding paper I use the criticism to improve the next paper. *The grading persons seem to know their business*

Right now I am trying to get a reliable list made of planes assigned to the 306th and then look for other things when assigned transferred, Mia, Pilot, Crew chief etc. I am getting more names of planes and their serial numbers. Russ agree with you a 100% that the men would be interested in seeing authentic list of 306th planes and pictures of them. I will do all I can in helping you in any manner. Any thing I put to get together you are welcome to it and if you have any ideas what to put in the info I will be glad to do it.

Russ inclosed is a small check to ~~to~~ help pay for the paper used in making the 423, 367, and 369th histories. I haven't really got around to reading them but Thanks.

I will close for now. I have to load a playpen, small crib, baby carrier and a lot of other baby material in the car. I don't know if there will be room for our clothes. I know for one thing I won't be carry them back here

Thanks again for all the info in the past and will look forward to getting more in the future. Don't hurry, I have plenty to time and you have other things to do. You and Ruth have a good trip to England

Nell and I enjoyed our trip up thru York to Scotland and then down to Liverpool, Stratford on the Avon, Coventry and back to London. We went there with the 8th AF Society the trip was O.K. but we could have done without Ruth Fein's ~~same~~ jokes.

We plan to take two days to get to Du Bois PA. It is about 700 miles and we lose an hour on the trip as we don't push it and make it in two days.

I forgot to mention - Thanks for the info on Gen Ross retirement. I hope President Reagan doesn't turn her down !!

*As Ever
Rayh*



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

8 April 1987

Dear Russ: I will add a short note to the Little Savage Picture and note. I received the note (copy of ED Hennessey note) and the card on Maryland, Maryland. I think Nell and I had breakfast with him *(Leo Turner)* at Omaha in 1983. He had had some serious health problems then and seemed to be doing pretty good. I think at another reunion Russ Houghton said Turner wasn't doing to good. Russ you mentioned once that you received Art Bove material he had collected for his book. Did you get any pictures that he used in his book? I am inclosing a copy of a page of photos which shows the area where the serial number is located on Maryland, Maryland. It is just an idea and I presume you have thought of it. It was just an idea.

Another idea on Maryland, Maryland. I just received a note from Wm Carille. I asked him about some planes and he sent me a picture of "Methuselah" It was shot down Sept 12, 1944 Ruhland. He also identified the 4 Flying control officers shown in Bove's book He said he was the handsome one. I think I will send him your card on Maryland, Maryland and ask him to check in Baltimore Sun file for pictures of planes He may have to go thru the library to get the info. The libraries in the town of the paper usually keep the papers on micro film. I got back a note from the Chicago library informing me I ~~had~~ to go thru the local library. So they sent in my request for the year of 1946 on micro film so I can get the article on Rich Cleays. So maybe Carille can do that for the Baltimaore Sun I will try to see if he will do it *for me*

I am including two paragraphs of Lee Kessler's letter. One paragraph is about a drawing he is planning to do and he wants some ideas from you on planes he plans to use. Something about Triangle H on F models. The other subject is the model of LITTLE SAVAGE I had him bring it to Omaha and I thought it was a big hit. It takes up a lot of room but if he wants to truck it around it is O.K. by me but I am not in charge of the reunion. I presume the big hotel would have a lot of room but I would say it would be up to the reunion chairman Gen Rader or Marshall Baker. Lee and Baker were enlisted men at Wendover. I think I will have him write Baker. He ~~may~~ be a little afraid to write Gen Rader. He still says he has a certain feeling of certain officer. I have told him I have friends who were Generals and other who were enlisted men and I treat them all the same. But I guess Kessler isn't Bordner. That may be good or bad!!!!!!

How did the vote on 1988 reunion come out? Did all agree on Las Vegas?
Russ. I want to pay you for the copies of the histories of 367, 369, and 423

I have really used the 368th history over the years. Ex368th fellows have sent me their missions and I have made copies of the history that covered their mission etc. I also have referred to it in the recent work I have done on identifying planes. You said one other was a good history but the other two were not as good as the 368th. Again I would like to pay for at least the paper, that doesn't come cheap.

Say did you see the write up in 8th News on Fowtresses of Big Triangle First by Woolnough. He sounded like an envious B-24 pilot!!!!. I wonder how that book History of the 305th is written. It doesn't say whether he was an ex-305th person. I have the paper back of Incredible 305th.

Say did you see that in the Jan issue that the Great 'Borges' is head of UAC and this issue Ben Smith wrote a column on how important the work of the Unit Advisory council was to units. Borges was at St. Paul (and at the business meeting he got up and made some dumb remarks to me on some issue) and then he showed up this year and asked for money for the 8th. I hope his new job keeps him with the 8th AF Assoc.

The 8th news is getting to be a channel to tell us how great the 8th AF Assoc is. Or they are selling something. Now they are going to build a great building at the AF Museum.

It is too bad it took us so long to have our own reunion but it guess it makes us who attend so many 8th reunions appreciate the 306th reunions. And those who now go to the 8th are treated like outsiders. I think I told you Louis Damasco wrote me this year after he attended this years reunion in Florida. He said "they looked down their noses at them when they told them they were 306th people."

Say Summer returned this week. It was 72 yesterday 69 today & 73 tomorrow. I don't know if I like it well has me working outside.

I will close for now

Until later

Ralph

P.S. I had a negative made of the 'Little Savage' picture.

I also sent in my reservation for my hotel room for reunion.

The Saga of LITTLE SAVAGE (Serial No. 42-3428)

I wrote Lee Kessler hoping he would shed some light on Little Savage. He said "He didn't know too much where it came from and when it ~~was~~ ^{was} shot. He did send me the picture inclosed of the crew some days after the fateful mission of April 17, 1943 to Bremen. The plane was pretty well shot up. I think they said it came back with two engines. You can see one prop off in the picture. Lee Said " He came ~~over~~ from the hospital for the picture. He had his bandages removed from his eyes for the picture. I guess he injured them on the mission. He said after the picture He went back to the hospital.

As for the plane ,It was in bad shape and probably would be sent to a depot for repairs. He said " He was shot down on May 21 ,1943 to Wilhelmshaven" and didn't know what happened to the plane.

As for the picture you can see that the planes number was # 42-3428) I don't know where the Serial No of 42-5420 came for the plane's serial number but it is quite clear on the photo. I guess Lee wasn't aware where the serial number is on a plane. I check other plane that I have pictures of like Begin the Beguine and it is located where the one on Little Savage. is located

I check my list for a 42-3428 and I don't have one listed and neither does Bishop has in his Fortresses book for the 306th but he does list a # 42-3428 for Paddington(92nd Bg arriving 14 Aug 43 and M.I.A. 6 Sept 43 Ditched Crew rescued.) I check The Route as Briefed and by John Sloan and they did have two plane ditch on that mission so I don't know which one was 42-3428. *6 Sept 43*

Another facet to the Little Savage Lee Kessler said he visited with Bob Stevens (77yr old then) Oct 978 at the 8th AF reunion in Washington DC. and he was discussing planes and events and he said Stevens told him he had a good memory for the planes of the 368th and what happened to them and Lee tested his memory on a couple Lee knew for sure and Stevens knew everything correctly, He asked him about Little Savage. How it was shot up with a couple of engines out and other damage. He told Lee it sat around a few days and it soon became an object for cannab~~al~~ ^{alism} and when it rear door was stolen Steven got mad and soon after it was sent to a repair depot and didn't come back to Thurleigh.

So the plane was damaged on April 17, 1943 and sat around a while and eventually sent to a depot . It could have easily been repaired an sent to the 92 Bg on the 14 of August 1943.

I thought you might like to know the latest I found out our plane LITTLE SAVAGE # 42-3428 according to Kessler picture. I had ~~two~~ ^{two} copies made so keep this one . I am sending the original back to Kessler.

NUMBER ON NOSE in Pictures I have
42-3428 - Little Savage
42-102547 - Rose of York
42-97133 - Pretty Baby

Reunions Attended

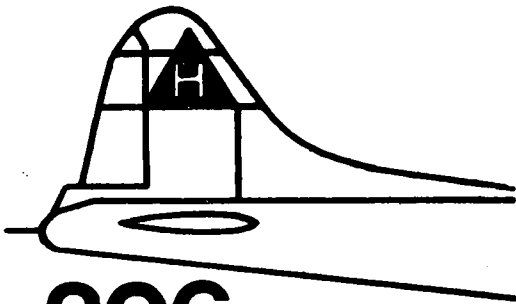
8th Mini reunions

1975-Miami
1976-Dayton
1977-St. Louis
1978-Wash D.C.
1979-Phoenix
1980-Orlando
1981-St. Paul-Minneapolis
1982 Cincinnati
1983-Houston

306 th Reunions

1979-Colorado Springs
1983-Omaha
1984-Ft. Worth
1985-Colorado Springs
1986-Dayton
1987-Wash. DC.

* My wife attended all the meetings listed above.



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

2 November 1987

Dear Russ:

Just a short note to accompany the info you requested last week.

Three copies of the Echoes are included. I also am including two list of Echoes printed. One list on the card just lists the publication date. The other one list the dates plus the Vol and No of each issue. You will note that Vol 1, goes thru 1976 and 1977. Then Vol 2 goes thru 1978 and 1979. Also their is two Vol2, No. 2 and no Vol 2, No 3. Then in 1979 the July issue shows Vol3, No.1 then in 1978 their is no Vol 4 but Vol 5. You probably know all the above information but I thought I would put the in in the letter as I noted in looking at the issues last night.

I made copies of the Bombadiers list you sent me and I am including lists as you sent them to me. I will look forward to seeing your list. I have some info for you on the pilot list of the 368th. I also noted in the recent Oct 1987 Echoes. that Ivan Oberhelman died. He was one missing on your 368th list. Thanks for the new issue of the Echoes.

It looks very interesting. *I flew my 1st mission with Oberhelman*

Russ. I didn't see John Bodnaruk on your list in the Echoes If I

didn't give it to you it is as Following JOHN BODNARUK - 369^a

John was a Bombadier on the 369th.

205 Main St.
Pearl River, New York, 10965

Pilot was Jerry Carrazone. They came on the same orders as Bordner. Their Navigator was Alton Kester who succeded John McPherson was 369th Sqdn Bombadier.

arrived 17 July 1944

*Thank again for all info sent
latily. Until later*

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

*Can I send John Bodnaruk an
extra copy of Oct 1987 Echoes -*

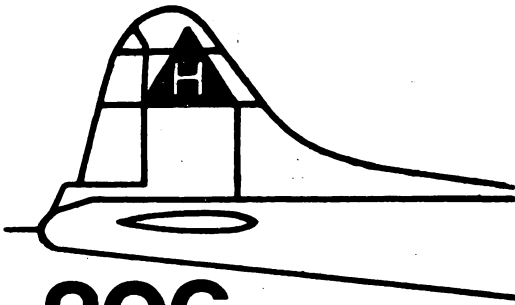
(over) Ralph.

over

I have plenty of work to do now. That I have all the material you sent me. I am still working on plans, pellets etc.

Thanks again for the Echoes

Raffl



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Dear Russ.

I just finished a note of to our ~~dear~~^{dear} Wm Carlile. I am inclosing the resume I sent him on Plane Ser. No 42-29554. I sent him some copies of lists I had obtained from you over the years. I also mentioned to him I had the same problem with the Chicago Tribune as he did with the Baltimore Sun. He has it luckier he can go down to see the micro film of the paper but I had to go thru the local library to get the micro film on Claeys. I got the Aug film but it is in the Sept 46 so I am requesting it again. But all he has to do is keep asking for more film. His problem is to guess when the artilces were in the Blatimore Sun

I am including the info I have on Little Savage to you. I haven't the monthly status of plane. It was damaged in April 1943 and it doesn't show up on the 15 May 43 or 6 June 43 lists I have copied out of the 306th Micro film. I am still working on the Little Savage material

Thanks for all lists. I hope to get working on the material. I am including the list of things or events which have taken up a lot of my time. My grand kids like Grandpa's basement so I either work with them or go up stairs. They have Grandma on their side. My grandson was here from 14 Jul to 28 Jul and then that eve 28 Jul my daughter, her husband and 4 children came in on their west and left this am they will be cak around the 12th of Aug. So I am in the basement again.

Thanks for the early Echoes. I have already ordered the Paper Doll book. Did he send you a copy of it! I am also ordering John Bennett's book LETTERS FROM ENGLAND. I met John on the 1977 tour with the 8th I talked to him during one of the tours and that night he asked if he and his wife could sit at our table. ~~No~~ told us to get a bottle of wine and ask the waitress to put it on a talbe and that would reserve it and Lol and Behold! it worked. He sat next to Starzyski and Bob about flipped when he found out he was a retired Major Gnereal. That the night Collins asked me to say grace. The next morning John Bennett greeted by saying Good morning Reverend!!!! The next Xmas I sent him a note and he wrote me a nice answer and said stop in ff ever in his town in Texas. From the material I read about him he was quite a leader of the 100th.

I have written letter to look for more material. I got a letter from Lowell Burgess bombadier (Orville S'tocker) and pictures of ZAMRO He will send me some copies when he gets the originals back. I met Lowell Burgess last year down at Mt Comfort with Dellon Bumgardner. I also got a letter from Les Terry. He was on Ray Ryther crew when it was shot down Dec 20, 43. to Bremen. It was a 367th plane but he very little of the planes name or serial no.

Painted Post N.Y. *gentle an address*
ALWAYS FIRST FIRST OVER GERMANY

I finally saw an announcement of 306th reunion in the 27 July 87 of AF Times. I did not see it before that date and it wasn't in the next issue. I haven't seen it in the Air Force Mag. or The Retired Officer issues. I just looked at Aug Retired Officer and no listing of 306th. The AF Times had the 182 Tac Air Support Gp AMG 40th Anniv in the 28 of July issue. That is the local Guard unit here in Peoria, I was the Dep Commander for Material until 1972. They put me out to pasture (28 Comm. years)

I see by the last Echoes that we will have a big bunch there this year. I got my letter from Don Ross and his answer to John Ryan. I already sent in my vote. Say I didn't see Bill Collins name on the reservations list for the reunion.

Say I got a note from Andy Vangalis He sent me an article of him working on a B-29 and also a card from a book co. that has a book ~~Serenade~~ to a Big Bird by Bert Stiles. Is it worth \$ 82.50. I have read the book in the Peoria Library.

I haven't written to England since first of year. Right now I am busy with the plane list. So I don't know when I will get around to it.

You can see by Marshall Baker's letter things are all set for Lee Kessler to show his plane. As I mentioned earlier Don Ross liked the idea. I am sorry to see that the Marine Evening Parade has been terminated I think I saw it around 1971. It has been shown (part of it) on the TODAY SHOW. It is right down near the Navy Officer Club. but not hard to get to from Alexandria.

Russ: I just received a letter from Lowell Burgess. He sent me actual photo of Zamro that I have sent you copies and he also sent me a very good picture of the plane. I am going to get copies made of it. I will send you a copy. Lowell spent 2 days with Dellon Bumgardner at the Air Show at Mt. Comfort Ind. Dellon wanted him to go to N. Carolina after the Indiana show.

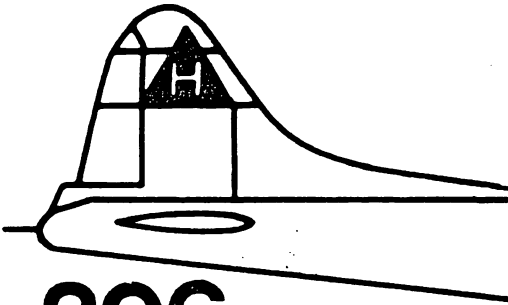
I will close for now. I know I have missed something but after I mail this stuff I will find it. Say this airplane research is just like the old days when I was researching for my Master Degree course. Also my 4 research papers for Air War College were just like this plane looking information. It does make one feel good when he finds some new information.

I hope you have a big enough waste paper basket to put all the material in including. I hope our detective Carlile has some luck at the library and with Ken Reecher.

Thanks a gaz. I appreciate all the info
Until later
Ralph

P.S. I just got my V.I.P passes for Air Show here (Thunderbirds) as ex Wheel I get to set week local, Stall & even Ross Michel at the air show
Ha! ha! Big Deal

029



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

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218 Wells Dr., NE
Albuquerque, NM 87123

2600 Londonderry Road
Alexandria, VA 22308
25 September 1987

Dear Ralph,

I remember you well from our first meeting in Houston and from our brief visits at each of the last three 306th reunions. Incidentally, I grew up in Chandlerville, went to school in Macomb, and am quite familiar with the Havana-Pekin-Peoria areas. Certainly, was sorry to learn that Jane Odle wasn't doing so well.

I have known Lee Kessler since the early days at Wendover. He wrote to me several weeks ago and I subsequently advised him by phone that Bill Rader and all of us on the planning committee thought that displaying the "Little Savage" model at the '87 reunion was an excellent idea. We checked the rooms--plenty of space and we can secure it at night. In April 1943, I wrote a story about that plane on the Bremen raid, and also wrote the recommendation for Lee's DFC that was presented to his folks in Canton while Lee was "resting" in Stalag 17B.

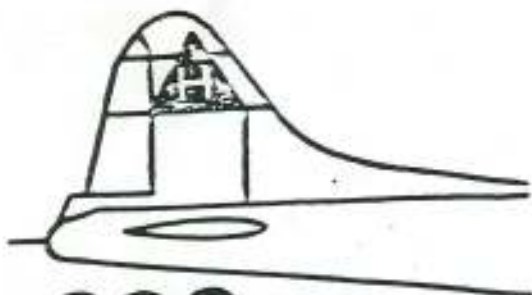
As You say, Lee is always willing to help out. I called on him to do the layout on our banquet souvenir program cover and he has already sent me two alternatives, both of which are outstanding. In fact, I've never seen any of his work that wasn't.

I'm sorry to have bad news on the Marine Evening Parade. Those performances which are held on Friday evenings from May to September terminate this year on 4 Sept.

Thanks for your offer of assistance. I know our efforts will become ever-more concentrated as we approach R-Day.

Sincerely,

mal



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

June 5, 1987

WILLIAM R. CARLILE
1304 DARTMOUTH AVE
BALTIMORE, MD.
21234

Russ: This was the one I watched from the nose of the plane across the take off runway that day. I was a Dumb one sitting there watching the whole affair. How are the log books? Interesting!!!!

Dear Ralph:

Some while ago you wrote me concerning a taxi accident that occurred at Thurleigh while you were on ops. Just recently I was fortunate enough to come upon the original Flying Control log books, Peterman brought them home with him. Since you apparently were on the mission in question let me show you what the duty Flying Control Officer at that time (the handsome and dashing 2nd Lt. William Carlile - notice my modesty - didn't even call myself brilliant) recorded at that time -

SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 17, 1944

Time

0230	Attended briefing - data follows: R/W 24 for T.O. wind to be W-12 to 20 MPH - 36 a/c	
	Start Engines 0547 - Yellow Yellow	QFF 30.27
	Taxi 0602 - Red Yellow	ETA Approx 1120
	T.O. 0612 - Green Green	Ground Spares
	Last Time T.O. 0700	368 - a/c 598
		369 - 198
		423 - 963

0355 Made necessary calls for Ops T.O. - all to be stationed by 0545.

0530 No change in Masquerade.

0626 While sitting on R/W 24 waiting for T.O. a/c 454 B (368), piloted by Lt. Risk, brakes failed, causing him to collide with 943 L (368) piloted by Lt. Edwards. Considerable damage was done to both A/C. The tail, tail fin, elevators, left wing of 943 are ruined. 454 has right wing and #4 engine destroyed. Crash crew standing by for leaking fuel. Ordnance and division notified. Gas trucks draining fuel.

0640 Field closed TFM until A/C and wreckage can be removed. Left A.A.I. is destroyed. (A.A.I. = Angle of Synchronizer Indicator - for alert flying)

0720 Div. notified that we will have to delay T.O. of Cycle Relay and that field is closed until we clear wreckage.

This is about all that was recorded, except my relief recorded Woodbridge as a diversion station until field reopened a couple hours later.

ROBERT EDWARDS

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

1 Sept 1987

Dear Russ:

Well in 16 days Nell and I will be checking into the Hyatt-Regency. We are going early so we can visit a little before the reunion activities.

I am doing O.K. We have been rid of the the children since Aug 20th. I have a few notes from Bill Carlile on the planes and last week I got a long letter from John Bodnaruk. I have been trying to find him thru Hyman Bloom. He got my letter on 4/28/87 but he was retiring on April 20, 1987 and had taken a vacation but wrote me a three page letter. John was Bombadier for Jerry Carrazzone in the 369th. He finished around Xmas in 1944. If you notice the name he sat next to me in Bomb training. He has a unlisted phone no but I will include his address for the 306th. He seems quite interested in the 306th activities. I will send him a 306th directory. He sent me a picture of the 306th fellow at the Red Cross meeting the Queen on July 25, 1944. Hoyn Conlon, John Bodmaruk and George Bowers are three I recognize in the picture. The last job he had was a Banking Examiner for New York Banking Dept. I know he will enjoy the Echoes in the future. I am going to get a note off to him and send him an extea Echoes I have here.

*Alan
Kester
War -
369*

I had a little problem with my reservation for Banquet and Buffet I mailed the check on May 1st but I waited every month for the return chck. Finally in Aug I wrote Marshall Baker and they had received no letter or check from me. So I wrote another one and sent out a tracer on the letter. I think in 1982 I sent two letter from Racine Wis to pay bills. One check was found on the floor in Milwaukee and the other letter and check never got to the adreesee.

I have three books you might be interested in reading. I will bring them to Wash D.C. John Bennetts paper book Letters From England It isn't very long but quite interesting. I had the opportunity to meet him on our 8th tour in England in fact he asked to set at our table. Bob Starzynski sat next to him and couldn't get over the fact he was a retire Maj General.

I saw the 306th announcement once more in the A.F.Time. By the reservation numbers we don't need any more announcements. From the list in the Echoes we have a lot of new people coming to the reunion. I got a call the other night form George DeVak form San Jose Calif He informed me he would see me at the MGM in Las Vegas in 1988?? I had written him on Rich Cleays some time ago and he informed me He didn't write so he called me instead. He and his wife had just returned form Alaska.

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

I am still working on the plane lists and am coming up with some changes to the list you sent me and the Book Fortresses of the Big Triangle. As you know it isn't an overnight job, but when you come up with some new info it makes you feel good.

I will close for now and look forward to the reunion at Wash. Thanks for all the plane info sent in the past. How are the Tower logs coming along. I sure would like to read about the time from July 1944 to Mar 1945.

We plan to come back by way of DuBois Pa and help christian the new Granddaughter on Sept 27. They thought it would be nice if we came a few days early and baby sit the children while they slip away for a few days. Ha!Ha!

Until later

Sincerely,

Ralph

306TH OFFICERS, SPECIALTIES UNKNOWN

	NAME	SQDN	ARRIVAL	DPT	LOST?
	BENTON, WILLIAM	368			
<i>BARALUCH</i>	BLATNICK, ANTHONY F <i>Bomb</i>	423	44-07-17		TOUR
	BRUTON, MAX J <i>Pilot</i>	368 368	44-07-05	44-12-16	TOUR
	CARLSON, RICHARD L	423		44-06-00	
<i>CARDON</i>	CONDON, ROBERT L <i>Pilot</i>	367	44-07-17		
	ALCEROS, KENNETH N <i>Pilot</i>	368	44-07-28	45-01-07	TOUR
	FORSTER, WILFRED	368			1945
	GARDEN, WILLIAM D	368			44-45
	GARRETT, RAY W JR	367			45
	GATES, RAYMOND E	367	43-03-21		
	GEARITY, JOHN T <i>RADAR</i>	367 367	45-03-02		
	GILLESPIE, WYATT L <i>NAV</i>	368	44-12-28		45
	HENSLEY, THOMAS	423			2/44
	HYGHER, RAY W	367			1/44
	JARVAS, K M	368			3/44
	JOHNSON, CARL A <i>Pilot</i>	368	44-04-23	44-07-00	TOUR
	JONES, BENNIE	368			2/44
	JONES, BRYAN E				
	JONES, JOHN JR	368			2/44
	JONES, LLOYD E	368			7/44
	KALAY, WILLIAM S	368			10/43
	KRENN, GORDON M	369			7-8/44
	LADEN, ROBERT E <i>C Pilot</i>	368	44-07-08	45-01-12	TOUR
	LAUR, NORMAN	369			2/44
	LEGNA, MANUEL A JR	368			2/44
	LEIFORD, FRANK M	368			12/44
	LEWANDOSKI, ROBERT L <i>NAV</i>	368	44-06-04	44-09-00	TOUR
	LEWIS, RODGER C	368	44-05-08	44-07-00	TOUR
	LOGAN, WILLIAM	369			1/45
	LUBAN, EDWARD	367			3/45
	LUCAS, FORDIE K <i>RADAR NAV</i>	368 368	44-07-30	45-02-00	10/44 <i>TOUR</i>
	MALONE, JAMES R	423			7-9/44
	MARCHETTE, JOHN	423	44-05-05		
	MARTIN, HERMAN D	368			1/45
	MATUSIAK, STANLEY J	23			9/44
	MAYAKIS, CHARLES E	423	43-08-01	43-10-11	
	MC CALLARD, THOMAS R	423			10/43
	MC CARTNEY, MARCEL A	423		44-10-00	TOUR
	MC GAHAN, HAROLD R <i>Copilot</i>	368	44-07-28	45-03-05	09/44 <i>TOUR</i>
	MC MAHON, JAMES P <i>Pilot</i>	423 368		44-10-00	TOUR
	MORRISSEY, WILLIAM J	423	44-05-05		
	MURR, GEORGE E	367			4/45
	NABORS, ROBERT E	423	44-06-03	44-08-03	KIA
	NEDLEY, THOMAS D	423			2/45
	OMAN, WALTER	367			12/44
	PAVIN, JOE M <i>NAV</i>	368	44-07-28	45-01-02	TOUR
	RIBBLE, JAMES C	423			4/45
	ROSE, WILLIAM	423			2/45
	SCHWARTZ, BENNETT H	368		45-04-00	TOUR
	SEAVER, JOHN W	368			7/44
	SHOOK, DONALD L	369			3/45
	SIMPSON, NORMAN H	367	43-04-23		
	SKOLNICK, ROBERT J <i>Copilot</i>	368	44-06-15		7/44
	SMITH, CARL P	423			10/44
	SMOLENSKI, EDWARD S <i>NAV</i>	423		44-12-15	KIA
	SNOOK, JAMES E <i>BOMP</i>	368	44-12-27		3-4/45
	SPRINGMEYER, WILLIAM W	367	44-11-10		

	SWAPP, WYLIE W		368		43-10-00	TOUR
	TOBER, CHARLES R		423			12/44
	TOWNSEND, DEAN S	Bomb	368	44-08-00	45-01-10	TOUR
	TRUDE, ORLO J	NAV	368	44- 08-00	45-02-00	TOUR
	TURNER, SHELBY		368			2/44
	VECK, VERNON		367			3/45
	WAGNER, WILLIAM F		423			7/43
	WARNER, WILLIAM F		423			2/44
WARREN	WARREN, KEITH L	NAV	368	44-08-21	45-03-27	TOUR
	WEILER, WILLARD G		369	8/44		
	WEINER, ERNEST H JR		367			1/44
	WHITCOMB, CHARLES W	Pilot	368			1/45
	WHITE, JOHN R		368	43-12-01		
	WILSON, ROBERT G		368			2-4/45
	WIXON, JAMES D		367	43-12-01		
	WOLFE, LAWRENCE E	NAV	367	43-04-23	43-05-15	MIA/POW

Swapp Wolfe was on the picture of July 15, 1943
of Eugene Beane Squadron.

