



Former Prisoner of War
at
Stalag Luft III

18 Feb '94

Dear Russ,

Received the Jan issue of the Echoes and was pleased to see my name. Warm memories coursed through my mind as I saw the names of those whom I knew and to see Gene Kinnair's who was my co-pilot.

The main reason I am writing is to provide possible additional info you may have on Art Berleffi.

I became acquainted with Art when we joined the 301st at Spokane in Feb '42. We were in the same SQ. I don't know what his flying class was, but I'm pretty sure Hank Terry would know for, if my memory serves me correctly he came into the 301st with Berleffi after a stint of

flying sub patrol missions in the Caribbean in B-17^s (Hank went into a different SQ in the 301st).

You may or may not know this but Terry, Berleffi, and ~~me~~ and our crews and another were detached from the 301st (along with 4 other crews from Mt Home Idaho) for the Battle of Midway. We got there a day late but stayed in Hawaii for a month. Then, of course, Terry, Berleffi, and I came into the 306th in Wendover in Jul '42.

I'm happy to be among the "686". I don't contribute each time but I do once or twice and here for some time.

Russ, you have been a loyal, serving, and conscientious hard-working member of the 306th. I heartily congratulate you and sincerely appreciate your dedication.

I enjoyed talking with you a few days ago.

Sincerely,
John Barrett