



367th, 368th, 369th, 423rd Squadrons, and service organizations  
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire, England – September 1942-April 1945

# 306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

*President*  
William F. Houlihan  
39470 Tyler Road  
Belleville, MI 48111

*Vice President*  
Marshall E. Baker  
2600 Londonderry  
Alexandria, VA 22308

*Secretary*  
Russell A. Strong  
5323 Cheval Place  
Charlotte, NC 28205

*Treasurer*  
C. Dale Briscoe  
7829 Timber Top Drive  
Boerne, TX 78008

*Directors*  
John R. Grimm  
5085 Morelawn Ct., Apt. B  
Centerville, OH 45429

Robert P. Riordan  
6805 Santa Maria Lane  
Dallas, TX 75214

Robert J. Starzynski  
5253 North Long Avenue  
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Leo H. Van Deurzen  
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*Past President*  
Reginald L. Robinson  
4009 Ranier Court  
Fort Worth, TX 76109

*1989 Reunion Chairman*  
Hugh E. Phelan  
Rt. 1, Box 800  
Donaldson, AR 71941

1989 Reunion  
21-24 September  
Little Rock, AR

14 August 1989

Dear David:

You are the first member of your crew to have been located.

I have made some attempts to find Smith, but have never been successful.

The accompanying sheet will tell the story of two of your crew members.

William Lindsay died in July 1961, according to information I received, probably through a contact in the Veterans Administration.

Sorry that I cannot help you further.

All the best,

4 July 2002

Mrs David C. Claytor  
107 W. Cheyenne, #610  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906

Dear Mrs. Claytor:

I want to thank you for the collection of materials that had been in David's possession.

As I am not a collector of such things, I am passing them along to the new 306th Museum on our old base at Thurleigh, England. There they will be displayed for generations to see, showing in some detail how and why we fought in WWII.

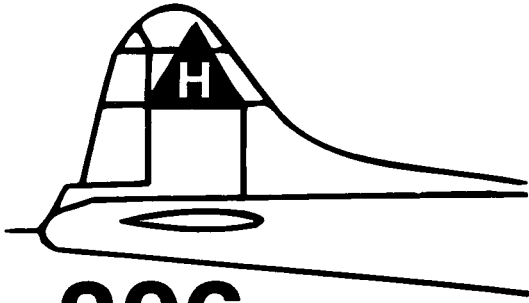
Last week I visited the Museum, and although our director, Ralph Franklin, has only been working in it for a couple of months, he has assembled an outstanding collection of equipment and memorabilia important to the nearly three years that the 306th was there.

In this way many people will benefit from your thoughtful gift.

Sincerely yours,

Russell A. Strong

cc: Ralph Frankling



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# 306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP ASSOCIATION

*Secretary/Historian*

Russell A. Strong  
5323 Cheval Place  
Charlotte, NC 28205 4 July 2002  
Telephone & Fax  
704/568/3803  
E-Mail: russell.a.strong306@worldnet.att.net

*Author Books*

First Over Germany

Command and Staff  
Officers, 8th Air  
Force, 1942-45

306th Echoes 1975-2000

*Editor*

306th Echoes (quarterly)  
306th Directory  
306th Squadron Diaries  
367, 368, 369, 423

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INTERROGATION FORM

SQUADRON 367 368 369 423 A/C Number 469-K Letter \_\_\_\_\_ Date 26/4/44

Bomb Load 8 x nickel bombs (fixed G35's & 36's) Position in Formation  
H.E. Incend.

Time Took off _____	Time Landed _____	X	X	X	X
		X	X	X	X
<u>HOT NEWS</u> to be phoned in? Yes No		X	X	X	X
Details:		X	X	X	X
		X			X

CREW: Give Rank and Initials

Friendly A/C in any kind of distress:  
 (Give position, time, altitude, full details)

<u>2nd Lt. D. J. Schaefer</u>	✓	Pilot
<u>2nd Lt. F. B. Henry</u>	✓	Co-P
<u>2nd Lt. W. A. Tramm</u>	✓	Nav.
<u>2nd Lt. R. A. McKinney</u>	✓	Bomb
* <u>T/Sgt. C. E. Keller</u>	✓	Radio
<u>S/Sgt. S. H. Winberg</u>	✓	Top T
* <u>S/Sgt. J. W. Byrd</u>	✓	Ball T
<u>Sgt. D. H. Hunter Jr.</u>		R. Waist
<u>Sgt. J. C. Simons</u>	✓	L. Waist
<u>Sgt. G. S. Littlefield</u>	✓	Tail G.

