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K54-235

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HEADQUARTERS 1ST AIRBORNE DIVISION  
303RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)  
APO 634, U.S. ARMY

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.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location Holtsworth; Command or Air Force 9th  
Group 303rd; Squadron 300th; Detachment ---
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure Holtsworth; Course See diagram  
Intended Destination Bamberg, Germany; Type of Mission Bombardment
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: 1/10 cloud - visibility 10-20 miles
4. GIVE: (a) Date 27/7/43 Time 1800; and Location Over Target - Bamberg, Germany  
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.
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 \_\_\_\_\_
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-24D; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-60000
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series Pratt & Whitney; A.A.F. Serial Number (a) 42-60010  
(b) 41-24487; (c) 42-60662; (d) 41-57087
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number) 12.7mm 3000  
(a) 128004; (b) 128016; (c) 128008; (d) 128009 Cal 60 Machine gun  
(e) 128002; (f) 128001; (g) 121878; (h) 118380
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X  
or (b) Non-Battle Casualty \_\_\_\_\_
10. 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).

**STATUS**

	Crew Position	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	
KIA 1.	Pilot	Van Vliet, John A.	1st Lt.	0-78706	KIA
EUS 2.	Co-pilot	Walsh, James D.	2nd Lt.	0-78806	AW RTD
EUS 3.	Navigator - L.H. Gunner	Blank, Paul (MI)	2nd Lt.	0-78807	AW
EUS 4.	Pub. R.H. Gunner	Taylor, Robert L.	1st Lt.	0-78808	AW RTD
KIA 5.	Eng. - T.T. Gunner	Michalski, Albert (MI)	T/Sgt.	0-78809	KIA
DEFS 6.	A/Eng. - R.T. Gunner	Burton, Eugene L.	S/Sgt.	0-78810	DEFS
EUS 7.	Radio Operator - R. Gun.	Holl, Robert W.	T/Sgt.	0-78811	AW RTD
RTD 8.	A/O - L.H. Gunner	Spring, Benjamin P.	S/Sgt.	0-78812	AW RTD
KIA 9.	Right Waist Gunner	Swanson, Theodore G.	S/Sgt.	0-78813	KIA
EUS 10.	Tail Gunner	Bridges, Robert C.	S/Sgt.	0-78814	AW RTD

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

Check Only One Column

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted			
			By Radio	Last Sighted	Seen Crash	Found Landing

1. No individual observation. Missing aircraft was seen to be hit and fall out of formation.
2. 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) Not observed
3. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR OTHER DOCUMENT SHOWING LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN. Approximate location only on chart attached
4. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCE PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT. None.
5. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE None

Date of Report 27/7/43

Classification changed to RESTRICTED

BY: BRADUNAS, I. Col., AC  
By: THOMAS, 1st Lt., AC  
Date: MAR 1 1945

Jesse M. Barrett  
(Signature of Preparing Officer)  
JESSE M. BARRETT,  
Captain, AC,  
Intelligence Officer.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: WES WEL, John A.  
Rank: 2nd Lt.  
Serial number: 0-38861  
Position: Crew (Bomber) or flight (Fighter): Flt Lt

Did he bail out? unknown

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why not? unknown

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

Was he injured? unknown

Where was he when last seen? \_\_\_\_\_

Any hearsay information: That He had blown up with  
the ship. Try to set Automatic pilot

Source: Paul Blank

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: Twenty - One

Dates and destinations if possible:			
<u>April 43</u>	<u>May 43</u>	<u>June 43</u>	<u>July 43</u>
<u>16-17</u>	<u>1-4-19-17-19</u>	<u>20-22-25-26</u>	<u>4-10-19-20</u>
	<u>21-29</u>	<u>28-29</u>	<u>24-26</u>
<u>France</u>	<u>Holland</u>	<u>Norway</u>	<u>Germany</u>
<u>Paris</u>	<u>Antwerp</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>Hamburg</u>
<u>St. Nazaire</u>			<u>Hals</u>
<u>Brest</u>			<u>Heil</u>
			<u>Brewer</u> 6-3881, AF
			<u>None</u>

