

RECORD UPDATE

306th Bomb Group Association

(Please complete as much of this form as you wish, and return to  
Russ Strong at the reunion, or mail to Russ Strong, 5323 Cheval  
Place, Charlotte, NC 28205) Little Rock 1989

Date completed July 5, 1991

LAST NAME: *Erb* FIRST NAME: *Alfred W.* TITLE: *M.D.*  
Street address: *9934 Wood Grouse Court* Telephone: ( ) *703 - 250 - 4020*  
City, state, zip: *Burke, Virginia 22015* *Listed under name*  
*of Roger Martz*  
*Son-in-Law*

Date of Birth: *June 22, 1914* Wife's name: *Viviane (Deceased)*  
College(s) attended: *Purdue, Ohio State* Degree(s): *M.D.* Year(s): *1940*  
*Hahnemann Medical*

Last employment and job title: *President:- Anesthesia Associates, Cincinnati, Ohio*

Reunions attended: (by year or location) *Damned if I can remember--Old Age Done Got Me!*  
*Last one was Dayton Ohio.*

Serial #: *0485552* Squadron: *352nd. & 367th.* Specialty: *Squadron Surgeon*  
*Flight Surgeon*

Date joined 306th: *August 8, 1942* If combat, what crew:

Special duties or assignments w/306th:

Number of missions flown: Date of last mission:

Date left 306th: *Aug? Sept? 1944? 1945?* Highest rank/grade with 306th: *Capt.*

Other 8th AF units served with:  
*352nd. Service Squadron*

Top service assignments after 306th: *Don Cesar, Hospital, St Petersburg, Florida*

USAF retirement date: Rank/grade: *Capt.*

Copies of old 306th orders, either from the Group or Station 111, or any of the  
squadrons or other units, will be welcomed by the secretary.

If you know of other 306th people who do not appear in the directory, please add  
their names and current or former addresses to this sheet so that we may search  
further for them.

2 February 1989

Dr. Alfred Erb:  
9934 Grouse Wood Ct  
Burke, VA 22015

Dear Doc:

Writing for myself, and for Don Ross and Reg Robinson, let me express our thanks and appreciation for your recent gift to the 306th BG Project Fund.

Your concern for the Association as evidenced by your gift, is much appreciated, and you will hearing further from us on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

William F. Houlihan  
President

Amount received: \$100.00

OLD  
Address →

A. W. ERB, M.D.  
3694 Traskwood Cr.  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45208  
513-321-9718

NEW  
Address →

A. W. ERB M.D.  
9934 WOOD GROUSE COURT  
BURKE, VIRGINIA 22015



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

Dear Alfred:

During the past few years we have watched the 306th Bombardment Group Association grow and prosper, each reunion seeming to set a new record for attendees.

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

Until 1986 our finances were rather hit and miss. A few contributors (especially Kieth Jackson) made fairly substantial gifts, but by and large we have existed on small individual contributions to Echoes and the profits from our reunions. Our current financial condition is adequate, but it lacks the long range stability we would like to achieve.

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

The present and former officers of the Association listed below feel that many of our members may be willing to make substantial gifts to assure the continued success of our organization. This money will be used for current and upcoming projects developed by your officers and directors. Upon dissolution of the Association, the balance of our monies will be paid over to the 306th Bombardment Group Endowment Fund now in place, pursuant to our contract with the Association of Graduates, U. S. Air Force Academy.

**Treasurer**  
C. Dale Briscoe  
7829 Timber Top Drive  
Boerne, TX 78006

We would hope that you may wish to contribute from \$100 to \$500 (or more), depending upon your own circumstances. For those willing to give \$100 or more, a special permanent contributor's card will be provided. If you do not choose to participate, there will be no change in your status with the organization. We have never required payment of dues, and we have no intention of doing so now.

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

If you are willing to join with us in this project, please return your contribution in the enclosed stamped, addressed envelope.

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

Robert J. Starzynski  
5253 North Long Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60630

Leo H. Van Deurzen  
621 N. Ontario Street  
DePere, WI 54115

Thank you for your past assistance and for your continued support of our Association.

**Past President**  
Reginald L. Robinson  
4009 Ranier Court  
Fort Worth, TX 76109

Sincerely yours,

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

*Bill*  
William F. Houlihan  
President

*Reg*  
Reginald Robinson  
Immed. Past President

*Dan*  
Donald R. Ross  
Past President

1989 Reunion  
21-24 September  
Little Rock, AR

A DC-8 super stretch intercontinental jetliner of  
WORLD AIRWAYS.

Hebbo from here--

Thank you so very much for being  
so prompt in sending me my  
"306" cap. Now I have something  
to wear this summer!!

