

20 March 1989

Harry W. Hoser
914 Hartel St
Philadelphia, PA 19111

Dear Harry:

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 interest in the Association, as marked by your attendance at reunions and your recent gift, is much appreciated. We will keep you informed about the Fund.

Sincerely yours,

William F. Houlihan
President

Amount received: \$100.00

December 2, 1988

Russ Strong:

Dear Russ:

Where you able to find out anything about
my sister in-laws cousin Alfred Wieland ?

He too was in the 369 th and about the time that
I was there. Anything that you can tell me will be greatly
appericated.

Best of regards,

Harry W. Hoser
Harry W. Hoser

6 December 1948

Dear Harry:

In answer to your note about Albert Wieland, Jr., he was flying as ball turret gunner for Willard Lockyear on the 14 Oct 43 raid to Schweinfurt, in which we lost 10 aircraft. Eighteen planes took off that day, three aborted after crossing the enemy coast and all were attacked by the Luftwaffe.

The 10 planes were lost before the target. The five remaining planes bombed with the 92nd Bomb Group, and then came home by way of a long, westward route over France. This probably saved them, as had they retraced their inbound path the Luftwaffe would have been waiting for them.

Lockyear's plane left the formation at 1400 hours with the #4 engine on fire. Four chutes were seen, and then the plane blew up. Another chute was seen in the smoke.

Survivors included the pilot, copilot, engineer, radio operator, two waist gunners and the tail gunner. The other three crew members were likely killed in the fighter pass.

I have never had any contact with any of the survivors of this aircraft to get any better fix on just what happened to them.

My records on Wieland are scant: SSN 33333442, Air Medal, received an oic on 29 Sept 43. Assigned to the 389th squadron.

Sorry I can't be of more help.

RECORD UPDATE

306th Bomb Group Association

(Please complete as much of this form as you wish, and give)
 (to Russ Strong at the Las Vegas reunion, or mail to his ad-)
 (dress: 5323 cheval Pl., Charlotte, NC 28205)

Date completed

LAST NAME: Hoser William
 FIRST NAME: Harry
 Title:
 Street address: 914 Hartel Street
 Telephone: (215 -745-8129
 City, state, zip: Philadelphia, Pa. 19111

Date of birth: 8-21-21
 Wife's name: Emily
 College(s) attended: None
 Degree(s):
 Year(s):
 Last employment & job title:
 Oxford Laundry-President
 Phila; Pa.

Year joined 306th Association:

Not sure ? 1978
 Reunions attended: (by year or location)
 Washington, D.C. 1978
 Orlando, Florida. 1980
 Fort Worth, Texas. 1984
 Thubleigh, England 1982
 Dayton, Ohio. 1986
 Arlington, Virginia 1987
 Las Vegas. Nev. 1988

Serial #: 33324848
 Sqdn: 369 Th.
 Speciality: Tail Gunner
 Date joined 306th: Feb. 1943
 If combat, what crew? Capt. Roy Vinage

Special duties or assignments w/306th: None
 If commissioned w/306th, date & specialty:

Date departed: September 11, 1943
 Highest rank/grade w/306th: T/ Sgt.
 Other 8thAF units served with:

Top service assignments after 306th:

In charge of Gunnery Section at Rapid City, S.D.
 USAF retirement date: Rank/grade:

Most memorable experience w/306th: (use back of sheet, too)

Crash landing on my last mission (Stugart) with the pilot Lt Pierce
 last mission and walking away with no one hurt.

In the continuing search for 306th people, please inform the secretary as to any persons you know from the 306th who are not listed in the 1988 directory; con-

RECORD UPDATE

306th Bomb Group Association

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

Date complete October 18, 1989

LAST NAME: Hoser FIRST NAME: Harry TITLE:
Street address: Telephone: (215) 745- 8129
914 Hartel Street
City, state, zip:
Philadelphia, Pa. 19111

Date of Birth: 8-21-21 Wife's name: Emily
College(s) attended: Degree(s): Year(s):

Last employment and job title:
Owner of Oxford Laundry & Dry Cleaners (president)

Reunions attended: (by year or location)

Dallas-Forth Worth, 1984 Washington, D. C. 1987 Little Rock, 1989
Dayton, Ohio, 1986 Las Vegas, 1988

Serial #: 33324848 Squadron: 369 th Speciality: Tail Gunner
Date joined 306th: 3-12-43 If combat, what crew: Went over with Conley & Klette and flew with Roy Vinage.

