

Classification changed
to **RESTRICTED**
by **L. A. MADONAS**, Lt. Col., AO
by **F. M. MURPHY**, Capt., AO
Date **15 MAR 1946**

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

2739

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 AAF Station 106 ; Command or Air Force VIII
Group 384th ; Squadron 547th ; Detachment _____
2. SPECIFY: POINT of Departure AAF Station 106 ; Course As Briefed
Intended Destination Berlin, Germany ; Type of Mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR THEN LAST REPORTED: 10/10 Clouds
4. GIVE: (a) Date 4 Mar 44 Time 1157 ; and Location near Bonn, Germany
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether (x) Last Sighted; () Last contacted by Radio;
() Forces 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 Unknown - Was seen to pull out of formation with all engines
still running.
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17G ; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-31606
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series _____ ; A.A.F. Serial Number (a) SW 004084
(b) SW 004162 ; (c) SW 004186 ; (d) SW 004523
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 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	<u>Pilot</u>		
	<u>Lovvorn, Hollie Ray</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>0-748706</u> RTD
2. Co-Pilot	<u>Witt, Francis John, Jr.</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>0-665749</u> RTD
3. Navigator	<u>Kazmerski, John Thomas</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>0-750198</u> RTD
4. Bombardier	<u>Fleenor, Charles Thurman</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>0-746875</u> RTD
5. Radio Operator	<u>Schwarz, James Cornelius</u>	<u>T/Sgt.</u>	<u>36065853</u> RTD
6. Top Turret	<u>Wilson, Gerald Eugene</u>	<u>T/Sgt.</u>	<u>20953468</u> RTD
7. Ball Turret	<u>Miller, Robert Lee</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>32382781</u> RTD
8. Tail Gunner	<u>Taylor, Homer William</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>16086702</u> RTD
9. Right Flexible Gunner	<u>Fernandez, Severino Jean</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>31110682</u> RTD
10. Left Flexible Gunner	<u>Leach, Kenneth (NMI)</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>15339125</u> RTD

11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIR-
CRAFT, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted by	Last Sighted	Check Only One Column Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1. <u>Smith, Harry Bailey</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>0-801576</u>		<u>x</u>		
2. _____						
3. _____						

12. 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
13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION
WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.
14. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES
PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
15. 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 5 March 1944

(Signature of Preparing Officer)

J. R. Wyatt
J. R. WYATT,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Ass't. Adjutant.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

2 Jul 5

1st Lt. Hollie R. Lovvorn

Mrs. Ollie B. Lovvorn, (Mother)
Box 455,
Jefferson City, Missouri.

1st Lt. Francis J. Witt Jr.

Mrs. Francis J. Witt, (Mother)
24 North Osborne Avenue,
Youngstown, Ohio.

2nd Lt. John T. Kasmirski

Mrs. Florence S. Kasmirski, (Wife)
1729 Oak Street Northwest,
Washington, District of Columbia.

1st Lt. Charles T. Fleener

Mrs. Julia A. Fleener, (Mother)
869 Glen Drive,
San Leandro, California.

T/Sgt. James C. Schwarz

Miss. Devona A. Schwarz, (Sister)
134 North Virginia,
Bellefonte, Illinois.

T/Sgt. Gerald E. Wilson

Mr. Charles W. Wilson, (Father)
Route Number One Box 222,
Troutdale, Oregon.

S/Sgt. Robert L. Miller

Mrs. Mary J. Miller, (Wife)
1011 South Queen Street,
York, Pennsylvania.

S/Sgt. Homer W. Taylor

Mr. Sanford Taylor, (Father)
Rural Route Number One,
Escanaba, Michigan.

S/Sgt. Fernandez J. Severino

Mr. Curtis W. Davis, (Friend)
North Conway, New Hampshire.

S/Sgt. Kenneth Leach

Mrs. Lucian Leach, (Mother)
Webbs Cross Roads, Kentucky.

200R-2739
739
281606
Ku 1058

March 4, 1944

Fortress

Fleenor, Charles Thurman 1st Lt.

