

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

IMPORTANT: This Report will be compiled in triplicate by each Army Air Forces organization within 48 hours of the time an air crew member is officially reported missing.

AAF Station

1. ORGANIZATION: Location, by Name 111 ; Command or Air Force 8th AF
Group 306th Bomb (B) Squadron 423rd Bomb (B)
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure Thurlough, Eng; Course as prescribed
Target or Intended Destination Ruhland; Type of Mission Heavy Bomb
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
5/10 clouds to 1/10 clouds, good visibility
4. GIVE: (a) Day 12 Month Sep Year 44; Time 1130; and Location in Berlin
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (); Last contacted by radio (); Forced down (); Seen to Crash (); or Information not available ()
5. AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, -OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one) - Enemy Aircraft (); Enemy anti-aircraft (); Other Circumstances as Follows: _____
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17-G ; AAF Serial Number 42-97130
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, If Any None
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1820-97 ; AAF Serial Number (a) 41-56897 ; (b) SW-008662 ; (c) SW-024508 ; (d) SW-011812
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below name, Type and Serial Number);
(a) HS-174983 ; (b) SP-72693 ; (c) F-683694 ; (d) SP-235817 ;
(e) SP-72707 ; (f) F-647118 ; (g) F-635287 ; (h) F-646778 ;
(i) F-650774 ; (j) F-63620 ; (k) F-635792 ; (l) F-635244 ;
(m) _____ ; (n) _____ ; (o) _____ ; (p) _____
10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty
or (b) ~~MISSING~~
11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 9 ; Passengers 0 ; Total 9
(Starting with Pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 11 persons were aboard aircraft, list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach original to this form.)

	Crew Position	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Current Status	
KIA	1. Pilot	Freeman, Marvin W.	2nd Lt	O-819138	Pilot	MIA
EVS	2. Co-Pilot	Barber, Curtis M.	F/O	T-62382	Pilot	"RTD
KIA	3. Navigator	Stansbery, Charles E.	2nd Lt	O-718446	Navigator	"
KIA	4. Nose Gunner	Smith, Francis B.	F/O	T-2534	Bombardier	"
KIA	5. Top Turr Gnr.	Summers, Merlin D.	S/Sgt	X18132554	Aer Eng Gnr.	"
KIA	6. Radio Opr.	Lovens, Kenneth W.	S/Sgt	33426235	Radio Opr.	"
KIA	7. Ball Turret Gnr.	Holmes, John G.	Sgt	32570095	Arm Gnr.	"
EVS	8. Waist Gunner	Hughes, James E.	S/Sgt	38222594	Aer Eng Gnr.	"RTD
EVS	9. Tail Gunner.	Appell, Robert L.	Sgt	36295772	Arm Gnr.	"RTD
	10.					
	11.					

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

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted			Saw	
			by Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Forced Landing	
1. <u>Truchsess, Edward L.</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>1-755560</u>		<u>X</u>			
2.							
3.							

HS - High Standard
SP - Spark Plug
F - Frequent

GROUP 306th Bomb Sq SQ 425 No. A/C No. 42-07180 MISSION DATE 12/8/44

FIRST PILOT Harold W. Probst, 2nd Lt (C-018150) DESTINATION IRELAND, Germany
NAME RANK ASST

1. Position of missing aircraft when last sighted or contacted:

- (a) By coordinates 52N 01 - 13W
- (b) Approximate altitude 27,000 feet
- (c) Last noted heading Aircraft dropped out of formation
- (d) If out of formation, approximate distance from formation unknown

2. Describe enemy opposition (intensity of flak, intensity and method of enemy fighter attack, etc., with particular reference to missing A/C)

The area in which it was last sighted, was attacked by 7W190s from 7 to 8 o'clock high, air breast and four way.

3. Description of extent of damage to missing aircraft (including fires, explosions, etc):

Aircraft dropped out of formation

4. If aircraft was out of control describe appearance:

Could not follow after aircraft dropped out of formation.

(over)

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5. If distressed aircraft was out of formation was it last seen with escort? no If so, give distinguishing markings of fighter group if noted (Group number, color and or fighter aircraft numbers, nicknames, etc.,): _____

6. Number of parachutes seen and description of jumps (approximate altitude, time between jumps, etc)

No chutes were observed to come from this aircraft but there were two chutes noticed in the area.

7. Any other remarks not covered by above: _____

8. Date of report 13 October, 1944.

<u>EYE-WITNESSES:</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>A/C No.</u>
1.	Norman L. ...	2nd Lt	0578133	12-3012
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____

INTERROGATING OFFICER (Sign Original and on copy):

<u>John M. Kavanaugh</u>	<u>1st Lt</u>	<u>0578133</u>	<u>A-2 (A-2) Co.</u>
<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>DUTY</u>
JOHN M. KAVANAUGH,			

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13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used ; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash ; or (c) Any other reason (Specify)
14. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN OR HEARD FROM.
15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
16. GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH, IF ANY, INCLUDING DESCRIPTION AND EXTENT None

Date of Report 13 September, 1944

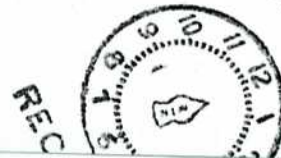
J. A. LaMotta

(Signature of Preparing Officer)

J. A. LAMOTTA,
Captain Air Corps,
Asst. Adjutant.

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:

See S-2 Report.



OCT 18 1944