

11760

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classification changed
 to ~~RESTRICTED~~
 by E. A. FRADWILL, Lt. Col., AC
 by F. M. BROWN, Capt., AC
 Date ~~20 JUL 50~~

100-3624-2625
 Meadows
 Kopyczynski
 Van Ornum
 Harlbert

Date	Writer	Wrote About
11 MAR 46	AGO	VAN ORNUM
25 APR 46	LT SACKS	HINNERSHOTS
"	"	TOON
"	"	FRANCIS
"	"	McDONNELL
"	"	TASKER

48 28

8 29

4 SE

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Classification changed

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~to **RESTRICTED**
by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AC
by F. M. MUECH, Capt., AC
Date 22 15 1946WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

11760

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 Molesworth, Eng Command or Air Force 8th A.F. Group 303rd B.G.; Squadron 359th; Detachment ----
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure Molesworth, Eng.; Course See attached chart.
Target or Intended Destination Aschaffenburg, Ger. Type of Mission Bombardment
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: 3-5/10ths cloud, tops 18-20,000 feet, Visibility good.
4. GIVE: (a) Day 21 Month January Year 1945 Time 1120 Location 48°27'N-08°20'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 available ().
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: A/C was involved in a mid-air collision with another A/C from this Group.
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17G; AAF Serial Number 42-97058
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if Any Scorchy
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1820-97; AAF Serial Number (a) SW-023522; (b) SW-025461; (c) SW-007002; (d) 42-77718
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number):
(a) 638891 FDGM; (b) 638251 FDGM; (c) 638852 FDGM; (d) 652371 FDGM;
(e) 949955 SA; (f) 950025 SA; (g) 1181870 SA; (h) 949964 SA;
(i) 898798 BA; (j) (2 others unknown); (l) _____;
(m) _____; (n) _____; (o) _____; (p) _____
10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X
of (b) Non Battle Casualty _____
11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10; Passengers 0; Total 10
(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	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Current Status
1. Pilot	TASKER, RICHARD F.	2nd Lt.	0-826029	MIA
2. Co-Pilot	FRANCIS, ANGELITO (NMI)	2nd Lt.	0-828998	MIA
3. Navigator	MEADOWS, CLYDE (NMI)	F/O	T-129168	MIA
4. Bombardier	MC DONNELL, JOHN J.	2nd Lt.	0-2063189	MIA
5. Top Turret	TOON, WILLIAM D.	S/Sgt.	11090807	MIA
6. Radio Gunner	HINNERSHOTS, BRUCE H.	S/Sgt.	33371029	MIA
7. Ball Turret	KAPCZYNSKI, PAUL B.	Sgt.	33427064	MIA
8. Waist Gunner	VAN ORNUM, CHARLES S.	S/Sgt.	39575057	MIA
9. Tail Gunner	DRIVER, ARTHUR H.	Sgt.	19195058	MIA
10. Voice Int.	HURLBUTT, CARL R.	S/Sgt.	16035994	MIA
11.				

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

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Check Only One Column			Saw Forced Landing
			Contacted by radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	
1. CHALMERS, JOHN D.	F/O	T-126685		X		
2. GARZA, DAVID (NMI)	S/Sgt.	38462212		X		
3.						

(Over)

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Incl 10'

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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)

Indefinite report three parachutes were seen.

14. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN OR HEARD FROM. See attached chart.
15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT. See S-2 Summary attached.
16. GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH, IF ANY, INCLUDING DESCRIPTION AND EXTENT None.

