

## JONNA DOOLITTLE HOPPES



Jonna Doolittle Hoppes is a successful author and journalist. Her first book, *Calculated Risk: The Extraordinary Life of Jimmy Doolittle*, is a memoir of her famous grandfather, aviator Jimmy Doolittle, and his equally extraordinary wife, Joe. It has been nominated for a Colby Award by the Pritzker Military Library.

Hoppes, a granddaughter of famed aviator Jimmy Doolittle (1896-1993), has written a loving joint memoir of her beloved Gramps and his wife, Joe. Relying on conversations with her father, memories of her grandparents, extensive letters they wrote, and secondary sources, Hoppes tells a well-known story. She focuses on Jimmy's stunning achievements in test flying and engineering and, of course, the remarkable raid he led on Tokyo in 1942. Hoppes portrays Jimmy's wife as the ultimate helpmate who devotes her life to her husband and his career. The author doesn't always sugarcoat, however, and covers information not included in Doolittle's own autobiography, *I Could Never Be So Lucky Again*.

Ms. Hoppes currently represents the Doolittle family at air shows across the country and is a popular speaker at libraries and air museums. Her articles have appeared in Smithsonian's Air and Space Magazine as well as other publications. She is also Chair of the Literary Guild of Orange County, California and is a member of Sisters in Crime, a mystery writers' organization. In addition, she works as a civilian for the U.S. Air Force and lives in Southern California.

*Divna Lee / Anneel Poaces  
Reunions*

# EIGHTH AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## ANNUAL REUNION 2007



"By MUTUAL CONFIDENCE AND MUTUAL AID,  
GREAT DEEDS ARE DONE, AND GREAT DISCOVERIES MADE;  
THE WISE NEW PRUDENCE FROM THE WISE ACQUIRE,  
AND ONE BRAVE HERO SAVES ANOTHER'S FIRE."

HOMER *The Iliad*

## 33rd ANNUAL REUNION GALA BANQUET 21 July 2007

**RADISSON PLAZA HOTEL AND SUITES  
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN**



WELCOME TO THE  
**Thirty-Third Annual**  
**REUNION of**



**The Eighth Air Force**  
**Historical Society**  
**GALA BANQUET**

.....

**The General Ira C. Eaker**  
**Outstanding Airmanship Trophy**

This prestigious award is being presented to an EC-130H Aircrew of the 455<sup>th</sup> Air Expeditionary Wing, Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, while assigned for combat duty during OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM.

- Lieutenant Colonel Allan D. Hanson**
- Major Benjamin J. Tabor**
- Captain Douglas R. Brader**
- \*Captain Mathew J. Bubar**
- \*1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant John D. Gilbert**
- Master Sergeant Bill F. McCaleb**
- Staff Sergeant John J. Sanks**
- Senior Airman Karl J. Peterson**

**\*\*Awards will be presented later at their unit.  
 Capt Bubar and Lt Gilbert are currently deployed.**

**The Pursuit of Excellence**  
**(Maintenance) Award**

This distinguished recognition for extraordinary maintenance achievement is presented to an Outstanding Maintenance Professional Airman, assigned to the 9<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 9<sup>th</sup> Reconnaissance Wing, Beale AFB, California.

**Staff Sergeant Saint Stephen W. Sluder II**

**8TH AFHS GALA BANQUET PROGRAM**  
**21 July 2007**

**CALL TO DINNER**

WELCOME.....President Ivan McKinney  
 PRESENTATION OF COLORS.....Military or Boy Scouts Color Guard  
 THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.....Sung by *The Boogie Woogie Babes*  
 .....with THE TOM HAGEN SWING BAND  
 RETIREMENT OF COLORS.....Military or Boy Scouts Color Guard  
 INVOCATION.....Chaplain Mason Shambach, 110<sup>th</sup> ANG FW  
 INTRODUCTION OF HEAD TABLE.....President McKinney  
 CANDLELIGHT CEREMONY.....Belton Wolf

**DINNER IS SERVED**

RECOGNITIONS.....President McKinney  
 EIGHTH AIR FORCE AWARDS CEREMONY.....Colonel Michael R. Shultz,  
 .....8<sup>th</sup> AF Director of Staff

**PRESENTATION OF AWARDS**

**GUEST SPEAKER**

Jonna Doolittle Hoppes, Author  
 Granddaughter of General Jimmy Doolittle, Commander 8th AF 1944-1945