My bald head gets hot with the  
sun beating down on it.  
May not get to Pittsburgh this  
year but hope to get to good  
old England next year.

Thanks again. Doc Erb

A. W. ERB M.D.  
9934 WOOD GROUSE COURT.  
BURKE, VIRGINIA 22015



FREEDOM TO SPEAK OUT  
USA 2c



A SCOT OF DEMOCRACY

Electric Auto 1917  
USA 17c



POSTCARD

Carroll D. Briscoe  
7829 Timber Top  
Boerne  
Texas 78006

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Dear Russell A. Strong,

I am contemplating attending the 8th. A.F. Reunion in England in 1992. In-as-much as I am now Handicapped, amputation of my right leg above the knee, I shall have to modify my travel arrangements.

Has any one Airline been designated as the official carrier?

I shall be traveling with my daughter and her husband as well as with my son and his wife. I will have lots of help, but too, I shall need hotel rooms etc.

I will appreciate any information you can give me pertaining to everything!!!

Thanks

*a. v. Erb M.D.*

A.W. Erb, M.D.

Capt. M.C.

8 July 1991

Dr. Alfred W. Erb  
9934 Wood Grouse Ct  
Burke, VA 22015

Dear Al:

In response to your query about the reunion in England, information is not yet out on all such matters as the carrier, etc.

All of this information will be in the October issue of Echoes, which should answer most of your questions. We had discussed KLM as the carrier, but I don't actually know at this point which airline the Travel Agents have signed with.

Travel from about six U. S. cities, hotels, some meals, and all such arrangements are handled in the overall package.

Once this information is out, you will be able to work directly with the travel agents on the accommodations which you will want on the trip.

In the July issue of Echoes there will be a revised outline of the itinerary.

I certainly hope you will be able to be with us at that time.

All the best,



National Capital Area Chapter of  
**WAR STORIES**  
The Eighth Air Force Historical Society

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 3

JANUARY 1992

DOCTOR A.W.ERB RECOUNTS AN AMUSING  
TALE OF HIS TRIBULATIONS AT THE  
START OF HIS WARTIME SERVICE

I graduated from Hahnemann University Medical school in 1941. I then served a one year internship at Hahnemann Hospital which is located in Philadelphia. And just what the Hell do you think was going on then? The Draft Board and "Word of Mouth" was, "Sign up boys, they will get you one way or another!" Most of my "Internship group" were interested in signing up with the Navy. Since we were in Philadelphia and many of our instructors were in the Navy reserve. So, I followed everyone else and said "Sign me up." They said, "We don't want you." "Well just what is going on here? I have a medical degree, I am licensed to practice medicine in the state of Pennsylvania and they don't want me!!!! Explain!--- --explain! I demanded. "You are too small, they answered, to pass the physical you must be 5' 6" and sometimes with a waiver, you can be accepted if you are 5'5". I was 5'3" and could in no way stretch myself out to 5'5". I told them that I really did not give a damn, you probably were not allowed to fish off their ---king boats anyway.

Well where now? I next tried the Army recruiting station. They did not even ask me to get undressed. I'm getting the same old story "Too small." "Well, says I, "Then I am free to go and I can do as I please and no one is going to fret about me not signing up with the Navy or the Army---Right? Wrong!

THE BIRTH OF THE EIGHTH

In the early days of 1942 following the United States entry into WWll, much reordering of the resources of the Army Air Forces was in evidence. The first action was to reorder the available assets into four Air Forces based on geographic location in the country and appropriately numbered from one to four. Shortly thereafter an Air Force was formed to support a proposed invasion of North West Africa. This unit was named the Fifth Air Force but four days later it was changed to the Eighth Air Force. The Eighth Air Force was activated In January, 1942 in Savannah, Georgia. Four weeks later the proposed North African invasion was cancelled in favor of more critical demands in the Pacific.

Thus the Eighth was without a mission. The commander of the Eighth during these rocky times was Col. Asa N. Duncan. He went to England with a unit of the Eighth, promoted to BG but unfortunately was lost on a flight to North Africa in October, 1942.

We can help to celebrate this birth of the Eighth by attending our meeting and dinner at Andrews AFB Officer's Club on January 31st. See the details inside.

IDEAS FOR CHAPTER MEETINGS?

CONTACT:

JIM CLEMENTS

WORK: 202-366-4927

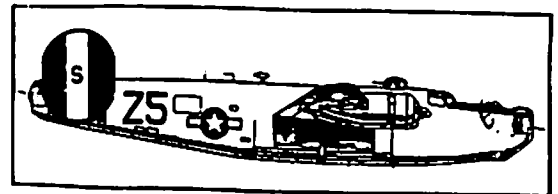
HOME: 301-490-6676

"You cannot become an officer but you can be drafted and become an enlisted man. Within six months you will probably be elevated to Sergeant." I then asked, "Can I practice medicine? The answer, which any dumb s--t should know, was, "No, only an officer can practice medicine." Who makes these F--king rules I asked. We don't was the reply, we just follows the rules.

