

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

2467

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 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 44 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; () Shot Down; or () Information not available.
- AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, OR CREW OR PASSENGERS WERE 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.
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17-D ; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-39809
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series _____ ; A.A.F. Serial Number (a) 43-64942
(b) 43-64667 ; (c) 41-004186 ; (d) SW-104523
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)
(a) _____ ; (b) _____ ; (c) _____ ; (d) _____
(e) _____ ; (f) _____ ; (g) _____ ; (h) _____
- THE MEMBERS LISTED BELOW WERE RECORDED AS: () 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	McDonald, Raymond L.	2nd Lt.	0-742756
2.	Co-Pilot	Smith, Paul M., Jr.	2nd Lt.	0-446478
3.	Navigator	Kontur, William J.	2nd Lt.	0-741789
4.	Bombardier	Bean, George H.	2nd Lt.	0-751585
5.	Radio Operator	Franzo, Anthony J.	T/Sgt.	12187814
6.	Top Turret	Pierce, Lee C.	T/Sgt.	33286699
7.	Ball Turret	Egger, Richard H.	S/Sgt.	19188500
8.	Tail Gunner	Egger, Robert R.	S/Sgt.	19188474
9.	Right Flexible Gun	Gabriel, Daniel (NMI)	S/Sgt.	31189278
10.	Left Flexible Gun	Odom, Rufus T., Jr.	S/Sgt.	14053028

11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted		Check Only One Column		
			by	Last	Saw	Saw Forced	
			Radio	Sighted	Crash	Landing	
1. Decker, Charles Edgar	2nd Lt.	0-671901		X			
2.							
3.							

- IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used 1 ; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash _____ ; or (c) Any other reason (Specify) 1 chute seen to emerge
- 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 EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE _____

Date of Report 22 February 1944

Incl 10'

J. R. Wyatt
(Signature of Preparing Officer)
J. R. WYATT,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Asst. Adjutant.

H.Q. OF ARMY AIRBASE BUEB
STATION COMMAND

A.V. 619/ 44

CASUALTY REPORT ON ALLIED AVIATORS NO. 6 (31. Jan. 44 - 22 Febr. 44)DISTRIBUTED TO ARMY INFORMATION CENTER.
REGARDING: DOWNED BOEING FORTRESS AT GALEN NEAR DORSTEN.DATE AND TIME: 22 FEBR. 1944SURNAME: SMITHFIRSTNAME: PAUL H.RANK: OFFICERA.S.N.: O-445478DATE OF BURIAL: 25. FEBR. 1944LOCATION GRAVE: COMMUNITY CEMETERY OF HERVEST - DORSTEN
I PAPT. SECTION 2. LEFT SIDE GRAVE NO. 233

SIGN. C O

KIA

2467
42-39809

see KU 941
KU 959

Medical Cases?

KU 959 ' Feb. 22, 1944 ' Fortress

Franzo, Anthony Joseph, T/1 Sgt.
Ident. Tag: 12 187 814
Taken prisoner

Egger, Richard Henry, S/1 Sgt.
Ident. Tag: 19 188 500
Taken prisoner

Odom, Rufus Thurman, 1/1 Sgt. born Feb. 12, 1920
Ident. Tag: 14, 053 028
Taken prisoner

Kontur, William John, 1st Lt.
Ident. Tag: 0-741 789
Taken prisoner

Pierce, Lee Clifton, T/1 Sgt.
Ident. Tag: 33 286 699
Taken prisoner

McDonald, Raymond Leroy, 2nd Lt.
Ident. Tag: 0-742 756
Taken prisoner

Bean, George Henry, 2nd Lt.
Ident. Tag: 0-751 585
Taken prisoner

2467
 AIR BASE H.Q. (A) 238/ VI
 Technical detachment
 Technical direction.

Place and date: Station place 15. March 1944

Subj.: Report on investigation of the downing of American aircraft on
 22. February 1944
 At: OESTRUM near VENRAY

TYPE OF AIR CRAFT: BOMBING - FORTRESS, markings unknown, plant No. P 239 809

To distributor: Air craft was completely destroyed by hitting the ground and burning. DEAD bodies were not found. It can be assumed that the crew members were burnt.

Engines: WRIGHT CYCLOPE, number could not be stated

Arms: BROWNING 0,5 inches, number undefined

Equipment: burnt

Armour: not stated

Bombs: none

Destruction of craft: 98 %

Destruction of engines: 75 %

Attached: 4 type shields.

Air force engineer and technical
 director.

MAER 2467

1) 1 identification tag and 1 picture attached.

paul m. smith jr.
O - 446473 T 43 O
paul m. smith
4603 s. priour pl.
N. orleans la. p.

7) 1 identification tag

edwin n. sager
39611935 T 42 - 43 O
P

2) 1 identification tag

r. t. odon jr.
14053028 T 43 49 B
mrs. r. t. odon
Rockingham nc. p

8) 1 identification tag

edward w. lundgren
O - 745132 T 42 O
mrs. ed. lundgren
warren minn. p

3) soldiers individual pay records

odon rufus, t. jr.
asn. 14053028
rank: sp4.
years of service: 4 yr. 8 mo.

9) bicycle permit.

edward w. lundgren
asn. 745132
organisation a.-c.

4) 1 immunisation register 1

odon, rufus jr. 14053028

5) 1 identification tag

george j. littleton
O - 676965 T 43 O
mrs. pearl h. watson
tyro miss. p

6) 1 identification tag

edwin n. sager
39611935 T 43 O
frances sager
265 3rd. ave. e.n. p
kalispell, mont.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: SMITH, Paul W. Jr.
 Rank: 2nd Lt.
 Serial number: 2-116478
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~of Flight (Fighter)~~: Co-Pilot

Did he bail out? YES

Where: OVER WESEL, GERMANY, 20, 1944.

If not, why not? _____

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

EW-180 AT 0230 HIGH - WHICH SHOT SMITH.

Was he injured? YES IN LEG AND CHEST

Where was he when last seen? IN COPILOT'S SEAT

Any hearsay information: GERMAN COL. AT STALAG I RECEIVED INFO THRU GESTAPO SAYING THAT SMITH HAD BAILED OUT AND WAS KILLED TRYING TO ESCAPE. THIS INFO WAS CONVEYED TO ME BY C.O. (GERMAN) IN OCT. 45. SMITH IN HOSPITAL AT WESEL - LEG WOUND.

Sources: _____

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

ROUNDED WOUND IN LEG - CHUTE PARTIALLY DAMAGED - EITHER KILLED BY GERMAN DOCTORS OR DIED FROM LOSS OF BLOOD - ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN THAT SMITH WAS OK AT PORTMUND HOSP. ON NIGHT OF FEB. 23 1944.

Total number of missions of above crew members: THIRTEEN

Dates and destinations if possible: UNKNOWN

Certified by: William J. Koster
 1st Lt. A.C.
 6-3861-4F
 0741789