ACULAR  ACULAR PF

ACULAR AND ACULAR PF ARE TRADEMARKS OF ACULAR SYSTEMS, INC. © 2011

There is a gold  
In Hoop's picture



ELMER "RED" HEAP  
PILOT IN 3 WARS  
WWII, KOREA & VIETNAM



A HISTORY OF THE 306th BOMBARDMENT GROUP - EIGHTH AIR FORCE  
Russell A. Strong

Name Elmer L. Heap Lt. Col./Ret.  
Address Box 724 Emmett, Idaho 83617  
Home Phone 208-365-6215 Date 1 October 1979  
Occupation Ret/USAF/Boise Cascade Employer Boise Cascade  
Address Emmett, Idaho Bus. Phone 208-365-4431 Ext. 249  
Serial No(s) <sup>EM.</sup> 6588746 AO-675214 EV-675214

Service Record:

Before joining the 306th:

Enlisted: Jan 22, 1940 - Moffett Field, Calif - Armament P-36's) Assigned to Lowery Field, Colo. as an Armament Instructor after Scott Field etc;  
Cadets: July 1942 - Graduated - Class March 43 as pilot. Trained: Gowen Field, Pyote Tex, Amarillo, Moses Lake, and Walla Walla. Overseas with Eisman Prov. Group. Thurleigh in October 43.

After leaving the 306th:

Armament Officers School, Buckley Field - Armament Officer - Great Bend, Kan & Mtn. Home. Civilian from 1945 until Korean Conflict. Returned to Service; another Field Calif T-29's - Japan - Three years - Operation Officer & pilot C-47 - Hamilton Kelly Field. 3 years - C-124's - 19th Log Group. Hurlburt & Eglin AFB - 6 years - Vietnam - 1 ACU 1962 - Eglin until retirement 1968. as Ops. Officer - Retired as Lt. Col. Jan 31, 1968.

Arrival date at Thurleigh October 1943

Squadron or other unit(s) 423

MOS # \_\_\_\_\_ Specialty Pilot

Missions Completed (and date of last) "26" - Apr 19, 1944

Promotions 1st Lt & Capt.

Decorations 1AM 13olcs 1DFC 1olcs SS DSM DSC MH SM PH Battle Stars

(On unusual DFCs, and Silver Stars and above would like to see a copy of the citation)



Other personal data:

(560 Combat)

Retired with 28 years - 7200 hours pilot,  
Command Pilot of Inst. Pilot. Time in Emmett with  
my wife. Correspond with some of my crews;  
J.P. Shutz, Phil. Langon, Saul Kupferman, and  
Hal MacIntyre.

Description of Air Missions:

(What were the highlights of your combat career? What was your  
role? What heroics did you witness? What events were there of  
which you have special knowledge?)

Call me anytime - That would be easier.

Note: Will send with this some of the info.  
You are looking for. Congratulations and  
keep up the good work. There were so  
many good, hard working, wonderful guys  
at Thurleigh, it would be hard, if not  
impossible, to single out a few.

John L. Hoag  
Lt/Col - Ret.

Note # 2: Our plane was the "Paper Doll." We  
got it new after the plane we started out  
with went down (Quitcherbitcher). That's another  
story.

(3)

HEADQUARTERS 305TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) (A-29)  
Office of the Commanding Officer  
United States Forces

APO 557,  
19 April, 1944.

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Re-assignment of ELMER L. HEAP, Captain,  
O-675214.

TO : Whom It May Concern.

1. Subject Officer has completed 194;15 hours of Combat Flying as a Pilot and Flight Commander. He has completed a total of twenty-six (26) combat missions, and credited with an additional four (4) missions as determined by Ltr, Eighth Air Force, File 221, 4 March 1944, Subj: "Relief of Combat Crew Personnel" and Memorandum 35-1, Eighth Air Force, 4 March 1944. During the course of his missions he destroyed no Enemy Aircraft and has been decorated or is eligible for the following decorations:

Air Medal	Five Missions
Oak Leaf Cluster	Ten Missions
Oak Leaf Cluster	Fifteen Missions
Distinguished Flying Cross	Extraordinary Achievement
Oak Leaf Cluster	Twenty Missions
Oak Leaf Cluster to the DFC	Twenty-five Missions


2. Subject Officer's performance of duty is rated by his Commanding Officer as Excellent.

3. Assignment of subject Officer: Immaterial.

*George L. Robinson*  
GEORGE L. ROBINSON,  
Colonel, Air Corps,  
Commanding.



