

8823

CONFIDENTIAL

Date	Writer	Wrote About
1-2-56	A. H. ...	McCormick Kris
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CONFIDENTIAL

C O N F I D E N T I A L

8823

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

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 air crew member is officially reported missing.

- ORGANIZATION: Location, by Name Molesworth ; Command or Air Force 8th A.F. Group 303rd Bomb ; Squadron 359th ; Detachment -----
- SPECIFY: Place of Departure Molesworth, Eng. ; Course See Attached Chart
Target or Intended Destination Brux, Czechoslovakia Type of Mission Bombardment
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
3-5/10th low cloud, visibility aloft unrestricted.
- GIVE: (a) Day 12 Month September Year 1944 Time 1115 Location 52°40'N-15°35'E
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (X); 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) Enemy Aircraft (X); Enemy Anti-Aircraft () ; Other Circumstances as follows: _____
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17G ; AAF Serial Number 42-31177
- NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if Any Lonesome Polecat
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1820-97 ; AAF Serial Number (a) SW-001605 ; (b) SW-007689 ; (c) 43-61688 ; (d) SW-008470
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number);
(a) 568554 S.A. ; (b) 675133 K.H.W. ; (c) 674534 K.H.W. ; (d) 672737 K.H.W. ;
(e) 568134 S.A. ; (f) 568585 S.A. ; (g) 674283 K.H.W. ; (h) 657247 K.H.W. ;
(i) 492453 S.A. ; (j) 675457 K.H.W. ; (k) Left Chin No. ; (l) _____ ;
(m) _____ ; (n) _____ ; (o) Unknown. ; (p) _____ ;
- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty _____
of (b) Non Battle Casualty _____
- NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 9 ; Passengers 0 ; Total 9
(Starting with Pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 11 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 & Grade	Serial Number	Current Status	
<i>KIA</i> 1. Pilot	<i>m</i> CLEMENSEN, RICHARD L.	2nd Lt.	0-763955	3 MIA	<i>KIA</i>
<i>EUS</i> 2. Co-Pilot	<i>m</i> BURSON, GEORGE S.	2nd Lt.	0-710656	2 MIA	<i>POW</i>
<i>EUS</i> 3. Navigator	<i>m</i> CROOKE, JAMES J. JR.	2nd Lt.	0-722947	4 MIA	<i>POW</i>
<i>KIA</i> 4. Bombardier <u>371</u>	<i>m</i> STAFFORD, FRANK W.	2nd Lt.	0-717910	9 MIA	<i>KIA</i>
<i>KIA</i> 5. Top Turret Gunner	<i>m</i> CRORY, EUGENE F. JR.	Sgt	38440878	7 MIA	<i>KIA</i>
<i>EUS</i> 6. Radio Gunner	<i>m</i> SCHURACH, KURT (NMI)	Pow Sgt	32527306	8 MIA	<i>POW</i>
<i>EUS</i> 7. Ball Turret Gunner	<i>m</i> ALBERN, LLOYD L.	Sgt	39340538	1 MIA	<i>POW</i>
<i>DED</i> 8. Waist Gunner	<i>m</i> KRISS, NICK (NMI)	MIA Sgt	33287753	5 MIA	<i>MIA</i>
<i>RMC</i> 9. Tail Gunner	<i>m</i> JAUERNIG, JOHN W.	Pow Sgt	37725778	5 MIA	<i>POW</i>
10.					
11.					

12. 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 Forced Landing
1. <u>VOGEL, CLETUS H.</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>20715553</u>		<u>X</u>	
2. <u>HUTSON, JOHN C.</u>	<u>Copperal</u>	<u>38590447</u>		<u>X</u>	
3.					

(Over)

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

13. 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) A/C still flying partially under control when last seen.
14. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN OR HEARD FROM. ~~See attached chart.~~ dv
15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT. See S-2 Summary Attached.
16. GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH, IF ANY, INCLUDING DESCRIPTION AND EXTENT None.

Date of Report 15 September 1944

Jesse M. Barrett
(Signature of Preparing Officer)

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:

JESSE M. BARRETT,
Major, AC,
Group S-2.

See S-2 Summary Attached.

OCT 18 1944



RECEIVED

C O N F I D E N T I A L

S-2 SUMMARY OF EYE-WITNESS ACCOUNTS

Instructions: 1. If aircraft returned, only questions 6 and 7 are applicable. 2. Question number 5 not applicable to Fighter Groups. 3. Summary will be prepared in five copies, four of which will be forwarded. 4. Interrogating Officer will sign original and second copy.

GROUP 303rd SQ 359th A/C # 42-31177 MISSION DATE 12 Sept. 1944.

