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6 Apr

13596

RESTRICTED

Classification changed

to

by **RESTRICTED**

11, AG ✓

by F. M. MUENON, AG

Date MAR 7

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4 Sept 46

RESTRICTED

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1359

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WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

Classification changed

to RESTRICTED
by BRADY, Lt. Col., AG
W. MUNCH, Capt., AG
date MAR 15 1948

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.

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- ORGANIZATION: Location, by Name Molesworth, Eng.; Command or Air Force 8th A.F.
Group 303rd Bomb; Squadron 360th; Detachment ---
- SPECIFY: Place of Departure Molesworth, Eng.; Course See Attached Chart.
Target or Intended Destination Leipzig, Germany; Type of Mission Bombardment.
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: 9-10/10ths cloud, tops 12-13,000 feet. Visibility aloft unrestricted, except for dense persis-
- GIVE: (a) Day 6 Month April Year 1948 Time 0947 Location 50°40'N-15°00'E tent of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft. contrails.
(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (); 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 (); Enemy Anti-Aircraft (); Other Circumstances as follows: Collision with another A/C.
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17G; AAF Serial Number 44-3647
- NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if Any None
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1820-97; AAF Serial Number (a) SN-003053; (b) SN-007418; (c) 41-56013; (d) SN-013102
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number);
(a) 1327291 BA; (b) 1328096 BA; (c) 1348275 BA; (d) 1326624 BA;
(e) 1320700 BA; (f) 1328885 BA; (g) 1326259 BA; (h) 1327039 BA;
(i) one gun unknown; (j) _____; (k) _____;
(m) _____; (n) _____; (o) _____
- 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.)

Status

Crew Position	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Current Status
1. Pilot	LACKER, HOWARD G.	2nd Lt.	0-778512	MIA ✓
2. Co-Pilot	KACUS, ALEXANDER T.	2nd Lt.	0-2009124	MIA ✓
3. Navigator	O'NEIL, MRS B.	2nd Lt.	0-2074750	MIA ✓
4. Bombardier	MOONEYHAWK, CLARENCE (MI)	S/SGT.	16062009	MIA ✓
5. TT Gunner	BRATCHER, FRANCIS E.	S/SGT.	36585827	MIA ✓
6. Rad. Gunner	FOSTER, LANE (MI)	T/SGT.	14095532	MIA ✓
7. BT Gunner	REYNOLDS, ROBERT R.	SGT.	37726762	MIA ✓
8. T Gunner	GARBARIKO, LOUIS V. JR.	SGT.	12225877	MIA ✓
9. Spt. Jammer	BOWNER, OSCAR F. JR.	SGT.	31315880	MIA ✓
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. KROUSE, THOMAS R.	SGT.	39142724		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2. DANIELSON, STANLEY K.S.	S/SGT.	39340292		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3.					

(Over)

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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. **See Attached Sheet.**
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 12 April 1946.

Joseph G. Robinson
(Signature of Preparing Officer)
JOSEPH G. ROBINSON,
Capt. AC.

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:

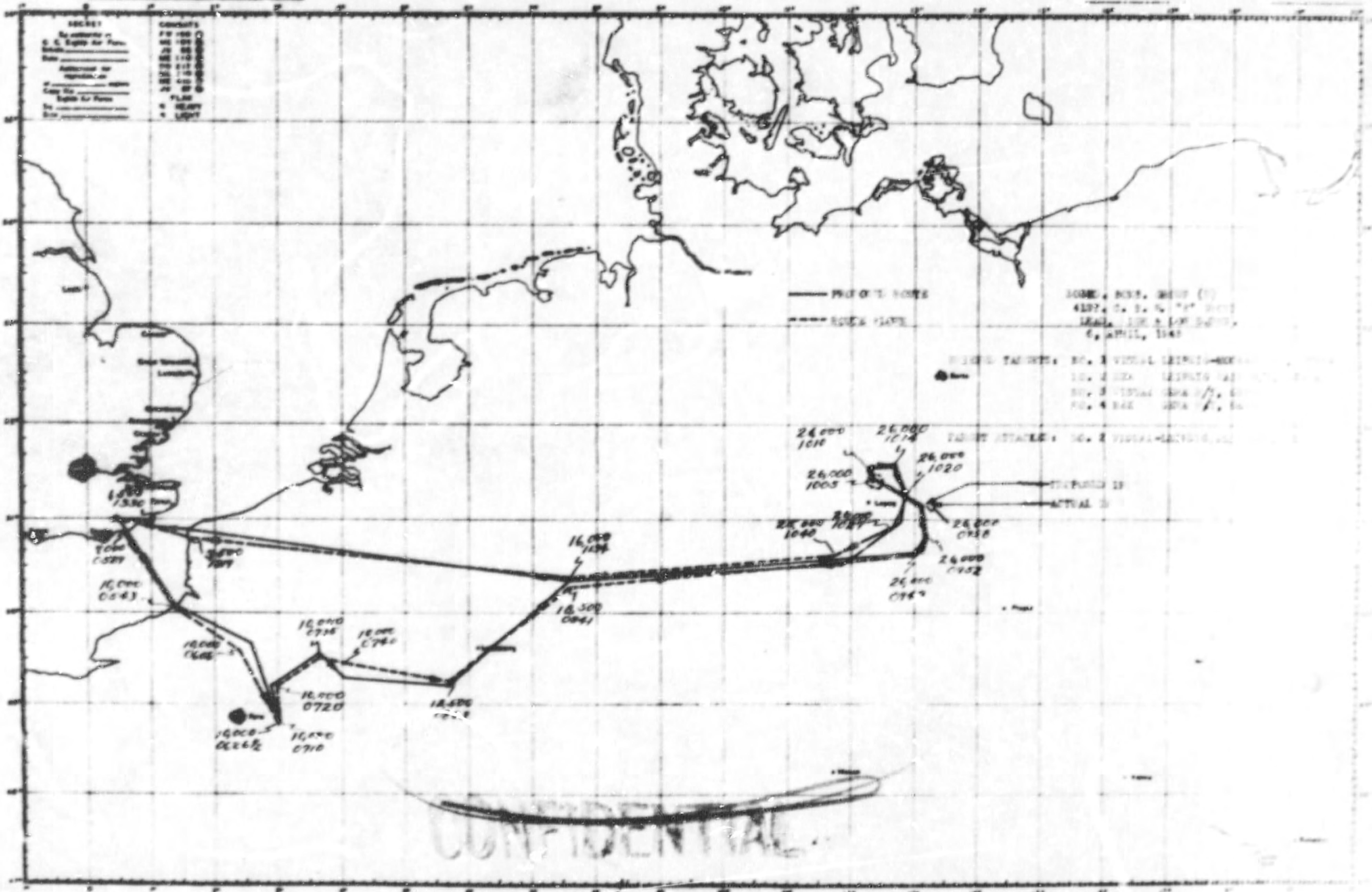
See S-2 Summary attached.



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TARGETS
PRIORITY

DATE FOLLOWED BY



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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. SQ 360th A/C # 44-8647 MISSION DATE 6 April 1945.
FIRST PILOT LACKER, HOWARD C. 2/Lt. 0-778512 DESTINATION Leipzig, Germany
NAME RANK SER#

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

- (a) By coordinates 50°40'N-15°00'E
- (b) Approximate altitude 25,000
- (c) Last noted heading Going Down.
- (d) If out of formation, approximate distance from formation. Not applicable.

2. Describe enemy opposition (intensity of flak, intensity and method of enemy fighter attack, etc., with particular reference to missing aircraft): None

3. Description of extent of damage to missing aircraft (including fires, explosions, etc): Missing A/C collided with another A/C in formation. Tail assembly broken and #3 engine caved in with propeller off.

4. If aircraft was out of control describe appearance:
Missing A/C was going down in flat spin. Looked as if engines had been cut as propellers were turning over slowly.

(Over)

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Sgt. Ed. Edward C. Lacher

Mr. George F. Lacher (father)
118-24 205 Street
St. Albans, New York

Sgt. Ed. Alexander T. Kasse

Mrs. Anna E. Kasse (mother)
1822 Calhoun Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Sgt. Ed. James E. O'Dell

Mr. William E. O'Dell (father)
221 St.
San Jose, California

T/Sgt. Lane Foster

Mrs. Nellie L. Jones (mother)
205 Harding Street
Jackson, Mississippi

371 **S/Sgt. Francis E. Reicher**

Mrs. Alice E. Reicher (mother)
872 Winfield Street
Detroit, Michigan

S/Sgt. Clarence Houghton, Jr.

Mr. Clarence Houghton (father)
130 John Ross Road
Cantonment, Tennessee

Sgt. Grant F. Houser, Jr.

Mrs. Gertrude E. Houser (mother)
873 St.
Martinsburg, West Virginia

Sgt. Louis V. Carbone, Jr.

Mr. Louis V. Carbone, Sr. (father)
873 St.
Huntington, New York

Sgt. Robert E. Reynolds

Mr. Theodore E. Reynolds (father)
873 St.
Belmont, Kansas