2908

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification changed
to RESTRICTED
by E. A. BRAIUNAS, Lt. Col., AC
by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AC
Date MAR 15 1946

8/30/23
A54-3383
18

CONFIDENTIAL

KW 1156

German Reports on Crashed American Aircraft

Date	Time	Place	Height
8 Mar 44	1518	2 km S.E. of Neu-Haldensleben	3500-3200 m.

Aircraft type	Identification markings	Serial No.
Fortress II	USA	231471 E (on the wing)

macr 2908
Pilot: McGrath, Leo R 2nd Lt
U 735444

How Aircraft Landed	Airframe % Destroyed
Crashed on fire, single parts came off	

10 RTD

Fate of the crewmembers

As shown: 10 men bailed out alive
8 men bailed out, rest unknown
10 men bailed out, one of them captured
9 men bailed out and captured

Cause of loss

The a/c was flying at a height of 4000 m. It was hit and single parts came off. The a/c went on fire and crashed. It was escorted by a Lightning.

Weather conditions: No clouds, clear visibility

1st Lt. Leo E. McGrath	Mr. Robert H. McGrath, Post Office Box 71, Oxnard, California.	(Father)
2nd Lt. Anthony D. Volk	Mrs. Justina M. Volk, 2428 Manton Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.	(Mother)
2nd Lt. John M. Chapman Jr.	Mr. John M. Chapman, 3806 12th Court, South, Birmingham, Alabama.	(Father)
S/Sgt. Charles J. Bonn	Mrs. Lillian Bonn, 412 14th, Union City, New Jersey.	(Mother)
S/Sgt. Joseph S. Klasnick	Mrs. Anna Klasnick, 142-44th Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.	(Mother)
S/Sgt. Jack E. Green	Mr. Jess J. Green, 123½ South 3rd, Muskogee, Oklahoma.	(Father)
S/Sgt. Wallace L. Tharp	Captain Edgar L. Tharp, Headquarters Second Air Force, Colorado Springs, Colorado.	(Father)
S/Sgt. James E. Mayfield	Mrs. Velma M. Mayfield, General Delivery, Elrod, Alabama.	(Mother)
S/Sgt. Harry V. Hosso	Mr. John Hosso Sr., North 9th Street, Stop 4, Martins Ferry, Ohio.	(Father)
S/Sgt. Gilbert N. Laible	Mrs. Ida Laible, Box 762, Fallbrook, California.	(Mother)
	Mr. Gust N. Laible, Zap, North Dakota.	(Father)

AC 120962 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Supplement (11) MSC

AG 319.1 3rd Ind PK/km
Hq ETOUSA, APO 871. 29 April 1944

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

1. Attention invited to paragraph 2 of basic communication.

2. Records of this theater are in agreement with information given therein.

For the Theater Commander:

H. M. Rund

H. M. RUND,
Lt. Col, AGD,
Asst. Adjutant General.

No mail to Army

DECLASSIFIED NAVY DIVISION
2 - NAVY IDWR
NO 4 W C

DC-349

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted]

2908

HEADQUARTERS AAF STATION 107
303RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
APO 557 - US ARMY

D-E-1

27 March 1944.

SUBJECT: Correction of Missing Air Crew Report - McGrath, Leo B. and Crew - Missing 9 March 1944.

TO : Commanding General, 1st Bomb Division, APO 557, (Attention: Statistical Control).

1. Under date of 9 March 1944, this Headquarters submitted, in compliance with letter W.D.A.G.O., AG 360.33(5-21-43), OB-S-AF.M., subject, Missing Air Crew Reports, dated 23 May 1943, and letter Hq., VIII A.F. same subject, dated 18 September 1943, a missing air crew report covering the crew of the B-17 A/C #42-31471, which was lost on 8 March 1944.

2. In the report it was stated that the pilot of the A/C, Leo B. McGrath, O-738444, was a second lieutenant. Lt. McGrath was promoted to first lieutenant per S.O. #68, Hq., ETOUSA, 8 March 1944, and the missing air crew report should be corrected accordingly.

For the Commanding Officer:

RECEIVED
27 MAR 1944
HQ 1st BOMB DIVISION

FRANK J. DOHERTY,
Major, AC,
Adjutant.

