

~~SECRET~~
WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON
MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

~~CLASSIFIED~~
~~TO RESTRICTED~~
BY M. A. BRADMAN, Lt, Col., AG
BY W. J. THOMAS, 1st Lt., AG
MAR 15 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 Decimomannu Sardinia; Command or Air Force 12th Air Force Group 320th Bomb; Squadron 44th Bomb; Detachment
- SPECIFY: Point of Departure Decimomannu Sardinia; Course ~~XXXXXX~~ See page 2
Intended Destination Decimo; - Orvieta-Decimo; Type of Mission Combat
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED;
CAVU
- GIVE: (a) Date 1-21-44; Time 1226; and Location Mountain North of Ficulle, Italy of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify Whether () Last Sighted; () Last Contacted by Radio;
() Forced Down; (X) Seen to Crash; or () Information not available.
5. AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, OR IS TO HAVE BEEN BELIEVED LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one.)
() Enemy Aircraft: (X) Enemy Anti-Aircraft: () Other circumstances as follows
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B26B41; AF Serial Number 42-73276
- ENGINES: Type: Model and Series R-2800-43; AAF Serial Number (a) R-42-53157
(b) L-2-52645 (c) _____
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnished below make, Type and Serial Number (d)
(a) 9 MG Cal. .50; (b) Unknown; (c) _____; (d) Unknown
(e) Unknown; (f) Unknown; (g) Unknown; (h) Unknown
- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty; (b) Battle Casualty
or (b) Non-Battle Casualty; (c) Battle Casualty; (d) Battle Casualty
10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 7; Passengers 0
TOTAL 7

(Starting with pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 16 persons were aboard aircraft, list similiar particulars on separate sheet and attach original to this form.)

Crew Position	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number
1. Pilot	EDWARDS, JOHN C.	1st Lt.	0-659962
2. Co-Pilot	BRACKE, ALBERT C.	2nd Lt.	0-677238
3. Bombardier	ROBINSON, ELTON E.	1st Lt.	0-731225
4. Navigator	MCDOWALL, CHARLES D. Jr.	2nd Lt.	0-807260

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S.O. 1500, sec. 5-402
795072
CLASS. Date
Dec. Date 12/1/40

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

5. Engineer OWEN CALMAN MEYER, CARL E. T/Sgt. 36038743
 6. Radio Gunner OWEN CALMAN, JOHN F. S/Sgt. 33318579 PTD
 7. Aerial Gunner LANIER, MILTON D. Sgt. 14067698 PTD

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 by radio	Check only one column	
				Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1. COOK, WILLIAM (NMI)	Captain	0-560824		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2.					
3.					

12. 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) Parachutes 7 (Seven)

13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, OR SKETCH, OR CHART SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE LAST AIRCRAFT WAS SEEN. Atchd

14. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT. Atchd

15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE No Search

2. Course - 350 T for 246 miles, Date of Report 23 January 1944
 550 T for 26 miles, 700 M for 20
 1000 miles - Orvieto, 2950 T for 20
 miles, 2110 T for 42 miles,
 2160 T for 246 miles - Decimo.

James R. Edwards
 (Signature of preparing officer)
 JAMES R. EDWARDS,
 Captain, Air Corps,
 Statistical Officer.



