

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 George L. Robinson
Address 5113 S. Pine Dr., Jacksonville, Fla. 32207
Telephone ⁹⁰⁴⁻733-5358 Date 25 June 75
Occupation Retired Employer _____
Address _____ Telephone _____

Service Record:

Before joining the 306th: Enlisted, Army Air Corps, 1931. Appointed Cadet, AAC Flying School 1936; Pilot, 17th Attack Group, March Field. Went to England with 303d Bomb Gp., Sept., 1942 as Group Operations Off. Was assigned C.O., 306th in May, 1943 and left in Sept., 1944.

After leaving the 306th:
Director, Aircraft Div., A.F. Board 1944-45. AC&SS, 1945-46. Commanded various SAC Bases, Groups and Wings until 1958. Deputy Commander Air Technical Training Center until retirement in 1961. Dir., Fla. State Civil Defense to 1973.

306th Record:

Arrival Date May, 1943 Squadron or other unit Group
MOS Commander Combat Status Air Commander
Missions Completed 26
Promotions From Major, 1942, to Col. in 1943.
Decorations XAM 6 olcs XDFC 2 olcs XSS DSM DSC MH SM
PH Battle Stars 10 others

(OVER)

Other personal data:

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?) The greatest honor ever accorded me was the authorization as "Air Commander" which made me eligible to lead the entire Eighth Air Force in combat. Relatively few people were so authorized. There were heroics, tragedy and comedy on every mission--too many to even try to mention here.

new subject(s): John A. (AL) Bairnsfather was the 306th Intelligence Office from start to finish. He may be able to help on some of your research. He lives at Mitchell Farm, Loveland 2, Ohio. Col. John L. Lambert, former C.O., 367th Sq. can be reached at 408 Harbor View La., Largo, Fl. 33540. Also Harry J. Holt, C.O. of the #Clay Pigeons" can be reached at 4817 Essex Ave., Chevy Chase, Md. 20015.

Do you know about the 306th reunion? W.M. Collins, Jr. has all the info and is at 2973 Heatherbrae Dr., Palmdale, Ohio 44515.

I have many, many photos of Thurleigh (the group photo Officer had a standing order to furnish me two copies of all he took) as well as actual mission orders, SOP's, local and state-side newsclips, letters from the Royal Family, etc., BUT--I have loaned them to a Mr. Keith Paull, of Bedford, who is compiling a history of Thurleigh. He informs me that some of the graffiti remaining on the walls of the old squadron huts was recently removed and taken to the A.F. Museum at Wright-Patt. On my last visit to Thurleigh in 1949 the place was about intact. He tells me there is none of it left now. Please feel free to call on me for any specific information I may have. Good luck in your project.

Add additional pages, if necessary

G. T. Robinson

ROBINSON, George L.

23 Apr 1912

Lt. Col. on joining group 6/19/43

Group C.O. 6/20/43

Led wing to Bremen 6/25/43

AM olc 7/8/43 *olc 12/19/43*

Colonel 8/16/43

Led wing to LeBourget 8/16/43

Led wing to Achern 9/6/43

Led group to Lille 9/9/43

Led group to Emden 10/2/43

DFC olc 12/19/43

Led raid to Emden 12/11/43

Led raid to PasdeCalais 12/24/43

Led wing to Hamm 4/22/43

Led division to Liege 5/31/44

Led division to Ludwingshafen 9/8/44

Transferred home 9/23/44

29 July 1975

Dear Col. Robinson:

Many thanks for your early reply to my inquiry.

I appreciate very much the information which you sent me, and I look forward to working with you in the future.

At such time as pictures from your collection become available, I would very much like an opportunity to look at them.

I expect that my task of gathering information may carry on for a couple of years. Things that I have put together thus far have been fascinating, and I hope I can produce a history which members of the group will read with pride.

Thank you also for the addresses which you included. I shall make an early effort to contact Bairnsfather and try to get to see him with my tape recorder.

He was one of the few ranking officers I really ever got to know during my brief tour of duty, as I spent about six weeks working in public information and intelligence from mid-September 44 to November 1, when I went back to flying and completed my combat tour.

Sincerely yours,

Russell A. Strong

4900 Appleridge Court
Dayton, Ohio 45424

30 September 1975

Dear Col. Robinson:

I am still planning to visit with you on Sunday, Oct. 12, if you will be available.

My flight schedule calls for me to arrive in Jacksonville on Delta 532 at 8:47 a.m.

This is a bit early, and I would plan to wait there until some suitable hour to come out to your house or wherever you would like to meet me.

I am scheduled out of Jacksonville at 4:20 on Delta 340.

If your plans should change on the Friday or Saturday preceeding, I will be at the Marco Polo Motel in North Miami Beach.

I shall look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely yours,

Russell A. Strong

4900 Appleridge Court
Dayton, Ohio 45424

513/233-8735
office 513-873-3232

11 August 1977

Dear Robbie:

This material was at home this noon when I stopped for lunch, so I got it copied immediately, and am returning the originals to you.

I find it is better to copy them when one plans to work with these pages, as they are becoming so fragile.

I guess the only question I have, is do you have any Special Orders issued by the 306th Group prior to 1 Dec 1943? If so, I'd like to see any that are not shown on the list I sent you.

The pages which I received are both interesting and helpful, and I shall put them to good use.

I don't think I told you that a couple of weeks ago I spent an afternoon with Possum Hansell. He is in good health and very active, and says that he is completing a book on Pacific air war plans, similar to the one he did on Europe earlier.

Also have had some interesting correspondence recently from Del Wilson, dealing with the early days of the 306th.

Thank you so much for your help, and if my wife keeps nagging me I may have to take her to Florida before too long, and perhaps have another chance to visit with you.

Sincerely yours,

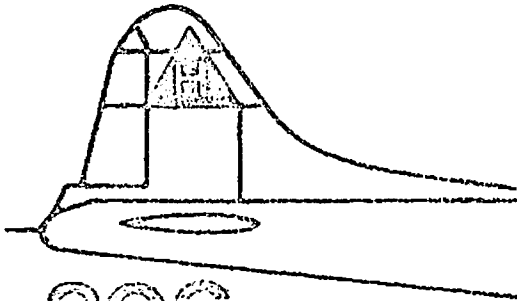
Russell A. Strong

Dear Russ:

Thanks for sending
on the pics. Don't think
I have either of the
ones of me.

Mimi remembers
the lady in the picture
- she was from London -
but cannot recall
her name. Sorry.

Rob



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

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Historian

Russell A. Strong
2041 Hillside
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

14 January 1986

Author

First Over Germany

Editor

306th Echoes

Joe Chancey
Bill McCaulie
Al Smith

We missed getting information on the death of Snuffy Smith, and only heard about the funeral at Arlington on the day it happened.

I'd hate for us to miss anything concerning the death of Col. George L. Robinson. I don't know that it is imminent, and he probably will live a good many years yet. But he is the only remaining group commander, and the group ought to be represented at a funeral in a variety of ways.

I'd like to charge each of you with informing me the moment you hear about, or more likely, read about it in the newspaper.

Please call me collect at once. My home telephone is 616/344-6466. My office phone is 616/383-6162.

This action on your part will be much appreciated.

26 August 1986

Col. George L. Robinson
5113 S. Pine Dr
Jacksonville, FL 32207

Dear Robbie:

Its been a long time since I have corresponded with you, but I felt compelled to do so because of a letter I got from a friend the other day.

Bill Rooney and I became acquainted through Robert C. Williams, the old 306th Ops officer. Bill served with the 40th Bomb Group, mainly in the Pacific. In the course of events, Willie bought a copy of "First Over Germany" for Bill, and Bill finally read it and then wrote me a long letter about his own feelings as he read through the book.

As you will see from the attached letter, he then passed the book along to friends.

The first reader not only read it but felt compelled to comment on the book and the 306th. I trust that you, and I know that Mim, will find his comments enjoyable.

We are getting ready to go to Dayton for the 306th reunion in early September, and they have a full house, the biggest group yet to attend a reunion.

Hope you can plan for next year in Washington. Bill Raper will be the chairman for that event. Bill called me the other night, and he was off the next day to London, and then on to the continent and a train trip across the Gobi Desert to Hong Kong, returning to the U. S. by the way of Singapore. Sounds like quite a venture.

All the best to you and Mim,

21 October 1975

Dear Col. & Mrs. Robinson:

I hope you will forgive my dalliance in not writing you sooner, but I was rather pressed for time last week and didn't do several things I should have.

Let me thank you again for your time, and for the trouble you went to in getting me from the airport and taking me back there. I enjoyed every moment of my Jacksonville stay, and I feel it was very profitable in my research on the 306th.

Since returning home I have had a little opportunity to work on the history, and have found a couple of dozen more members of the 306th.

The tapes I made at your home and in Miami seem to be good, and I will get them transcribed and edited this week.

Having checked with my wife, please let me repeat the invitation to include our home in your itinerary if you travel this way. We would love to have your stay with us, and as we are close to the Air Museum it would be most convenient. We are also close to I-70 and I-75. Just give us a ring when you are ready to take to the road and we'll have things ready for you here.

Again, thank you so much for the time, the transportation and a delightful meal.