With me
306TH BOMBARDIERS
1942-45
RCB

NAME	SQDN	ARRIVAL	DPT	LOST?
ALEXANDER, ROBERT L	367	43-04-11	43-07-29	KIA
ALKER, ROBERT L	423		44-08-00	TOUR
ALLEN, HERMAN F <i>Her Jan 1-1944</i>	368 <i>W. J. W.</i>		X44-03-06	X INTERNEI
ANDERSON, PAUL H	368	X 44-05-09	X44-09-06	TOUR
ANTOON, MITCHELL K	368	X 43-11-27	X44-07-06	X TOUR
ASHMAN, CHARLES A	368		X43-11-03	X KIA
ASHTON, ALFRED J JR	423	44-04-29	44-08-00	TOUR
BAKER, HOLLIS H	423	44-07-08	44-02-00	TOUR
BALE, RICHARD R	423	43-12-02	44-02-20	MIA/POW
BALLISH, FRANK E	367	44-12-09		
BALTZER, DONALD W	368	X 43-11-18	44-04-00	TOUR
BANDA, FRANCIS X	367	43-10-05	43-10-14	MIA/POW
BANTA, ROBERT E	368	X44-06-16	44-09-12	KIA
BARROWS, LEE F JR	423	43-11-27	44-03-29	MIA/POW
BARULICH, ANTHONY P	369	44-07-17	44-12-00	TOUR
BEACH, RALPH G K	369		44-06-26	TOUR
BERES, ROBERT D	423	43-11-28	44-06-26	TOUR
BERMAN, JOSEPH R	369	44-07-17	44-12-00	TOUR
BERRY, LESLIE	423	44-07-14	45-01-03	TOUR
BEYER, GEORGE J JR J	367		43-07-29	MIA/POW
BIRKENMEIER, ANTHONY T	369	45-02-13		
BITTMAN, HYMAN H	369	43-07-15	43-12-11	MIA/POW
BLAHNIK, GEORGE H	423	44-07-17	45-01-30	TOUR
BLOOM, HYMAN } <i>367 then 369</i>	367	44-07-17		
BLOOM, HYMAN } <i>then 367</i>	369		43-12-20	DOW
BLOTNER, JOSEPH L	368	X44-09-25	44-10-15	MIA/POW
BLUM, JACK D	423	43-12-04	44-06-26	TOUR
BLYTHE, ROBERT W	423	44-02-25	44-03-29	
BODNARUK, JOHN	369	44-07-17	45-01-00	TOUR
BONCIC, GEORGE	423	43-10-16		
BORCHARDT, DONALD F	369	44-04-29		
BORDNER, RALPH E	368	X44-07-17	45-02-00	TOUR
BORGERT, ROBERT O	368	X44-06-04		TOUR
BORYSOFF, MICHAEL	423	43-09-14	44-03-18	TOUR
BOSWELL, TED JR	368	X43-10-21	44-06-26	TOUR
BOWEN, VINCENT F	367			
BOWER, GEORGE H JR	367	44-07-17	45-03-00	TOUR
BRANOM, BUFORD E	423	43-10-16	44-02-22	KIA
BRATRUD, EDGAR L	367	43-11-27	44-06-26	TOUR
BRECHER, MELVIN	367	44-12-23		
BREUNIG, WILBUR W	368	X 42-06-00	43-04-17	KIA
BRIGGS, STANLEY O	368	X 45-02-03		
BRILL, IVAN	423	44-04-28	44-10-22	KIA
BROWN, JOHN A JR	368	X 43-03-12	X 43-04-17	X MIA/POW
<i>368/Herley</i> BROWN, MERLE P <i>Her Jan 1-44</i>	368 <i>1-44</i>	44-10-14	45-03-06	MIA/POW
BRUNEMEIER, FAYLON M	423	45-03-27		
BRYAN, GEORGE V	367	43-02-16	43-02-16	MIA/POW
BRYAN, JESSE A	369	44-10-25	45-01-10	MIA/POW
BRYANT, HAROLD A JR	423	44-02-25	44-06-20	KIA
BUGNI, ARNOLD J	423	43-10-21	44-04-00	TOUR
BUNDT, RAYMOND A	423	43-11-09	44-06-00	TOUR
BURDEN, ABRAHAM L	369	42-06-00	42-11-23	MIA/POW
BURNETT, ALBERT F	368	X44-04-29	44-09-00	TOUR
BURR, HAROLD	367	45-02-05		
BURTON, ROY L	367	44-04-29	44-09-00	TOUR
BUTLER, MORRIS E	367	43-07-15	43-08-12	MIA/POW
CALDWELL, JOHN E JR	367	43-11-19	44-02-22	KIA

CAMERON, ROBERT P JR	367	42-06-00	42-10-02	K-CRAS
CAMPBELL, LESLIE F	368	X 44-12-09	45-04-00	TOUR
CANGELOSE, SAM J	423	45-03-02		
CAREY, DONALD N	369	44-05-15	44-08-00	TOUR
CARROLL, LAURENCE E	369	44-08-25		
CARSTEN, PAUL R	368	X 44-03-06	X 44-07-04	TOUR R-AUTE
CHAMBERS, JAMES C	423	44-04-03	44-07-00	TOUR
CHASE, DELBERT W	369		44-04-11	MIA/PC
CHRISTOFORI, LAWRENCE F	368	X 44-03-18	X 44-04-24	X MIA/PC
CLARK, ERVIN R	367	44-08-21	45-01-00	TOUR
CLARK, WILFRED F	368	X 45-02-10		
CLARKE, ALEXANDER J	367	44-02-25		
CLAYTON, DAVID L	367	43-11-18		
COAD, PAUL C	423	43-11-01	44-07-00	TOUR
COLUMBUS, JOSEPH M	423	43-08-10	43-10-14	MIA/PC
CONWAY, QUENTIN T	368	X 44-12-23		
COOK, DONALD L	369	45-03-02		
COONS, WALTER H	367	42-06-00	44-10-17	TOUR
COOPER, KENNETH	423			
COOPER, MELVIN D	369	45-02-10		
CORIGLIANO, HORACE	369	44-12-23		
CORVO, PHILIP	369	44-12-09		
COUCH, CLARENCE L	369	43-10-05	44-04-11	MIA/PC
CRABTREE, LLOYD G	367	43-12-01	44-01-11	MIA/PC
CREAMER, JOHN M	367	42-06-00	42-11-09	KIA
CRESSY, CHARLES A	367		43-10-08	KIA
CRUNICAN, CHARLES J	367	44-04-28	44-07-00	TOUR
CURRIER, DONALD E JR	369	43-10-31	44-03-00	TOUR
DORMAN, LYLE R	368	X 44-12-13		
DOWDEN, LELAND A	369	43-10-01	43-10-14	MIA/PC
DRENNER, RAEBURN D	423	43-11-09	44-01-17	HOSP
DREW, LIONEL E JR	423	43-03-10	43-06-26	EVADE
DUNLAP, CURTIS L	369	43-08-08	44-02-03	MIA/PC
ELDRIDGE, RICHARD D	368	X 44-04-13	44-07-00	TOUR
ERICKSON, WILLIAM P	367	42-10-29	42-11-09	KIA
ESPER, DWAIN A JR	369	44-04-27		TOUR
EVANS, FLOYD A	369	43-04-12	43-11-00	TOUR
FARMER, HENRY H	423	43-10-12	43-10-14	MIA/P
FARR, CONRAD J	369	42-06-00	42-11-09	KIA
FARRAR, KENNETH M	368	43-11-27	44-04-02	TO HOSP FOR EYE TREAT
FAULKNER, GEORGE R	368	X 44-12-23	45-04-00	TOUR
FELDMAN, LEON	423	43-07-04	43-12-13	TOUR
FINN, PAUL F	423	44-06-16	44-07-18	MIA/P
FINNELL, LEROY F	423	44-10-28		
FIORA, FRANK L	423	45-02-05		
FLEMMONS, JAMES C	369	44-04-12		WIA
FLOOD, ROBERT J	369	43-12-01	44-03-29	MIA/P
FONTANE, CHARLES	368	X 43-11-00	44-05-00	TOUR
FORD, JAMES	369	44-04-30	44-08-00	TOUR
FOX, D W	423		43-06-25	MIA/P
FRALEY, ROBERT E	369	44-04-03	44-07-00	TOUR
FRANK, ROBERT M	423	44-08-21	45-01-17	TOUR
FRANTZ, CARL H	369	43-11-19	44-08-00	TOUR
FREDERICK, GEORGE W	368	X 42-06-00	X 43-03-04	X KIA
FREDERICK, JAMES A	368	X 44-09-22	45-05-19	TOUR
FREEMAN, ROBERT M	367	42-12-08	42-12-20	KIA
FRIEDRICH, ANDREW J	367	42-06-00	43-03-06	MIA/P
FRY, ROBERT W JR	367	44-01-30	44-02-22	WIA
FUTTERMAN, SIDNEY	368	X 44-02-26	44-03-24	HOSP
GAILEY, BLAIN S	369	44-08-21		
GANNETT, RAY W JR	367	45-02-05		

Eager
Bauer
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TO HOSP FOR EYE TREAT
WASH

GARD, RICHARD E	423	44-07-21	44-12-15	KIA
GARDERICH, ROBERT C	423	44-10-25	45-03-00	TOUR
GAST, EDWARD S	367	43-04-22	43-06-22	MIA/P
GEORGI, RICHARD	423	44-07-17		
GERMAN, PHILIP E	423	44-09-12	45-01-00	TOUR
GILLESPIE, CLARENCE	368	X 43-04-04		
GOLDENBURG, LEO A	369	44-08-21		
GOOD, GEORGE D JR	369	44-10-25	45-05-05	TOUR
GORDON, NATHAN N	369	44-04-30	44-08-00	TOUR
GORRELL, DAVID H	423	44-10-28	45-04-11	TOUR
GRAHAM, ANDREW L JR	423	42-06-00	42-11-09	MIA/P
GRANINS, WILLIAM F	367	43-05-04	43-05-15	MIA/P
GRANT, GORDON R	369	42-06-00	43-01-13	KIA
GREENINGER, CHARLES W	369	44-07-21	45-01-00	TOUR
GREGORY, WILLIAM A	369	44-07-21	44-09-13	KIA
GRETTON, GEORGE T	368	44-03-07	X 44-04-24	X MIA/P
GRIFFIN, RICHARD E	423		45-01-03	TOUR
GRIMES, THOMAS C (NAV)	368	X 45-03-27		
GRUENIG, ROBERT D	367	44-06-29	44-12-00	TOUR
GUSTAFSON, BURTON C	368	X 43-11-21	44-05-24	MIA/P
GUY, WALTER P	367	44-06-29	45-02-00	TOUR
HAAGENSON, DONALD C	367		45-02-03	INTER
HALLOCK, JOSEPH T	423	43-11-28	44-04-00	TOUR
HANSON, ROBERT W	423	44-04-13	44-05-23	KIA
HARMSTON, HOWARD L	368	X 43-12-01	X 44-02-25	X MIA/P
HARRISON, JAMES T	368	X 43-04-23	43-09-00	TOUR
HARRISON, FRANK R	368	43-03-12		
HATTON, SAM J	368	X 44-07-08	45-02-00	TOUR
HAWKINS, SIEGEL L	367	44-01-24	44-02-22	KIA
HEMENWAY, NATHANIEL W	367	44-09-22	45-02-00	TOUR
HEWITT, WILLIAM C	368		X 43-10-09	X MIA/P
HICKEY, JOHN K	369	43-01-15	43-09-11	TOUR
HIGHLEY, ORAN R	367	43-04-23	43-05-15	MIA/P
HILLABRAND, RICHARD G	423	44-12-11		
HILLS, CHARLES F	368	X 44-03-15	X 44-03-27	X MIA/P
HODGES, EMORY E	423	45-01-31	45-05-19	
HODGSON, RICHARD S	368	X 44-04-29	44-08-00	TOUR
HOLSCHER, ROBERT G	368	X 44-11-28	45-04-23	TOUR
HOLT, HENRY B	367	43-11-27	44-02-22	KIA
HOLT, JR., CHARLES O	368	X 44-09-01	45-01-31	TOUR
HORNER, GEORGE S	423	42-06-00	43-06-05	TOUR
HOSTETTLER, ARTHUR S	367	44-08-25	44-09-12	KIA
HOUSER, ROBERT N (NAV)	368	44-05-28	44-09-00	TOUR
HOWARD, ROY W	369	43-10-16	44-04-00	TOUR
HRNCLAR, JOHN	423	44-11-28		
HUF, ROBERT C	369	44-12-13		
HUISINGA, ROBERT W	423		43-09-06	MIA/P
HUISTRA, JOHN F	423	43-11-29	44-03-29	MIA/P
HUNTER, JR., HOWARD O	367	44-02-01	44-04-24	INTER
IRONS, BEN G	423	43-05-20	43-07-28	MIA/P
IRWIN, LYBALLARD LEVER	369 368	X 43-03-12	43-07-29	KIA
ISAAC, ARTHUR	369		44-04-00	
JAMES, BRIAN E	369		44-02-02	KIA
JANACK, HERBERT F	369	44-02-20	44-06-26	TOUR
JEFFERSON, LLOYD U	423	44-12-20		
JENSEN, EWALD	367		44-05-00	TOUR
JINDRICH, RICHARD F	369	44-04-27	44-05-11	MIA/P
JOHNSON, BAYARD W	367	44-08-05	44-12-00	TOUR
JOHNSON, FRANCIS B	369	45-02-16		
JOHNSON, JAMES W	368			

Sp order #82 →

Harrison James T.

July 1 list →

JONES, DAVID E	423			
JONES, KENNETH H	367	42-06-19	42-11-18	KIA
JONES, L B JR	369	43-05-15	43-12-00	TOUR
JONES, REESE T	367		44-08-00	TOUR
JONES, SHEDRICK E	368 (369)	Y 42-06-19	X 43-01-13	X MIA/POW
JORDAN, JOHN H	368	Y 44-11-04	Y 45-01-25	X TOUR
JORDAN, SAMUEL C	423	44-06-16	44-11-00	TOUR
KARFONTA, JOHN B	367	45-02-10		
KELLY, JACK A	369		43-10-14	KIA
KELLY, PAUL E	367	44-09-01	45-05-05	TOUR
KENNEY, JOHN F	369	44-07-01	44-11-00	TOUR
KERR, GEORGE T JR	369	44-09-01	45-01-00	TOUR
KETCHIE, CHARLES JR	368	X 42-06-19		
KIMBALL, CHARLES F	423	44-07-27	45-02-00	TOUR
KISSEBERTH, STANLEY N	423	42-06-19		WIA
KOSAKOWSKI, JOSEPH E	368	X 42-06-19	43-07-01	TOUR
KOSTAL, JEROME J	367	43-04-23	45-05-00	<i>Placed W/A at 3/85</i>
KRAMER, MICHAEL F	369	44-09-25		
KRASHES, BERTRAM	369	44-04-12	44-04-24	MIA/PO
KRZEMIAN, LOUIS J	368	X 44-09-22	45-02-00	TOUR
KYLIUS, ROBERT E	423	42-06-19	43-03-07	EVADDEE
LA CHASSE, ALBERT W	367	42-06-19	41-10-09	MIA/PO
LAINE, JAMES A	367	43-12-11	43-03-06	MIA/PO
LAMB, BEVERLY R	368	Y 43-04-23	43-10-11	TOUR
LAMBERT, ERNEST P	367	44-12-27	45-01-12	WIA
LANDRUM, JULIUS C	369	42-06-19	41-11-09	MIA/PO
LANIUS, WALTER M JR	369	44-09-12	45-01-00	TOUR
LAUGHLIN, JR., JAMES H	368	X 43-11-27	X 44-02-25	X MIA/PO
LAURA, ANTHONY J	367	44-04-21	44-05-08	KIA
LAWRENCE, EDWARD L	423	44-05-28	44-10-00	TOUR
LEGOWSKI, HENRY R	367	44-01-20	44-06-26	TOUR
LERCY, HERTON W	369	44-11-28		
LEROY, MORTON W	423	45-01-14		
LEVY, HENRY I	369	43-11-27	44-02-22	KIA
LOCKARD, JOHN M	423	44-04-03	44-08-00	TOUR
LOGAN, DANIEL A JR	368	Y 43-11-03	44-04-00	TOUR
LOMAS, RANDOLPH A	367	44-12-11		
LONG, JOSEPH W	368	X 44-09-22	45-04-00	TOUR
LUCAS, JOHN S	423	43-03-01	43-06-00	TOUR
LUKENS, JOSEPH W	367		43-10-14	KIA
LUNDBERG, MELVIN JR	423	44-07-26	45-01-24	TOUR
LYNCH, FRANCIS H	367	45-02-05		
LYNCH, HENRY J	423		43-07-26	MIA/PO
MAC MILLAN, DOUGLAS L	368	44-05-15		
MAC NEIL, LAWRENCE J	367	44-01-20	44-02-22	KIA
MANNING, PAUL V	423	43-08-01	43-10-14	MIA/PO
MARICONDO, EMIL R	367	44-01-24	44-02-04	MIA/PO
MARONEY, HENRY R	367	44-02-26	44-07-00	TOUR
MARSHALL III, SAMUEL W	423	44-04-28	44-08-00	TOUR
MARSHALL, JACK G	368	Y 44-04-30	44-08-00	TOUR
MARSHALL, PAUL K	369	44-08-25	44-12-00	TOUR
MARTIN, WILLIAM A	423	45-03-27		
MARY,	423	43-07-25		
MATHEWS, GEORGE L	367	42-06-19	42-12-20	MIA/P
MAXWELL, ROBERT L	369	44-06-11	44-10-00	TOUR
MAY, CHESTER H	423	42-06-00	43-07-24	DTOUR
MC CRACKEN, JAMES B	367	43-04-12		
MC CUTCHAN, ROBERT I	368	Y 45-02-16		
MC KELVEY, VANDYKE	368	X 42-06-19		
		44-04-02	44-04-26	KIA

MC TAGUE, HARRY D	368	√ 45-02-16		
MEERSMAN, THOMAS J	369	44-05-15	44-08-16	MIA/PC
MILBOURN, ARTHUR L	367	42-12-30	43-04-05	MIA/PC
MILLER, ERVIN F JR	×368	44-08-21	45-01-10	TOUR
MONAGHAN, ROBERT H	367	44-04-27	44-06-12	MIA/PC
MONTAGUE, GARLAND A	367	44-08-21	44-09-12	MIA/PC
MONTICONE, JULIUS J	367	43-11-27	44-01-11	MIA/DC
MONTOYA, EDUARDO M	368	× 43-04-23	44-01-00	TOUR
MOON, JOHN H	423			MIA/PC
MOORE, JAMES R	369	44-02-25	44-12-09	MIA/PC
MOREY, WALTER Z	367		43-12-15	TOUR
MORROW, JAMES B	368	×43-11-14	×43-11-26	√ MIA/PC
MOSES, WILLIAM A	367		43-04-05	MIA/PC
MOUNTS, RAYMOND E	423	44-08-21	45-02-00	TOUR
MUELLER, CHARLES E	423		44-10-22	KIA
MURPHY, JAMES C	367	42-12-11	43-01-07	KIA
MURRAY, JAMES E	368	× 43-04-04	× 43-04-05	×KIA
MURRAY, WILLIAM G	423	44-12-20		
MUTZ, WILLIAM F	367	44-05-09	44-08-00	TOUR
NAGY, ALBERT J	369		43-10-14	KIA
NEARY, WILLIAM F	423		43-07-28	MIA/PC
NELSON, NORMAN R	423	42-06-00	42-11-09	KIA
NIERSBACH, NORMAN G	423	44-04-21	44-10-00	TOUR
NORRIS, JOHN H	368	×44-07-04 ×	45-02-00	TOUR
NORTHWAY, MARION J	367	44-01-24	44-07-00	TOUR
NULL, MORGAN B	369	44-10-25	45-04-00	TOUR
OGDEN, IRA B	367	44-04-21	44-05-08	KIA
OLDENBURG, LEO A G	369			
OLDS, SHERWOOD W	367	42-06-19		
OLSHEWITZ, MILTON J	423	44-09-01	44-12-28	KIA
ORR, CLIFFORD D	423	45-01-31		
OUTCALT, NORMAN E	423	44-09-25		
PALUMBO, VINCENT J	369	44-02-24	44-09-00	TOUR
PARKER, JOHN B	423	43-04-12	43-04-17	MIA/P
PARKES, ARNOLD J	369	44-04-03		
PARNES, A J	369		44-04-11	KIA
PARRISH, JACK N	367	45-03-27		
PASSIN, SIDNEY	367		44-04-01	MIA/P
PEDEVILLANO, JOHN P	369	44-04-05	44-04-24	MIA/P
PETERSON, WILLIAM H	367	43-10-16	44-01-05	KIA
PETERSON, LOUIS F	369			TOUR
PHELAN, HUGH E	423	43-01-15	43-09-00	TOUR
PHILLIPS, CARL H	367	44-05-09	44-08-00	TOUR
PHILLIPS, MALCOLM A JR	369	43-02-15	44-06-00	TOUR
PIERCE, FRANCIS X	367	43-04-04		TOUR
PITTS, MARC F	423	43-05-04	43-06-13	KIA
POLICH, JOHN J	368	√ 44-04-13	×44-07-06	TOUR
PRESCOTT, JOHN B	423	45-02-13		
PRINCE, JAMES R JR	367			
PRINGLE, RALPH K	367	43-08-08	43-12-22	KIA
PROCTER, ROBERT F	368	× 43-12-01	×44-02-22	× MIA/E
QUIGLEY, JOHN F	367	44-05-15	44-08-00	TOUR
RATNER, SEYMOUR	369	44-04-13	44-07-00	TOUR
REEVES, JAMES W	369	44-04-12	44-07-00	TOUR
REYNOLDS, GARDNER M	423	42-12-11	42-12-30	KIA
RIDGEWAY, RALPH F	367	45-02-03		
RINGVALL, NEAL T	367	44-05-23	44-07-00	TOUR
ROBERTS, WILLIAM N JR	368	×44-07-17	44-09-11	MIA/E
ROSS, DONALD R	368	×43-11-19	45-04-00	2 TOU
ROSS, WILLIAM F	423	44-12-27		
ROSENBERG, AVRIUM H	367		44-05-00	TOUR

ROTTER, GERALD D	369	42-06-19	43-06-05	TOUR
RYAL, CHARLES F	368	44-03-15		
RYAN, JR., JOSEPH P	369	43-04-11	43-11-00	TOUR
RYAN, WILLIAM L	423	44-04-12	44-07-00	TOUR
SAMPLES, MERTON D	423	44-06-06	44-09-06	TOUR
SANWAY, JACK R Nav	368		44-06-26	TOUR
SANDBERG, ELMER A	369	44-08-05	45-02-00	TOUR
SANDERS, JERROLL E	423	43-05-19	44-02-11	MIA/P
SANFORD, ROBERT B	369	43-05-19	43-07-29	MIA/P
SANSOM, NORMAN J	368		X 43-10-08	X MIA/P
SAUNDERS, WILLIAM W	368	X 42-06-19	43-04-05	MIA/P
SCHMITZ, HENRY N	369	43-12-01	44-02-22	KIA
SCHUMACHER, WILLIAM R	369	44-12-20		
SCHWEIN, ROBERT G	367	44-05-15	44-10-00	TOUR
SEBASTIAN, DONALD W	369	45-02-16		
SEED, JOE D	368	X 44-05-15	X 44-09-06	X TOUR
SEIFRIED, EDWARD J	368	X 43-04-12	X 44-12-06	X TOUR
SHAEBER, JACK D	368	X 43-03-12	X 43-04-17	X MIA/P
SHANNON, FRANK L JR	423	42-06-19	42-09-05	K AT
SHAW, WILLIAM F	369	44-08-29		
SHERTZER, SIDNEY C	369	44-04-18	44-04-24	MIA/F
SHOOK, JAMES E	X 368	X 44-12-27	45-05-19	
SHURILLA, ROBERT J	423	43-10-16	44-02-24	MIA/P
SILVERSTEIN, STANLEY	368	X 43-04-23	43-10-00	TOUR
SLOCUM, ELIJAH B	369	44-10-31	44-12-15	KIA
SMITH, ALBERT G	369	42-06-19	42-11-23	WIA
SMITH, FRANCIS B	423	44-08-08	44-09-12	KIA
SMITH, WILLIAM S	367	43-11-19		
SMITH, WILLIAM A	367	44-04-27	44-06-17	MIA/F
SNEAD, PARKER	368	X 44-06-15	44-10-00	TOUR
SNODDY, JAMES D	367	44-10-07	45-02-00	TOUR
SOIFER, SAUL	369	44-06-15	44-10-00	TOUR
SOPINSKI, HENRY J	369	44-11-13		
SPARKS, JOSEPH A	367	43-09-11	44-01-11	KIA
STALKER, ROBERT A	369	44-09-01	44-10-15	KIA
STALNAKER, ROBERT E	369	44-06-29	44-07-16	EVAD
STANTON, CLIFFORD J	367	44-06-11	44-11-00	TOUR
STAUBER, JOSEPH A	367	44-08-29	45-01-00	TOUR
STEDT, STANLEY R	423	43-04-11		
STEFANO, ANDREW	367	44-07-17	45-04-00	TOUR
STEVENS, WILLIAM D	367	44-04-05	44-05-08	INTER
STEWART, WILLIAM C JR	367	44-08-25	44-09-12	KIA
STILES, PORTER H	367			3/44
STOCKER, ORVILLE Z JR	369	44-04-12	44-09-06	TOUR
STOROLIS, EDMUND M	367	44-04-13	44-04-24	MIA/F
STRANGE, STERLING T JR	369	44-04-12	44-04-24	MIA/F
STRAUSER, JOHN A	368	X 43-10-31	X 43-11-13	DEAS
STREETER, THOMAS E	367			2-4/45
SWEENEY, FORREST E	369	43-10-31	44-08-00	
TANELLA, STEPHEN F	367		44-06-00	
TANNENBAUM, PAUL	367	44-10-31	44-12-05	KIA
TAPPERR, GEORGE W	368	X 43-11-27	44-06-26	TOUR
TATMAN, GILBERT C	368	X 43-12-01		
TELLER, DONALD A R	423	43-05-04	44-01-00	TOUR
THAYER, REGINALD H JR 2nd Tom	368	X 44-09-25	45-05-00	Funer War
THOMAS, GEORGE L	423	45-01-13		
TINGLER, FRANK E Nav	368	43-11-27	44-04-00	TOUR
TOBIAS, JULIUS	423		44-04-24	INTER
TODD, EDWARD W JR	367	44-07-01	44-10-00	TOUR
TOLAND, HUGH I	367	42-06-00	43-08-00	TOUR
TOMLIN, HARRY H	369	43-11-27	44-01-05	KIA

July 1 list
30q 13 Rec

TOTH, DENNIS	368	✓44-04-03	✓44-09-06	λ TOUR
TOYER, CLAUDE V	367	43-04-23	43-05-15	MIA/POW
TRAVERS, ROY T	369	45-03-27		
TRAVIS, CLYDE J	369	43-01-15	43-07-00	TOUR
TROST, JOHN S	367		42-12-20	EVADÉE
TUOHEY, CARL W	367	44-06-11	44-10-00	TOUR
UHLHORN, WILLIAM B	423	44-06-07	44-06-15	MIA/POW
URICH, RUSSELL C JR	368	✓44-10-07	✓45-03-26	λ TOUR
URMAN, HARRY	368	✓43-08-11	✓43-11-03	λ KIA
VANN, ARTHUR	367	44-06-07	45-01-00	TOUR
VAUGHTER, JAMES V	369	43-08-08	43-10-14	MIA/POW
VERO, ANDREW J	423	44-06-15	44-10-00	TOUR
VICKERS, ROBERT J	367		44-09-12	MIA/POW
VLAHOS, MICHAEL L	368	✓44-06-07	✓44-08-26	λ KIA
WALDEN, JAMES B	369	44-01-17	44-12-09	MIA/POW
WALKER, ROBERT L	423	44-05-15		
WALLIN, CHARFLES L	423	43-07-05	43-07-26	MIA/POW
WARE, RICHARD K	369	44-04-21	44-05-08	KIA
WATSON, MARLYN L	423	44-07-01	44-07-21	MIA/POW
WEBER, JOHN G	423 368	✓44-08-29	✓45-05-05	λ TOUR
WEEMAN, JOHN H JR	423	43-12-01	44-08-00	TOUR
WEISELBERG, JAY R	367	43-10-31	43-12-20	MIA/POW
WEISHAR, RICHARD W	367		44-04-00	TOUR
WELCH, JAMES D	367		44-01-11	KIA
WHITTLE, JOHN T JR	369		44-04-24	TOUR
WICK, WALTER R	423	43-07-05	44-04-24	TOUR
WIEHRDT, RALPH W	367	44-06-11	44-09-00	TOUR
WILF, JEROME H	368	✓44-09-12	✓45-03-00	λ TOUR
WILKINS, JOSEPH C	368 <i>Hand Del</i>		✓43-03-08	λ MIA/POW
WILSON, DONALD L	367	45-02-13		
WINNING, HARRY H JR	423	44-04-30	44-08-00	TOUR
WINTERS, AUGUST	369 368	✓43-04-11	✓43-09-05	λ EVADÉE
WIRTH, JAMES W	369	43-11-27	44-01-28	WIA
WIRTH, KENNETH F	369			
WOLINSKI, FRANK W	369	43-04-04	43-04-17	MIA/POW
YAUSSE, FRANK D	423	42-06-19		TOUR
YOUNG, HARRY L	368	✓43-04-23	✓43-05-21	λ MIA/POW
ZABORSKY, HENRY	368	✓43-09-03	43-10-17	TRANS
ZINKOVICH, MICHAEL M	369	42-12-30	43-07-00	
ZRUST, GORDON FQ	367	44-07-26	44-09-12	MIA/POW

Count: 402

306TH BOMB GROUP UNKNOWN RATED OFFICERS

NAME	SQDN	ARRIVAL	DPT	LOST?
BENTON, WILLIAM	368			
BRUTON, MAX J	369			
CARLSON, RICHARD L	423		44-06-00	
CONDON, ROBERT L	367			
FORSTER, WILFRED	368			1945
GARDEN, WILLIAM D	368			44-45
GARRETT, RAY W JR	367			45
GATES, RAYMOND E	367	43-03-21		
HENSLEY, THOMAS	423			2/44
HYGHER, RAY W	367			1/44
JARVAS, K M	368			3/44
JONES, BENNIE	368			2/44
JONES, BRYAN E				
JONES, JOHN JR	368			2/44
JONES, LLOYD E	368			7/44
KALAY, WILLIAM S	368			10/43
N LAUR, NORMAN	369			2/44
LEGNA, MANUEL A JR	368			2/44
LEWANDOSKI, ROBERT L	368		44-09-00	TOUR
LEWIS, RODGER C	368	44-05-08	44-07-00	TOUR
LOGAN, WILLIAM	369			1/45
LUBAN, EDWARD	367			3/45
LUCAS, FORDIE K	369			10/44-2/45
MARTIN, HERMAN D	368			1/45
MAYAKIS, CHARLES E	423	43-08-01	43-10-11	
MURR, GEORGE E	367			4/45
OMAN, WALTER	367			12/44
CP RIBBLE, JAMES C	423			4/45
ROSE, WILLIAM	423			2/45
SCHWARTZ, BENNETT H	368		45-04-00	TOUR
SEAVER, JOHN W	368			7/44
SMITH, CARL P	423			10/44
SNOOK, JAMES E	368			3-4/45
SPRINGSTEEN, WILLIAM H	367	44-11-10		
SWAPP, WYLIE W	368		43-10-00	TOUR
TOBER, CHARLES R	423			12/44
WAGNER, WILLIAM F	423			7/43
WARNER, WILLIAM F	423			2/44
WARREN, KEITH L	368			
WHITCOMB, CHARLES W	368			1/45

Count:

~~40~~ 38

CAMPBELL, LESLIE F	368	44-12-09	45-04-00	TOUR
CANGELOSE, SAM J	423	45-03-02		
CAREY, DONALD N	369	44-05-15	44-08-00	TOUR
CARROLL, LAURENCE E	369	44-08-25		
CARSTEN, PAUL R	368	44-03-06	44-07- 06 ¹⁴	K-AUTO
CHAMBERS, JAMES C	423	44-04-03	44-07-00	TOUR
CHASE, DELBERT W	369		44-04-11	MIA/POW
CHRISTOFORI, LAWRENCE F	368	44-03-18	44-04-24	MIA/POW
CLARK, ERVIN R	367	44-08-21	45-01-00	TOUR
CLARK, WILFRED F	368	45-02-10		
CLARKE, ALEXANDER J	367	44-02-25		
CLAYTON, DAVID L	367	43-11-18		
COAD, PAUL C	423	43-11-01	44-07-00	TOUR
COLUMBUS, JOSEPH M	423	43-08-10	43-10-14	MIA/POW
CONWAY, QUENTIN T	368	44-12-23		
COOK, DONALD L	369	45-03-02		
COONS, WALTER H	367	42-06-00	44-10-17	TOUR
COOPER, KENNETH	423			
COOPER, MELVIN D	369	45-02-10		
CORIGLIANO, HORACE	369	44-12-23		
CORVO, PHILIP	369	44-12-09		
COUCH, CLARENCE L	369	43-10-05	44-04-11	MIA/POW
CRABTREE, LLOYD G	367	43-12-01	44-01-11	MIA/POW
CREAMER, JOHN M	367	42-06-00	42-11-09	KIA
CRESSY, CHARLES A	367		43-10-08	KIA
CRUNICAN, CHARLES J	367	44-04-28	44-07-00	TOUR
CURRIER, DONALD E JR	369	43-10-31	44-03-00	TOUR
DARULICH, ANTHONY F	369		44-12-00	TOUR
DORMAN, LYLE R	368	44-12-13		
DOWDEN, LELAND A	369	43-10-01	43-10-14	MIA/POW
DRENNER, RAEBURN D	423	43-11-09	44-01-17	HOSP
DREW, LIONEL E JR	423	43-03-10	43-06-26	EVADDEE
DUNLAP, CURTIS L	369	43-08-08	44-02-03	MIA/POW
ELDRIDGE, RICHARD D	368	44-04-13	44-07-00	TOUR
ERICKSON, WILLIAM P	367	42-10-29	42-11-09	KIA
ESPER, DWAIN A JR	369	44-04-27		TOUR
EVANS, FLOYD A	369	43-04-12	43-11-00	TOUR
FARMER, HENRY H	423	43-10-12	43-10-14	MIA/POW
FARR, CONRAD J	369	42-06-00	42-11-09	KIA
FARRAR, KENNETH M	368	43-11-27	44-04-02	HOSP
FAULKNER, GEORGE R	368	44-12-23	45-04-00	TOUR
FELDMAN, LEON	423	43-07-04	43-12-13	TOUR
FINN, PAUL F	423	44-06-16	44-07-18	MIA/POW
FINNELL, LEROY F	423	44-10-28		
FIORA, FRANK L	423	45-02-05		
FLEMMONS, JAMES C	369	44-04-12		WIA
FLOOD, ROBERT J	369	43-12-01	44-03-29	MIA/POW
FONTANE, CHARLES	368		44-05-00	TOUR
FORD, JAMES	369	44-04-30	44-08-00	TOUR
FOX, D W	423		43-06-25	MIA/POW
FRALEY, ROBERT E	369	44-04-03	44-07-00	TOUR
FRANK, ROBERT M	423	44-08-21	45-01-17	TOUR
FRANTZ, CARL H	369	43-11-19	44-08-00	TOUR
FREDERICK, JAMES A	368	44-09-22	45-05-19	TOUR
FREDERICK, GEORGE W	368	42-06- 06 ¹⁹	43-03-04	KIA
FREEMAN, ROBERT M	367	42-12-08	42-12-20	KIA
FRIEDRICH, ANDREW J	367	42-06-00	43-03-06	MIA/POW
FRY, ROBERT W JR	367	44-01-30	44-02-22	WIA
FUTTERMAN, SIDNEY	368	44-02-26	44-03-24	HOSP
GAILEY, BLAIN S	369	44-08-21		
GANNETT, RAY W JR	367	45-02-05		