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Benjamin Franklin Spring Rank 1st Sgt Serial No. 1A070992
2. Organization 103 Co Commander Therid-Cook Lt. Col. CO Unknown Rank Major  
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1948 month July day 25 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Hamburg, target, Submarine Pen., target  
time, A.M., altitude, 30,000 ft route scheduled, ?  
?, route flown ?
5. Where were you when you left formation? Germany
6. Did you bail out? Yes
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Yes - 1st Lt. Bridges, Swanson  
1st Lt. Hall - 1st Lt. Rink - Walsh
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". East of Hamburg  
Swanson } Walsh  
Horton } 1st Lt. Hall } Therid-Cook } Wichner } Black  
Bridges } (Bomb Bay Hatch) } Navigation Hotel
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) Unknown
11. Where were they in aircraft? \_\_\_\_\_
12. What was their condition? \_\_\_\_\_
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? 1st Sgt B.C. Bridges At Stalag 9C Oberhausen  
Germany. Last last seen was in Fair Condition
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. 1st Sgt Graham of  
Same Group 1st Sgt At T.C. Oberhausen-Germany.  
A broken leg He was a Radio Operator

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: Blank, Paul (MIA)  
 Rank: 2nd Lt.  
 Serial number: 0-42807  
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Assignment~~: Engineer L.S. Center

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? East of Hamburg, Germany

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

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: From  
Lubeck, Germany to Interrogation Camp

Was he injured? Yes

Where was he when last seen? At Interrogation Camp

Any hearsay information: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Blank was a prisoner, up to here recently

He is now stationed at St. Louis Missouri

Total number of missions of above crew member: Twenty - One

Dates and locations if possible: June 43 July 43

Apr 43 May 43 20-22-25-26 4-10-14-20

16-18 1-5-14-17-19 21-29 28-29 24-25

<u>France</u>	<u>Holland</u>	<u>Norway</u>	<u>Germany</u>
Paris	Antwerp	?	Hamburg
St. Nazaire			Nals
Brest			Keil
			Orden 6-3861, AF
			NO NEVER

(APPX)

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIREName of crew member: FRANK, Eugene L.Rank: Sgt.Serial number: 123456Position: Crew (Bombardier) Assistant Bombardier: Lead Engineer - E. T. CarterDid he bail out? YesWhere? East of Nuremberg Germany

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

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

Was he injured? YesWhere was he when last seen? In Plane by my visionAny hearsay information: German claimed due to his stomach  
wounds, they kept him down till he died.Source: R. C. Bridges

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: Twenty - OneDates and destinations if possible: April-42 - 16-17 (May 43) 1-9-19-17  
19-21-29 (June 43) 20-22-25-26-28-29 (July 43) 4-10-19-20  
24-25

<u>France</u>	<u>Antwerp Holland</u>	<u>Norway</u>	<u>Germany</u>
Paris			Hamburg
st. Nazaire	(APPX)		Wals
Brest			Keil
			Breda, NL
			Nordover

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: BLANK, Albert (M)

Rank: 1st Lt.

Serial number: 30888

Position: Crew (Bombardier/Navigator): Engineer, Top Turret Gunner

Did he bail out? Unknown

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why not? Unknown

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

Was he injured? Unknown

Where was he when last seen? \_\_\_\_\_

Any hearsay information: That he had blown up with the ship trying to help the pilot

Source: Paul - Blank

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: Twenty - One

Dates and destinations if possible: \_\_\_\_\_ July 43

April 43	May 43	June 43	4-10-14-20
16-17	1-4-14-17-19-21-29	20-22-25-26-28-29	24-25
France Paris St. Nazaire Brest	Holland Antwerp	Norway ?	Germany Nuremberg Hals Meil Dresden 6-5081, 17 Hanover

(APPX)

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**INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE**

Name of crew member: BRIDGES, Robert C.  
Rank: 1st Lt.  
Serial number: 200000  
Position: Crew (Booster [redacted]): Right Waist Gunner

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? East of Hamburg Germany

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

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

Was he injured? Yes

Where was he when last seen? In Plane By My Vision

Any hearsay information: He died in a German Hospital  
Starved wounds. Germans claimed nothing could  
doe for him, so kept him draped up until  
he died.

Source: Robert C. Bridges

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: Twenty-one

Dates and destinations if possible: July 25 46 Hamburg Germany

April: 16-17-1943 (May 43) 1-4-14-17-19-21-29 (June 43) 20

22-25-26-28-29 (July 43) 4-10-14-20-24 (Sept.)

