

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification changed
to **RESTRICTED**
by E. A. BRADNAS, Lt. Col., AG
by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AG
Date, **OCT 15 1945**

Date		No.	About
7-22-95	Rainforest	Kae	
		Herman	
		Burton	
		Melvin	
		Michael	
		Gary	
		Robertson	

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

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WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

Classification changed
to **RESTRICTED**
by E. A. BRADNAS, Lt. Col., AG
by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AC
Date **015 1945**

IMPORTANT: This report will be completed in triplicate by each Army Air Forces organization within 48 hours of the time an aircraft is officially reported missing.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location AAF Station 106; Command or Air Force VIII
Group 384th; Squadron 545th; Detachment
2. SPECIFY: POINT OF DEPARTURE AAF Station 106; Course As Briefed
Intended Destination Brunswick, Germany; Type of Mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
10:10 Overcast
4. GIVE: (a) Date 30 Jan 1945 Approx 1115; and Location Unknown
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether () last sighted; () last contacted by Radio;
() Forces Down; () Seen to Crash; or (X) Information not available.
5. AIRCRAFT WAS LAST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LAST, IN A CRASH (Check
only one) () Enemy Aircraft; () Enemy Anti-Aircraft; (X) Other circumstances
as follows Believed to have been forced down by enemy aircraft
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17-F; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-5404
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series _____; A.A.F. Serial Number () 42-137557
(b) 42-80033; (c) 43-59858; (d) 43-57469
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish Below Make, Type and Serial Number)
(a) _____; (b) _____; (c) _____; (d) _____
(e) _____; (f) _____; (g) _____; (h) _____
9. THE PERSON LISTED BELOW WAS BELIEVED TO BE: (a) Battle Casualty X
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 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	Pilot	<u>Wright, Horace Fred</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0-802896</u>
2. Co-Pilot	Co-Pilot	<u>Jamson, Russell Dudley</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0-83690</u>
3. Navigator	Navigator	<u>Norman, Robert Sebastian</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0-809586</u>
4. Bombardier	Bombardier	<u>Deeler, Paul Merlin</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0-746679</u>
5. Radio Operator	Radio Operator	<u>Robertson, Frank Garland</u>	<u>T/Sgt</u>	<u>13064096</u>
6. Top Turret	Top Turret	<u>Ribbons, Warren David</u>	<u>T/Sgt</u>	<u>31084609</u>
7. Ball Turret	Ball Turret	<u>Getzer, Anthony Joseph</u>	<u>Sr. S/Sgt</u>	<u>33307194</u>
8. Tail Gunner	Tail Gunner	<u>Wassit, Edward Joseph</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>11114485</u>
9. Right Flexible Gunner	Right Flexible Gunner	<u>Sebastine, Edward</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>32486862</u>
10. Left Flexible Gunner	Left Flexible Gunner	<u>Nikolay, Zeeen Charles</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>32691241</u>

11. 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 by	Last Saw	Saw Forced Landing
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

12. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, INSERT 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
13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION
WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.
14. ATTACH EXTENSIVE DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES
PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE METHOD OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND
SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE.

Date of Report 31 January 1945

(Signature of Reporting Officer)

J. R. YATT,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Asst. Adjutant.

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

2nd Lt. James F. Writs *RTD*

Mrs. Flora M. Writs, (mother)
286 Thurston Road,
Rochester, New York.

✓ 2nd Lt. Russell D. Harmon *K*

Mrs. Katie M. Harmon, (mother)
Box Number 55,
Vaughn, Montana.

✓ 2nd Lt. Robert E. Gorman *RTD (371)*

Mr. Leo E. Gorman, (father)
415 Lake Park,
Fairmont, Minnesota.

✓ S/ Sgt. Anthony J. Hetser, Sr. *(371)*

Mrs. Rita A. Hetser, (wife)
Rural Delivery Three,
Coraopolis, Pennsylvania.

✓ S/Sgt. Zenon C. Mikolayk *(371)*

Mrs. Stella Mikolayk, (mother)
273 Driggs Avenue,
Brooklyn, New York.

