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GP



Charles F. Jones

## Treasury to Change Hands

Casey Jones, treasurer of the 306th Association since 1 Apr 92, has tendered his resignation effective 31 Mar 94. Casey says he will be out of the country for at least the following three months, and would be unable to perform his duties.

The executive committee of the Association has recruited Robert N. Houser, chairman of the 1994 reunion and an experienced financial man, to take over the duties at least until the annual meeting and election of officers and directors.

Houser began his business career as an actuary and retired as president of Bankers Life Insurance Co. He is currently treasurer of the Des Moines Development Corporation, an affiliate of the Greater Des Moines Chamber of Commerce Federation.

Also on April 1, it is expected that Jack Frost of Des Moines will take over handling the PX items for sale through mail order and at reunions.

The treasurer is elected each year at the annual meeting.

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crew picture - pages 4 & 5

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## Harkin Survives Bayou Accident

Ted Harkin, 369th, and his companion, Marnie Sayer, were returning to Florida from the Seattle reunion aboard the Amtrak's Sunset Limited when the train went off a damaged bayou bridge near Mobile, AL.

This wasn't Harkin's first such experience, as he had ditched with Lt. Alphonse Maresh off Cromer 26 Jul 43 as they went into the water within sight of land, returning from Hannover, and were soon rescued.

From the time of the 2:30 a.m. accident, it was 45 minutes before Ted and Marnie were pulled from the water into a small boat. Both had been tossed about in the railcar

## Thanks to the 686!

Since its very inception in 1976, the 306th Association has made its way without ever charging any dues. The 1993 year was no different as 686 persons sent in their checks in response to the continuing appeal "There are no dues, BUT..." Of this 686 number, 88 persons gave more than one gift during the year, one man writing four different checks.

**This accounting is to express the thanks and appreciation of everyone on the mailing list to those of you who have come forth and assisted in this on-going enterprise. We think the 306th Association is FIRST!**

## Schedule Set For Des Moines Reunion

We're looking forward to seeing you in Des Moines this Fall. An ample choice of tours and special events has been lined up to make your stay with us an enjoyable one. The information below will help you make a choice as to which tours and events you want to participate in.

We would encourage you to make your reservations early. Room reservations should be made directly with the hotel. The Crystal Inn is an attractive 225-room hotel located on Fleur Drive directly across from the Des Moines airport. Rooms will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis with overflow going to the nearby Best Western Des Moines International hotel. Reservations for tours and special events are also on a first-come, first-served basis with size limitations on certain tours.

### Tours Thursday and Friday

Scenic tours have been lined up for Thursday and Friday, with three of these being repeated. In addition, there are three special events you'll not want to miss. These are the Iowa Farm Dinner on Thursday evening, the Aviation Expo on Friday afternoon (Friday evening is free) and the Annual Reunion Banquet on Saturday evening. None of the tours will interfere with attendance at these special events.

The **Amana Colonies** (not to be confused with the Amish) is a National Historic Landmark and Iowa's leading visitor attraction. Founded in 1855 by German-speaking people, seeking religious freedom and enjoying a communal way of life, the Amana Colonies offer a number of attractions. These include an old-world setting, woolen mill, winery, handmade furniture factory, numerous craft and gift shops, and many excellent eating facilities (that's why we left the choice of lunch up to you).

The Dutch town of **Pella** is another very popular attraction with its annual tulip time festival, Dutch historical village, Klokkenspel, Dutch shops with lace and wooden shoes, and Dutch bakeries offering mouth-watering Dutch pastries. Lunch is provided at the popular Strawtown Inn restaurant and gift shop.

One of Iowa's newest attractions is the "**Bridges of Madison County**" after the runaway best-seller by Robert James Waller. You'll see the famous covered bridges (these are real), including the romantic Roseman Bridge of novel fame, but we can't guarantee that the lovely Frances will be there. You'll also visit John Wayne's birthplace in Winterset and enjoy an old-fashioned box lunch along the way.

### Living History Farms

**Living History Farms** is a 600-acre open-air museum that tells the story of midwestern agriculture. It features actual working farms from three different eras (1700 Indian, 1850 Pioneer, and 1900) plus a look at the farm of the future. There is also a recreated 1875 village with the Church of the Land built on the spot visited by the Pope on his trip to Iowa in 1979. **Note** that this tour requires a fair amount of walking. After the tour, a special luncheon will be provided at the nearby Iowa Machine Shed restaurant.

The **Magnificent Mansion** tour includes a visit to several elegant Victorian mansions including Terrace Hill, the Iowa Governor's residence, and Jordan House, a station on the Underground Railway in Civil War times. It also includes a visit to the 42-room Tudor mansion known as Salisbury House with its many art treasures, from ancient to modern. This mansion, built in the 1920's by an Iowa industrialist with eclectic art tastes, has been described by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as a "national treasure." We think you'll agree when you see it.

The **Discover Des Moines** tour gives the first-time visitor a good overview of Des Moines. It covers a wide area and includes stops at the Iowa State Capitol, State Historical Building, and Des Moines Botanical Center.

After a bus trip to Altoona on Thursday evening, you will enjoy a rib tickling **Iowa Farm Dinner** served by the Pork Producers Association. It features a super thick "Iowa Chop" with all the trimmings. There will also be a cash bar and something different in the way of musical entertainment, which we think you'll enjoy.

On Friday afternoon you'll take a bus trip to the new Ankeny Airport for a behind-the-scenes look at one of the most unusual and exciting model air shows you'll ever see. Put on by the **1/5th Air Force**, it features 1/5th scale model airplanes re-enacting portions of World War II. You'll recognize several WW II fighter planes, a 20-foot wingspan B-17 with 306th markings, and a 30-foot wingspan B-29. We believe this event will be one of the highlights of your visit to Des Moines.

P.S. Don't forget the early reservations.

when it went off the track and partially into the water. The car stayed upright, and after getting out, they drifted towards a fuel fire on the water, and Ted inhaled a bit of diesel fuel.

"I was pulled so close to the flames," Harkin told the National Enquirer, "I could

feel the fierce heat on my face. The smoke was so thick I couldn't breathe.

"Suddenly I saw a flashlight shine in the darkness. I yelled 'Help me, help me!'

"The next minute there was a little boat beside me, and a guy jumped over the side to push me and Marnie on board."

## 119 'Join' Group In Phone Blitz

In this issue are listed 119 recently-found men of the 306th! (See page 7.) This is the largest number we have ever added in one three-month period, and is directly related to the efforts expended with the computerized National Telephone Directory. And we are continuing its use.

Of this number, eight came to us from other sources.

We began using the National Telephone Directory shortly before Christmas, and results have been phenomenal, only slowed by a 10-day vacation trip and the necessity of making telephone calls to verify that the listing we identified is indeed a 306th veteran.

In several cases, those called could furnish us with information on friends of WWII days with whom they have retained contact, and that is always a significant help. Our capitol expenditure for this was about \$300, including the purchase of a CD Rom unit for the computer and two computer ROM discs, which contain some 70,000,000 names.

This search also accounts in large measure for the expanded Obituary list to be found elsewhere in this issue; also for the significant number of women and children added to our mailing list.

### Two Discs in Use

The discs divide the country into two sections, East (going as far west as Ohio and Alabama), and west, the remainder of the country. Thus, it is necessary to search our 306th card file twice. After names are found that correspond exactly with our record, phone calls may be made to positively identify. BUT, it is impossible to sort out those persons with very common first names, as there may be hundreds to choose from. If we have some identification as to their pre-war location, we will try individuals in that area.

As a result of this work, we have begun including the first names of spouses, or an indication of marital status, in our "Newly Found" roster. This will carry through in to the 1994 directory. This is our last appeal for you to send us your spouse's name or other marital information quickly as we will need to get that into the computer by the time you receive your next *Echoes*, if we are to mail a new directory in early May.

If you question the top-heavy alpha listing shown in our new names, it is because we have to search generally in some orderly fashion so that no name is inadvertently skipped. The secretary has a card file of from eight to 10 thousand names of those who served with the 306th. At this writing, he has worked through Nicholas Gotch on the western list and through Edward F. Czerwonka on the eastern list. As you read this, he has progressed onward with the search, but it is expected that this will take a year or more to complete. By then it may be time to buy a new set of phone discs.

## Recent Photo Additions

New crew pictures added to the 306th photo archive recently include: L.G. Cook 368, William J. Haase 369, Toy B. Husband 368, Richard W. Jones 368, Andrew Kata 369, Earl W. Kessling 423, Clayton Nattier 369, Charles Niblack 369 and Edward Sandini 369.



## Mission Reports Can Bring You A Whole Lot of Reminiscing

Shortly before Christmas, Jack Samway, onetime 368th bombardier, received an envelope by priority mail weighing more than two pounds.

