

9563

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classification [REDACTED]
by [REDACTED]
by [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]
by [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification changed to **RESTRICTED** by S. A. BRADSHAW, Lt. Col., AG by F. M. MURPHY, Capt., AG Date 10-15-1944

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

9563

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.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location, by Name Molesworth, Eng. Command or Air Force 8th A. F. Group 303rd BGP (H) Squadron 358th; Detachment _____
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure Molesworth, Eng.; Course As ordered.
Target or Intended Destination Wesseling, Ger.; Type of Mission Bombardment
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
10/10ths middle cloud, tops 15,000 feet, Visibility unrestricted aloft.
4. GIVE: (a) Day 11th Month October Year 1944; Time 1012 Location Wesseling, Ger.
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether aircraft was 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-17-G; AAF Serial Number 42-31739
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, If Any Fugacious Peter
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1820-97; AAF Serial Number (a) SW-019375; (b) SW-019491; (c) SW-018974; (d) SW-003750
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number);
(a) 893944 B.A.; (b) 894078 B.A.; (c) 893852 B.A.; (d) 894105 B.A.; (e) 894003 B.A.; (f) 895086 B.A.; (g) 894531 B.A.; (h) 893918 B.A.; (i) 893847 B.A.; (j) 891114 B.A.; (k) 892819 B.A.; (l) 893790 B.A.; (m) _____; (n) _____; (o) _____; (p) _____
10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty
of (b) Non Battle Casualty _____
11. 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	Serial Number	Current Status
1. Pilot	<u>PRICE, ERNEST G.</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>0-26086</u>	<u>MIA RTD</u>
2. Co-Pilot	<u>THOMAS, CHARLES E.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>0-704403</u>	<u>MIA RTD</u>
3. Navigator	<u>PATIL, LEONARD S.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>0-2060841</u>	<u>MIA RTD</u>
4. Bombardier	<u>CREEL, RED B.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>0-782839</u>	<u>MIA RTD</u>
5. Top Turret	<u>WNOEL, WILLIAM E.</u>	<u>Sgt.</u>	<u>20810247</u>	<u>MIA RTD</u>
6. Radio Gunner	<u>POSTEK, MICHAEL T.</u>	<u>Sgt.</u>	<u>13087892</u>	<u>MIA RTD</u>
7. Ball Turret	<u>COLE, RAYMOND L.</u>	<u>Sgt.</u>	<u>35227559</u>	<u>MIA RTD</u>
8. Waist Gunner	<u>REED, JOHN F.</u>	<u>Sgt.</u>	<u>32601235</u>	<u>MIA RTD</u>
9. Tail Gunner	<u>BILCFAK, PAUL R.</u>	<u>Sgt.</u>	<u>35605891</u>	<u>MIA RTD</u>
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 Crash Landing
1. <u>See S-2 Summary.</u>					
2. _____					
3. _____					

(Over)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Jul 15

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) _____
14. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN OR HEARD FROM. **Not required.**
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 October 1944.

Jesse M. Barrett, Jr.
(Signature of Preparing Officer)

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:

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

See S-2 Summary Attached.

NOV 23 1944



RECEIVED

3014
PA 4. 8. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30.
TO
CLASSIFICATION

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 Bomb. Gp SQ 358th A/C # +2-31739 MISSION DATE 11 October 1944
FIRST PILOT PRICE, ERNEST C. 2nd Lt. C-26086 DESTINATION Wesseling, Germany.
NAME RANK SER#

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

(a) By coordinates 50°50'N - 07°00'E.

(b) Approximate altitude 25,000

(c) Last noted heading A/C blew up in air.

(d) If out of formation, approximate distance from formation 300 yards.

2. Describe enemy opposition (intensity of flak, intensity and method of enemy fighter attack, etc., with particular reference to missing aircraft):

Intense and extremely accurate A/A gunfire.

3. Description of extent of damage to missing aircraft (including fires, explosions, etc):

Missing A/C received a direct hit from A/A gunfire and one of the outboard engines was on fire. It pulled off to the left and started down.

4. If aircraft was out of control describe appearance:

Sgt. Burcham and Sgt. Soule said A/C was under control when last seen. Lt. Goldstein said it passed under his left wing and then he saw pieces of A/C in the air. He is sure A/C blew up. Lt. Hower reports seeing A/C blow up in the air.
(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.):

There are no reports of any parachutes being seen.

7. Any other remarks not covered by above:

None.