✓ S/Sgt. Edward J. Fassit

Mrs. Julia Fassit, (mother)
792 West Street,
Mansfield, Massachusetts.

T/Sgt. Warren D. Gribbons *RTD*

Mrs. Mary E. Gribbons, (mother)
90 Ames Street,
Worcester, Massachusetts.

✓ T/Sgt. Frank G. Robertson, Jr. *K (371)*

Mrs. F. G. Robertson, (mother)
204 College Avenue,
Danville, Virginia.

✓ Sgt. Edward S. Gac *mid T 12 (371)*

Mrs. Jennie Gac, (mother)
325 Mott Avenue,
Burlington, New Jersey.

2nd Lt. Paul M. Beeler *RTD*

Mrs. Mabel Weir Beeler, (Mother)
170 Paramount Street,
Azusa, California.

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AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

2364

1. Your name Horace F. Writz Rank 1st Lt Serial No. 0-802896
2. Organization 384th Gp Commander E. Smith Rank Col Sqn CO P. Kettleson Rank Major
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month Jan day 30 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Brunswick, target, Marshaling Yards, target
time, 12:40, altitude, 23,000 route scheduled, P
, route flown ? Overcast
5. Where were you when you left formation? No Knowledge
6. Did you bail out? Yes
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Yes, Engineer & Bombardier
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". Engineer & Bombardier + Self went out Bombardier escape hatch Rest of crew - 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) No 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? ---
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)

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COMBAT FINALITY

January 30, 1944 -- Theatre - England

Target - Aircraft Assembly Plants, Brunswick, Germany

Crew of B-17 (Geeail)

Pilot - Lt. H. F. Writa
Co-Pilot - Lt. R. D. Hermon
Nav. - Lt. R. S. Gorman
Bomb. - Lt. R. M. Beeler
Eng. - F/Sgt. W. D. Gribbons

Radio Op. - F/Sgt. F. G. Robertson, Jr.
Ball Turret - S/Sgt. A. J. Heizer, Sr.
Waist Gunner - S/Sgt. F. S. Gac
Waist Gunner - S/Sgt. Z. C. Mikolack
Tail Gunner - S/Sgt. E. J. Passit

Breakfast - 0400 hrs.

Briefing - 0500

Takeoff - 0730

Target Time - 1250

Weather - Overcast 3 to 15,000 ft. over continent

Altitude - 22,000 ft.

Escort - Two groups P-38's in and out, four groups P-51's in target area

Opposition - Fighters - Heavy, Flak - Medium

MISSION

Takeoff delayed at last minute due to my parachute not being aboard. Parachute arrived, takeoff completed. Climbed through overcast to 6,000 ft. Group formed and joined with wing. Departed from coast at 0920 hrs., over enemy territory at 1040 hrs. Climbed to 25,000 ft. endeavoring to fly over cloud peaks. Very dense and persistent con-trails from a forward wing giving us much trouble, trying to avoid them.

Large groups of enemy twin-engine fighters reported flying parallel to us. Due to con-trails, we were flying very loose formation, resulting finally in our having to break away from group.

Immediately upon our escaping con-trails, F-W 190's (German Single Engine Fighters) reported closing in on us. Our first hit was from a rocket fired by a F-W 190, shattering 3 ft. off top of vertical stabilizer, injuring tailgunner, and knocking out #3 engine. This closely followed by passes from F-W 190's, spraying our plane diagonally from waist guns to slightly left of Pilot and Bombardier's stations. Result of this attack -- runaway prop. on #1 engine and #2 performing unsatisfactorily, electrical system out, and fire in wing.

Pilot's instructions were, "If fire in wing cannot be extinguished soon, be ready to bail out". We immediately went into a dive, escaping further enemy attacks by gaining cloud cover. Attempts to salvo bombs failed. Continued descending to 5,000 feet where we broke out of overcast. Fire in wing diffusing to fuselage. Nav. and I proceeded to rear of plane to escape possibility of runaway prop. breaking off.

