

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 RALPH DUDLEY JOHNSON
 Address ROUTE #2 BOX 5 - HOPKINSVILLE KY 42240
 Telephone 502 885-995 Date 9-15-76
 Occupation Maintenance Super Employer State of Ky - Dept. of Human Resources
 Address Hopkinsville Ky Telephone 886 4431 ext 333

Service Record:

Before joining the 306th: Washed from Cadets S.A.A.C.C. Aug, '43.
Gunny school Vegas. C.I.T. New Field, Tampa - Left States 4-8-44!
306 - about May 15, '44.

After leaving the 306th: Left 306th about Oct 10, '44.
Gunny inst. school. Fardo WVa. Jan. 44-45 -
attached to 377 Bomb Sq as Inst. next 5 or 6 mos. Killed time
pulling targets for frog at Selfridge field until discharged.

306th Record:

Arrival Date about 5-15-44 Squadron or other unit 4/23
 MOS ? Gunner Combat Status Ball turret
 Missions Completed 30
 Promotions 1st to Staff Sgt
 Decorations AM olcs 3 DFC olcs SS DSM DSC MH SM
PH Battle Stars ? 1 other

Other personal data:

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?)

Nothing special. The Stettin missions on which we went into Poland & back out. The "Big B" combined missions with RAF. Big Miss.

"D" day & congested traffic - the day we tried remote radar control bombing & missed France entirely.

The day McVair was killed.

Just routine missions - never got a shot at a fighter - thank God - We lucked out & watched them hit 24's & other groups of 17's. While I was there our losses were to flak -