

JOHN L. LAMBERT

Pilot class: 41B

Graduation site: Kelly ~~Field~~ Field, Texas

RICHARD W. LAMBERT

Pilot class: ? Russ - I do not know where and when my

Graduation site: ? brother graduated and I have no way

Do you know any other 306th pilots who graduated with you? Please list:

of finding out at this late date. I was

I checked with my other brother and he does not know either.

Q in Thursday at the time

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April 2, 1979

Dear Russ -

With regard to your letter of March 15th, I am sorry to say that I am not now in a position to help you with your research financially. We are at present undertaking a major expansion of our business activities and that effort is claiming all the cash that we can generate and then some.

I wish you luck in your endeavors. Let me know if I can help otherwise.

Sincerely yours


John L. Lambert

15 January 1976

Col. John L. Lambert
408 Harbor View Lane
Largo, Florida 33540

Dear John:

On a cool day like this in Dayton, I think about those lucky enough to be living in Florida. But, then, my wife thinks about all those bugs in the summer time, so perhaps it balances out.

In reviewing some materials concerning the 306th Bomb Group, I came across mention of your brother, who was missing in action, I believe, after a mid air collision.

I don't find any other material on him, and in what I now have I cannot even find his first name. Also, I note he is not in my list of casualties. Can you enlighten me further about him?

And were you the only brother act in the 306th? Or do you know of others?

I am currently having a little free time, so am putting a great deal of effort into the 306th history, and more pieces of the puzzle are beginning to fall in place. If you have any particular remembrances, or any special materials you would loan me, I'd be most appreciative.

I spent yesterday afternoon with Charles Duy, and last Saturday afternoon was with John Bairnsfather, so I have been having a good look at the group from the ground personnel aspect. Some of the better stories they tell, however, are just not publishable, or at least have to be cleaned up considerably.

I got from Duy some pictures of the club ceilings with the mission data on them, and the one with the girl outlined and another with the outline covered, which ought to bring back some memories for you. Some of those ceilings have been saved and are now at the USAF Air Museum here in Dayton, and will eventually be put into a reconstruction of a quonset hut.

Oh, I spent a day with Robbie in October, too, as well as seeing John Regan and Bob Williams last summer. It is all most interesting.

Sincerely yours,

Russell A. Strong

4900 Appleridge Court Dayton, Ohio 45424

xxxxxxxxxxxxx 204~~4~~ Hillsdale
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx Kalamazoo, MI 49007

17 December 1979

Col. Joh-n L. Lambert
403 Harbor View Lane
Largo, FL 33540

Dear Jack:

Sorry we were unable to make connections on my Thanksgiving era visit to Florida. I would guess that I may well be back in Florida along in February, and will certainly make plans to see you then.

In the meantime, I have a bit of a mystery I've come across.

In research ing some of the 1943 period, I came across numerous references to a pilot who arrived in August of 1943 and stayed for about three months, and then unceremoniously disappeared. The only notice I have of him appears in the squadron diary, and only his last name appears--Sylvester. He arrived as a flight officer, but evidently flew some squadron leads, and I have yet to see anything that mentions his first name.

Now, can you think back 35 years and come up with anything?

If you can still locate your 201 file, I'd appreciate your looking at the accompanying sheet, as well.

Was in California and Texas a couple of weeks ago, and had breakfasts with John Regan and Rip Riordan. Both are in great good health, happy and active.

Sincerely yours,

Russell A. Strong

After sojourning for many years in North Carolina, have returned to my hometown.

February 5, 1980

Dear Russ -

Please forgive the delay in answering your letter of Dec. 17th. It is only now that I have found the time to dig into the old 201 file. Enclosed are a few of the orders on your want list. I'd appreciate your returning them to me when you are finished with them.

Regarding your question about a Flight Officer bymaster, I'm afraid the name doesn't ring a bell with me.

I also am sorry we couldn't get together when you were last in Florida. Let me know when you are next in this area and perhaps we'll have better luck in getting together.

Yours
Jack

Your continued support of newsletter and research activities is making possible the success of the various 306th ventures. But, we need to remind you that assistance must continue if these activities are to be carried on.

I enclose my check for \$ 10⁰⁰ to support the production and mailing of ECHOES, and reunion activities of the 306th Association. (Mail your check to Wm. M. Collins, Jr., 2973 Heatherbrae Dr., Poland, OH 44514)

I enclose my check for \$ _____ to support the research, writing and publication of a new history of the 306th Bomb Group. Publication is expected during 1980. (Mail your check to Russell Strong, 2041 Hillsdale, Kalamazoo, MI 49007) Contributions of \$100 or more will receive a copy of the history without further charge.