<u>Paris France</u>	<u>Antwerp Holland</u>	<u>Hamburg - Germany</u>	<u>Norway</u>
<u>St. Nazaire</u>		<u>Huls</u>	
<u>Brest</u>		<u>Keil</u>	
		<u>Bredem</u>	
		<u>Nadover</u>	



1. CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

9/1 500 P  
4

1. Your name PWIL BLANK (NAV) Rank CAPT. Serial No. 0729597 THEN 1/1LT
2. Organisation 303 B Co Commander SMITH Rank COL Sqd 260 CO 44th Bn G.I.E. Rank MAJ  
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1943 month JULY day 25 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, HAMBURG, target, BGV sub pens, target  
time, 1200, altitude, 25000' route scheduled, WEST TO  
EAST, route flown WEST TO EAST (99°E)
5. Where were you when you left formation? 20 MILES WEST OF LUBECK GERMANY
6. Did you bail out? YES
7. Did other members of crew bail out? ALL EXCEPT PILOT, 1/1LT JOHN VAN  
WICK AND ENGINEER, SGT AL HUBBARD.
8. Tell all you know about when, where, how each person in your aircraft for whom an individual questionnaire is attached bailed out. A crew list is attached. Please give facts. If you don't know, say: "No Knowledge". (BACK)
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? NO KNOWLEDGE
10. What numbers of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) PILOT & ENGINEER  
(FROM GERMANY INFORMATION) MAY HAVE BEEN  
AT SOME DISTANCE. PLANE SUPPOSED TO HAVE EXPLODED.
11. Where were they in aircraft? IN PILOT'S COMPARTMENT
12. What was their condition? OK WHEN BAIL OUT AFTER CRASH.
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? (1) SGT ROBERT TAYLOR (RADIO OP) - LUBECK BR. STA. SHOT IN  
(JULY) - (2) SGT AL HUBBARD (ENGINEER) LUBECK AREA IN W. GERMANY  
(2) SGT JOHN VAN WICK (PILOT) + (3) 1/1LT JOHN A. WICK (RADIO OP)  
LAST SEEN STRIKE TO AIRCRAFT AFTER CRASH
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. SGT MORTON (RADIO OP)  
AND SGT SWANSON (UNIDENTIFIED) DIED IN FRANKFURT HOSPITAL. THIS  
INFORMATION FROM SGT ROBERT TAYLOR (RADIO)

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

- (1) P/L - 1/1 LT JOHN W. WHE OR WHEN I BAILED OUT. REPORTED BY GERMAN INTERVIEWER AT FRANKFURT/MAIN TO HAVE BEEN FOUND DEAD NEAR REAR WHEELS.
- (2) CAPT 1/1 LT JAMES I WASH OR - BAILED OUT. NOW BACK IN U.S. AT U.S. HOTEL CHANDLERIN, OLD POINT COMFORT, VIRGINIA.
- (3) MAJ. -
- (4) 1/1 LT ROBERT TAYLOR (BDR) BAILED OUT FROM AIR. STAY NOW BACK IN U.S. (INFO - LT J. WASH)
- (5) SGT. DL. HLABSKO (ENG) - SAME INFO AS PILOT
- (6) SGT. ROBERT KROLL - BAILED OUT - SHOT IN LEG. NOW IN U.S. (INFO LT WASH)
- (7) SGT (MOR) MARTON - DIED IN FRANKFURT HOSP. OF WOUNDS. (INFO - MAJ. ROBT. TAYLOR)
- (8) SGT (MOR) SUNDOWN - DIED IN FRANKFURT HOSP OF WOUNDS (INFO - LT ROBT. TAYLOR)
- (9) SGT BEN F. SPRING - WOUNDED - REPATRIATED FROM GERMANY IN OCT. 1943
- (10) SGT HARRY BRIDGES - WOUNDED IN BOTH ARMS. NOW ~~REPAIRED~~ BACK IN U.S. (INFO. EX SGT SUNDOWN)

