

ROUTE ONE, BOX 13A
TALLASSEE, AL 36078
MAY 1, 1987

MR. RUSSELL STRONG
306TH BOMB GRP.
2041. HILLSDALE
KALAMAZOO, MI 49007

DEAR MR. STRONG:

AFTER 43 YEARS OF NO CONNECTION WITH THE 306TH BOMB GRP, I HAVE STARTED TO MAKE UP FOR LOST TIME. I LEARNED ABOUT THE 8TH AF HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN MID JAN OF THIS YEAR. IN EARLY FEB I VISITED THE RESTAURANT IN SARASOTA & TOOK MANY PICTURES INSIDE & OUT. I WROTE FOR THE HISTORY, YOU SENT IT TO ME & CALLED MY HOME IN MARCH. I OFFERED TO PROVIDE YOU WITH 3 PICTURES WHICH P.R. HAD GIVEN TO ME IN THURLEIGH IN 1944. I AM SUBMITTING TO YOU NOW A DUPLICATE COPY OF A DIARY I KEPT OF MY MISSIONS WRITTEN ON U MAIL STATIONERY.

THE PICTURES I HAVE ARE:

1. 1ST LT. J.P. TOOMBS JR. WITH HIS HEAD PROTRUDING THRU A HUGE HOLE IN THE NOSE OF HIS PLANE - THE HOLE MADE BY A BOMB WHICH DROPPED FROM ONE OF THE PLANES IN HIS FORMATION. AS THE 306 BOMB GRP HISTORY INDICATES ON PAGE 219, LT TOOMBS WAS LATER KILLED IN THE FEB. 22, 1944 RAID ON BEANBERG. I FLEW AS NAVIGATOR WITH TOOMBS ON THE FEB 11, 1944 MISSION TO SAARBRUCKEN.
2. DOC DANTZIG, FLT SURGEON TREATING A CASUALTY IN THE SIGHT OF 3 OTHER MEDICAL PERSONNEL. THE PICTURE IS "GORY" IT SHOWS THE REAR END SHOT OFF OF THE CASUALTY.
3. A PICTURE OF FLAK OFF THE WING OF ONE OF OUR BOMBERS.

I ALSO HAVE A PICTURE OF THE RALPH F. CLARK (CREW OF WHICH I WAS A MEMBER TO DONATE FOR VANITY'S SAKE TO THE RESTAURANT. I WILL SEND THESE TO YOU IF YOU CAN MAKE USE OF THEM.

(MORE)

THUS FAR I HAVE NOT APPEARED IN "ECHOES"
APPROPRIATE UP TO DATE INFO IS:

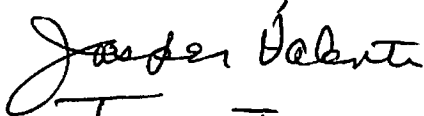
DR JASPER J. VALENTI 423RD SQ. HOME ADDRESS
ROUTE ONE, BOX 13A, TALLASSEE AL 36078 PHONE 205 283 8100.

I STAYED IN THE RESERVES AND RETIRED AFTER 28 YRS OF
COMMISSIONED SERVICE AS A LT COL. MY LAST ASSIGNMENT
WAS WITH THE AIR FORCE SYSTEMS COMMAND.

MY PROFESSIONAL CAREER INCLUDED RECEIVING A MASTERS
DEGREE FROM AUBURN UNIV. AND A PHD FROM THE UNIV. OF
CHICAGO IN ADMINISTRATION AND SUPERVISION AND CONCLUDED
WITH 30 YRS OF TEACHING AND UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION
AT LOYOLA UNIV. OF CHICAGO. I AM RETIRED AT
THIS ADDRESS FOR 5 YEARS.

