

5986.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classification changed

to **RESTRICTED**

by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AO

by F. M. MUZNICH, Capt., AC

Date OCT 15 1945

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

Classification changed
to **RESTRICTED**
by E. A. BRADONAS, Lt. Col., AG
by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AC
Date 01-15-1986

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.

- ORGANIZATION: Location Molesworth, England ; Command or Air Force 8th A.F.
Group 303rd B. Gp. ; Squadron 427th ; Detachment -----
- SPECIFY: Point of Departure Molesworth ; Course See attached chart
Intended Destination Berlin, Germany ; Type of Mission Bombardment
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: 2-4/10ths cumulus, tops 3,000, 6-7/10ths Cirrus, 27,000, Dense, Persistent Contrails.
- GIVE: (a) Date 21 June 44 Time 1017 ; and Location Berlin, Germany
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.
- 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 ; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-97096
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1820-97 A.A.F. Serial Number (a) 43-63773
(b) SW-006983 ; (c) SW-012223 ; (d) SW-012340
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)
(a) _____ ; (b) _____ ; (c) _____ ; (d) _____
(e) _____ ; (f) See attached sheet. ; (h) _____

- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X
or (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 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	<u>ALLEN, CHARLES R.</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>POW 0-724503</u>	<u>RTD</u>
2. Co-Pilot	<u>PARHAM, JAMES S.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>POW 0-819270</u>	<u>RTD</u>
3. Navigator	<u>THURMON, JOHN A.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>POW 0-708589</u>	<u>RTU</u>
4. Bombardier	<u>BOURGEAULT, LOUIS H.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>POW 0-761393</u>	<u>RTD</u>
5. Top Turret Gunner	<u>KELLY, JOHN D.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>39156210</u>	<u>RTD</u>
6. Radio Gunner	<u>REED, JOHN A.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>RTD 39856158</u>	<u>RTD</u>
7. Ball Turret Gunner	<u>KNEDLER, LEE F.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>39609250</u>	<u>RTD</u>
8. Waist Gunner	<u>BOHENSTIEL, ROBERT L.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>POW 34508861</u>	<u>RTD</u>
9. Tail Gunner	<u>Chgd. E. JAH STANSBURY, EDWARD P.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>15172235</u>	<u>RTD</u>
10.				

- 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	Contacted				Check Only One Column	
			By	Last	Saw	Saw	Forced	
			Radio	Sighted	Crash	Landing		
1. <u>ORANGES, CHESTER N</u>		<u>0-749511</u>		<u>X</u>				
2.								
3.								

- IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used X ; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash _____ ; or (c) Any other reason (Specify) _____
- ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN. See attached chart.
- ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT. See attached statement.
- 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 24 June 1944

Jesse M. Barrett
(Signature of Preparing Officer)

JESSE M. BARRETT, Major, A.C., Group S-2.

Incl 8

CONFIDENTIAL

INSTALLED WEAPONS ON A/C 42-97096

722556	B.L.G. G.M.C.
899003	B. A. C.
389387	F. D. G. M.
389720	F. D. G. M.
389631	F. D. G. M.
389536	F. D. G. M.
655860	F. D. G. M.
389515	F. D. G. M.
633833	F. D. G. M.
898950	B. A. C.
722438	B. L. G.
633568	F. D. G. M.
389405	F. D. G. M.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Statement of 1st Lt. Chester N. Oranges, O-749511.

On the mission to Berlin, Germany, on 21 June 1944, I was pilot of A/C 42-102569 which was flying in #3 position in the low squadron of the low group of the 41st "B" Combat Wing. The missing A/C, #42-97096, was flying in #1 position in the same squadron. Just after bombs away, the missing A/C received a direct hit from A/A gunfire. The missing A/C then slid out of formation to the left. Then I saw three men come out of the main door of the fuselage. I did not see them pull their chutes. Either this A/C or the A/C flying in #4 position which went down at the same time, I am not sure which, then went into a steep dive. Then it pulled out and leveled off. The missing A/C was not seen thereafter. When last seen, it was still flying, was not on fire and had no feathered propellers.

	<u>42-97096</u>	
	I	
	I	
<u>42-102569</u>		<u>42-32027</u>
I		I
I		I
	<u>42-32037</u>	
	I	
	I	
<u>No A/C here</u>		<u>42-107002</u>

Chester N. Oranges
CHESTER N. ORANGES,
1st Lt., AC.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MACR 5986
B-17
9 men