## Notes:

1. Record of missions. Notice who signed it.
2. Award notice: Maybe you know some of these people.
3. Recommendations for Re-Assignment  
You will notice that had an excellent record, but the assignment was "Immaterial." I had a chance to stay over and fly "Mosquitos" but didn't. One of my buddies did and while buzzing his girl friend in Blackburn, England he hit a telephone pole. Capt. Thompson was his name.
4. Squadron Order:
5. Formation Diagram: I was deputy to Lt. Col. Lambert that day. My last mission flew with a PFA pilot from another group. We were hit hard by "Flak." I thought the pilot was well qualified,  so flew in the co-

**Shoemaker Trucking Company**



pilots seat. On the bomb run I looked over at him and he had both hands off the wheel and covering his face. I had to fly the aircraft, feather two engines and call Col. Lambert and ask him to make a turn into base so I could keep up <sup>while</sup> leaving the target. After that, I couldn't keep up, so I came home alone. Made a terrible landing from the right side and called it quite !!!

- 6. Briefing Sheet:
- 7. Special Order:
- 8. Same as above

Note: I hope you enjoy and can use some of this. Hope to hear from you soon.

Your friend:  
"Red" Heep



**Shoemaker Trucking Company**

14 January 1980

LTC Elmer L. Heap  
Box 724  
Emmett, ID 83617

Dear Red:

I want to apologize for not getting back to you sooner, and I hate to be branded an ingrate.

I appreciate the assistance you've sent along by check, as well as the orders and other information.

Last fall I took a new job and had to leave my family in North Carolina, 800 miles away. Finally the house sold and we moved over the holidays, so I am just now getting my study organized, and actually tonight got back to writing on the 306th history. From now on this has to be an almost daily task if I am to get the manuscript done this spring.

Again, many thanks for your help, and you'll have a new issue of Echoes shortly.

Sincerely yours,

Russell A. Strong



# Pilot Survey

Name HEAP, E. L. LTC/RET

Cadet Class 43 C

Adv. Trng. Location <sup>Wellington</sup> Houston TX

# Combat Missions <sup>26-ETD</sup> 300 Hqs VIETNAM

Date leaving 306th May 1944

Rank on leaving 306th Captain

Did you fly with the Casey Jones  
Project in 1945-46? No

Send to: Russell Strong  
5232 Cheval Place  
Charlotte, NC 28205

June 8, 1989

Dear Russell,

Enclosed \$10<sup>00</sup> for a contribution  
to the 306<sup>th</sup> Echoes personnel that  
keep the paper coming. —

(As a request, would you  
please send me the address  
of Calvin Brend (POW, Fight bravely  
Battle for Survival). Would appreciate  
it very much.

Thank you,

Heep



08-01-94

Dear Russ,

Read in the Echoes  
of Harry McIntyre's death.  
I have not been able to  
contact any of my crew  
as to what his address  
is. Would you mind send-  
ing me the family  
address so as I can  
send my condolences.

Hope you and your  
family are well and you  
enjoy the Des Moines re-union.  
I'm having both hips replaced  
with Titanium ones so  
will be close to home for some  
time. Thanks, Elmer "Red" Hepp



(7)

O-P-E-R-A-T-I-O-N-A-L S-O-R-T-I-E R-E-C-O-R-D-S

NAME SILVER L. BEAP SQUADRON 423rd Bombardment Squadron (H)  
 RANK Captain GROUP 306th Bombardment Group (H)  
 DUTY Pilot SERIAL NUMBER 0-675214

Date	Group Mission Number	Individ Mission Number	R-E-M-A-R-K-S	Time	Total Time
1943					
Nov. 25	86	1	BREMEN	5:40	
Dec. 1	87	2	LEYERHUSEN	7:00	
11	89	3	EMDEN	6:45	
13	90	4	KIEL	7:40	
15	91	5	BREMEN	7:30	
22	93	6	OSNABRUCK	5:50	
24	94	7	FRANCE (Special Target)	4:10	
30	95	8	LUDWIGSHAVEN	8:00	
1944					
Jan. 5	98	9	KIEL	8:15	
		10	LUDWIGSHAVEN	7:00	
11	100	11	HALBERSTADT	8:20	
14	101	12	NO BALL #72	4:00	
21	102	13	NO BALL	4:30	
29	103	14	FRANKFURT	7:30	
30	104	15	BRUNSWICK	7:05	
Feb. 20	111	16	LEIPZIG	9:30	
21	112	17	HOFSTEN	7:10	
28	116	18	NO BALL	4:45	
Mar. 2	117	19	FRANKFURT	8:15	
4	- -	- -	Abandoned	3:10	
8	121	20	BERLIN	8:45	
9	122	21	BERLIN	9:15	
15	- -	25	VIII A F Memo #35-1		
18	124	25	LECHELD	8:40	
22	125	27	BERLIN	9:05	
29	132	28	BRUNSWICK	8:55	
Apr. 15	135	29	BERLIN	9:00	
19	138	30	KASSEL	7:30	
				TOTAL	193.15

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

TOY B. HUSBAND  
 Captain, AC,  
 Asst. Group Officer.



