

# 306<sup>th</sup> Echoes



## 306th Bombardment Group Association

### Names, Names, Names!

There seems to be no good roster of those often colorful names which adorned 306th combat aircraft. We have at this point accumulated 166 monickers from pictures, official records, varying lists, Gen. Eaker's papers, etc. The list is published in toto on page 2, and we'd like you to take a look at it.



### Deceased

Handy, Ross E. Jr. 369th,  
Means, Louis S. 367th, 11 May 79  
Miller, Donald 369th, Jan 78  
Winter, August 369th, 20 Mar 78  
Mahoney, George D. 25 Dec 78

### Tours Set for 306th Visitors To Colorado

Everything is "go" for the 306th mini-reunion at Colorado Springs Oct. 19-21, says LTC Joe Marciano, who is helping plan the affair along with Andy Vangalis and Joe Garbrish.

You can reach Joe at 303/597-0825.

The reservations from Colorado Springs accommodations can be found on page 3 of this issue.

A tour of the USAF Academy is being planned for visitors, and there will possibly be a tour of the North American Air Defense Command operations center. There is also set a local tour of scenic attractions (which abound in Colorado Springs).

The U.S. Olympic sports facility is also located there, and it is expected that there will be a speaker on the 1980 Olympic prospects for the United States.

If you can't make it to Phoenix, but want to get together with some 306th men this fall, this is an excellent opportunity. Some of the hardier travelers are planning to hit both.

### Funds For 'Echoes'

Bill Collins says its time to speak just a little bit about money.

We have shied away from being a dues organization, because that becomes expensive in itself. But we do need some money to operate on--printing ECHOES, mailing of same, and the hospitality room at the reunions.

Send your contributions to Bill Collins, 2973 Heatherbrae Drive, Poland, OH 44514. If you get them into a letter to Russ Strong, he'll see

### Phoenix Reunion Oct. 26-28 With 8th

The 306th will "fly" again. This time in Phoenix, Arizona, October 26, 27 and 28.

This will afford many of those in the west a good opportunity to take part, as West Coast representation has been sparse at the eastern gatherings.

Each year the 306th has led in the quantity of people taking part from the various 8th AF organizations. We'd like to again, and that depends on a lot of you being there.

And for the first time this year the 306th will have its own banquet, a Friday evening affair, time and place yet to be selected.

Russ Strong, editor of ECHOES, will be the evening's speaker, but there may be room for many to take part. He has recently returned from a research trip to the West Coast and Texas where he saw and reminisced with a number of one-time members of the 306th.

He is also getting his extensive picture collection in shape, and will probably bring a goodly number to Phoenix.

The 8th AF Association is planning a tour of Phoenix on Friday morning, to be followed on Saturday with a tour to Luke AFB.

But what does one really do at such a reunion? Talk!

Its not too late to call an old buddy and arrange for a meeting in Phoenix. We hope you'll make the effort, and those who have attended two, three or four of the reunions will tell you that every one has been a great time.

Registration forms, costs, etc., are to be found inside this paper. See you in Phoenix!

that they get on to Bill without delay.

Thus far, Echoes has been paid for in this way, and the treasury at the moment is a little light. Postage is the biggest part of the bill, as we've managed to keep printing costs to the bare minimum.



# Fanciful, Meaningful, Obtuse-- What was Your Plane's Name?

We have now located the names of 166 of the more than 300 planes that the 306th had in its possession at one time or another from the departure from Westover, MA, when the group had all new B-17 F's, 36 of them. We also have various bits of other information about them, but most of it is incomplete. And we can't match many names to the plane numbers we have--and therefore, need the help of everyone who dealt with the planes flying crews, ground crews, and others.

The G-model began to arrive in October 1943.

The Rose of York was known by two other names earlier, The Princess and Princess Elizabeth.

There may have been a Chennault's Pappy, Chennault's Pappy II and Chennault's III. We aren't sure. Are you?

Perhaps you know only the last three numbers of a plane. If that is the case, please let us know. And we'd appreciate any other information you might have.

Pilot's log books may be a source of information, as well as crew chiefs' dairies. Please check over all of the data and fill in any spots that you can. Then send the revision to Russ Strong, and if you cut up your copy of Echoes to do so, he'll send you a new one.