319.1 1st Ind. P-G-3

Hq, 1st Bomb Division, APO 557, 27 Mar 44.

TO: CG, Eighth Air Force, AAF Station 101, APO 634.
(Att: Statistical Control Section).

Transmitted herewith correction on Missing Aircrew Report for mission of 8 March 1944, A/C # 42-31471.

For the Commanding General:

RECEIVED
9 MAR 1944
Eighth Air Force
Stat & C.U.

HARRY J. HANCE
Captain, AGD.
Asst. Adjutant General

[redacted]

(Ltr Hq 303rd Bomb Gp., file 319.1, dtd 27 March 1944, subj: "Correction of Missing Air Crew Report - McGrath, Leo B. and Crew-Missing 9 March 1944)

319.1 2nd Ind. ZA-G-3

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE, APO 634, U.S. Army. 26 APR 1944

TO: Commanding General, ETOUSA, APO 871, U.S. Army.

Attention is invited to 1st Indorsement and basic communication.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

Burnis Archer

BURNIS ARCHER,
Capt., A.G.D.,
Asst. Adjutant General.

RECEIVED 28 APR 1944 A.M. A.G. Section Headquarters Eighth Air Force

RECEIVED 28 APR 1944 AG CAS B/R

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification changed to RESTRICTED
By B. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AC
By F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AC
Date MAR 15 1946

HEADQUARTERS AAF STATION 107
303RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
APO 634 - US ARMY

2907

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 Molesworth ; Command or Air Force 8th A.F. Group 303rd Bomb Gp (H) ; Squadron 360th ; Detachment --
SPECIFY: Point of Departure Molesworth ; Course See Attached Chart Intended Destination Berlin, Germany ; Type of Mission Bombardment
2. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: Scattered low cloud - good visibility
3. GIVE: (a) Date 8 Mar 44 Time 1500 ; and Location Vicinity of Brandenburg to Burg, Ger. 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.
4. 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 A/C was apparently under control but descended very rapidly to about 10,000 ft. in the target area and lagged behind at that altitude until last seen.
5. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17 G ; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-31471
6. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1820-97 A.A.F. Serial Number (a) SW 003539 (b) 41-57093 ; (c) SW 006411 ; (d) SW 003659
7. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)
(a) ; (b) See Attached Sheet ; (c) ; (d)
(e) ; (f) ; (g) ; (h)
8. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X or (b) Non-Battle Casualty ----
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).

Crew Position	Name in Full (Last name first)	Rank	Serial Number	
1. Pilot	MC GRATH, LEO D.	1ST Lt.	0-738444	RTD
2. Co-Pilot	CHAPMAN JR., JOHN M.	2nd Lt.	0-678165	RTD
3. Navigator	VOLK, ANTHONY D.	2nd Lt.	0-676183	RTD
4. Bombardier	KLASNICK, JOSEPH S.	S/Sgt.	13040917	RTD
5. Engineer & Top Tur. Gunner	GRUEN, JACK E.	S/Sgt.	18129763	RTD
6. Ass't Eng & Left Waist G.	THARP, WALLACE L.	S/Sgt.	6574982	RTD
7. Radio Operator	BONN, CHARLES J.	S/Sgt.	12092994	RTD
8. Ass't Rad. Oper. & B.T.G.	MAYFIELD, JAMES E.	S/Sgt.	34397454	RTD
9. Right Waist Gunner	HOSSO, HARRY V.	S/Sgt.	15323137	RTD
10. Tail Gunner	LAIBLE, GILBERT N.	S/Sgt.	19146808	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	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. See 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 --

Date of Report 9 March 1944

Jesse M. Barrett
JESSE M. BARRETT, Major, A.C., Group S-2.
(Signature of Preparing Officer)

Incl 1 & 2

CONFIDENTIAL

INSTALLED WEAPONS (Make, Type and Serial Number) of A/C #42-31471.

890593	Buffalo Arms Co.	
890796	"	"
890000	"	"
889650	"	"
889738	"	"
889711	"	"
889927	"	"
890847	"	"
889936	"	"
650448	Frigidaire Div-	Gen. Motors
650734	"	"

Note: No numbers available for two chin turrets.