Command Pilot

MAR 1961 — Retired Jan 1968

Pictures enclosed — thought you  
might enjoy them —

Heup

DATE PREPARED 07 DEC 67

PCN 3281

INDIVIDUAL FLIGHT RECORD

PAGE X 1

AS/CF 30 NOV 67

HEAP ELMER L

MAJ FV00675214

D 4420

TAC 4410CCTWG 1Y VCO47D SI A 3

T FTEV

DATE	M/D/S	MSN SYM	DUTY POS	TOTAL	D A Y VFR	INST	NIGHT VFR	INST	SIML INST	LANDINGS TYPE AND NR	PENT APPR S W P N	NR OF SORTIES	RKS
11 17	C047D	05	FP	.7 .7*	.7	.	.	.	.	LL C1		1	

	TOTAL	I/PILOT	PILOT	COPILOT	CMD PILOT	AC CMDR	OTHER	CCMBAT	CGM SP
THIS MONTH TO DATE	.7	.0	.7	.0	.0	.0	.C	.C	.C
STUDENT	6973.7	657.3	3701.2	2406.5	31.2	177.5	.C	<del>219.6</del>	.C
CIV /CVER 450/	221.9							409.7	
OTHER US MIL	.0								
FOREIGN MIL	.0								
TOTAL TIME	7195.6								

A 107





Dropping Supplies to the  
Special Forces. 1st ACW  
1963. They called on  
the PRC-10 and requested  
we drop in the truck.  
The 1st ACW complied!!

Sometimes wonder  
why the troops in Bosnia  
scattered their cargo around.  
Probably Terrain & weather  
problems.

HealP

# Three Missions Requested

- ① 11 Jan 1944 / Group Mission # 100 /  
Individ Mission # 11 / Halberstadt

---

- ② 30 Jan 1944 / Group Mission # 104 /  
Individ Mission # 15 / Brunswick

---

- ③ 19 Apr 1944 / Group Mission # 136 /  
Individ Mission # 30 Kassel  
~~it~~

Lt. Col. Elmer L. Hearp  
USAF / Ret  
423rd Bomb Squad  
Serial # O-675214

# 306th PUBLICATIONS

Published materials now available from the Group will help you follow the 306th through the combat period, 1942-5:

## Combat Diaries of the 306th Squadrons

Day-by-day diaries kept by intelligence officers, of the Squadrons' combat activities. More than 150 pages, also including plane and personnel rosters. Plastic bound.

## 306th Echoes, on microfiche

Now available from 1976-1994, with a 41-page index covering those years. Can be viewed at any library.

## Men of the 306th, on microfilm

A role of 16mm film duplicates the 306th card file of nearly 9,000 men, including data extracted from various 306th records, and personal data on some of the men. 1995 edition.

## Mission Reports

Copies of official reports on each mission you flew, including intelligence summaries, track charts, formations and crew interrogation reports. Data for some missions may be missing from the files. Three missions for \$5.

## ORDER FORM

367th Combat Diary	\$17.00	___
368th Combat Diary	\$17.00	___
369th Combat Diary	\$17.00	___
423rd Combat Diary	\$17.00	X
306th ECHOES' Microfiche: 1975-1994	\$15.00	___
1992-1994	\$ 5.00	X
Men of The 306th	\$20.00	___
Casey Jones Project	\$10.00	___

Make check payable to 306th Bomb Group Association (prices quoted include postage and packaging charge)

Name: Lt. Col. Elmer L. Heap USAF/Ret.

Mailing Address: 1508 Emmin #40 Emmett, Idaho 83617

Send to: Secretary, 306th BGA, 5323 Cheval Pl., Charlotte, NC 28205



8 AUG 1963

DR

Letter of Commendation

CAG (DOF/Capt Elmer L. Heap, AO 0675214)

1. Upon completion of your TDY tour in Republic of Vietnam, it is my pleasure to commend you for your outstanding performance as a Deployed Element Commander and Duty Pilot of Detachment 2, 1st Air Commando Group. Your performance was exceptional and very beneficial for the United States Air Force.