Name _____ COL JOHN L. LAMBERT (RET.)
Address _____ 408 HARBOR VIEW LANE,
_____ LARGO, FLORIDA 33540

John L. Lambert
408 Harbor View Lane
Largo, Florida 33546

April 26, 1982

Dear Russ -

Thought I'd better let you know that I have not yet received my copy of your book (re my check # 318, \$17⁵⁰, January 11, 1982).

That was a nice review that you got in the April edition of the 8th AF times! I'm looking forward to reading the book.

Best regards,
Jack

Lambert - Mission to Nancy, winter of 44,
low level, but ran into bad weather,
heading division to marshalling yards.
Went for target of opportunity. Found a
German airfield, & bombardier set up a
run then saw it was close to Chartres
Colledrel. Decided not to drop because
of proximity. At critique, group leader
behind was bumped up, & cheered
out Lambert. But he may was criticizing
it & told Lambert he made the proper
decision

John L. Lambert
408 Harbor View Lane
Largo, Florida 33540

October 17, 1985

Dear Russ -

Many thanks for the VCR tape -
which I found quite fascinating -
especially the scenes on top the control
tower. It is a good piece of history
and I am glad to have it.

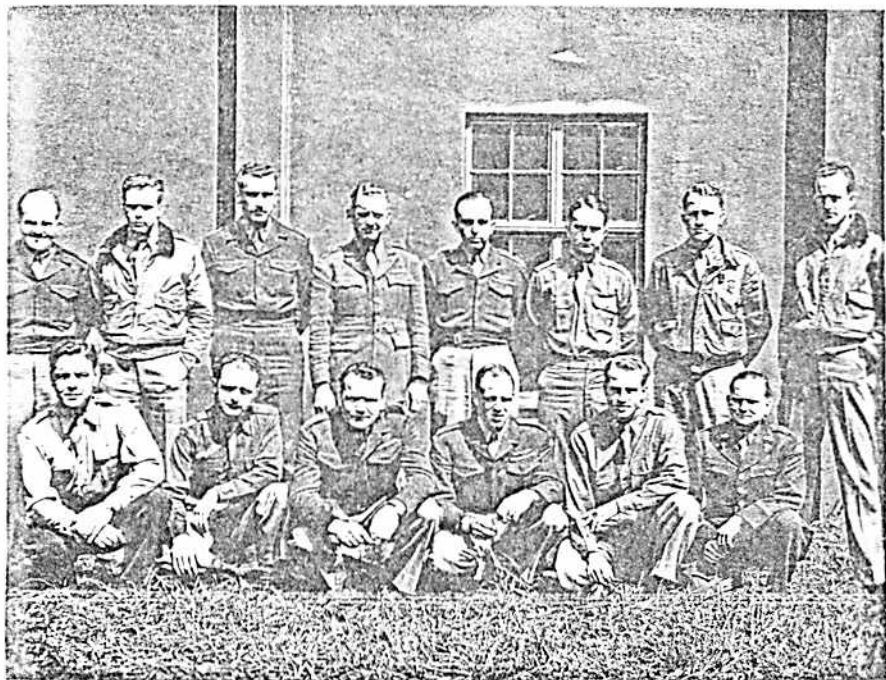
If my memory serves me, you
said the cost would be \$25⁰⁰ and
then my check for \$25⁹⁴ to include
postage. Please let me know if this
is not sufficient. I do appreciate
your going to the trouble to get this
to me.

Hope to see you next in Dayton -

Yours,

Jack

CAN YOU FILL IN ANY OF THE
BLANKS IN THIS PUZZLE OF
"LOST" NAMES?



Back row: _____, _____, Richard E. Walck,
Douglas Coleman, James S. Cheney, _____,
Thomas Witt, Walt Coons

Front row: William S. Raper, Robert C. Williams, George Buckey,
John Lambert, Dinwiddie Fuhrmeister, _____

Russ - Third from left, Back Row,
is Dick Walck. I don't recognize
the others. Best -

Jack

R. A. Strong
2041 Hillsdale
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

27 January 1990

Dear Jack:

In going through some 306th Special Orders this week, I noted that late in November 1943, you and Robert C. Williams had a combat crew assigned for special duty.

Could you enlighten me as to where you went and what you were charged with doing?

I hope the weather and your golf game has been giving you some satisfaction these past few weeks.

Dale Briscoe told me today that he had received the first four reservations for San Antonion today. Hope to see you there.

