

PERSONNEL RECORD UPDATE

306th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION

Date. 9-27-94.

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

LAST NAME: STEELE FIRST NAME: PAUL MI: E TITLE:  
Street Address: 9670 E. WENLOCK DR. Telephone: (804) 746-3705

City, State MECHANICSVILLE VA Zip + 4: 23111-4156

Winter Address: Telephone: ( )  
City, State Zip + 4: - - - - -

Date of birth: 6-29-25 Wife's name: NATALIE #c 3 #gc 8 #ggc NONE YET!

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

Last employment & job title & retirement date:  
EMRICK CHEV. SALES - ASST. SER. MGR. 9-'90

Serial #(s): 3858 3749 Squadron: 367 Specialty: 612

Date joined 306th: 2-3-'45 If combat, what crew? VERDICK

Special duties or assignments w/306th:  
TAIL GUNNER - CAMERA OPERATOR (CASEY JONES)

No of missions flown: 19 Date of last mission: 4-15-'45

Date leaving 306th: 2-10-'46 Highest rank/grade w/306th: S/SGT.

Other 8AF units served with, and when: 367th -  
SERVED AS ALL NITE GUARD ON AIRCRAFT "Fuddles Kelly" (MARCH-APRIL-'45)

Top service assignment after 306th: USAFR. - 612 TO 47131 (8-17-51)

USAF retirement date: 1954 Rank/grade: S/SGT.

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

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



RECORDS UPDATE

306th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION

(Please complete as much of this form as you wish to, fold and mail as per address on reverse side. Or, if obtained at a reunion, hand to Russ Strong)

LAST NAME: STEELE FIRST NAME: PAUL TITLE:  
STREET ADDRESS: 2210 E. WENHOCK DR. TELEPHONE: (804) 746 3705  
CITY: MECHANICSVILLE STATE: VA. ZIP: 23111  
DATE JOINED 306th ASSOCIATION: 1984  
REUNIONS ATTENDED: (Years) 3  
WIFE'S NAME: NATALIE  
LAST EMPLOYMENT: EMRICK Chev., Richmond, Va, ASST. SER. MGR.  
COLLEGE(S) ATTENDED: DEGREE(S): DATE:  
SERIAL #: ~~374~~ 38583749 SQDN: 367 MOS: 612  
DATE ARR: DEC. '44 CREW: H. VERDICK  
DATE DEPARTED: FEB 46 (GERMANY) HIGHEST RANK IN 306th: S/SGT.  
SERVICE RETIREMENT DATE: 5-'54 RANK or GRADE: S/SGT.  
DECORATIONS WITH 306TH: AIR Medal + 2 CLUSTERS  
TOP SERVICE ASSIGNMENT AFTER 306TH:  
SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS WITH 306TH: CASEY JONES - MOVE BASE TO GERMANY

QUESTIONNAIRE

CATERPILLAR CLUB - IRVING CHUTE COMPANY

NAME:

COMBAT JUMP DATE & MISSION:

HEIGHT WHEN BAILED OUT:

ANY PROBLEMS WITH PARACHUTE:

306th Bombardment Group. SQDN:



RECORD UPDATE

306th Bomb Group Association

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

Date complete 1-1-91

LAST NAME: STEELE FIRST NAME: PAUL TITLE: RETIRED

Street address: 2210 EAST WENLOCK DR Telephone: (804) 746-3705

City, state, zip: MECHANICSVILLE VA 23111

Date of Birth: 6-29-25

Wife's name: NATALIE

College(s) attended:

Degree(s):

Year(s):

Last employment and job title: KEMRICK CHEVROLET SALES  
ASST. SER. MGR.

Reunions attended: (by year or location) 1st - (1984) FORT WORTH - 2nd DAYTON, OHIO  
3rd CRYSTALL CITY, VA. 4th LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

Serial #: 38583749 Squadron: 367 Speciality: TAIL GUNNER

Date joined 306th: 12/44 If combat, what crew: CASEY JONES (CAMERA OPERATOR)

Special duties or assignments w/306th: H.A. VERDICK  
CASEY JONES, NITE GUARD ON PLANE '45 SOON Supply to RETURN BASE to RAF + MOVE to

Number of missions flown: 19 Date of last mission: ? GERMANY -

Date left 306th: 2/46 - GERMANY Highest rank/grade with 306th: S/SGT.

Other 8th AF units served with:

Top service assignments after 306th: INACTIVE RESERVE - Rich. Va.

USAF retirement date: 5/54 Rank/grade: S/SGT.

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

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

OVER -



2nd Lt Dick Ludwig Bom. - OTU TRAINING -  
 2nd Lt Philip ARNOT Co-Pilot ————— SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.  
 Flight OFF GEORGE GUTTMAN NAV. —————  
 1st Sgt MELVINE MOOK Eng. (Top Turret) ————— - PENN.  
 51st Sgt LEON TITTS WORTH WAIST ————— - Ohio  
 51st Sgt CARL HARSEN Radio - (Last communication was ST PAUL, MINN -  
 worked at P.D. there - BELIEVE HE DIED)  
 51st Sgt LLOYD EVERSON BAHK -  
 (HAS PICTURES IN EDWARD SABOWLSKY'S (HISTORY OF <sup>W/VA</sup> 306<sup>th</sup> AF)?)  
 (Lloyd was standing by ball turret of one plane when his picture  
 was taken after a mission -)  
 - BOMBARDIER (COMBAT)

(See copy of names on orders from Ardmore, Okla.)

By the way - We were married in the 1st Pres. Ch. in  
 Ardmore 10-13-44! (Friday the 13th) BEEN lucky for  
 me ever since!



Left to Right

Top Row: Officers

Dick Ludwig - Bombadier

George Tutman - Navigator

Herb Verdick - Pilot

Phil Arnot - Co-Pilot

Left to Right

Crew

Loyd Everson - Ball turret

Paul Steele - Tail Gunner

Leon Tittsworth - Waist Gunner

Melvin E. Mook - Top Turret

Carl Lassen - Radio Operator

Marshall D. Childers - Waist Gunner



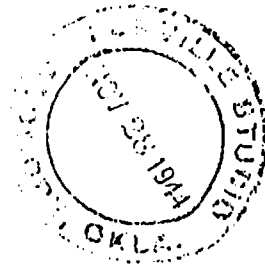
standing - right to left.

