

CONFIDENTIAL

11128

Classification changed
to **RESTRICTED**
by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AC
by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AC
Date MAR 15 1946

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 384th ; Squadron 545th ; Detachment _____
2. SPECIFY: Place of departure Grafton-Underwood, England ; Course As Briefed
Target or Intended Destination Zeitz, Germany Type of Mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: _____
10/10 undercast. Dense persistent contrails.
4. GIVE: (a) Day 30 Month Nov Year 1944 ; Time 1349 ; and Location 5102 N, 1217 E
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 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 (x) ; Other Circumstances
as Follows: _____
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17G ; AAF Serial Number 44-8409 ✓
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if any _____
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series _____ ; AAF Serial
Number (a) SW-025227 ; (b) SW-025234 ; (c) SW-025257 ; (d) SW-025242
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number);
(a) 667030 KH ; (b) 667902 KH ; (c) 650380 Frig. ; (d) _____ ;
(e) 667403 KH ; (f) 667906 KH ; (g) 647667 Frig. ; (h) _____ ;
(i) 669438 KH ; (j) 670637 KH ; (k) 668434 KH ; (l) _____ ;
(m) 668484 KH ; (n) 667204 KH ; (o) 667213 KH ; (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
<i>KIA</i> Pilot	<i>Cham</i> , Arthur Dexter	2nd Lt.	0-771303	MIA <i>KIA</i>
<i>KIA</i> Co-Pilot	<i>Williams</i> , Charles LeRoy	2nd Lt.	0-927509	MIA <i>Pow</i>
<i>KIA</i> Navigator	<i>Gerlach</i> , Menceslaus Anthony	2nd Lt.	0-722778	MIA <i>KIA</i>
<i>KIA</i> Bombardier	<i>Chidley</i> , Jack Ramon	2nd Lt.	0-2063158	MIA <i>EVS RTD</i>
<i>KIA</i> Radio Oper.	<i>Forstich</i> , Gert Gerald Fabian	Sgt.	14033355	MIA <i>EVS RTD</i>
<i>KIA</i> Top Turret	<i>Pepprose</i> , Rodney (JMI)	Sgt.	19064123	MIA <i>KIA</i>
<i>KIA</i> Ball Turret	<i>Sherman</i> , John Junior	Sgt.	33679930	MIA <i>KIA</i>
<i>KIA</i> Tail Gunner	<i>Bergesen</i> , Wesley C.	Sgt.	37584238	MIA <i>EVS RTD</i>
<i>KIA</i> Waist Gun	<i>Love</i> , Robert Leroy	Sgt.	35549602	MIA <i>KIA</i>
10.				
11.				

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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.	Stoner, Harper S.	S/Sgt.	33503479		x		
2.	Becerra, Richard J. Jr.	S/Sgt.	39284618		x		
3.	Carson, Allen G.	S/Sgt.	33703616				

13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used _____; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash _____; 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 8 December 1944

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:

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

Incl 4



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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 545 A/C # 44-8409 MISSION DATE 11/30/44
FIRST PILOT Arthur D. Champ 2nd Lt. O-771303 DESTINATION Zeitz, Germany
NAME RANK ASN

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

- (a) By coordinates 51 02 N. 12 17 E.
(b) Approximate altitude 25,200
(c) Last noted heading 032 (Axis of attack of lead A/C)

(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):

Intense and accurate antiaircraft fire over the target.
No enemy fighter opposition.

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

Aircraft received a direct burst of flak in the gas tanks between #3 and #4 engines, it pulled out of formation, the right wing fell off and A/C exploded at approximately 4,000 to 5,000 ft.

4. If aircraft was out of control describe appearance:

Spinning and observed to explode at 4,000 to 5,000 ft.

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.).

None.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(3)

11128

32

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

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

Four chutes seen to emerge.

7. Any other remarks not covered by above:

None.