Special duties or assignments w/306th:
None

Number of missions flown: 25 Date of last mission: Sept. 6 -43 (Stuttgart, Germany)
Date left 306th: Sept. 22 -43 Highest rank/grade with 306th: T/ sgt.

Other 8th AF units served with:
None

Top service assignments after 306th:

Cheift Gunnery Instructor- Rapid City, South Dakota.
USAF retirement date: Rank/grade:

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

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

March 9, 1991

Mr. Russell A. Strong.

Dear Russell:

I have located one person on your Search List and can give a little information to another one.

First off the one that I located was Michael P Capaldi who resides at 522 Federal Street, Philadelphia, Pa. Phone # 465-7994 He was a member of the 423rd Squadron as a crew chief, sent to Russia in April of 1943.

The other was Carl E. Frymoyer of Reading, Pa. He is deceased. He was a ball turret gunner on our crew. I had asked Manny Klette if he had any knowledge about Frymoyer in Washington, D.C. the first time that I had seen Manny since 1943. He said that he would get his driver to look him up as he too lived in Reading. He reported back that Carl had died of Cancer about 3 years ago with no other details.

I will keep working on the List and keep you informed.

Sincerely,



Harry W. Moser

January 15,1993

Dear Russell:

Dear Russell:

I thought you would want to know that Roger S. Lindsay, Sr had died. I had received a letter from his family at Christmas.

Rodger was the Bombadier on the original Fight-ing Biting crew and flew most of his mission with Roy Vinnage. In the states he got his training flying with Keith Conley -Pilot, I. j. Klette Co-pilot, Kermit B. Cavado Nanigator. He had suffered a stroke years back.

He was born May 17,1920 , Date of Death was November 19,1992.

Best of regards,

Gary W. Hoser

PERSONNEL RECORD UPDATE

306th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION

Date. 12-16-94. . . .

Complete this form and return to Russell A. Strong, Secretary, 306th BG Assoc.,
5323 Cheval Place, Charlotte, NC 28205, to be filed with 306th records.

LAST NAME:	FIRST NAME:	MI:	TITLE:
Hoser	Harry	W.	
Street Address:	Telephone: (215) 745-8129		
914 Hartel Street	Zip + 4: 19111- 3202		
City, State	Telephone: ()		
Philadelphia, Pa.	Zip + 4: - - - - -		
Winter Address:			
City, State			

Date of birth:	Wife's name:	#c 6
8-21-21	5-31-19	#gc 12
		#ggc

College(s) attended: Degree(s), & when:

Last employment & job title & retirement date:
owner of Laundry & Dry Cleaning Co March 25, 1985

Serial #(s):	Squadron:	Specialty:
33324848	369 th	Gunner
Date joined 306th:	If combat, what crew?	
2-12-43	Roy Vinnange	
Special duties or assignments w/306th:		

No of missions flown: 25 Date of last mission: 9-6-43

Date leaving 306th: 9-11-43 Highest rank/grade w/306th: T-Sgt.

Other 8AF units served with, and when:

Top service assignment after 306th:

USAF retirement date: Rank/grade:

Copies of old 306th orders, either from the Group or Station 111, or any of the Squadrons or other units serving with the 306th, are sought by the secretary, as many of these do not appear in any collections of materials in National Archives or the Air University.

If you know of others who served with the 306th and who do not appear in the current 306th Directory, please add their names and current/WWII hometowns or other addresses to the back of this sheet so that searches may be implemented to add them to our present 306th roster.

