

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

8903

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

Classification changed
to **RESTRICTED**
By E. A. BRALONAS, Lt Col, 440
By F. M. MUECH, Capt of Mac
Date **MAR 15 1946**

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 545th ; Detachment _____

2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure Grafton-Underwood, England ; Course As Briefed
Target or Intended Destination Merseburg/Leuna, Germany Type of Mission Combat

3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: _____

5:7/10 Overcast

4. GIVE: (a) Day 11 Month SEPT Year 1944 ; Time 1208 ; and Location 51°20' N
11°55' E of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.

(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (☒); Last contacted by

radio () ; Forced down () ; Seen to Crash () ; or Information not Avail-
able ()

5. AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check
only one) Enemy Aircraft (☒); Enemy Anti-Aircraft () ; Other Circumstances
as Follows: _____

6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17-G ; AAF Serial Number 42-107058

7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, If any White Angel

8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series _____ ; AAF Serial
Number (a) SW-006390 ; (b) SW-004411 ; (c) 41-23619 ; (d) 43-60885

9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number);

(a) See attached ; (b) _____ ; (c) _____ ; (d) _____ ;
(e) sheet ; (f) _____ ; (g) _____ ; (h) _____ ;
(i) _____ ; (j) _____ ; (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 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

<u>KIA</u> 1. Pilot	<u>Chadwick, James Woodrow</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0-764608</u>	<u>2-1 MIA</u>
<u>KIA</u> 2. Co-Pilot	<u>Grantham, Edgar Harry</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0-824132</u>	<u>3 MIA</u>
<u>EUS</u> 3. Navigator	<u>White, Leslie Comer</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0-718473</u>	<u>9 MIA RTD</u>
<u>KIA</u> 4. Bombardier	<u>Verbryke, Robert Merrill</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0-769322</u>	<u>8 MIA 1 KIA</u>
<u>KIA</u> 5. Radio Operator	<u>Liebhmann, David Peter</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>16155498</u>	<u>5 MIA</u>
<u>KIA</u> 6. Top Turret	<u>Brown, Virgil Darrah</u>	<u>Sgt</u>	<u>36074292</u>	<u>1 MIA</u>
<u>KIA</u> 7. Ball Turret	<u>Schoonover, Henry Kermit</u>	<u>Sgt</u>	<u>35780646</u>	<u>7 MIA</u>
<u>EUS</u> 8. Tail Gunner	<u>Klumpp, Kenneth Bernard</u>	<u>Sgt</u>	<u>36706226</u>	<u>4 MIA RTD</u>
<u>KIA</u> 9. Waist Gunner	<u>Marfeld, Louis Leonard</u>	<u>Sgt</u>	<u>37680091</u>	<u>6 MIA</u>

10.
11.

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Incl 24' 03322

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted		Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
				by Radio	Last Sighted		
1.	Carson, Allen H.	Hgt	33703618		X		
2.	Ted, Kalland Barrett	Hgt	32600038		X		
3.	Stagg, Edward H.	Sgt	32470669		X		

13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used no; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash no; or (c) Any other reason (Specify) _____

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 12 September 1944

J. R. Wyatt (V-6)
(Signature of Preparing Office)

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:

J. R. WYATT,
Captain, Air Corps,
Asst. Adjutant.

Incl 1



C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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 545th A/C # 058 MISSION DATE 11 Sept., 1944
FIRST PILOT James W. Chadwick 2nd Lt. 0-764608 DESTINATION Merseburg/Leuna, Germany
NAME RANK ASN

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

- (a) By coordinates Approx. 5120N-1155E
(b) Approximate altitude 18,000 feet
(c) Last noted heading Unknown
(d) If out of formation, approximate distance from formation
10,000 feet below and slightly behind formation.

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

A/C 058 received a direct hit by flak, which was moderate to intense and accurate continuously pointed fire in the area.
No E/A encountered by the formation up to that time, but E/A did appear a few minutes after A/C 058 had left formation and was lost to sight.

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

A/C 058 hit by flak in bomb bay, bombs were immediately released and aircraft caught fire.

4. If aircraft was out of control describe appearance:

Upon being hit, A/C 058 dived to 18,000 feet and leveled off. A/C was then lost to sight.

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

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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

No chutes observed.


7. Any other remarks not covered by above:

None

8. Date of report 11 September, 1944.

<u>EYE-WITNESSES:</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>A/C #</u>
1.	Allen G. Carson	Sgt.	33703616	501
2.	Kniland E. Tod	Sgt.	39609036	501
3.	Edward B. Stone	Sgt.	32470569	501
4.				

INTERROGATING OFFICER (Sign Original and one copy):

 RALPH E. LUND	1st Lt.	0-874848	S-2 Officer
NAME	RANK	ASN	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-S-AAF-M, subject "Missing Air Crew Report", 7 July 1944.