8. Date of report 7 December, 1944.

<u>EYE-WITNESSES:</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>A/C #</u>
1.	H. S. Stoner	S/Sgt.	33503479	971
2.	R. J. Becerra, Jr.	S/Sgt.	39284618	971
3.	A. C. Carson	S/Sgt.	33703616	678
4.	J. J. Marmosewicz	S/Sgt.	36634243	678

INTERROGATING OFFICER (Sign Original and one copy):

<u>Samuel F. Aranz</u>	<u>Captain</u>	<u>O-569672</u>	<u>S-2 Officer</u>
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.

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

2nd Lt. Jack R. Chidley

Mr. Clarence H. Chidley (father) ✓
714 S. Lincoln Street
Casper, Wyoming

2nd Lt. Meneslaus A. Gerlach

Mrs. Christeen L. Gerlach (wife) ✓
2120 No Lorrel Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

2nd Lt. Charles L. Williams

Mrs. Beatrice L. Barnard (mother) ✓
14033 Cherrylawn Street
Detroit, Michigan

2nd Lt. Arthur D. Champ

Mrs. Daisy M. Champ (mother) ✓
Bemis, West Virginia

Sgt. Robert L. Love

Mrs. Mary M. Love (wife) ✓
132 West Willow Street
Butler, Indiana

Sgt. John J. Sherman

Mr. Solomon J. Sherman (father) ✓
Box # 47
Duke Center, Pennsylvania

Sgt. Gerald F. Foretich

Mrs. Mae C. Foretich (mother) ✓
1713 22nd Avenue
Gulfport, Mississippi

Sgt. Rodney Penrose

Mr. Earl E. Penrose (father) ✓
General Delivery
Chinasso Camp, California

Sgt. Wesley C. Borgeson

Mrs. Margaret A. Borgeson (mother) ✓
Rural Free Delivery, Number One
Park River, North Dakota

952

File 11128
201 Borgeson, Wesley C.

1st Ind

PPA-8
CE/SR/fw

Headquarters Lowry Field, Denver, Colorado, 9 October 1945

TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington, D. C.

Inclosed herewith statement of Sergeant Wesley C. Borgeson, ASN 37 584 238, as requested in basic communication.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

115283

1 Incl:

1. Statement of
Sgt Borgeson

F. C. Tittes
F. C. TITTES
1st Lt, AC
Asst Adj

201 Borgeson, Wesley C.

1st Ind

CE/SR/fw

Headquarters Lowry Field, Denver, Colorado, 9 October 1945

TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington, D. C.

Inclosed herewith statement of Sergeant Wesley C. Borgeson, ASN 37 584 238, as requested in basic communication.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

1 Incl:

1. Statement of
Sgt Borgeson

F. C. TITUS

1st Lt, AC
Asst Adj





IN REPLY REFER TO:

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON



24 Sept 45

SUBJECT: Sergeant Wesley C. Borgeson, 37584238

TO: Commanding Officer
3705 AAF Base Unit
Lowry Field, Colorado

1. It is requested that Sergeant Borgeson be interrogated with reference to any information which he may know concerning the loss of Lieutenant Arthur D. Champ and other members of the crew.

2. Lieutenant Champ was the pilot on the B-17 bomber of which Sergeant Borgeson was the tail gunner and was reported killed in action on 30 November 1944, on a mission to Zeitz, Germany.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL ARNOLD:

182838

N. W. Reed

N. W. REED

Major, Air Corps

Chief, Notification Section

Personal Affairs Branch

Personal Services Division, AC/AS-1

SQUADRON 1
LOWRY FIELD
DENVER, COLO.

3 October, 1945

TO: THE COMMANDING GENERAL, U.S. ARMY AIR FORCES

SUBJECT: STATEMENT ON CIRCUMSTANCES CONCERNING THE
CREW OF SGT. WESLEY C. BORGESON, TAIL
GUNNER ON 2nd LT. ARTHUR D. CHAMP'S CREW.

