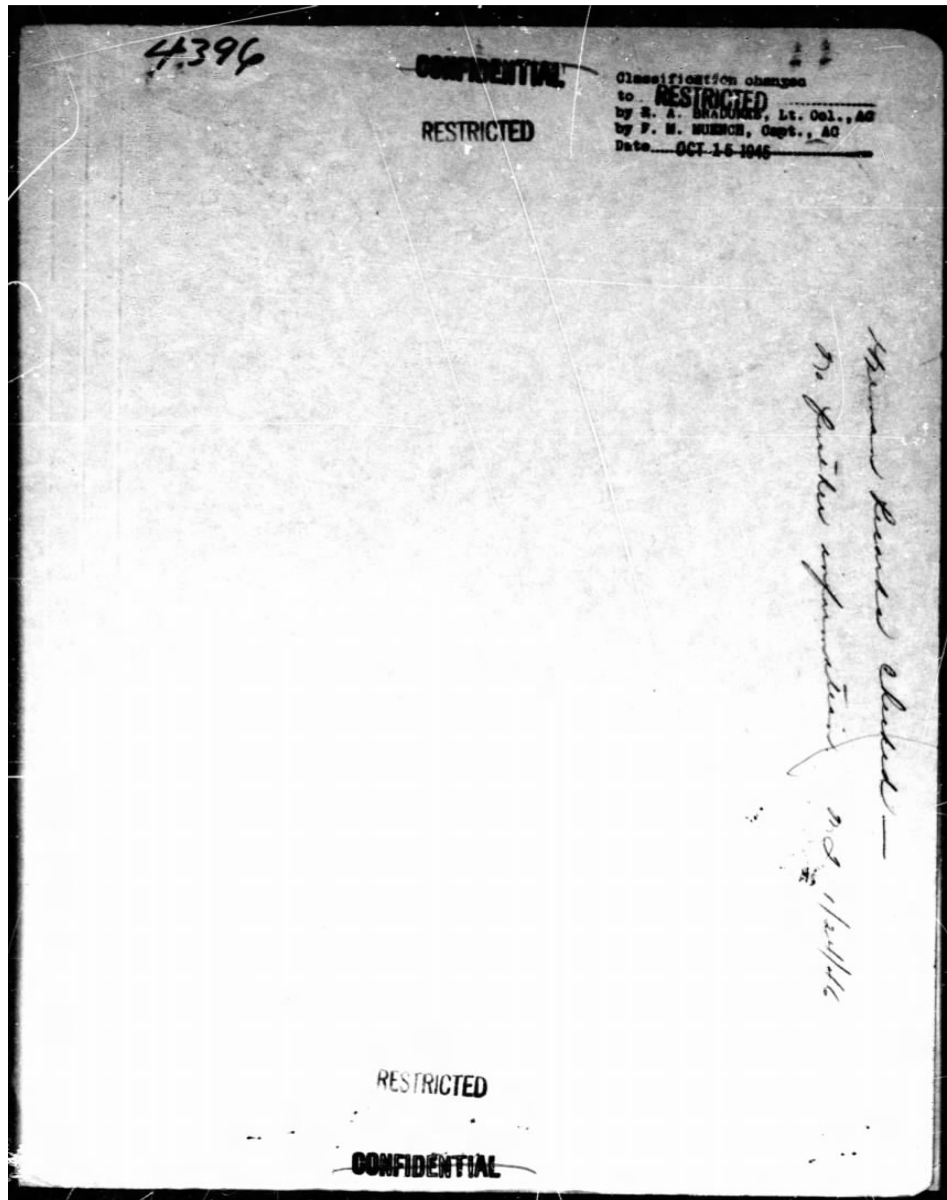


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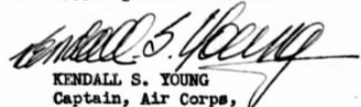
By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~727TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)  
451ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)  
APO 520, U. S. Army

