by Lt. A. BRADUBAS, Lt. Col., AC
by F. M. [redacted]URNICH, Capt., AC
Date: [redacted]AR 1 [redacted]

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RESTRICTED

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[redacted]
363RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
APO 634 - US ARMY

1926
AN 0104

Classification changed
to RESTRICTED
by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AC
by F. J. MUENCH, Capt., AC
Date IMPORTANT MAR 15 1945

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

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 Molesworth ; Command or Air Force VIII
   Group 303 ; Squadron 358 ; Detachment ____
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure Molesworth ; Course See Chart Attached
   Intended Destination Oschersleben ; Type of Mission Bombardment
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
   Clear - Visibility unlimited
4. GIVE: (a) Date 11Jan44 Time 1136 ; and Location 52° 55' N 10° 23' E
   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) (X) Enemy Aircraft; ( ) Enemy Anti-Aircraft; ( ) Other Circumstances as follows ——————
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17F ; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-5360
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1820-97 ; A.A.F. Serial Number (a) 43-60506
   (b) 42-137280 ; (c) 42-137311 ; (d) 42-137812
   INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number) 590258 HSMC 289478 HSMC
   (a) 590509 HSMC ; (b) 591849 HSMC ; (c) 581749 HSMC ; (d) 589698 HSMC 588170 FTGM
   (e) 589566 HSMC ; (f) 590531 HSMC ; (g) 589484 HSMC ; (h) 578009 HSMC 590166 HSMC
8. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty ___
   or (b) Non-Battle Casualty y
9. 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
Evd	1.	Pilot	SCHWAEBE, Harry A.	2nd Lt.	POW 0-742788 RTD
"	2.	Co-Pilot	DUMSE, Harold F.	2nd Lt.	POW 0-687563 RTD
"	3.	Navigator	DEGNAN, Paul T.	2nd Lt.	POW 0-685554 RTD
"	4.	Bombardier	WILEY, Wilburn W.	2nd Lt.	POW 0-686207 RTD
"	5.	Engineer & T.T. Gun.	FOREMAN, Roy (NMI)	S/Sgt.	POW 39851450 RTD
"	6.	Ass't. Eng. & L.W.G.	MALCOM, James F.	Sgt.	POW 38292210 RTD
"	7.	Radio Op. & Gunner	TUDOR, Mark E.	T/Sgt.	POW 15102309 RTD
Arriv. US	8.	Asst. Radio OP. & Gun.	HARVEY, Benjamin F.	Sgt.	POW 13121331 RTD
KIA	9.	Right Waist Gunner	WHITESELL, Russell O.	Sgt.	POW 17035972
Evd	10.	Tail Gunner	IOTT, George F.	Sgt.	POW 11115536 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 (Last name first)	Rank	Serial Number	Check Only One Column: Contacted By Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1.							
2.							
3.							

12. 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) ___
13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN. Chart Attached
14. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT. ___
15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE ___

Encl 13

Date of Report 13 January 1944

[redacted]
JESSE M. BARRETT, Major, AC (Signature of Preparing Officer)
Group S-2

Order
1926

Interned:
Ku 700 Jan. 11, 1924 Fortress

Lott, George Fred, Lt. born Sept. 17, 1924
Ident. No. 11115 536
Taken Prisoner

Schwaebe, Harry Aloysius, 2nd Lt.
born May 20, 1916
Ident. No. 6-742788
Taken Prisoner

Dramse, Harold Frederick 2nd Lt.
Ident. No. [illegible] Taken Prisoner

Plot 3 Row 3

Degman, Paul Thomas 2nd Lt.
born July 10, 1919
Ident. No. 0-665 554
Tuskegee Airmen

Hiley, Hillman, 2nd Lt. born Sept. 26, 1920
Ident. No. 0-686 207
Tuskegee Airmen

Forman, Roy 1st Lt.
born April 25, 1922
Ident. No. 739 FS 1450
Tuskegee Airmen

Harvey, Benjamin Franklin, 1st Lt.
born April 16, 1922
Ident. No. 13121 331
Tuskegee Airmen

Malcolm, James Forest, Capt.
born May 29, 1919
Ident. No. 38 292 210
Tuskegee Airmen

Tudor, Mark Edward, T/Sgt.
Ident. No: 15-902 309
Tuskegee Airmen

Whitesell, Russell O., Capt.
Ident. No: 0-703 5-972
Deceased

Buried in the
Cemetery Set aside
Honor of Military
Plot for Prisoners of War
Grave No. 5 - Row 3

