

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

Classification changed
to Restricted
by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AG
by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AG
Date 15 Oct 45

MISSING AIRCRAFT REPORT

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

- ORGANIZATION: Location AAF Station 106; Command or Air Force VIII
Group 384th; Squadron 547th; Detachment _____
- SPECIFY: Point of Departure AAF Station 106; Course As Briefed
Intended Destination Aschersleben, Germany; Type of Mission Combat
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
Clear as far as undercast
- GIVE: (a) Date 22 Feb 1945 Time 1230; and Location 51°50'N, 06°25'E
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether (X) last sighted; () last contacted by radio;
() Forces down; () Seen to crash; or () Information not available.
- AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one (X) Enemy aircraft; () Enemy Anti-Aircraft; () Other circumstances as follows Ten to fifteen ME 109's attacking when last seen Tail was shot out.
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17G; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-97488
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series _____; A.A.F. Serial Number (a) SW-003548
(b) SW-003303; (c) SW-003620; (d) SW-003547
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)
(a) _____; (b) _____; (c) _____; (d) _____
(e) _____; (f) _____; (g) _____; (h) _____
- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X
or (b) Non-Battle Casualty _____
- NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10; Passengers 0; Total 10
(Starting with pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 10 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 |
|-----|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|---------------|
| 1. | Pilot | De Fries, Norman F. | 2nd Lt. | 0-740763 |
| 2. | Co-Pilot | Hunt, George S. | 2nd Lt. | 0-680222 |
| 3. | Navigator | Moody, Ivan E. | 2nd Lt. | 0-685692 |
| 4. | Bombardier | Miller, Ellis L. | 2nd Lt. | 0-679567 |
| 5. | Radio Operator | Wright, William C. | T/Sgt. | 32574866 |
| 6. | Top Turret | Moore, Lloyd W. A. | T/Sgt. | 19002060 |
| 7. | Ball Turret | Smith, Luther E. | S/Sgt. | 11097586 |
| 8. | Tail Gunner | Kushner, Jack (NMI) | S/Sgt. | 19175441 |
| 9. | Right Flexible Gun | Hallam, Harley R. | S/Sgt. | 37232434 |
| 10. | Left Flexible Gun | Ecker, John E. | S/Sgt. | 12201570 |

11. 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 by | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------------|--------------|---------|-----------|--------------------|
| | | | Radio | Sighted | Saw Crash | Saw Forced Landing |
| 1. Outen, Charles Levi, Jr. | 2nd Lt. | 0-742452 | | X | | |
| 2. Wood, Charles Stoddart | 2nd Lt. | 0-809794 | | X | | |
| 3. | | | | | | |

- 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) Unknown
- ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.
- ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
- ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE METHOD OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICERS IN CHARGE HERE _____

Date of Report 22 February 1945

Incl 2

J. R. Wyatt
(Signature of Preparing Officer)

J. R. WYATT,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Asst. Adjutant.

And 8

Name of crew member: MILNER, Ellie L.
 Rank: 2nd Lt.
 Serial number: 0-979867
 Position: Crew (Observer) / Historian / Bombardier

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Over Dortmund with the rest of us.

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: After landing he helped Moody and I get to first aid

Was he injured? Flak wound on back of hand & wrist

Where was he when last seen? On Hospital Bus

Any hearsay information: None except he was sent to Barth Prison Camp with Lt. Hunt & Lt. DeFrees

Source: Rumour

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Never seen him after that, but received letters from him when we were returned to United States.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Thirteen & Fourteen.

Dates and destinations if possible: Can Not Recall.

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name ECKER John Eric Rank S/Sgt Serial No. 12201670
STARR
2. Organization 284 B Co Commander _____ Rank Col Sqn CO _____ Rank Maj
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month February day 22 did you go down?
Thirteenth
4. What was the mission, Don't Remember, target, Don't Remember, target time, 6:AM APPROXIMATELY, altitude, 22000 APPROX, route scheduled, UNKNOWN, route flown UNKNOWN
5. Where were you when you left formation? Over DORTMUND OR VICINITY
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". WE ALL BAILED OUT AS FAST AS WE COULD AND NO ONE TOOK NOTICE TO HOW EACH OTHER BAILED OUT IN THE LITTLE TIME WE HAD.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? APPROXIMATELY 2 MILES FROM BAILING OUT POSITION
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) NONE
11. Where were they in aircraft? NONE
12. What was their condition? _____
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? LT MOODY, S/Sgt SMITH AND MYSELF WERE TAKEN TO HOSPITAL IN HAMMER. MOODY LOST THREE FINGERS LEFT HAND, AND SMITH LOST RIGHT HAND ABOVE WRIST & BELOW ELBOW. THE REST WERE TREATED AT FIRST AID PLACES AT UNKNOWN PLACE.
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. THERE WERE FOUR CREWS FROM OUR GROUP WENT DOWN THAT DAY AND THREE WERE AS I UNDERSTAND TWO KILLED AND THE REST SENT TO PRISON CAMPS, ACCORDING TO BANK. INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS OF THESE CREWS AT STALAG LUFT # 6.

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

2465

Name of crew member: MILLER, Ellis L.

Rank: 2nd Lt.

Serial number: O-579167

Position: ~~Observer~~ Bombardier

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? County of Westfalen, Germany

If not, why not? -----

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

He hailed out just before I did

Was he injured? A slight wound across the back of the hand

Where was he when last seen? In Verona Illinois, Dec. 1945

Any heresey information: -----

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: 13

Dates and destinations if possible; He could give you this probably