26 April 1944

**STATEMENT**

On April 24, 1944, I was flying as pilot in the lead ship of the high flight of the first attack unit of the 451st Bombardment Group (H). A/C #199, piloted by 2nd Lt. Forest M. Jones, 727th Bombardment Squadron (H), 451st Bombardment Group (H), was in the number 5 position of the lead flight of the same unit. En route to the target #1 engine of A/C #199 had been smoking badly, but Lt. Jones remained with the formation; over the target his #2 engine was, presumably, shot out and it was feathered. Lt. Jones remained with the formation, however, until while over Yugoslavia, it became necessary to feather #2 engine. At this point A/C #199 began to lose altitude and to fall behind the formation, despite the fact that the crew was unloading the ship. At about 1345B hours, 3 chutes were seen to open from the plane. It was going down under control, and there was every reasonable opportunity for all men to jump before the ship crashed at about 1355B against a mountain situated at approximately 43°15'N-21°15'E.

  
KENDALL S. YOUNG  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Operations Officer.~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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727TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)  
451ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)  
A.F.O. 520, U. S. Army

26 April 1944

**S T A T E M E N T**

On April 24, 1944, I was flying as pilot in A/C #241, in the number 6 position of the high flight of the first attack unit of the 451st Bombardment Group (H). A/C #199, piloted by 2nd Lt. Forest N. Jones was flying in the #5 position of the lead flight of the same unit. At about 1045B, en route to the target, I noticed that A/C #199's #1 engine was smoking, but Lt. Jones continued with the formation, and dropped his bombs with the formation over the assigned target. However, just after bombs away, it seemed that his #2 engine was hit by enemy air-craft or flak, and it became necessary to feather it. This was at about 1223B. Lt. Jones continued in his position with the formation. At 1345, he feathered #1 engine, and his crew began to unload his plane; however, he lost altitude slowly and began to fall behind the formation. Major Evans, leading the formation, made a 360° turn to allow him to regain his position, but it was impossible for Lt. Jones to maintain any altitude. My crew saw some chutes open from the plane, and it seemed that all men aboard, including the pilot and co-pilot had ample time to jump before the plane crashed against the side of a mountain at approximately 43°15'N-21°15'E.

*Howard C. Sparks*  
HOWARD C. SPARKS  
2nd Lt., Air Corps,  
Pilot, 727th Bomb Sq (H).