306TH BOMB GROUP RADAR OFFICERS, 1942-45

NAME	SQDN	ARRIVAL	DPT	LOST?
BARNETT, JOE T	369			
BRIAN, JERRY E	368	44-10-02	45-01-23	TOUR
BUTUCEL, PETER J	369	44-11-05		
DOBBS, PAUL D	367			
GEARITY, JOHN T	367	45-03-02		
HALL, HOWARD L	368	44-10-01	45-02-00	TOUR
HAUCK, GEORGE C	367	44-11-05	44-11-21	MIA/POW
HEARD, JOHN F	367	45-02-16		
HOGAN, WILLIAM	369	44-12-02		
KELLY, WILLIAM A	367	44-12-13		
KICHINCOE, THEODORE N	423	45-01-20		
MC DANIEL, CLIFFORD C	368			3-4/45
MOCHARNUK, WILLIAM	367	44-12-02	45-01-10	MIA/POW
PIERCE, WILLIAM N	367			
VAN ARSDALE, DAVID P	423			
WESSLER, RICHARD H	423	44-10-00		
WHITE, JAMES G	367	45-01-25	45-02-03	INTERNEED

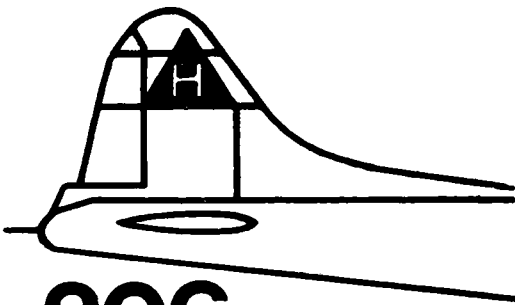
Count: 17

NAME			
✓ BONNER OLIVER, J.	44-07-28	44-09-12	MIA/POW
DANIELS, FOSTER	42-06- 28	43-05-21	KIA
DMOCHOWSKI, MYRON	July 1. 1944 officers	9-13-43	44-01-14
FELDMAN, LEON	to 423 AUG 43		MIA/POW
HANSON, FRANK ?	42-06-19		
IRVIN, LEVER ?	43-03-12		
LEVY, ROBERT	42-06-19	43-01-43	KIA
NORTON, IRVING	44-04-21	44-10-22	TOUR
✓ RICHARD, LEO B	44-05-28		
✓ TAPPER, GEORGE	43-11-00		
TOWNSEND, DEAN B.	44-07-28	45-01-10	TOUR
✓ TRYLOFF, WARREN	44-09-14	44-09-12	MIA/POW
✓ SCHOENBERGER, B	44-12-26		
SHEPPARD, RALPH O.	45-03-27		
✓ SWAN, OTTO B	44-05-28		
✓ SCHWARTZ, ROBERT R. NAO.	44-07-44		
✓ WEBER, JOHN H20	44-09-14		
✓ WILSON, ROBERT	44-12-26		
ZAZADIL, FRANK P	42-06-19		

Townsend Dean was class mate at Victorville
& in 308th

Tryloff Warren was Bomb flying on
Navigation with Major Farwell on Sept 12, 1944
Oliver Bonner Jr was Bomb that day

Edward L Lawrence N



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

11 January 1988

Dear Russ;

You will note I have a new toy to play with these days. It is my birthday present a few months ahead of time. I have a 50 page book of instructions but I am only a few sets into the instructions. You will note the (have) in the above line I could not correct it. I will study up on it. It is a Brothers AX-26 Word processing typewriter. I think it will be all that I will need for my work. I know it will take some time for me to learn all of the tricks I made up one of the lists I am sending to you of the Bombadiers. I am sending most of the material. I have on the Bombadiers but I am still researching on the others. I have only covered the 368th people at this time. As you know I have all the squadrons histories and am working on them next. I haven't worked on the pilots or planes of late. Do you have anything on the Navigators yet? I am interested in what Reg Thayer sent you in his list of names. As you will note on the Bombadiers missing Irv Norton name was missing from your list. I am interested in finding out what new information you have received from others? Nell's says I have to share my time with projects around the house and these projects. When I figure out the memory word processing technique and the word spell process, I will have it made on these lists of pilots, planes, etc.

I had a call the other day from Bill Carlile, he had gotten an answer to a letter he written to England. It was in regard to the accident on the runway on Sept 17, 1944 when a plane ran up the tail of the other one on 24. She had some question which he couldn't answer so he sending me a copy of the letter and also some questions on MARYLAND, MARYLAND. So I will try to answer the lady questions. We also discussed some problems and decided that a long time problem for many of us should not be our worry. Ten years from now most of us will be near 80 yrs or over and I know our numbers will be decreasing very heavily by then. So our main concern right now should be having good reunions and try to get as many as we can to attend the reunions and make sure every one has a good time. As for future projects museum benches, walks, etc We should be concerned with what we have right now. Surely the R.A.E. won't let the weeds grow too high. And ten years from now not many of us will be going back to check

ALWAYS FIRST FIRST OVER GERMANY

(2)

on the condition of the memorial. If the town of Bedford takes over the museum idea and not one family , It shouldn't be a bad idea. George Roberts informed me when after the Ft. Worth reunion he started to work on the museum and Franklin was the chairman and Connie was the secretary of the committee in England. Gordon was miffed and refused to attend the meetings All Xmas card didn't mention the 306th Friends in England only the Richards mentioned anything .

Russ, I am sending Moriarty's book in a seperate envelope. Sometime ago he called me on giving him a write up on what I thought of the book. How about doing me a favor and you write one for him? It wasn't too badly written and covered events adequately but his writing could stand a little more finesse. But I did enjoy reading it. I haven't heard much from any one else. I did get a note from Leon Risk's engineer, Joe Hoffman , that day he ran into Weary Bones. He thought Risk could have used more power and brakes on one side and missed the other planes tail. But that was over 40yrs ago but I guess if you were standing behind pilot you might ^{remember} remeber more than other ones. I got quite a few xmas cards form 306th fellows and some news and most said see you in VEGAS IN 1988.

One more thing on the Bomb. and Nav list. I guess some of the Bomb and Nav at Wendover didn't make the trip to England.

Well I will close for now. I know I missed some mistakes but I did enjoy writing with my birthday present?????. I will try to do better in the future. Say did you ever get the list of those attending the reunion?

Until later





RALPH BORDNER

*Russ I sent an
extra Jan Echoes to Barnett.
at the time I only had one April Echoes*

15 May 1988

Dear Russ:

I thought I would add a note in this book. I bought one awhile ago and then the other day I got another copy of it. I know it is about another group but it isn't too bad. In Aug 1943 while I was in gunnery school the Belle came in on it tour and we got to see it. Also in our last three weeks of Bombadier school we had some lectures by Vince Evans the Bombadier of the Belle. We were the first class to have the extra three weeks of training at Victorville.

Had a note from Thurman Schuller the other day. He and Joan had a two week tour of Spain and Portugal. He seems to be doing O.K. and they enjoyed the trip.

I have been trying to find out how Gus and Helen Lamb were doing Gus had a cancer operation a few years ago but made the Dayton meeting but during the next year Helen came down with cancer and they both went into seclusion away from friends. Bob Flood and Pat Walsh both good friends tried to contact them but no luck A short time ago a nurse who is a good friend of the Lambs contacted Kay Flood that Helen was back in the hospital. The nurse got the O.K. from Helen and Gus to have Kay visit her. She looked bad and died shortly. Gus is O.K but seems lost with out her right now. Pat Walsh sent me the info and is going to see Gus in the near future. It will take some time for Gus to come out of it.

Russ I sent letters to both Flood and Walsh to the address in the '86 Echoes but both were returned. PATRICK A. WALSH IS now 2802 Bayshore Ave, Brigantine, New Jersey, 08203. You may already have the change. I also got Floods letter back. The address was Robert Flood 920 Pelhandale Ave Pelham Manor NY, 10803. You may have his change.

I didn't change my directory when the changes showed up in the Echoes. I will look for the new ones when the new one comes out.

I have MARCH OF FOLLY BY TUCHMAN and THE RISES AND FALL OF GREAT POWERS BY KENNEDY. I am reading the book by Kennedy. I am interested what he has to say of the future of the USA. The influence of Japan will have on the High priced laborer of the USA Unions.

I will close for now. I am including what I sent to Louis Krzemain relative to his death. I have had no answer.

In closing hope you get a little enjoyment out of the Memphis Belle. On dedication of the book he omitted the 306th BG and he also states the 12 O'clock High was based on the 91st BG. I hope you get a kick out of it. I don't think we would have won the war if the Memphis Belle hadn't flown against the enemy GERMANY !!!!!

When are you moving to N. Carolina?

AS Ever

Ralph

131 EAST AUTUMN LANE
EAST PEORIA
ILLINOIS 61611



Russ - DANIEL L. O'BRIEN } Wants to be
R.D.B., Box 79 } Associate member
Barnet Vermont 05821

May 9 1985

Dear Ralph,

He also wants to know
if T-shirts are still available
I have an extra one I will sell him
Ralph

Thanks so much for sending me the 306th Echoes. It was also very enjoyable to talk with you in Florida. The history of the air war provides endless conversation at our office with my friends who hold similar interests. The history is tantalizing in that it is "recent" as far as history goes, with many still able to give first hand accounts. The thrill of seeing the old warbirds at shows never wears thin.

I still feel the B-17 is the most majestic plane ever to take to the skies. I hope that someday I will be able to fly in one!

This summer I will be in Columbus, Ohio for work and plan to stay a few extra days to visit Wright-Patt A.F.B. and see Show the Baby. I now work in Montpelier, but occasionally go to Burlington. There was a B-25 in Burlington which flew over our office for a few weeks, but I think it has left town.

I have written with a contributors to continue getting Echoes. I hope the T-shirt offer is still

on o.

Anyway, I intend to get in contact with
Ed. soon.

Again Ralph, Thank-you!

P.S. Maybe I'll see you next year at the air
show in Florida! - was disappointed
that they had no 17 this year.

Sincerely
Dan P. O'Brien

11 July 88

Dear Russ:

I will get this note off to you I hope before you move. I re read the letter about Moriarity book and you said you book was packed. I copied Pages 58 ~~to~~ 59 is mentioned in Arrietta letter. All I could get out of the two pages was a lot of barracks talk. I also agree with you that it is between Arietta, and MORiarty and Echoes has nothing to do with it.

I am working on the telephone no. and I have put in many I had in my address book and now I am working on Illinois. I have them in alphabetic order and their addresses. I will now get the phone books from the library. Peoria has ~~many~~ ^{nearly} all the Ill. books and most of the large cities in USA. I have used them many times

I also will get a note of to George Roberts. I will suggest that two of the committee (he & I) should decide on somethinbg and notify Flanagan. He never answers ~~our~~ our letters.

Enough for now. I am sorry about the messy letter. All I can say it is more readable than my writing,

Have a good trip!!!

Ralph

RECORD	LAST NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	REFC
19	Anderson, Harold P.	5936 W. Patterson, Chicago	NL	367
22	Anderson, Mrs Madge	524 W. Park Av. Libertyville	(312)362-5499	W
23	*Anderson, William S.	1150 41st Moline	(309)755-4279	367
37	Atherton, Roy	114 5th St. Walnut	(815)379-2717	368
40	Awe, Robert	1203 Norton Alton	(618)465-0127	367
42	Babbs, James L.	132 S. Main B0x447 WoodRiver	(618)245-4560	423
58	Baltunas, Anthony P	3741 W. 78th Pl Chicago	(312)585-1085	423
60	Banas, Charles	1935 Kenilworth Wilmette	(312)256-3090	369
62	Baranowicz, Micheal.	931 Cumberland Roselle	(312)N.L.	423
83	Barton, William D.	3040 S. Oak Park Av Berwyn	(312)484-0912	368
93	Batterman, Ervin A.	96 E. Joe ORR RD Chicago Hgts	(312)754-1284	369
106	Belcik, Thomas F.	3642 S. Hoyne Chicago	(312) N.L.	423
107	Belker, Joseph S.	117 Graview Quincy	(217) N.L.	369
111	Bennett, John E.	3213 N. Linhill Peoria	(309)688-2638	368
155	Blix, Willard J.	7913 Tripp Av Skokie	(312)673-9254	368
175	Bordner, Ralph E.	131 E. Autumn Ln E. Peoria	(309) 699-3640	368
305	Childers, Marshall E	R#6, Box 124 Murphysboro	(618)684-4109	367
320	Clark, Robert H	22254 Merruk Sauk Village	(312)578-4522	367
354	*Conner, Lloyd	309 E. 3rd Kewanee	(309)852-4371	369
401	Cronin, Jos V	3654 S. Marshfield Chicago	(312)847-2619	367
276	**Carone, James T	1980 Hasting Dr. Hoffman Est	(312)882-1556	Fr
464	Deutch, Henry	419 Old Indian Tr, Aurora	(312)896-2700	369
476	Disko, Sam	7244 W. 61st Pl Summitt	(312) N.L.	367
484	Dolinka, Daniel	6147 N. Sheridan Chicago	(312)465-8304	368
488	Dooley, Roger	2535 St. Vincents LaSalle	(815)223-3382	423
501	Dunlea, Dennis	6545 S. Knox Chicago	(312)767-0315	982
506	Dvorak, Frank	9429 Jackson Brookfield	(312)485-5308	423
525	Effland, Easton	Rt. #2 Macomb	(309)772-3208	368
530	Eldridge, Don H	1441 Woodland Dr Deerfield	(312)945-4101	367
654	Falkowski, Stanley	325 Seventh Av LaGrange	(312)354-3759	369
609	Foose, William	2130 Harrison Quincy	(217)223-8717	368
622	Frantz, Weldon	212 Hudson Lincoln	(217)732-6980	368
688	Gilbert, Louis	5420 East Dr Loves Park	(815)877-4423	368
745	Groesbeck, Carl A	1833 Greywillow Dr Wheaton	(312)653-4780	368
793	Harris, Beryl E	Rt#1 Colfax	(309)732-6302	423
825	Hermann, Robert	1715 Royal Blvd Elgin	(312)695-2454	3657
826	Hermley, Judith	507 Danny Rd Shorewood	(312)725-2566	D
856	Hogan, William	2508 31st Rockland	(309)786-8656	369
876	Hoppe, Clarence G	Edwardsville	(618)656-7119	369
895	Howe, Gene B	Rt # 1 Mt Pulaski	(217)674-3358	368
909	Hull, Mrs. Wendell	404 N. Lincoln Olney	(618)395-1203	W
915	Hursthouse, Morris	4225 Saratoga Downers Grove	(312)964-0517	367

368



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

12 August 1988
DuBois, PA.

Dear Russ:

Just a short note to the material I am inclosing. I have finished the Ill. phone numbers. I have noted changes in addresses etc. I guess they have moved and haven't notified you. It wasn't hard at all. I got most from E. Peoria library and the rest from Peoria Library. They have card catalog on towns that list area code etc. They also have many U.S. Phone books. I may work on other states. Do you have any suggestions? If you have any questions on this one let me know.

I have been working with so-in-law on the memory part of the typewriter and have use it on the phone numbers and am redoing the 368 Bomb. and 368 Nav. I am also setting up a memory bank on 306 Off. Specialities UNK. I am learning something new every day. Omissions, inserting etc. It may not be a computer but it does O.K. for me.

I am including material from Paul Chryst and a copy of a letter to George Roberts. It is only my ideas but being realistic I think a motion to dissolve the committee and put money back into the 306th treasury. Then appoint a new committee to handle maintenance and up keep of memorial. I am tired of waiting for "cry-baby" to do something As you will note in Roberts letter, As a committee George and I should offer an idea to Flanagan and let majority rule. He may get mad but I was 70 yrs old last March and I am getting to old to worry about Flannagan

We left Ill on 29th of July and got over to W.Va ^{then took} turnpike at Charlestown and then took I-77 to Columbia S.Car. Nell said you hadn't been in the new house long enough to stop in Charlotte but we did notice it as we passed thru. We tried three days to contact Gus Krjcik and even before we got a room in Columbia and then found him home. He just lived two blocks away. So we had a visit with he and Dorothy.

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

The reason for the trip was Son-in-law in Penn signed us up for suite deal at Litchfield by the Sea 20 miles South of Myrtle Beach S.Carolina. It was a suite for 3 days and 4 night for \$55 plus 3 Buffet Breakfasts. So we had 3 night and 4 days visit with family on the beach. They gave us a 1½ hr selling talk and tour but not too bad. The condo ran from about \$ 300,000 to \$ 450,000 and they only vacations homes. It was nice seeing how the other people lived.

We came home by way Jamestown, Williamsburg, Gettysburg, Amish village and Hershey Chocolate Factory. We are spending a week here and then home We had eye check and Ralph has a little beginning of a cataract on left eye but is about the same since last SEpt. Otherwise eyes are O.K.

MY son has fixed us up with a nice 2 bedroom trailer in Vero Beach for a week in Feb 1989. So ~~any~~ maybe we can look at the Strong's new home in Charlotte?

I have to get some groceries while Nell and daughter are out shopping. It is warm here but not as dry as Ill or near where we live. until last Mon. We had .9 of inch of rain since June 1st and .33 of in July and none until last Mon in Aug. Needless to say I haven't mowed my lawn lately.

This note has gotten quite long so I will close for now. Sorry about left margins but I have it set for my memory and didn't want to change.

*as ever
Ralph*

Dear George:

It has been over 4 months since I received your letter of Mar 26, 1988. I recently got a copy of a letter Russ Strong sent to you. Nell and I left Peoria on July 29 and went to Myrtle Beach S.C. and met daughter and family for a 3 night and 4 days for \$ 55. They were suite type rooms and all we had to do was take a 1½hr tour and lecture but it wasn't too much pressure put on by them. Also we got 3 morning buffet breakfasts on the deal. It was nice to see how the other world lived. We came back by way of Willaimsburg, Gettysburg, Amish villages and Hershey Chocolate factory. We are now in DuBois with daughter and family. We have our eyes checked by eye surgeon so-in-law. We plan to leave here on Aug. 15, for home

It is little over 2 months until the reunion at Vegas. The memorial committee has been very, very idle in fact dead. Russ mentioned two subjects in his letter. British problem and memorial money.

BRITISH PROBLEM. I don't have any ideas or suggestion at this time. My last contact with them was at Ft. Worth and I saw Gordon at Colorado Springs but I had no official 306th position then. Then at Dayton I was told by John Ryan that as ex pres I was on the Bd. of Directors so I served at Dayton and Wash D.C. then this Feb I was informed that according to laws which have never been adopted by the group. I was not on the Bd of Directors. They were printed in the Echoes but never adopted by the association. So I am not a member of the Bd of Directors now. I got my usual letters at Xmas from English Friends but the subject matter was only personell and nothing of 306th affairs. So I am open to suggestions on getting the English problem contact settled.

MEMORIAL MONEY Some where I saw in the minutes that the money was to be used for maintenace and other things for the memorial. I think up-keep was in the picture and I don't want anymore letter concerning POOR Connie and Gordon picking up sticks around the memoria. I guess I am to blame for letting Flanagan take care of the money at Orlando in 1979. He seems to think he is the sole care taker of the money. He doesn't wasn't to do anything with the money, either spend it or invest it. I don't think the money has been invested since it origination in 1982. I think and it only my idea that if the committee can't get anything accomplished by the reunion. I think some one should make a motion to desolve the committe and create a new committee with the instruction to use the money to maintain and keep up in the future and if additions are needed it should be presented to the association for their approval.

George these are only my ideas and maybe you have better ideas. It is hard to do anything when Flanagan won't even contact any committee members. We could as a majority decide on something and notify Flanagan of our actions. After I am home a few days I may contact you by phone to get some ideas from you and exchange ideas.

I am sorry I am late in answering your letter maybe I can do better in the future. Say how did you do during the recent Tropical Storm? I hope you did O.K. So until later. I typed this letter with my Word processing typewriter. I typed the letter and then hit the print key and it printed it. I saw a few mistakes and corrected them and now am finishing it.

20 March 1989

LTC Ralph Bordner
131 East Autumn Ln
East Peoria, IL 61611

Dear Ralph:

Writing for myself, and for Don Ross and Reg Robinson, let me express our thanks to you for your recent gift to the 306th BG Project Fund.

Your long service to the Association in leadership roles is appreciated by the entire membership, and has been indicative since the very beginning of your deep interest in the 306th BG Association.

We will keep you informed concerning this fund.

Sincerely yours,

William F. Houlihan
President

Amount received: \$100.00

RECORD	LAST NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE NO	REFC
32	Jacnik, Mrs Frank	4940 Leamington Chicago	(312)585-0186	W
46	Jarrow, Stanley J	1212 N.Lakeshore Chicago	(312)525-4780	367
79	Jones, Dewey	1810 Brairwood Mt Vernon	(618)242-5507	368
004	Karpman, Irving	200 E. Garrett, Springfield	(217)523-0527	368
015	Kelley, Paul E	5701 N.Sheridan Chicago	(312)728-5973	367
021	Kesick, Nicholas	1701 Jefferson St Lockport	(815)838-3086	369
035	Kinzel, Kenneth	718 W.Blaine, Monticello	(217)762-2832	423
053	Kostal, Jeronne	315 Bartram Riverside	(312)447-5297	367
107	Lawrence, Micheal	6321 S.Komensky Chicago	(312)585-5671	162
114	Leahy, Edward	920 S. Lombard Oak Park	(312)386-8176	367
137	Levy, Charles N	264 Dennis Ln Glencoe (UNL)	(309)835-0264	368
161	Loes, Mel	825 Sinsinawa E. Dubuque	(309)747-2009	369
174	Lux, Charles H	3632 Green Steger	(312)755-7952	368
179	Lynch, Robert	R31 Box157 Taylorville	(217)824-4594	368
190	Madsen, Karl G	507 13th St.Charles	(312)584-4982	368
196	Malay, Richard E	230 Country Rd Winfield	(312)690-6521	367
226	**Mattison, John	1421 23rd St. Peru	(815) N.L.	
322	Milner, James E	2200 1st St Moline	(309)672-8755	368
330	Mitchell, Freeman	383 E.Ferris Galesburg	(309)343-5955	367
334	Mitchelson, Virgil S	506 N Cottage Taylorville	(217)824-2530	368
337	Monser, George S	6909 N Patricia Peoria	(309)691-0522	368
341	Moore, Clark D	1418 34th Av Rock Island	(309)788-5571	367
353	Moriarity, John	1411Ridge ElkGrove Village	(312)439-4394	367
389	Nasby, Oliver J	R#3 Box 118 Liberty	(217)656-3617	423
423	Nuessen, Carl H	2036 Lind Quincy	(217)222-2036	369
439	*Olbinsky, Philip	7537 N Oakley Chicago	(312)539-6062	369
440	Oldenburg, Leo	1104 Hill Galena	(815)777-0135	369
456	Oscherwitz, Millard	2140 Sandy Ln Willmette	(312)256-3020	367
476	Patten, Charles R	117 N.Benton Palatime	(312)775-7123	423
511	Piechowski, Theo	157th St Calumet City	(312)862-7081	367
516	Pilat, Walter s	248 Howard Av Hillside	(312)449-2991	367
526	Plym, Donald	363 W.Freemont Galesburg	(309)342-2531	876
563	Rabe, Elton	105 Parker Ct Wilmington	(815)476-9481	368
580	Reck, Robert	P.O.Box 456 Mendota	(815)539-7393	368
643	Romeiss, Edgar	2019 Seneca Mt.Prospect	(312)827-7871	367
644	Ronczy, Edward L	13048 Mantee Chicago	(312)646-0051	367
697	*Savino, Joseph	1834 N.Oak Park Chicago	(312)384-0421	367
701	Schaefer, William	234 W.79th Burr Ridge	(312)325-8928	369
719	Schrader, Mrs Mel	201 Hillcrest Hamilton	(217)847-3652	FR
723	Schuering, Alvin	25W511 High Knob Wheaton	(312)682-0148	368
808	**Smith, Kenneth L	1935 N Bowman Danville	(217)446-5776	368
814	*Smith, Sam	1526 Harlem River Forest	(312)771-6919	876
814	Stahl, George C	27 S.Seymour Mundelein	(312)566-0355	369
852	Starzynskim Robert	5253 N.Long Chicago (UNL)	(312)685-8177	367
861	Stein, David L	360 E.Randolph, Chicago	(312) N.L.	369
880	Stokoski, Edward	1318E 168thS.Holland	(312)339-0816	423
885	Strawn, Wilmer	Box 18 Hume	(217)887-2731	423
891	Stroyoff, Joseph	1614 Lindell Granite City	(618)876-5937	367
895	**Sullivan John J	R#1 Box 263 Kinsalle, Ill		368
895	**Sullivan, John J	3758 W. 54th Chicago	(312)735-6858	368

RECORD	LAST NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE NO	REFC
1921	Taylor, John	R#3 Vienna	(618)564-2946	368
1927	Teranna, Joseph	3000 Linder Chicago	(312) N.L.	423
1966	Tucker, Melvin	2715 Tamala Terr Quincy	(217)223-3899	369
1974	Uek, Al W.	204 Marengo Forest Park	(312)771-8369	449
1988	Van Cleave Orin V	7865 Long Av Skokie	(312)673-8681	423
1890	Vandiver, Harold D	2504 Bershire Champaign	(217)356-4949	369
2016	Wagoner L. Edmond	512 Jefferson Lawrenceville	(618)943-4585	368
2044	Weishar, Richard W	1914 17th, Rock Island	(309)786-5104	367
2070	Wiehrdt, Ralph W	123 W. Robertson, Palatine	(312)38-2547	367
2073	Wilke, Emil F.	14603 Millard, Midlothian	(312)385-2690	369
2076	Williams, Robert C	134 GreenBay Winnetka	(312)446-4952	423
2135	Young, James K Jr	431 1/2 S. New Springfield	(217) N.L.	367
2146	Zdobylak, Fred J	4051 Gremley Schiller Pk	(312) N.L.	369
2151	Zurek, William T.	524 Cumberland Park Ridge	(312)823-6090	367

 *Same names but different address. These below are from 1988 phone books except that of Sam Smith, it is the same on both lists. These are recent phone books in Peoria Library

23	*Anderson, William S.	647-16th Av Moline	(309)755-4297	367
401	*Conner, Lloyd	225 N. Walnut Kewanee	(309)852-4371	369
1439	Olbinsky, Philip	4412 N. St. Louis, Chicago	(312)539-6062	369
1697	*Savino, Joseph	2936 W. Diversy, Chicago	(312)384-0421	367
1814	*Smith, Sam	1526 Harlem, River Forest	(312)771-6919	876
1890	*Van Diver, Harold	2510 Trafalgar Sq, Champaign	(217)356-4949	369

*Sam Smith was listed in Robert Forest, There is no Robert Forest. I found Sam Smith in River Forest

**Carone, Mattison, Smith Ken, and John Sullivan are listed in the directory but not back in the Ill Residents section

I listed John Sullivan twice. I found no Kinsell, Ill in Phone, Ill map directory or anywhere. I did find John Sullivan in the phone book with his 1986 directory address.

Not Listed (NL) I could not find these names in recent phone books They may have no phone or unlisted.

Sorry you have to insert these names in your list. I did give the record numbers from your list.

25 May 1989

Dear Ralph:

I have reprinted the Bombarriers list, and am sending to you both a group listing and also by squadrons.

I am planning to use it in the July issue of Echoes. Thus, if you have any thing to say about, you ought to get your comments to me by mid-June.

I am hopeful after that publication that we will receive some further data to input to the total.

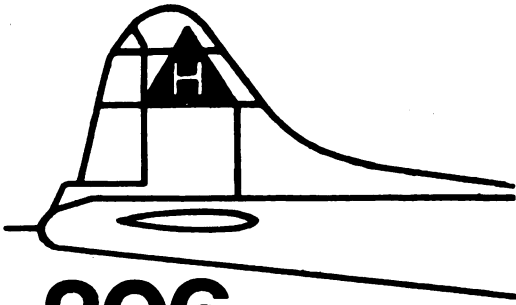
Hope everything is going well with the Bordners. Have just completed adding on the first of two decks, the lower at about ground level, as well as cutting a 60-inch patio door (sliding) into the wall of the family room.

Have survived both ordeals and things seem to be working well. Next is the lower deck, which will be done some time next week, and then its probably on to the kitchen. Although I may get June to slacken the pace somewhat.

Her sister is here for a two-week visit which will take me away from some of my duties for a while, especially if we head off next week for a couple of days. This weekend we help #2 son move into his new home. He is the one we bought this house from. We have plenty of moisture thus far to keep the lawns green and the gardens growing.

Don't know of any great commotion with the 306th at the moment.

All the best,



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Dear Russ:

Just a short note to cover material inclosed. I sent the same material to Reg Robinson. You and I have talked about these subjects over the past few months. I know you all have plenty to talk about at the business meeting. I sure hope the memorial subject can be cleared up as soon as possible. It has carried on too long. I know I should have done better with it when I was Pres. It seems we never have enough time at the business meeting.

I called Dellon Bumgardner last week. The Texas Raider is being sent to HarlingenTX for the winter. He doesn't know what plane or who will be flying it to Vegas. It too bad that and Old 306ther is *nt* flying the B-17. But as Dellon said " Decisions are made at Harlingen"

Say did you see the notice in the last 8th news that a Prog W. Raymond Wood is looking for 306th info. Where do we fit in the field of "Anthropology"? I presume that is just his regular occupation and the info on the 306th is just a side occupation.

I am sending you the book on "Stranger in a Strange Land." It has some interesting info. Look it over and if done by reunion you can bring it a long and save postage. Say that book I ordered on Aug 8th finally arrived it was about the Bloody Hundreth. It is not what I expected. It is similar to *Stobies* of the 8th. It is a collection of short articles written by ex-100th people. The fellow had moved from N. Olmsted Ohio to Rochy River Ohio. Now what happened to my \$ 2.00 Registered letter with a returned receipt. I wrote that on Aug 30. No return receipt and even the post office can't find it. I have my book now and who cares where the letter is now.

Russ my work on Bombadiers, Nav etc is now in hold until after we get back.

(over)

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

I got a note from Slim Boring , He and Krawcik are going out together. He also informed me John Regan is coming this year.

Say Russ you mentioned a plane list and if you sent it to me. I haven't received any list form you on planes lately.

We plan to leave here on the 25th and hope to get there or near Las Vegas sometime on 29th. But it is 1,800 miles so you can't be too sure of your ETA.

So unitl we see you all in Vegas

Sincerely.

