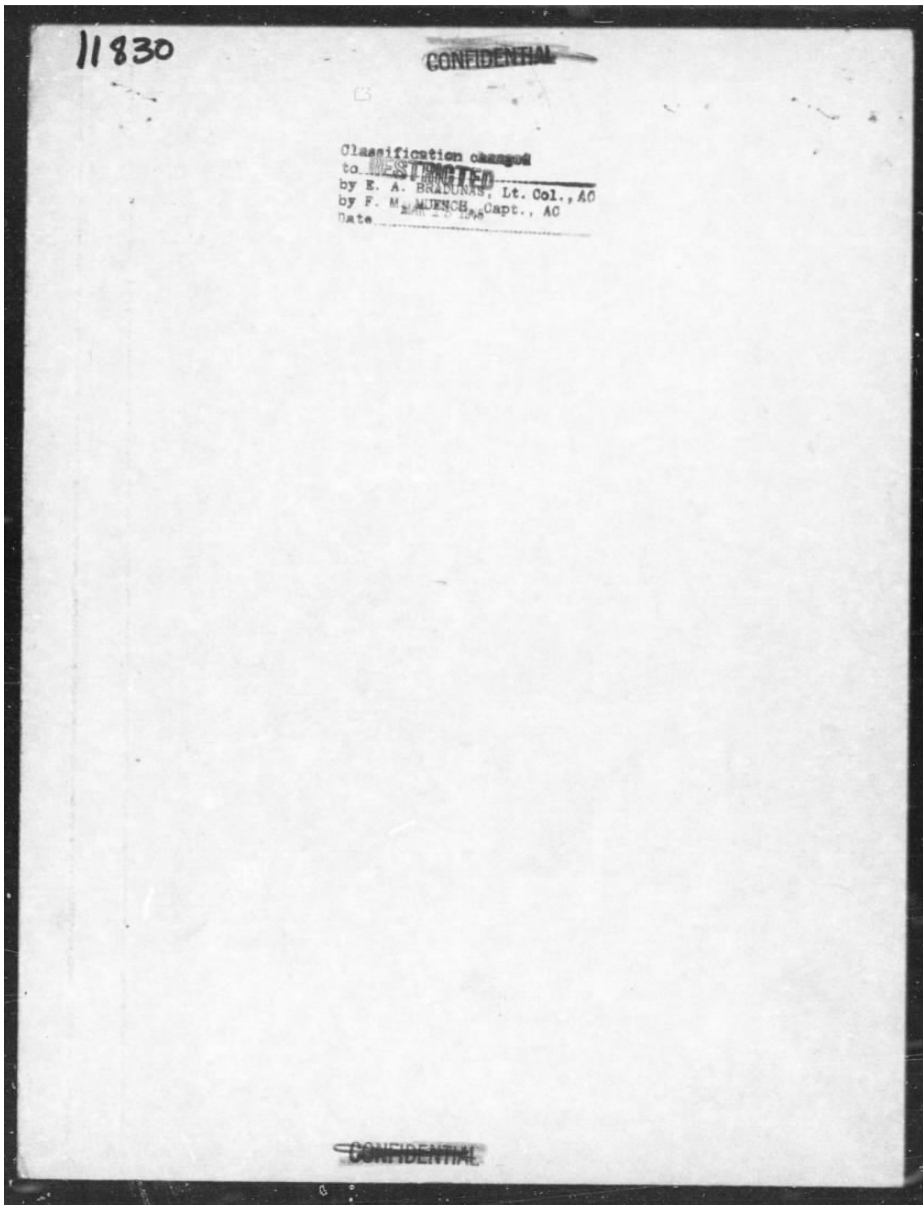


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MISSING AIR CREW REPORT 11830

1. ORGANIZATION: Location Castelluccio, Italy Command or Air Force 15th Air Force.  
Group 461st Bombardment Group (H) Squadron 724th Bombardment Sq. (H)

2. SPECIFY: Place of departure Castelluccio, Italy Course Base 43118 16278-40138 1719E  
Target Moosbierbaum, Austria Type of mission Bombing to Target. 4737N 1714E-4819W 1730E

3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:  
10/10 undersat, visibility limited.