I was on a mission to Zietz, Germany, on the 30 November 1944, flying as a member of the 545th Heavy Bomb Squadron, 384th Bomb Group. On the second bomb run over the target we were hit by anti aircraft fire before we dropped our bombs. The plane immediately started to burn and blew up in about 5 or 10 seconds. As soon as it caught on fire I went back to my escape door and prepared to bail out. The interphone was out and I never heard the pilot give the bail out signal, but I could see it was a bad fire and that the plane was done for. Before I had a chance to jump the plane blew up and I came down in the tail section. I was knocked unconscious by the explosion and came to 3 days later in a German hospital. I know that I came down in the tail because my radioman saw my parachute and it had never been opened. Also I talked to a French prisoner of war that with a German soldier found me in the tail section. The radioman parachuted out and since I have been back in the United States I have learned that the co-pilot, 2nd Lt. Charles Williams of Detroit, and bombardier, 2nd Lt. Jack R. Chidley of Casper, Wyo have been reported prisoners of war. I never saw them or heard of them while I was in Germany. I was with Gerald F. Foretich for about 2 months in Germany. He was shipped to a different camp so we became separated. The navigator, Lt. Gurlock or Garlock, was found some distance from the plane with a wound on his chest. He had apparently jumped out and was hit with some flak shrapnel and was either killed or so severely injured he couldn't open his parachute. The Frenchman also told us this. He was the only crew member wearing a back pack that day, and the man mentioned had a back pack on. The rest of the crew I know nothing about except they were reported killed in action.

The other members of the crew are as follows; 2nd Lt. Arthur D. Champ, pilot, Sgt. Rodney Fenrose, engineer, Sgt. Gerald F. Foretich, radioman, Sgt. John Sherman, Ball turret gunner, Sgt. Robert L. Love, waist gunner. The navigator wasn't our regular one so I am not sure of the spelling of his name.

I believe Lt. Champ could have gotten out had he not stayed with the plane until the other crew members could get out. I believe he should be awarded the Silver Star or The Distinguished Flying cross for this act of heroism.

This all I know about the circumstances surrounding our being shot down.

Wesley C. Borgeson
Sgt. Wesley C. Borgeson
37584238

11128

30 Nov 44 , Wintersdorf 13.45 PM
10 KM North-West ~~XXXXXX~~ Altenburg
Flak (A)

Fortress B 17

Air Base Altenburg

95 % Loss

Lt Camp, Arthur	dead
" Willcamp, Arthur (Hospital)	" ?
" L Gerlach M.A.	"
" Willcamp, Charles (Hospital)	" ?
Sgt Luvr, Robert	"
" Sherman, John	"
" Penlose, Rottuci	"
" Vorstice, Gerald (Hospital)	" ?

5 dead

2 wounded, Hospital Zippendorf.

FORM #2

RestrictedREPORT ON CAPTURED AIRCRAFT

POST: Air - Base Headquarters A (o) 35/III Altenberg/ Thueringen
 Air - Base Section Command 7 /III

LOCATION: Altenburg, Thueringen

DATE: 5 Dec 1944

DATE AND TIME:

AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN 30 Nov 1944 14.00

PLACE OF CRASH: Wintersdorf, 10 KM North-West Altenburg/Thuer.
 (NEAREST TOWN)

KIND OF CAPTURE: Flak, Explosion in air.
 (FLAK, HUNTER, NIGHT HUNTER,
 EMERGENCY LANDING)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Boeing B 17 G 65 VE

MARKINGS OF CRAFT: P in black triangle / On nose: Airforce, Ser.No. 44-8409 ✓
 (LETTERS, FRONT OR REAR OF INSIGNIA)

ADMITTANCE NO: Could not be found

EQUIPMENT:

F.T. FREQUENCIES:

CONDITION OF AIRCRAFT: 95 % Loss , Downwd on return-flight.

DELIVERED TO DISTRIBUTOR: Interrogation Center West, Oberursel.
 (DULOG -LUFT, ETC.)