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**DECLASSIFIED**

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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 Castelluccio A/B, Command or Air Force 15th AF  
Group 451st Bomb Gp, Squadron 727th Bomb Sq, Castelluccio A/B, Italy
  2. SPECIFIC: Point of Departure Castelluccio A/B, Course 1000, Altitude 10,000  
Intended Destination Bucharest, Rumania, Type of Mission Combat
  3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: Clear and V. Visibility unlimited  
to IF to target.
  4. GIVE: (a) Date 4-24-44, Time 1352, and Location 5 miles south of Brus,  
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft. Yugoslavia  
(b) Specify whether ( ) last sighted; ( ) last contacted by radio;  
( ) forced 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) (x) Enemy aircraft; ( ) Enemy anti-aircraft; ( ) Other circumstances as follows:
  6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-24 H, Serial Number 41-29199
  7. ENGINES: Type, # and Serial Number PW 1830, A & F Serial Number 42-51925  
(b) 42-51005, (c) 42-39073, (d) 42-88924
  8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish make, type and serial number) M-2 Browning  
(a) 50 Cal MG 31223, (b) 50 Cal MG 704424, (c) 50 Cal MG 400579, (d) 50 Cal MG 400571  
(e) 50 Cal MG 370426, (f) 50 Cal MG 400604, (g) 50 Cal MG 400718, (h) 50 Cal MG 704308
  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<br>(Last, Name, First) | Rank    | Serial Number | Remarks |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| 1. Pilot        | Jones, Forest M.                    | 2nd Lt. | 0-805480      | RTD     |
| 2. Co-Pilot     | Thomas, Rogers J.                   | F/O     | 1-122232      | RTD     |
| 3. Navigator    | Johnson, Willard E.                 | 2nd Lt. | 0-755185      | RTD     |
| 4. Bombardier   | Beall, Charles C.                   | F/O     | 1-122423      | RTD     |
| 5. Upper Turret | Hanaphin, John O.                   | T/Sgt   | 37399124      | RTD     |
| 6. Lower Turret | Raymond, Joseph E.                  | S/Sgt   | 11013949      | RTD     |
| 7. Right Waist  | Burgess, Herman L.                  | S/Sgt   | 38189375      | RTD     |
| 8. Left Waist   | Kruse, Erhart P.                    | T/Sgt   | 37244606      | RTD     |
| 9. Tail Gunner  | Watson, William C.                  | T/Sgt   | 19171601      | RTD     |
| 10. Nose Gunner | Rardin, Samuel J.                   | S/Sgt   | 15072482      | RTD     |
11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN AIRCRAFT AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIC FOR FILE
- | Name in Full<br>(Last, Name, First) | Rank    | Serial Number | Is a crew member | Is a passenger | Is a gunner | Is a mechanic | Is a radio operator | Is a flight engineer | Is a navigator | Is a bombardier | Is a pilot | Is a co-pilot | Is a tail gunner | Is a nose gunner | Is a lower turret gunner | Is an upper turret gunner | Is a waist gunner | Is a radio operator | Is a flight engineer | Is a navigator | Is a bombardier | Is a pilot | Is a co-pilot |  |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------------|------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------|---------------|--|
| 1. Sparks, Howard C.                | 2nd Lt. | 0-540139      | X                |                |             |               |                     |                      |                |                 |            |               |                  |                  |                          |                           |                   |                     |                      |                |                 |            |               |  |
| 2. Young, Kendall S.                | Captain | 0-410664      | X                |                |             |               |                     |                      |                |                 |            |               |                  |                  |                          |                           |                   |                     |                      |                |                 |            |               |  |
12. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, FURNISH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used Yes. (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash Yes. (c) Any other reason (specify):
13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, AND AN APPROPRIATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN
14. ATTACH FIFTY-THREE DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT
15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE LATEST OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, GRADE AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE WHEN No search made.
- 3 Incl:  
Incl 1 - Sketch (quad)  
Incl 2 - Statement (Lt. Sparks) (quad)  
Incl 3 - Statement (Capt. Young) (quad)
- Date of report: April 27, 1944
- Signature: *Frank Bernhart Captain*

**CONFIDENTIAL**



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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

~~U.S. CONFIDENTIAL EQUALS BRITISH CONFIDENTIAL~~

727TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)  
451ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)  
A.P.O. 520, U. S. ARMY

26 April 1944

SUBJECT: Transmittal of MAC Report.

TO : Commanding Officer, 451st Bombardment Group (H), A.P.O. 520,  
U. S. Army.


1. Transmitted herewith Missing Air Crew Report of crew assigned to  
this Squadron, reported missing in action as of 24 April 1944 on mission  
over Bucharest, Rumania.

RANK:	NAME:	ASN:	FLYING STATUS:
2nd Lt	JONES, FOREST N.	O-805480	A
F/O	THOMAS, ROGERS I.	T-122232	A
2nd Lt	JOHNSON, WILLARD E.	O-755185	B
F/O	BEALL, CHARLES C.	T 122423	C
T/Sgt	HANEPHIN, JOHN O.	37399124	H
T/Sgt	WATSON, WILLIAM C.	19171601	H
S/Sgt	BURGESS, HERMAN L.	38189375	H
T/Sgt	KRUSE, ERHART P.	37244606	G
S/Sgt	RARDIN, SAMUEL J.	15072482	I
S/Sgt	RAYMOND, JOSEPH E.	11013949	I

2. Subject personnel are battle casualties as defined by paragraph 2,  
Section II, Circular 10, MATOUSA, dated January 24, 1944.

3. Battle Casualty Report forwarded your headquarters 24 April 1944.

For the Commanding Officer:

  
GEORGE R. CURTIS  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Adjutant.

