

11248

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classification changed to **RESTRICTED**

by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AC HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON

by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AC  
Date MAR 15 1946

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

IMPORTANT: This Report will be compiled in triplicate by each Army Air Forces organization within 48 hours of the time an air crew member is officially reported missing.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location, by Name Grafton-Underwood, England Command or Air Force VIII ; Group 384th ; Squadron 547th ; Detachment \_\_\_\_\_
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure Grafton-Underwood, England ; Course As Briefed  
Target or Intended Destination Koblenz, Germany Type of Mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: \_\_\_\_\_
4. CIVIL: (a) Day 27 Month DEC Year 1944 ; Time 1235 ; and Location Koblenz, Germany  
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.  
(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (x) ; Last contacted by  
radio ( ) ; Forced down ( ) ; Seen to Crash ( ) ; or Information not Available ( )
5. AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one) Enemy Aircraft ( ) ; Enemy Anti-Aircraft (x) ; Other Circumstances as follows: \_\_\_\_\_
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17G ; AAF Serial Number 42-107083
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, If any None
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series \_\_\_\_\_ ; AAF Serial Number (a) SW-015263 ; (b) 43-61928 ; (c) SW-011557 ; (d) SW-011644
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number);  
(a) 889157 Buff ; (b) 683375 KH ; (c) 410484 Frig ; (d) 163260 High Stand ;  
(e) 684753 KH ; (f) 683881 KH ; (g) 683362 KH ; (h) 974454 Frigidaire ;  
(i) 684329 KH ; (j) 974375 Frig ; (k) 684198 KH ; (l) 68381 Kelsay H. ;  
(m) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (n) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (o) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (p) \_\_\_\_\_
10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty x  
or (b) Non Battle Casualty \_\_\_\_\_
11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 9 ; Passengers 0 ; Total 9  
(Starting with Pilot, furnish the following particulars; If more than 11 persons were aboard aircraft, list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach original to this form.)

Crew Position	Full Name (Last Name First)	Rank	ASN	Current Status
1. Pilot	<u>W. Nelson, Elmer (NMI)</u>	2nd Lt.	<u>0-768191</u>	<u>MTA 9d.</u>
2. Co-Pilot	<u>W. Horan, William Paul</u>	2nd Lt.	<u>0-1305581</u>	<u>MTA 9d.</u>
3. Navigator	<u>W. Dobrow, Martin (NMI)</u>	2nd Lt.	<u>0-719899</u>	<u>MTA 9d.</u>
4. Nose Gunner	<u>W. Welton, Derald William</u>	S/Sgt.	<u>17131529</u>	<u>MTA 9d.</u>
5. Radio Oper.	<u>W. Occhino, Anthony Anthony</u>	T/Sgt.	<u>32552833</u>	<u>MTA Pow RTD</u>
6. Top Turret	<u>W. Zeleski, Edmund Casimir</u>	T/Sgt.	<u>32214414</u>	<u>MTA 9d.</u>
7. Ball Turret	<u>W. Braught, Thomas Earl</u>	S/Sgt.	<u>13187885</u>	<u>MTA</u>
8. Tail Gunner	<u>W. Manicki, John R.</u>	S/Sgt.	<u>36760114</u>	<u>MTA Pow RTD</u>
9. Waist Gunner	<u>W. Rohr, Kenneth Orville</u>	S/Sgt.	<u>39130815</u>	<u>MTA 9d.</u>
10.				
11.				

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Chg. To E. J. A. H.

Sheet 4

W. M. M.

RTD

RTD

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12. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME

Check Only One Column

	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Serial Rank Number	Contacted		Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
			by Radio	Last Sighted		
1.	Zink, Joseph Darrell	2nd Lt.	0-825058	x		
2.	Fahr, John (NM)	1st Lt.	0-766858	x		
3.	Niemiec, Leonard Roy	2nd Lt.	0-776778	x		

13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used yes; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash \_\_\_\_\_; or (c) Any other reason (Specify) 3 chutes seen

14. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN OR HEAR FROM.

15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.

16. GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH, IF ANY, INCLUDING DESCRIPTION AND EXTENT \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Report 4 January 1945

J. R. Wyatt  
(Signature of Preparing Office)  
J. R. WYATT,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Ass't. Adjutant.

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:



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S-2 SUMMARY OF EYE-WITNESS ACCOUNTS

Instructions: 1. If aircraft returned, only questions 6 and 7 are applicable. 2. Question number 5 not applicable to Fighter Groups. 3. Summary will be prepared in five copies, four of which will be forwarded. 4. Interrogating Officer will sign original and second copy.

GROUP 384 SQ 547 A/C # 710083 MISSION DATE 27/12/44  
FIRST PILOT Nelson, Elmer (NMI) 2nd Lt. O-768191 DESTINATION Koblenz, Germany  
NAME RANK ASN

1. Position of missing aircraft when last sighted or contacted:

(a) By coordinates Koblenz, Germany. 50 20 N. 07 32 E.