- ⊗ Co Pilot -- Phil Arnott 2nd Lt.
- ⊗ Pilot --- Hubert A. Verelick 2nd Lt. → DECEASED
- ⊗ Navigator --- George Gutman F.O.
- Bombardier - Dick Ludwig. 2nd Lt.

Front row - right to left.

- ⊗ Asst. Engineer -- Marshall D. Childers Cpl. → DECEASED
- ⊗ Radio Oper --- Carl F. Larsen Cpl. → "
- ⊗ Engineer --- Melvin E. Mook Lt.
- Crew Chief --- Leon J. Littleworth Cpl.
- ⊗ Int Armourer --- Paul E. Steele Cpl.
- Mail Room Oper. - Lloyd Everson Cpl. → "

⊗ Crew members who did the "Camera mapping Project!!"





# UNITED STATES ARMY AIR FORCES



## FLEXIBLE GUNNERY SCHOOL

*Be it known that PFC PAUL E. STEELE 38 583 749*  
*of the United States Army Air Forces, has satisfactorily*  
*completed the course of instruction prescribed for Flexible*  
*Gunnery Training.*

*In testimony whereof and by virtue of vested authority*  
*I do confer upon him this*

### Diploma

*Given at* LAS VEGAS ARMY AIR FIELD, Las Vegas, Nevada  
*on this, the* 12 *day of* August *in the year*  
*of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and forty-four.*

Attest

*E. S. Clark*  
E. S. CLARK  
WOJG, USA  
School Secretary

*George E. Henry*  
GEORGE E. HENRY,  
Colonel, Air Corps  
Commanding



Russ Strong

9/19/87

Hyatt

A/C # 48739 DELIVERED by  
HERB VERDICK CREW DEC 44 to  
VALLEY, WALES - OBTAINED AT  
LINCOLN NEBR.

CREW ASSIGNED to 306-367

DEC. 44 - 1st AC - B17F (NUMBER UNKNOWN)

2nd AC # 33611 (G) FOR

COMBAT - CREW CHIEF - WESTURNER

CREW ASSIGNED to CASEY JONES

PROJECT - BELIEVE SAME AC?

Paul Steele



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

NAME: STEELE, Paul E.

RANK: S/sgt.

SQUADRON: 367th

DUTY: Tail GUNNER

S.S.N.: 38583749

GROUP: 306th

Date of Missions	Group Mission Numbers	Indiv. Mission Numbers	Geographical Location of Targets	Combat Time	Total Comba Time
Feb 16, 1945		1	DORTMUND Germany	8:05	
20	L.T. TURNER	2	NURNBERG "	8:30	
21		3	NURNBERG "	8:30	
22		4	WITSTOCK "	8:45	
27		5	LEIPZIG "	9:00	
Mar 1		6	NECKARSUIM "	8:40	
7		7	STIEGEN "	7:45	
8		8	GELSENKIRCHEN "	7:00	
10	L.T. MARKS	9	DORTMUND "	7:30	
11		10	BREMEN "	7:05	
12		11	SWINEAUNDE "	10:00	
15		12	ZOSSEN "	8:50	
19		13	FLAUN "	9:25	
22		14	BORSTEN "	7:05	
23		15	COSFELD "	6:10	
24		16	VECHTA "	6:50	
25		RECALL		2:20	
Apr 7		17	WESENDORF "	9:15	
10		18	ORANIENBURG "	9:15	
15		19	ROYAN FRANCE	7:25	

CERTIFIED CORRECT

157:25

*[Signature]*  
 RICHARD NICKELHOFF  
 Captain AC  
 Ass't Deputy for Operations  
 306th Bomb Group (H)

(X) Don't remember which crew I flew "tail" for - that was their 25th!

# FROM THE DESK OF



Mr. & Mrs. Paul Steele  
9260 E Wenlock Dr.  
Mechanicsville, VA 23116-4154

10-26-05

Dear Russ,

We received the notice in today's  
mail about Bert Verdile's  
passing on 9/30/05 - as you  
probably know he was our pilot on  
"Fuddles folly" in the 369th. I'm  
enclosing a copy of a photo taken in  
October 1944 at Ardmore, Okla. before  
we were sent to England for combat  
with the 306 B.G. - with a list of our  
crew and the ones I know of who have  
gone on!!





I have been in contact with Phil Arnott and  
found out he does a lot of mountain  
climbing - found out that Melvin Nash has  
retired to a campground near Sacramento  
Calif. Others I haven't been able to contact.

Take care + God Bless,

Paul & Steele

January 20<sup>th</sup> 1985

Dear Russell,

I would like to take this opportunity to express our pleasure and good times we had at Fort Worth. It was good to see old friends and fellow flyers of WWII days - this was our first re-union and the second get-together with my pilot, since 1945. Tho we live only 100 miles apart - our crew chief, Leslie Turner, it took us 40 years and Fort Worth to meet. Also it was our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary as the wife and I were married in Ardmore, Oklahoma while taking OTU under H.H. Lypham - and prior to joining the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Enclosed is an article on the planes in Greenland.





it would be nice to have one of the B17's and maybe a P38 as a display for the 8th AFHS.

Our crew ferried a B17 over the same route to England and then we joined the 367th Sq. crews and flew the "hole" for most of our missions.

Not much has been said about the "Lowly Jones" project following the end in May of fighting - not "top secret" yet is it?

Again enjoyed the re-union and look forward to future meetings. Sorry we couldn't get together a little more - maybe someday - in the future.

Best regards,  
Paul E. Steele

# From The Desk Of ...

12-16-91

Dear Russ,

First, I'm delighted to tell you that I received a Christmas Card from Lloyd Everson!



He was our ball turret gunner on Herb Verdick's crew. Says he got our addresses from the 306<sup>th</sup> Echelon!

I haven't seen him since 1945 at Thurleigh! Now if only the rest of the crew will respond.

We had a grand time at Pittsburgh and I am looking forward to Seattle - we won't make it to England.





(2)

Russ, Al Johnson (369<sup>th</sup> pilot) wrote and suggested I send you a picture of the B-176 that my two sons and I built for the June 1<sup>st</sup> parade here in Richmond, then at the local high school for "Flag Day" - June 15<sup>th</sup> and again to Harrisonburg, Va July 6<sup>th</sup> for another parade - all was well received and have been asked to enter another parade here in Richmond April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Hope this promotes the 8<sup>th</sup> and particularly the 306<sup>th</sup>! By the way - do you remember the color of the strip on the tail that "crosses" the A? The tip was red but my black & white pictures don't show.

