

A HISTORY OF THE 306th BOMBARDMENT GROUP - U. S. EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Russell A. Strong 2041 Hillside Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Name Alvin E. Naumann, Major USAF (Retired)
Address P.O. Box 642, Castroville, Texas 78009
Home Phone 512 - 538-2858 Date September 14, 1981
Occupation District Claims Coordinator Employer Texas Employers' Insurance Assn.
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Service Record:

Serial No(s): 18011708; A01850108; FR 53084

Before joining 306th: *I was stationed in Iceland with Company "A" of the 5th Engineers and then with the 50th Fighter Sqdn. This unit was equipped with P-33s.*

After leaving 306th: *I was captured by the German Air Force Air Rescue which picked us up in a Dornier Do 24 Flying Boat along with the rest of the crewmembers.*

306th Record:

Arrival date at Thurleigh Approx. 3-3-44.

Squadron or other unit 368th Bomb. Sqdn.

MOS# 612 Specialty Armorer Gunner

Missions completed (and date of last) Five(5) 3-27-44.

Promotions T/Sgt, M/Sgt and then direct commission as 2nd. Lt. Called to

commission status on Jan. '52; 1st Lt, Capt, Regular AF and then to Major.
Decorations: AM olcs DFC olcs SS LM SM PH DSC MH

On unusual DFCs, Silver Star and other medals I would appreciate receiving copies of the citations and an account of other details about the incident involving the award.

(OTHER INFORMATION): On the back of this sheet I would appreciate receiving any other information about your service with the 306th, or about incidents or people with whom you were associated.

I would also like the opportunity to inspect any pictures or other special materials which you may have in your possession relating to the 306th. Copies of Special Orders issued by any of the units at Thurleigh are especially helpful.

Over

The squadron had a shortage of gunners and since I possessed an armament MOS (911) I volunteered to fly as a gunner. The first mission was on Berlin and that was on or about March 1944. (8th)

Name Alvin Emil Raumann Address P.O. Box 642, Castraville, Tx 78009
Telephone 512 538-2858

MISSING AIRCRAFT REPORT

Pilot 1 Lt. Rene C. Fix Plane # and Name B-17(H)

Mission Date 3-27-44 Target Training field in Southern France

Cause of loss: AA fire _____ Fighter attack _____ Other, explain "Sabotage"

Another crewmember that went down about 30 days after we did, stated that a crew chief had been caught sabotaging the planes and had been paid \$500 for each of the planes he fixed. In our case we lost the super charger in #3 engine, then #2 and we then started shedding our gear with hopes that the super charges would come on at a lower altitude. We heading for the Bay of Biscay and finally crashed at sea. Luckily no

Describe conditions in the plane as completely as you can:

Lives were lost. I had flown 4 missions with the pilot; the others this was their first mission. A gunner was assigned to the Engineers position. During later years when I became involved as a Survival Instructor and engaged in Evasion and Escape training; I will always/the lack of familiarization with the equipment and lack of

remember

occasions where

Leadership shown by the Aircraft Commander. There were several/attempts could have been made to escape while in the Flying Boat as well from Hourton, France; Bourdeaux to Darmstadt, Germany.

We went down at about 1120 hours, in the Bay of Biscay, about 60 miles west of the coast of France. We were picked up at about 2030 hours. We were taken to a German Air Rescue Base approx. 6 Km north of Hourton. When we arrived it was very dark and the classic setting of Nazi's was evident. German guard dogs, spit and polish boots, search lights and the whole lot. There was a British Sunderland Flying Boat also looking for us. The pilot suggested that we throw away our escape kits so the Germans wouldn't get them.

How and where did you leave plane?

Crashed at sea; ball turret operator still in the ball turret; tailgunner still in tail. My position was to get the modified radio's operators gun unhooked. Bomb in bomb bay. I was knocked breathless by impact and had to be helped out of radio position by other crewmembers.

What happened when you got on the ground?

N/A

Did you meet any of your crew mates? *All survived the alleged ditching and were rescued together.*

How were you treated, if captured? *Fair! Well by the aircrew that picked us up.*

Darmstadt 3-31-44

Dulag Luft 4-1-44

Left Dulag Luft 4-6-44

Arrived Stalag XVIII -B on 4-9-44. (Easter Sunday)

Departed Stalag 17-B on Easter Sunday 1945 and liberated 5-2-45 near Braunau, Austria.

Any additional details, reminiscences, letters, or documents of these events would be appreciated. If you do send such materials, I will copy them and put them back in the mail to you within 24 hours.

ALVIN E. NAUMANN
P O BOX 642
CASTROVILLE, TEX.
78009



6-28-82

Dear Mr. Strong;

I have recently located the radio operator on our crew, David Stoddard, 24800 Horn Road, Elmira, Oregon 97437, telephone # Area Code (503) 935-1716.

Also the gunner that ~~that~~ was flying as the engineer Frank A. Pfeifer, 5649 Faust Ave, Woodland Hills, Cal. 91367, telephone # Area Code (213) 347-7320. This was as a result of your book and the help of Ben Phelper.

Do you have the current address of 1st Lt. Rene C. Fix, our pilot that went down on 3-27-44? How about Sgt. Eugene C. Engberg?

A self-addressed postage paid envelope is attached to facilitate your answer.

Thanking you, I remain

Yours truly,

Alvin E. Naumann
Alvin E. Naumann

Major USAF - Retired

P.S. How about
Sgt. Lawrence E. Waggoner of the 368th B.S. that stated our aircraft had been sabotaged?



3501 FM 600
Abilene, Texas 79601
915-676-1676

Toll Free Reservation Service
From Texas 800-292-5200
From Other States 800-531-5900
In San Antonio 349-4141

P.O. Box 642
Castroville, Tx 78009
6-28-82

Dear Bill,

Attached is a donation of \$10.00 in cash. Please
send me the back issues of the 306th Echoes.

Thanking you, I remain

Yours truly,

Alvin E. Naumann

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Major, USAF-Retired



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