2. During your tour you were responsible for providing U. S. Army Special Forces Headquarters and Associated "A" teams with an uncomparable Air Logistic Support capability. Equipped with only two C-47 aircraft, you succeeded in airlifting an average of 17,550 pounds per day. By your tact, diplomacy, initiative and imaginative handling of the many problems you encountered, you insured the successful results of these missions. In admiration and appreciation of this most outstanding support, Colonel George C. Morton, Commander of Army Special Forces in Vietnam made the following statement concerning your activities:

"The mission of the U. S. Army Special Forces cannot possibly be accomplished without the close and magnificent support rendered by your personnel. All of your Commandoes here in Vietnam have the admiration and thanks of Army Special Forces".

During approximately 300 total hours of flying within RVN you personally accomplished 177 Combat Support and 33 other sorties. In recognition of this effort you have been recommended for the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with six oak leaf clusters. Your contribution reflects great credit upon the U. S. Air Force.

3. I wish you every success in your future assignments. This letter will be included in your permanent military files.

*George W. Finan*  
GEORGE W. FINAN  
Colonel, USAF  
Commander Det 2  
1st Air Commando Group

This correspondence has been reviewed and is found acceptable category "A".

*Francis P. Latture*  
FRANCIS P. LATTURE, Lt COL, USAF

Dec. 1990

Dear Russel.

Re. B-17Fs in the 306th.

Kwitcherbitchin # 42-30431 was the first B-17 assigned my crew upon our arrival at Thurleigh in October 1943.

I don't remember how many missions we flew in it, but I know about her final flight. It was a practice formation flight.

A partial crew was assigned to fly it. (The crew I don't remember.) There was a mid air collision during the flight and one of the other aircraft cut through the midsection of Kwitcherbitchin. The aircraft was still flyable, but as I was told, the crew decided it was too dangerous to land, so they bailed out. They set the auto-pilot on a heading toward the North Sea before leaving the aircraft, but evidently Kwitcherbitchin wanted no part of going to Germany again. It flew in a circle over the North Sea to England.

Upon landing after bailout, one of the crew notified the R A F that the aircraft was on auto-pilot and no crew aboard. The R A F scrambled some Spitfires and waited until Kwitcherbitchin was over the North Sea and shot her down.

*P.S. She kept circling until shot down.*

Sincerely,  
*"Red" Heap*  
Elmer L Heap  
LTC. USAF Ret.

Feb 21. 67

# Lt. Col. Elmer L. Heap

July 30, 1920 - October 28, 2006

Lt. Col. Elmer L. (Red) Heap (Ret.) slipped the surly bonds of earth October 28, 2006. He is survived by loving wife, Flossie and dedicated canine companion, Dolly. He joins his crew members, fellow officers, friends and family members who preceded him and leaves an extended family of survivors who will miss him greatly.

These family members include brother, Eugene, sister-in-law Donna, sons, Jerry and Scott, daughter Barbara Worley, Flossie's daughters, Sandra Adams and Terri Kennedy, 17 grandchildren, six great grandchildren and he was a mentor and role model for Chris Phippen.

Elmer proudly served his country in the Air Force and earned numerous medals and accommodations including the Distinguished Flying Cross as well as many campaign and humanitarian service awards. During his extensive military career, he logged over 3,000 flight hours including 300 combat hours in World War II and the Korean and Viet Nam conflicts.

After his service to his country, Elmer resumed the hard-working logging life that he loved. He took pride in hard work and equally enjoyed playing hard. After his second career as a top sawyer, Elmer put in full shifts at the Emmett Mill where he finally retired.

During this well deserved retirement he and Flossie enjoyed traveling the country, rekindling old friendships, and making new friends.

He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Quote of note ... 7 thousand 200 hours

Dear Russ

Here's a copy of Bob's obit that Flossie, his wife, sent me. I don't know if you knew of his death or not.

His crew joined the 306<sup>th</sup> 4123<sup>rd</sup> one on the days after Oct 6 Thursday. I believe it was on the 16<sup>th</sup> of Oct 43. I believe there 3 or 3 of the Eugene crew left.

Hope this note finds you in good health & enjoying life. For my wife & myself I'm in health & getting older. Love Russ, Bob, Target Gunner on Intyabitching & later paper doll

Best Regards  
Ken Harris