

Classified by 60100
Declassify on: OADR
by E. A. GHALUMAS, Lt. Col., USAF
on 10/10/1990

MISSING AIRCRAFT REPORT

3868

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 ; Country of Air Force VIII
Group 38th ; Squadron 95th ; Detachment _____
2. SPECIFY: POINT of Departure AAF Station 106 ; Course As Briefed
Intended Destination Schwinfurt, Germany ; Type of Mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST NOTICED:
1/10 Cumulus-Visibility 10 miles
4. GIVE: (a) Date 13 April 1944 ; and Location 45° 55' N, 09° 26' E
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, AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one (X) Enemy aircraft; () Enemy anti-aircraft; () Other circumstances as follows Aircraft lost during enemy fighter attack at 21,000 feet. No observations made. See attached story of fighter attack.
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, model and Series B-17D ; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-37826
7. ENGINES: Type, model and Series _____ ; A.A.F. Serial Number (a) 43-65828
(b) 43-65861 ; (c) 43-65877 ; (d) 43-65891
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below make, type and serial number)
(a) _____ ; (b) _____ ; (c) _____ ; (d) _____
(e) _____ ; (f) _____ ; (g) _____ ; (h) _____
9. ONE PERSON LISTED BELOW WAS 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.)

Status

Crew Position		Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number
Ensl. 1.	Pilot	Heffley, Farris Ormond	1st Lt.	0-801747
RTD 2.	Co-Pilot	Mabe, Walter Breeden	2nd Lt.	0-740894
Ensl. 3.	Navigator	Carini, Louis Peter	2nd Lt.	0-809532
RTD 4.	Bombardier	Betolatti, John (NMI)	2nd Lt.	0-682568
Ensl. 5.	Radio Operator	Shade, William James	T/Sgt.	33370908
RTD 6.	Top Turret	Deutsch, Samuel (NMI)	T/Sgt.	6667157
RTD 7.	Ball Turret	Bechtel, Robert William	S/Sgt.	13096713
Ensl. 8.	Tail Gunner	Alfter, Glen Edward	S/Sgt.	16170253
Ensl. 9.	Right Waist Gun	Allen, George W.	S/Sgt.	18162376
Ensl. 10.	Left Waist Gun	Gassman, Ralph Lee	S/Sgt.	18151686

Name in Full (Last Name First)		Rank	Factor	by	Last	Saw	Saw
				Radio	Sighted	Crash	Parachuted
Contacted _____							
Checked Only on Column _____							