FIRST PILOT Clemensen, Richard L. O-763955 2nd Lt. DESTINATION Brux, Czechoslovakia.
NAME RANK SER#

1. Position of missing aircraft when last sighted or contacted:

- 1115 just before turn to south.
- (a) By coordinates 52°40'N-13°35'E.
 - (b) Approximate altitude 27,000 feet.
 - (c) Last noted heading 110° mag.
 - (d) If out of formation, approximate distance from formation 1500 feet below when last seen.

2. Describe enemy opposition (intensity of flak, intensity and method of enemy fighter attack, etc., with particular reference to missing aircraft): Formation was hit by seven fighter attacks. E/A attacks lasted from about 1100 to 1130 hours. They were principally from high on the front of the formation out of the sun.

3. Description of extent of damage to missing aircraft (including fires, explosions, etc): Hole in front part of wing close to #3 engine. Strips were flying off the wing. Another attack forced missing A/C out of formation and it slid off to left and dropped down. The horizontal stabilizer was also hit and strips of metal were coming off. Then wing caught fire.

4. If aircraft was out of control describe appearance:

A/C appeared to be partially under control when last seen. It was going down in a glide.

(Over)

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

5. If distressed aircraft was out of formation was it last seen with escort? No. If, so, give distinguishing markings of Fighter Group if noted (Group number, color and or fighter aircraft numbers, nicknames, etc.). _____

6. Number of parachutes seen and description of jumps (approximate altitude, time between jumps, etc.):

No parachutes seen.

7. Any other remarks not covered by above:

42-102484

Reporting A/C

42-107206

42-31177

Reporting A/C

Missing A/C

8. Date of report 15 September 1944

<u>EYE-WITNESSES:</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>SFR #</u>	<u>A/C #</u>
1.	VOGEL, CLETUS H.	S/SGT.	20715553	42-102484
2.	HUTSON, JOHN C.	CPL.	38590447	42-107206
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____

INTERROGATING OFFICER (Sign Original and one copy):

<u>Joseph G. Robinson</u>	<u>Capt.</u>	<u>O-904618</u>	<u>Ass't S-2.</u>
NAME	RANK	SER #	DUTY

JOSEPH G. ROBINSON
NOTE: Supplemental information developing subsequent to this account will be forwarded in manner prescribed in par 6, letter WD, AG, 704 (5 July 44) OB-S-AAF-M, subject "Missing Air Crew Report", 7 July 1944.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: 12 September 1944 1115 hrs.

CASUALTY NO. KU 2899

PLACE OF CRASH: Kouruppin

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Fortress

REPORTING OFFICE: 4th Air Base Kouruppin

NAME	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CAPTURED BOUNDED DEAD	PLACE OF IMPRISONMENT
CROOKE	James Joseph 2nd Lt.	0-722947	captured	Dulag Luft
MURCH	George Stonell 2nd Lt. USA	0-710656	captured	Dulag Luft
SONEBLON	Durt Sgt.	32327306	captured	Dulag Luft
SAURENIO	John W. Sgt.	37725776	captured	Dulag Luft
ALBORN	Lloyd Lee Sgt. Crescent City, Cal., 21 May 1929	39340528	captured	Dulag Luft
CLEWENSEN	Richard L. 1st Lt.	0-763955	dead	
STAFFORD	Frank W. 2nd Lt.	0-727910	dead	
MC GRAY	E.F. Sgt.	30440370	dead	

1 UNKNOWN DEAD

DULAG LUFT, 3 October 1944 No.

Airfield Command 25/III Neuruppin

Casualty Report No. 19/44

Period covered: 12 Sep. 1944

To: Army Information Office for War Casualties and Prisoners of War,
S a a l f e l d on the river Saale.

/S/ (name illegible)
Captain

Crew from Boeing Fortress B 17 G, crashed down, Markings: 2/291177/D Station 2
on 12 Sep. 1944 at 1115 hrs. near Bergsdorf District Templin 35 km east from
Neuruppin.