Russ, you and the wife have a real good new year and hope to see you in Seattle - many thanks, Paul Steele

**From The  
Desk Of**



Paul E. Steele  
9260 E Wenlock Dr.  
Mechanicsville, VA 23116-4154

3-11-03

Dear Russell,

We received this notice the other day about Herb Berchick's wife passing away.



Herb was my pilot on "Saddles Folly" from December 1944 through the Casey Jones program.

The address on the envelope is from his son that also lives in Squim Washington.

You may have met her at our Reunion at Washington D.C. a few years ago.



We are planning on making the reunion at Savannah in December since we have a granddaughter with her Army husband, who is stationed in Savannah as a recruiter. We hope that they will accompany us, also.

I noticed in your book about the Casey Jones program that it never mentions being stationed in the Azores while mapping - we were there for about three months when we returned to England, we worked on moving to Germany.

Herb came home on the "Queen" and I made it in February '46 from Antwerp on the SS Hagerstown.

Best wishes to you,  
Paul Steele



**FROM THE  
DESK OF ...**

7/26/94

Dear Russ,

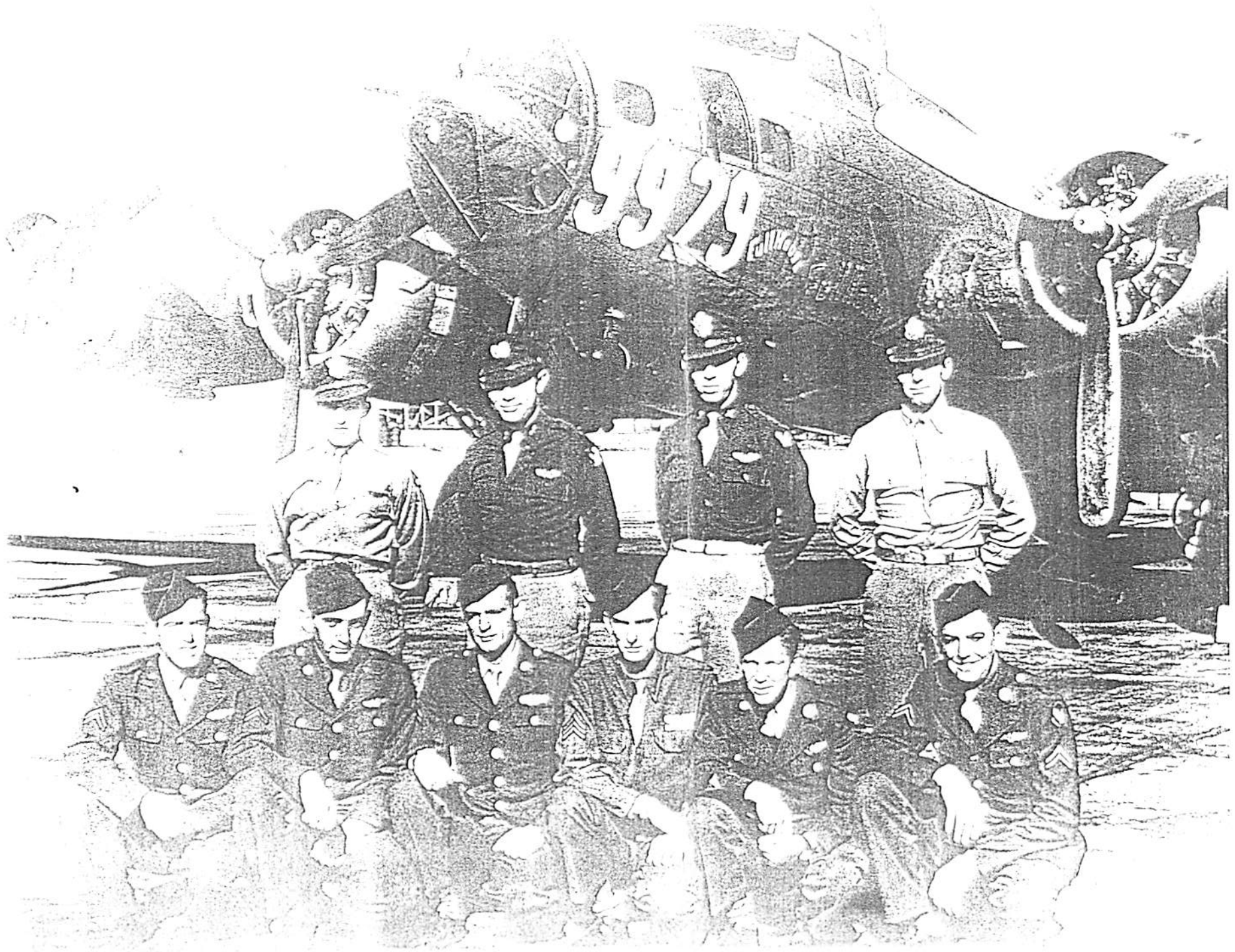
Am enclosing two pictures of which will help identify one crew member of George V. Luckett crew on page 5 - 367 Sqdn. The first unknown looks like he would be Dick Ludwig our bombardier during OTD. at Ardmore. The other "unknown" is Victor Wright - I believe he was a waist gunner - he also helped me to haul equipment to hangars when we dismounted the 306<sup>th</sup> m.



(over)

1945 to move to Germany. it was assigned to a new GMC 6x6 for the job - he also was my co-driver on the trip from Thurleigh to Germany with a stop over in Le Harve, hence the picture of M D Childers (my crew) Vic and myself, in the other photo he is standing in the middle, in front of our Quonset hut at Thurleigh - I would appreciate the return of these photos when you have them, also a sad bit of news, you may already know - Paul Zardiff died June 20th in Calif. Eileen says he left home at 10 AM to put oil in an aircraft for the "wing" he belonged to there and was found lying in the grass beside the hanger - he was our crew chief after Les Turner was moved - Best to you - Paul.