Ralph

August 10, 1988

Dear George: *Roberts*

It has been over 4 months since I received your letter of Mar 26, 1988. I recently got a copy of a letter Russ Strong sent to you. Nell and I left Peoria on July 29 and went to Myrtle Beach S.C. and met daughter and family for a 3 night and 4 days for \$ 55. They were suite type rooms and all we had to do was take a 1½hr tour and lecture but it wasn't too much pressure put on by them. Also we got 3 morning buffet breakfasts on the deal. It was nice to see how the other world lived. We came back by way of Willaimsburg, Gettysburg, Amish villages and Hershey Chocolate factory. We are now in DuBois with daughter and family. We have our eyes checked by eye surgeon so-in-law. We plan to leave here on Aug.15, for home

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BRITISH PROBLEM. I don't have any ideas or suggestion at this time. My last contact with them was at Ft. Worth and I saw Gordon at Colorado Springs but I had no official position then. Then at Dayton I was told by John Ryan that as ex pres I was on the Bd. of Directors so I served at Dayton and Wash D.C. then this Feb I was informed that according to laws which have never been adopted by the group. I was not on the Bd of Directors. They were printed in the Echoes but never adopted by the association. So I am not a member of the Bd of Directors now. I got my usual letters at Xmas from English Friends but the subject matter was only personell and nothing of 306th affairs. So I am open to suggestions on getting the English problem contact settled.

MEMORIAL MONEY Some where I saw in the minutes that the money was to be used for maintenance and other things for the memorial. I think up-keep was in the picture and I don't want anymore letter concerning POOR Connie and Gordon picking up sticks around the memoria. I guess I am to blame for letting Flanagan take care of the money at Orlando in 1979. He seems to think he is the sole care taker of the money. He doesn't wasn't to do anything with the money, either spend it or invest it. I don't think the money has been invested since it origination in 1982. I think and it only my idea that if the committee can't get anything accomplished by the reunion. I think some one should make a motion to desolve the committee and create a new committee with the instruction to use the money to maintain and keep up in the future and if additions are needed it should be presented to the association for their approval.

George these are only my ideas and maybe you have better ideas. It is hard to do anything when Flanagan won't even contact any committee members. We could as a majority decide on something and notify Flanagan of our actions. After I am home a few days I may contact you by phone to get some ideas from you and exchange ideas.

I am sorry I am late in answering your letter maybe I can do better in the future. Say how did you do during the recent Tropical Storm? I hope you did O.K. So until later. I typed this letter with my Word processing typewriter. I typed the letter and then hit the print key and it printed it. I saw a few mistakes and corrected them and now am finishing it.

According to your book on P. 224 and 368 History Merle Brown
was a co pilot on a plane that went to Sweden on 6 Mar 1944
Pilot Charles W. Smith
Co Pilot Merle P. Brown
Nav Stan Buck
Bomb Herman F. Allen

DANIELS Foster Bomb KIA on May 21,1943 First over Germany P. 119
Dmochowski, Myron MIA/Pow Jan 11,1944 " " ' P. 193-194
Grimes, Thomas, assigned Mar 27,1945 SP Orders # 82
Norton, Irv Sq Bomb before Bordner
Tryloff, Warren Bomb flying DR Nav with Maj Farwell on 9/12/44
Came to 368 alone late Aug 1944. Picture of him
Bove First Over Germany

Russ; I put in the arrival dates of Allen, Herman; Fontane, Charles
and departure date of Mc Kelvey, Van Dyke, I also inserted Norman
Simpson and deleted Norman Samson.

You didnot put in Daniels, Foster; Dmochowski, Myron; Grimes, Thomas
Norton, Irving; and Tryloff, Warren in your corrected list to me.
I included the info for the additions and am including it above the
note. You did delete Brown, Merle on your list he was a co-pilot.

I am including a copy of the list you sent me and a copy of my
list with your corrections sent to me. This list of the 368th is
including all the information have here and the info you sent me.

I got a note from Lee Kessler the other day seeking some info
if I can't find the info I will send you his requests.

I finally got my birthday gift form my daughters family. It was
tickets to the Cub vs Cardinal June 12, All I had to do was drive
my daughters family to the event. We left Sunday and went to the Museums
during day and then went out where we use to live then went up to the
game. It was raining when we left the motel but cleared up for the game.
After the Cubs won the game I got to drive home. What a present I got
to drive to Chicago, around in the city ,up to the game and thru the
traffic home. Ha! Ha!

I will close for now hope this info is in time for the next issue of
Echoes, I will try to work on the other list. Thanks for the 7th page.

Until later

Ralph

Copy received
June 15

368TH BOMBARDIERS

NAME	SODN	ARRIVAL	DPT	LOST?
ALLEN, HERMAN F	368	43-10-00	44-03-06	INTERNEED
ANDERSON, PAUL H	368	44-05-09	44-09-06	TOUR
ANTOON, MITCHELL K	368	43-11-27	44-07-00	TOUR
ASHMAN, CHARLES A	368		43-11-03	KIA
BALTZER, DONALD W	368	43-11-18	44-04-00	TOUR
BANTA, ROBERT E	368	44-06-16	44-09-12	KIA
BINIUS, WALTER J	368	42-06-00	42-08-00	
BLOTNER, JOSEPH L	368	44-09-25	44-10-15	MIA/POW
BONNER, OLIVER A JR	368	44-07-28	44-09-12	MIA/POW
BORDNER, RALPH E	368	44-07-17	45-02-00	TOUR
BORGERT, ROBERT O	368	44-06-04		
BOSWELL, TED JR	368	43-10-21	44-06-26	TOUR
BREUNIG, WILBUR W	368	42-06-00	43-04-17	KIA
BRIGGS, STANLEY O	368	45-02-03		
BROWN, JOHN A JR	368	43-03-12	43-04-17	MIA/POW
BURNETT, ALBERT F	368	44-04-29	44-09-00	TOUR
BURTIS, JOHN R	368	42-06-00	42-08-00	
CAMPBELL, LESLIE F	368	44-12-09	45-04-00	TOUR
CARGILL, WILLIAM D	368	42-06-00	42-08-00	
CARSTEN, PAUL R	368	44-03-06	44-07-14	K-AUTO
CHRISTOFORI, LAWRENCE F	368	44-03-18	44-04-24	MIA/POW
CLARK, WILFRED F	368	45-02-10		
CONWAY, OUENTIN T	368	44-12-23		
DMOCHOWSKI, MYRON J	368	43-09-13	44-01-11	MIA/POW
DORMAN, LYLE R	368	44-12-13		
ELDRIDGE, RICHARD D	368	44-04-13	44-07-00	TOUR
FAULKNER, GEORGE R	368	44-12-23	45-04-00	TOUR
FONTANE, CHARLES	368	43-11-00	44-05-00	TOUR
FREDERICK, GEORGE W	368	42-06-19	43-03-04	KIA
FREDERICK, JAMES A	368	44-09-22	45-05-19	TOUR
FUTTERMAN, SIDNEY	368	44-02-26	44-03-24	HOSP
GILLESPIE, CLARENCE	368	43-04-04		
GOEDE, MILTON N	368	42-06-00	42-08-00	
GRETTON, GEORGE T	368	44-03-07	44-04-24	MIA/POW
GUSTAFSON, BURTON C	368	43-11-00	44-05-24	MIA/POW
HANSON, RICHARD F	368	42-06-00	42-08-00	
HARMSTON, HOWARD L	368	43-12-01	44-02-25	MIA/POW
HARRISON, JAMES T	368	43-04-23	43-09-00	TOUR
HARRISON, FRANK R	368	43-03-12		
HATTON, SAM J	368	44-07-08	45-02-00	TOUR
HEWITT, WILLIAM C	368		43-10-09	MIA/POW
HILLS, CHARLES F	368	44-03-15	44-03-27	MIA/POW
HODGSON, RICHARD S	368	44-04-29	44-08-00	TOUR
HOLSCHER, ROBERT G	368	44-11-28	45-04-23	TOUR
HOLT, JR., CHARLES O	368	44-09-01	45-01-31	TOUR
JOHNSON, JAMES W	368	44-08-08	45-02-00	TOUR
JORDAN, JOHN H	368	44-11-04	45-01-25	TOUR
KETCHIE, CHARLES JR	368	42-06-19		
KNOX, JAMES L	368	44-04-05	44-04-29	KIA
KOSAKOWSKI, JOSEPH E	368	42-06-19	43-07-01	TOUR
KRZEMIAN, LOUIS J	368	44-09-22	45-02-00	TOUR
LAMB, BEVERLY R	368	43-04-23	43-10-11	TOUR
LAUGHLIN, JR., JAMES H	368	43-11-27	44-02-25	MIA/POW
LEVY, ROBERT T	368	42-06-00	43-01-03	KIA
LOGAN, DANIEL A JR	368	43-11-03	44-04-00	TOUR
LONG, JOSEPH W	368	44-09-22	45-04-00	TOUR
MAC MILLAN, DOUGLAS L	368	44-05-15		

368TH BOMBARDIERS

NAME	SODN	ARRIVAL	DPT	LOST?
MARSHALL, JACK G	368	44-04-30	44-08-00	TOUR
MC CUTCHAN, ROBERT I	368	45-02-16		
MC KELVEY, VANDYKE	368	42-06-19	42-12-12	
MC TAGUE, HARRY D	368	45-02-16		
MILLER, ERVIN F JR	368	44-08-21	45-01-10	TOUR
MONTOYA, EDUARDO M	368	43-04-23	44-01-00	TOUR
MORROW, JAMES B	368	43-11-14	43-11-26	MIA/POW
MURRAY, JAMES E	368	43-04-04	43-04-05	KIA
NORRIS, JOHN H	368	44-07-21	45-02-00	TOUR
POLICH, JOHN J	368	44-04-13	44-07-14	TOUR
PROCTOR, ROBERT F	368	43-12-01	44-02-22	MIA/POW
RICHARD, LEO E	368	44-05-28	44-09-00	TOUR
ROBERTS, WILLIAM N JR	368	44-07-17	44-09-11	MIA/POW
ROSS, DONALD R	368	43-11-19	45-04-00	2 TOURS
RYAL, CHARLES F	368	44-03-15		
SAUNDERS, WILLIAM W	368	42-06-19	43-04-05	MIA/POW
SCHOENBERGER, STANFORD L	368	44-12-11	45-05-19	
SCHWARTZ, BENNETT H	368	44-07-05	45-04-00	TOUR
SEED, JOE D	368	44-05-15	44-09-06	TOUR
SEIFRIED, EDWARD J	368	43-04-12	44-12-00	TOUR
SHAEBER, JACK D	368	43-03-12	43-04-17	MIA/POW
SHOOK, JAMES E	368	44-12-27	45-05-19	
SILVERSTEIN, STANLEY	368	43-04-23	43-10-00	TOUR
SIMPSON, NORMAN J	368		43-10-08	MIA/POW
SNEAD, PARKER	368	44-06-15	44-10-00	TOUR
STRAUSER, JOHN A	368	43-10-31	43-11-13	INJ/D
SWAN, OTTO C	368	44-05-28	44-09-00	TOUR
TAPPER, GEORGE W	368	43-11-27	44-06-26	TOUR
TATMAN, GILBERT C	368	43-12-01		
THAYER, REGINALD H JR	368	44-09-25	45-05-15	79 MISSIONS
TINGLER, FRANZ E	368	43-11-27	44-07-31	TOUR
TOTH, DENNIS	368	44-04-03	44-09-06	TOUR
TOWNSEND, DEAN S	368	44-07-28	45-01-10	TOUR
URICH, RUSSELL C JR	368	44-10-07	45-03-26	TOUR
URMAN, HARRY	368	43-08-11	43-11-03	KIA
VLAHOS, MICHAEL L	368	44-06-07	44-08-26	KIA
WEBER, JOHN G	368	44-08-29	45-05-05	TOUR
WILF, JEROME H	368	44-09-12	45-03-00	TOUR
WILKINS, JOSEPH C	368		43-03-08	MIA/POW
WILSON, ROBERT G	368	44-12-26		
WINTERS, AUGUST	368	43-04-11	43-09-05	EVADDEE
YOUNG, HARRY L	368	43-04-23	43-05-21	MIA/POW
ZABORSKY, HENRY	368	43-09-03	43-10-17	TRANS
ZASADIL, FRANK E	368	42-06-00	42-08-00	

368th BOMBARDIERS F942445

NAME	ARRIVAL	DPT	LOST
ALLEN, HERMAN F.	43-11-00	44-03-06	INTERNED
ANDERSON, PAUL H	44-05-09	44-09-06	TOUR
ANTOON, MITCHELL K	43-11-27	44-07-00	TOUR
ASHMAN, CHARLES A		43-11-03	KIA
*BINIUS, WALTER J. O-726113	42-07-01		WENDOVER
BLATZER, CHARLES A	43-11-18	44-04-00	TOUR
BANTA, ROBERT A	44-06-16	44-09-12-	KIA
BLOTNER, JOSEPH L.	44-09-25	44-10-15	MIA/POW
BONNER, OLIVER A JR.	44-07-28	44-09-12	MIA/POW
BORDNER, RALPH E.	44-07-17	45-02-20	TOUR
BOGERT, ROBERT O.	44-06-04		TOUR
BOSWELL, TED JR.	43-10-21	44-06-26	TOUR
BRUENIG, WILBUR W.	42-06-00	43-04-17	KIA
BRIGGS, STANLEY O	45-02-03		VE DAY
BROWN, JOHN A JR	43-03-12	43-04-17	MIA/POW
BURNETT, ALBERT F	44-04-29	44-09-00	TOUR
*BURTIS, JOHN R. O-726123	42-07-01		WENDOVER
CAMPBELL, LESLIE F	44-12-09	45-04-00	TOUR
*CARGILL, WILLIAM D O-726125	42-07-01		WENDOVER
CARSTEN, PAUL R.	44-03-06	44-07-14	K-AUTO
CHRISTOFORI, LAWRENCE F	44-03-18	44-04-24	MIA/POW
CLARK, WILFRED F.	45-02-10		VE DAY
CONWAY, QUENTIN T	44-12-23		VE DAY
* * DANIELS, FOSTER G	42-06-23	43-05-21	KIA
* * DMOCHOWSKI, MYRON		44-01-11	MIA/POW
DORMAN, LYLE R	44-12-13		VE DAY
ELDRIDGE, RICHARD D	44-04-13	44-07-00	TOUR
FAULKNER, GEORGE R	44-12-23	45-04-00	TOUR
FONTANE, CHARLES	43-11-00	44-05-00	TOUR
FREDERICK, GEORGE W	42-06-19	43-03-04	KIA
FREDERICK, JAMES A	44-09-22	45-05-19	TOUR
FUTTERMAN, SIDNEY	44-02-26	44-03-24	HOSP
GILLESPIE, CLARENCE	43-04-04		
*GOEDE, MILTON N O-726150	42-07-01		WENDOVER
GRETON, GEORGE T	44-03-07	44-04-24	MIA/POW
* * GRIMES, THOMAS C	45-03-27		VE DAY
GUSTAFSON, BURTON C	43-11-00	44-05-24	MIA/POW
*HANSON, RICHARD F O-725024	42-06-23		WENDOVER
HARMSTON, HOWARD L	43-12-01	44-02-24	MIA/POW
HARRISON, FRANK R	43-03-12		
HARRISON, JAMES T	43-04-23	43-09-00	TOUR
HATTON, SAM J	44-07-08	45-05-00	TOUR
HEWIT, WILLIAM C		43-10-09	MIA/POW
HILLS, CHARLES F	43-03-15	44-03-27	MIA/POW
HODGSON, RICHARD S	44-04-29	44-08-00	TOUR
HOLSCHER, ROBERT G	44-11-28	45-04-23	TOUR
HOLT, CHARLES O JR.	44-09-01	45-01-31	TOUR
JOHNSON, JAMES	44-08-08	45-02-00	TOUR
JORDON, JOHN H	44-11-04	45-01-25	TOUR
KETCHIE, CHARLES JR	42-06-23		GROUNDDED
KNOX, JAMES L.	44-04-05	45-04-29	KIA
KOSAKOWSKI, JOSEPH E.	42-06-19	43-07-01	TOUR
KRZEMIAN, LOUIS J	44-09-22	45-02-00	TOUR
LAMB, BEVERLY R	43-04-23	43-10-11	TOUR
LAUGHLIN, JR, JAMES H	43-11-27	44-02-25	MIA/POW
LEVY, ROBERT T	42-06-00	43-01-03	KIA

NAME	ARRIVAL	DPT	LOST
LOGAN, DANIEL A JR	43-11-03	44-04-00	TOUR
LONG, JOSEPH	44-09-22	45-04-00	TOUR
MACMILLAN, DOUGLAS L	44-05-15		
MARSHALL, JACK	44-04-30	44-08-00	TOUR
MCUTCHAN, ROBERT I	45-02-16		VE DAY
MCKELVEY, VAN DYKE	42-06-23	42-12-12	TRANS
MCTAGUE, HARRY D	45-02-16		VE DAY
MILLER, ERVIN F. JR	44-08-21	45-01-00	TOUR
MONTOYA, EDUARDO M	43-04-23	44-01-10	TOUR
MORROW, JAMES B	43-11-14	43-11-26	MIA/POW
MURRAY, JAMES E	43-04-04	43-04-05	KIA
NORRIS, JOHN H	44-07-21	45-02-00	TOUR
*NORTON, IRVING R	44-04-21	44-09-00	TOUR
POLICH, JOHN J	44-04-13	44-07-14	TOUR
PROCTOR, ROBERT F	43-12-01	44-02-22	MIA/POW
RICHARD, LEO E	44-05-28	44-09-00	TOUR
ROBERTS, WILLIAM N JR	44-07-17	44-09-11	MIA/POW
ROSS, DONALD R	43-11-19	45-04-00	TOUR
RYAL, CHARLES F	43-03-15		
SAUNDERS, WILLIAM W	42-06-23	43-04-05	MIA/POW
SCHOENBERGER, STANFORD D	44-12-11	45-05-19	TOUR
SCHWARTZ, BENNETT H	44-07-05	45-04-00	TOUR
SEED, JOE D	44-05-15	44-09-06	TOUR
SEIFRIED, EDWARD F	43-04-12	44-12-00	TOUR
SHAEBER, JACK D	43-03-12	43-04-17	MIA/POW
SHOOK, JAMES E	44-12-27	45-05-19	TOUR
SILVERSTEIN, STANLEY	43-04-23	43-10-00	TOUR
<u>SIMPSON, NORMAN P</u>		43-10-08	MIA/POW
SNEAD, PARKER	44-06-15	44-10-00	TOUR
STRAUSER, JOHN A	43-10-31	43-11-13	INJ/D
SWAN, OTTO C	44-05-28	44-09-00	TOUR
TAPPER, GEORGE W	43-11-27	44-06-26	TOUR
TATMAN, GILBERT C	43-12-01		
THAYER, REGINALD H JR	44-09-25	45-05-00	VE DAY
TINGLER, FRANK E	43-11-27	44-04-00	TOUR
TOTH, DENNIS	44-04-03	44-09-06	TOUR
TOWNSEND, DEAN S	44-07-28	45-01-00	TOUR
*TRYLOFF, WARREN	44-09-00	44-09-12	MIA/POW
URICH, RUSSELL C JR	44-10-07	45-03-26	TOUR
URMAN, HARRY	43-08-11	43-11-03	KIA
VLAASHOS, MICHEASL L	44-06-07	4-08-26	TOUR
WEBER, JOHN G	44-08-29	45-05-25	TOUR
WILF, JEROME H	44-09-12	45-03-00	TOUR
WILKENS, JOSEPH, C	42-06-00	43-03-08	MIA/POW
WILSON, ROBERT G	44-12-26	45-05-00	VE DAY
WINTERS, AUGUST	43-04-11	43-09-05	EVADEE
YOUNG, HARRY L	43-04-23	43-05-21	MIA/POW
ZABORSKY, HENRY	43-09-03	43-10-17	TRANS
*ZASADIL, FRANK E	42-06-23		WENDOVER

X Left out on your list

NAME	ARRIVAL	DPT	Lost
<u>No Arrival Date</u>			
ALLEN, HERMAN F		44-03-06	INTERNEED
ASHMAN, CHARLES A		43-11-03	KIA
DMOCHOWSKI, MYRON		44-01-11	MIA/POW
FONTANE, CHARLES		44-05-00	TOUR
HEWITT, WILLIAM C		43-10-09	MIA/POW
SLMPSON, NORMAN J		43-10-08	MIA/POW

No DPT Dates

BOGERT, ROBERT O	44-06-04		TOUR
GILLESPIE, CLARENCE	43-04-04		
HARRISON, FRANK R	43-03-12		
MACMILLAN, DOUGLAS L	44-05-15		
RYAL, CHARLES F	43-03-15		
TATMAN, GILBERT C	43-12-01		

368 Bombardiers Left at WENDOVER

BINIUS, Walter J	O-726113
BURTIS, JOHN R	O-726123
CARGILL, WILLIAM D	O-726125
GOEDE, MILTON N	O-726150
HANSON, RICHARD F	O-725024
ZASADIL, FRANK E.	O-725045

368 th ~~Bombardiers~~ still at 306th on VE Day

BRIGGS, STANLEY O	45-02-03	VE DAY
CLARK, WILFRED F	45-02-10	VE DAY
CONWAY QUENTIN T	44-12-23	VE DAY
DORMAN LYLE R	44-12-13	VE DAY
GRIMES, THOMAS C	45-03-27	VE DAY
MCUTCHAN, ROBERT I	45-02-16	VE DAY
MCTAGUE, HARRY D	45-02-16	VE DAY
*THAYER, REGINALD H JR	44-09-25	VE DAY
WILSON, ROBERT G	44-12-26	VE DAY
*HATTON, SAM J	44-07-08	VE DAY

* Thayer, Reginald flew 35 missions with 15 AF before coming to 306th
He was Sqdn Bomb on VE Day

* Hatton, Sam started flying mission early July 1944 and could have easily had over 30 mission by VE Day He started flying lead Bomb about the time Bordner started flying lead in Middle of Sept. He was still at 368th on VE Day.

306 Bomb Group Bombardiers left at Wendover (Roster of Officers at
Wendover- July 1,1942)

367 Bombardiers

Anderegg, Alfred F.	O-726104
Barnett, Herman K.	O-726106
Davis, Harry O.	O-725056
Frierwood, Max J.	O-726144
Knight, Chester A.	O-726040
St. George, George W.	O-726085

368 Bombardiers

Binius, Walter J.	O-726113
Burtis, John R.	O-726123
Cargill, William D.	O-726125
Goede, Milton N.	O-726150
Hanson, Richard F.	O-725024
Zasadil, Frank E.	O-725045

369 Bombardiers

Brunson, Herbert P.	O-726118
Buchanan, Walter F.	O-726120
Garrett, Hubert R.	O-726149
Knuppenberg, Jack E.	O-726041
Reed, John F.	O-724175

423 Bombadiers

Bradley, James W.	O-726116
Frederich, Andrew J.	O-726143
Gutz, Theodore F.	O-726157
Krahl, Adolph L.	O-443745
Wolff Leonard H.	O-726098

306 Group Bombardiers

Gardner, Harold D.	O-726148
Graw, John L.	O-726154



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

14 July 1989

Dear Russ:

JUST a short note Thanks for all the info. I just sent Lee Kessler the load list of A/C 42-5428. I have looked at the picture inclosed with a magnifying glass and still think the (5) looks (3) but I guess I have to go with offical load list. So according to Bishop on P246 the plane flew again and eventually to 91st Nov 43 then to BAD 15 Mar 44 to go to USA.

I thank you for the copy of the Letter from Connie. Was she her usual self condemning the Directors for their treatment of their friend D'Amato? I thought you letter was very polite and to the point. I wonder who the 20 people attending the dedication? Russ I wouldn't go that far to see a flagpole dedicated any time. I think D'Amato and Richards were making a money making venture. Enough. Say did I tell I got a letter this spring from John & Di Mills. they were hoping to get to Little Rock. They don't mention to much about events over there but they still say their favorite outfit is 306th I think they help with the 92 trip this summer.

To Bombadiers I found a mistake on mine Vlahos was KIA and On mine he was finishing a tour. I am also including a few other list I made up and the one I would like to get more infor is 368th Bombardiers Fate Unk. I was in the barracks with Robert Bogert I think he went home in Oct or early Nov. I attended refresher tng at Midland TX in April and May 1945 Russ in your book you list a T/Sgt Clarence Gillespie with the 367th If you have any info let me know.

Thank for the loads lists Where did you find them. They really clear up who was on certain planes and also the A/C No. I could write more but will close for now Thanks again.

Ralph

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

I happen to see this Voleth article.

22 June 1989

Dear Russ:

I recently got my recent Air Power History. I have been a subscriber to the old Aero space Historian since the beginning and had renewed it for this year. So I am a charter member of AIR POWER HISTROY. BIG! DEAL!.

I have one big compliant so far is certain members on the Govering Trustees. I underlined the names. The worst one is M/Sgt Joe Worth. I can't see why the Mighty Eighth thinks they are experts on all news items.

I see the 306th reunion is listed in the issue. I didn't see the announcement in the last Air Force museum Friends Bulletin. How is the registrations coming.

Say I got a letter from Lee Kessler the other day. I don't have anything on the Col Moller speech at Oralndo except his letter to all attendees defending his speech. I should get a note off to him on the matter.

Did you get all the Bombardier info I sent you? I haven't gotten back on the material. A week ago Sunday I drove daughter and family to Chicago on Sunday, I drove them around down town. Then to Fields Museum and Museum of Science of Industry. We stayed over nite in HOMewood and visited friends from NI in 1942 and when I worked for them 1946-49. He is about my age but has Parkinson Disease. He is unable to get around with out help now. Then Monday I got my birthday present ticket to the Cub and Cardinal game. It was raining when we left about south of Chicago but cleared up for the game. The Cubs won and we got home about 9 PM. Grandpa did all the driving Ha! Ha!.

The other info is a bulletin of the New Vibrations who sang at our church last Sunday. They were 9 thru 12 grade people who made up the Chorus. They said it was a very large church. Nell thought it was nice but I am not a great fan of jazzed up singing of Hymns in church but I guess I am old fashioned Ha! Ha!.

You may have all this material but I am sending it any how.
Until later

*Until later
Ray*

RECORDS UPDATE

306th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION

(Please complete as much of this form as you wish to, fold and mail as per address on reverse side. Or, if obtained at a reunion, hand to Russ Strong)

LAST NAME: BORDNER FIRST NAME: RALPH E. TITLE:

STREET ADDRESS: 131 East Autumn Lane TELEPHONE: () -

CITY: East Peoria, STATE: Illinois ZIP: 61611

DATE JOINED 306th ASSOCIATION: 1975(Maimi)

REUNIONS ATTENDED: (Years) 13 (8th Mini-reunions), 5 (306th)
1 306th at Colorado Springs in 1979

WIFE'S NAME: Nell

LAST EMPLOYMENT: Supt Robein Elem School Dist 85 July 1978

COLLEGE(S) ATTENDED: Northern Ill Univ DEGREE(S): BS DATE: 1942
Bradley Univ. MA 1967

SERIAL #: was O-769-248
SSN 347-18-4508

SQDN: 368 MOS:

DATE ARR: SP Orders 188
17 Jul 1944

* CREW: Pilot Robt Chrisjohn
I flew no missions with this complete crew
HIGHEST RANK IN 306th: Capt

DATE DEPARTED:

SERVICE RETIREMENT DATE: AD 7 Dec 1945
Retired Ang & Res 28 Feb 1978

RANK or GRADE:
Lt. Col.

DECORATIONS WITH 306TH:

TOP SERVICE ASSIGNMENT AFTER 306TH: Sqdn Bomb(368th)

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS WITH 306TH: * I flew 3 missions with my original pilot flying co-pilot. Then I flew 4 missions as navigator: then 3 missions in Deputy Lead Bomb. The last 20 missions were in Lead Bomb. Total 30 missions

QUESTIONNAIRE

CATERPILLAR CLUB - IRVING CHUTE COMPANY

NAME:

COMBAT JUMP DATE & MISSION:

HEIGHT WHEN BAILED OUT:

ANY PROBLEMS WITH PARACHUTE:

306th Bombardment Group. SQDN:



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

12 Sept 1989

Dear Russ.

I got this note today. So I made a copy of it and am sending it on to you. I wrote him a note and sent him my extra copy of the July Echoes and a copy of the 306th reunion at Little Rock. I told him I was forwarding his name and address to you.

I guess we have to thank Bumgardner for a another new one. I will get a note of to Dellon to look over his log and see if he had any new ones sign up this year. If I had gotten to Springfield I would have looked over the sign up log.

Say I looked at my short snorter last nite and saw Don Ross signature and also Ned K McKinney on it. I see he is coming this year. I think he was in our barracks.

We are getting ready to leave here on Sunday. We will be in Blytheville Ark until Wed AM and then on to Little Rock. We will go about 90 miles north for a Nells family reunion and then Wed on to Memphis. And I hope to be home by at least Oct 1st.

Our friend at Blytheville is a friend of Orly Parker who use to be one of the clerks of 368th OPNS I will try to contact him while there. I met his daughter a few years ago. He was a Dentist there until a few years ago when a golf ball hit him in the eye and he lost the sight in one eye. I have written hime a couple of times but never got an answer.

Until later see you in Little Rock

Ralph

Dec 16th 1989.

Dear Ralph Nell.

All well here, not forgotten you have been busy here. Had lots of 30bers here this year.

Weather not so good but that's England.

Had good flagpole dedication. Lots of new 30bers here could have had a better crowd tho. Why some of the others didn't come I don't know.

What's happening in 92. Have you any idea? Seems that things out there are a bit hairy. We shall always continue to do our best here while we are young enough to do it. — and then well — shall you be coming here at all next year.

Let us know if there anything we can do — OK.
Gordon still not too good after accident.
Wjgd still not married.

hoadsa love.
Love Gordon Wjgd.
xxx

IN BRIEF:-
13 November 1989



Brynton

C. Dale Briscoe,

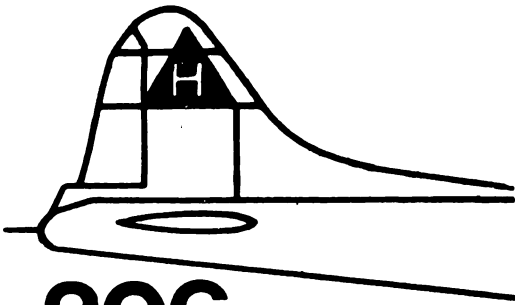
Enclosed is my Check # 417 made payable for the amount of \$20 to the 306th BG Assn. - as a memorial donation to your special project fund.

As a Past President of the 91st BG Memorial Assn. - your Editor and I have exchanged the quarterly Newsletter published by our Veterans groups - each year.

I thoroughly enjoy reading the ECHOES and pass them on to our 91st Editor for his perusal. I note that LES BERRY's story on Pg. 6 was interesting. He and Ralph BORDNER were in my Flight at Cadet School, Victorville AAB, 26 Feb 44. and Col. Terry was my combat C.O. from July to Dec. 1944 in the 91st

Sincerely,
Paul Chryst

91st BG Memorial Assn.
Lt. Col. Paul Chryst (Ret)
1494 No. Adams Street
Pottstown, PA 19464



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

19 Jan 1990

Dear Russ:

How are things in N. Carolina? We came down by way of Memphis, We picked up her sister and Mimi Hunt and followed one another down here. We got here on Jan 10 and have been busy running around with her sister. We are having our first class mail sent here. In fact it was coming here the first day we got here.

I have been trying to write a few letters but have been busy driving people around. I did get the brochure and letter from Paul Chryst to Don Ross. Paul also sent me two video's One was called Bombadiers View with picture of the Class of 44-3 from Victorville. of which I was a member. Then there were a lot of koda -krome film of mission etc of the 91st. The flying of a mission was not bad from take off etc. The other film was of the tour he conducted last July They weren't too bad, much better than I do with the video camera. The first film was about 2 hrs and the tour one was about 2100 ft. He said I could keep the Bombadier film but asked me to send the other one to Don. I made copies of both and sent both to Don. I never did get Don on the phone.

