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**Authority: NND 735001**

**By: NARA NARA Date: 1973**

14317

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Classification changed  
to ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
by A. BRADURAS, Lt. Col., AO  
By WM. L. THOMAS, 1st Lt. AO  
D: MAR 1 1948

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Date ~~MAR 1 1948~~

WAR DEPARTMENT  
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON

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 38th ; Squadron 546th ; Detachment \_\_\_\_\_
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure Grafton Underwood, England ; Course As Briefed  
Target or Intended Destination Pilsen, Czechoslovakia Type of Mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: 8/10 Overcast
4. GIVE: (a) Day 25 Month Apr Year 1945 ; Time 1106 ; and Location Pilsen, Czech.  
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft. 192 Pilsen Czech  
(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted ( ) ; Last contacted by of  
radio ( ) ; Forced down ( ) ; Seen to Crash ( x ) ; 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 43-38501
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, If any "Sweet Charlie"
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series \_\_\_\_\_ ; AAF Serial Number (a) SW-017747 ; (b) SW-017199 ; (c) SW-021521 ; (d) SW-023794
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number):  
(a) 1477537 Frig ; (b) 1315886 KH ; (c) 1313611 KH ; (d) 1046576 HS ;  
(e) 1314555 Kalday ; (f) 1314346 KH ; (g) 1477684 Frig ; (h) 1477571 Frig ;  
(i) 1313997 KH ; (j) 1314158 KH ; (k) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (l) \_\_\_\_\_ ;  
(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 8 ; Passengers 0 ; Total 8  
(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	Levett, Andrew Gordon	2nd Lt.	0-818901	Rtd to Duty
2. Co-Pilot	Kloss, Stanley Frank	2nd Lt.	0-833765	Rtd to Duty
3. Navigator	Unger, Donald John	2nd Lt.	0-2077531	RTD MIA RMC 6 MAY 45
4. Nose Gunner	Brown, James Conrad W.	Sgt.	36683324	RTD MIA RMC 6 MAY 45
5. Radio Oper.	Kloss, Robert J.	Sgt.	15122521	RTD MIA RMC 6 MAY 45
6. Top Turret	Froeliger, Louis V.	Sgt.	16125307	RTD MIA RMC 6 MAY 45
7. Ball Turret	Carney, Walter A.	S/Sgt.	13187746	RTD MIA RMC 6 MAY 45
8. Tail Gunner	Haney, Milton J.	S/Sgt.	36642712	Rtd to Duty
9.				
10.				
11.				

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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

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted		Saw Forced Landing
			by Radio	Last Sighted	
1. <u>Lowatt, Andrew Gordon</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>O-818901</u>	<u>X</u>		
2. <u>Kloss, Stanley Frank</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>O-833765</u>	<u>X</u>		
3. <u>Bancro, Milton J.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>36,12712</u>	<u>X</u>		

13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used X; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash See attached narrative; or (c) Any other reason (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
14. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN OR HEARD 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 5 May 1945

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:

A. R. Wyatt  
(Signature of Preparing Office)  
A. R. WYATT,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Asst. Adjutant.

Incl 2

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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 384th SQ 546th A/C # 433 8501 MISSION DATE 25-4-45

FIRST PILOT Andrew G. Lovett 2nd Lt. O-818901 DESTINATION Filsen, Czech.  
NAME RANK SER#

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

NOTE: Ship crashed landed at Albertsdorf, Ger.

(a) By coordinates \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Approximate altitude SEE ATTACHED NARRATIVE

(c) Last noted heading \_\_\_\_\_

(d) If out of formation, approximate distance from formation \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

4. If aircraft was out of control describe appearance:

(Over)

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5. If distressed aircraft was out of formation was it last seen with escort? \_\_\_\_\_ If, so, give distinguishing markings of Fighter Group if noted (Group number, color and or fighter aircraft numbers, nicknames, etc.). \_\_\_\_\_

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

7. Any other remarks not covered by above: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Date of report 25 April, 1945.

<u>EYE-WITNESSES:</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>SER #</u>	<u>A/C #</u>
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____

INTERROGATING OFFICER (Sign Original and one copy):

<u>John C. Hones</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>0-572001</u>	<u>S-2</u>
NAME	RANK	SER #	DUTY

NOTE: Supplemental information developing subsequent to this account will be forwarded in manner prescribed in par 6, letter WD, AG, 704 ( 5 July 44) OB-3-AAF-M, subject "Missing Air Crew Report", 7 July 1944.

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DICTATED STATEMENT BY SECOND LIEUTENANT LOVETT, 546TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

We got hit by flak approximately five minutes after we dropped our bombs. We received three good hits. The first knocked out #3 engine and started a fire in the #2 engine. The second hit knocked out #1 and #4 engines. The third burst wounded the navigator and knocked out all our instruments. We started to drop fast so decided to bale the crew out at approximately 1,500 feet. The crew baled out north of Albersford and the co-pilot and myself circled Albersford and landed on a heading of 90 degrees right in the middle of the town on a hill side.

We left the aircraft immediately for fear of it blowing up and we took off into the woods. About ten minutes later, we went back to the scene of the crash to see if we could get any equipment. However, when we came pretty close to the plane we saw Wehrmacht personnel in the vicinity and we did not proceed any further. However, all secret equipment in the ship had been destroyed.

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BRIEF STATEMENT BY STAFF SERGEANT MILTON J. HANEY, 36642712, 546TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON, 384TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP, TAIL GUNNER.

I WAS IN THE WAIST POSITION THROWING OUT EVERYTHING I COULD GET MY HANDS ON. THE BALL TURRET GUNNER, SGT. CARNEY, LOOKED AT ME AND SAID, "BAIL OUT". WE ALL WENT INTO THE BOMB BAY AND GUESS WE WERE ALL PRETTY SCARED. I JUST SNUGGLED DOWN IN THE BOMB BAY AND DOVE OUT, PULLING THE RIP CORD IMMEDIATELY WHICH GAVE ME A LITTLE SHOCK. I LOOKED AROUND AND SAW THE SHIP MAKING A 180 DEGREE TURN IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION. I ALSO SAW FOUR OTHER MEN COME OUT OF THE SHIP BUT DID NOT SEE THEIR CHUTES OPEN. JUST ABOUT THAT TIME I HIT THE GROUND. I SAW NO MORE OF THE AIRCRAFT.

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