Sincerely yours,

Russell A. Strong

4900 Appleridge Ct.
Dayton, Ohio 45424

513/233-8735

29 October 1976

Col. George L. Robinson
5116 South Pine Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32207

Dear Robbie:

I am returning the materials which you loaned to Clay Wilson at Dayton. He brought them by last night and I was able to copy them this morning.

Sorry I couldn't make it to Dayton, as it would have been nice to talk with you again. But I had to make some choices, and opted for a visit to the National Archives in Washington rather than the Dayton meeting. Since seeing you a year ago I have taken a job as director of college relations at St. Andrews Presbyterian College in Laurinburg, NC, and also had the pressure of several meetings on campus immediately after the Dayton reunion. But I will plan to be in St. Louis next year.

I noted in the enclosed material that Keith Paull had returned your photos. If it would not be too great an imposition, I would very much like to borrow them for a few days so that I could make copy negatives of them. I have the facilities readily available, and could do it immediately and return them quickly.

Also, I am still looking for special orders issued by the 306th, or the base headquarters, prior to 1 Dec 43, and would like to borrow any of these you might have in your 201 file. They would be returned by mail on the date of receipt here.

By history of the 306th is continuing at a good pace, and I am still accumulating a considerable amount of important data. Also, I noted this week that we have gone over the 500 mark on 306th veterans identified.

Since seeing you a year ago, I have had an opportunity to visit with Charles Duy, John Bairnsfather again, and spent half a day in July with Bill Raper (Rader) at his home in Alexandria. I found him interesting, opinionated and helpful. I also spent a day and half at that time in the National Archives searching through mission data for the 306th, and locating a considerable amount of material I needed.

I would be most appreciative of anything you might be willing to loan me, and certainly thank you for the opportunity to look over the enclosed materials.

Sincerely yours,

Russell A. Strong

Rt. 1, Scotch Meadows Drive

Laurinburg, North Carolina 28352

24 DEcember 1943 26 A/C led by Co. Robinson took off and 25 attached at 20,000 feet which is believed to be implacements for some type of "rocket gun" in the Pas de Calais area. Excellent friendly fighter cover was given our formation and no direct attacks by wither E/A or AA were encountered. Visibil-
ity was good and photographs confirmed excellent bombing on our two assigned targets, designated #94 and #51. All of our A/C lreturned to base and the crews described the mission as an "Xmas present from the General."

11 January 1944 35 A/C were airborne and 31 attacked the aircraft component plant at Halberstad. The 306th regular group received terrific enemy fighter attacks, mostly ME 110s near the target, later on the route home vicious attacks were made by about 40 FW190s, which succeeded in knocking down five of our A/C: Lt. Tattershall 369th, Lt. Cavos 367th, Lt. ^{pert} 367th, Lt. McCollum 367th, and Lt. Reed 368th. In addition, several men who landed at various bases in England sustained serious wounds. The Composite Group, led by Capt. Sharkey 369th, had comparatively little opposition. Due to our own field being closed in all of our A/C landed away, some of the crews were interrogated at Hethel and Foulsham by members of our intelligence section. Bombing was visual and reports of good results were turned in. Our score for the day was 16-4-10. Also 10 no claims.

31 May 1944 Liege A/D. The 306th flew three groups of 12 A/C each to form the 40th "A" CBW, with Co. Robinson leading the 1st Division. In an effort to dodge high cumulus clouds the formation climbed to 20,000 feet and went north of course to the Ghent area thence to target. Clouds prevented lead and low groups from bombing in spite of a thorough search for a last resort target. Bombs of these two groups were returned. No E/A were seen. Moderate accurate tracking AA fire was encountered dmagaing 18 of our A/C. Sgt. Jenkins, on special duty here with 8th Air Force Phtographic section was kilæed when hit by flak.

5 September 1944 Ludwigshafen. Again the target was the heart of the German chemical industry. T e 306th led the division with Col. G. L. Robinson flying in the lead ship of the 40th "A" Group of which we provided 36 A/C. The run was PFF and the mickey sets were not working very well. A few poor strikes were observed.

22 April 1944 Hamm/Marshalling Yards. 30 A/C led by Col. Robinson heading the 40th CBW attached this important bottle-neck with godd results. No fighter oppoosition was encountered, support was good. AA fire was moderate but extremely accurate and most of our A/C received flak damage. To Major Cheney goes credit for a good job of navigation.

Col. Robinson

25 June 43 23 A/C led by Col. Robinson, leading the 102nd Combat Wing, took off and 21 A/C bombed Target of Opportunity which was Bremen, with fair results. The primary, Hamburg, could not be reached because of complete overcast. Flak was moderate but from 75 to 100 E/A attached the low formations and stragglers. Some fighters fired heavy caliber shells at about 1500 yards which exploded in large bursts near our formation. Aerial bombs were dropped in strings. Lt. Logan of the 423rd was lost. Our score for the day was 3-0-3.

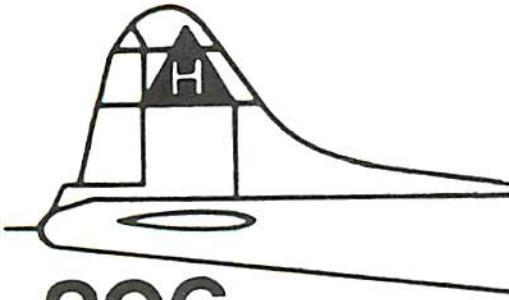
16 August 1943 Le Bourget. Col. Robinson with 20 A/C from this group, led the 102nd Combat Wing, on this very successful mission. Storage hangars, machine and repair shops, administration buildings and barracks suffered heavy damage. Some persistent E/A attacks and rather inaccurate AA fire were encountered. Good P47 cover was provided in and out from the target. All of our A/C returned to base. Our score for the day was 1-0-0.

6 September 1943 21 A/C with Col. Robinson in the lead ship, to lead the 102nd Combat Wing. One of our A/C aborted. Due to a complete undercast neither the primary, Roller Bearing Works at Stuttgart, nor the secondary, could be seen so bombs were dropped on Achern, near Strabsourg, with poor results. 30 to 40 FW190s were seen but failed to press attacks, concentrating mostly on stragglers. Flak was moderate but accurate, damaging 16 of our 20 A/C. Lt. Zimmerman, navigator, was seriously injured by flak. Due to failure of fuel supply Lts. Price and Bryant crash landed in England. Lt. Peterson of the 368th and crew bailed out 42 miles from the French coast, and Lt. Andrews of the 423rd landed in Switzerland, where the entire crew was interned. Our score for the day was 0-0-0.

9 September 1943 18 A/C, led by Col. Robinson took off to bomb an anniversary target, Lille. One year ago this town was our first operational target in the ETO. The primary today was Lille-Vendeville Airdrome. Fighter opposition was nil. All of our group dropped an effective concentration on what was later thought to be a dummy airfield. About three miles from the real one. Although seven A/C were damaged by AA fire, all returned safely to base. No score on enemy fighters.

2 October 1943 18 A/C led by Capt. Kackstetter and Col. Robinson took off and bombed Emden with 10/10 clouds and PFF. Results were good, according to PRU reports. No fighter opposition and only meager inaccurate flak were encountered. 0-0-0.

12 December 1943 21 A/C led by Maj. Riordan and Col. Robinson took off and 20 A/C accurately bombed Emden. AA fire was moderate but extremely accurate, accounting for the loss of Lt. Noack of the 369th and crew. Lots of friendly P-51 support and no enemy fighters combined to make this a good trip.



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
704/568-0153

5 June 1992

Author

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

Editor

306th Echoes
306th Directory

Nancy Greene

Pls call 733-5358 on receipt

FAX 904/398-1065

Dear Nancy:

Please convey to your father the pleasure that many in the 306th will take in having his grandson with us in England this summer.

I was delighted to receive your call, and look forward to meeting your son. I am sure that he will find several kindred spirits among children and grandchildren of those who will be on the tour.

I am sure that you will find all of the details in the accompanying documents. If you have any questions, please call me or the travel agents. Their 800 number is included in the information.

Sincerely yours,

cc: Donald R. Ross

6 December 1994

Dear Nance:

Here is a copy of the story I have prepared for Echoes on your father. If you have any suggestions or adverse comments, please let me know.

I also plan to use the two pictures, which I have copied.

Sincerely yours,

2 cols cutlines 8 pt bf

Col. George L. Robinson as he appeared in 1943 as the new C.O. of the 306th. A later picture of him, in July 44, appeared on the cover of the October issue of Echoes.

George L. Robinson, Longest

Serving 306th C.O., Dies 30 pt 2 cols

Set 2 cols 10/12 (runover will be one col)

Col. George L. Robinson, fourth and longest serving commanding officer of the 306th Bombardment Group during WWII, died 18 Nov 94 at his home in Jacksonville, FL, after suffering for a number of years with emphysema.

His wife, Mim, well known to many during her days in charge of the American Red Cross at Thurleigh, died 19 Sep 91.

Burial services, with full military honors, were held for Col. Robinson 23 Nov at March AFB, CA, where he had begun his career as a pilot in 1937, and where he had expressed a wish to be buried. Mrs. Robinson's ashes were also taken to California for burial.

A memorial service was held 29 Nov in the Swaim Memorial United Methodist Church in Jacksonville.

