

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



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Classification changed to ~~RESTRICTED~~ by E. A. BRADONAS, Lt. Col., AC by F. M. MURPHY, Capt., AC

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

8253

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 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.

- ORGANIZATION: Location, by Name Castelluccio, Italy Command or AF 15th A.F. Group 451st Bomb Gp; Squadron 724th Bomb Sq. (H); ~~Base 4410N 1410E~~
- SPECIFY: Place of Departure Castelluccio, Italy Course 4444N 1411E-1625E 1603E
St. Polten 4727N 1603E 4755N 1537E Target.
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
Target or Intended Destination Markersdorf A.D., Austria Type of Mission Bombing.
4/10 Cloud coverage, visibility 10 miles.
- GIVE: (a) Day 23 Month 8 Year 1944; Time 1220; and Location 47°-40'N - 16°50' E 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 ()
- 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 and Series B-24-J; AAF Serial No. 42-51729
- NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if any None
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series 1830-85a; AAF Serial Number (a) RP 44-7682; (b) RP 44-7809; (c) RP 44-7552 (d) RP 44-7559
- INSTALLED 'FAPONS' (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number);
(a) 1548404 (b) 1548181 (c) 1548864 (d) 1549323
(e) 1548524 (f) 1548683 (g) 1548369 (h) 1547363
(i) 1548606 (j) 1548287 (k) 1548287 (l) 1548287
(m) All above guns are Browning Auto. M2 50 Cal. (p) 1548287
- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X or (b) Non-Battle Casualty
- NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10; Passengers 0; Total 10
(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.)

Status	Grade Position	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Next of Kin Relationship, address	Current Address
<u>EUS 1</u>	<u>Pilot</u>	<u>Beach, Robert L.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>O-701861</u>	<u>Mrs. Margarita Beach (Wife)</u>	<u>MIA RTD</u>
<u>KIA 2</u>	<u>Co-Pilot</u>	<u>Pratt, Philip W. Jr.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>O-714171</u>	<u>Mr. Philip W. Pratt Sr. (Father)</u>	<u>MIA</u>
<u>EUS 3</u>	<u>Navigator</u>	<u>Klossner, Herbert O.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>O-718341</u>	<u>Mrs. Emma W. Klossner (Mother)</u>	<u>MIA RTD</u>
<u>EUS 4</u>	<u>Bombardier</u>	<u>Jensen, Robert W.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>O-706618</u>	<u>Mrs. Jane Jensen (Wife)</u>	<u>MIA</u>
<u>RTD</u>	<u>Upper</u>	<u>Ransom, Benjamin R.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>52866486</u>	<u>Mr. Benjamin H. Ransom (Father)</u>	<u>MIA</u>
<u>RTD</u>	<u>Turret</u>	<u>Ransom, Benjamin R.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>52866486</u>	<u>Mr. Benjamin H. Ransom (Father)</u>	<u>MIA</u>

(over)
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Status Contd.

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CREW POSITION	(Name in Full)	Rank	Serial	Next of Kin	Relationship	Address	Current Status
<i>EnS</i> 6. <i>R</i> Waist	Brust, Kenneth F.	S/Sgt.	86745135	Mrs. Irene Brust	(Mother)	324 S. 16th Ave. Maywood, Ill.	MIA
<i>EnS</i> 7. <i>R</i> urret	Cooper, James L.	Sgt.	16063864	Mrs. Susie Cooper	(Mother)	Frankfort, Michigan.	MIA
<i>KIA</i> 8. <i>R</i> unner	Callanan, Michael J.	Sgt.	31311068	Mrs. Nora Callanan	(Mother)	695 West St. Stoughton, Canton RFD, Mass.	MIA
<i>EnS</i> 9. <i>R</i> Waist	Kelly, Donald V.	Sgt.	17073951	Mrs. L.T. Gibbs	(Mother)	Box 500, Luke Field, Phoenix, Arizona.	MIA
<i>EnS</i> 10. <i>R</i> unner	White, George M. Jr.	Cpl.	13042162	Mrs. Mervie G. White	(Mother)	44 "W" St. N.W. Washington, D.C.	MIA

11. _____

12. _____

12. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE FIRST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial	Number	Contacted by	Last Saw	Check Only One Column
				Radio	Sighted	Crash Landing
1. Mayday, Duane C.	2nd Lt.	0-705035			X	
2. Gertz, Reinhard E.	2nd Lt.	0-699756			X	
3. Maurer, Joseph J.	Sgt.	33790837			X	

13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used Yes; (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 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 _____
No search was made as aircraft was last sighted over enemy territory.

Date of Report 24 August 1944.

Norman W. Mochel
(Signature of Preparing Officer)
NORMAN W. MOCHEL,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:
4 Incls:
Incl. 1- Statement 2nd Lt. Mayday (7 copies)
Incl. 2- Statement 2nd Lt. Gertz (7 copies)
Incl. 3- Statement Sgt. Maurer (7 copies)
Incl. 4- _____ (7 copies)

SEP 29 1944

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

CONFIDENTIAL**STATEMENT**

24 August 1944.

On 23 August 1944, I was flying as Co-Pilot in aircraft in the #8 position of the low flight. The formation was attacked by several enemy fighters. I watched Lt. Beach's airplane (729) peel off to the left with the tail turret and elevators on fire, the plane appeared to be under control. I watched the plane descend approximately 1000 feet before it disappeared from my view. I saw one parachute open. The approximate time was 1220 and the position 47940' N - 15250' E.

Duane C. Maybay
DUANE G. MAYBAY,
2nd Lt. Air Corps,
O-705036

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CONFIDENTIAL**STATEMENT**

24 August 1944

On 23 August 1944, I was flying as Co-Pilot in aircraft in the #1 position of the low flight. I saw a formation of fighters attack and hit aircraft (729), the number three and four engines caught on fire. The plane went into a spin, and approximately three thousand feet below the formation the right wing fell off the plane. I did not observe any parachutes. The approximate time was 1220 and the position 47°-40'N - 16°-50' E.