R E S T R I C T E D

COMBAT CREW DETACHMENT  
222ND COMBAT CREW TRAINING STATION  
A.F., ARMOORE, OKLAHOMA

20 September 1944

O R D E R S )

NUMBER 81 )

\*\*\*

E X T R A C T

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2. Pursuant to authority contained in AR 35-1480, and AAFR 35-29, and upon the recommendation of their CO, the following named EM are hereby placed as combat crew members requiring regular and frequent participation in aerial flights from this date, until such time as orders are issued by competent authority removing EM concerned from flying status.

(PFCS)

Abrams, James J	37361319	Johnston, Charles R	37736341
Abrams, Malcolm	12206583	Johnson, Orvel E	37584320
Alderson, Richard E	15174378	Johnson, Wayne L	39145886
Alewitz, Sam	32978598	Jones, William P	33553639
Allen, Arlan R	38584509	Keagle, William M	33798427
Anderson, Harold R	39216492	Kedzierski, Joseph H	36952515
Baker, Clarence E	36308474	Keegan, John T	33614007
Beckwith, Walter D	35759654	Kelley, Edgar C Jr	18242446
Billington, James H	38606303	Kester, Andrew T	19181843
Blake, Ernest T	34851063	Kettel, Alvin D	39213851
Brandon, John C	39693906	King, Mervin O	39218588
Bruce, Carl C	36684900	Kirkland, Otis	34675293
Chacona, Harry G	13172345	Kohan, Frederick	36865526
Childers, Marshall D	37731285	Kubr, Joe W	37489553
Church, James W	15372929	Langston, Delbert A	39865175
Countryman, Norris R	39469193	Leaptrot, Herman G	34971510
Cuccuini, Arthur J	32486908	Leong, Richard	39714942
Dickens, Dale A	38147498	Lewis, William M	35249762
Dorman, Bobby A	14181509	Limoges, Jerome D	37490620
Everson, Lloyd	35760738	Lindquist, Fred W	16107258
Fritsch, Homer C Jr	16130520	Logan, Grover L	19168048
Hasten, Robert G	37632426	Loss, John	38507360
Hays, Benjamin N	14061225	Mamet, Bryant	19090457
Heim, Louis G	13141663	Mansfield, Eugene N	37534397
Heim, Marvin A	37675461	Mathewson, Bradford W	39417942
Heim, William L	38603289	Matney, Jesse B	18099004
Henager, Rudolph M	38147833	Mayor, Carey W	39497501
Hicks, Denvil B	15336949	McDonald, John T	18139713
Hintz, Eugene	38548480	McElligott, Edward F	32897070
Holderman, Guy W	35228265	McLean, Lewis T Jr	39725922
Homes, Benjamin C Jr	14172854	McLeod, Robert A	39213963
Howard, James	36762437	Melvin, William H Jr	13187697
Hudgins, Earl R	36884170	Merrill, Robert A	37358731
Hughson, Robert I	42093995	Miles, Vern L	37721171
Humlícek, Edward R	37485312	Mopley, William P	19189201
Hush, Robert H	16191939	Moltz, Charles E	36942269
Jackson, Carmen J C	33569472	Moore, Richard E	35560698
Jeandrevin, Robert R	35916538	Moore, Robert C	38346421
Jensen, Donald R	37675315	Moravek, Karl T A	36842201

*Rt. Wait*

*Stewart*

Ⓟ Herb Verdick's crew (367th)

Mullikin, Herman O	35893170	Schmidt, Kenneth J	36834278
Munk, Edward F	39467707	Schonfeld, Raymond C	36467208
Neel, Benton L	39702682	Schwartzman, Irwin J	39718753
Neubauer, Robert P	36842198	Scriptunas, Vito A	33606433
Noll, Frank V	33516039	Seale, Fred F	33548255
Noonan, Bernard F	31286817	Selph, Russell L	36481422
O'Connor, Joseph	32500085	Serbin, John Jr	35917174
Odom, Ray B	38491532	Settle, John L	35767440
Olson, George G	17118091	Spera, Anthony L	39048439
Page, Gerald L	16139695	Steele, Paul E	39583749
Parr, John R	38608475	Stevens, Bennie E	34845553
Pavlich, Edward F	37346943	Taylor, Melvin J	35923156
Payette, Roland R	31373063	Treichler, William E	37677746
Pendleton, John M	15364522	Waldschmidt, George C	15344231
Pesta, Clarence A	16130700	Walker, Walter T	36782468
Polowy, Thaddeus	42027934	Whitman, Bernard L	35876375
Priem, Elmer E	16189570	Williams, Joseph F	37358675
Read, Alfred J	36636851	Wilson, Herman A	34798883
Reader, James R	36467800	Wise, Harold M	37705277
Richardson, Robert A	39863377	Wolski, Walter S	35895144
Richardson, Robert P	13233255	Wright, Victor Jr	35070325
Richardson, Thomas J	17132688	Wyant, James H	35927216
Riedel, Alvin J	37704855	Yeamans, Jack V	37540676
Rooks, Ned	34714157	Zolko, Harry	33793075
Rusnak, Michael	13188086		

Tail

Ⓚ

(PVTS)

Currens, Raymond R	35874756	Gardam, Joseph W Jr	12204540
Frew, Billis D	38449991		

Ⓚ Don't know who's crew - but was my co-driver to Germany -

Milton S Angier  
MILTON S ANGIER,  
Major, Air Corps,

St. Richard J. Dulburg Jr. 1624 Grand Ave. Greene, W. Va.	Alfred C. Evans Belington, W. Va.	Carl F. Savare 3413 Blumington Ave Minneapolis, Minn.	Melvin E. Mork 183 Spring Ave. Meadell, Penn.	Marshall D. Cribben Paterburg, Mo. RR#1	James F. M... H. H. M... H. H. M...
Seamus F. M... El Paso, Ill.					



8-28-86

Dear Russell,

Last evening Mrs. Turner called me from Norfolk, Virginia to inform me of Les' condition - he was taken to the De Paul Hospital last week for a problem with his liver, it was found to be cancerous and also it had spread to his brain - Les is undergoing "chemo-therapy" and now "radiation treatment" for his head, she said it doesn't look good and that he requested she contact me, since he won't make the reunion in Dayton.