8. Date of report 15 October 1944.

<u>EYE-WITNESSES:</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>SER #</u>	<u>A/C #</u>
1.	GOLDSTEIN, SHELDON (NMI)	2nd Lt.	O-723349	43-38564
2.	HOWER, FREDERICK G.	2nd Lt.	O-442835	44-8326
3.	BURCHAM, JOHN O.	J/Sgt.	18085472	44-38442
4.	SCULE, EVAN R.	Sgt.	18138157	43-38065.

INTERROGATING OFFICER (Sign Original and one copy):

<u>Joseph G. Robinson</u>	Captain	O-904618	Ass't S-2.
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

MACK 9563
 B-17
 AAF 42-31739
 9 men

11 Oct., 44 1000
 Schladers near Rosbach
 on the Sieg - river
 Type: Fortress
 Markings: 4231739 - P
 358 (H.B.) Sqd. 303 Gr.

	1st Lt. PRICE	Ernest Collier	WU-3174 O-26086	capt.
	2nd Lt. PATILLO	Leonard Sylveste	O-2060841	capt.
Pvt.	2nd Lt. CREEL	Fred B.	14168264	
	2nd Lt. THOMAS	Charles Edward	O-704403	capt.
Pvt.	Sgt. POSTEK	Michael Thomas	13087892	capt.
	Sgt. NOEL	William Edgar	20810247	capt.
	Sgt. COLE	Raymond Lewis	35227559	capt.
Pvt.	Pfc. BILTHAK	Paul (Hospital Siegburg)	35605891	
	Cpl. REED	John Francis	32601235	capt.
?	Sgt. DAY	Keith E.		

one person too many listed above.

11 Oct 44

G WML 1010 o'clock Boeing 500m southwest of Schlabern 2km northwest of
Rosbach / Sieg river NQ NQ 7/5 - 99% damage. Crashfire. 8 prisoners .-(KI 3174)

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN 11 October 1944 1000 hrs.

CASUALTY NO.

KU 3174

PLACE OF CRASH

Schlader on the Sieg-River

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT

Fortress

REPORTING OFFICER

Colgado-Gothain

NAME	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CAPT'D WOUNDED DEAD	PLACE OF INTERNMENT
------	------	------------------	---------------------------	---------------------

PRICE	Ernest Collier	1st Lt. O-26086	captured	Dulag Luft West
PATILLO	Leonard Sycoseta	2nd Lt. O-2060841	captured	Dulag Luft West
REED 1922	John Francis USA	Sgt. 32601235	captured	Dulag Luft West
NOEL 18 August 1919	William Edgar Texas	Sgt. 20810247	captured	Dulag Luft West
SOLE 15 May 1925	Raymond Lewis Wakesan, Ohio	Sgt. 35227559	captured	Dulag Luft West
POSTEK	Michael Thomas	Sgt. 13087692	captured	Dulag Luft West
BILTHAK	Paul	Pfc. 35605891	wounded	Hospital Siegburg
Casualty No. KU 3174		First Supplementary Report, dated 4 December 1944		
THOMAS	Charles Edward	2nd Lt. O-704408	captured	Dulag Luft West

REMARKS:

Dulag Luft H, 6 November 1944 No.

KJ 3174

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Headquarters Airbase A (o) 8/VI

PLACE: Koeln-Ostheim

DATE: 13 Oct 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF: Boeing Fortress B 17 G (Number of crew: questionable)EM. LANDING: AT: 0,5 km south-west of Schladern 2km north-west of

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME)

Rohsbach (Sieg river) 71 HQ 7/5/
11 Oct 1944 at 1022 o'clock

FIRST NAME:

see below

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA)

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED)

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE:

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

Name	First Name	Rank	Ser. No.	Result
1) Price,	Ernest	Flight Off.	0-26086	captured
2) Greel,	Ered B.	2nd Lt.	14168264	captured
3) Postek,	Michael	Sgt.	IX13087892	captured
4) Woodruff,	Walker A.	Sgt.	36877182	captured
5) Bilchak,	Paul	Sgt.	35605891	captured

No. 2)- 5) were already transferred by Headquarters Airbase Bonn-Mangalar.
Fate of the remaining crew-members unknown.

(pencil-written remark says that the prisoners 2) - 5) were received and questioned)

Forwarded to Distributor: 13 October 1944

Distribution:

2 Dulag-luft Oberursel
1 Hospital
1 for the file

signed Gerbrecht
Major, Staff officer of airbase.

