



## 306th BOMB GROUP HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

An Association formed to commemorate the history of the 306th Bomb Group of the U.S. Army  
8th Air Force and the achievements of its personnel based at Thurlough, Bedfordshire, England 1942-45.

TELEPHONE. THETFORD. 810603.

May 18<sup>th</sup> 87.

15. Pinewood Drive  
Brandon, Suffolk.  
IP27-0HF.  
England.

Dear Mr Strong,

Welcome once again to England. We hope you do not feel we have intruded on your trip, but felt it was such a good opportunity to have the beautiful seats dedicated, whilst a group of 306'ers were visiting Bedford again.

As you can see by these pictures the people of the village of Thurlough are still very much involved with Station 11.

Maybe you could use these in the Echoes, so the boys of 306'gr. know they are still remembered here.

The Rev. S. Mottram, is delighted to perform a very short service of dedication at 10.15 AM. Weds: 20<sup>th</sup>, and thought it would be nice for both parties, to have the local school children involved as well. But not knowing your length of stay, in Thurlough, have made no definite plans for them.

As 306'ers living in England, we feel a short visit or invitation (for a drink perhaps) to Thurlough Parish Council, from your group would be appreciated.

Wishing all of you a pleasant journey on your trip round England.

Yours Sincerely  
Reg & Joe Robertson  
369 Sgt. 306'gr.

W. H. Albertson  
15 Pine Wood Drive  
Brandon, Suffolk KIP 27 0HF  
England

Dear Russell

Just a few quick lines to let you know everything this side is going nicely, that is except the weather. Finally located the Pkg. you sent to Col. Beringer with the Echoes and records books first of all Germany. The first Sgt. had them locked away and didn't know what to do with them. Any time you have anything large such as that you can send them through Sgt. Blackney and I can get them to Gordon with no problem, as I see Sgt. Blackney quite regular. So feel free to send the Echoes, etc. through her.

I am enclosing a check for the

Echoes fund, and allow my registration  
for the reunion in Dayton. I hope  
you can forward it on to the proper  
address, as I thought it wasn't  
complete with no Box number.  
So I would appreciate it, if you  
could forward it for me.

Well I had better end for this  
time, as I want to catch the mail  
We both look forward to seeing you  
in Dayton.

Sincerely yours  
Gene Albertson

17 May 1986

Dear Joe:

It was good to hear from you.

Your letter to the Dayton Reunion has been forwarded, and you will probably be hearing from them before too long. Glad you are going to make it to this gathering. I think there will be a very large attendance.

I'm also happy to learn that the books did arrive. Thanks for the tip on how to make sure they get to the right place next time. This had been the first time we had had any difficulty in sending things through Mil-denhall.

The first large box of books I sent to Gordon directly never got there. That was about 32 books and they just disappeared. I haven't had problems with small packages of them going to English book sellers.

I had sent along extra Echoes to Gordon, but cannot spare extra books at this time as the supply is dwindling.

Look forward to seeing you in Dayton,

National School Cottage  
Mill Hill  
Keysoe  
Bedford  
MK44 2HP

24 May 2006

Dear Russ

Hope all is well with you and June. We are enclosing the obituary for our good friend Joe Albertson for inclusion in Echoes. We hope it meets with your approval.

WALTER (JOE) HOWARD ALBERTSON 369<sup>th</sup> mechanic and crew chief died 17 March 2006 at his home in Witchford, Cambridgeshire, England. He was an original with the Group, volunteering for service the day after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbour. After completing his training at Wendover, he arrived at Thurleigh 6 September 1942.

Joe left Thurleigh 28 July 1945 and settled down to civilian life. He was recalled when the Korean conflict began, working on B-29s in Okinawa. After successfully completing a Flight Engineers course in Pittsburgh he spent two years in Alaska flying B-50s over Russia. This was followed by three years in Bermuda with the 59th Weather Squadron. It was then back to training school for a course on jet aircraft. He then flew C-140 Starlifters in and out of Vietnam during that conflict, retiring from the Air Force September 1967

9 October 1967 Joe and Peg returned to England where he finally retired after 16 years working at American bases. He leaves his English wife of 60 years, Peggy.

By the way Russ, we changed the foreign currency you kindly sent us, which came to a grand total of £31.25 sterling.

Our kindest regards Ralph and Daphne