Les Turner, you know was our crew chief on "Fuddles Folly" and also one that we had before - can't place the



- 2 -

name of "that" one - it had "Los Angeles City limits" sign painted on the tail at the "tail gunners" window - I'll show you the pictures when we get to Dayton -

My thoughts on Les Turner are we should remember him in our Prayers and ask Gods' help to cure him he sure loves the reunions and has made every one so far. I thank God for his help in keeping our "Fort" in top shape and our crews safe return from each mission - then when we did the "Casey Jones" gig before moving to Germany in 1945.

I thought I should let you

Know about Les - for he may not make the reunion, in fact Marriel says he has 10 days of treatment to go yet before they'll know how bad or good it is.

Thanks for lending your "ear" to one of our "boys" and will see you in Dayton in September - my pilot Herb Verdick and wife will be there, too!

Take care and God Bless -

Your "Comrade-in-Arms,"  
Paul E. Steele.



July 17<sup>th</sup> 1982

Russell A. Strong,

Dear Sir,

Enclosed are a couple of items that might help in your research of the 306<sup>th</sup> - I was a tail gunner on Lt. Herbert Verdick's crew - we flew B17 # 337611 - (E on tail). It had a sign painted on the tail as such: 

LOS ANGELES
CITY LIMITS

 I flew 17 missions in this craft - then it was sent back to states and we were given <sup>1</sup> one that had "Fuddles Folly" painted on the nose. We finished our combat tour in this one - then after VE day - flew hi-point men to Germany - then stripped it of armament and mounted cameras in the floor of the radio room and "Casey Jones'd" Europe and the Azores Islands.

We then returned to England in November and proceeded to dismantle the base, turn it over to the RAF and move to Liebelstadt, Germany. I was assigned a 6x6 after all ground personnel were



sent to Germany, and when not moving 367 equip-  
ment from the site, I used it as a "liberty run" to  
Bedford each nite. We used Air Crew officers &  
enlisted personnel to move the equipment. I had  
the only valid GI driving permit for trucks at the  
time and our Squadron Captain (can't remember his name,  
but came from Denver, Colo.) asked me to teach a  
young 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. how to drive - we used a weapons carrier  
but he just couldn't coordinate his left foot (clutch)  
and his right along with shifting - Captain assigned  
him to ride with M.P. in lead jeep of motorcade.

We slipped out of Southampton on a Liberty ship -  
loaned to British and landed at Le Havre, France  
after a week at Le Havre of getting ready for the "road"  
we proceeded to Germany - drove thru the Black  
Forest - "beautiful"!

I have quite a few pictures taken while taking  
a new B17C over and while there on base, some  
at Le Havre shore line.

The wife and I are planning on a trip to Germany this fall and hope to "swing" by Thurleigh on the way home - see the 306th Memorial - Oct 6-7-8th maybe!

Some way - I feel the Lord had plans for me - Col. H.H. Upham, ordered a training flight with a fly-thru target sleeve - our crew normally flew the "hole" - we were scrubbed at the last minute in favor of a new crew that had just come over - as I remember a ball turret gunner on one of the bi-element planes fired on the target and "raked" the plane we would have been in from tail to nose - it went down and only 2 survivors - I was a pall-bearer for one of the dead crew members buried in the cemetery at Cambridge.

Sincerely,  
Paul E. Steels

# From The DESK OF ...

10/11/86

Dear Russell,

I knew I'd forgotten to include something with the pictures! As well as I can remember of the pictures are one of 3 people in front of the shack - 1<sup>st</sup> one on left standing is Leslie Turner, <sup>(Crew Chief)</sup> a 2<sup>nd</sup> one kneeling is J. Smith <sup>Asst Crew Chief</sup> - a landman that worked with Les - 3<sup>rd</sup> standing is my pilot Herb Verdick.



One of Fuddles' Folly nose section shows Pilot Herb Verdick. Then one of the tail "Los Angeles City Limits" - seated inside is M.D. Childers, waist gunner on Herb's crew. (our crew) There



is one of the picnic on the ball field "VE day" - you can see the bike handle bars in RT corner!



# From The Desk Of

(My youngest son designed this writing  
paper for me!)

M D Childers and I toured the base that day  
on bikes, took pictures of 2 farm houses  
and our plane.

Dont know if I included one of  
and Lloyd Everson holding  
jackets that I had painted our Squadron  
insignia and B17s on the back.



Russell am enclosing some "originals"  
you might want to copy and return, these  
were sent to my wife during our "tour" and  
unfortunately were written on the front -

Three of the enclosed pictures are of when  
we were moving to Germany - we were in Le Harve  
for a week after unloading our equipment for the  
drive to Heibelstadt, Germany.



one of the three are of  
myself, M D Childers and  
Victor Wright - (my

co-driver of a 6x6 - he was a radio  
operator from one of our 367 Crews - dont remember  
who - tho! - you may keep this one as its a  
copy

# FROM THE DESK OF ...

The wife and I sure enjoyed the  
 Reunion - our only regret is the  
 lack of time to really tour  
 the Museum at Wright/Patt  
 we need more time - never went  
 to the army - we've been to two <sup>reunions</sup>  
 now - looking forward to Alexandria  
 Va. 100 miles from us and also the  
 1988 in San Fran area? - my high  
 school Buddie, works for United at San  
 Francisco!



Best regards,  
 Paul E. Steele





RESTRICTED  
HEADQUARTERS  
GIBELSTADT ARMY AIR BASE  
APO 227, US ARMY

G-A-1

370.5/ RRL-2. L 10-53  
RRL-5.

SUBJECT: Shipment Orders RE 5156-27 (STAT CODE JDA unless otherwise indicated)

TO : Personnel Concerned.