KU 3174

TELEGRAM FORM

DISTANCE - MESSAGE

-OBERURSEL-

NAME OF DISTANCE-MESSAGE WRITER:

LLRL

No. 400

ACCEPTED:

DELIVERED:

RECEIVED:

DATE:-

TIME:

TO:

DATE:

16 Oct 1944

THROUGH:

TIME:

2310

ROLL:

FROM:

LLRL

THROUGH:

Breunig

REMARKS:

Highest Priority LWK 74 13 Oct 1300

To: Information Center West, Oberursel / Taunus-

Subject: Downing by Flak of a Boeing Fortress B 17 G on 11 Oct 1944 at 1022 o'clock
0,5, south-west Schladeru 2km north-west of Rohsbach (Sigg river) 71 NO 7/5,
on rudder on tail-unit blue triangle with a white C. In front of the
triangle the cipher 2, above the triangle I and below that K 423 17 39 P.
Aircraft after crash-fire 98% damaged. Captured members of the crew are:

- 1) Flight Officer Ernest Price C-26086,
- 2) 2nd Lt. Fred B. Greel 14168264,
- 3) Sgt. Michael Postek 13087892,
- 3) Sg. Walker A. Woodruf 36177182.
- 5) Sgt. Paul Bilchak 35605891,-

No.2) - 5) were already transferred by Headquarters Airbase Bonn-Hangelar.
fate of the remaining crew-members unknown. Transfer of the war prisoner
arranged.

Headquarters Airbase Koeln-Ostheim, signed Gerbrecht, Major...---

6-3224, AF(5)

KU 3174

American (aviator)

Surname and First name: B i l c h a k, Paul
born: 10 Oct 1923 in: ~~EMPIRE~~ Empire /Ohio USA

Unit:? aviator (refuses to give information)

Inscription of Identification tag: 3560 5891

Rank: Sergeant No. of the Hosp. Sicklist: 3451

Name of Hospital: General Hospital Siegburg, Section Prisoner of War.

Beginn of the sickness, kind of sickness, or wound:

11 October 1944 - Fracture caused by bullet in the ~~right~~ lower fragment of the
right leg. (Parachute-jump)

Admittance: from Police Station Herchen/ Sieg river on: 11 October 1944

Next of kin: to be informed:

Father: Michal Bilchak, Empire/Ohio USA

KU 3174

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: probably: Headquarters Airbase (A) ?

PLACE:

DATE:

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, Fortress IEM. LANDING: AT: south-west of Schladern, north-west of Rohsbach/Sieg

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) see below

FIRST NAME:

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA)

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED)

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE:

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

Pilot 1st Lt. Price, Ernest
 Nav. 2nd Lt. Ratillo, Leo
 Bombrd. 2nd Lt. Creal, Fred B.

Pfc. Bilthak, Paul Hosp.
 Cpl. Reed, John F.
 Sgt. Day, Keith E.

Cpl. Postek, Michael
 Sgt. Noel, Wm. E.
 Sgt. Cole, Raymond L.

2△ (in triangle) 3173 probably markings of craft.

303rd probably Bomber Gp.

KU 31747
KU 3175

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Headquarters Airbase A(o) 10/VI

PLACE: Hangelar

DATE: 11 Oct 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, the down mentioned crew-members belong probably to
EM. LANDING: AT: a downing on 11 Oct 1944 at Schladern / Sieg river.

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME)

see below

FIRST NAME:

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA)

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED)

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: captured

NAME OF HOSPITAL: Gen. Hosp. Siegburg

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT: ---

Surname:	First Name:	Rank:	Ser.No.:	result:
Woodruf (3175)	Walker A.	A/Sgt.	36877182	captured
Anderson	Arvid	Sgt.	0-2057793	captured
Postek	Michael	Sgt.	1308722292	captured
Creel (3174)	Fred B.	2nd Lt.	14168264	captured
Bilchak	Paul	Sgt.	35605891	Gen.Hosp.Siegburg

Forwarded to Distributor: 11 Oct 1944

Signature illegible
Captain, Staff officer

Distribution:

1 Dulag-Luft Oberursel
1 for the file

KU 3174
 KU 3175

Telephone
REPORT ON CAPTURED AIRCRAFT

POST:

LOCATION: Bonn-Hangelar

DATE:

DATE AND TIME: 11 Oct 1944 1010o'clock
 AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN

PLACE OF CRASH: ~~Wannfried~~ 22 1/2 km east of Hennef - 1km north-west of
 (NEAREST TOWN) Rohsbach/Sieg river 2km south-east of Schladern

KIND OF CAPTURE: Flak
 (FLAK, HUNTER, NIGHT HUNTER,
 EMERGENCY LANDING)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Fortress II B 17 G

MARKINGS OF CRAFT:
 (LETTERS, FRONT OR REAR OF INSIGNIA)

ADMITTANCE NO: G 4231739 F

EQUIPMENT:
 F.T. FREQUENCIES: see back of page
 CONDITION OF AIRCRAFT: 99% breakage

DELIVERED TO DISTRIBUTOR:
 (DULOG -LUFT, ETC.)

