

384TH BOMB GROUP
545TH BOMB SQUADRON

MACR

11578

DATE.....1945-01-10
8TH AF MISSION.....789
384TH BG MISSION.....254
CRASH LOCATION.....50°11'N06°09'E
B-17F AIRCRAFT SERIAL #.....44-3216

Position	Rank and Name	Condition
Pilot	1 st Lt Kenneth D Hicks	KIA
Co-Pilot	Maj Arthur M Stone, Jr	KIA
Navigator	Capt Eugene T Wilson	KIA
Navigator	1 st Lt Edward J Kampel	KIA
Navigator	1 st Lt William R Barry	KIA
Bombardier	1 st Lt Thomas S Fornear	KIA
Radio Operator	T/Sgt George F Palacek	KIA
Engineer/Top Turret Gunner	T/Sgt Lavern F Harfman	KIA
Tail Gunner	1 st Lt Emil E Pluhar	KIA
Waist Gunner	S/Sgt Robert H Guider	KIA
Waist Gunner	S/Sgt James K Carter	KIA

KIA – Killed In Action

Classification changed
 RESTRICTED
 by E. A. Ford, Lt. Col., AG
 by F. H. McKee, Capt., AG
 Date OCT 15 1946

WAR DEPARTMENT
 HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
 WASHINGTON

11578

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 Grafton-Underwood, England; Command or Air Force VIII; Group 384th; Squadron 545th; Detachment _____
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure Grafton-Underwood, England; Course As Briefed
 Target or Intended Destination Cologne, Germany Type of Mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
Clear
4. GIVE: (a) Day 10 Month JAN Year 1945; Time 1235; and Location 5011N, 0609E
 of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
 (b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (x); Last contacted by
 radio (); Forced down (); Seen to Crash (); or Information not Avail-
 able ()
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: A/C under control when last seen.
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17G; AAF Serial Number 44-8216 ✓
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if any None
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series _____; AAF Serial
 Number (a) SW-021169; (b) SW-021179; (c) SW-021210; (d) SW-021408
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number):
 (a) 628124 Frig; (b) 10307846 Buff; (c) 1308812 Buff; (d) 639738 Frig;
 (e) 639881 Frig; (f) 639552 Frig; (g) 224494 Frig; (h) 1542087 Brown Lip
 (i) 459001 KH; (j) _____; (k) _____; (l) _____;
 (m) _____; (n) _____; (o) _____; (p) _____
10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty x
 or (b) Non Battle Casualty _____
11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 11; Passengers 0; Total 11
 (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	Full Name (Last Name First)	Rank	ASN	Current Status
1. Pilot	Hicks, Kenneth Delmont	1st Lt.	O-1031650	MTA ✓
2. Co-Pilot	Stone, Arthur Martin, Jr.	Major	O-651989	MTA ✓
3. Navigator	Wilson, Eugene Theodore	Capt.	O-795327	MTA ✓
4. Navigator	Kampel, Edward Joseph	1st Lt.	O-757492	MTA ✓
5. Navigator	Barry, William Rudisill	1st Lt.	O-795240	MTA ✓
6. Bombardier	Fornear, Thomas Southern	1st Lt.	O-682099	MTA ✓
7. Radio Operator	Palacek, George Frank	T/Sgt.	37610631	MTA ✓
8. Top Turret	Hartman, Lavern Frank	T/Sgt.	12097812	MTA ✓
9. Tail Gun	Flunar, Emil Edward	1st Lt.	O-552177	MTA ✓
10. Waist Gun	Guider, Robert Harwood	S/Sgt.	39138537	MTA ✓
11. Waist Gun	Carter, James Kane	S/Sgt.	39620194	MTA ✓

* Member of 547th Bomb Sq

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

12. 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)	Serial Rank Number	Contacted		Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
			by Radio	Last Sighted		
1.	Rice, Robert Eugene	1st Lt. O-757282		X		
2.	Herring, Harold Francis	1st Lt. O-825868		X		
3.	Doran, William Elmer	1st Lt. O-766986		X		

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) Unknown

14. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN OR HEAR FROM.

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

16. GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH, IF ANY, INCLUDING DESCRIPTION AND EXTENT _____

Date of Report 17 January 1945

J. R. Wyatt

Signature of Preparing Office
J. R. WYATT,
Captain, Air Corps,
Ass't. Adjutant.

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:

Incl 1



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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 384 Bomb SQ 545 Bomb A/C # 44-8216 MISSION DATE 10/1/45
 FIRST PILOT K. D. Hicks 1st. Lt. 0-1031650 DESTINATION Cologne, Germany.
 NAME RANK ASN

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

- (a) By coordinates 50 11 N 06 09 E 62 mi. SW Col
 (b) Approximate altitude 27000 ft.
 (c) Last noted heading 157°
 (d) If out of formation, approximate distance from formation
Out of formation.

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

Moderate, accurate flak.

No enemy fighters seen.

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

Extent of damage unknown.

4. If aircraft was out of control describe appearance:

A/C under control when last seen.

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.).

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

6. Number of parachutes seen and description of jumps (approximate altitude, time between jumps, etc.):

No parachutes seen to emerge.

7. Any other remarks not covered by above:

None.

8. Date of report 16 January, 1945

<u>EYE-WITNESSES:</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>A/C #</u>
1.	Robert E. Rice	1st Lt.	0-757282	8221
2.	H. E. Herring	1st Lt.	0-825868	986
3.	W. E. Doran	1st Lt.	0-766986	986
4.	Henry L. Warner	1st Lt.	0-825023	2661

INTERROGATING OFFICER (Sign Original and one copy):

John F. Moeth
J. F. Moeth

NAME

1st Lt.

RANK

0-874876

ASN

S-2 Officer

DUTY

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.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Maj. Arthur M. Stone, Jr.

Mrs. Florence M. Stone (Mother) ✓
5 Stratford Road
Buffalo, New York

Capt. Eugene T. Wilson

Mr. John Wilson (Father) ✓
Box 21
Fountain, Colorado

1st Lt. Edward J. Kampel

Mrs. Joan K. Kampel (Wife) ✓
5 Milroy Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

1st Lt. William R. Barry

Mrs. Willie R. Dewberry (Mother) ✓
403 Floyd Street
Valdosta, Georgia

371 1st Lt. Thomas S. Fornear

Mr. George Fornear (Father) ✓
2613 S. Springfield Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

1st Lt. Emil E. Pluhar

Mrs. Thresa Pluhar (Mother) ✓
1117 Leighton Boulevard
Miles City, Montana

1st Lt. Kenneth D. Hicks

Mrs. Millie W. Hicks (Mother) ✓
5005 14th Avenue
Chattanooga, Tennessee

T/Sgt. George F. Palecek

Mrs. Anna D. Palecek (Mother) ✓
1830 Lami Street
Saint Louis, Missouri

T/Sgt. Lavern F. Harfman

Mr. Andrew Harfman (Father) ✓
Alden, New York

S/Sgt. Robert H. Guider

Mrs. Elvira B. Guider (Wife) ✓
1300 Silver Avenue
San Francisco, California

S/Sgt. James K. Carter

Mrs. Beulah G. Carter (Mother) ✓
Box 16
Plains, Montana