- | | | | | |
|------------|------------|-----------|--------------|-----|
| 1) 1st Lt. | Richard L. | CLEMENSEN | ASN 0-763935 | USA |
| 2) 2nd Lt. | Frank W. | STAFFORD | " 0-717910 | " |
| 3) Sgt. | H.P. | MC GORY | " 38440878 | " |
| 4) - | -- | unknown | -- | -- |

buried on 13 Sep. 1944 in Local Cemetery Bergsdorf District Templin, Grave No. 1
(common grave)

*MA CR 8823
See Kw 2899*

KU 2869

Type of Aircraft: Boeing Fortress B 17
Place of crash: Bergsdorf, County Templin, 25 km east of Neuruppin
Date of crash: 12 September 1944 at 11.15

Name:

MACR 8823 -

1. HOGGORY E. F. Sgt. Dead ✓
AS No. 38440878

MACR 8606

2. WOODWARD William B. Dead ✓
AS No. O-219444 T 42 - 42 O

KIA 10 Sep 44

(Crashed at
Heineringen
County Leunberg)

KIA
10 Sep
44

MACR 8606 -

3. SCHAPPERT Theodore E. Dead ✓
AS No. 59138223 T 43 - 44 A

(Crashed at
Heineringen
County Leunberg)

10 Sep 44

Ku 3156

1 Identification tag James G. Saling Serial Number 39325393 T 43-44 O P

1 Soldier's Individual Pay Record

Ku 2899

Record.

Of the personal Property of the dead salvaged 2. Lt. Frank W. Staffoot from the crash of a Boeing Fortress B 17 at Bergedorf County Templin 35 km east of Nouruppin on 12. September 1944 at 1115 AM.-

1 Identification Tag Serial Number O- 717910

signed

(illegible)

.....

Captain

8

DATE: 12 September 1944 AT: 1115

NAME

F. U. 2206

PLACE: Orvenfelde near Neuruppin

TYPE OF CRAFT: Fortress

TARGET: Air District Command III

no further info in HV's on crew. can't identify above

HEADQUARTERS PORTLAND ARMY AIR BASE
Office of the Commanding Officer
Portland 19, Oregon

8823

SUBJECT: Interrogation of Former POW's.

THRU : Commanding General, Fourth Air Force, San Francisco 6, California.
Attn: AC of S, A-2
Commanding General, Continental Air Forces, Bolling Field,
Washington 20, D. C.

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

1. The information below is submitted in compliance with the provisions of Letter from CG CAF to CG 4AF file 383.6 (2 Oct 45) dated 2 Oct 45 and 1st Indorsement thereto.

2. This report is exempt from reporting procedures per Par. 4a WD Cir 168, 1945.

- a. Name, Rank, and ASN of Casualty:
CHRISS, Nicholas, Pvt., ASN unknown, waist gunner.
McCROBY, first name, and ASN unknown, engineer, from New Mexico.
CLEMMENS, Richard, 2nd Lt., pilot, ASN unknown.
STAFFORD, Frank, 2nd Lt., bombardier, ASN unknown.
- b. Unit:
303rd Bomb Group, 359th Bomb Squadron.
- c. Date last seen:
12 September 1944
- d. Place last seen:
In aircraft, 40 miles east of Berlin, Germany.
- e. Circumstances of loss of aircraft:
B-17 horizontal stabilizer was shot off by enemy aircraft at 28,000 feet, approximately 40 miles east of Berlin. One port engine was shot out.
- f. Known information (eyewitness):
Informant was ball turret gunner, was off intercom. CHRISS opened door and motioned informant out. Informant and tail gunner bailed out, aircraft went into a dive and was not seen again by informant. Informant met members of crew at prison camp on 12 September 1944. CHRISS was not wearing dog tags, lived in Pennsylvania.
- g. Hearsay information:
Other members of crew told informant men listed above did not get out of ship. Ship was seen after crash and pilot's body found. Other crew members did not mention other bodies.
- h. Name, ASN, and unit of reporter:

Lloyd S. Albern
Lloyd Albern, 39340538, Sgt.
303rd Bomb Gp., 359th Bomb Sq.

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Office of the Commanding Officer
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- a. Name, Rank, and ASN of Casualty:
CHRISS, Nicholas, Pvt., ASN unknown, waist gunner.
MORSEY, first name, and ASN unknown, engineer, from New Mexico.
GLENNON, Richard, 2nd Lt., pilot, ASN unknown.
STAFFORD, Frank, 2nd Lt., bombardier, ASN unknown.
- b. Unit:
303rd Bomb Group, 359th Bomb Squadron.
- c. Date last seen:
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- d. Place last seen:
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- g. Hearsay information:
Other members of crew told informant men listed above did not get out of ship. Ship was seen after crash and pilot's body found. Other crew members did not mention other bodies.
- h. Name, ASN, and unit of reporter:

Lloyd S. Albem
Lloyd Albem, 39340538, Sgt.
303rd Bomb Gr., 359th Bomb Sq.