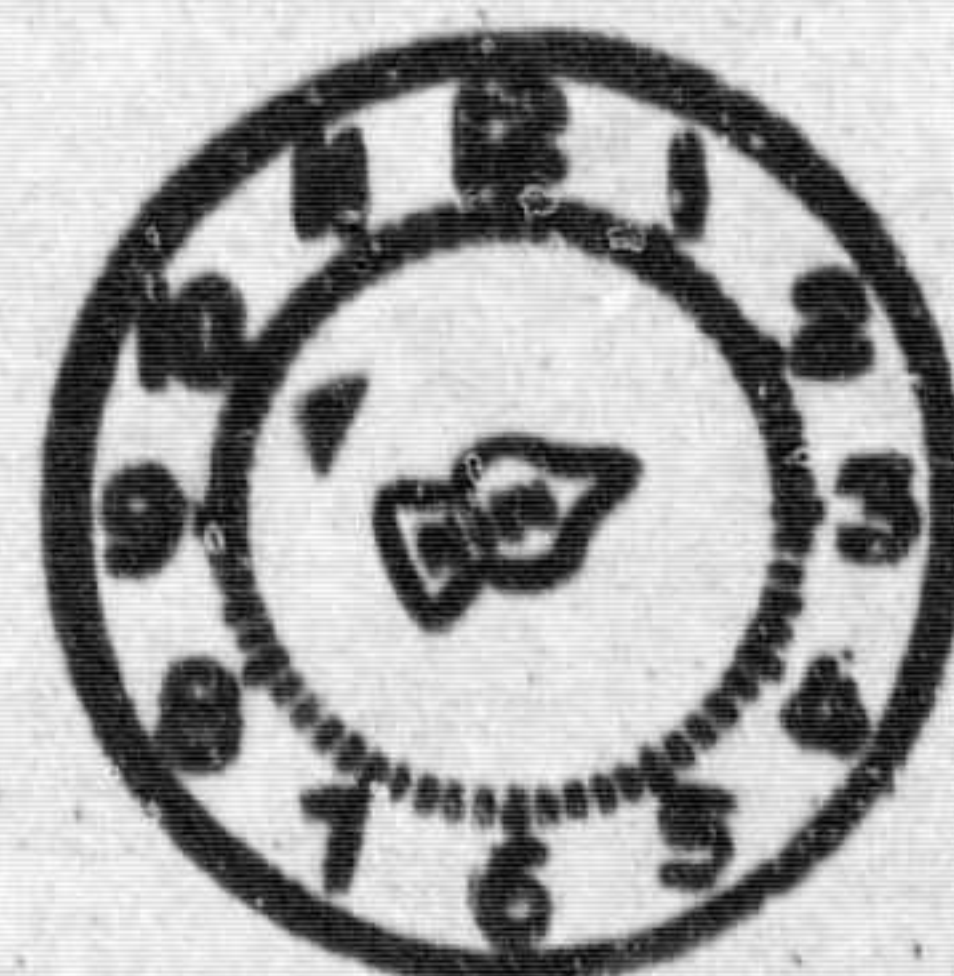
Date of Report 22 January 1945

Joseph G. Robinson
(Signature of Preparing Officer)
JOSEPH G. ROBINSON,
Captain, AC.

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:

See S-2 Summary attached.

MAR 2 1945



RECEIVED

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 303rd B. SQ 359th A/C # 42-97058 MISSION DATE 21 January 1945

FIRST PILOT TASKER, RICHARD F. 2nd Lt. O-826029 DESTINATION Aschaffenburg, Ger.
NAME RANK SER#

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

- (a) By coordinates 48°27'N--08°20'E
- (b) Approximate altitude 23,000 at time of collision.
- (c) Last noted heading Going down
- (d) If out of formation, approximate distance from formation Going down.

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

None

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

A/C which was leading second flight collided with the squadron leader and both A/C went down.

4. If aircraft was out of control describe appearance:

The left wing of A/C 44-8137 caught the right wing of A/C 42-97058. The wing of A/C 42-97058 came off and the A/C went down.

(Over)

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

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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.). Fighter support was present.

6. Number of parachutes seen and description of jumps (approximate altitude, time between jumps, etc.): No parachutes were seen by any crews of this Group which were flying in the high squadron of the group formation. S-2 of the 379th Bomb Group (H) which furnished the low squadron in the group formation states several crews report seeing some parachutes and bodies falling out, the number being three. Sgt. Garza was able to follow the A/C all the way to the ground. He saw no parachutes.

7. Any other remarks not covered by above:

44-8137 -- Also Missing

Reporting A/C 44-48576

42-97058 - Missing A/C.