1. Pers on attend roster are held fr asgmt with units indicated and are used for movement to Separation Center GP RE 5156-27. This movement constitutes a perm change of sta for each indiv with TDY enroute at US Port. Water Priority No. 1701-E is auth for tvl by water. EDGHR. Date of Departure.
2. Separation Center GP RE 5156-27 will move o/a 1 Feb 46 by water transportation fr present overseas sta to Separation Center in US to be named by ind to this order by the CG of the US Port at which shipment is debarked. This Gp will be under the control of CG, ASM fr time of departure fr overseas sta until rel'd by competent auth in US.
3. S/Sgt Paul E. Steele, 38593749, is designated NCCIC and Custodian of Records for Separation Center GP RE 5156-27 fr time of departure fr present overseas sta until rel'd by competent auth at Separation Center in US and will carry records required by PAR 139, ETO-SOP No 61-ETO-POM-RED as amended and delivered to CG upon arrival at final destination.
4. All pers will be instructed before departure fr overseas sta to notify correspondents and publishers to discontinue mailing letters and publications until they receive notification of new address. WD AGO Form 271-1 may be used for this purpose.
5. Clothing and equipment prescribed in Cir 99, Hq US Forces European theater 17 July 1945, as amended by USFET Cir 122 dated 11 Sept 1945, will accompany pers.
6. All persons will be instructed that information concerning the WD, Army or personal activities for a mil nature with his theater will not be discussed in private or public and will not be disclosed by means of newspapers, magazines, books, lectures, radio, or any other method without prior clearance through the WD, BFR, or appropriate Public Relations Officers.
7. Prior to departure fr sta, pers will be instructed in procedures for customs clearance as prescribed by PAR 153, ETO-SOP No 61-ETO-POM-RED as amended.
8. First Lieutenant James W. Thomas, O-874480 of Separation Gp No RE 5156-34 is designated GO for shipment No 5156 fr time of departure until relieved by competent authority.
9. PRR, FGCE, EDM FSA 60-114, 500 P 431-02, 03 A212/60425. Auth: WD Readjustment Reg 2-2, 11 Apr 1945; ETO-SOP No 61-ETO-POM-RED, 4 Sep 1945 as amended. Letter by USFET Subj PROCEDURE FOR RETURN TO US OF INDIVIDUALS BY WATER dated 11 Dec 45 and USAFE Messageform 16627 dated 18 January 1946.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL UPHAM:

RICHARD L. FINLEY  
Major, Air Corps  
Adjutant



R E S T R I C T E D  
PERSONNEL ROSTER (AAF)

HIGH SCORE & SERVICE CASUALS

REF 5126-27 (INTAF FORM 27)  
unless otherwise indicated

FOR SEPARATION CENTER #27, FORT LEADE, MD.  
(RRL PERSONNEL)  
Unless otherwise indicated

<u>NAME</u>	<u>GRADE &amp; ARM OR SERV</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>ORG</u>	<u>MOS</u>	<u>ASR</u>	<u>MOS SER</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
STEELE, PAUL E.	S/SGT AC	38583749	367 B Sq 306 B Gp	612	54	25	2103 Hanover Av. Richmond, Va.
GEYER, GEORGE A.	SGT	33547602	367 B Sq 306 B Gp	756	54	36	18 E. Lee Street Hagerstown, Md.
MORGAN, WILLIAM F.	<del>CPL</del> <i>Sgt.</i>	33723417	368 B SQ 306 B Gp	852	53	33	43 Marion Street Cumberland, Md.

S/SGT PAUL E. STEELE 38583749 AC (612) 54 is designated NCOIC and  
Custodian of records for Separation Center Gp.

*LEONARD, STEWART L. S/sgt. 33536473 762BU. 237 54 36 717 DIXIE ST.  
1324 NAACS Sq. Bristol, Va.*

SECRET

R E S T R I C T E D

(Col. Hudson H. Upham Comm.)

Standing - right to left.

Co. Pilot -- Phil Arnot 2nd Lt. +  
Pilot --- Hubert A. Verelick 2nd Lt.  
Navigator --- George Gutman F.O.  
Bombardier - Dick Ludwig 2nd Lt.

Front row - right to left.

Aux. Engineer -- Marshall D. Childers Cpl. X  
<sup>waist</sup> Radio Oper. --- Carl F. Larsen Cpl. X  
Engineer --- Melvin C. Mook Sgt.  
Crew Chief --- Lewis J. Tittsworth Cpl.  
<sup>waist</sup> Aux. Armorer --- Paul E. Steele Cpl. - Me!  
<sup>tail gunner</sup> Ballurret Oper. - Lloyd Croson Cpl.

\* Lost contact with Carl - worked for P.D. St Paul - Minn. Minn.  
Son served in Navy - came back to work in same P.D. as Mechanic  
Has daughter in Las Vegas, Nev - married to operator of a gaming  
table.

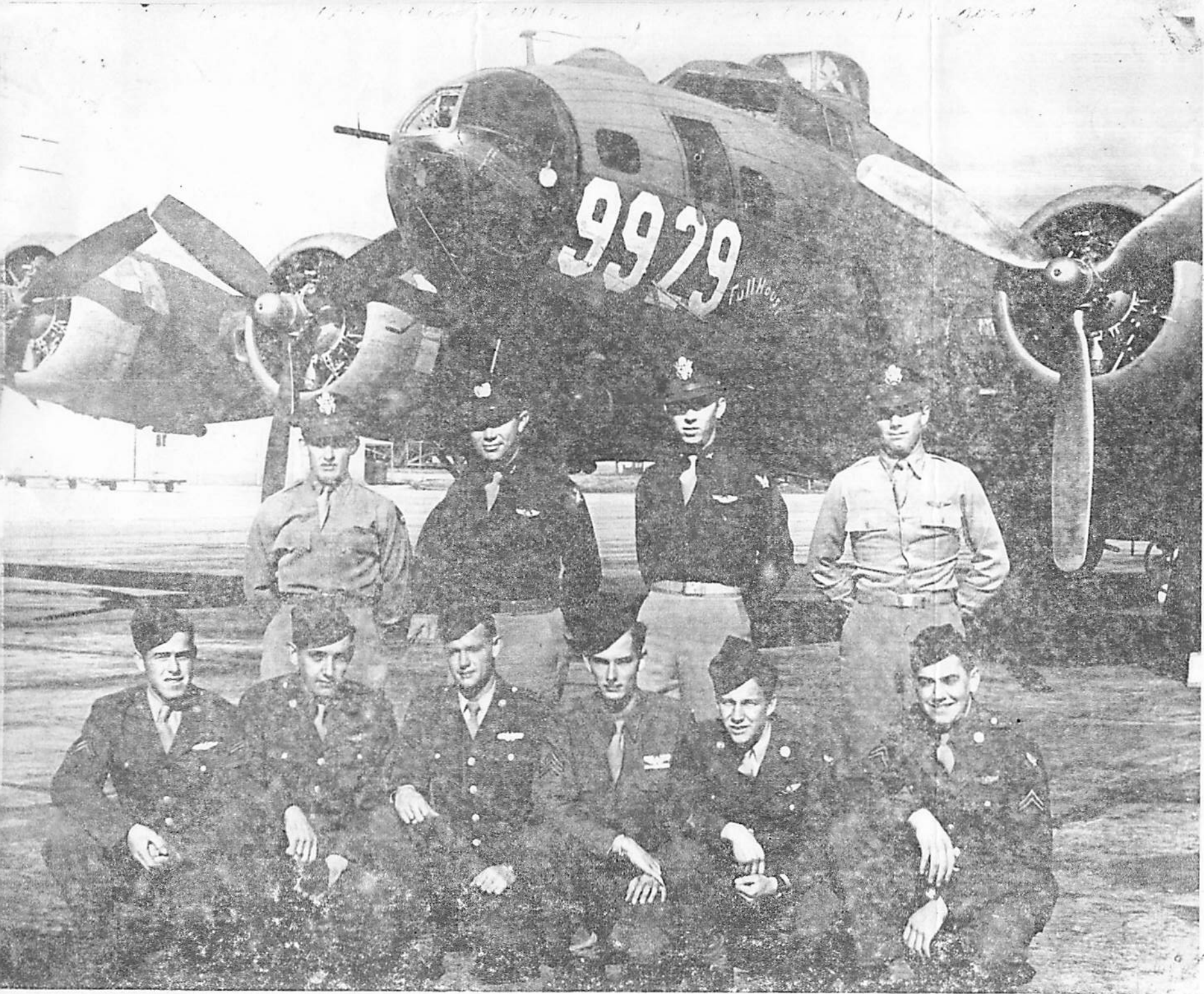
X - still talk and write to him - has a farm in Amity, Mo.

