

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

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MISSING AIR CREW REPORT 9065

by **A. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AF**
 by **F. M. MOENGE, Capt., AC**

1. ORGANIZATION: Location Castelluccio, Italy Command or Air Force 15th Air Force
 Group 451st Bombardment Group (H) Squadron 724th Bomb Sq (H)

2. SPECIFY: Place of departure Castelluccio, Italy Course _____
 Target Blechhammer, Germany Type of mission Bombing

3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
Clear, Visibility Good

4. GIVE: (a) Date 14 October 44 Time 1605 Last known position 44°-20'N - 16°-30'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 _____

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

7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT _____

8. ENGINES: Type, model & series _____ AAF Serial Number (a) _____
 (b) _____ (c) _____ (d) _____

9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Make, type and serial number.)
 (a) _____ (e) _____ (f) _____
 (b) _____ (g) _____ (h) _____
 (c) _____ (i) _____ (j) _____
 (d) _____ (k) _____ (l) _____

10. PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW REPORTED AS: (x) 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.)

POSITION	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	FULL NAME (Last, first, initial)	CURRENT STATUS	NEXT OF KIN	RELATIONSHIP	ADDRESS
<i>RTD</i> (1) Pilot			<u>9 Steinberg, Eugene</u>				
			<u>1st Lt. 0-689396</u>	<u>RTD</u>			
<i>RTD</i> (2) Co-Pilot			<u>10 Walton, Robert M. Jr.</u>				
			<u>2nd Lt. 0-819651</u>	<u>RTD</u>			
<i>RTD</i> (3) Navigator			<u>4 Callicotte, Vernon S.</u>				
			<u>2nd Lt. 0-162786</u>	<u>RTD</u>			
<i>RTD</i> (4) Bombardier			<u>Miller, Harvey</u>				
			<u>2nd Lt. 0-715092</u>	<u>RTD</u>			
<i>RTD</i> (5) Upper Turret			<u>6 Bierman, Melvin</u>				
			<u>1/Sgt. 16077858</u>	<u>RTD</u>			
<i>RTD</i> (6) Left Waist			<u>7 Ortega, James R.</u>				
			<u>7/Sgt. 39567696</u>	<u>RTD</u>			
<i>RTD</i> (7) Lower Turret			<u>2 Baker, Ronald E.</u>				
			<u>Sgt. 33765260</u>	<u>RTD</u>			
<i>RTD</i> (8) Tail Gunner			<u>3 Bartlett, William L.</u>				
			<u>S/Sgt. 32766768</u>	<u>RTD</u>			
<i>RTD</i> (9) Right Waist			<u>4 Smith, Aaron</u>				
			<u>S/Sgt. 14085369</u>	<u>RTD</u>			
<i>RTD</i> (10) Nose Gunner			<u>1 Baker, Ray E.</u>				
			<u>S/Sgt. 35646004</u>	<u>MIA</u>	<u>Mrs. Nellie G. Baker</u>	<u>(Mother)</u>	<u>355 Howard St., Findley, Ohio.</u>

(11) _____
 (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: SAW CONTACTED LAST BY RADIO SAW FORCED CRASH LANDING

NAME IN FULL	RANK	SERIAL No.	CONTACTED LAST BY RADIO	SAW CRASH	FORCED LANDING
(1) Eugene Steinberg	1st Lt.	0-689396			
(2) Bartlett, William L.	S/Sgt.	32766768			
(3) _____					

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

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 16 October 1944

Incl. 1- Statement Lt. Steinberg (7 copies)
 Incl. 2- Statement S/Sgt. Bartlett (7 copies)
 Incl. 3- Map (7 copies)

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

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C O N F I D E N T I A LS T A T E M E N T

15 October 1944.

On October 14, 1944, I was returning from a mission over Blechhammer, Germany. About 20 minutes over the Adriatic Sea the fuel pressure on No. 2 and 3 engines failed and I was forced to leave the formation immediately and headed for the Island of Vis. I sent my engineer back to fix the transfer system and while he was going back S/Sgt. Ray E. Baker, nose gunner, for no reason that I know, opened the Bomb Bay doors and jumped out.