In it he had the mission reports for all but three of his 30 combat missions, and was also lacking the crew interrogation report for one mission. Some 217 pages were included in his order, and you can be sure it took him more than one evening to read carefully through all the reports, and to reconstruct in his mind some of the days over the Continent, and events before and after some of those missions.

Many of you can do the same thing, if you put the dates together and send your request to the secretary.

Since the reunion, more than 40 more missions have been added to the collection, and one last trip to Washington in late February or March we hope will complete the 306th's unique collection of mission material. We have heard of only one other group that has gone after this material, and it has everything stored in a warehouse in Georgia!

What do you get? The Intelligence narrative and sometimes the Operations narrative; the formation chart, which often includes the notations made during the mission by the air commander; a detailed route map showing how we got there and how we got home; engineering reports on damage to aircraft; and the crew interrogation sheet prepared by the crew and an intelligence officer back at Thurleigh. On some missions there is other data, depending on what was available in the folders at National Archives.

Its a good prod to your nostalgic meanderings back 50 or more years ago.

What did Jack Samway pay for that collection? \$50, at the rate of \$5 for three

missions.

Requests have ranged from one mission, for Frank Lehnert who was in prison camp after that first day, to the complete 35 missions flown by many of those arriving after 1 July 44. Ground men have ordered missions they recall with interest, or track some of the fliers they knew.

Reginald Thayer, another 368th bombardier and an **authority** on high altitude bombing in the B-17, rather reluctantly ordered \$5 worth of missions (3), when they were first offered, and said he thought that they might be overpriced and not worth the effort. The three arrived in his Palisades, NY, home, and the next day Thayer put in an order for all of his missions. As to his authority, Thayer flew 50 missions with the 97th Bomb Group in the 15th Air Force before wangling a transfer to the 306th, and then flew another 29 missions with us. **PROBABLY** the only 306th men to surpass this total were Col. Immanuel Klette, with the 306th and 91st, and Col. William S. Raper, with the 306th and 303rd.

If you have a yen to recall and recount your missions, better place an order for Mission Reports!

## Elbert Wood Story Told In New Book

The story of Elbert Wood's death on the way to Schweinfurt is told in a new book, **OR GO DOWN IN FLAMES** authored by a younger brother, Prof. Raymond W. Wood. Wood was the navigator for 369th pilot George Bettinger on that fateful day.

Wood had joined the 306th 29 Aug 43, and this was his sixth mission.

Prof. Wood not only reveals the experience of the American flyers in this infamous battle, but that of the civilians on the ground and the enemy fighters who flew against the B-17s (including the Me-110 pilot who in all probability destroyed his brother's plane with a rocket).

As well as being a moving personal history and a stirring combat drama on a grand scale, **OR GO DOWN IN FLAME** also provides valuable resource material for anyone investigating the fate of casualties overseas. The Graves Registration branch of the U.S. Armed Forces has performed mammoth tasks in the service of our country, which is brought to light here in the final chapter and appendices. Wood's research has paved the way for others seeking details on a loved one's tragic end in America's foreign wars.



Gen James H. Doolittle is seen above on perhaps his last visit to Thurleigh, 12 July 1944, when the 367th lead ship, *Rose of York*, was christened by the then Princess Elizabeth. Doolittle died in the fall of 1993. The picture shows the three stars of a lieutenant general on his shoulders; he was not awarded the fourth star until 1985, in recognition of his leadership and his contributions to aviation. Doolittle has often been referred to as the champion of the 'calculated risk', a management tool he used in his leadership of the 8th AF in 1944-45.



Al Rehn, 368th pilot, has become a master of stained glass artistry, and is willing to share some of his creations with 306th members—for a price. While the work may be a labor of love, it takes tools, materials, and a lot of time to turn out his creations.

Shown above are two of his pieces: The 8th AF emblem is 12 inches in diameter and sells for \$150.00.

Above it hangs a triangle H, nine inches in diameter, and priced at \$40.

Interested persons should contact Albert F. Rehn, 2860 Almester Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45211, 513/661-3708.

## 306th Has Big Hand in Life At Ardmore

In the spring of 1944 operations at the Ardmore, Okla., Army Air Field had a strong flavor of 306th men, past and future, according to a book loaned to the editor by Charles Niblack, who arrived with the 368th squadron as a pilot 4 Jun 44.

B/Gen Frank A. Armstrong, Jr., the second CO of the 306th in January and February, 1943, arrived at Ardmore in Aug 43, heading up the 46th Bombardment Operational Training Wing.

LTC James W. Wilson, former 423rd squadron commander and Group deputy commander, came to Ardmore as director of training for the 395th Combat Crew Training School

1st Lt. Beverly R. Lamb 368th, was a bombardier instructor, while 1st Lt. Emmette W. Ford 423rd, was also on the staff. Capt. L.P. Johnson, 423rd, was a flight commander, and Capt. Edward P. Maliszewski, 369th, was commander of Training Section B.

Training Section C had Capt. John R. McKee as an instructor pilot, and Capt. Pervis E. Youree, 423rd, as a tactical advisor.

Combat crews there who came on to the 306th were:

853 - Lowell W. Burgess, 369

865 - Joseph L. Murphy, 369

888 - Louis F. Matichka, 367

2725 - Charles T. Niblack, 368

2726 - John M. Winward, 423

2727 - Charles C. Wegener, 367

Wilson and McKee both returned to combat in the 8th with the 92nd Bomb Group, Wilson as Group commander and McKee as Group operations officer.

## From the Tower!

17 August 1943 Lt. Conrad FCO

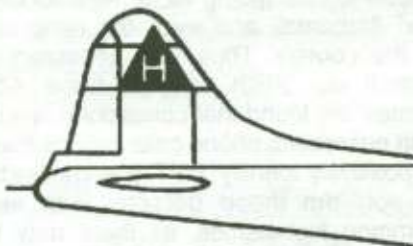
2100 hrs. Drem lighting out on all but main R/W. Attempts being made to contact an electrician, but got no answer from night people. Put auxiliary flare path down.

18 August 1943

0815 hrs. Contacted electrician re Drem lighting. Pending a more detailed inspection, lights may be out tonight. Inspection to be made this morning.

0855 hrs. Explained lighting faults to Station Electrician Mr. Bray. He believes difficulty arises from passage of vehicles over cables laid parallel to R/W, since these cables are laid fairly close to surface. Such vehicles as graders, heavy trucks as well as a/c taxiing from R/W to grass, cause most of trouble. Will inspect immediately but can promise no immediate results.

1010 hrs. Drem lighting OK on all R/Ws  
— Blown Fuse!



The 306th Bombardment Group Historical Association: William F. Cavaness, president; C. Dale Briscoe, vice president; Russell A. Strong, Secretary; C. F. (Casey) Jones, treasurer. Directors: James S. Cheney, Joseph R. Hathaway, Victor L. Rose and Donald L. Snook; Forrest J. Stewart, past president; Robert N. Houser, 1994 reunion chairman. Ralph Franklin, Keysoe, Bedfordshire, British representative.

306th *Echoes* is published four times annually: January, April, July and October, and is mailed free of charge to all known addresses of 306th personnel, 1942-45. Contributions in support of this effort may be remitted to the treasurer.

### SECRETARY/EDITOR:

Handles all changes of address, editorial comments and records.

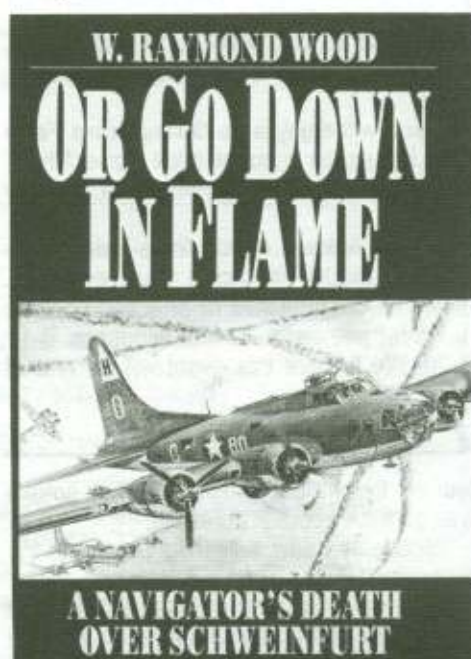
Russell A. Strong, 5323 Cheval Pl., Charlotte, NC 28205. Phone 704/568-3803.

### TREASURER:

Send contributions to and order memorabilia from:

C.F. (Casey) Jones, 136 Coventry Dr., Henderson, NV 89014. Phone 702/361-7218

The 306th Bomb Group Historical Association is a Federally tax-exempt organization and as a veteran's group is classified as 501 (c)(19).



## There may be no dues, BUT

It does take money to keep the 306th Association flying. Those who are able are asked to make an annual contribution to keep everything running smoothly. No one is dropped from the mailing list for non-payment! Your gift is tax deductible.