Due to interphone system being defunct, crew did not hear pilot's orders to bail out. I was following Nav. through bombays when, upon glancing over my shoulder, I noticed pilots absent from their compartment. I immediately notified Nav. and those crew members in radio compartment of same, and to bail out immediately. Due to inability to release bombs, escape through bombays was prevented. I then made for the front escape hatch and followed on the 1st Pilot's heels out of the burning plane.

Estimated altitude 4,000 ft. Our plane disintegrated within 15 seconds after my departure. I saw no other men leave the plane.

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-2-

I arrived on German soil at 1150 hrs., near Osnabruck, Germany in the front yard of a German farm. A reception committee was on hand, but with not too cordial a greeting. I was introduced to the Luftwaffe by being taken into custody by two N.O.O.s, and the local Chief of Police, and lodged in the local dungeon with solitary accommodations. Attempts to interrogate me were frustrated by my reticence. Was threatened to know end, but no bodily harm exercised.

Joined my Pilot and Engr. at 2100 hrs. same evening and we were taken to a Luftwaffe base, where further interrogation was forthcoming and the removal of nearly all our personal belongings. Stayed overnight here and taken, by train, to a very modern air base near Oldenburg and remained in jail here for two days. Up to and including our third day as P.O.W. we had received the equivalent of one average meal. At this base we joined a group of approximately 20 other ex-U.S. terrorfliers and transported to the famous, universally known to every ETO combat flyer, interrogation centre on the outskirts of Frankfurt-O-Main, Germany. Our accommodations here were solitary confinement, on a diet of bread and water. Incessant attempts, by German Officers to gain useful information, was the policy of this Hotel Management. The average stay here for our crew members was six days. All Allied Airmen arriving in Germany have a standing invitation to this Hotel, and usually accept it for some known German reason.

From here we were transferred, in a weakened condition, to Dulag-Luft I in downtown Frankfurt. Dulag-Luft I is a reception centre for all newcomers (Air Corp) in Germany, prior to being shipped to a permanent camp in Das Third Reich. We because meal of consequence in nine (9) days.

The highlight of our stay here, in addition to meeting many flying acquaintances, was the experiencing of two daylight air raids by U. S. heavies on Frankfurt. No Bombs were received in our camp, but many visited close by.

Our Stay here terminated after three days, and on February 10, we departed, loaded as animals in boscars, for Stalag-Luft I, on the Baltic Sea near Barth, Germany, to remain for the duration plus two weeks.

Paul M. Beeler

(Signed) Paul M. Beeler

Bombardier of B-17 Geezil

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Gorman, Robert - 2nd Lt. 2264

RESTRICTED

688

Navigator

384th Bomb Group, 545th Sqd.

Last seen - 30 Jan, 1944

Over Aachen, Germany

Loss of aircraft due to fire

Lt. Gorman was within two feet of me

when I bailed out. Plane exploded

almost immediately after my departure.

I saw no other crew members leave

the plane after I did -

Paul M. Beeler

2nd Lt. L. C.

0-746679

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688

Harmon, Russell, D. 2nd Lt.

Co-Pilot

384th Bomb Group, 545th Sqd -

Last seen - 30 Jan., 1944

Over Osnabruck, Germany

Loss of aircraft due to fire

Lt. Harmon was within 1 foot of escape hatch but ~~hesitated~~ hesitated to bail out - I saw him just before I left the plane - I saw no other crew members leave the plane

Paul M. Beeler

2nd Lt. A.C. 0-146679

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

Mykolac (P) S/Sgt.

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68E

Waist Gunner

384th Bomb. Group, 545th Tgd.

Last seen - 30 Jan., 1944

Over Osna-bruck, Germany

Loss of aircraft due to fire

Sgt Mykolac was in plane when I

bailed out. I saw him just before

I bailed. I saw no other crew

members leave the plane after I did.

Paul M. Buhl

2d Lt. A.C.

0.246679

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Pazit, Edward: S/Sgt: RESTRICTED

688

Tail Gunner

384th Bomb Group, 545th Sqd.

