

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 am 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 xeroxed copies. 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 William G. Mitchell, Jr.

Address 510Carolayne St., Temple Terrace, Fla. 33617

Telephone (813) 985-3585

Date Sept. 22, 1975

Director of Educational Resources  
Occupation                                 /                                

Employer University of South Florida

Address Tampa, Fla. 33620

Telephone 974-2341 (area code 813)

Service Record:

Before joining the 306th: Joined as Aviation cadet on June 17, 1942, Went on Active duty Jan. 7, 1943, graduated from training on Oct. 1, 1943 as 2nd Lt., Crew training for B-17 at Ardmore, Okla, arrived in England on Feb. 14, 1944. Assigned to 368 Squadron, 306 group.

After leaving the 306th: Assigned to "Cycle Relay" ship for 3 months, then to air transport group at Grove, England, (8th Air Force). Returned to U.S.

in December, 1944. Assigned briefly to Roswell, N.M., then to Pecos, Texas, first advanced instructor, then public relations, Was assigned as public relations officer to Drew Field, Tampa, Fla., and was released on points with first group from 3rd Air Force. Later served in first

as a 306th Record: Arrival Date Feb. 1944 Squadron or other unit 368 pilot group  
of Ga. Air  
MOS pilot Combat Status Flew missions Nat'l Guard.

Missions Completed 32 actual, 35 nominal

Promotions to 1st lt. Also, flew instructor pilot for new pilots entering squadron

Decorations x AM 3 olcs x DFC olcs SS DSM DSC MH SM

PH 9 Battle Stars                                  other

(OVER)

Other personal data:

See resume, Attached.

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?)

After 15th mission, our crew was broken up. I began to fly as instructor on first five missions with new crews, and so continued to the end of my tour. I made five Berlin raids, and one to Peenamunde. Worst mission was to Frankfurt, where plane lost 2 engines over target to flak. Slow-flew plane to Belgium, where flak took another engine. Last engine quit on final to large emergency strip 3 miles inside coast of England. All crew O.K.

I made two missions on "D" day. As crew member of "Cycle Relay", I watched the St. Lo breakout bombing by the 8th Air Force from a unique seat high above the channel.

On my last mission, I led a flight of 3 B-17's on a "phamplet raid" on Hamburg. We were accompanied by a whole squadron of P-47's. We had to climb to 33,000 to go over a frontal system, but then broke into the clear and dropped on target. We returned "on the deck", just over the waves of the North Sea, our fighters had already left us.

One interesting mission, I rode as tail gunner for the plane flown by the general in charge of the mission to bomb airfields in Austria. Five groups were on the mission. My job was to help keep track of the formations for the general (Sorry, I don't remember his name.) Only time I shot a gun in combat -- at a Me 210 which attacked over the target.

Add additional pages, if necessary

RESUME OF  
William G. Mitchell  
510 Carolyn Street  
Tampa, Florida 33617  
Phone: 813/985-3585

Personal Data

Place of Birth: Social Circle, Georgia	Eyes: Brown	Hair: Red
Birth Date: March 1, 1921	Sex: Male	
Height: 5 ft. 8 1/2 inch	Marital Status: Married	
Weight: 165 lbs.	Health: Excellent	

Family

Wife: Mrs. Mary Sue Sims Mitchell  
Children: Mrs. Patricia Alice (Mitchell) DeWitt  
Mr. John William Mitchell

Education

High School: Villa Rica High, Villa Rica, Georgia  
Colleges:  
West Georgia College -- Jr. College Certificate -- June, 1940  
Emory University -- AB, Radio Journalism -- June, 1942  
University of Florida -- MA, Journalism and Communication -- June, 1956  
Michigan State University -- Ph.D., Communication -- August, 1970

Military Record

U.S. Air Corp Cadet -- June 19, 1942 -- October 1, 1943  
U.S. Army Air Corps Pilot -- B-17, 8th Air Force, completed 35 missions  
July, 1944  
Separated from Air Force -- July 17, 1945  
Served 3 years in Georgia Air National Guard -- 1946-1949

Honors and Memberships

First Honor graduate -- Villa Rica High -- 1938  
Academic Proficiency Scholarship -- West Georgia College -- 1938-40  
Whitehead Scholarship -- Emory University -- 1940  
Winner, National Farm Film Foundation Award for Excellence in  
film production -- 1958  
Listed in Who's Who in the Midwest -- 1970-1974  
Memberships: Sigma Delta Chi National Journalism Fraternity  
Phi Delta Kappa National Education Fraternity  
Kappa Tau Alpha (Journalism honorary)  
National Association of Educational Broadcasters  
Association for Educational Communication and Technology