Please accept my gift to the 306th BG Association: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET AND NO. \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

306th Unit

Send to: Casey Jones, Treasurer  
306th Bomb Group Association  
136 Coventry Dr.  
Henderson, NV 89014

DATE \_\_\_\_\_



# When and Where Did Pilots Come From?

As one might guess, Col. Charles Overacker predated all other pilots who ever flew with the 306th as to the date of completing his pilot training, finishing in Class 27-C at Kelly Field, San Antonio, TX.

In all, three pilots finished in the '20s, six in the '30s, two in '40, 17 in '41, and the flood gates opened with the '42 classes.

The original group, leaving for combat, had drawn as deeply as the 42-F class for its original complement of pilots and co-pilots. Many of these men reported within a day or two after graduation to the 306th at Wendover Field, Utah, for their introductions to the B-17.

The chart shown below is organized by pilot graduation dates, and following it is a listing of pilots for whom graduation dates and classes have not been found.

It is hoped that pilots in the first list will be able to fill in data on those for whom have not been located. Also, for some of the men we have never been able to establish the date on which they reported to the 306th.

Any additional data you may have should be sent to the Secretary, and (once again we make a plea for pilot class graduation lists and copies of orders issued by the 306th, Station 111 or other US forces in England.)

CADET CLASS	NAME	SQDN	ARRIVAL
27-C, Kelly Fld, TX	OVERACKER, CHARLES B	306	42-03-16
29-C, Kelly Fld, TX	ARMSTRONG, FRANK A(***)	306	43-01-04
29-J, Kelly Fld, TX	LE MAY, CURTIS E (****)	306	42-03-28
37-F, Kelly Fld, TX	WILSON, DELMAR E (**)	306	42-03-01
37-G, Kelly Fld, TX	ROBINSON, GEORGE L	306	43-06-19
38-F, Kelly Fld, TX	PUTNAM, CLAUDE E	306	43-01-18
38-G, Kelly Fld, TX	HARDISON, FELIX M	306	45-04-00
38-J, Kelly Fld, TX	CLEVELAND, WILLIAM H	306	42-07-25
39-A, Kelly Fld, TX	HOLT, HARRY J	367	42-03-01
	LANFORD, WILLIAM A	368	42-03-01
	OLIVER, RALPH L	369	42-03-01
40-C, Kelly Fld, TX	WILSON, JAMES W (***)	423	42-03-01
40-G, Kelly Fld, TX	TERRY, HENRY W JR	369	42-06-02
41-A, Kelly Fld, TX	MELTON, WILLIAM C JR	368	42-03-13
41-B	LAVIER, EUGENE C	423	44-11-05
41-B, Kelly Fld, TX	LAMBERT, JOHN L	367,423	42-04-00
41-D, Stockton, CA	FARWELL, ROBERT H	368	44-08-28
41-E, Brooks Fld, TX	MC KAY, MACK	368	42-04-15
	RAPER, WILLIAM S (*)	368	42-06-23
41-E, Maxwell Fld, AL	ROSS, KELLY G	367	42-12-08
41-F, Maxwell Fld, AL	BEEDY, HARVEY E	369	42-04-06
	SALADA, MAURICE V	368	42-04-15
41-G, Kelly Fld, TX	HOWARD, JOHN M	369	42-06-04
41-G, Pyote, TX	KESLING, EARL W	423	44-04-21
41-H, Kelly Fld, TX	BUITE, JOHN H	368	44-12-29
41-H, Maxwell, AL	O'HARA, RICHARD K	367	43-01-15
41-I, Barksdale, LA	RYAN, JOHN L	367	42-06-07
41-I, Brooks Fld, TX	BARNETT, JOHN R	423	42-06-15
41-I, Stockton, CA	BUCKEY, GEORGE R	367	42-06-00
41-L, Stockton, CA	BUCHANAN, ORVILLE L	368	42-06-00
42-B, Barksdale, LA	CASEY, WILLIAM J	369,367	42-06-02
	MC KEE, JOHN R	367	42-06-06
42-B, Brooks Fld, TX	DICKEY, WILLIAM W JR	367	42-04-03
	DISHER, EARL J	423	42-03-27
	DUGGER, DOYLE L	369	42-03-20
	FERGUSON, JAMES M	368	42-03-27
	FLANNAGAN, CHARLES E	369,367	42-03-20
	KNOX, ROBERT M	369	42-03-20
	LEAHY, JOHN T	423	42-03-29
	NYGAARD, DANTON J	367	42-12-09
	ODLE, ELBERT G	368	42-03-27
	RIORDAN, ROBERT P	369	42-03-20
	SMILEY, WALTER N	368	42-03-26
	WARNER, WILLIAM H	423	42-03-27
42-B, Foster, TX	HULINGS, THOMAS M	368	44-10-11
42-B, Luke Fld, AZ	BUDDENBAUM, OTTO A	368	42-06-01
	CHECK, RAYMOND J	423	42-06-13
	STERLING, EDWIN L	368	42-06-23
	WHEELER, DAVID W	369	43-04-12
42-B, Mather Fld, CA	EVANS, BRADFORD A	369	42-03-01
	FRIEND, WILLIAM E	368	42-03-18
	ISBELL, CLAY M	369	42-06-05
	KAHL, RUSSEL G	423	42-03-01
	KENEALY, DEGLAND T	423	42-03-18
	PATTERSON, EDWIN F	367	42-03-18
	TUNNELL, EARL C	367	42-03-18
42-B, Stockton, CA	MALISZEWSKI, EDWARD P	369	42-03-01
	SAUNDERS, FRANK A	423	42-03-18
	WILLIAMS, ROBERT C	423	42-03-18
42-C, Stockton, CA	GASTON, RALPH J	367	42-03-19
	MC KELL, WILLIAM E	367	42-06-00
	MC KESSON, LEWIS R	367	42-03-19
	MILLER, JAMES	367	42-06-00
	REBER, MARLEN E	368	42-03-18
	REGAN, JOHN M	368	42-03-19
	ROBEY, HARRY A JR	423	42-03-18
	SCHULSTAD, LOUIS M JR	368	42-03-19
	SEELOS, ROBERT W	368	42-03-19
	SMITH, ROBERT W	368	42-03-19