I went home to ponder. Perhaps I would not be drafted. The war would be over before my number is called. And then, a letter from the Air Force branch of the Army. They would accept me.

Here we pause before the continuation of this saga.

I am a retired Air Force member with wartime service in both the Eighth and Ninth Air Forces. My wartime service also included two years in Iceland from July 1941. In all I spent three years and nine months in the European theater of operations. After wartime service I spent 11 years in SAC, Eighth Air Force units. My military service career ended with 11 years in the Defense Intelligence Agency. I have a long interest in the history of the Eighth and hope to bring that interest to this assignment.



Name the group?

National Capital Area Chapter  
8th Air Force Historical Society  
Newsletter Office  
3000 Graham Court  
Falls Church VA 22042

William F. Houlahan  
39470 Tyler Rd  
VAN BUREN Township  
Belleville  
MI





National Capital Area Chapter of  
**WAR STORIES**  
The Eighth Air Force Historical Society

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 4

MAY 1992

DOCTOR A.W.ERB RECOUNTS AN AMUSING  
TALE OF HIS TRIBULATIONS AT THE  
START OF HIS WARTIME SERVICE

Dr. ERB's chronicle continues- with the word from the Army Air Corps that his height was not a problem and the word that he would be getting further instructions by letter. He eagerly awaited the word. Finally the letter arrived, I was to go to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio to be sworn in as a 1st Lieutenant. So, as of August 8, 1942, I was a member of the Army Air Force. I was told that I would be receiving letters telling me where to go, how to get there, and what to do after I arrived.

My first letter arrived in a few days. I was told that I would be joining physicians from Eastern Indiana, Ohio, Western Pennsylvania, and Northern Kentucky. We would all be reporting to the Commanding General, Warner-Robins Field, Macon, Georgia. I could travel by any means that I wished to travel but I had X number of days to get there. I flew and reported in at Warner-Robins Field, which was a cow pasture on which they were erecting some buildings. That first day there must have been at least two of us. We did not know where to go, to whom to report and the question kept popping up in our minds: "Just what the Hell are we doing here!" Each day a few more of our designated group arrived. Each, being a physician and a father. His first duty was to his family. Each had to house and feed wife and

BIRTHDAY PARTY

As Spring was struggling to come to Savannah, members of the 8th Air Force Historical Society began gathering to celebrate the origin of the Eighth 50 years ago. On a dreary, cool and rainy afternoon some 300 members and their guests assembled in front of the Chatham Armory to mark the birth of the 8th.

With appropriate military ceremony, the group marked the establishment of the 8th in the Chatham Armory, now the home of the local American post. Posting of the colors, the pledge of allegiance and the playing of the Star Spangled Banner constituted the opening ceremony. This was followed by short speeches. The British Consul Barry Holmes, Russ McCorkle representing the City of Savannah, Gabby Gabreski and William Lawley, Medal of Honor recipient. The ceremony ended about 2:30 with the arrival of B-17 "909" flying over the downtown area of Savannah at about 1000 feet. This provided a perfect finale to an historic event.

The next few days consisted of events at the headquarters hotel, the Radisson and a the Civic Center. Many showings of WWII films, dances to 1940's style music and other entertainment. (Not to forget pub crawls along Factor's Walk) In spite of several rainy days the comradeship of the attendees carried the day.

Among the many guests at the seminar held on Tuesday evening were Lt. Gen. E. G. Shuler, commander of the present 8th Air Force, Major Gen. Ramsey

children. We were told to assemble the next morning at eight hundred hours on the parade ground. The next morning at eight hundred hours, I and a couple other single men assembled on the parade ground. We were asked what time we were told to assemble. "Eight hundred hours," we responded. "Well where the Hell is everyone?" "Damned if we know," was our reply. All the married men were out looking for a place to house their families. Little by little throughout the morning and afternoon, those who had found housing for their families ambled in.

A perplexed, angered, and frustrated Officer informed us that we were in the Army and that when we were given an order, "You followed orders!!" Several attempts were made to inform the officer that we had been told that we were reporting to base where we were to receive training for a period of six weeks to three months at the conclusion of which time, we would be assigned to a unit with whom we would be permanently assigned and would accompany that unit wherever it might be sent. "But until assigned to a specific unit, we could ourselves "IN TRAINING". We could live on or off base and our families could accompany us. Live on base? Where? If you lived on base, you would have to sleep in a sleeping bag on the ground!!! There were quarters on the base but we were told they were for transient officers.

