

PERSONNEL RECORD UPDATE

306th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION

Complete as much of this form as you wish, and return to Russell A. Strong, Secretary, 306th BG Association, 5323 Cheval Place, Charlotte, NC 28205.

Date completed 2 - 4 - 94

LAST NAME: GOODE FIRST NAME: Grover MI: C. TITLE:

Street address: 325 Stewart St. Telephone: (304) 436-4688

City, State, Zip: Welch, West Virginia 24801 zip + 4: -

Date of birth: 06-09-1922

Wife's name: Janet K. Goode

College(s) attended: West Virginia Univ. Degree(s): LLB (now JD) Year(s): 1950

Last employment & job title & retirement date: Attorney - Self-employed
Retired 1989

Reunions attended:

None

Serial #: 15172589 Squadron: 368 Specialty: Eng.-Gun.

Date joined 306th: May 1944 If combat, what crew: Nash
(Previously Erwin)

Special duties or assignments w/306th:

Number of missions flown:
From Discharge - 25

Date of last mission:
Sept. 1944

Date left 306th:

Highest rank/grade w/306th: S/SGT

Other 8th AF units served with:

Top service assignment after 306th: Instr. B-29 Engineering School,
Amarillo, Tex.

USAF retirement date: 10-5-1945 Rank/grade: S/Sgt.

Copies of old 306th orders, either from the Group or Station 111, or any of the squadrons or other units serving with the 306th, are sought by the secretary, as many of these do not appear in any collections of materials in Federal files:

If you know of others who served with the 306th who do not appear in the current directory, please add their names and current/WWII hometowns/or other addresses to the back of this sheet so that searches may be implemented to add them to our present 306th roster.

LAW OFFICES
GROVER C. GOODE
WELCH, WEST VIRGINIA 24801

4688
TELEPHONE 436-3891

— First National Bank Building —
325 Stewart Street

Mr. Russell A. Strong
5323 Cheval Place
Charlotte, North Carolina 28205

Dear Mr. Strong:

Thank you for your letter and the materials which were enclosed with it. I have completed and am returning the "Personnel Record Update."

As you already know, I did not find many familiar names in the Directory. I did find a listing for Deral (Deacon) Stewart-- the biggest clown in the 8th Air Force. He was always "fighting the battle of the riverbank," in Bedford. Note the copy of one of his "escape" pictures, which is enclosed.

I am enclosing check and would appreciate your sending me a copy of your book, First Over Germany.

My son, Joseph R., lives in Charlotte. I wonder how a meeting between him and Russell Schonekas, Jr., would turn out. He plans to ski on the Flat Top ski slopes (between Princeton and Beckley) this weekend, so I can learn what other materials he might find interesting.

Again, thanks for your more than prompt follow-up to our recent telephone conversation, and I hope to meet many of you in the near future.

Very truly yours,

Grover Goode

BELLE OF THE BRAWL

690



TOP - Pilot, NAVIGATOR, BOMBARDIER, CO-PILOT, CREW CHIEF
NASH, STEVENSON, ANDERSON, SHEPHERD

BOTTOM - KELLY, SCOTTOLINE, DALY, HELLER, GOODE
ENGT. RADIO, ARM., ARM., ENG.

Schonakas not Present



WM. NASH - PILOT

Lake Ronkonkoma
Long Island,
New York



Bernell D. Sharp
Richfield, Utah



Derald E. Stewart
"Deacon"
(in Mormon church Salt Lake City)
593 So. 3rd. E.
Payson, Utah
(he's in the Directory)



Kenneth Berkley
171 Marshall Ave.
Valley Falls, Mo.

These are "ESCAPE" photos
to be used for passports.
We were photos in case
we were shot down
in France

Addresses
as of 1944



Kelly
Ignatius William
Kelly
South Coventry, Conn.



Bob Daly
Robert R. Daly
Wheatland, Wyo.
on Erwin
Crew but was
transferred to
Italy



Eddie J. Drost
Box 75
Brill, Wisc.

Grover C. Goode
243 West Locust Drive
Beckley, West Virginia 25801

Mr. Rusell A. Strong
Charlotte, North Carolina 28205

Dear Russell:

You should have guessed that the person whose name I omitted was the navigator. So, from left to right: Nash, Shepherd, Heller, Robert L. Stevenson (the middle initial might be an "E"), Scottoline, Anderson and Kelly.