CONFIDENTIAL
CASUALTY INTERROGATION FORM
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

THE FAMILIES OF MANY OF YOUR COMRADES HAVE NOT BEEN AS FORTUNATE AS YOURS. THEIR SONS AND HUSBANDS HAVE BEEN REPORTED MISSING IN ACTION AND THEY ARE ANXIOUSLY WAITING TO LEARN THEIR FATE. YOU MAY BE ABLE TO SUPPLY THE INFORMATION WHICH WILL HELP TO TERMINATE THE SUSPENSE AND ANXIETY THEY ARE SUFFERING.

IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH IN ACTION OR DURING IMPRISONMENT OF ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DECEASED:

FULL NAME OF DECEASED **Eugene McGraw** **Engineer** **B-17**
HOME TOWN OR STATE **New Mexico**
GRADE OR RANK **Cpl**
ORGANIZATION **303 Bomb Gp-- 359 Bomb Sq-- 8th AF**
DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH **Sept 12/44** **Over Berlin, Germany**

CAUSE OF DEATH **Attacked by enemy fighter planes. Plane set afire. Pilot gave orders to bail out. Shortly after I bailed out the plane exploded. I assume that Subject was still in plane when it blew up.**

PLACE OF BURIAL **Probably Berlin**

WERE YOU AN EYEWITNESS TO HIS DEATH **No**

NAMES OF PERSONS BELIEVED TO HAVE WITNESSED HIS DEATH

None

IF YOUR INFORMATION IS HEARSAY
GIVE NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR
INFORMANT

**2nd Lt, George S. Burton Co Pilot
California**

AUG 2 - 1945

SIGN HERE

Kurt Schurach

Name and Serial Number

KURT SCHURACH 32527306

111-45 76 Drive, Forest Hills, NY
Your home address

NOTE: THIS FORM IS FOR USE BY CASUALTY BRANCH, THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON 25, D. C. ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THE FORM ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU. PLEASE FILL ONE OUT FOR EACH MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES WHOM YOU KNOW OR BELIEVE TO BE DEAD.

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IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH IN ACTION OR DURING IMPRISONMENT OF ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DECEASED:

FULL NAME OF DECEASED **NICK KRISS** **Waist Gunner** **B-17**
HOME TOWN OR STATE **Pennsylvania**
GRADE OR RANK **Cpl.**
ORGANIZATION **303 Bomb Gp--359 Bomb Sq-- 8th AF**
DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH **Sept 12/44** **Over Berlin, Germany**
CAUSE OF DEATH **Attacked by enemy fighter planes. Plane set afire. Pilot gave orders to bail out. Shortly after I bailed out the plane exploded. I assume that Subject was still in the plane when it blew up.**

PLACE OF BURIAL **Probably Berlin**
WERE YOU AN EYEWITNESS TO HIS DEATH **No**
NAMES OF PERSONS BELIEVED TO HAVE WITNESSED HIS DEATH **None**

IF YOUR INFORMATION IS HEARSAY
GIVE NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR
INFORMANT

2nd Lt. George S. Burson
California

Co Pilot

AUG 2 - 1945

SIGN HERE

Kurt Schubach
Name and Serial Number

KURT SCHUBACH 32527306

111-45 76 Drive, Forest Hills, NY
Your home address

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IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH IN ACTION OR DURING IMPRISONMENT OF ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DECEASED:

FULL NAME OF DECEASED **Frank Stafford 371 Bombardier B-17**
HOME TOWN OR STATE **Montana**
GRADE OR RANK **2nd Lt.**
ORGANIZATION **303 Bomb Gp-- 359 Bomb Sq-- 8th AF**
DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH **Sept 12/44 Over Berlin, Germany**
CAUSE OF DEATH **Attacked by enemy fighter planes. Plane set afire. Pilot gave orders to bail out. Shortly after I bailed out the plane exploded. I assume that Subject was still in plane when it blew up.**

PLACE OF BURIAL **Probably Berlin**

WERE YOU AN EYEWITNESS TO HIS DEATH **No**

NAMES OF PERSONS BELIEVED TO HAVE WITNESSED HIS DEATH

None

IF YOUR INFORMATION IS HEARSAY
GIVE NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR
INFORMANT

**2nd Lt. George S. Burson
California**

Co Pilot

AUG 2-1945

SIGN HERE

Kurt Schubach

Name and Serial Number

KURT SCHUBACH 32527306

111-45 76 Drive, Forest Hills, N.Y.

Your home address

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INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File No. 625

Name of crew member: CARRINGTON, Richard L.
Rank: 2nd Lt.
Serial number: 0-10000
Position: Crew (Bomber) or Pilot (Fighter): Pilot.

Did he bail out? No.

Where? _____

If not, why not? killed by 20 MM shell exploding on safty glass on left side.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Told me to take over ship and bail out the crew if we caught fire.

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? Seated in his seat in the plane.

