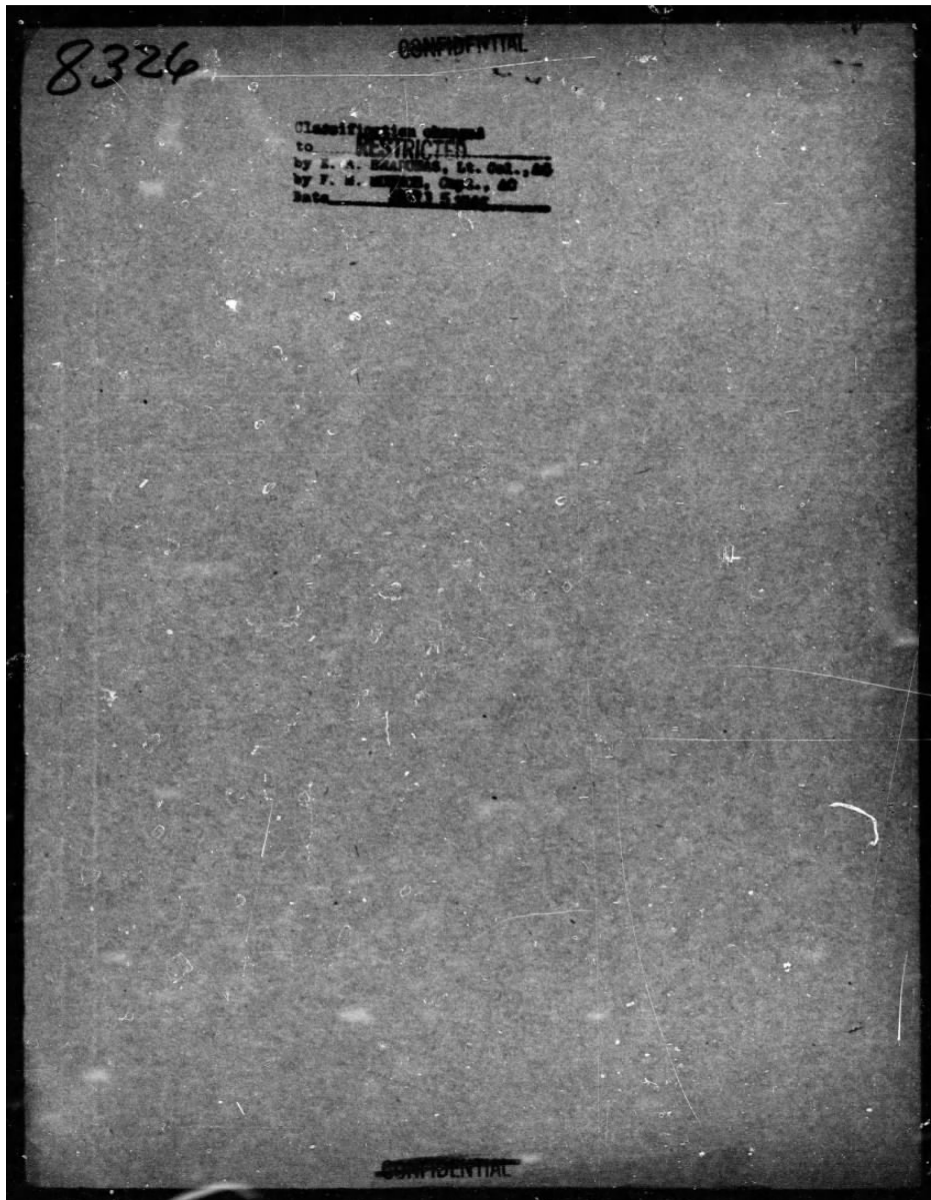


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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973



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CONFIDENTIAL

Classification changed
to **RESTRICTED**
by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AC
by F. M. MUECH, Capt., AC
Date **2001.5.2006**

