

Classification: changed

by E. A. [redacted] Lt. Col., AG
by F. W. [redacted], Capt., AG

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS
CONFIDENTIAL
MISSING AIRCRAFT REPORT

NOTE: THIS REPORT WILL BE SUPPLIED 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 38th; Squadron 56th; Detachment
- SPECIFY POINT OF DEPARTURE AAF Station 106; Course As briefed
Intended Destination Nantes, France; Type of Mission Combat
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
Clear
- GIVE: (a) Date 23 Sept 1943 1745; and Location 48° 10' N. 02° 35' W
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether (X) Last Sighted; () Last contacted by Radio;
() Forced 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 Aircraft hit in No 1 and 4 engines by 20 MM Shell from Enemy Aircraft and 3 minutes later aircraft was seen to disintegrate in air.
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17F; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-3459
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series _____; A.A.F. Serial Number (a) 43-57237
(b) 41-56630; (c) 43-57312; (d) 43-57442
- 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 _____; 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
<u>EV51.</u>	<u>Pilot</u>	<u>Higdon, Philip E.</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>0-794662</u>
<u>EV52.</u>	<u>Co-Pilot</u>	<u>Ritt, Louis E.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>0-672429</u>
<u>EV53.</u>	<u>Navigator</u>	<u>Begab, Meyer (NMI)</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>0-797239</u>
<u>EV54.</u>	<u>Bombardier</u>	<u>Johnston, Lawrence E.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>0-735199</u>
<u>RTD5.</u>	<u>Radio Operator</u>	<u>Hollinger, Ardell H.</u>	<u>Sgt.</u>	<u>13097189</u>
<u>EV59.</u>	<u>Top Turret</u>	<u>Jett, James L.</u>	<u>T/Sgt.</u>	<u>18076248</u>
<u>RTD7.</u>	<u>Rail Turret</u>	<u>Kalas, Joseph N.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>53361307</u>
<u>EV58.</u>	<u>Tail Gunner</u>	<u>Humphrey, Edward J.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>12200713</u>
<u>EV69.</u>	<u>Left Flexible Gunner</u>	<u>Gronin, Willard J.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>11052822</u>
<u>RTD10.</u>	<u>Right Flexible Gunner</u>	<u>Kelly, Leonard J.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>3913347</u>

- 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 Last Seen Saw Crash Saw Freed Landing
1. Edmund S. Goulder 1st Lt. 0-736509 Y
2. Alfred L. Sprague 1st Lt. 0-670653 Y
3. Archie B. Ashcraft, Jr. 2nd Lt. 0-797948 Y

- IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used Yes; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash; or (c) Any other reason (Specify) Chutes observed Descending
- 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 28 September 1943

[Signature]
(Signature of Preparing Officer)

1-Incl:
1-Description

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748

3rd Incl.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE, APO 633, U. S. ARMY.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO: Commanding General, SOS, ETOUSA, APO 871, U.S. Army. 15 October 1943.

Forwarded in accordance with 1st Incl. AG File No. 360.33 (5-23-43) dated 3 June 1943.

For the Commanding General:

Spinkley
E. A. HUBLEY
Lt. Col., AGD
Asst Adj Gen
A. G. O.
War Dept. Gen.
APO ETOUSA
OCT 18 1943

1 Incl. n/c

AG 360.33 4th Incl. WW/ro
Hq SOS, ETOUSA, APO 871. 19 October 1943.

To: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington D.C.
Attention: Statistical Control Division.

Forwarded in compliance with letter, War Department, 23 May 1943, file AG 360.33 (5-21-43) OB-S-AF-M.

For the Commanding General:

Wilfred V. Highman
WILFRED V. HIGHMAN,
Lt. Col. AGD,
Asst. Adj. General.

1 Incls
Incl 1 - Missing Air Crew Report (2 pages) (AP No. 42-3459) (Dup w/d)

OCT 25 1943



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HEADQUARTERS
AAF STATION # 105
Office of the Station Commander

APO 634,
2 October 1943.

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Missing Air Crew Report.

TO : Commanding General, HQ, ETOUSA, APO 871, U. S. Army.
(Thru Channels)

1. Transmitted herewith is Missing Air Crew Report (in Dup).

For the Commanding Officer:

[Signature]
C. H. CROWE, JR.,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

1 Incl:
1 Missing Air Crew Report (in Dup).

319.1 1st Ind. G-0-1
HQ 1st Bomb Division, APO 634, 6 October, 1943.

TO: CG, VIII Bomber Command, APO 634.

1 Incl: n/c.

[Handwritten initials]

319.1 2nd Ind. P-4-1
HEADQUARTERS VIII BOMBER COMMAND, APO 634, U. S. Army,

8 - OCT 1943

TO: Commanding General, Eighth Air Force, APO 633, U. S. Army.

1 Incl: n/c.

must



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M-7191

Ku 154
Jett,

Sept. 23, 1943 Forties

James Souvaine, 7/1st Lt.
born April 8, 1923
Ident. tag: 18,076 248
taken prisoner

Humphrey, Edward James, 2/1st Lt.
born Dec. 17, 1919
Ident. tag: 12 200 713
taken prisoner

Begale, Meyer Michael, 2nd Lt.
Ident. tag: 6-797239
taken prisoner,
wounded in action;
in a field hospital

Res 2598

Johnston, Lorenz E., 2nd Lt.
taken prisoner
wounded, location:
in a field hospital