CADET CLASS	NAME	SQDN	ARRIVAL
	SPAULDING, JACK A	369	42-03-22
	STAPLE, HENRY G	369	42-03-22
	STORM, ALF H	369	42-03-22
	VAN GEORGE, JAMES	423	42-03-00
	VANDER BIE, VAN	369	42-03-22
	WATSON, FRANK K	423	42-03-19
	YOUNGS, MAURICE P	423	42-03-19
	YOUREE, PERVIS EARL	423	42-03-19
42-C, Victoria, TX	BRISCOE, C DALE	369	43-01-15
42-D, Albany, GA	KORNEGAY, HENRY J JR	367	45-03-00
42-D, Columbus, MS	EDRIS, WARREN P	368	42-12-30
	FORTIN, RAYMOND W	367	42-10-29
	LUBY, OWEN C	367	42-10-19
	PARKER, WILLIAM H	367	42-11-26
	REECHER, KENNETH A	367	42-10-29
	WITT, THOMAS F	367	43-05-15
42-D, Oxnard, CA	PETERSON, LOY F	369	43-10-16
42-D, Valdosta, GA	ANDREWS, MARTIN	423	43-05-30
42-E, Ontario, CA	SMITH, ROBERT H	423	43-01-15
42-E, Stockton, CA	CANNON, CLYDE C	368	42-06-19
42-E, Victorville, CA	STEELE, DAVID A JR	423	42-12-11
42-F,	CROUCH, JAMES W JR	367	42-12-09
42-F, Lubbock, TX	BRANDON, ROBERT L	367	42-07-17
	DRESP, ROBERT F	368	42-07-17
	ELDREDGE, DON H	367	42-06-00
	ELLIOTT, JOHN B	368	42-07-17
	FRYER, ROBERT R	368	42-07-12
	GEORGE, WARREN JR	423	42-07-17
	GILLOGLY, FRED D	368	42-07-17
	HAMAKER, LEONARD E	367	42-07-17
	HENNESSY, EDWARD J JR	369	42-07-17
	JOHNSON, BASIL E	369	42-06-00
	JOHNSON, LEWIS P JR	423	42-07-17
	JONES, JAMES O JR	369	42-07-17
	JONES, RALPH W	423	42-06-00
	JONES, ROBERT J	423	42-07-17
	JUDAS, MAXWELL V	368	42-07-07
	KACKSTETTER, FRANK M	423	43-04-04
	KINNEY, LOWELL E	423	42-07-17
	MILLER, ROBERT A	368	42-07-07
	SCHEIL, WILLIAM H	368	43-03-12
	SHERMAN, FRED P	369	43-01-15
	TEARE, JOHN D	368	43-03-12
42-F, Stockton, CA	KELLY, HOWARD W	367	42-12-11
42-F, Williams Fld, AZ	BIGGS, ROBERT E	367	42-06-00
	HOLMSTROM, GUSTAVE S	369	42-06-00
	KELLEY, ROY D	423	42-06-15
	KING, JOHN R	368	42-06-00
	LALLY, GLENN J	368	42-06-00
	LANDRY, ROBERT H	423	42-06-00
42-G, Columbus, MS	LEDGERWOOD, THOMAS D	367	43-04-04
	PARIS, GEORGE E JR	369	43-04-12
	PIPP, EDWIN G	423	43-03-01
	SCHOOLFIELD, CHARLES T	369	43-04-11
42-G, Mather Fld, CA	THELEN, CHARLES J JR	367	43-03-21
42-G, Moultrie, GA	COOK, LOUIS G	368	43-04-04
	DAVIS, ZIAS D	367	43-04-11
42-G, Stockton, CA	FUHRMEISTER, DINWIDDIE	367	43-05-04
	MALIN, ROBERT O	423	42-12-13
42-G, Victoria, TX	CONLEY, KEITH	369	43-03-12
42-H, Ellington Fld, TX	LAUGHLIN, HARLAN L	369	44-08-21
42-H, Lake Charles, LA	RITLAND, GAYLORD O	367	43-05-04
	ROBINSON, REGINALD L	368	43-04-23
	WEAR, WILLIAM H	367	45-01-13
42-I, Ellington Fld, TX	GERALD, ROBERT S	368	43-12-00
	HARRIS, JACK	423	43-06-22
	JOHNSON, JAMES W	367	43-06-01
42-I, Lubbock, TX	HAASE, WILLIAM J	369	44-08-21
	PORTER, ROBERT W	369	43-05-15
42-I, Minter Fld, AZ	SUGG, LEROY C	423	43-03-01
42-I, Roswell, NM	CLEMONS, FRANK B JR	367	43-04-23
	GILE, FRANKLYN D	368	43-05-00
	KLEIN, ROBERT B	4	44-08-03
	PETERSON, WESLEY D	368	43-03-12
42-J, Columbus, MS	KLETTE, IMMANUEL J	369	43-03-12
42-J, Tulare, CA	BETTINGER, GEORGE C	369	43-04-11
42-K,	KISAMORE, LEO R	367	43-04-23
42-K, Hobbs, NM	LOCKYEAR, WILLARD H	369	43-08-00
42-K, Luke, AZ	SHARKEY, HOWARD C	369	43-08-08
42-K, Roswell, NM	BROWN, BERRYMAN H	367	43-04-23
42-K, Stockton, CA	BENSON, EWALD W	367	43-04-04
	CUMMINGS, JAMES O	368	43-04-12
	DAHLY, RONALD N	368	43-04-04
42-K, Victorville, CA	JONES, WILLIAM D	368	43-04-21
	MC KINNEY, JAMES A	369	44-08-28
42-K, Yuma, AZ	CORRELL, WALTER E	368	44-08-21
42-L,	KATZ, WILLIAM	368	43-07-05



# Combat Crews



367th: back row: Silvio DeZolt, gunner; Richard Pawelke, copilot; Nathaniel Hemenway, bombardier; Shelby Hodges, pilot, and Elmer Frey, crew chief. Front row: Forrest D. Menzie, gunner; Norman W. McConaughy, gunner; Alton Rohinsky, radio; Oscar Gibson, gunner and Victor Pacchioni, engineer.



367th: front row: Carey Oliver, pilot; George E. Dumas, copilot; George A. Milburn, navigator; Siegel Hawkins, bombardier. Back row: Earl Swilley, engineer; William L. Huddleston, waist gunner; Nicholes Tricoles, radio; Jack Osborn, waist gunner; Maurice Pershing, gunner; William E. VanHoutte, tail gunner.



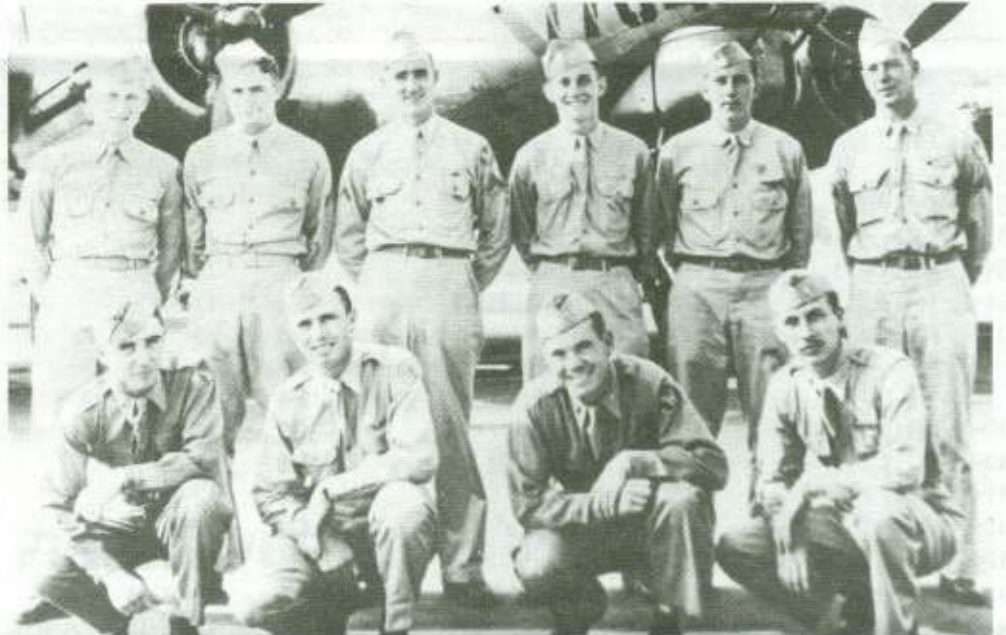
367th: back row: Charles Petitjean, engineer; William Wear, pilot; Ed Bovich, navigator; Francis Specht, copilot, and unknown. Front row: Howard Wertz, waist gunner; Clarence Allred, ball turret; Richard Arlidge, tail; Henry Hall, radio, Stanley Kwietniewski, waist gunner.



367th: back row: Thomas Witt, pilot; Douglas White, copilot; C.A. Alexander, navigator; Walter Morey, bombardier; Francis Pulliam, ball turret; Gus Riecke, engineer. Middle row: Charles Adams, waist gunner; Joseph Bocelli, radio; William Earnest, waist gunner; Walter Sherrill, tail gunner. Front row: Thomas Kazberovich, flight chief; William Hamilton, crew chief; Andrew Stedino, Virgil Ford and Raymond Hartline.



368th: back row: L.G. Cook, pilot; Coyle K. Logue, copilot; Alfred Simmen, navigator, and Eduardo Montoya, bombardier. Front row: Edgerton Ewing, radio; Ed Gramm, waist gunner; William Tremper, ball turret; Robert Kenney, waist gunner; James K. Herman, engineer, and Alfred Jenniges, tail gunner.



368th: front row: John M. Coyne, pilot; Robert W. Schroeder, copilot; Paul Wagner, navigator, and Warren Tryloff, bombardier. Back row: Hardie Gardner, engineer; Russell Decker, radio; D.W. Spraggins, waist gunner; Carl Brizzi, ball turret; Arnold G. Trobaugh, waist gunner, and Burl V. Clement, tail gunner.



368th: back row: Coleman Schuver, engineer; Louis Krzemien, bombardier; Richard W. Jones, pilot; Donald Sandercock, copilot; Wendell Rogers, navigator. Front row: Robert Condrey, tail gunner; Alfred Dearing, waist gunner; Sebastian Krauss, radio; Yuen Hop, ball turret, and Jack Gooden, waist gunner.



368th: front row: Elton Rabe, pilot; Donald Shawe, copilot; Joseph Bischof, navigator; John Polich, bombardier. Back row: Warren Gentile, engineer; Frederick Vischi, gunner; Jerry Misterman, radio; William A. Davis, tail gunner; Francis X. Dwyer, not 306th; Daniel Galvin, ball turret.





369th: front row: Harlan L. Laughlin, pilot; William Rogers, copilot; Blain Galley, bombardier, and Cyril Bush, navigator. Back row: Joseph Homesley, engineer; William Hickman, radio; Joseph Mathews, waist gunner; Clyde Ukele, ball turret; Irwin Fitterman, waist gunner, and Victor Keuer, tail gunner.



369th: front row: Ron Wilkerson, bombardier; Edward Sandini, pilot; Patrick Solano, engineer; Jerry Knowlton, copilot; Lawrence McDaniel, navigator. Back row: Spencer Sherer, tail gunner; James Tuttle, radio; George Auer, waist gunner; Harold Vandiver, ball turret, and Clayton Gilliam, waist gunner.