Type of engine: Double-radial
 Number of crew-member: 8 men

Salvaged by: Salvage-Unit 10/VI

Detachment to take over: Headquarters Airbase E (7) 212/XI Budenbach

Rank:	Surname:	First Name:	Ser.No.	Result:
1) Sgt.	Woodruf	Walker A.	36877182	captured
2) Lt.	Anderson	Arvid	0-2 2057793	captured
3) Sgt.	Postek	Michael	13067892	captured
4) Lt.	Creel	Fred	11168264	captured
5) Sgt.	Noel	William E.	2081024	captured
6) Sgt.	Cole	Raymond L.	35227559	captured
7) Sgt. 2nd Lt.	Batillo	Leonard S.	0-2060841	captured
8) Sgt.	Bilthak	Paul	35605891	wounded

Transmitted to Air District Command Phone No. 573 on 11 Oct 1944

Signature illegible
 Captain, unattached officer.

1) RAK F T 244 A No. 50490 Case CS 80 A

Crystals:

Top:	A 8103. 750	bottom:	A 7870
	B 8261. 250		B —
	C 8155. 71		C 8010
	D 8284. 64		D 6650

Motor switch position 1

2) Aerial Turning Unit BC 306 B

3) Radio Compass Unit BC 433 C 21494

4) Radio Transmitter BC 457 A

5) Transmitter Turning

a) TU 7 B No. 70557

b) TU 8 B " 70557

c) TU 6 B " 70557

6) Transmitter Turning BC 348 R No. 9978

7) Gyro Flux Gate Compass
Bendix Aviation C 25233

Further informations about injured men: 8) Gen.Hosp. Siegburg

KU 2174/3175

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Headquarters Airbase B (v) 212/ XI Eudenbach

PLACE: Schladern

DATE: 1010 o'clock

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, Fortress II B 17 G (shot down by Flak) Crew : 8 men.
E.A. LANDING: AT: 22km east of Heunef - 1km north-west of Rosbach/
 Sieg river 2km southeast of Schladern

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) see below

FIRST NAME:

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA)

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED)

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE:

NAME OF HOSPITAL: Gen. Hosp. Siegburg

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

<u>Surname:</u>	<u>First name:</u>	<u>Rank:</u>	<u>Ser.No.:</u>	<u>result:</u>
1) Woodruf	Walker A.	Sgt.	36877182	captured
2) Anderson	Arvid	Lt.	0-2057793	captured
3) Postek	Michael	Sgt.	13087892	captured
4) Greel	Fred	Lt.	14168264	captured
✓X5) Noel	William E.	Sgt.	2081024	captured
✓X6) Cole	Raymond	Sgt.	35227559	captured
✓X7) Patillo	Leonard	Sgt.	02060841	captured
8) Bilthak	Faul	Sgt.	35605891	wounded

Signature illegible
 Captain, unattached officer.

Air Base Command E (v.) 238/XI
WAHN near COLOGNE

KU 3174
(Carried under KU 3193)

Wahn 20 Oct 44

The following Prisoner of War has been transferred to here to-day

5.) Sgt. Jon REED

Reed, John F. 32601-235

MIA 11 Feb 44
EUS

(2 COPIES)

KU 3174

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Headquarters Airbase E (v)228/XI

PLACE: Wahn/ Rhineland

DATE: 22 Oct 44

stamped: Dulag Luft, Wetzlar
received 4 Nov. 1944
Zentralkart.u.Meldest.REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, not to be confirmedEM. LANDING: AT:

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME)

THOMAS

FIRST NAME:

CHARLES R.

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA)

It.

O-704403 T3841

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED)

captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE:

in Lohmar, about 15 km south-east of Koeln
on 22 Oct 1944 at 1600 o'clock

NAME OF HOSPITAL: ---

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT: ---

According to informations given byn the prisoner he had hidden himself for 10 days
around here.