REINHARD E. GERTZ,
2nd Lt. Air Corps,
O-699753.

Reinhard E. Gertz

1/2
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CONFIDENTIAL

STATEMENT

24 August 1944.

On 23 August 1944, I was flying as Tail Gunner in aircraft in #1 position of the low flight. The formation was attacked by eight (8) enemy fighters approaching from a cloud formation and from the 10 O'clock position. Aircraft (729) was hit in the tail turret and right wing. The plane peeled off to the left under control, and I observed four (4) chutes to open. The approximate time was 1220 and position 47°-40'N - 15°-50'E.

Joseph J. Maurer
JOSEPH J. MAURER
Sgt. 33790637

Jan 3

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

. 20 October 1945

SUBJECT: SECOND LIEUTENANT PHILLIP W. PRATT, JR. O-714171

TO: COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY AIR FORCES

1. Above subject officer was co-pilot on my aircraft on August 23, 1944 when he was reported missing in action.

2. While on this mission to Markersdorf airdrome, near St Polten Austria, we were attacked by enemy fighter planes. These planes damaged my aircraft by shooting out the elevator controls, right wing gasoline tanks, and started a fire on the half deck.

3. The order to bail-out was given by the pilot to the crew. Upon receiving this order Lieut. Pratt got out of his co-pilot's seat uninjured and walked to the rear of the ship, leaving via way of the bomb-bay.

4. This was the last contact pilot had with Lt. Pratt. Whether his parachute failed to open or civilians killed him is unknown to me. Personal opinion is the latter.

Lt. Robert L. Beach

Lt. Robert L. Beach -C-701861

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

7 November 1945

SUBJECT: Second Lieutenant Philip W. Pratt Jr.
0714171

TO: Commanding General
Army Air Force
Washington 25, D.C.

1. When our aircraft was damaged beyond control and we were forced to bail out, Lieutenant Pratt left the ship just before I did. He had received no injuries and his chute was not damaged.
2. When I was picked up by the Germans the next morning I was asked if I knew Lieutenant Pratt or Sergeant Callahan, who was the nose turret gunner also reported killed I believe. For security reasons I answered no and the matter was dropped.
3. That is all the information I can give on Lieutenant Pratt

by and AGO

Herbert O. Klossner
2nd LT. A.C.R.

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

22 October 1945

Subject: Second Lieutenant Philip P. Pratt Jr. 0714171

70 Major William D. Sanders
 Actg. Chief, Notification Section
 Personal Affairs Branch
 AC/A-5-1

ATTN: AFPPA-8

On August 23, 1944 I was bombing in Lt. Pratt's B-24 loaded for the Markersdorf Airborne Industries. We were based at Castelucia Italy with the 451st Bomb Group. We were on the way to the aforementioned target when 7 enemy fighter planes made a single pass at us. At this time we were about 35 miles south of our target.

From the conversation between the pilot Lt. Beach and the men in the rear of the ship, on the interphone, I learned that as a result of the single pass the elevator controls had been shot away and a fire had been started in the tail.

The pilot ordered everyone to bail out over the interphone. I immediately jumped. We were at 19,500 ft. when I jumped and the time was 1300. When I was coming down I saw 6 ~~shots~~ parachutes descending about 200 miles from me. Because of the number of planes that were shot down & the number of men bailing out it was impossible to tell which ships the chutes were from.

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After I hit the ground I saw or heard nothing further of any of
my crew until I saw Lt Beach the pilot in Wrothbury, Conn. in
April 1945.

All I know about Lt. Pratt is what Lt. Beach told me in
April 1945 and that was that Beach said that Pratt had
jumped before he did and was apparently uninjured before he jumped.

Robert W. Ennen
2nd Lt. de Souza
141 Waterville St.
Wrothbury, Conn.



OCT 23 1945

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

Abschuß-Nr. NB 1275

Abschußtag und Zeit: 23.8.44 - 13.30
 Abschußort: Raum Annaberg
 Flugzeugtyp: Liberator
 Meldende Dienststelle: Fl. St. Mtr. A (O) 7/XVII

Besatzung:

Name und Vornamen: Geburts- und -ort:	Dienst- grad	Erk- Marke:	gef. vorw.: tot:	Verbleib: welches Loos Art d. Verwundung Grablage
BEMCH 1918 Ohio	Robert Leon	2.Lt.	0-201861	gef. Dulag-Luft
RANSON Plattsburg New York	Benjamin Russell	3/Sgt.	30666466	gef. Dulag-Luft
WHITE 12.6.23 Bibley Hospital	George Machison	Sgt.	1304.161	gef. Dulag-Luft
COOPER 28.2.17 Frankfort, Mich.	James La Verne	Sgt.	16463854	gef. Dulag-Luft
KELLY 13.7.23 St. Louis Mo.	Donald Virgil	Sgt.	17073851	gef. Dulag-Luft

Bemerkungen: *max 82.53*

DULAG-LUFT, den 9.9.44 Wo.

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Fragebogen

über Angehörige der US amerikanischen Luftwaffe

1. Name:
- Vorname:
- Diens grad:
- Geboren am:
- Geboren in:
- Erkennungsmarke Nr.:
2. Tag, Zeit und Ort der Gefangennahme (Todes-Hergang) kurz gefaßt:
3. Weitere Besatzungsmitglieder:
4. Meldende Dienststelle bzw. Meldung von:
5. Tag der Einlieferung in DULAG-LUFT:
6. a) **Verwundet:**
 Art der Verwundung:
 seit: im Lazarett (Krankenhaus):
 Befinden:
 Voraussichtliche Krankheitsdauer:
- b) **Unverwundet-Verbielb:**
- c) **Tot:**
 Todesursache:
 Beigesetzt am:
 Grablage:
7. **Bemerkungen:**

, deo

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CONFIDENTIAL
 CASUALTY INTERROGATION FORM
 THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

THE FAMILIES OF MANY OF YOUR COMRADES HAVE NOT BEEN AS FORTUNATE AS YOURS. THEIR SONS AND HUSBANDS HAVE BEEN REPORTED MISSING IN ACTION AND THEY ARE ANXIOUSLY WAITING TO LEARN THEIR FATE. YOU MAY BE ABLE TO SUPPLY THE INFORMATION WHICH WILL HELP TO TERMINATE THE SUSPENSE AND ANXIETY THEY ARE SUFFERING.

IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH IN ACTION OR DURING IMPRISONMENT OF ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DECEASED:

FULL NAME OF DECEASED **Michael Callanan**
 HOME TOWN OR STATE **Boston, Mass.**
 GRADE OR RANK **S/Sgt. B-24 Nose Gunner**
 ORGANIZATION **15th AAF, 451 TG, 724 Sq.**
 DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH **23 Aug 44; Vienna, Austria**
 CAUSE OF DEATH **Unknown. Our B-24 with a 10 man crew was knocked down by German fighters. I bailed out but saw nothing of any other crew members nor have I met any of them subsequently. Upon return to the United States one of the crew (can't recall his name presently) in correspondence said Callanan was dead. I know nothing direct or indirect of this casualty.**
 PLACE OF BURIAL **Unknown**
 WERE YOU AN EYEWITNESS TO HIS DEATH **No**
 NAMES OF PERSONS BELIEVED TO HAVE WITNESSED HIS DEATH **None**
 IF YOUR INFORMATION IS HEARSAY GIVE NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR INFORMANT **None**

2 August 1945
 2nd Lt. SIGN HERE Richard W. Jensen O-26148
 Name and Serial Number
1360 Ogden Ave Bronx, New York
 Your home address

NOTE: THIS FORM IS FOR USE BY CASUALTY BRANCH, THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON 25, D. C. ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THE FORM ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU. PLEASE FILL ONE OUT FOR EACH MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES WHOM YOU KNOW OR BELIEVE TO BE DEAD.

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CONFIDENTIAL
 CASUALTY INTERROGATION FORM
 THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

THE FAMILIES OF MANY OF YOUR COMRADES HAVE NOT BEEN AS FORTUNATE AS YOURS. THEIR SONS AND HUSBANDS HAVE BEEN REPORTED MISSING IN ACTION AND THEY ARE ANXIOUSLY WAITING TO LEARN THEIR FATE. YOU MAY BE ABLE TO SUPPLY THE INFORMATION WHICH WILL HELP TO TERMINATE THE SUSPENSE AND ANXIETY THEY ARE SUFFERING.

IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH IN ACTION OR DURING IMPRISONMENT OF ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DECEASED:

FULL NAME OF DECEASED **Michael Callanan**
 HOME TOWN OR STATE **Boston, Mass.**
 GRADE OR RANK **S/Sgt.** **B-24 Nose Gunner**
 ORGANIZATION **15th AAF, 451 E.O., 724 Sq.**
 DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH **23 Aug 44; Vienna, Austria**
 CAUSE OF DEATH **Unknown. Our B-24 with a 10 man crew was knocked down by German fighters. I bailed out but saw nothing of any other crew members nor have I met any of them subsequently. Upon return to the United States one of the crew (can't recall his name presently) in correspondence said Callanan was dead. I know nothing direct or indirect of this casualty.**
 PLACE OF BURIAL **Unknown**
 WERE YOU AN EYEWITNESS TO HIS DEATH **No**
 NAMES OF PERSONS BELIEVED TO HAVE WITNESSED HIS DEATH **None**
 IF YOUR INFORMATION IS HEARSAY GIVE NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR INFORMANT **None**

2 August 1945
 2nd Lt. SIGN HERE R. L. Jensen O-26148
Name and Serial Number
1368 Ogden Ave Conway, Ark.
Your home address

NOTE: THIS FORM IS FOR USE BY CASUALTY BRANCH, THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON 25, D. C. ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THE FORM ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU. PLEASE FILL ONE OUT FOR EACH MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES WHOM YOU KNOW OR BELIEVE TO BE DEAD.

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abs/12/9/44.

1st Lt Robert W. Jensen	Mrs. Jane E. Jensen, (Wife) 121 Interville Street, Waterbury, Connecticut.
2nd Lt Robert L. Beach	Mrs. Margaret E. Beach, (Wife) 205 West Florence, Ivan Mountain, Michigan.
2nd Lt Philip W. Pratt, Jr.	Mr. Philip W. Pratt, Sr., (Father) 1130 12th Avenue, Lewiston, Idaho.
3rd Lt Herbert C. Klossner	Mrs. Rose E. Klossner, (Mother) 5229 Garfield Avenue, South, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
S/Sgt Kenneth F. Swart	Mrs. Irene Swart, (Mother) 881 South 19th Avenue, Normal, Illinois.
S/Sgt Benjamin E. Hanson	Mr. Benjamin E. Hanson, (Father) 51 West 14th Street, Flushing, New York.
Sgt Donald V. Kelly	Mrs. Elsie Franquette, (Grandmother) 4126 Altona Avenue, Saint Louis, Missouri.
Sgt James L. Cooper	Mrs. Lucie A. Cooper, (Mother) Ft. York Avenue, Frankfort, Michigan.
Sgt Michael J. Callahan	Mr. Joseph J. Callahan, (Father) 10 West Street, N.Y.C., New York, New York.
Cpl George M. White, Jr.	Mrs. George M. White, (Mother) 3010 Parkside Road, Spokane, Washington.

