

Nov. 30-52

Dear Russell,  
I forgot to get a copy of First over Germany at  
the Cin. reunion. I'm enclosing my check  
and address LOWELL W. BURGESS, 3510  
ELIZAVILLE Rd. LEBANON IND 46052.

Please correct my mailing address from  
Elizabelle Rd. to Elizaville Rd.

I was a pilot in the 369, talked to Charlie  
Flannigan recently. Here is a couple of  
interesting notes you might not be aware of.  
One time Col. Robinson posted an official  
notice on the bulletin board that stated  
"all women brought on the base for a  
party must be off the base in 72 hrs."  
also Lt. Col Willie shot at the W.A.F. commander  
after a group screw one night, with a very  
pistol when she was loading up the girls.  
It seems to me that he hit her in the  
sure but I do know she never brought  
the girls back for a party while I was  
there.

My career was in jeopardy one nite on the  
base. My Stanko was shooting at me  
and my co pilot for stealing coal. I never  
layed as close to the ground before or after.

Here is what I consider to be one of the big screw ups of the war. One morning they got me up and told me I was deputy wing lead for a P.F.F. run to Keisigig. Maj Solada was wing lead. I wasn't even a Sqdn leader and had never even been close to a P.F.F. plane. I was scared to death that some thing would happen to Maj. Solada, luckily it didn't. We also nearly collided with another group in the target area. I never did ask why they picked me for that assignment but I still wonder today.

Hope you got to see the 25 minute coverage recently on C.B.S. Sunday Morning, of the 306 dedication at Shurledge.

Here is a list of some of my crew that I'm sure would like your book. I've never ask them if they get the 306 Echoes.

Jerry L. Myers #2 Summit Ct. Fenton Mo 63026  
He was a POW. after I left.

William Marris Box 233 Rt. 1. Aurora Ind. 47001  
Orville Stocker 35 Terrace Ct Tiboron Ca. 94920.

Another 306 Pilot

Richard Buttorff 10425 Little John Ct. Edmond Wa. 98020

Hope to see you at the Reunion at Omaha next yr.

Lloyd W. Burgess  
Capt U.S.A.F. Res. ret.

3 December 1982

Dear Lowell:

Thanks for the book order. I'll mail it the first of the week.

I am equally appreciative of the four names and addresses you included. I have added the names to the mailing list, and have noted the correction on your address.

The stories you told are also appreciated. I was there during one of those times when they lowered the boom on the long-term partiers. I'm not sure all of them had left by Wednesday, even after the edict was issued.

The planning goes on for Omaha and it is looking like we will have quite a party.

Sincerely yours,

Russell A. Strong

Lowell W. Burgess Maj. U.S.A.F.R. ret.  
3510 Elizaville Rd.  
Lebanon In. 46052

Oct. 16, 83

William M. Collins Jr.  
2973 Heatherbrae Dr.  
Poland Ohio 44514

Dear Bill;

That was certainly a great reunion we had, they have to continue. I surly appreciate your sending me a mailing list. I am compiling a list of all the names and addresses of members in Ind. and will send each the list. May even try a get together next summer. I am enclosing a check for fifty dollars to help keep the ole 306 solvent.

I trust you had an enjoyable time at the 8th. reunion and made them aware of how the 306 runs a reunion. One guy told me he saw coverage of it on national TV.

I appreciate the time and effort that you have given to the organization. Any time I can help give me a call.

Sincerely,



Lowell W. Burgess

Dec 4 1985

From

Lowell W. Burgess  
3570 Elizaville Rd.  
Lebanon Ind. 46052

To.

Russell A. Strong  
204 Hillside  
Kalamazoo MI 49007

Dear Russ,

I have a book titled *Target: Germany*, published in 1943 by Army Air Forces Aid Society and Sims and Schuster.

The foreword is by Gen. H.H. Arnold and is personally autographed by Gen. Arnold.

It is the history of its formation and operation of the 8<sup>th</sup> A.F. in 1942 and part of 1943. If you are interested in seeing it I would be glad to loan it to you.

I am attempting to get my whole crew to the Dayton reunion next yr. including my crew chief. I don't have contact with my Troop. He was originally from Abila, Pa. If you have any suggestions on how to attempt to locate him, I would appreciate it if you would let me know. He is Joseph A. Dunstall Jr.

Mary Tomas  
Lowell W. Burgess  
369<sup>th</sup> Sq. Dr.