5986

DATE: 21 June 1944	AT: 1036	RANK:	NAME:	IU - 2315
PLACE: Schindlausee, 8 km south of Verdun/Reval		2nd Lt	BURDEAULT, Louis Howard	ASH: 0-761393
		S/sgt	KIEDLER, Lee Frank	ASH: 39609290
TYPE OF CRAFT: Fortress		2nd Lt	PARRAN, James Sawdore	ASH: 0-819270
		2nd Lt	ALLEN, Charles Robert	ASH: 0-724503
427 (NB) Sqd - 303 Group		2nd Lt	THORMAN, John A	ASH: 0-708989
		S/sgt	STANSBURY, Edward	ASH: 15172235
TARGET: Airbase HQ - Verdun/Reval		Sgt	REED, John A	ASH: 39896198 dead
		S/sgt	KELLY, John Dillon	ASH: 39156210
REMARK: was IU - 823 A		S/sgt	BORNSTELL, Robert Lee	ASH: 34508861

File
MACR
5986

DATE and TIME AIRCRAFT was shot down: June 21, 1944 - 10,36

PLACE of CRASH: Schwielowsee near Werder/Berlin

TYPE OF CRAFT: unknown

REPORTING STATION: Air Base Command Werder/Havel.

C R E W :

NAME and FIRST NAME: DATE and PLACE of BIRTH:	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER:	CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD:	DISPOSITION: NAME of CAMP TYPE of INJURY GRAVE LOCATION
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BOURGEAULT Louis Howard	2/Lt.	0-761 393	captured	Dulag Luft
KNEDLER Frank	S/Sgt.	3960 9250	"	"

Case No. KU 2315, 1.additional report, of Jul.14, 1944

ALLEN Charles Robert	1/Lt.	0-724 503	"	"
THURMON John Alexander	2/Lt.	0-708 589	"	"
BOHENSTIEL Robert Lee 1923	S/Sgt.	3450 8861	"	"
STANSBURY Edward Pownall	S/Sgt.	1517 2235	"	"
KELLY John Dillon	S/Sgt.	3915 6210	"	"
REED John A	Sgt.	3985 6158	dead	

The POWs had been reported under No. KU 823 A, on Jul.1,44. Request to rescind the No.

Case No. KU 2315, 2.additional report, of Jul.20, 1944.

REMARKS:

PARHAM James Saunders	2/Lt.	0-819 270	captured	Dulag Luft.
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DULAG-LUFT
Date

July 3, 1944.

We.

IDENTIFICATION TAGS OF:

1. Edward P Stansburry	15172235 T 43 43	A	P
2. Robert L Behenstiel	54508861 T 43 43	A	P
3. Charles R Allen	0-724503 T 42 43	O	P

MACH No. 5986

List of Identification tags:

Lee F. K n e d l e r	39609250	T-42-3	A
John A. R e e d	39856158	T43-43	O C
Louis H Bourgeault	0-761393	T42-3	A P
James S Parhan	0-819270	T 44	B P

CM

List of private papers taken away from Prisoners:

The American Red Cross (Grant Loan Fund Receipt)	Sgt. John A. Reed
Combat Crew Pass	Sgt. John A. Reed
Physical Record Card	Sgt. John A. Reed
Individual Issue Record	Sgt. John A. Reed

KU 2315

Airbase Headquarter 29/III
Werder/Havel

21 June 1944

To:
Evaluation Center West,
Oberursel/Taunus.

Re.: Downing of 1 four-engine enemy-bomber, south of Schwielewsee
about 8 km S Werder/Havel on 21 June 1944, 1036 hours.

Enclosure: 1 portfolio

Enclosed we are forwarding 1 portefolio with maps and
Nav.Material.

The bombercode C.D. 0250 (19) 19th month, viz. 20th day
had been transmitted with FS KR Nr. 920 (LBWR) to: 1 West LZGS at 1920 hours
page 1 to 6.

Signature

(illegible)
Captain

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield district command 4/III

PLACE: Berlin-Staaken

DATE: 21 June 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, unknownEM. LANDING: AT: unknown

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) A l l e n

FIRST NAME: Charles

2nd Lt.

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) C-724 503

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Berlin-Charlottenburg, Am Funkturn 21 June 44 1030 hours

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

KU 2315

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield district command 4/III

PLACE: Berlin-Staaken

DATE: 21 June 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, unknownEM. LANDING: AT: unknown

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) S t a n s b u r y

FIRST NAME: Edward

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) S/Sgt.
15172235

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Maekeritzwiese 2 km east of station Gartenfeld

NAME OF HOSPITAL: near Berlin-Spandau on 2. June 1944 1300 hours

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield district command 4/III

PLACE: Berlin-Staaken

DATE: 21 June 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, unknownEM. LANDING: AT: unknown

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) Thurman

FIRST NAME: John A.

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 2nd Lt.
O - 708 589

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Berlin-Grünwald, Erdenerstr. on 21 June 1944 1050 hours

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

KU 2315

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airbase Headquarter Staaken

PLACE: Berlin-Staaken

DATE: 22 June 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, 1 enemy plane
 Recovery of a dead crew-member
EM. LANDING: AT: Berlin-Niederschöenhausen, Huneing corner
 Walhalla Allee
 22 June 1944 1130 hours

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME)

FIRST NAME: R e e d
 John A.