+ - Pilot - retired from City of L.A. Ca - moved to Sequim, Wash.  
still write and talks to!



Started flying combat January 1945 - after VE - stripped  
17's of armament and installed cameras - "Casey Jones"ed Europe  
and Azores Islands - moved base from Thurlough to Gibraltar,  
Germany Dec 1945 - came home Feb 1946 -  
flew as tail gunner for 2 crews on their 25th!







5/9/91

Russ,

Here are some copies of my  
orders from Ardmore Okla. to  
Germany - note that Col. Upham  
was our Co. in Ardmore and  
then in Shurleigh.

The names underlined on

the orders from  
Admors are my crew  
mates except the Wright -  
He appeared in our billet at the  
367<sup>th</sup> and was my co-driver  
when we drove trucks, etc to  
Heibelstadt Army Air Base.  
Note also on my flight records

that they're marked  
"9th Air Force" - suppose  
some of your missing records  
are listed under the divisions  
of the 9th that are listed? If  
circled the ones in red.

Am enclosing a pic of Victor -  
you can copy and return



the one of mine, when  
we got to Pittsburg. Also  
got two pics of my license  
plates here in Va. you can  
have these.

On the recall we had that  
day of March 25<sup>th</sup> '45 - was  
the longest 2 hours of my

Flight career -  
We were trying to form  
up - but with 10/10 the coverage  
over all of England made it  
impossible - as it was the "tail"  
like supposed to flash 4 dots  
for "H" - my fingers got tired -  
so I wrapped the cord around  
the switch and just kept

switching it back  
and forth when - now -  
here comes 3-4 B-17s  
through the clouds straight  
for our left side - the lead  
pilot saw the lite about the  
same time I keyed my mike  
and warned Herb - as we  
dove right + down



this group flew  
right over us (we  
had 2 or 3 with us) - we  
were told to drop the bombs  
in the channel and come  
home - we couldn't find the  
"channel" so came back  
fully loaded. oh well  
the ~~God~~ Lord was with us

that time, also!

I notice the flight record  
don't record it as "Casey Jones"  
and we were in the Aggies for  
a month or two - before we came  
back to England and proceeded  
to move to Germany.

Hey - see ya in Pittsburg!  
Best, Paul.







# INDIVIDUAL FLIGHT RECORD

(1) SERIAL NO. **38583749** (2) NAME **Steele, Paul E.,** (3) RANK **S/Sgt** (4) AGE **1925**  
 (5) PERS. CLASS **38** (6) BRANCH **Army Air Forces** (7) STATION **AAF-111 APO 557**  
 (8) ORGANIZATION ASSIGNED **8th 9th** (9) ORGANIZATION ATTACHED **VIII Fighter Command**  
 (10) PRESENT RATING & DATE **Tail Gunner** (11) ORIGINAL RATING & DATE **Same**  
 (12) TRANSFERRED FROM **8th** (13) FLIGHT RESTRICTIONS **None**  
 (15) TRANSFERRED TO **9th** (14) TRANSFER DATE **6-45**

(16) DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

PERS CLASS	RANK	RTG.	A. F.	COMMAND	WING	GROUP		SQUADRON		STATION	MO. YR.	(17) ..As Indicated MONTH 19
						NO.	TYPE	NO.	TYPE			

DAY	AIRCRAFT TYPE, MODEL & SERIES	NO. LANDINGS	FLYING INST. (INCL IN 1ST PIL. TIME) S	COM. PILOT C CA	CO. PILOT CP	QUALIFIED PILOT DUAL CD	FIRST PILOT		RATED PERS.		NON-RATED		SPECIAL INFORMATION					
							DAY P	NIGHT P N OR NI	NON-PILOT	NON-PILOT	OTHER ARMS & SERVICES	OTHER CREW & PASS'GR	INSTRUMENT I	NIGHT N	INSTRUMENT TRAINER	PILOT NON-MIL. AIRCRAFT OVER 400 H.P. UNDER 400 H.P.		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
April 1945																		
7	B-17G	1							Combat			9:15						
10	" "	1							Combat			9:15						
15	" "	1							Combat			7:25						
21	" "	1										2:25						
22	" "	1										2:45						
23	" "	1										4:00						
24	" "	1										3:05				38:10		
May 1945																		
1	B-17G	1										2:10						
2	" "	1										2:00						
2	" "	1										1:20				5:30		
June 1945																		
2	B-17G	12										2:20						
16	" "	1										4:00						
18	" "	1										5:20						
19	" "	1										3:35						
21	" "	2										2:10				17:25		

*May 8th "VEA DAY" (CASEY JONES PROJECT)*

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

RICHARD NICKELHOFF,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Ass't Dep for Opns,  
306th Bomb Gp. (H).

