

Name: RICHARD BUTLER

Cadet class: GRAD. "WINGS" 24 OCT 1941

\* Place of graduation: ROYAL CANADIAN AIR  
FORCE STATION, BRANTFORD, ONTARIO

USAF combat missions: NINE (8½)

Wife's first name: DOROTHY

Other 306th men whom I know graduated with me: NONE

CORRECT TELEPHONE (513) 325-5400

+4 ZIP → 3430

\* TRANSFERRED FROM RCAF IN LONDON, ENGLAND  
ON 27 OCT 1942 - TO USAAF (28 OCT 42)

Russell A. Strong, Secretary  
306th Bomb Group Association  
5323 Cheval Place  
Charlotte, NC 28205



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**STATEMENT OF SERVICE**  
in the  
**CANADIAN ARMED FORCES**

**Name:** Richard BUTLER

**Service Rank or Number:** R-93348

**Branch of Service:** Royal Canadian Air Force

**Date and Place of Birth:** 30 July 1920 Altoona,  
Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

**Date and Place of Appointment,  
Enlistment or Enrolment:** 20 February 1941 Toronto, Ont.

**Theatres of Service:** Canada and Overseas

**Date and Place of Retirement  
or Discharge:** 27 October 1942 London, England

**Type of Retirement or Discharge:** Honourable

**Rank on Retirement or Discharge:** Warrant Officer, Class 2

**Medals and Decorations:** Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Clasp  
and War Medal 1939-45

**Remarks:** Awarded Pilot's Flying Badge on 24 October 1941

5 October 1990

Date

*J. C. Cooley*  
Director, Personnel Records Centre



After midnight, 13 October 1943, the door to our barracks opened, lights were turned on. A voice informed us that a new arrival had been assigned to our barracks, a bombardier named Francis Banda, a lieutenant. ..Good night.

I was near the door and I told him that the bunk next to mine was empty. We all assured him that we would get him up when we got up. He hit the sack.

Next morning we all went to breakfast, then to the mission briefing. I was very surprised to find out that Lt. Banda had been assigned to my crew for the mission to Schweinfurt. Our B-17 went down on the bomb run, all bailed out.

More than a week later, I had an opportunity to talk with Lt. Banda -- at Stalag Luft III. I asked what he thought about the events of 14 October. He said that since it was his only mission he had nothing to compare it with and he assumed it was just a typical mission !!!

( Note: Lt. Francis X. Banda does not appear on any of the 306 BG listings, it does appear, with the rest of the crew, in the 367 Sqdn Combat Diary, page 29. )