Any hearsay information: germans gave me one of his dog tags, badly burned, and they claimed that he had been cut in two at the knees.

Source: German patrol composed of young men about 16 to 20 years of age.

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: Three missions

Dates and destinations if possible: 9 Sept. 44 Stuttgart, 10 Sept. 44 Mannheim. 12, Sept. 44 Bonn (shot down over Berlin)

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File No. 8823

Name of crew member: S-TA-F-FORD, Frank W.
 Rank: 2nd Lt.
 Serial number: 0-717910
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Navigator~~ Bombardier.

Did he bail out? No

Where? _____

If not, why not? Navigator had passed out in escape hatch, blocking exit.

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

notified that the Bomb bay doors were stuck, he could not get rid of his bombs. O.K.ed his order to bail out.

Was he injured? Yes. Had been hit in the right arm between elbow and shoulder. Reason he could not push navigator out of plane. Was killed.

Where was he when last seen? Helping me push Navigator thru escape hatch
 He was on his knees on the catwalk leading to the nose section of the plane
 Any hearsay information: Germans brought me his dog tags. Badly burned.

They said that he had been cut in two and that he was unrecognizable.

Source: German patrol composed of young men about 16 to 20.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Saw his name on list of dead at Interrogation center, Frankfurt-on-Maine.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Three Missions.

Dates and destinations if possible: 9 Sept. 44 Stuttgart, 10 Sept. 44 Mannheim, 12, Sept. 44 Bonn (shot down over Berlin).

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE File No. 8823

Name of crew member: McGROGAN, Eugene F. Jr.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 33440873
Position: Crew (Bomber) Turret Gunner.

Did he bail out? NO

Where? _____

If not, why not? Plane blew up before I had time to push him out.

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

No conversation. Tried to leave his post while fighters were attacking the plane and we were still in flyable condition.

Was he injured? Not before the plane blew up.

Where was he when last seen? Under the pilots seat on the catwalk. Was not trying to help Navigator out, but was hiding under the oxygen equipment,

Any hearsay information: No information.

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Saw his name at Interrogation center at Frankfort-on-Maine, listed as dead.

Total number of above crew member: Three missions.

Dates and destination if possible: 9 Sept. 44 Stuttgart, 10 Sept. 44 Mannheim, 12, Sept. 44 Bonn (shot down over Berlin)

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File No. 8823

Name of crew member: K. R. I. S. S. , Nick
 Rank: Sgt.
 Serial number: 323773
 Position: Crew (Bomber) Ball Gunner: Ball Gunner.

Did he bail out? NO.

Where? -----

If not, why not? He was pulling ball gunner and radio operator out of plane.

He was pinned against the roof of the plane by Cent. force
 Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Notified me

F.W. 190 was coming in to attack, and that the tail was coming off in
big pieces, and that he was going to get the ball gunner out of the ball.

Was he injured? He was uninjured in the plane before it blew up.

Where was he when last seen? pinned against the roof. His chute was on.

Any hearsay information: Radio operator "he seemed to be gasping for breath
and seemed to be passing out due to lack of oxygen."

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Saw his name
on list of dead in crew at Interrogation center at Frankfurt-on-Maine

I never saw his body or spoke to a local German in the vicinity of the
wreck who had seen or heard of him.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Three missions

Dates and destinations if possible: 9 Sept. 44 Stuttgart. 10 Sept. 44

Mannheim, 12 Sept. 44 Bonn (shot down over Berlin)

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name George Stowell Burson Rank 1st. Lt. Serial No. O-710656
2. Organization 303 Gp Commander Stevens Rank Col Sqn CO Lyle Rank Lt. Col.
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month September day 12 did you go down? Yes
4. What was the mission, Third, target, Bonn, target time, Unknown, altitude, 31,000 route scheduled, North Sea Berlin, Bonn, France, route flown North Sea, Berlin.
5. Where were you when you left formation? 16 miles N.W. of Berlin
6. Did you bail out? No. Was blown thru side of plane or out top.
Came to at about 1,000 ft. Opened chute but suffered broken leg.
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". Crooke J. 2nd. Lt. Pushed out of plane by myself. Schubach Sgt. Radio Op. Pushed out by Kriss. Jaurening Sgt. Tail Gn. Bailed out. Ball gunner bailed out. All bail outs were together and all landed in same area. Time 11:35 A.M. Sept. 12, 1944.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? Near a small town believed to be called Klein-Mutz, but have never been able to find it on maps, Suburbs of Berlin
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) Clemensen, Pilot, Stafford, Bombardier, Mc-Cory, top turret gunner, Kriss, waist gunner.
11. Where were they in aircraft? Pilot in nose, Bombardier in Nose, Kriss unknown, McCory in Nose.
12. What was their condition? Pilot and Bombardier were cut in two. All were burned and badly torn.
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)

Nick Kriss, Gunner ---- When he had pushed Schubach out of the plane, he was reported to be nearly out from lack of oxygen.