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) Rank: not determined, Dog tag: 39856158 T 43 - 43 0

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) dead recovered

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: dead recovered on 22 June 1944 1130 hours in
 Berlin-Niederschöenhausen, Hunding corner Walhalla Allee

NAME OF HOSPITAL: Reserve Hospital 101, Doeberitz.

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT: will be reported later

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: 1. Aviation Signal-Corps 121 (121)

PLACE: Bernau Aviation-Signal-Corps-Garrison

DATE: 21 June 1944 1115 hours

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED), OF, Sailing outEM. LANDING: AT: Schoenwalde/Niedertarmen
21 June 1944 1115 hours

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) Kelly

FIRST NAME: John

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) S/Sgt.
39156210 T 44 A T 43 P

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) transfer to: Airfield district Berlin-Staaken

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Schoenwalde

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield district command 4/III

PLACE: Berlin-Staaken

DATE: 21 June 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, unknownEM. LANDING: AT: unknown

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) B o h e n s t i e l

FIRST NAME: Robert

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) S/Sgt.
34 508 861

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Berlin-Tegel, Tegeler-Schiessplatz on 21 June 44
1103 hours.

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

KU 2315

TELEGRAM FORM

DISTANCE - MESSAGE

-OBERURSEL-

NAME OF DISTANCE-MESSAGE WRITER:

LSOU 1311

ACCEPTED:

DELIVERED:

RECEIVED:

DATE:-

TIME:

TO:

DATE: 22 June 1944

THROUGH:

TIME: 1130

ROLL:

FROM: LSMN

THROUGH: illegible

REMARKS:

Q E M

Urgent: LBWR NR. 961 21 June 2315.

To: Evaluation center West Oberursel/ Taunus.

Re: Downing of 1 four engined enemy bomber south of Schwielowsee about 8 km south of Werder/Havel on 21 June 44 1036 hours.

Type-identification only possible after salvage.

Plane is under the surface of the water.

Prisoners: Bourgeault (Louis H NR 0-761395 T 42 - 3/2nd Lt./Knedler Lee ident. No. 3960250 T 42 - 3 S/Sgt.

Airfield district command 29/III Werder/Havel.

REPORT ON CAPTURED AIRCRAFT

POST: **Airbase Headquarter 29/III**

LOCATION: **Werder/Havel**

DATE: **21 June 1944**

DATE AND TIME: **21 June 1944 1036 hours**
AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN

PLACE OF CRASH: **south of Schwielowsee (Lake) about 8 km south of Werder/Havel**
(NEAREST TOWN)

KIND OF CAPTURE: **not determined**
(FLAK, HUNTER, NIGHT HUNTER,
EMERGENCY LANDING)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: **The plane fell into the Schwielowsee (Lake) and is under water.**
Identifications only possible after salvage.

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

ADMITTANCE NO:

EQUIPMENT:

F.T. FREQUENCIES:

CONDITION OF AIRCRAFT:

DELIVERED TO DISTRIBUTOR:

(DULOG -LUFT, ETC.)

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airbase Headquarter 29/III

PLACE: Werder/Havel

DATE: 21 June 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, could not be determined so far, because
the plane fell into the Schwielowsee (Lake)
EM. LANDING: AT: about 8 km south of Werder/Havel and sunk
completely.

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) 21 June 1944 1036 hours

FIRST NAME: K n e d l e r
Lee F.

SERIAL NUMRER: (USA) S/Sgt. 39609250 T-42-3 A

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: 21 June 1944 near Ferch

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airbase-Headquarter 29/III

PLACE: Werder-Havel

DATE: 21 June 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, could not be determined so far, because
the plane fell into the Schwielowsee (Lake)
EM. LANDING: AT: about 8 km south of Werder/Havel and sunk
completely.

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) 21 June 1944 1036 hours

FIRST NAME: B o u r g e a u l t

Louis H

2nd Lt.

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 0-761393 T 42-3 A

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: 21 June 1944 near Ferch

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

TELEGRAM FORM

DISTANCE - MESSAGE

-OBERURSEL-

NAME OF DISTANCE-MESSAGE WRITER: **LSOU 1162**

ACCEPTED:

DELIVERED:

RECEIVED:

DATE:-

DATE: **27 June 1944**

TIME:

TIME: **2030**

TO:

FROM: **LSDE**

THROUGH:

ROLL:

THROUGH:

REMARKS:

Urgent: LBNF 317 26 June 1944 1430

To: Evaluation Center West Oberursel.