All the best,

Russell A. Strong

408 Harbor View Lane
Largo, FL 34640

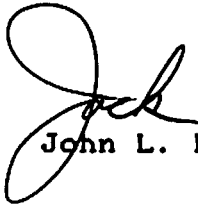
February 5, 1990

Dear Russ:

The mission you asked about was to fly Generals Ira Eaker and James Fechet to Gibraltar. I have no idea why they wanted to go there at that particular time and they sure as hell didn't confide in me. I can't remember whose crew we used but Willie and I took the trip. It was a night flight, leaving Thurleigh around 2230 on November 8, 1943. We had rigged a couple of bunks hanging on the bomb shackles and they climbed into them as soon as they boarded. We neither saw nor heard from either of them until we arrived at Gibraltar around 0800 the next morning. As I remember, we headed out across Land's End to about the 12th line of west longitude and then due south until we were west of Gibraltar, then due east until we made perfect landfall on the Rock. The trip was uneventful except that we had to go around on our first landing approach because there was a steady stream of people, ox carts, and what have you on the land bridge from Spain which crossed the only runway, and they seemed oblivious to our approach. On the second pass the tower had cleared them, and we were able to land. We RON'd that night and made the return flight to Thurleigh without our passengers on the night of November 10th.

We hope to make it to San Antonio this year.

Best regards,



John L. Lambert

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16919 GULF BOULEVARD
N. REDINGTON BEACH, FLORIDA 33708
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408 HARBOR VIEW LANE
LARGO, FLORIDA 33540

August 18, 1975

Mr. Russell A. Strong
4900 Appleridge Court
Dayton, Ohio 45424

Dear Mr. Strong:

I was very interested in your letter telling of your project to write a history of the 306th Bomb Group. Historians have not done justice to that organization; it was the backbone of the entire 8th Air Force B-17 campaign in the U.K.

As you probably already know from your conversations with some of the others, I was one of the original members of the 306th. I (along with Henry Terry, Bill Raper, and George Buckey) returned from the Battle of Midway in June of 1942 and joined Jim (J.W.) Wilson, Del Wilson, Harry Holt, G.L. Robinson, and 'Chip' Overacker in Wendover, Utah; they having already started to form the group there. I was made Ass't. Group Operations Officer and remained in that capacity through the trip to Thurleigh and into December of 1942, at which time I was assigned to the 367th Bomb Sqdn. as a Flight Commander. In February of 1943 I replaced Jim Wilson as Commander of the 423rd. Bomb Sqdn., which position I held until I returned to the ZI in May of 1944.

Somewhere in my stuff here, I have a lot of photos of people, bomb strikes, etc., from that era which I would be glad to dig out if you ever get in this vicinity. Also, I'd be glad to chat with you and answer any questions that you might have about the events of that period. If you wish to phone me at any time please call area code 813 585-5505.

I wish you the best of luck with your project. Let me know if I can be of help to you.

Sincerely yours,


J. L. Lambert

Robinson 23 Apr 12

Claude E Jr 0-21642 7 Oct 15 - Japan
SS. DFE o/c NA 2016
A.D. 17 June 38

Archives Branch
Hist Research Ctr

Ziontown 033538 11 Jan 16
AB - Rice 138

3825/HOA

Relev 032392

Madell 36112

21 May 14 W.O.
Cherry 13 Aug 18 046537

- # 70 Tac Oper of 8th AF
- # 88 Clou Air Support Group
- # 91 Biograph Data on AF offices
- # 102 Origin of the 8th AF
- # 118 Early Oper of the 8th AF
- 119 Combat Bomber offensive
- 122 " " " "

USAF History A Guide to
Documentary Sources, 1973

#89
Atherton, G & Paszek, L.J. USAF History:
A guide to personal collections in public
& private depositories. 1972

Cresswell, M.A. & Berger, C. USAF History:
An Annotated Bibliography. 1971

Jeffer, W. Combat & Convalescence in Korea
Warfare.

LAMBERT, John L.

Asst. S-3 officer, 1st Lt. 7/1/42

AM 2/22/43 *o/c 4/6/43 d/c 5/24/43*

C.O. 423rd 2/17/43

Major 3/25/43

Led group to Antwerp 4/5/43

Led raid to Kiel 5/19/43

Led wing to Bremen 6/13/43

Led raid to St. Nazaire 6/28/43

Silver Star 9/6/43

DFC 10/14/43

Lt. Col. 12/17/43

Led "A" group to Wilhelmshaven 2/3/44

Led group to Nancy/Essey 2/6/44

Led 40CBW to Hopeton AD 2/21/44

Led group to Gesserth Duren 3/16/44

Led Group to LaRochelle 3/27/44

Led wing to Kassel 4/19/44

Led wing to Berlin 4/29/44

JOHN L. LAMBERT
408 HARBOR VIEW LANE
LARGO, FL 34640-4009

December 11, 1994

Dan Russ,

Thank you for sending the copy of the obit on Robby. He was my first squadron commander when I got out of flying school. We had many good times together in the early years, and I was saddened to learn of his passing.

Best regards,

Jack.