

from
R. A. Hill

1-18-80

Puss!

Thanks for calling
& talking to Helen (my
wife)

Walt Butschek - Yorktown

Texas says you called him
great

w/ H "Bill" Lynch - Tailgumer
can be reached at

2433 GLASS RD. N.E.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52402

PHONE 319 365 2304 -

I'll try to call you this
week-end. I promise "no more citations"
but perhaps can get together some
interesting stuff - Rick Hill

A HISTORY OF THE 306th BOMBARDMENT GROUP - EIGHTH AIR FORCE

Russell A. Strong

Name Richard Allen Hill
Address 675 S. University Blvd #402 Denver, Colo. 80209
Home Phone 303- 7786420 Date January 15, 1980
Occupation Fleet Sales Representative Employer George Irvin Chevrolet Co.
Address 390 S. Colorado Blvd Denver, Colo. 80222 Bus. Phone 303- 3213141
Serial No(s) 11304029

Service Record:

Before joining the 306th:

Pilot Training--washed out in "Basic" at Newport, Ark.
Radio School-- Sioux Falls, S.D
Aerial Gunnery School-- Yuma, Ariz. (member of 1st class here)
Overseas training as a crew --Ardmore, Oklahoma

After leaving the 306th:

Requested further combat duty (must have been flak Happy)
Duty at Scott field--xferred to Lincoln AFB--played out-
field on baseteam while awaiting overseas assignment--
played in National tourney at Wichita--arrived there
VJDAY!
Honorable Discharge Sept 27, 1945

306th Record

Arrival date at Thurleigh June 16, 1944
Squadron or other unit(s) 423rd--The Grim Reapers
MOS # 757 Specialty ROMG--Radio Operator-Gunner
Missions Completed (and date of last) 35 Missions
Promotions From Staff to Tech Sgt (automatic as ROMG in combat)
Decorations x AM 6olcs DFC olcs SS DSM DSC MH SM PH 3 Battle Stars

(On unusual DFCs, and Silver Stars and above would like to see a copy of the citation)

Am sending copy of Citation--mainly because it refers to our ditching July 20, 1944, certainly not due to any outstanding heroics on my part.

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?)

Add additional pages, if necessary

GO Nr. 138, Hq 1st AD,
14 February 1945.

JOHN BOSKO, O-761861, Captain, Air Corps, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement while serving as Pilot of the deputy lead airplane of a Bombardment Group composed of B-17 aircraft on a bombing mission over Germany, 10 January 1945. On this date the lead aircraft was severely damaged by anti-aircraft fire over the target and was compelled to leave position. Captain Bosko immediately assumed control of the formation and evincing outstanding determination decided to make another bomb run, although the airplane which he was piloting was damaged by flak and gasoline was draining from the left wing tanks. He quickly and efficiently reformed the Group and led them back to the Initial Point. Due to natural camouflage formed by snow and ground haze, the target was identified too late to drop the bombs on the second run. Demonstrating exceptional tenacity of purpose Captain Bosko once again regrouped the formation and effected a 180 degree turn in the face of accurate anti-aircraft fire. An unusually short run was accomplished over the enemy installations. The sighting operation was completed and bombs were released with a high degree of accuracy upon the assigned Main Point of Impact. Excellent results were achieved and extensive damage was inflicted upon the objective. Captain Bosko then ably led the formation safely back to base without further incident. The courage, coolness and skill displayed by this officer on this occasion reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from California.

III. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September 1943, as amended and pursuant to authority contained in letter, Hq Eighth Air Force, File 200.6, 23 September 1944, subject, "Awards and Decorations," an OAK LEAF CLUSTER is awarded to the following-named Enlisted Men for wear with the AIR MEDAL previously awarded.

RICHARD A. HILL, 11034029, Technical Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while serving as Radio Operator of a B-17 airplane on bombing missions over Germany and German occupied countries, from 16 June 1944 to 24 December 1944. On all these operations Sergeant Hill performed his duties in a distinctive manner. On 9 July 1944 the Waist Gunner on the aircraft in which he was flying became unconscious from anxiety. Sergeant Hill immediately went to the aid of the crew member and expertly revived him. On 20 July 1944 accurate anti-aircraft fire damaged the airplane, forcing it to abandon formation. On the flight to base the aircraft sustained additional damage making a ditching inevitable. Sergeant Hill ably contacted Air Sea Rescue and remained at his position until compelled to leave. His actions on this occasion contributed to the safe return of the crew. The courage, coolness and skill displayed by this soldier reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Massachusetts.

CALVIN B. GULP, 33609810, Staff Sergeant, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while serving as Ball Turret Gunner of a B-17 airplane on bombing missions over Germany and German occupied countries, from 16 July 1944 to 15 December 1944. On all these operations Sergeant Gulp demonstrated a high degree of ability and exceptional initiative. Fighting

January 22, 1980
675 S. University Blvd
Denver, CO. 80209

Dear Bill:

Since receiving your welcome letter I've located our tail
gunner, William H. Lynch--better known as "Bill" Russ Strong has his
address now but here it is for your records

ADD: ↘ 2433 Glass Road N.E.
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402

Am shooting for a trip to Orlando--Thurleigh is out of the question
for this year.

Glad you saw A.J. Nahabedian--affectionally ^{etc} called "Naha" by all of
us--quite often we would address him directly as "Naha-b-seven-tedian"
A helluva guy-- I saw him in Detroit 'way back in '52.

That's about it Bill, I'm one gabby S.O.B. However, I'm just one
of many who is very proud to have been a part--however small-- of the
great 306th.---it belabors the obvious to say that you and Russ Strong
are doing some wonderful things--but I'll say it anyhow.

