

4283

Classification changed  
to ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
by ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~  
by ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~  
Date ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

WAR DEPARTMENT  
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON  
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 aircraft is officially reported missing.

- ORGANIZATION: Location AAF Sta 111 ; Command or Air Force 8th Group 306th Bomb (H) ; Squadron 369th Bomb (H) ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
- SPECIFY: Point of Departure Thurleigh, England ; Course as prescribed Intended Destination Obertfaffenhofen, Ger. Type of Mission Heavy Bomb
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: Good
- GIVE: (a) Date 24 Apr/44 Time 1335 ; and Location Near Augsburg, Germany. of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.  
(b) Specify whether (X) Last Sighted; ( ) Last contacted by Radio; ( ) Forced Down; ( ) Seen to Crash; or ( ) Information not Available.
- AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one (X) Enemy Aircraft; ( ) Enemy Anti-Aircraft; ( ) Other Circumstances as follows \_\_\_\_\_
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17-G ; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-31768
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1820-97 ; A.A.F. Serial Number (a) SW-007342 (b) SW-007328 ; (c) SW-007335 ; (d) SW-007390
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)  
\* (a) B-893698 ; (b) KH-682577 ; (c) B-895196 ; (d) KH-682631  
(e) S-047895 ; (f) B-894155 ; (g) B-898436 ; (h) B-892013
- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X or (b) ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
- NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10 ; Passengers 0 ; Total 10  
(Starting with pilot, furnish the following particulars; if more than 10 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
1. Pilot - Pilot	Biggs, Carroll G.	2nd Lt	0-754316 RTD
2. Pilot - Co-Pilot	Chapman, William W. Jr.	2nd Lt	0-815074 RTD
3. Navigator - Navigator	Weldon, Joseph B.	2nd Lt	0-814467 RTD
4. Bombardier - Nose Gunner	Pedevillano, John R.	2nd Lt.	0-757553 RTD
5. Aer. Eng. Gunner - Top Turret G.	Economos, George (NEI)	S/Sgt	31035834 RTD
6. Radio Opr - Radio Opr.	Swift, Gerald E.F.	T/Sgt	18033525 RTD
7. Aer. Eng. Gunner - Ball Turret G.	Moore, Matthew G.	Sgt	32404744 RTD
8. Aer. Eng. Gunner - R. Waist G.	Pruch, Lee A.	Sgt	35813050 RTD
9. Aer. Gunner - L. Waist Gunner	Garr, Walter W.	Sgt	18081606 RTD
10. Arm. Gunner - Tail Gunner	Victory, Luther D.	Sgt	18105600 RTD

11. 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				Check Only One Column	
			By Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing		
1. <u>XXXXXXXXXX</u>	<u>XXXXXXXXXX</u>	<u>XXXXXXXXXX</u>		<u>X</u>				
2. _____								
3. _____								

- IF PERSONNEL WERE 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) \_\_\_\_\_
- ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.
- ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
- ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE \_\_\_\_\_

\* See reverse Side.

Date of Report 25 April, 1944.

Reproduced by  
Hq, 306th Bomb Gp(H), 14 July/43.  
1 Incl: Incl 1 - Eyewitness account of  
Sgt. W. B. Wagoner.

Paul J. Baillie  
(Signature of Preparing Officer)  
PAUL J. BAILLIE,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Asst. Adjutant.

Incl 28'

Report Concerning Captured Air Force Personnel

Edo: Airbase Command

Place: Straubing 2

Time: 26 Apr 44, at 0845 hours

Subject: Downed

Name: Chapman William W., O 8150114

Pedevillano, John R., 757583

Biggs, Carroll, O 154316

Joseph B. Weldon, O 814467

Noore, Matthew G., 32404144

Economos, George, 3103583A

Garr, Walter, 15081608

Swift, G.E.F., 1803352S

Disposition: Captured

Place and Time of Capture: 24 Apr 44, at 1350 hours Mainburg

Description of the place: Mainburg/District of Mallersdorf/Nooy.

24 April 1944  
Mainburg  
County Mallersdorf  
Ed. Bay  
Type: Fortress  
Target: Airfield  
Command Straubing

3 May

KU 1601

2nd.Lt. HINGS	Carroll C. O-754316	capt.
2nd.Lt. PEDEVILLANO	John Robert C-757553	capt.
2nd.Lt. WELDON	Joseph Bert O-814467	capt.
2nd.Lt. CHAPMAN	William Watts O-815074	capt.
T/Sgt. SWIFT	Gerald E.F. 18033525	capt.
S/Sgt. ECONOMOS	George 31035834	capt.
Sgt. MOORE	Matthew George 32/404744	capt.
Sgt. PRUGH	Lee Allen 35617090	capt.
Sgt. VICTORY	Luther Dale 18109600	capt.
Sgt. GARR	Walter William 16081606	capt.

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT  
WAS SHOT DOWN

24 April 1944

CASUALTY NO.