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

8326

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 air crew member is officially reported missing.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location, by Name Castelluccio, Italy Command or AF 15th AF
Group 451st Bomb Gr; Squadron 728th Bomb Sq (H); Starcourt Base 4410N 1410E
 2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure Castelluccio, Italy Course 4444N 1411E-4625N 1609E-4727N 1603E-4755N 1537E - Target
Target or Intended Destination Vienna, Austria; Type of Mission Bombing
 3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
Weather: fair, Visibility: poor
 4. GIVE: (a) Day 25 Month Aug Year 1944; Time 1208; and Location 46c 58' N. 15c 52' E.
(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (); Last contacted by radio (); Forced down (); Seen to Crash (x); 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:
 6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-24 J; AAF Serial No. 42-51534
 7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if any -----
 8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series 1850-49; AAF Serial Number
(a) GP 515680; (b) GP 515672; (c) GP 515693; (d) GP 515690
 9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number) Browning, MG, M-2
(a) 128548 (b) 2926318 (c) 764849 (d) -----
(e) 129631 (f) 2940172 (g) 768342 (h) -----
(i) 964862 (j) 8478342 (k) ----- (l) -----
(m) 965584 (n) 8483921 (o) ----- (p) -----
 10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty
or (b) Non-Battle Casualty
 11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 9; Passengers ---; Total 9
(Starting with Pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 12 persons were aboard aircraft, list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach original to this form.)
- | CREW POSITION (Last Name First) | Name in Full | Rank | Serial Number | Next of Kin Relationship | Address | Current Status |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------------|--|----------------|
| 1. Pilot | <u>Glapp, Harvey S.</u> | <u>2nd Lt</u> | <u>O-812547</u> | <u>Mr Harvey S. Glapp</u> | <u>Box 424, Alexandria, Va.</u> | <u>NTA</u> |
| 2. Copilot | <u>Ennis, Chester H.</u> | <u>P/O</u> | <u>T-2807</u> | <u>Mrs Emmeline Ennis</u> | <u>543 N. 5th E., Provo, Utah.</u> | <u>NTA</u> |
| 3. Bombardier | <u>Hardesty, Malcolm W.</u> | <u>2nd Lt</u> | <u>O-723763</u> | <u>Mr John K. Hardesty</u> | <u>West River, Maryland.</u> | <u>NTA</u> |
| 4. Gunner | <u>Cooper, Richard E.</u> | <u>T. Sgt</u> | <u>17164731</u> | <u>Mrs Rose Younger</u> | <u>711 E. Synamore, Grand Island, Neb.</u> | <u>NTA</u> |
| 5. Gunner | <u>Sanchez, Manuel R.</u> | <u>Ppl</u> | <u>38553526</u> | <u>Epifania G. Sanchez</u> | <u>Box 626, Eagle Pass, Texas.</u> | <u>NTA</u> |

(over)

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N°

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CPE POSITION	(Name in Full) (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Next of Kin Relationship	Current Address	Status
1. Waist Gunner	Dewar, Philip C.	T/Sgt	59039762	Mr Louis Dewar	MTA	
2. Waist Gunner	Nickelley, Arthur J.	S/Sgt	20839667	Mrs. Charlene Nickelley	MTA	
3. Tail Gunner	Vance, Rodney J.	PO	57549760	Mrs. Nancy E. Vance	MTA	
4. Nose Gunner	Felcher, John J.	PO	14064331	Mrs. Lucy Felcher	MTA	RTD

10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

12. 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 Seen	Check Only One Column Radio Sighted Crash Landing
1. Hoffman, James E.	S/Sgt	52986136			X
2. _____					
3. _____					

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

14. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN OR HEARD FROM.

15. ATTACH EYE WITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCE PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.

16. GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH, IF ANY, INCLUDING DESCRIPTION AND EXTENT None - Plane crashed over enemy territory.

Date of Report 26 August 1944

Albert F. Ogg
Albert F. Ogg,
Commanding Officer,
Adjutant.

17. PRINTS OR EYE WITNESS STATEMENTS:

3 Incls:

Incls 1 - Statement of S-2 Officer.
Incls 2 - Statement of Eye Witness.
Incls 3 - Sketch.

