#### 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 completed March 1-1991

LAST NAME: STEWART

FIRST NAME: FORREST J.

Street address: 21 Doe Run Drive Telephone: (713) 367-9924

City, state, zip: The Woodlands TX

Date of Birth: April 17-1922

Wife's name: ANN

College(s) attended: U. of MAINE

Degree(s): 8.5 Year(s): 1949

Last employment and job title: VICE PRESIDENT

Ingersoll-RAND Co.

Reunions attended: (by year or location) Omaha, Ft. worth, Colorado Springs, washing ton, Payton, Las Vegas, Little Rock, San Antonio

Serial #: 082707/.

Squadron: 423 Rd

Specialty: Pilot

Date joined 306th: Sept. 1944

If combat, what crew: Stewart (F.J.)

Special duties or assignments w/306th:

Land Pilot

Number of missions flown:

25

Date of last mission: April, 1945

Date left 306th: April, 1945

Highest rank/grade with 306th: Captain

Other 8th AF units served with:

Top service assignments after 306th: Air Transport Command Fenny Pilot

USAF retirement date: Nov. 1945 Rank/grade: CAptain

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.

### 6 January 1987

#### Dear Forrest:

Receivedaal of the material from you, and certainly appreciate very much your attention to Kieth Jackson.

I enclose a couple of of the 306th decals.

Also, I had all of the orders you sent along, but you had some better copies than I did, more readable, so I am grateful that I was able to upgrade my collection.

Look forward to seeing you in Las Vegas.

#### 9 October 1992

#### Dear ForrestL

Here is an accounting of the balloting by officers and directors concerning the Des Moines site for 1994.

If you are agreeable I will contact Bob Houser so that he knows we have chosen Des Moines, and we can announce it in the October issue of Echoes.

One member, who last year voted for Detroit when we picked Seattle, this year chose Indianapolis. Guess he is a confirmed nonconformist.

Looks like Orlando is favorable for '95.

All the best,

8 October 1992

To: Forrest Stewart
William Cavaness
Casey Jones

Re: Seattle reservations

Just a reminder: I will take care of room reservations at the Red Lion Inn-SeaTac for you and your spouse.

You will receive notification from the hotel in due time.

As has been the custom for the last 10 years, the rooms of officers are gratis, a part of our deal with the hotel.

Bring your charge cards along, however, as it does not cover meals or anything else.

If you fly in, the Red Lion has excellent transportation to its front door, which is about  $l^{\frac{1}{2}}$  miles from the terminal.

14 May 1993

#### Dear Forrst:

I enjoyed the opportunity to spend a bit of time with you and to get to know you a bit better.

As a followup to our travels homeward, I was at the airport by 6 this morning, and quickly had a seat assigned for the 7:15 flight to Pittsburgh, and to be a standby from Pitt to Charlotte.on the 5:30 flight.

But, arriving in Pittsburgh, I stopped as a US Air service desk for assistance, and a girl suggested I hurry to another gate and see if there was a seat on an earlier flight to Charlotte that was just about to depart. I got on, I think the last one to do so, and was in Charlotte at 4:20, a real surprise.

As an add-on to the letter contained herein on room distribution, I would like to ask your counsel on offering a room to Don Bevan, our Saturday banquet speaker? I haven't written him on the matter, but may have mentioned it on the phone. I just don't recall. But, I do think it would be good payment for his efforts on our behalf in presenting a good Seattle reunion.

Let me know, and if you are in the affirmative, I can then inform him on the matter.

Sincerely yours,











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

# 306 TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

Secretary/Historian Russell A. Strong 5323 Cheval Place Charlotte, NC 28205 704/568-0153

23 September 1992

Author
First Over Germany
Command and Staff
Officers, 8th Air
Force, 1942-45
Editor
306th Echoes
306th Directory

### ASSOCIATION OFFICERS ELECTED IN ENGLAND

Forrest J. Stewart, 21 Doe Run Drive, The Woodlands, was elected president of the 306th Bombardment Group Association for a one-year term at its recent annual meeting held in the Cumberland Hotel, London, England.

Stewart served during WWII as a lead pilot for the Group's 423rd Bombardment Squadron, flying 35 missions over Germany in a B-17.

He is retired as a vice president of Ingersoll Rand Corp.

The 306th Bomb Group Association was celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Group's entering combat in WWII as one of the original groups in the Eighth Air Force, flying out of England. The group flew the first of 341 combat missions on 9 October 1942.