Col. Robinson began his military career 28 Apr 31 when he enlisted as a private in the Air Corps. He became an aviation cadet 25 Jun 36, and was commissioned as a second lieutenant with pilot's wings 30 Jun 37 at Kelly Field, TX.

From that point there was a steady progression through the officer ranks: first lieutenant 9 Oct 40, captain 1 Feb 42, major 1 Mar 42, lieutenant colonel 16 Nov 42 and colonel 16 Aug 43. He also wore Command Pilot wings.

He went to combat with the 303rd Bomb Group, serving as its group operations
more

officer. At the time he was assigned to the 306th as commanding officer, 19 Jun 43, he was the 303rd's deputy commander.

Col. Robinson felt most at home in the cockpit of a B-17, and flew his share of combat missions, totalling 26 by the time he was transferred back to the U. S., leaving the 306th 24 Sep 44. In his missions he always flew in the left seat, as he much preferred to be at the controls of his own plane while leading increasingly larger formations.

He flew his first mission for the 306th 25 Jun 43 to Northwest Germany, with Capt. K. O'Hara, 367th, in the right seat. His final mission was flown 5 Sep 44 to Ludwigshafen, with Capt. Earl R. Saunders, 369th.

"The greatest honor ever accorded me," Col. Robinson wrote the editor in 1975, "was my authorization as 'Air Commander', which made me eligible to lead the entire Eighth Air Force in combat."

Upon returning to the U. S., and following his marriage to Mim Smith, Col. Robinson was assigned as director, aircraft division, Air Force Board, Washington, D.C. after a year there he became a student at the Army Command and Staff School, Ft. Leavenworth, KS, for a year.

Col. Robinson's next assignment was with the Strategic Air Command, in command at various bases, of groups, and a B-47 Wing. He left SAC in 1958 and was deputy commander, Air Technical Training Center, until retirement in 1961.

Moving to Florida, Col. Robinson became director, Florida State Civil Defense, where he continued until his second retirement, in 1973.

During his combat experience, Col. Robinson received the Silver Star medal for his leadership of the mission of 18 Mar 43 for the 303rd Group, and also received the Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak leaf clusters and the Air Medal with six oak leaf clusters.

Col. Robinson attended a couple of our reunions, lastly in 1987 at Las Vegas where he moved about the hotel in a wheel chair. He was also present for the opening of the 306th Bomb Group Restaurant in Sarasota, FL, in 1981.

more

He leaves his daughter, Nance Robinson Greene, now living with her Naval officer husband and family in Japan, and four grandchildren.

When Col. Robinson Led the 306th in Combat 18 pt 2 cols

Set 8/10 2 cols

25 Jun 43 NW Germany, w/Capt. Richard K. O'Hara

16 Aug 43 LeBourget, France, w/Maj. John M. Regan

6 Sep 43 Stuttgart, Germany, w/Capt. Louis G. Cook

9 Sep 43 Lille, France, w/Capt. Dinwiddie Fuhrmeister

2 Oct 43 Emden, Germany, w/Capt. Frank Kackstetter

11 Dec 43 Emden, Germany, w/Maj. Robert P. Riordan

24 Dec 43 NE France, w/Maj. George R. Buckey

11 Jan 44 Halberstadt, Germany, w/Lt Russell A. Lund

22 Apr 44 Hamm, Germany, w/Capt. Loy A. Peterson

31 May 44 Liege, Belgium, w/Capt. Russell A. Lund

5 Sep 44 Ludwigshafen, Germany, w/Capt Earl R. Saunders

Runover cutlines, 2 col 8/10 bf

Col. George L. Robinson in 1981 at the opening of the 306th Bomb Group
Restaurant on the airport at Sarasota, FL.

Service today for retired colonel

From staff

George Leroy Robinson was just a boy when he got his first taste of flying. It was in the early 1920s, when air travel was still a novelty, and he and his brother bought rides with a barnstormer in an old Jenny biplane at the Chicago air races.

"We were both thrilled to death," recalled George Robinson's brother, Gerald Robinson of Riverside, Calif.

That first ride seemed to seal the fate for the brothers, who each retired as colonels in the Air Force.

George Robinson, 82, died Nov. 18 at his home in Jacksonville. He was buried Nov. 23 at Riverside National Cemetery, near his first duty station as an officer at March Air Force Base.

There will be a memorial service at 11 a.m. today at Swaim Memorial United Methodist Church in Jacksonville for family and friends who could not attend the funeral.

Mr. Robinson, a World War II combat veteran, was buried with full military honors, including a rifle salute and the playing of taps.

His son-in-law, Navy Cmdr. Tom Greene, presented the American flag that draped the casket to Greene's wife and Mr. Robinson's daughter, Nance Greene of Jacksonville.

She said her father picked the place he would be buried with the ashes of his wife, who died several years before him. "He loved California," she said. "I think that was

just a really happy time of his life."

A native of Hanover, Ill., Mr. Robinson joined the Army Air Corps in 1932. He was commissioned a second lieutenant and became a military pilot in June 1937.

During World War II, Mr. Robinson was a B-17 bomber pilot. He received numerous commendations for his abilities as a leader of combat missions and for his coolness under fire, his family said. He reported flying 27 combat missions over Germany, his brother said.

After he retired from the Air Force and moved to Jacksonville in 1960, Mr. Robinson took over as director of Civil Defense for Florida. He held that position from 1962 to 1974, his daughter said.



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

306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

December 11, 1994

President

C. Dale Briscoe
7829 Timber Top Drive
Fair Oaks Ranch, TX 78006

Mrs Nance Greeno,
5113 Southpine Drive
Jacksonville, Florida 32207

Vice President

M/Gen James S. Cheney
630 Cinnamon Court
Satellite Beach, FL 32937

Dear Nance:

Secretary

Russell A. Strong
5323 Cheval Place
Charlotte, NC 28205

On behalf of the members of the 306th Bombardment Group Association I want extend our deep and heartfelt sympathy to you and the Robinson family on the loss of your father and one of our Association's truly great members.

Treasurer

Robert N. Houser
2412 48th Street
Des Moines, IA 50310

As you know, your father served as our top commander during 1943 and 1944, fifteen months of intense combat air operations in Europe. In this leadership role he soon established himself as an outstanding commander and role model to each of the 306th Group members. He deserved much credit for the ultimate success achieved by the allied air operations against a most formidable enemy during World War II. For this you and your family can be justly proud.

Directors

Joseph R. Hathaway
1031 N. Meade Avenue
Glendive, MT 59330

John K. Hickey
3340 Nantucket Road
Lexington, KY 40502

I feel both fortunate and honored to have served under your father during the summer of 1943 and for our brief reunion with him in Las Vegas in 1988.

Wallace T. Peckham
420 Starborough
League City, TX 77573

Colonel Robinson's death will be reported to all our members by Russ Strong in the next issue of the 306th Echoes. We will also honor his memory at our reunion in Knoxville in 1995.

Donald L. Snook
45 N. Turkey Hill Road
Westport, CT 06880

Past President

William F. Cavaness
702 Cravens Avenue
San Antonio, TX 78223

Our sincere sympathy,

1995 Reunion Chairman

Wallace D. Boring
2348 Old Knoxville Pike
Maryville, TN 37804

Dale Briscoe

British Representative

Ralph Franklin
Mill Hill
Keysoe, Beds MK44 2HP
England

Copy

1995 Reunion
14-16 September
Hyatt Regency Knoxville
Knoxville, TN

S-4's Lament

Oh, Mother hang up your golden star!
Your son's gone up in a Fort
To view the place in front and back
and pass for lighter support

9-Dec-94

Russ-

It was great talking to you on the phone.

My stay here has been hectic and nostalgic. It's now time to get back to Tom & the kids in Japan.

I did not find as much stuff as I supposed I would. But please go through this and then forward it to the young man I mentioned to you on the phone.

Josh Curtis

12637 12th St.

Yuccaipa, Ca 92399

(909) 795-6279

I have been thinking about what you told me concerning possibly setting up a something memorializing Dad. I will write you from California in a day or two. I'm stopping there to spend some time with my uncle, Gerald.

The article sounds just right. Thanks for everything.

Nance R. Greene



Col. George L. Robinson
Commanding Officer, 306th Bomb Group

George L. Robinson Dies, Longest Living 306th CO

Col. George L. Robinson, fourth and longest serving commanding officer of the 306th Bombardment Group during WWII, died 18 Nov 1994 at his home in Jacksonville, FL. Burial services with full military honors were held at March AFB, CA, where he had begun his career as a pilot in 1937, and where he had expressed a wish to be buried. Mrs. Robinson's ashes were also taken to California for burial. She was well known to many members of the 306th through her service with the American Red Cross at Thurlleigh.

Col. Robinson began his military career 28 Apr 1931 when he enlisted as a private in the Air Corps. He became an aviation cadet 25 Jun 1936 and was commissioned as a 2nd Lt with pilot's wings 30 Jun 1937 at Kelly Field, TX. From that point he progressed steadily through the officer ranks to full colonel. He was rated as a Command Pilot.

