



**JAMES H. BUTLER**  
CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL LANDMAN #338

PHONE 318-868-2371

11/8/89

P. O. Box 4155  
SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA  
71134-0155

Mr. Collins:

I Am trying to locate a friend  
of mine named Gordon L. Dobbs,  
who I served with in the 368<sup>th</sup> Bomb  
sqd. of the 306<sup>th</sup>. I believe he was  
from Alabama. Both of us were  
pilots, I think he made a career of the Air  
Force.

Any help you can give me  
will be appreciated.

Yours truly,  
James H. Butler

Jim Butler

16 November 1989

Dear Jim:

Bill Collins passed your letter of 8 November along to me.

Indeed, Gordon Dobbs did stay on active duty, retiring in November 1968 as a lieutenant colonel.

Unfortunately, we do not have him on the 306th mailing list and have had no contact at all.

If you can come any closer on an Alabama location, pre-war, etc., I'll do all I can to help locate him. Our ability to use the USAF locator has been curtailed by some action of the Air Force, which I have not yet been able to decipher.

All the best,

A HISTORY OF THE 306th BOMBARDMENT GROUP - EIGHTH AIR FORCE  
Russell A. Strong, 4900 Appleridge Ct., Dayton, Ohio 45424

I am endeavoring to put together a good history of the 306th Bombardment group, an idea which has been in my mind for some years. I am working diligently on the matter, collecting all kinds of data and working through the official history and records of the group. I served as a navigator with the 367th Squadron from June through November, 1944, and currently am director of news and information services at Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio. I solicit your assistance in my project.

I am interested in any special materials which you may have, such as good photographs of personnel, battle damage, plane insignia, etc. I am also interested in commendations (other than the usual Air Medal and DFC) you may have received, special stories which you may have in your possession, letters that are highly descriptive of combat action, or any other documents. I would appreciate receiving xeroxed copies. But, if you do not have such facilities readily available, I would appreciate the loan of materials which I might copy and return to you immediately. I am also interested in manuscripts of memoirs which you may have prepared, particularly if they were done within a couple of years of the events. Again, I would appreciate copies or the opportunity to copy them.

Name James H. Butler  
Address 3842 Greenway Place, Shreveport, Louisiana 71105  
318  
Telephone 868-2371 Date September 12, 1975  
Occupation Petroleum Landman Employer Self Employed  
Address same as above Telephone 869-2938

Service Record:

Before joining the 306th:

College Student -  
Aviation Cadet - Army Air Corps  
Graduated Class of 44-F at Douglas, Ariz.

After leaving the 306th:

Entered college at Louisiana Polytechnic Institute,  
Ruston, Louisiana

Graduated from college January 23, 1948 - B. S. General Business

306th Record:

Arrival Date Feb. 3, 1945 Squadron or other unit 368th Bomb Sqd.  
MOS B-17 - First Pilot Combat Status \_\_\_\_\_  
Missions Completed 28  
Promotions 1st. Lt.  
Decorations 4AM olcs DFC olcs SS DSM DSC MH SM  
PH Battle Stars \_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_

Awarded 4 air medals and all battle ribbons.

(OVER)

Other personal data:

Recalled to active duty in 1951 and served on B-29 tanker crew for 21 months.

Description of Air Missions:

(What were the highlights of your combat career? What was your role? What heroics did you witness? What events were there of which you have special knowledge?)

Flew 28 missions over Germany. All service records lost on release from service in 1946.

Served with the 306th from 1945 until discharged in 1946.

Served with 306th in the Casey Jones project after WWII and was stationed at Gibraltar and Port Lyautey.

Released from service in 1946.

Note: I was never a prisoner of war. I was on one of the flights that carried prisoners of war out of Barth, Germany to near Paris right after the war was over.



# Pilot Survey

Name James H. Butler

Cadet Class 44-F

Adv. Trng. Location Douglas, AZ

# Combat Missions 28

Date leaving 306th March 1946

Rank on leaving 306th 1<sup>st</sup> Lt.

Did you fly with the Casey Jones  
Project in 1945-46? yes

Send to: Russell Strong  
5232 Cheval Place  
Charlotte, NC 28205



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11/4/92

Russell:

I was one of the first pilots to fly on the Casey Jones project. We first flew out of England & then moved to Gibraltar & from there to Port Lycaite. I left the 368<sup>th</sup> from Port Lycaite in 1946.

? as to  
↓ Spelling

I had more pictures taken than all of the other pilots when I left them.

You have not lived until you have landed at Gibraltar. It made pilots out of all of us.

Let me know if you need anything else.

You have done a great job for the 306<sup>th</sup>

James H. Butler

P.S. I sure wanted to go to England for the reunion, but could not make it.

James H. Butler  
3842 Greenway Place  
Shreveport LA 71105-2016

May 15, 1997

Mr. Robert M. Houser  
306 Bomb Group Association  
P. O. Box 13362  
Des Moines, IA 50310

Dear Mr. Houser:

*Rec'd  
RMB*

I am enclosing my check for \$ 25.00 to use as you see fit.

In addition, it would be appreciated if you would send the 306th Echoes to the following party, to-wit:

Charles R. White  
111 Cedar drive  
Cedar Rock Estates  
Lenior NC 28645

Charles White was in the 368th Bomb Sqd. and was the ball turrett gunner on the James Butler crew (your truly) during World War 11.

Please send him any back issues if you can.

Keep up the good work.



**JAMES H. BUTLER**  
CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL LANDMAN #338

PHONE 318-868-2371

P. O. Box 4155  
SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA  
71134-0155

February 12, 1999

Mr. Robert N. Houser, Treasurer  
306 Bomb Group Association  
P. O. Box 13362  
Des Moines, IA 50310


Re: Pascuale Romanelli  
1602 Stickney Pl., # 108  
Sarasota FL 34231-3725

Dear Mr. Houser:

I would appreciate your sending the 306th Echoes to the above party. He was on our crew (James Butler crew) with the 368th Bomb. Sqd. during World War II.

Thank you for your kind attention and consideration.

Yours very truly,

  
James H. Butler

JHB:s

cc: Pacuale Romanelli

*Reed or M/H*  
P.S. The 25<sup>00</sup> 15<sup>00</sup>  
help out on  
Expenses etc.  
Keep up the  
good work,  
JHB