Last seen - 30 Jan, 1944

Over Osnabruck, Germany

Loss of aircraft due to fire

I did not see Sgt. Pazit before
leaving plane, nor did I see him
in Germany -

Paul M. Reeler

2nd Lt A.P. 6-746679

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RESTRICTED

Gack — s/sgt. waist Gunner

686

384th Bomb Group - 545th Sgd

last seen - 30 Jan., 1944

Over Asna bruck, Germany

Loss of aircraft due to fire

Sgt. Gack was in plane when I
bailed out - Plane exploded almost
immediately after my departure.

Paul M. Beeler -

2nd Lt A.C. - 0.746679

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Zetzer, George (?) S/Sgt.

688

Ball Turret Gunner

384th Bomb Group - 545th Sqd.

Last seen over - 30 Jan. 1944

Over Snabrock, Germany

Loss of aircraft due to fire

Sgt. Zetzer was in plane when I
bailed out - Plane blew up almost
immediately after my departure -

Paul M. Baier

2nd Lt. A.C. - 0-746679

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688

Robertson,

T/Sgt.

Radio Operator

384th Bomb Group, 545th Sgd.

Last seen - Jan-30, 1944

Over Osnabruck, Germany

Loss of aircraft due to fire

I saw T/Sgt Robertson a few minutes

before I bailed out - Plane exploded

within 10 seconds after my departure -

I saw no other crew members leave the
ship after I did -

Paul M. Beeler

2nd Lt. A.C. - 0-746679

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2264:

688

HEADQUARTERS
AAF REDISTRIBUTION STATION NO. 4
SANTA ANA ARMY AIR BASE
Santa Ana, California

CASUALTY INTERROGATION REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH IN ACTION OR DURING IMPRISONMENT OF ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES, YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DECEASED:

Date of Interrogation 5 Nov 45

FULL NAME OF DECEASED MYKOLAC (spelling uncertain) S/Sgt. Waist Gunner
Last First Initial Rank Position

HOME TOWN OR STATE _____

UNIT 8th AF., 384th Bomb Gp, 545th Bomb Sq.

DATE OF MISSION 30 Jan 44 TYPE AIRCRAFT B-17

DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH 30 Jan 44, near Osnabruck, Germany

KNOWN INFORMATION:

Sgt. Mykolac was in the B-17, which blew up immediately after Lt. Beeler bailed out.

HEARSAY INFORMATION:

William J. Wieland
Interrogating Officer
WILLIAM J. WIELAND
1st Lt., Air Corps

Paul M. Beeler, 2nd Lt. 100-786679
Source's Name & ASN
Beaver City, Mo
Home address

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

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SANTA ANA ARMY AIR BASE
Santa Ana, California

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Date of Interrogation 5 Nov 45

FULL NAME OF DECEASED PAZIT, Edward 3/Sgt. Tail Gunner
Last First Initial Rank Position
HOME TOWN OR STATE Pennsylvania
UNIT 8th Af., 384th Bomb Gr. 545th Bomb Sq.
DATE OF MISSION 30 Jan 44 TYPE AIRCRAFT B-17
DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH 30 Jan 44, near Osnabruck, Germany

KNOWN INFORMATION:

Sgt. Pazit was in the B-17, which blew up immediately after
Lt. Beeler bailed out.

HEARSAY INFORMATION:

William J. Wieland
Interrogating Officer
WILLIAM J. WIELAND
1st Lt., Air Corps

Paul M. Beeler 2nd Lt. D.O. 124679
Source's Name & ASN
Beaver City, Nebr.
Home address

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Date of Interrogation 5 Nov 45

FULL NAME OF DECEASED HARMON, Russell D. 2d Lt., Co-pilot
Last First Initial Rank Position
HOME TOWN OR STATE Montana
UNIT 8th AF., 384th Bomb Co., 545th Bomb Sq.
DATE OF MISSION 30 Jan 44 TYPE AIRCRAFT B-17
DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH 30 Jan 44, near Osnabruck, Germany

KNOWN INFORMATION:

Lt. Harmon was in the B-17, which blew up immediately after Lt. Beeler bailed out.