(b) Approximate altitude 25,000 feet.

(c) Last noted heading 95°

(d) If out of formation, approximate distance from formation  
In formation.

2. Describe enemy opposition (intensity of flak, intensity and method of enemy fighter attack, etc., with particular reference to missing aircraft):

**Flak was moderate and extremely accurate at target area. There was no enemy fighter opposition.**

3. Description of extent of damage to missing aircraft (including fires, explosions, etc):

**a flak burst hit behind the ball turret and completely disengaged the tail assembly from the rear of the plane.**

4. If aircraft was out of control describe appearance:

**After the tail section broke off, the plane plunged down to earth.**

5. If distressed aircraft was out of formation was it last seen with escort?

                     If, so, give distinguishing markins of Fighter Group if noted (Group number, color and or fighter aircraft numbers, nicknames, etc.).                     

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6. Number of parachutes seen and description of jumps (approximate altitude, time between jumps, etc.):

Three (3) chutes were seen to emerge from the plane.

7. Any other remarks not covered by above:

None.

8. Date of report 29 December, 1944.

<u>EYE-WITNESSES:</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>A/C #</u>
1.	<u>Zink, Joseph A.</u>	<u>Lt.</u>	<u>O-825058</u>	<u>717</u>
2.	<u>Fahr, John (NMI)</u>	<u>Lt.</u>	<u>O-766858</u>	<u>823</u>
3.	<u>Neimisa, Leonard R.</u>	<u>Lt.</u>	<u>O-776778</u>	<u>823</u>
4.	<u>Kunnari, Howard (NMI)</u>	<u>Sgt.</u>	<u>17155196</u>	<u>309</u>

INTERROGATING OFFICER (Sign Original and one copy):

*Samuel F. Krauz*  
SAMUEL F. KRAUZ  
NAME

Captain  
RANK

O-569672  
ASN

S-2 Officer.  
DUTY

NOTE: Supplemental information developing subsequent to this account will be forwarded in manner prescribed in per 6, letter WD, AG, 704 (5 July 44), OB-S-AAF-M, subject "Missing Air Crew Report", 7 July 1944.

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MACR  
11248  
B-17  
9 men  
AAF 42107083

THIS IS A REPRESENTATION OF A CAPTURED  
GERMAN DOCUMENT. THE ORIGINAL OF  
WHICH IS IN HEAD UNIT, CAS. SEC., AGO

27 Dec. 1944 1240  
Maehibach B/Arenberg

Type: Fortress  
1170 a case 5332

DEAD

MANICKI  
ROHR  
3 dead

John R.  
Kenneth O.

KU 3520  
36760114  
39130815 dead

MI. H.C.R.  
11248  
B 17  
9 men  
AAF 42-107083

Date: 27 Dec 44, at 1300

Place: Koblenz

Type of craft: Fortress

Markings: ..083  
547 (HBo) Sqd.  
384 Group

Rank: Name:

KU 1170 a

2nd Lt. NELSON, Elmer §  
2nd Lt. DORROW, Martin  
T/Sgt. CICHINO, Anthony A  
ASN: 32552833  
S/Sgt. MANICKI, John Robert  
ASN: 36761114  
S/Sgt. MELTON, Derald  
S/Sgt. RAUGHT, Thomas  
S/Sgt. ROHR, Kenneth O.  
T/Sgt. ZALESKI, Edward

(Pencil Remark: "3520 ?")

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN 27 Dec. 1944, 1300 hrs

CASUALTY NO. KU 1170 A

PLACE OF CRASH Koblenz

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT Fortress

REPORTING OFFICE Koblenz

NAME	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CAPT'D	PLACE OF INTERNMENT
			WOUNDED	
			DEAD	

**OCCHINO, Anthony A.**  
15 June 1921

T/Sgt. 32552833

captured

Dulag-Luft West

**MANICKI, John Robert**  
27 April 1925 Chicago, Ill.

S/Sgt. 36767114

"

"

REMARKS:

Dulag-Luft, 15 Jan. 1945 No.

