

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

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE FORCES
 WASHINGTON, D.C.

MISSING AIRCRAFT REPORT

IMPORTANT: This report will be compiled in triplicate by AF Form 413 and
 Forces organization within 48 hours of the time an aircraft
 is officially reported missing.

Classification changed by RESTRICTED
 by E. A. XXXXXX, Col., AG
 by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AG
 Date: 1 March 1944

- ORGANIZATION: Location Gioia Del Colle, Italy Command or Air Force Fifteenth
 Group 451st Bomb Gp (H), Squadron 724 Bomb Sq (H), AF Form 413 15:428 12:48
- SPECIFY: Point of Departure Gioia Del Colle, Italy 201 19178 to 471538 12:48
 Intended Destination Regensburg, Germany, Type of Mission Bombing
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
5/10 Cloud Coverage.
- GIVE: (a) Date 2/25/44, Time 1200, and Location 25 miles So. Klagenfurt
 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 (x) Enemy aircraft; () Enemy Anti-Aircraft; () Other circumstances as
 follows _____
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-24 H, S.N. Serial Number 42-52101
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series PW R-1830-43A.F. Serial Number (a) 42-65039
 (b) 42-00089 (c) 42-65030 (d) 42-65040
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below make, Type and Serial Number) Browning MG, .50 Cal
 (i) 1160817 (e) 1160620 (f) 1160898 (g) 1161212 (h) 218378 M2
 (j) 1160441 (k) 1160025 (l) 1149578 (m) 1160838 (n) 1161566
- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty XXXXXXXXXX
 or (b) Non-Battle Casualty _____
- NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10, Passengers None, Total 10
 (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
DED 1 Pilot	Johnson, Edward D.	2nd Lt.	O-742158
DED 2 Co-Pilot	McEntee, Gene F.	2nd Lt.	O-808871
A/A 3 Navigator	Hunt, Kenneth L.	2nd Lt.	O-685344
DED 4 Bombardier	Downs, Martin (DMI) Jr.	2nd Lt.	O-688539
A/A 5 Upper Turret 1st Eng.	Nohltschek, Clayton J.	S/Sgt	1602694
DED 6 Lower Turret Aer Gnr.	Berney, Edwin M.	Sgt	31168138
EVS 7 Right Waist 2nd Eng.	Grove, Howard E. - POW	S/Sgt	17129246
EVS 8 Left Waist Radio Opr.	Reaney, Richard D. - POW	Sgt	12218198
EVS 9 Tail Turret Aer Gnr.	Batory, Walter G. - POW	S/Sgt	20634726
DED 10 Nose Turret 3rd Eng.	Williams, Clifford D. Jr.	Sgt.	19161710

11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWN WHEREABOUTS OF AIR-
 CRAFT AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME.

Check only one Column

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted	1	2	3	4	5
				Radio	Sighted	Crash	Leading	
1. Willig, Israel (DMI)	Sgt.	12200467				x		
2.								
3.								

- 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 reason (Specify) Unknown
- ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION
 WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN
- ATTACH THE ADDRESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, WHETHER KNOWN, AND OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES
 PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
- ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND
 SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE No search made

Date of report 1 March 1944

Norman W. Mochel
 (Signature of Promoting Officer)

NORMAN W. MOCHEL,
 1st Lt., A.C.,
 Adjutant.

Incls - 2
 1 - Sketch (Quad)
 2 - Eyewitness Report (Quad) (Willig)

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

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

14 March 1944.

On February 25, 1944, I was flying as tail gunner on a bombing mission over Southern Germany. As we neared the target our formation was attacked by large numbers of enemy fighter and was subject to ack ack fire at the same time. I observed Lt. Johnson's ship, which was flying in the element, just behind us, receive a hit in the fuselage. The ship immediately began losing altitude and passed out of sight beneath us. The ship was not on fire and I could not tell whether it was out of control or not. At the time of the action I was heavily engaged myself, and did not notice any landmarks or terrain that might serve to identify the location

*Israel Willig*Israel Willig,
S/Sgt. Air CorpsIncl #2¹~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

360.33

1 March 1944

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Missing Air Crew Report.

TO : Commanding Officer,
 451st Bomb Gp (H),
 APO 520, US Army.

1. Transmitted herewith Missing Air Crew Report of crew assigned to this squadron, reported missing in action as of 25 February 1944 on mission over Regensburg, Germany.

RANK	NAME	ASN
2nd Lt.	Edward D Johnson	O-742158
2nd Lt.	Gene F. McEntee	O-308871
2nd Lt.	Kenneth L. Hunt	O-685344
2nd Lt.	Martin (NMI) Douma Jr.	O-638939
S/Sgt	Clayton J. Nohlecek	16023694
Sgt	Edwin M. Berney	31168138
S/Sgt	Walter G. Batory	20638726
Sgt	Richard D. Heaney	12218198
S/Sgt	Howard E. Grove	17129246
Sgt	Clifford D. Williams Jr.	19161710

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

3. Battle Casualty Report forwarded your headquarters 28 February 1944.

For the Squadron Commander:

Norman W. Mochel
 NORMAN W. MOCHEL,
 1st Lt., Air Corps,
 Adjutant.