**Subject: Places of crash at Headquarters III on 21 June 1944
day-raid on Berlin**

**15.) 1036 in Schwielen lake, (B/Ferek), 12 Km SW Potsdam,
in GP 9, (german grid system) 4 engine, Identifications and factory No.
not to be determined. 2 prisoners, according to report by Flak**

REPORT on CAPTURE of an AIRCRAFT of the USAAF

Case - No. **KU 2315**

DATE and TIME **June 21, 1944 - 10,36**
 AIRCRAFT was shot down: _____
 PLACE of CRASH: **Schwielowsee near Werder/Berlin**
 TYPE OF CRAFT: **unknown**
 REPORTING STATION: **Air Base Command Werder/Havel.**

C R E W :

NAME and FIRST NAME: DATE and PLACE of BIRTH:	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER:	CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD:	DISPOSITION: NAME of CAMP TYPE of INJURY GRAVE LOCATION
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BOURGHAULT Louis Howard	2/Lt.	0-761 393	captured	Dulag Luft
KNEDLER Frank	S/Sgt.	3960 4250	"	"

Case No. KU 2315, 1.additional report, of Jul.14, 1944

ALLEN Charles Robert	1/Lt.	0-724 503	"	"
THURMON John Alexander	2/Lt.	0-708 589	"	"
BOHERSTIEL Robert Lee 1923	S/Sgt.	3450 8861	"	"
STANSBURY Edward Pownall	S/Sgt.	1517 2295	"	"
KELLY John Dillon	S/Sgt.	3915 6210	"	"
REED John A	Sgt.	3985 6158	dead	

The POWs had been reported under No. KU 823 A, on Jul.1,44. Request to rescind the No.

Case No. KU 2315, 2.additional report, of Jul.20, 1944.

REMARKS:

PARHAM James Saunders	2/Lt.	0-819 270	captured	Dulag Luft.
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DULAG-LUFT Date **July 3, 1944.**

1st Lt. Charles R. Allen

Mrs. Geraldine M. Allen (wife)
3024 West 39th Street
Denver, Colorado

2nd Lt. Louis H. Bourgoault

Mrs. Louis H. Bourgoault (wife)
6034 Anger Terrace
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2nd Lt. James S. Parkes

Mr. Lennie C. Parkes (father)
510 New Orleans
Tampa, Florida

2nd Lt. John A. Thurman

Mrs. Eunice M. Thurman (mother)
Wellington, Missouri

S/Sgt. Robert L. Behnstiel

Mrs. Dorice W. Behnstiel (mother)
2627 Cellatin Road
Nashville, Tennessee

S/Sgt. Edward P. Stansbury

Mr. Herbert Stansbury (father)
103 Burt Avenue
Beckley, West Virginia

S/Sgt. Lee F. Knedler

Mrs. Mary Anna Knedler (wife)
Box 241
Geraldine, Montana

S/Sgt. John D. Kelly

Mrs. Nell E. Kelly (mother)
Box 222-512 East Willis Street
Prescott, Arizona

Sgt. John J. Reed

Mrs. Jesus V. Martinez (mother)
252 Sixteenth Street
Douglas, Arizona

1st Lt. Charles R. Allen

Mrs. Geraldine M. Allen (wife)
3026 West 37th Street
Denver, Colorado

2nd Lt. Louis H. Bourgeois

Mrs. Louis H. Bourgeois (wife)
6036 Anger Terrace
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2nd Lt. James S. Farham

Mr. Lennie C. Farham (father)
810 New Orleans
Tampa, Florida

2nd Lt. John A. Thurnen

Mrs. Eunice M. Thurnen (mother)
Wellington, Missouri

S/Sgt. Robert L. Bohenskiel

Mrs. Dorise W. Bohenskiel (mother)
2627 Gallatin Road
Nashville, Tennessee

S/Sgt. Edward P. Stansbury

Mr. Herbert Stansbury (father)
103 Hurt Avenue
Beckley, West Virginia

S/Sgt. Lee F. Knedler

Mrs. Mary Ann Knedler (wife)
Box 211
Geraldine, Montana

S/Sgt. John D. Kelly

Mrs. Nell E. Kelly (mother)
Box 122-512 East Willis Street
Prescott, Arizona

Sgt. John A. Reed

Mrs. Jesus V. Martinez (mother)
252 Sixteenth Street
Douglas, Arizona

1st Lt. Charles R. Allen

Mrs. Geraldine M. Allen (wife)
3026 West 39th Street
Denver, Colorado

2nd Lt. Louis H. Bourgeois

Mrs. Louis H. Bourgeois (wife)
603 $\frac{1}{2}$ Anger Terrace
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2nd Lt. James S. Farham

Mr. Louis C. Farham (father)
810 New Orleans
Tampa, Florida

2nd Lt. John A. Thurman

Mrs. Eunice M. Thurman (mother)
Wellington, Missouri

S/Sgt. Robert L. Bohonstiel

Mrs. Dorice W. Bohonstiel (mother)
2627 Callatin Road
Nashville, Tennessee

S/Sgt. Edward P. Stansbury

Mr. Herbert Stansbury (father)
103 Stuart Avenue
Beckley, West Virginia

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Mrs. Mary Anna Knedler (wife)
Box 241
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Box 222-512 East Willie Street
Prescott, Arizona

Sgt. John L. Reed

Mrs. Jesus V. Martinez (mother)
252 Sixteenth Street
Douglas, Arizona

man 5 986

February 28th, 1946

Commanding General
Army Air Forces
Attention: AFPPA-8,
Washington 25, D.C.