COLUMN TOTALS 53 224:20 224:20

(37) THIS MONTH	(42) TOTAL STUDENT PILOT TIME	(43) TOTAL FIRST PILOT TIME	(44) TOTAL XXAT TIME
(38) PREVIOUS MONTHS, THIS, F. Y.			224:20
(39) THIS FISCAL YEAR			127:00
(40) PREVIOUS FISCAL YEARS			351:20
(41) TO DATE			351:20

AIRCRAFT	NL	CARD NO. 1					CARD NO. 2					CARD NO. 3							
		19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE



# INDIVIDUAL FLIGHT RECORD

(1) SERIAL NO. 38583749 (2) NAME Steele, Paul E. (3) RANK S/Sgt (4) AGE 1925  
 (5) PERS. CLASS 38 (6) BRANCH Army Air Forces (7) STATION AAF-111 APO 557  
 (8) ORGANIZATION ASSIGNED 9th (9) ORGANIZATION ATTACHED VIII Fighter Command  
 (10) PRESENT RATING & DATE Tail Gunner (11) ORIGINAL RATING & DATE Same  
 (12) TRANSFERRED FROM \_\_\_\_\_ (13) FLIGHT RESTRICTIONS None  
 (15) TRANSFERRED TO \_\_\_\_\_ (14) TRANSFER DATE \_\_\_\_\_

(16) DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

PERS CLASS	RANK	RTG.	A. F.	COMMAND	WING	GROUP		SQUADRON		STATION	MO.	YR.
						NO.	TYPE	NO.	TYPE			
:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

(17) MONTH July 19 45

DAY	AIRCRAFT TYPE, MODEL & SERIES	NO. LANDINGS	FLYING INST. (INCL. IN 1ST PIL. TIME) S	COMMD. PILOT C CA	CO-PILOT CP	QUALIFIED PILOT DUAL QD	FIRST PILOT		RATED PERS.			NON-RATED		SPECIAL INFORMATION															
							DAY P	NIGHT P N OR NI	NON-PILOT			OTHER ARMS & SERVICES	OTHER CREW & PASS'GR	INSTRUMENT 1	NIGHT N	INSTRUMENT TRAINER	PILOT NON-MIL. AIRCRAFT												
																	OVER 400 H.P.	UNDER 400 H.P.											
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36											
2	B-17G	1											4:05																
12	" "	1											5:30																
13	" "	1											7:20																
14	" "	1											7:05																
17	" "	1											8:40																
23	" "	1											5:30																
25	" "	1											4:20																
28	" "	1											3:05																
30	" "	1											5:40																
<i>(CASEY JONES PROJECT)</i>																													
CERTIFIED CORRECT:																													
<i>Richard Nickelhoff</i>																													
RICHARD NICKELHOFF, Captain, Air Corps, Ass't Dep for Opns, 306th Bomb Gp. (H).																													
9																													
COLUMN TOTALS																													
												51:15																	

(42) TOTAL STUDENT PILOT TIME (43) TOTAL FIRST PILOT TIME (44) TOTAL XXXX TIME

(37) THIS MONTH	51:15
(38) PREVIOUS MONTHS THIS F. Y.	0:00
(39) THIS FISCAL YEAR	51:15
(40) PREVIOUS FISCAL YEARS	351:20
(41) TO DATE	402:35

AIRCRAFT	NL	CARD NO. 1					CARD NO. 2					CARD NO. 3						
		19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE



















# INDIVIDUAL FLIGHT RECORD

(1) SERIAL NO. 38583749 (2) NAME STEELE PAUL E. (3) RANK S/Sgt (4) AGE 1925  
 (5) PERS. CLASS 38 (6) BRANCH AC (7) STATION AAF Giebelstadt, Ger.  
 (8) ORGANIZATION ASSIGNED 40th (9) ORGANIZATION ATTACHED 306th (10) ORIGINAL RATING & DATE 387th  
 (11) ORIGINAL RATING & DATE None  
 (12) TRANSFERRED FROM \_\_\_\_\_ (13) FLIGHT RESTRICTIONS \_\_\_\_\_  
 (14) TRANSFERRED TO \_\_\_\_\_ (14) TRANSFER DATE \_\_\_\_\_

(16) DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

PERS CLASS	RANK	RTG.	A. F.	COMMAND	WING	GROUP		SQUADRON		STATION	MO.	YR.
						NO.	TYPE	NO.	TYPE			

(17) MONTH December 1945  
January 1946

DAY	AIRCRAFT TYPE, MODEL & SERIES	NO. LANDINGS	FLYING INST. (INCL. IN 1ST PIL. TIME) S	COMMD. PILOT C CA	CO-PILOT CP	QUALIFIED PILOT DUAL QD	FIRST PILOT		RATED PERS.			NON-RATED		SPECIAL INFORMATION					
							DAY P	NIGHT P N OR NI	NON-PILOT			OTHER ARMS & SERVICES	OTHER CREW & PASS'GR	INSTRUMENT 1	NIGHT N	INSTRUMENT TRAINER	PILOT NON-MIL. AIRCRAFT		
																	OVER 400 H.P.	UNDER 400 H.P.	
Dec. 19		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	
2	B-17G	2											3:00						
3	" "	1											3:10		6:10				
January 1946																			
5	B-17G	1											4:05		4:05				
<p><b>CLOSED CHANGE OF STATION</b></p> <p><b>CERTIFIED CORRECT:</b></p> <p><i>Harlan D. Wolffe</i>  <b>HARLAN D. WOLFFE,</b>                      Captain, Air Corps,                      Ass't Oprns, Officer                      306th Bomb Gp (H)</p>																			
<p>10:15</p> <p>Non</p>																			

COLUMN TOTALS	(42) TOTAL STUDENT PILOT TIME	(43) TOTAL FIRST PILOT TIME	(44) TOTAL PILOT TIME
			10:15
(37) THIS MONTH			141:45
(38) PREVIOUS MONTHS THIS F. Y.			152:00
(39) THIS FISCAL YEAR			359:00
(40) PREVIOUS FISCAL YEARS			511:00
(41) TO DATE			

WRITE IN SPACE	AIRCRAFT		CARD NO. 1								CARD NO. 2					CARD NO. 3				
	NL		19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
			19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36