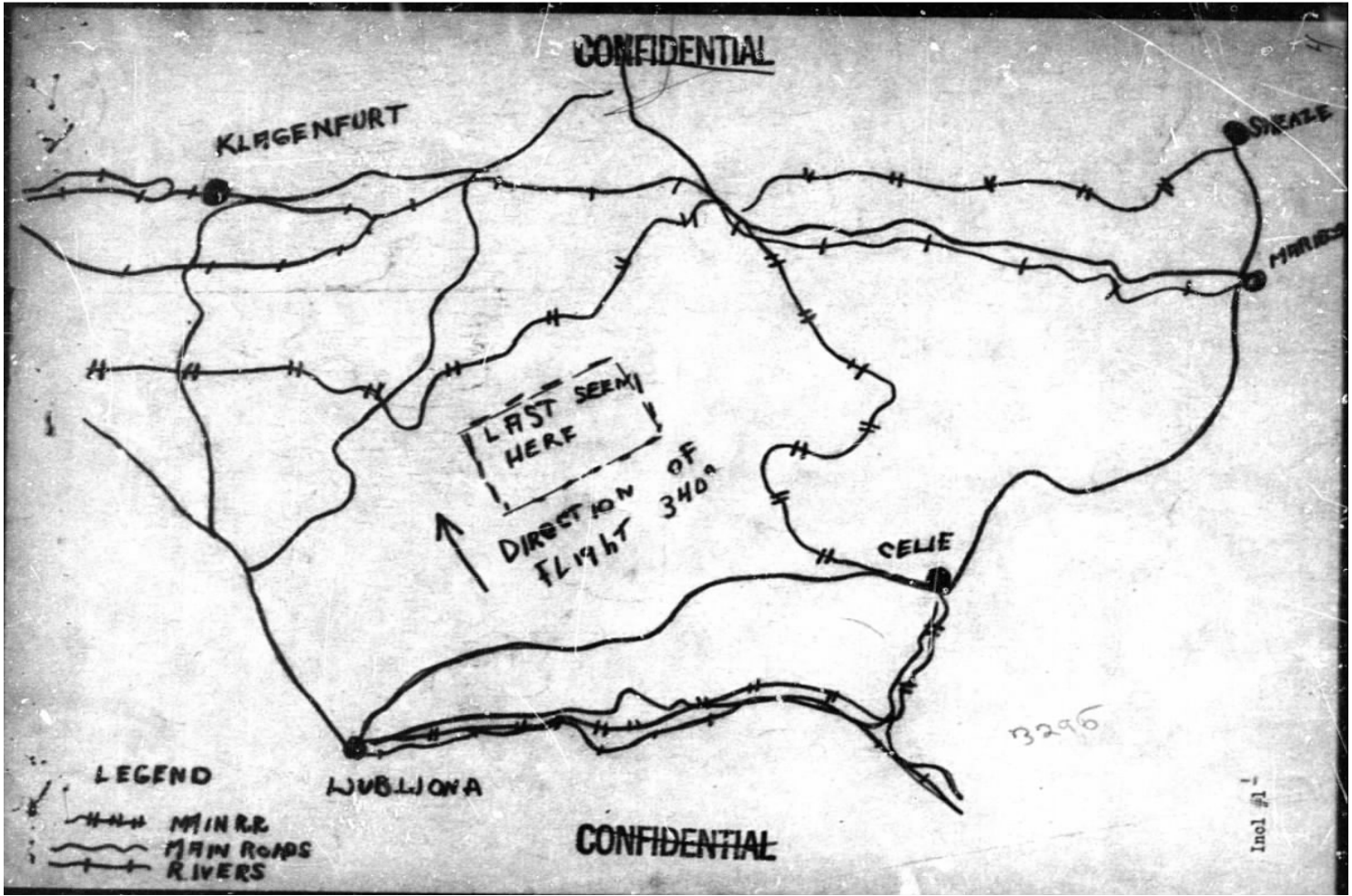
1 Incl:
 Incl 1 - MRC Rpt Edward D. Johnson & Crew.
 1 March 44, w/2 incl.

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✓ Second Lieutenant Edward D. Johnson

Mrs. Bessie E. Johnson (Mother)
229 North Illinois St.,
Apartment #C1,
Indianapolis, Indiana.

✓ Second Lieutenant Gene V. McEntee

Mrs. Elsie McEntee (wife)
Belmont, Mississippi.

✓ Second Lieutenant Kenneth L. Hunt

Mrs. Myrtle W. Hunt (Mother)
2207 Park Street,
Bellingham, Washington.

✓ Second Lieutenant Martin Deane, Jr.

Mrs. Helen E. Deane (Wife)
1245 Morgan Street, 671 North Park St.
Grand Rapids, Michigan.

✓ Staff Sergeant Clayton J. Schlotch

Mrs. Blanche C. Schlotch (Mother)
225 5th Avenue,
Iron River, Michigan.

✓ Staff Sergeant Walter G. Batory

Mrs. Anna M. Batory (Mother)
18024 Buffalo,
Detroit, Michigan.

✓ Staff Sergeant Howard E. Grove

Mr. George H. Grove, (Father)
Route #8,
North Kansas City, Missouri.

✓ Sergeant Edwin H. Jersey

Mr. Charles Jersey (Father)
98 North Street,
New Haven, Connecticut.

✓ Sergeant Richard D. Henny

Mrs. Kerwin Henny (Mother)
314 East 97 Street,
New York, New York.

✓ Sergeant Clifford D. Williams, Jr.

Mrs. Corlie J. Williams (Mother)
4420 Hearst Street,
Kansas City, Missouri.