SUBJECT: S/Sgt. KNEDLER, LEE F. , 39609250, USAAF. File 5986.

FROM: Capt. Charles R. Allen - 0724503, USSAF. (Inactive)

In regards to your circular letter, "Casualty Information of Crew Members" postmarked February 22nd, 1946, concerning S/Sgt. KNEDLER, I have checked through the American Red Cross Chapter in his home town and have verification that he was liberated in good health and should have arrived in this country last June.

I also checked with former S/Sgt. E. P. Stansbury, who was with him in prison camp, and he has informed me that he has received a letter from S/Sgt. KNEDLER that was written here in this country.

This is the best information that I have at this time, and I assume that KNEDLER can be reached at his home, Geraldine, Montana for verification.

Charles R. Allen
Charles R. Allen

3026 West 39th Avenue
Denver, 11, Colorado

CRA/kp

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: FRIDLER Lee F. File 5986
Rank: S. Sgt.
Serial number: 95609250
Positions Crew (Bomber) or ~~Engineer/Navigator~~ Ball Turret Gunner

Did he bail out? YES

Where? BERLIN, GERMANY

If not, why not? _____

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

DO NOT REMEMBER.

Was he injured? NO

Where was he when last seen? IN PRISON CAMP

Any hearsay information: _____

HE IS NOT MISSING, BUT IS AT HIS HOME IN GERALDINE, MONTANA.

Source: AMERICAN RED CROSS, AND S/SGT. E. P. STANSBURY, BECKLEY, W. VA.

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: 20

Dates and destinations if possible; I do not have that information

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 5986

Name of crew member: KNEDLER Lee F.
 Rank: S/Sgt.
 Serial number: 39609250
 Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~: Ball Turret Gunner

Did he bail out? YES

Where? OVER BERLIN

If not, why not? _____

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

Was he injured? NO KNOWLEDGE

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: I talked to S. Sgt. E.P. Stanchury in
Miami Beach in Sept. and he said he received a letter from
Kneller shortly after he returned home

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: 20

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name JOHN ALEXANDER THURMON Rank 2nd LT Serial No. 0-20889
2. Organization ^{305th Bomb. Gp} 305th Gp Commander KENNETH STEVENSON Rank COL Sqn CO FIGARE SHYDOR Rank LT COL
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month JUNE day 21 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, _____, target, BERLIN, target time, 1015, altitude, 28,000 route scheduled, _____, route flown _____
5. Where were you when you left formation? BERLIN
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".
NO KNOWLEDGE
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? NO KNOWLEDGE
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE NONE
11. Where were they in aircraft? _____
12. What was their condition? _____
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? LT CHARLES R ALLEN IN THE STATES LT JAMES PARHAM
+ LT LOUIS BOHRGALL AT STALAG VIIA & SGT E STANBURY
IN BS#2, MARI BEACH
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

File 5986

Name of crew member: KUEDLER Lee F.
Rank: S/Sgt.
Serial number: 39609250
Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Engineer/Navigator~~ Ball Turret Gunner

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Over the target--Berlin

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: I told him to bail out. He wasn't hooked on interphone.

Was he injured? No, not to my knowledge,

Where was he when last seen? Hanging over the target.

Any hearsay information: No.

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: No.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 24

Dates and destinations if possible; _____

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

PPA-8
22

1. Your name Bohenstiel Robert L. Rank S/Sgt. Serial No. 34508861
2. Organization Air Gp Commander Raper Rank Col Sqn CO Dunbar Rank Capt.
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month June day 21 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Berlin, target, plane parts FW 190, target time, 10:10, altitude, 27,000 route scheduled, North Sea to Baltic to Ber, route flown lin from East.
5. Where were you when you left formation? Over Berlin.
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". No knowledge
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? In lake, outskirts 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) None.
11. Where were they in aircraft? _____
12. What was their condition? _____
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? May 13, 1945, Germany, good condition.
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) *d - 1*

KNEDLER Lee F.
S/Sgt. 39609250

Is alive and back in the States. I will give you the information on my radio man who was killed.

My radio man name was John Reed., from Douglas, Arizona. He was told to bail out and when last seen he was hanging over the target. The next day after my capture I saw all the crew except Reed and neither the crew nor I saw or heard anything from him again.

TRACK CHART

DATE 21. JUNE, 1944

SUNB. REAR. COPT (E)

4297. 2° 0. 3. W.

