

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 8-27-90

LAST NAME: TEETS FIRST NAME: WALTER M. TITLE: RADIO OPERATOR

Street address: 2296 CONCORD RD. Telephone: (201)-889-6097

City, state, zip: SCOTCH PLAINS, N.J. 07076

Date of Birth: 10-10-24 Wife's name: ANNE

College(s) attended: LAFAYETTE Degree(s): BSEE Year(s): 1949

Last employment and job title: M&T CHEMICALS (40 YEARS)
SALES SUPERVISOR

Reunions attended: (by year or location) NONE

Serial #: 42000963 Squadron: 423rd Specialty: RADIO OPERATOR
GUNNER

Date joined 306th: 2-1-45 If combat, what crew: BILL RICH & AL LEMMON

Special duties or assignments w/306th: COMBAT CREW

Number of missions flown: 28 Date of last mission: 4-19-90

Date left 306th: 5-20-45 Highest rank/grade with 306th:

Other 8th AF units served with: STAFF/SERGEANT

369th APPROX 1 WEEK AFTER V-E DAY.

Top service assignments after 306th: RADIO INSTRUCTOR FOR PILOTS AT SEBRING, FL.

USAF retirement date: Rank/grade: STAFF SERGEANT

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.

LEON FREEMAN - GUNNER - LAWRENCEVILLE GA - NEAR ATLANTA.

COMBAT MISSIONS 8th AIR FORCE

1.	Dresden, Germany	0930 hours	Feb. 14, 1945
	Abn. ops.	0600 "	
2.	Munster, "	0700 "	Feb. 19
3.	Nurnburg, "	0845 "	Feb. 20
4.	Nurnburg, "	0900 "	Feb. 21
5.	Garbow, " 300th Mission	0920 "	Feb. 22
6.	Plauen, "	0950 "	Feb. 23-24
7.	Leipzig, "	0840 "	Feb. 27
8.	Hagen, "	0800 "	Feb. 28
9.	Neckarsulm, "	0850 "	March 1
10.	Siegen, "	0800 "	March 7
11.	Gelsenkirchen	0700 "	March 8
12.	Dortmund, "	0800 "	March 10
13.	Bremen, "	0700 "	March 11
14.	Swinemunde, "	1000 "	March 12
15.	Zossen, "	0930 "	March 15
16.	Moblis, "	0930 "	March 17
17.	Berlin, "	0845 "	March 18
18.	Plauen, "	0930 "	March 19
19.	Rheine, "	0715 "	March 21
20.	Gladbach, "	0700 "	March 22
21.	Berlin, "	0815 "	March 28
22.	Bremen, "	0815 "	March 30
23.	Halle, "	0830 "	March 31
24.	Leipzig, "	0950 "	April 6
25.	Halberstadt, "	0900 "	April 8
26.	Kraiburg, "	0945 "	April 11
27.	Rosenheim, "	1000 "	April 18
28.	Falkenberg, "	0845 "	April 19

28	Missions	246:15 Total Time	2 Months 5 Days
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3 Battle stars- Rheinland- Central Germany - Air Offensive of Europe
 3 Oak Leaf Clusters to the Air Medal

MEL TEETS
 306 * 89 423 BS.

8-27-90

DEAR RUSS-

THANKS FOR ALL THE
INFORMATION. FIND INFO FORM
ENCLOSED. I AM SENDING YOU
A LIST OF MY MISSIONS.

HAVE A GREAT TIME AT
YOUR REUNION. HOPE TO SEE YOU
NEXT YEAR IN PITTSBURG. LOOKING
FORWARD TO A VISIT TO THURLEIGH
IN OCT OF THIS YEAR.

