

# Bedford ENGLAND

Friendly invaders take a trip down memory lane,  
50 ANNIVERSARY

Russel A Strong,

I just recieved from the Bedfordshire Times Service  
from my relations my name is Cynthia Barrozza.

I I WAR BRIDE + Jim writing these few lines for him.  
my Husband was Stationed at Thurleigh 306 Bomb Group  
8th Air Force. He was a Ball Turret Gunner. Staff Sergeant  
423rd Bomb Squadron, here is what he has to say  
I do remember Snuffy Smith because I flew.  
Five of his missions + got busted for it. Snuffy  
+ him was very good friends.

I remember very well a mission that Snuffy  
flew on, when he got the medal of honor.

We were flying to the left of Snuffy when the  
plane was hit. The last thing Snuffy did in order to  
put out the fire, he urinated on it + we all laughed  
about it.

We all got tired of Saluting the new officers  
on the field so Snuffy decided, to put a  
stop to it. he would walk pass the officers  
Quarters + wear his medal of honor so the  
officers would salute the medal + not Snuffy  
thats how he solved the problem, of Saluting  
the officers all the time.

Snuffy also married an English girl from  
Bedford.

9.

I remember Captain Check on his 25th mission  
I was his Ball Turret operator that day  
coming in for a landing, we sent up red flares  
claiming that a dead person was aboard,  
when we landed in Thuleigh, they carried  
Captain Check's Body out & the head was missing  
they sent me back to see where the head was.  
I found the head & put it in the Bomb site Bag  
& carried it out.

I get sick everytime I think of it,  
And the news of the write up brought back a lot  
of memories. on 17th mission I was transferred  
from my crew, which were all officers & one  
enlisted man. on a raid over Bremen.  
that was the mission that I lost my crew.  
they all ended up in a prisoner of war  
camp

I would like to have a copy 1st of Germany  
a copy of the Book at your earliest  
convenience. Thank you.

Respectfully  
Al BARROZZA  
604 West Bridge Street  
Parkesburg PA 19365.

*most of date is inaccurate*  
*AS*

## THE 306<sup>TH</sup> ECHOES

Obituary for Staff Sergeant Alfred James Carrozza - Belly gunner Thurleigh 8<sup>th</sup> AF - 1<sup>st</sup> Division, 40<sup>th</sup> CBW, 306<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group (H), 423<sup>rd</sup> Squadron. \* Flew 50 missions - 1<sup>st</sup> Mission - May 13, 1943 - Last Mission October 14, 1943

Died 'D' Day, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2001, age 78, in Ojai California. Al was born, lived and raised 6c, who had 7gc, in Southeastern (Coatesville) Pennsylvania. His wife from, Bedford England, Cynthia Ena Pill, Carrozza preceded Al in death on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2000.

### METALS AWARDED

*\* Awarded Air Metal \* Distinguished Flying Cross w/two clusters\* Purple Heart \* French Croix de Guirre (sp?)*

### FOUR 4 - CONFIRMED KILLS & 2 DAMAGED -

12<sup>th</sup> Mission *ship # 841 DESTROYED ONE FW 190* 14<sup>th</sup> Mission *ship # 841 1<sup>st</sup> trip to Norway by the "USAAF"* 25<sup>th</sup> Mission *ship # 892- DESTROYED TWO FW 190 confirmed & damaged ONE ME 110 [wounded in left foot]*

26<sup>th</sup> Mission *bombed FW plant, Kassel, Germany ship # 963 RECEIVED Purple Heart-* 28<sup>th</sup> Mission *ship # 941 bombed Russia airfield - 1<sup>ST</sup> BY THE American AF.* 32<sup>nd</sup> Mission *ship # 221 bombed Renault Works-received French Croix de Guirre*

45<sup>th</sup> Mission *bombed repair depot, France ship # 221 got a Jerry ME 109 Yellow Nose- DESTROYED - Three crewmembers, Pete, Robby & Bob also got one each.* 49<sup>th</sup> Mission *ship # 945 Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>, 1944 lost half of right wing and had a crushed ball turret.*

50<sup>th</sup> Mission *Schweinfurt ball bearing plant ship # 812 Black Thursday, Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>, 1943, plane received [20 hits-w/one clear through the ball turret]*

Info compiled by Al's son Allen from diaries, notes and metal certifications. I hope it is accurate. For additional info call 1.800.232.8009-Allens office in Ventura, California.

*Allen*