RECEIVED

OCT 28 11 40 AM

OFFICE OF THE  
JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Robert C. Bridges Rank 1st Lt Serial No. 1062395
2. Organisation 303 P. Grp. Commander Monica Rank Col. Sqd CO 360 B. Sqd Rank Maj  
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1943 month April day 25 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Hamburg, target, Sgt. Hamburg, target  
time, 10:00, altitude, 30,000 route scheduled, ?  
?, route flown North Sea
5. Where were you when you left formation? Trail end Phoxie (night)
6. Did you bail out? ?
7. Did other members of crew bail out? yes (how many?)
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". Map Ten for individual went through waist window. Swanson a small part of waist door. These are the only two I saw.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? ?
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) ?
11. Where were they in aircraft? ---
12. What was their condition? ---
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? Swanson I last saw in a civilian hospital I think was in Hamburg. The rest of the crew I saw for a while but didn't gain any info. I went to sleep, waking up hours after he was gone.
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. No Knowledge

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

## INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

94  
 Name of crew member: SHANN, Theodore G.  
 Rank: S/Sgt.  
 Serial number: 1408442  
 Position: Crew (Bombardier): Right Waist Gunner

Did he bail out? Jumped outWhere? by best knowledge over Denmark

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

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: incivilian hospitalWas he injured? Stomach woundWhere was he when last seen? civilian hospitalAny hearsay information: I believe he was terribly  
injured. German nurse gave him  
tube hypodermic while I was awake. said  
I was awake for only three hours.Source: MyselfAny explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: It could  
of been faked. He could of been  
taken from there to a Gestapo camp. But  
if so, why didn't they take over what was  
his 'work' is because of his sister's letter.Total number of missions of above crew member: 22Dates and destinations if possible: ?

His sister wrote me since I've been back  
 she says, his girl friend in England got  
 a letter from him from a P.W. camp.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIREName of crew member: MERTON, Eugene L.Rank: S/Sgt.Serial number: 1A136000Position: Crew (Boater) ~~Assistant~~: Asst Engineer - B. T. GunnerDid he bail out? Yes.Where? Yes.If not, why not? —Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: beforeWas he injured? yes. From hearingWhere was he when last seen? inside of shipAny hearsay information: That he died.Source: Bank. Robt TaylorAny explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: NoneTotal number of missions of above crew member: 22Dates and destinations if possible: —

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIREName of crew member: HERASHE, Albert (MI)Rank: T/Sgt.Serial number: 35258906Position: Crew (Labor) ~~Navigator (Navigator)~~: Engineer, Top Turret GunnerDid he bail out? ?

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why not? ?Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: interphonetold Ball Turret he could come out.Was he injured? ? from bearway yesWhere was he when last seen? ?Any hearsay information: to many different versions1. Machine gun with ammo in their chutes by  
fighters 2. Chew up with shipSource: 1. By Benj. Spring W. G. 2. Radio operator Red HillAny explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: noneTotal number of missions of above crew member: 22

Dates and destinations if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **ELAM, Paul (M1)**

Rank: **2nd Lt.**

Serial number: **0-729598**

Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~and Navigator~~: **Navigator L.H. Gomer**

Did he bail out? *Radio operator says yes*

Where? *other wise no information except*

If not, why not? *he's supposed to be home*

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of missions of above crew member: *22*

Dates and destinations if possible: \_\_\_\_\_





## INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

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Name of crew member: SMITH, Wallace G.Rank: Sgt.Serial number: 2121Position: Crew (Bombardier) Right Waist GunnerDid he bail out? YesWhere? N.E. of Hamburg, Germany

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

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: NoneWas he injured? YesWhere was he when last seen? Seen by Sgt. Moll in a hospital. Dead.Any hearsay information: Died on way to ground from wounds received while still in the airplane.Source: Sgt. Moll and Sgt. Bridges.Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: NoneTotal number of missions of above crew member: 22 or 23Dates and destinations if possible: Unknown

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIREName of crew member: WILLIAMS, Eugene L.Rank: Sgt.Serial number: 24200Position: Crew (Bomber) Navigator: 1st Lt. Williams - 2. T. SmithDid he bail out? YesWhere? Landed near Lubek Germany

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

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: NoneWas he injured? YesWhere was he when last seen? We were taken to Lubek in a truck together 25 July 1945Any hearsay information: Reported as havin died that night from bullets wounds.Source: Sgt Robert HollAny explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: NoneTotal number of missions of above crew member: 22Dates and destinations if possible: Unknown

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **BLANK, Paul (POW)**  
 Rank: **2nd Lt.**  
 Serial number: **0-100000**  
 Position: Crew (Bomber) **Engineer**: **Engineer L.H. Gandy**

~~Source of information?~~ **Lt. Paul Blank was a POW for 21 months and lived with me the whole time, he now lives at 109 Cherry St., Maplewood, Missouri.**

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of missions of above crew member: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates and destinations if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIREName of crew member: WILSON, Albert (MIA)Rank: Sgt.Serial number: 305000Position: Crew (Bomber) Engineer, Top Turret GunnerDid he bail out? To the best of my knowledge, No.