0704141

3 January 1986

Mr. Lowell W. Burgess  
3570 Elizaville Rd.  
Lebanon, IN 46052

Dear Lowell:

Sorry to have delayed so in answering your letter, but I've been trying to be of some help to you in your quest for your navigator.

But, I struck out, too.

We have a 306th contact inside the Veterans Administration in Washington, DC, so I called him to see if he could come up with any information at all for us. He checked and said that the VA had had no contact with Tunstall in at least 20 years, and there was no address available in the records he was able to look at.

Today I searched the Philadelphia area phone directory and saw nothing there that would be of help.

As to the book you mentioned, I have a copy which I think I secured as soon as I got back from overseas. One or two of the pictures in it are out of the 306th/

Glad to learn that you are hoping to bring together your crew at Dayton. I think we will have a very large attendance there.

See you in September.

Sincerely yours,

Russell A. Strong

July 29 1986  
13510 Elginville Rd  
Lebanon Ind. 46052

Dear Russ,

I'm sorry to be so late getting the information to you about my plane.

The picture showing dropping bombs is my plane taken in combat by a crew member in a wing plane and given to me while I was in the 306 B.G. 369<sup>th</sup> Sqdn., Mar 1944 - July 1944.

The other large picture is my plane pictured with my crew chief E.C. "Elvie" Neal. He is a member of the 306 B.G. Bsn. He was my crew chief all the way thru my tour, and I might say the best there was. He has retired as chief mechanic for United Airlines.

The first plane I had, he put together out of war wearies. I flew it on my first mission before it had been test flown.

I took my copilot and I both to handle it in formation. The first flight was to Berlin and we lost an engine over the target and the bomb bay doors wouldn't close.

We had flown it for 3 missions when some Capt. ask to use it to fly to Scotland to a load of Scotch.

On his return flight it caught on fire and he bailed out.

It was then that I got a new G and flew it for the remainder of my 35 missions. After I left, they turned it over to a make up crew of which my engineer Jerry L. Myers was the engineer. He had been injured & spent time in the hospital so consequently didn't finish with the rest of my crew. I learned the story from Myers. Over Germany the pilot (I forget his name) got behind the formation for some reason and threw the throttles to the fire wall in a effort to catch up quick. My engineer told him to take it easy because 3 engines were due for overhaul. Myers said the co pilot even tried to get him to ease off on the engine.

They gradually lost all three old engines and the pilot & Myers finally bailed out at 3500 ft. Jerry spent 10 months in POW. camp. Myers & I will both be at the reunion.

The small picture is of me on the right and Charles Banas my copilot on the left. Needless to say I have no negatives of these pictures. I would appreciate it if



could send them back before the reunion  
or give them to me at the reunion.

By the way if all goes as planned I will  
have 8 of my crew at the reunion.

If we can get that many there I would  
appreciate it if you would recognize the guys.

As for the color photo, I'm sure you recognize  
Ralph Bordner, and if you don't know the  
guy in the middle, it's Dellon Bumgardner  
of ~~Area~~ Houston 2x. pilot 368<sup>th</sup>. He flew the  
OB-17 Texas Raiders to the Confederate Air Force  
show at Indianapolis Ind. the last of June this  
year. I'm on the right. Needless to say we had  
a good time swapping old stories. You can  
keep this picture as I have a negative.

I want to thank you for your effort in  
trying to locate my Nav. Joseph A. Demott.

I talked to my engineer Jerry Myers tonight  
by phone. He mentioned about when Billy  
Cassidy, after he finished his mission was the  
Op. or Eng. officer for our Sqdn, flew the target  
ship always tagged Myers and my Radio oper.  
Larange Davis to fly with him.

They both were always after me to get them out of it because the target ship took some hits from the gunners.

Since you're the historian here is an incident that seems funny now but not at the time. Maj. Stanko or A.X.O. put out a warning about stealing coal. Shortly afterwards my co-pilot and I slipped under the fence and was stealing a bucket of coal when Stanko opened fire with a 45. Thank god it was dark and we got away. A few days later he shot himself. I believe that was the closest I ever crawled on the ground. We never reported the incident.

See you at the Reunion

L.T.C. Lowell W. Burgess

IND GUARD RES., 215 AFRES. RET.

3 August 1986

Dear Lowell:

Thanks for the letter and plane information.

I am returning your pictures as I have them all in my collection, except for that nefarious group in front of Texas Raider. I may be able to use that sometime in Echoes.

Look forward to seeing you in Dayton next month.