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY  
**INTRAOFFICE REFERENCE SHEET**

DUE, HOUR AND DATE \_\_\_\_\_

1 NO.	2 FROM—	3 TO—	4 DATE	5 MESSAGE
1	Iden. Br. Search Info. Sec.  Mackenburg	Admin. Pentagon Liaison	27 June 1949	<p>Request the current addresses of the following individuals:</p> <p>Oechino, Anthony                      32552833</p> <p>Manicki, John R.                        36760114</p> <p>Ref. Ltr. # 169</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>SWR</i> Rogers 72000</p>
2	Pentagon QM Liaison	Id Br Search Info Sec  A ttn: Mackenburg	30 June 1949	<p>Information requested above is furnished herewith:</p> <p>Oechino, Anthony    - 21-15th Street Buffalo, New York</p> <p>Manicki, John R.    - 3421 Belden Avenue Chicago, Illinois</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>B. J. S.</i> SEKOWSKI 6679</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>E. M. D.</i> DYER 73090</p>

MACKENBURG  
 JUN 28 1949  
 PENTAGON LIAISON



Identification-card

John

HANICKI

367621A

Air-Base-Headquarters  
L. A. D. U. P. F.  
 Air-Bronn Headquarters 13/VII Colnhausen

30 December 1944

FINAL REPORT ON CAPTURE OF ENEMY AIR FORCE EQUIPMENT  
 AND EVENT CREWS OF AIRCRAFT.

DISTRIBUTOR: Research Office for enemy equipment 2  
 Air-District-Command over Ia Co/Lg Ing 1  
 Air-Bronn-Headquarters 1  
 Information Center West, Omeruesel 1  
 Design 1

DAY OF CRASH: 27 December 1944 TIME: 1240 h PLACE OF CRASH: Muhlbach near  
 Arenberg

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Boeing LETTER-MARKINGS  
OR TAILLAGE: unknown  
FLYING IN OR OUT: flying in ADMITTANCE NO.: unknown

SIGNS OR PAINTING  
AT NOSE: unknown

KIND OF CONTACTING GROUND: Direct hit by antiaircraft shell in the air.

DESTRUCTION: 99 1/2 per cent

KIND OF CAPTURE: Antiaircraft

FOR SEARCHING ESCAPED OR MISSING MEMBERS OF THE CREW, ALARM WAS GIVEN TO: \_\_\_\_\_

GUARD AT THE AIRCRAFT WAS CARRIED OUT BY: no (Some parts were lying in a distance  
 of 2 km).

PICTURES WERE TAKEN BY: none

NAVIGATION- AND RADIO INFORMATION: none

DISPOSITION OF THE CREW:

DEATHS: total 1 man

NO.:	RANK:	NAME:	FIRST NAME:	SER. NO.:	COLLAR- INSIGNIA:	PERM. DISC. BY:	CEMETERY, GRAVE:
1.	u	n	k	n	o	w	n
					no dog tag and papers were found		Cemetery Arenberg Grave #1

Presumably there are two more deaths (see enclosed letter and prayer book)

PRISONERS: total 2 men

NO.:	RANK:	NAME:	FIRST NAME:	SER. NO.:	PLACE OF ADMISION TIME AT HOSPITAL OF OR SECRET CAMP.:	DATE OF TRANSFER TO INFORMATION CENTER WASY:
------	-------	-------	-------------	-----------	---	--

- Both prisoners were transferred to Oberursel at once by Escorte Antiaircraft Bn 999, Niederberg near Koblenz. The secured personal effects of the prisoners of war were given to the Sgt of the guard presumably, for delivering at Oberursel. No records were written, therefore neither names nor Serial numbers are known. Transfer to Oberursel on 27 December 1944.-

ESCAPED are presumably: unknown men.

The examinations were carried out by:

None illegible  
1/Sgt, in charge of reception unit.-

TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

DESTRUCTION: Fuselage:            Undercarriage:            Wings:            Tail ass.:             
PERCENTAGE: 99 per cent

TYPE OF ENGINE: 1st            2nd             
3rd 99 per cent 4th             
damaged

A R M S: Caliber 12,7 Colt Downing Location: unknown, (presumably fuselage.)

SIGHT S: unknown

AMMUNITION: 12,7 unknown Belt

AMMUNITION BOXES: 3 L 4

RT EQUIPMENT: Transmitter Tuning Unit TU-6-B Frequency Range 3000-4500 KC, Serie 5762 e  
Transmitter Tuning Unit TU-7-B Frequency Range 4500-6200 KC, Serie 5762 e  
Transmitter Tuning Unit TU-8-B Frequency Range 6200-7700 KC, Serie 5762 e  
Rack FT - 220 - A, Serie 0057978

PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT: unknown

FLIGHT GASOLINE AND HYDRAULIC OILS: none

NUMBER OF GASOLINE TANKS: 1 (one) (Stored at Muehlenbachhof)

NUMBER OF PLATES SENT TO RESEARCH OFFICE FOR ENEMY EQUIPMENT OF THE AIR FORCE, BERLIN, ADLERSHOE: none

Following equipment will be shipped to Research-Office for enemy equipment Wiesbaden,  
as ordered:

PT-Equipment, G/A-compass.