369th: back row: Jack Kelly, bombardier; Charles Schoolfield, pilot; J.P. Noack, copilot, and unknown. Front row: Bruce Hardy, ball turret; Bert Perimutter, waist gunner; Joseph Stoner, engineer; Connelly; Henry Sommers, tail gunner, and Victor Stevens, radio.



369th: back row: Ellis McKinny, mechanic; Elmer Sandburg, copilot; Barney Stevens, pilot; Robert Fowler, waist gunner, and mechanic. Front row: Charles Nagel, engineer; Frank Bisignano, tail gunner; William McCue, ball turret; Horace Hoskin, radio.



423rd: Ned Bostic, waist gunner; Willard McQuarrie, tail gunner; Harold Smith, radio; Charles Mayakis, copilot; Eugene Bumpus, pilot; John Prentice, navigator; Paul Manning, bombardier; Elbert Prevatte, ball turret; Guido DiPietro, waist gunner, and Herbert Bartlett, engineer.



423rd: back row: Salvatore Soscia, navigator; Robert Beres, bombardier; Kenneth Yass, copilot; Ragnar Carlson, pilot. Front row: Charles Kester, tail gunner; William Morgan, engineer; Nicholas Orlando, ball turret; Anthony Mariani, waist gunner; Philip Brouman, radio and Fred Blum, waist gunner.



423rd: front row: Alfred Ashton, bombardier; Jerome Meek, copilot; William Fortson, pilot. Back row: Cecil Lowren, engineer; Douglas Snow, waist gunner; Ralph Johnson, ball turret; James Ellis, waist gunner; and James Freel, tail gunner.



423rd: front row: Charles Hayen, gunner; Del Mondor, engineer and George Johnson, radio; Back row: Loren Baker, waist gunner; Arthur Resser, tail gunner; Earl Shapland, navigator; Howard Hutchinson, pilot; Richard Griffin, bombardier; Martin Gabrielson, crew chief, Taylor Reedy, copilot.



## Pilots (from page 2)

### Cadet Classes, Schools, Needed

ARRIVAL	NAME	SQDN
42-03-18	BRADY, JOHN B	423
42-03-28	HODSON, RICHARD G	368
42-04-06	ADAMS, RICHARD D	369
42-05-01	SPRINGFIELD, BERKELEY I	
42-06-01	STEWART, JAMES M	367
42-06-03	ELY, WILLIAM W	367
42-06-07	OLSON, JOHN W	367
42-06-15	FELTS, LOYAL M	423
42-06-23	CRAMMER, CHARLES W	369
42-06-27	JOHNSTON, JAMES A	369
42-11-25	MADSEN, PARLEY JR	369
42-11-26	DE BUTTS, DANIEL D	367
42-12-08	CUDEBACK, AARON E	368
42-12-09	HENRY, MURREL C	367
42-12-11	WIGGINTON, BART	423
	CARLSON, ARNOLD R	423
42-12-29	DOWNING, JOSEPH A	367
42-12-30	CLYMER, GERALD F	367
	HARWOOD, CRAIG J	367
42-06-00	DYER, FULTON	369
	PECK, STEPHEN W	423
42-06-00	JANKOWSKI, THEODORE A	368
	BRUNSTING, ALBERT	369
	HEALEY, BERNARD T	423
	BURGESS, QUENTIN W	367
	TILLI, OLIVER E	369
42-06-00	HOPKINS, JAMES E	423
	SIMMONS, GERALD L	367
	CALVERT, WARREN R	
	COOK, CARL W	369
42-06-00	BIRLEFFI, ARTHUR L	369
	CARR, SAMUEL M	
42-10-00	HAAS, NORMAN N	369
42-06-00	HOOF, HAROLD G	
	KLELMAN, JOEL M	
	LAKE, GEORGE M	423
	LARKIN, WILLIAM J	
	LEAR, DEAN E	
	MC FARLAND, JAMES M	367
	MOORE, HUGH L	367
	TITUS, JOHN E	367
	WINTON, FRANK	368

## Major Problem 14 October '43 Delineated in 305th Study

*Wrong Place! Wrong Time! The 305th Bomb Group and the 2nd Schweinfurt Raid, by George C. Kuhl. Atglen, PA, Schiffer Military/Aviation History, 1993. 304 pp. \$24.95.*

Black Thursday was blackest for the planes and crews of the 305th Bomb Group, followed in second place by the 306th.

Only two of their planes made it back to Chelveston, against the five of the 306th which came home on the long route around Paris.

George Kuhl, a 1945 pilot for the 305th, was interested in the Schweinfurt raid, which was still being talked about when he arrived with the 305th, and over the years he became intrigued by what actually happened to those planes and crews.

His labor is displayed in this interesting book, as he tracks the planes as

10 April 1945

## 115th Mission Fort Returns On One Engine

306th BOMB GROUP — The Fortress How Soon returned from its 115th mission on one engine.

Approximately ten minutes from the target — an airfield in the Oranienburg area of Germany — the bomber ran into heavy tracking anti-aircraft fire. Close concussions of flak bursts bounced the Fort, striking No. 3 and 4 engines.

The pilot, 2/Lt. Robert E. Woods, of Memphis, Tenn., was hit in the right hand. The co-pilot, 1/Lt. John S. McDonald, of Rockford, Mich., was knocked out by a chunk of metal which tore through his helmet.

"When I came to, the cockpit was full of smoke, powdered glass and debris," McDonald related. "Three engines were out."

The battered Fort unloaded its bombs and went into a dive, plunging 10,000 feet before pulling out. Crewmen were alerted for the bail-out order.

Eight Mustangs suddenly appeared, four staying with the crippled bomber and four hitting the deck, silencing enemy flak batteries.

All equipment was jettisoned. The ball turret jammed, however. S/Sgt. Clarence W. Hunter, tail gunner from Graham, N.C., and Sgt. Edward J. Maliszewski, radio operator from Schenectady, N.Y., each grabbed one of the two tail guns and kept beating on the ball turret until it dropped.

"We staggered all over the sky — but made it back to base somehow," the co-pilot said. Despite one more obstacle — a flat tire — the pilot landed the Fort smoothly.



Col. Lowell W. Burgess, 369th pilot, retires this October from the Indiana Air Guard Reserve, having had to get a waiver for each of the past three years for his age.

they went down, and then follows the crew members as they fought for life. And it is just at this point that a historian might raise his eyebrows. The detail is exquisite, with item following on item. Most of this had not been recorded at the time and has come from memories of long ago. Just how accurate some of these memories may be at least four decades after events is open to question.

Still, Kuhl has done an excellent job of searching the men out and then trying to give a coherent explanation to the entire affair.

Why did it happen? Kuhl perhaps cites a couple of villains in the piece—Maj. Gen. Frederick Anderson, 8th Bomber Command chief, for running the raid at all on a day of miserable weather, and Maj. Charles G.Y. Normand, the 305th air commander for the day, for myriad misjudgements of situations and pyramiding the problems for his formation, for the 40th Combat Wing, and ultimately for the First Bomb Division.

### A DSC Proposal

One of the more amazing stories is that of Maj. Normand and his post-raid actions, as Lt. Joseph Kane, pilot of the group's lead ship, was summoned to

headquarters the next day: "Sir, would you read and sign this citation recommending Major Normand for the Distinguished Service Cross for yesterday's mission? The Major has already been in and recommended you for the Silver Star.

"Kane slowly began reading the contents of the paper and was astounded at what he saw. Normand had filled his proposal with self-seeking fabrications concerning his conduct as yesterday's group leader . . . Kane finished reading Normand's fable . . . and returned unsigned the proposed commendation."

Responding to the sergeant's query, Kane said he would not sign the statement and "As for him recommending me for a Silver Star, forget it . . . I already have one."

Kuhl is also very critical of the 40th Wing critique the following afternoon, as no one probed into just what did happen to perhaps cause the heavy loss of men and aircraft.

Black Thursday was a nightmare for those who flew that day, and Kuhl points to some of the salient reasons as to the disaster which struck the 40th Combat Wing 14 October 1943 over the Continent.

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### ORDER FORM

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368th Combat Diary \$17.00 \_\_\_\_\_

369th Combat Diary \$17.00 \_\_\_\_\_

423rd Combat Diary \$17.00 \_\_\_\_\_

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306th Bomb Group Association  
5323 Cheval Place  
Charlotte, NC 28205

## "You can't change history..."

It was an invitation that was difficult to accept, even though it included a trip to Europe, expense paid. It came from BRT, Belgium national television. They were making a document about a WWII air raid on an aircraft plant in Antwerp, on April 5, 1943. I had been shot and captured by the enemy on that mission.

The raid was a disaster. Four B-17s went down in the fierce air battle over Belgium. Thirteen American airmen were killed, 28 became prisoners of war. The Luftwaffe counted five FW 190s lost. In the targeted plant, 307 Belgian workmen were killed.