INClosed is a copy of a letter from Connie Richards. I haven't written and answer to her yet. I will sent you an info copy. I think Don Ross can handle a little trip to England . Also that letter from D'Amato was quite funny. Also Paul Chryst sent a donation to Briscoe. I guess when you are working you have to sell yourself. I wrote Don a note on Chryst. In essence of the letter. He was a classmate of mine and a friend of my best friend who went to 91st. Nando Cavaleri was his name and he was Paul's best man at their wedding in Nov 1943. Nando was shot down on Feb 3 leading the 91st to Berlin and He Capt

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

*He also was a close friend of
Manny
Klette*

came thru on the same orders from 8th AF as mine. I stayed overnite with Nando fold~~s~~ in Chicago after we got our commission. Paul was just another class mate to me. I didn't know him very well. When we parted ways on July 17, 1944 They went ~~to~~ 91st and I went to 306th. I next saw Chryst at Maimi 1975 at the 8th AFHS reunion. I have had a few calls from him mostly on Class of 44-3 and when we were planning a reunion in 1982. I have no idea of how is tours were conducted etc. The film might give him some idea's I haven't even looked at the tapes throughly You might like to look at them.

I finally got a Xmas card Jan 12 from John and Di Mills. It was mailed air mail DEc 13. It must have come Bony Express. No letter or note from them. Did you hear from Franklin on your letter?

I am inclosing my latest 368th Bombadier list. With all the changes you sent me. I will try to work on the other later. Did you plan to send me anything more on The Enlisted men Crew Chief's etc.? I will go to the library on the ^{Fla} phones a little later. We will be here until March 9th. I got my latest 8th AF News. I think the stories are not as good as in the past. I still haven't got off a note to TRyloff. We were getting ready for the bunch at Xmas Then they were there 19 Dec and Jan 1st the we left Jan 8 after we spent the previous week cleaning up the house. So I am behind on letter writing etc.

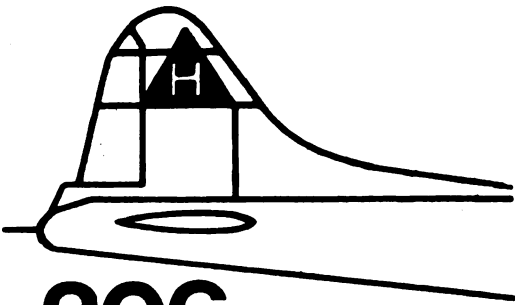
I think I gave you my address etc here but I will include it in this note. By the way it is in the high 70's and low 80's here. I suppose it is warm up there. Ha!Ha!.

*Until Later
Ralph*

Vero Address

Ralph E. Bordner
506 1st St. Lot 9
Vero Beach ,Fla, 32962
(407) 778-1398

*P.S. We ate lunch at O Club
at Patrick - On the way in the
Hallway was names of area
R.O.A Club. The Vice Pres. was
LT. Col. Warren Borges.
not still a big wheel at
Col. Retired Officers Club
but regular R.O.A.
How about that*



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

22 Feb 1989

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Dear Russ & June;

Thanks for the nice time when we visited you all a few weeks ago. I see by the paper and news Winter did arrive in Charlotte NC. Also thanks for material sent here. Have read the Echoes but the other has been put aside for now.

The trailer is nice, a bedroom in front and one in the back and a kitchen, living room in between. The back bedroom has a king size WATERBED. Nell and I not ready for one. It is really wavy when you rooo around in it.

Weather has been great and plenty of company. Nell's sister and friend Mimi Hunt spent about 10 days and then daughter and family came in from Penn Sunday (they stayed on the high rent district on the beach) They left today for Disney World. So we have been busy here

The World Champions Dodgers are in town but last week Nell and I went to Dodger Park and watch business men who pay to play with the Professionals. The Coaches were Ex Pro and now Hall of Famers. You may not remember Ernie Banks, Bob Feller, Warren Spahn, Willie Stargell Robin Roberts and in the wheel Chair was Campella, In all Ten players The last day the World Famers plus 'Dodgers Coach ~~play~~ the business men and Nell and I went to see them. We got 8 of the Hall Famers autographs and show them to the grandsons and they weren't interested because they didn't know them They went out yesterday and tried to get Orel Hershisera and others. How about that! Terrible to get old!

Other news got a letter from Reg Robinson with a proposal for the Thurleigh Memorial Restricted Fund. The committee is suppose to vote on it I had planned to contact Flanagan after I got home but daughter is forwarding a letter from Flanagan. So I guess Flanagan is moving on it.

Got a copy of Xmas card John Ryan sent to Shuller. Also a note to Thurman on the 306th. He sure has his head on crooked for 306th people who ~~are~~ WENDOVER PEOPLE. What did Ryan ever do for the ASSoc out side to set up a fund at the AFA Academy with our money.

I have many friends who were at Wendover and also many who came later to 306th. It wasn't any of our doings that we all weren't at Wendover. I know many who served longer than Ryan (Chalfant, George Robinson and even Don Ross who was there Nov 43 to May 1945). It is hard to realize a well educated man such as John Ryan would be such a sore loser.

Say inclose is a article that reminded of the article Snuffy

Smith had in the Florida paper (How he flew the B-17 back to 306th
ALWAYS FIRST FIRST OVER GERMANY

and landed the plane. This article has a gunner landing a B-17 back in England. Russ, Did you ever in all your research find a person who flew a B-17 back to England and land it safely with any pilot training? I know there were some who flew them back but they crashed the plane and many were killed in the landing. I thought you might get a kick out of it.

Say I see by the paper and the TV that Charlotte finally got some winter weather. We have been in the 80 since we got here but it looks like winter will be here the next few days.

Well we have rambled on enough for now. We plan to leave here on 1 Mar and head straight home. After a month we are ready to settle down for now. Thanks again for the hospitality on our way down. will get in touch after I get home.

As Ever
Ralph Hill

Robein School Board

Gym dedicated for first superintendent

By MAUREEN MASTERS
for the East Peoria Courier

In a surprise announcement to invited guests Ralph and Nell Bordner, the Robein School Board announced its unanimous decision to dedicate the school gymnasium in Ralph Bordner's honor for "his 29 years of dedicated service, time and effort to Robein Grade School."

The formal dedication will be May 17 during the Spring Concert.

Bordner, the first superintendent when Robein School was established in 1949, oversaw the school's seven different building additions and was instrumental in establishing many programs still in existence at Robein. Bordner retired in 1978.

Bordner indicated he maintains a keen interest in the school's achievements and problems.

"I keep up with the school news by the paper and other

sources ... we were behind last year's referendum.

(Students) get attention here they don't get in a big school. That's the reason (former students) come back to Robein to raise their children here."

Bordner, who seemed genuinely surprised with the announcement, added, "On behalf of myself and my wife, we thank the board, we really appreciate this recognition."

IN OTHER business, the board:

- Hired Francis Monahan to replace the bus driver hired at last month's meeting, whose license had lapsed and was not valid.
 - Borrowed \$45,000 from the Building Fund for the Education Fund. The current balance in the Education Fund at the end of February was negative \$1,026.83.
 - Approved the Parent Teacher Organization Board as the Parent Advisory Committee
- (Continued on Page A-2)



FRED ZWICKY / Journal Star

Ralph Bordner, retired principal/superintendent of Robein School for 29 years, points out features of the school gym-

nasium which will be dedicated in his honor at the school's spring concert on May 17.

Robein gym to be dedicated to Bordner

□ Grade School remembers retired teacher, principal, superintendent

By JO ANN NEWBERG
of the Journal Star

ROBEIN — Tanned and rested from a recent Florida vaca-

tion, he sits on the bleachers in the gymnasium and talks about his baby, Robein School.

Ralph Bordner, 72, nursed the grade school through 29 years of growth, first as principal then as superintendent.

On May 17, the gymnasium will be dedicated in his honor.

Looking back on the job he left 12 years ago, he says, "I feel my greatest accomplishment is the success of the school, the building

and its products, the children who came out of it. My greatest reward is the respect of the children. More than one have come back and told me, 'You weren't such a bad guy, Mr. B.'"

One of those former pupils is David Duncan of Washington who was doing repair work at the school during Easter vacation. He says of the former principal/superintendent, "He meant business. I wish he was principal now. The kids nowadays don't know what discipline is.

"He had a paddle. Oh yes, he paddled kids, and oh yes, it hurt. But he couldn't get by with it now. It would become a legal matter, and he wouldn't have the parents' help."

Bordner says, "That earring thing in Metamora. I just would've said no and that would've been the end of it. (The dispute that arose when male students at Metamora Grade School wore earrings to school and the school board allowed them to continue as long as they were not disruptive in class.)

"I remember when they would be acting up, I would walk in and just nonchalantly throw that paddle in the center of the gym. They'd get real quiet. I'd get the kids to exercise and play games and they'd really laugh. I was a firm believer that if the weather was nice, get 'em outside."

Bordner admits he had to spank his own children on occasion. He and his wife, Nell, have three — Lillian Smith, Jo Ann Oetzel and Ralph E. Bordner Jr. — and nine

grandchildren. "My wife worked part time in the Fon Du Lac Library. The children would go to library school with her before they entered this school. A lot of them called me Mrs. Bordner."

He was hired by Robein in 1949, when the original four-room structure along Campus Drive was built. It replaced two former two-room schools, Harrison and Highway Village.

When the bond issue for the original school was passed, the amount of money needed for the new building was not covered by property tax values. So community members worked together to produce a school that was substantial and easily expandable.

Howard Spurgeon's construction bid was 25 percent less than that of the nearest contractor. Money was raised by the Robein Men's Club, Parent-Teachers Organization and Ladies Civic Club. More than 100 volunteers spent evenings and weekends sanding, staining, varnishing and painting woodwork, laying tile floors and building removable partitions between classrooms so they could be used for civic and social meetings.

As the years progressed, six different building projects were completed providing additional classrooms, a science laboratory, a media center, office areas and the gymnasium.

Bordner says the additions were difficult to finance. The most re-

Please see GYM, Page 12

19 Apr 80

FROM PAGE 8

GYM

cent expansion under his jurisdiction cost \$295,000. It lost by 10 votes the first time it was put before the voters, but won by 23 the second time.

Before being hired at Robein, Bordner, a native of Wisconsin, graduated from Northern Illinois State Teachers College (now NIU) and served with the Army Air Corps during World War II.

He was stationed in England as a bombardier/navigator on B-17s, flying out of Thurleigh Air Base on bombing raids over Germany. He tells of celebrities who passed through the base like Andy Rooney, who was reporting for Stars &

Stripes, and Glen Miller whose recording studio was nearby.

"I'm still involved with my World War II unit. We have a reunion every year. The next one is in San Antonio. We're going back to England in 1992. It will be 50 years since 1942, and Thurleigh is still being used by the RAF."

After the war, he taught at Littlejohn School in De Kalb and Glenwood School for Boys before coming to Robein. He obtained a master's degree from Bradley University in 1967, and did additional graduate work there from 1968 to 1972.

He was a member of the USAF Reserve, Air National Guard, USAF Retired Reserve and is a USAF retired lieutenant colonel.

He is a past president and member of Tazewell County Elemen-

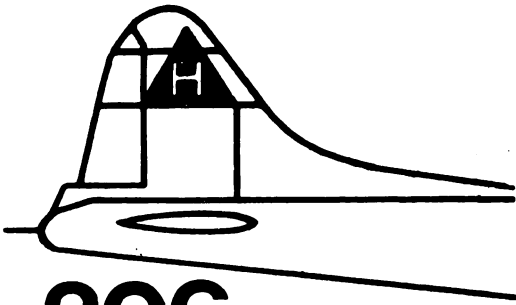
tary School Administrators, a member of the Superintendent Round Table of Central Illinois, a delegate to the Tazewell-Mason Counties Special Education Association and policy board member of the Mid-Central Special Education Association of Illinois.

He is also a member of the First United Methodist Church of East Peoria and its finance committee and is past president of the former Robein Men's Club.

Among major changes Bordner observed in more than 30 years in education. "The children today have more knowledge, gained through aids like reading machines and computers. They're doing things earlier than we did back then. They're exposed to more things. Who ever would have

thought they'd have eighth-grade algebra?

"I started a basketball team in 1951. We had no money for uniforms. I took them to games in an old panel truck. Now there are uniforms, boys and girls basketball, track. They're exposed to a lot more."



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

28 June 1990

Dear Russ & June:

Just a short note with my order for another copy of your book. My copy is getting quite worn. When I get the new one I will have Nell put on a plastic cover.

We have settled down since the gym dedication. Thanks for the blurb in Echoes. I got a few notes plus a call from Houlihan on the event. It was quite a nice affair. The dedication came at the intermission of the Spring musical. I had some old friends and administrators attending the affair. Lillian and youngest girl(3yrs) came back with us and my son came up from Florida. My step brother and wife came down for it. They had a plaque with a picture of yours truly on one side and the dedication saying on the other side and it is now above the door to the gym. They also gave me a nice wooden letter holder. All in all it was quite a nice event.

We did have a scary event the day before the ceremony. Nell and I were outside with our 3 yr old granddaughter and as we came into the house I started down stairs and Nell went into the kitchen. I thought Sally was following Nell and when I got to the bottom of the stairs I saw Sally going over the side of the steps head first for the cement floor. She had started down the stairs and down about 3 steps she reached for the railing and missed it. Well I couldn't reach her before she hit the floor with her head so I picked her up with her screaming. After she quieted down, we saw no visible marks but decide to take her to the hospital. When they found out she was a Dr. daughter they gave her all the tests including a brain wave test. Everything

~~was O.~~ **ALWAYS FIRST** **FIRST OVER GERMANY**

was O.K. but when she got home the father(eye-surgeon) gave her a good eye test. The next day the only visible mark was a beautiful black eye. Of course everyone asked about it at the dedication. Needless to say Grandpa felt helpless seeing his granddaughter falling on her head. It could have been very serious accident.

I got my request and money into Dale Briscoe for the events etc at the reunion. I also mentioned my old bombardier friend recently found in San Antonio. He said" He would call Al Burnett and enlist him to help on the reunion" How are thing coming on reservations? You know it only two months until the reunion. It is hard to believe the year has passed that fast. As I said before we are building in a few days for sight seeing while we are down there.

We are still planning on visiting the Shuller's on the way down. I sent him a copy of the book review in the last 8th AF News on the "Psychiatric Experiences of 8th A.F. First year of combat(July 4-1942-July 4,1943) distributed to old Flight Surgeons and old book dealers. Thurman says he knew Hasting personally and gave in some input on his investigation. He is interested in seeing a copy of the book. I think it would be interested reading to a layman like myself. Did you see the article?

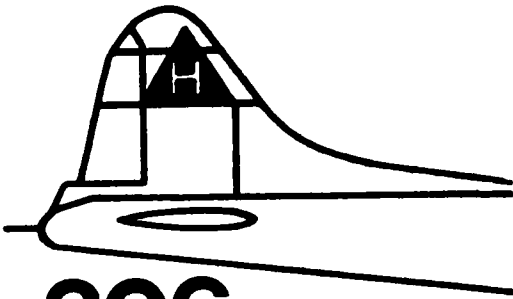
Have you heard from any one in England? I wrote John and Di Mills a couple of months ago. Are any one registered for the reunion? The Mills had planned on attending the 92nd reunion and maybe get ^{to} our reunion. Also the Richards had mentioned coming over in their Xmas card. How are things with the Strongs? Have you made any trips this summer? You did mention going to San Antonio some time this summer. I still haven't worked on finding info on Warren Cole but will get on it soon.

I have rambled on enough for now. Hope you are getting some book orders since the article in the Echoes.

Neil says Hi!

*Did you notice the
S Stamp. Cape Hatteras
North Carolina !!*

*Until later
Reef*



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

9 August 1990

Dear Russ

I will add a short note to the info inclosed. As I stated I lost the page from the 368th history but I did have this info and worked up the list. I have put explanations at the bottom. Leake is the one that baffles me. It says he arrived in Nov 43 and he was on the roster 1 Jan 44 but then no record of him after that date.

Russ. Did the group or Sqdn cut orders on personal when the left the unit (306thBG.) I saw my file in Denver many years ago but don't remember if I saw any record of my departure orders. I do have orders from Stone sending me home I was in charge of 25 Officers and 85 enlisted men. Rank had it privileges Ha!Ha! I got the last Echoes and enjoyed the two articles one on Reynolds and of course my old friend Starzynski. My daughter enjoyed reading the story on Bob.

A week ago Wednesday my daughter and husband and 4 children arrived and left yesterday. Of course my two other grandchildren from near here was here every day. Nell doing all the cooking and Grandpa doing most of the running around of the children so needless to say Nell and I a little tired now. So we have about 3 weeks before we get ready to head for San Antinio trip.

Russ I just got my July 8th News. I don't know if it was late or an answer to my inquiry but I have it now. Nell and I heading over to Chanute, I have an appointment at the hospital tomorrow to look at the cyst on my hand. It has been bothering me so they are going to look at it. Then Sat we are going up to Belvidere Ill the classes of 1935 and 1937 are having a reunion. Our class was the 1937 but the numbers are getting smaller so we are combining this year. It shoule be a nice meeting of YOUNG PEOPLE!!!!

Ru

ALWAYS FIRST

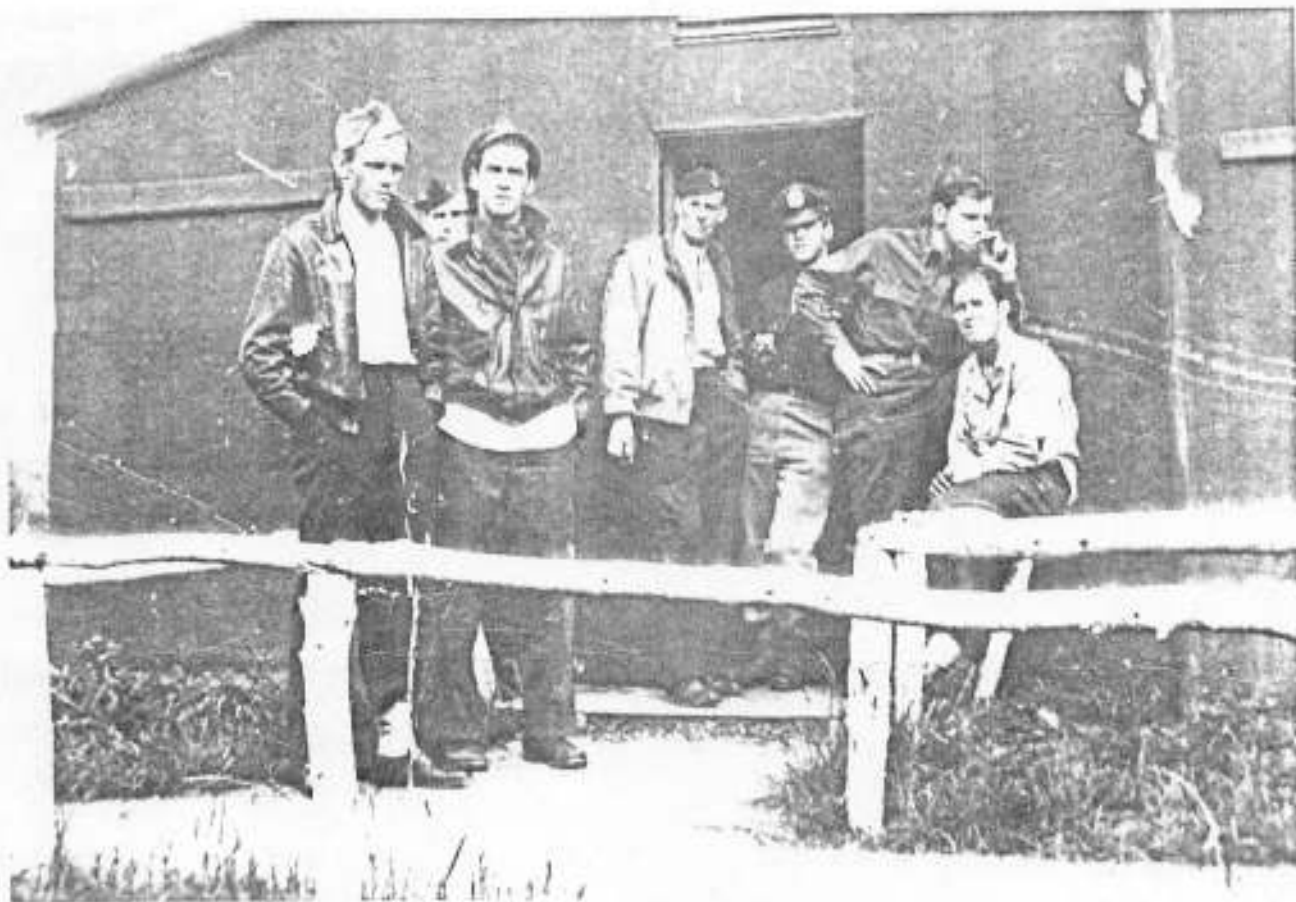
FIRST OVER GERMANY

(2)

Did you get a chance to look at the Bomb and Nav list. I am including a corrected 2nd Page of my Bomb list. I have deleted TINGLER,FRANA from it. I had him on both Bomb & Nav lists. Thanks for the MEMPHIS BELLE book. I see the publication date was Jul 1943. I saw the Belle at Tyndall Field Aug 1943 after they got back to the states. I was in gunnery school there.

Nell is wanting to get going so I will close for now. Nell says hello and she will see you all in San Antonio.

Until later
Ralph



Picture taken in front of our barracks in Aug 1944

Left of Door
Allen John J.
Burnett, Allen
Lewandowski, Robt

In Door
Charles Niblack
M.E. Christensen

Right of Door
Bill Breslin
Ted Cumberledge

Allen J.J finished tour and then went to Scouting Force and was shot down KIA. Co-Pilot of Boswell crew.

Burnett(Bomb) with Boswell Crew finished tour

Lewandoowski Nav. with Niblack crew. Dellon Bumgardner was the co-pilot and Robt Bogert was the Bombardier

Niblack was pilot of the crew

Christensen was Breslin co-pilot

Breslin was pilot of his crew.

Cumberledge was Navigator of Boswell crew finished tour and Burnett saw him in the States

22 March 1991

Dear Ralph:

I assume you and Nell have made your way home by now, and are trying to get settled back into the old routines.

By the time you receive this you will probably have received the big packet I saved up for you.

I am enclosing a new 368th bombardier roster, with some more data than I have had before. I would have sent you the roster of bombardiers and navigators, but my printer ran out of ink. I'll do that next week.

In the past three weeks I have been going through a lot of interrogation sheets, and sometimes on those are marked when a man finishes a tour, and mining some other sources has turned up some more dates, or improved those which I had had earlier.

Saturday morning we are off to Charleston, WV, to pick up a daughter-in-law and two grandchildren. They'll come here for a week, and then we will take them back to Pittsburgh for Easter. From there I'll go to Washington to explore Archives a bit more for some bits and pieces of data. Today I had an argument on the phone with them about materials which I ordered and which they have not sent. I'll go back at them Monday and get them moving. They don't quite know what they are doing.

We had planned to go on to Rochester to see our daughter-in-law there, but now her husband's departure from Saudi has been expedited, and he may be home by next weekend. His plane is due out of Dhahran on the 27th. We'll skip that trip, and wait for them to come down to the Carolinas in April. He gets an automatic 30-day leave, and he was only in the theatre about 30 days. Not bad.

Well, I still out do him on time in a combat theatre, fired a gun and been fired at in anger, and have one hell of a lot more decorations than he has. I also got a promotion in combat. He and HIS WIFE are mighty glad to be coming back this early.

He writes that Saudi is a pig pen, without any pigs. He also terms it one big garbage dump. June's brother says he has been all over Saudi, and that's his opinion too.

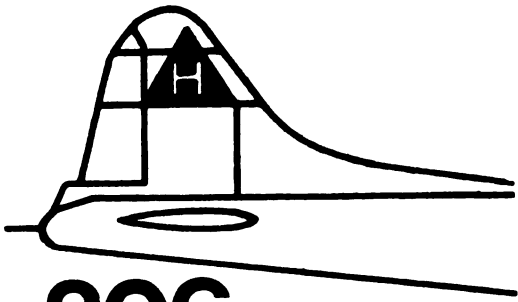
My doctor sent me to a nose man, and today he told me I had a polyp that ought to be removed. Guess I'll have it done in mid-April, after getting back from traveling.

Gee, I'm glad Western Michigan got such a great basketball coach from Northern Illinois! They won four games this year, weren't even close most of the time.

We've been adding new people like crazy, and am appending some names, so you can see if you know any of them. Got two 368th pilots today, but they were down before you showed up.

Guess I'd better get this moving along, and I'm having trouble concentrating while trying to watch a basketball game on TV.

All the best,



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

28 June 1991

Dear Russ:

Some time ago you sent me a list of 368 pilots and I let the teacher in me check over your list. I have spent a lot of time in going over your list. I have added some names, deleted some of them (couple a times you wrote the same entry. I tried to give explanations on the sheet of paper with the lists. Skrainer and Levy were my navigators. Enough of that, you can see my list and the explanations.

We got back from Fla on June 14. We came home by way of Slidell La. Nell's older brother is losing eye sight (infection in retina) and has trouble traveling. It was 350 miles out of the way but seeing her brother joy seeing us made it worth the while. We got to Vero Beach on May 24 in time for Band Awards Dinner and grandson got a lot of awards including in the eyes of band people the highest award given to a senior (the John Phillip Sousa award. It was two weeks until graduation but we attended some senior events, We also had a dry run up to Patrick AFB to see shuttle on a Sat then on Wed we watched it go up from Patrick AFB. It was cloudy and all we could see was the flame but it guess that is the way it goes. All in all it was a good trip and it is good to be home.

Before I left I had a call from DeVak, he just wanted to visit. Last night I had a call from Dellon Bumgardner, he and the TEXAS RAIDER are going to be in Moberly Missouri and St. Charles Missouri the next few days. He wanted Nell and I to come down there but we can't make it. He has some 306th names that did not know about the 306th association. He said he would send me the names. I will forward them to you. I got a letter from Lee Kessler He said you mentioned last year to offer to help at the Pittsburgh reunion so he has written to offer help but he has not received any answer. He also said he offered to bring his plane but also no offer. I thought I would mention this matter to you. They may some other artist to do the work Kessler does for the reunions. He sent me a copy of a recent B-17 picture he has drawn, it looks very nice (I have only a small photo of it. He plans to come to the reunion. He wrote a quite a long letter, He is quite involved in POW affairs and also the German who shot thier plane down.

I received my confirmation of my room reservation at Pittsburgh the other day. We plan to go to DuBois, Pa. a few day before we go to the reunion and them back up there before heading home. I can get my yeary FREE eye check while up there. Ha!Ha!.

I also got a video tape from John Bodnerauk the other day. It was the Bombardier's View from Paul Chryst. It was the one he sent me last year. When he gave me hard time about the 306th officers not answering his inquires. I sent it back to him and told him I didn't want any more conversation on tours. If it was about our old Bombardier Class of 44-3..it would be O.K. I have not heard a word since then, As for the video it is quite hammy. Have you seen it? I can send you a copy of it. It has some good plane shots but a lot of it is Paul Chryst humor which is terrible.

In the next few days I plan to go over proposed travel plans you sent me in May. I didn't see them until we got back here in the middle of June.

I got a kick out of the paragraph of the average of over 70. I was 73 in March but I don't feel that old at times but at other time I realize I am over 70. Now you young fellows (Russ Strong) don't need to brag, your time will come. Ha!Ha!. I still walk my 18 holes of golf three times a week and watch younger ones riding carts. I hope you had a good trip up to Ohio and then Michigan. Nell and I are just enjoying staying at home.

Nell and I are watching the Cubs lose again. They have won 2 games while losing 11 games lately. They were suppose to win their division They got a pitcher paying him 3 million a yr and he has lost 4 games and won none and has been on the disabled list most of the years.

I may get in touch later- I will look over the England plans.

Until later
Ralph

Russ.
Did you get anymore on the
Grenden Road Feb 14, 1944. I am
interested in reading about the bombardier
(Bodner) who went over target & then
came back into a Jet stream head wind!!!



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

30 April 1991

Dear Russ:

I will write a short note to the two large envelopes I am sending you. I know the corrections and additions to Bombardier & Navigator list is short I took many trips to the library reading and rereading the micro film of 306th. I also went thru the Sqdn histories and your book. PLEASE LET ME KNOW if my lists are O.K. so I can delete my Navigator & Bombardier list from my type write. The typewrite can carry 5 list and I have 2 for Bomb and two for Nav. I think I have had the list in the typewriter for over 2 yrs. When I use the 5 page I get so far when it shows these words MEMORY FULL. I want to have all 5 memories empty for a change. I know if I had a memory typewriter like Shuller it has disc's like a computer so you are not limited to 5 memory pages.

I also added the Sp Order 87,90,91. They didn't mean a thing after trying to find what happened to a lot of them. In your book you mentioned many did not ever report to the 306th Maybe you can check over my material and see if you can fill in the pages. Also I included a lot on the Paul Paulson crew. So you see I spent a few hours on

this material. I can still hear Nell saying "are you still working on that JUNK." She doesn't appreciate my work. She is suppose to be watching TV when I am working at my desk but after a while I don't see any movement because she is asleep. So she has no room to criticize me. I can't sit that long and watch the boob tube. I work at my desk and try to listen and if it get interesting I look up. I enjoy researching things and verifying information. It gives me a lot of satisfaction when I find some info and it proves or disproves my thinking. (Like the miss spelling of Arrison in the 368th news They had Harrison) or (thinking Slocum was a Nav with the 368th (your book) and finding out he was a bombardier from another Sqdn.

In Echoes you didn't list Joseph M. Levy, I am including orders on him. Enough on that. I hope you have a little time and check it over and let me know. Outside of spring time work and going to Chanute. We are doing O.K. Nell growth on her breast is on hold (she has had two removed in the past) and only has to check it once a year. My cholesterol is holding just a little above diet control so I am still on lipid pills. I have a liver check every 6 months. The last one had about 4 reading away out of line so I took another test and everything is O.K. Growths bug Nell and I had one on my left cheek left of the eye and a growth on my back. Last Wed Chanute DR removed them and I had to drive back Mon (90 miles each way) to remove the stitches. So time just flies. Also Nell has been watching my food input

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

(2)

(I was 194 when we got from Fla.) I am now down to 183 and Nell is still weighing my food. In Fla. it was hard to say no when grandchildren came over to have cookies and ice cream and Grandpa to say no to the invitation.

I got the info on Maryland but have done nothing with it yet. I will work on planes some time soon. I also received the micro film on 30th Personnel. I will put it in my fire proof box and hope to go over it soon. I still havn't received my Jan 91 8th AF News. I am writing a follow up letter of April 15, I did receive their 17th reunion notice in New Orleans invitation so I am on the mailing list. I still didn't get a verification on my motel reservation(Pittsburgh) for the reunion. I know it is early but the mail and I have had difficulty of late. I received one letter back from Fla this year. I had two returned to sender(one my light bill) and I had club cards(Chanute) sent to me in Fla and no one has seen them. The club card is nice to have to get into clubs and also check cashing. I don't charge on them. I had to write two letters to the Post Office in Vero (last one registered and return receipt) but they said I had received no mail and they had my home address on file. So that is why I am checking on my reservation. I don't trust the mail. Maybe we should have given them a 5¢ raise instead of 4¢ raise. Maybe they are mad.