Name illegible  
T/Sgt.-

Office of the Commanding Officer  
ARENBERG near Koblenz

Local Quarters, 4 January 1945

Enclosure 1 Identification tag  
 No.: 59130615

TO:  
 Salvage Unit of  
 Air-Group GELNHAUSEN

A corpse was found in the forest near Elisenhof and <sup>was</sup> buried on 3 January 1945 at the cemetery in Arenberg. The corpse belongs to the Fortress F 107083 B, which was downed on 27 December 1944.

The corpse was identified as the American Kenneth Q Mohr from San Francisco, 21 Maynard Street. One dog-tag and a golden seal-ring on the left hand has been left with the corpse. Papers and other items were not found on the corpse. The location of the grave is known to the cemetery-office. The second dog-tag is attached.

Name illegible  
 Captain,  
 Commanding

For circulation:

- 1 Chaplain's office Arenberg as cemetery-administration,
- 2 Mayor's Office Arenberg
- 3 Police-Station Arenberg for keeping

Flight-Commander 13/VII  
 Gelnhausen

Gelnhausen, 11 January 1945

Sent to Information Center West Oberursel with attached identification-tag.

Name illegible  
 Major

KU - 3520

Identification-tag:

John

M A N I C K I

36760114

Air-Base-Headquarters  
Limburg  
 Air-Drome Headquarters 13/VII Gelnhausen

30 December 1944

FINAL REPORT ON CAPTURE OF ENEMY AIR FORCE EQUIPMENT  
 AND ENEMY CREWS OF AIRCRAFT.

DISTRIBUTOR: Research Office for enemy equipment 2  
 Air-District-Command ~~oves~~ Ic Qu/Lg Ing 1  
 Air-Drome-Headquarters 1  
 Information Center West, Oberursel 1  
 Design 1

DAY OF CRASH: 27 December 1944 TIME: 1240 h PLACE OF CRASH: Muehlbach near Arenberg

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Boeing LETTER-MARKINGS  
ON FUSELAGE: unknown  
FLYING IN OR OUT: flying in ADMITTANCE NO.: unknown

SIGNS OR PAINTING  
AT NOSE: unknown

KIND OF CONTACTING GROUND: Direct hit by antiaircraft shell in the air.

DESTRUCTION: 99 1/2 per cent

KIND OF CAPTURE: Antiaircraft

FOR SEARCHING ESCAPED OR MISSING MEMBERS OF THE CREW, ALARM WAS GIVEN TO: —

GUARD AT THE AIRCRAFT WAS CARRIED OUT BY: no (Some parts were lying in a distance of 2 km).

PICTURES WERE TAKEN BY: none

NAVIGATION- AND RADIOINFORMATION: none

DISPOSITION OF THE CREW:

DEATHS: total 1 man

NO.:	RANK:	NAME:	FIRST NAME:	SER.NO.:	COLLAR-q INSIGNIA:	PRS. DISC.BY	CEMETERY, GRAVE:		
1	u	n	k	n	o	w	n	no dog tag and papers were found	Cemetery Arenberg Grave #1

Presumably there are two more deaths (see enclosed letter and prayer book)

PRISONERS: total 2 men

NO.:	RANK:	NAME:	FIRST NAME:	SER.NO.:	PLACE OF ADMISION TIME AT HOSPITAL OR SECRET	DATE OF TRANSFER TO INFORMATION CENTER WEST:
CAPT.: FILED POLICE:						

- Both prisoners were transferred to Oberursel at once by Reserve Antiaircraft Bn #39, Niederberg near Koblenz. The secured personal effects of the prisoners of war were given to the Sgt of the guard presumably, for delivering at Oberursel. No records were witten, therefor neither names nor Serial numbers are known. Transfer to Oberursel on 27 December 1944.-
- 

ESCAPED are presumably: unknown men.

The examinations were carried out by:

Name illegible  
T/Sgt, in charge of reception unit.-

TECHNICAL INFORMATIONS:

DESTRUCTION: Fuselage: \_\_\_\_\_ Undercarriage: \_\_\_\_\_ Wings: \_\_\_\_\_ Tail ass.: \_\_\_\_\_  
PERCENTAGE: 99 per cent

TYPE OF ENGINES: 1st \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd \_\_\_\_\_  
3rd 99 per cent 4th \_\_\_\_\_  
damaged

A R M S: Caliber 12,7 Colt Bowning Location: unknown,(presumatly fuselage.)

S I G H T S: unknown

AMMUNITION: 12,7 unknown Belt

AMMUNITION RATIO: S L 4

FT EQUIPMENT: Transmitter Tuning Unit TU-6-B Frequency Range 3000-4500 KC, Serie 5762 e  
Transmitter Tuning Unit TU-7-B Frequency Range 4500-6200 KC, Serie 5762 e  
Transmitter Tuning Unit TU-8-B Frequency Range 6200-7700 KC, Serie 5762 e  
Rack FT - 220 - A, Serie 0057978

PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT: unknown

FLIGHT GASOLINE AND HYDRAULIK OILS: none

NUMBER OF GASOLINE TANKS: 1 (one) (Stored at Muehlenbachhof)

NUMBER OF PLATES SENT TO RESEARCH OFFICE FOR FNEY EQUIPMENT OF THE AIR FORCE, BERLIN, ADLERSHOE: none



Following equipment will be shipped to Research-Office for enemy equipment Wiesbaden,  
as ordered:

FT-Equipment, Gyro-compass.