Interrogated 10-12-45

- 1st Lt Robert W. Jensen ✓
- 1st Lt Robert L. Beach ✓
- 1st Lt Herbert C. Klossner ✓
- Sgt. Donald V. Kelly *wrong address*
- Cpl. George M. White ✓

MACR 8253

Regarding:
 2d Lt. Philip W. Pratt, Jr. 0714171

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AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **PRATT Philip W. Jr.** File No: **8255**
 Rank: **2nd Lt.**
 Serial number: **O-714171**
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~2nd Pilot (Fighter)~~ **Co-Pilot**

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Some where over Austria

If not, why not? _____

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

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? Bailed out of the Bomb bay

Any hearsay information: None

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: None

Total number of missions of above crew member: About 10

Dates and Destinations if possible: France, Austria, Germany
Dates unknown

a-1,

6-3861, AF

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AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **CALIANAN Michael J.** File No: **8253**
 Rank: **Sgt.**
 Serial number: **31311068**
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ (Signature): **Nose Gunner**

Did he bail out? IS he did I couldn't see him

Where? Contact Bombardier (Robert Jensen and Lt.)

If not, why not? _____

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

Was he injured? In known

Where was he when last seen? "

Any hearsay information: None

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: None

Total number of missions of above crew member: 13

Dates and destinations if possible: same as Pratt

6-3861, AF

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AFPEA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: WHITE George M. Jr. File No: 8253
 Rank: Cpl.
 Serial number: 150 42162
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~ENGINEER (PILOTS)~~: Tail Gunner

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Over Austria

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Oh Inter-Phone during enemy attack

Was he injured? Yes

Where was he when last seen? A.P.O.W. at Luft IV with

Any hearsay information: me, When I left Luft IV he was in good health, this was our last contact.

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: He was a p.o.w. who was on a forced march through out germany, from Jan till they were liberated.

Total number of missions of above crew member: His first with my crew

Dates and destinations if possible: Aug 23, 1944

This man was alive & safe as a P.O.W. in Luft IV in January of 1945

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APPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Ransom, Benjamin R. Rank 1st Lt Serial No. 0266465
2. Organization 451 Gp Commander _____ Rank _____ Sqn CG 724 Rank _____
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month July day Yes did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Bombing, target, airfield in Austria, target time, about 000, altitude, about 20000 route scheduled, _____, route flown _____
5. Where were you when you left formation? In the top Turret
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". Pilot, Captain, Navigator & myself left by the Bomb bay
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? A few miles from where we bailed out
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) _____
No Knowledge
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?
None
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information.
None

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

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APPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: PRATT Philip W. Jr. File No: 8263
 Rank: 2nd Lt.
 Serial number: 0-714171
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~ENGINEER (Pilot)~~: Co-Pilot

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Over mountains, about 5- 10 minutes before target

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____
over inter-com

Was he injured? _____ ?

Where was he when last seen? In ship

Any hearsay information: German soldiers asked me if I knew him, the day after we were shot down, and when I was captured by them.

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Maybe his chute failed to open, or he was hit, and died before or after he hit the ground. Germans evidently knew what happened, but did not say.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 13

Dates and destinations if possible: Unable to give accurate data.

6-3861, AF

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AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: WHITE George M. jr. File No: 8253
 Rank: Cpl.
 Serial number: 13042162
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~no flight (Fighter)~~ Tail Gunner

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Over mountains, 5-10 minutes before target

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Over inter-com. Helped him with his equipment prior to bailing.

Was he injured? Possibly burned or wounded.

Where was he when last seen? On the ground with pilot at time of capture.

Any hearsay information: I am almost certain that he was a prisoner in Stalag Luft 1V with Eng. and Waist gunner.

Source: Conversation with men after liberation.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Something might have happened during the evacuation march, or after the Russians liberated us.

Total number of missions of above crew member: ? He was a replacement for mission

Dates and destinations if possible: ?

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APPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: CALJANAN Michael J. File No: 8253
 Rank: Sgt.
 Serial number: 31311058
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~as Pilot (Fighter)~~: Nose Gunner

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Over mountains 5-10 minutes before target

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____
Over inter-com

Was he injured? ?

Where was he when last seen? In ship

Any hearsay information: Germans asked if I knew him. They asked about Lt. Pratt at the same time. The day after we were shot down.

Source: First hand

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Maybe his chute failed to open, or he was hit, and died before or after he hit the ground. Germans did not say what happened.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 12

Dates and destinations if possible: No accurate data

6-3861, AF

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Kenneth F. Brust Rank T/Sgt Serial No. 36743133
451 B. Gp.
2. Organization 724 B. Gp. Commander ? Rank ? Sqn CO ? Rank ?
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month August day 23 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Bomb, target, St. Polten, Austria target
time, approx. 11:45 a.m. altitude, 18,000' route scheduled,
?, route flown ?
5. Where were you when you left formation? 5 min. before I.P.
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". Waist, Ball, and Tail gunners bailed from waist with me. All were apparently o.k. I have no factual knowledge of the others.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? In mountains
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) ?
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? Nav. met in local prison (civil.) was o.k. Ball, waist, and Eng. met in Stalag IV were o.k. Have not seen others since.
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. None

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

6-3862, AF

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

AFPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Robert L. Beach Rank 1st/lt Serial No. 0-701861
2. Organization 451st 724th sqn Gp Commander Eaton Rank Col. Sqn CO Anderson Rank Maj.
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month August day 23rd did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Bombing, target, Markersdorf Airbase, target time, 12:10 PM, altitude, 23,500 route scheduled, ?
, route flown
5. Where were you when you left formation? Lead sec. element, low sqdn.
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". JENSON:Left by-way of front nose wheel doors:ROSCNER:Bombay doors:RANSOM:Bombay doors:COOPER:Waist escape hatch: KELLY:Waist escape hatch:PREST:Waist escape hatch:BEACH:Bombay doors: All mentioned bailed out in vicinity of Annaburg, Austria.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? About 12 miles south east of Annaburg, Aus.
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 to my knowledge:
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? Lt. Pratt:Last seen leaving the aircraft by way of bombay doors in good physical condition:Had not been injured while in plane:GALLAHAN:Last seen when we left on mission:Had conversation over interphone just before going down. WHITE:Last seen on the ground, traveled together as Frankfurt, Ger. Apparently in good physical condition. Had minor burns about face:
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. NO KNOWLEDGE

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

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

CPFA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: WHITE George M. Jr. File No: 8253
 Rank: Cpl.
 Serial number: 13042162
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ (Stripped): Tail Gunner

Did he bail out? YES

Where? Via waist escape hatch: Near Innsbruck, Austria

If not, why not? _____

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

Heard his voice over interphone spotting enemy planes coming in at 6:00'clock low.
Was with Cpl. White after we got on the ground.

