

A HISTORY OF THE 306th BOMBARDMENT GROUP - EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Russell A. Strong, Rt. 1, Scotch Meadows Dr. Laurinburg, NC 28352

Name Stanley Clark Garner

Address 4957 Pacific Ave. Long Beach, Calif. 90805

Telephone 422 7583 Date January 6, 1977

Occupation Instrument Man Employer Long Beach Oil Development Co.

Address 925 Harbor Plaza Telephone _____
Long Beach, Calif.

Service Record:

Before joining the 306th: Drafted at Fort MacArthur-ReEnlisted after taking a short discharge into the Air Force. Then sent to Sheppard Field. Wichita Falls, Texas. Went through A.M. (air craft mechanics) school. Then to Wendover, Utah. As far as I know this is where the 306th started. Went through Gunnery School there. Then to Westover Air Force Base in Mass. There we received our new planes, and flew on to England.

After leaving the 306th: I felt I left the 306th when I went to the prison camp. Was discharged in 1945. Re enlistd in May of 1946. Spent 10 months in Italy, and in Japan about 11 months during the Korean Campaign

306th Record:

If I recall-we were the first in the 306th. It was started while we were there.

Arrival Date May 1942 Squadron or other unit 367

MOS _____ Combat Status Flight Engineer and top turret Gunner.

Missions Completed 5

Promotions from private to tech sgt.

Decorations x AM olcs DFC olcs SS DSM DSC MH SM

PH Battle Stars _____ other _____

(OVER)

Other personal data:

Description of Air Missions:

(What were the highlights of your combat career? What was your role? What heroics did you witness? What events were there of which you have special knowledge?)

I'm really a quiet guy, but my buddy who was with me all the way can really tell it all. Hear his health is not to good.

Francis J. Hess our radio man
R R 4, Box 4575
Browns Mills, New Jersey 08015

Don't know if you are aware of a fellow in Texas making a list of all 306th members. His name is Sidney Goldberg
P.O. Box 1589
Alvin, Texas 77511

Also

John McKee (Pilot)
~~1300 Studio St.~~
Burbank, Cal. 91501

*4100 - Warner Blvd Overcode 213
Burbank - Tel. 842-3711*

Helmuth Roeder Tail gunner-our plane
2314 Brooktree
Houston, Texas *91008*

Roeder spoke fluent German-was our camp interpeter.

Darwin Wissenbach's address Side gunner-our plane
16970 Shadybrook Dr.
Milwaukee, Oregon 97222

Do you know about the EX*POW Bulletin?
American Ex-Prisoners of War, Inc.
2620 North Dundee St. Tampa, Fla 33609
Is that where you got our name?

Name Stanley C. Garner Address 4957 Pacific Ave. 90805
 Telephone 213-422 7583

MISSING AIRCRAFT REPORT

Pilot John McKee Plane # and Name Rose O Day
 Mission Date Dec. 20, 1942 Target Rommel's Sur Seine France
 Cause of loss: AA fire _____ Fighter attack X Other, explain _____

Describe conditions in the plane as completely as you can: Fighters were coming straight in at the nose of our plane, at that time we didn't have 50 cal. guns so we couldn't get them. If my recollection is correct they got the number three engine. They came under and killed our ball turret gunner. We then got orders to bail out because we were losing altitude. We were flying at 20,000 feet when we were attacked.

How and where did you leave plane? I left the plane through the bombay at 20,000 feet approximately.

What happened when you got on the ground? Surrounded by French people—kind of like the magistrate of the town, fed by them while they were waiting for the Nazis to pick me up. They wouldn't turn me loose to try to make my way back to England. Took me (the nazis) to an airfield—most of the crew was there.
 Did you meet any of your crew mates?

How were you treated, if captured? Treated very well by the French, and by the Germans as well as could be expected.

Any additional details, reminiscences, letters, or documents of these events would be appreciated. If you do send such materials, I will copy them and put them back in the mail to you within 24 hours.

Do you know the present, or WW II, addresses of any of your crew or other 306th personnel?

Notes I've taken from a small note book kept by Stan while he was in prison camp.

Shot down Dec 20, 1942 on raid on Rommley Ser Seine-
Bailed out from 20,000 ft. Landed near Vileroy.
Stayed at Air Field all night. Left for Paris 21.
Stayed in cooler 5 days, out Dec. 28. Left camp Jan 10.
Temp. 30 degrees below 0. Don't get enough coal to keep warm.
Left Lamsdor Ph Breslau Konigzelt Gerlitz Dresden.
Arrived Stalag VII A Feb 10, (Moosborg) March 26. Hear McKee got
back ot England. Plaven March 29, arrived at StalagIII B
Left Stalag VII March 27. Very bad camp. Cut my hair off March 31.
Left Stalag III July 10. Arrived VII July 13. Left Stalag VII
Oct 12. Arrived XVII Oct 13. Cut my hair again Oct 4th about
4:00 in the morning.

Then there is a short page about bets on the dates of the end of
war..or that the African Campaign wasn't over-etc.

Don't know if this is anything you want or not.

Mrs. Cecilia Harace

The only photo's we have are news paper
clippings of Stan's mother being presented
his Air Medal at the Dancy Gas Plant
in Long Beach - by some Colonel.

This was an effort to promote
War Bonds. Nothing mentions the 306 -
Ike would appreciate knowing if a
book comes out -

Thanks for your
efforts & Sorry we can't help more.

Jan 6, 1978

Dear Miss Strong:

The correct address for
Francis Hess is
P. R. 4 - Box 4575
Browns Mills, New Jersey 08015

Thank you from his
friend.

Stan Garner
4957 Campie Ave
Long Beach 90805
Ca.

March 22, 1979

206th Echoes:

My husband has certainly enjoyed the couple of issues of Echoes he has received.

Enclosed \$5.00 for copies -
Send more - keep them
coming - for

Stanley C. Garner

4957 - Pacific Ave

Long Beach, Calif
90805