Disregarding his own safty, he managed to get the ball operator and radio operator into their chutes and out of the plane. The ball operator had to be cranked from his ball, and helped on with his equiptment. Kriss kicked out the rear excape hatch, so the tail gunner, radio operator, and ball operator could excape. The plane went into a steep dive before the radio operator and himself could bail out. They both were pinned against the roof of the plane. Kriss managed to push out the radio operator, who in clearing the plane struck the tail with his head. In a letter I have just recieved from the radio operator, he states if it hadn't been for the waist gunner Nick Kriss, neither he, the tail gunner or the ball gunner would be alive today.

This story is substantiated by all the waist men, who seem to think it was this lack of regard for his own life in helping them to excape, which cost him his life. He had told me several times that he never would bail out of an airplane. I never heard whether they ever found his body or not. Where it was or in what condition. He was never seen by any member of the crew again. Kurk Schubach radio operator was the last to see him alive.

February 27, 1946

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is the desired information you requested concerning the crew members of File No. 8823.

Hoping this information is enough to finish out your files and will assist in the finding of the bodies and placing them in a U. S. Military cemetery.

I would like to return to Germany myself and try to find the town where we were shot down.

Yours truly

George S. Burson

George S. Burson
1st. Lt. (Res) O-710656
Rt. 1. Box 153
Fillmore, California

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File No. 0023

Name of crew member: KRIS, Nick
Rank: Lt.
Serial number:
Position: Crew (Bomber) 1st Bombardier: 1st Bombardier

Did he bail out? NO

Where?

If not, why not? PLANE WAS IN DIKE, PINNED TO THE CEILING OF PLANE

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Before going out, he told me to go out first

Was he injured? NO

Where was he when last seen? IN PLANE

Any hearsay information: NONE

Source:

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

Fainted due to lack of Oxygen and went down with the plane

Total number of missions of above crew member: Three

Dates and destinations if possible: Sept 9. LUDWIGSHAVEN
Sept. 10. STUTTGART
Sept. 16. BRUX

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File No. 2025

Name of crew member:

ROBERT, Roger Z. Jr.

Rank:

1st Lt.

Serial number:

[REDACTED] (Fighter):

Position: Crew (Bomber)

Top turret gunner.

Did he bail out? NO KNOWLEDGE

Where? _____

If not, why not? _____

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

HEARD HIM OVER INTERPHONE BEFORE I LEFT PLANEWas he injured? NO KNOWLEDGE

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: THREEDates and destinations if possible: Sept 9. LUDWIGSHAVENSept 10. STUTTGARTSept 12. BRUX

**CASE UNDER
INVESTIGATION**

FORM 371 BEING PREPARED

DATE

8 Oct 47

8823

LT. SULLIVAN

AIR MAIL

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

In Reply Refer To
QMGM 293

SUBJECT: Additional Information That May Lead to the Recovery
and Identification of Remains Not Yet Accounted For

TO: Commanding General
American Graves Registration Command
European Area
APO 58, c/o Postmaster
New York, New York

1. There is attached hereto, five copies OQMG Form 371
(covering all available information in the Office of the Quartermaster
and previous information forwarded by

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name KURT Schubach Rank S/SGT Serial No. 32527306
2. Organization 303 Gp Commander Rank _____ Sqn CO _____ Rank _____
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month Sept day 12TH did you go down?
4. What was the mission, BRUX, target, _____, target time, _____, altitude, 27 000 route scheduled, _____, route flown _____
5. Where were you when you left formation? NEAR BERLIN, 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". JAVERNING WENT OUT FIRST THROUGH TAIL HATCH, ALBERN THROUGH WAIST DOOR BEFORE ME, NO KNOWLEDGE WHEN CROOK & BURSON LEFT BUT ALL IN ABOUT THE SAME PLACE
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? NEAR, WHERE WE BAILED OUT
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) KRISS, MCCRODY CEMENSEN AND STAFFORD
11. Where were they in aircraft? KRISS IN WAIST POSITION ALL OTHERS IN THE N-SE OF PLANE
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)

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File No. 0035

Name of crew member: KRISS, Rick
 Rank: 1st Lt.
 Serial number: 34
 Position: Crew (Bomber) Navigator (Observer): 1st Lt. KRISS

Did he bail out? No

Where? _____

If not, why not? PLANE WAS IN DIVE PINNING HIM TO FUSELAGE

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

SAW HIM AT HIS POST JUST BEFORE I BAILED OUT.