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OCT 2 1944



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C O N F I D E N T I A L726TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO 520 U.S. ARMY

24 August 1944

STATEMENT OF CIRCUMSTANCES

On 23 August 1944, Second Lieutenant Harvey S. Clepp, O-812547, was pilot of a B-24J type aircraft, AAF Serial Number 42-51334, on a bombing mission over the Markersdorf Airdrome located near Vienna, Austria. At approximately 1206 hours at 46° 58'N, 15° 52'E, in Austria, enemy aircraft attacked his formation and severely damaged his airplane. Nine (9) parachutes were seen to leave the airplane before it crashed into the woods. In view of the fact that there were nine (9) men aboard the airplane there is reason to believe that all the crew members landed in enemy territory. It is the opinion of the undersigned, based upon interrogation, that several, if not all, of the crew members of this aircraft are either prisoners of war or evaders.


ALBERT L. ROEMER,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer.C O N F I D E N T I A L

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C O N F I D E N T I A L726TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO 520 U.S. ARMY

24 August 1944

STATEMENT OF EYE-WITNESS

I, Staff Sergeant James E. Hoffman, 32988136, was flying in the left waist position in the lead ship of our formation on 23 August 1944, on a bombing mission over Markersdorf Airdrome near Vienna, Austria. Several minutes before target time a great many enemy fighters came in from above and attacked Lieutenant Harvey S. Clapp, flying in the number three position. His number three engine caught fire and his left aileron and right rudder and tail turret were shot out. His tail surfaces were almost out in half. He flew like that for about three minutes then started to go down, turning slightly over on his side and five parachutes came out. Then he made still another turn and went down further when four more parachutes came out. After that the airplane went into a tail spin and crashed into the woods. This was at approximately 1206 hours at 46° 58'N, 15° 52'E, there was a nine-tenths cloud coverage at the time.

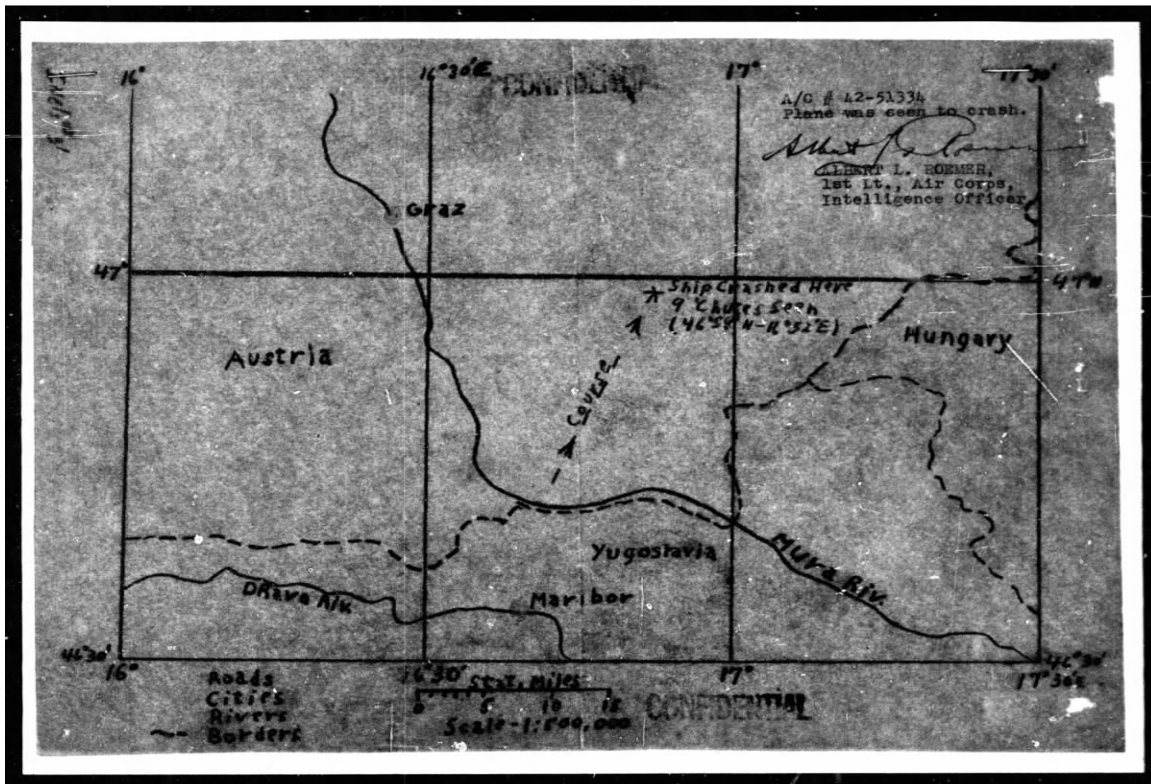
James E. Hoffman
JAMES E. HOFFMAN,
Staff Sergeant, Air Corps.