HEARSAY INFORMATION:

William J. Wieland
Interrogating Officer
WILLIAM J. WIELAND
1st Lt., Air Corps

Paul M. Beeler - 2nd Lt. 0-746679
Source's Name & ASN
Beaver City, Nebr.
Home address

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Date of Interrogation 5 Nov 45

FULL NAME OF DECEASED GORMAN, Robert 2d Lt., Navigator
Last First Initial Rank Position
HOME TOWN OR STATE Minnesota
UNIT 8th AF., 384th Bomb Gp, 545th Bomb Sq.
DATE OF MISSION 30 Jan 44 TYPE AIRCRAFT B-17
DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH 30 Jan 44, near Osnabruck, Germany

KNOWN INFORMATION:

Lt. Gorman was in the B-17 which blew up immediately after Lt. Beeler bailed out.

HEARSAY INFORMATION:

William J. Wieland
Interrogating Officer
WILLIAM J. WIELAND
1st Lt., Air Corps

Paul M. Beeler, 2nd Lt. 2-184679
Source's Name & ASN
Beaver City, Neb
Home address

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Date of Interrogation 5 Nov 45

FULL NAME OF DECEASED GACK S/Sgt. Waist Gunner
Last First Initial Rank Position
HOME TOWN OR STATE Massachusetts
UNIT 8th AF., 384th Bomb Gp, 545th Bomb Sq,
DATE OF MISSION 30 Jan 44 TYPE AIRCRAFT B-17
DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH 30 Jan 44, near Osnabruck, Germany

KNOWN INFORMATION:

Sgt. Gack was in the B-17, which blew up immediately after Lt. Beeler bailed out.

HEARSAY INFORMATION:

William J. Wieland
Interrogating Officer
WILLIAM J. WIELAND
1st Lt., Air Corps

Paul M. Beeler 2nd Lt. 0-196679
Source's Name & ASN
Beaver City, Mo
Home address

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Date of Interrogation 5 Nov 45

FULL NAME OF DECEASED HETZER, George S/Sgt. Ball Turret Gunner
Last First Initial Rank Position
HOME TOWN OR STATE Unknown
UNIT 8th AF., 384th Bomb Gp, 545th Bomb Sq.
DATE OF MISSION 30 Jan 44 TYPE AIRCRAFT B-17
DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH 30 Jan 44, near Osnabruck, Germany

KNOWN INFORMATION:

Sgt. Hetzer was in the B-17 which blew up immediately after Lt. Beeler bailed out.

HEARSAY INFORMATION:

William J. Wieland
Interrogating Officer

WILLIAM J. WIELAND
1st Lt., Air Corps

Paul M. Beeler ^{2nd Lt.}
Source's Name & ASN 0-746679

Beaver City, Nebr.
Home address

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IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH IN ACTION OR DURING IMPRISONMENT OF ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES, YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DECEASED:

Date of Interrogation 5 Nov 45

FULL NAME OF DECEASED ROBERTSON, T/Sgt Radio-Operator
Last First Initial Rank Position
HOME TOWN OR STATE Virginia
UNIT 8th A., 384th Bomb Gp, 545th Bomb Sq.
DATE OF MISSION 30 Jan 44 TYPE AIRCRAFT B-17
DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH 30 Jan 44, near Osnebruck, Germany

KNOWN INFORMATION:

Sgt. Robertson was in the B-17 which blew up immediately after Lt. Beeler bailed out.

HEARSAY INFORMATION:

William J. Wieland
Interrogating Officer
WILLIAM J. WIELAND
1st Lt., Air Corps

Paul M. Beeler 2nd Lt. 6-7146679
Source's Name & ASN
Beaver City, Neb.
Home address

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MAR 20
Ku 768

Jan. 30, 1944

Fortress

Rev 3950

Gribbons, Warren David, T/Lt.
born June 23, 1921

Ident. tag: 31084 609

Taken prisoner

Beeler, Paul Merlin, 2nd Lt. born July 18, 1918

Ident. tag: 0-746679

Taken prisoner

Writz, Horace Fred, 2nd Lt.