[redacted] Detmold

[redacted] Detmold April 21, 46

MACR 1926

[redacted]

2.) Name : [redacted] Detmold

3.) Rank : American aircraft

4.) Place and time of Birth : unknown

5.) Rank of him : unknown

6.) Wife unknown

7.) AGE : [redacted] 43 42 Yrs

8.) Place and time of death : [redacted] 11th January 1944

9.) Cause of death : Kind : Crash of aircraft

10.) ——

11.) Interment effected at the [redacted] cemetery of Detmold on 17th January 1944 , time : 0830. Grave Nr. 5

11.) Remarks : The crew member in question belongs to the American aircraft crashed at Detmold on 11th January 1944.

K/A

The Burgomaster of the Town of Detmold

Signed by Schnittmann

KIA wkn. Russell Whitesel 17056072 17 Jan. 1944
T 43 45

New Cemetery of Detmold; Place of Exner
Grave No. 5

B - 17 [illegible]; [illegible] m south
Horn/Lippe
on 11 January 1944
at 10,45 o'clock

RUSSELL O. WHITESELL,

AV 639/44

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE File 1926

Name of crew member: WHITESELL, Russell O.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 17035972
Position: Crew (Bomber) [redacted] (Fighter): Right Waist Gunner

Did he bail out? YES, HE WAS FIRST TO BAIL OUT OF REAR DOOR.

Where? CLOSE TO DETMOLD, GERMANY.

If not, why not? /

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

Was he injured? NOT TO MY KNOWLEDGE.

Where was he when last seen? BAILING OUT.

Any hearsay information: HEARD HE WAS DEAD BEFORE LEAVING DETMOLD. A FEW DAYS LATER AT FRANKFURT, AT P.O.W. INTERROGATION HEADQUARTERS, HEARD HE HADN'T BEEN CAPTURED BUT WAS STILL ON THE LOOSE, BUT COULDN'T HARDLY BELIEVE IT AS REST OF CREW WAS ACCOUNTED FOR.

Source: GERMAN INTERROGATION OFFICER. IDENTITY UNKNOWN.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: SUPPOSE HE WAS KILLED ON HITTING GROUND OR BY CIVILLIANS.

Total number of missions of above crew member: ABOUT 3 or 4

Dates and destinations if possible: & UNKNOWN.

Sincerly, James F. Malcom

6-3861, AF

AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name MALCOM, JAMES F. Rank SGT. Serial No. 38292210

2. Organization 303 BOMB GP. 8th A.A.F. Gp Commander NO KNOWLEDGE (full name) Rank / Sqn CO NO KNOWLEDGE (full name) Rank /

3. What year 1944 month JANUARY day 11 did you go down?

4. What was the mission, OSCHERSLEBEN, GER, target, AIRCRAFT FACTORY, target time, ABOUT 11:50, altitude, 21,000 ft. route scheduled, NO KNOWLEDGE, route flown NO KNOWLEDGE

5. Where were you when you left formation? ABOUT 30 min. from TARGET

6. Did you bail out? YES

7. Did other members of crew bail out? YES, ALL OF THEM.

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". ALL MEMBERS BAILED OUT AT 11:30. CLOSE TO BETMOLD, GER. ALL WERE SAFE EXCEPT RUSSELL O. WHITESELL. LAST SEEN WHEN HE BAILED OUT.

9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? NO KNOWLEDGE.

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? /

12. What was their condition? /

13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? RUSSELL O. WHITESELL LAST SEEN WHEN HE BAILED OUT. WAS NOT WOUNDED.

14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. NO KNOWLEDGE.

Sincerly, James F. Malcom

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

6-3862, AF

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: [redacted] Russell G.
Rank: [redacted]
Serial number: [redacted] 17033972
Position: Crew (Bomber) [redacted]: Right Waist Gunner

PBB 8 27

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Near Detmold, Germany

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: He was allright when the Plane was shot

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? When he bailed out

Any hearsay information: The Germans said he didn't have a chute. They also said he had evaded but he would never get out of Germany. We do know that he had his chute on.