Name illegible  
T/Sgt.-

Office of the Commanding Officer  
Arensberg near Koblenz

Local Quarters, 4 January 1945

Enclosure: 1 Identification tag  
 No.: 39130815

TO:  
 Salvage Unit of  
 Air-Drome Gelnhausen

A corpse was found in the forest near Elisenhof and <sup>was</sup> buried on 3 January 1945 at the cemetery in Arensberg. The corpse belongs to the Fortress P 107083 B, which was downed on 27 December 1944.

The corpse was identified as the American Kenneth O Rohr from San Francisco, 21 Maynard Street. One dog-tag and a golden seal-ring on the left hand has been left with the corpse. Papers and other items were not found on the dead. The location of the grave is known to the cemetery-office. The second dog-tag is attached.

Name illegible  
 Captain,  
 Commanding

For circulation:

- 1 Chaplain's office Arenberg as cemetery-administration,
- 2 Mayor's Office Arenberg
- 3 Police-Station Arenberg for keeping

Flight-Commander 13/VII  
 Gelnhausen

Gelnhausen, 11 January 1945

Sent to Information Center West Oberursel with attached identification-tag.

Name illegible  
 Major

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11248

Name of crew member:

NELSON, Elmer (NMI)

Rank:

2nd Lt.

Serial number:

O-768191

Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~or Flight (Fighter)~~

Pilot

Did he bail out? I don't believe he did.

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: \_\_\_\_\_

Just before loss of plane.

Was he injured? \_\_\_\_\_

Where was he when last seen? \_\_\_\_\_

Any hearsay information: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of missions of above crew member: 32.

Dates and destinations if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11248

Name of crew member:

HAN, William Paul

Rank:

2nd Lt.

Serial number:

O-1305581

Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Flight~~ (Fighter) ~~XX~~

Co-Pilot

Did he bail out? I don't believe he did.

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: \_\_\_\_\_

Just before loss of plane

Was he injured? \_\_\_\_\_

Where was he when last seen? \_\_\_\_\_

Any hearsay information: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Total number of missions of above crew member: First Time he flew with crew.

Dates and destinations if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11248

Name of crew member:

LOBROW, Martin (NMI)

Rank:

2nd Lt.

Serial number:

O-719899

Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~or Flight (Fighter)~~

Navigator

Did he bail out? I don't believe he did

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: \_\_\_\_\_

Just before loss of plane

Was he injured? \_\_\_\_\_

Where was he when last seen? \_\_\_\_\_

Any hearsay information: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of missions of above crew member: 32

Dates and destinations if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11248

Name of crew member:

MELTON, Derald William

Rank:

S/Sgt.

Serial number:

17131529

Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Flight (Fighter)~~

Nose Gunner

Did he bail out? I don't believe he did.

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: \_\_\_\_\_

Just before loss of plane.

Was he injured? \_\_\_\_\_

Where was he when last seen? \_\_\_\_\_

Any hearsay information: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Total number of missions of above crew member: 32

Dates and destinations if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11248

Name of crew member: ZALESKI, Edmund Casmir  
 Rank: T/Sgt.  
 Serial number: 32214414  
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Flight (Fighter)~~ Top Turret

Did he bail out? I don't believe he did.

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: \_\_\_\_\_

Just before loss of plane

Was he injured? \_\_\_\_\_

Where was he when last seen? \_\_\_\_\_

Any hearsay information: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of missions of above crew member: 32

Dates and destinations if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11248

Name of crew member: RAUGHT, Thomas Earl  
 Rank: S/Sgt.  
 Serial number: 13187885  
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~or Flight (Fighter)~~: Ball Turret

Did he bail out? I don't believe he did.

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: \_\_\_\_\_

Just before loss of plane

Was he injured? \_\_\_\_\_

Where was he when last seen? \_\_\_\_\_

Any hearsay information: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of missions of above crew member: 32

Dates and destinations if possible: \_\_\_\_\_



INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11248

Name of crew member:

ROHR, Kenneth Orville

Rank:

S/Sgt.

Serial number:

39130815

Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~or Flight (Fighter)~~

Waist Gunner

Did he bail out? I don't believe he did.