1 Incl:  
Incl 1 - MAC Rpt. Lt Jones & Crew.  
27 April 1944 with 3 Incls (quad)

~~U.S. CONFIDENTIAL EQUALS BRITISH CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

**CONFIDENTIAL**

360.33

1st Ind.

C: CEC/RU

Hqs., 451st Bomb. Gp. (H), APO 520, US Army, 28 April 1944.

To: C. G., 49th Bomb Wing (H), APO 520, US Army.

1 Incl:  
n/c.cec  
C. E. C.

AG 360.33

2nd Ind.

C-284-9

360.33

HEADQUARTERS 49th BOMB WING (H), APO 520, 30 April 1944.

TO: Commanding General, Fifteenth Air Force, APO 520, U.S. Army.

1 Incl: n/c

AG 360.33

3rd Ind.

CP/m/cbs

HQ, FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE, APO 520, 7 May 1944.

TO: CG, HATOUSA, APO 524. Att'n: Casualty Branch, AGC.

1. Personnel included in attached MAC Report were processed on consolidated BCR AL-68, dated 1 May 1944, which was forwarded to the 30th MFU, 1 May 1944.

For the Commanding General:

1 Incl:  
Incl 1 - (dm).*Harold B. Neely*  
HAROLD B. NEELY,  
Major, AGC,  
Assistant.**CONFIDENTIAL**

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

Macr # 46386

**CASUALTY REPORT FOR AGC**

Prepared by  
MIS-X Section  
CPM Branch

Classification changed  
to **RESTRICTED**  
by S. A. SPADUNAS, Lt. Col., AG  
by F. M. MUEHCH, Capt., AF  
Date **OCT 15 1945**

DATE: **14 Aug 44**

NARRATOR	: <b>JONES, Forest H., 1st Lt.</b>	SQUADRON	: <b>727th Sq.</b>
ARMY SERIAL NO.	: <b>O-805487</b>	GROUP	: <b>361st Gr.</b>
HOME ADDRESS	: <b>Rt. #4, Olson, Texas</b>	TYPE AIRCRAFT	: <b>B-24D</b>
EX-REPORT NO.	: <b>None</b>	DATE OF MISSION	: <b>24 Apr 44</b>

POSITION	MEMBERS OF CREW	FWIB RECORDS
PILOT	1st Lt. Forest H. Jones	Narrator
CO-PILOT	2nd Lt. Roger I. Thomas	RD US
NAVIGATOR	1st Lt. Willard E. Johnson	RD US
BOMBARDIER	2nd Lt. Charles C. Beall	RD US
1st ENGINEER-GUNNER	T/Sgt. John O. Manaphin	RD US
RADIO OPERATOR-GUNNER	T/Sgt. Robert P. Kruse	RD US
2nd ENGINEER-GUNNER	S/Sgt. Herman L. Burgess	RD Overseas
BALL TURRET GUNNER	S/Sgt. Joseph E. Raymond	P/W
NOSE GUNNER	S/Sgt. Samuel J. Rardin	RD US
TAIL GUNNER	T/Sgt. William C. Watson	RD US

KNOWN INFORMATION: About 1415 hours on 24 April 1944 while returning from a raid, the ship I was flying was shot up badly by enemy fighters. Two engines were shot out, a third ran out of oil and we were forced to bail out west of Niz, Yugoslavia from an altitude of 10,000 to 8,000 feet. All crew members got out of the ship and no one was wounded. I was the last man to leave the ship and saw all parachutes open. All crew members were seen in Italy after they bailed out and were aided to Allied territory with the exception of S/Sgt. Raymond who is a prisoner of war.