CONFIDENTIAL

2902

KU 1156

Identification tag

1.) Leo B. McGrath
0-738444 T-43 O C

Mr. R.H. McGrath
P.O. Box 71
Oxnard Cal.

Reverse of card:

KU 8752

Collins First Sergeant

Type of plane: Halifax
Squadron No: 102. Bomber Squadron
Day of downing: 28 May 1944
Place of " near Eschen
Crew members: see F/O Godsell G.N.

2.) Harry V. Hosso
15323137 T 43 E C

Reverse of card:

KU 2165

Thompson [illegible] Staff Sergeant

Type of plane: Boston
Day of downing: 7 June 1944
Place of " : Epinay near Rouen
Crew members: see S/Sgt. Hatch, H.F.

FORM #2

KU 1156

Restricted

REPORT ON CAPTURED AIRCRAFT

POST: Airfield HQ A (o) 13/III Magdeburg (Eastside)

LOCATION: Magdeburg

DATE: 13 April 1944

DATE AND TIME: AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN 8 March 44 at 1545

PLACE OF CRASH: (NEAREST TOWN) north of Althaldensleben, 20 km northwest of Magdeburg

KIND OF CAPTURE: (FLAK, HUNTER, NIGHT HUNTER, EMERGENCY LANDING) not certain, believed shot by anti aircraft and fighter

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Boeing B 17

MARKINGS OF CRAFT: (LETTERS, FRONT OR REAR OF INSIGNIA) not identified

ADMITTANCE NO: 231471 E

Camera-EQUIPMENT: not identified

F.T. FREQUENCIES: dto

CONDITION OF AIRCRAFT: Damage: 95%

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

signed: illegible

First Lieutenant and
Chief of the Air Signal Office

6-3224.AF(4)

FORM 1

KU 1156

Restricted

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield HQ A (o) 13/III Magdeburg-Eastside

PLACE: Magdeburg

DATE: 9 March 1944

Distribution:
Evaluation Center West

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, downing of a Boeing B 17 G on 8 March 1944 at 1345 near the shipselevator-yard Rothensee, 11 km north-east of Magdeburg
EM. LANDING: AT:

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) Volk

FIRST NAME: Anthony D.
Rank: Lieutenant
SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 0-616183

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Rothensee on 8 March 1944 at 1355

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

signed: illegible

First Lieutenant and
Chief of the Air Signal Office

6-3224,AF(1)

FORM 1

KU 1156

Restricted

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield HQ A (o) 13/III Magdeburg-Eastside

PLACE: Magdeburg

DATE: 10 March 1944

Distribution:
Evaluation Center West

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, Downing of a Boeing B 17 north of Althaldensleben, 20 km northwest of Magdeburg on 8 March 44 at 1545

EM. LANDING: AT:

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) Hosso

FIRST NAME: Harry

Rank: Sergeant

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) unknown

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Meitzendorf, 8 March 44 at 1600

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

signed: illegible

First Lieutenant and
Chief of the Air Signal Office

6-3224.AF(1)

FORM 1

KU 1156

Restricted

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield HQ A (o) 13/III Magdeburg-Eastside

PLACE: Magdeburg

DATE: 10 March 1944

Distribution:
Evaluation Center West

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, Downing of a Boeing B 17 north of Althaldensleben, 20 km northwest of Magdeburg on 8 March 44 at 1545

EM. LANDING: AT:

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) Brock

FIRST NAME: Charles Edward

Rank: Sec. Lieutenant

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) -0-752101

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: vicinity of Hillersleben on 8 March 1944 at 1625

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

signed: illegible
First Lieutenant and
Chief of the Air Signal Office

6-3224,AF(1)

FORM 1

KU 1156

Restricted

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield HQ A (o) 13/III Magdeburg-Eastside

PLACE: Magdeburg

Distribution:
Evaluation Center West

DATE: 1o March 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF: Downing of a Boeing B 17 north of Althaldensleben,
EM. LANDING: AT: 20 km northwest of Magdeburg on 8 March 44 at 1545

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) Mayfield

FIRST NAME: James E.