Name	Number	Sqdn	Arr.	Down
Adorable		F		
Arch Bishop	42-31236	G		1-11-44
Ass Bandits		F		
Banshee		F		
Banshee II	41-24488	F 369	orig.	4-17-43
Battling B				
Begin the Beguine	42-97323	G		
Belle of the Blue	42-102503	G		9-12-44
Belle of the Brawl	42-31690	G 368		9-12-44
Big Operator I	42-3406	F 367		
(Alexander on the other side)				
Big Operator II		F		
Bodacious Critter	42-25251	F		
Buttercup				
Casa de Umbriago	42-97574	G 423		11-21-44
Capt'n and His "Kids"		G		
Cavalier				
Chennault's Pappy		F		
Chennault's Pappy II		F		
Chennault's Pappy III		F		
Choo-Z Susy		G		
Combined Operations				
Commando Chief	44-6585	G 423		
Connecticut Yankees				
Cow w/bombs on Udder	43-38019	G		
Dam Yankee	42-10266	G		
Dark Horse	42-29498	F 368		
Debbie	43-38250	G 368		1-10-45
Dearly Beloved	42-29666	F		4-17-43
Devil's Work Shop				
Dingleberry Kid	42-97505	F		
Donald Duck w/bomb	43-37967	G		
Dixie Demo				
Drive It Home!	44-8652	G 369		
Duration Plus	42-31726	G 367		
Eager Beaver	41-24487	F 368	orig.	
Eight Ball				
Elizabeth's Own		G		
Evenin' Folks! How Y'all	42-97562	G		
Exterminators				
Fickle Finger		G		
Fightin' Bitin'	42-25426	F 369		7-30-43
Fightin' Bitin' II		G 369		
Fightin' Pappy	42-5407	F 367		
Fightin' Car barn Hammerslaw	42-32099	G 367		12-5-44
Flack Shack	42-37619	G 369		4-10-45
4-F				
Floozy	41-24474	F 367	orig.	11-18-42
Fortunate Youth		G		
Four-Leaf Clover				
Fuddles Folly				
Galloping Ghost				
Geezil	42-5404	F 369		
Geezil II				
Geraldine	42-87630	G		
Get's There Fastest V-Mail		F		
Gray Lady				
Grim Reaper	41-24467	F 368	orig.	4-17-43
Half and Half				
Hard to Get	42-97946	G 368		8-26-44
Hellcat Hattie	43-38302	G 367		3-9-45
How Soon	42-97297	G 369		
Hustling Sue		F		

Ice Cold Katie	42-102557	G 369		
Impatient Virgin		G		
Irish Lassie	44-8475			
Jackie Ellen	42-25813			7-29-43
JEIAVAD "Une Petite Peu"	42-5826	F 369	orig.	
Joan of Arc	41-24477	F		2-3-45
Jones Family	42-97658	G 367		
Lady Elaine	42-97796			
Lady Winifred				
Lamesa Lass				
Larrupin Lou				
Lassie Come Home	43-37715	G 367		
Las Vegas Avenger	42-30603	F 423		11-26-43
Liberty Belle	42-5889	F		
Lil Abner				
Lil' Butch		F		
Little Marlene	43-37976	G 423		10-22-44
Little Audrey	42-29477	F 369		
Little Cinder	42-38752	G		
Little Joe				
Little Lulu	42-39963	G 423		12-5-44
Little Savage	42-5420	F		
Lone Ranger				
Low and Slow	44-8772	G		
Mam (?)				
Meathound	42-29524	F		
Maryland, My Maryland		G		
Mason Dixon				
Methuselah	42-102969	G 367		9-12-44
Milk Run Special				
Milk Run Special II	42-3876	G		
Miss America		G		
Miss Carriage	42-31768			
Miss Liberty		G		
Miss Patricia	42-23172	F		
Miss Swoose	41-24509	F 423	orig.	11-9-42
Mission Maid		G		
Montana Power	41-24465	F	orig.	4-5-43
Mr. Smith				
Nemesis		F		
Nobody's Darling		G		
Old Faithful				
Old Glory		F		
Our Baby	44-8367	G		
Paper Doll	42-31444	G		
Peckers		G		
Peck's Bad Boy				
Piccadilly Commando	42-5729	F 369		
Prayers and Patches	42-40053	G 367		
Pretty Baby	42-9713	G 367		
Punch				
Queen Jeannie	42-30813	F 423		10-14-43
Rain Check	42-37836	G 368		9-11-44
Rose O'Day	41-24495	F 367	orig.	12-20-42
Rose of York	42-102547	G 367		2-3-45
(also The Princess, Princess Elizabeth)				
Rough House				
Salvoin' Sachem	43-3891	G		
Satan's Lady	42-31143	G 369		
Scarlett	42-25720	F 369		1-17-43
She Dood It				
She Has To	42-102512	G 368		
Sis	42-2978	F 369		
Skipper	42-97129	G 367		
Skywolf	42-5218	F		
Sleepy Time Gal	43-38362	G 369		12-9-44
Snortin' Abortin'				
Snuffy Smith				
Solid Sender	43-37616	G 423		
Sons of Fury	41-24470	F 369	orig.	
Star Duster				
Steady Hedy	42-97161	G 369		
Sweat'er Girl	43-37549	G 423		
Sweet Pea	41-25130	F 367	orig.	
Tailwind	42-97368	G 368		9-12-44
Tally Ho		F		
T-Man				
Terry and the Pirates				
Tess	44-8357	G		1-10-45
Texas Glad		F		
Texas Hun Hunter				
Thundermug				
Time's a Wastin'		F		
Toggle Tessie	43-37598	G 423		