In the heat of the battle, most bombs overshot the target, some by as much as a kilometer. A number fell into the little town of Mortsel, a densely populated suburb of Antwerp. Three schools were hit, 209 children were killed. In all, 936 Belgians died under the bombs of that raid.

"These are your friends! Your allies!" a German guard said to me as we watched a rescue worker emerge from a stricken building carrying a little girl in his arms.

It was one of the blackest days of the war for Belgium.

So why would an American airman agree to go back to the scene of the tragedy as Belgium paused to observe its 50th anniversary and to mourn the loss once again?

Because you can't change history. It happened. And somebody from the American side had to share in the grief.

What could any say?

Killing and being killed. That's what war is all about. The monumental tragedy is that we still don't know how to avoid it and at the same time escape the sure and dire consequences of being passively defenseless.

Mourning the dead is the least we can do.

—Joe Consolmagno



## Newly-Found 306th Men

Aarts, Chester W., 5620 6th Pl., Kenosha, WI 53144 368  
 Anderson, Olley G., 20510 Highland Lake Dr., Lago Vista, TX 78645 (Ruth) 367  
 Artmann, William F., 27344 Hacienda Dr, Sun City, CA 92399 GP  
 Atwood, Richard G., 520 Antelope Way, Eugene, OR 97401 (Hendrina) 368  
 Bagwell, Louis L., 8-C-I, Box 2090, Twenty-nine Palms, CA 92270 423  
 Balkum, Benjamin F., 311 Brown St., Norway, MI 49870 (Phyllis) 449  
 Beard, Harry L., 1858 23rd Ave., Moline, IL 61265 (Evelyn) 369  
 Beckerdite, Atlee D., 1250 Gulf Blvd #708, Clearwater, FL 34680 (Arlene) 423  
 Bedsole, William B., 8513 Ryan Ave., Pensacola, FL 32534 (Myra) 423  
 Belknap, Scott, 13652 Rose Ave., Gibraltar, MI 48173 (Jean) 423  
 Bellett, Herb, 1104 Stonybrook Dr., Norristown, PA 19403 (Carole) 423  
 Bice, Alan R., 1938 Maryland Ave., SP 36, Myrtle Point, OR 97458 369  
 Bice, Glen C., 400 N. 23rd St., Fort Smith, AR 72901 (Elizabeth) 449  
 Biggs, Robert E., 917 W. Gambrell St., Fort Worth, TX 76115 (unmarried) 367  
 Billa, William R., 523 Poplar Ave., #1, Redwood City, CA 94061 (Isabel) 423  
 Bilz, Howard F., 35 Chapel Hill Dr., South Hadley, MA 01075 (Margaret) 204  
 Black, Tim L., 2630 Stoodleigh Dr., Rochester Hills, MI 48309 (Bernadine) 423  
 Borchardt, Donald F., 3519 N 91st St., Milwaukee, WI 53222 (Lorraine) 369  
 Boring, James H., 1119 Berkeley St., Wichita, KS 67216 (Colene) 368  
 Bradbury, Albert E., 2444 Wilshire Dr., Salt Lake City, UT 84109 (Margaret) 4th  
 Breed, Richard L., 3404 Briar Oaks Dr., Garland, TX 75044 (Sue) 367  
 Breeden, Lloyd G., 11707 N. Waikiki Rd., Spokane, WA 99218 (Corinne) 368  
 Brian, Jerry E., 55 E 1st N, Rexburg, ID 83440 (Joan) 368  
 Brizzi, Carl A., 7677 Helmsdale Dr., San Jose, CA 95135 423  
 Broughton, Albert L., 1111 Warden St., Fort Worth, TX 76126 (Johnnie) 368  
 Bruce, William D., 12851 Del Rey Dr., Santa Ana, CA 92705 (Beverly) 369  
 Buchanan, Orville L., 105 Craig Way, Los Gatos, CA 95032 (Helen) 368  
 Buchanan, Walter E., 6345 Monarch Dr., El Paso, TX 77912 369  
 Buford, Forest B., 1510 E. Bankhead Dr., Weatherford, TX 76086 (Jean) 367  
 Bunch, Sermon R., 460 Mackay St., Henderson, NV 89015 (Vera) 1628  
 Burns, Benjamin S., 5042 Wagon Wheel Dr., Yorba Linda, CA 92686 368  
 Burr, Harland, 30407 Babridge, Livonia, MI 48152 367  
 Burr, John P., 15200 W Burleigh Rd., Brookfield, WI 53005 (widower) 1628  
 Buth, Melvin A., 3408 Morse Ave., Sacramento, CA 95821 (Edith) 368  
 Cacioppo, Russell J., 36715 Glenwood Rd., Wayne, MI 48184 (Maxine) 449  
 Cain, Ralph P., 832 Rowland Rd., Stone Mountain, GA 30083 (Edith) 4th  
 Caldwell, Kendrick C., 212 Playground St., Waynesville, NC 28786 (Mildred) 423  
 Cannon, Clyde C., 168 High Country Dr., Seguin, TX 78155 (Phyllis) 423  
 Cannon, Charles N., PO Box 12, Armstrong, IL 61812 (Louise) 423  
 Cannon, Leonard L., 6522 Wimble Rd., Memphis, TN 38134 (unmarried) 423  
 Cardon, Robert L., 4803 Dodson Dr., Annandale, VA 22003 (Betty) 367  
 Carey, Kenneth J., 2229 Texas Ave., San Antonio, TX 78228 (Evelyn) 423  
 Cargill, William D., 5100 John D Ryan Blvd #747, San Antonio, TX 78245 (Dorothy) 368  
 Carlson, Norman P., 11439 E. Emery St., El Monte, CA 91732 (Mary) 369  
 Carnahan, Kenneth R., 380 Maple Dr., Satellite Beach, FL 32937 (Betty) 369  
 Casa, James, 1320 Highridge Ave., Westchester, IL 60154 (Lauretta) 367  
 Clarke, Myron C., 1945 N. Benton Dr., Sauk Rapids, MN 56379 (Frances) 4th  
 Clemence, George J., 4832 Village Garden Dr., Sarasota, FL 34234 (Velma) 423  
 Clement, Burl V., 4025 S 272nd St., Kent, WA 98032 (widower) 423  
 Colclazer, Sidney P., 3500 Lewis Ln., Amarillo, TX 79109 (Mary Lee) 449  
 Collart, Adrian A., 1001 Friar Tuck Rd., Johnson City, TN 37604 (Rosemary) 423  
 Combs, Nathaniel J., 5334 Hickory Dr., Schenectady, NY 12303 (Norma) 423  
 Cory, Robert E., 17430 N 124th Ave., Sun City West, AZ 85375 (Betty) 423  
 Cox, Harvey L., 355 Red Ripple Rd., Houston, TX 77091 (Zelma) 369  
 Craig, Edward D., 15 Red Brook Rd., Falmouth, MA 02536 (widower) 423  
 Cranche, Marshall P., 204 Louisiana St., Jeanerette, LA 70544 (Catherine) 369  
 Creamer, Edwin D., 173 Lemon Tree Cir., Vacaville, CA 95687 (Ila) 423  
 Creasey, Frank L., 3836 Green Spring Ave NW, Roanoke, VA 24017 (Virginia) 1208  
 Crossland, B. F., Rt. 1, Bix 557, Amarillo, TX 79106 (Eleanor) 368  
 Cruff, Arthur S., 2011 Acorn Dr., Prescott, AZ 86301 (Ellen) 367  
 Cullen, Jack M., 56566 Sunnyslope Dr., Yucca Valley, CA 92284 (Betty) 423  
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 Cushing, Charles E., 60 Lesley Ln., Oldsmar, FL 34677 (Helen) 367  
 Dana, Isaac D., 4222 E Brown Rd #9, Mesa, AZ 85205 (Carol) 369  
 Daniels, Joseph N., 1925 Rome Ave., St Paul, MN 55116 (Sarah) 367  
 Dann, Raymond J., 4813 Squires Dr., Titusville, FL 32796 423  
 Davison, Fred F., 950 W. Calle Evelina, Tucson, AZ 85706 367  
 Davis, Jr, William J, 106 Ridgewood Dr., Fredericksburg, TX 78624 (Mary) 367  
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 Desroches, Joseph A. A., 1615 Lancelot Ln., Arlington, TX 76014 368  
 Diits, Alvin E., 1723 W. Boulder St., Colorado Springs, CO 80904 (Marva) 423  
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 Evans, Marion A., 6202 197th St E, Spanaway, WA 98387 (widower) 368  
 Faist, Walter J., 276 S Ivy St., Canby, OR 97013 (Evelyn) 367  
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 Gosselin, Edmond, 13225 Venness St., Southgate, MI 48195 (widower) 367  
 Harkness, Byron E., 1054 Arcade St., St. Paul, MN 55106 (Marcella) 369  
 Harper, Wilburn, 14327 Tonikan, Apple Valley, CA 92307 (Irene) 423  
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 Swanson, Everett C., 4903 Hopwood Ln., Peoria, IL 61607 (Mori) CJ  
 Valentine, Colin L., 901 N Cedar Bluff Dr., Knoxville, TN 37923 (Adrienne) 368  
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 Mrs. Joseph E. Beal (Doreen), 5333 Del Prado, Milton, FL 32571 449W  
 Mrs. Charles A. Beeler (Jean), 5644 Barrington Ct NW, Topeka, KS 66614 982W  
 Mrs. Leonard P. Blatnica (Gloria), 6752 E Baravista Dr., Verona, PA 15146 368W  
 Mrs. Donald R. Bratton (Edith), 2319 Longwood Cir., Wichita, KS 67226 449W  
 Mrs. Vincent C. Breen (Nolene), 1202 Manitou Ave., Boise, ID 83706 369W  
 Mrs. Gerald F. Bushell (Lorraine), 625 W Glencoe Rd., Palatine, IL 60067 423W  
 Mrs. Joe P. Crane (Page), 3004 Olive St., Texarkana, TX 75503 367W  
 Mrs. Marie J. Davidson, 4230 Brigadoon Ln, Colorado Springs, CO 80909 423B  
 Mrs. Robert B. Eckle (Marjorie), 3375 San Felipe Ct., Merced, CA 95348 423W  
 Mrs. Robert J. Ederer (Clarice), 495 S. Dayton St., Denver, CO 80231 369W  
 Mrs. Herbert B. Ewing (Ruth), PO Box 589, Groveland, CA 95321 423W  
 Mrs. Paul K. Finn (Bertha), 2215 W EDgemont Way, Phoenix, AZ 85009 423W  
 Mrs. Ingvald Fredlund (Doris), 1541 Sheridan Rd., Bremerton, WA 1024W  
 Cynthia Houlihan DVM, 1744 Derby, Birmingham, MI 48009 367D  
 Patrick Houlihan DDS, 22213 Pond View, Novi, MI 48375 367S  
 Mrs. Howard W. Kelly (Hazel), 407 James Ave., Valparaiso, FL 32580 367W  
 Mrs. Linda Erb Martz, 10101 Community Ln, Fairfax, VA 22089 367D  
 Mrs. Walter H. Sumner, 2424 Drury Ave., Kansas City, MO 64127 368W  
 Ann Jeffries Thaiss (Christopher), 607 Roberts Dr., Vienna, VA 22180 423D