Rank: Staff Sergeant

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 34397454

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Vicinity of Hillersleben on 8 March 1944 at 1635

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

signed: illegible
First Lieutenant and
Chief of the Air Signal Office

6-3224.AF(1)

FORM 1

KU 1156

Restricted

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield HQ A (o) 13/III Magdeburg-Eastside

PLACE: Magdeburg

DATE: 10 March 1944

Distribution:
Evaluation Center West

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF: Downing of a Boeing B 17 north of Althaldensleben, 20 km northwest of Magdeburg on 8 March 44 at 1545
EM. LANDING: AT:

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) Klasnick

FIRST NAME: Joseph F.

Rank: Staff Sergeant

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 13040917

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Vicinity of Hillersleben on 8 March 44 at 1700

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

signed: illegible
First Lieutenant and
Chief of the Air Signal Office

6-3224.AF(1)

FORM 1

KU 1156

Restricted

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield HQ A (o) 13/III Magdeburg-Eastside

PLACE: Magdeburg

Distribution:
Evaluation Center West

DATE: 10 March 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, Downing of a Boeing B 17 north of Althaldensleben, 2o km northwest of Magdeburg on 8 March 44 at 1545
EM. LANDING: AT:

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) LeGrath

FIRST NAME: Leo B.

Rank: Lieutenant

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 0-738444

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Vicinity of Hillersleben on 8 March 44 at 1655

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

signed: illegible
First Lieutenant and
Chief of the Air Signal Office

6-3224.AF(1)

FORM 1

KU 1156

Restricted

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield HQ A (o) 13/III Magdeburg-Eastside

PLACE: Magdeburg

DATE: 10 March 1944

Distribution:

Evaluation Center West

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, Downing of a Boeing B 17 north of Althaldensleben,

EM. LANDING: AT: 20 km northwest of Magdeburg on 8 March 44 at 1545

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) Laible

FIRST NAME: Gilbert

Rank: Staff Sergeant

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 1914608

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Vicinity of Hillersleben on 8 March 1944 at 1700

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

signed: illegible
First Lieutenant and
Chief of the Air Signal Office

6-3224,AF(1)

FORM 1

KU 1156

Restricted

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield HQ 3 (o) 13/III ~~Magdeburg-Eastside~~

PLACE: Magdeburg

DATE: 10 March 1944

Distribution:
Evaluation Center West

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, Downing of a Boeing B 17 north of Althaldensleben, 20 km northwest of Magdeburg on 8 March 1944 at 1545
EM. LANDING: AT:

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) Chapman

FIRST NAME: John N.

Rank: Sec. Lieutenant

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 0-678165

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Vicinity of Hillersleben on 8 March 1944 at 1710

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

signed: illegible
First Lieutenant and
Chief of the Air Signal Office

6-3224,AF(1)

FORM 1

KU 1156

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield HQ A (o) 13/III Magdeburg-Eastside

PLACE: Magdeburg

DATE: 10 March 1944

Distributions:
Evaluation Center West

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) Downing of a Boeing B 17 north of Althaldensleben, 20 km northwest of Magdeburg on 8 March 44 at 1545

EM. LANDING: AT:

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) Green

FIRST NAME: Jack E.

Rank: Staff Sergeant

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 18129763

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Vicinity of Hillersleben on 8 March 44 at 1710

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

signed: illegible

First Lieutenant and
Chief of the Air Signal Office

6-3224.AF(1)

FORM 1

KU 1156

Restricted

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield HQ A (o) 13/III Magdeburg-Eastside

PLACE: Magdeburg

DATE: 9 March 1944

Distribution:
Evaluation Center West

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF: Downing of a Boeing B 17/G on 8 March 1944 at 1345 near the shipselevator-yard Rothensee,
EM. LANDING: AT: 11 km northeast of Magdeburg