4. GIVE: (a) Date 31 Jan. 1945 Time 1310 Last known position 46°19'N - 15°55'W  
(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-L AAF Serial Number 44-49460

7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT None

8. ENGINES: Type, model & series R-1850-43 AAF Serial Number (a) CP-320619  
(b) CP-320656 (c) CP-309609 (d) CP-320668

9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Make, type and serial number)  
(a) 1316676 Brn Auto.50 Cal. (c) 1316861 Brn Auto.50 Cal. (i) 1181335 Brn Auto.50 Cal.  
(b) 1316372 " " (f) 1816812 " " (j) 1563647 " "  
(c) 1316608 " " (g) 1765392 " " (k) " "  
(d) 1316601 " " (h) 1766941 " " (l) " "

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

11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10; Passengers 0; Total 10  
(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 AND ADDRESS
1) Pilot	<u>Boots, Lloyd O.</u>	<u>1st Lt. O-696520</u>	<u>Mr. Harry E. Boots (Father) RTD</u> <u>R.R. #1, Fumbell, Penn.</u>
2) Co-Pilot	<u>Slankard, Kenton G.</u>	<u>2nd Lt. O-777543</u>	<u>Mr. George W. Slankard (Father) RTD</u> <u>108 Park - Neosho, Mo.</u>
3) Navigator	<u>Pfeiffer, Rheuma B. Jr.</u>	<u>2nd Lt. O-2065180</u>	<u>Mrs. Marie L. Pfeiffer Jr. (Wife) RTD</u> <u>Riverton, Ill.</u>
4) Bombardier	<u>DiCiocco, Albert</u>	<u>F/O T-6949</u>	<u>Mr. Louis DiCiocco (Father) RTD</u> <u>2064 Rice, Chicago, Ill.</u>
5) Upper Turret	<u>Zerbe, Ralph W.</u>	<u>S/Sgt. 37520046</u>	<u>Mr. William E. Zerbe (Father) RTD</u> <u>RR #1, Salina, Kan.</u>
6) Right Waist	<u>Schmits, Lloyd W. Jr.</u>	<u>T/Sgt. 39279556</u>	<u>Mrs. Nan L. Schmits (Wife) RTD</u> <u>4159 Dwight St., San Diego, Calif.</u>
7) Nose Gunner	<u>Webb, Joseph G.</u>	<u>S/Sgt. 38563362</u>	<u>Mrs. Lillie Webb (Mother) RTD</u> <u>Star Route, Wakita, Oklahoma.</u>
8) Tail Gunner	<u>Roebke, Ernest W.</u>	<u>S/Sgt. 37480327</u>	<u>Mrs. Clara Eggerling (Mother) RTD</u> <u>808 Perkins St. Beatrice, Nebraska.</u>
9) Lower Turret	<u>Mandel, Harold</u>	<u>Sgt. 42059203</u>	<u>Mrs. May Mandel (Mother) RTD</u> <u>1842 Anthony Ave. Bronx, N.Y.</u>
10) Left Waist	<u>Rouleau, Joseph F.A.</u>	<u>T/Sgt. 51177787</u>	<u>Mr. Frank J. Rouleau (Father) RTD</u> <u>11 Mt. Forest St. Berlin, N.H.</u>

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	FORCED CRASH LANDING
1) <u>Brown, Edward J.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>37557460</u>		<u>X</u>	
2) <u>McGinn, Willard O.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>37557091</u>		<u>X</u>	

13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:  
 Parachutes (give nos.)  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. Inclosures:  
Date 2 February 1945  
Incl.1- Statement S/Sgt. Brown (7 copies)  
Incl.2- Statement S/Sgt. McGinn (7 Copies)  
Incl.3- Map, (7 copies)

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, U. S. Army

2 February 1945.

S T A T E M E N T

On 31 January 1945, I was flying as tail gunner in B-24 aircraft # 906, piloted by 1st Lt. Frank Vernon. We were flying in the # 4 position of our flight, and aircraft # 460, piloted by 1st Lt. Lloyd O. Boots was flying ahead of us in the # 3 position.

After we had started our bomb run, the whole formation turned off to the right abandoning the target. Almost immediately we passed aircraft # 460, and it fell back and below us about 1,000 feet. I saw the bombs salvoed and then the ship made a 180° turn and went directly back in the direction from which we had come. It did not appear to be damaged in any way and I did not see it again.