44-6316 - Reporting A/C

8. Date of report 22 January 1945

<u>EYE-WITNESSES:</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>SFR #</u>	<u>A/C #</u>
1.	<u>CHALMERS, JOHN D.</u>	<u>F/O</u>	<u>T-126685</u>	<u>44-48576</u>
2.	<u>GARZA, DAVID (NMI)</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>38462212</u>	<u>44-6316</u>
3.				
4.				

INTERROGATING OFFICER (Sign Original and one copy):

<u>Joseph G. Robinson</u>	<u>Capt.</u>	<u>0-904618</u>	<u>Ass't S-2.</u>
<u>JOSEPH G. ROBINSON</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>SER #</u>	<u>DUTY</u>

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.

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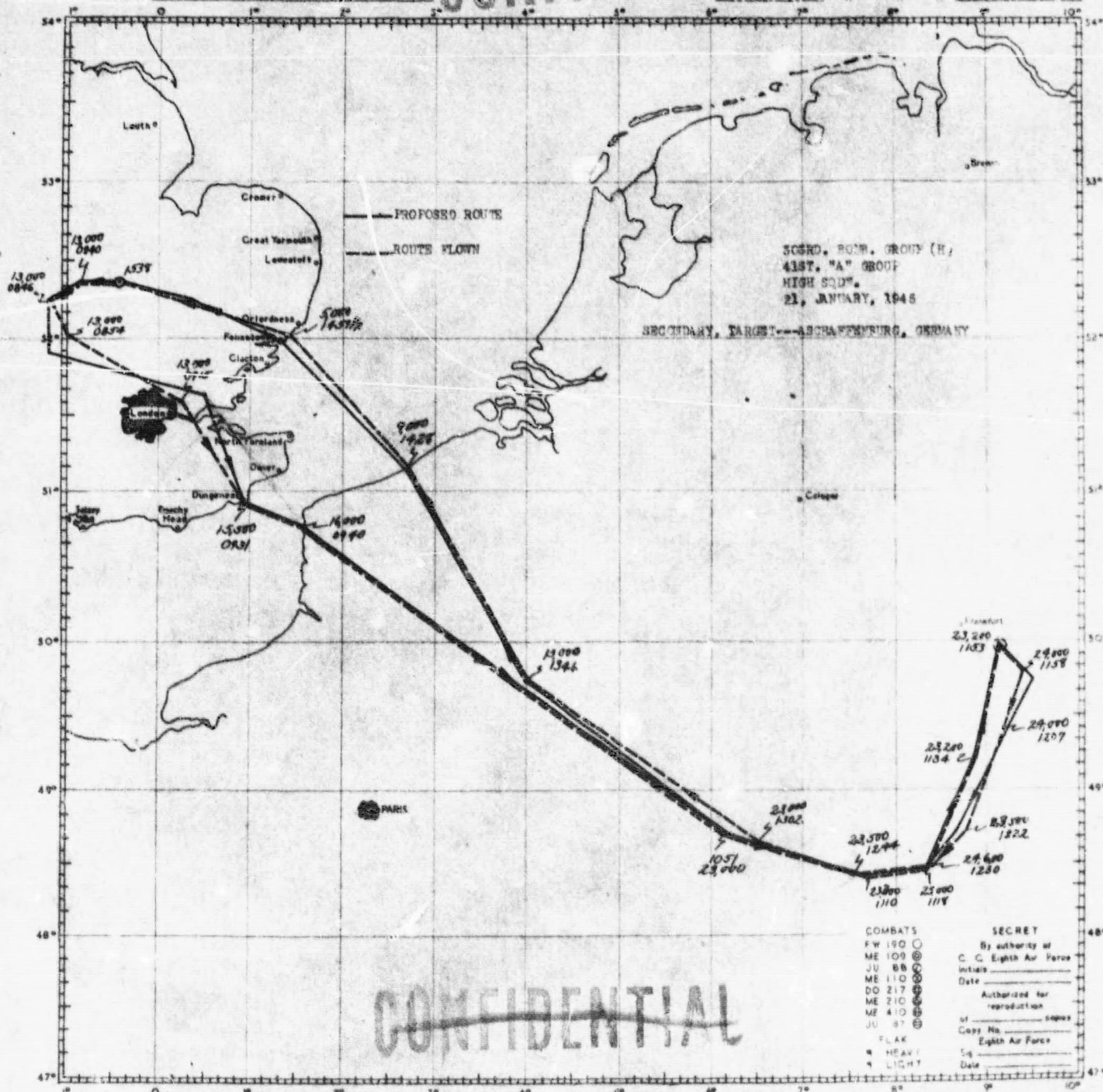
TRACK CHART