Was he injured? YES: Burned about the eyes and face by explosion in waist:

Where was he when last seen? At Frankfurt, Germany Transit camp.

Any hearsay information: Left with other inlisted men for permanent camp: Was with
3 other crew members during his stay in Germany : To my knowledge WHITE returned
to the States.

Source: Talked with other crew members Eng. Reason and Ball Gunner Cooper

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: Not known (Was flying as spare gunner)

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

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

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: CALLAHAN Michael J. File No: 8263
 Rank: Sgt.
 Serial number: 31511068
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~: Nose Gunner

Did he bail out? No personal knowledge: Bombardier staged that he did;

Where? _____

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Had contact by interphone shortly before we went down: What the conversation was I don't recall

Was he injured? Not to my knowledge

Where was he when last seen? At Take-off before missing

Any hearsay information: NONE

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: (13)

Dates and destinations if possible: Joined group July 15'44 Down Aug. 23'44: MISSIONS: (1) Albania (2) Budapest (4) Southern France (1) Blackheiser Reg. (2) Ploesti (2) Airfields Bulgaria and Hungary: Dates not known

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 Authority: NND 735001
 By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: PRATT Philip W. Jr. File No: 8253
 Rank: 2nd Lt.
 Serial number: O-714171
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~xxx Pilot (Fighter)~~ Co-Pilot

Did he bail out? YES

Where? From the bombay doors: In the vicinity of Annaburg, Austria

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: He was ordered by myself to leave the seat and bail out: Was last seen standing on the cat-walk just before he jumped: He was not injured while in the aircraft:

Was he injured? NO

Where was he when last seen? Standing on the cat-walk ready to leave the aircraft;

Any hearsay information: Information and belief that Lt Pratt was killed after hitting the ground. Civilians in this locality were very hostile: Had personal experience with Burgermeister of Annaburg, Austria, before military authorities were notified: In his opinion we were gangsters and should be delt with as such.

Source: Personal experience

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

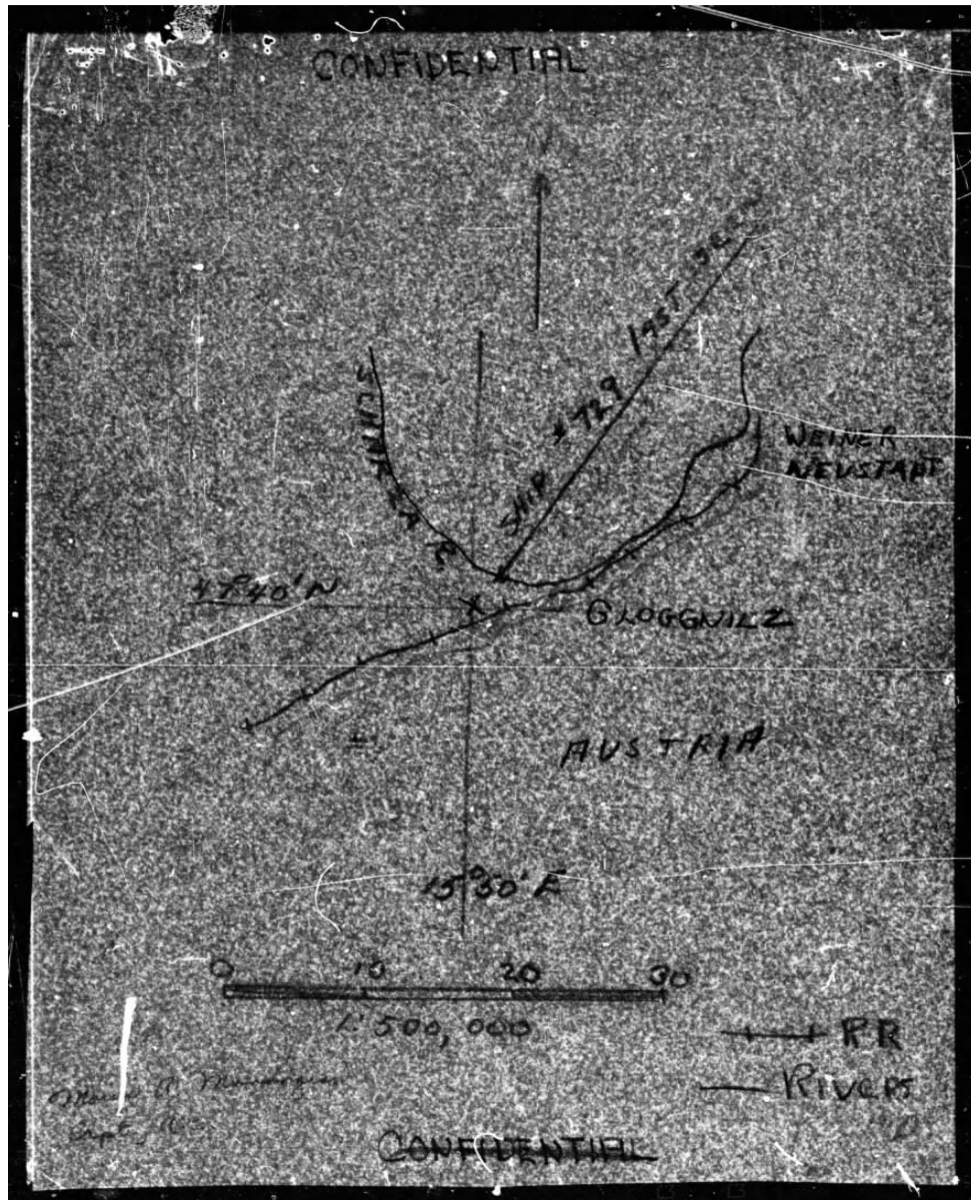
See above

Total number of missions of above crew member: 1

Dates and destinations if possible: Officers Army Air Force form 5 has been lost and am unable to submit to any definite report: Joined the group July 15, 44 went down Aug. 44: Missions flown: (1) Albania (2) Budapest (4) Southern France (1) Blackheimer Reg. (2) Floss (2) Airfields in Bulgaria or Hungry