*Edward J. Brown*  
EDWARD J. BROWN,  
S/Sgt., 37357460

*Edwa*

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

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

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724TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)  
451ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)  
APO # 520, U. S. Army

2 February 1945.

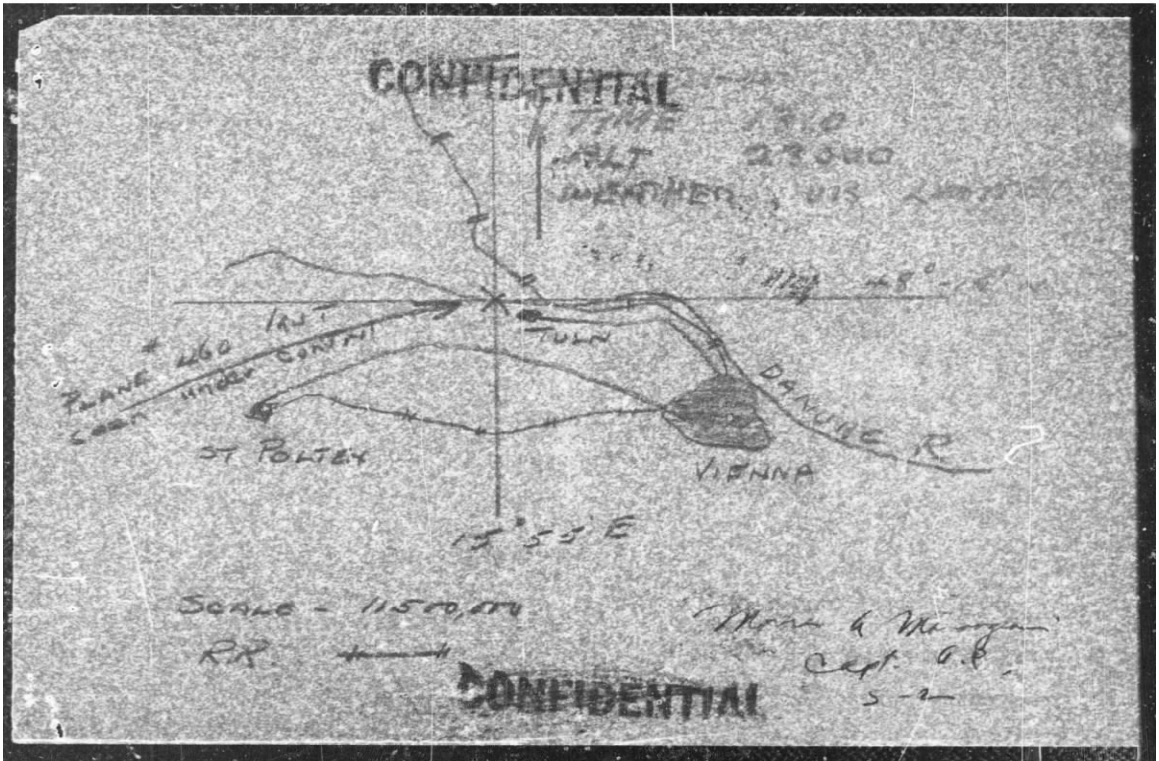
S T A T E M E N T

On 31 January 1945, I was flying as nose gunner in B-24 aircraft # 906, piloted by 1st Lt. Frank Vernon. We were flying in the # 4 position of our flight, and aircraft # 460, piloted by 1st Lt. Lloyd O. Scots, was flying ahead of us in the # 3 position.

We turned off our bomb run on the primary target, Moosbierbaum, Austria and just after we did so, aircraft # 460 began to fall back. It fell behind us on our left and I did not again see it. I could see nothing wrong with the ship.

*Willard O. McGinn*WILLARD O. MCGINN,  
S/Sgt., 37537091.CONFIDENTIAL*Vol 2'*

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JFP/3/28/45

1st Lt. Lloyd G. Boots	Mr. Harry N. Boots (father) Rural Route Number One Fombell, Pennsylvania
2nd Lt. Kenton G. Slankard	Mr. George W. Slankard (father) 108 Park Street Neosho, Missouri
2nd Lt. Rheuma B. Pfeiffer	Mrs. Marie L. Pfeiffer (wife) Riverton, Illinois
T/Sgt. Lloyd W. Sennits, Jr.,	Mrs. Nan Schmits (wife) 415 1/2 Deight Street San Diego, California
T/Sgt. Joseph F. A. Rouleau	Mr. Frank J. Rouleau (father) 11 Mt. Forest Street Berlin, New Hampshire
S/Sgt. Ralph W. Zerbe	Mr. William E. Zerbe (father) Route Number 1 Salina, Kansas
S/Sgt. Joseph C. Webb	Mrs. Lillie Webb (mother) Star Route Wakita, Oklahoma
S/Sgt. Ernest W. Roebke	Mrs. Clara E. Roebke (mother) 308 Perkins Street Beatrice, Nebraska
Sgt. Harold Mandel	Mrs. May Mandel (mother) 1842 Anthony Avenue New York, New York
F/O Alber DiCiocco	Mr. Louis DiCiocco (father) 2046 Rice Street Chicago, Illinois