

March 4, 1985

Mr. Russell A. Strong
2041 Hillside
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

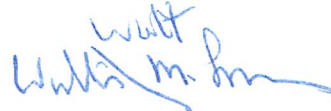
Dear Russ,

I am planning a vacation to England in 1985 and would like very much to visit points of interest to a former 306er.

Do you have knowledge of any directories or other material that would be of assistance in locating memorials, monuments, museums or other locations that have a relationship to our former outfit?

Your assistance in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Walter M. Lanius

15808 Bond Mill Road
Laurel, Maryland 20707

5 April 1985

Dear Walt:

I am sorry not to have answered your letter earlier, but it got caught in the clutter on my desk, and only this evening did I liberate it.

In traveling in England, you will certainly want to visit Bedford (I did two years ago and can't say that it looked very familiar to me), and get out to Thurleigh to see what little can be seen of the old field. Everything is changed and one cannot really get inside the gates, as it is really the Eglin Field of Britain. A lot of experimental flying goes on from there.

Contact Gordon and Connie Richards at 14 Pavenham Rd., Oakley, Beds. This is a suburb of Bedford, and they pretty much run the 306th Association in England. This is a group of 15 or 20 Britons who are devoted to the 306th. Their phone number is 234-3357. Mastering the British system is something of a chore. I'd suggest you drop them a line first, and then perhaps you can call from London, or something. They will be happy to meet you.

I have also visited the Shuttleworth Collection, which is a short way from Bedford and is a group of hangars featuring WW I flyable planes. Quite history. I've also been to Duxford near Cambridge, which is retained in appearance just like a WW II field, which it was, housing a couple of U. S. fighter groups. There is a museum there. There is also an RAF museum at Hendon, near Londong, which I suppose will be quite interesting.

I am sure that some of the standard travel guides to Britain would give you guidance on places to visit, but there is really not much more connected with the 306th.

The 306th memorial in England is right at the field, so that is not hard to find. By all means, visit Madingly cemetery, which is on the west outskirts of Cambridge and holds the remains of a number of 306th men. It is well worth a stop. The 306th Strategic Wing, successor to the 306th Bomb Group, is located at Mildenhall, which is 20-30 miles north and a bit east of Cambridge on a main road.

Perhaps the Richards' or their friends will have further ideas.

Best wishes to you,