2. TARGET ATTACKED:

Primary Time:  
 Alternate Height:  
 Last Resort Heading:  
 (circle)  
 Duration Bomb Run:

3. Number of BOMBS dropped on target: Jettisoned: Returned: Abortive:

4. Observed RESULTS OF BOMBING: (For this plane or others)

Own Bombs:

Other Bombing:

Any Nickels; Yes No  
 Number Boxes dropped \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number Boxes returned \_\_\_\_\_

5. Any PHOTOGRAPHS taken: Yes? No?

6. GROUND TARGETS ATTACKED BY GUNFIRE AND RESULTS:

7. ROUTE (If different than ordered) (If ABORTIVE give time, place, height of turn; reason for returning early, and Disposition of bombs.)

8. WEATHER: (If it affected mission)

Crashed on take off. See attached report.

*over*

Report of Crashed A/C.

Our A/C 469-K, pilot Schaefer, crashed at field near Bletsoe Castle on take off. According to Captain Witt, it was probably a question of motor trouble and then trying to feather and ~~XXXXXX~~ prop and fly instruments at the same time.

Of the crew as listed on attached interrogation form, Captain ~~XXXXXX~~ reports all killed except Sgt. Littlefield, tail gunner who, though cut and burned seriously, will most certainly pull through.

This A/C, loaded with 8 nickel bombs filled with mixed G-35's and 36's, is completely destroyed. One bomb containing nickels was salvaged. Others, scattered around ~~XXXXXX~~ wreckage, all burned under supervision of Lt Murtha.

DAVID L. CLAYTOR  
3320 CLUB HEIGHTS DRIVE  
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80906

(719) 576-8117

August ], 1989

Mr Russell A. Strong  
5323 Cheval Place  
Charlotte, NC 28205

Dear Mr. Strong:

A check of my records has provided the following information:

Our crew, as listed below, was assigned to the 306th Bomb Gp. on Nov. 18, 1943.

Charles O. Smith--Pilot  
Ellis J. Andras --Copilot  
Ernest H. Wiener -- Nav.  
David L. Claytor -- Bomb.  
Charles E. Weller -- Eng. *K 4-26-44 takeoff crash*  
Clarence R. Marlow -- Gun.  
Carl E. Pulcifer -- Gun.  
William A. Lindsay -- Rad. *died 7/61*  
William C. Maddex -- AE  
John W. Bryd -- AR *K 4-26-44 takeoff crash*

Ellis J. Andras was killed on Dec 31, 1943, when we crashed in England returning from a mission. I believe one other gunner was also killed.

I arrived in England on 3 Nov. 1943 and returned to the States on 10 May, 1944. I flew my first combat mission on Dec 5, 1943 and my last on April 19, 1944. I completed a tour of 28 missions.

I would appreciate it if you could forward to me any information on other crew members, particularly the pilot or navigator. The 1988 Directory does not carry their names. Enclosed is \$10 to cover expenses.

Thank you,

*David L. Claytor*  
David L. Claytor

May 27, 2002

306<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group Historical Assn.  
5323 Cheval Place  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28205

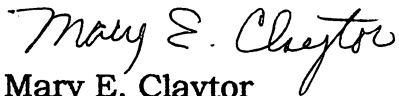
Sirs:

I am forwarding via PakMail some items from my husband's "memory" box concerning his time in England as a Navigator with the 367<sup>th</sup> Squadron at Thurleigh; 1943-44 time period. I hope they will be of some interest to the museum.

Lt. Col. David L. Claytor, 370-16-9034, deceased March 12, 2002

If you need to correspond with me further, my address after June 19<sup>th</sup> will be 107 W. Cheyenne Rd., Apt 610, Colorado Springs, CO 80906.

Yours sincerely,



Mary E. Claytor  
3779 Blue Merion Court  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906  
(719) 576-8117