Continued on page 7

Potts, Lt. Gen. Gerald Johnson and two historians of the 8th Air Force Arthur Gordon and James Parton. Other events were the arrival of B-24 "All American", which was on display with B-17 "909", a P-47 and two P51's at the National Guard section of Savannah International Airport.

A highlight of the week was a boat trip to Old Fort Jackson. Despite a cold, windy and rainy night a large number of the group braved the weather to partake of the roasted oysters and other good eating. The trip up the Savannah River was marked by a retreat ceremony and the firing of a huge Civil War cannon by the members of the Coastal Heritage Society.

As the members completed their plans for the homeward journey they were thrilled by a fly-by of WWII aircraft down the Savannah River corridor. Thus with a final chill to the bones of the Eighth's members the celebration of the creation of the Eighth was concluded.

The committee is to be congratulated for its fine work in organizing and carrying out this celebration of the events which effected the lives of so many in 1942 and beyond.

SPRING MEETING MAY 22ND

The Spring meeting of the National Capital Chapter 8AFHS will be held at the Ft. Myer Officers' Club at 8PM, May 1992.

Our guest speaker will be Lt. Col. Bill Carlile.

Please get your reservations in as soon as possible. We must let the club know the number that are coming by May 20th.

IT TAKES MONEY TO KEEP THE ORGANIZATION GOING  
WE NOW HAVE MORE THAN 100 MEMBERS! LET'S GET 100 MORE

SEND YOUR CHECK (\$10.00) TAX DEDUCTIBLE TO:  
BOB BEATSON, 7813 LOCRIS CT, UPPER MARLBORO MD 20748

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_

THE QUEEN'S BLESSING  
SUBMITTED BY KEN STEPHANS

We were stand-by crew that morning, but hadn't been needed prior to takeoff. However, the sun was pretty well up by the time Operations let us know that we could pull the guns and get back in the sack. By the time we woke again and got moving, we were late for the noon meal, but we had hopes of getting into the mess anyway, or of picking up our PX allotments, which were due and probably included a candy bar or two.

The three of us were on our way to the mess when a Jeep came tearing by, almost stopped, and the gunnery officer for the 364th squadron yelled for us to salute all staff cars. One of us yelled, "Who's coming? We thought he said 'General Doolittle', but that seemed unlikely. Still it had to be someone important to rate a warning Jeep.

We hadn't walked very far when we heard several vehicles coming from the main gate and on their way to headquarters. A Jeep was leading the parade, followed by a staff car with stars on the license plate. Then an olive drab Rolls Royce glided along ahead of two more staff cars. We popped to attention and held some very military salutes until the parade had passed.

Very obviously, something out of the ordinary was happening. By the time we got near the Operations building, we could see the empty cars. Outside British troops in battle dress were standing by the cars and by the door into Operations. A crowd of American troops were drifting up to see what was going on. Some were mechanics in greasy fatigues, others in flight suits and junior officers in uniform.

We soon learned that Britain's King and Queen and two Princesses were inside, accompanied by General

Doolittle. Someone said that they were here to christen a new Pathfinder B-17, to be called "Rose of York", after princess Rose. Obviously it had been named by a Public Relations Officer with a eye on Anglo-American relations. It contrasted with names given ships of the 305th Group by their crews. Names such as Shack Job, Outhouse Mouse, Wham Bang, Thunder Mug, Cocktail Kids, Flak Eater and Encore, which was flown by a crew that did a tour in the Pacific previously. Rose of York struck a different note. However, Bombadier Doug Franklin expressed the hope that Rose would not be knocked down on her first mission.

About that time a RAF Squadron Leader popped out the door an spun half turn to face the entrance. All the Brits sprang to attention with an audible twang as the King and Queen strolled out. Princess Margaret was next and at a colt-like stage. Princess (later to be come Queen) Elizabeth looked quite grown-up, at least to the rank and file Yanks. There were far too many wolf whistles, mainly from those who stood slouched in their fatigues. The majority of us stood at attention, simply out of respect, but we couldn't help half grins as we saw the reaction of the Brits. It was clear that the British in battle dress were Household troops, responsible for security, but they could do little about the whistles of "those bloody colonials with no appreciation of royalty." One officer had an enormous Guardsman mustache, every hair of which was indignantly standing straight out. The King and Queen were much more tolerant. They stopped and chatted with several Americans before getting in the Rolls and moving off down the flight line.

Few people had advance notice

of the visit for security reasons.

While on the base General Doolittle and the Royal party made an effort to avoid disrupting the routine of personnel engaged in flying missions.