Thanks again for the personnel list and I will take care of it. Nell is out golfing and I am trying to get this letter. We had a lot of small tornadoes go around us yesterday(I can see where any tornado is small) but we didn't even get any rain. I will close for now. I will be in touch. Hope you can go over the material and let me know. I know you are busy on 306 Sec business. I know how busy I was just doing these Nav and Bomb lists. It doesn't compare to secretary duties. If you ever need help let me know Until later Nell says hi to you and June.

PS I just found out the local library has Denny's book and I put my name on the reservation list. I guess I was wrong again This was suppose to be a short note!!!!!!

*until later
Ralph*



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

1 Feb 1991

Dear Russ:

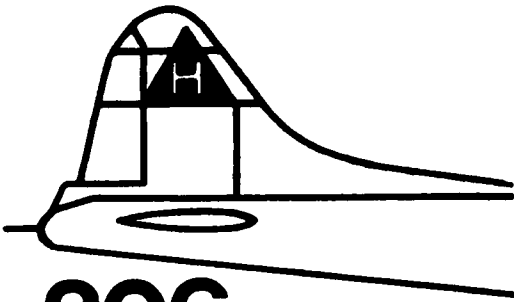
After I finish this note, I will probably miss something. We are doing O.K., daughter and husband (Dr. Smith) and family came in here Wed eve from DuBois Penn. On their first day they came down I-77 and had dinner in Charlotte and then stayed over nite in Columbia. They are staying on the beach again. Dr Smith is participating in a seminar in Maimi and family are staying here with no car. So we are spending our days down at the beach with them. Dr Smith will be back Sat nite. The weather has been very warm all week in the 80's but it cooled off today. 45yrs ago today (Feb 1) Nell made a mistake and married Ralph Bordner Ha!Ha! We enjoyed the day taking care of grandchildren???

I am including a copy of a Xmas card Dr. Shuller got from John Ryan. I thought you might like to read it. Do you thing he will asking you to proof read his book as he did for you ???Dr Shuller has sent me other notes he has received from Ryan.

I also received your lost list, I will work on it when I get back to Peoria.

*It is now Feb 2, - I am on way over to
pick up daughter & family. I guess I am
running a taxi service. With a daughter
& wife I am out volder hope you get something
only the junk info included*

Ralph



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

15 May 1991

Dear Russ:

It is about 10:30 P.M. and I am still falling behind in my work. Rain and warm weather has made a lot of work outside. From late April to last week we had 5 trips to Chanute. Most of the trips were for me. I had a couple of growths taken off one on back and other on left cheek. One trip for operation and other for stitches removal, then they had mix up on blood test reading, so another test and a trip to see Dr. on reading. It wasn't all bad news, my cholesterol has stayed steady for over 1½ yrs so I am off the lipid pills. Nell's breast growth has shown no change for over a yr so she is O.K. until Dec. So the trips were worth while.

We are now preparing for a trip we really aren't ready to take now. The grandson in Fla is graduating on June 8th and they want us there on May 25th for the awards event. I contacted the mobile home owner in Indiana and they will not be there until around June 10th so we are renting the mobile home for 2 weeks. It is hard to say no to your son and grandson when they say come down here just for us. It is the 1st High school graduation for our grandchildren. He is 14th in his class of 670 and is going to Univ of Central Fla. at Orlando. Three days down and three back and two weeks there will shoot three weeks. This is getting a little hard on a 73 yr old man!!!!

I got both issues of 8th AF News and the April issue of Echoes. I contacted the Holiday Inn and they do have my registration. I did that because I never got any of my mail sent to Fla after we left in March. Two letters were returned to sender, one a light bill. I had two club cards from Chanute Officers club sent down there but they were never returned to me and I wrote the Post Office and they said they were forwarding my mail and I never had received any mail. That is why I called the Holiday Inn on my reservation. The program at Pittsburgh looks great and no one should complain they have no place to go. Thursday and Friday eve looks like the only time for visiting except if you don't take a trip on at Afternoon. Most people like all the activity but I want some time for visiting with the fellows. You know every year some who attend do not make it back the next year so I want to enjoy seeing them. But really the program looks great and no one should complain.

I haven't looked at the micro film or the latest rooster but will try to get at it. I had a call from George Devak the other day, I wasn't home but will contact him later. I had written him and he doesn't write so he calls me. George and I lived in the same barracks for a couple months (Ross also lived in it) and we got to know one another and I

ALWAYS FIRST FIRST OVER GERMANY

enjoy his company.

(2)

I finally got around to go over the mission reports and I found out the answers to a couple of questions. I am including a couple of copies to show my corrections. You may have the mission reports but it is easier this way. Two missions Oct 2 and 8, 1943 listed Paulson's crew and on both Blaytinca was the Bomb and Zabrosky was Nav so I am including a copy of my corrected 368th Bombardier and Navigator list. I am glad I did not delete my Bomb and Nav lists yet. Also Feb 28, 1944 mission report shows Tingler flying with Linn as Navigator and Blatzer was the Bomb. So more info that Tingler was a navigator. That is all the info I had on my lists.

I did know that the Hennesy, Mac Intre, Levy and Ryan were transferred to 368th after the 368th lost 5 of 6 crews on one mission. I left Levy and Ryan on the 369th list. They were both pictured in the Eager Beaver picture taken July 1943. So the mission reports do reveal some info on people. I will try to look them over closer. Did you ever get anything more on the 14 Feb 1945 mission to Dresden. Russ where did you get the info on the Dresden mission that you used in your book." The low Sqdn made a second run on the target." I know it is true because I was the Bombardier but I would be interested in know the source of your info. I hope you get the mission report on the mission in the future.

16 May 1991

I just came in to finish this note. Nell had me digging, planting ETC. Say I didn't mention that 12 Sept 44 mission report. I did not fly that day but Evans crew was scheduled to fly our first lead but Sasser crew had more experience and they took our place. I slept next to Banta from Jul 17 until Sept 12. On the other side was Al Burnett. Banta was a nice fellow and was in the sqdn about a month before I got there. Also they need to make up a crew for Major Farwell and had scheduled me for that crew but the wheels didn't want to break up a lead crew. So it was my lucky day! The letters from Banta's family and Revolti's description of the dead bodies seemed real vivid to me. Thanks for the mission report.

I will close for now. I will be in touch and start on other projects when the lawn work doesn't interfere. Nell says I spend too much time at this desk. Is Ruth keeping you busy!!!! I hope you are able to understand the corrections I made to the 368th Bombardier and Navigator list. I still have my list in the type writer.

Nell say hi!!

Until later
Ralph-

Russ: According to 368th History the following
Sept 3, 1943 Paulson, crew assigned to
368th BS, 306th BG.

Paulson, Paul F.
Zardin, Joseph
Zabrosky, Henry
Blantica, Leonard.

- 9-23-43 Paulson crew had to abort.
*10-02-43 Paulson crew flew mission
*10-08-43 Paulson Crew flew mission
10-09-43 Paulson crew flew mission
10-23-43 Paulson crew flew mission
10-27-43 Paulson crew trans to 482BG(Path
finders
* Both missions list the follow crew Pos.
Pilot Paulson P.F
C-P Zardin J.F
Nav Zabrosky, H
Bomb Blatnica, L

So I corrected my list putting
① Blatnica, L as Bomb
Zabrosky, H Navigator.

INTERROGATION FORM

SQUADRON ~~337~~ 362 ~~XXXXXXXX~~ A/C Number 776 Letter G Date 2/10/43
 Bomb Load 40-100# Inc Incand.

Time Took Off 1315 Time Landed 1859

Position in Formation

			X		
			X	X	X
X	X		X		(X) X
X			X	X	X
X	X		X		X
X					X

1. HOT NEWS to be phoned in? Yes No
 Details:
1613 hrs B17 spiral in down blew up, saw 2 chutes.

CREW: Give Rank and Initials

Friendly A/C in any kind of distress?
 (Give position, time, altitude, full details)

2nd Lt. P. F. Paulsen Pilot ✓

2nd Lt. J. F. Zardin Co-P. ✓

2nd Lt. H. Zaborsky Nav. ✓

2nd Lt. L. P. Blatnica Bomb. ✓

T/Sgt. J. Skahan Radio ✓

T/Sgt. T. P. Powell Top T. ✓

S/Sgt. R. E. Litherland Ball T. ✓

Sgt. O. Woodall R. Waist ✓

S/Sgt. F. A. Weitzel L. Waist ✓

S/Sgt. J. W. Carroll Tail G. ✓

2. TARGET ATTACKED:

Primary Time: 1606 hrs
 Alternate Height: 23,100
 Last Resort Heading: 102° W
 Duration Bomb Run: Dropped on lead A/C

3. Number of BOMBS dropped on target all Jettisoned: Returned: abortive:

4. Observed RESULTS OF BOMBING: (For this plane or others)

Own Bombs:

1000 clouds

Other Bombing:

5. Any Photographs taken: Yes? No? Any Nickels: Yes / No

6. GROUND TARGETS ATTACKED BY GUNFIRE AND RESULTS: Number boxes dropped: Number boxes returned:

7. ROUTE: (If different than ordered) (If ABORTIVE give time, place, height of turn; reason for returning early; and disposition of bombs)

About as ordered.

8. WEATHER: (If it affected mission) Skipped flashers from counter on way home.

9. FLAK: Encountered on way out, at target and on way home.

Time	Place	Height of A/C	Type (light, heavy), intense, moderate or slight.	Color of bursts	Location Bursts in relation to A/C	Accuracy
------	-------	---------------	---	-----------------	------------------------------------	----------

<u>From Castle target on wing ahead.</u>	<u>24,000</u>	<u>Heavy</u>	<u>Intense</u>	<u>Predicted Concentration</u>		
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Crew observations about Flak: _____

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, 745005
 By RLB/BAC MABA Date 1/18/11



EIGHTH AIR FORCE

D. R. NAVIGATION

CERTIFICATE

REPRODUCED BY THE U.S. AIR FORCE IN 1942

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Commanding General
APO 634

C E R T I F I C A T E

DATE Oct. 4, 1944

1. This is to certify that 2nd Lt. R.E. Bordner, Bombardier, having satisfactorily completed a course of instruction in accordance with Eighth Air Force Memorandum 50-7, is qualified to act as NAVIGATOR on flights involving the use of dead reckoning navigation, pilotage, and the use of radio aids.

2. The course of instruction has included the following:

a. Ground Training.

(1) Dead Reckoning Navigation.

- (a) Basic Principles.
- (b) Air Plot and its value in this theater.
- (c) Methods of obtaining winds.
- (d) Log Book Procedure.
- (e) Maps and Projections used operationally in this theater.
- (f) Navigational Aids obtained through VHF on operational flights.

(2) Pin-Point Navigation.

- (a) The most reliable check points to be used in this theater.
- (b) Correct procedure in doing Pin-Point Navigation.
- (c) Advantages of Pin-Point Navigation as compared to Pilotage.

(3) Signals Aids and Equipment.

- (a) Radio Aids in the United Kingdom.
 - 1. Theory of GEE and its operation.
 - 2. Radio Compass and Beacons.
 - 3. Radio Flimsies and their use.
- (b) Code: Aural - 8 words per minute.
Visual - 6 words per minute.
- (c) Navigational Aids that are obtained through the Radio Operator.
- (d) Emergency Procedure.

(4) Night Flying Procedure.

- (a) Navigational Aids available to night flying.
- (b) "Q" sites.

(5) Instruments and Equipment.

- (a) Use of the E6-B Computer.
- (b) Compasses.
 - 1. Theory of Magnetism.
 - 2. Advantages of Remote Indicating Compasses.

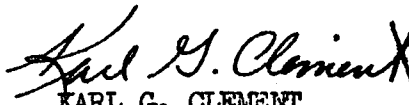
3. Gyro-Fluxgate Remote Indicating Compass.
or
3. Magnesyn Remote Indicating Compass.
- (c) B-5 Driftmeter.
 - (d) Astro-Compass.
 - (e) Care of Navigation Equipment.
 - (f) Calibration of Airspeed Indicator and Altimeter.
 - (g) Use of the Bomb sight and the A.B. Computer as a navigational aid.

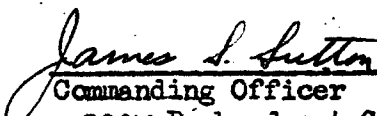
b. Flying Training. A minimum of 15 hours flying as Navigator on which the following has been accomplished.

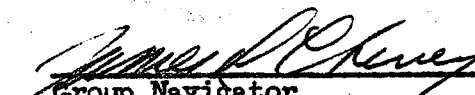
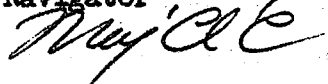
- (1) One fix taken by use of the Radio Compass and plotted every 30 minutes.
- (2) Air-Plot kept and winds determined every thirty minutes of flight.
- (3) Complete log-book kept with all navigational data entered.
- (4) Demonstrated ability to pin-point by map-reading.
- (5) Demonstrated ability to take and plot fixes by GEE, selecting proper chain of stations.
- (6) Demonstrated crew co-operation in duties required of a navigator.

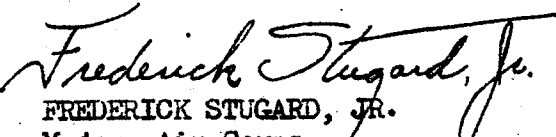
c. Examination. Satisfactory grade of 80 per cent on the Navigation Exam, pages 2-3 through 2-7 in the Eighth Air Force Group Navigator's Handbook and the Quiz on Signals Aids and Equipment, pages 4-12 through 4-14 also from the Group Navigator's Handbook.

By command of Lieutenant General DOOLITTLE:


KARL G. CLEMENT
Colonel, G.S.C.
Executive to
Deputy C/S Operations


Commanding Officer
306th Bombardment Group


Group Navigator



FREDERICK STUGARD, JR.
Major, Air Corps
Air Force Navigator

SORTIE RECORD

BORDNER, Ralph E., Captain, O-769248, Sq Bombardier, 368th Bomb Sq (H), 306th Bomb Gp (H), has completed the following sorties over enemy or enemy occupied countries:

✓1.	28	Jul	44	Merseberg, Germany ✓
✓2.	3	Aug	44	Merkwiller, France ✓
✓3.	4	Aug	44	Anklam, Germany ✓
✓4.	8	Aug	44	Caen, France ✓ (1)
✓5.	12	Aug	44	Chamant, France ✓
✓6.	16	Aug	44	Bohlen, Germany (2)
-7.	24	Aug	44	Merseberg, Germany
✓8.	30	Aug	44	Kiel, Germany ✓
✓9.	8	Sep	44	Ludwigshaven, Germany ✓
-10.	10	Sep	44	Stuttgart, Germany
✓11.	17	Sep	44	Vokel, Holland ✓
✓12.	25	Sep	44	Frankfurt, Germany ✓
✓13.	2	Oct	44	Kassel, Germany ✓
✓14.	6	Oct	44	Stralsund, Germany ✓
✓15.	14	Oct	44	Koln, Germany ✓
✓16.	19	Oct	44	Mannheim, Germany ✓
✓17.	30	Oct	44	Munster, Germany ✓
✓18.	4	Nov	44	Marburg, Germany ✓
✓19.	9	Nov	44	Metz, France ✓
✓20.	16	Nov	44	Eschweiler, Germany ✓
✓21.	21	Nov	44	Meppen, Germany ✓ (1)
✓22.	2	Dec	44	Koblenz, Germany ✓
✓23.	5	Dec	44	Berlin, Germany (2)
✓24.	15	Dec	44	Kassel, Germany ✓ (2) over Aug
✓25.	28	Dec	44	Seigburg, Germany ✓
✓26.	17	Jan	45	Bielefeld, Germany ✓
✓27.	28	Jan	45	Koln, Germany ✓
✓28.	6	Feb	45	Fulda, Germany ✓
✓29.	15	Feb	45	Dresden, Germany ✓ - 2
✓30.	16	Feb	45	Dortmund, Germany ✓

VERIFIED BY:

Harold G. Taylor
HAROLD G. TAYLOR,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Asst. Adjutant.



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

19 Jan 1993

Press.
I started thinking after one our phone
conversations on Sqd Board + Sqdn. Now. As I
decided to ramble on about my experiences
in the 368th - July 17, 1944 - Feb 20, 1945
I hope it isn't too boring. There is still
some questions I have no answer. Why Sam Hutton
came in second a couple of times + not Sqdn Board.
The other politics of people moving in the regdn
+ Group I guess it went on in other Sqdn etc
While I was in my 368th a/fertay. I
thought I would write about my history in
the AF Reserve + an National Guard
I still hope I can find out what happened
to Richard George who took Milton Bloomfield
on Cardon crew. All I have is his orders
I still think I saw his name as a bombardier
Board

me

I threw in D.P. Navigators Certificate
with J.C. Chaney signature.

Hope this garbage doesn't bore you.
Hope we can get some info on Sam Hutter
& look into being Spide Bomb & nav.
And the Richard George.

Thanks from Nell & I as being invited
to eat at the Pass + Strong table. We
really will be looking forward to it.
I haven't finished slennyp food yet
will return it later.

Ralph

15 Jan 1992

Russ.

I am sorry about this being late obit but I tried to find out more info on James Fredericks.

I tried his son but it is unlisted and then I tried his brother and his wife answered and she refused to answer and hung up on me, I tried three different times and got the same results.

James Fredericks came to 306th BG 368th BS with Carl Hataway on Sept 28, 1994. He moved in next to me in the bed vacated by Al Burnett. I moved out in early Jan to a individual room and Fredericks was still there. I read in the 368 history he did some lead bombing with Rich Cleays.

Adding to the incident mentioned in your book. After Hathaway crashed landed they could not get word back to the 306th for a few days . In the meantime the Sqdn Adj removed all their clothing and was shipped away before they got back to the base. In fact Federicks borrowed some clothing from me until his was returned. He was there when I returned to the states.

I am not sure when I again met Jim Fredericks at a reserve meeting. He was working for State Farm as an adjuster for them. We discussed the 368th etc during the time he was in the area. In fact he borrowed my Bove, "First Over Germyen" and then he moved to Champaign but I could not find him there. He could have gone on his GE Education and got his law degree at the Univ. of Illinois. It mentioned in the obit he was an lawyer. Manito Ill is about 30 miles south of here I could go down there but none of his relatives live in the town.

Sor I could not find out more. You win some and then you lose some. You probably know that doing research for your book

368th BOMBARDIERS 1942-45

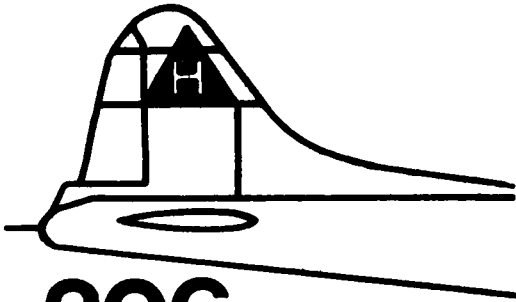
NAME	ARRIVAL	DPT	LOST
ALLEN, HERMAN F	43-11-00	44-03-06	INTERNERD
ANDERSON, PAUL H	44-05-09	44-09-06	TOUR
ANTOON, MITCHELL K	43-11-27	44-07-00	TOUR
ASHMAN, CHARLES A		43-11-03	KIA
BALTZER, DONALD W	43-11-18	44-04-00	TOUR
BANTA, ROBERT E.	44-06-16	44-09-12	KIA
*BINUS, WALTER J.	42-06-00		WENDOVER
BLATNICA, LEONARD <i>Prato</i>	43-09-03	44-05-05	TOUR
BLOTNER, JOSEPH L.	44-09-25	44-10-15	MIA/POW
BONNER, OLIVER A JR.	44-07-28	44-09-12	MIA/POW
BORDNER, RALPH E.	44-07-17	45-02-20	TOUR
BOGERT, ROBERT O.	44-06-04		TOUR
BOSWELL, TED JR.	43-10-21	44-06-26	TOUR
BRUENIG, WILBUR W.	42-06-00	43-04-17	KIA
BRIGGS, STANLEY O	45-02-03		VE DAY
BROWN, JOHN A JR	43-03-12	43-04-17	MIA/POW
BURNETT, ALBERT F	44-04-29	44-09-00	TOUR
*BURTIS, JOHN R. O-726123	42-07-01		WENDOVER
CAMPBELL, LESLIE F	44-12-09	45-04-00	TOUR
*CARGILL, WILLIAM D O-726125	42-07-01		WENDOVER
CARSTEN, PAUL R.	44-03-06	44-07-14	K-AUTO
CHRISTOFORI, LAWRENCE F	44-03-18	44-04-24	MIA/POW
CLARK, WILFRED F.	45-02-10		VE DAY
CONWAY, QUENTIN T	44-12-23		VE DAY
DANIELS, FOSTER G	42-06-23	43-05-21	KIA
DMOCHOWSKI, MYRON	43-09-13	44-01-11	MIA/POW
DORMAN, LYLE R	44-12-13		VE DAY
ELDRIDGE, RICHARD D	44-04-13	44-07-00	TOUR
EZELL, HERSCHEL F	43-04-04	44-01-14	TOUR
FAULKNER, GEORGE R	44-12-23	45-04-00	TOUR
FONTANE, CHARLES	43-11-00	44-05-00	TOUR
FREDERICK, GEORGE W	42-06-19	43-03-04	KIA
FREDERICK, JAMES A	44-09-22	45-05-19	TOUR
FUTTERMAN, SIDNEY	44-02-26	44-03-24	HOSP
GILLESPIE, CLARENCE	43-04-04		
*GOEDE, MILTON N O-726150	42-07-01		WENDOVER
GRETON, GEORGE T	44-03-07	44-04-24	MIA/POW
GRIMES, THOMAS C	45-03-27		VE DAY
GUSTAFSON, BURTON C	43-11-00	44-05-24	MIA/POW
*HANSON, RICHARD F O-725024	42-06-23		WENDOVER
HARMSTON, HOWARD L	43-12-01	44-02-24	MIA/POW
HARRISON, JAMES T	43-04-23	43-09-00	TOUR
HATTON, SAM J	44-07-08	45-05-00	TOUR
HEWITT, WILLIAM C		43-10-09	MIA/POW
HILLS, CHARLES F	43-03-15	44-03-27	MIA/POW
HODGSON, RICHARD S	44-04-29	44-08-00	TOUR
HOLSCHER, ROBERT G	44-11-28	45-04-23	TOUR
HOLT, CHARLES O JR	44-09-01	45-01-31	TOUR
JOHNSON, JAMES	44-08-08	45-02-00	TOUR
JORDAN, JOHN H	44-11-04	45-01-25	TOUR
KETCHIE, CHARLES JR	42-06-23		GROUNDDED
KNOX, JAMES L	44-04-05	44-04-29	KIA
KOSAKOWSKI, JOSEPH E	42-06-19	43-07-01	TOUR
KRZEMIAN, LOUIS J	44-09-22	45-02-00	TOUR
LAMB, BEVERLY R	43-04-23	43-10-11	TOUR
LAUGHLIN, JR., JAMES H	43-11-27	44-02-25	MIA/POW
LEVY, ROBERT T	42-06-00	43-01-03	KIA

NAME	ARRIVAL	DPT	LOST
LOGAN, DANIEL A JR	43-11-03	44-04-00	TOUR
LONG, JOSEPH	44-09-22	45-04-00	TOUR
MACMILLAN, DOUGLAS L	44-05-15		
MARSHALL, JACK	44-04-30	44-08-00	TOUR
MCUTCHAN, ROBERT I	45-02-16		VE DAY
MCKELVEY, VAN DYKE	42-06-23	42-12-12	TRANS
MCTAGUE, HARRY D	45-02-16		VE DAY
MILLER, ERVIN F. JR	44-08-21	45-01-00	TOUR
MONTOYA, EDUARDO M	43-04-23	44-01-10	TOUR
MORROW, JAMES B	43-11-14	43-11-26	MIA/POW
NORRIS, JOHN H	44-07-21	45-02-00	TOUR
NORTON, IRVING R	44-04-21	44-09-00	TOUR
POLICH, JOHN J	44-04-13	44-07-14	TOUR
PROCTOR, ROBERT F	43-12-01	44-02-22	MIA/POW
RICHARD, LEO E	44-05-28	44-09-00	TOUR
ROBERTS, WILLIAM W	44-07-17	44-09-11	MIA/POW
ROSS, DONALD R	43-11-19	45-04-00	TOUR-
SANSOM, NORMAN J.	43-04-23	43-10-08	MIA/POW
SAUNDERS, WILLIAM W	42-06-23	43-04-05	MIA/POW
SCHOENBERGER, STANFORD D	44-12-11	45-05-19	TOUR
SCHWARTZ, BENNETT H	44-07-05	45-04-00	TOUR
SEED, JOE D	44-05-15	44-09-06	TOUR
SEIFRIED, EDWARD F	43-04-12	44-12-00	TOUR
SHAEBER, JACK D	43-03-12	43-04-17	MIA/POW
SHOOK, JAMES E	44-12-27	45-05-19	TOUR
SILVERSTEIN, STANLEY	43-04-23	43-10-00	TOUR
SNEAD, PARKER	44-06-15	44-10-00	TOUR
STRAUSER, JOHN A	43-10-31	43-11-13	INJ/D
SWAN, OTTO C	44-05-28	44-09-00	TOUR-
SWAPP, WYLIE W		43-10-00	TOUR
TAPPER, GEORGE W	43-11-27	44-06-26	TOUR
TATMAN, GILBERT C	43-12-01		
THAYER, REGINALD H JR	44-09-25	45-05-00	VE DAY
TOTH, DENNIS	43-11-27	44-04-00	TOUR
TOWNSEND, DEAN S	44-07-28	45-01-00	TOUR
TRYLOFF, WARREN	44-09-08	44-09-12	MIA/POW
URICH, RUSSELL C JR	44-10-07	45-03-26	TOUR
URMAN, HARRY	43-08-11	43-11-03	KIA
VLAHOS, MICHEAL L	44-06-07	44-08-26	KIA
WEBER, JOHN G	44-08-29	45-05-25	TOUR
WILF, JEROME H	44-09-12	45-03-00	TOUR
WILKENS, JOSEPH, C	42-06-00	43-03-08	MIA/POW
WILSON, ROBERT G	44-12-26	45-05-00	TOUR
WINTERS, AUGUST	43-04-11	43-09-05	EVADDEE
YOUNG, HARRY L	43-04-23	43-05-21	MIA/POW
*ZASADIL, FRANK E. O-725045	42-06-23		WENDOVER
RADAR OPERATORS			
BRIAN, JERRY E	44-10-02	45-01-23	TOUR
BURLEY, LAWRENCE	45-01-29		
HALL, HOWARD L	44-10-01	45-02-00	TOUR
LUCAS, FORDIE K	44-07-30	45-02-00	TOUR
MC DANIEL, CLIFFORD C	45-03-00		

368TH NAVIGATORS 1942-45

NAME	ARRIVAL	DPT	LOST
ARNOLD, GEORGE M	43-04-23	43-10-31	TOUR
BECK, J. WEBSTER	44-12-23		VE DAY
BERGEN, LUTHER	42-07-07	43-07-00	TOUR
BIGGS, WILTON D	42-12-08	43-03-08	MIA/POW
BISCHOF, JOSEPH A	44-04-13	44-07-14	TOUR
BLOUCH, WILLIS E	45-02-03		VE DAY
BORING, WALLACE D	42-06-17	43-08-19	TOUR
BRAGE, MARCEL W.	43-11-00	44-05-05	TOUR
BREMER, CHARLES H	45-04-09		VE DAY
BROWN, CLAUDE R	44-05-03	44-09-06	TOUR
BUCHANAN, ROY E	44-04-03	45-01-17	TOUR
BUCK, STANLEY H	43-12-14	44-03-06	INTER
BULLARD, FRANK E	43-08-11	43-11-03	KIA
BYCOTT, ANDREW T	43-04-23	43-09-00	TOUR
CARLINO, ANTHONY J	44-07-03	44-09-12	KIA
CASINO, JOSEPH V	45-02-16		VE DAY
CHEE, HON T	44-06-10	44-10-00	TOUR
CLAUSEN, ROBERT L	43-04-23	43-05-21	KIA
CONELLY, PAUL V	44-12-23	45-03-11	TR/303
CULLEN, WILLIAM L	44-03-08	44-06-12	WIA
CUMBERLEDGE, THEODORE C	44-04-29		TOUR
CUMMINGS, JAMES O	43-04-12	43-05-21	MIA/POW
CURRAN, ROBERT J	44-08-01	45-03-08	TOUR
DIX, MAYNARD	43-04-04	44-02-00	TOUR
DOBKOWSKI, JOSEPH T	45-02-16		VE DAY
DONAHUE, CHARLES F	44-06-07	44-12-02	TOUR
DORUSHKIN, ISADORE	44-09-14	45-01-09	TOUR
DOUGHERTY, JAMES J	45-04-09		VE DAY
EVANS, CHARLES H JR	44-06-16	44-08-26	K-44-08-28
FARRER, KENNETH M	43-11-27	44-04-02	HOSP/US
FEINSTEIN, SEYMOUR H	44-09-25	44-10-15	MIA/POW
FRANCO, VICTOR H	42-06-00	42-08-00	WENDOVER
GILLESPIE, WYATT L	44-12-26	45-05-00	TOUR
GLAZE, IVAN E	43-00-00	44-01-11	EVADDEE
GREENE, DONALD R	42-06-00	43-01-03	KIA
GRIMES, CHARLES G	42-06-02	42-11-19	KIA
GROESBECK, CARL A		43-10-09	MIA/POW
HAINING, ROGER W	44-11-28	45-04-00	TOUR
HALL, FRANK, J	44-02-26	44-04-24	MIA/POW
HAMMOND ARTHUR B	44-05-16	44-10-04	TOUR
HEPPLE, MURRAY, E	44-12-01	45-04-00	TOUR
HOGAN JOHN J	42-06-00	44-04-24	TOUR
HOLDEN, IRA B JR	44-07-21	44-12-18	TOUR
HOLMES, CARL W	43-04-23	43-10-11	TOUR
HOUSER, ROBERT H	44-05-28	44-09-19	TOUR
HUGHES, WILLIAM T	44-02-26	44-03-27	TOUR
JAEGER, JOSEPH M	44-12-13		VE DAY
JAMES, JOHN W JR	43-12-01	44-05-24	MIA/POW
JOBE, ROBERT G	43-12-01	44-02-22	KIA
JONES, CARL G	42-06-19	43-04-17	MIA/POW
KALISH, MICHEAL	43-10-21	44-02-25	MIA/POW
KENNY, PETER G JR	44-03-15	44-03-27	MIA/POW
KNAPP, JAMES W	42-06-00	42-08-00	WENDOVER
KUESEL, DONALD	45-04-02		VE DAY
LATSCHA, WALTER V	45-04-04		VE DAY
LE KASHMAN, RAYMOND L	44-12-11	45-04-00	TOUR

NAME	ARRIVAL	DPT	LOST
LEAKE, CHARLES W	43-11-18		
LEMAN, CHARLES R	45-02-03		
LEVY, CHARLES N	44-07-17	44-12-27	VE DAY TOUR
LEWANDOWSKI, ROBERT L	44-06-04	4-10-04	TOUR
LEWIS, ROGER C	44-04-17	44-07-00	TOUR
MARINOS, PETER	43-09-00	43-11-03	KIA
MC CARTHY, MARTIN	43-11-27	44-06-00	TOUR
MC CAULEY, DANIEL	43-10-12	44-02-25	MIA/POW
MACKAY, NORMAN C	42-06-00	42-08-00	WENDOVER
MURRAY, JAMES E	43-04-04	43-04-05	TOUR
NEBEKER, HENRY G	45-04-09		VE DAY
NIEZNAMSKI, JOSEPH	44-04-25	44-08-18	TOUR
O'KONSKI, ADRAIN E	44-06-15	44-09-00	TOUR
O'NEILL, EDWARD P	44-04-05	44-04-29	KIA
OWENS, GEORGE W JR	42-06-02	43-03-04	KIA
PAVIN, JOE M	44-07-28	45-01-02	TOUR
POLLARD, THEODORE E	44-09-22	44-12-29	MIA/POW
PHILLIPS, DONALD E	43-08-23	43-09-06	MIA/POW
REMAL, ALFRED J	45-01-13		VE DAY
RODGERS, WENDELL F	44-09-22	45-01-21	TOUR
RODRIGUEZ, LOUIS	43-11-18	44-02-25	EVADDEE
ROSEN, MILTON	44-09-22	45-04-00	TOUR
ROSS, FRANK E, JR	42-06-00	43-04-17	MIA/POW
RUBENSTEIN, CYRUS B	44-12-27	45-04-00	TOUR
RUSCH, FRED W	45-04-04		VE DAY
SAMWAY, JACK R	43-09-13	44-06-30	TOUR
SCHMIELAU, ROBERT E	44-03-28	44-04-24	MIA/POW
SEIFORD, FRANK M	44-08-08	45-01-03	TOUR
SHELLEY, JAMES C	43-04-11	43-04-17	MIA/POW
SHEPPARD, RALPH O	45-03-27		VE DAY
SHIELDS, EWING III	43-10-31	43-11-13	KIA
SILVERMAN, STANLEY S	43-11-11	43-11-26	MIA/POW
SIMMEN, ALFRED E	43-05-00	43-11-00	TOUR
SKRAINAR, ERNEST A	44-04-29	44-08-08	TOUR
SLATER, RAYMOND L	43-04-23	43-09-29	TOUR
STEVENSON, CHARLES L	43-11-20	44-01-11	KIA
STEVENSON, ROBERT E	44-05-09	44-09-06	TOUR
STILLWELL, ALFRED W	43-10-31	44-06-00	TOUR
STRAUSS, MARTIN M	42-06-00	43-04-17	KIA
SWARTZ, ROBERT R	44-07-17	44-09-11	MIA/POW
TANNER, SHELBY L	43-12-01	44-04-00	TOUR
TELKAMP, EDWARD A	44-05-15	44-09-06	TOUR
THOMPSON, LOUIS F	44-10-30		
TINGLER, FRANZ	43-11-00	44-07-31	TOUR
TOMASELLA, PHILLIP A	44-04-13	44-07-31	TOUR
TOMLINSON, ROBERT S	44-09-01	45-01-28	TOUR
TRUDE ORLO J	44-07-28	45-02-00	TOUR
VARNADO, ALBAN F	44-12-09		VE DAY
VOEHRINGER, JOHN L	43-08-28	43-10-08	KIA
WAGNER, PAUL	44-09-14	45-05-00	VE DAY
WAGONER, BILLY D	44-07-08	44-12-18	TOUR
WARNER, KEITH L	44-08-21	45-03-27	TOUR
WIGHAM, REGINALD E	43-03-12	43-04-17	MIA/POW
WILSON, HARRY	44-04-30	44-08-00	TOUR
WILSON JOHN C	43-11-19		TOUR
ZABORSKY, HENRY <i>note 2</i>	43-09-03	43-01-17	TRANS
ZALUSKY, ISSAC	45-02-10		VE DAY



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

15 Jan 1992

Dear Russ:

I did plan to mail this material today but this A.M. there was 4 in. of snow on the ground but then it turned colder and the wind really picked up to a steady of 25 to 35 mph with gusts up to 50 mph. The temp started to drop and now at 4:30P.M it is 3 degrees with a wind chill of 40 below zero. It quit snowing but the blowing snow really caused trouble with driving outside of the city. A section of I-74 between Morton and Bloomington was closed for about an hour because of accidents. So Ralph stayed in the house all day. I don't mind cold weather but 50 below wind chill is too much for me. Don't you miss it?????