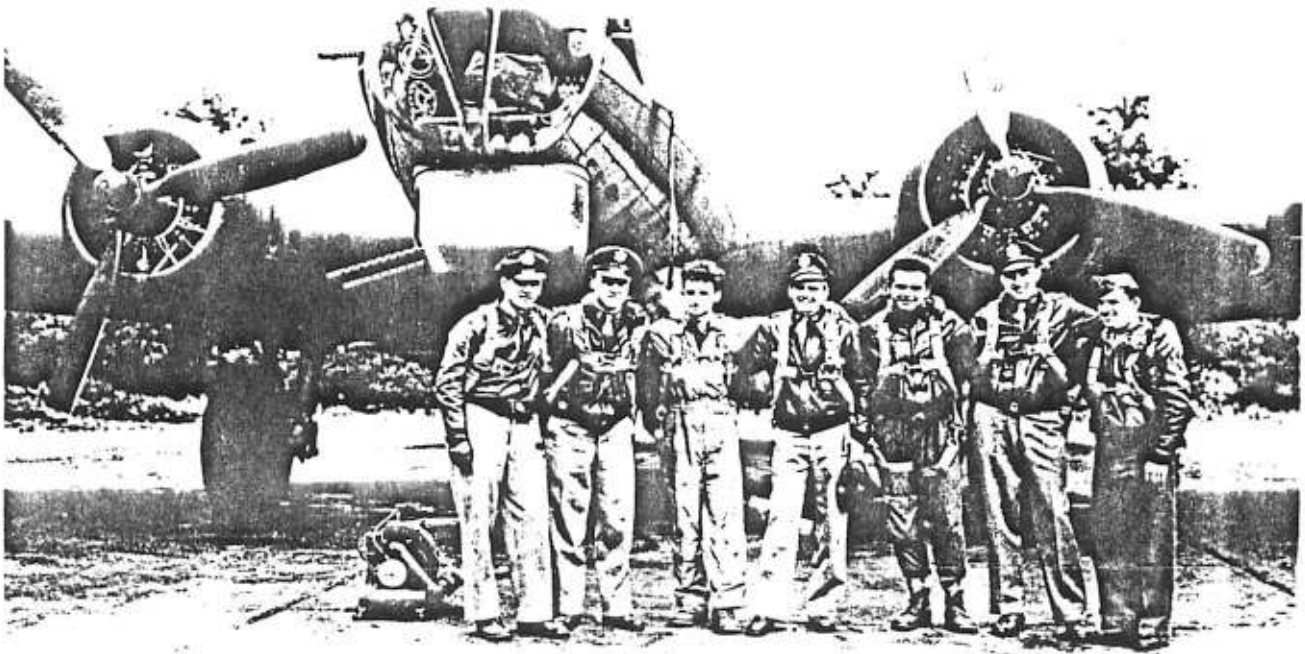
Bill (I.W.) Kelly was from Connecticut or Rhode Island.

When we arrived at Thurleigh, we went to the mess hall. Bill had told us that he had a brother at one of the bases in England, but he did not know which one. While we were eating, his brother, Herbert, walked in. They were the least demonstrative brothers whom I can recall meeting. Bill said "hello, Herb," and Herb responded in the same fashion. They hadn't seen each other for many months. These brothers were in the 35 to 40-year old range. Herbert stated that he flew as engineer on the colonel's plane... when it flew. Otherwise, I suppose he was the engineer on the "Rose of York". Herb definitely belonged to the 306th.

I hope this information proves helpful. Let me know if you are able to locate any of these parties.

Very truly yours,





Grover - Seven people in the picture, but only six names. Need one more in the right place. Hope you can help. Cheers!

William Nash was the person who named "Belle of the Brawl". He "liked" the name, however, it had no special significance for the remaining crew members. You recount the final flight of this plane on page 274 of your book.

Getting back to the picture (left to right): William Nash, the pilot, Shepherd, co-pilot, Heller, tail, Emedio G. (Scotty) Scottoline, radio, Paul Anderson, bombardier, and Ignatius William (Bill) Kelly, engineer. Schonekas, Daly and I are missing from this photo. As an aside--Bill Kelly's brother, Herbert (Herb), is the person pictured on page 37 of your book--shaking hands with the Princess

A donation to the "cause" is enclosed.