Dec 4 1985

From Lowell W. Burgess  
3510 Elizaville Rd  
Lebanon In. 46052

To Wm. M. Collins Jr.  
2973 Heatherbrae Dr.  
Palmdale Ca. 94314

Dear Bill,

I'm enclosing a check to help the kitty  
and the address of my Ball turret gunner.

APP: Grover Lowe, 102 Miles Ridge Rd, Madison  
Ind. 47250. You now have the names of  
all my crew (including my crew chief except  
my navigator. I'm going to try to get my  
whole crew to Dayton next year. I've not  
been in contact with my navigator since we  
came back. He was from Phila. Pa. If you  
have any suggestions on how I might locate  
him let me know.

Merry Xmas.

Lowell W. Burgess  
369 2<sup>nd</sup> Sq. Dr.

Dear Bill

I appreciate the new directory.  
At the Confederate Air Force show at Indianapolis  
last month I had a nice visit with Ralph  
Bordner & Dellon Baumgardner of the 369.  
He (Dellon) brought the old B-17 "Texas Radiant"  
to the air show.

If things go as planned I will have  
8 of my crew at the reunion in Dayton  
see you there

Lowell W. Burgess  
369<sup>th</sup>

I included a donation to the group.

Dear Dale,

I had forgotten to  
mail you #3 for the  
last directory, so cover  
me for that. I appreciate  
your service to the 306.

Sincerely  
Loren W. Burgess

30 May 1992

Dear Lowell:

In response to your letter today concerning Zamro, check the enclosed Echoes for the picture. Zamro also appeared in the July 1979 issue, of which I have no copies at this time.

As to "Starduster", do you have any possible reference to the plane number. It must have been on the raid of 28 April to Brunswick. Unfortunately, one of the weak spots in my collection of Mission Reports is in late April and early May 1944. Thus, I cannot place ~~any~~ which plane for that mission.

If your Form 5, or other information can place you with a plane and number, then I can get it entered in my listing of planes. I hope you can come up with something. I expect to be in Washington soon, and will be trying to fix some of the gaps in my MR collection at National Archives.

Good to hear from you,





May 26-1982

Col Lowell W. Burgess  
3570 ELIZAVILLE RD.  
Lebanon N.H. 46052

Russell A Strong  
5323 Chevall Place  
Charlotte N.C. 28205

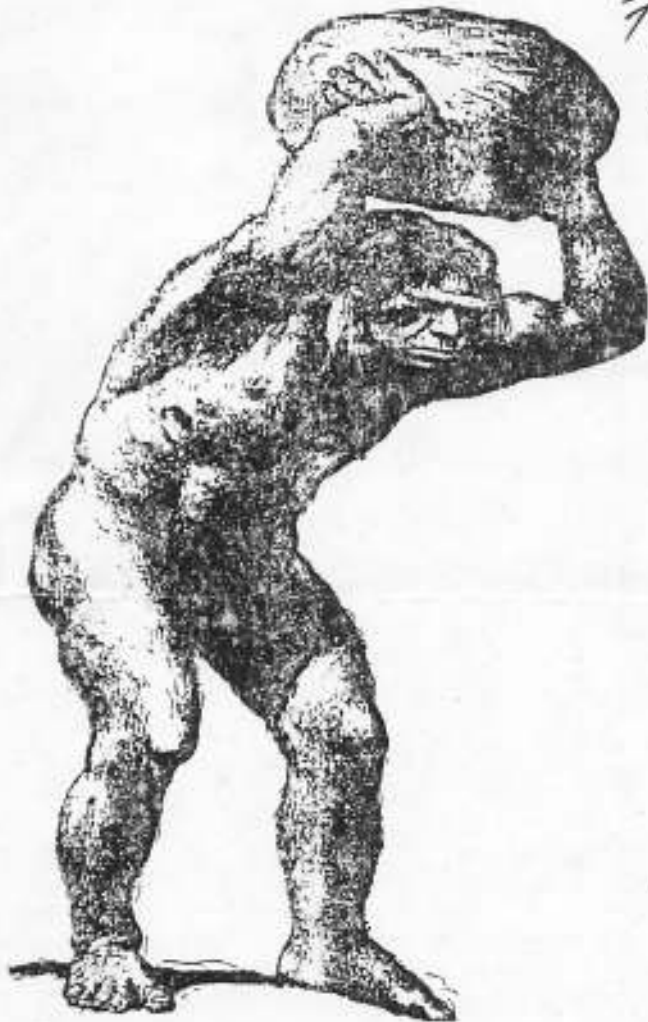
Dear Russ,

There was a picture of the nose of my plane in the July 91 Vol 91 #3 of the 8th AF News. No story but credited the picture to 306 B.G. Echoes. I don't remember it being in the Echoes. I don't know if you have seen it or not but I'm enclosing a page from "Crosshair" sent me by my bombadier, Orville Detacher. I'd even enclose a picture taken with the plane.