Best Regards

Dick Hill
Dick

P.S.

small check enclosed
to use for "E dues" or whatever

D

November 30, 1979
675 S. University Blvd
Denver, CO 80209

Dear Bill:

No need to dwell on the shock of nostalgia which hit me when I received July "Echoes" yesterday. Other than periodic meetings with members of my crew, it was the first contact of any kind that I'd had with the great 306 bomb group since 1945- and that, Sir, is my fault, not yours.

An old friend mailed the publication to me from the town from which I entered the service. There have been a multitude of addresses since that time.

Would appreciate greatly getting some back issues of "Echoes" and am enclosing a check as a starter for a minuscule six bucks to the Eight Air Force Historical Society. If you'll advise me to whom the check should be made and for what amount I would like to contribute to the continuance of "306 Echoes"

M
SL
P

Looking over the list of '17s on page two of "Echoes" I noted that "Dingleberry Kid" was there. We flew several missions on her. On July 20, 1944 we ditched a plane in the North Sea eight miles off Ostend, Belgium. The pilot was Frazee, co-pilot A.J. Nahabedian (Naha later flew a fighter in Korea) Engineer was Walt Butschek, ball-turret Paul Wehunt, navigator, Terry Lee (Now a PHD Oceanographer in the San Francisco area.) Our bombardier was Sam Jordan (later a graduate of Duke) I was the radio operator and I had a lot of fun attending and graduating from William & Mary. The tail-gunner was Carroll Reiman who, on that date, was flying as a replacement for our regular TG, Bill Lynch. Reiman was shot down on his very next mission after the ditching. --s-- Our original pilot was Ellis Porter. Ellis flew co-pilot on a mission to Hamburg June 20 '44 on which he was shot down. Happily, he was able to bail out. He became a prisoner and was released at the end of the European war.

My present address (as unintelligibly noted above) is 675 S. University Blvd #402, Denver, CO 80209--would greatly appreciate hearing from you--"regrets" for the lousy typing but my writing is even worse!!

Best Regards,

Rich
Richard A. Hill

Russ: Add : Richard A Hill
675 S University Blvd #402
Denver, CO 80209

Sent Echoes
5 DEC 79

DEPOSIT SLIP

RICHARD A. HILL
INSURED MONEY FUND
2436 SOUTH WOGDEN STREET 777-1067
DENVER, CO 80210

DATE _____ 19 _____

SIGN HERE FOR LESS CASH IN TELLERS PRESENCE

CURRENCY		
COIN		
CHECKS		
TOTAL FROM OTHER SIDE		
TOTAL		
LESS CASH RECEIVED		
NET DEPOSIT		



A hold for uncollected funds may be placed on checks or similar instruments you deposit. Any delay will not exceed the period of time permitted by law.



Central Bank
Denver

(303) 893-3458
1515 Arapahoo Street
Denver, CO 80292

OVER

NEW ADDRESS
2001 Eastbrook Ave
Casper WY 82601

⑆ 10 2000 5391 0045 ⑈ 286 ⑈ 249 ⑈

PROPERLY ENDORSE 5-10-89

ONE SINGLE

DOLLARS

CENTS

would appreciate
 greatly having
 future "Echoes"
 sent to my
new address
 as noted on
 other side
 Thanks!!

TOTAL

ENTER TOTAL ON FRONT OF RECEIPT
Richard A. Hill

CASH COUNT

X 100

X 50

X 20

X 10

X 5

X 2

X 1

TOTAL

RECORDS UPDATE

306th BOMB GROUP ASSOCIATION

(Please complete as much of this form as you wish to, fold and mail as per address on reverse side. Or, if obtained at a reunion, hand to Russ Strong)

LAST NAME: HILL FIRST NAME: RICHARD A TITLE: ROMG
STREET ADDRESS: 2436 So. DODD ST TELEPHONE: (303) - 777-1067
CITY: DENVER STATE: CO ZIP: 80210

DATE JOINED 306th ASSOCIATION: 1982 (2)

REUNIONS ATTENDED: (Years) 1985, 1986, 1987

WIFE'S NAME: HELEN

LAST EMPLOYMENT: GM - AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY - ASST ZONE MGR

COLLEGE(S) ATTENDED: COLLEGE OF WILLIAM + MARY WILLIAMSBURG, VA DEGREE(S): AB ECONOMICS - HISTORY + PHILOSOPHY DATE: -1949

SERIAL #: 11034029 SQDN: 423 MOS: 9

DATE ARR: SUM 1944 CREW: A-5 MAHABEDIAN

DATE DEPARTED: SUM 1945 HIGHEST RANK IN 306th: T/50T

SERVICE RETIREMENT DATE: 9/27/45 RANK or GRADE: T/56T

DECORATIONS WITH 306TH: AIRMEDAL & CROSS ETC T/56T

TOP SERVICE ASSIGNMENT AFTER 306TH: LINCOLN AB WHILE AWAITING COMBAT REASSIGNMENT - PHYSICAL ED. INSTRUCTOR

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS WITH 306TH:

QUESTIONNAIRE

CATERPILLAR CLUB - IRVING CHUTE COMPANY

NAME:

COMBAT JUMP DATE & MISSION:

HEIGHT WHEN BAILED OUT:

ANY PROBLEMS WITH PARACHUTE:

306th Bombardment Group. SQDN:

"GOLDFISH" CLUB
DITCHED 7-20-44
FRANZEE - MAHABEDIAN CREW