# Corcoran at Odds on Schweinfurt



Published occasionally by the 306th Bomb Group Association.  
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**Contact Man: Wm. M. Collins, Jr.**, 2973 Heatherbrae Drive, Poland, OH 44514

Each issue is prepared and printed in Laurinburg, NC, and editorial contributions are welcomed and should be sent to the editor. Mailing is from Poland, OH, and new addresses, changes and deletions should be sent to the contact man.

Tony H		F	
Umbrigo	42-97278	G 367	9-12-44
Unavailable Mable	42-97397	G 423	
Unbearable	41-24476	F	orig. 1-11-43
Unbearable 2	42-29900	F	7-26-43
Unbearable 3		F	
Unbearable Meathound			
Unmentionable			
Vapor Trail		G	
V-Pack		F	
Wahoo	41-24468	F	orig.
Wahoo II		F	
Wampus Cat	42-39950	G 423	3-29-44
Weary Bones		G	
We Promised	42-102578	G 367	
Weber's Wagon			
Wild Hares			
Ya Cawn't Miss			
Yankee Raider	41-24507	F	orig.
Zamro		G	

To the Editor:

I enjoyed thoroughly the May issue of "Echoes", particularly the article on Schweinfurt.

I was a bit chagrined however to learn after all these years that we aborted! My memory--hazy of course--is that one who aborted--usually due to mechanical failure--saw neither flak nor fighters--and more importantly did not get credit for the particular mission.

That morning I was with Lt. W. J. Tackmier 42-30767 and we led the 367th. My notes say that some thirty minutes into "Festung Europa" we lost one engine and couldn't keep up. I can't say if it was mechanical or flak but it was smoking badly and we couldn't maintain speed. Tackmier left the formation--rather involuntarily--and apparently decided our best chance was on the deck. I recall we were subjected to flak and at least several fighter attacks.

We got back early of course, and I remember the bottom of my ball turret had many cartridge links indicating I'd fired a number of rounds. We had flak damage and while I'm not sure, I feel we must have dropped the bombs somewhere in Germany.

In any event, we got credit for the mission, were airborne four hours and thirty-five minutes. This compares with the August 17, 1943, trip which took six hours and twenty-five minutes.

I probably told you this in Florida but my most vivid recollection was being met by Major George Buckley, our C.O., and Capt. Kenneth Reecher--operations officer--both of whom cried openly when we told that what happened and few, if any, would be back. It really didn't seem too long a time until Kirk came back.

Just for the record, William Bissen (42-30727) was William C. Bisson of Athens, Georgia, buried in Holland, I believe. In my notes I show the following: I saw nine chutes from Butler's plane. (He went down early.) Gone are May, Bocelli, Adams, Pulliam, Sherrill, George Toney, Hayburn, DeBuyser, Harris, St. Louis, Bisson, White, Butler and Alexander.

Best Regards,  
 John E. Corcoran, Jr., 367th.

Ed's Note: John's letter intrigued us, and sent us back to the records, which I quote from the crew interrogation form: "couldn't hold enough speed to keep squadron in group formation so aborted." It is also noted under technical failures: "Linkage on supercharger broken." With Tackmier and Corcoran that day were Dallas Jacobs, co-pilot; Clark Moore, navigator; Bill Morey, bombardier; Arnold Coulter, radio; James Argentos, engineer; Henry Sall, right waist; Harold Twing, left waist, and John Bloom, tail gunner. They returned their six 1000 pound bombs.

Such responses help in clarifying some of the events that took place 35 years ago.

October 19-21, 1979

Cut-off date: October 1, 1979

## ROOM RESERVATION REQUEST

# ROOMS IN COLORADO SPRINGS

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\$7 additional person or poolside.

Please reserve the following accommodations:

- Single \$32       Twin  
 Double \$38       Suite \$90.00



2886 S. Circle Drive  
 Colo. Springs, Colo.  
 303-576-5900

I will need a: Rollaway Bed  Crib   
 I will arrive \_\_\_\_\_ am \_\_\_\_\_ pm on \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date  
 and remain \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_ nights.