Of all the information you've published about the planes in the Group I have never see anything about my first plane "STAR DUSTER". It was a rebuilt war weaver. I could hardly fly it the controls were so stiff. My first mission near Berlin, flying in tail end Charlie position I lost an engine & the bombay doors stuck open. After I had flown it on 3 missions a Capt borrowed it to go to Scotland to get a load of Whiskey. The next day he told me it caught on fire and he bailed out and left it. It was an F model. When I got my new G model.

Sincerely  
Lowell W. Burgess

*From  
July 1987  
Crosshairs*



The "First Bombardier", left above, adorned the covers of publications related to our first reunion which was held in Midland, TX 12-14 April 1985.

Charles H. Freudenthal, Midland 42-7 sent us "First Bombardier" after digging out a 1940s ad by Burroughs Adding Machine Co., which featured our rock throwing friend.

After using "First" as a single in 1985, we decided he should 'multiply', thus it was that twins appeared on the cover of our program for the recently concluded second reunion held in San Antonio, 26-29 March 1987.

Now we learn from Orville Z. Stocker, Victorville class 43-14 which graduated 2 Oct. 1943, that he flew 33 missions with the 369th Sq of the 306th Bomb Group in a B-17 named "ZAMRO, The First Bombardier". Guess whose picture was painted on the nose! Yup, it was our old friend "The First Bombardier"—now with name!

Orville hastened to add that neither he nor his crew had anything to do with the naming of the aircraft and they, along with the rest of us, would like to learn who did so.

He reported that "ZAMRO" went down after

he completed his tour. Of his regular crew which flew "ZAM" the engineer was the only one to be aboard when "ZAMRO" flew his last mission. No date of this terminal mission was given and the engineer survived!

The crew which flew "ZAMRO" at Thurleigh, England consisted of:

- B Stocker, Orville (First <sup>over</sup> target)
- P Burgess, Lowell *DMV*
- CP *W* Bawa, Charles *DMV on floor*
- N Tunstall, Joe *(N)*
- R Davis, LaRange *DMV*
- E Myers, Jerry *DMV*
- WG *W* Smith, Clarence *DMV*
- WC Stain, George *DMV*
- BT Lowe, Grover *DMV*
- TG Morris, William (Last over target)

Pictured, above right, is bombardier Stocker pointing to his good friend "ZAMRO". Orville points out that his middle initial "Z" stands for 'Zellen', not 'Zambo'.

Anyone having any information about or having flown in "ZAMRO" is asked to contact BOMBARDIERS.

\*\*\*

Name COL LOWELL W. BURGESS

Address 3510 ELIZAVILLE RD.

City, State and Zip Code LEBANON IN 46052-9209

Telephone #, with the correct area code 317 482 5129

Can you give us the four-number addition to your zip code? (Look on one of your utility bills for this, if you can't remember it).

On that street address, please designate whether it is St., Ave., Blvd., Road, etc. Rural routes AND box numbers need to be spelled out. In the alpha listing of the Directory, be sure your unit designation is correct. That's the one that counts. (If you were placed in the wrong listing under organizations, don't worry about it. We plan to get it right this time.)

Other data we will store away for possible later use:

Wife's first name ALICE R. — 369th Sqdn.

Your birthdate FEB 7-1920

Social Security # 309 18 8079

Retirement date/place of employment/job title USAFR - CATTLE FEED  
LOT OWNER. VICE Wing Cmdr. IN AIR GUARD RES

19 April 1993

Dear Lowell:

Nice to hear from you up in cold country!

Thanks for the picture, but I already have a crew picture, taken in a studio, showing the officers seated and the enlisted crew standing behind them. Therefore, I am returning your print post haste.

The "Find People Fast" item was interesting, but I thought the price was a bit steep.

Would you send me Tunstall's widow's address. Perhaps she would like to be on our mailing list, and I would like to get some information from her concerning her late husband.

Hope you can make it to Seattle. Looks like we will have a good crowd there.

All the best,

# Missing A Buddy From The Military?

Lost friends want to hear from you. For help finding them, call Find People Fast.

We have computer listings on 130 million people nationwide. Most searches cost just \$17.50. If we can't match a name, there's no charge.