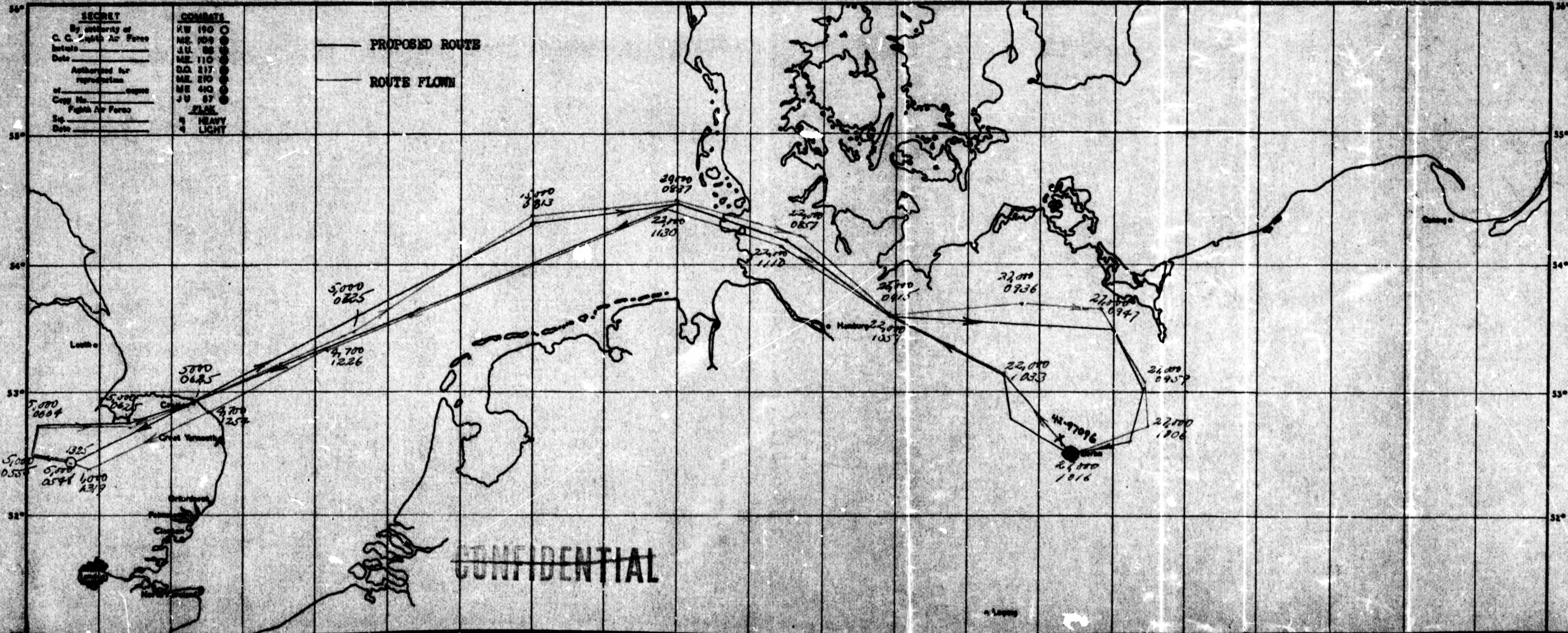
LOW GROUP

ROUTE FOLLOWED BY

TARGETS:
 PRIMARY BERLIN, GERMANY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

.....
.....
.....
.....



PROPOSED ROUTE

ROUTE FLOWN

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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COMBATS
 NW 190 ○
 ME 509 ○
 JU 88 ○
 ME 110 ○
 DA 217 ○
 ME 270 ○
 ME 410 ○
 JU 87 ○
 FLAK
 4 HEAVY
 4 LIGHT

Date: Jun-21-44 at 1030
Place: Berlin
Type of aircraft: Fortress
Markings: 487 HCo.Sqd.
803 Group

Rank: Name: En 825 A 6 Jul-50

1st Lt	Allen Charles Robert	0-724508 .
2nd Lt	Thurman John Alexander	0-708339 .
S/Sgt	Bohastiel Robert Lee	34500861 .
S/Sgt	Stansbury Edward Fournall	15170235 .
S/Sgt	Kelly John Dillon	39156210 .

Crossed out in red : KU 2315

KU 2315

Airbase Headquarter 29/III
Nerder/Havel

21 June 1944

To:
Evaluation Center West,
Oberursel/Taunus.

Re.: Downing of 1 four-engine enemy-bomber, south of Schwielowsee
about 8 km S Nerder/Havel on 21 June 1944, 1036 hours.

Enclosure: 1 portfolio

Enclosed we are forwarding 1 portfolio with maps and
Nav. Material.

The bombercode C.D. 0250 (19) 19th month, vis. 20th day
had been transmitted with FS KR Nr. 920 (LBWR) to: 1 West LZES at 1920 hours
page 1 to 6.

