

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority: NND 735001
 By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
 WASHINGTON
MISSING AIRCRAFT REPORT

Classification changed
 to **RESTRICTED**
 by E. A. BRAUNAS, Lt. Col., AG
 by F. M. MUEHCH, Capt., AG
 Date **MAR 15 1968**

IMPORTANT: This report will be compiled in triplicate by each Army Air Force organization within 48 hours of the time an aircraft is officially reported missing.

- ORGANIZATION: Location Castelluccio, Italy Command or Air Force XV
 Group 451st Bomb Gr Squadron 728th Bomb Sq 4808N-1742E to IP
- SPECIFY: Point of Departure Castelluccio, Italy Purpose Target
 Intended Destination Zagreb, Yugoslavia Type of Mission By Bombardment
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
Ceiling and visibility unlimited
- GIVE: (a) Date 4/12/44 Time 10:15, and Location Three (3) miles West of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft
 (b) Specify whether last sighted; last detected by radio;
 forced down; seen to crash; or information not available
- AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (check only one) Enemy aircraft; Enemy anti-aircraft; Other circumstance: as follows Unknown
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-24H; A.A.F. Serial Number 41-29740
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1820-43 A.A.F. Serial Number (a) 42-3407
 (b) 42-3400; (c) 42-3690; (d) 42-3077
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below make, type and serial number)
 (a) only record on ship (c) _____ (d) _____
 (e) _____ (f) _____ (g) _____ (h) _____
- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty Yes
 or (b) Non-Battle Casualty _____
- NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew Ten Passengers None Total Ten
 (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	BERGMANN, RAY W.	2nd Lt.	0-384247
2. Co-pilot	CHEFFMAN, BETTE (N.Y.)	2nd Lt.	0-393009
3. Navigator	BLACHMAN, RENE G.	2nd Lt.	0-694315
4. Bombardier	BOLGE, GEORGE R.	Flt. C.	7-123709
5. Upper Turret	Hirsch, Charles A.	S/Sgt.	32429514
6. Lower Turret	Edmonds, Elmer T. <u>Pole</u>	Sgt.	14149710
7. Right Waist	Cameron, Maurice R.	S/Sgt.	11110693
8. Left Waist	Douglas, John R.	S/Sgt.	18090016
9. Tail Gunner	Backey, Ronald R.	Sgt.	35545591
10. Radio Gunner	Lordon, Marvin H.	Sgt.	16877275

11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LOST ANY ITEMS OF AIRCRAFT AND CHECK APPROPRIATE BOXES TO INDICATE REASON FOR LOSS

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Serial Number	Is it New	Force
1. GORDON, JAMES K.	2nd Lt. 0-309034	X	Headquarters
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____

12. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED AND ENDED UP IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING STATES: (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, AND INDICATE PROBABLE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN

14. ATTACH EXTENSIVE DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.

15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE LAYOUT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE No search made.

2 Incls:
 Incl 1 - Statement 2nd Lt. Gordon, James K. (quad)
 Incl 2 - Sketch of area. (quad) Malcolm B. Boyd
 Malcom B. Boyd, Major,
 1st Lt., Air Corps,
 Adjutant.

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~~US CONFIDENTIAL (EQUALS)~~
~~BRITISH CONFIDENTIAL~~

STATEMENT

13 April 1944

I, JAMES K. GOLDEN, O-808034, AC, flying in formation on 12 April 1944, with B-24H airplane No. 41-28740, piloted by 2nd Lt. RAY W. BERGMANN, O-684247, AC, saw subject ship abort at approximately three (3) miles West of the target. No visible defects were noticed in the ship at that time, it then commenced a normal peel-off after aborting. After peeling-off, the ship commenced losing very little altitude.

James K. Golden
JAMES K. GOLDEN
2nd Lt., Air Corps.

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~~BRITISH CONFIDENTIAL~~

incl 1'

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725TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
 APO 520 US Army

14 April 1944

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Missing Air Crew Report.

TO : Commanding Officer, 451st Bombardment Group (H) APO 520, US Army.

1. Transmitted herewith Missing Air Crew Report of Crew #451-3-23, assigned to this Squadron, reported missing in action as of 12 April 1944 on mission over Zagreb, Yugoslavia.