And for every paid search by a veteran we'll make a donation to the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans.

Call Find People Fast toll-free now. Dial 1-800-829-1807.

**FIND  
PEOPLE  
FAST**



1-800-829-1807



Advertiser: Don Donald Thomson  
AM Legion Mag. P.O. Box 7068  
Incl. EN 44207 \$17.635 8411

Apr. 15, 1993

Lowell W. Burgess  
3510 Elizaville Rd.  
Lebanon, IN 46052

Russell Strong  
Sect. 306 B.G.  
5323 Cheval Pl.  
Charlotte, NC 28205

Dear Russ,

Sorry to be so late suppling you with this information. I thought you might be intrested in printing this find people fast advertizment from the American Legion magazine. I used it in December to locate my navigator, Joe Tunstall. I had no contact with him since combat and had only his name and middle initial. They located him on the computer in two minutes with address and phone No. Unluckily he had died seven years ago but his wife was overjoyed to hear from me. She ask me to send pictures an news about the rest of the crew. They have two sons who are Air Force Career.

I am enclosing an envelope, stamped, to return my pictures. It is the only print I have. We held a crew reunion in 91.

I am also enclosing two articals from the Air Force mag., of the Air Force Ass'n., I thought you might be intrested in. IF you doñt belong to the AFA, they publish the best monthly magazine I get. Most of it is current air force news.

You did a great job covering the England reunion in the last Echoes. I think everybody enjoys pictures.

Lowell W. Burgess  
Fitin' Bitin'

RECORD UPDATE

306th Bomb Group Association

(Please complete as much of this form as you wish, and return to  
Russ Strong at the reunion, or mail to Russ Strong, 5323 Cheval  
Place, Charlotte, NC 28205) Little Rock 1989

Date completed <sup>ap</sup> Apr. 15, 1993

LAST NAME: Burgess FIRST NAME: Lowell W. TITLE: Col.

Street address: 3510 Elizaville Rd. Telephone: 617 482 5129

City, state, zip: Lebanon IN 46052

Date of Birth: Feb. 7, 1920 Wife's name: Alice

College(s) attended: Purdue Univ. Degree(s): AWS Year(s): 1946

Last employment and job title: Retired owner- operator cattle feed lot

Presently Vice Wing Commander, IN Air Guard Res.

Reunions attended: (by year or location) Omaha, Washington D.C.,  
Dayton, San Antonio, Little Rock, Pittsburg.

Serial #: A0-754410 Squadron: 369 th Specialty: Pilot

Date joined 306th: Mar, 1944 If combat, what crew: Burgess  
Crew # 365

Special duties or assignments w/306th: Pilot

Number of missions flown: 35 Date of last mission: July 18, 1944  
Peenemunde

Date left 306th: About Aug., 1 1944 Highest rank/grade with 306th:  
1st Lt.

Other 8th AF units served with:

Top service assignments after 306th: Provost Marshall and Adjutant

USAF retirement date: Nov., 1, 1954 Rank/grade: Capt.  
Champaign, Peild, Illinois

Copies of old 306th orders, either from the Group or Station 111, or any of the  
squadrons or other units, will be welcomed by the secretary.

If you know of other 306th people who do not appear in the directory, please add  
their names and current or former addresses to this sheet so that we may search  
further for them.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA  
HEADQUARTERS  
INDIANA AIR GUARD RESERVE

1ST AIR OPERATIONS WING  
711 NORTH PENNSYLVANIA STREET, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-1179

REPLY TO DC Col Lowell W. Burgess  
ATTN OF:

26 July 1993

SUBJECT: Reply Communications

TO: Russell Strong 306 B.G. Assoc., Secretary

Your suggestion of inviting my navigator's widow to join our group was a good idea and I'm sure she would appreciate it. Mary Tunstall 67 Upland Road, Havertown PA, 19083.

I'm enclosing a picture to show you that I'm not quite ready for the nursing home yet. We were host to the B 17 G Sentimental Journey at Bakalar Air Field, Columbus IN. this summer. With me is the Wing Chaplin, Bert Reed. He was an engineer on a B 25.

I'm going to retire in Oct. I have had to get a waiver the last 3 years because of age. It's been a long time since I retired from the A.F.R.

If any one would like to have their name on the Cadet Aviation Alumni Assoc. contact Robert C. White 54 Seton Trail, Ormond Beach, FL 32176. Send class and cadet assignment (bases), and they will send you a list of names and addresses of prior cadets in your class. There is no dues or meetings.

