

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

12085

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classification changed
~~RESTRICTED~~
by E. A. BRADONAS, Lt. Col., AC
by F. M. MUECKE, Capt., AC
Date MAR 16 1948

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MISSING AIR CREW REPORT 12085

1. ORGANIZATION: Location Castelluccio, Italy Command or Air Force 15th
Group 451st Bombardment Group Squadron 725th Bomb Squadron

2. SPECIFY: Place of departure Castelluccio Field Course Base-Castelluccio 4603N 1449E-470N 1444E-1433E 1521E
Target Vienna, Austria Type of mission Bombing IP to Target.

3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
Clear and visibility Unlimited

4. GIVE: (a) Date 2/7/45 Time 1305 Last known position 20 miles SE of Bratislava, Hungary
(b) Specify whether: Last sighted, Forced down, Seen to crash,
 Last contacted by radio, No information. Austria

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

6. AIRCRAFT: Type, model & series B-24 J AAF Serial Number 44-48774

7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT None

8. ENGINES: Type, model & series R1630-43 AAF Serial Number (a) CP-328492
CP-309115 (b) CP-311322 (c) 42-64634

9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Make, type and serial number)
(a) No records (b) _____ (c) _____
(d) available (e) _____ (f) _____
(g) _____ (h) _____ (i) _____
(j) _____ (k) _____ (l) _____

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
1) Pilot	<u>PALASKIS, EDWARD W.</u>	<u>R-0701A</u>	<u>Mrs Emily P. Kusnet (Mother) 2511 1st Lt, O-765305 W. 46th St, Chicago, Illinois</u>
2) Co-Pilot	<u>ATKINSON, GEORGE W.</u>	<u>R-0702A</u>	<u>Mary A. Atkinson (Mother) 128 2nd Lt, O-829392 N. Main St, Punksutawney, Penna.</u>
3) Nav	<u>MEYER, LENHART E.</u>	<u>R-0703A</u>	<u>Mrs. Emilie Meyer, (Mother) 635 2nd Lt, O-2070091 West Main St, Deshler, Ohio</u>
4) UP Tur	<u>Lucas, Charles Jr.</u>	<u>R-0704A</u>	<u>Mrs. Edith Avery, (Mother) Box Cpl, 32942660 38, Halcott Center, New York</u>
5) DL Tur	<u>Hughes, Lawrence W.</u>	<u>R-0705A</u>	<u>Mrs. Clara V. Hughes, (Mother) Cpl, 36893360 Route #2, Beaverton, Michigan</u>
6) RW	<u>Paul, Charles I.</u>	<u>R-0706A</u>	<u>Mrs. Lee I. Paul, (Wife), 147 Cpl, 36872307 Parkhurst E. St, Detroit, Mich.</u>
7) LW	<u>Hidenour, Rex W.</u>	<u>R-0707A</u>	<u>Mrs. Daisy Hidenour, (Mother), Cpl, 36893702 R #2 Box 700, Lansing, Mich.</u>
8) TG	<u>Finke, William F. H.</u>	<u>R-0708A</u>	<u>Mrs. Anna Finke, (Mother) 527 Cpl, 33631907 Arnold Avenue, Richmond, Virginia</u>
9) NG	<u>Kozdron, Stanley</u>	<u>R-0709A</u>	<u>Mrs. Sophie Kozdron, (Mother), Cpl, 35913585 3009 E. 61st St, Cleveland, Ohio</u>
(10)			
(11)			
(12)			

12. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT AND CHECK APPROPRIATE (use only) COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:
NAME IN FULL RANK SERIAL No. CONTACTED BY RADIO SIGHTED LAST SAW FORCED BY RADIO SIGHTED CRASH LANDING
(1) KENDALL K. FISH 1st Lt O-822126 _____ X _____
(2) _____
(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.