HEARSAY INFORMATION: I was informed by the Chetniks that S/Sgt. Raymond broke his leg when he hit the ground and was captured by the Germans.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

AGO -1  
AC/AS (PERSONNEL) -1

~~SECRET~~

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

CASUALTY NO. **1115**

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT  
WAS SHOT DOWN:

**74 April 1944, 0000 p.m.**

PLACE OF CRASH:

**at Nish, Yugoslavia**

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT:

**Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE:

**Airfield Detachment Nish**

CREW

SURNAME, AND  
FIRST NAME:

**BATMAN JOSEPH BARNES**

DATE OF BIRTH:

**7 August 1920, Lewiston, Maine**

RANK:

**S/Sgt**

SERIAL NUMBER:

**11012949**

CAPTURED:

**yes**

WOUNDED:

**no**

DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP:

**Stalag Luft 4**

TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

**Dalag Luft: 25 November 1944, v. 1.**



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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

DATE: 4/24/44 1430

U.S.A. 128

ME 1119

PLACE: N. Nisch (Serbia)

S/Sgt. RAYMOND, Joseph Ernest

11013949

missing

1st.Lt. JONES, F. W.

missing

TYPE: Liberator

1st.Lt. JOHNSON, W. E.

missing

727 ( HB ) Sqd.

F/O THOMAS, R. I.

missing

451 Group; 47 Wing

F/O BEALE, C. C.

missing

T/Sgt. HANKEPHIN, J. O.

missing

BASE: Castelluccio

W/Sgt. KRUSE, F. P.

missing

T/Sgt. WATSON,

missing

TARGET: Hq. Airbase Detachment

S/Sgt. HUMVESS, H. L.

missing

Nisch

S/Sgt. RABIN, S. J.

missing

Air Force Command

South East

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

F.N. Jones  
Rt. 4  
Olton Texas



Commanding General A.A.F.  
Attention A.F. P.P.A.-8  
Washington, 25. D.C.

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

Ridgeville, S. C.  
April 10, 1946

Commanding General  
Army Air Forces  
Attention: AFPA-8  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of February 19 pertaining to casualty information of crew members.

Evidently there has been a mistake in your records. You have my name and serial number correct, but my rank was Corporal not Technical Sergeant and I was in the 100th Infantry Division not in the air corps.

I have no knowledge of any of the crew members mentioned in the questionnaire; consequently, I am returning same unanswered.

I regret that I am so tardy in answering your letter, but due to a change in my address your letter was delayed in reaching me; If there is any way in which I may help you please let me know.

Sincerely,

*William C. Watson Jr.*

William C. Watson, Jr.

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 4396

Name of crew member:

KECK, Robert F.

Rank:

2/Lt

Serial number:

37211606

Position: Crew (Bomber)

11/11/1944/11/11/1944

Left Waist

Did he bail out? \_\_\_\_\_

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: \_\_\_\_\_

Was he injured? \_\_\_\_\_

Where was he when last seen? \_\_\_\_\_

Any hearsay information: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of missions of above crew member: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates and destinations if possible: \_\_\_\_\_



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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 4996

Name of crew member:

Rank:

Serial number:

Position: Crew (Bomber) or Flight (Fighter):

HANFMAN John O.

2/sgt

37399124

Upper Turret

Did he bail out? \_\_\_\_\_

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: \_\_\_\_\_

Was he injured? \_\_\_\_\_

Where was he when last seen? \_\_\_\_\_

Any hearsay information: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of missions of above crew member: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates and destinations if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

**DECLASSIFIED**

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AEPPA-11

## INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 4396

Name of crew member:

Rank:

Serial number:

Position: Crew (Bomber) of

JOHNSON Willard E.

2nd Lt

O-855185

Navigator

Did he bail out?

NO INFORMATION

Where?

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane:

Was he injured?

Where was he when last seen?

Any hearsay information:

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition:

Total number of missions of above crew member:

Dates and destinations if possible:

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

Herman Lee Burgess  
214 South Walnut  
Bristow, Okla.



John J. Smith Lt. Col.

Headquarters Army Air Forces

Washington 25, D. C.

A-1/PPA<sup>8</sup>  
50-889 (2)

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973



IN REPLY REFER TO: AFPPA-8

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON



SUBJECT: Casualty Information of Crew Members

TO: S/Sgt. Samuel J. Bardin

1. You will be interested to know that there have been formed here in Washington and in the theaters overseas, Missing Aircrew Research and Investigation Offices to collect all information from our own and enemy sources, correlate this information and furnish it to search teams in the theaters who will go to the scene of the casualty incident and investigate. These teams will question those in the area who have knowledge of the incident and trace all leads down until they have the story. The German records we have translated are excellent. We have just received the Japanese records. By combining all this data with the story available in your memory, we can tell next of kin the things that mean so much to them.