See you in Seattle if Alice's health holds up,



Lowell W. Burgess Col IAGR



Lowell W. Burgess



Cadet Class:

43-H

Graduation site:

Douglas, ARIZ.

Any others in the 306th who graduated with you:



As usual I enjoyed the reunion  
in Seattle, especially the Boeing plant tour.

Russell A. Strong, Secretary  
306th Bomb Group Association  
5323 Cheval Place  
Charlotte, NC 28205

June 7, 1994

Lowell W. Burgess  
3510 Elizaville Rd.  
Lebanon IN, 46052

Russell A. Strong  
5323 Cheval Pl.  
Charlotte, NC 28205

Dear Russ,

I don't know if you have my wife Alice name on record or not. I am not including the inclosed artical for any personnel publicity, but I thought as involved as you are in the 306 B. G., you might be intrested in knowing that the 369 B. S. Zamro and Fitin Bitin is still remembered in my home town. Don't take all my quotes litarlly. Some of answers to the reporters questions I had forgotten and some I never knew. I certainly appreciate all the work you have contributed over the years to keep the group informed and active.

See you in Des Moines,

  
Lowell

If you wonder about the medal on my blouse, I was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal when I retired from the Ind Air Guard Res. They ask me to wear it for the picture and then didn't mention it.

Oct 15 97

Col Lowell W. Burgess  
3070 Elizaville Rd  
Lebanon TN 37052

Russell Strong, Secty '306  
5323 Church Pl.  
Charlotte NC 28205

Dear Russ,

I don't know if you include this in your change of address notice but my Area Code has changed from 317 to 765 (765 482 5129) address is the same.

Ralph Baudner called me recently and asked me why I didn't let every body know of my A.C. change. I'm sure you know how diplomatic Ralph is.

We didn't make it to the reunion in Las Vegas last year. We lost our daughter to cancer last fall and did feel like making the trip.

I got calls and notes in Christmas Cards asking why I was not at the reunion.

Billy Casaday called me as soon as he got home. I think that tells a lot about the comradeship of the guys in our group.

I know it made me feel good.

I recently talked to LTC Dellon Bumpardner, he was a pilot in the 368. He was in charge of restoring the B-17 "Texas Raider" that belongs to the Confederate Air Force. After taking 5 or 6 years to restore it he has taken <sup>it</sup> on the road every year since. He has retired from it and has turned it over Wallace Pickham who was a pilot in my Agdn 369.

Dellon said Pick had just got back from Alaska with the plane.

I was in it a few years ago and I don't think I would want to fly it over that much wilderness.

Ask Dellon to come to the reunion and he talked like he would.

We'll see you in Orlando this year.

Love,

Col Lowell W Burgess  
3510 Elizaville Rd  
Lebanon, IN 48052-0295

July 10, 00

Russell Strong  
Secretary 306 B G H S  
Charlotte N C , 28205

Dear Russ,

Alice R. Burgess, Wife of Col. Lowell W. Burgess P 369 Sqdn.  
died on June 28, She served in the U.S. Navy during W W 11,  
and received full military burial rites. She had been  
handicaped with M.S. since 1965.

She had missed only 1 time going with me to the 306 B.G.  
reunion since 1983. I was gratified that the members of the  
group treated her so graiously. After I have folded and  
presented the flag for over 20 years, it became my turn  
to receive the flag.

Sincerly,





COL LOWELL W BURGESS  
3510 ELIZAVILLE RD  
LEBANON, IN 46052

Nov. 16 99

Russell Strong  
5323 Cheval Place  
Charlotte NC. 28205

Dear Russ,

My father, Ora W. Burgess served in the Army Air Service during W W 1. His rank was Chauffeur 1 st. Class. I cant explain the rank. He first served at Kelly Fld. TX but most of his time was in the 881 st. Sqdn. (Aero) Maxwell Fld. Montgomery AL.

While there he served with Gen. Toocoy Spatz, who was a Capt. at that time. My father was an Aviation Mechanic.

About 5 years ago I donated my father,s uniform, papers and a display case to Grissom Air Museum, Grissom A F B, Peru IN. The bomb in the picture is a W W 1 aircel bomb. I am a member of the museum.

We have an indoor museum and an outdoor display of 30 aircraft Including a B 17 G with the 305 BG tail markings.

I am enclosing a stamped envelope for return of the picture if you dont need it. I am also enclosing a check of 10 dollars for the latest directory.

Sincerely,

*Lowell W. Burgess*