

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

Classification changed to RESTRICTED

by Lt. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AG.
by P. M. MUENCH, Capt., AG.
15 MAR 1946

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 Station 111 ; Command or Air Force 8th
Group 306th Bomb (H) ; Squadron 367th Bomb (H) Detachment
- SPECIFY: Point of Departure Thurleigh, England ; Course as prescribed
Intended Destination Noyen, France ; Type of Mission Heavy Bomb
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
8/10 clouds
- GIVE: (a) Date 17 Jun/44 Time 1245 ; and Location Near LeMans, France
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) () Enemy Aircraft; (x) Enemy Anti-Aircraft; () Other Circumstances as follows
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17-G ; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-38163
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1820-97 ; A.A.F. Serial Number (a) SW-003163
(b) SW-005355 ; (c) 41-56798 ; (d) SW-004887
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)
* (a) HS-1076712 ; (b) HS-1073115 ; (c) HS-158171 ; (d) C-744589
(e) B-868849 ; (f) HS-1075508 ; (g) HS-1075881 ; (h) HS-752358
- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty
or (b) ~~non-Battle Casualty~~
- NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 9 ; Passengers 0 ; Total 9
(Statting 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	<u>MA Pedersen, Joseph W.</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0-809865 RTD</u>
2. Pilot - Co-Pilot	<u>MA Blood, Leon J.</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0-818819 RTD</u>
3. Navigator - Navigator	<u>RTD Gustafson, Ragnar</u>	<u>1st Lt</u>	<u>0-811635 RTD</u>
4. Bombardier - Bombardier-Nose	<u>RTD Smith, William A.</u>	<u>1st Lt</u>	<u>0-725095 RTD</u>
5. Aer. Eng - Gun - Top Turret Gun.	<u>MA Arnold, Barney E.</u>	<u>T/Sgt</u>	<u>18061280</u>
6. Radio Opr. - Radio Opr.	<u>MA Wanning, John E.</u>	<u>T/Sgt</u>	<u>35691651 RTD</u>
7. Arm. Gun. - Ball Turret Gun.	<u>MA Blackwell, Jack E.</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>39698014 RTD</u>
8. Aer. - Gun - Waist Gunner	<u>H. D. Herr, Warren E.</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>37002808</u>
9. Aer. - Gun - Tail Gunner	<u>RTD Ehrhard, Herman P. Jr.</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>17081672 RTD</u>

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>WEGENER, Charles C.</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0-756329</u>		<u>X</u>				
2.								
3.								

12. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used Yes ; (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

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

APO 557,
19 June, 1944.

SUBJECT: Incidents pertaining to Aircraft #42-38163, Pilot J.W.
PEDERSEN, Missing in Action, 17 June, 1944.

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

1. According to 2nd Lt Charles C. Wegener, pilot of an aircraft in the same formation the following is an eye-witness account of what happened to Aircraft #42-38163, Pilot J.W. PEDERSEN, on 17 June, 1944:

Aircraft #163-N, Pilot Pedersen was hit by A.A. fire on entering French Coast at 1108 hours. He stayed with formation. At 1245 hours NE of Le Mans, France his engine was seen to be on fire. Aircraft peeled out of formation, went into a short spin and made a 360. Nine chutes came out and aircraft continued down in spin into clouds.

For the COMMANDING OFFICER:

Paul J. Baillie
PAUL J. BAILLIE,
Captain, Air Corps,
Asst. Adjutant.

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