Signature

(illegible)
Captain

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: **Airfield district command 4/III**

PLACE: **Berlin-Stanken**

DATE: **21 June 1944**

REGARDING: **CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, unknown**
EM. LANDING: AT: unknown

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) **A l l e n**

FIRST NAME: **Charles**

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) **2nd Lt.
0-724 503**

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) **captured**

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: **Berlin-Charlottenburg, Am Funkturn 21 June 44 1030 hours**

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield district command 4/III
PLACE: Berlin-Staaken
DATE: 21 June 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF: unknown
EM. LANDING: AT: unknown

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) Stansbury
FIRST NAME: Edward
SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) S/Sgt.
15172235
RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Mackeritzwiese 2 km east of station Gartenfeld
NAME OF HOSPITAL: near Berlin-Spandau on 21 June 1944 1300 hours
PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield district command 4/III

PLACE: Berlin-Staaken

DATE: 21 June 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, unknown
EM. LANDING: AT: unknown

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) Thurman

FIRST NAME: John A.

2nd Lt.

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 0 - 708 589

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Berlin-Grunewald, Erdenerstr. on 21 June 1944 1050 hours

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airbase Headquarter Staaken

PLACE: Berlin-Staaken

DATE: 22 June 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, 1 enemy plane
 Recovery of a dead crew-member
EM. LANDING: AT: Berlin-Niederschnehausen, Hunding corner
 Walhalla Allee
 22 June 1944 1130 hours

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME)

Reed

FIRST NAME:

John A.

Rank

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) Not determined, Dog tags 39856158 T 43 - 43 0

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) dead recovered

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: dead recovered on 22 June 1944 1130 hours in
 Berlin-Niederschnehausen, Hunding corner Walhalla Allee

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

Reserve Hospital 101, Doberitz.

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT: will be reported later

List of private papers taken away from Prisoners:

The American Red Cross (Grant Loan Fund Receipt)	Sgt. John A. Reed
Combat Crew Pass	Sgt. John A. Reed
Physical Record Card	Sgt. John A. Reed
Individual Issue Record	Sgt. John A. Reed

List of Identification tags:

Lee F. Knedler	39609250	T-42-3	A
John A. Reed	39856158	T43-43	O C
Louis H Bourgeault	0-761393	T42-3	A P
James S Parham	0-819270	T 44	B P

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: 1. Aviation Signal-Corps 121 (121)

PLACE: Bernau Aviation-Signal-Corps-Garrison

DATE: 21 June 1944 1115 hours

REGARDING: CRASH: (~~DOWNED~~) OF, bailing outEM. LANDING: AT: Schoenwalde/Niederbarren
21 June 1944 1115 hours

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) Kelly

FIRST NAME: John

S/Sgt.

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 39156210 T 44 A T 43 P

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) transfer to: Airfield district Berlin-Staaken

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Schoenwalde

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield district command 4/III

PLACE: Berlin-Staken

DATE: 21 June 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, unknownEM. LANDING: AT: unknown

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) Behnstiel

FIRST NAME: Robert

E/Sgt.

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 34 508 861

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: Berlin-Tegel, Tegeler-Schiessplatz on 21 June 44
1103 hours.

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

KU 2315

TELEGRAM FORM

DISTANCE - MESSAGE

-OBERURSEL-

NAME OF DISTANCE-MESSAGE WRITER:

LSOU 1311

ACCEPTED:

DELIVERED:

RECEIVED:

DATE:-

TIME:

TO:

DATE: 22 June 1944

THROUGH:

TIME: 1130

ROLL:

FROM: LSM

THROUGH: illegible

REMARKS:

QEN

Urgent LSUR NR. 961 21 June 2315.

For Evaluation center West Oberursel/ Tamus.

Re: Downing of 1 four engine enemy bomber south of Schwielowsee about 8 km south of Werder/Havel on 21 June 44 1036 hours.

Type-identification only possible after salvage.

Plane is under the surface of the water.

Prisoners Bourgeault (Louis H NR 0-761395 T 42 - 3/2nd Lt./Knedler Lee ident. No. 3960250 T 42 - 3 S/Sgt.

Airfield district command 29/III Werder/Havel.

REPORT ON CAPTURED AIRCRAFT

POST: **Airbase Headquarter 29/III**

LOCATION: **Werder/Havel**

DATE: **21 June 1944**

DATE AND TIME: **21 June 1944 1036 hours**

AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN

PLACE OF CRASH: **south of Schwielowsee (Lake) about 8 km south of Werder/Havel**
(NEAREST TOWN)

KIND OF CAPTURE: **not determined**
(FLAK, HUNTER, NIGHT HUNTER,
EMERGENCY LANDING)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: **The plane fell into the Schwielowsee (Lake) and is under water.**
Identifications only possible after salvage.

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

ADMITTANCE NO:

EQUIPMENT:

F.T. FREQUENCIES:

CONDITION OF AIRCRAFT:

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

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airbase Headquarter 29/III

PLACE: Werder/Havel

DATE: 21 June 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, could not be determined so far, because
the plane fell into the Schwielowsee (Lake)
EM. LANDING: AT: about 8 km south of Werder/Havel and sunk
completely.