Harry W. Hoser
914 Hartel Avenue,
Philadelphia, Pa. 19111-3202

Russell A. Strong
5323 Cheval Place,
Charlotte, N.C. 28205

January 17, 1995

Dear Russell:

First off your sixth biennial directory of the 306th Bomb Group Association was the best yet, as usual a wonderful job on it. The one reason that I am writing to you is to ask if you have retained copies of all the 306th Echoes. I have just started to get my own memoirs of my time in the service. I had planned on using some of the articles in the Echoes. If you do not have copies of Echoes you are welcome to have the ones that I have, if it will be of any help to you.

I also would like to get my other 19 mission reports, as I have only six that I had purchased from you in 1991. They are the following missions.

Group #	My #	Mission	Date 1943
30	2	Rowen, France	March 28
32	3	Paris, France	April 4
36	5	St Nazaire, France	May 1
39	6	Heligoland, Germany	May 15
40	7	Lorient, France	May 17
41	8	Keil, Germany	May 19
42	9	Wilhelmshaven, Germany	May 21
43	10	St Nazaire, France	May 29
44	11	Wilhelmshaven, Germany	June 11
46	13	Huls, Germany	June 22
47	14	North West, Germany	June 25
49	15	St Nazaire, France	June 28
50	16	Paris, France	June 29
51	17	Nantes, France	July 4
52	18	Caen-Carpiquet, France	July 10
63	21	Flushing, Holland	August 19
65	22	Watten, France	August 27
66	23	Romilly, France	August 31
67	24	Romilly, France	September 3
68	25	Stuttgart, Germany	September 6

Anything that you can do will be greatly appreciated and thank you for all your past courtesies. Stay in good shape as I hope to see you at the next reunion.

Best of regards,

Harry W. Hoser Sr.

Harry W. Hoser

3/10/95

Mr. Jack Frost
P.o. Box13362,
Des Moines, IA 50310

June 27, 2000

Dear Jack;

In regards to Memorabilia articles, do you still have the 306 bomb Groupe Watches, and also the T-Shirts that had the Squadeon insignal on the front And on the back where 3 Bi-17 flying in formation? I do not plan to be at the San Diego reunion and would you please tell Russell A. String that my wife passed away Suddenly on June 18, 2000 for his Obituaries notice. thank you very much and have a good reunion. I'll look forward to hearing from when you have time.

Best of regards,

Harry W. Hoser Jr.
Harry W. Hoser

914 Hartel Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

19111-3202

*Russ
Jack has taken care of
everything except the
death notice.*

RWH

2 November 2000

8332 Blowing Rock Road
Alexandria, VA 22309

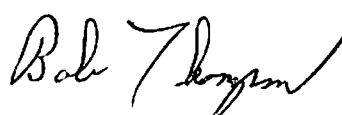
Mr. Russell Strong
306 Bomb Group Association
Secretary Historian
5323 Cheval Place
Charlotte, NC 28205

Dear Mr. Strong:

Thank you for taking the time and interest in assisting my uncle, Harry Hoser, and I research the validity of the Distinguished Service Medal that now appears on his records. Attached to this letter are four documents: Enlisted Record and Report of Separation; National Archives and Records Administration Entitlement to Awards; Mr. Hoser's letter of 30 Oct 95 to the National Personnel Records Center; and the Air Force's letter of 15 Mar 96 in response to my uncle's inquiry about the DSM.

As we discussed over several telephone conversations, my uncle is concerned about whether he rightfully earned the Distinguished Service Medal and would like his records to properly reflect only those awards that he earned. Your assistance in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Bob Thompson
703-780-6828

TRANSMITTAL OF AND/OR ENTITLEMENT TO AWARDS

DATE **9-29-95**

NAME **Horner, Harry W.**

SERVICE NO. / SSN
3-2 224 848

DATE OF INQUIRY

RECEIVED ON

ON BEHALF OF

REFERRED BY

The awards and decorations indicated below will be forwarded from HQ AFMPC/DPMASA, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas 78150-6001. If you do not receive these items within 90 days, please submit a copy of this form to that office.

- The records show that the person named above is entitled to the following awards.
- The following awards authorized for issuance are enclosed.