Ident. Tag: O- 746 873

Taken prisoner

Wilson, Gerald E., T/Sgt.

Ident. Tag: 20 9 53 468

Taken prisoner

Kazmerski, John Thomas, 2nd Lt.

Ident. Tag: O- 7150 198

Taken prisoner

Lovvorn, Hollie Ray, 1st Lt. born Feb. 6, 1919

Ident. Tag: O- 748 706

Taken prisoner

Taylor, Homer William, S/Sgt.

Ident. Tag: 16, 086 702

Taken prisoner

Miller, Robert Lee, S/Sgt.

Ident. Tag: 32 382 781

Taken prisoner

Schwarz, James C., T/Sgt.

Taken prisoner

wounded

location: In a

field hospital

4. March 1944 about 13,30 h.
Hangar 13 in northwest Annex
Type F. Markings 606
547 H, Bo. 384 Group
Air Base Grafton - Underwood
Target: Airfield Command Beauvais

S/Sgt. TAYLOR H. W.

S/Sgt. Leach Kenneth

S/Sgt. FERNANDEZ, S. J.

2.Lt. KAZMERSKI, J. T. KI 1058

1.Lt. FLEENOR, Ch. T.

1.Lt. LOVVERN, H.

1.Lt. WITT F. J.

T/Sgt. SCHWARZ, James C. 36063853
Hospital

S/Sgt. MILLER, R. L.

T/Sgt. WILSON G. E.

INFORMATION
SEE PAGE
* 105483 *

* 105484 *

4 MAR 44

James C. Schwarz

Dog Tag

36065853

Red

MIA

not on 490. fly

KU 1058

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

SOURCE: ~~SERVERINO~~ J FERNANDEZ, S/SGT, 31110682 E&E #698 DATE: 1 June 1944
MIA: 4 March 1944

UNIT: 547 Bomb Squadron, 384 Bomb Group

MEMBERS OF CREWPWIB RECORDS

PILOT	0-748706	1st Lt	Hellie R LOVVORN	P/W
CO-PILOT	0-665749	1st Lt	Francis J WITT, JR	RD
NAVIGATOR	0-750198	2d Lt	John KATMERSKI	MIA
BOMBARDIER	0-746873	1st Lt	Charles T FLEENOR	P/W
RADIO OPERATOR	36065853	T/Sgt	James C SCHWARZ	MIA
TOP TURRET GUNNER	20953462	T/Sgt	Gerald E WILSON	P/W
BALL TURRET GUNNER	32382781	S/Sgt	Robert L MILLER	MIA
WASIT GUNNER	15339125	S/Sgt	Kenneth LEACH	RD
WASIT GUNNER	31110682	S/Sgt	Serverino J FERNANDEZ	RD
TAIL GUNNER	16086702	S/Sgt	Homer W TAYLOR	MIA

KNOWN INFORMATION:

All bailed out; all chutes opened.

HEARSAY INFORMATION:

Heard that 6 were P/W.

SECRET

E & E CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

SECRET

By authority A. C. of S., G-2

Date 20 June 1944 Initials RHS
1 June 1944 (Date)

SEVERINO J FERNANDEZ, S/SGT, 31110682
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

547 Bomb Squadron, 384 Bomb Group
(Unit)

E&E #698

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing.
4 March 1944; 1300 hours; near ABBEVILLE

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out.
Was it on fire, etc? **3 engines out**

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? **8000 feet**

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed?
Bombardier injured.

What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open?
All bailed out; all opened.

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? **Did not see it.**

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground? **Yes - WITT and LEACH (both returned)**

Did he receive any information from others as to whether any other members of the crew were dead or alive? If so give detailed furnished by his informant and whether the other crew members were identified by name or otherwise. **No**

Did source examine the wreckage of the plane? If so, what was its conditions? **No**

If the plane crashed in water how far was the plane from land and what means was source rescued and what life rafts, wreckage, etc., remained on the surface that would have assisted other personnel to keep afloat.

