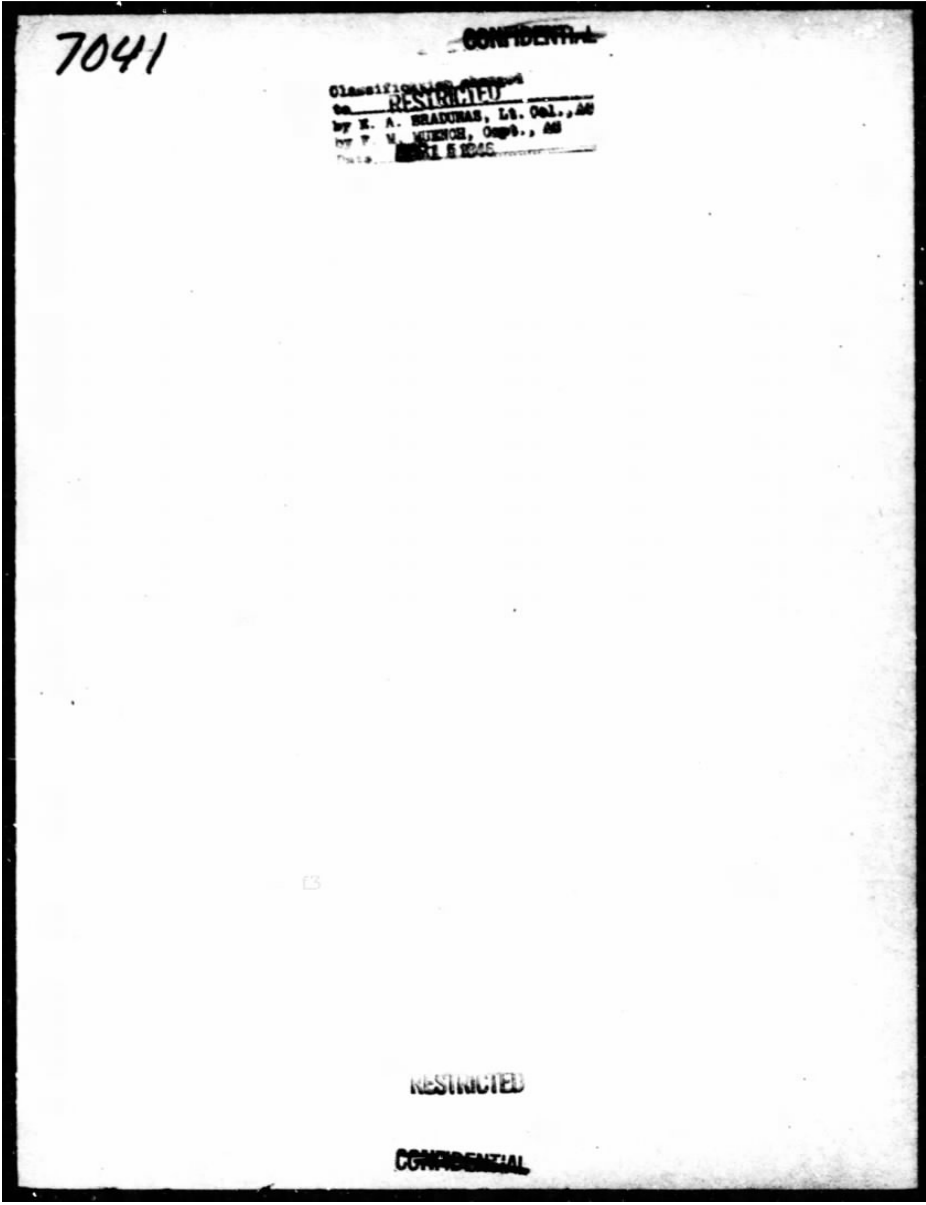


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gms/11/25/44

2nd Lt. Robert A. Dunson

Mrs. Clara M. Dunson, (mother) ✓  
 521 West Grandy,  
 Louisville, Kentucky.

2nd Lt. Marvin H. Peterson

Mrs. Frances H. Peterson, (mother) ✓  
 212 South Verona,  
 Princeton, Illinois.

2nd Lt. Theodore F. Hastings, Jr.