	OAK LEAF CLUSTER			SERVICE STARS	
	BRONZE	SILVER		BRONZE	SILVER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distinguished Service Medal			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS			ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN MEDAL		
BRONZE STAR MEDAL			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN CAMPAIGN MEDAL		
____ W/LETTER "V" DEVICE			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WW II VICTORY MEDAL		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AIR MEDAL			ARMY OF OCCUPATION MEDAL WITH ____ GERMANY		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PURPLE HEART			____ JAPAN CLASP ____ BERLIN AIRLIFT DEVICE		
MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL			NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL		
AF COMMENDATION MEDAL			KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL		
AF ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL			UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL		
AERIAL ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL			VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL		
			CHINA SERVICE MEDAL (Extended)		
			ARMED FORCES RESERVE MEDAL WITH ____ HOURGLASS DEVICE(S)		
AF LONGEVITY SERVICE AWARD RIBBON			ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL		
AF OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD			GOLD STAR LAPEL BUTTON ____ PIN ____ CLUTCH		
PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (Formerly the Distinguished Unit Citation)			PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (Note 1)		
			REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL (Note 1)		
GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL ____ AIR FORCE: ____ ARMY (Note 2)			REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS		
LOOPS: ____ BRONZE ____ SILVER			WITH ____ PALM (Note 1)		
STARS: ____ BRONZE ____ SILVER			PHILIPPINE RIBBON		
OAK LEAF CLUSTER:			HUMANITARIAN SERVICE MEDAL		
			SMALL ARMS EXPERT MARKSMANSHIP RIBBON		
AMERICAN DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL			PRISONER OF WAR MEDAL		
____ WITH FOREIGN SERVICE CLASP			SOUTHWEST ASIA SERVICE MEDAL		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AIR FORCE LAPEL PIN			KUWAIT LIBERATION MEDAL (Note 1)		

- NOTE: 1. This is an award of a foreign government and is not issued by the United States Government. It may be purchased from stores which sell military supplies.
2. Air Force enlisted personnel who qualified for the award of the Good Conduct Medal on or before May 31, 1963, are awarded the Army Good Conduct Medal. The Air Force Good Conduct Medal is awarded for qualifying service on or after June 1, 1963.
3. This is no longer issued by the service. It may be purchased from a commercial source.
- Awards that have been previously issued are indicated by an asterisk.
 - Awards circled in red are temporarily out of stock. Please resubmit your request in 90 days, along with this form, to: HQ AFMPC/DPMASA, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas 78150-6001.
 -

✓ Harry W. Horner
914 Havel St.
Philadelphia, PA

1111-3AC2

NCPM - FC [Signature]

NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER
(Military Personnel Records)
9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

ENLISTED RECORD AND REPORT OF SEPARATION HONORABLE DISCHARGE

1354-9

1. LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL Hoser Harry W			2. ARMY SERIAL NO. 33 324 848		3. GRADE T/Sgt	4. ARM OR SERVICE AAF	5. COMPONENT AUS				
6. ORGANIZATION 369th Bomb Sqd			7. DATE OF SEPARATION 18 Sep 45		8. PLACE OF SEPARATION Sep Ctr IGRM Penna						
9. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES 246 W Sulis St Philadelphi Penna				10. DATE OF BIRTH 21 Aug 1921		11. PLACE OF BIRTH Philadelphia Penna					
12. ADDRESS FROM WHICH EMPLOYMENT WILL BE SOUGHT See 9				13. COLOR EYES Blue	14. COLOR HAIR Brown	15. HEIGHT 5'9"	16. WEIGHT 142	17. NO. DEPEND. One			
18. RACE X	18. RACE WHITE	18. RACE REGIO	18. RACE OTHER (specify)	19. MARITAL STATUS X	19. MARITAL STATUS SINGLE	19. MARITAL STATUS MARRIED	19. MARITAL STATUS OTHER (specify)	20. U.S. CITIZEN X	20. U.S. CITIZEN NO	21. CIVILIAN OCCUPATION AND NO. Routeman I 7-35.100	