2. You may or may not have been questioned in this manner before concerning the mission on which you were shot down and the events that followed. Regardless of previous questionnaires, it is important that we have the information requested here to complete our records concerning combat crewmen remaining in a casualty status.

3. If you have been sworn to secrecy as a result of your escape, evasion or internment, you may consider yourself released from all restrictions as to disclosure or publication of experiences except:

- a. Secret intelligence activities and methods developed for use, or actually used, in prison camps.
  - b. Details of techniques employed by military intelligence organizations operating behind enemy lines to assist evasion and escape.
  - c. Negotiations conducted on high government or military level to secure release from internment in a neutral country. (See AAF Reg 46-8 dated 30 October 1945)
4. Please answer all the questions you can promptly and accurately. Re-

6-3842, AF

ADDRESS REPLY TO: COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY AIR FORCES, WASHINGTON 25 D. C.



**DECLASSIFIED**

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

quest that, if possible, answers be typewritten; if not, printed. Mail  
the reply to Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Attention: AFIPA-8,  
Washington 25, D. C.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL ARNOLD:

*J. J. Smith*

Incls

JOHN J. SMITH  
Lt. Col., Air Corps  
Chief, Notification Section  
Personal Affairs Branch  
Personnel Services Division, AC/AS-1

6-3842, AF

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

## INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 4396

Name of crew member:

Rank:

Serial number:

Position: Crew (Bomber)

KROUSE Robert F.

1/Lt

97244406

Left Waist

Did he bail out?

Yes

Where?

Few Miles South of Nis, Yugoslavia

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane:

Was he injured?

No

Where was he when last seen?

Huntington, W. Va.

Any hearsay information:

Received a letter from him in Feb. 1946 from his home

in Sedalia, Mo.

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition:

Total number of missions of above crew member:

Dates and destinations if possible:

**DECLASSIFIED**

Authority: NND 735001  
By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 4396

Name of crew member:

Rank:

Serial number:

Position: Crew (Bomber) or Flight (Fighter):

HANSEN John O.

2/8gt

37399124

Upper Turret

Did he bail out?

Yes

Where?

Few Miles South of His Yugoslavia

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane:

Was he injured?

No

Where was he when last seen?

Naples, Italy- Replacement Depot waiting shipment home to  
Kirkwood Mo. July 1944

Any hearsay information:

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition:

Total number of missions of above crew member:

Dates and destinations if possible:

**DECLASSIFIED**

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

## INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 4396

Name of crew member:

Rank:

Serial number:

Position: Crew (Bomber)

JOHNSON Willard E.

2nd Lt

O-855185

Navigator

Did he bail out?

Yes

Where?

Few Miles South of His Yugoslavia

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane:

Was he injured?

Yes- Ankle injury as he bailed out

Where was he when last seen?

U.S.S. General Nigra Aug. 1st, 1944- Returning to U.S.

Any hearsay information:

His home is in S. Chicago, Ill.

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition:

Total number of missions of above crew member:

Dates and destinations if possible:



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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPM-1

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 4396

Name of crew member:

EDWARD Robert P.

Rank:

T/Sgt

Serial number:

37244606

Position: Crew (Bomber)

WITNESSES

Left Waist

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Near Prokuplje Yugoslavia

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane:

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? 26th General Hospital Bari Italy

Any hearsay information:

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition:

Total number of missions of above crew member: About 18

Dates and destinations if possible:

**DECLASSIFIED**

Authority: NND 735001  
By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

11-11

**INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE** File # 4396

Name of crew member: **HAKEPHIN John O.**  
Rank: **2/Sgt**  
Serial number: **37399124**  
Position: Crew (Bomber) or Pilot (Fighter) **Upper Turret**

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? near Prokuplje Yugoslavia

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: \_\_\_\_\_

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? 26th General Hospital Bari Italy

Any hearsay information: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of missions of above crew member: About 18

Dates and destinations if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

6-3861, AF

**DECLASSIFIED**

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

## INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 4396

Name of crew member:

JOHNSON Willard E.