They left well before any of the 305th aircraft would be returning from Germany. Before the Party left, however, the Group was to be presented with its second Distinguished Unit Citation (DUC) for bombing aircraft factories in central Germany on January 11, 1944, despite severe opposition. The commendation was accepted, I believe, by Colonel Ernest Lawson. I hope that it was he. It would be an appropriate final gesture for the 395th commander, since he was killed on a mission to Hamburg, Germany on June 18, 1944. The Royal Party visited Chelveston around June 15.

Despite the secrecy of the Royal visit, it was considered necessary to have a ceremony for the DUC presentation. Although they didn't know why, a sizeable number of men were instructed to put on class A uniforms and fall in at the upper end of No. 1 runway at 14:30. Chairs and a rostrum had been set up facing the troops. At 14:30 Jeeps dashed up and deposited the distinguished visitors near the rostrum. Meanwhile, PR people snapped pictures like mad--not only for publicity purposes but also to sell to the troops for souvenirs.

After the presentation of the DUC and a few DFC's earned by combat crews who had recently finished their tours, the Queen wanted to visit with the troops.

They were put at parade rest and she went down the lines. The Queen looked like a typical British housewife and the Americans found her a charming,

sincerely interested lady.

The three of us, had forgotten about food, observed the ceremony from the less muddy side of the runway. When the Queen started down the third line of men, there was a kind of a flurry and we saw her hugging one of the men, after which she was escorted a Jeep, still waving to the men. Apparently the party went to the Rolls Royce and left the base.

We quickly went over to the group that had gathered around the sergeant the Queen had embraced. He had been released from the hospital the day before. His face was one big, flaking scab with a damaged button nose in the middle. It looked as though fire had severely scorched his face. Tears had sprung from the Queen's eyes when she saw it. She hugged him and said something about the unselfish young Americans who came --3,000 miles to fight for England, and who suffered such severe pain and disfigurement to help repel the Hun.

Fortunately, nobody told the Queen that about 2 weeks earlier the gunner had returned from a pass, drunk as a Lord. He jumped on his bicycle and was riding up and down the the runway at breakneck speed, racing another drunken gunner. Suddenly he squeezed the brakes on the handlebars of his English bicycle. The brakes in the front wheel held, but the ones on the back wheel didn't. He went over the handlebars and skidded up the runway on his face for 10-14 feet. This didn't do much toward repelling the Hun, but it did get him kissed by the Queen.

## GENERAL RADER SHOT DOWN AT BATTLE OF MIDWAY

General William S. Rader addressed the last meeting of the Association in January, 1992. He was in the 8th Air Force at the beginning and described how it got started. This brief excerpt from his presentation describes how he and his B-17 crew got shot down in the Pacific and ended up with the 306 Bomb Group. Charles (Kurt) Morris, Secretary of the Association edited this article.

June 1942: A note on the bulletin board at Gowan Field, Boise, Idaho, asked for "Volunteers for an undisclosed mission." Lt Rader and his crew volunteered and were soon on their way to Hawaii. The Battle of Midway was underway when they reached Hickam Field. Their job was to monitor the Japanese fleet and while doing this they flew 17 missions. On the last, they were 1,100 miles out when they found 3 Japanese naval vessels. The crew's orders were to report the positions of enemy ships. However, Lt. Rader and his crew decided to "go down and shoot them up." But the Japanese shot off 2 of their engines. For five hours, they flew on two engines--all the while sending SOS's. When the fuel tanks were dry, they ditched the B-17 at night in 20 foot waves. General Rader reports, "The first thing I knew I was sitting in water up to my lap. The aircraft went down a little bit but didn't sink right away".

One airman could not swim and Lt. Rader took him to a rubber raft. When he turned around his airplane was sinking. They were in the water in Mae Wests for eighteen hours and one-half hours. When a PBY appeared they fired a Very pistol, almost hitting the airplane. Take off in the PBY was very difficult because of the rough water. However, the Navy pilot got them back to Oahu where he received a Navy Cross for

picking them up.

SO General Rader reports, "I went to the Commanding officer And the Colonel was a very nice man, he listened to me talk..like 2 no lieutenant should do and then he said, "Well, what do you want to do?"

I said "I want to get back to the 303rd," and he said "Well, let me check." No computers, none of that stuff, so he called Washington and I'm standing there and he said the group was filled up and you will have to go to the 306th. So, I said, "Okay, I'll go to the 306th." We got back to the States, got on a train and we went to Wendover, Utah and the 306th Bomb Group.

## CHANUTE AFB TO CELEBRATE 75TH

Chanute AFB in Rantoul, Illinois is celebrating its 75th anniversary in May, 1992. Since its establishment during WW, the third oldest active base has been a Technical Training Center for thousands of Air Force personnel. The base is scheduled for closing in the near future but history is being preserved by the publication of a pictorial history of the base.