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: None before

loss of plane

Was he injured? \_\_\_\_\_

Where was he when last seen? \_\_\_\_\_

Any hearsay information: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of missions of above crew member: 32

Dates and destinations if possible: \_\_\_\_\_



HEADQUARTERS, ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON

*No Record*  
50 239  
21



IN REPLY REFER TO: AFPPA-8-KAC

5 September 1945

SUBJECT: ( Staff Sergeant John H. Manicki, 36760114 )

TO: Commanding Officer  
1020th AAF Base Unit, R.P.S. Det.  
Miami Beach, Florida

1. This headquarters is in receipt of request for details of the status of Technical Sergeant Edmund C. Zaleski, 32214414, top turret gunner of an aircraft B-17G, Serial Number 42-107083, which disappeared 27 December 1944 over Germany.

2. Request that you interrogate Staff Sergeant John H. Manicki, 36760114, tail gunner of above aircraft, and forward to this headquarters any information he may have concerning the circumstances of the status of Sergeant Zaleski, or any other details he may be cognizant of regarding Sergeant Zaleski's status, or the status of any of the other crew members, after the aircraft disappeared.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL ARNOLD:

*N. W. Reed*

N. W. REED  
Major, Air Corps  
Chief, Notification Section  
Personal Affairs Branch  
AC/AS-1

1st Ind.

I/ds

Hq. AAF Redistribution Station No. 2, Miami District, AAFPDC, Intelligence & Security Division, Miami Beach, Florida. 11 September 1945.

To: Commanding Officer, AAF Redistribution Station No. 6, San Antonio, Texas.  
Attention: Chief, Intelligence & Security Division

Forwarded as a matter pertaining to your command. Subject EM transferred your headquarters, per par. 21, SO 239, dated 27 August, this headquarters.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

*Ernest L. Withers, Jr.*  
ERNEST L. WITHERS, JR.  
Major, Air Corps  
Asst. Chief, Intell. & Security Division



A.H.C.R. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RESTRICTED



11248

"Classification changed to RESTRICTED per authority WD Cir 104, 1946"

FILE

HEADQUARTERS  
SAN ANTONIO DISTRICT  
ARMY AIR FORCES PERSONNEL DISTRIBUTION COMMAND  
ABI/PPK/mt

San Antonio, Texas

28 September 1945

SUBJECT: S/Sgt. John R. Manicki, ASN 36760114

TO : Headquarters, Army Air Forces  
Chief, Notification Section, Personal Affairs Branch  
Washington 25, D.C.  
ATTN: AC/AS-1

S/Sgt. John R. Manicki, ASN 36760114 was interrogated by the undersigned Officer in reference to the status of T/Sgt. Edmund G. Zaleski, ASN 32214414, top turret gunner of an aircraft, B-17, which disappeared 27 December 1944 over Germany. Sgt. Manicki stated:

" I was tail gunner on the above mentioned mission. Myself as well as T/Sgt. Zaleski were assigned to 384th Bomb Group, 547th Bomb Squadron. Our target was a railroad bridge, fifty miles N.E. of Coblenz, Germany. About ten minutes after bombs away we were hit with flak in the waist section of the ship, resulting in the outer wing panels dropping off. The pilot, 2nd Lt. Elmer Nelson did not give the order to abandon ship. A few minutes later, from the result of flak, the plane split in half. As I was tail gunner of the plane, I was thrown clear from the impact, and managed to pull my rip cord and parachute safely to earth. (I did not see T/Sgt Zaleski during the mission except when we boarded the plane and took off. T/Sgt. Zaleski's position was that of top turret gunner and he was in the other half of the plane when it broke into.) While parachuting to earth I noticed that the nose section of the plane was in a dive and travelling at a tremendous rate of speed. (It is my conclusive opinion that Sgt. Zaleski crashed to earth and met his death.) However, I did not witness the crash, nor did I see his body. Upon reaching the ground, I was immediately placed under arrest by the German Luftwaffe and fifteen minutes later I met T/Sgt. Anthony Occhino, Radio Operator. T/Sgt. Occhino told me that he had no idea what happened to the rest of the crew, but it was his opinion that the men who were in the nose of the plane undoubtedly met their death, as they had no chance of getting out. I recommend that T/Sgt. Occhini be interrogated for further information. I do not know his home address, however, I know that he resides in Buffalo, N.Y."

"Classification changed to RESTRICTED per authority WD Cir 104, 1946"

Manckenburg July 1949

*Peter P. Kelly, Jr.*  
PETER P. KELLY, JR.  
Capt, Air Corps  
Post Intelligence Officer.

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RESTRICTED

"Classification changed to  
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WD Cir 104, 1946".

**RESTRICTED**

58

*Mackenburg 1 July 1949*

CASUALTY INTERROGATION FORM  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

THE FAMILIES OF MANY OF YOUR COMRADES HAVE NOT BEEN AS FORTUNATE AS YOURS. THEIR SONS AND HUSBANDS HAVE BEEN REPORTED MISSING IN ACTION AND THEY ARE ANXIOUSLY WAITING TO LEARN THEIR FATE. YOU MAY BE ABLE TO SUPPLY THE INFORMATION WHICH WILL HELP TO TERMINATE THE SUSPENSE AND ANXIETY THEY ARE SUFFERING.

IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH IN ACTION OR DURING IMPRISONMENT OF ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DECEASED:

FULL NAME OF DECEASED **Edmund C. Zaleski - Engineer-17**  
HOME TOWN OR STATE **Yonkers, N.Y.**  
GRADE OR RANK **T/Sgt**  
ORGANIZATION **384th Bomb Gp., 547th Bomb Sq., 8th Air Force**  
DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH **27 December 1944 - Coblenz, Germany**  
CAUSE OF DEATH **Plane suffered direct hit by flak and broke into pieces. I was blown out and parachuted to safety. I saw one other parachute and later I saw the tail gunner on the ground. I am not positive that the man I saw parachuting was the tail gunner. I have no more information on the other seven men.**

PLACE OF BURIAL **Unknown**

WERE YOU AN EYEWITNESS TO HIS DEATH **No.**

NAMES OF PERSONS BELIEVED TO HAVE WITNESSED  
HIS DEATH **- Unknown**

IF YOUR INFORMATION IS HEARSAY  
GIVE NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR  
INFORMANT

SIGN HERE *Anthony J. Delano T/Sgt*  
Name and Serial Number **32552833**  
**267th 7th Street**  
**Buffalo, New York**  
Your home address

**2 August 1945**

NOTE: THIS FORM IS FOR USE BY CASUALTY BRANCH, THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON 25, D. C. ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THE FORM ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU. PLEASE FILL ONE OUT FOR EACH MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES WHOM YOU KNOW OR BELIEVE TO BE DEAD.

*Classification changed to RESTRICTED  
per authority WD Cir. 104, 1946.  
Mackenburg 1 July 49*

**RESTRICTED**

"Classification changed to  
RESTRICTED per authority  
WD Cir 104, 1946".

*Mackenburg 1 July 1949*

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59

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IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH IN ACTION OR DURING IMPRISONMENT OF ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DECEASED:

FULL NAME OF DECEASED            Thomas Raught - Ball Turret Gunner B-17  
HOME TOWN OR STATE                RD #2, New Kensington, Pa.  
GRADE OR RANK                        S/Sgt  
ORGANIZATION                         384th Bomb Gp., 547th Bomb Sq., 8th Air Force  
DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH           27 December 1944 - Coblenz, Germany  
CAUSE OF DEATH                      Plane suffered direct hit by flak and broke into pieces.  
I was blown out and parachuted to safety. I saw one other parachute and later I saw the tail gunner on the ground. I am not positive that the man I saw parachuting was the tail gunner. I have no more information on the other seven men.

PLACE OF BURIAL **Unknown**

WERE YOU AN EYEWITNESS TO HIS DEATH    **No**

NAMES OF PERSONS BELIEVED TO HAVE WITNESSED  
HIS DEATH                                **Unknown**

IF YOUR INFORMATION IS HEARSAY  
GIVE NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR  
INFORMANT

"Classification changed to  
RESTRICTED per authority  
WD Cir. 104, 1946".            2 August 1945

*Mackenburg 1 July 1949*

SIGN HERE Anthony A. Calkins T/Sgt  
Name and Serial Number **32552833**  
269th 7th Street  
Buffalo, New York  
Your home address

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IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH IN ACTION OR DURING IMPRISONMENT OF ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DECEASED:

FULL NAME OF DECEASED **William Horan - Co-Pilot B17**

HOME TOWN OR STATE **33 Casset Road, Brockton, Mass.**

GRADE OR RANK **2nd Lt.**

ORGANIZATION **384th Bomb Group, 547th Bomb Sq., 8th Air Force**

DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH **27 December 1944, - Coblenz, Germany.**

CAUSE OF DEATH **Plane suffered direct hit by flak and broke into pieces. I was blown out and parachuted to safety. I saw one other parachute and later ~~thought~~ I saw the tail gunner on the ground. ~~but cannot identify~~ I have no more information on the other seven men. I am not positive that the man I saw parachuting was the tail gunner.**

PLACE OF BURIAL **Unknown**

WERE YOU AN EYEWITNESS TO HIS DEATH **No.**

NAMES OF PERSONS BELIEVED TO HAVE WITNESSED  
HIS DEATH **- Unknown**

IF YOUR INFORMATION IS HEARSAY  
GIVE NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR  
INFORMANT

SIGN HERE

*Anthony A. Cichino*  
Name and Serial Number **T/Sgt 32552833**  
**269 7th Street**  
**Buffalo, New York**  
Your home address

**2 August 1945**

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IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH IN ACTION OR DURING IMPRISONMENT OF ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DECEASED:

FULL NAME OF DECEASED **Elmer Nelson - Pilot B-17**

HOME TOWN OR STATE **Redwood City, California - 167 Opal Ave.**

GRADE OR RANK **2nd Lt.**

ORGANIZATION **384th Bomb Group, 547th Bomb Sq., 8th Air Force**

DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH **27 December 1944, - Coblenz, Germany.**

CAUSE OF DEATH **Plane suffered direct hit by flak and broke into pieces. I was blown out and parachuted to safety. I saw one other parachute and later ~~thought~~ I saw the tail gunner on the ground, ~~but cannot identify him~~ I have no more information on the other seven men.**

PLACE OF BURIAL **Unknown**

WERE YOU AN EYEWITNESS TO HIS DEATH **No.**

NAMES OF PERSONS BELIEVED TO HAVE WITNESSED HIS DEATH **Unknown**

IF YOUR INFORMATION IS HEARSAY  
GIVE NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR INFORMANT

SIGN HERE

Anthony A. Ockina, T/Sgt  
Name and Serial Number **32552833**  
**269 7th Street**  
**Buffalo, New York**  
Your home address

**2 August 1945.**

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IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH IN ACTION OR DURING IMPRISONMENT OF ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DECEASED:

FULL NAME OF DECEASED **Derrild Melton - Nose Gunner B-17 (& Togglier)**  
HOME TOWN OR STATE **449 Park Avenue, Council Bluffs, Iowa.**  
GRADE OR RANK **S/Sgt**  
ORGANIZATION **384th Bomb Gp., 547th Somb Sq., 8th Air Force**  
DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH **27 December 1944 - Coblenz, Germany**  
CAUSE OF DEATH **Plane suffered direct hit by flak and broke into pieces. I was blown out and parachuted to safety. I saw one other parachute and later I saw the tail gunner on the ground. I am not positive that the man I saw parachuting was the tail gunner. I have no more information on the other seven men.**

PLACE OF BURIAL **Unknown**

WERE YOU AN EYEWITNESS TO HIS DEATH **No.**

NAMES OF PERSONS BELIEVED TO HAVE WITNESSED HIS DEATH **- Unknown**

IF YOUR INFORMATION IS HEARSAY  
GIVE NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR INFORMANT

SIGN HERE

Anthony A. Cecchini  
Name and Serial Number **32552833**  
**262 - 7th Street**  
**Buffalo, New York**  
Your home address

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IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH IN ACTION OR DURING IMPRISONMENT OF ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DECEASED:

FULL NAME OF DECEASED **Martin Debrow - Navigator B-17**  
HOME TOWN OR STATE **Brooklyn, N. Y.**  
GRADE OR RANK **2nd Lt.**  
ORGANIZATION **384th Bomb Gp., 547th Bomb Sq., 8th Air Force**  
DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH **27 December 1944 - Coblenz, Germany**

CAUSE OF DEATH **Plane suffered direct hit by flak and broke into pieces. I was blown out and parachuted to safety. I saw one other parachute and later I saw the tail gunner on the ground. I am not positive that the man I saw parachuting was the tail gunner. I have no more information on the other seven men.**

PLACE OF BURIAL **Unknown**

WERE YOU AN EYEWITNESS TO HIS DEATH **No.**

NAMES OF PERSONS BELIEVED TO HAVE WITNESSED HIS DEATH **- Unknown**

IF YOUR INFORMATION IS HEARSAY GIVE NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR INFORMANT

2 August 1945

SIGN HERE Anthony J. Caluso **1/Sgt**  
Name and Serial Number **32552833**  
**269th 7th Street**  
**Buffalo, New York**  
Your home address

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IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH IN ACTION OR DURING IMPRISONMENT OF ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DECEASED:

FULL NAME OF DECEASED                    Kenneth Rohr - Waist Gunner B-17  
HOME TOWN OR STATE                    San Francisco, California  
GRADE OR RANK                            s/sgt  
ORGANIZATION                            384th Bomb Gp., 547th Bomb Sq., 8th Air Force.  
DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH                27 December 1944 - Coblenz, Germany  
CAUSE OF DEATH                         Plane suffered direct hit by flak and broke into pieces.  
I was blown out and parachuted to safety. I saw one other parachute and later I saw the tail gunner on the ground. I am not positive that the man I saw parachuting was the tail gunner. I have no more information on the other seven men.

PLACE OF BURIAL                    Unknown

WERE YOU AN EYEWITNESS TO HIS DEATH    No.

NAMES OF PERSONS BELIEVED TO HAVE WITNESSED  
HIS DEATH                            -                    Unknown

IF YOUR INFORMATION IS HEARSAY  
GIVE NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR  
INFORMANT

SIGN HERE

Anthony A. Occhino T/Sgt  
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