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? IN THE WHIST

Any hearsay information: THAT HE WENT DOWN WITH THE PLANE

Source: CO-PILOT & NAVIGATOR

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

WENT DOWN WITH THE PLANE & BURNED

Total number of missions of above crew member: 3

Dates and destinations if possible: SEP. 9-44 LUDWIG LUDWIGOVEN

SEP. 10 STUTTGARD SEP. 11 DESTINATION Baux, GERM.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File No. 625

Name of crew member: STAFFORD, Paul W.
Rank: 2nd Lt.
Serial number: 0-2110
Position: Crew (Bomber) Navigator

Did he bail out? No

Where?

If not, why not?

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

Was he injured? DO NOT KNOW

Where was he when last seen?

Any hearsay information: WENT DOWN WITH SHIP

Source: CO-PILOT & NAVIGATOR

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: 3

Dates and destinations if possible:

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File No. 8823

Name of crew member: OLEN JENSEN, Richard L.
 Rank: 2nd Lt.
 Serial number: 0-75385
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~of B-29~~ Pilot.

Did he bail out? No

Where? _____

If not, why not? HE WAS TRYING TO KEEP THE SHIP ON AN EVEN KEEL WHILE THE REST OF US GOT OUT.

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

TALK BOMB. TO SALVO BOMBS AFTER WE WERE HIT BY FIGHTERS

Was he injured? AS FAR AS I KNOW HE WASNT

Where was he when last seen? COCKPIT

Any hearsay information: CO-PILOT SAID HE SAW ^{HIS BODY} ~~HEM~~ IN THE SHIP
AFTER IT HAD CRASHED & BURIED

Source: CO-PILOT

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: 3

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY SERVICE FORCES
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL
Washington 25, D. C.

(JAGO 15 November 1945)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS
(AR 25-100)

1. Army Regulations 25-100, 29 May 1945, provide a means whereby reimbursement may be obtained by military personnel and civilian employees of the War Department or of the Army for private property damaged, lost, destroyed, captured or abandoned in the service when the circumstances of the loss are within the purview of the cited regulations. (For further details see AR 25-100, 29 May 1945, obtainable at any post, camp, station or military establishment.)

2. A claim for private property lost in the service should be made on WD Form 30B, 1 June 1945, and submitted to the Commanding Officer of the organization to which the claimant belongs or with which he is serving if practicable, otherwise to the Commanding Officer of any post, camp, station or military establishment, if practicable the one nearest the point where investigation of the facts and circumstances can most conveniently be made. Claims may also be submitted to the Commanding General of any Service Command or Air Technical Service Command, within the United States, its territories and possessions, or to any office of the Command Claims Service in any Theater of Operations or other Command outside the continental limits of the United States. In any case where submission under the foregoing provisions is impracticable claims may be submitted direct to The Judge Advocate General, Washington 25, D. C.

3. Blank forms and assistance in the preparation of a claim may be obtained from the Claims Officer at the post, camp, station or other military establishment where the claim is submitted.

RALPH G. BOYD
Colonel, JAGD
Chief of Claims Division

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

PPA 8
②

1. Your name LLOYD L. HIBERN Rank SGT Serial No. 39340538
303 BG. 759050D.
2. Organization _____ Sp Commander Do Not Know Rank _____ Sqn CO Do Not Know Rank _____
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month SEPT day 12 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, _____, target, BRUX BECH, target time, 12100, altitude, 28000 route scheduled, _____, route flown _____
5. Where were you when you left formation? 20 MILES EST BERLIN
6. Did you bail out? YES
7. Did other members of crew bail out? FOUR OTHERS
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". _____
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? EST BERLIN - DO NOT KNOW
THE VILLAGE WHERE WE WERE SHOT DOWN. THE N.O. KNOWS THE NAME OF THE VILLAGE
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) PILOT BOMB. ENGR.
WAIST GUNNER
11. Where were they in aircraft? AT THERE CORRECT POSITIONS
12. What was their condition? WERE OK AS FAR AS I KNOW
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? WAIST GUNNER WAS OK AS FAR AS I KNOW
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)

A-1

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Form No. 8023

Name of crew member: KRISS, Nick
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number:
Position: Crew (Bomber) [REDACTED]: West Coast.