MILITARY HISTORY


22. DATE OF INDUCTION 28 Jul 42		23. DATE OF ENLISTMENT 11 Aug 42		24. DATE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE 11 Aug 42		25. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE Philadelphia Penna		
26. REGISTERED X	26. REGISTERED YES	26. REGISTERED NO	27. LOCAL S.S. BOARD NO. 65		28. COUNTY AND STATE Philadelphia Penna		29. HOME ADDRESS AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE See 9	
30. MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY AND NO. AAF Gunnery Instructor 938				31. MILITARY QUALIFICATION AND DATE (I.e., Infantry, aviation and marksmanship badges, etc.) Pistol Cal 45 Marksman 1942				
32. BATTLES AND CAMPAIGNS GO 33 & 40 TD 45 Air Offensive - Europe								
33. DECORATIONS AND CITATIONS Distinguished Service Medal Purple Heart Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster Air Medal with 5 Oak Leaf Clusters European African Middle Eastern Service Medal with 1 Bronze Star								
34. WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION Purple Heart with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster 14 Apr 43 France 16 Jul 43 France								
35. LATEST IMMUNIZATION DATES				36. SERVICE OUTSIDE CONTINENTAL U. S. AND RETURN				
SMALLPOX 25 Jan 44	TYPHOID 12 Jul 45	TETANUS 17 Jan 44	OTHER (specify) Typhus 27 Jun 44	DATE OF DEPARTURE 7 Feb 43		DESTINATION England	DATE OF ARRIVAL 20 Feb 43	
37. TOTAL LENGTH OF SERVICE			38. HIGHEST GRADE HELD					
CONTINENTAL SERVICE		FOREIGN SERVICE		T/Sgt				
YEARS	MONTHS	DAYS	YEARS					MONTHS
2	5	15	0	7	23	U S 29 Sep 43		
39. PRIOR SERVICE United States Army 2 Years 8 Months 5 Days								
40. REASON AND AUTHORITY FOR SEPARATION AR 615-365 14 Dec 44 Convenience of the Government RRL-1 Demobilization								
41. SERVICE SCHOOLS ATTENDED Tyndall Fld Fla Aerial Gunnery School 42							42. EDUCATION (Years)	
							8	
							2	
							0	

PAY DATA

43. LONGEVITY FOR PAY PURPOSES			44. MUSTERING OUT PAY		45. SOLDIER'S DEPOSITS	46. TRAVEL PAY	47. TOTAL AMOUNT, NAME OF DISBURSING OFFICER		48. GRADE
YEARS	MONTHS	DAYS	TOTAL	THIS PAYMENT	None	\$ 5.00	325.01	MAJOR	JR
3	1	21	\$ 300	\$ 100					FD

INSURANCE NOTICE

IMPORTANT IF PREMIUM IS NOT PAID WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SEPARATION, INSURANCE WILL Lapse. MAKE CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO THE TREASURER OF THE U. S. AND FORWARD TO COLLECTIONS SUBDIVISION, VETERANS ADMINISTRATION, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.									
49. KIND OF INSURANCE		49. HOW PAID		50. Effective Date of Allegment Discontinuance		51. Date of Next Premium Due (One month after 50)		52. PREMIUM DUE EACH MONTH	53. INTENTION OF VETERAN TO
X	U.S. Govt.	X	Added by V.A.	31 Aug 45	30 Sep 45	\$ 6.50	X	Continue	Continue

 RIGHT THUMB PRINT	54. REMARKS (This space for completion of above items or entry of other items specified in W. D. Directives) <p style="text-align: center;">Lapel Button Issued</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ASR Score 12 May 45 101</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Inactive Service ERC from 28 Jul 42 to 11 Aug 42</p>								
56. SIGNATURE OF PERSON BEING SEPARATED <i>Harry W. Hoser</i>					57. PERSONNEL OFFICER (Type name, grade and organization - Signature) MILTON GOTTESMAN 1st Lt INF <i>Milton Gottesman</i>				

For: MSGT Salinas



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER
RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE TEXAS

HQ AFPC/DPPPRA
550 C Street West Ste 12
Randolph AFB TX 78150-4714

15 March 1996

Mr. Harry W. Hoser
914 Hartel Avenue
Philadelphia PA 19111-3202

Dear Mr. Hoser

This is in response to your request for a information regarding the Distinguished Service Medal. This office is responsible for determining Air Force members' eligibility and entitlement to awards and decorations, and your request was forwarded to us for action.

