

Classification changed

to **RESTRICTED**

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

by P. M. MURCH, Capt., AG

Date MAR 1 1944

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 AAF Station 106 ; Command on Air Force VIII
Group 384th ; Squadron 547th ; Detachment _____
2. SPECIFY: POINT of Departure AAF Station 106 ; Course As briefed
Intended Destination Colsonkirchen, Germany ; Type of Mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: _____
1/10 Good
4. GIVE: (a) Date 12/8/43 Time 0900-0906 ; and Location Target Area (I.P.)
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether () Last Sighted; () Last contacted by Radio;
() Forces Down; (X) 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; (X) Enemy Anti-Aircraft; () Other Circumstances as follows Nose blown off almost to back of turret by Flak. Alt. 29,000 feet. Ship went down in flames.
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series P-17 ; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-30046
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series _____ ; A.A.F. Serial Number (a) 43-58616
(b) 43-12637 ; (c) 43-60596 ; (d) 43-58514
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 _____ ; 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
KIA 1.	Pilot	Sierens, Ernest J.	1/Lt.	0-665351
KIA 2.	Co-Pilot	Acker, Joel H.	2/Lt.	0-668177
KIA 3.	Navigator	Secoursi, Spiridon J.	2/Lt.	0-670174
KIA 4.	Bombardier	Blossman, Allen H.	2/Lt.	0-734304
EUS 5.	Radio Operator	Kottorman, Harry E.	T/Sgt.	35327752
KIA 6.	Top Turret	Johnson, Melvin E.	T/Sgt.	39827007
KIA 7.	Ball Turret	Burt, George A.	S/Sgt.	34037642
EUS 8.	Tail Gunner	Brindley, Louis D.	S/Sgt.	36501970
KIA 9.	Flexible Gunner	Hansen, Melvin E.	S/Sgt.	39827072
KIA 10.	Flexible Gunner	Jones, Van G.	S/Sgt.	15117291

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 Sighted	Check Only One Column	
					Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1. Dillingham, Maurice S., Capt.	0-699192				X	
2. Higdon, Philip E.	2/Lt.	0-794662			X	
3. Armstrong, James E.	2/Lt.	0-794606			X	

12. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used 1 ; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash ; or (c) Any other reason (Specify) _____
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 15 August 1943

H. J. McNeill 1st Lt. AC.
(Signature of Preparing Officer)

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

See MACR 253
death report on Hansen No. 25

KV 23 12 Aug 1943 Fortress
1302 Brindley, Lewis Delbert, S/Sgt.
Born 22 Aug. 1918.
Ident. Tag 36 501 970
Taken prisoner.

Ketterman, Harry, T/Sgt. born 16 Sept. 1919
Ident. Tag 35 227 752.
Taken prisoner.

✓ Eierons, E. J. 1st Lt. ~~Dead~~ Grave No. 88

✓ Acker, J. M. Ident. Tag 0-668 177
~~Dead~~ Grave No. 84

✓ Scourci, S. J. 2nd Lt. Ident. Tag 0-670 174
~~Dead~~ Grave No. 86.

✓ Blossman, A. M. 2nd Lt. Ident. Tag 0-734 304
~~Dead~~ Grave No. 85.

✓ Johnson, M. H. T/Sgt. ~~Dead~~ Grave No. 87

✓ Hansen, T/Sgt. ~~Dead~~ Grave No. 87

✓ Hunt, S/Sgt. ~~Dead~~ Grave No. 88

✓ 1 Unknown, ~~Dead~~ Grave No. 83

The fallen were buried on 15 Aug. 1943
in the Gelsenkirchen/Bismarck village
cemetery, Field 14 c.

Kus 23 Aug 12, 1943

Fortress - Confirmation
P. No. 103 918/43
8 Sept 16, 1943

✓
Jones, Van Green

Rus 2540

Lgt.
Ident. tag 15-117291

Dead

was already reported
as unknown.

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ASY-233
2
8/20:21-5