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) 21 June 1944 1036 hours

FIRST NAME: K n e d l e r
Lee F.
S/Sgt.

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 39609250 T-42-3 A

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: 21 June 1944 near Ferch

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airbase-Headquarter 29/III

PLACE: Werder-Havel

DATE: 21 June 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, could not be determined so far, because
EM. LANDI AT: the plane fell into the Schwielowsee (Lake)
 about 8 km south of Werder/Havel and sunk
 completely.

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) 21 June 1944 1036 hours

FIRST NAME: Bourgeois
 Louis H
 2nd Lt.

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 0-761393 F 42-3 A

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: 21 June 1944 near Ferch

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

MACR 5986

Ku 2315

Report on Death and Burial of Armed Forces Members (American)

RESD. John A.

MIA 21 Jun 44

- A) Unit: unknown
 Date of Birth: unknown
 Date of Death: 22 Jun 44
 Place of Death: BERLIN - HINDERSCHONHAUSEN
 ASN: 390541/58 T 45 - 45
 Relatives: unknown
 Cause of Death: Wound
 Kind of Wound etc.: Airplane crash
- B) The dead person was wounded:
 a) in the theater of operations: no
 b) Home area: Service Command: III
 by air raid: yes
 c) in a foreign country: no
- D) Place of Burial: DOEBRITZ, Warrior's Cemetery Hlagrand,
 Area II, Row 11, Grave 1
 Date of Burial: 27 Jun 44
 Time of Burial: 11.00 h

Correctness of Statements in Par. A), B) and C) certified:

Air Base HQ STAKEN 22 Jun 44

signed MUELLER, Capt

Distributors:

- I Garrison Commander, Doebritz
 II Service Command III, Sect. Ia, Berlin - Grunewald, Hohensollernstrasse 144
 (Statements certified by: Signature illegible, Major, Doebritz 15 Sep 44)
 III Service Command III (The location of Grave has been entered under
 NO.: A/308, Doebritz 15 Sep 44, Signature illegible, Major.)

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 5986

Name of crew member: **KNEEDLER Lee F.**
 Rank: **S/Sgt.**
 Serial number: **39609250**
 Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Fighter~~: **Ball Turret Gunner**

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Northeast of Berlin about 5 or 10 miles (estimated)

If not, why not? ✓

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Saw him go out nose hatch.

Was he injured? No. Had been unconscious from lack of oxygen.

Where was he when last seen? Transient camp at Wetzlar.

Any hearsay information: Tail Gunner Ed Stansbury told me (at Mooseburg) that he had been in same camp with Kneedler somewhere in North Germany.

Sources: Edward Stansbury - Tail Gunner.

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: 20 (estimated)

Dates and destinations if possible: Saarbrücken (May 11th) Calais (2) (June 6th)  
Cherbourg, Mannheim, Hamburg, Cologne, Berlin (3) last on June 21st  
Roughly 10 in France - 10 in Germany.

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Bourgeault, Louis H. Rank 2nd Lt. Serial No. 0-761393
2. Organization 427th Sq. 303rd Gp Commander Kermit D. Stevens Rank Col. Sqn CO Edgar E. SNYDER Rank Lt. Col.  
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month JUNE day 21 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, 20, target, Berlin, target time, 10:20 (Estimated), altitude, 27,000 Est. route scheduled, Unknown, route flown Unknown
5. Where were you when you left formation? Over Target
6. Did you bail out? Yes
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Positive all bailed out safely except Jack Reid, Radio Operator. Have word of waist gunner that Jack Reid bailed. Have word of kneedler that plane was empty when he bailed.
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". Did not actually see any one bail out except Kelly - engineer; Kneedler; ball turret; and myself in that order. To best of my knowledge ship was empty when I left. We three left by the nose hatch.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? I believe somewhere North & East of estimate 5 to 10 miles -> 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) None to best of my knowledge.
11. Where were they in aircraft? ✓
12. What was their condition? ✓
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? Did not receive list describing other members. Saw Pilot: Charles R. Allen - Mooseburg; Saw Thurman, John - Mooseburg (May 5th of 1945). Saw Ed Stansbury - Mooseburg April 1945; Saw Bohensiefel Camp Lucky Strike May 1945 - Saw James S. Parham Texas 1945 Saw Kelly & Kneedler June - 1944 at Wetzlar.
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. None.

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

\* Saw all officer members, of crew after liberation.  
Saw only Bob Bohenskiel of enlisted crew after  
liberation. Received no list of crew with these forms.

Dear Sir: Would it be possible to acquire from  
you a complete list of addresses of the members  
of the crew of which I was a member, including  
Forrester and Donald Burlier who were not flying with  
us at the time we were shot down. Also inform-  
ation of fate of Lee F. Knedler after any notification  
of him. Thanking you for your trouble,

Louis H. Bougeant.