

05-16-01

DEAR ROBERT:

I MUST APOLOGIZE FOR BEING SO NEGLECTFUL ABOUT SENDING FUNDS FOR THE ECHOES WHICH I ENJOY VERY MUCH.

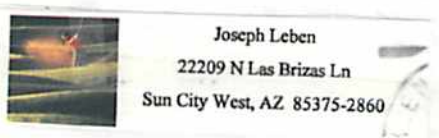
FOR THE LAST SIX YEARS I HAVE BEEN HER SOLE CARE GIVER & SO HAVE BEEN VERY DISTRACTED FROM OTHER THINGS. MY WIFE, TINNIE, DIED ON SEPT 19, 2000 AS THE RESULT OF A SEVERE STROKE SUFFERED IN MID-JULY. SHE DIED ONE DAY AFTER OUR 57th ANNIVERSARY.

I KEEP LOOKING FOR STORIES ABOUT THE PFF PRAMES & SEE VERY LITTLE MENTION OF THEM. IN MID MARCH 1944 I WAS TRANSFERRED FROM THE 36th, TO DETACHED SERVICE AT THE 305th GROUP. THE PILOT WAS TED CZECHOWSKI & THE CO-PILOT WAS BOB FIFE. WE WOULD BE

BRIEFED THE NIGHT BEFORE A MISSION
& FLY TO THE 306th AS MISSION LEADER
THE NEXT DAY. I WAS AT THE 305th
UNTIL MID MARCH AT WHICH TIME I
WENT BACK TO THE 369th & FINISHED MY
TOUR IN SEPT 1944. SOMEWHERE THERE
SHOULD BE AN INTERESTING STORY.

THANK YOU & ALL THE OTHERS
FOR YOUR WORK IN KEEPING THE
ECNOES FLYING.

Joseph Leben
NAVIGATOR.



Rec'd 3/5/44
AMN