

## 384<sup>TH</sup> PERSONNEL DATABASE QUESTIONNAIRE

(REV I, 28 FEBRUARY 2009)

Please provide the following information for this 384th Bomb Group Veteran. Provide as much accurate information as you can, and indicate any information that is approximate, estimated, or otherwise uncertain. Please use "**Story**" to provide any additional information available, or to explain any entries that need it. It will be entered into the on-line personnel database when received.

<u>Information provided by:</u>	Name: Address:  E-mail address:
---------------------------------	--

<b>NAME</b>	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Nickname(s)
<b>RANK</b>	Joined 384 <sup>th</sup>	Left 384 <sup>th</sup>	Retired	
<b>ARMY SERIAL NUMBER</b>	Enlisted ranks had eight-digit Army Serial Numbers (ASN), officers had a capital O and six digits, flight officers had numbers from a different series.			
<b>MOS</b>	Military Occupational Specialty is a number, like 749, a title, like Aerial Gunner, or abbreviation like AE. This can be found in the individual service record, or some 384th documents.			
<b>UNIT</b>	What squadron or other military unit was this veteran assigned to while serving with the 384th?			
<b>DUTY</b>	Initial	Final		
<b>DATES</b>	Joined 384 <sup>th</sup>	Left 384 <sup>th</sup>		
<b>REASON LEFT</b>				What event ended the veteran's service with the 384 <sup>th</sup> ? Examples: Completed tour, returned to USA; POW; transferred.
<b>WEB PAGE</b>				Any web page(s) that relate directly to the individual (especially 384thBombGroup.com pages where the Veteran is not identified.)
<b>STORY</b> (please use additional space as required)				

Suggested topics: training, travel to/from England, off-duty life in England, missions, friends and crew-mates, opinions about the war and commanders, airplanes, "flak-house", significant events, POW experience.

## HOW TO SUBMIT INFORMATION

PLEASE SUBMIT information as it becomes available. Don't wait until you have "everything", because there is always a bit more to the story, isn't there? Send as an e-mail attachment, or mail a copy of this form (page 1 only), adding any new information.

IMPORTANT - When sending information and/or images by e-mail, be sure the veteran's name (or other identifying information) and **384th BG** appears in the Subject line. This enables us to detect when something of high importance has been received.

If you have information on more than one 384th service-member, please enter it on a copy of this form and send it along.

You may e-mail scanned photographs, documents, and/or artifacts, or send them by mail (on a CD-ROM, for instance). See the guidance, below, for important information regarding scanning these materials.

STORY - The "STORIES" button on the website will take you to a collection of narratives by and about veterans. You will find descriptions of their training, their war experiences, and some personal context (growing up, decision to enter the Army Air Forces, post-war life). Please consider composing such an account at your earliest opportunity, to preserve the memories of a 384th Vet's experiences. It will be added to the website and made available to all. Provide as much detail as you can remember. The story will be edited to ensure that place-names and factual data are correct, but spelling and wording will only be changed if necessary to remove ambiguity. Anything written by a veteran will generally be presented verbatim, with editorial insertions where helpful to provide clarity.

## SOLICITATION FOR CONTRIBUTIONS OF HISTORICAL MATERIALS

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

By submitting your information – data, documents, and/or photos – you agree to unlimited **NON-COMMERCIAL** use of the material in digital format on the 384thBombGroup.com website, and personal use by website visitors (see “Fair Use Policy” on the “Site Info” page). There is no fine print.

Do you have photos, artifacts, or digital images relevant to the 384th Bomb Group? Please consider allowing us to display digital images of them on the 384th Bomb Group website. With your help, this website will provide complete photographic coverage of the 384th physical sites and memorials, and give a flavor of the experiences 384<sup>th</sup> serviceman had during WWII.

