

WAR DEPARTMENT  
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON

Classification changed  
to **RESTRICTED**  
by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AG,  
By WM. L. THOMAS, 1st Lt. AG  
Date MAR 15 1945

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 Frankfurt, Germany ; Type of Mission Combat
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: \_\_\_\_\_  
10/10 Overcast
- GIVE: (a) Date 11 Feb 44 Time 1345 ; and Location 0050 N 0125 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 ( ) Enemy Aircraft; ( ) Enemy Anti-Aircraft; (x) Other Circumstances as follows Went into steep spiral out of control and into dive at 10,000 feet.
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17-G A.A.F. Serial Number 42-39962
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series \_\_\_\_\_ ; A.A.F. Serial Number (a) 43-63870  
(b) 43-65763 ; (c) 43-65767 (d) 43-65775
- 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).

KC 559A  
KW 859

| Crew Position            | Name in Full<br>(Last Name First) | Rank              | Serial Number           |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Pilot                 | <u>Widener, Seth Grenell, Jr.</u> | <u>2nd Lt</u>     | <u>0-803326</u> RTD     |
| 2. Co-Pilot              | <u>Said, Harvey William</u>       | <u>POW 2nd Lt</u> | <u>0-684113</u> RTD     |
| 3. Navigator             | <u>Wickman, Alfred Louis</u>      | <u>POW 2nd Lt</u> | <u>0-690325</u> RTD     |
| 4. Bombardier            | <u>Garber, Leonard (NMI)</u>      | <u>POW 2nd Lt</u> | <u>0-684523</u> RTD     |
| 5. Radio Operator        | <u>Smith, William Edward</u>      | <u>POW T/Sgt</u>  | <u>3846567</u> LTA/N    |
| 6. Top Turret            | <u>Cifelli, George Emil</u>       | <u>T/Sgt</u>      | <u>32459370</u> /10-KIA |
| 7. Ball Turret           | <u>Mosbey, James Millard</u>      | <u>POW S/Sgt</u>  | <u>14083946</u> /RTD    |
| 8. Tail Gunner           | <u>Misa, Walter Alvast, Jr.</u>   | <u>POW S/Sgt</u>  | <u>34684088</u> /RTD    |
| 9. Right Flexible Gunner | <u>Santosuosco, John Peter</u>    | <u>POW S/Sgt</u>  | <u>15354167</u> RTD     |
| 10. Left Flexible Gunner | <u>Boon, Howard Goodall, Jr.</u>  | <u>POW Sgt</u>    | <u>33314812</u> RTD     |

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<br>(Last Name First) | Rank          | Serial Number   | Contacted |              |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------|--|--|
|                                   |               |                 | by Radio  | Last Sighted | Check Only One Column<br>Saw Saw Forced<br>Crash Landing |  |
| 1. <u>Markov, Henry Victor</u>    | <u>2nd Lt</u> | <u>0-799421</u> |           | <u>x</u>     |  |  |
| 2. <u>Stropak, George Vincent</u> | <u>T/Sgt</u>  | <u>18202002</u> |           | <u>x</u>     |  |  |

- 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 EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Report 12 February 1944

J. R. Wyatt  
(Signature of Preparing Officer)

J. R. WYATT,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Ass't. Adjutant.

Incl 2

Incl 10

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
CONFIDENTIAL

lp/10/27/44

2nd Lt. Seth G. Widener Jr.

Mrs. Marjorie E. Widener, (Wife)  
3811 Union Street,  
Chili, New York. ✓

2nd Lt. Harvey V. Reid

Mrs. Pearl V. Reid, (Mother)  
659 Florence Avenue,  
Dunsmuir, California. ✓

2nd Lt. Alfred L. Wickman

Mrs. Helen F. Wickman, (Wife)  
4 Corners South Road,  
Poughkeepsie, New York. ✓

2nd Lt. Leonard Gerber

Mr. Sal Gerber, (Father)  
717 Syracuse Avenue,  
University City, Missouri. ✓

T/Sgt. William E. Smith

Mrs. Hela P. Smith, (Mother)  
821 North 85th,  
Vaco, Texas. ✓

T/Sgt. George R. Cifelli

Marie A. Cifelli,  
528 27th Street,  
Union City, New Jersey. ✓

S/Sgt. James M. Mosby

Mrs. J. L. Mosby, (Mother)  
Box Number 247,  
Wapakoneta, Ohio. ✓

S/Sgt. Walter A. Hise Jr.

Mr. Walter A. Hise Sr., (Father)  
198 Hilbert Street,  
Athens, Georgia. ✓

S/Sgt. John P. Santocussano

Mr. Michael Santocussano, (Father)  
3164 Fulton Road,  
Cleveland, Ohio. ✓

Sgt. Howard G. Boon Jr.

Mrs. Ella R. Boon, (Mother)  
7037 Saybrook Avenue,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. ✓

*End*

## INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **CIFELLI, George Emil**  
 Rank: **T./Sgt.**  
 Serial number: **32499370**  
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~on Flight (Bomber)~~: **Top Turret**

Did he bail out? To the best of my Knowledge he did

Where? Between 10 To 40 Miles North East of Dieppe France.

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: He was holding his chute apparently putting it on

Was he injured? To my Knowledge: NO

Where was he when last seen? IN cockpit of Plane

Any hearsay information: The first information I received was from a German officer at Frankfurt, Germany who informed me that Cifelli was dead. Here to fore I believed that all the crew were safe tho they may have been captured

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: The only explanation I can offer is based entirely on supposition. He may have been overcome by flames and smoke, (the cockpit of the plane was all in flames and it was impossible to see for the smoke) OR his chute may have failed to open.

Total number of missions of above crew member: UNKNOWN

Dates and destinations if possible: This was not my regular crew but I did fly with it on one other mission to Frankfurt on the main on the 9th of Feb 1944

## CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name HARVEY W. REID Rank 2nd LT Serial No. 0689913
2. Organization 389th Gp Commander SMITH Rank Col. Sqn CO HORACE FRANK Rank MAJOR  
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month February day 11th did you go down?
4. What was the mission, FRANKFURT, target, MARSHALLING YARDS, target time, Approx 11:30 AM., altitude, 25000 ft route scheduled, UNKNOWN NOW, route flown UNKNOWN
5. Where were you when you left formation? Approx 80 Miles from French coast
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 of the man in the waist and tail - Navigator, Bombardier and pilot all bailed out the front escape hatch. No Knowledge of when or where the Navigator & Pilot bailed out. Bombardier left the plane immediately before I did. He landed somewhere near Dieppe, France.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? UNKNOWN
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) To my knowledge 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? Pilot - Frankfurt with a broken leg. Navigator Bombardier, Radioman Smith, Waist Gunner Beane all were in the same prison camp + in good health. Two other enlisted crew members were at Frankfurt prison camp but I do not remember their names
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. NONE.

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **GIPILLI, George Earl**  
 Rank: **T./Sgt.**  
 Serial number: **32499370**  
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Engineer (Engineer)~~: **Top Turret**

Did he bail out? YES

Where? NEAR DIEPPE, FRANCE

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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

ORDER TO BAIL OUT-

Was he injured? NO

Where was he when last seen? GETTING OUT OF HIS TURRET

Any hearsay information: NO

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

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

I FELT SURE THAT HE HAD BAILED-OUT  
SUCCESSFULLY

Total number of missions of above crew member: 8

Dates and destinations if possible: LAST MISSION FLOWN  
TO FRANKFORT, GERMANY ON FEB. 11  
1944