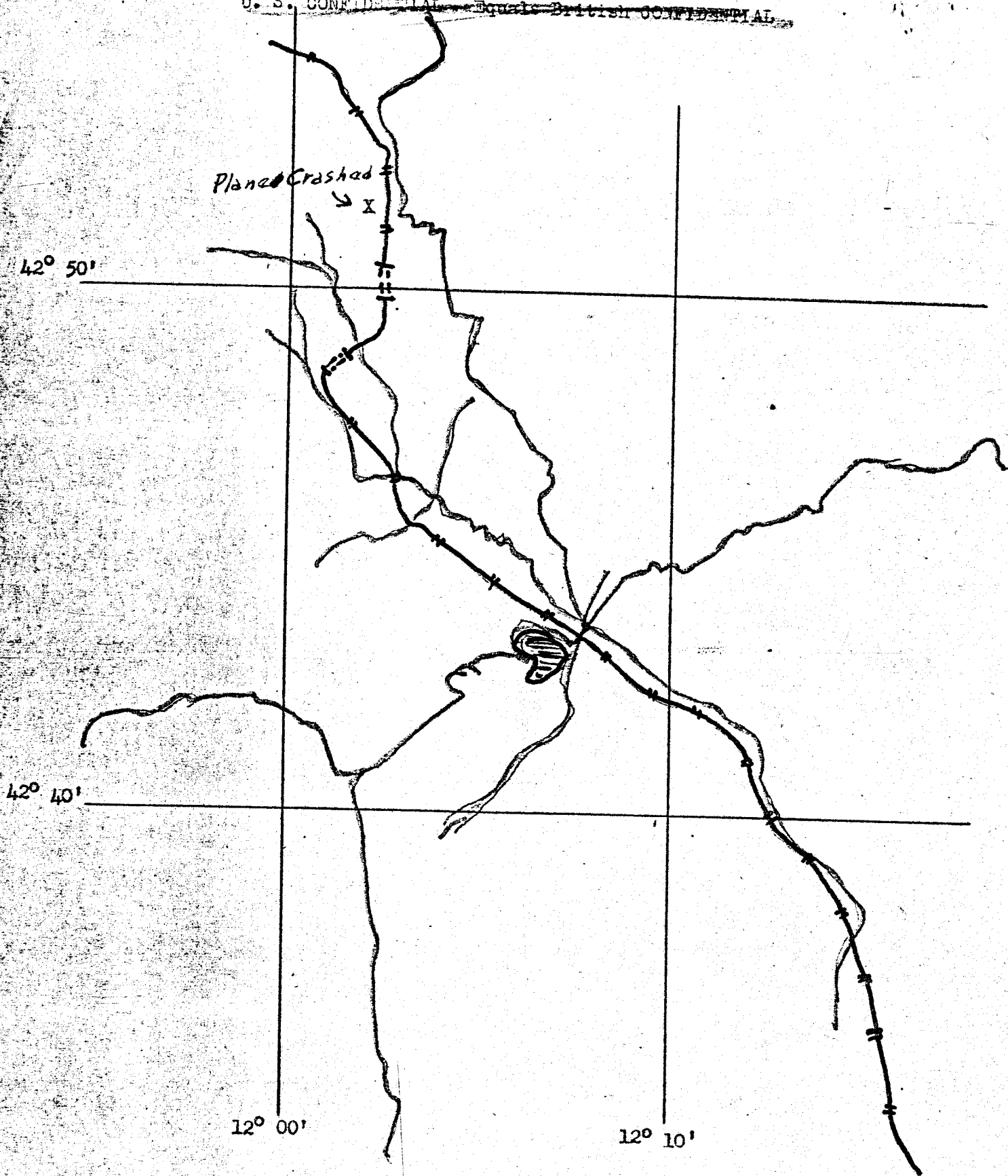
(2)

C E R T I F I C A T E

1st. Lt. Edwards, pilot, flying lead aircraft of the third flight. *Plane* was hit by flak while on the bomb run. The plane caught fire but continued on the bomb run until bombs away. The airplane then peeled off to the left, and six (6) parachutes were seen to open. The aircraft then went into a spin and one more chute was seen to open just before the airplane crashed on the top of a mountain just north of Ficulle at approximately 42° 52' N, 12° 03' E.

William Cook
WILLIAM (NMI) COOK
Captain, Air Corps
Group Intelligence Officer

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INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

2302

Name of crew member: MEYER, Carl E.
Grade: T/Sgt.
Serial number: 36038743
Position: ~~Chief Cabin Crew Member~~ Engineer

Did he bail out? YES - HE WAS FIRST MAN OUT.

Where? NEAR "OVERETTO" ITALY.

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: NO

CONVERSATION: AT THE TIME

Was he injured? NO - PRIOR TO BAILING OUT.

Where was he when last seen? SAW HIM DESCENDING - PARACHUTE OPEN.

Any hearsay information: ITALIAN CIVILIANS SAID ONE MAN'S

PARACHUTE HUNG IN A TREE AND HE WAS KILLED BY THE

"FASCIST." I DO NOT KNOW WHO THIS MAN WAS OR

WHETHER THE INFORMATION WAS TRUE. I NEVER

MADE CONTACT WITH ANY OF THE MEN AFTER "BAILING OUT"

Source: "ITALIAN" CIVILIAN TALK NEAR "OVERETTO"

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: I JUST

DO NOT HAVE ANY INFORMATION AS TO HIS FATE

AFTER HE LANDED.

Total number of missions of above crew member: IN THE THIRTY'S

Dates and destinations if possible: UNKNOWN

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

2302

Name of crew member: McDOWALL, Charles D. Jr.
 Rank: 2nd Lt.
 Serial number: 0-807266
 Position: ~~Navigator~~ Navigator

Did he bail out? YES - HE WAS THE 3RD MAN OUT.

Where? NEAR "OVERETTO" ITALY.

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: NO

CONVERSATION PRIOR TO LEAVING PLANE.