A series of events marking the anniversary will be held at the base from May 26, 1992 to May 31, 1992 as a grand finale to the base closing. The base was named for an aviation pioneer and contemporary of the Wright brothers, whose experiments aided the Wright brothers in their efforts to achieve flight.

The history is available at a pre-publication price of \$44.95 plus handling charges. The address is the Chanute Heritage Foundation, P.O. Box 949, Rantoul IL 61866-0949.

The invasion is on as many groups stage their reunions this year in England. The list below shows the time and place that host this new wave of American tourists,, many of whom last were on these shores 50 years ago. Is your group among those that has scheduled activity in the next few months. Your editor plans a "Tailend Charlie" visit in September and would like to hear from members who are going during the Summer months. This is a good opporunity to share our experiences.

## The Friendly Invasion

Listed below are the groups who have confirmed their travel arrangements for 1992. Who will be the largest group? So far its the B26 Marauder Historical Society with plans to return 1,000 Veterans. Let's hear from the rest of you and join us for the biggest and best reunion yet! The groups are shown by the airfield they were based at.

B-26 Marauders H S	1-4 May	Mendlesham	17 May
Alconbury	9-18 September	Nuthampstead	25-29 June
Attlebridge	May/June	North Pickenham & Metfield	16-25 May
Bassingbourn	8-9 May	Old Buckenham	19-23 May
Bodney	July	Parham	19-23 July
Bungay	23-28 May	Polebrook	28April -1 May
Burtonwood	14-18 May	Rackheath	18-20 May
Bury St. Edmunds	September	Rattlesden	29 May-6 June
Debach	1-4 May	Raydon	July
Debden	September	Ridgewell	1-4 May
Denethorpe	End September	Seething	5-6 September
Deopham Green	15-17 May	Shipdham	1-7 October
East Wretham		Sudbury	17-19 May
Eye	May	Thorpe Abbotts	w/e 4-5 July
Fowlmere	July	Thurleigh	25-28 August
Goxhill	July	Warton	23-30 June
Gt Ashfield	15-20 May	Watton	21-29 May
Gt. Salling	13 May	Wendling	4-12 June
Halesworth	27-31 May	Wethersfield	1-4 May
Horham	7-10 May	Wormingford	
Kimbolton	May	2nd Air Division	19-23 May
Knettishall	3-7 July )	Various Fighter Groups	2-10 July
Lavenham	1-4 May	Hospital Group	June/July
Lelston	2-6 July		
Manna Chowhound Group	24-26 April	Group of 250 non Veterans	May
Martlesham Heath			

For more information on these returning groups contact:- Jane Sullivan, Project Coordinator, East Anglia Tourist Board. Tel: 0473 822922

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr. Michael J. Bandler, a writer from Silver Spring, is seeking information relating to the wartime career of the actor James Stewart. He hopes to expand on the limited biographic details of his service with the Mighty Eighth. Mr. Bandler mentions a General Maurice Casey (Ret), who was Jimmy Stewart's roommate at Tibenham. Members of the 445th Bomb Group and others, who may have some information, can get in touch with Mr. Bandler by phone 301-649-2460 or by writing to him at 1101 North Belgrade Road, Silver Spring, MD 20902.

We also have a letter from England concerning Col. W. P. Cunningham, a USAAF intelligence officer formerly of Lutherville, MD. Mr. Jamie A. Pugh of Harlow, England credits Colonel Cunningham with great influence in his life. Specifically he is seeking information regarding the burial place of the Colonel, who died in October, 1976. If you have any knowledge of this person please let the editor know so that we can coordinate on the request. Mr. Kenneth Hutcherson is checking in the Lutherville area. P.S. The editor has checked with Arlington Cemetery with negative results.

Calling all who served in Northern Ireland as part of the 8th Composite Command at any of the 20 bases that supplied the Eighth with maintenance or training support. Mr. Mark L. Summers, 200 Chapel Court, Walkersville, MD 21793 would like to hear from other members of the Command which affected all our lives in the 8th. Mark was the S-2 NCOIC stationed at Lurgan. Incidentally your editor also served in Northern Ireland and would like to hear from the same people. My unit was HQ 3rd Combat Crew Replacement Center.

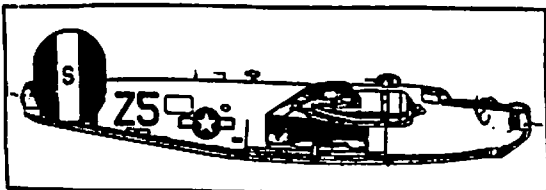
Well, we all assembled at 0800 hours and were told that the Commanding Officer would be joining us as soon as he had finished his coffee. In the meantime we would march. It was explained that while marching we would not talk! We could sing or we could whistle but we could not talk. I could see why they made that decision as up to now, each and every physician was asking each and every physician, "Have you found a house, a place to stay, any place to house and keep your family? 'Where, how far is it? , How far did you go to look?' Everyone looking for information -- Where to live?"