Ident. tag: 0-892 896

Taken prisoner

✓ Harman, Robert

2nd Lt. (Dead)

✓ Gorman, Robert

2nd Lt. (Dead)

✓ Robertson, F.C.

T/Lt. (Dead)

✓ Sac, E.C.

S/Lt. (Dead)

✓ Mikolac, Lenore

S/Lt. (Dead)

✓ Bassitt, Edward

T/Lt. Ident. tag:

11 114 485

(Dead)

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Hetzer, Anthony Rm 3948
S/Sgt. Dead

The dead were buried on Jan. 31, 1945
in the Riemstoh Cemetery near
Osnabrück in a comrades grave
Germany

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

KU 768

Beeing B 17 F, downed 30 January 1944 in Doehren, near Welle, Hannover.

P ASBIT, Edward J. _____

ASN: —

Dec d.

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

FORM 1A

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

PLACE: **Hq, Local Airbase Achmer, Achmer near Osnabrueck**

DATE: **30 January 1944**

NAME AND FIRST NAME OF PRISONER: **Warren GRIBBONS**

ASN: **31 084 609 T 43420 0**

YEAR OF BIRTH:

24 June 1921

RANK:

Sgt.

Residence before the war:

Mrs. J.B.Gribbons, 50 Ames St., Worcester, Mass.

PLACE AND DATE OF CAPTURE:

**30 Jan. 1944, 1300 to 1400 hrs, in area Doehren,
Neuenkirchen, Spenge**

PARTICULARS CONCERNING CAPTURE:-
(CRASHED? EMERGENCY LANDING?

**Downed by Flak at Doehren, near Melle, 30 Jan. 1944,
about 1200 hrs**

TYPE OF CRAFT

Boeing B 17 F

REMARKS:

(signed) Capt.
Staff Officer of the Airbase

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

FORM 1A

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

PLACE: **Hq, Local Airbase Achmer near Osnabrueck**

DATE: **30 Jan. 1944**

NAME AND FIRST NAME OF PRISONER: **Paul M. MEELER**

ASN: **D 746 679 T 43 - 43**

YEAR OF BIRTH: **18 July 1918**

RANK: **Lt.**

Residence before the war: **170 Paramount St., Azusa, Calif.**

PLACE AND DATE OF CAPTURE: **30 Jan. 1944, 1300 to 1400 hrs, in area Doehren, Neuenkirchen, Speng**

PARTICULARS CONCERNING CAPTURE:- **Downed by Flak at Doehren, near Melle, 30 Jan. 1944**
(CRASHED? EMERGENCY LANDING? SHOT DOWN?) **about 1200 hrs**

TYPE OF CRAFT **Boeing B 17 F**

REMARKS:

(signed) Capt.
Staff Officer of the Airbase

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

FORM 1A

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

PLACE: **Hq, Local Airbase Achmer near Wunabrueck**

DATE: **30 Jan. 1944**

NAME AND FIRST NAME OF PRISONER: **Horace F. WITZ**

ASN: **O-802 896 T 42 43 B**

YEAR OF BIRTH:

RANK:

Lt.

Residence before the war:
PLACE AND DATE OF CAPTURE:

**Mrs. Flora H. Wits, 286 Thurston Rd, Rochester NY
30 Jan. 1944, 1300 to 1400 hrs, in area Doehren,
Neuenkirchen, Spenge**

PARTICULARS CONCERNING CAPTURE:-
(CRASHED? EMERGENCY LANDING?

**Downed by Flak at Doehren, near Melle, 30 Jan. 1944,
about 1200 hrs**
SHOT DOWN?)

TYPE OF CRAFT

Boeing B 17 F

REMARKS:

(signed) Capt.
Staff Officer of the Airbase

2264

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

TELEGRAM FORM

DISTANCE - MESSAGE

-OBERURSEL-

NAME OF DISTANCE-MESSAGE WRITER: 6359

ACCEPTED:

DELIVERED:

RECEIVED:

DATE:-

TIME:

TO:

DATE: 31 Jan. 1944

THROUGH:

TIME: 1705 hrs

ROLL:

FROM: LFHI

THROUGH: Mt.