## Obits

**Samuel E. Abdelnour**, 369th ball turret gunner (Raymond Braun crew), and POW, 9 Dec 44 at Stuttgart (w. Robert H. Brown), died 21 Jun 83 in Albany, NY.

**Vincent A. Albanesi**, 449th communication worker, died 21 June 87 in Conway, PA. He had been with the original group.

**Dean C. Babcock**, 423rd radio maintenance man, died in Jan 86 in Reseda, CA.

**Allen L. Babin**, 369th pilot who had the dubious distinction of losing the last 306th plane in WWII combat, died 15 May 93 in New Orleans, LA. He bailed his crew out 10 Apr 45 on a mission to Oranienburg, Germany. Babin had brought his crew to the 306th 16 Feb 45. He leaves his wife, Betty, four children and seven gc.

**Joseph E. Beal**, 449th Sub Depot, died 19 Jan 82 in Milton, FL. He worked in engineering transportation, and leaves his wife, Doreen.

**Robert F. Beckerle**, 423rd crew chief and master sergeant, died 15 Feb. 65 in Glen Falls, NY. He joined the group 3 Apr 42 at Wendover, UT, and was transferred to USSTAF 20 Mar 44.

**Charles A. Beeler**, company clerk for the 982nd MP Co., died 29 Aug 93 in Topeka, KS. He leaves his wife, Jean, a native of Scotland.

**Harry E. Beistline**, 367th gunner, died in 1971 in Pompano Beach, FL.

**Harold R. Bemetz**, 367th waist gunner in 1945, died 2 Jun 93 in Myrtle Creek, OR.

**Jack S. Benner**, 449th Sub Depot,

died 8 Jul 82 in Akron, OH.

**Peter A. Berds**, 876th Chemical Co., died in the early 80s in Niagara Falls, NY.

**Ellsworth Berlitz**, ordnance worker, died 9 Jan 82 in Tampa, FL.

**Leonard P. Blatnica**, 368th navigator (Paul Paulsen crew), died 20 Jan 86 in Penn Hills, PA, where his widow, Gloria, lives. He came to the Group 3 Sep 43 and was transferred to the 482nd BG 17 Oct 43, returning later after having undergone special training. He completed his tour in Apr 44.

**Donald R. Bratton**, 449th Sub Depot, and on an engine change crew as an assistant crew chief, died 28 May 92 in Wichita, KS. He leaves his wife, Edith.

**Vincent C. Brenn**, 369th bombsight maintenance, died 9 Jan 78 in Boise, ID. He leaves his wife, Nolene.

**Walter F. Carroll**, 367th pilot, died in Nov 82 in Providence, RI. He arrived with the Group 6 Oct 44.

**Daniel F. Cirella**, 369th bomb storage worker, died 8 Jun 93 in Chicago.

**Robert M. Cole**, 368th radio operator (William Reeder crew), has died in Bedford Falls, OH. He joined the Group in Nov 43 and finished combat in Jun 44.

**Warren W. Cole**, 368th tail gunner (J. Bruce McMahon crew) and evadee 11 Jan 44 at Halberstadt (w. W. Dale Reed), died 15 Jan 88 in Richmond, VA. He had returned to England 28 Jun 44 in his successful evasion attempt.

**Ernest P. Conrad**, 368th gunner (w. Richard Hartshorn), died 18 Dec 93 in

(Turn to page 8)



**Obits** from page 7

# Long, Slow Trip Home

368th Plane, # 42-29795, Mission 15 May 1943

"Just before we got to the target an ME-109 hit us. First, we were hit in the nose, then in the #4 engine. It began to smoke and we started to drop back. Then the prop on #1 ran away. Our #4 was smoking, and the fighters came in from every direction, swarming all over us. The tail gunner bailed out (we don't know just where). Soon the enemy fighters discovered that we had no tail gunner and they lined up on our tail and gave us hell. We went down in turning dives to 400 feet. The fighters left us shortly after we passed Heligoland. Came back on two engines at 120 mph. We threw over everything in the ship that we could get our hands on. Landed OK, but #4 prop dropped off as we hit the runway." Landed at Foulsham at 1143.

The crew: Lt. Reginald L. Robinson, pilot; Lt. William R. Dalessi, co-pilot, Lt. C. W. Holmes navigator; Lt. Beverly R. Lamb, bombardier; S/Sgt. L. J. Hlavac, radio; T/Sgt. J. L. Robertson top turret; S/Sgt. George P. Fisher, ball turret; S/Sgt. Richard J. Tronzo, right waist; S/Sgt. D. C. Brower, left waist; S/Sgt. Maynard B. Standley, tail gunner.

- Bristol, CT.  
**Joe P. Crane**, 367th gunner (w. Wilford Bergener), died eight years ago in Texarkana, TX. He flew 13 missions before combat ended. He leaves his wife, Page.  
**Joe S. Daura**, 449th Sub Depot, died 20 Aug 89 in San Antonio, TX.  
**Mearl J. Dodge**, Station gas and agricultural officer, died 26 Nov 90 in Shawnee Mission, KS.  
**Irving J. Dudley**, 369th pilot and POW 16 Aug 44 at Bohlen (w. Young Newsom), died 31 Aug 83 in Riverside, CA.  
**LTC Robert B. Eckles**, 367th and 423rd pilot, died 18 May 93 in Merced, CA. He was originally copilot for William Bisson and later became a flight commander. Eckles retired from USAF in Sep 71. He leaves his wife, Marjorie.  
**Robert J. Ederer**, 369th gunner (Irving Dudley crew), died 22 Jul 83 in Denver, CO. He arrived with the 306th in late July 44.  
**Dr. Alfred Erb**, 367th surgeon, died 18 Sep 93 in Falls Church, VA. He joined the Group 8 Aug 42 and departed three years later. He took his MD at Ohio State University. Dr. Erb retired in 1983 after having headed

a practice in anesthesia in the Cincinnati area. He leaves two children and 2 gc.