DATE _____

TARGETS
PRIMARY _____

ROUTE FOLLOWED BY _____

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COMBATS
FW 190
ME 109
JU 88
ME 110
DO 217
ME 210
ME 410
JU 87

FLAK
HEAVY
LIGHT

SECRET

By authority of
C. G. Eighth Air Force
Initials _____
Date _____
Authorized for
reproduction
of _____ copies
Copy No. _____
Eighth Air Force
Sq. _____
Date _____

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HEADQUARTERS
AAF STATION 107
APO 557, US ARMY

D-A-3

31 January 1945.

SUBJECT: Missing Air Crew Report, 2nd Lt Richard F. Tasker, O-826029.

TO : Commanding General, 1st Air Division, APO 557, U.S. Army.
(Att'n: Statistical Control).

1. The following change in Missing Air Crew Report, 2nd Lt Richard F. Tasker, O-826029, 21 January 1945 is hereby made:

Par. #4 * * * Location 48°27'-08°20'
* * *

Should read: * * * Location 49°27'-08°20'

2. Par #1(a) of S-2 Summary attached thereto should be changed in the same way.

For the Commanding Officer:

Richard P. Vinel
RICHARD P. VINEL,
Captain, AC,
Adjutant.

201.62 1st Ind. P-L-5
HEADQUARTERS 1ST AIR DIVISION, APO 557, 2 February 1945.

TO: Commanding General, Eighth Air Force, AAF Station 101, APO 634.
(Att: 21st Statistical Control Unit).

Attention is invited to basic communication.

For the Commanding General:



Harry T. Hance
HARRY T. HANCE
Major, AGD
Asst. Adjutant General

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Casualty

(Ltr Hq AAF Sta 107, APO 557, subj: "Missing Air Crew Report, 2nd Lt Richard F. Tasker, O-826029" dtd 31 Jan 45)

319.1 m. A. C. R.

2nd Inrl.

SCU-D-17

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE, APO 634, U. S. ARMY.

10 FEB 1945

TO: Commanding General, European Theater of Operations, APO 887, U. S. Army.

Attention is invited to basic communication.

For the Commanding General:



Burnis Archer
BURNIS ARCHER
Maj. A.G.D.
Asst. Adi. Gen



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7 -	2nd Lt. Richard F. Tasker	KIA	Mrs. Estella B. Tasker (Mother) 259 Hawthorne Street New Bedford, Massachusetts
2 -	2nd Lt. Angelito Francis	KIA	Mr. Joseph Francis (Father) 66 Mill Street New Bedford, Massachusetts
6 -	F/O Clyde Meadows	MIA	Mrs. Catherine S. Meadows (Wife) 987 Springdale Road Atlanta, Georgia
5 -	2nd Lt. John J. Mc Donnell	KIA	Miss Marie Mc Donnell (Sister) R. F. D. Number One Waterford, Connecticut
8 -	S/Sgt. William D. Toon	KIA	Mr. William T. Toon (Father) 33 Howitte Road West Roxbury, Massachusetts
3 -	S/Sgt. Bruce H. Hinnershots	KIA	Mr. Harry W. Hinnershots (Father) 2152 Perkidmen Avenue Mount Penn, Pennsylvania
—	Sgt. Paul B. Kapczynski	MIA	Mrs. Anna Kapczynski (Mother) 1206 Methyl Street Pittsburg, Pennsylvania
7 -	S/Sgt. Charles S. Van Ornum	MIA	Mrs. Agnes O. Van Ornum (Mother) 4040 Bemis Street Los Angeles, California
1 -	Sgt. Arthur H. Driver	KIA POW	Mrs. Betty M. Driver (Wife) 802 East First Street Ellensburg, Washington
4 -	S/Sgt. Carl R. Hurlbutt	MIA	Mrs. Naney A. Hurlbutt (Wife) 2942 West 53rd Street Chicago, Illinois

