

G-F-E-H

G-O-N-A-L-S-O-R-T

13

NAME: GIBSON, OSCAR (P) RANK: S/SGT. A.S.N.: 35710156
 DUTY: Aerial Gunner. GROUP: 306th SQUADRON: 367th

CONFIDENTIAL

Date of Mission	Group Mission Number	Indiv. Mission Number	Geographical Location Targets	Time	Total Combat Time
Oct. 25, 1944.		1	Harburg, Germany.	7:45	
Nov. 2, 1944.		2	Merseberg, Germany.	8:00	
4		3	Harburg, Germany.	8:00	
5		4	Frankfurt, Germany.	8:00	
6		5	Hamburg, Germany.	8:10	
8		Abandon		4:30	
21		6	Meppen, Germany.	7:15	
26		7	Misburg, Germany.	8:05	
29		8	Misburg, Germany.	7:25	
Dec. 5, 1944.		9	Berlin, Germany.	8:30	
6		10	Merseberg, Germany.	9:05	
11		11	Frankfurt, Germany.	9:05	
12		12	Merseberg, Germany.	9:30	
15		13	Kassel, Germany.	7:10	
18		14	Kaiserslautern, Germany.	6:45	
24		15	Giessen, Germany.	7:50	
28		16	Koblenz, Germany.	6:20	
29		17	Bingen, Germany.	8:00	
30		18	Mainz, Germany.	8:00	
Jan. 1, 1945.		19	Limberg, Germany.	7:45	
3		20	Hermulheim, Germany.	7:15	
5		21	Niedermendig, Germany.	5:40	
6		22	Koln, Germany.	6:40	
7		23	Urskirchen, Germany.	7:45	
10		24	Gymnich, Germany.	7:20	
14		25	Koln, Germany.	7:00	
15		26	Freiburg, Germany.	8:00	
17		27	Bieläfeld, Germany.	8:00	
20		28	Rheime, Germany.	6:30	
21		29	Aschaffenburg, Germany.	8:25	
28		30	Koln, Germany.	7:00	
29		31	Koblenz, Germany.	8:00	
Feb. 9, 1945.		32	Mentersoda, Germany.	8:55	
14		33	Dresden, Germany.	8:25	
16		34	Dortmund, Germany.	7:30	
20		35	Nurnberg, Germany.	8:00	275:40

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Thomas F. Witt

THOMAS F. WITT
 Major, AG
 Operations Officer,
 306th Bomb Gp. (H)

CONFIDENTIAL

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HEADQUARTERS, GRENIER FIELD
1377 AAF BASE UNIT (NAD, ATC)
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SECRET
AUTH: CO GF
9-8-44

OPERATIONS ORDERS)

E X T R A C T

NO. 36

8 September 1944

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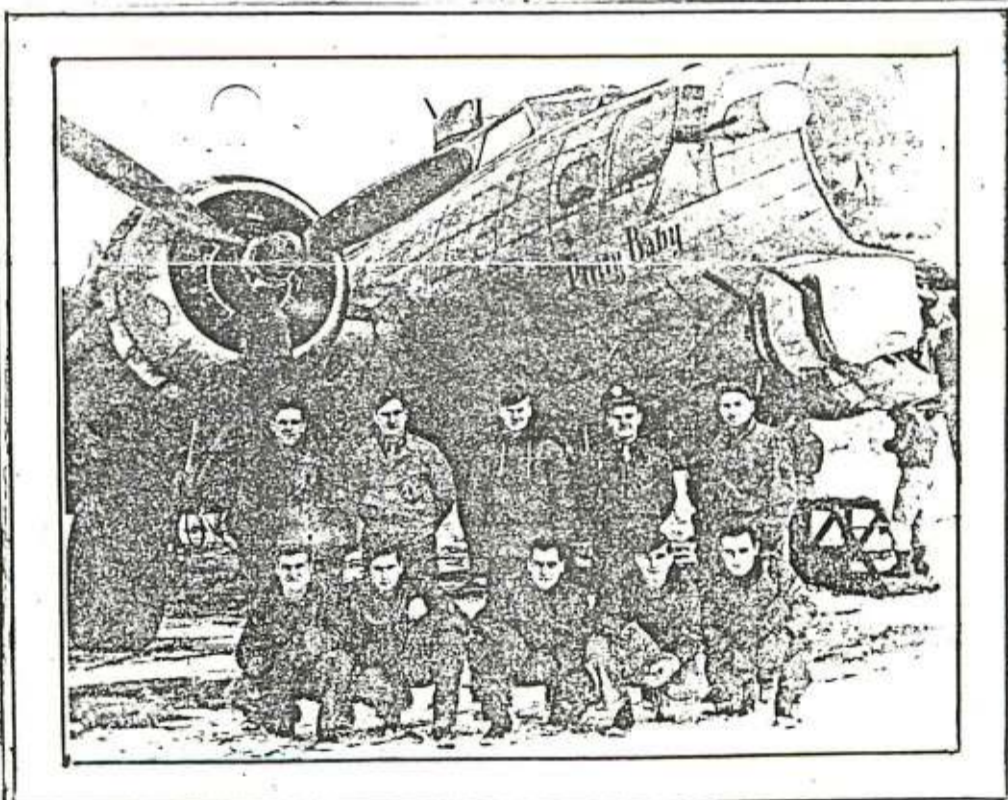
20. The following named crew will be flown by air in the aircraft as indicated below at the proper time from Grenier Field, Manchester, New Hampshire, via North Atlantic Route to the European Theatre of Operations, London, England, reporting upon arrival thereat to the Commander, 8th Air Force Service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

