

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

**RESTRICTED**  
 E. A. BRADSHAW, Lt. Col., AC  
 F. M. MURPHY, Capt., AC  
 Date: 10/15/54

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WAR DEPARTMENT  
 HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES  
 WASHINGTON

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

7678

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 Gp; Squadron 707th Bomb Sq; ~~Detachment Base to 4157N~~
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure Castelluccio, Italy Course 1927E-4259N 2217E-4355N 2304E-4428N 2340E-4440N 2417E to IP to Target. Target or Intended Destination Floesti, Rumania; Type of Mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:  
CAVC
4. GIVE: (a) Day 17 Month 8 Year 1954; Time 1130; and Location Ferdinand, Bulgaria of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.  
 (b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (X); Last contacted by radio ( ); Forced down ( ); 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) Enemy Aircraft ( ); Enemy Anti-Aircraft (X); Other Circumstances as follows: Plane was at 12,000' over Ferdinand, Bulgaria with two engines feathered when last sighted.
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-24 H; AAF Serial No. 42-502298
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if any Dirty Girlie
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1830-65; AAF Serial Number (a) BT 43104; (b) BT 431226; (c) BT 431205 (d) BT 431910
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number):  
 (a) Browning Cal 50 (b) #941738 (c) Browning Cal 50 (d) #925925  
 (e) " (f) # 941868 (g) " (h) #704100  
 (i) " (j) #447929 (k) " (l) #244690  
 (m) " (n) #705693 (o) " (p) #447838
10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X or (b) Non-Battle Casualty 1

1. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 9; Passengers 0; 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>Young, James D.</u>                                  | <u>2nd Lt</u> | <u>0-820140</u> | <u>James D. Young</u>             | <u>MIA</u>     |
|                                 | <u>Father, 1 Amherst Rd., So. Hadley, Center, Mass.</u> |               |                 |                                   |                |
| 2. Co-pilot                     | <u>Lingren, Gordon C.</u>                               | <u>2nd Lt</u> | <u>0-761139</u> | <u>Ernest E. Lingren</u>          | <u>MIA</u>     |
|                                 | <u>Father, 1164 Elizabeth St., Pasadena, Calif.</u>     |               |                 |                                   |                |
| 3. Bombardier                   | <u>Konyon Jr., Frank C.</u>                             | <u>2nd Lt</u> | <u>0-717995</u> | <u>Gladys Cummins</u>             | <u>MIA</u>     |
|                                 | <u>Mother, 160 Edgewood Blvd., Providence, R. I.</u>    |               |                 |                                   |                |
| 4. Upper Turret                 | <u>Burnett, Thomas W.</u>                               | <u>Sgt</u>    | <u>36436406</u> | <u>Virgie Lee Burnett</u>         | <u>MIA</u>     |
|                                 | <u>Wife, Gen. Del., Blossom, Texas</u>                  |               |                 |                                   |                |
| 5. Lower Turret                 | <u>Steele, Hayward B.</u>                               | <u>Sgt</u>    | <u>33283380</u> | <u>Samuel Brown</u>               | <u>MIA</u>     |
|                                 | <u>Uncle, 6629 Jackson St., Pittsburg, Pa.</u>          |               |                 |                                   |                |

(over)

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407

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| CPET POSITION  | (Name in Full)<br>(Last Name First)         | Serial         | Next of Kin      | Re-<br>lationship, address | Current<br>Status: |
|----------------|---|----------------|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 6. Left Waist  | Kennedy, Edmund F.                          | Sgt. 32257520  | Mary L.          |                            | MIA                |
|                | Kennedy, Wife, 109 M'Iver, Greensboro, N.C. |                |                  |                            |                    |
| 7. Left Waist  | Witherspoon, E.D.                           | S/Sgt 33564989 | Elvin D.         |                            | MIA                |
|                | Witherspoon, Father, Box 939, Gadsden, Ala. |                |                  |                            |                    |
| 8. Tail Gunner | Barnes, Edmund J.                           | Col 36683070   | Helen S. Barnes  |                            | MIA                |
|                | Mother, 1028 W. 47th Place, Chicago, Ill.   |                |                  |                            |                    |
| 9. Nose Gunner | Gorman, Charles W.                          | Pvt 15375713   | Eugene J. Gorman |                            | MIA                |
|                | Father, 41 Stonehill Rd., Dayton, Ohio      |                |                  |                            |                    |
| 10.            |   |                |                  |                            |                    |
| 11.            |   |                |                  |                            |                    |
| 12.            |   |                |                  |                            |                    |

12. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE HOW KNOWN:
- | Name in Full<br>(Last Name First) | Serial<br>Rank Number | by | Radio | Sign | Seen | Forced<br>Landing |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|----|-------|------|------|-------------------|
| 1. Brittan, James C.              | Sgt. 35875894         |    |       |      |      |                   |
| 2.                                |                       |    |       |      |      |                   |
| 3.                                |                       |    |       |      |      |                   |
13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash; or (c) Any other reasons (Specify) Personnel had sufficient time to bail out since plane was under control.
14. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN OR HEARD FROM.
15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
16. GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH, IF ANY, INCLUDING DESCRIPTION AND EXTENT.