6-3861, AF

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973



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

FORMALTY NO.
 82-120-1075

REPORT ON 2301-2000 AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN: *23 Aug 44 KIA*

PLACE OF CRASH: *Hanswald (wooded slope) 2 km S. E. of Hanswald, District Muzrasumakha*

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: *B-24*

REPORTING OFFICE: *Pilot's Headquarters & (O) 1/2111 - Muzrasumakha - 20 km*

CREW

SURNAME, AND FIRST NAME: *Callahan, Michael J.*

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: *Sergeant*

SERIAL NUMBER: *31 311 000 - (according to identification papers)*

CAPTURED: *yes: Body was recovered*

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: *TYPE OF INJURY:*

GRAVE LOCATION: *On 24 Aug. 1944 at 8:00 o'clock in the Local Cemetery in Stein on the Hill, Northwest behind the railway.*

REMARKS:

MFCR 8253

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

CASUALTY NO.
28-829-1273

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN: 23 Aug. 1944

PLACE OF CRASH: Unknown

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: 6 Motor Bomber

REPORTING OFFICE: 71st AF Base Headquarters A. G. 1/2111 - 11/21/44 - 23 Aug. 1944

NAME

SURNAME, AND FIRST NAME: Brunt, Kenneth

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: S/Sgt.

SERIAL NUMBER: 38 743 152

CAPTURED: Captured DEATH MIA

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH BOMB: SIDE OF AIRCRAFT:

GROUND LOCATIONS:

REMARKS: On 24 Aug. 1944, information on the enemy side, relative to the aircraft.

6-2224 AF (4)

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

CASUALTY NO.
 ME-KSU-1075

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
 WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF CRASH: Annaberg, District Lilienfeld, N. D. (Lower Danube)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator B-24

REPORTING OFFICE: Flier's Air Base Headquarters A (O) 7/XVII - Markersdorf, near
 St. Poelten - 30 Aug. 1944 about 13,30 o'clock

CREW

SURNAME, AND Kelly,
 FIRST NAME: Donald

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: Sergeant

SERIAL NUMBER: 17 073 861

CAPTURED: Captured WOUNDED: DEAD:

On 24 Aug. 1944 at Mariazell, Steiermark
 DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS: Reserve Hospital DRD - St. Poelten

Date: 23 Aug. 1944 - Annaberg - 724/451 Frequencies - L f 026 - Ident: red? 8608

Crew: Beach
 Pratt
 Klossner
 Tausen
 Ransom
 Cooper
 White
 Kelly
 Calomau

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

FORM NO. 1
12-1943-1070

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN: 25 August 1944

PLACE OF CRASH: Unknown

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: 4 Motor Bomber

REPORTING OFFICE: Flier's Air Base Headquarters A (S) 1/272,
 25 Aug. 1944

COMMAND, AND FIRST NAME: Kloos, Robert G.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: 2nd Lt.

SERIAL NUMBER: O-718 241

CAPTURED: Captured

DISTRIBUTION: USIA CAMP:

CRASH LOCATION

REMARKS:

Captured on 24 Aug. 1944 in the afternoon in enemy hands near
 Neuberg,

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

MS-280-1975

Markersdorf - 20 Aug. 1944

Flier's Air Base Headquarters A (G) 7/XVII - Markersdorf

Letter Book No. 1611/44

Case: Dulag (Lift) 2704/7

Ref: Transfer of American Prisoner of War after Hospital discharge

To: Dulag (Lift), Oberarmel with two inclosures, two packages

Camp Command XVII, IG with two inclosures

Flier's Air Base Command, Area 1/XVII, IG with two inclosures

In the inclosure four page one with today's delivery, two Prisoners of War,

Sgt. James Cooper, Ident. No. 18 O28 884 - 1-42-43, and Sgt. Donald Kelly,

Ident. No. 17 O78 881 are discharged from the Reserve Hospital "P" St. Poulton.

Both crew members were shot down in a Liberator on 23 Aug. 1944 at 23:30

o'clock, near Annaberg, District Talsundfeld, E. D. (Lower Havel).

By order of:

Signature illegible

Major and Officer M. S. V.

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

CASUALTY NO.
 MS-MCY-1975

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
 WAS SHOT DOWN: 23 Aug. 1944 about 12:50 o'clock -
PLACE OF CRASH: Jansberg, District Lilienfeld, N. D. (Lower Danube)
TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator B-24
REPORTING OFFICE: Pilot's Air Base Headquarters A (G) 7/XVII - Markwardorf, near
 St. Pölten, 23 Aug. 1944

COEN

SURNAME, AND Ransom,
FIRST NAME: Benjamin R.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: S/Sgt.

SERIAL NUMBER: 32 666 465

CAPTURED: Captured WOUNDED: DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:
 Captured at Mariazell, Steiermark on 24 Aug. 1944.

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

CASUALTY NO.
 ME-KSU-1975

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF CRASH: Annaberg, District Lillienfeld, N. D. (Lower Danube)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator B-24

REPORTING OFFICE: Flier's Air Base Headquarters A (D) 7/XVII - Marktsdorf, near St. Pölten, 25 Aug. 1944 about 13:00 at least

CREW

SURNAME, AND Beach,
FIRST NAME: Robert L.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: 2nd Lt.