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why not? Reason unknownLast contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: He was fastening his chest pack to his harness as I started for the nose door. I told him to hurry.Was he injured? Apparently not.Where was he when last seen? Sitting on turn-table of top turret.Any hearsay information: German authorities told at Frankfurt, Germany that he was found in or near the wreckage of the plane.Source: Lt. Paul BlankAny explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Airplane began to fall apart as I crawled along the cat-walk. Possibly he was trapped on the flight deck.Total number of missions of above crew member: 21Dates and destinations if possible: Unknown

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: USMC, John A.  
 Rank: 1st Lt.  
 Serial number: 0-42226  
 Position: Crew (Bomber ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~): W2120

Did he bail out? As far as I know, he did not.

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why not? Reason actual unknown.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: I handed him his chest pack and watched him put it on. When he rang the alarm bell, I started to bail out.

Was he injured? Apparently not.

Where was he when last seen? Sitting in Pilot's Seat.

Any hearsay information: Reported by German authorities at Frankfurt, Germany as having been found in or near wreckage of plane.

Source: Lt. Paul Blank

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Airplane began to fall apart as I crawled along the cat-walk. Possibly he was trapped on the flight deck.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 21

Dates and destinations if possible: Unknown

## CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name James D. Walsh Rank 1st Lt. Serial No. O-735478
2. Organization 303 BG Gp Commander Marion Rank Col Sqn CO Lyle Rank Maj.  
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1943 month July day 25 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, #19 Hanburg, Ger., target, Sub-pass, target  
time, 1200, altitude, 29,000 ft route scheduled,  
route flown
5. Where were you when you left formation? Hanburg, Germany
6. Did you bail out? Yes
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Pilot and top turret gunner never bailed but  
to the best of my knowledge. All others were accounted for on the ground.
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 personal knowledge of anyone bailing out, all I know is the stories as were  
told to me
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? Some where between Hanburg and back
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should  
cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) Possibly Lt. John Van Wie  
and Sgt. Arthur Elebaske
11. Where were they in aircraft? Still on flight deck when I started to bail out.
12. What was their condition? No wounds
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already des-  
cribed above? Sgt. Norton seriously injured in back by 30 Cal. bullet on the  
way to a Hospital. Sgt. Koll on his way to the Hospital with a foot injury.
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you  
have knowledge. Indicate source of information. No knowledge

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

6134 July 25, 1943 Fortress Confirmation of L.P. no.  
 1285 ~~Taylor, Robert, Parker~~ 103. 524/43, Aug 12, 1943.  
 1293 1st Lt. Born Sept 17, 1919.  
 1257 Ident. Tag: O-726, 088.  
 Taken prisoner.

Bridges, Robert S/Sgt. Born Mar 13, 1920  
 Crawford. Ident Tag. 11,062 395.  
 Taken prisoner. Reported  
 B. was deposited wounded  
 in field hospital, by  
 L.P. no. 103 524/43,  
 Aug 12, 1943. Location:  
 Aubrey - Luft.

Parcel notes found near Bellingham, 25 July 1943

**IDENTIFICATION OF PARCEL NOTES**

**FROM:** Address Bp. Inland-Standard

**TO:** Inland-Standard

**DATE:** 25 July 1943

**REMARKS:** **SMITH (10000)** OF, a Boeing Portico

**RE. JAMES** At: not yet identified; on 25 July 1943 at 1700

**NAME (LAST OR SURNAME)**

**SMITH**

**FIRST NAME:**

**Robert L.**

**SMIAL NUMBER (USA)**

**0-11100**

**STATUS (HEAD OR CAPTURED)**

**captured**

**PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE:**

**near Bellingham at about 1715**

**NAME OF HOSPITAL:**

**Navajo Hospital II, Inland**

**Signature:**

**Mr Robert L.**

*EWS*



TELEGRAM FORM

DISTANCE - MESSAGE

Air Station Command II

XXXXXXXXXX Station

NAME OF DISTANCE-MESSAGE WRITER:

Air Field Headquarters Lombok - Indonesia,  
Tanjung Harapan

~~XXXXXXXXXX No. 123~~

ACCEPTED:

DELIVERED:

RECEIVED:

DATE:

TIME:

TO:

DATE:

July 27, 1953

THROUGH:

TIME:

1200

CALL:

FROM:

123

THROUGH:

123

REMARKS:

~~Signal 1234 567 890 123 456~~

Signal : Captured aircraft  
 From : Air Field Headquarters Lombok - Indonesia, Tanjung Harapan  
 Place and time : Lombok - Indonesia, July 27, 1953 at 1200  
 Type of craft : Not known  
 Place of crash : 1 mile north-west of Lombok at 1st Airfield  
 Kind of capture : Not known by description. Type of craft : Boeing Fortress B 29 D  
 Markings of craft : In the 1st 2nd 3rd  
 Dimensions of craft : In the 1st 2nd 3rd  
 Condition of craft : Completely destroyed by crash fire except the tail unit.

6-2224 AF (8)

AV 234/43

16084682

184

RECEIVED  
THEATRE  
JULY 15 August 1943

Dept. of the  
VA. Station for  
Treatment. K.

ac  
M 25 Jul 43  
K 25 Jul 43

*main 91*

100, 000 00 10000

AV 188143

2.) 25 July 1953

Being Arrested

2 men captured  
8 men dead

- 1.) BRIDGES, ROBERT
- 2.) WARD, J.
- 3.) CAMPBELL, W.F.
- 4.) SUASSO, Theodore
- 5 - 10.) Unknown, not identified

captured  
ASSTO-775 157, captured  
Sgt. ASSTO 690 736, dead  
dead

AV 188/43

2 Missing of shooting ./.  
Fortress B 17 F  
by fighter on 25 July  
43 at 1615 in the  
area 744  
Westerhof  
G. Ind. Clandee.

Albert  
9/48

REMARKS  
This unknown

Cemetery  
Westerhof  
Indust

Buried in the  
Westerhof Cemetery  
at Indust  
Grave location  
III/2 B 12  
on 29 July 43

3  
NACIR 91

Van 15  
This unknown  
O-72726 2 42-43  
A

location of graves  
III/2 B 13  
on 29 July 43.

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

PLACE: **Air Field Headquarters Report - Mustang**

DATE: **July 26, 1943**

NAME AND FIRST NAME OF PRISONER: **S y D L a g , Benjamin F.**

YEAR OF BIRTH: **1918**

RANK: **Sgt.**

PLACE AND DATE OF CAPTURE: **At Okmulgee about 1943**

*EUS*

PARTICULARS CONCERNING CAPTURE: - (CRASHED? EMERGENCY LANDING? SHOT DOWN?) **Shot down at Okmulgee ( Okmulgee ) on July 25, 1943 about 2400**