Date of Report 20 August 1944

*George R. Curtis*  
 (Signature of Preparing Officer)  
 GEORGE R. CURTIS  
 Captain, Air Corps,  
 Adjutant.

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:
- 2 Incls:  
 Incl 1 - Statement, Sgt. Brittan  
 Incl 2 - Sketch.

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707TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)  
451ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)  
A.F.O. 520, U. S. Army

19 August 1944

S T A T E M E N T

On 17 August 1944 I was flying as tail-gunner in an aircraft of a formation attacking targets in Rumania. A/C # 42-502298, piloted by Second Lieutenant James D. Young, flying behind our ship, was hit by flak over the target, and almost immediately had to feather #1 engine, while #3 began to smoke. About 10 minutes later he feathered the second engine, and began to fall behind and below the formation, losing altitude gradually. When I last sighted his plane, it was at about 4325N-2325E (near Ferdinand, Bulgaria) at about 12,000'. The time was 1130.

*James C. Brittan*  
JAMES C. BRITTAN,  
Sgt., AC, 35873894.

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

Abschuß-Nr. M. 1967

Abschußtag und Zeit: 17.8.44  
 Abschußort: Albanien  
 Flugzeugtyp: Liberator  
 Meldende Dienststelle: Edo. Fl.N.Ber. 3/VIII