Sincerely

Mel Teets

I

ON OCT 15, 1990 WE DROVE UP TO THE RAE STATION IN THURLEIGH. RAE STANDS FOR ROYAL AEROSPACE EXPERIMENTAL STATION. I WENT INTO THE GUARD HOUSE AND IDENTIFIED MYSELF AS A MEMBER OF THE 306th TSG OF THE EIGHTH AIR FORCE. ^{THE OFFICER} HE MADE A PHONE CALL TO MR. FRANKLIN AT THE AIR BASE. HE INDICATED THAT HE WOULD COME TO THE BASE ENTRANCE - WHEN HE ARRIVED AND WE TALKED BRIEFLY, HE SECURED PASS'S FOR US AND WE ALL GOT IN HIS SAAB. AFTER DRIVING A SHORT DISTANCE, RALPH PUT ON A TAPE OF GLEN MILLER MUSIC. WE STOPPED ON A TARMAC - YOU COULD SEE THE STEEL TIE-DOWNS FOR THE 17'S. MANY OF THE TARMACS ARE STILL THERE. WE SAW ONE HANGER THAT WAS LEFT FROM WWII. THE OTHER THREE ARE NO LONGER THERE.

WE THEN DROVE OUT OF THE MAIN GATE TO GET OUR CAMERAS - THE GUARD ALLOWED US TO RE-ENTER AS LONG AS WE WERE WITH RALPH. WE THEN WENT TO AN AREA WHERE "DINGLEBERRY HALL" AND MY BARRACKS WERE STILL STANDING, BUT JUST BARELY. WE ALSO SAW THE MESS HALL WITH THE KITCHEN IN THE CENTER AND THE OFFICERS MESS ON ONE SIDE AND NCO's ON THE OTHER. WE ALSO SAW THE BUILDING WHERE THE OFFICERS COULD TAKE BATHS. WHICH IS WHERE I TOOK MY WEEKLY BATH.

II

WE THEN DROVE OUTSIDE THE BASE AND SAW THE MEMORIAL FOR THE 306TH BS. THE SCHOOL CHILDREN PUT FRESH FLOWERS ON THIS SITE. SUNDAY MANY FLOWERS HAD BEEN PUT THERE CELEBRATING THE 50TH YEAR OF "THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN". RALPH TOOK US TO THE LOCATION WHERE I RODE MY BIKE TO THE FOX HEAD INN. IT IS NOT A PUB ANYMORE AND IS A HOME NAMED "THE FOX". ACROSS THE STREET WHERE I USE TO TAKE MY LAUNDRY, WE SAW THE HOME THAT IS STILL THERE. WE COULD ALSO SEE THE OLD 14TH OR 15TH CENTURY CHURCH THAT WE HAD VISITED DURING THE WAR. WHILE ON THE BASE WE SAW WHERE THE BASEBALL FIELD WAS. THIS WAS THE SITE FOR A MASSIVE BEER PARTY THE NIGHT OF V E DAY. SOME 2 1/2 HOURS LATER WE ARRIVED BACK AT OUR CAR. ~~BE~~ BASED ON WHAT I HAD BEEN TOLD TO EXPECT - THANKS TO RALPH FRANKLIN - FOR ME IT WAS A THRILL I SHALL NOT FORGET.

ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS THAT RALPH SHOWED US WAS A ^{AERIAL VIEW} MAP OF THE AIR BASE AS IT WAS IN WWII. HE ALSO HAD AN AERIAL VIEW OF THE PRESENT AIR BASE WITH ITS 10,000 FOOT PLUS RUNWAY THAT WAS 100 YARDS WIDE.

384th BG.

ON OCT 15th 1990 WE WENT TO NORM'S AIR
BASE AT GRAFTON-UNDERWOOD WE SAW THE MEMORIAL
AT THE END OF ONE RUNWAY. THERE WERE FLOWERS
AT THE BASE AND IT WAS VERY NICE. WE ^{THEN} WENT
TO THE CHURCH - SAW A MAN WORKING AND ASKED
HIM WHERE THE POST OFFICE WAS. WE LEFT THE
CAR AND WALKED UP THE ROAD ALONG A CANAL
TO THE POST OFFICE. WE WERE MET BY
BARBARA BLAND. SHE GAVE US THE KEYS TO THE
CHURCH. - WENT INTO THE CHURCH AND SAW
THE STAINED GLASS WINDOW DONATED BY THE
384th VERY BEAUTIFUL. A WORKMAN WAS
WORKING ON THE STEEPLE. WE WENT BACK
TO THE POST OFFICE AND MET QUINTON BLAND
WHO IS THE HISTORIAN OF THE 384th. WE HAD A
NICE TALK. HE GAVE US SEVERAL SPENT 50 CAL
SHELL CASINGS THAT HAD BEEN PLOWED UP ON
THE FARMS THAT HAVE NOW RECLAIMED THE AIR
FIELD. A VERY ENJOYABLE VISIT.
NORM SIGNED A BOOK WITH HIS PLANE SERIAL
NUMBER AND I SIGNED A BOOK ABOUT THE 306th