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) Wallace

FIRST NAME: Tharp

Rank: Staff Sergeant

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 6574962

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

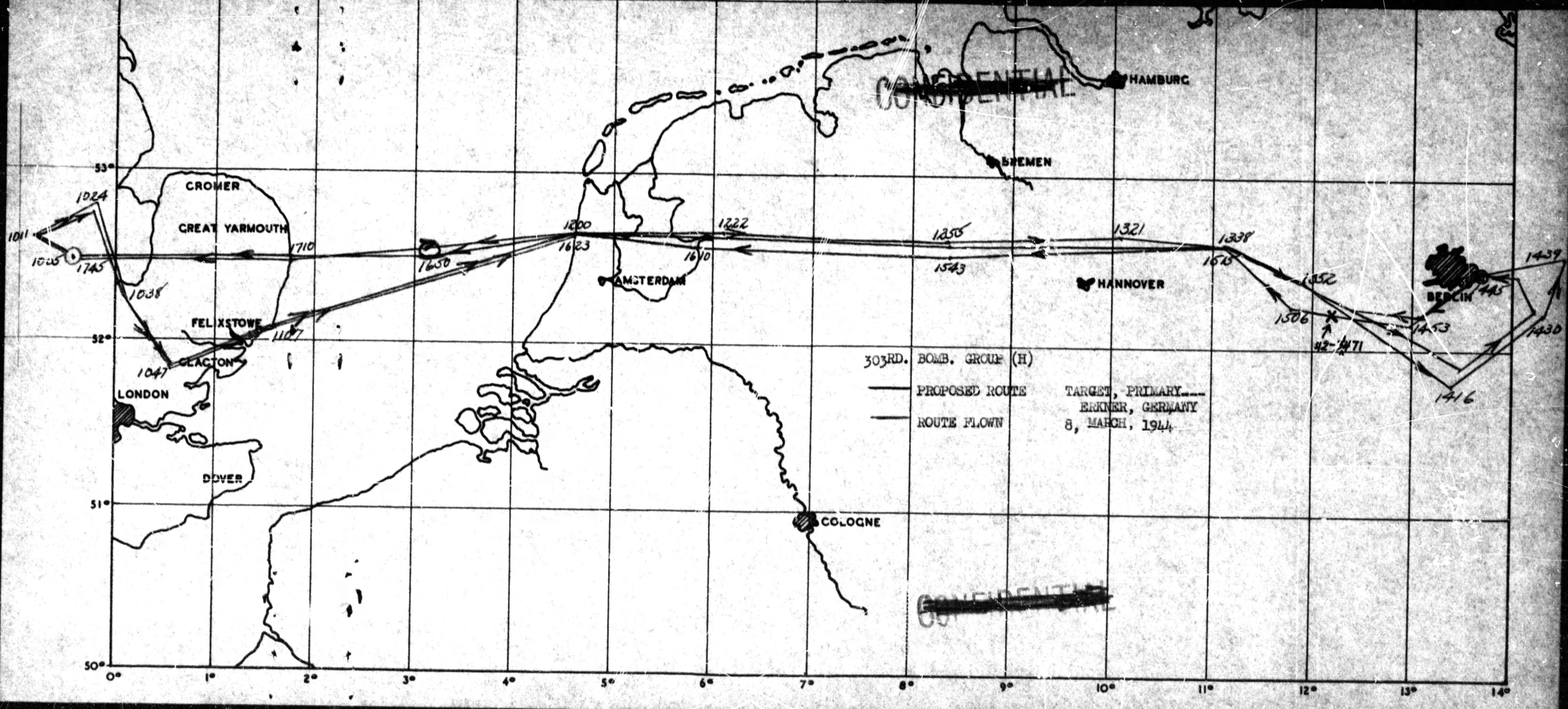
PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Rothensee on 8 March 1944 at 1450

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

signed: illegible
First Lieutenant and
Chief of the Air Signal Office

6-3224, AF(1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HAMBURG
BREMEN
CROMER
GREAT YARMOUTH
FELIXSTOWE
CLACTON
LONDON
DOVER
AMSTERDAM
HANNOVER
BERLIN
COLOGNE
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1047
1107
1710
1650
1000
1623
1222
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1543
1321
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1506
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471
1453
1445
1439
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1416
303RD. BOMB. GROUP (H)
PROPOSED ROUTE
ROUTE FLOWN
TARGET, PRIMARY.....
ERKNER, GERMANY
8, MARCH, 1944
CONFIDENTIAL