# PHOENIX RESERVATIONS

## EIGHTH AIR FORCE REUNION RESERVATION FORM

(To room with a buddy, register together!)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please print names as they should appear on name tags)  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tel (incl area code) \_\_\_\_\_ WWII Group \_\_\_\_\_ 8AFHS Memb # \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE:** To be eligible to attend, all 8AFers must be paid up '79 members of the EIGHTH AIR FORCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, sponsors of this reunion. To apply for new membership (or renewal), please remit \$6 by check or money order, made payable to 8AFHS, and mail membership payment only to:-

AIDA KAYE, Secretary 8AFHS, 495 NE 157th Terrace, Miami, FL 33162

**ADVANCE RESERVATION FORM (must be received in Hallandale, Florida before 1 October 79).**

**CANCELLATIONS:** Full refund less registration fee, if written cancellation received in Hallandale, Florida before 20 October. Amount of refund for late cancellations will depend upon charges made for unused portion of services by hotel, et cetera.

### SEND PAYMENT & COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM TO:

EIGHTH AIR FORCE REUNION / P.O. BOX 1304 / HALLANDALE, FLORIDA 33009

- A. **REGISTRATION FEE** (over 18 yrs) per person  
 (\$2 to Mini Reunion & bal. to 8th) By 30 Sept. \$5 X \_\_\_\_\_ pers. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Late Registration after 30 Sept. \$7 X \_\_\_\_\_ pers. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- B. **TOTAL THREE-NIGHT PACKAGE** - begins Thurs evening  
 (incl cost, tax & tips for room, meals & events as listed in program)  
 Two Persons-Twin Room (\$160 X 2) \$320 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 One Person -Single Room \$223 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE!** Deduct \$15 per person not wishing to join Friday's tour & lunch. (less \$15 X \_\_\_\_\_ pers.)

**NOTE!** Deduct \$ 5 per person not wishing to join Saturday's visit to Luke AF Base (less \$ 5 X \_\_\_\_\_ pers.)

- C. **TWO-NIGHT PACKAGE** - begins Fri dinner  
 (incl cost, tax & tips for room, meals & events as listed in program)  
 Two Persons-Twin Room (\$104 X 2) \$208 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 One Person -Single Room \$146 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE!** Deduct \$ 5 per person not wishing to join Saturday's visit to Luke AF Base (less \$ 5 X \_\_\_\_\_ pers.)

- D. **EARLY ARRIVALS** (before 25 Oct) & **EXTENDED STAYS**  
 (same cost for twin room/2 persons or single room per night - incl tax) (\$42 per night) \$42 X \_\_\_\_\_ nights = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Enter dates if 'D' applies to you. Arrive: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Depart: \_\_\_\_\_

**ENCLOSE FULL PAYMENT** (be sure to include Registration Fee) \$ \_\_\_\_\_



# 306th Vets Bare Souls as New Names and Addresses

## Strong Visits in California

Through the generosity of a couple of dozen 306'ers, Russ Strong has been able to accomplish a major mission in his research on the 306th history, a trip to California in June, with a stopover in San Antonio on the way home.

While he began in San Francisco, and made it to Los Angeles without running out of gas, he could not stop to see everyone along the way. Some of those skipped had provided him with considerable materials, and others had to be selected for what he thought would be the most profitable use of his time.

His first visit was with Col. James L. Sutton, commanding officer of the 306th from late September 1944 until spring 1945. Col. Sutton was the original commander of the 92nd group, taking it to England. Then after a sojourn at Langford Lodge in Ireland, he returned to England with the 306th.

Strong then hopped over to Vallejo for a visit with the widow of August Winter, and talked with Bill Tackmier on the phone. On his way through San Francisco he also talked briefly with Bill VanNorman, longtime group PIO officer.

On his way south, he saw Kelly Ross at Redwood City, a pilot and POW, followed by a long visit with Col. John Regan, onetime 368th squadron commander.

The next day he was in Aptos to see the widow of Louis Means, and to lunch with Col. Charles Nowark, first 369th armament and bomb sight officer. A trip on south proved a wild goose chase, but he got into Salinas in mid-afternoon to see Joseph Pryga, onetime communications officer; Col. Budd Peaslee, former CO of the 384th Group, and Eddie Espitallier, 423rd POW.

A long evening drive to Fresno, had him there for a morning meeting with Col. Bill Lanford, first 368th commander. On his way south he tried to see Toy Husband, onetime group operations officer, but missed him at Visalia. In Bakersfield he searched for some missing people, but came up with nothing.