A review of your records shows that you are entitled to the Distinguished Service Medal, Purple Heart with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Medal with 1 Silver and 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with 1 Bronze Service Star, Distinguished Flying Cross with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, American Campaign Medal, and World War II Victory Medal. You should have received these earlier. If you were sent a Distinguished Service Medal, please check to make sure it is the proper one. The Distinguished Service Medal-Air Force Design was not available until 1 Nov 65. Since you received your during World War II, you should have the Distinguished Service Medal-Army Design.

The Distinguished Service Medal was established by an Act of Congress 9 Jul 1918. It is awarded for exceptionally meritorious service to the United States in a duty of great responsibility while serving in any capacity with the Air Force. In wartime, a duty of great responsibility is one that involves the exercise of authority or judgment in matters that decide the successful operation of a major command, activity, installation, or major program. The discharge of such duty must involve the acceptance and fulfillment of the obligation so as to greatly benefit the interests of the United States. We would like to add our belated congratulations to your for earning such a prestigious and obviously well-deserved decoration.

Sincerely

GEORGIA A. WISE, DAFC
Recognition Programs Branch
Promotion, Eval, & Recognition Division

National Personnel records center

9700 Page Avenue,

St. Louis , Mo. 63132-5100

October 30, 1995

Gebtelmen :

I had wrote to you in 9-29-95 and inquired about the medals that I was entiled to . I had asked about the air medal , purple Heart, and the Distindushed Flying Cross. You answered my request on your form 130599rev 4-92) and said i was entiled to the Distinguished Service Meddal. It is also listed on my dischare paper and I thought it might have been a mistake. Could you tell me anything more about it. My last mission to Stugart on the 6 th Of september we had crashed landed and did'nt get back to the base for a couple of days. I never had any idea that i might get that medal , but I was kided about being put in for it as I was wounded twice and whent back flying, till I got My 25 Missions in.

Thank you very much for your trouble.

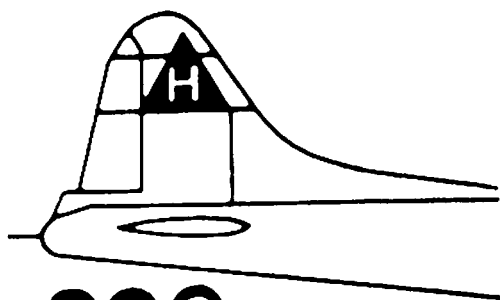
Harry W. Hoser Sr.

Harry W, Hoser Sr.

914 Hartel Street,

Philadelphia, Pa. 19111-3202

Service No. 33324848



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

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Secretary/ Historian

Russell A. Strong
5323 Cneval Place
Charlotte, NC 28205
Telephone & Fax
704-566-3503

14 November 2000

Georgia A. Wise, DAFC
Recognition Programs Branch
Promotion, Eval & Recognition Division
Hdqs. Air Force Personnel Center
Department of the Air Force
Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4714

Dear Ms. Wise:

I have known Harry Hoser for a number of years, and I was startled to receive a letter recently informing me that he was being awarded the Distinguished Service Medal!

Mr. Hoser is greatly concerned over this, and I am too, as I cannot believe there are any circumstances under which he could have earned this very high decoration for WWII service.

I would assume that you have some knowledge of this medal, and know that it is seldom offered to low ranking individuals, particularly those serving in direct combat with the enemy. I have been in long contact with Air Force personnel, both during WWII and especially since 1975.

I am not aware of anyone receiving this medal unless they had performed most unusual and very worthy things, opportunities that did not come to especially enlisted men. This is not to denigrate the efforts and sacrifices of enlisted men, but in the WWII period I dare say there were almost none who received a Distinguished Service Medal.