REMARKS: delayed

urgent RFAR No. 432 31 January 1530 hrs
To Hq, Air District II, Ia, Hamburg-Blankenese.-
SUBJECT: Salvage of Enemy Aircrafts:

1) 30 Jan. 1944, about 1200 hrs, Boeing B 17 F downed by Flak at
Doshman, near Helle/Hannover; grid net quadrant HR 3 8. Markings: blue "P"
on wings. 16 crew members. Captured are:

- 1) Sgt. Warren GRIBBONS, ASN: 31 884 609; ✓
- 2) Lt. Paul F. BEHLER, ASN: 0-746 679; ✓
- 3) 2nd Lt. Horace F. WITZ, ASN: 0-202 896.- Names of remaining crew members
identified as follows:
- 4) Sgt. F. C. ROBERTSON; 5) Sgt. #/ E. C. GAC; 6) Lt. Robert GORMAN;

(Continuation on page # 118 718)

118 717

118 716: pencil # 48,
without information

6-3224, AF (5)

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(Continued from page # 118 717)

7) Sgt. Lenon MIKOLACSK; 8) Lt. Robert HARKON; 9) Sgt. Edward PAZSIT;
10) Sgt. Anthony HETZER. According to parst of bodies found, three are
ascertained dead, but unidentifiable. Remaining four are declared missing.
But it is possible they burned completely.

2) 30 Jan. 1944, about 1340 hrs, Boeing B 17 G, downed probably by fighter,
at Himbergen near Bissendorf; grid net quadrant HR 52. Markings: blue "G"
on wings. Number of crew members unknown. Thus far neither dead found nor
prisoners made. It is possible that several burned completely.

Hq, Local Airbase Achmer, Ib

File sign 6/Downings of Enemys on 31 Jan. 1944

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

Air Field H.Q.
Achmer near Osnabrueck.

A.V. 555/44

Casualty Report on Allied Aviators No. 15

Time covered by report: 15 Jan. - 7 Feb. 1944
To Army Information Center

No.	Rank:	Name:	First Name:	ASN:	Date of burial:	Location of grave:	Place and time aircraft was downed:
1.	Sgt.	ROBERTSON	F.C.		31 Jan. 44	Cemetery of Rismalsh	Downing of a Boeing B 17 F at Doshren
2.	Sgt.	GAC	E.C.		"	The remains of the 7 dead bodies were buried in one coffin.	near Melle/Hann. on 30 Jan. 44, 1200
3.	Lt.	GORMANN	ROBERT		"		
4.	Sgt.	NIKOLASIK	LENN		"		
5.	Lt.	HARMON	ROBERT		"		
6.	Sgt.	PAZSIT	EDWARD	11114485 T 43-43 AB	"		
7.	Sgt.	HETZER	ANTHONY		"		

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: NND 735001
By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

Air Field H.Q.
Achmer near Osnabrueck

A.V. 555/44

Casualty Report on Allied Aviators No. 15

Time covered by report: 15 Jan. - 7 Feb. 1944
To Army Information Center

116.717

No.	Rank:	Name:	First Name:	ASN:	Date of burial:	Location of grave:	Place and time air-craft was downed:
KIA-1.	Sgt.	ROBERTSON	FRANK G.	13064096	31 Jan. 44	Cemetery of Riemslah	Downing of a Boeing 317 F at Doehren
KIA-2.	Sgt.	GAC	EDWARD S.	32486862	"	The remains of the 7 dead bodies were buried in one coffin.	near Melle/Hamm. on 30 Jan. 44, 1200
KIA 3.	Lt.	CORRMAN	ROBERT S.	0809596	"	"	"
KIA 4.	Sgt.	MIKOLACIK	LENN (ZENEN C. MIKOLACIK)	"	"	32691241	"
KIA 5.	Lt.	HARMON	ROBERT	RUSSELL D.	"	0683690	"
KIA-6.	Sgt.	PAZSIT	EDWARD J.	11114488	"	"	"
KIA 7.	Sgt.	HETZER	ANTHONY J.	T 43-43 AB	"	33307194	"

AV 555/44