Very truly yours

Ran "I. W." Kelly through my magic computer program, and came up with an address and phone #. Phone had been disconnected, but sent along a card anyway. May not be the onw, but its worth a stab at it. I note that he came from the Northeaast. Was his brother, Herbert, a 306th man? Don't have such in my file, but it could be a middle name.

LAW OFFICES
GROVER C. GOODE
~~WELCH, WEST VIRGINIA 24801~~

TELEPHONE 436-3684
(304)253-9390

FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

243 W. Locust Dr.
Beckley, W. Va. 25801

Mr. Russell A. Strong
5323 Cheval Pl.
Charlotte, North Carolina 28205

Dear Russell:

My wife says that the photos of flight crews "all look alike" to her. We could agree that there is a degree of likeness caused by uniforms, poses, etc. However, photograph "6-Q" on page 6, of the latest edition falls into a different category. Although you appear to have a listing under "Erwin's " crew, I have previously advised you that the entire crew refused to fly with Erwin and, after an appearance before the Colonel, had another pilot, William Nash, assigned to them. Your records should be corrected.

William Nash was the person who named "Belle of the Brawl". He "liked" the name, however, it had no special significance for the remaining crew members. You recount the final flight of this plane on page 274 of your book.

Getting back to the picture (left to right): William Nash, the pilot, ^{Joseph W} Shepherd, co-pilot, ^{Paul} Heller, tail, Emedio G. (Scotty) Scottoline, radio, Paul Anderson, bombardier, and Ignatius William (Bill) Kelly, engineer. Schonekas, Daly and I are missing from this photo. As an aside--Bill Kelly's brother, Herbert (Herb), is the person pictured on page 37 of your book--shaking hands with the Princess

A donation to the "cause" is enclosed.

Very truly yours

Grover

Grover C. Goode
243 West Locust Drive
Beckley, W. Va. 24801
April 4, 2004

Mr. Russell Strong:

When you asked me to provide a legal paper whereby someone could make a gift for the benefit of---- (you did not mention the identity), I could have told you that there isn't writing which would cover this broad subject. In a trust arrangement there are three parties: the donor, trustee and beneficiary. A trust can be established in a will, or trust agreement, and is, therefore something a person discusses with his lawyer, a bank trust officer, or with a beneficiary who promises that the gift will be treated as part of a trust where the income only is used for its purposes and the principal is held in perpetuity.

I have collected three typical examples prepared by, or for, parties who want your gifts. (1) A church, (2) A university. (3) A non-profit organization which also wants to perpetuate its works- namely the "Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum" (could also be the "306th Bomb Group Association". You will note that basic instructions for these organizations are the same. The one exception is contained in the West Virginia University publication which truthfully explains that fewer and fewer persons will make gifts for the purpose of avoiding Estate taxes because the exemption is now more than one million dollars and will soon increase to one and one-half millions.

I prepared many wills with trust provisions for setting-up scholarships, for churches, colleges, libraries, and other charitable groups. Since I am not the most trusting person whom you will ever meet, I formed a distinct dislike for gifts to groups or organizations which acted as its own trustee (like all of the parties represented in the enclosed publications). Instead, I instructed the donor to leave his gift, by will or trust agreement, to a bank which had a responsible trust department, as trustee, with directions to pay the annual income from the trust fund to the beneficiary and to keep the principal sum invested. I have been very satisfied with the results because the beneficiary remembers the donor each year when it receives a check and cannot decide that it needs the entire fund for a "necessary" project. Emory and Henry College has been angry with me for years... and there are others.

In an instance where an old lady left her estate for use in "establishing a home for old ladies, over 60, of good repute," the sum was not sufficient for the purpose, a court, under the

doctrine of cy-pres (substitution to another organization as "near as possible"), awarded her estate to a Methodist home near Princeton, WV, and a brass plate was installed on a wall in the beauty parlor section of that facility in her memory.

So, as nearly as I can advise you: (1) Make a present gift to the organization; (2) Create a trust (with a bank as trustee) in which the income is payable to you and wife for your life times, with balance to desired beneficiary at death of both (Might be a good idea to make the trust revocable); (3) Assuming you trust the organization, place your gift in the trust fund of the organization and trust it to use it properly; (4) I think most of us are much too old to consider insurance, with organization as the beneficiary.

When you have digested the enclosed materials, you can, if you wish, give me some more details concerning the gifts.

GG
Encls.