Source: Germans

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: His chute could Have not opened or the civilians could have killed him

Total number of missions of above crew member: three - 3

Dates and destinations if possible: Emden, Germany - December 11, 1943
Bremen, Germany - December 13 - 1943
Oschersleben, Germany - January 11, 1944

a-1

6-3861, AF

AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name FOREMAN, Roy (NMI) Rank T/Sgt Serial No. 39851450

2. Organization 8th 303 Gp Commander TRAVIS (full name) Rank Col Sqn CO Mitchell (full name) Rank Major

3. What year 1944 month January day 11 did you go down?

4. What was the mission, Bombing, target, Oschersleben, target time, 1200, altitude, 20,000 route scheduled, No knowledge, route flown No knowledge

5. Where were you when you left formation? Near Detmold Germany

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". All crew members bailed out. 2nd Lt. Paul T. Pegnan, Navigater was wounded

9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? Near Detmold, Germany

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?

12. What was their condition?

13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above?

14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information.

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

Over

6-3862, AF

I don't remember the full names of my Group & Commander or the Squadron commander

AFPPA-[illegible]

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 1926

Name of crew member: WHITESELL Russell O.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 17035972
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~[illegible]~~: Right Waist Gunner

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Approx. over Detmoldt, Germany.

If not, why not? —

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Last contact over interphone at approx 11:19AM.

Was he injured? Not to my knowledge.

Where was he when last seen? Last seen by tail gunner Lott when Whitesell left ship.

Any hearsay information: Upon bailing out he being a big man got stuck in rear doorway a tail-gunner Lott. Laid on his back + push with his feet to force. him out of the doorway. Whitesell therefore was the 1st to leave plane by rear door

Source: Lott + crew members who left by that exit.

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

(over)

Total number of missions of above crew member: Four ?

Dates and destinations if possible: 12-15-43 Emden 12-18-43 Bremen 1-6-44 Ludwigshaven 1-11-44 Oschersleben.

6-3861, AF

Whitesell was badly frost-bitten on 2nd Mission over Breman + his hands were still bothering him somewhat. Therefore it is possible that the power to pull chute was not in right hand. However he claimed that hands were OK except when lifting.

Upon capture the Germans claimed that Whitesell was dead. No-one however saw the body. All crew hit ground more or less at same time + within 10mi radius of one another. Three members claim that upon landing they heard gun-fire + each claim it was not directed at them therefore they suppose it must have been aimed at Whitesell.

After capture nine crew members were brought to Luftwaft camp at Detmoldt for interrogation + at midnite Jan 11th 1944 Pilot + myself were removed to Detmoldt hosp. for operations + saw corpse as we were leaving but Germans refused to let us view same. Therefore Pilot + myself suppose it may have been Whitesells + their refusal to let us see the corpse make the supposition that the body had rifle or pistol holes more plausible.

AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name PAUL T. WEGNAN Rank 2nd Lt Serial No. 0-685554
2. Organization 8th AAF Gp Commander _____ Rank ___ Sqn CO Mitchell Rank Major.
   (full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month JAN day 11 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Aschersleben (Brunswick), target, Aschersleben, target time, APPROX 12:15 PM, altitude, 21,000', route scheduled, due east to target, route flown SAME.
5. Where were you when you left formation? 20 mi S.W. HANOVER. GERMANY
6. Did you bail out? YES Over Detmoldt, GERMANY
7. Did other members of crew bail out? YES - All ten MEN

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". Pilot - Co P. - Bomb + NAV left by front hatch - Eng - Radio - Ball + Tail + 2 Waist Gunners left by REAR door. All left plane between 11:20 AM + 11:25 AM. All left within 10 mi radius of Detmoldt Ger.

9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? 15 miles East of Detmoldt. Ger.

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? —

12. What was their condition? —

13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? Russell O. Whitesell last seen in Radio-Room of plane just before the take-off. Apparently in excellent condition

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)

6-3862, AF

1926

HEADQUARTERS
Army Air Forces Pilot School (ATE)
Turner Field, Albany, Georgia

SUBJECT: Interrogation of Former Prisoners of War

TO : Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington 25, D. C.
Attn: Personal Affairs Branch, Room 4315 Munitions Bldg.

1. In compliance with your TWX AFPPS 3909, 28 Sep 45, the following information is submitted:

a. Name of casualty Russell Whitesell.

b. Rank Sgt. Crew position Left Waist.

d. Date last seen Jan 11, 44. Place last seen In Aircraft

f. Circumstances of loss of aircraft Shot Down

g. Known information (eye witness only)
This man first out of plane and unhurt. Five minutes after I was on the ground I heard ? shots - Nothing more. Germans later reported him dead from 20 mil. in head. No one has seen or heard from him to my knowledge.

h. Hearsa information (all other information about above named casualty, with estimate of reliability)

NONE

(Note: Reverse side may be used if more space is needed in giving information requested above.)