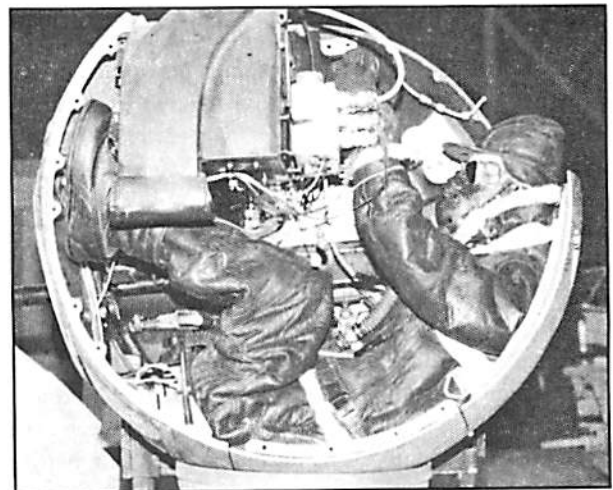
He went to combat with the 303rd Bomb Group as Operations Officer and rose to deputy commander there before becoming Commanding Officer of the 306th. Col. Robinson felt most at home in the cockpit of a B-17, and flew his share of combat missions, totaling 26 by the time he was transferred back to the U.S., leaving the 306th on 24 Sept 1944.

Upon returning to the U.S. he became director of the Aircraft Division, Air Force Board, Washington, DC. He then attended the Army Command and Staff School at Fort Leavenworth. His next assignment was with the Strategic Air Command, in command of various bases, groups, and a B-47 Wing. He left SAC in 1958 and was deputy commander of the Air Technical Training Center until retirement in 1961.

During his combat experience, Col. Robinson received the Silver Star medal for his leadership of the mission of 18 Mar 1943 for the 303rd Bomb Group, and also received the DFC with two OLC and the Air Medal with six OLC.

★ ★ ★ TAPS ★ ★ ★

- Douglas N. Capps, AAF WWII England, Many missions, Houston, TX
- Roy B. Caviness, 356FG, AF 1940-61, Ret. Col., Houston, TX
- Samuel E. Courtney, 447BG B-17 pilot, shot down 1st mission, POW, Indianapolis, IN
- Lewis Dumond, Oregon Chapter
- Bryce S. Everson, Col. (Ret.) Buried at Arlington, Marietta, GA
- Harrison L. Fugate, 2nd AD, Xenia, OH
- Harold E. Hays, Mesa, AZ
- Hal Heimroth, 320BG pilot, Indianapolis, IN
- Freeman L. Hill, 8th AF, Houston, TX
- John R. "Rusty" Mullins, 94BG pilot B-17 "RENO-vation," Galveston, TX
- Ivan D. Perry, 96BG/338BS bombardier, Independence, MO
- George L. Robinson, 96BG C.O., Jacksonville, FL (See article)
- Albert E. Rogahn, 100BG/351BS, Flt Engr, 35 M, Phoenix, AZ
- Edward G. Rogalla, 96BG/337BS, toggler, Los Angeles, CA
- Clifford Thompson, Oregon Chapter
- John R. Westwood, 91BG, Washington Chapter, Spokane, WA



Cutaway of Ball Turret Gunner's Position.
 (From 34th BG "Mendelsham Memories")



Navigators, Observers Dedicate Memorial

Over the past year the fastest growing Air Force related organization has been the Air Force Navigators Observers Organization (AFNOA). They now have well over 1,000 paid members and are gearing up for a block-busting 1995 Reunion at the Doubletree Hotel in Arlington, VA on Oct. 5-8, 1995. (See Reunion Schedule, page 20).

The new organization was brought about by a booming expansion of TENOA, an Ellington Field class organization which aggressively expanded its members by welcoming all navigators and observers from all schools and all eras. Clearly the time had come for an organization dedicated solely to the practitioners of this ancient craft. Several other organizations, including Bombardiers, Inc. and the 8AFHS helped spread the word.

AFNOA started with a full head of steam built up by its predecessor organization and lost no time in memorializing its members, past and present. Thirty-two representatives and friends of the Navigators Observers Organization (see photo above) gathered at Wright-Patterson Air Museum on October 14, 1994 to dedicate a memorial with suitable protocol.

The group was welcomed by Bob Bobbit, Special Events Coordinator for the Air Force Museum. The honor guard from VFW Post 3282, John Kerrigan, posted the colors and the base chaplain gave the invocation.

Pete Karnoski, First Vice-President of the association addressed the group in place of President Tom Martin, who could not be present. He thanked all of those who had assisted in obtaining the memorial and arranging the ceremony, and then introduced Wayne Pittman, who gave a memorial address on the history of navigation and the fantastic World War II training efforts to develop air crews (see excerpts on page 36).

The next event on the program was the unveiling of the memorial stone itself by General Tim Padden, who dedicated the monument "In memory of all Navigators and Observers, past and present, who served their country to secure peace and security for all."

Pete Karnoski then presented the memorial to the museum. A rifle salute, taps, and the retiring of colors, and a few words by Bob Bobbit concluded the ceremony.

That evening there was a dinner at the Hope Hotel at which General Padden was the guest speaker. His subject was the Enola Gay and the rewriting of history by the "politically correct" crowd at the Smithsonian. A standing ovation was given to the General at the end of his address. He urged those present to write to Congress to preclude those in the Smithsonian from distorting history.



R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Commanding General

SPECIAL ORDERS)

16 August 1943.

NUMBER.....228)

The following O in asgmt and dy are directed. WP. TCNT. TDN. 1-5600
P 43. 02 A 212/40425. Per diem of \$6.00 is auth while in a travel status.

| NAME | REID FR-- | ASGD TO-- |
|--|--------------------------|--|
| MAJ JACOB W. FREDERICKS, 0430990 AC. | 4th Bomb Wing. | Hq Eighth Air Force (eff 23 Aug 1943) |
| CAPT ROBERT B. MOSSMAN, 0351942 AC. | VIII Fighter Comd | VIII Air Force Serv C |
| CAPT GEORGE H. CRONIN, 0132251 AC. | VIII Bomber Comd | VIII Air Force Composite Comd |
| CAPT ROGER O. BRAEUTIGAM, 0295541 AC. | VIII Bomber Comd | VIII Air Force Composite Comd |
| 2ND LT FRANCIS J. REARDON, 0885906 AC. | VIII Air Support Comd | 1st Bomb Wing |

2. The following O having reported this Hq per competent auth is asgd
as indicated. WP. TDN.

| NAME | ASGD TO-- |
|--|-----------------------|
| CHAP (1ST LT) FRANCIS S. RZASA, 0498859 Ch | VIII Air Force Serv C |

3. The following EM is trfd in gr as indicated. WP. TCNT. TDN. 1-5600
P 431-02 A 212/40425.

| NAME | TRFD FR-- | TRFD TO-- |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Sgt Harry S. Brumley, 15072015 | Hq & Hq Sq Eighth Air Force | 385th Bomb Gp |

4. Under Public Law 455, 77th Congress, 16 February 1942, DP, the
following O now on AD with AAF are temp promoted in AUS (AC) to gr indicated.
Date of rank is date of this order.

| NAME AND UNIT | FROM-- | TO-- |
|-----------------------------------|------------|------|
| <u>VIII BOMBER COMMAND</u> | | |
| WILLIAM A. HATCHER, JR, 021528 AC | 1st Lt Col | Col |
| DENMAR E. WILSON, 021635 AC | 1st Lt Col | Col |
| MAURICE A. PRESTON, 020673 AC | 1st Lt Col | Col |
| JOSEPH J. NAZZARO, 020364 AC | 1st Lt Col | Col |
| GEORGE L. ROBINSON, 022362 AC | 1st Lt Col | Col |
| CHESTER C. COX, 0396383 AC | Capt | Maj |
| SAM L. BARR, 0791275 AC | 1st Lt | Capt |

-1-

R E S T R I C T E D



H-C

2 Dec 81 Sarasota

Col. George L. Robinson

S-4's Lament

Oh, Mother hang up your golden star!
Your son's gone up in a Fort
To view the plane in front and back
and cry for fighter support

The poor old ship was sorta weak
She'd been on many a raid
Her tail was new, tho' slightly as new
Her time was up for a raid

As she faltered off from east to West
Her fate was even then sealed
Her engines strained, and finally gained
Two thousand feet over the field

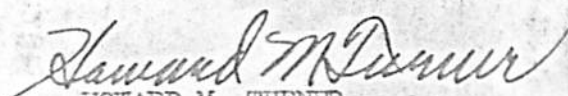
The pilot pushed everything he had
She shuddered from end to end,
The bomb went by, but that spun in the sky
Fourteen miles back was our friend

HEADQUARTERS 306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
Office of the Commanding Officer

C E R T I F I C A T E

The undersigned hereby certifies that Colonel GEORGE L. ROBINSON
has been thoroughly checked in accordance with existing regulations, and
having the necessary practical experience, is qualified to lead a Combat
Wing on operational missions when it is leading the entire Air Task Force.

Date 1 May 1944.


HOWARD M. TURNER,
Colonel, AC,
Commanding.

40th Combat Bomb Wing (H)

R E S T R I C T E D

AIR BASE HEADQUARTERS
303RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
APO 634, U. S. ARMY

G-B-4

8 May 1943.

SPECIAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 102)

1. The fol named O & EM, this Gp, WF GMV, o/a 10 May 1943, to Sta 101, reptg on arr thereat to Major Harvey, A-1 Section, by 1700 hrs; sd, to carry out instr of CG 1st BW, and thense to AAF Sta 586. O is auth \$6.00 per day while traveling and while on this TD. EM are auth mont alws in lieu of rats & qrs as prescribed in Table II, AR 35-4520, for four (4) men for three (3) days. Auth: VOGG 1st BW.

