

306th BOMB GRP.
423 BOMB SQD.

AGRS-DC-G 201 Burden, Donald F. 1st Ind
19 170 578 (2 Oct 50)
SUBJECT: Flight Missions

AGO, Dept. of the Army, Records Administration Center, St. Louis 20, Mo.,
14 December 1950

TO: Commanding Officer, Flight D, 3d Rescue Squadron, APO 75, c/o Post-
master, San Francisco, California

The records show that Donald F. Burden, 19 170 578, participated in
heavy bombardment sortie over enemy occupied Continental Europe on the
following dates.

Date	Place
6 Jan 45	Koeln, Germany
7 Jan 45	Urskirchen, Germany
8 Jan 45	Speyer, Germany
15 Jan 45	Freiburg, Germany
17 Jan 45	Bielefeld, Germany
21 Jan 45	Aschaffenburg, Germany
3 Feb 45	Berlin, Germany
6 Feb 45	Fulda, Germany
14 Feb 45	Dresden, Germany
19 Feb 45	Bochum, Germany
20 Feb 45	Nurnberg, Germany
21 Feb 45	Nurnberg, Germany
24 Feb 45	Hamburg, Germany
7 Mar 45	Siegen, Germany
8 Mar 45	Gelsenkirchen, Germany
10 Mar 45	Dortmund, Germany
11 Mar 45	Bremen, Germany

Date	Place
19 Mar 45	Flauen, Germany
21 Mar 45	Rhedne, Germany
22 Mar 45	Dorsten, Germany
23 Mar 45	Coesfeld, Germany
24 Mar 45	Vichts, Germany
28 Mar 45	Berlin, Germany
30 Mar 45	Bremen, Germany
31 Mar 45	Halle, Germany
4 Apr 45	Fassberg, Germany
5 Apr 45	Weiden, Germany
6 Apr 45	Leipzig, Germany
7 Apr 45	Wesendorf, Germany
8 Apr 45	Halbertstadt, Germany
10 Apr 45	Oranienburg, Germany
13 Apr 45	Neumunster, Germany
14 Apr 45	Royan, France
15 Apr 45	Royan, France

FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

V. SANDERSON
1st Lt. AGD

Adjutant General

UNITED STATES ARMY AIR FORCES



FLEXIBLE GUNNERY SCHOOL

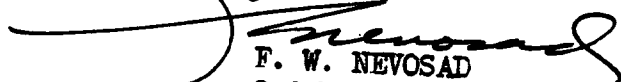
Be it known that CPL DONALD F. BURDEN 19 170 578
*of the United States Army Air Forces, has satisfactorily
completed the course of instruction prescribed for Flexible
Gunnery Training.*

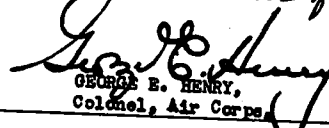
*In testimony whereof and by virtue of vested authority
I do confer upon him this*

Diploma

Given at LAS VEGAS ARMY AIR FIELD, Las Vegas, Nevada
on this, the 1 *day of* July *in the year*
of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and forty-four.

Attest:


F. W. NEVOSAD
2nd Lt. Air Corps
School Secretary


GEORGE E. HENRY,
Colonel, Air Corps
Commanding

Nov 19-87

Dear Russell:

"Hurrah!" at last a reunion that is close enough for my wife and I to attend.

Will you please put my apt. No. on my address as you can see the paper gets to me late.

a little note of interest my Flexible Gunnery School Certificate, Las Vegas had a population of 12,000 in 1944, there were two Casinos in town, the Golden Nugget & the Silver Slipper

I'm sending you a list of my missions over Germany, Lt Col John Chalfant was my Commanding officer, and in July of 1960 when I reported for duty with the Office of the Air Attache ^{ANKARA, TURKEY} who was my Commanding officer but Col. John Chalfant what a re-union we had, especially over the book I had 1ST over Germany and I think it ^{was} your paper that reported he died of Cancer. He was a wonderful person. Hope to see you in person next year. I will be 72 yrs young am a DAV with a Arkansas Razor Back Pig Value in my heart, was put in June 8th 1981
over

so my days are getting numbered,
so please put a #2018 behind
108 N. Greenfield.

