

CONFIDENTIAL

Sheet No. \_\_\_\_\_ Our Diary, 306 Bomb Gr. (H) Station R. A. F. Thurligh  
(station)  
Month of October, 1942. Prepared by Capt. W. W. Glass  
(rank, name, unit.)

DAY	EVENTS
2	While in practice formation flight A/C piloted by Lt. Ely, 367th Bomb. Squad (H) crashed over Spaulding, England. Six Officers and men lost their lives, two men bailed out and landed safely.
9	Our first mission over enemy territory; The target Lille France, Four squadrons including 23 A/C took off, led by Col. Overacker in Capt. Janson's A/C, 369th Squadrons. Lt. Col. Cleveland acted as top turret gunner in same plane. Majors Holt, 367th, Lanford 368th and Wilson 423rd Squadrons, led their Squadrons. Lt. Col. Wilson piloted an A/C in the 423rd squadron. Capt. Adams 369th forced to return before crossing the channel because of gun trouble, also Lt. Felts turned back because of turret trouble. Capt. Olson 367th and crew was shot down over the target. Intense heavy flack was encountered over the target, before and upon leaving target, F.W. 190's attacked in force. Tail gunner Sgt. Arthur E. Chapman, 368th had one hand shot off and was critically wounded in the chest. Major Wilson's # 3 engine was put out over the target and upon landing the prop. of this engine fell off. Many other A/C returned with engines out and riddled with flack and bullet holes. Lt. Stewart of the 367th landed safely at Manston. Of the many encounters with E/ A the Group was credited with 10 destroyed and 12 probables. 39th Service Group arrived at Thurligh commanded by Lt. Col. Henry D. Johnson. This Group consisted of 24 Officers and 131 Enlisted men of Hq. & Hq. Sqd. 39th Service Group; 70 Officers, 1 Warrant Officer and 210 Enlisted men of the 352nd Service Sqd., and 4 Officers, 1 Warrant Officer and 60 Enlisted men of the 705 th Ordinance Company.
21	Crews were briefed to raid Lorient but mission was abortive as all A/C obliged to turn back at the channel because of heavy ground haze and cloud formations.
22	In order to experiment with the fortress as hedge-hopper Capt. McKay, Lts Barnett, Brady and Warner of the 423rd Squad were ordered to fly to the Wash at under 500 feet. Upon completion much evidence was brought back in the way of tree branches and leaves to show the altitude had not been exceeded.
27	Another low altitude mission was ordered however, this time Lt. Check's A/C hit a tree and the plane was demolished, none of the members of the crew were severely injured.
	Her Highness Princess Marie Louise, Aunt of the King, accompanied by Mrs Claude Wilson, her Lady in Waiting and others visited the station. An informal reception was held at A Mess and Her Highness had Luncheon with the Officers.

Sheet No.          War Diary, 306 Bomb Gr. (H) Sq.          R. A. F. Thurleigh  
(station)

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DAY	EVENTS
20 to 30th	Many briefings for various missions all of which were scrubbed because of unsuitable weather.



## **October 1942-306<sup>th</sup> BG Headquarters Squadron Diary**

Note: this page is inserted by 306th BGHA in 2020 to help the researcher distinguish between the 306th BG War Diary and the diary kept by the 306th BG Headquarters Squadron.

**SECRET**

DAY	EVENTS
9	Twelve (12) aircraft from this Group led by Colonel Overacker bombed the marshalling yards at Lille, France, for our first mission. Bombing results were good.
16	First Lt. George and Stutznegger promoted to Captains
16-31	Headquarters Squadron gradually shifts into high gear and by the end of the month is a smooth working organization.

**SECRET**