Due to the condition of the Ship I continued to my destination in an effort to safely land the ship and remaining personnel.

The approximate location of the ship at the time S/Sgt. Ray E. Baker left the ship was 44°-20'N - 16°-30'E, time about 1605 hours.

Eugene Steinberg
EUGENE STEINBERG,
1st Lt. Air Corps,
O-689396.

C O N F I D E N T I A L*Incl 1.*

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C O N F I D E N T I A LS T A T E M E N T

15 October 1944.

On October 11, 1944, we were returning from a mission over Blechammer Germany. About 20 minutes over the Adriatic we were told we were heading back to the Island of Vis and to ditch all loose equipment as 2 engines were out and we were losing altitude and speed. I was in the tail turret and the first I knew that S/Sgt. Ray E. Baker had left the ship was when I saw him parachuting towards the water.

WILLIAM L. BARTLETT
S/Sgt. 32766768.*Wm. L. Bartlett*~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~*Inf 2*

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

16 October 1944.

360/33

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Missing AirCrew Report.

TO : COMMANDING OFFICER, 451st Bombardment Group (H),
A.P.O. 520, U.S. Army.

1. Transmitted herewith Missing AirCrew Report of Crew assigned to this Squadron, reported missing as of 14 October 1944, over the Adriatic Sea.

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASN</u>
S/Sgt.	Baker, Ray E.	35545004

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 15 October 1944.

For the Squadron Commander:

Norman W. Mochel
NORMAN W. MOCHEL,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

1 Incl.
Incl. - MAC Rpt Steinberg, Eugene & Crew
16 October 1944 w/4 Incls.

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360.33 1st Ind. C-RU
 HQS, 451ST BOMB GP (H), APO 520, 18 Oct 1944.

TO: C. G., 15th Bomb Wg (H), APO 520.

Battle Casualty Report forwarded to Commanding General, 15th Air Force, 16 October 1944.

For the Commanding Officer:

C. E. Campbell Jr.
 C. E. CAMPBELL, JR.
 CWO, US ARMY,
 Asst Adj.

1 Incl: n/c.

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360.33 2nd Ind. C-WRT-10
 HQ 49TH BOMB WING (H), APO 520, 20 October 44.

TO: CG, Fifteenth Air Force, APO 520.

1 Incl: n/c

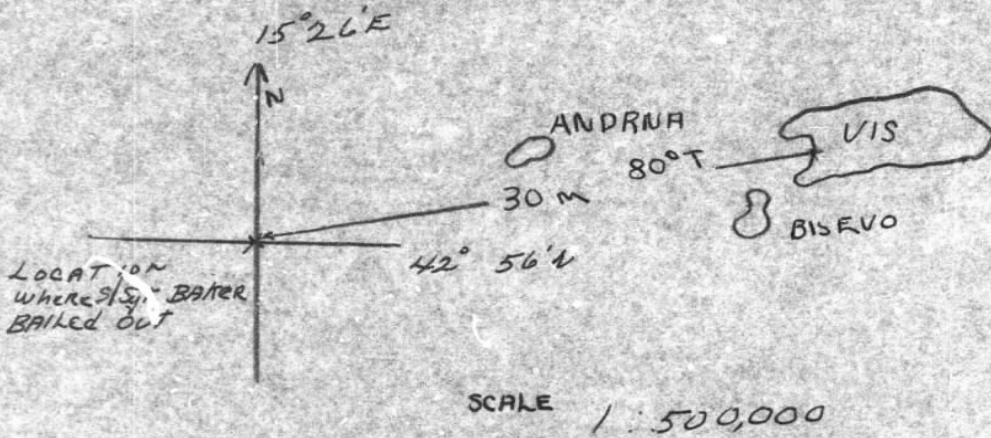
J. E. M.
 J. E. M.

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Incl 7

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*Thomas R. Moran
Capt. U.S.*

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