Membership to a downed aircraft is not to be confirmed.

forwarded to Distributor: on 24 Oct 44

Distribution:

1 Dulag - Luft

ac
MIA 11 Oct 44
EWS

KU 3174

List of Identification Tags and various papers filed under KU 3174

CHARLES E. THOMAS JOHN F. REED ERIC ERNEST
O-704403 T38 41 Q P 32601235 T43 44 O C O-26086 T43 44 A P

Leonard S. PATILIO WILLIAM E. NOEL
O-2060841 T43-44 A P 20810247 T43-44-A P

Soldier's Individual Pay Record (Bilchak, Paul E. 35605891)
Soldier's Individual Pay Record (Cole, Raymond L. 35227559)
Soldier's Individual Pay Record (Noel, William E. 20810247)

KU 3174

File Note

8 September 1944
Ma/Beh

2nd Lt. Charles E. Thomas, G-704403;
according to RationCard (not cited)
and Bicycle identification card: 358th Sqd. 303rd Gp.

stamped: Dulag Luft, Weislar
received 14 Nov. 44
Zentralkart. u. Meldest.

JPP/1/2/45

1st Lt. Ernest C. Price

Mrs. Wynne C. Price (wife) ✓
527 Seminary Avenue,
Ranney, New Jersey.

2nd Lt. Charles E. Thomas

Mrs. Johnnie M. Thomas (mother) ✓
710 Grape Street,
Abilene, Texas.

2nd Lt. Leonard S. Patillo

Mrs. Mary K. Patillo (wife) ✓
1722 Madison Street,
Paducah, Kentucky.

2nd Lt. Fred B. Creel

Mrs. Martha R. Creel (mother) ✓
4115 Court S Central Park,
Birmingham, Alabama.

Sgt. William E. Noel

Mrs. Oma Noel (mother) ✓
1229 Love Street,
Fort Worth, Texas.

Sgt. Michael T. Postek

Mrs. Susanna Postek (mother) ✓
47 Troy Street,
Millvale, Pennsylvania.

Sgt. Raymond L. Cole

Mrs. Lizzie J. Cole (mother) ✓
68 Foster Avenue,
Norwalk, Ohio.

Sgt. John F. Reed

Mrs. Jennie Reed (mother) ✓
Hamburg Turnpike,
Rural Free Delivery Number One,
Paterson, New Jersey.

Sgt. Paul R. Bilchak

Mrs. Julia Bilchak (mother) ✓
Box 222,
Empire, Ohio.

MACR- 9563

MACR 9563

CASUALTY NO. KU 3174

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN 11 October 1944 1000 hrs.

PLACE OF CRASH Schladerm on the Sieg-River

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT Fortress

REPORTING OFFICE Sologne-Gstheim

NAME	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CAPT'D WOUNDED DEAD	PLACE OF INTERNMENT
PRICE ✓	Ernest Collier	1st Lt. O-26086	captured	Dulag Luft West
PATILLO ✓	Leonard Sylvesta	2nd Lt. O-2060841	captured	Dulag Luft West
REED ✓ 1922	John Francis USA	Sgt. 32601235	captured	Dulag Luft West
NOEL ✓ 18 August 1919	William Edgar Texas	Sgt. 20810247	captured	Dulag Luft West
SOLE ✓ 15 May 1925	Raymond Lewis Wakeman, Ohio	Sgt. 35227559	captured	Dulag Luft West
OSTEK ✓	Michael Thomas	Sgt. 13087892	captured	Dulag Luft West
BILTHAK ✓	Paul	Pfc. 35605891	wounded	Hospital Siegburg
Casualty No. KU 3174		First Supplementary Report, dated 4 December 1944		
THOMAS ✓	Charles Edward	2nd Lt. O-704402	captured	Dulag Luft West

REMARKS:

Dulag Luft H, 6 November 1944 No.

AMICR
9563

KU 3174

File Note

8 September 1944
Mu/Sch

2nd Lt. Charles E. Thomas, O-704403;
according to RationeCard (not dated)
and Bicycle identification card: 358th Sqd. 303rd Gp.

stamped: Dulag Luft, Wetzlar
received 14 Nov. 44
Zentralkart. u. Meldest.