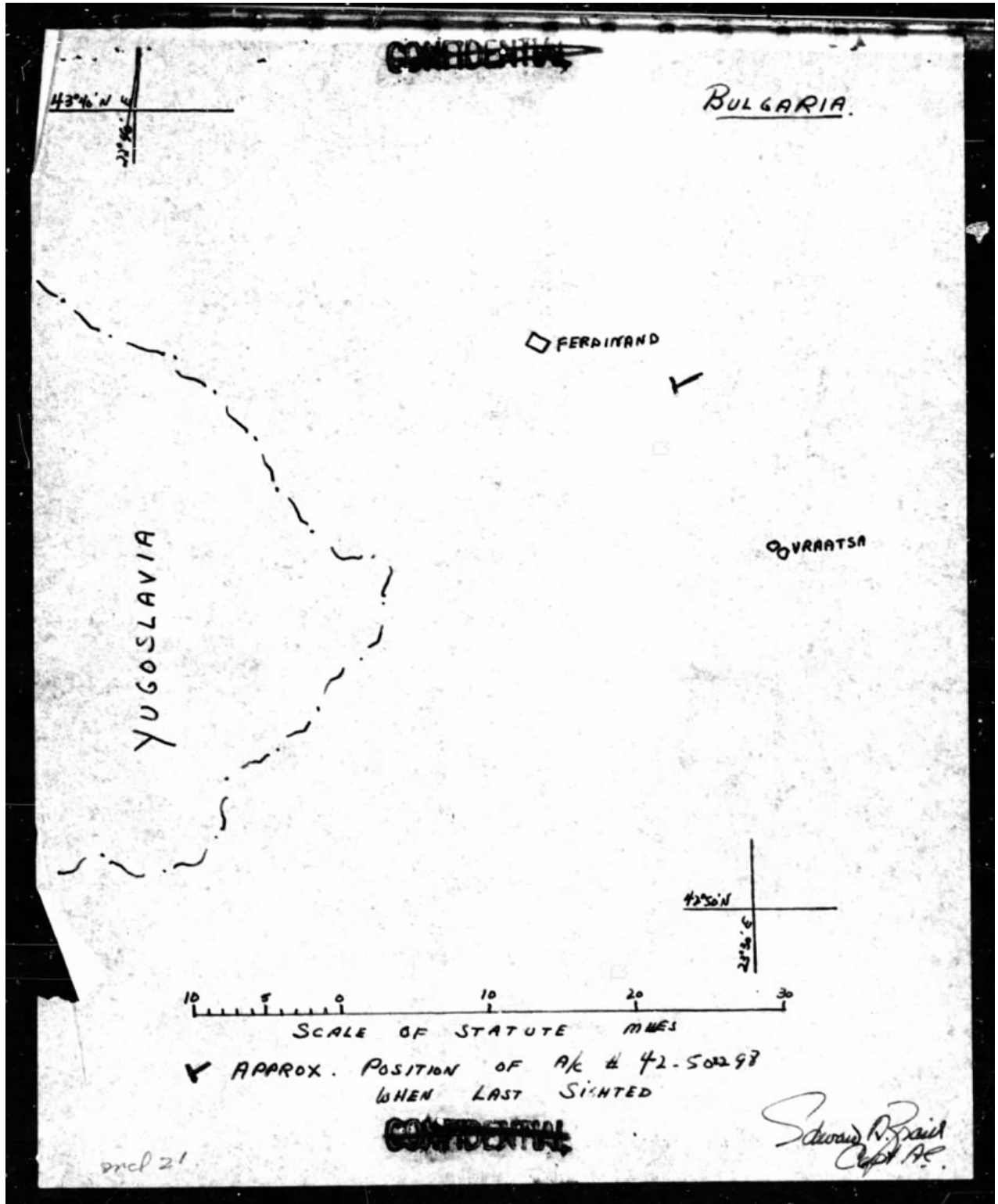
**Besatzung:**

| Name und Vornamen:<br>Geburts- und -ort:         | Dienst-<br>grad | Erk.-<br>Marke: | Verbleib:               |  |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--|
|  |                 |                 | gef.:<br>verw.:<br>tot: | weiches Lager<br>Art d. Verwundung<br>Grabiage |
| YOUNG D. James                                   | 2.Lt.           | 0-820140        | gef.                    | Stalag-Luft 3                                  |
| LINGREN C. Gordon                                | 2.Lt.           | 0-761130        | gef.                    | Stalag-Luft 3                                  |
| KENYON C. Frank                                  | 2.Lt.           | 0-717995        | gef.                    | Stalag-Luft 3                                  |
| BURNETT Thomas W.<br>28.9.23 Boyata, Tex.        | S/Sgt.          | 38436486        | gef.                    | Stalag-Luft 4                                  |
| KENNEDY Edmund F.<br>3.4.15 Boston               | S/Sgt.          | 2257520         | gef.                    | Stalag-Luft 4                                  |
| ✓ WITHERSPOON Elvin D.<br>15.10.24 Decatur, Ala. | S/Sgt.          | 33564989        | gef.                    | Stalag-Luft 4                                  |
| BARNES Edmund<br>15.2.25 Chicago, Ill.           | S/Sgt.          | 36685070        | gef.                    | Stalag-Luft 4                                  |
| ✓ GORMAN Charles W.<br>26.9.25 Dayton, Ohio      | S/Sgt.          | 15375713        | gef.                    | Stalag-Luft 4                                  |
| ✓ STEELE Hayward B.<br>11.12.08 Pittsburgh, Pa.  | S/Sgt.          | 33283380        | gef.                    | Stalag-Luft 4                                  |

Bemerkungen: MAR - 7678

DULAG-LUFT, den 27.9.44 Wo.

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**2nd Lt Gordon C. Lingren****Mr. Ernest E. Lingren, (Father)**  
1144 Elizabeth,  
Pasadena, California.**2nd Lt Frank C. Mayes, Jr.****Mrs. Gladys C. Mayes, (Mother)**  
140 Edgewood Boulevard,  
Providence 5, Rhode Island.**2nd Lt James D. Young, Jr.****Mr. James D. Young, (Father)**  
One Ashcroft Road,  
South Hadley, Massachusetts.**S/Sgt E. D. Witherspoon****Mr. Elvin D. Witherspoon, (Father)**  
Box Number 109,  
Gadsden, Alabama.**Sgt Edward F. Kennedy****Mrs. Mary Louise Kennedy, (Wife)**  
109 Malver,  
Greensboro, North Carolina.**Sgt Thomas W. Burnett****Mrs. Lola Burnett, (Mother)**  
Route Number One,  
Klaxon, Texas.**Sgt Hayward B. Steele****Mr. Samuel S. Brown, (Uncle)**  
6627 Jackson Street,  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.**Cpl Edward J. Barnes****Mrs. Helen E. Barnes, (Mother)**  
1028 West 47th Place,  
Chicago, Illinois.**Pvt Charles W. Gorman****Mr. Eugene J. Gorman, (Father)**  
41 Stanshill Road,  
Dayton, Ohio.