

## **Oliver LeFloch Newsletters**

### **Olivier LeFloch – French WWII aviation enthusiast, archivist, investigator and author extraordinaire!**

The 367<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group, and all interested aviation enthusiasts and historians, have benefited from an excellent book written by Richard Groh, entitled 'The Dynamite Gang – The 367<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group in World War II'. This book was published in English in 1983 by Charm Publications, Woburn, MA, USA, "through the contributions of the 367<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group Association". It has now been out of print for many years and will not be reprinted. Copies have been lodged with the major Aviation Museums in the USA and UK, for future research purposes, together with video and audio historical records of the Group's activities in WWII.

In more recent years, French enthusiasts, headed by Olivier LeFloch and including Jean-Luc Gruson and Jean Pierre Gruson, have carried out extensive research into airfields, crash sites and other locations in France, associated with the Group. They have developed a series of Newsletters, through correspondence with Association members and their families, and via local investigations in France.

These electronic Newsletters follow on from those paper newsletters previously circulated by the late Jack Curtis, 394<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron pilot and former Secretary/Treasurer of the Association, detailing specific incidents, and which contained a wealth of detail, including even the names of German pilots shot down by 367<sup>th</sup> aircraft.

Olivier's Newsletters chronicle general information and individual stories of the pilots, their families and supporting ground crew members. They contain many previously unpublished photographs and many new photographs taken in France, including aerial shots of the airfields, both used by and attacked by the 367<sup>th</sup> FG aircraft.

He started writing and distributing these Newsletters to the Group Association members and other interested parties, in 2002. There have now been 16 Newsletters and more are in preparation. Olivier has graciously given FONFA permission to publish these on the website and as hard copy in our Museum and Education Centre. For giving us and our visitors access to this invaluable and unique archive material, we are most grateful.

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***Henry Goodall***