Incls 2

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mlw/12/11/44

2nd. Lt. Harvey S. Clapp

Mrs. Harvey S. Clapp, (Mother)
Route Number One, Box 421,
Alexandria, Virginia.

7/0 Chester E. Davis

Mrs. Pauline Davis, (Mother)
543 North Fifth East,
Provo, Utah.

2nd. Lt. Malcolm W. Hardisty

Mrs. Paul L. Hardisty, (Mother)
West River, Maryland.

2/Lt. Richard E. Cooper

Mrs. Rose E. Younger, (Mother)
711 North Spencer Street,
Grand Island, Nebraska.

Cpl. Samuel E. Sanchez

Mrs. Pauline E. Sanchez, (Mother)
Box 166,
Big Lake, Texas.

2/Lt. Philip G. Feren

Mr. Louis Feren, (Father)
1525 19th Avenue,
Oakland, California.

2/Lt. Arthur J. Hinkley

Mrs. Jenny Hinkley, (Mother)
2076 Fenton Street,
Edgewater, California.

Cpl. John J. Pelcher

Mrs. Lucy Pelcher, (Mother)
Royal Free Military Cms,
Dund Pleasant, Michigan.

1/Lt. Rodney J. Vance

Mrs. Emma E. Vance, (Mother)
214 Cedar Street,
Red Wing, Minnesota.

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

Port Captain
Chero
B. Nr g645

U.O., 29 Aug 44

NSO 1995

SECRET

At: Force Station of Nr. Station West.

Report: Sea Command Istria
Port Command Pola

Ref. USA Air crew member Palmer.

On 23 Aug 44 at 1330 hours, a B-24 bomber was seen by Air Guard 12 (CHERO) coming from the direction of Piana d'Oro over the northeast coast of Chero. It then turned south.

According to Port Captain, Commander of the base La Pola, the bomber very quickly lost altitude, so that it was impossible to parachute out over Kik. The crash of the plane could not be observed by the Air Guard. One of the crew members landed in the sea between the islands of Kik and Chero. The other three were landed on Kik. They (all three of) base commander Port Captain and other staff officers. The crew member was fished out by (name) a red boat, captured by the base.

This refers to USA Air crew member Palmer, base

22 Nov 21 in Detroit (Mich.) and (name).

P. was brought to port and then sent for further change to the Air force Station of San Antonio Station West.

The surrendered articles:

1 life belt

1 pouch with following contents:

2 (name) (name)

various (name) (name)

1 gun

2 (name)

1 mail (name)

1 pocket knife

1 (name) with (name) & 1 (name)

(above) were simultaneously delivered.

NSO 1995

Certificate

The British/American War Prisoners:

T/Sgt John J. Palmer

also transport (name) (name) (name) and

are free of contagious diseases and venereal. (name) (name)

7 Sep 44

(name)

Troop Doctor

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CASUALTY NO.
KSU 1993

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF CRASH: Fins, over island of Chirao

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: 4 motored bomber

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Field Command C 134/XI(Sec) A.F. C. 152206
Trieste 2 Sep 44 Ig. No. 1100000 2

CREW

SURNAME, AND Pelcher
FIRST NAME: John J.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: T/Sgt.

SERIAL NUMBER: 16064331

CAPTURED: 23 Aug 44 WHERE:
over island of Chirao

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP:

SEEN:

TYPE OF INJURY:

BRAND LOCATION:

REMARKS:

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MACR 8326
B-24
9 men

DATE: 6/23/44 - 13.00 hrs.

PLACE: West Pinn,
near Island Hareo.

TYPE: Liberator.