What kinds of materials are desired? Photos of personnel, aircraft, memorials and artifacts are wanted - anything that can be presented as text or image on the Internet. I am also interested in posting interesting documents, whether orders, diaries, accounts, awards, etc. When in doubt, send it or ask. We do not post items that have the potential to cause embarrassment or harm (such as records of Courts-Martial activity) on the website, but we do maintain a complete file of all information received.

Please submit photos as described above (“How to Submit...”), attaching up to 6 photos per e-mail. Please describe what is in the photos, unless it is obvious. Information written on the backs of the photos is especially interesting, but most important is the date the photo was taken, even if only approximate. Then, where taken (map location), what the subject is, etc.

DO YOU HAVE LARGE AMOUNTS OF MATERIAL? Dozens or hundreds of photos? You may prefer to upload them directly to the Gallery website – this may be more convenient for you. Please inquire.

If you prefer to send your materials to us for scanning, please see the contact information below. We will scan and return them to you as quickly as possible.

Please indicate how you wish your credit line to appear. If not otherwise specified I will use your name and the year you submitted the photo: Joe Bloggs, 2007.

THIS REQUEST IS ONLY FOR USE OF DIGITAL IMAGES OF 384TH-RELATED MATERIALS. IF YOU SEND MATERIALS TO THE WEBMASTER FOR SCANNING, THEY WILL BE RETURNED TO YOU. THERE IS A SEPARATE INITIATIVE FOR ARCHIVAL AND PRESERVATION OF THESE MATERIALS, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE 384TH BOMB GROUP (H), INC. (NexGen), MANAGED BY MARK MEEHL. FOR CONTACT INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS, CLICK THE "PRESERVATION" BUTTON ON THE WEBSITE HOME PAGE.

<b>CONTACT INFORMATION</b>	
<b>Postal Address</b>	<b>FRED PRELLER 406 FIREBERRY DR ROCKWALL, TX 75087</b>
<b>E-Mail Address</b>	<a href="mailto:F3RED@PRELLER.US"><u>F3RED@PRELLER.US</u></a>
<b>Phone</b>	<b>469-338-1397</b>

## GUIDANCE FOR SCANNING MATERIALS

If you are sending scanned materials, the following provides guidance to ensure materials submitted are usable on the website. There is also advice on avoiding some common pitfalls:

- **GENERAL** – One photo or document per scan.
- **RESOLUTION** – Photos should be scanned at (at least) 600 dots-per-inch (dpi), while very small photos should be scanned at the highest resolution available (2400 dpi, 3600dpi, 4800dpi...)
- **"BLACK & WHITE"** – B&W photos are, in fact, printed in thousands of shades of grey, ranging from black to white. We recommend scanning them in full color ("24-bit" color, "millions of colors", etc) to capture all the tonal information in the image. This provides the best starting point for photo-enhancement using software.

WARNING: most scanners (and their software drivers) include a setting for "B&W" that is intended for documents. It creates a scanned image containing only black pixels and white pixels - photos scanned with this setting are not usable on the website.

- **ALIGNMENT** – Align the original on the scanner the best you can so the scanned image doesn't have to be straightened. This will avoid the slight image degradation that straightening it with software causes.
- **SCAN AREA** – If your scanner allows you to preview a scan and adjust the image area to be scanned (like mine does), reduce the scanned area so that it includes only the image itself with a slight border for confidence. Include the portion of the print border area that has anything important on it, like handwriting or a printed date.
- **BACK OF PHOTO** – Rather than transcribing information written on the back of a photo (if any), please scan the back, and indicate which fronts go with which backs.
- **BLURRY PHOTOS** – These are very hard to use. Please use your good judgment to decide if a photo is clear enough to be of general interest.
- **DOCUMENTS** – Documents can (generally) be scanned at lower resolution, if the original is in good condition with good contrast. Start with resolution set at about 150 dpi. You may use the "Black & White" setting referred to above - documents are what that setting is for – but you may find that the full color setting results in a better quality image and smaller file size. Increase the resolution gradually and rescan until results are satisfactory. Once you find an acceptable setting, it will probably work for the whatever other text documents you have.