Frank Yaussi, the first group bombardier, was his host this same evening, as they delved through Frank's footlocker and came up with photos and orders of interest.

The next day he saw Bob Seelos, 368th POW, and Lorn Wilke, 423rd survivor of a midair collision over England.

Strong and Mack McKay, 368th squadron commander, spent an entire Saturday reminiscing, copying photos and looking at other memorabilia.

On Sunday, he was in Riverside to see Robert Kylius, a 423rd evadee, and Harold Gaslin, 423rd navigator. In the late afternoon his travels took him to Palm Desert for a visit with Lt. Gen. J. W. Wilson, the first 423rd squadron commander.

The next day in Pomona he saw Robert W. Smith, an original 368th pilot, and later in Glendale visited with Al LaChasse, the 367th and 306th's first prisoner of war, and John McKee, 367th evadee in December 1942.

In the morning he breakfasted with Dave Ramsey, a 369th pilot and POW, and then it was on the plane to San Antonio. That evening he met with Maj. Gen. Delmar E. Wilson, the deputy C.O. of the 306th going overseas and until January 1943. Wilson was later 305th group commander, and a bomber command operations officer.

Strong spend his last morning on the road breakfasting and talking with Col. William Tarr, 369th POW and pilot.

The telephone came into frequent use along the way, as he searched for people on the 800-name search list that the 306th still has.

At the moment, we have a little over 1200 names on our mailing list, but we know there are others about. We hope that some of you will avail yourselves of the opportunity so search phone books and other sources to help. Copies of the current search list can be obtained from Strong.

Also planned for this summer is a trip to the Simpson Historical Research Center at Maxwell AFB, AL, and a later trip to Florida, where many 306th retirees are living.

Organized under the laws of North Carolina, state tax exemption has been obtained, and at press time notification was received from IRS of its approval of tax exempt status for the 306th Bomb Group Historical Association, which means that gifts to the Historical Association are now deductible from Federal income taxes.



## Any Memories of Elizabeth?

Roy J. Law 367th has a few recollections on Maureen, but couldn't find her last name in his memory.

He tells us that her father was a stonemason who died in service, and that her mother worked as a charwoman for 10 shillings a week.

Any further clues from any of you?

And we have another-- Elizabeth's Own was a B-17G, number as yet unknown, named for a pretty teenager, perhaps from Bedford.

We have a collection of pictures, one of them printed, of Elizabeth and some of her admirers.

Who was Elizabeth?

Bippus, W. Lloyd 144 Albany Av  
 Boyles, Albert J. 15203 Weddington  
 Burroughs, Winston W. Rt. 1, Box 244  
 Caron, Joseph H.R. 130 Bliss St  
 Cunningham, Jack 4311 Winona Av, Apt. 4  
 Evans, Arthur Box 197  
 Gibson, Roy H. Rt. 1, Box 396  
 Gray, John 201 Stanley Ct  
 Greer, Paul 4239 E. Mitchell Dr  
 Hardin, Nelson W. 5227 Prince Valiant  
 Holmstrom, Gus 23330 Schoenborn St  
 Jaeger, Joseph M. 141A Tracy Pl  
 Michel, Ernest G. 3708 Ticking Horse Rd  
 Middleton, Warren 9 Woodhill Rd  
 Olsen, Ben 7 Savannah Ct  
 Petrelli, Peter A. 24265 Prairie Ln  
 Potter, Carl 81 Strathmore Rd  
 Ramsey, Frank 230 Lake Ct  
 Schultz, Arthur Rt. 2, Box 2  
 Seelos, Robert 1458 Virginia Av  
 Strange, Sterling T. Jr. 318 NW 69th Av  
 Taylor, William A. 1878 East River Rd  
 Thompson, Edwin 2615 Pitt Av

Hartford, CT 06120  
 Van Nuys, CA 91411  
 Waldorf, MD 20601  
 Fall River, MA 02720  
 San Diego, CA 92115  
 Scammon, KS 56773  
 Warrenton, OR 97146  
 La Porte, IN 46350  
 Phoenix, AZ 85018  
 San Antonio, TX 78218  
 Canoga Park, CA 91304  
 Hackensack, NJ 07601  
 Lake Havasu, AZ 84603  
 Westpoint, CT 06880  
 Bethesda, MD 20034  
 Warren, MI 48089  
 Cranston, RI 02905  
 Lauderdale by Sea, FL 33308  
 Fairbault, MN 55021  
 Glendale, CA 91202  
 Plantation, FL 33317  
 Spring Hill, FL 33512  
 Bristol, PA 19007