Air-Craft guarded by: National guard.

Disposition of crew: 6 dead.

1. 2nd Lt.	Charles L. Williams	0-927509
2. Sgt	Rodney Penrose	19064123
3. 2nd Lt	Menceslaus A. Gerlach	722778
4. -	John J. Sherman	33679930
5. -	Robert L. Love	35549602
6. -	Arthur D. Champ	771305

Cemetery Wintersdorf
 10 KM North-West Altenburg

Fuselage: 98 % Loss Wings: 90% Loss Landing gear: 90% Loss

Tail Asseblly: 95% Loss.

Type of engine: Wright Cyclone R 1820-97 1.) SW 025242 70% Loss ✓
 2.) SW 025227 80% " ✓
 3.) could not be ascertained due to unfit position.

3 Blade-Metal propeller, Type: Hamilto n-Standard No: 6477A -0

Serial Number of blades could not be found. Radius: 1750 mm

Armament: 3 MG 12,7 Calibre Twins, mounted below nose of plane, flexible.
 6 MG Illing, mounted in Stern.

Rear-Sight : Not found. Amunition: 12,7 calibre, about 500 shot, in belt.

6-3224.AP(4)

Mixing-ratio: 1:4 (1 red tip: 43 TW, 4 blue tip: 4 TW)
Bombs: None
Bomb-rack: Burned
Bomb-Sight: Not found
Armor Plating: 5 mm across Implements board in Pilot-Stand
Camera: Not found
Number of fuel Containers: about 10 in wings.

Type tags will be sent in after salvage.

Transmitted by phone to signal point 7, Flight-Staff-Engineer Peseler:
30 Nov 44 , 23.30

by Master Sgt Michlig

1 Officers Identification ~~XXXX~~ Card No. 1122150 for:
2nd Lt. Menceslaus A. Gerlach 0722778

1 Pilot and Crew-member Physicle Record Card for:
Charles L. Williams

1 Instrument Pilot certificate for: Charles L. Williams 2nd Lt O-927509

1 Officers Pay data Book for:

1 receipt of payment for "Sports Digest" for: Sgt Rodney Penrose

1 Identification tag: Sherman, Jehn E. 33679930 T-43-44 O.P.

1 " " : Champ, Arthur D O-771303 T-42-43 A.O.

1 " " : M.A. Gerlach O-722778 T-42-43 B.C.

1 " " : Rodney Penrose 19064123 T-42-43 A.P.

1 " " : Love, Robert L. 35549602 T-43-44 B.P.

TELEGRAM FORM

DISTANCE - MESSAGE

-OBERURSEL-

NAME OF DISTANCE-MESSAGE WRITER: LBL 13

ACCEPTED:

DELIVERED:

RECEIVED:

DATE:-

TIME:

TO:

DATE: 1 Dec 1944

THROUGH:

TIME: 18.50

ROLL:

FROM: LLFA

THROUGH: Nickele

REMARKS: -Highest priority- LBAB 881 30 Nov 20.55

To Interrogation Center West, Oberursel.
Sent to Air District Command III / I c Berlin - Dahlem
To Interrogation Center West, Oberursel.
To Air Base Section Command III/ 7 Grossenhain.

10 KM north-west of Altenburg near Wintersdorf 13.45 30 Nov 44 Boeing B-17
probably downed by Flak. 95% Loss. 5 Dead, 1 severely wounded, 1 moderately
severe wounded, transferred to PW Hospital Zipsendorf by members of Community
Wintersdorf.

Air - Base Headquarters A (o) 35 III Altenburg, Signed Dr Guenther, Major.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11122

Name of crew member:

LOVE, Robert Leroy

Rank:

Sgt.