*MACP  
91*

TYPE OF CRAFT **Beechcraft**

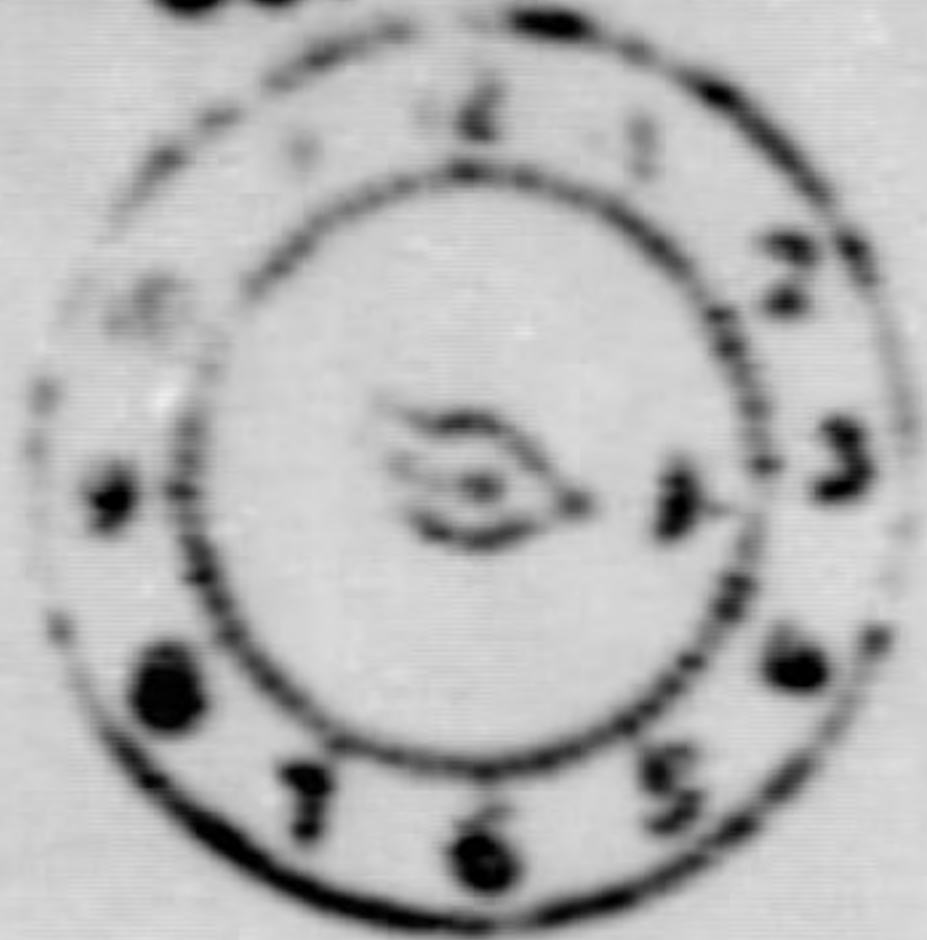
REMARKS: **Okmulgee : Air District Command**



~~RESTRICTED~~  
by E. A. ... Lt. Col., AG  
by P. O. ... Capt., AG  
Date: Oct 16 1943

~~SECRET~~

#91  
1000



HEADQUARTERS AAF STATION 107  
308TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)  
APO 634 - US ARMY

(D-4-3)

27 July 1943.

RECEIVED

Air AG Subject: Missing Air Crew Report.

To : Commanding General, Headquarters, Eighth Air Force, APO 633, US Army.

1. Herewith Missing Air Crew Report of this Group for the mission of 25 July 1943.

*Charles A. Green*  
CHARLES A. GREEN,  
Major, AC,  
Group S-2.

1st Ind.

373

21ST STATISTICAL CONTROL UNIT, APO. 633, U.S. ARMY, 29 July, 1943.  
TO: Commanding General, Hq. SOS, ETOUSA, APO. 871, U.S. Army.

CT

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

For the Commanding General:

*E. A. Mobley*  
E. A. MOBLEY  
Major, A.G.D.  
Asst. Ad. Com.  
31 JUL 1943  
A.G.D.  
COM. SAC Com  
EETOUSA

~~SECRET~~

I-3377

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~SECRET~~

CAF/vr

360.33  
HQ SAC, HQUSSA, APO 871, 1 August 1943.

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

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

For the Commanding General:

*C. Fisher*  
C. FISHER,  
Captain, AGD,  
Asst. Adjutant General.

4 Incls:

1-Missing Air Crew Report (John A. Van Wie)  
" " " " (James D. Walsh)  
" " " " (Paul Blank)  
" " " " (Robert L. Taylor)  
" " " " (Albert Hlebasko)  
" " " " (Eugene L. Horton)  
" " " " (Robert W. Hall)  
" " " " (Benjamin F. Spring)  
" " " " (Theodore G. Swanson)  
" " " " (Robert C. Bridges)

2-Track Chart of Mission.

3-Missing Air Crew Report (Edwin S. Boyd)  
" " " " (Joseph C. Perkins)  
" " " " (Delbert P. Ray)  
" " " " (Klason H. Tolman)  
" " " " (Eddie E. Hamlin)  
" " " " (Charles D. Cavanaugh)  
" " " " (Joseph W. Keen)  
" " " " (Roy L. Weatherford)  
" " " " (Albert T. Garrison)  
" " " " (John A. Lewis)

4-List of Installed Weapons.