3-10-91

DEAR RUSS -

PLEASE FIND MY CHECK FOR *\$5.00 ENCLOSED FOR THE FOLLOWING REPORTS ON MISSIONS.

1. 24 APRIL 44 OBERPFAFFENHOFEN
- * 2. 14 FEB 45 DRESDEN
3. 28 MARCH 45 BERLIN

* IF THE DRESDEN MISSION OF FEB. 14, 1945 IS NOT AVAILABLE I WOULD LIKE 11 MARCH 45 BREMEN.

I AM SENDING YOU A BRIEF STORY ON MY VISIT TO THURLEIGH IN OCT 1990. THANKS TO RALPH FRANKLIN WE HAD AN OUTSTANDING VISIT OF OUR OLD FIELD. IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL FALL DAY AND THE COUNTRYSIDE WAS OUTSTANDING. THE FLOWERS AT THE 306th MEMORIAL WERE BEAUTIFUL. THE ENGLISH SCHOOL CHILDREN HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN THE AMERICAN AIR MEN.

I DON'T KNOW IF WE ARE GOING TO BE ABLE TO MAKE PITTSBURGH AS WE WILL BE IN PHOENIX AZ. WE WILL BE IN ENGLAND '92. AND PLAN ON DRIVING OVER FROM THE COTSWOLDS.

ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THE OCTOBER 90 ISSUE YOU HAD A PICTURE OF "SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY". IN APRIL 87 WE WERE VISITING MY SON IN PHOENIX WE DROVE OVER TO THE MESA AIRPORT. WE WENT TO THE MUSEUM SAW THE 17. IT IS IN BEAUTIFUL SHAPE. WHILE THERE, TWO OF THE

OWNERS CAME BY TO MOVE THE PLANE OUT TO THE
MAIN ROAD FOR ADVERTISING PURPOSE (AIR SHOW COMING UP).
THESE GUYS ALLOWED MY WIFE ANNE, SON JEFF, AND
I TO GET IN THE PLANE WHILE IT WAS TOWED OUT TO
THE HIGHWAY. WHAT A THRILL. THE RADIO ROOM LOOKED
ALOT SMALLER THAN I REMEMBERED. SEE PICTURES
ENCLOSED. I DON'T HAVE THE NEGATIVES FOR THESE
PICTURES SO I WOULD APPRECIATE GETTING THE
PICTURES BACK. IF POSSIBLE.

WELL ENOUGH FOR NOW RUSS - KEEP UP THE GOOD
WORK ON YOU VERY IMPORTANT JOB.

Sincerely

Mel Teets

10/11/77

07-30-92

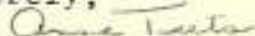
Dear Mr. Strong:

I am sorry to have to inform you that my husband died on Nov. 10th, 1991.

S/Set. W. Melvin Teets died on Nov. 10th, 1991. He lived in Scotch Plains, NJ. He was in the 369th Bombardment Squadron and was a Radio-Operator Mechanic-Gunner. He was in the service from 6/30/43 until 11/7/45. A graduate of Lafayette College of Easton, Pennsylvania in 1949 he worked for 40 years as a sales engineer for M & T Chemicals in Rahway, NJ.

Mel enjoyed reading the 306th Echoes.

Sincerely,



Anne Teets
2296 Concord Rd.
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076