Lt Col. GEORGE L. ROBINSON, 022362, Hq 303rd Bomb Gp (H)
T/Sgt ERICK K. LINDEWALL, 11009159, 360th Bomb Sq (H)
T/Sgt RICHARD J. SMITH, 11030710, 360th Bomb Sq (H)
S/Pgt LINCOLN T. O'CONNELL, 12030885, 360th Bomb Sq (H)
S/Sgt HOWARD H. NARDINE, 39022387, 360th Bomb Sq (H)
S/Sgt HENRY J. SCHNEIDERMAN, 16036237, 360th Bomb Sq (H)

2. Capt CLAES E. JOHNSON, 0904697, 427th Bomb Sq (H), is hereby granted a leave of absence for a period of four (4) days o/a 13 May 1943. Auth AR 605-115.

3. Confirming the VOGG 8th AF, 1st Lt RHUDE M. MATHIS, 0662289, 359th Bomb Sq (H), WFR o/a 5 May 1943; to 20 Grosvenor Square, London, for temp dy not to exceed three (3) days, reptg upon arr thereat to Public Relations Office for the purpose of making a newsreel. Upon completion of this temp dy O will return to his proper sta. O is auth per diem of \$6.00 per day while traveling and while on this temp dy. TDN FD 34 F 434-02 a 0425-23. Auth: VOGG 8th AF.

4. Confirming the VOGG 8th AF, 1st Lt WALTER G. DONNELLY, 0902355, Hq 303rd Bomb Gp (H), WFR o/a 5 May 1943, to 20 Grosvenor Square, London, for temp dy not to exceed two (2) days, reptg upon arrival thereat to Public Relations Officer for the purpose of making a newsreel. Upon completion of this TD O will return to his proper sta. O is auth per diem of \$6.00 per day while traveling and while on this temp dy. TDN FD 34 F 434-02 a 0425-23. Auth: VOGG 8th AF.

5. T/Sgt ROBERT GENTRY, 34189382, is reld fr asgmt and dy with 359th Bomb Sq (H), and is asgd to Detachment of Patients, 2nd Evacuation Hospital, eff this date. Auth: Cir 77, Hq ETOUSA, 1942.

6. The following O and EM, 1062nd Ord Co., WFR and/or GMV, o/a 12 May, 1943 to Widewing, temp dy not to exceed two (2) days, rptg upon arrival thereat not later than 1000 hours 13 May, 1943, for purpose of attending a monthly conference with the Chief Ordnance C. Upon completion of this temp dy, O & EM will return to their proper sta. Per diem of \$6.00 is auth O while traveling and while on this temp dy. EM is auth mont alws in lieu of rats and qrs as prescribed in Table II, AR 35-4520, for one man for not to exceed two (2) days. TDN FD 34 F 434-02 a 0425-23. Auth: FAX P215K, LEM, 9/5/43.

Capt HUMPHREY P. O'LEARY, 0372678
Pvt WILLIAM J. FETHEL, 34189144.

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS EUROPEAN THEATER
United States Army
Office of the Commanding General

20 December 1943

Colonel George L. Robinson
IX Air Force Service Command
Headquarters

Dear Colonel Robinson:

As 1944 gives promise of being a supremely important year, particularly for officers and their commands in the European Theater of Operations, I am confident you feel as I do, that exceptional opportunities for accomplishment will come shortly to each of us. And so, in sending you the Season's greetings, I want to assure you of my confidence and to wish you unqualified success.

In preparing myself for coming events I have found it helpful to make a list of questions to be used in self-interrogation, and I am enclosing the list, with the hope that it may be helpful to all of us, particularly to our younger officers. May I suggest that you bring a somewhat similar check list to the attention of the officers under you.

Also, I would like to take this occasion to assure you of my sincere appreciation of your leadership and the results you are accomplishing. In the New Year, may you have the continuing happiness which comes when difficult duties have been well done.

Most sincerely yours,



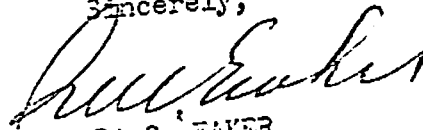
JACOB L. DEVERS,
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army,
Commanding.

We can be thankful, too, for the great spirit of cooperation and friendship we have always had from our British brothers in the air, the Royal Air Force. The British people in every walk of life in this Island have, as we all well know, extended every hospitality and kindness.

Looking forward to next year, we must realize that we face the critical year of the war. Our assignment is clear. We shall undertake air battles of a size and significance never before approached. These will entail courage and self-sacrifice and hard work even surpassing the last hard year. We can undertake these grave responsibilities buoyed by the knowledge that our effort will most certainly ensure victory and hasten the end of the war.

Please tell all your officers and men of my complete admiration of them as fighting men and skilled Air Force technicians and of my deep appreciation of their hard, brave work. Tell them also that I wish them safety, good health, happiness and military successes for 1944. I shall do everything in my power to help them.

Sincerely,



IRA C. BAKER
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS
EIGHTH AIR FORCE
AFC 633

23 December, 1943.

The Commanding Officer,
306th Bombardment Group,
AAF Sta. 111.

Dear Colonel Robinson:

Christmas time and approaching New Year are historically and rightly seasons for stock taking of the old year and planning for the New Year. I have not been immune to this good American custom.

In looking back over the past historic year of war, we in the Eighth Air Force find many things to be thankful for. Among these is the pride we must feel in having been selected by our National leaders for our present tasks and great responsibilities. We are not unmindful of the fact that we are the only American force fighting Germans in Germany thus far.

We gladly give thanks for the great support we have had from home -- from our families who have spared us and sent us forth to fight for them and the principles and truths we all cherish; for the hard work done in the factories, farms and mines, which provided us with the best possible weapons for our tough battles; and finally, for the support and encouragement we have had from our leaders who gave us this task. The following quotation from a letter recently received from the Assistant Secretary of War, the Hon. Robert A. Lovett, illustrates the real sympathy and understanding we have had from them:

"I wish to goodness I could get over there for a few days, but that seems to be out of the question at this time in view of the scheduling and programming which must be squared away before the end of the year. My main excuse for coming over would be a purely personal one. I wish there was some way I could convey to the flight crews and ground crews the admiration I feel for the job they are doing and the way they are doing it. But the strength of heart and firmness of purpose which they show is something which beggars description."

General Devers, our European Theater Commander, has supported and encouraged us in every conceivable way. His understanding and leadership have made the accomplishment of our task possible. Without that unstinted support, we could not have succeeded.

March 11, 1942.

CORRECTED COPY
SPECIAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 52)

E X T R A C T

1. PAC radio 2AF R318G, Hq 2nd AF, Ft George Wright, Washington, dated March 10, 1942, to the CO, Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma, the following named officers are hereby reld fr asgmt and duty at Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma, and are hereby asgd to the organization and stations indicated, and will proceed without delay to their respective stations, reporting upon arrival thereat to their Commanding Officers for duty:

301TH BOMB GP, GEIGER FIELD, WASHINGTON
Capt SAMUEL J. GORMLY, JR., 0289770, AC.

39TH BOMB GP, TUCSON, ARIZONA
Capt WALTER E. ARNOLD, JP., 0339832, AC.

303RD BOMB GP, BOISE, ID. HO
Capt GEORGE L. ROBINSON, 022362, AC.

305TH BOMB GROUP, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
Capt JOHN H. DeRUSSY, 022612, AC.
First Lieut RICHARD D. CALLAWAY, 022371, AC.
First Lieut CLEMENS K. WURZBACH, 022562, AC.
First Lieut DONALD K. FARGO, 0330152, AC.
First Lieut WILLIAM E. SAULT, 0403622, AC.
First Lieut TOM H. TAYLOR, 0403950, AC.
First Lieut RAY L. SCOTT, 0401243, AC.

The QM will furnish the necessary T. If travel is performed by privately owned conveyance the provisions of par 1 a, AR 605-180 applies.

Travel of dependents is authorized.

TEN and payment when made is chargeable to procurement authority FI 1402 P 1-06, 15-06 A. 0410-2. For packing, crating, and shipping of authorized household goods is chargeable to procurement authority QM 1628 P 61-07, 72-13 A. 0525-2.

The FO will furnish cy of Pd Vou to Hq 2nd AF, Ft George Wright, Washington, without delay, and also cy of Vou to Base S-4, this Sta.

By order of Colonel DeFORD:

JAMES H. BEARLY,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

OFFICIAL:

James H. Bearly
JAMES H. BEARLY,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Commanding General

15 January 1943.

GENERAL ORDER)
:)
No..... 6)

E X T R A C T

x

x

x

III. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 8 August 1932, as amended and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 74, Hq., ETOUSA, 18 November 1942, the AIR MEDAL is awarded to the following Officers and Enlisted Men.

