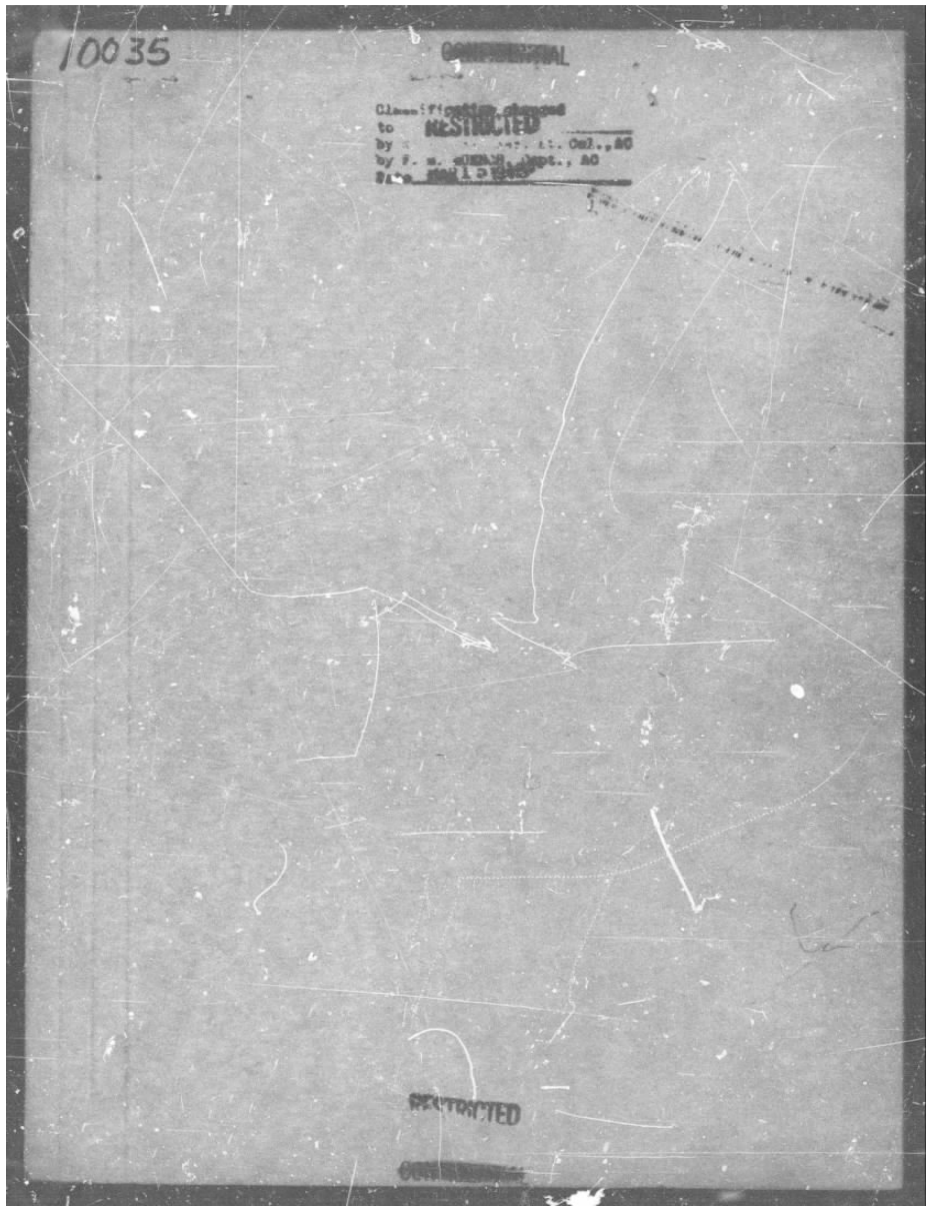


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MISSING AIR CREW REPORT 10035

1. ORGANIZATION: Location Castelluccio, Italy Command or Air Force 15th Air Force
 2. SPECIFIC: Location of crash Castelluccio, Italy Squadron 344th Bomb Squadron (H)
 3. AIRCRAFT: Type, model & series B-24-35 AAF Serial Number 42-5143
 4. WEATHER: Visibility Fair, Heavy scattered clouds
 5. AIRCRAFT (LOST) (BELEIVED LOST) AS A RESULT OF: () No information
 6. AIRCRAFT (LOST) (BELEIVED LOST) AS A RESULT OF: () No information
 7. AIRCRAFT (LOST) (BELEIVED LOST) AS A RESULT OF: () No information
 8. AIRCRAFT (LOST) (BELEIVED LOST) AS A RESULT OF: () No information
 9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (State, type and serial number)
 (a) 1248778 80 Cal. S. Auto. (c) 923028 80 Cal. S. Auto (f) 1248788 80 Cal. S. Auto
 (b) 1248998 " " (d) 987418 " " (g) 1248978 " " " "
 (c) 1248954 " " (e) 1248958 " " (h) " " " "
 (d) 1248778 " " (b) 1248274 " " (i) " " " "

10. PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW REPORTED AS: (x) Battle Casualty, () Non-Battle Casualty.
 NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10; Passengers 0; Total 10
 (If more than 12 persons aboard aircraft, use separate sheet.)

CREW POSITION	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CURRENT STATUS	NEXT OF KIN RELATIONSHIP AND ADDRESS
(1) Pilot	<u>1st Lt.</u> Brown, Maurice R.	06718190	MIA	Mrs. Genevieve G. Brown (Wife) 418 South Center, Missa City, Mont.
(2) Co-pilot	<u>2nd Lt.</u> Fisher, Kenneth L.	0-777618	MIA	Mrs. Josephine K. Fisher (Wife) 1022 College Ave, Redlands, Calif.
(3) Navigator	<u>1st Lt.</u> Doran, Robert J.	11111111	MIA	Mr. James F. Doran (Father) 41 McKinley Ave. Caldwell, New Jersey.
(4) Bombardier	<u>2nd Lt.</u> Alderman, Brian E.	0-780387	MIA	Mrs. Nellie M. Alderman (Wife) P.O. Box 52, Oakland Park, Florida.
(5) Upper turret	<u>1st Sgt.</u> McNichols, James J. Jr.	16061367	MIA	Mr. James J. Nichols Sr. (Father) 1104 N. Mayfield, Chicago, Ill.
(6) Right waist	<u>1st Sgt.</u> Yorles, Randolph E. Jr.	X 17180320	MIA	Mr. Randolph Yorles (Father) 2225 Duane, St. Joseph, Missouri
(7) Nose	<u>1st Sgt.</u> Whittier, John H.	X 39210078	MIA	Mrs. Marjorie S. Whittier (Wife) Winlock, Washington
(8) Left waist	<u>1st Sgt.</u> Mathis, Frank E.	24927618	MIA	Mr. Rufus F. Mathis (Father) Rt. #4, Baumt, Miss.
(9) Tail	<u>1st Sgt.</u> Leopard, Edwin G.	51267181	MIA	Mr. Frank W. Leonard (Father) Silverleaf Ave, Chatham, Mass.
(10) Ball	<u>1st Sgt.</u> Johnson, Edward J.	13187750	MIA	Mr. John John (Father) 1100 Sarah St, Pittsburg, Pa.

12. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT AND CHECK APPROPRIATE (more copy) COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:

NAME (N FULL)	RANK	SERIAL No.	CONTACTED	BY RADIO	LAST SIGHTED	SAW CRASH	FORCED LANDING
(1) Forkey, Richard E.	S/Sgt.	11004408	X				
(2) Delucia, Paul E.	S/Sgt.	33691478	X				
(3) Wiggins, Gordon E.	Sgt.	17108288	X				

13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
 () Parachutes were used. () Persons were seen walking away from the scene of the crash.
 () Other reasons (specify) Unknown

14. ATTACH PHOTOGRAPH, MAP OR SKETCH SHOWING LAST KNOWN LOCATION OF AIRCRAFT.
 15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTIONS OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES.
 16. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH HERE: None
 4. Inclusions: Dated December 1944
 Incl 1 - Statement, S/Sgt. Forkey (7 copies)
 Incl 2 - Statement, S/Sgt. Delucia (7 copies)
 Incl 3 - Statement, S/Sgt. Wiggins (7 copies)
 Incl 4 - S. & AP. (9 copies)
 Signature of reporting officer: *W. W. Wiggins*
 WIGGINS, W. WIGGINS, Captain, Air Corps Adjutant.

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

4 December 1944

STATEMENT

On 2 December 1944, I was flying as tail gunner in ship # 590, piloted by Lt. Custer which was flying in the # 2 position of the low flight, second attack unit.

Just after leaving the bomb run over Blechammer I saw # 414, which was in the # 7 position of our flight start lagging behind. The # 1 and # 4 engines were smoking and the ship was losing altitude. I followed it for about 15 or 20 minutes off the target before I lost sight of it behind and about 5,000 feet below the formation. I was able to positively identify the ship as # 414 because of the repaired nose section.