CRW

KU 3174

List of Identification Tags and various papers filed under KU 3174

CHARLES E. THOMAS JOHN F. REED ERICE ERNEST
O-704403 T38 41 0 P 32601235 T43 44 0 C O-26086 T43 44 A P

Loenard S. PATILLO WILLIAM E. NOEL
O-2060841 T43-44 A P 20810247 T43-44-A P

Soldier's Individual Pay Record (Bilchak, Paul R. 35605891)
Soldier's Individual Pay Record (Cole, Raymond L. 35227559)
Soldier's Individual Pay Record (Noel, William E. 20810247)

KU 3174

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Headquarters Airbase A (o) 8/VI

PLACE: Koeln-Ostheim

DATE: 13 Oct 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, Boeing Fortress B 17 G (Number of crew: questionable)EM. LANDING: AT: 0,5 km south-west of Schladern 2km north-west of
Rehsbach (Sieg river) 71 NQ 7/54

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) 11 Oct 1944 at 1022 o'clock

FIRST NAME: see below

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA)

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED)

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE:

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

<u>Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Ser. No.</u>	<u>Result</u>
1) Price,	Ernest	Flight Off.	0-26086	captured
2) Greel,	Red B.	2nd Lt.	14168264	captured
3) Postek,	Michael	Sgt.	IX13087892	captured
4) Woodruff,	Walker A. —	Sgt.	36877182	captured
5) Bilchak,	Paul	Sgt.	35605891	captured

No. 2)- 5) were already transferred by Headquarters Airbase Bonn-Hangelar.
Fate of the remaining crew-members unknown.

(pencil-written remark says that the prisoners 2) - 5) were received and questioned)

Forwarded to Distributor: 13 October 1944

Distribution:

5 Dulag-Luft Oberursel
Hospital
1 for the file

signed Gerbrecht
Major, Staff officer of airbase.

KU 3174

TELEGRAM FORM

DISTANCE - MESSAGE

-CBERURSEL-

NAME OF DISTANCE-MESSAGE WRITER:

LLBL

No. 400

ACCEPTED:

DELIVERED:

RECEIVED:

DATE:-

TIME:

TO:

DATE: 16 Oct 1944

THROUGH:

TIME: 2310

ROLL:

FROM: LLEN

THROUGH: Breunig

REMARKS:

Highest Priority LWKN 74 13 Oct 1800

To: Information Center West, Oberursel / Taunus-

Subject: Downing by Flak of a Boeing Fortress B 17 G on 11 Oct 1944 at 1022 o'clock
0,5, south-west Schladern 2km north-west of Rohsbach (Sigg river) 71 NQ 7/5,
on rudder on tail-unit blue triangle with a white C. In front of the
triangle the cipher 2, above the triangle I and below that \times 423 17 39 P.
Aircraft after crash-fire 98% damaged. Captured members of the crew are:

- 1) Flight Officer Ernest Price O-26086,
- 2) 2nd Lt. Fred B. Greel 14168264,
- 3) Sgt. Michael Postek 13087892,
- 3) Sgg. Walker A. Woodruf 36877182.
- 5) Sgt. Paul Bilchak 35605891,-

No.2) - 5) were already transferred by Headquarters Airbase Bonn-Hangelar.
fate of the remaining crew-members unknown. Transfer of the one prisoner
arranged.

Headquarters Airbase Koeln-Ostheim, signed Gerbrecht, Major...---

KU 3174

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Headquarters Airbase E (v)228/XI

PLACE: Wahn/ Rhineland

DATE: 22 Oct 44

stamped: Dulag Luft, Wetzlar
received 4 Nov. 1944
Zentralkart.u.Meldest.REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, not to be confirmedEM. LANDING: AT:

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME)

THOMAS

FIRST NAME:

CHARLES E.

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA)

Et.

O-704403 T3841

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED)

captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE:

in Lohmar, about 15 km south-east of Koeln
on 22 Oct 1944 at 1600 o'clock

NAME OF HOSPITAL: ---

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT: ---

According to informations given by the prisoner he had hidden himself for 10 days around here.

Membership to a downed aircraft is not to be confirmed.

forwarded to Distributor: on 24 Oct 44

Distribution:

1 Dulag - Luft

KU 3174

American (aviator)

Surname and First name: B i l c h a k, Paul

born: 10 Oct 1923 in: ~~IMPERY~~ Impire /Ohio USA

Unit:? aviator (refuses to give information)

Inscription of Identification tag: 3560 5891

Rank: Sergeant No. of the Hosp. Sicklist: 3451

Name of Hospital: General Hospital Siegburg, Section Prisoner of War.

Beginn of the sickness, kind of sickness, or wound:

11 October 1944 - Fracture caused by bullet in the ~~rig~~ lower fragment of the
right leg. (Parachute-jump)

Admittance: from Police Station Herchen/ Sieg river on: 11 October 1944

Next of kin:to be informed:

Father: Michal Bilchak, Impire/Ohio USA

KU 3174

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: probably: Headquarters Airbase (A) ?