Serial number:

3594602

Position: Crew (Bomber) on ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Waist Gunner

Did he bail out? UN KNOWN

Where? _____

If not, why not? SEEMED TO BE UNCONCIOUSLast contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: HE HAD VOMITED
IN HIS OXYGEN MASK + I WAS HELPING HIM PUT ON ANOTHER ONEWas he injured? UNKNOWN. HE SEEMED TO BE SUFFERING FROM ANOXIA.Where was he when last seen? LYING ON WAIST FLOORAny hearsay information: NONE. - (SEE BELOW)

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: I WAS TOLD
BY THE GERMANS AND SOME FRENCH "PW'S" THAT SIX (6) OF THE
CREW WERE KILLED. I ASKED A FRENCH DOCTOR (DR CHENNET)
TO INVESTIGATE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE AND TO SEE IF HE
COULD GET A DECENT BURIAL FOR THE DEAD CREW MEMBERS.Total number of missions of above crew member: ONE (1)Dates and destinations if possible: DR. CHENNET TOLD ME THAT ALL
SIX OF THE CREW WERE BURIED AT WINTERSDORF
GERMANY ON OR ABOUT DECEMBER 6, 1944

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: SHERMAN, John Junior
Rank: 1st Lt.
Serial number: 33679930
Position: Crew (Bomber) on ~~XXXXXX~~: Ball Turret

Did he bail out? UNKNOWN

Where?

If not, why not? UNKNOWN

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

NO CONTACT. HE WAS IN THE BALL TURRET FROM ^{AFTER} TAKE OFF

Was he injured? UNKNOWN

Where was he when last seen? OVER ENGLAND AFTER TAKE OFF

Any hearsay information: NONE

Source:

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

NONE — SEE ROBERT LOVE'S

QUESTIONNAIRE

Total number of missions of above crew member: (3) Three

Dates and destinations if possible:

NONE

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11121

Name of crew member:

PHELAN, Rodney (MIA)

Rank:

Sgt.

Serial number:

1906183

Position: Crew (Bomber) of ~~LIBERTY BELL~~:

Top turret

Did he bail out? UNKNOWNWhere? If not, why not? UNKNOWNLast contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: NONEWas he injured? UNKNOWNWhere was he when last seen? BEFORE TAKE OFFAny hearsay information: NOSource: Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: NONESEE ROBERT LOVE QUESTIONNAIRETotal number of missions of above crew member: (1) oneDates and destinations if possible: none.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11125

Name of crew member:

WILLIAMS, Charles LeRoy

Rank:

2nd Lt.

Serial number:

O-927509

Position: Crew (Bomber) on ~~Flight~~ Co-Pilot:

Co-Pilot

Did he bail out? UNKNOWNWhere? If not, why not? UNKNOWNLast contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: NONEWas he injured? UNKNOWNWhere was he when last seen? BEFORE TAKE OFFAny hearsay information: NONESource: Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: SEE ROBERT LOVE QUESTIONNAIRETotal number of missions of above crew member: (1) OneDates and destinations if possible: NONE

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11122

Name of crew member:

CHAMP, Arthur Dexter

Rank:

2nd Lt.

Serial number:

O-771393

Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Engineer (Bomber)~~:

Pilot

Did he bail out? UNKNOWNWhere? If not, why not? UNKNOWNLast contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: NONEWas he injured? UNKNOWNWhere was he when last seen? BEFORE TAKE OFFAny hearsay information: NONESource: Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: SEE ROBERT LOVE QUESTIONNAIRETotal number of missions of above crew member: (3) ThreeDates and destinations if possible: NONE

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Gerald F. Foretich Rank S/SGT Serial No. 14033355
2. Organization 384 Gp Commander ? Rank ? Sqd CO STONE Rank MAJOR
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month NOVEMBER day 30 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, MUSELWITZ, target, ?, target,
time, APPROX 1230, altitude, 28000 FT route scheduled, ?
route flown ?
5. Where were you when you left formation? APPROX TWO MINUTES AFTER BOMBS AWAY
6. Did you bail out? BLOWN OUT WHEN PLANE EXPLODED
7. Did other members of crew bail out? BOMBARDIER WAS BLOWN OUT & TAIL GUNNER FELL WITH TAIL SECTION. NO KNOWLEDGE OF OTHERS
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".
SEE QUESTION # 7
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? WINTERSDORF GERMANY
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? ROBERT L. LOVE - WAIST GUNNER - WAS LYING ON WAIST FLOOR. HE WAS ON FIRE AND HE WAS UNCONSCIOUS.
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)

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11125

Name of crew member:

LOVE, Robert Leroy

Rank:

Sgt.

