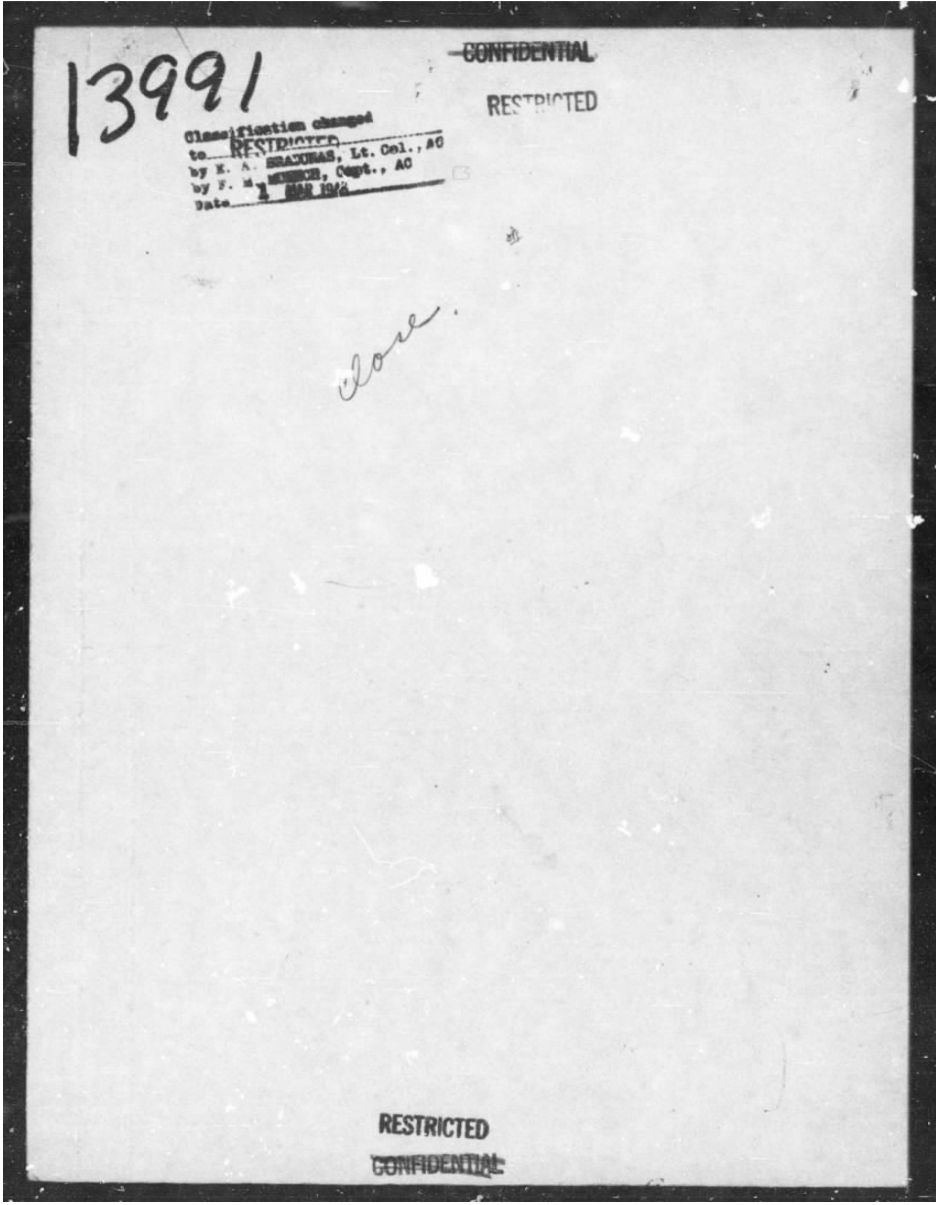


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CONFIDENTIAL 2596 13991

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

1. ORGANIZATION: Location Castelluccio, Italy Command or Air Force 15th Air Force
 Group 481st Bombardment Group (H) Squadron 724th Bombardment Sq. (H)

2. SPECIFY: Place of departure Castelluccio, Italy Base 4509N 1451E-1431N 1395E
 Course 1800N 1411E-1417N 1200E
 Target: Lias, Austria. Type of mission Bombing 483N 1311E IP to Tgt.

3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
C A V U, ceiling and visibility unlimited

4. GIVE: (a) Date 25 April 1945 Time 1242 Last known position 48°17'N - 14°38' E
 (b) Specify whether: Last sighted, Forced down, Seen to crash,
 Last contacted by radio, No information.