I knew service who earned the Legion of Merit for their considerable contributions, none of them having received them for non-combatant efforts, but by inventing things, by providing great services to the USAAF during wartime. But none of them got the DSM.

I know Mr. Hoser to have been a conscientious and extremely capable man in performing those duties for which he was trained, and for which he flew a full tour of combat missions.

Author
First Over Germany

Command and Staff
Officers, 8th Air
Force, 1942-45

Editor
306th Echoes (quarterly)
306th Directory (biennial)
306th Squadron Diaries
367, 368, 369, 423



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

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Secretary/Historian

Russell A. Strong
5323 Cheval Place
Charlotte, NC 28205
Telephone & Fax
704/568-3803

14 November 2000

Georgia A. Wise, DAFC
Recognition Programs Branch
Promotion, Eval & Recognition Division
Hdqs. Air Force Personnel Center
Department of the Air Force
Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4714

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Author
First Over Germany

Command and Staff
Officers, 8th Air
Force, 1942-45

Editor
306th Echoes (quarterly)
306th Directory (biennial)
306th Squadron Diaries
367, 368, 369, 423

Harry Hoser - 2

He received significant and appropriate decorations for his dedicated combat service, similar to those received by others who did these same things.

In my long service to the 306th Bombardment Group during WWII, and as an officer of the 306th Bombardment Group Association since its inception, and am totally unaware of anyone in this Group being cited for the the Distinguished Service Medal. It just did not happen!

And, I am particularly struck by the cavalier announcement to Mr. Hoser of his being the recipient of such an award when you have not citation to substantiate what it was that he did. I received several decorations for my combat service, and with each of them I received an appropriate citation at the time.

I think someone in your office needs to make a further search of your records concerning Mr. Hoser's service, and see if there has not been an egregious error made in this case.

As I have a considerable inventory of records concerning the 306th Bombardment Group in my possession, I hereby offer my services to do anything within my power to assist you in this matter. I have, in fact, searched through all the records of decorations given to 306th personnel and have not come across any such record as you mention.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,



Russell A. Strong
Secretary, Historian & Editor
306th Bombardment Group Association

✓ cc: Harry Hoser

Harry Hoser - 2

He received significant and appropriate decorations for his dedicated combat service, similar to those received by others who did these same things.

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I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Russell A. Strong
Secretary, Historian & Editor
306th Bombardment Group Association

cc: Harry Hoser

14 November 2000

Georgia A. Wise, DAFC
Recognition Programs Branch
Promotion, Eval & Recognition Division
Hdqs. Air Force Personnel Center
Department of the Air Force
Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4714

Dear Ms. Wise:

I have known Harry Hoser for a number of years, and I was startled to receive a letter recently informing me that he was being awarded the Distinguished Service Medal!

Mr. Hoser is greatly concerned over this, and I am too, as I cannot believe there are any circumstances under which he could have earned this very high decoration for WWII service.

I would assume that you have some knowledge of this medal, and know that it is seldom offered to low ranking individuals, particularly those serving in direct combat with the enemy. I have been in long contact with Air Force personnel, both during WWII and especially since 1975.

I am not aware of anyone receiving this medal unless they had performed most unusual and very worthy things, opportunities that did not come to especially enlisted men. This is not to denigrate the efforts and sacrifices of enlisted men but in the WWII period I dare say there were almost none who received a Distinguished Service Medal.

I knew service who earned the Legion of Merit for their considerable contributions, none of them having received them for non-combatant efforts, but by inventing things, by providing great services to the USAAF during wartime. But none of them got the DSM.

I know Mr. Hoser to have been a conscientious and extremely capable man in performing those duties for which he was trained, and for which he flew a full tour of combat missions.

He received significant and appropriate decorations for his dedicated combat service, similar to those received by others who did these same things.

In my long service to the 306th Bombardment Group during WWII, and as an officer of the 306th Bombardment Group Association since its inception, and am totally unaware of anyone in this Group being cited for the the Distinguished Service Medal. It just did not happen!

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I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Russell A. Strong
Secretary, Historian & Editor
306th Bombardment Group Association