PLACE:

DATE:

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, Fortress IEM. LANDING: AT: south-west of Schladern, north-west of Rohsbach/Sieg

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) see below

FIRST NAME:

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA)

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED)

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE:


NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT: _____

Pilot 1st Lt. Price, Ernest
 Nav. 2nd Lt. Ratillo, Leo
 Bombrd. 2nd Lt. Creel, Fred B.

Pfc. Bilthak, Paul Hosp.
 Cpl. Reed, John F.
 Sgt. Day, Keith E.

Cpl. Postek, Michael
 Sgt. Noel, Wm. E.
 Sgt. Cole, Raymond L.

2  (in triangle) 3173 probably markings of craft.

303rd probably Bomber Gp.

KU 3174?
 KU 3175

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Headquarters Airbase A(o) 10/VI

PLACE: Hangelar

DATE: 11 Oct 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, the down mentioned crew-members belong probably to
EM. LANDING: AT: a downing on 11 Oct 1944 at Schladern / Sieg river.

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME)

see below

FIRST NAME:

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA)

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED)

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: captured

NAME OF HOSPITAL: Gen. Hosp. Siegburg

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT: ---

Surname:	First Name:	Rank:	Ser.No.:	result:
Woodruf (3175)	Walker A.	S/Sgt.	36877182	captured
Anderson	Arvid	Sgt.	0-2057793	captured
Postek	Michael	Sgt.	1308722292	captured
Creel (3174)	Ered B.	2nd Lt.	14168264	captured
Bilchak	Paul	Sgt.	35605891	Gen.Hosp.Siegburg

Forwarded to Distributor: 11 Oct 1944

Signature illegible
 Captain, Staff officer

Distribution:

1 Dulag-Luft Oberursel
 1 for the file

KU 3174
 KU 3175

Telephone REPORT ON CAPTURED AIRCRAFT

POST:

LOCATION:

Born-Hangelar

DATE:

DATE AND TIME: 11 Oct 1944 1010o'clock

AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN

PLACE OF CRASH:
 (NEAREST TOWN)

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ 22 1/2 km east of Hennef - 1 km north-west of
 Rohrsch/Sieg river * km south-east of Schladern

KIND OF CAPTURE:

(FLAK, HUNTER, NIGHT HUNTER,
 EMERGENCY LANDING)

Flak

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT:

Fortress II B 17 G

MARKINGS OF CRAFT:

(LETTERS, FRONT OR REAR OF INSIGNIA)

ADMITTANCE NO:

C 4231739 P

EQUIPMENT:

F.T. FREQUENCIES:

see back of page

CONDITION OF AIRCRAFT:

99% breakage

DELIVERED TO DISTRIBUTOR:

(DULOG -LUPT, ETC.)

Type of engine:

Double-radial

Number of crew-member:

8 men

Salvaged by:

Salvage-Unit 10/VI

Detachment to take over:

Headquarters Airbase E (v) 212/XI Budenbach

Rank:	Surname:	First Name:	Ser.No.	Result:
1) Sgt.	Woodruf	Walker A.	36877182	captured
2) Lt.	Anderson	Arvid	0-2 2057793	captured
3) Sgt.	Postek	Michael	13087892	captured
4) Lt.	Creel	Fred	14168264	captured
5) X Sgt.	Neel	William E.	2081024	captured
6) X Sgt.	Cole	Raymond L.	35227559	captured
7) X Sgt.	2nd Lt. Batillo	Leonard S.	0-2060841	captured
8) Sgt.	Bilthak	Paul	35605891	wounded

Transmitted to Air District Command Phone No. 573 on 11 Oct 1944

Signature illegible
 Captain, unattached officer.

1) RAK F T 244 A No. 50490 Case CS 80 A

Crystals:

Top:	A 8103. 750	bottom:	A 7870
	B 8261. 250		B —
	C 8155. 71		C 8010
	D 8284. 64		D 6650

Motor switch position 1

2) Aerial Turning Unit BC 306 B

3) Radio Compass Unit BC 433 C 21494

4) Radio Transmitter BC 457 A

5) Transmitter Turning

- a) TU 7 B No. 70557
- b) TU 8 B " 70557
- c) TU 6 B " 70557

6) Transmitter Turning BC 348 R No. 9978

7) Gyro Flux Gate Compass
Bendix Aviation C 25233

see back of page

off package

Further informations about injured men: ③ Gen.Hosp. Siegburg

Rank	Surname	First Name	Gr. No.	Location
1) Sgt.	Woodruff	Walker A.	368712	captured
2) Lt.	Anderson	David	0-2 267793	captured
3) Sgt.	Costak	Michael	1305782	captured
4) Lt.	Greel	Ted	1118284	captured
5) Sgt.	Wool	William E.	322755	captured
6) Sgt.	Cole	Raymond J.	322755	captured
7) Sgt. 2nd Lt. Baillie	Richard E.	Richard E.	0-206084	captured
8) Sgt.	Blitcher	Paul	322755	wounded