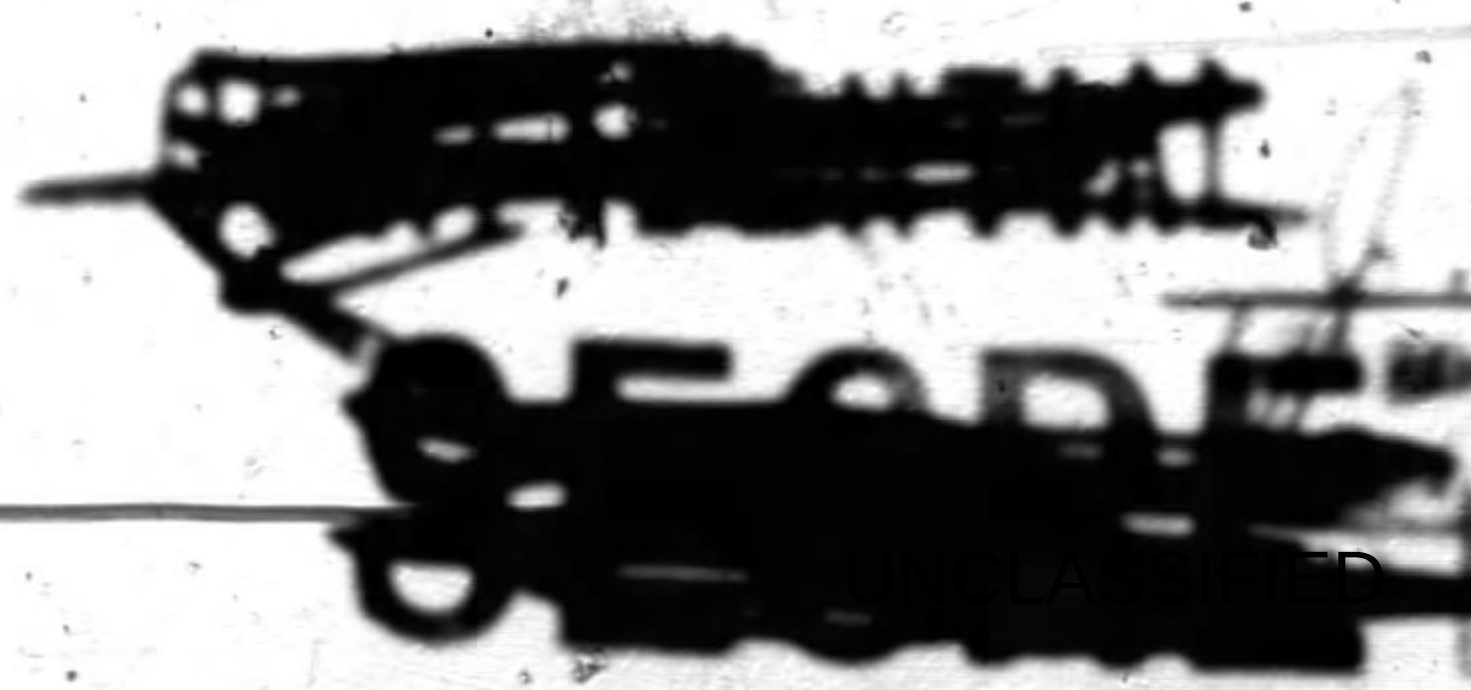
IF PERSONS ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, INDICATE HOW AND WHERE FOUND OR WHERE LAST SEEN: (a) Parachutes were used _____ ; (b) Persons were seen flying away from scene of crash _____ ; or (c) any other reason (Specify) Unknown

INDICATE TYPE OF CRASH, IF CRASH, OR OTHER NOTING AT THE LAST LOCATION: _____

INDICATE TYPE OF CRASH, IF CRASH, OR OTHER NOTING AT THE LAST LOCATION: _____

INDICATE TYPE OF CRASH, IF CRASH, OR OTHER NOTING AT THE LAST LOCATION: _____

Date of Report 16 April 1944



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

SECRET

UNCLASSIFIED

At 1354 hours, 1A again appeared in the vicinity of our Wing and F-4's were reported to have shot down 1A. Immediately after our report, 1A was seen for the destruction of the enemy formation, a wave of 1A's (15) in 1354 hours in color and with a fairly large red square painted on the side of the fuselage with a black-on-white cross's great distance away, coming in slightly below and flying directly through and between our lead and last Squadrons. These A's broke to the right and progressed again ahead of the formation in trail. As they were continuing across the front of our formation, three (3) additional FV 130's using the latter as a screen, suddenly broke beneath them and dove again into our last Squadron. During this attack, the Group leader and six (6) additional aircraft of our last Squadron were shot down.

Destructive action began in the leading element of the last Squadron, and in clearing the formation and the explosion of our A's that immediately followed, the Squadron was somewhat scattered and were successfully destroyed by FV 130's, continuing to come through in staggered trail.

Fifteen (15) additional long-nosed FV 130's and 1A 130's attacked from slightly below between 11 and 12 O'clock, passing through the area occupied by our last Squadron. Between the time of 1354 and 1359 hours, it appears that no fighter escort was covering this Group and that at about 1359 hours, a Group of F-51's showed up carrying dual belly gasoline tanks which were immediately dropped upon attacking the enemy. No further interceptions were made from this point on.

The above enemy action is estimated to have lasted only from 1354 to 1357 hours.

Incl 13

SECRET

26 April

UNCLASSIFIED

IN 100

1st Lt. [Name]

1st Lt.

[Name]

[Name]

[ID]

2nd Lt. [Name]

2nd Lt.

[Name]

[Name]

3rd Lt. [Name]

3rd Lt.

[Name]

[Name]

[ID]

capt.

4th Lt. [Name]

4th Lt.

[Name]

[Name]

5th Lt. [Name]

5th Lt.

[Name]

[Name]

[ID]

capt.