GEORGE L. ROBINSON, O-22362, Lieutenant Colonel, 333rd Bombardment Group (H), Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement while serving as Commander of a Group of bombardment airplanes and Pilot of a B-17 airplane, on a combat mission over enemy occupied Continental Europe, 23 November 1942. Intense and accurate anti-aircraft fire was encountered at 21,000 feet altitude over the target. The airplane was damaged, and was then attacked by four ME-109 airplanes. Despite these adverse conditions, Lieutenant Colonel Robinson remained calmly at his post, succeeded in evading the enemy pursuit, led his entire formation safely back to a friendly base and landed the damaged airplane. The courage, coolness, Skill and outstanding leadership displayed by Lieutenant Colonel Robinson upon this occasion was largely responsible for the success of a highly important bombing mission and reflects highest credit upon this Officer and the Armed Forces of the United States. Home address: Box 424, Corona del Mar, California.

x

x

x

By command of Major General BAKER:

C. C. CHANCEY,
Brigadier General, U.S.A.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ H. G. Culton,
/t/ H. G. CULTON,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Actg. Adj. General.

A CERTIFIED TRUE EXTRACT COPY:

C. G. DUY, JR.,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant,
306th Bomb Gp (H).

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Commanding General

16 February 1943.

GENERAL ORDER)

No.....19)

E X T R A C T

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x

x

V. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 8 August 1932, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 74, Hq., ETOUSA, 18 November 1942, the OAK LEAF CLUSTER is awarded to the following named Officers and Enlisted Men, in addition to the Air Medal previously awarded.

x

x

x

FOR FIVE BOMBER COMBAT MISSIONS OVER ENEMY OCCUPIED CONTINENTAL EUROPE:

x

x

x

GEORGE L. ROBINSON, O-22362, Lieutenant Colonel, 303rd Bombardment Group (H), Army Air Forces, United States Army. Home address: 1136 West 37th Street Los Angeles, California.

x

x

x

By command of Major General EAKER:

C.C. CHAUNCEY,
Brigadier General, U.S.A.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ H. G. Culton,
/s/ H. G. CULTON,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Actg. Adj. General.

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

C. G. DUY, JR.,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant,
306th Bomb Gp (H).

GENERAL ORDERS)

Hq VIII Bomber Command,

APO 634,

8 July 1943.

No. 89)

E X T R A C T

X

X

X

AWARDS OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO AIR MEDAL

SECTION II

X

X

X

II. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 8 August 1932, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 36, Hq ETOUSA, 5 April 1943, and Ltr Hq Eighth Air Forces, 16 April 1943, Subject "Awards and Decorations", an OAK LEAF CLUSTER is awarded to the following-named Officers and Enlisted Men, in addition to the Air Medal previously awarded.

Citation: For exceptionally meritorious achievement, while participating in five separate bomber combat missions over enemy occupied Continental Europe. The courage, coolness and skill displayed by these Officers and Enlisted Men upon these occasions reflect great credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States.

X

X

X

GEORGE L. ROBINSON, O-22362, Lieutenant Colonel, 306th Bombardment Group (H), Army Air Forces, United States Army. Home address: 1136 West 57th Street, Los Angeles, California.

X

X

X

By command of Brigadier General F. L. ANDERSON:

JOHN A. SAMFORD,
Colonel, AG,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

s/ Edward E. Toro
t/ EDWARD E. TORO,
Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General.

A CERTIFIED TRUE EXTRACT COPY:

[Handwritten Signature]
C. G. DUY, JR.,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant,
306th Bomb Group (H).

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Commanding General

7 August 1943.

GENERAL ORDER)

No.121)

E X T R A C T

x

x

x

VII. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 8 August 1932, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 36, Hq., ETOUSA, 5 April 1943, an OAK LEAF CLUSTER is awarded to the following named Officers in addition to the Air Medal previously awarded.

x

x

x

GEORGE L. ROBINSON, O-22362, Lieutenant Colonel, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while leading his Group on a bombardment mission over enemy occupied Europe, 4 April 1943. Colonel Robinson directed the unit from his position as Pilot of the leading airplane. When the leading group was fiercely attacked by a large force of enemy fighter planes, Colonel Robinson skilfully maneuvered his unit into a position where its fire power was effective in defense of the attacked group. As a result of this, the determined enemy opposition was broken up and the objective was successfully bombed. The courage, skill and leadership displayed by Colonel Robinson on this occasion reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Home address: Box #424, Corona del Mar California.

x

x

x

By command of Major General HAKER:

C. C. CHAINCEY,
Brigadier General, U.S.A.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ E. G. CULTON,
/t/ E. G. CULTON,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

A CERTIFIED TRUE EXTRACT COPY:

C. G. DUY, JR.,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant.
306th Bomb Gp (H)

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Commanding General

17 August 1943.

GENERAL ORDER)

No..... 131)

E X T R A C T

X

X

X

II. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 8 August 1932, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 36, Hq., ETOUSA, 5 April 1943, the SILVER STAR is awarded to the following named Officers.

X

X

X

GEORGE L. ROBINSON, O-22362, Lieutenant Colonel, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For gallantry in action, while serving as Combat Leader on a bombing mission over Germany, 18 March 1943. Colonel Robinson directed a Heavy Bombardment Wing from his position in the leading airplane of the formation. Under his inspiring leadership, a highly important and heavily defended military objective was successfully bombed. The courage, skill and brilliant leadership displayed by Colonel Robinson on this occasion reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Home address: Corona del Mar, California.

X

X

X

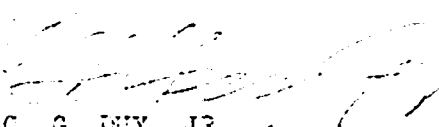
By command of Major General BAKER:

C.C. CHAUNCEY,
Brigadier General, U.S.A.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ H. G. Culton,
/t/ H. G. CULTON,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

A CERTIFIED TRUE EXTRACT COPY:


C. G. DWY, JR.,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant,
306th Bomb Gr (H).

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Commanding General

24 November 1943.

GENERAL ORDERS)

No. 213)

E X T R A C T

X

X

X

II. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 36, HQ., ETOUSA, 5 April 1943, the DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS is awarded to the following named Officers, who have previously earned the Air Medal and three Oak Leaf Clusters for wear therewith.

GEORGE L. ROBINSON, O-22362, Colonel, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while participating in more than ten bombing missions over enemy occupied Europe. On two of these missions Colonel Robinson served as Combat Leader of a Heavy Bombardment Wing and on two other occasions led his Group, flying the leading airplane. He directed the attack of a combat wing on the mission dispatched, 16 August 1943, to bomb an important military installation. Flying in the leading aircraft, Colonel Robinson led the formation through determined enemy opposition and bombed the target without the loss of an airplane. The courage, skill and leadership displayed by Colonel Robinson on all these occasions served as an inspiration to members of his command. His actions reflect highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from California.

X

X

X

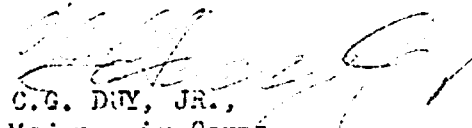
By command of Major General BAKER:

C.C. CHAUNCEY,
Brigadier General, U.S.A.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ E. G. Culton,
/t/ H. G. CULTON,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

A CERTIFIED TRUE EXTRACT COPY:


C.G. DWY, JR.,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant,
306th Bomb Gp (H).

GENERAL ORDERS)

No. 230)

Hq VIII Bomber Command,
APO 654,
19 December 1943.

III. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 3 August 1932, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 36, Hq ETOUSA, 5 April 1943, and ltr Hq Eighth Air Force, 20 September 1943, Subject "Awards and Decorations", an OAK LEAF CLUSTER is awarded to the following-named Officer and Enlisted Man for wear with the Distinguished Flying Cross previously awarded.

GEORGE L. ROBINSON, O-22362, Colonel, 308th Bombardment Group (H), Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Pilot on fifteen bombardment missions over enemy occupied Continental Europe. Displaying great courage and skill, Colonel Robinson has materially aided in the success of each of the fifteen missions and his actions are an inspiring example for his fellow flyers. The courage, coolness and skill displayed by Colonel Robinson on all these occasions reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Home address: 1136 West 37th Street, Los Angeles, California.

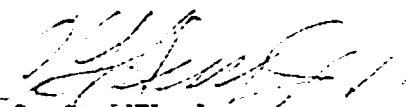
By command of Brigadier General HODGINS:

JOHN A. SAMPFORD,
Colonel, GSC,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ Edward E. Toro,
/t/ EDWARD E. TORO,
Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General.

A CERTIFIED TRUE EXTRACT COPY



C. G. DUY, Jr.,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant,
308th Bomb Gp (H).

ALBERT J. MANDELARO, 12099712, Sergeant, Army Air Forces,
United States Army. For meritorious achievement, in accomplishing five
bombardment missions as a Cameraman over enemy occupied Europe. The
courage, coolness and skill displayed by Sergeant Mandelaro on all these
occasions reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces
of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

By command of Lieutenant General EAKER:

C. C. CHAUNCEY,
Brigadier General, U.S.A.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:


H. G. CULTON,
Colonel, A. G. D.,
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION: Special Awards.

Wing of B-17 airplanes on a bombing mission over Germany, 6 September 1943. When the assigned target was found to be obscured by heavy cloud cover, Colonel Hatcher led the formation to another important objective, which was successfully bombed, in spite of determined enemy opposition. The courage, skill and leadership displayed by Colonel Hatcher on this occasion reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Washington.