Did he bail out? ACCORDING TO CREW MEMBERS SCHUBACH, ALBERN &
NO KNOWLEDGE LAUFENIC KRISS WAITED IN WAIST
FOR THEM TO JUMP. I DO NOT BELIEVE HE JUMPED
Where? _____

If not, why not? I FEEL THAT HE DID NOT CLEAR SHIP BEFORE SHIP
EXPLODED

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane:
OXYGEN CHECK - INTERPHONE

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? AT WAIST DOOR

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: IT IS MY
BELIEF, SINCE I SAW THE SHIP EXPLODE AFTER I BAILED OUT,
THAT KRISS WAS INSTANTLY KILLED BY THE EXPLOSION.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 3

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File No. 8825

Name of crew member:

HOGGORY, Eugene F. Jr.

Rank:

Sgt.

Serial number:

Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~of~~ (Fighter):

Top Turret Gunner.

Did he bail out? No

Where? _____

If not, why not? NO KNOWLEDGE

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

OXYGEN CHECKWas he injured? NoWhere was he when last seen? CATWALK BELOW UPPER LOCALAny hearsay information: HE WAS FIRING AT ATTACKING AIRCRAFTWHEN SHIP WAS HIT

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: CAUGHT INSHIPS EXPLOSION PREPATORY TO BAILING OUT - IBELIEVE HE WAS KILLED INSTANTLYTotal number of missions of above crew member: 3

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File No. 8823

Name of crew member: S. H. FORD, Frank V.
 Rank: 2nd Lt.
 Serial number: 0-17710
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Navigator~~ Bombardier.

Did he bail out? No

Where? _____

If not, why not? CAUGHT IN EXPLOSION ATTEMPTING TO CLEAR NOSE HATCH

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

TO BUCKLE ON CHUTE AFTER FIRST HIT - HE WAS ENGAGED IN TRYING TO RELEASE THE BOMBS - THE OLD MECHANICAL RELEASE WAS DEFECTIVE.

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? (By CO-PILOT) HE WAS ON HANDS AND KNEES READY TO BAIL OUT AFTER CO-PILOT.

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

HE WAS NOT INJURED PRIOR TO EXPLOSION - HE WAS READY

TO FOLLOW NAVIGATOR & CO-PILOT OUT NOSE HATCH -

I BELIEVE HE WAS INSTANTLY KILLED BY EXPLOSION

Total number of missions of above crew member: 3

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File No. 6225

Name of crew member: CLEGG, Richard L.
 Rank: 2nd Lt.
 Serial number: 0-20000
 Position: Crew (Bomber) or Pilot (Fighter) Pilot.

Did he bail out? No

Where? _____

If not, why not? CAUGHT IN EXPLOSION WHILE ATTEMPTING TO HOLD SHIP LEVEL FOR CREW TO BAIL OUT

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

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? IN PILOTS COMPARTMENT BY CO-PILOT

Any hearsay information: THE CO-PILOT WAS ORDERED TO BAIL OUT BY PILOT. HIS BELIEF SEEMED TO BE THAT HE WAS HIT BY 20 MM. ON 2ND OR 3RD PASS -

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: I FEEL THAT THE PILOT WAS POSSIBLY HIT BY 20 MM & THEN DIED INSTANTLY FROM EXPLOSION OF SHIP. HE STAYED AT HIS POST TRYING TO FLY LEVEL EVEN WITH CONTROLS PARTLY DAMAGED - I FEEL THAT SOME RECOGNITION (POSTHUMOUS) SHOULD BE GIVEN HIS HEROIC CONDUCT IN AN EMERGENCY.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 3

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name JAMES J. CROOKE Rank 2ND. LT. Serial No. 0-722947
2. Organization 303 RD. Gp Commander COLE Rank LCOL. Sqn CO EISENHART Rank CAPT.
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month SEPT. day 12 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, _____, target, BRUX, target time, _____, altitude, _____ route scheduled, _____, route flown _____
5. Where were you when you left formation? APP. 20 MI. NW BERLIN
6. Did you bail out? YES
7. Did other members of crew bail out? YES - CO-P, TAIL, WAIST, RO.
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". CO-PILOT, G.S. BURSON BAILED OUT NOSE HATCH IMMEDIATELY BEHIND NAVIGATOR 18 MI. N.W. BERLIN - OTHERS "NO KNOWLEDGE"
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? APP. 20 MI TO 15 MI. NW "B"
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) NO KNOWLEDGE
11. Where were they in aircraft? "NO KNOWLEDGE"
12. What was their condition? " " "
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? BOMBARDIER, F.W. STAFFORD, WAS ~~REAR~~ ATTEMPTING TO RELEASE BOMBS WHEN NAV. STARTED TO NOSE HATCH. HE WAS NOT HIT & STARTED REMOVING HIS FLAK SUIT PREPARED TO BAILING OUT -
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)