- Herbert B. Ewing**, 423rd copilot (Richard Nickelhoff crew), died 2 Feb 90 in Groveland, CA. He leaves his wife, Ruth.  
**Hoil O. Flood**, 368th gunner and engineer (Ivan Oberhelman crew), died 5 Jun 92 in Tulsa, OK. He arrived with the Group 15 May 44 and ended his tour 25 Sep 44.  
**Ingvald Fredlund**, 1024th ordnance company, died 17 May 86 in Bremerton, WA. He leaves his wife, Doris.  
**Vernon M. Friend**, 368th assistant crew chief, died 7 Jul 93 in Bloomington, IL.  
**Charles W. Goad**, 4th Station Completion Sqdn, and assigned to the electrical shop, is now deceased.  
**Edward Golder**, 369th, died 26 Feb 92 in Melrose, MA. He leaves his wife, Etta.  
**Stanley Goncher**, 423rd navigator (Robert Mox crew), died 19 Jul 93 in Boca Raton, FL. He arrived in combat 1 Jul 44 and finished his tour in November. He leaves his wife, Sue.  
**William C. Gordon**, 369th bomb handler, died in Apr 88 in Camache, IA.  
**Charles F. Hitchcock**, 369th gunner (Harold Mattson crew), died 5 Nov 89 in Bothell, WA. He flew missions in early '45.  
**Young B.C. Newsom**, 369th pilot (John Roberts' crew), died 12 Feb 89 in Midland, TX. Arriving for combat 27 Apr 44, he became a POW 16 Aug 44 at Bohlen.  
**Roy E. Nokes**, 423rd tail gunner (Kenneth Blackshaw crew), died 12 Aug 93 in Springfield, MO. He flew combat from Oct 44 to Apr 45. He retired from business in 1985.  
**James J. O'Neill**, 369th engineer (Keith Conley crew), died 2 Oct 93 in San Francisco, CA. He was the 75th EM to complete a tour, joining the Group 12 Mar 43 and finishing in August.  
**Loy F. Peterson**, 369th pilot of "Satan's Lady," died 5 Dec 93 in Scottsdale, AZ,

- where he had lived since retirement as a bank vice president. He brought his crew to the 306th 16 Oct 43 and finished in Jun 44.  
**Jerome E. Sears**, 1628th ordnance officer, died 28 Jul 93 in Las Vegas, NV. He had lived for some years in Pioche, NV, where he owned several businesses. Sears came to the 306th 2 Dec 43; then was recalled to active duty in Korea and served with frontline ground troops as an ordnance officer. He leaves his wife and one son.  
**Capt. Jack D. Shaaber**, US Army (ret), and 368th bombardier and POW, died 25 Nov 93 in Bangkok, Thailand. He came to the 306th with John Teare's crew and became a POW 17 Apr 43 at Bremen (w. Robert Miller). Shaaber joined the Army in 1948 and served in the Berlin Airlift, Korea, Vietnam and Thailand. In addition to his bombardier's wings, he wore jump wings and the combat infantry badge. He retired in 1975, later working for the Joint Military Assistance Mission in Thailand. In 1971 he married Pranom Wong Sali, who survives.  
**Earl P. Shapland**, 423rd navigator (Howard Hutchinson crew), died 5 Dec 91 in Gatlinburg, TN. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Illinois, in engineering, he was the founder of Flo-Con Systems, Inc., manufacturers of valves for steel making. He retired in 1973 because of health, and then ran a consulting business. He leaves his wife, Harriett; four children and four gc. Mrs. Shapland returned to Springfield, IL, to live, where he had spent much of his professional life.  
**Ralph L. Whiteside**, 367th waist gunner and POW, died 9 Aug 91 in Ashland, KY. He joined the 306th 5 Jul 43, and was MIA 24 Feb 44 (w. Loren Page) on the mission to Schweinfurt.

## Des Moines Reunion Reservations

### September 15-17, 1994

Complete this form and send with check to:  
 306th Bomb Group Reunion, P.O. Box 13362, Des Moines, IA 50310

Reunion registration fee, per person	_____ at \$25	\$ <u>25</u>
<b>Thursday, September 15</b>		
Amana Colonies tour (8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.)	_____ at \$25	\$ _____
"Bridges of Madison County" tour (9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.)*	_____ at \$23	\$ _____
Magnificent Mansions tour (1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.)	_____ at \$22	\$ _____
Discover Des Moines tour (2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.)	_____ at \$13	\$ _____
Iowa Farm Dinner at 7:00 p.m. (Last bus 6:30 p.m.)	<u>1</u> at \$22	\$ <u>22</u>
<b>Friday, September 16</b>		
Tour of Dutch Town of Pella (8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.)*	_____ at \$30	\$ _____
Living History Farms tour (8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.)*	_____ at \$26	\$ _____
Magnificent Mansions tour (8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)	_____ at \$22	\$ _____
"Bridges of Madison County" tour (9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.)*	_____ at \$23	\$ _____
Discover Des Moines tour (9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon)	_____ at \$13	\$ <u>13</u>
Aviation Expo at 3:00 p.m. (Last bus 2:30 p.m.)	_____ at \$17	\$ <u>17</u>
Evening free		
<b>Saturday, September 17</b>		
Valley Junction shopping tour (10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.)	_____ at \$7	\$ _____
Business meeting at 3:00 p.m.; Ladies program at 3:00 p.m.		
Reunion banquet at 7:00 p.m.		
(Cash bar opens at 6:00 p.m.)	_____ at \$28	\$ <u>28</u>
(*Tour includes lunch)		
	Grand total	\$ _____

Name Thurman Shuller Spouse/Guest \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address 1312 E Miami, McAlester, OK 74501  
 Telephone 918-423-4624 306th Squadron H9  
 Arrival Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_ By \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

### Crystal Inn & Conference Center

611 Fleur Drive  
 Des Moines, IA 50321-9906 1-800 248-4013 - Phone Reservations

Please Reserve Accommodations for \_\_\_\_\_ persons.

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./\_\_\_\_\_ p.m. Departure date \_\_\_\_\_

Please Print  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ SINGLE — 1 person / \$55 plus 12% tax  
 \_\_\_\_\_ DOUBLE — 1 bed; 2 persons / \$55 plus 12% tax  
 \_\_\_\_\_ DOUBLE — 2 beds; 2-4 persons / \$55 plus 12% tax

And I want to guarantee my room with my VISA \_\_\_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_\_\_ American Express \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

**I/WE ARE ATTENDING THE 306TH BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION REUNION**  
**September 15-17, 1994**

( ) As I am a paraplegic, I need a handicap room if possible.  
 ( ) As I experience considerable walking difficulty, I would like a room on the first floor as close to the center of activities as possible.

### 306th Mail Order Memorabilia

#### Order Form

Send Order Form and Check Payable to 306th Bomb Group Association to:  
 Casey Jones, 136 Coventry Drive, Henderson NV 89014-2726

ITEM	COST PER ITEM	NUMBER NEEDED	TOTAL COST
306th Decal with First Over Germany in Full Color	\$ 0.50		
306th Decal without First Over Germany in Full Color	\$ 0.50		
306th Patch 2-1/4 inches, with First Over Germany in Full Color	\$ 5.00		
306th Patch 3 inches, without First Over Germany in Full Color	\$ 5.00		
367th Patch 5 inches, in Full Color	\$ 5.00		
368th Patch 5 inches, in Full Color	\$ 5.00		
369th Patch 5 inches, in Full Color	\$ 5.00		
423rd Patch 5 inches, in Full Color	\$ 5.00		
367th T-Shirt (L) with Logo in Full Color	\$10.00		
367th T-Shirt (XL) with Logo in Full Color	\$10.00		
368th T-Shirt (M) with Logo in Full Color, w/ FOC on Back	\$10.00		
368th T-Shirt (L) with Logo in Full Color	\$10.00		
368th T-Shirt (XL) with Logo in Full Color	\$10.00		
369th T-Shirt (L) with Logo in Full Color	\$10.00		
369th T-Shirt (XL) with Logo in Full Color	\$10.00		
423rd T-Shirt (M) with Logo in Full Color	\$10.00		
423rd T-Shirt (L) with Logo in Full Color	\$10.00		
423rd T-Shirt (XL) with Logo in Full Color	\$10.00		
306th Tie Navy with B-17 Logo and 306th Bomb Group, Thurleigh, England, 1942-45 in Gold	\$10.00		
306th Logo Quartz Man's Wristwatch with Goldplated Case with Time Marks and Black Leather Strap	\$25.00		
306th "Black Thursday" Photo in Full Color	\$ 2.00		
306th Golf Caps, White, with 306th Logo in Full Color	\$10.00		
306th "50th Anniversary" Poster	\$ 3.00		
306th Sport Shirts (M), with 306th First Over Germany Logo and in Full Color	\$15.00		
306th Sport Shirts (L), with 306th First Over Germany Logo and in Full Color	\$15.00		
306th Sport Shirts (XL), with 306th First Over Germany Logo and in Full Color	\$15.00		
306th Sport Shirts (XXL), with 306th First Over Germany Logo and in Full Color	\$15.00		
306th License Plate Frames, with First Over Germany	\$10.00		
306th Reunion Glasses, with B-17, 306th and 4 Squadrons Logos	\$ 5.00		
306th Reunion Coffee Mugs, with 306th Logo	\$ 5.00		