Yours Very Truly
Donald F. Burden
108 N. Greenfield # 2018
Mesa, az. 85205
Ph. 602 - 832 - 8678

2386

Dear Mr Strong: Sept 16-91

Have been gone all summer to the Mogollon Rim near Show Low az, didn't get back to our Senior Citizens apt until Sept 13, I then read the 306th Echo's and that name, April 8, 1945, HALBERSTADT, Germany triggered my memory, so am mailing you, my Flight Missions that will be 41 years old in Oct, don't remember the mission at all, but the mission over Royan France, was one to make your hair stand on end, can't remember which date it was the 14th or 15th. But the Germans had some big guns they were still shelling with. We came in at low altitude 10,000 or 15,000 ft altitude. I was the Top Turret Gunner, just as we were coming in for the bombing run looked overhead, and lo & behold there was a Squadron of B-24's, with there Bomb Bay doors open, and saw the bombs start

2

Coming out, screamed to the Pilot
(Byrant F. Leigh, 3223-N. 4100 W.)
Cedar City, Utah 84720) look over-
head, the B 24's were at about
20,000 ft, you have never seen
a Squadron of B-17's scatter like
a covey of Quail don't remember
if any B-17's got hit or not, but
something must have happened
or we wouldn't gone back again
the 15th of April.

Have never been to a 306th
re-union, almost made it when
you had your Re-union in
Las Vegas (where I took Aerial
Gunners training in 1944, Population
of Las Vegas then was 12,600 people
Two Casinos in Town Golden Nugget
and the Silver Slipper, anyway
that was the month my Mother
died so was unable to attend

Have been unable to contact
any of my crew members outside
of Byrant Leigh, the Co-Pilot was
James, Ribble, Cleveland, Ohio.

Radio Operator 3.

George KOWETZKY, Chicago, Ill, he worked for the Postal Service, Don Oneil, Waist Gunner he lived in Kansas, and Aaron Swine was the Ball Turret Gunner read in the 306th Echo's he was now deceased. We were all in the 423rd Sqd.

One surprise I had when I reported for Air Attache Duty in Ankara, Turkey, was Col John CHALFANT, we knew each other at Thurlleigh, and we became very good friends, he is now deceased.

I spent 25 yrs in the A.F., retired June 1 - 1967 Travis AFB, worked for the City of Fairfield 14 yrs, Retired again June 24 - 78, Wife and I sold our home, bought a Ford Truck, a 28 ft Layton Trailer, traveled from 1978 to 1985, Visiting all our friends, now our trailer is parked at Senior Citizens Retirement Center on the Mogollon Rim near Heber Az. We spend the summers there

at a altitude of 6,479 ft, in between times have an ^{HAD} aortic Pig valve installed ^{IN MY HEART} June 8-1981 at the Veterans Hospital at ^{Albuquerque} ~~Alberque~~, New Mexico, am now 75 yrs old am feeling fairly good. We live in a Senior Citizens Retirement Center here in Mesa, az, spend 6 months here, and then 6 months during the summer at Heber, az, am a life time member of D.A.V.

Hope this list of missions will help a wee bit.

Yours Very Truly
Don Burden

MR. & MRS. DON BURDEN
108 N. Greenfield #2018
Mesa, Arizona 85205

P.S. Sure enjoy the 306th Echo's it is my favorite paper.

P.S.S., Was stationed at Myrtle Beach ^{AFB} SC. from 1958-1960
Col. Grabeski
Commanding Officer

AGCS-30-G 201 Burden, Donald F. 1st Ind
19 170 578 (2 Oct 50)
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AGO, Dept. of the Army, Records Administration Center, St. Louis 20, Mo.,
14 December 1950

ASHIYA-JAPAN

TO: Commanding Officer, Flight D, 3d Rescue Squadron, APO 75, c/o Post-
master, San Francisco, California

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>
6 Jan 45	Keln, Germany	19 Mar 45	Plauen, Germany
7 Jan 45	Urskirchen, Germany	21 Mar 45	Rheine, Germany
8 Jan 45	Speyer, Germany	22 Mar 45	Dersten, Germany
15 Jan 45	Freiburg, Germany	23 Mar 45	Coesfeld, Germany
17 Jan 45	Bielefeld, Germany	24 Mar 45	Vichta, Germany
21 Jan 45	Aschaffenburg, Germany	28 Mar 45	Berlin, Germany
3 Feb 45	Berlin, Germany	30 Mar 45	Bremen, Germany
6 Feb 45	Fulda, Germany	31 Mar 45	Halle, Germany
14 Feb 45	Dresden, Germany	4 Apr 45	Passberg, Germany
19 Feb 45	Bochum, Germany	5 Apr 45	Walden, Germany
20 Feb 45	Nurnberg, Germany	6 Apr 45	Leipzig, Germany
21 Feb 45	Nurnberg, Germany	7 Apr 45	Wegendorf, Germany
24 Feb 45	Hamburg, Germany	8 Apr 45	Halberstadt, Germany
7 Mar 45	Siegen, Germany	10 Apr 45	Oranienburg, Germany
8 Mar 45	Galaenkirchen, Germany	13 Apr 45	Hammeler, Germany
10 Mar 45	Dortmund, Germany	14 Apr 45	Bayan, France
11 Mar 45	Bremen, Germany	15 Apr 45	Bayan, France

FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

V. SANDERSON
1st Lt. AGD

Adjutant General