Grover

*P.S. Mrs. Judy Walker, 8th AF Museum
says she will supply as many copies of
enclosed publication as we wish.*

Russell Strong

From: "grover c. goode" <mcgoo@citynet.net>
 To: <Russell.a.strong306@worldnet.att.net>
 Sent: Sunday, March 14, 2004 8:32 PM
 Subject: Fw: 305th BG
 Russell: This is No. 3

----- Original Message -----

From: "grover c. goode" <mcgoo@citynet.net>
 To: <lan.D.W305@Tesco.net>
 Sent: Monday, September 08, 2003 4:54 PM
 Subject: 305th BG

> lan:

>

> Concerning your last E-Mail:

>

> The pond picture. There was a pond on the 306th base in which it was the custom to toss therein fliers who had completed their 25 missions. On this auspicious occasion, our bombardier, Paul Anderson, had reached that magic number and some of our crew members, after allowing him to strip to his underwear and after painting swastikas and numbers on his forehead and chest, tossed him into the pond. The water had been dyed with that obnoxious yellow/green color which was used to make it easier to spot fellows who were downed in the channel or North Sea. I believe the practice was discontinued after this occasion. The photo is interesting from the standpoint that Heller and Kelly have backs to the camera, and Schonekas and Scottoline (with cigaret in mouth) are facing camera. I have 8 or 9 pictures, in sequence, covering this event.

>

> It would be best that you forward pictures of "officer on a bike" and officer with "Flak Happy, etc".

>

> On yesterday I recalled that Bob Stevenson and I communicated quite often, by E-Mails, phone calls, letters, etc. I transferred many of his E-Mails to a disk and I am busy reviewing them. So far, mention is made of you and/or Merkwiller in messages of April 5, April 22, and May 7, 1999.

>

> The first one deals primarily with the loss of a 306th B-17 on March 12, 1944, named the "Figtin' Carbarn Hammer Slaw." The widow and two sons of one of the crew of this plane had asked Bob to ascertain, as nearly as possible, the probably location in the Channel or North Sea where this plane was lost.

>

> "I'm now working on this story of the mission to Merkwiller, 3 Aug. '44. We didn't lose any planes, but that is the mission when Salada led the group off course and Bob Nabors, 367th navigator, was killed.

>

> "The person who is writing up the whole affair is a Brit who apparently was a young boy living near the 305th, and is now an Associate Member of

their memorial association. I'm not sure why he's picked this mission. The 305th did lose 2 planes, one of which may have been one you saw go down and wrote about a paragraph in your diary.

>

> "Other than Salada getting off course, and we, leading the high squadron, leading the high squadron taking three planes away from the main group while they got shot with flak, there was nothing much about the mission. We encountered no flak over the target, and nothing on the way out. Salada was flying as wing commander in a 367th plane. The four 306th squadrons each put up enough planes for three, 12-plane combat group formations. Nine planes from the 368th made up the high squadrons for each of three group formations. Two of the high squadrons took no flak while Salada was leading the lead and low squadrons over Aachen; and we the high squadron of the low group. Hmmmmmm! Then, I get a hint from the 306th intelligence narrative.

> Apparently, when the high squadron of the low group, being 368th guys, saw Nash heading out, so they followed!!! Very interesting!

>

> Anyway, I'm still working on the track in and out, and where the four B-17s we, the 306th reported, actually went down. The English fellow, Ian White, has an E-mail, so we've chatted back and forth a bit. He's really into this. He's already found one of the ME-109 pilots that supposedly attacked the B-17s-- but not us. All we reported was two 109s just as we were turning on the bomb run, and they were being chased by six P-51s and getting shot down.

>

> If the B-17s we reported going down were from the 305th and 92nd (they were along, too), then they were simply off course when they got hit. It was our 23rd mission. Really a milk run, although it was an 8-1/2 hour job. Send along any comments." Bob

>

> Ian, Salada was advised that he was off course and his reply was to order "get back in formation and maintain radio silence" . I think there were two more repeats of this dialogue. We, and the planes with us, did not follow Salada-- and he and the planes with him got flak and his navigator was killed. When we landed, he was waiting for Nash and Bob-- it ended, I have been told, with ---- "at least we didn't get anyone killed"--.

>

> I shall check more E--mails and will not give you the benefit of all

> matters contained in these messages, since it is possible that I shall find

> some unflattering comments or arguments which have no bearing on your present mission.

>

> Grover Goode

>