Everyone lined up to march. I being the smallest, lined up at the head of the column. I did not want any son-of-b----h standing or marching in front of me, blocking my view, so I could not see where I was going or knowing what the Hell was going on. I stayed there just long enough for the Drill Officer to control his temper and composure and ask me politely to step to the end of the line.

Who would start such a thing, I do not know but knowing that we could not talk but could whistle or sing, someone starting singing "Marching through Georgia!" It started to rain Brass! There was rank all over the place.

I would be willing to bet that some of them gave up their plush chairs at the Dempsey Hotel to come and speak to us. "We are guests of the state of Georgia. Most of us are from the North -- but--we are officers and gentlemen and we shall show our respect for the state of Georgia and we will not sing "Marching through Georgia. That may

Continued on page 8



## LOWELL OVERLY TREASURER MOVES TO FLORIDA

Lowell Overly, our first and only treasurer, is leaving us. Lowell and his wife Ruth, for years have been on the waiting list for an apartment in the Air Force Widow's Home in Shalimar, Florida. (That's the name of the Home, though one does not have to be a widow anymore to move in!)

Lowell was a gunner in the 306 BG (369th Sqdn) He stayed for 20 years in the Air Force following the war and served in such interesting places as Alaska and Okinawa.

Lowell and Ruth left for Florida on May 17 with Ruth driving the car and Lowell handling the mobile home in which they will live until their permanent residence is available.

Lowell has a private flying license with about 600 hours. But what he is really looking for is the Florida Chapter of the 8th AFHS.

We are all grateful to Lowell for the years he has handled the money. Bob Beatson has agreed to replace Lowell.

## TEN POUNDS

It was late Mid-December. The temperature was not all that low, but the damp, cold fog of the late evening went clear through to the bones.

Suddenly there was a piercing woman's scream, It came from the doorway of one of the stores that lined Piccadilly Circus. In the center of the Circus was a big gray piece of construction that surerounded the Eros statue, and was filled with sand for protection from bombing. Out of the gray mist suddenly emerged one of London's finest - a Bobby. Before the American sergeant, who was with the girl could explain, the woman cried out, "He is going to throw me through this plate glass window." The Bobby calmed the girl and asked the sergeant what was going on. The sergeant said, "She wants TEN POUNDS (the about \$40.40) for some knee tremblin up against the door! As the Bobby walked away into the mist he was heard to say, "Do it gently, Mate, do it gently."

Submitted by Whit Hill

DOCTOR ERB'S STORY CONTINUES

or may not have expedited our orders coming through but within 24 hours some of us were receiving orders.

My orders read that I should proceed to Davis Monthan Field, Tucson, Arizona. Now I could go home, go to Wright-Patterson, visit the P.X. and buy some shoes--I believe it or not I did not have a pair of regulation acceptable shoes. My shoe size is five and a half C. There was a shoe store in Piauua where they would order the shoes for me but I was afraid that if I ordered them now they would never catch up to me. I had been in every P.X. on every base and was told they did not carry my size. Now no one in the Army gave a damn about me or my inability to get a pair of shoes. They followed the rules. At inspections, I did not have regulation shoes and that meant a demerit. I have now have a sheaf of papers documenting my demerits. When you transfer, do they transfer your demerits with you. So I'm sent to Tucson. No one cares because the unit which I was to join --- was not there!!!

CHANUTE AFB TO CELEBRATE 75TH

Chanute AFB in Rantoul, Illinois is celebrating its 75th anniversary in May, 1992. Since its establishment during WW, the third oldest active base has been a Technical Training Center for thousands of Air Force personnel. The base is scheduled for closing in the near future but history is being preserved by the publication of a pictorial history of the base.

A series of events marking the anniversary will be held at the base from May 26, 1992 to May 31, 1992 as a grand finale to the base closing. The base was named for an aviation pioneer and contemporary of the Wright brothers, whose experiments aided the Wright brothers in their efforts to achieve flight.

The history is available at a pre-publication price of \$44.95 plus handling charges. The address is the Chanute Heritage Foundation, P.O. Box 949, Rantoul IL 61866-0949.

