

15464
R-892

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 aircraft is officially reported missing.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location: England Command or Air Force 8th AF
GROUP 303rd Bomb; SQUADRON 304th Bomb; DETACHMENT, _____
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure England; Course ~~SEE [REDACTED]~~
Intended Destination St. Nazaire; Type of Mission Bombing
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: _____
4. GIVE: (a) Date 3 Jan 43 Time 1145 hrs; And Location of Last known whereabouts of missing aircraft W/OF ST. NAZAIRE
(b) Specify whether () 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 B17E; AAF Serial No. 41-24620
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series _____; AAF Serial No. (a) _____
(b) _____ (c) _____ (d) _____
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)
(a) _____ (b) _____ (c) _____ (d) _____
(e) _____ (f) _____ (g) _____ (h) _____
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty
or (b) Non-Battle Casualty
10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10; Passengers 0; Total 10
(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 |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------|--------------------|
| 1. Co-Pilot Bomb (Merrington, Glen M | | 2nd Lt | 0-728210 E 43 |
| 2. Co-Pilot 4 Libonati, Michael L ID | | 2nd Lt | 0-726925 P-5-101 |
| 3. NAVIG 7 Witterstetter, Gene A | | 2nd Lt | 0-661910 |
| 4. Co-Pilot 1 Adams, Arthur I ID | | 1st Lt | 0-435845 P-5-113 |
| 5. Top Tee GUNNER 3 Hart, Dennis C ID | | S/Sgt | 20 830 612 P-5-115 |
| 6. Radio OPER 6 Union, Alfred M | | S/Sgt | 34 200 318 |
| 7. R WING GUNNER (Gordon, James I | | S/Sgt | 18 057 511 RTD |
| 8. Tee GUNNER 2 Durant, Edward W ID | | S/Sgt | 37 011 803 P-5-109 |
| 9. Bot T GUNNER (Magee, Allen E | | S/Sgt | 12 049 846 RTD |
| 10. L WING GUNNER 5 Milan, Marvin L ID | | Sgt | 18 064 116 |
| 11. | | | |

12. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:

see SR & D # 289
1. and endorsements

[REDACTED]

WD, Hq AAF, Washington, Missing Air Crew Report.

| Name in Full (Last name first) | Rank | Serial Number | Contacted by Radio | Last Sighted | Saw Crash | Saw Forced Landing |
|-----------------------------------|------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | | | | | | |
| 2. | | | | | | |
| 3. | | | | | | |

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.

15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.

16. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVEN NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE _____

Date of Report _____

(Signature of Preparing Officer)

15464

2/19/48

The following is all the information found in both the AGO Casualty and AC Historical files:

303rd Bomb Group
360th Bomb Squadron

Date: 3 Jan. 43

Place: St. Nazaire (went down in water W. of St. Nazaire)

CREW:

- Pilot 1 Adams, Arthur I., 1st Lt., O-435845 K--3 January 1943
- Co-Pilot 6 Witterstetter, Gene A., 2nd Lt., O-661910 K--3 Jan. 43
- Navig. Herrington, Glen M., 2nd Lt., O-728210 EUS--26 Oct 43
- Bomb. 4 Libonati, Michael L., Jr., 2nd Lt., O-726915 K--3 Jan. 43
- T.T.G. 3 Hart, Dennis C., T/Sgt., 20830612 K--3 Jan. 43
- Radio Opr. 5 Union, Alfred M., T/Sgt., 34200318 K--3 Jan. 43
- R.W.G. 2 Durant, Edward W., S/Sgt., 37011803 K--3 Jan. 43
- T.G. Gordon, James I., S/Sgt., 18057511 EUS--Date n.s.
- B.T.G. Magee, Alan E., S/Sgt., 12049846 EUS--Date n.s.
- L.W.G. Milam, Marvin L., Sgt., 18064116 K--3 Jan. 43

Libonati is buried in St. James Cem. in Plot P, Row 5, Grave 101

Durant is buried in St. James Cem. in Plot P, Row 5, Grave 109

S. J. S.
SEKOWSKI
X-6679

E. W. D.
DYER
X-73090