Serial number:

35549602

Position: Crew (Bomber) of ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Waist Gunner

Did he bail out? 2 don't know. I doubt it very much.

Where? _____

If not, why not? He was sick at the time the plane was hit. The Radio man was back helping him when we were hit.Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: My last contact was an oxygen check about 5 minutes before we were hit

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? In the waist sitting on the floor.Any hearsay information: There was reported that there were 6 or seven graves of airmen that were shot down on the said Nov. 30, 1944. This would account for all the missing men on the crew.Source: A Frenchman, a prisoner, working in the vicinity we were shot down.Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Just before we were hit Love became sick and was vomiting. When the radio man went back to help him he had him sick off and was almost of from avocia. He was trying to clear his mask then. We were hit then and my radio man barely got out himself. The plane was burning and swinging back and forth. This was all told to me by the radio man who was a prisoner.Total number of missions of above crew member: This was his firstDates and destinations if possible: We were shot down Nov. 30, 1944
our target was Zintz Germany.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11125

Name of crew member:

BERMAN, John Junior

Rank:

1st.

Serial number:

33679930

Position: Crew (Bomber) of ~~C-47~~:

Ball Turret

Did he bail out?

I don't know.

Where?

If not, why not?

I doubt if he had time.

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

Was he injured?

Where was he when last seen?

in the Ball turret.

Any hearsay information:

Same as previous questionnaire.

I don't remember anything about what happened. I was knocked unconscious when the plane exploded and came down in the tail section. I don't even remember the plane being hit. All the information I have is what Gerald F. Forstich the radioman told me after we became prisoners and what

Source:

Like the Frenchmen told us.

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

I remember

nothing about that second bomb run. except that we started it and that we had an oxygen check and everyone answered. I don't know anything else until I woke up about 4 days after we were shot down.

Total number of missions of above crew member:

Went down on third.

Dates and destinations if possible:

Nov. 30, 1944 Target Zitz

Germany.

See about navigator.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11126

Name of crew member:

PHEMER, Rodney (DMS)

Rank:

Sgt.

Serial number:

19064123

Position: Crew (Bomber) on ~~mission~~ (Bomber):

Sgt. Barrett

No knowledge

Did he bail out? _____

Where? _____

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of 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: On his first

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: GERLACH, Menceslaus Anthony
Rank: 2nd Lt.
Serial number: 0-722778
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~0-722778~~: Navigator

Did he bail out? _____

Where? _____

If not, why not? _____

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

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: *To the best of my knowledge he was wearing a back type parachute that day the only crew member wearing one. A man was found quite a distance from the wreck with that kind of parachute. (unopened) He had a wound on his chest. My supposition is that when he bailed out he was hit by flack and was therefore unable to open his chute.*

Source: *The same person that told us about the graves*

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

I know nothing about what happened to the rest of the crew other than the no. of missions each had.

Total number of missions of above crew member: *Unknown. Not our reg. Navigator*

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11128

Name of crew member:

WILLIAMS, Charles LeRoy

Rank:

2nd Lt.

Serial number:

O-927509

Position: Crew (Bomber) on ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~:

Co-Pilot

No Knowledge

Did he bail out? _____

Where? _____

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of 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: *His first.*

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11122

Name of crew member:

Rank:

Serial number:

Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Engineer~~ ^{Pilot}:

CHAMP, Arthur Dexter

2nd Lt.

O-771303

Pilot

No Brow edge

Did he bail out? _____

Where? _____

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of 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:

Went down on his third

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