Mrs. Frances Ellen Hastings, (mother) ✓  
 15 Huntington Place,  
 Wallington, New Jersey.

1/sgt. Louis W. Curvin, Jr.

Mrs. Ann W. Curvin, (mother) ✓  
 605 19th Avenue,  
 Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

1/sgt. Harry J. Doyle

Mrs. Eula M. Doyle, (wife) ✓  
 Tumbsee, Virginia.

1/sgt. Frank J. Stevens

Mrs. Dania Stevens, (mother) ✓  
 1408 East Broadway,  
 Louisville, Kentucky.

1/sgt. John D. Ringelhan

Mrs. Alma Ringelhan, (mother) ✓  
 80 Leister Street,  
 Newburgh, New York.

1sgt. Charles J. Gaffey

Mrs. Langene L. Gaffey, (wife) ✓  
 736 South 11th Street,  
 Saint Joseph, Missouri.

Pfc. Johnny E. Nash

Mrs. Beatrice E. Nash, (mother) ✓  
 914 East 9th Street,  
 Owensboro, Kentucky.

Pfc. Patrick D. Shanberry

Mr. John J. Shanberry, (father) ✓  
 1228 West Grandage Street,  
 Syracuse, New York.

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7041 *msc*  
OE/rf

AG 360.33/030 - C. Wrapper Ind.  
HQ., NATOUSA, APO 534, U.S. Army, 15 August 1944.

TO: C<sup>4</sup>, Army Air Forces, Washington 25, D.C. (Att: Statistical Control Division).

Forwardin: Missing Air Crew Reports carrying AG Casualty Branch Control Numbers 189 thru 205 inclusive.

For the THEATER COMMANDER:



*Owen Elliot*

OWEN ELLIOT,  
MAJOR, AGD,  
Assistant Adjutant General.

17 Incls: (as above)

*nic 3-054*

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*LC F2069*

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WAR DEPARTMENT  
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON

REPORT: This report will be compiled by each Army Air Forces organization within 48 hours of the time personnel are officially reported missing.

- ORGANIZATION: Location Castelluccio, Italy Command or AF16th Air Force.  
Group 451st Bomb Group (H) Squadron 734th Bomb Sq. (H)  
4230N 1822E-435N 2120E
- SPECIFY: Point of Departure Castelluccio, Italy Course 4408N 2421E-4408N  
Target Rogatti, Rumania Type of Mission Bombing 2614E-4411N 2621E to 17 to Target.
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:  
Clear
- GIVE: (a) Date 28 July 1944 Time 1855 Location 43°35'N - 21°20'E  
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.  
(b) Specify whether: (x) Last sighted ( ) Last Contacted 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 (x) Enemy Anti-aircraft ( ) Other circumstances as follows: \_\_\_\_\_
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model & Series B-24-H AF Serial No. 41-28950
- ENGINES: Type, Model & Series R-1850-43 AF Serial No. (a) CP 302028  
(b) CP 302062 (c) CP 302577 (d) CP 302633
- INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Furnish below Make, Type, and Serial Number)  
(a) 982518 Browning M2 50 Cal. (b) 982527 Browning M2 50 Cal.  
(c) 982522 Browning M2 50 Cal. (d) 982549 Browning M2 50 Cal.  
(e) 982568 Browning M2 50 Cal. (f) 982609 Browning M2 50 Cal.  
(g) 982925 Browning M2 50 Cal. (h) 982507 Browning M2 50 Cal.  
(i) 982924 Browning M2 50 Cal. (j) 980022 Browning M2 50 Cal.
- PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW REPORTED AS: (x) 1 Battle Casualty ( ) Non-Battle Cas.
- NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10 Passengers \_\_\_\_\_ Total 10  
(Starting with "Pilot" furnish the following particulars; if more than 12 persons were aboard list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach to this form)