More than 400 persons from the U. S. took part in the weeklong reunion activities held at Bedford, at the Group's base at Thurleigh, at Madingly Cemetery near Cambridge, at the Duxford Imperial War Museum, and in London. At a midweek dance held in one of the Group's WWII hangars more than 1,500 Britishers joined the American visitors to dance to the music of the Herb Miller Orchestra. Herb Miller is a brother of the fabled Glenn Miller.

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

# H BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

President

Forrest J. Stewart 21 Doe Run Drive The Woodlands, TX 77380

November 19. 1992

Vice President

William F. Cavaness 702 Cravens Avenue San Antonio, TX 78223 1304 Dartmouth Avenue Baltimore, MD 21234

Secretary

Russell A. Strona 5323 Cheval Place Charlotte, NC 28205

Treasurer

C.F. (Casey) Jones 136 Coventry Drive Henderson, NV 89014

Directors

Rex C. Barber 2252 South 1000 West Syracuse, UT 84041

William R. Carlile 1304 Dartmouth Avenue Baltimore, MD 21234

WGen James S. Cheney 630 Cinnamon Court Satellite Beach, FL 32937

Victor L. Rose Rt. 2, Box 238A Vestal, NY 13850

Past President

Donald R. Ross P.O. Box 307 Omaha, NE 68101 Mr. William R. Carlile

Dear Bill:

Your phone call and subsequent letter were somewhat of a surprise to me, as were some other comments made at the general meeting in London. I have done some research to familiarize myself with the minutes of past meetings to determine if the Association was conducting any business or spending any funds illegally.

With reference to the location of the reunion in England, each member had a choice of staying in Bedford or Bedford and London, the choice was theirs. The itinerary was discussed in Little Rock, San Antonio and Pittsburgh, with the final arrangements being approved in Pittsburgh.

As far as the office of the Secretary, I believe his duties have been discussed and I do not recall any serious objections to the Russ Strong performance. The Board meeting in Seattle would be the proper time to discuss Russ' duties and pay.

The mission reports cost was approved, with the expected cost of \$2,000, at the meeting in Little Rock in 1989. I will be glad to have this item reconsidered at the next general meeting in Seattle.

1993 Reunion Co-Chairmen

Warren F. Wilson 91 Drew Lane Port Ludlow, WA 98365 Tacoma, WA 98406

Dinwiddie Fuhrmeister 2132 North Orchard

1993 Reunion 9-11 September Seattle, WA



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

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I was present at the meeting in London when the motion was made, seconded and passed to increase Russ' salary. I am still of the opinion that the salary increase was justified.

My past experience with industrial, charitable, church and even social organizations is that a strong secretary or paid executive director is required to have the organization survive. Many organizations, and I would include the 306th, would not survive with a yearly turnover of officers and directors without someone such as Russ Strong to run the day to day business. I am just as firm in my opinion that a secretary or executive director should be advised by the officers and directors as to his duties, and all differences of opinions resolved in a meeting of the people involved.

We may not agree, but I believe that a large part of the success of the 306th Bomb Group Association is due to the continuity of Russ Strong as secretary.

This letter does not answer your questions with a "yes" or "no". but I hope that you will agree that we should have an agenda at the next board meeting that can address the comments of the board members, officers and general membership. If changes are required, a proposal can be made to the general membership for approval or rejection.

> I appreciate your taking the time to write your comments to me and hope you will continue, as with prior input from many members we can have a constructive general meeting at Seattle.

> > Very truly yours,

Forrest J. Stewart President 306th Bomb Group Association

1993 Reunion 9-11 September Seattle, WA

Russell Strong, Secretary 306<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group Association 5323 Cheval Place Charlotte, NC 28205

Dear Russ:

Forrest and I sold our house in The Woodlands, Texas the end of January and moved to Tampa, FL to be near our son. We would appreciate receiving any news concerning the 306<sup>th</sup> at our new address, 9152 Lake Chase Island Way, Tampa, FL 33626. Our telephone number is 813-926-3854, and cell number is <a href="mailto:annstewart@verizon.net">annstewart@verizon.net</a>.

I doubt if we will be able to attend the reunion in Omaha in the fall. The first one we ever attended was in Omaha.