On land

What is source's opinion as to the fate of the other crew members and his reason for his opinion?

French sources said that 6 had been taken P/W.

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REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

SOURCE: KENNETH LEACH, S/SGT, 15339125 EAE #677

DATE: 27 May 1944

MIA: 4 March 1944

UNIT: 547 Bomb Squadron, 384 Bomb Group

	<u>MEMBERS OF CREW</u>	<u>FEIB RECORDS</u>
PILOT	0-748706 1st Lt Hollie R LOVVORN	P/W
CO-PILOT	0-665749 1st Lt Francis J WITT, JR	RD
NAVIGATOR	0-750198 2d Lt John KAZMERSKI	MIA
BOMBARDIER	0-746873 1st Lt Charles T FLEENOR	P/W
RADIO OPERATOR	36065853 T/Sgt James C SCHWARZ	MIA
TOP TURRET GUNNER	20953468 T/Sgt Gerald E WILSON	P/W
BALL TURRET GUNNER	32382781 S/Sgt Robert L MILLER	MIA
W/ST GUNNER	15339125 S/Sgt Kenneth LEACH	RD
W/ST GUNNER	31110682 S/Sgt Severino J FERNANDEZ	IN NEUTRAL COUNTRY
TAIL GUNNER	16086702 S/Sgt Homer W TAYLOR	MIA

KNOWN INFORMATION:

All bailed out; chutes opened.

HEARSAY INFORMATION:

No

SECRET

E & E CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

SECRET

By authority A. C. of S.

Date

15 June 1944
(Date)

Initials

KENNETH LEACH, S/Sgt 15330125
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

547 Bomb Squadron, 384 Bomb Group
(Unit)

E&E #677

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing.

4 March 1944; 1225 hours; near BRUCAMP (ESE of ABBEVILLE).

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out.

Was it on fire, etc? **No. 1 and No. 2 Engines were shot out; tail also damaged.**

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? **8,500 feet.**

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed?

Bombardier injured.

What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open?

All bailed out; all chutes opened.

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? **Yes**

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground? **Yes**

Did he receive any information from others as to whether any other members of the crew were dead or alive? If so give detailed furnished by his informant and whether the other crew members were identified by name or otherwise.

Yes - co-pilot saw bombardier.

Did source examine the wreckage of the plane? If so, what was its conditions?

No

If the plane crashed in water how far was the plane from land and what means was source rescued and what life rafts, wreckage, etc., remained on the surface that would have assisted other personnel to keep afloat.

What is source's opinion as to the fate of the other crew members and his reason for his opinion?

None

2739

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

SOURCE: FRANCIS J WITT, JR, 1st Lt, O-665749

EAR #647

DATE: 18 May 1944

MIA: 4 March 1944

UNIT: 547 Bomb Squadron, 384 Bomb Group

MEMBERS OF CREW

PRIB RECORDS

PILOT	O-748706	1st Lt	Hollie R LOVORN	P/W
CO-PILOT	O-665749	1st Lt	Francis J WITT, JR	RD
NAVIGATOR	O-750198	2d Lt	John KAZIENSKI	MIA
BOMBARDIER	O-746873	1st Lt	Charles T FLEINOR	P/W
RADIO OPERATOR	36065853	T/Sgt	James C SCHWARZ	MIA
TOP TURRET GUNNER	20953468	T/Sgt	Gerald E WILSON	P/W
BALL TURRET GUNNER	32282781	S/Sgt	Robert L MILLER	MIA
WASIT GUNNER	15339125	S/Sgt	Kenneth LEACH	IN NEUTRAL COUNTRY
WASIT GUNNER	31110682	S/Sgt	Severino J FERNANDEZ	IN NEUTRAL COUNTRY
TAIL GUNNER	16086702	S/Sgt	Homer W TAYLOR	MIA

KNOWN INFORMATION:

All bailed out, chutes opened. Bombardier slightly wounded by flak.

HEARSAY INFORMATION:

Believes that other members of crew are P/W.