MAURICE A. PRESTON, O-20673, Colonel, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For meritorious achievement, while leading a Combat Wing of B-17 airplanes on a bombing mission over enemy occupied Europe, 3 September 1943. In spite of adverse weather conditions, Colonel Preston skilfully led the formation over the target, which was effectively bombed, causing damage to important enemy installations. The courage, skill and leadership displayed by Colonel Preston on this occasion reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from California.

ROBERT B. SATTERWHITE, O-388636, Lieutenant Colonel, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For meritorious achievement, while serving as Combat Leader of a Heavy Bombardment Division on a mission over enemy occupied Europe, 9 September 1943. During the bombing run, Colonel Satterwhite's plane sustained a direct flak hit, which wounded the bombardier and rendered him unconscious. Due to this unfortunate incident, he led the formation to the secondary target, relinquishing the lead position just prior to the bombing run. This target was bombed with excellent results. The courage, skill and leadership displayed by Colonel Satterwhite on this occasion reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Florida.

CHARLES H. SACKERSON, O-661971, Captain, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For meritorious achievement, while serving as Co-Pilot of the leading airplane of a Combat Wing on a bombing mission over Germany, 8 October 1943. Shortly after leaving the English coast, one engine of his plane ceased to function. Displaying courage and flying skill, Captain Sackerison assisted the pilot in maintaining the lead position and in accomplishing a highly successful mission. His actions on this occasion reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

important mission and reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

THOMAS H. SINGER, O-729509, 1st Lieutenant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Bombardier of a Combat Wing on a mission over Germany, 8 October 1943. On approaching the target area, the formation was subjected to persistent attacks by enemy fighters and encountered intense concentrations of anti-aircraft fire. Though the target was partially obscured by heavy smoke and haze, Lieutenant Singer, knowing the bombing effort of the entire Wing depended on his accuracy, accomplished an excellent bombing run and released his bombs directly on the objective. The courage, coolness and technical skill displayed by Lieutenant Singer on this occasion materially aided in the completion of a highly successful mission and reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Alabama.

WILLIAM S. WINNESHIEK, O-792190, 1st Lieutenant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Pilot of a B-17 airplane on a bombing mission over enemy occupied Europe, 4 October 1943. After completion of the bombing run, his aircraft was attacked by a large number of enemy fighters. During the running battle which followed, three engines of his plane were knocked out by 20 MM cannon shells. Displaying courage and superb airmanship, Lieutenant Winneshiek, aided by the co-pilot, skilfully handled the almost uncontrollable airplane, which was vibrating violently. Though the enemy fighters were eluded by taking advantage of all cloud cover, a forced landing in the sea seemed inevitable. Maneuvering his plane with great skill, Lieutenant Winneshiek reached the coast of England and accomplished a crash landing, without further injury to any member of the crew. His actions on this occasion reflect highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

IV. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 36, Hq., ETOUSA, 5 April 1943, the AIR LEDAL is awarded to the following named Enlisted Man.

LOUIS H. ZUSSER, 16038860, Sergeant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For meritorious achievement, in accomplishing five bombardment missions as a Cameraman over enemy occupied Europe. The courage, coolness and skill displayed by Sergeant Zusser on all these occasions reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Illinois.

V. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 36, Hq., ETOUSA, 5 April 1943, an OAK LEAF CLUSTER is awarded to the following named Officers and Enlisted Man, for wear with the Air Medal previously awarded.

WILLIAM A. HATCHER, Jr., O-21528, Colonel, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For meritorious achievement, while leading a Combat

He directed the attack of a Combat Wing on the mission dispatched, 16 August 1943, to bomb an important military installation. Flying in the leading aircraft, Colonel Robinson led the formation through determined enemy opposition and bombed the target without the loss of an airplane. The courage, skill and leadership displayed by Colonel Robinson on all these occasions served as an inspiration to members of his command. His actions reflect highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from California.

THOMAS K. McGEHEE, O-353019, Lieutenant Colonel, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while participating in more than twenty bombing missions over enemy occupied Europe. On the mission dispatched 16 September 1943, Colonel McGehee served as Combat Leader of a Heavy Bombardment Wing. Flying the leading airplane, he skilfully led his formation through heavy concentrations of anti-aircraft fire and effectively bombed a target of vital importance, without the loss of a single aircraft. The courage, skill and leadership displayed by Colonel McGehee on all these occasions have been an inspiration to all flying with him. His actions reflect highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Alabama.

III. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 36, Hq., ETOUSA, 5 April 1943, an OAK LEAF CLUSTER is awarded to the following named Officers, for wear with the Distinguished Flying Cross previously awarded.

THOMAS K. McGEHEE, O-353019, Lieutenant Colonel, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Leader of a Combat Wing on a bombardment mission over Germany, 8 October 1943. Colonel McGehee directed the attack from his position as Pilot of the leading aircraft. Shortly after leaving the English coast, one engine of his plane ceased to function. In spite of this, Colonel McGehee, thinking only of the mission entrusted to him, continued to lead the formation. Though subjected to determined attacks by enemy fighters and intense, accurate flak during the bombing run, the Wing released its bombs effectively on a target of vital importance. The courage, skill and leadership displayed by Colonel McGehee were directly responsible for the completion of a highly successful mission and reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Alabama.

RAYMOND E. BROOKS, O-664868, 1st Lieutenant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Navigator of a Combat Wing on a bombardment mission over Germany, 8 October 1943. On approaching the target area, the formation was subjected to persistent attacks by enemy fighters and encountered intense concentrations of anti-aircraft fire. Displaying courage and a high degree of technical ability, Lieutenant Brooks navigated the Wing through the heavy opposition and on to the target with such skill that all the aircraft returned safely, after successfully bombing the objective. The actions of Lieutenant Brooks on this occasion materially aided in the completion of a highly

pilot in handling the almost uncontrollable airplane, which was vibrating violently. Though the enemy fighters were eluded by taking advantage of cloud cover, a forced landing in the sea seemed inevitable. By skilful maneuvering, the English coast was reached and a crash landing accomplished without further injury to any member of the crew. The actions of Lieutenant Bevins on this occasion reflect highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Tennessee.

RAYMOND F. FEILBACH, O-803501, 2nd Lieutenant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Navigator of a B-17 airplane on a bombing mission over Germany, 8 October 1943. During a fierce attack by enemy fighters, Lieutenant Feilbach was wounded and his aircraft heavily damaged. After successfully bombing the target, the pilot was unable to maintain a position in the formation. In spite of his painful wounds, Lieutenant Feilbach skilfully navigated the aircraft back to the home base. The courage, technical skill and devotion to duty displayed by Lieutenant Feilbach on this occasion reflect highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Louisiana.

GERALD A. REED, O-681476, 2nd Lieutenant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Co-Pilot of a B-17 airplane on a bombing mission over Germany, 4 October 1943. Prior to reaching the objective, his aircraft sustained a direct flak hit, which destroyed a portion of the left wing, damaged the right wing, and severed most of the control cables. Though unable to remain with the formation, due to the almost unmanageable condition of his plane, Lieutenant Reed assisted the pilot in successfully bombing another target of importance. With the airplane vibrating so violently that there was danger of it breaking up in mid-air, he skilfully aided the pilot in flying it back to England. When the pilot ordered the entire crew to bail out in order that he might return the plane to the coast, where it could crash harmlessly into the sea, Lieutenant Reed remained with the pilot until the rest of the crew had bailed out and then he jumped. The courage, coolness and skilful airmanship displayed by Lieutenant Reed on this occasion reflect highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Illinois.

II. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 36, Hq., ETOUSA, 5 April 1943, the DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS is awarded to the following named Officers, who have previously earned the Air Medal and three Oak Leaf Clusters for wear therewith.

GEORGE L. ROBINSON, O-22362, Colonel, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while participating in more than ten bombing missions over enemy occupied Europe. On two of these missions Colonel Robinson served as Combat Leader of a Heavy Bombardment wing and on two other occasions led his Group, flying the leading airplane.

201,22

1st Ind.

(2)

HEADQUARTERS VIII BOMBER COMMAND, APO 634.

To: Commanding General, 1st Bombardment Wing, APO 634.

1. It is indeed gratifying to have this expression of commendation from the Commanding General, Eighth Air Force.
2. Realizing that the success of this matter was due entirely to the efforts of yourself and those under you, I desire to add my personal appreciation for the care, attention, and skill which you displayed.
3. Your attention is invited to the instructions of the Commanding General, Eighth Air Force, regarding dissemination.

/s/ F. L. ANDERSON
 /t/ F. L. ANDERSON
 Brigadier General, U.S.A.
 Commanding.

2nd Ind.

HQ, 1ST BOMBARDMENT WING, APO 634, 21 July, 1943.

TO: Commanding Officer, 306th Bomb Gp (H), APO 634.

I wish to express to you and through you to all members of your staff my appreciation of the effort and coordination which have resulted in commendation from the Secretary of War, Theater Commander, Commanding General, Eighth Air Force and Commanding General, VIII Bomber Command.

/s/ FRANK A. ARMSTRONG, JR.,
 /t/ FRANK A. ARMSTRONG, JR.,
 Brigadier General, U.S.A.,
 Commanding.

C O P Y

C O P Y

HEADQUARTERS
EIGHTH AIR FORCE
ETOUSA

July 17, 1943.