Transmitted to Air District Command Phone No. 573 on 11 Oct 1944

Captain, unattached officer,
Signature illegible

OPM 1
KU 3174/3175

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Headquarters Airbase E (v) 212/ XI Eudenbach

PLACE: Schladern

DATE: 1010 o'clock

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, Fortress II B 17 G (shot down by Flak) Crew : 8 men.

EM. LANDING: AT: 22 1/2 km east of Hennef - 1 km north-west of Rossbach/
Sieg river 1/2 km southeast of Schladern

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME)

FIRST NAME: see below

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA)

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED)

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE:

NAME OF HOSPITAL: Gen. Hosp. Siegburg

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT: —

<u>Surname:</u>	<u>First name:</u>	<u>Rank:</u>	<u>Ser.No.:</u>	<u>result:</u>
1) Woodruf	Walker A.	Sgt.	36877182	captured
2) Anderson	Arvid	Lt.	0-2057793	captured
3) Postek	Michael	Sgt.	13087892	captured
4) Creel	Fred	Lt.	14168264	captured
5) Noel	William E.	Sgt.	2081024	captured
6) Cole	Raymond	Sgt.	35227559	captured
7) Patillo	Leonard	Sgt.	02060841	captured
8) Bilthak	Faul	Sgt.	35605891	wounded

Signature illegible
Captain, unattached officer.

Headquarters Airbase E (v) 208/XI
Hopsten

Casualty-Report

No. 1

(Members of enemy Air Forces)

Report -period 1 - 25 Oct 1944

Distribution:

Wehrmacht Information Center for war casualties and prisoners of War Saalfeld/Saale Rv.
Supreme Command of the Air Force, LP Chief-Section III
Airbase District Command 3/VI
Original

The other copies ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ were sent

(This is the cover of the Casualty-Report No. 1. Refer to the following pages!)

HEADQUARTERS, SECOND AIR FORCE
BASE PERSONAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
Colorado Springs, Colorado

9363

HGA/fwc
9 November 1945

SUBJECT: Interrogation of Form POWs

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

1. In compliance with Letter 383.6; Headquarters, CAF, dated 2 October 1945, 1st Lt. Ernest C. Price, O-26086, a former POW was interviewed and the following information is submitted herewith:

2. Lt. Price stated that he was airplane Commander assigned to the 303th Bomb Group, 8th Air Force, New York.

3. The entire crew (9 members) all bailed out over Wessel, Germany after being seriously hit by flak, losing three engines, Number 3 gasoline tank on fire. Plane exploded after entire crew had bailed out safely.

4. All nine crew members were POW. One was slightly wounded.

5. Lt. Price stated that the entire crew, including the one that was wounded, have returned to allied control.

Harold G. Austinson

HAROLD G AUSTINSON
WOJG USA W-2107402
Base Personal Affairs Officer
201st AAF BU

**Meldung über den Abschluß eines
US-amerikanischen Flugzeuges**

Abschuß-Nr. KU 3174

Abschußtag und Zeit: 11.10.44 - 10.00
Abschußort: Schladern a.d. Sieg
Flugzeugtyp: Fortress
Meldende Dienststelle: Köln-Ostheim

Besatzung:

Name und Vornamen: Geburtstag und -ort:	Dienst- grad	Erk.- Marke:	Verbleib:	
			gef.: verw.: tot:	welches Lager Art d. Verwundung Grablage
PRICE Ernest Collier	1.Lt.	0-26086	gef.	Dulag-Luft West
PATILLO Leonard Sylvesta	2.Lt.	0-2060841	gef.	Dulag-Luft West
REED John Francis 1922 USA	Sgt.	32601235	gef.	Dulag-Luft West
NOEL William Edgar 18.8.19 Tex.	Sgt.	20810247	gef.	Dulag-Luft West
GOLE Raymond Lewis 15.5.25 Wakenan, Ohio	Sgt.	33227559	gef.	Dulag-Luft West
POSTEK Michael Thomas	Sgt.	13087892	gef.	Dulag-Luft West
BILTHAK Paul	Pte.	1.01.35605891	verw.	Lag. Siegburg

Bemerkungen: Maer - 9563

DULAG-LUFT, den 6.11.44 Wo.