I am mailing you material on Tony Barulich, Jim Fredericks, picture of a plane given to me by Ed Patton. New address of Arnie Trobaugh.

I talked to you about the article of Bishops book on Sweet Pea and 8 Ball. If Sweet Pea went down with John Ryan how could the nose be on another plane?? Also you sent me computer print out and then you sent me new name, correction, obit etc. I found two names on the computer print out not on the last list. Paul Horvay and Robert Gruening.

I just took in Carlile's pictures to make copies for me. I will get them back Sat or Mon. and I will mail them to you. I also have the books ready for you. It includes a 1944 copy of First of Many. I have the 1981 reprint copy here. If this one is yours I am sorry I kept it so long.

(2)

Nell is making a check up visit tomorrow to see the Dr. on the healing process of her foot. So far it looks good but it will be a slow process ,we had planned to have it done a month earlier but her brother's cancer & death delayed it a month. It will be 7 months to the England trip and the foot should be O.K. by then. We plan to call Witte Travel Fri or Monday.

Thanks for the information the other day. The England trip looks good. I see a lot of names who have not seen on a reunion list . A Billy Wagoner is on the list. He was a navigator on Bob Dodge's crew. Dodge's bombardier was a buddy of Don Ross and mine. We called Sam Hatton "Gambling Sam" He went back into service and retired later. He sent me a recommendation form so he could get back into the service. I have written letters to Randolph Field address and they have forward them to him but no answer. I even told him Don Ross would like to hear from him. Sometime you get answers to your letters and some time you don't get answer. After I saw Al Burnett at San Antonio, I sent him some info he wanted about his missions, I sent it to him but never got an answer that he got the material.

Thanks again for info. If I get any info from Olivia Barulich I will let you know. We sent sympathy and xmas cards to Lillian Kostal and Gail Schmidt. We got an answer from Gail Schmidt but nothing from Lillian Kostal.

If you and June get too warm, why don't you two come up here ,we have a couple of rooms. At 10:00 P.M. the temp was minus 4 degrees with a wind chill of minus 39 degrees. I bet you all envy us. Ha!Ha!.

*Just got back from Nell's Dr. Things going OK.
She can wear a shoe but slowly at first.
Again I will enjoy the snow for you*

Ralph

21 December 1992

Dear Ralph:

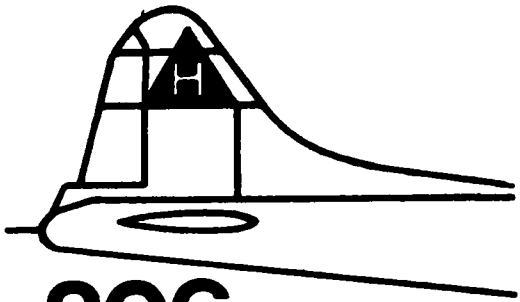
It is our opinion at the moment that we will not respond to Connie Richard's letter. Ross says he wouldn't touch it. After some further cogitation and discussion, I may give a rather bland reply, and let it go at that. I'll wait until after the holidays to make a decision.

Tomorrow I will be shipping to East Anglia Books two packages, one with 10 copies of First Over Germany and one with 10 copies of the 369th Combat Diary. As an alternate address I have placed your name and address on each package. Thus, they might end up with you if they don't get to Cliff Bishop. He has ordered books before.

In the near future I'll send you 10 copies, and perhaps five of the diary, billing them at the wholesale rate, and asking you to sell them at the retail rate, with your organization retaining such profit.

I will forward some negatives to you as soon as I get the January issue of Echoes off to the printer. I am trying to complete it before leaving for the New Year's holidays in the north. After that I'll think about negatives and sort out a bunch for you. I'll probably send you about 50 negatives, which will have something over a hundred images.

Have a happy New Year, after surviving the Christmas goodies!



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Russ

I may have told you of the my history to becoming Sqdn Bomb. of 368th . But I will stry agains to repeat it, I think it is one of being at the right place at the right time.

As you know I came to the 306th 368th Sept 17,1944. I was the first class to have the lengthed course in Bomb which included D.R. navigation. During OTU at Alex Chrisjohn was on top of all positions and questioning our jobs and how we were doing it. Levy says he bugged him on missions. Where are we etc. and for ever asking for E.T.A. even in the bomber column. One day Levy had enough and when he asked him where they were Levy said about 5 miles up. In all sincerity I thought he was excellent pilot. He also kinda resented Levy and I because we had attend college and I had received my degree.

Well after arriving in the 368th area Levy and Bordner were in one barrack and Risso and Chrisjohn were in another. Chrisjohn flew his first three mission with Christensen and I flew Bombardier and Levy flew one as Nav and the other two Skrainer who was Christians original Nav.

I don't know how it happened but after my third mission on the 4 of Aug Roy Buchanan contacted me about flying navigator. I really don't know why he contacted me or the exact reason I took him up on it. Well the next week I flew around England doing navigation and going to Chelveston to get instruction on the G-Box. On Aug 8th I flew Nav with Christensen (his last mission) on that goofy raid to Caen. Then I flew 3 more navigation mission with Oberhelman as pilot. It seemed I was flying with people who were finishing their tour. I flew Christensen, Oberhelman, and Burnett's last mission. Then after the Aug 24 th mission I was contacted by Irv Norton to fly lead bomb and the incentive of flying

ALWAYS FIRST FIRST OVER GERMANY

5 less missions if you flew so many leads, you need only fly 30 missions to complete a tour. I flew one deputy lead with McStay and two with my buddy J.J. Allen. Another odd thing the Nav on those missions was Carlino, who was on Saspers crew Sept 12. Then I teamed up with Pat Evans pilot and Orly Trude as Nav. We were scheduled to fly our first lead on Sept 12 but it was to be a visual target and Sasser's crew had a few leads and we were scratched for them. Another odd thing was that Robt Banta who slept next to me and had few Bomb leads was on Sasser crew along with Carlino.

I then flew my first lead Sept 17 to Vokel, that was the day Risk plane could not stop and run into Edwards plane on the take off runway. I was in the nose of Evans plane on the other side of the runway and witnessed the whole affair. I flew 3 more lead missions and then Irv Norton got his Capt and decided to go home. Then one day Col Salada called me in asked me if I would like to be Sqdn Bomb. What a surprise. A lowly 2nd Lt with only 13 missions offered the job. I know Sam Hatton had more lead missions than I did at the time and he came to 368th in the middle of June and I got there July 17. Sam flew a lead mission with Bob Dodge on Aug 6th. I found out later that Roy Buchanan Sqdn Nav who I did a favor by flying some Nav mission earlier put in a good word for me. So you see I happened to be in the right spot at the right time to get the job. LUCK!!!

I became close friend with "Gambling" Sam Hatton and then in late Sept Reg Thayer came to 368th after flying 50 missions in Italy. Ross had come back from R&R and lived in our barracks and the 4 of us became good friends. As Don told Nell we taught Ralph how to roll dice. !!!! I flew 4 leads in Nov and 4 in Dec. Pat Evans finished his tour on Dec 28 so I teamed up with Risk and others and flew 2 missions in Jan and that left me three to go for my tour. Well they played politics and I flew one mission Feb 6 and then waited for my promotion to Capt to come thru. The minimum time was 3 months from 1st Lt to Capt and on Feb 5th I was promoted so I got the notice after 6th mission. Then on Feb 14 (contrary to the list) I flew to Dresden and then was scheduled on 15th to go back to Dresden but others went but we were grounded after taxiing out to take off posture. Well Feb 16 the I flew my last mission and Feb 20, 1945 I got orders to go home. How about that 4 days to get rid of me.

As you will note 4 days after my tour ended I was on my out of the sqdn. I assumed that Sam Hatton would get the job because he was in the sqdn longer than any one else and he had been a lead bombardier longer than any one. It never entered my mind that Reg Thayer would get the job. He came into the sqdn two months before Reg came from the 15th after he had completed his tour. It must have bothered Sam that I got the job ahead of him and then his close buddy got the job after I left the sqdn.

Then some time after one of our reunions I got the inclosed list that I guess was Tom Hulings. It showed Sam Hatton Sqdn Bomb and Dobkowski as Sqdn Nav. In the photo of the 368th Opns Staff in the 306th micro film it show Thayer as Sqdn Bomb and Paul Wagner as Sqdn Nav. So the inclosed list must have been made after Thayer and Wagner went home. As for Sam Hatton, some time I think in late 1946 I got a recommendation questionnaire from the Army Air Force that a Sam Hatton wanted to get back into the Army Air Force. About the same time I got one on Louis Krezeim who wanted back into the AAF. I know both got back into the service and I think I mentioned to you I got in touch with Krezeim when you found his address in Penn and I corresponded with him until he died a few years ago. He contacted M.S. in 1954 and had a medical discharge and was bed ridden until he died. As for Sam Hatton over the years I saw his name in the AAF Officer Directory many times and then his name was in the retired AAF Directory. As I have told you before I wrote a couple of letter to him thru the AF at Randolph wh forwarded it to him. The last letter I mentioned that Don Ross wanted to contact him but NO ANSWER. So you see I happened to be in the right spot to get the job and I guess Reg Thayer was in the right spot and Poor Sam Hatton was the unlucky one. Their is one person I have not written to on the situation and that is Robert Dodge who was Hatton pilot when he came to 368th and his pilot on the lead crew. Some day. I may write him some day on the subject. I am inclosing a couple of letters I got from Bob Dodge.

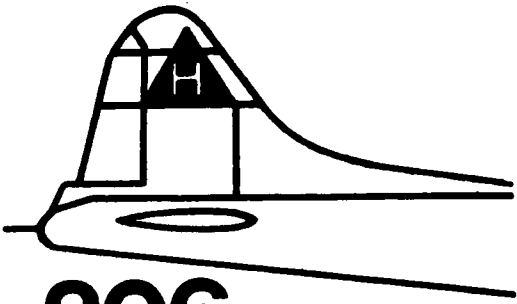
I don't have material to back up these events but when Co Robinson went home and no one was moved up to C.O. and Col Sutton was imported to the group. Some of the top people moved around in the group and others went elswere and others went home.

In the 368th Col Salada went to group and Col Sutton brought in Tom Hulings. Major Farwell had come in to the Sqdn in late Aug but went down on Sept 12, 1944. Shortly after Tom Hulings was made C.O. Elbert Odle, the Sqdn Opns, officer from April 1943 to middle of Oct 1944 went home. He could have wanted the C.O. job. I never asked him about it after we met again in 1975 until here passed away a few years ago.

Bob Dodge letter will explain his plans to become 368th Sqdn Officer before Bob Matzke appeared on the scene. Also Ed Miza an original 368th-er trans to 423 and Willie Williams came to the 368th

Russ, you may know more about these moves than we who were there, sometimes we didn't know exactly what transpired right under our noses.

I forgot - Bob Chirpin was flight leader - deputy lead in flight - flew 35 miles but finished FOUR as 1st Lt. Others ~~was~~ flight leader got their Capt Boro. He mentioned that subject when I called to him at Pittsburgh.
Moi Palites



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

Ralph E. Bordner Air Reserve & Air National Guard History

My history in the A.F. and Reserves and Air National Guard is another story of being in the right place at the right time. In Aug 1945 in Frederick Okla AFB after V.J. Day Col Imaly left for Randolph and wonder if I would be interested in an Education job at Randolph, I had my B.E. degree and someone recommended me for a Reg. Capt commission. Well I guess I had enough of state side A.F. and decided to get out and left Frederick on Oct and finally got inactivated Dec 7, 1945.

Well in late 1954 I got notice either get into active reserve or lose my commission So in early 1955 I got into the Peoria Air Reserve and attending for points only then I got into some pay slots in the Air Reserve . As usual I got involved and the last 3 or 4 yrs was Reserve C.O. Then in Oct 1962 the Peoria ANG came off active duty and expanded from 169th Fighter Sqdn to 182 Fighter Group. Well I applied and got the Group Intelligence job. It was great getting week-end drill pay plus 2 weeks active duty which help to send oldest daughter to college in early 1964. I enjoyed the job until Feb 1965 when I got my Lt.COL promotion and I was promoted right out of my pay slot, and there was no Lt. Col Slot open to me.

Well I was an E.C.I. Buff and had completed like 10 or 11 courses and had completed two of their big ones the Sqdn Officers course and Command and Staff course. They were correspondence course like the ones who take the active duty course. I knew the promotion was coming up and knew I would lose the pay slot, so I enrolled in the top ECI course AIR WAR COLLEGE.

Well Air War College consisted of 4 phases, you read 20 magazine books and a research paper for each phase. The research paper was similar to the ones I was doing for my masters at Bradley Well in the Air Guard E.C.I course are required in advancement in grade and rank ,like Enlisted Supply job and Officer job. In state Hdq the General has an ECI board on each group and he gets brownie points in higher hdq. Well I was taking the highest ranking course and I was only the second Guard Officer to take it. When he realized that I would leave the Guard on the promotion and he would lose his prize student, He got on the horn and found me a Lt.Col slot in Springfield. I could serve in Peoria but Springfield would carry me on their roster. There I was involved in POLITICS and did not know it.

Well my luck ran out in Sept 1965 and I was sent to the reserve but I still had my Air War College. To add more to my problem I was getting my M.A. degree at Bradley about the same time.

(2)

In early 1966 I was finishing my Air War College course and I knew I would need points for a good year after I finished the course. Well I contacted Col Norman to see if I could attend guard drills and earn points to get credit for a good year. He liked the idea but thought it was funny for a guy to attend drill for points while reg guard got pay for it. Well I got permission from Reserve Hdq. and started to attend drill in Feb. I know it was silly but most reserve meetings were lectures etc and at the Guard I was able to do my intelligence work with the pilots.

Well in early Aug the Deputy C.O. of Opns was trans to Indiana and they had a party for him. I attended the party and left early because I was still in graduate school. As the party went along the Deputy C.O. for Material asked the NCO's if they had any gripes. Well that was a loaded question, the deputy C.O. for Material was an ex-P-47 pilot and now ran a shoe store and had plenty of time to visit the base other than drill time and bug the NCO's. The reg NCO's were government Technicians and this shoe salesman was bugging them during the week. Well they really unloaded on him with their gripes and I hear it got hot and heavy. Other than drill time the week-enders had little say over the technicians. Well the next morning the Deputy for Material called Col Norman and offered his resignation and the Col accepted it.

I was attending Bradley and always called in my school to see if there was any calls. My secretary told me Col Norman was trying to get hold of me. So I called him and to my surprise he offered me the Deputy C.O. for Material job. I accepted the job but he wanted me to attend summer camp but I had to finish my course so the papers went forward and I waited for the O.K. Well the message came back that I was fully qualified for the Intelligence job but no mention of the Material job. I understand that Major-General Smith made a few calls and all of a sudden I was fully qualified for the job. How about that for POLITICS!!!!

Well I held the job from Sept 1966 to Feb 26, 1972 when I had 28 commissioned years and was sent into the retired reserve and then I had to wait until Mar 24, 1978 when I turned 60. I got orders that I was a retired A.F. Lt. Col and would start to get retired pay. So again I enjoyed the results of being in the right place at the right time.

Nothing to do with the above but the Air National Guard had a rule if you served 20 good years with the Guard before retiring, you got a 1st National Guard promotion as you retired. Well I had 10 yrs Ang and 19 active and reserve time but that did not qualify me for the National Guard promotion. Well in 1979 I got a letter that the National Guard changed their rules and gave credit for good years in the active reserve credit in the National Guard promotion position. So in Jan 1979 I got orders promoting me to Col 1LL. Ang. but not recognized by the Reg A.F. Big Deal!! Just like a Col in the State of Kentucky or Confederate A.F.

I hope I haven't bored you with my two histories of being in the right spot at the right time. I THINK!!!

368th SQUADRON BOMBARDIERS 1942-45

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATES</u>		
LEVY, ROBERT		43-01-03	KIA
KOSAKOWSKI, JOSEPH E.		43-08-20	TRANS-40thCBW
SILVERSTEIN, STANLEY	43-08-20	43-12-20	TOUR
MONTOYA, EDUARDO	43-12-21	44-01-04	TOUR
BOSWELL, TED, JR.	44-01-04	44-06-26	TOUR
ROSS, DONALD R.	44-06-26	R&R IN JULY	TOUR
NORTON, IRVING	JULY 1944	44-10-10	TOUR
BORDNER, RALPH E.	44-10-11	45-02-20	TOUR
THAYER, REGINALD, JR.	45-02-20		
HATTON, SAM	<i>according to Hulings list</i>		

I got most of the dates from Departure dates on the Bombardier list if individuals. Inclosed are some letter, Hulings list and orders on Bordner & Irv Norton.

DONALD R. ROSS
UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE
OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68101
P.O. Box 307

March 21, 1980

Dear Ralph,

Thanks for your recent letter. I will try to answer a few questions, but my memory is very hazy.

Guillermo Perez was my co-pilot going overseas. On the boat going over he came down with a severe case of the clap and never rejoined our crew. Henry Hanson did fly two tours. I flew his 50th mission with him which was to the Bohlen Oil Refineries on March 2, 1945. I got a special DFC for that and he got one for finishing his second tour. His navigator, Osborne, also finished his second tour that day. Sorry to hear Henry passed away.

I had flown 11 missions on my second tour (from October 1944 to May 1945) when the war ended. I remained as Group Bombardier until about August 1, 1945, when I went home. I was supposed to be Squadron Bombardier when I returned in October 1944, but instead became Group Bombardier when Norton decided to go home. I don't remember who was 368th Squadron Bombardier before Norton. I was never 368th Squadron Bombardier unless it was just before I finished my first tour in June 1944. *It is shown in the letter*

Tom Witt's address is as follows: Box 56, Cookeville, TX 75558

Jack Samway was 368th Squadron Navigator between Dix and Buchanan. I don't know the dates. I don't remember who was Squadron Bombardier between Montoya and Norton, although I may have been in June and July of 1944, but I don't remember. I was promoted to Captain in July so I must have been Squadron Bombardier then when I went home for 30 days.

I thought Hatton was Squadron Bombardier for awhile before Thayer, but I could be wrong.

I spent about three weeks in Arizona altogether and played quite a bit of golf while there, although I also was there during the floods.

Best wishes to you and to Nell.

Sincerely,

Donald R. Ross

Mr. Ralph E. Bordner
131 East Autumn Lane
East Peoria, Illinois 61611

*July 1, 1944 - 306th office
rooster 5400s
Ross Donald 1st LT - 368th
Squadron
Bombardier*

368TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
Office of the Squadron Commander
United States Forces

APO 557
11 October, 1944.

SQUADRON ORDER:

NUMBER 26:

1. Second Lieutenant RALPH E. BORDNER, O-769248, is hereby appointed Squadron Bombardier, effective this date, vice Captain RALPH J. NORTON, O-670217, relieved.

/T/S/ MAURICE V. SALADA,
Lt. Col., Air Corps,
Commanding.

A TRUE COPY

Albert W. Greaves
ALBERT W. GREAVES,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

12 Sept 86

Dear Ralph,

7-8-44

The material that you sent to me prior to the Reunion was waiting for me when I returned home from Dayton & the Reunion. I was surprise for I did not known a 368 history existed. Certainly I appreciate your thoughtfulness in sending me all the goodies.

I would me more than happy to send you all the photos that I have of personnel and locale of AAF Sta #111. Perhaps later a printed history can be accomplished. I would be pleased to assist in any way. If you could furnish me a complete copy of the history you now have, I will retype it and reduce it to the size of this sheet, then produce it on both sides so that it can of more convenient size for binding. In the mean time I will reproduce all the photos I have and send them to you.

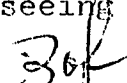
I have made several inquiries for Roy E. Buchanan without success, but I shall continue to locate him. Leon Risk is in Redlands, which is 100 miles away, and I'll attempt to contact him.

If you feel that I can be of assistance to you or the organization, please call on me.

We hope to see you near Washington, D.C. next September. We probably will attend the Air Force Association Convention in Washington after the Reunion. Teh we may snoop around doing some genealogical research.

Sure hope you enjoy the enclosures.

Take care... look forward to hearing from you and seeing you next Fall.


Robert L. Dodge

(over)

From Bob
Dodge

12 Sept 86

Dear Ralph,

For what it is worth the following info is offered.

I flew a B-17G, # 43-37841 across the North Atlantic with the following crew.

2Lt	Robert L. Dodge	0761905	(P)
2Lt	Robert E. Laden	01305439	(CP)
2Lt	Billy D. Wagoner	0717711	(N)
2Lt	Sam J. Hatton	0771922	(B)
S/Sgt	Darwin G. Smith	33452535	(E)
S/Sgt	Richard D. Mills	39041570	(R)
S/Sgt	Leonard T. Anderson	35430140	(AG)
Sgt	Robert W. Peatross	35768965	(CG)
Sgt	Calvin B. Culp	33609810	(CG)
S/Sgt	Lucius B. Smitherman Jr.	38240331	(CG)

Anderson and Smitherman were instructors at Sioux City and join our crew late. Both were top notch people. We were lucky to get them.

When George DeVack made Operations Officer for the Squadron some how I became his assistant. We enjoyed an outstanding relationship, I my mind. One I'll never forget. When poor ole Matzke took DeVack's Ops job instead of me, rather than go to Group as an Ops Officers I opted to fly my last mission as Division lead to Berlin and return to the States.

I met Roy Buchanan as a Classification Officer in Santa Ana. At my request he reclassified me so I could be relieved from active duty, for as an Ops Officers I was critical and could not be relieved.

It may have contributed to my longevity, but I will always wondered how things would have worked out if I had have made a career???????



THE DODGE FAMILY ASSOCIATION

10105 W. 17th Place, Lakewood, CO 80215

ROBERT L. DODGE
4734 COLLEGE AVE.
SAN DIEGO, CA 92115

Colonel Robert Livingston Dodge
President

Earl Farwell Dodge
Secretary-Treasurer

am
9/2/86

Dear Ralph,

20 Dec 85

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Your Letter and photo are most welcome. The photo was taken shortly after I departed the 368/306.

Peter Wm. Dodge, Esq.
Chairman
Loma Linda, CA

The first of this year John Delapore called me and brought to my attention the existence of the 306th Organization. Most of my memory of that time period has been water under the bridge and I talked little about the experiences. I have saved some material memorabilia. After Delapore's telephone and receipt of the 306th Echoes my wife learned of my military experiences. We visited a young AF couple in Alconbury this Spring and drove around Bedford, Thurleigh Village, and the RAF Base that now occupies AF Sta 111. We both enjoyed the Reunion and plan to see you in Dayton.

Virginia Dodge Murphy
Indianapolis, IN

Earnest F. Dodge
Seattle, WA

As you have noted I have enclosed copies of my sortie record. Our Crew arrived in the 306th in the middle of Jun 1944. We were selected as lead crew after a very few missions-- just when I do not remember, but I have a record that shows we were a lead crew on 6 Aug 44. As you will note Sam Hatton was our bombardier. About the time George Devack made Squadron Operations Officer, I was his assistant. We had a great working relationship, I have always thought.

I labored under the impression, while at Thurleigh, that after my tour I would return to the States and marry. So when I learned that I would not become Squadron Operations officer, rather than Bob Matzke, I turned down an assistant Group Ops Officer assignment and departed AF Sta 111 3 May 45. Capt James E. McClung certified that I was disease free and with out vermin the day before. As I remember he was the Squadron Flight Surgeon.

Has anything been written about the rocket bombs that were developed by the British for use on the Sub Pens that we carried under the B-17 wings? I have thought about returning to England with a load of those 4500 pounders and rather than dumping mine in the Wash, I received permission to land with them. I did a no-no and photographed a B-17 with one under each wing.

During a long career in Law Enforcement I stayed in the Reserve and found it a great diversion. I will always wonder what life would have provided if I had have stayed in the Military. Probably be at the bottom of the Sea of Japan like some friends.

You think you ramble on.....

20 Dec 85

As you see by the stationery I am involved in genealogy. The Association has over 500 members in 46 States. We are planning a Reunion for Southern California in January at March AFB.

I have been active in the Air Force Association and Daedalians at the local level along with some other organizations. One of the Reserve Assignments was with the USAF Academy. I continue to support USAFA and ROTC Cadets about any way I can. My wife and I both find them good company and fun to be around. A local Congressman uses me for his Chairman of his Academy Selection Board for all the schools. For what it is worth.....

I have had little luck contacting members of our crew. Byron Pirtle and Orlie Parker, the two Ops Clerks in the 368th, exchanged Christmas cards for many years. I heard that Pirtle died. Parker is a Dentist in Blytheville, Ark.

Before I bore you more, this is the crew. We were join as a crew in Souix City, IA. Anderson and Smitherman were instructors in gunnery and they joined the crew shortly before departure.

CP Robert E. Laden
N Billy D Wagoner
B Sam J. Hatton
AEG S/Sgt Darwin G. Smith
ROG S/Sgt Richard D. Mills

BG Sgt Robert W Peatross
BG Sgt Calvin B Culp
AG S/Sgt Leonard T Anderson
BG S/Sgt Lucius B. Smitherman Jr.

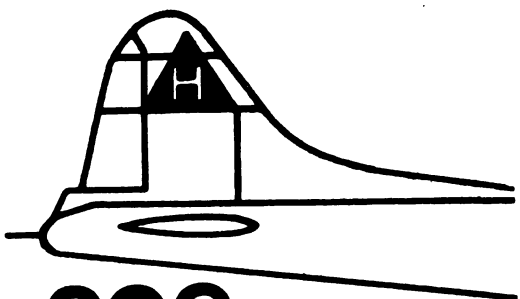
We left Sioux City by rail to Kearney, Neb., picked up B-17G, #43-37841, flew to Grenier Field, Manchester, NH, to Gander, Newfoundland, to Nuts Corner, Ireland where we left the plane.

John Delapoer and Leon Risk were close friends of mine. I have photos I would share with interested people.

Unfortunately I do not remember Robert Chrisjohn. As I alluded to recollection of forty years ago is slim.

I sincerely appreciate the photo you sent and I enjoyed you letter.

*Best regards
Robert L. Risk*



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611

20 April 1993

Dear Russ:

I will get off another note on this material. I am including a copy of my Pre Flight diploma from Selman Field 19 Mar 1943. So you see I had pre-flight in Nav and then DR in Advance Nav. Then I was in the first Bomb class to have a additional 6 weeks tng to include DR Nav Tng. So you see with some Gee Box tng I was able to fly navigation missions for the 368th. Anothe fellow in my Bomb Class Robt Bartlett (92BG) also had the some Tng I had prior to Bombardier tng.

After I passed my mental and physical tests for cadets Oct 12,1942 I went into the service being sent to Ft. Sheridan and Kessler Field awaiting Cadet appt. I went thru most of GI basic tng before being sent to Nashville for classification. I went thru the tests etc and was on orders for Pilot Tng around 15 Dec when a new group brought in a contagious disease in our area, and we were taken off orders. We sat there over Xmas and New Years 1943 watching other come in and get classified and ship out to pre-flight tng. We could not leave the sqdn area during that time. We went to PX after hours with hankerchiefs over our faces also the same procedures for movies etc. Well in early Jan a chance to leave came to some of us. They need navigators and some of us qualified and could leave if we agreed. Most of us were sick with colds,sore throats etc and saw a chance to leave Nashville. We left around the middle of Jan and were in Monroe La a few days and all the sore throats seemed to disappear. I didn't meet on that trip but in May 1944 at Alex AFB while in crew tng.

Russ while going thru one of my folders I found this mission list fo Forrest Sweeney, Bomb. of 369th. I noticed you didn't have the end of his tour. If you noticed he flew 2 missions in Nov 1943,(3) Dec 1943 then only (1) Jan 44 Then nothing until May 22,1944. That was 3 months of no flights. In your research did you see why it took him so long to do his 35 missions. Most fellows who came in 1943 or early 1944 were given credit when the mission requirement changed from 25 to 30 missions and then 30 to 35 missions. This fellow came in Nov 1943 and flew 35 missions with no credit missions. Do you have any info on this fellow why he flew 35 mission and what happened during his tour like the 3 months of no tours. I thought you might have some info on the fellow. I guess I could write him he lives in Houston Tx. I think Sweeney sent this material because I have his mission list and order sending him home after he finished his tour.