~~SECRET~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



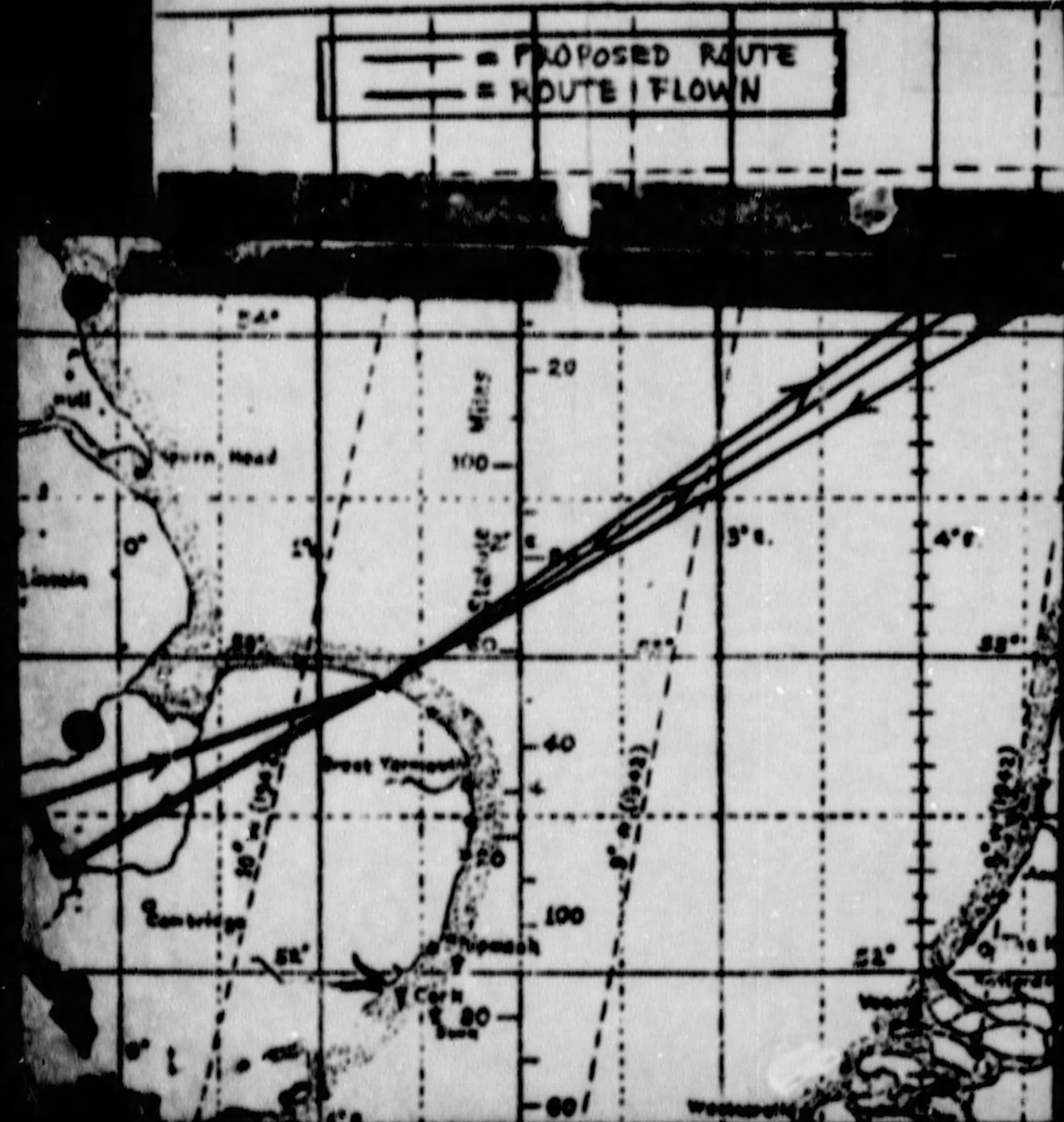
# TRACK CHART ~~SECRET~~

TARGET = HAMBURG, GERMANY

25, JULY, 1943

303<sup>rd</sup> BOMB. GROUP (H)

— PROPOSED ROUTE  
— ROUTE FLOWN



~~SECRET~~