

Russ should have noted
that Joe left a son
in Fort Lauderdale, Fla,
I thought a daughter, too,
but I'm not sure. Jack
Lewis or Joe Chancey would
know for sure, they would
get together once in a while
and fly a few missions
over again - Sure did
like Joe a lot. BWC.

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Russell A. Strong

Enclosed is 2 pictures of My Plane "Dearly Beloved" which was an F and we later converted it to a G. May I have ~~them~~ ^{them} back, please. After the mission to Halberstadt.

Also I wish to enter three more fellas you should have on the list for the "echoes"

Alfred J. Fedorka tail gunner T-Sgt. 369th
207 Market St. Perth Amboy, N.J. 08861

John H. Bryan - Navigator 369th
2914 Stoneway Dr. Austin, Tx 78731

Donald E. Currier Jr. Bombardier 369th
1654 W. Beh Blvd Ap. Biloxi, MS. 39530

Also enclosed check to help to cause.

Thanks
Bl. Casseday

31 September 1986

Mr. Billy Casseday
506 S. First St.
Dayton, WA 99328

Dear Billy;

I am trying to put together a lot of material on the mission of 11 January 44 to Halberstadt.

According to the record you had a bit of trouble getting your plane on the ground back in England!

I would appreciate it if you could right a page or two of copy on the problems you had in getting home that day, and what happened to whom once you touched down.

As a means of refreshing your memory on some of the details of the mission I am enclosing copies of two reports prepared by Intelligence following that raid. Unfortunately, I do not presently have a copy of the interrogation report, although I expect to pick up one sometime in October. At such time I'll mail you a copy of that.

So, I would appreciate having you give the matter some thought, and then writing what you can.

All the best,

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Hello Russ

It rained today so I took time to look through my Form 5 for the info you wanted for that Jan 11th raid to Halberstadt with Lt Robinson. There were no particulars except we lost two crews & ships from the 369th. It was a battle with contrails making visibility very poor. The 190's came out of the clouds in a head-on attack and shot hell out of us. Our ship took a 30 m per in the cockpit and wounded the co-pilot and me. Bob Crowley the CP never flew again. We lost 1 1/2 engines and limped back to an English base where they took very good care of us. The only other thing I have is where they awarded to purple heart & D.F.C. I guess for bringing the rest of us home. We came home that is to the English coast in formation. I left early & landed as quickly as possible

because Bob was bleeding pretty freely. Halberstadt sustained considerable damage to the aircraft industry of the Hun. And in spite of the article about how little we did and poorly at that the infantry was always eager for the air drop to help out when they were in a jam which seemed like was pretty often. Then there was the fact of what we did to their oil industry. Sounded like some politician with sour grapes. We were really supposed to be an aid to the boys who really win the war and I don't want to take anything from them, but it was truly a team effort that did it.

Wish I could make it to the Reunion just to see ol Lester T. Kearney GEN. I ran onto the Recommendation I gave for him to be accepted in Regular Army. He went quite a ways. Give him my regards.
So long for now,
Billy.

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Hello Russ —

Good to hear from you the other day and that you're doing fine after a little problem. Hope you can use any or all of these pics. I would like to have them back when you finish.

Note this picture of our Penemünde mission and the group that slid over underneath us right @ "Bombs away"

Note the awkward angle of the leaders left wingman. That was the plane that had a 500 lb'er go down through the Navigators astro dome and took the Navigator with it. Never did know which group it was. I do know

we were on time at the right altitude in the bomber string.

I've written on the backs of some of the Pics.

A lot of the guys aren't here now, but that's as it should be. I wonder if you might know some of the relatives that might like a copy. I'd make them up & mail them. Let me know.

So long for now - hope
to see you in San Diego.
yours
Billy Caseday

8-12-05

Ted
CZECHOWSKI

Hello Russell,

Have you been notified
of the passing of B.W. Casseday
306th Bomb Group 369th Squadron?
He died in April, 2005. Didn't
know if his family contacted
you. Bill and Ted went thru
flying school together and were
stationed near Bedford, England
in 1943-1944.

Mrs. Roberta Casseday (CASSEDAY)
So. 502 First St.

Dayton WA 99328-1503

Have to miss the reunion in
San Antonio. Sorry

Virginia M. Czeczowski

509/382-2870

Apr 5 2005 Dayton OH

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