SERIAL NUMBER: O-701 861 - T-43-44-0

CAPTURED: Captured WOUNDED: DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

Captured at Mariazell, Steiermark on 24 Aug. 1944

23 Aug 44

DECLASSIFIEDAuthority: NND 735001
By: NARA NARA Date: 1973CASUALTY NO.
MD-KSU-1975**REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT****DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT**

WAS SHOT DOWN: 23 Aug. 1944 about 13:30 o'clock

PLACE OF CRASH: Annaberg, District Lillienfeld, E. D. (Lower Danube)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator B-24

REPORTING OFFICE: Flier's Air Base Headquarters A (O) T/XVII - Markwardorf, near
St. Pölten on 30 Aug. 1944**CREW**SURNAME, AND Cooper,
FIRST NAME: James

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: Sergeant

SERIAL NUMBER: 16 063 864 - T-42-63-B

CAPTURED: Captured
At Mariasell, Steiermark

WOUNDED:

DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP:

TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

Reserve Hospital "D" St. Pölten

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

CASUALTY NO.
ME-KSU-1975

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF SCENE: ~~Hammond (unsub. place) 1/2 mi. W. of Hammond, District of Columbia~~

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: P-56

REPORTING OFFICE: Flier's Air Base Headquarters & (O) 1/2VII Hinger-Hemstedt, 10 Oct. 1944

CREW

SURNAME, AND FIRST NAME: Pratt, Philip W.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: 2nd Lt.

SERIAL NUMBER: 0-714 171 (According to identification papers)

CAPTURED: **WOUNDED:** **DEAD:** Was recovered

DISTRICTION: **UNION CAMP:** **TYPE OF INJURY:**

REMARKS:

23 Aug 44

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

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN: 25 August 1944 - 1530 CASUALTY NO. ME 1975

PLACE OF CRASH: Area of Annaberg

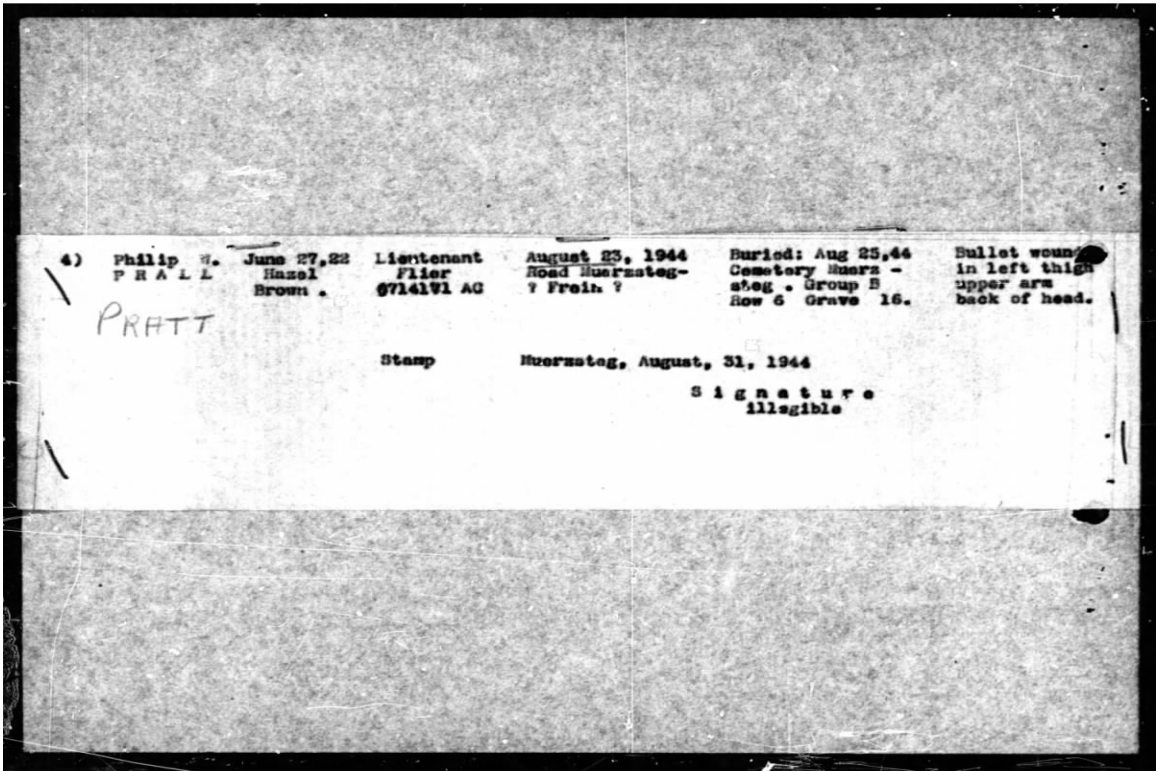
TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Ops A (C) 7/XVII

NAME	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CAPT'D WOUNDED DEAD	PLACE OF INTERNMENT
BRACK 1918	Robert Leon Chic	2nd Lt	0-301861 captured	Dilag-Luft
RANSOM --	Benjamin Russell Plattsburg New York	S/SGT	3066446 captured	Dilag-Luft
COOPER 28 Feb 17	James La Verne Frankfort, Mich.	SGT	1806384 captured	Dilag-Luft
KELLY 17 July 23	Donald Virgil St. Louis, Mo.	SGT	1707881 captured	Dilag-Luft
Casualty No: ME 1975 first supplementary report, dated 11 October 1944				
REUSE	Kenneth Frederick Oak Park, Ill.	S/SGT	3074318 captured	Dilag-Luft
KLOSSNER	Herbert Oswald	2nd Lt	0-718541 captured	Dilag-Luft
Casualty No: ME 1975 second supplementary report, dated 2 November 1944				
JENSEN	R. W.	2nd Lt	0-706618 captured	Stalag-Luft 5
Casualty No: ME 1975 third supplementary report, dated 21 December 1944				
FRATT	Philip W.	2nd Lt	0-714171 dead	25 August 44 community cemetery Ruersteg <i>KIA</i>
GALLAGHER	Michael J	SGT	3131108 dead	24 August 44 cemetery, Prain <i>KIA</i>
WHITE 15 June 1923	George Mathison Sibley Hospital	SGT	13042161 captured	Dilag-Luft