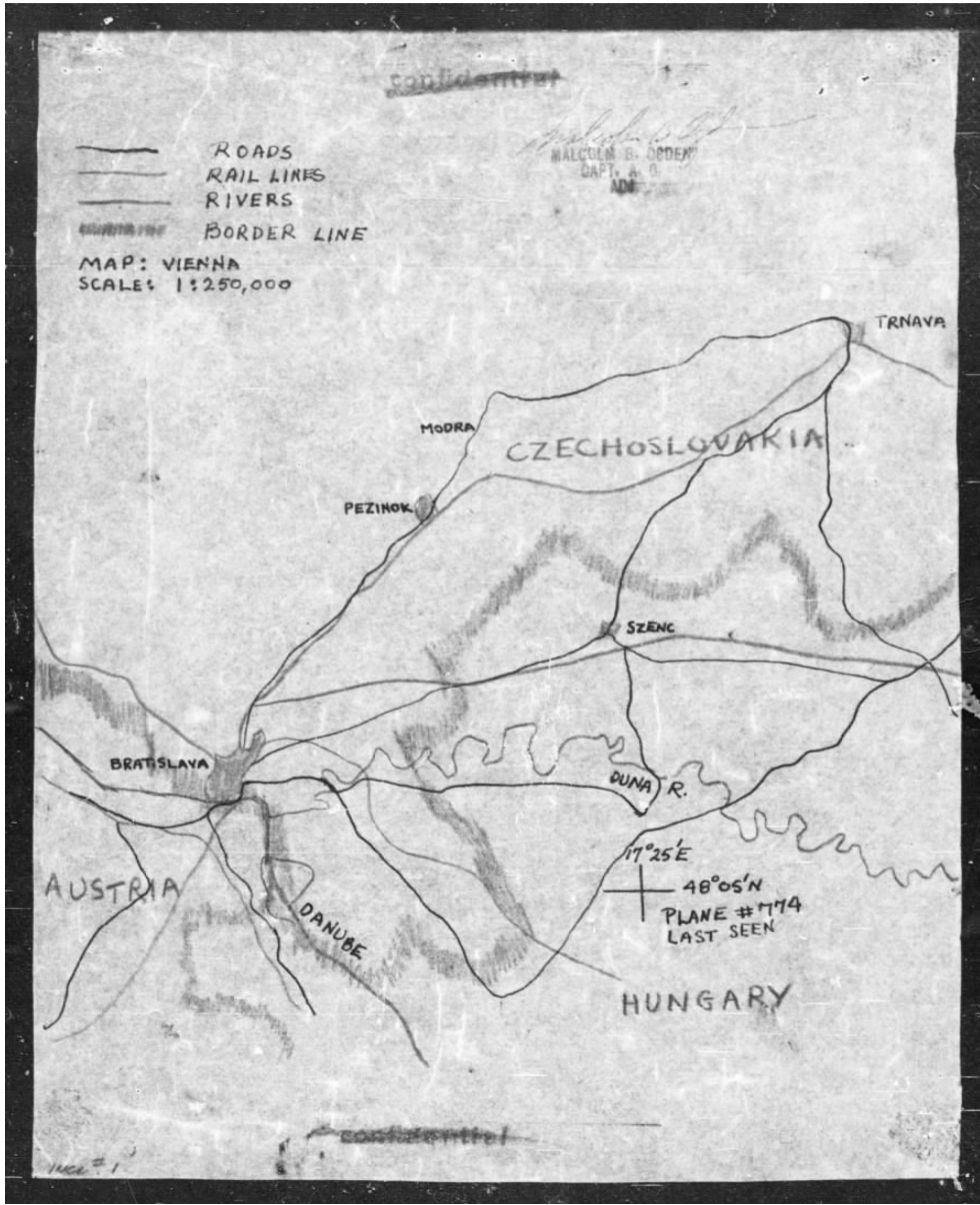
15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTIONS OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES.

16. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH HERE No search made, plane missing over enemy territory.

2. Inclosures:
Incl 1- Overlay of Date February 10, 1945 Malcolm B. Ogden
area last sighted CONFIDENTIAL MALCOLM B. OGDEN
Incl 2- Statement, Lt FISH. Capt, AC, Adj

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

725TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
451ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
APO 520 US ARMY

10 February 1945

S T A T E M E N T

I, KENDALL K. FISH, O-822126, AC, was the Pilot of a B-24 Liberator Aircraft which flew in the second position of the formation on 7 February 1945, with B-24 Liberator Aircraft number 44-48774, piloted by 1st Lt EDWARD W. PALASKIS, O-765305. This ship was flying number three position.

The number two and three engines of the subject ship were hit by flak. There were also bad gas leaks in the bomb bays. From all appearances there were no wounded aboard, but it seemed the crew would have to bail out upon leaving the target area. The ship maintained the necessary altitude, above us and to the left. We rallied after which we turned and headed back towards our home base. Lt PALASKIS contacted Colonel HOPPOCK, the Deputy Group Commander, for a heading to Russia. I lost all contact with the subject ship at that time.

Kendall K. Fish
KENDALL K. FISH
1st Lt, O-822126
725th Bomb Squadron (H)

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

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AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

12085

1. Your name George W. Atkinson Rank 2nd Lt. Serial No. 0-82939E
15th AF 451 B. Gp. 725 B. Sq.
2. Organization Gp Commander Rank Sqn CO Rank
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1945 month February day 7th. did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Bombing, target, Vienna, Austria, target
time, , altitude, 24,000 ft. route scheduled,
 , route flown
5. Where were you when you left formation?
6. Did you bail out? NO
7. Did other members of crew bail out? NO
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".
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? Landed in open field about 80 miles
NW of Arad, Rumania
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) Edward Polaskis,
L. B. Meyer, G. Lucas, G.I. Paul, S. Kondron, R. Ridenour,
L. W. Hughes, W. Finge
11. Where were they in aircraft? Ditching position
12. What was their condition? Good (all uninjured)
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above?
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information.

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

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AFFPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

12085

1. Your name Lehart E. Meyer Rank 2nd Lt. Serial No. 0-2070091
2. Organization 15th Gp Commander Rank Col. Sqn CO Gordon Rank Lt. Col
(full name) LeRoy L. Stefanowicz (full name)
3. What year 1945 month Feb. day 7th did you go down?
4. What was the mission, _____, target, Oil Refinery, Vienna, target
time, 13:20, altitude, 28,000 ft. route scheduled, about 610
degrees from Italy, route flown Same
5. Where were you when you left formation? About 10 miles east of Vienna
6. Did you bail out? No
7. Did other members of crew bail out? No
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".
No Knowledge
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? About 20 miles North of Arad, Romania
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) All Members
11. Where were they in aircraft? At assigned positions
12. What was their condition? No one injured
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? _____
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. Saw An American Navigator F/O Lloya Jones in a Russian Hospital with a serious Flak wound in calf of leg. He was unable to travel back with us because of his condition. Last saw him around the 10th of April 1945 in the Russian Hospital at Arad, Romania. Several days later he was moved with the Hospital which was supposedly to be moved somewhere in Russia. F/O Jones was with the 5th Wing of the 15th Air Force And was bombing Berlin about the middle of March 1945. His crew force landed at Gdapsk.

(Any additional information may be written on the back)