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE File # 11760

Name of crew member: FRANCIS, Angelito (NMI)
Rank: 2nd Lt.
Serial number: 0-828998
Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Flight (Fighter)~~ Co-Pilot

Did he bail out? NO

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: _____

Probably killed at time of collision

Total number of missions of above crew member: 18

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11760

Name of crew member: KAPCZYNSKI, Paul B.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 33427064
Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Flight~~ ~~(Fighter)~~ Ball Turret Gunner

Did he bail out? No

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: all the
information I can give is based on my own difficulty
in leaving the plane, and the facts given me
by the Germans in Lousburg - all the members
of my crew were killed.

Total number of missions of above crew member: only mission withDates and destinations if possible: my crew.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11760

Name of crew member: HINNERSHOTS, Bruce H.
Rank: S/Sgt.
Serial number: 33371029
Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Pilot/Fighter~~ Radio Gunner

Did he bail out? NO

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: all the

information I can give is based on my own difficulty
in leaving the plane, and the facts given me
by the Germans in Lossburg - all the members
of my crew were killed.

Total number of missions of above crew member: only mission withDates and destinations if possible: my crew

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11760

Name of crew member: VAN ORNUM, Charles S.
Rank: S/Sgt.
Serial number: 39575057
Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Flight/Fighter~~ // Waist Gunner

Did he bail out? no

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: all the
information I can give is based on my own difficulty
in leaving the plane, and the facts given me
by the Germans in Rosburg - all the members
of my crew were killed.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 21Dates and destinations if possible: not possible

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11760

Name of crew member: TOON, William D.
Rank: S/Sgt.
Serial number: 11090807
Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Flight/Fighter~~ Top Turret Gunner

Did he bail out? No

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: all the
information I can give is based on my own
difficulty in leaving the plane - and the facts
given me by the Germans in Rossburg - and
the members of my crew were killed.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 20

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11760

Name of crew member: MEADOWS, Clyde (NMI)
Rank: F/O
Serial number: T-129168
Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Flight/Navigator~~ Navigator

Did he bail out? no

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: all the
information I can give is based on my own
difficulty in leaving the plane, and the
facts given me by the German in Lorchburg,
all the members of my crew were killed.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 19

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11760

Name of crew member: TASKER, Richard F.
Rank: 2nd Lt.
Serial number: 0-826029
Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Flyer~~ / ~~(Fighter)~~ / Pilot

Did he bail out? No

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: _____

Probably killed at time of collision.Total number of missions of above crew member: 19

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name DRIVER, ARTHUR H. Rank SPT. Serial No. 17195008
2. Organization AAF Gp Commander A. X. X. Rank Y. Sqn CO COLE Rank Col.
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1945 month JAN. day 21 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, BOMBING, target, _____, target
time, 11 A.M., altitude, 23,000 ft. route scheduled, ACROSS
FRANCE TO GERMANY route flown SAME
5. Where were you when you left formation? OVER GERMANY
6. Did you bail out? YES
7. Did other members of crew bail out? NO
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".

9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? LOSSBURG, 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) 9

11. Where were they in aircraft? AIRCRAFT EXPLODED
12. What was their condition? BODIES BLOWN TO PIECES
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above?

14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. I WITNESSED THE
CRASH & EXPLOSION OF AIRCRAFT WE COLLIDED WITH-
SAW BOMBARDIER OF THAT SHIP - NO NAMES I
CAN REMEMBER AT THIS TIME - HE WAS ONLY
SURVIVOR

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 11760

Name of crew member: MC DONNELL, John J.
Rank: 2nd Lt.
Serial number: 0-2063189
Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Flight~~/~~(Fighter)~~ Bombardier

Did he bail out? No

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: all the

information I can give is based on my own
difficulty in ~~the~~ leaving the plane, and the
facts given me by the Germans in Lossburg
all the members of my crew were killed.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 18

Dates and destinations if possible: _____