CREW POSITION	(Last name first)	R.N.I. SERIAL NO.	HOME ADDRESS	RELATIONSHIP
Pilot	<u>Duncan, Robert A.</u>	<u>2nd Lt. O-313348</u>	<u>Mrs. J.A. Duncan</u>	<u>Mother</u>
Co-Pilot	<u>Peterson, Warren M. A.</u>	<u>2nd Lt. O-2813953</u>	<u>Mrs. Francis Peterson</u>	<u>Mother</u>
bombardier	<u>Hastings, Theodore E. Jr.</u>	<u>2nd Lt. O-701595</u>	<u>Mrs. Francis Hastings</u>	<u>Mother</u>
Turret	<u>Doyle, Henry J.</u>	<u>S/Sgt. 33622603</u>	<u>Mrs. Faudie Doyle</u>	<u>Mother</u>
Turret	<u>Nash, Johnny R.</u>	<u>Pfc. 16333650</u>	<u>Mrs. Beatrice Nash</u>	<u>Mother</u>
Waist	<u>Harans, Frank J.</u>	<u>S/Sgt. 35461654</u>	<u>Mrs. Susie Harans</u>	<u>Mother</u>
Waist	<u>McTay, Charles E.</u>	<u>Sgt. 37519266</u>	<u>Mrs. Laegona L. McTay</u>	<u>Wife</u>
Gunner	<u>Ringelman, John D.</u>	<u>S/Sgt. 32629446</u>	<u>Mrs. Alma Ringelman</u>	<u>Mother</u>
Gunner	<u>Currin, Lewis W. Jr.</u>	<u>T/Sgt. 34331321</u>	<u>Mrs. Emma Currin</u>	<u>Mother</u>
Photo-grapher	<u>Swanberry, Patrick D.</u>	<u>Pfc. 12025551</u>	<u>Mrs. Blizbeth Swanberry</u>	<u>Wife</u>

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11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT AND CHECK APPROPRIATE (only one) COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAID

NAME IN FULL	RANK SERIAL NO.	Contacted		Saw	
		by Radio	Last Sighted	Crash	Forced Land
1. Walter Rutkowski	2nd Lt. O-1381623	X			
2. Joseph J. Ryan Jr.	2nd Lt. O-992518			X	
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					

12. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SEEN IT, CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:  
 ( ) Parachutes were used ( ) Persons seen falling away from scene of crash  
 ( ) Any other reason (specify)

Plane under control when last seen.

13. ATTACH, AS AN INCLOSURE TO THIS REPORT, EITHER AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.

14. ATTACH, AS INCLOSURES TO THIS REPORT, DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.

15. ATTACH, AS AN INCLOSURE TO THIS REPORT, A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK, AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE: (if no search, so state giving reason) None - plane last sighted over enemy territory.

Date of this report 29 July 1944

- 3 Incls:  
 Incl 1 - Statement (Rutkowski)  
 Incl 2 - Statement (Ziegler)  
 Incl 3 - Map.

Norman W. Nochel  
 (Signature of Preparing Officer)  
 NORMAN W. NOCHEL,  
 Captain, Air Corps,  
 Adjutant.

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**CONFIDENTIAL**724TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)  
451ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)  
APO 520 US Army.

29 July 1944.

## S T A T E M E N T

Lt. Duncan was flying in the #3 position in the #4 box, which I was leading on 28 July 1944, over Ploesti, Rumania. He flew to the target with the group, and was hit by flak on the bomb run and feathered #3 engine immediately after the target. He strag led slightly and informed the group leader that everything was under control and he could stay with us, which he did to Krusevac vicinity, where the group lost him when flak came up. He announced on the radio that he got hit in another engine and would have to crash land.

The last word from Duncan was when he said he would probably have to crash land.

*Walter Rutkowski*  
WALTER RUTKOWSKI,  
2nd Lt., Air Corps,  
Flight Leader, 7-28-1944

E3

1164 #1

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**CONFIDENTIAL**724TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)  
451ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)  
APO 620 US Army.29 July 1944. **S T A T E M E N T**

On 28 July I was flying in the same flight with Lt. Duncan's crew. After we left the target I noticed he had feathered an engine and was starting to fall back. He later started the engine but continued jettisoning all excess weight. I last saw the plane about an hour after we left the target far off to our left, but still apparently under control.

*Joseph J. Ryno Jr.*  
JOSEPH J. RYNO JR.,  
2nd Lt., Air Corps,  
O-692618

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INCL #2