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8th Air Force Historical Society  
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Bellville, Mi. 48111-1450*





National Capital Area Chapter of  
The Eighth Air Force Historical Society

SPRING CHAPTER MEETING  
CONTROL TOWER OPERATIONS

FORT MYER OFFICERS' CLUB

MAY 22, 1992

CASH BAR 7PM                      DINNER 8PM

HERBED CHICKEN

FILET OF SOLE

\$17.50 PER PERSON

CALL BOB BEATSON 301-868-2952 FOR RESERVATIONS

SEND YOUR CHECK TO BOB AT:

7813 LOCRIS CT, UPPER MARLBORO, MD 20748

GUEST SPEAKER: LT. COL. BILL CARLILE, USAF (RET)

-----  
CHICKEN \_\_\_\_\_ FILET OF SOLE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Thank You For Your Letter--Yes--I or<sup>er</sup> rather we that is--my daughter, her husband and I have moved from 9934 Wood Grouse to 10101 Community Lane. These places are but a few blocks or miles apart. My son-in-law workes for the Government----- F.B.I. to be exact and he did not wish to get too far from his "Car Pool" so they just moved a few (very few) miles--down the pike!!

My new address is:-

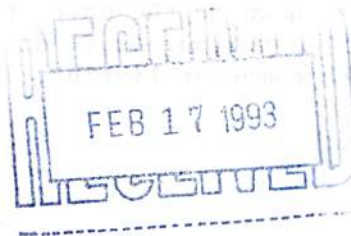
**A. W. Erb, M.D.**  
**10101 Community Lane**  
**Fairfax Station, Virginia 22039**

Yes--they continued to forward the mail from Wood Grouse to this place for 6 months

A. W. Erb Capt. M.C.

Retired

Old but Hobbeling



**A. W. Erb, M.D.**  
**10101 Community Lane**  
**Fairfax Station, Virginia 22039**

## OBITUARIES

# Dr. Alfred Erb, 79, was anesthesiologist

### His Oakley office grew into areawide practice

BY SMITA MADAN PAUL  
The Cincinnati Enquirer

Dr. Alfred Erb, an anesthesiologist who practiced in Oakley, died of heart disease Saturday at Fairfax Hospital in Fairfax, Va. He was 79.

Dr. Erb worked far more than the standard 40 hours a week. Even after retirement, he continued to work part time until age 74, when he fell ill, said his daughter, Linda Martz of Fairfax, Va.

"He had no hobbies; he just loved his work, that is what he did. He worked all the time. . . . Just to go in and talk to people and be a part of things, that was what he loved to do," she said.

He spent his childhood in Piqua,

Ohio, and graduated from Piqua High School in 1932. He entered Purdue University for a year before transferring to Ohio State University.

After graduation, he joined the Army Air Corps in 1940 and served in England with the 8th Air Force's 506th bomber group as a flight surgeon. After World War II, he was a resident in anesthesia at Hahnemann University School of Medicine in Philadelphia.

After marriage in the late 1940s to Viviane Eugenie Allenby, he settled in Oakley and joined Dr. Charlie Hoyt in the practice of Hoyt and Erb to provide anesthesia services at Bethesda Hospital.

The practice grew to become

Hoyt, Erb and Associates and later the Anesthesia Group Practice. He retired in 1983. He continued a part-time practice at the Cincinnati Eye Institute in Montgomery until he became ill in 1988 and moved to Fairfax, Va.

Dr. Erb was a member of the American Medical Association, the Ohio Society of Anesthesiologists, the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Oakley Lodge 668; Scottish Rite, Valley of Cincinnati; and Phi Delta Theta.

Also surviving are a son, Ronald of Bellevue, Wash.; a sister, Clara Mae Proctor of Cape Coral, Fla.; and two grandchildren.

Memorials can be made to the Fairfax Hospital Amputee Support Group, 3300 Gallows Road, Falls Church, Va. 22046, or Hahnemann University School of Medicine, Broad and Vine streets, Philadelphia 19102.

Visitation will be 4 to 8 p.m. today at the Elden A. Good Funeral Home, 2620 Erie Ave., Hyde Park. The service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Hillside Chapel, 525 Martin Luther King Drive, Clifton.

#### •ERB

Dr. Alfred W., beloved husband of the late Viviane Eugenie Erb, dear father of Dr. Ron Erb of Bellevue, WA and Linda Martz of Fairfax Station, VA, brother of Clara Mae Proctor, grandfather of Brittany Nicole Martz and Jennifer E. King, Saturday, September 18, 1993 in Falls Church, VA. Friends may call at the Elden A. Good Funeral Home, 2620 Erie Ave., west of Hyde Park Square, Friday from 4-8 P.M. Funeral service Saturday at 11 A.M. at the Hillside Chapel, 525 Martin Luther King Dr., Oakley Lodge #668 and Scottish Rite ring service Friday at 7:30 P.M. Memorials may be directed to Fairfax Hospital Amputee Support Group, Gallows Road, Falls Church, VA 22046 or Hahnemann University School of Medicine, Broad & Vine, Philadelphia, PA 19102.