I AM IN THE PROCESS OF:

1. SUBMITTING EARLY REUNION REGISTRATION TO GLN RADER FOR SEPT
16-20.
2. REGISTERING FOR THE JULY REUNION OF THE
ALA CHAPTER OF THE 8TH AF HIST. SOCIETY
3. RECEIVING AS VISITORS AT MY HOME NEXT WEEK JACK & SHIRLEY
HUISTRA. HE WAS THE BOMBARDIER OF THE R.F. CLARK CREW
WITH WHICH I FLEW. HE WAS SHOT DOWN MAR 29, 1944
FLYING WITH NELSON HARDIN (306 HISTORY, PAGE 229) & WAS A
POW FOR 19 MONTHS. I SHALL TRY TO CONVINCE
HIM & SHIRLEY TO ATTEND THE SEPT REUNION.
4. I AM GOING TO GET IN TOUCH AFTER 43 YRS WITH O.O. YOUNG
WHOM I KNEW IN THE 423RD & WHO I RECENTLY DISCOVERED
LIVES IN BIRMINGHAM, AL & ATTENDS 306 BG. REUNIONS.
SINCE THE 306 HAS NO DUES PLEASE ACCEPT
A CONTRIBUTION OF \$25.

SINCERELY,

JASPER J. VALENTI

ROUTE ONE, BOX 13A
TALLASSEE, ALABAMA 36078
FEB 11, 1987

RUSSELL STRONG
2041 HILLSDALE
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN 49007

DEAR MR. STRONG:

I FLEW AS A NAVIGATOR IN ENGLAND 43-44
WITH THE 423RD SQUADRON OF THE 306 BG.
I WOULD LIKE TO OBTAIN A COPY OF
FIRST OVER GERMANY, A HISTORY OF THE 306TH
BOMBARDMENT GROUP.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. ENCLOSED IS A
CHECK FOR \$20. IF THERE IS A POSTAGE
CHARGE, I SHALL SEND IT TO YOU.

SINCERELY YOURS,
Jasper Valenti
JASPER J. VALENTI

ROUTE ONE, BOX 13A
TALLASSEE, AL 36078

FEB 11, 1987

205/283-8100

MR. WILLIAM COLLINS
2973 HEATHERBRAE DR.
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO 44514

DEAR MR. COLLINS:

I WAS WITH THE 423RD SQUADRON OF THE
306 BOMB GROUP AS A NAVIGATOR IN ENGLAND FROM NOV 1943 -
MAY 1944. ALTHOUGH I STAYED IN THE RESERVES
AND RETIRED AFTER 28 YEARS I HAD NO CONTACT WITH
THE 306 BG UNTIL LAST MONTH WHEN AN ACQUAINTANCE
LET ME SEE SOME "8TH A-F. NEWS" PRINTS. I FOUND
YOUR LISTING IN A PREVIOUS ISSUE.

SINCE THAT TIME I HAVE VISITED THE 306 B.G.
RESTAURANT IN SARASOTA, HAVE JOINED THE 8TH AF
HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND THE NEW ALABAMA CHAPTER,
HAVE WRITTEN RUSSELL STRONG FOR A COPY OF
THE 306 HISTORY, AND PLAN TO ATTEND
THE OCTOBER REUNION OF THE 8TH AF IN PITTSBURGH.

I WAS IN THE RALPH F. CLARK CREW AND THE
ONLY PERSON WHOSE WHEREABOUTS OF THAT CREW I
KNOW WAS JACK HUISTRA, OUR BOMBARDIER. CAN YOU
PROVIDE ME WITH ANY INFO ON PLANNED MEETINGS OF
THE 306TH, NAMES OF CONTACTS WHO CAN GET ME IN
TOUCH WITH OUR CREW AND 423RD + 306 ALUMNI?
ALSO I HAVE ABOUT 3 OR 4 PHOTOS OF 306 HISTORY
(INCLUDING THE CLARK CREW) WHICH I CAN COPY +
FRAME FOR THE RESTAURANT BUT THE PERSONNEL
+ THE ASST MGRS OF THE RESTAURANT APPEAR TO BE
IGNORANT OF WAYS OF ADDING TO THE HISTORY. COULD I
SEND THEM TO YOU FOR THE PURPOSE OF
PLACING THEM IN THE RESTAURANT OR ANY

(COVER)

MUSEUM?

THANK YOU VERY VERY MUCH FOR YOUR INTEREST.
ALTHOUGH I AM 43 YEARS BEHIND ON 306 HISTORY
AND RELATIONSHIPS I AM NOW MOST ANXIOUS TO
CATCH UP.

SINCERELY YOURS,
Jasper Valenti
JASPER J. VALENTI

LT COL AFRES, RET.
099 14 8570 SSN