KG 1601

PLACE OF CRASH

Mainburg - Bayern

mach 4283

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT

Forbes

REPORTING OFFICE

Transport Strabing

70083  
4283

NAME	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CAPT'D WOUNDED DEAD	PLACE OF INTERMENT
------	------	---------------	---------------------------	--------------------

RIGGS, Garvell G. 2nd/Lt. 0-754316 Captured Dulag Luft

PEDWILLANO, John Robert 2nd/Lt. 0-797553 Captured Dulag Luft

WELCH, John ~~XXXX~~ Bert 2nd/Lt. 0-824467 Captured Dulag Luft

SWIFT, Gerald E.F. Pa. 7/Sgt. 18093525 Captured Dulag Luft

BOONOS, George 5/Sgt. 31035834 Captured Dulag Luft

MOORE, Matthew George Sgt. 32401744 Captured Dulag Luft

FRUGH, Lee Allen Sgt. 356130850 Captured Dulag Luft

VICTORY, Luther Dale Sgt. 18105600 Captured Dulag Luft

GARR, Walter William Sgt. 16081606 Captured Dulag Luft  
24 December 1921 - Chicago, Ill.

Downing Number KG 1601 1st Follow up Report from 16 May 1944

CHAPMAN, William Watts 2nd/Lt. 0-815074 Captured Dulag Luft

REMARKS:

Dulag Luft: 4 May 1944 - No.

\* (i) B-893981 (j) B-895249 (k) B-899544 (l) B-893945 (m) B-893835

\* B - Buffalo  
KH - Kelsey Hayes  
S - Savage

RECEIVED



MAY 20 1944

Straubing, 26 Apr 44

Airbase Command  
Straubing

To: Deleg Luft Oberursel  
Oberursel near Frankfurt/Main

Airbase Command Straubing sends inclosures.

1. Forms No. 1 for the POW No. 1-16

It is remarked that POW No. 8 Victory and No. 10 (Brugh) belong to the aircraft which crashed on 24 Apr 44, at 1345 hours, 1 km west of Niederumelsdorf, aircraft type B 17 G, 4 engine, was shot down by fighter. Among the 15 POW are 3 crewmembers, who were in the same aircraft, but could not be identified here. In the salvage area Straubing only one aircraft was shot down as reported. The aircraft burned 95%. Dead or burned crewmembers were not found. Part of the POW probably belong to different crashes.

2. Form No. 2 is for a shot down American 4 engine aircraft Boeing B 17 G.
3. 15 envelopes with inventor. of effects of the POW
4. Photo equipment was not found with the shot down aircraft.

KU 1601

23. At 1400 hours, Niederumelsdorf, 18 km south of Kelheim/D, BD 3, Boeing 17 G, 95% destruction, 6 men captured, shot down by fighter, serial No. 231768, serial No. AF 31768

V

Report Concerning Captured Aircraft

Hqs: Airbase Command

Place: Straubing 2

Time: 26 Apr 44

Time of Crash: 24 Apr 44, at 1345 hours

Place of Crash: 1 km west of Niedermeisdorf, 12 km south of Abensberg Obpf.

Kind of Capture: Downed by fighter

Aircraft type: B 17, 4 engine USA bomber, serial No. 231768, engine No.

AF 43-31768

Condition of aircraft: 95% destruction

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS 306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)  
Office of the Commanding Officer  
United States Forces

(G-A-12)

AFPO 557,  
26 April, 1944.

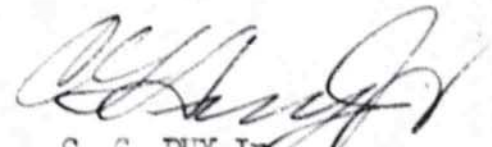
SUBJECT: Eye-witness account of incidents pertaining to Aircraft No.  
42-31768, Missing in Action, 24 April, 1944.

TO: Commanding General, Hq, First Bombardment Division, AFPO 557.

1. According to Sgt. W. E. WAGONER, eye-witness and tail gunner  
in an aircraft in the same formation, the following is an account of  
what occurred on 24 April, 1944 to Aircraft No. 42-31768:

"At approximately 1355 hours in the vicinity of Augsburg,  
Germany, Lt. Biggs was hit by fighters; ~~we~~ saw a fire in the  
left waist window; and saw the plane in a steep dive below for-  
mation. No chutes were observed.

For the Commanding Officer:



C. G. DUY Jr.,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Adjutant.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



Report Concerning Captured Air Force Personnel

Hdr: Airbase Command

Place: Straubing

Time: 1100 hours

Subject: Shot down by fighter, B 17, 1 km west of Niederumeltorf, 24 Apr 44

Name: Prugh, Lee A., 35613050

Victory, Luther D., 18105600

Disposition: Captured

Place and Time of Capture: Wildenberg on 24 Apr 44. at 1345 hours

Wildenberg, District of Mallersdorf/Nbay.

Identification Tags

Gerald E. F. Swift, 16033525 and miscellaneous

Joseph B. Weldon, O 814467

Matthew G. Moore, 32404744

Carroll G. Biggs, O 754316

John R. Pedevillano, O 757553

William W. Chapman, 31170982 and Pilot and Crew Member Physical Record  
Card.