Richard K. Forkey

RICHARD K. FORKEY,
S/sgt., 31004495.

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

4 December 1944

STATEMENT

On 2 December 1944, I was flying in ship # 580, piloted by Lt. Custer, which was flying in the # 7 position of the low flight, second attack unit.

Just after leaving the bomb run over Bleckhammer I saw # 614 which was in the # 7 position of our flight feather #1 prop and start falling back. It continued to fall back and lose altitude until I could no longer see it. When I lost sight of the ship it was about 15 or 20 minutes off the target and about 2 or 3,000 feet below the formation.

PAUL R. DELUCIA,
S/SGT., 35891428.

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4 December 1944

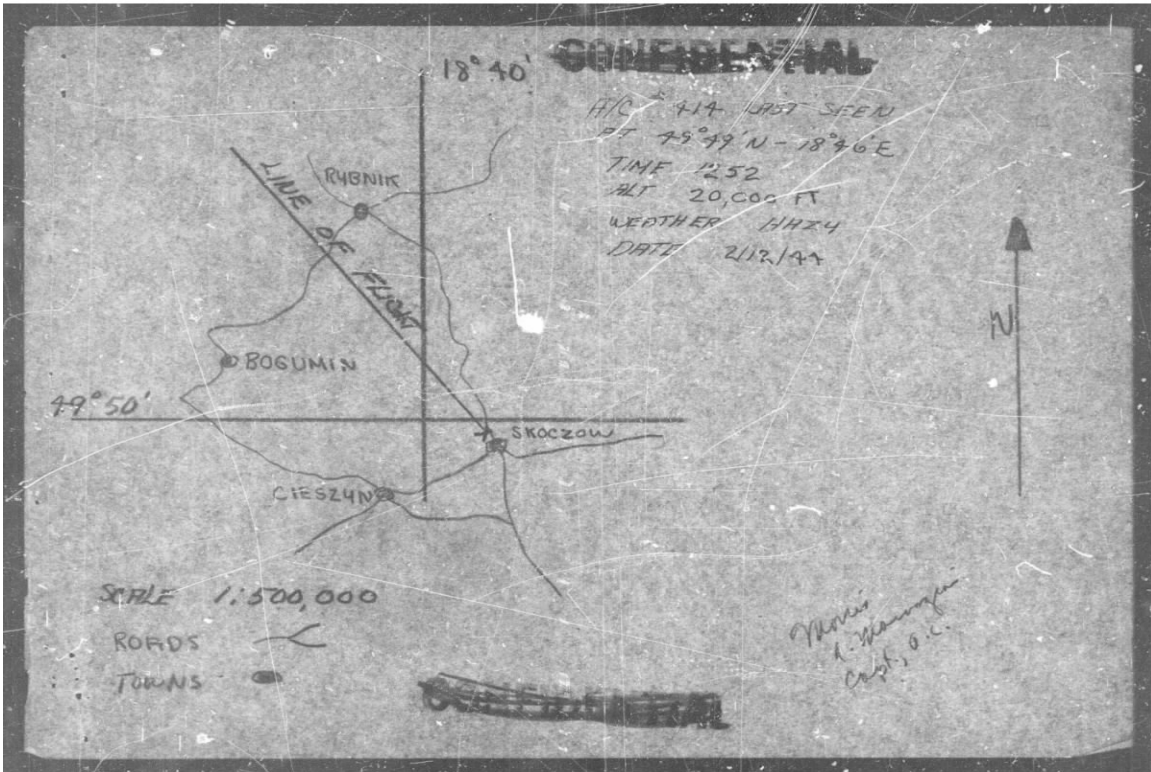
STATEMENT

On 2 December 1944, I was flying as tail gunner in airplane # 342, piloted by Lt. Donald Oldham. The ship was flying in the # 5 position of the low flight, of the second attack unit.