726 (H.S.) Sqd.
451 Group - 49 Wing

BASE: Guadalcanal.

UNITS: Airfield Command C 134/
II, Sec.

Rank	Name
2nd Lt.	Glapp, <i>Harvey L.</i>
T/Egt.	Felcher, John J.
T/Egt.	Cooper

Reg. No. 1993

0812549 missing

16064331 missing

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: Vance, Rodney J. File 6326
Rank: Pfc
Serial number: 37549760
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~ENGINEER/MECHANIC~~: Tail Gunner

Did he bail out? YesWhere? Island of Krk, 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? Returned with crew

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: Approx. 15-20, Germany, Italy etc.Dates and destinations if possible: Unknown

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: Nickaley, Arthur J. File # 8326
Rank: S/Sgt
Serial number: 20839867
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Waist Gunner~~ Waist Gunner

Did he bail out? YesWhere? Island of Krk, Yugoslavia

If not, why not? _____

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

Was he injured? Yes (Leg and back wounds)Where was he when last seen? Returned with crew.

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: Approx 25, Germany, Italy, etcDates and destinations if possible: June 15, Aug. 23, 1944

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: Perez, Philip G. File 6326
Rank: T/Sgt
Serial number: 99099762
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~: Waist Gunner

Did he bail out? YesWhere? Island of Krk, Yugoslavia

If not, why not? _____

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

Was he injured? Yes (Knee wounds, also groin wounds)Where was he when last seen? Returned with crew

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: Approx 25, Germany, Italy, etc.Dates and destinations if possible: From June 15, Aug. 23.

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: Sanchez, Manuel R. File # 8326
Rank: Cpl
Serial number: 38553526
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~: Ball Turret Gunner

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Island of Krk, Yougoslovia

If not, why not? _____

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

Was he injured? Yes, (foot shot off just above ankle)

Where was he when last seen? T Returned with crew

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: One (1)

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

A-PA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: Cooper, Richard E. File 5326
Rank: T/Sgt
Serial number: 17164731
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~: Top Turret Gunner

Did he bail out? YesWhere? Island of Krk, Yougoslovia

If not, why not? _____

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

Was he injured? NoWhere was he when last seen? Returned with crew

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: Approx. 25, Rumania, Germany, Austria, etc.Dates and destinations if possible: From June 15, to August 23 .

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AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: Hardesty, Malcolm W. File 6326
Rank: 2nd Lt
Serial number: 0-723763
Position: Crew (Bomber) bombardier: Bernhardier

Did he bail out? Yes.Where? Island of Krk, Yugoslavia

If not, why not? _____

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

Was he injured? Flak wound in handWhere was he when last seen? Returned with crew

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: One (1)

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: Smith, Chester H.
Rank: T/O
Serial number: T-2807
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Co-Pilot~~ Co-Pilot

File #326

Did he bail out? YesWhere? Island of Krk, Yugoslavia

If not, why not? _____

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

Was he injured? NoWhere was he when last seen? Returned to Allied hands with crew.

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: One (1)

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

6-3861, AF

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Authority: NND 735001
By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Clapp, Harvey S. Rank 2nd Lt. Serial No. 0-812547
2. Organization 451st Gp Commander Eaton Rank Col. Sqn CO Walkey T Rank Maj.
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month Aug. day 23 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Bombardment, target, Markersdorf Airdrome target
time, Unk, altitude, Unk route scheduled, West of
Lake Balatan, route flown as briefed
5. Where were you when you left formation? Midway between Balatan & Vienna
6. Did you bail out? Yes
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Yes
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". Pilcher ASN (Unknown)
Jumped prematurely at command to prepare to bail out on coast
of Yugoslavia near the island of Krk.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? Unknown
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) None
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)

Over

6-3862, AF

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One man, Pilcher, (Army Serial Number unknown) assigned to 451st Bomb Group, 726th Squadron, is unaccounted for to my knowledge. Partisan heresay was to the effect that he landed in the water on the coast of the Island Krk and was shot by German garrison forces on the island. When he wailed out prematurely he had no visible injuries and was in a normal state considering the circumstances.

Harvey S. Clapp