

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 complete 7/25/90

LAST NAME: HAAGENSON FIRST NAME: DONALD C. TITLE:

Street address: 5632-11TH AV. S. Telephone: (612) 822-2541

City, state, zip: MINNEAPOLIS MN 55417

Date of Birth: 6/15/23 Wife's name: MARGARET

College(s) attended: U. of MINNESOTA Degree(s): Year(s):

Last employment and job title: FIRST NATIONAL BANK - MINNEAPOLIS
VICE PRESIDENT

Reunions attended: (by year or location)

Serial #: 0722480 Squadron: 367 Speciality: BOMBARDIER

Date joined 306th: Sept 22, 1944 If combat, what crew: Pilot w/ Joe Hess

Special duties or assignments w/306th:

Number of missions flown: 20 Date of last mission: FEB 3, 1945

Date left 306th: Feb 3, 1945 Highest rank/grade with 306th:

~~Other 8th AF units served with:~~ WAS HIT OVER BERLIN WHILE FLYING AS
DEPUTY LEAD WITH ANOTHER CREW - MADE SWEDEN & WAS INTERNED
THERE UNTIL JUNE 1945

Top service assignments after 306th:

USAF retirement date: Nov 5, 1945 Rank/grade: FIRST LT.

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.

2-10-91

Dear Russ,

Sorry to be so slow in responding to your letter of 12/19/90. I put it aside during the holidays and almost forgot it until the Echoes came this week.

I think I'd prefer to pass on a writeup in the Echoes.

I probably can't help too much in locating the rest of the crew either - This wasn't my regular crew & I hadn't met any of them before the day of the mission. I flew with them that day because their bombardier hadn't been checked out to fly leads.

I don't think the Fennerty in the directory is the right one but I think the George W Beck in the directory is probably our tail gunner. He was wounded & hospitalized as soon as we reached Sweden so I didn't know him but I would think he might be your best source.

I did get to know the navigator, Finley Gobbins, pretty well. His home address at that time was 211 N Main, Springfield, ~~Tenn.~~ Tenn. He had been a divinity student, planned to go back to seminary. I've always thought his name might be on the ministerium list of some southern protestant denomination.

The co pilot, Chet Britton was from Lexington, Nebraska.

The radar navigator, Gene White was another southerner flying his first mission. I think he was from the Atlanta area.

One other thing: - Just out of curiosity I looked for our ship 42-97658 (as listed in the pilot mission report) on the list of G-model assigned to the 306th printed in the Echoes & didn't find it. There is a ~~429~~⁴²⁻⁹⁷⁶⁰⁸ listed with no other information so maybe one # or the other is listed incorrectly.

In really looking forward to receiving the mission reports I had sent for. I was kind of surprised in looking over the stuff you sent in Dec. at how closely my recollections dovetailed with what actually happened.

Sincerely

Don Hagenauer

5637-11th Av. So

Minneapolis Minn 55417

'92 Directory Is Coming (from page 1)

pounded by the explosion of FAX machines and other devices demanding many more phone numbers in metropolitan areas.

So, both of these essential services have been playing "upset the fruit basket," and it raises hob with everyone, especially mailers and list keepers.

New Directory Due

Our 1992 directory should come out in May, and we need your help!

The Postal Service has been good about sending us changed numbers, but we need more data from many of you.

We also need to have you check your listing in the 1990 directory and to let the editor know what you need changed.

If we don't hear from you we must assume that the data we have is correct as far as your directory entry is concerned.

Check the form below:

Name DOUARD C. HAAGENSON

Address 5632-11TH AV. S.

City, State and Zip Code MINNEAPOLIS, MN. 55417-2515

Telephone #, with the correct area code 612-822-2514

Can you give us the four-number addition to your zip code? (Look on one of your utility bills for this, if you can't remember it).

On that street address, please designate whether it is St., Ave., Blvd., Road, etc. Rural routes AND box numbers need to be spelled out. In the alpha listing of the Directory, be sure your unit designation is correct. That's the one that counts. (If you were placed in the wrong listing under organizations, don't worry about it. We plan to get it right this time.)

Other data we will store away for possible later use:

Wife's first name MARGARET

Your birthdate 15 JUNE 1923

Social Security # 475-18-9624

Retirement date/place of employment/job title Dec 31, 1982

FIRST NATIONAL BANK-MINNEAPOLIS VICE PRES.

19 December 1990

Donald C. Haagenson
5632 11th Avenue, S
Minneapolis, MN 55417

Dear Don:

Came across this material in my Mission Report files, and after reading it, wondered if you might use it as a basis for a story on your last mission, to be used in Echoes?

If you don't feel up to writing a story, perhaps you could do a briefer commentary on that day and the report, and I could flesh it out a bit with the materials I have.

I think some of the stuff on how the decision was made to go to Sweden, your arrival and escort to Bulltofta, and then your arrival at the field, your treatment, and what went on later would all be interesting. And, with a name like Haagenson, your own feelings of ending up in Scandinavia would be interesting. Do you have any language fluency, for instance, that was helpful?

I think you and Fennerty have been the only ones on our mailing list. Any suggestions as to where I might search for others--WWII hometowns, colleges attended, postwar contacts, etc?

Look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,