

Rt#4, Box 4575  
Browns Mills, N.J.  
08015

Russell A. Strong  
4900 Apple Ridge Court  
Dayton, Ohio

July 1, 1975

Dear Mrs Strong,

I noted your query in the Air Force Times concerning the 306th Bomb Group. It's the first request I've ever seen in the Times concerning the old '06th, and I'm very glad to see it. I would like to see a history written about it and I hope I can help a little.

I joined the 306th when it started at Wendover Field, in Utah. Each squadron the 367th, 368th, 369th and the 423rd had one each B-17E - one before that a regular B-18, which as a private, Radio Mor, gave me many thrills.

I was in the 367th Bomb Squadron, which was outfitted with B-17F's at Westover Field and flew to Europe for the first time on/about 8 September 1942. We then flew to Cherleigh, England, and took over the base from a Polish Group. Cherleigh was near Bedford, and a

very nice little town.

If I recall the Group Commander was Colonel Overaker, our Squadron Commander was Major Holt, and my pilot was Captain John L. McKee. The 367th has the infamous name of "The Clay Pigeon Squadron", and a story (sometime in early 1943) was written about it in the Saturday Evening Post.

I was shot down on a raid to Romilly sur Seine on 20 Dec 1942 and was a long time POW. The name of our plane was "Rose O' Day".

Please let me know if I can be of assistance. I have one of the old time real long pictures with the whole 367th Squadron seated <sup>around</sup> and around two B17E's with the old mess table in the star insignia.

Good luck to you,  
Francis J. Hess

M/SOT USAF (RETIRED)

**INFORMATION**

Name F. J. HESS Will Spouse Attend? NO  
 Name of Spouse —

Address 8413 PEMBLIK DR Phone No. 208-375-0254  
BASE, ID 83704

Squadron 367th Position on Crew or Other Duty RADIO MAN

Arrival Time: Date 10/25/44 Hour 6:00 PM Departure Time: Date 11/24 Hour 11 AM

Have you made Hotel Reservations? YES If so, where KARLEN GREEN INN

Do you need airport transportation? NO If so, give Airline, flight number, date and arrival time: N/A

What other information can we furnish? JUL 1953 - VOL 9 RECORDS

POW INFO. SHOT DOWN 20 DEC 42 - POW IN DULAG WPT,

STALAG VIII B - STALAG VII A (TWICE) STALAG III B,

STALAG XVII B LIBERATED MAY 3 - 1942 - NUNBERGHAUSEN, AUST.

Do you need parking place for recreational vehicle? NO

Mr & Mrs Francis Hess  
3 So. Young Lane  
Eagle, Idaho 83616

9 May 1991

C. Dale Buscoe  
President  
306th Bomb Group Assoc.

Dear Sir,

Quite a few years ago, I received a copy of the 306th Eater, that included the original 306th members, by name & phone.

I've moved a lot since then and somehow that particular publication is among the missing. I would like to get a copy if possible, now, or instructions on how it could be obtained.

Thomas J. Hess

367th Bomb Squadron  
A/cft. "Rose O'Day"  
Pilot. John R. McKee

responded  
1/15/93