Harry A Schwabe 2/Lt
Rank and name of reporter

O-742788 303rd Bomb Grp.
ASN Unit

VIII BOMBER COMMAND — PROPOSED OVERALL PLAN

TARGET

Primary _____

Secondary _____

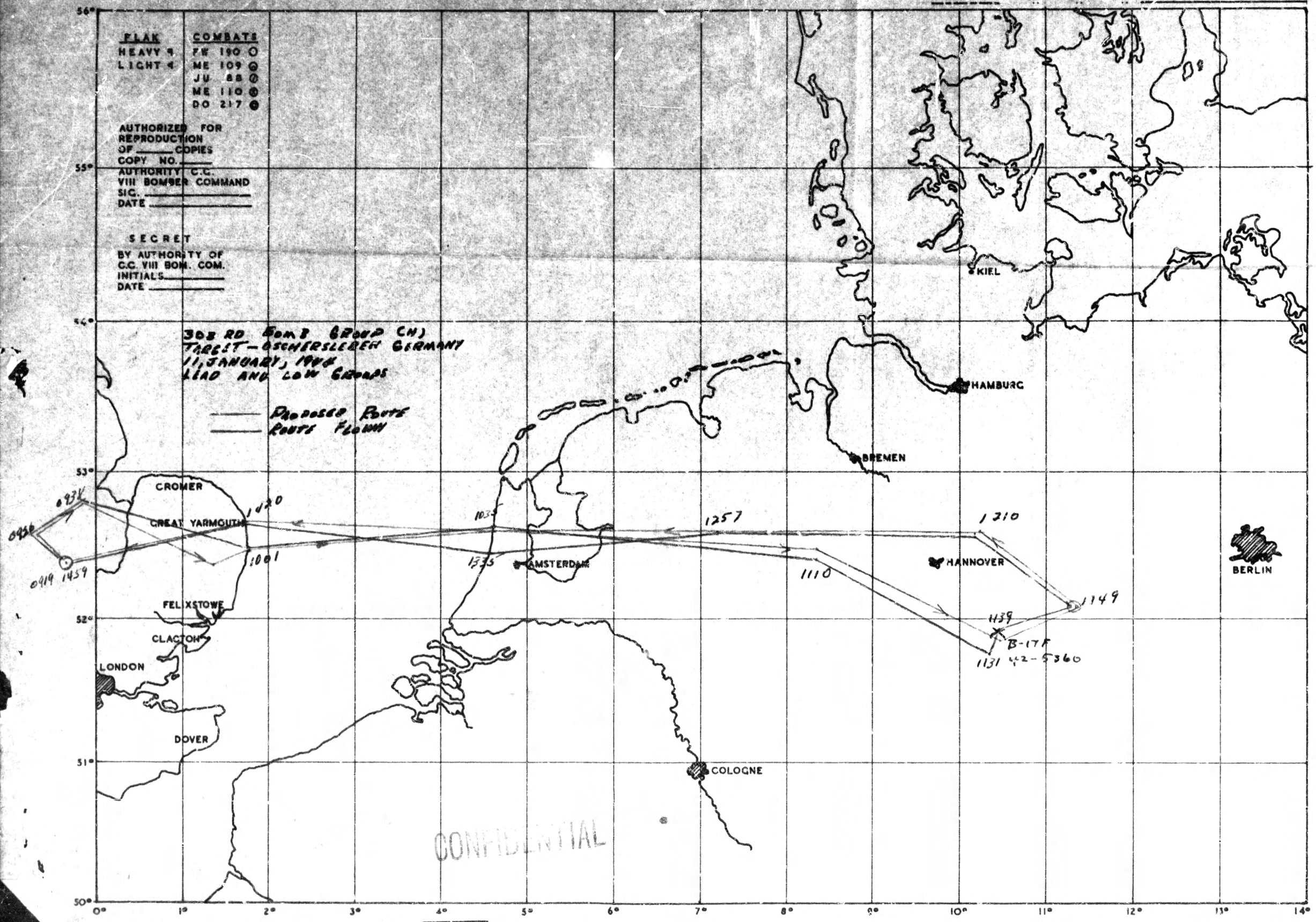
Last Resort _____

TRACK CHART

DATE _____

Route followed by _____

CONFIDENTIAL



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