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASN</u>
2nd Lt	BERGMANN, RAY W.	O-684247
2nd Lt	CURFMAN, KEITH (NMI)	O-693009
2nd Lt	BLACKMAN, KENT C.	O-694315
Flt O	BOEGE, GEORGE R.	T-123700
S/Sgt	Hirsch, Charles A.	32429514
Sgt	Edwards, Elmer T.	14149710
S/Sgt	Cameron, Maurice R.	11110693
S/Sgt	Douglas, John R.	18020016
Sgt	Mackey, Ronald R.	35543591
Sgt	Gordon, Marvin H.	15377276

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

3. Battle casualty Report forwarded your headquarters 13 April 1944.

For the Squadron Commander:

Frederick B. Owen
 FREDERICK B. OWEN
 1st Lt., Air Corps,
 Adjutant.

1 Incl:
 Incl 1 - MAC Rpt, Lt BERGMANN & Crew
 14 Apr 44 w/2 incl (joint)

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**Meldung über den Abschuss eines
 US-amerikanischen Flugzeuges**

Abschuss-Nr. MB 1075

Abschusstag und Zeit: 12.4.44. 12.00.
 Abschussort: b. Kiseljar
 Flugzeugtyp: Liberator
 Meldende Dienststelle: Lw. Kdo. Südost

Besatzung:

Name und Vornamen: Geburtsjahr und -ort:		Dienst- grad	Erk.- Marke:	gef.: verw.: tot:	Verbleib: weiches Lager Art d. Verwundung Grablage
CURPMAN 25.5.19.	Keith Arkansas City, Kansas	2/Lt.	0-693009	gef.	Stalag-Luft 3
BLACKMAN 16.7.21.	Kent, G. Waterman, Ill.	2/Lt.	0-594315	gef.	Stalag-Luft 3
BOEGE 17.6.23.	George R. Iowa.	2/Lt.	0-123700	gef.	dito
BERGMAN 24.6.21.	Roy William Oreg.	2/Lt.	0.684247	gef.	dito
HIRSCH 9.1.16.	Charles A. Long Island, City,	S/Sgt.	32429514	gef.	Stalag-Luft 4
CAMERON 21.7.12.	Maurice A. Attleboro, Mass.	S/Sgt.	11110693	gef.	Stalag-Luft 4
DOUGLAS 6.8.20.	John R.	S/Sgt.	18020016	gef.	dito
MACKAY 14.10.23.	Ronald R. Bicknell, Ind.	Sgt.	35548591	gef.	dito
EDMONDS 6.5.21.	Elmer T. Madison City, N. Cal.	Sgt.	14149710	gef.	dito
GORDON 8.12.22.	Marvin H. Windham, Ohio.	Sgt.	15377276	gef.	dito

Bemerkungen: *4192*

DULAG-LUFT, den 25.11.44. v. S.

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2nd Lt. Ray W. Bergman

Mrs. Margaret Bergman, (Mother)
Route Number Three, Box 535,
Grants Pass, Oregon.

2nd Lt. Keith Curfman

Mr. Ray L. Curfman, (Father)
900 North A Street,
Arkansas City, Kansas.

2nd Lt. Kent S. Blackman

Mr. Charles S. Blackman, (Father)
Post Office Box 174,
Madison, Illinois.

Flight Officer George E. Hooge

Mrs. Marie A. Hooge, (Mother)
Bettendorf, Iowa.

2/Sgt. Charles A. Hirsch

Mrs. Molly Hirsch, (Mother)
Wheeler Road,
Hempstead, Long Island, New York.

Sgt. Elmer E. Edwards

Mrs. Jessie M. Edwards, (Wife)
Route Number Two,
Candler, North Carolina.

2/Sgt. Maurice E. Cameron

Mrs. Rita Cameron, (Wife)
65 Reservoir,
North Attleboro, Massachusetts.

2/Sgt. John A. Douglas

Mr. John A. Douglas, (Father)
Rural Route Number One,
Chelsea, Oklahoma.

Sgt. Ronald E. Mackey

Mr. and Mrs. Noble Mackey, (Parents)
Box 57,
Laksville, Indiana.

Sgt. Marvin E. Gordon

Mrs. Marjorie Gordon, (Wife)
Bristolville, Ohio.

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