Our best to June.

ann

Sincerely,

Forrest and Ann Stewart











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

## TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

President

Forrest J. Stewart 21 Doe Run Drive The Woodlands, TX 77380

November 19, 1992

Vice President

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

Mr. C. F. Jones

Treasurer

306th Bomb Group Association

Russell A. Strong 136 Coventry Drive 5323 Cheval Place Henderson, NV 89014 Charlotte, NC 28205

Treasurer

**Directors** 

Secretary

Dear Casey:

C.F. (Casey) Jones 136 Coventry Drive Henderson, NV 89014

Apparently you did not receive a copy of the minutes of the 306th Bomb Group Association's Directors meeting in London, England on August 29, 1992, and I am enclosing a copy for your

Rex C. Barber 2252 South 1000 West Syracuse, UT 84041

records.

William R. Carlile 1304 Dartmouth Avenue Baltimore, MD 21234

If, after reading these minutes, you are still uncomfortable in your position as Treasurer, I will discuss the problem with the other 306th officers and directors and attempt to resolve your problem.

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

Sincerely,

Victor L. Rose Rt. 2. Box 238A Vestal, NY 13850

Past President

Forrest J. Stewart

President

Donald R. Ross

306th Bomb Group Association P.O. Box 307 Omaha, NE 68101

1993 Reunion Co-Chairmen

Warren F. Wilson 91 Drew Lane

Dinwiddie Fuhrmeister 2132 North Orchard Port Ludlow, WA 98365 Tacoma, WA 98406

1993 Reunion 9-11 September Seattle, WA

Board of Directors 306th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION 29 August 1992

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm by President Donald R. Ross in room 5041, Cumberland Hotel, London, England. Others present were Forrest Stewart, Rex Barber, George Roberts and Russell Strong.

Ross reported on expenditures, based on a \$5,000 appropriation from the project fund of the Association, of which \$4,000 had been drawn from the treasury up to this point. He discussed the purchase of a \$1,000,000 liability insurance policy covering the officers and directors for a two-week period (24 Aug 92-7 Sept 92). Ross stated that the final report of expenditures would be in the vicinity of \$5,500.

Expenditures are placed against an expected income of \$19,000 which includes \$25 per person on the full trip participants, as well as many purchasing only increments. It also includes \$1,500 for each unused "free" trip. These monies have been collected by Witte Travel and will be forwarded to the Association.

The nominating committee of Ralph Bordner, chairman, Dale Briscoe and William Houlihan entered the meeting at this time. (Bordner was acting for M. E. Christianson, who would normally chair the meeting as past president, but was unable to do so because of illness.) They reported the following slate of officers for 1992-93:

Forrest J. Stewart, president
William Cavaness, vice president
Russell A. Strong, secretary
Charles F. Jones, treasurer
M/Gen James S. Cheney, director for three years (replacing George G. Roberts)

Holdover directors are: Rex Barber William Carlile Victor Rose

The outgoing president, Donald R. Ross, will serve a year on the board as well. Warren Wilson and Dinwiddie Fuhrmeister are co-chairmen for the Seattle 1993 reunion, and Wilson will serve as a director for the year.

This report was accepted by the board, and Bordner will present the slate during the annual meeting, 30 August.

A discussion ensued on the Thurleigh Memorial and its future.

Board of Directors/29 Aug 92/page 2

Following his discussion 28 August with Sir Trever Skeet, MP for Bedfordshire, the secretary will write the MP in regard to the 306th Memorial and the site it now occupies. Mr. Skeet had earlier indicated that the Ministry of Defense hopes to complete negotiations for the sale of RAE Bedford within the next several months. Options might include the MOD's exclusion of the site from the sale, our purchase of the site from MOD or the proposed developer, or a consideration to move the memorial to another site, namely the village of Thurleigh.

Ross discussed the work which Ralph Franklin had completed to make our 1992 reunion a viable enterprise. He stated that Ralph feels that a profit probably will be realized from the British side of the event. Ross and Franklin discussed the possibility of the British group's retention of any such profits for its own activities.

Ross proposed that we approve of such a move, and if this indeed proves to show a proper balance sheet, that the Board of Directrs award to Ralph and Daphne Franklin all-expense trips to our 1993 Seattle reunion.

The Seattle reunion was discussed briefly with special attention to the promotion of a post-reunion voyage by water to Alaska, prepared by the Tripmasters travel group. Ross said that Witte Travel also would like to sponsor a trip to Vancouver, BC, and to offer help to any 306th people with their 1993 air travel at 10% discount. The problem of endorsement of these two travel agencies was discussed and Strong indicated that another agency in Seattle may wish to promote a different trip to Alaska.

Rex Barber moved, Forrest Stewart seconded, that the purchase of a FAX machine for the secretary's office be approved at a cost not to exceed \$600. Passed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell A. Strong, Secretary