5. AIRCRAFT [LOST] [BELIEVED LOST] AS A RESULT OF: [Check one only]
 Enemy aircraft, Enemy anti-aircraft, Other Unknown

6. AIRCRAFT: Type, model & series B-24-H AAF Serial Number 42-95342

7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT None

8. ENGINES: Type, model & series R-1850-45 AAF Serial Number (a) GP-512466
 (b) GP-308420 (c) 42-59343 (d) GP-515106

9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: [Make, type and serial number]
 (a) 1185264 Bra Auto. 50 Cal. (i) 1186670 Bra Auto. 50 Cal. (ii) 1187910 Bra. Auto. 50 Cal.
 (b) 1186136 " " " (i) 1186242 " " " (ii) 1186223 " " "
 (c) 1185230 " " " (i) 1194915 " " " (ii) " " "
 (d) 1185311 " " " (i) 1194956 " " " (ii) " " "

10. PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW REPORTED AS: Battle Casualty, Non Battle Casualty.

11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 9; Passengers 0; Total 9
 [If more than 12 persons aboard aircraft, use separate sheet]

| CREW POSITION | FULL NAME [Last, first, initial] | RANK, SERIAL NUMBER | CURRENT NEXT OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP STATUS AND ADDRESS |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pilot | <u>Ado, Frederick A.</u> | <u>1st Lt. 0-832071</u> | <u>MIA Mrs. Dorothy A. Ado (Wife) 5443 Rising Sun Ave. Phila. Pa.</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Co-Pilot | <u>Miley, Bruce F.</u> | <u>2nd Lt. 0-4059336</u> | <u>MIA Mrs. Joan M. Miley, 1343 (Wife) Hunting Park Ave. Phila. Pa.</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Navigator | <u>Popok, Herbert B.</u> | <u>2nd Lt. 0-2023096</u> | <u>MIA Mr. Joseph Popok (Father) 302 Longford St. Asbury Park, N.J.</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upper Turret | <u>Devison, Lee E.</u> | <u>Sgt. 34634780</u> | <u>MIA Mrs. Nellie E. Devison (Mother) 1710 Ingleside Ave. Sioux City, Iowa</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Left Waist | <u>Miles, Elbert F.</u> | <u>Sgt. 17169726</u> | <u>MIA Mrs. Sarah M. Miles (Mother) 5640 Maple Ave. St Louis, Mo.</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lower Turret | <u>Coach, Walter S.</u> | <u>Sgt. 37629895</u> | <u>MIA Mr. Sylvester C. Coach (Father) 218 W. Washington, Joplin, Missouri</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nose Gunner | <u>Golden, James A.</u> | <u>Sgt. 19211167</u> | <u>MIA Mr. Andrew D. Golden (Father) Calbertson, Montana.</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Right Waist | <u>Bonnett, William G.</u> | <u>Cpl. 37568178</u> | <u>MIA Mrs. Elva E. Bonnett (Mother) 420 11th St. Rawlins, Wyo.</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tail Gunner | <u>Burgess, Ernest M.</u> | <u>Sgt. 34922585</u> | <u>MIA Mrs. Eva R. Burgess (Mother) Route #1, Box 26 B, Germantown, Tenn.</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> [10] | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> [11] | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> [12] | | | |

12. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT AND CHECK APPROPRIATE [one only] COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:

| NAME IN FULL | RANK | SERIAL NO. | CONTACTED LAST BY RADIO | SAW SIGHTED | SAW FORCED CRASH LANDING |
|---|---------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Boots, Maywood</u> | <u>S/Sgt.</u> | <u>37728899</u> | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Shoaff, Robert E.</u> | <u>Cpl.</u> | <u>15172452</u> | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> [3] | | | | | |

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

3. Inclosure: None Date 27 April 1945
 Incl. 1- Statement, S/Sgt Boots (7 Copies)
 Incl. 2- Statement, Cpl. Shoaff (7 copies)
 Incl. 3- Map, (7 Copies)

Norman W. Mochel
 Signature of preparing officer
NORMAN W. MOCHEL,
 Captain, Air Corps,
 Adjutant.

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

C O N F I D E N T I A L724TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
451ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
APO 520, US Army.

27 April 1945.

S T A T E M E N T

Just after we left the target I noticed one of our squadrons planes flying about 4,000 feet below us by itself. We were flying east and about 5 minutes after leaving the target our formation turned south. I saw the ship continue due east. I could see no sign of damage to the ship and it was flying in a normal manner with all its engines operating. The time was approximately 1245.

Maywood Boots,
S/Sgt. 37728899*S/Sgt. Maywood Boots*~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~*Inull'**2085-*

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C O N F I D E N T I A L724TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
451ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
APO 520, US Army.

27 April 1945.

S T A T E M E N T

Aircraft #12 was flying directly behind us and I saw it drop its bombs on the target at Linz. After dropping our bombs our flight broke up momentarily as each ship took evasive action. Number 12 fell behind us and lost altitude as we left the target. About five minutes after leaving the target the formation made a 90° turn to the south. Number 12 continued East until it was out of sight and I saw it no more. When I last saw it, it seemed undamaged and none of its engines were feathered, it was flying due east at about 20,000 feet.

Robert E. Shoaff
Robert E. Shoaff,
Cpl. 13172452.

Ld/2'~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~*2085*

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