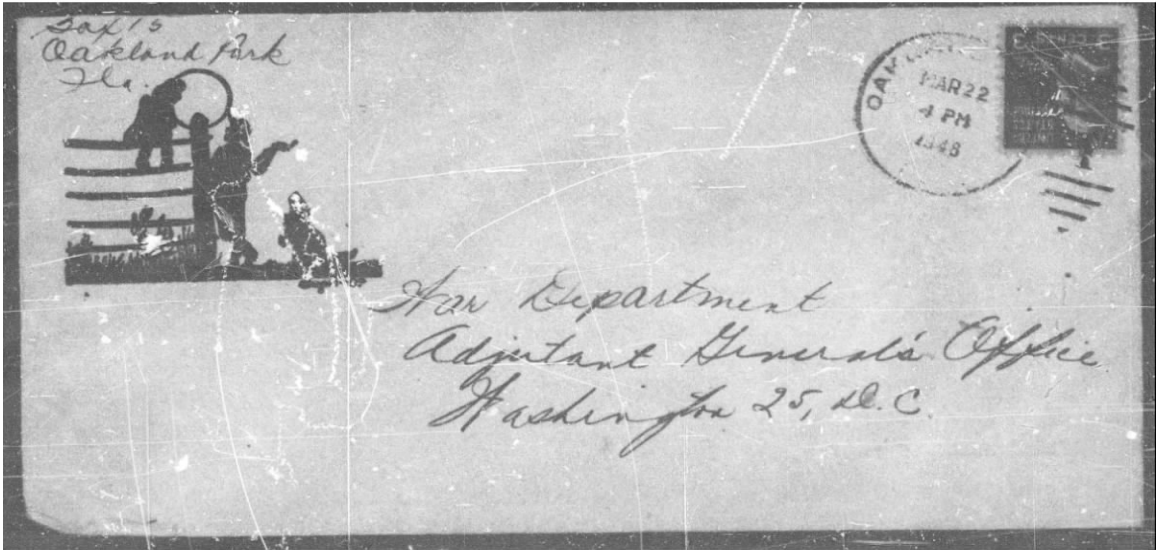
Just after leaving the target of Bieohhammer, I noticed the ship to our rear begin to fall back. I could plainly see the number 20 on the fusilage. The # 1 prop began to slow down and was feathered, the ship falling back about 2,000 yards behind the formation. At this time I went up into the waist to exchange positions and did not again see this ship.

Gordon P. Wiggins
GORDON P. WIGGINS,
Cpl., 17108363.

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Cleveland Park, Florida
 March 16, 1948 J.O.?

War Department
 The Adjutant General's Office
 Washington 25, D.C. Lent to
 WACB
 31 Mar

Dear Sir:

I received your letter of 31 January in reference to "Escape and Evasion Information."

I parachuted on Dec. 2, 1944 near the part of Hungary Mr. Imre Egon named. The first night I spent with two more comrades in a wine cellar, not with Mr. Egon but with some other Hungarians. After giving one of them \$800 of United States escape money, the next morning he directed us to Mr. and Mrs. Imre Egon, where another member of our crew had already been directed.

We stayed with the Egon's from the 3rd of December through the day of the 7th of the same month when the Russians arrived and took us away.

If any additional information is necessary I will be glad to give you all I can.

Yours very truly,
 Abram S. Alderman
 2nd Lt. 0780257
 MIA 12-2-44
 Slip #1 343
 RMC 12-3-44

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

ab/12/45

<i>Red</i> 2nd Lt. Maurice R. Brown	Mr. Claude M. Brown, (father) 233 South Center Street, Miles City, Montana ✓
<i>Red</i> 2nd Lt. Hiram E. Alderman	Mrs. Julia M. Alderman, (wife) Post Office Box 62, Oakland Park, Florida. ✓
<i>Red</i> 2nd Lt. Kenneth L. Fisher	Mrs. Josephine R. Fisher, (wife) 1022 College Avenue, Redland, California. ✓
<i>Red</i> P/O Robert J. Doran	Mr. James F. Doran, (father) 41 McKinlay Avenue, Calzwell, New Jersey. ✓
<i>Red</i> P/O Thomas J. McNichols, Jr.	Mr. James J. McNichols, Sr., (father) 1106 North Bayfield Street, Chicago, Illinois. ✓
<i>Red</i> S/Sgt. Randolph P. Verice, Jr.	Mr. Randolph P. Verice, Sr., (father) 2225 Duncan Street, Saint Joseph, Missouri. ✓
<i>Red</i> S/Sgt. John A. Whisler	Mrs. Marguerite M. Whisler, (wife) Winlock, Washington. ✓
<i>Red</i> S/Sgt. Fret E. Mathis	Mr. Rufus F. Mathis, (father) Route Number Three, Walnut, Mississippi. ✓
<i>Red</i> S/Sgt. Edwin C. Leonard	Mrs. Louise C. Leonard, (mother) 543 Verleaf Avenue, Lathen, Massachusetts. ✓
<i>Red</i> S/Sgt. Edward J. Jaha	Mr. John S. Jaha, (father) 1109 Sarah Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. ✓

Red