Incl 2

C O N F I D E N T I A L

*9. INSTALLED WEAPONS

- a. 1295045 Buffalo Arms Corporations
- b. 1292731 Buffalo Arms Corporation
- c. 952791 Savage Arms Company
- d. 1295498 Buffalo Arms Corporation
- e. 952995 Savage Arms Company
- f. 952305 Savage Arms Company
- g. 1295146 Buffalo Arms Corporation
- h. 952487 Savage Arms Company
- i. 952781 Savage Arms Company
- j. 1293272 Buffalo Arms Corporation
- k. 1295387 Buffalo Arms Corporation
- l. 1295373 Buffalo Arms Corporation
- m. 744826 Colt Patton Arms Company

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8903
W-J-6
X U 2941

TELEGRAM FORM

DISTANCE - MESSAGE

LSOU 219

-OBERURSEL-

NAME OF DISTANCE-MESSAGE WRITER:

ACCEPTED:

DELIVERED:

RECEIVED:

DATE:-

TIME:

TO:

DATE: 15 September 1944

THROUGH:

TIME: 1700

ROLL:

FROM: LSEB

THROUGH: FASS

REMARKS:

.- S S D - LEAB No 219 13 September 1944 (2250)

To: RESEARCH BOARD WEST, O B E R U R S E L .-

Forwarded to: AIR BASE COMMAND III, Ic BERLIN-DAHLEM.- to: RESEARCH BOARD WEST

OBERURSEL.-To: AIR BASE COMMAND DISTRICT 7/III, GROSSENHAUSEN.-

Downing of a BOEING B 17 by Flak near ZECHAU - LESSEN, 11 km NW of ALTENBURG.
on 11 September 1944 at 1250, Identification not recognized.- 98% damage.-

7 dead

1 wounded

1 Prisoner of War.-

AIR BASE COMMAND O 35/III, ALTENBURG.-

6-3224, AF(5)

No 2941,

K U 2941

Refers to J.. 2081, K U 2881

IDENTIFICATION TAG:

1.) K L U M P P , KENNETH B.

36706215

T 42- 43

A

P

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 8903

Name of crew member: **MURFELD, Louis Leonard**
Rank: **Sgt.**
Serial number: **37680091**
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Engineer (Engineer)~~: **Waist Gunner**

Did he bail out? No Knowledge

Where? No Knowledge

If not, why not? No Knowledge

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Reported
OK on Oxygen check

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? No Knowledge

Any hearsay information: None

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: 9

Dates and destinations if possible: (1) Murseburg (2) Peta moon day
(3) Gelsenkirchen (4) Ludswighaven (5) Ludswighaven
(6) Ludswighaven (7) Ludswighaven (8) Ludswighaven (9) Murseburg

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 8903

Name of crew member: SCHOONOVER, Henry Kermit
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 35760646
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~gunner (Bomber)~~: Ball Turret

Did he bail out? No Knowledge

Where? No Knowledge

If not, why not? No Knowledge

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Reported
OK on oxygen check 5 min before crash of plane

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? No Knowledge

Any hearsay information: None

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: 9

Dates and destinations if possible: (1) Marseburg (2) Pelemondey
(3) Gelsenkirchen (4) (8) Ludswighaven (9) Marseburg

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 8903

Name of crew member: **LIERMANN, David Peter**
Rank: **S./Sgt.**
Serial number: **16155498**
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~maneuvering (Bomber)~~: **Radio Operator**

Did he bail out? No Knowledge

Where? No Knowledge

If not, why not? No Knowledge

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Reported OK on oxygen check 5 min. before loss of plane

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? No Knowledge

Any hearsay information: None

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: No Knowledge

Dates and destinations if possible: No Knowledge

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 8903

Name of crew member: **VERBRYKE, Robert Merrill**
Rank: **2nd Lt.**
Serial number: **0-769323**
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~managing the plane~~: **Bombardier**

Did he bail out? No Knowledge

Where? No Knowledge

If not, why not? No Knowledge

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Reported
OK on oxygen check 5 min before loss of plane

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? No Knowledge

Any hearsay information: None

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: 6

Dates and destinations if possible: (1) Murseberg (2 to 5) Ledsmighaven
(6) Murseberg

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 8903

Name of crew member: **BRANTHAM, Edgar Harry**
Rank: **2nd Lt.**
Serial number: **O-824132**
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~as a Navigator (Fighter)~~: **Co-Pilot**

Did he bail out? No Knowledge

Where? No Knowledge

If not, why not? No Knowledge

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Reported
another run on Target just before loss of plane

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? No Knowledge

Any hearsay information: None

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: 9

Dates and destinations if possible: (1) Merseburg (2) Gelsenkirchen
(3) Pe. Tamevndey (4 to 8) Ludwigshafen (9) Merseburg

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 8903

Name of crew member: CHADWICK, James Woodrow
Rank: 2nd Lt.
Serial number: 0-764608
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~as a flight engineer~~ (Pilot): Pilot

Did he bail out? No Knowledge

Where? No Knowledge

If not, why not? No Knowledge

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Reported
OK on oxygen check 5 min. before loss of Plane

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? No Knowledge

Any hearsay information: None

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: 9

Dates and destinations if possible: (1) Marseburg (2) Petamondy
(3) Gelsenkirchen (4) T-8) Ledswighaven (9) Marseburg

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Klump/Kenneth B. Rank Sgt. Serial No. 34706226
2. Organization 384 Gp Commander _____ Rank _____ Sqn CO _____ Rank _____
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month Sept. day 11 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Bombing, target, Murksburg, target time, 11:30, altitude, 28,000 route scheduled, _____, route flown _____
5. Where were you when you left formation? Over Target
6. Did you bail out? Yes
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Yes
8. Tell all you know about when, where, how each person in your aircraft for whom no individual questionnaire is attached bailed out. A crew list is attached. Please give facts. If you don't know, say: "No Knowledge". No Knowledge
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? No Knowledge
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) No Knowledge
11. Where were they in aircraft? No Knowledge
12. What was their condition? No Knowledge
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? Have never seen him
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. No Knowledge

(Any additional information may be written on the back)