Russ we finally got off for this trip on April 5th . We slowed down at Chanute so Ralph could get some Lopid pills for his cholestrol
The retiree benefits will end on April 27 and I will still be here.

ALWAYS FIRST FIRST OVER GERMANY

Well we finally got to Hopkinsville Ky around 6 PM and went into the home of tge 101st Air Borne at Ft Campbell and if we waited 10 min we could get a nice room for the nite. The next day we got to Maxwell AFB arond 3 P.M. but decided to go on and got to Marianna Fla about 7 PM and got a room at Best Western but it was next to a truck stop and needless to say Nell and I were considered second citizens to the truckers. Nell was very unhappy. We got to Orlando the next day and stayed with grandson and his roomates in their apts. It was very nice and he cooked a nice meal for us. We toured his Univ of Cent FLA the next A,M, and it looked like a very good univ. We left around noon and got here Fri Eve.

Last Fri we went up to Orlando and had rooms near the entrance of Disney. My grandson and his friend met us the MGM and got us in with FREE PASSES because they work part time for Disney and then around 4 P.M. we went to Magic Kingdom with my grandson roommate and he got us in again FREE. We spent Sat nite in the motel and headed home Sun. It was a very nice day but GRANDPA and GRANDMA ran out of gas around 5 P.M. but we made it O.K.

I got the list of the Alaska cruise of the 306th people here at Vero Beach I was surprised to see Ed Danaher on the list. Also Ted Cumberledge is on the list. I wrote him some time ago and got a note he was going to write me soon I still haven't heard from him. We were good friends in the barracks and I am looking forward to see him. I am including a copy of a letter I got from my lead pilot for 16 missions. He was a good pilot but kinda nutty. DeVak said " He was a NUT" As I said before on his last mission he came across the channell with two questionable engines after he had clearence to land at Brussels. After we landed we were told one of the engines was about ready to quit. They had a review the next day and the Sqdn CO and GP Co was very unhappy. Russ I think I told you we found him in 1985 and I wrote him and he called me from Hawaii and I did not hear from him until this letter. He sent me picture of his boaat, Pat and his friend and a drink from TONGA. So you see I am looking forward to see him in Seattle. Wonders never cease!!! Sorry to see in the last Echoes that your pilot died.

We will be here until May 9th. We have three graduation in late May. One Grade, one high school and my married daughter (mother of the grade & high school grads) will finish here 2 yr college term. Then in early June we head to DuBois Pa for another high school grad. In late July we go to Gulfport Miss. for a family reunion. Then we rest until Sept when we start our westward trek. I think we will take a week to get there and another week to get home. One route will be thru Mt Rushmore, Yellow Stone Park, Cody Museum and Black Hills. We haven't decided which trip out or back will take the route. So you see we plan to be a little busy the rest of the year.

I got the pilot list but haven't had time to check on them. What did you think of the list of 368th Bomb and Nav. Did you find anything more on Richard Georgi?

As usual I have included a lot of junk. Hope you did ok in Knoxville. Believe it or not Ralph never has a card & he has had one over a week. Included is Pat Evans letter.

Ralph

25 Jan 1993

Dear Russ:

I mailed Denny's book to you today. (4th class). I haven't come up with a good definition of my thoughts on the book. He did give a lot of review of real history but the theme of the book was strictly fiction. I guess there were NIGHT WITCHES in the Russian army but I never researched the subject. I am interested to read a review of the book. Thanks for letting me read it. Do you have any other books that I can read?

I got some more copies of orders from you and today I got the Jan 1993 directroy list. As for 306th news I had a long phone call the other day from Houli. He just wanted to visit on the phone. I got a Xmas card on Jan 19, 1993 from Jack Samway. It must have come by Pony Express. The letter was post marked in Texas Dec 14, 1992. It must have got lost in the lost file. Did you get thru all the material I sent you the other day. I sure hope I can get some info on Richard Georgi. I still think I saw somewhere where he was to meet the grounding board.

I have some crew pictures that I have collected over the years. I will get some copies made and send them to you. You said Chrisjohn sent you our crew picture.

I am inclosing a poem about a famous person BOMBARDIER.!!!!!! I have had it for some time and I type up a copy the other day. I don't know who this fellow ANONYMOUS. You may have seen it but I thought you might get a kick of having a copy of it!!!!Ha!Ha!

*Copy of the
Say How a lot of
Alaska Cruise.
I hope you get this
book etc.*

Ralph

LONG BRANCH SALOON
Boot Hill, Dodge City, Kansas



THE CARNARVON HOTEL



*Ealing Common London W5 3HN
Telephone: 081-992 5399*

Russ:

I thought you would get a kick out of the record of the ECJ King of the reserve's and ANG. Until 1962 I was in the AF Reserve and earned extra points for retirement. The Intelligence course helped me get into the ANG. Because they needed a Intelligence Officer. The reason for the Air War College Correspondence course was I was up for promotion to L/Col and my spot called for only a Major. I started the course the last year of my Master program so I really loaded my self for the work . I got my L/Col and an opening for Deputy Co for Material came along and I was back in the ANG. I stayed with the course and finished it. I was the 1st ANG Officer here in Peoria to finish it and only the 2nd in the 3 Ang units in Illinois to finish.

I was doing research for my masters and writing papers with a set of different requirement for research paper than the Air Force. It was quite an experience.

The written requirements were similar to the resident course of the AWC. Believe it or not OLD BORDNER's name in on the Wall of AWC at Maxwell AFB as a Correspondent Graduate. How About that!!

Resident Graduates of 306thBG are W.S.RADER BG Class of 1952, John Chalfant and George Robinson COL were graduates of class of 1953

(2)

I am sending you a copy of an article in the June-July 1957 Air Reservist. As I stated earlier I took ECI courses to help earn pts toward retirement. I had finished Sq. Officer Course and Command Staff Course when I got the invitation to go the show. I had to get to O'hare Reserve Center, Chicago where a AF plane picked us up and flew us to Maxwell. We stayed at Gunter AFB but visited Maxwell and toured the city of Montgomery. One day we were taken to Eglin AFB to see a Fire Power Demo. The big things to me was gatling gun from a jet and then a B-52 train a bunch of bombs across the field. The last nite we had a banquet at Gunter AFB. The head of ECI was a Lt Col Wagner who flew the plane that picked us at O'Hare. In 1956 & 57 the reservists in most cases could earn retirement pts only by attending meeting and do ECI course. Their were very, very few reservists who were on a pay status. The ANG was a pay outfit but their were few non pilot positions for reservists. So we earned our restirement by attending meeting and doing ECI course. Finally in late 60's LeMay decried that the ANG and AIR RESERVE wasn't worth a damm the way it was so the wheels got going and created active reserve units and guard units.

Sometime I will fill you in on LeMay's speech on how poor the Reserve and ANG units were at that time and he didn't mince any words on his remarks. Needless to say things changed some time later. Enough, I enjoyed the trip visiting with people and the firepower demo was great.

EXTENSION COURSE INSTITUTE
GUNTER AFB, ALABAMA

NAME OF COURSE	NO/BOOKS	COURSE NO.	DATE COMPLETED
Squadron officer Correspondence Course	21	NEO2	18 Apr 1956
Command & Staff Correspondence Course	34	NOO3	8 Sept 1957
Principles of Guided Missles Course	6	3111	4 Dec 1957
Legal Claims	7	7801	25 Apr 1958
Academic Instructor	2	7521	18 Aug 1958
Intelligence Fundamentals Course	2	2000	17 Sept 1958
Intelligence Officer Course	4	2001	17 Sept 1958
Information Services Officer Course	9	7200	24 Jan 1959
Statistical Services Officer Course	2	6806	16 Jul 1959
Basic Personnel Principles	4	7321	26 Aug 1959
Personnel Specialist	11	7332	16 Apr 1960
Intelligence Operations Specialist	3	2041	31 Oct 1960
Administrative Officer	7	7000	21 Feb 1962
Ed-Training Officer	5	7504	13 Feb 1963
Photomapping	4	2200	8 Dec 1963
Budget	2	6701	6 May 1965
Air War College Correspondence Course			15 Nov 1967

This course consisted of 4 phases

- (1) Read 15 booklets and take a test for each phase
- (2) Research paper for each phase. (with footnotes, Bib, and around 30 pages)
- (3) 6 months for each phase and 2 yr for all 4 phases.

Subjects for my research papers

- (1) Development and Growth of New North African Nations
- (2) Governmental Functions in a Crisis
- (3) Employment of U.S. Military Forces in a Unified Command Area
- (4) U.S. Military Stragety for Limited and General Warfare

U. S. Army Air Forces



Pre-Flight School Bombardier - Navigator

Be it known that

Ralph E. Gardner

*has satisfactorily completed the course of instruction
prescribed for*

Pre-Flight Training

at the

A. A. F. Pre-Flight (Bombardier-Navigator) School

In testimony whereof and by virtue of vested authority

I do confer upon him this

DIPLOMA

*Given at Selman Field, Louisiana, this nineteenth day
of March in the year of our Lord one thousand nine
hundred and forty-three*

Attest

Raymond M. ...
Major, A. C. *Director of Training*

Leroy E. ...
Major, A. C. *Commanding*

Henry ...
Major, A. C. *Adjutant*



June July 1957
Air Reservists Mag

Top ECI Reservists Watch Firepower Demonstration

Twenty ECI honor students, picked on the basis of their outstanding records, and all AFRes officers on inactive duty status, attended the recent Aerial Firepower Demonstration at Eglin AFB, Fla.

As ECI was one of the organizations selected and furnished tickets through the Air University Command, Col. Paul T. Tempske, ECI commandant, felt that this group of students was deserving of the rare opportunity to view the latest AF developments in air power.

Tickets and motor transportation to the demonstration were provided by ECI on a cost free basis, but all expenses incident to the trip and the weekend at Gunter AFB, Ala., were borne by the reservists themselves.

Those attending the demonstration included: Col. R. S. Walke, Richmond, Va.; Lt. Col. C. E. Chandler, Winfield, Iowa; W. W. Wagner, ECI; G. W. Howard, St. Paul, Minn.; R. C. Hemphill, Jacksonville, Ill.; and R. J. Ihne, Burlington, Iowa; Maj. J. P. Gahard, Arlington Heights, Ill.; T. D. Burnett, Tallahassee, Fla.; H. S. Slocum, Oak Lawn, Ill.; G. A. Hart, Birmingham, Mich.; J. P. McKenna, Berea, Ohio; R. E. Bordner, Washington, Ill.; J. G. Hofmann, Roanoke Rapids, N. C.; W. A. Howard, Livonia, Mich.; A. J. Kirwan, Arlington, Va.; M. A. Fuller, Norfolk, Va.; and J. R. Snyder, Montgomery, Ala.; Capt. T. D. Allen, Jr., ECI; and Lt. P. S. Sinclair, ECI.

■ SWIFT LIFT from page 5

personnel in the event their capabilities are needed. Presently, the 446th Twp Carr Wg at Houston has two C-46's and crews on this basis, while the 433d at San Antonio has one C-46 and crew in readiness. The 435th at Miami is expected to join in the operation after completion of its conversion to C-119's and so the story goes throughout ConAC's numbered air forces.

Maj. General George G. Finch, 14AF commander, said, "This marks the second major step in readying the nation's Air Reserve Forces into a force in being for immediate support of the regular Air Force in the event of mobilization."

The first step was the placing of fighter-interceptor units of the ANG and fighter-bomber units of the AFRes on daily runway alerts alongside regular Air Force units.

MEMO ROUTING SLIP		NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS		ACTION
1 TO		INITIALS		CIRCULATE
	Col Norman	DATE		COORDINATE
2.				FILE
	4 Col BORDNER			INFORMATION
3				1
				NOTE AND RETURN
4				PER CONVERSATION
				SEE ME
				SIGNATURE
REMARKS				
Col Bordner is the first ANG officer this base to complete the AWC series.				
FROM		DATE		
SMSGt Coon		22 Nov		
		PHONE		

DD FORM 95
1 OCT 60

Replaces DD Form 94, 1 Feb 50 and DD Form 95, 1 Feb 50 which will be used until exhausted.

GPO 1961 O-288125

needed to satisfy Air Force requirements is not enough."

Gen. Eaton pointed out a possible solution to the nation's shortage

pressed with the special tour. If their enthusiasm is any criteria, then the AFRes has started these youngsters in the right direction toward "Operation Future."

The students of "Operation Future" pose for a picture on the flight line at McConnell.



COMBAT CREW INFORMATION - 306th Bomb Group 1942-45

Name of Respondent: Ralph E. Bordner

Date: 1 March 1944

Date of Arrival: July 18, 1944 S.P. Orders # 188

Combat Crew by Position:

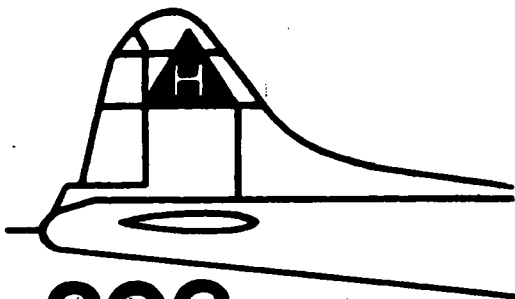
Name	Position	Present Status
Robert J. Chrisjohn Wife (Jean)	Pilot	P.O. BOX 339 Alden, Iowa, 5006-0039
William (NMI) Risso Wife (Lillian)	Co-Pilot	580 Bow Sprit Lane Long Boat Key, FL, 33548
Charles N. Levy (Deceased) Wife (Fay)	Navigator	264 Dennis Lane Glencoe, IL, 6002
Ralph E. Bordner Wife (Nell)	Bombardier	131 East Autumn Lane East Peoria, IL, 61611-1942
Alan G. Sigafus Wife (Loretta)	Engineer	308 Emerson Lane Mankato, Minnesota, 56001
Louis R. Gilbert Wife ()	Radio Opr.	5420 East Drive Loves Park, IL, 61111
Haig (NMI) Gadarian	Ball Turrett	85 Eastview Ave Valparaiso, FL, 32580
Billy R, Fuller (Deceased) Wife (Gwen)	Waist	BOX 205 Moulton, AL, 35650
Glen A. Korf Wife (Margarite)	Waist	4272 Chappel Drive R# 2 Gladwain, MI, 48624
Aylett E. Jacobson Wife (Faye)	Tail Gunner	825 North 4th St. Cottonwood, AZ, 86326

Your Date of Departure from 306th :

Number of Missions Flown:

If regular USAF retirement date and rank:

Other information:



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England - September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611-1942

17 Jan 1996

Dear Russ:

I will add this note to the material I have on the Milton Bloom and Richard Georgi crew involvement. I explained on the other sheet what transpired on history of the crew.

I told you I had a call from Andy Vangalis on Caveness death and Irv Karpman's wife death. We went to Scott AFB for our medicine the other day and got home about 7 P.M. and as I came into the house I had a phone call and it was George Devak. He was watching TV and was worried about snow here. Well we missed all the snow until last nite and we got around 2 inches so we have been lucky. Our daughter in DuBois, Pa has had about 80 inches so far this year. A couple of years ago they had about 120 inches. I think you have had a LITTLE SNOW.

As for the Bordner's we have a sitting tomorrow at noon for a 50th Anniversary picture. It will not be until 1 Feb 1996 but the kids contacted a photographer and set a time for us. Don't you think Nell was lucky to get me 50 yrs ago!! Russ at Xmas when you are a bod boy you get a LUMP OF COAL for Xmas. Well I must have been real bad I got a lump from my wife and another from my daughter here So I guess I have been real bad. !!!

Russ the last couple of years I have been fighting a hernia problem and it is embarssing to be with people and have to sit down every so often when it hurts. Lately I have been sitting down and pushing it back into place. The Dr has been putting me off the last couple years but on the 19th I have my annual physical and I want something done NOW.

Russ we blew our anniversary money the other day and got a new T.V. and a VCR. The old VCR could tape only 13 channels and would have cost \$ 150 to fix it so we got a new one that handles up to 181 channels but the contols baffles people in the 70's. I know my 14yr old grandson could handle it.

I started this note the other day but in a few minutes I am driving up to O'Hare to put a 20yr granddaughter on the plane for Germany. She goes to Ill Wesleyan and her course gives her 6 month study in Germany. She will be down near Stuttgart. I remember going to Stuttgart Sept 10, 1944. That was the mission flown the morning after the 2 yr party. I thnk I remember more of the scene on the flight line with a lot of people both civilian and military watching us take off.

We got her on the plane but it was a struggle . It is about 150 miles from here to O'Hare and I want to leave not later than 3 P.M.. We finally got off a 4:00 P.M. and I was upset because I had driven th Franklin up there in Sept. and I knew the time it took us. It take over 35 minutes to go from the ticket office to the plane. Well we check in about 7:25 PM and she loaded on 8:00 P.M. that gave us a around 30 mimnutes to spare. That is too close when you have to taravel that far in the Chicago traffic. We got home around 12:00 P.M. Needless Grandpa And Grandma was tired. By the way she called and she got to Frankfort Germany O.K.

Russ Hope you have a nice trip to the Holy Land
my mother had a couple of trips there in her lifetime
We still hope to go to Franklin's but are
dragging our feet until my hernia situation
is clear up.

I am sending some Air Museum bulletins
in another envelope.

until later
Ralph

Milton Bloom & Richard Georgi History

Milton Bloom graduated with the Bombardier School, Class 44-3 from Victorville, CA. 26 Feb 1944. (Hyman Bloom no relation to Milton) also graduated with that class.) At Salt Lake City he was crewed up with Robert Cardon Pilot, Robert Reid co-pilot, and Wm Kaufman navigator. On 4 April 1944 they were assigned to OTU training at Alexandria, La Air Base. I have no record of how long Milton Bloom trained with the crew. You know that in crew training you spent most of your time in ground school or flight training. And you didn't see much of your old bombardier class mate.

Then on 12 Jun 1944 the crew training was finished and Cardon's crew was on orders to Kearney NB. Cardon was still pilot and Reid was CP and Wm. Kaufman was Navigator. but Richard (NMI) Georgi was the bombardier. The skuttle butt was that Milton Bloom dad got him out of the service to come home and help DAD.

Then on 23 Jun 1944 the crew was sent to Camp Kilmer NJ and around 4th of July they were on a ship for England. On SP orders 197 dated 15th June 1944 they were assigned to 306th BG and on 17 Jul 1944 they were assigned to 367th BS. I have no other news on the crew in the 367th BS.

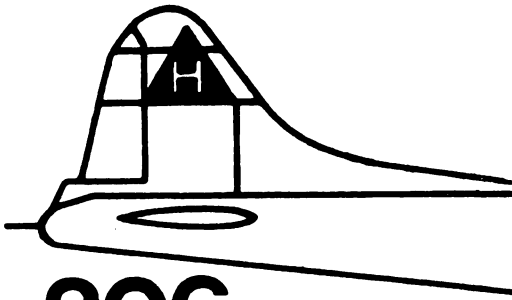
According to lists and 306th history Robert Cardon finished his tour 12-00 -44. Robert Reid was CP for Earl Barr on 12th of Sept 1944 when they were shot down and he was MIA/POW. WM Kaufman was navigator on Howard Balcom's crew Dec 5th mission to Berlin and was KIA when a piece of sharpnel hit him in the head. I have no idea who was CP or Bomb on that crew that day.

As for Richard Georgi I found in the 306th history on SP Orders 266 9 Oct 1944 Para 2. Richard (NMI) Georgi was to meet the Control Med Board and then return back after the meeting. The Control Med Board was not to meet over 30 days.

Para 3. Richard (NMI) was taken off flying status.

Russ I looked at the 306th history from Oct 9, 1944 to Jan 31, 1944 and found no other mention or orders on Richard Georgi.

Russ do have the names of the crew on the Howard Balcom crew that day other than Wm. Kaufman.



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

10 Sept 1996

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611-1942

Dear Russ:

Nell and I hope you didn't get rained out by hurricane FRAN. I presume you got some rain out of it. Lillian who lives in western Penn (Dubois) got a little extra rain out of it. I see Hortense hit Puerto Rico this A.M. Ralph III future wife's grandmother lives there. We could use some of the rain up here. We are over 3 inches behind on rain and watering up here is very expensive.

I finally got my reservation in to the 306th for the reunion. I beat the penalty deadline. I have also received my material back from them. Besides you calling on our reservation a CHARLES NIBLACK called me from Houston the other day. He noticed our name was not on the list in the last Echoes. The Franklins name was on it because Hennessey bought their reservations for the reunion. As for Niblack, He was a first pilot and Bumgardner was his co-pilot and they lived in our barracks. He got their around D-Day and went home in early Oct. So I was in his barracks about 2½ months but did not know him too well. I think I got a call many years ago about some medical problems he was having and if he could get any free benefit from the military. So I was shock Sunday when Nell answered the phone and she said a Charles Niblack was on the phone. Beside mentioning that our name was not on the list, He rambled on about the missions he flew etc. He also was interested in finding any film on the mission he flew. I told him I didn't think many movie camera were used by the crews on the missions. I told him about Wendell Hull film but he was not interested. I asked him if he was going to the reunion and he was not sure. You know he and Bumgardner have lived in Houston for many years and their contact over that time has been a few phone calls. He seemed to have no interst in the old B-17 or flying . Enough maybe in another 10 yrs I will get another phone call from him.

We had a phone call from the Franklins Sunday. They were just checking with us. They informed us of their arrical time in Pittsburgh on Oct 14. After we pick them up they want to have dinner with the Fosters who live in East Palatime OH . They don't get in until 3:45 P.M. and after they claim their luggage and then have dinner, it will run us a little late getting up to DuBois that nite. Last year they went to the Foster's on their arrival and we picked them up later. Larry Foster health has detêriorated and has trouble breathing (on oxygen a lot) They were unable to go to Knoxville last year and Vegas is out of the question. My daughter doesn't like the idea of me driving a long way at nite and it is in Oct and not daylight svng time. So we will see how it goes.

ALWAYS FIRST

FIRST OVER GERMANY

Ralph Franklin said he got a call the other day from Casey Jones. It seems Luise Jones is going to Germany to see her folks and Casey is coming over to England. He said he would be in England from Oct 1st to 15th and would like to stay with the Franklins. The Franklins leave for the U.S. on the 14th and have to have some time to pack because they will be gone a month. How about that an SELF-INVITED GUEST. He will not be leaving until after the Franklins leave. Casey could rent a place but Casey is very poor and has no money!!!!!! Ralph found a place next door where he will stay while in England because Casey could not get up Ralph narrow and steep stairs. Nell said she would have a fit if some one pulled that on her when she was getting ready to leave for a month. Casey probably didn't want to go with Luise and just decided to go to England. He also wants the Franklins stay awhile with them in Vegas but Ralph informed him he was with the Bordner's and they were leaving after the reunion. I always knew Casey had a lot of nerve and tight with his money but I didn't realize that he had that much nerve and was that tight. Enough. Maybe he will come over to the Strongs!!!

Inclosed two pictures one of swearing of Ralph E. Bordner III into the A.F. and the other one of the sign that hung in the FOX . Ralph Franklin son Graham got it the night the FOX closed. He made me a copy of it. I tried to take picture of it in the frame and all picture had a glare and then I took it out of the frame and the close ups I cut some of the subject off but the other one not so close were O.K. Ralph Franklin said you were getting ready to print the next Echoes so I am inclosing these pictures. Hope you can use them.

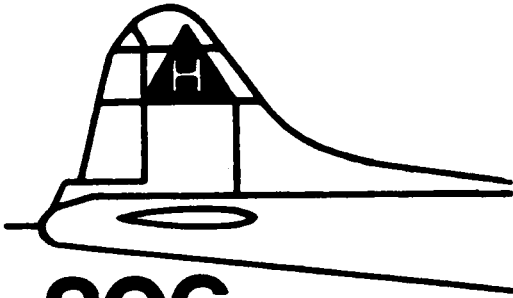
How is the reservations for Vegas coming along. I think I told you about Carlile not being able to come. Lee Kessler wrote me the other day and said he was going to come but Peg is not coming this year. I am looking forward to see Sam Hatton again. The last time that Sam Hatton, Reg Thayer, Don Ross and Ralph Bordner was the middle of Feb 1944 when Ralph Bordner went home.

I will close for now. I don't know our schedule with th Franklins. We plan to stop at the AF Museum on the way here frpm Pittsburgh. I know he wants to see Wendover and we want to see Grandson in Colorado Springs. He is at Falcon AFB where they monitor the communication satellites. They used their satellites in the guidance of the missiles shost at Iraq the other day. He has a 2 bedroom Apt and we can stay ther while visiing the sights of Colorado Springs. Also our reservations at the Riveria start on the 27th. We pick them up on the 14th and should be home no later than the 17th. We will probably spend one day at the museum. If you need to call Ralph Franklin we have an answering service or he might want to call you

If I missed any thing I will write more later. How about a copy of the list to people going to the reunion. Thanks. Nell says Hi

Health wise Nell last
mammogram was O.K +
it will be 3 yrs in place
since operation We are
happy about the news.

Until Later
Ralph & Nell



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

7 Oct 1996

Ralph E. Bordner
131 E. Autumn Lane
East Peoria, IL 61611-1942

Dear Russ: I will include a note with these pictures of an accident on Aug 8th 1944. I flew my first navigation that day with Chris Christensen and it was Chris's last mission. I will not go into the details but it was a messed up mission from the start. It was one short easy mission to France, I think we took off around 11 A.M. and a lot of wheels were flying. When we got back we had to circle so they could clean up the runway. One of the reasons was a 423 bird piloted by Freeze running into J.J. Allen of 368th. J.J. was a friend who lived in our barracks. I think I flew 3 or 4 missions with him. He came over as Gwynne Boswell co-pilot and later he had his own crew. When J.J. finished his tour he signed up for Peaslee weather birds flying P-51. We flew him down to Thetford to join the outfit. I found out later he was killed on a weather mission.

Russ, Orval Cook was crew member of Boswell and J.J. Allen crew and on Aug 8th to Caen he was flying with J.J. Allen when Freeze ran into them. Since Orval has been coming to the reunion we have become good friends, He was on the Alaska Cruise.

Last year he brought a lot of photos taken of the accident of Aug 8th and he asked me if I would try to identify some of the crew. The local copy people made me some enlargements and I was going to bring to the reunion. So I have large copies of the accident.

Well the list of attendees on Sept 15th threw that idea out of the window. The list had Katherine Cook 368W. What a shock! We sent Katherine a belated sympathy card to her.

Russ I am including two pictures of the accident. Do you have the crew lists for J.J. Allen and Freeze that day? I would like a copy of the crew lists. I know Nababedian was on Freeze's crew. I am particularly interested in J.J. Allen's crew that is shown in the picture enclosed.

Russ I have been in contact with Ed Hennessey this year on motel arrangements and other things on the reunion for the Franklins. And we have Casey Jones's name come up.

A few weeks ago Houlihan informed me that Casey Jones informed him that the Franklins were going to stay a week with him after the reunion. What a surprise! I am driving them to the reunion, what am I going to do while they stay with Casey. I am driving them to and from the reunion. Well I asked Ralph about it and he did not know anything about it. He said he was going and coming to the reunion with us. Well the next week Ralph Franklin called and said Casey would have room for us. Luise was leaving for Germany the 1st of Nov. I guess he thinks Nell and Daphne could cook for him.

Russ the Franklin's leave OHare on the 12th of Nov And it is around 1,800 miles one way and they want to be back a few days before going home. So I can't se where we have time to play around in Vegas. I have a step sister in Pasedena and would have enjoying seeing them. I can't see where we have timeto amke the trip. We went out there after Vegas in 88

Russ I got a copy the firing letter of the Hospitality chairman (Casey Jones) by Ed Hennseesy. I also got a 3 page letter from Hennessey explaining some other things the Casey has pulled to save money . Ed says that POOR Casey has only 4 pensions etc. I think he and Luise have condo's in Germany and Hawaii. Also I think he and Luise had air line point for free air fare and if they did not use them now they lose them. So Luise went to Germany and Casey didn't want to go so he decided to go to the Franklins. What a treat for Daphne to have a visitor for two weeks before they come to the states. In fact they leave the 14th and Casey doesn't leave until the 15th. Nell says it take a lot of never to come in on some one who is getting ready for a months trip to the states. Ed say it hurt becasue he has known Casey for 53 yrs. I think Casey is still burning over NO PAY for the the treasurer. How about all the years we got nothing when forming the 306 Assoc?

Enough for now I just wanted to let you know our position Casey Jones problem. Ed paid reunion dues and the trip to Red Rock Canyon for the Franklin's not Casey Jones. I signed them up for the Riveria and have paid for their first nite. So as I said earlier Nell and I would like to steer clear of Casey and his free loading.

As for us staying with Casey after the reunion, Even if we had the time Nell and I do not want to be in the middle of 306 and Casey Jones. We remember how Casey acted in London, He was supposed to be at your busines meeting. We were near him when he got the call about the businees meeting. Then after the call he decided not to go. Then the Seattle deal when he didn't get his way on money. Russ I don't think you are one of Casey Jones favorie person!! Enough

Our rough schedule. We meet the Franklins on the 14th at Pittsburgh. Then an ovenite with daughter and family we head for A.F. Museum and then on E.Peoria. We hope to leave around the 20 or 21 for Vegas. We plan a short visit at Colorado Springs to visit 2nd Lt Ralph E. Bordner stationed at Falcon AFB but has a two bedroom apt for us to stay. From there on to Vegas arriving on the 27 of Oct.

Enough hope you can help me with the crew lists. a

*Until later
Ralph*

13 Dec 1995

Hi

Will put in short note. We are getting ready for Dec 20 trip to Orlando for Dec 28 wedding of Sanela Pons + 2nd Lt Ralph E. Bordner III at Disney Chapel - Hope to be home mid January.

We got back here on Nov 6 (2,000 miles) + put them on the plane Nov 12. That trip home OK. - No snow at Flagstaff like you people had going out.

We had fun with the 25" x 25" plaque. It fit in the truck with all the luggage wrapped in big towel. We took it in every nit in the motel. Ralph F + I finally called it "Madonna" because of the tender treatment of it. They got it home OK.

Russ we went along with the Franklins to Casey Jones dinner. There was Ray York there that nit. We didn't want to hurt the Franklins' feeling + we went along that nit. The "Poor" Casey Jones house was very nice. Casey kept talking about all the free meals he gets during the week. Russ did put out a very nice meal. Enough of that

I am including a couple of photos.
One of the 4 some Ross, Beckner, Haye
& Hallon.

Ralph Frantz lin sent me the
one of the plaque they took here.

I have photos from Houli & Sam
Hallon. Regt Haye & Don Ross Camera
were not working so I am sending
some copies to them.

As for reunion - Hotel was just too
big & social rooms should have been
open at night. But all in all it
was nice. We had been to Hoover Dam
& Grand Canyon but we went on Rock
Canyon. We stopped at a museum of the
Area & that was nice & the meal at
L. Bombardier was very good.

I hope Houli didn't send you a picture
of Ralph B sleeping on bus. I was just
resting my eyes not sleeping.

I will class for now. A lot of things to
do before Dec 20 & trip to Florida. I hope
next year will be slower. But 2 high school
graduation & 2 College graduation doesn't
seem like it will be a slow start
You'll have a nice holiday.

Ralph Hall