Shipment No. FK- -BJ-42
B-17G

Project No. 92803-R
Crew No. FK- -BJ-42

APO No. 16500-BJ-42
#44-8249

2nd Lt.	HODGES, SHELBY D., JR.	0825871	(P)
2nd Lt.	PAWELKE, RICHARD F.	0715312	(OP)
2nd Lt.	QUAN, WALTER	02056465	(N)
2nd Lt.	HEMENWAY, NATHANIEL O.	0723794	(B)
Cpl.	Pacchioni, Victor	33603353	(EG)
Cpl.	DeZolt, Silvio Peter ("Pete")	33429833	(AEG)
Cpl.	Rohinsky, Alton	11095627	(ROG)
Cpl.	Gibson, Oscar	35710156	(AROG)
Cpl.	McConnaughey, Norman W.	39207707	(AG)
Cpl.	Menzie, Forrest Dale ("Cy")	35895135	(AAG)



TOP ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT
SILVIO P. DeZOLT, RICHARD F. PAWELKE,
NATHANIEL O. HEMENWAY, SELBY D. HODGES,
AND JOHN HAZEL (Ground Crew Chief).

SECOND ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT
FORREST D. MENZIE, NORMAN W. McCONN-
AUGHEY, ALTON ROHINSKY, OSCAR GIBSON,
VICTOR PACCHIONI.

The Navigator, WALTER QUAN, not shown.

Photograph by courtesy of Oscar Gibson
2/26/1984 letter to James K. Young, Jr.,
431 S. New St., Springfield, Ill., 62704.

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Oscar Gibson
251 Silent Brook
Millington, Tenn., 38053

26 February 1984

Mr. James H. Young, Jr.
431 1/2 South New Street,
Springfield, Ill., 62704,

Dear Kim: -

Do I remember you! How could I forget?
You were among my favorite characters of
World War II,

When I received your letter a couple of
days ago I must have read it and all the
other enclosed material at least six times.
It has been so long ago (40 years) that I
felt kind of spooky while reading through
it. I have thought of you and the other
Group members many times over these
passing years and wondered if anyone
ever thought of me.

I will remember you Roy Mitchell, Joe
Regulla, Stewart, "Jesty" Krede, Bob Search &
George L. Hatch just like it was yesterday.
Vic Paccioni, Alton Robinson, Forrest Dale
("Guy") Menzie were members of my crew.
I simply do not know where Menzie is
today but he got out of World War II alive
and well. Norman McConaughy also was
on our crew. You left him out of those
listed living in our Quonset hut's bunk
arrangement. He slept directly opposite you,
on my side of the hut.

Silvio ("Pete") DeZalt was on our crew
until we reached England. There they re-
duced the number of waist gunners from
two to one, and Pete was either assigned
to another crew or flew with others as
needed. Enclosed is a listing for our
crew, which includes Pete. Also enclosed
is a picture of my crew and a list of
the missions I flew.

I really enjoyed reading Mitch's letter.
Thanks for sending it. I also remember his
bicycle - one small wheel & basket over it.

We did use it for swiping coal from the compounds.

My Millington address is misleading. I live adjacent Shelby Forest State Park, about 11 miles SW of Millington but Millington is my Zip Code. I live 8 miles NW of Memphis. I'd like to find out something about the old Chickasaw Ordnance Works for you.

I was discharged in Oct. 1945 & returned to my hometown & birthplace, Hickman, Ky. Your memory serves correct. I went to college a few months. Then I quit in July, 1946, going to work for Army Corps of Engineers, Memphis, where I still am. Counting my Army service, I'll have 40 years service January 2nd, 1985.

About 6 months ago a couple of men delivered some furniture at home. One saw a B-17 photo hanging on the wall & asked me if I was AAF service. I explained about the 5th OAF, & he said a friend would like to have my name & address. Shortly after I got a copy of the 306th Bomb Group Echoes. That's how the publisher located me.

I was married for about 10 years but am now free-lancing.

I am in excellent health and like old Ray Mitchell I play a lot of golf. But, unlike him, I have to play with ugly men and not pretty chicks.

Kim, I am glad that you got in touch with me. Do by all means let me hear from you again.

Sincerely,

OSCAR ("HOOT") GIBSON

Enclosures.

June 14, 1993

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed is a copy of a photograph of the crew of Shelby D. Hodges of the 367th. You may keep the photograph

Back Row - Left to Right

SILVIO P. DEZOLT

RICHARD F. PAWELKE

NATHANIEL O. HEMENWAY

SHELBY D. HODGES

THIS MAN WAS THE CREW CHIEF AND I
THINK HIS NAME WAS ELMER FREY

FRONT ROW - LEFT TO RIGHT

FORREST D. MENZIE

NORMAN W. MCCONNAUGHEY

ALTON ROHINSKY

OSCAR GIBSON

VICTOR PACCHIONI

Also enclosed is the Operations Orders on which the crew traveled to England.

Sincerely yours,
Oscar Gibson

HEADQUARTERS, GRENIER FIELD
1377 AAF BASE UNIT (NAD, ATC)
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SECRET
AUTH: CO-GF
9-8-44
8 September 1944

OPERATIONS ORDERS)

NO 36

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This is a PERMANENT change of station.

Except as may be necessary in the transaction of official business, individuals are prohibited from discussing their overseas destination even by shipment number. They will not file safe arrival telegrams with commercial agencies while enroute and at domestic or overseas destinations.

In lieu of subsistence a flat per diem of seven dollars (\$7.00) is authorized for travel and for periods of temporary duty enroute to final destination when necessary for officers and flight officers, in accordance with existing law and regulations. Payment of mileage is not authorized. Such times as the individual is billeted and subsisted, as outlined in WD Memorandum W-35-2-42, 30 Sept. 1942, his per diem will be suspended.