REMARKS:
 Dilag-Luft 9 September 1944 No. *not on file*

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 By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

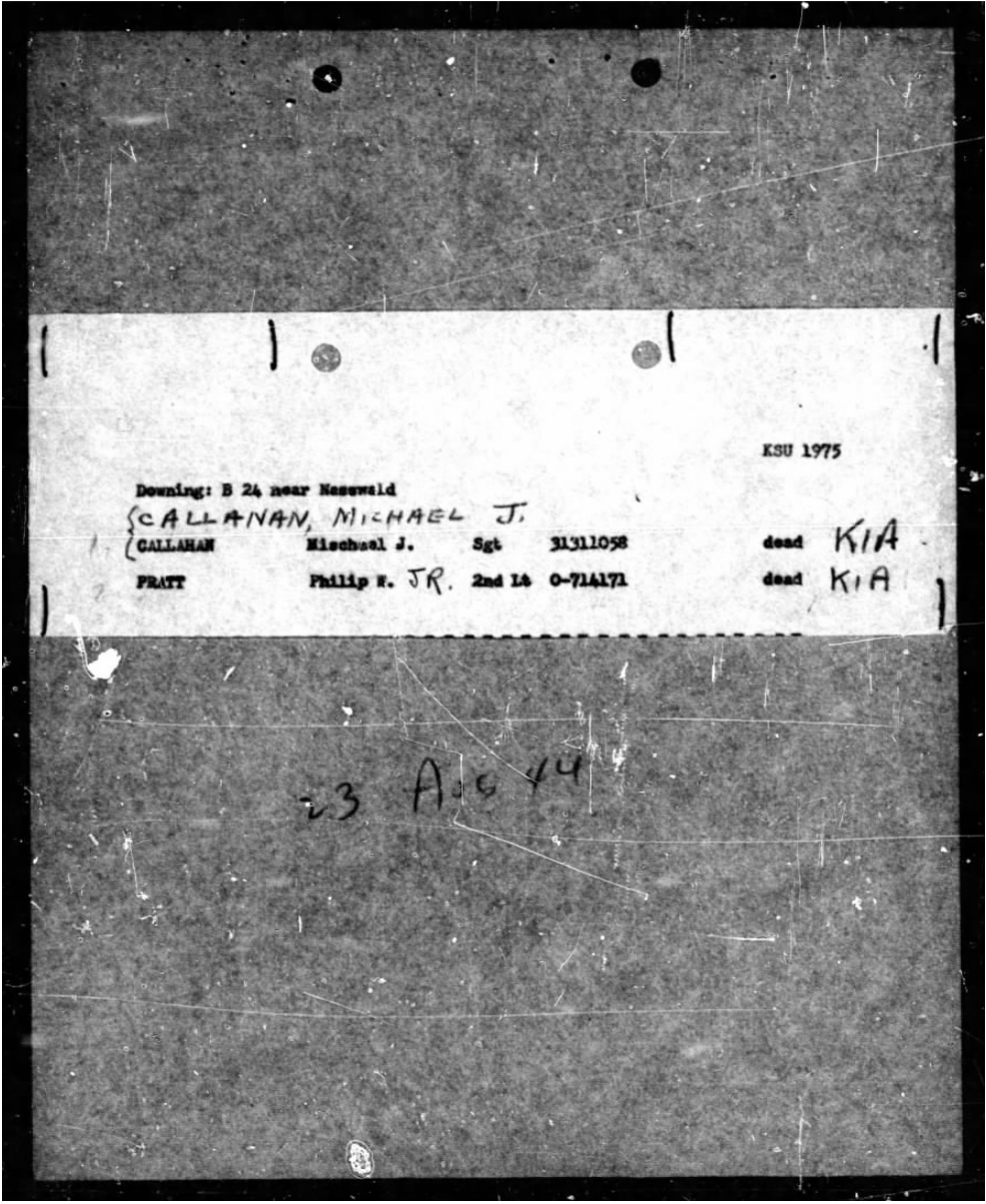


4)	Philip W. P R A T T	June 27, 22 Hazel Brown .	Lieutenant Flier 0714191 AG	August 23, 1944 Road Muerwsteg- ? Frein. ?	Buried: Aug 23, 44 Cemetery Muerz - steg. Group B Row 6 Grave 16.	Bullet wound in left thigh upper arm back of head.
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PRATT

Stamp Muerwsteg, August, 31, 1944
 Signature illegible

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



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

MACR 8253
 B-24
 10 men

DATE: 6/23/44 - 13.30 hrs.	RANK	NAME (U.S.A.)	Serial No.	STATUS
FROM: 4848th AABG. TYPE: Liberator.	2nd/Lt. Beach, Robert, Leon		0-7C1861 . 8	
	2nd/Lt. Pratt, Philip W. (missing)		0-714171	(dead)
724 (F.B.) Bgd. 481 Group.	Buried: 25.8.44 Community Cemetery Muersteg.			
	2nd/Lt. Klossner, Herbert, Oswald		0-718341 .	missing
TARGET: Airbase 20s A (e) 7/ XVII.	2nd/Lt. Jensen, R. W.		0-706418 .	missing
	S/Egt. Hanson, Benjamin, Russell		32666465 .	
	S/Egt. Bruce, Kenneth, Frederick		36743133 .	missing
	S Sgt. Cooper, James, Lawrence		16063864 .	
	Sgt. Price, George, Madison Jr.		13042162 .	
	Sgt. Kelly, Donald, Virgil		17073851 .	
	Sgt. Callahan, Michael J. (missing)		31311058	(dead)
Buried: 24.8.44 Cemetery Fein.				

Longley