6th Lt. [Name]

6th Lt.

[Name]

[Name]

7th Lt. [Name]

7th Lt.

[Name]

[Name]

[ID]

capt.

8th Lt.

[Name]

[Name]

[ID]

capt.

9th Lt.

[Name]

[Name]

[ID]

capt.

10th Lt.

[Name]

MACR 3868



?

Shovel

Name of vessel

USS LST-1166

Type of vessel

Transport

Reporting Officer

Lt. Army Air Corps HANCOCK

CREW

SMITH, William James
22 September 1943 - W.O.

1/sgt.

1357000

Captured Delag Info

GARDNER, Ralph Lee
25 September 1943 - Singapore, Ia.

1/sgt.

1425140

Captured Delag Info

HUFFLEY, David O.

1st/Lt.

0-007747

Wounded - Hospital

GARDNER, Louis F.

2nd/Lt.

0-007552

Wounded - Hospital
(1 May Delag)

ALFORD, Glen E.

1/sgt.

1417003

Wounded - Hospital
(1 May Delag)

Downing Number IN 1542

1st Follow up Report from 16 May 1944

ALLEN, George William
9 September 1943 - OIA.

1/sgt.

1416276

Captured Delag Info

Remarks: Delag Info: 2 May 1944 / W.O.

Place: Nancy-Reims
Time: 13 Apr 44
Date and Place of Crash: 13 Apr 44, 1530 hours, east of Reims, France
Kind of Capture: By Fighter
Aircraft type: Boeing-Fortress, serial No. 337 010 3, 2nd destination

Personnel

Unit: Airbase Command A 205
Place: Nancy-Reims
Time: 13 Apr 44
Subject: Shot down Boeing Fortress, east of Reims, France, 13 Apr 44, at 1530 hours.
Names: Shade, Wm. J., 33370908
 Gatzman, Ralph L., 18151008
Disposition: Computing Station West Overreel, 2nd destination
Place and Time of Capture: 1530 hours, east of Reims

not on 1945 file

Survived

EU 1542

Shot down by 447th, at 1215 hours, near [unclear] 25 mi [unclear]
of 2nd, aircraft type, [unclear], 5 [unclear]

1st Farris [unclear], 0 [unclear]

1st Louis B. [unclear], 0 [unclear]

1st [unclear] [unclear], 1017000

1st [unclear] [unclear], 10181000

1st [unclear] [unclear], 1017000

3 men (under heading of missing or escaped)

EU 1542

1. Capt. Ralph L. Catman, 12151000

2. Capt. Wade Williams, 3. 12170000

3 men captured, 2 men wounded, 1 man missing

Aircraft type Boeing Fortress, serial No. 357014 2

Shot down by fighters

Identification Tags

Ralph L. Catman, 12151000 and photo

Farris O. Haffley, O 602747

Louis P. Carini, O 609532

Shade, Wm. J., 33370900

ID 1542

Report of the 38th Bomb Group, 1st Bomb Division**Name:** Alfred G. G. G.**Place:** 100/1111**Date:** 12 Apr 44**Subject:** 1st Army, 38th Bomb Group, near Rambouillet west of Paris & Meuse
12 Apr 44, at 1630 hours**Name:** Keffley, Parrie, C., O 803747

Alfter, Glen, 16170303

Carlini-Louis, O 809532

Disposition: Computing Station Overhaul**Place and Date of Capture:** Rambouillet 1630 hours.**Hospitalized:** POW Hospital Nancy

EU 1542

Captured on 13 Apr 44 as follows:

Lt Farris Haffley, O 802747
Lt Louis P. Carini, O 809632
Sgt Glenn Alfter, 18170253
Sgt Ralph L. Satumann, 18151686
T Sgt Williams Schade, 33370908

Continuation: Serial No. R 158 723 (RCAF), 6 Airw. D.P.
Carter, 164 085 (RCAF)

2177
2177
2177

III 1842

Reports concerning crashed aircraft in Beréich FLAK Wf.

KU 1542: On 13 Apr 44, at 1615 hours, shot down Fortress, Rambucourt,
20 km northwest of Toul. 5 men captured, 3 men escaped.
Downed by fighter. Identification markings: "P" in white
triangle.