Employment Record

Institution	Location	Title of Position	Dates
University of South Florida	Tampa, Florida	Director, Educational Resources (General Manager, WUSF(FM)-TV)	Aug. 30, 1974 to Present
Northern Michigan University	Marquette, Michigan	Director, Learning Resources (General Manager, WNMR and WNPB)	Jan., 1968 to Aug. 30, 1974
Northern Michigan University	" "	Coordinator, Educational Communications	Aug., 1965 to Jan., 1968
Florida Institute for Con't University Studies	Gainesville, Florida	Assistant Dean, Division of TV and Radio	Dec., 1962 to July, 1965
Florida Ag. Exp. Station and Florida Ag. Ext. Service	Gainesville, Florida	Assistant Editor, then TV Specialist	Sept., 1952 to Dec., 1962
Georgia Exp. Station	Experiment, Georgia	Editor	Aug., 1951 to Sept., 1952
Free-lance writer	Villa Rica, Georgia		July, 1945 to Aug., 1951
U.S. Army Air Force		Pilot	July, 1942 to July, 1945

Special Activities of Note

- Produced over 200 fifteen-minute films for TV.
- Produced and hosted over 300 TV programs for the Florida Agricultural Experiment Stations and Extension Service.
- Taught upper level course on radio and TV in education during academic year while a graduate student at Michigan State University.
- At Northern, prepared six successful grant applications under Title VI, Higher Education Act and one under Title III, ESEA.
- Designed facilities for TV, radio, and audiovisual services production and distribution in recently completed \$5.5 million Learning Resources Center.
- Designed AV and TV facilities in recently completed Instructional facility.
- Applied for and received a grant from H.E.W. for the construction of a new TV transmitter and tower for use on channel 13 in Marquette. Also obtained use of channel 13 from FCC for educational transmitter. (Channel 19 was originally assigned to education in Marquette). Put station WNPB on the air.

Consulted for the American Association of Colleges and Universities in the area of learning resources.

### Publications

"A Model PR System for Experiment Stations" Journal of the American Association of Agricultural College Editors. Vol. 37, No. 4, Dec., 1954.

"Putting Ag TV to the test" Journal of the American Association of Agricultural College Editors. Vol. 38, No. 8, April 1956.

"What Are Editors Made Of?" Journal of the American Association of Agricultural College Editors. Vol. 39, No. 4, Dec., 1956.

Professional Qualifications for a Career in Agricultural Journalism and Communications. Master's Thesis, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 1956.

Through the TV Tube: A Handbook for Studio Teachers. Florida Institute for Continuing University Studies, Gainesville, Florida, 1964.

"Signs, Symbols, and Educational Television" Journal of the National Association of Educational Broadcasters. Nov. - Dec., 1964.

"Common Learning by Television" Audiovisual Instruction. Vol. 12, No. 3, March, 1967.

"The Instructional Communication Center" The New Campus, Association for Field Services in Teacher Education, Oswego, N.Y. Spring, 1967.

"Learning Resources at Northern". Audiovisual Instruction. Vol. 14, No. 8, October, 1969.

Communication of an Educational Innovation in An Institution of Higher Learning. Thesis for Ph.D. Degree, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, August, 1970.

### Mimeographed Papers

"A Systems Approach to Education". Northern Michigan University, Marquette, Michigan, January, 1966.

"Advantages and Limitations of Television for Instruction". Northern Michigan University, Marquette, Michigan, March, 1966.

"Independent Study". Northern Michigan University, Marquette, Michigan November, 1966.

"Programmed Instruction and Computer Assisted Instruction". Northern Michigan University, Marquette, Michigan, April, 1947.

"Testimony before the Governor's Commission for Educational Reform".  
Northern Michigan University, Marquette, Michigan, July, 1969.

"Implications of Media Use in Education in the Future". Northern  
Michigan University, Marquette, Michigan, February, 1970.

Other Professional Materials

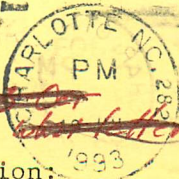
Over 200 articles and columns in magazines of popular interest.

Production of more than 200 15-minute films for Florida Agricultural  
Experiment Stations and Extension Service.

Production of over 250 television programs, video-taped, under the  
series title "Agriviews", for the Florida Agricultural Experiment  
Stations and Extension Service.

Series of 10 programs entitled "Through the TV Tube" for studio teachers.

Name:



Cadet class:

~~1942~~ - Oct - 43 ~~what letter?~~

Place of graduation:

~~Albany~~ Albany, GA

Number of combat missions:

25 (credited with 2 Free because

Wife's first name:

Mary Sue of date of 1st mission - Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>

Other 306th men whom I know graduated with me:

Also flew 300 hrs. in ↓  
Relay Plane after Combat

→ William G. Mitchell, Ph.D., Tour.

(out on points July 22, 1945)



Mr William G Mitchell  
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Villa Rica GA  
30180-9792



Russell A. Strong, Secretary  
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