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Brigadier General Frederick L. Anderson Jr.,
Commanding General, VIII BOMBER COMMAND.

1. The VIIIth Bomber Command, particularly you and your staff, General Armstrong and the 1st Wing staff and Colonel Robinson, Commanding Officer, 306th Group and his organization, are commended for the excellent arrangements worked out and carried out for the visit of the Secretary of War, The Honourable Henry L. Stimson, and for the ceremony in connection with the award of the Congressional Medal of Honor to Sergeant Maynard E. Smith. The ceremony, the military bearing and the appearance of the troops and all other arrangements showed excellent organization and a full understanding of exemplary Command and staff work. It is my desire that you call to the attention of all whose good judgment and hard work made possible this excellent effort, the foregoing commendation. Mr. Stimson, the Secretary of War, and General Devers, our Theater Commander, expressed appreciation for the arrangements and were complimentary of the officers and troops observed and met. The performance of you and your officers on this occasion redounds to the credit of the Eighth Air Force, the VIIIth Bomber Command, the 1st Wing and the 306th Group.

/s/
/t/

IRA C. BAKER
IRA C. BAKER
Major General, U. S. A.
Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Commanding General

7 August 1943.

GENERAL ORDER)

NO. 121)

SECTION

VII. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 8 August 1932, as amended, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 36, Hq., AFONSA, 5 April 1943, and CAK LEAF CLUSTER is awarded to the following named Officers in addition to the Air Medal previously awarded.

GEORGE I. ROBINSON, O-22352, Lieutenant Colonel, Army Air Forces, United States Army, For meritorious achievement while leading his Group on a bombardment mission over enemy occupied Europe 4 April 1943. Colonel Robinson directed the unit from his position as Pilot of the leading airplane. When the leading group was fiercely attacked by a large force of enemy fighter planes, Colonel Robinson skilfully maneuvered his unit into a position where its fire power was effective in defense of the attacked group. As a result of this, the determined enemy opposition was broken up and the objective was successfully bombed. The courage, skill and leadership displayed by Colonel Robinson on this occasion reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Home Address: Box 424, Corona Del Mar, California.

By command of Major General EAKER:

G. C. CHAUNCEY,
Brigadier General, U. S. A.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

I certify this is a true extract copy.

H. G. CULTON,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

John M. Kavanaugh
JOHN M. KAVANAUGH,
2nd Lt., AC,
Intelligence Section.

DISTRIBUTION: Special Awards.

HEADQUARTERS
EIGHTH AIR FORCE
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE

AP0 633, U.S. Army
16 July 1943.

Col. George Robinson,
VIII Bomber Command,
APO 634, U.S. Army.

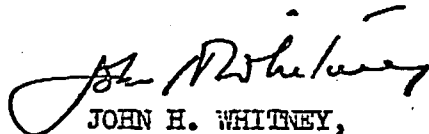
Dear Col. Robinson,

The exigencies of public relations are notoriously exasperating to field commanders, and constantly a strain on private relations as well. Yesterday's decoration ceremony went off so well that it must surely constitute some milestone in our efforts. In any case it calls for the sincere thanks of this office for the very fine co-operation which you and your staff extended in that part of it which concerned us.

I understand that the Secretary of War was highly pleased with the arrangements and performance of all involved, and that is praise.

With renewed thanks and personal regards, I am, Sir,

Yours most sincerely,



JOHN H. WHITNEY,
Lt. Col., A.C.,
Public Relations Officer.

OFFICE 933

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Commanding General

24 November 1943.

GENERAL ORDERS)

NO. 213)

page 3

SECTION

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AWARD OF AIR MEDAL * * * * * IV
AWARDS OF OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE AIR MEDAL * * * * * V

I. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 36, Hq., ETOUSA, 5 April 1943, the DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS is awarded to the following named Officers.

SAM L. BARR, O-791275, Captain, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while leading a Squadron of B-17 airplanes on a bombing mission over Germany, 17 August 1943. Enroute to the target, one engine of his aircraft was disabled, the instrument panel practically destroyed and other serious damage sustained. In spite of this, Captain Barr continued to lead his unit and though subjected to persistent fierce attacks by enemy fighters, successfully bombed the target. The excellent results obtained by his Squadron can be attributed to the courage, skill and tenacity of purpose displayed by Captain Barr. His actions on this occasion reflect highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Mississippi.

WILLIAM G. BROACH, Jr., O-791277, 1st Lieutenant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Pilot of a B-17 airplane on a bombing mission over enemy occupied Europe, 4 October 1943. When the plane above him was forced out of position by enemy fighters, while releasing its bombs, Lieutenant Broach's aircraft was severely damaged and momentarily went out of control. Displaying courage and skilful airman-ship, Lieutenant Broach returned his airplane to level flight and effectively bombed the target. During the return journey, he was unable to keep up with the formation and as a result was subjected to fierce attacks by enemy planes. By diving his airplane to low altitude and taking advantage of all cloud cover, he successfully eluded the attacking fighters and returned his plane to England, where a safe landing was made. The actions of Lieutenant Broach on this occasion reflect highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Virginia.

CARL W. DAWURSKA, O-736485, 1st Lieutenant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Pilot of a B-17 airplane on a bombing mission over Germany, 4 October 1943. Prior to reaching the objective, his aircraft sustained a direct flak hit, which destroyed a portion of the left wing, damaged the right wing, and severed most of the control cables. Though unable to remain with the formation, due to the almost unmanageable condition of his plane, Lieutenant Dawurske selected a target of importance, which was bombed with success. Upon returning to England, he ordered the entire crew to bail out and when they were all safely away he headed his crippled plane for the coast, where it could crash into the sea, without harm to anyone. With his airplane vibrating so violently that there was danger of it breaking up in mid-air, Lieutenant Dawurske flew it out over the water and then bailed out. He was safely rescued a short time later. The courage, flying skill and devotion to duty displayed by Lieutenant Dawurske on this occasion uphold the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from California.

WILLIAM C. GREGG, O-794655, 1st Lieutenant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Pilot of a B-17 airplane on a bombing mission over Germany, 17 August 1943. When the squadron commander was forced to abandon the formation, Lieutenant Gregg assumed leadership of the squadron. Though under constant attack by enemy fighters, he skilfully led his unit over the target, which was bombed with excellent results. During a fierce attack by enemy planes after the bombing run, his aircraft was severely damaged. In spite of this, Lieutenant Gregg held his squadron in a tight defensive formation and maneuvered his own plane with such skill that his gunners were able to destroy five of the attacking fighters. The courage, leadership and superb airmanship displayed by Lieutenant Gregg on this occasion reflect highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Florida.

HENRY ZABORSKY, O-678812, 1st Lieutenant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Navigator of a B-17 airplane on a bombing mission over enemy occupied Europe, 9 October 1943. On leaving the target area, Lieutenant Zaborsky was faced with the difficult task of returning his aircraft, which had two disabled engines, to a base in England, approximately 800 miles away. Displaying courage and a high degree of technical skill, Lieutenant Zaborsky navigated his plane at an altitude of less than 1000 feet in order to elude enemy fighters and successfully reached the home base. His actions on this occasion were directly responsible for the safe return of his airplane and reflect highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

BEUFORD C. BEVINS, O-798418, 2nd Lieutenant, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement, while serving as Co-pilot of a B-17 airplane on a bombing mission over enemy occupied Europe, 4 October 1943. After the bombing run, his aircraft was attacked by a large number of enemy fighters. During the running battle which followed, three engines of his plane were knocked out by 20 mm cannon shells. Displaying courage and exceptional flying skill, Lieutenant Bevins assisted the

Lt. Col. George L. Robinson
C. O., 306th Bomb Group



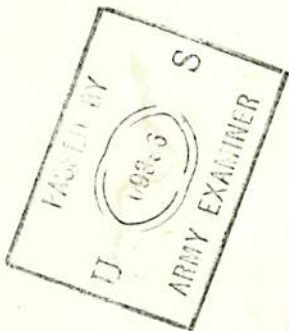
LTC George Robinson, group C.O.





Col. George L. Robinson,
C.O., 306th Bomb Group





J. B. ...
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Col. George L. Robinson,
306th BG C.O., at Thurleigh

Col. G. L. Robinson.



Col. GEORGE L. Robinson



George L. Robinson

Sitting in the cockpit of one of the Flying Fortresses under his command is Lt. George L. Robinson of Los Angeles, Calif. Colonel Robinson enlisted in the Corps as a buck private in 1931. Five years later he entered Kelly Field on July 1, 1937, changed his stripes to silver wings and gold bars of a flying officer. His tour of duty as a flying officer took him to March Field, Calif., Tacoma, Wash., Fresno, Calif., Oklahoma City, Okla., Boise, Idaho, and El Paso, Texas. From El Paso Col. Robinson came overseas to the ETO as a Group Executive Officer of a heavy bomb group. In June 1943 he took over command of the oldest active combat group in England. Col. Robinson has flown on 11 combat missions over Germany and German-occupied countries. The Colonel firmly believes that "the proper conditions will always hit anything in time". Colonel Robinson's home is at 1136 West 10th St., Los Angeles, Calif., and his work is at Corona Mar, Calif.



11-1-D 93%
G.L. Robinson
COLONEL USAF

Col. George L.
Robinson
CO. 306th Bomb Group

ROBINSON

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