Rank:

2nd Lt

Serial number:

O-55185

Position: Crew (Berber) or Navigator (Navigator) Navigator

Did he bail out? yesWhere? Near Prokuplje Yugoslavia

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: \_\_\_\_\_

Was he injured? Yes in parachute jumpWhere was he when last seen? 26th General Hospital Bari Italy

Any hearsay information: \_\_\_\_\_

Sources: \_\_\_\_\_

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of missions of above crew member: About 10

Dates and destinations if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

**DECLASSIFIED**

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

## INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 4396

Name of crew member:

KNUSE Edward F.

Rank:

T/Sgt

Serial number:

37244606

Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~7777777777777777~~

Left Waist Radio operator

Did he bail out? YesWhere? Yugoslavia

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Before He Bailed outWas he injured? Not to my knowledgeWhere was he when last seen? in ItalyAny hearsay information: None

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: He was returned to his old sqdn. after spending about two months in Enemy occupied territory. He was returned to the zone of Interior in August 1944. His present Address is: Norborne, Mo.

Total number of missions of above crew member: UnknownDates and destinations if possible: The target was Bucharest, Rumania. on April 23, 1944



**DECLASSIFIED**

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

## INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 4396

Name of crew member:

Rank:

Serial number:

Position: Crew (Bomber) or Flight (Fighter):

HARSHIN John J.

T/Sgt

37399124

Upper Turret &amp; Flight Engineer

Did he bail out? yesWhere? Yugoslavia

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: immediately before he bailed outWas he injured? Not to my knowledgeWhere was he when last seen? in 1945 at Smyrna AAB.Any hearsay information: Smyrna, Tenn.

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Returned to old unit after about two (2) Months in Enemy occupied territory. Then he was returned to the zone of interior in August of 1944 and was discharged in 1945. His present address is 139 Alsbrook; Kirkwood, Mo.

Total number of missions of above crew member: UnknownDates and destinations if possible: The target was Bucharest, Rumania. April 23, 1944

**DECLASSIFIED**

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

## INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 496

Name of crew member:

Rank:

Serial number:

Position: Crew (Bomber) or Pilot (Fighter)

JOHNSON Willard E.

2nd Lt

O-755185

Navigator

Did he bail out? YesWhere? Yugoslavia

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Position report while returning from target (Bucarest)Was he injured? Broke ankle when he hit groundWhere was he when last seen? in Italy after he returned to Sqdn.Any hearsay information: None

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: He ~~is~~ returned to his Unit after walking around in occupied territory for approx. two months. His present address is 6533 S. Morgan St. Chicago, Ill.

Total number of missions of above crew member: unknownDates and destinations if possible: April 23, 1944 the target was Bucarest, Rumania.

**DECLASSIFIED**

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

## MEMORIAL DIVISION

26 January 1949

## MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Reclassification of Missing Air Crew Reports

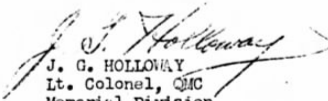
1. Per authority contained in Par 1, Sec 1, War Department Circular No. 346, dated 26 November 1946, War Department Circular No. 268, dated 5 September 1946, and Sec III, War Department Circular No. 104, dated 24 April 1947, Missing Air Crew Reports are downgraded to RESTRICTED.

2. At first opportunity this case is processed or reviewed, officer or civilian employee will physically delete present classification and indicate RESTRICTED on all correspondence and documents pertaining thereto.

3. Reclassification will be accomplished by citing the authority and signing each paper as follows:

"Classification changed to RESTRICTED per authority WD Cir 104, 1946.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

  
J. G. HOLLOWAY  
Lt. Colonel, QMC  
Memorial Division

**DECLASSIFIED**

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

