

MARCH 27- 2001



LUTHER D VICTORY
600 E PEARCE ST
BAYTOWN, TX 77520-5249

Russ -

I JUST SAW LAZAR AND LUX ESCAPED
FROM THEIR B-17 AGAIN - AT 8:12 AM
AND 8:45 AM. BUT AT A DIFFERENT ANGLE.
THE PHOTOGRAPHER WAS ABOUT A PLANE
LENGTH AHEAD AND SLIGHTLY BELOW
ON THE PILOT'S SIDE OF THEIR PLANE.
IT'S AMAZING WHAT YOU ~~CAN~~ CAN SEE
ON DISCOVERY WINGS CHANNEL.

I'm still writing on how I
OBTAINED the new picture. IT IS A
CONVOLUTED tale. I MIGHT CALL you
and tell you about it.

Victory

Subj: 306 ECHOS
Date: 01-03-02 11:28:41 EST
From: TRBLE687
To: RUSSEL.A.STRONG306@WORLDNET.ATT.NET

I WAS A TAIL GUNNER ON CARROL BIGGS CREW, 306 BG, 369 SQDRN, THURLEIGH, ENGLAND
WE WERE SHOT DOWN ON 4/24/44. THE TARGET WAS OBERPFAFENHAUFFEN, WE LOST 10 PLANES THAT DAY. I
WOUND UP A P.O.W IN STALAG XV11-B, KREMS AUSTRIA.
MY COMBINE BUDDIES WERE ALEC LAZEK AND CHARLES LUX THEY TOO WERE FROM 306 BG, 369 SQDRN. THEY
WERE SHOT DOWN 4/29/44, BERLIN RAID.
LIKE ALL GUNNERS THEY RELATED A MIND BOGGLING STORY. LAZEK, WAIST GUNNER, TOLD ME THAT HE WAS AT
THE WAIST DOOR TRYING TO GET IT OPEN AND THAT THE PLANE WAS ANGLED DOWN MAKING IT HARD TO DO.
THEN THERE WAS A BIG EXPLOSION AND THE DOOR POPPED OUT AND IT BLEW HIM OUT ALSO.
LAZEK SAID HE GAVE A BIG SIGH OF RELIEF AND THEN ALMOST HAD A HEART ATTACK FOR HIS CHEST PACK WAS IN
HIS LEFT HAND, NOT HOOKED UP TO HIS HARNESS.
HE QUICKLY SNAPPED THE CHUTE TO THE HARNESS AND PULLED THE RIPCORDER.....NOTHING
HAPPENED....ANOTHER HEART ATTACK.
LAZEK STATED THAT HE PULLED THE PIN OUT OF THE FLAP AND CLAWED THE PARACHUTE OUT....IT BLOSSOMED
OUT.
ALEK ALSO STATED THAT HE AGED 20 YEARS AND HAD TWO "HEART ATTACKS". HE ADDED THAT IT SCARED THE S-
T OUT OF HIM AND THAT HIS HEART STOPPED BEATING TWICE.
LUX WAS THE TAIL GUNNER. THE ESCAPE HATCH IS VERY SMALL. LUX HAD POPPED THE ESCAPE HATCH AND HAD
GOT HIS HEAD AND SHOULDERS OUTSIDE BUT HE WAS STUCK, FOR HIS BUTT WAS WEDGED IN. LUX WAS
BEATING AND PUSHING ON THE SIDE OF THE PLANE TRYING TO BREAK LOOSE. NO LUCK. LUX JUST KNEW HE
WAS DOOMED, FOR THE PLANE HAD TILTED NOSE DOWN.. THEN THERE WAS ONE 'HELLUVA' EXPLOSION THAT
BLEW HIM OUT OF THE PLANE.
HIS DESCRIPTION WAS IT WAS LIKE A CORK BEING POPPED OUT OF A BOTTLE OF CHAMPAGNE.

I SAW AN AMAZING THING ON TELEVISION ON JULY 7TH 2000 AT 3:00 P.M. AND AT 9:15 P.M.
THIS WAS ON WINGS DISCOVERY DIGITAL CHANNEL. WHAT I SAW WAS VERIFICATION OF MY COMBINE BUDDIES,
(LUX AND LAZEK) DESCRIPTION OF BEING SHOT DOWN THE RAID WAS BERLIN, 4/29/44, 306 BG, 369
SQDRN.
A GUNNER OR SOMEONE HAD FILMED THIS ACTION OF A DAMAGED B-17.
THE PLANE HAD LOST THE END OF A RIGHT WING. THE PLANE DID A SLOW COMPLETE ROLL TO THE RIGHT
AND MOMENTARILY REGAINED STRAIGHT FLIGHT. THE B-17 THEN STARTED A NOSE DIVE.
THERE WAS AN EXPLOSION AND THE WAIST ESCAPE HATCH CAME SAILING OUT, AND RIGHT BEHIND IT WAS A
GUNNER.
THIS FILM AT THE SAME TIME SHOWED THE TAIL GUNNER BEING BLOWN OUT.
THIS FILM WAS EXACTLY AS LAZEK AND LUX HAD TOLD THEIR STORY.
BOTH LAZEK AND LUX ARE DECEASED. I WISH THEY COULD HAVE SEEN THIS FILM.

LUTHER VICTORY
PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER STALAG XV11-B ORGANIZATION
600 E. PEARCE, BAYTOWN, TX 77520

Luther Victory

Kathleen B. Victory
600 E. Pearce St.
Baytown, TX 77520-5249

306TH ECHOES
5323 CHEVAL PLACE
CHARLOTTE, N.C 28205
6/7/06
TRBLE687@AOL.COM

306TH ECHOES
TREASURER, ROYCE HOPKINS

MISSED THE ENVELOPE IN MY LAST ISSUE OF THE 306TH. I THOROUGHLY ENJOY YOUR PUBLICATION. I NORMALLY CONTACT RUSSEL STRONG BUT DECIDED TO MAKE IT EASY AND SEND THIS TO YOU

I HAD A LADY CONTACT ME A FEW YEARS AGO WHOSE HUSBAND WAS IN THE 306TH THAT LIVED IN BAYTOWN, TOOK ME BY SURPRISE. SHE HAD SEEN SOMETHING ABOUT MY HUSBAND IN THE 306TH ISSUE AND THAT SURPRISED HER, SINCE SHE KNEW HIM.

I ENJOY THE 306TH SINCE I AM FROM LONDON AND IT DOES KEEP ME AWARE OF A FEW HAPPENINGS THAT I WOULD NOT KNOW ABOUT OTHERWISE. ALTHOUGH I DID NOT KNOW WHERE THURLEIGH WAS I DID GO THROUGH CAMBRIDGE QUITE OFTEN ON MY WAY TO BURY ST. EDMUNDS IN NORFOLK. THE EIGHTH WAS ALL THROUGH EAST ANGLIA. I DID NOT KNOW MY HUSBAND AT THAT TIME, AS A MATTER OF FACT HE WAS ONLY IN ENGLAND ABOUT 6 WEEKS BEFORE HE GOT SHOT DOWN OVER OBERPAPPENHAFFEN, OR SOME NAME LIKE THAT, A BAD NIGHT FOR THOSE BOMBERS.
KEEP THE ECHOES AFLOAT IF YOU CAN.

Kathleen Victory

THANKS, KATHLEEN VICTORY

P.S. The best of both worlds for me would be England in the summer & Texas in the winter, It's already in the 90's here. It was fine when I was young but it does get my knickers in a twist now I'm old. I usually spend a month there in Oct. but am running out of places to stay now my family is disappearing.
Good Luck.
KV