Was he injured? UNKNOWN - HE "BAILED OUT" FROM DIFFERENT PART OF PLANE.

Where was he when last seen? DESCENDING IN AIR - PARACHUTE OPEN.

Any hearsay information: ITALIAN CIVILIANS SAID ONE MAN'S

PARACHUTE HUNG IN A TREE AND HE WAS KILLED BY THE

"FASCIST". I DO NOT KNOW WHO THIS MAN WAS OR WHETHER

THIS INFORMATION WAS TRUE. I NEVER MADE CONTACT

WITH ANY OF THE MEN AFTER "BAILING OUT". (SAW PILOT)

Source: ITALIAN CIVILIAN TALK NEAR "OVERETTO"

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: I JUST DO

NOT HAVE ANY INFORMATION AS TO HIS FATE AFTER

HE LANDED.

Total number of missions of above crew member: IN THE THIRTIES.

Dates and destinations if possible: UNKNOWN.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

2302

Name of crew member: MEYER, Carl B.
Rank: T/Sgt.
Serial number: 36038743
Position: ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~: Engineer

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Through waist window of aircraft. North of target, Orvieto, Italy

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: 5 seconds before bailout on plane's interphone.

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? I saw him in Camp Lucky Strike, Le Havre

Any hearsay information: France in May, 1945. I have had letters from him in the U.S. during the last 6 months.

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

Total number of missions of above crew member: 30 (estimated)

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

2302

Name of crew member: **Mc DOWALL, Charles D. Jr.**
Rank: **2nd Lt.**
Serial number: **0-507266**
Position: ~~Crew Chief~~ **Navigator**

Did he bail out? Yes after "bombs away"

Where? Through bomb bay of plane 5 seconds North of target

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? I have received letters written by

Any hearsay information: him during the past six months.

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name John Chappell Edwards Rank Capt. Serial No. 0-659962
2. Organization 320 Gp Commander Col. Fletcher Rank _____ Sqn CO Myself - acting Rank 1st Lt.
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month January day 21 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Orvieto, Italy, target, ry bridge south, target time, 1200 (estimated), altitude, 9500 (estimated) route scheduled, Sardinia - Orvieto - Sardinia, route flown Sardinia - Orvieto
5. Where were you when you left formation? 5 seconds after bombs away
6. Did you bail out? Yes
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Yes
8. Tell all you know about when, where, how each person in your aircraft for whom no individual questionnaire is attached bailed out. A crew list is attached. Please give facts. If you don't know, say: "No Knowledge". Bombardier Elton Robinson 1st Lt. and Co-pilot A.S. Bracke 2nd Lt. through Bomb Bay doors. Turret Gunner J. Calnan Sgt. M. Laniers Tail Gunner through Waist Window.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? 3 or 4 miles North of target (estimated)
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) None.
11. Where were they in aircraft? _____
12. What was their condition? _____
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? Last saw (literally) Carl Meyer T. Sgt Waist Gunner one hour before target time; he was in good condition. Saw him in Camp Lucky Strike Le Havre, France. Last saw C. Mc Dowell 2nd Lt. Navigator one half hour before target time; he was in good condition. Saw Carl Meyer at Camp Lucky Strike in May, 1945.
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. _____

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

2300

Name of crew member: MEYER, Carl E.
Rank: T/Sgt.
Serial number: 36038743
Position: ~~Crew (Bomber) or Pilot (Fighter)~~ Engineer

Did he bail out? YES

Where? ORVIETTO, ITALY

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: ORDER FOR FUEL TRANSFER 20 MIN. BEFORE BEING SHOT DOWN

Was he injured? NOT TO MY KNOWLEDGE

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: I SAW & TALKED TO SGT. MEYER AT CAMP LUCKY STRIKE, FRANCE. HE SEEMED IN GOOD HEALTH & SPIRITS. THIS WAS ABOUT THE 20TH. OF MAY, 1945. HE ALSO TALKED TO CAPT. J. C. EDWARDS OUR SQ. Q.O. AT THE SAME TIME.

Total number of missions of above crew member: ?

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

2302

Name of crew member: Mc DOWALL, Charles D. Jr.
Rank: 2nd Lt.
Serial number: 0-807266
Position: ~~Crew (Bomber) or Pilot (Fighter)~~: Navigator

Did he bail out? YES

Where? ORVIETTO, ITALY

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: WE TALKED TOGETHER ABOUT 5 MIN. BEFORE BEING SHOT DOWN

Was he injured? NOT TO MY KNOWLEDGE

Where was he when last seen? ?

Any hearsay information: I HEARD HE HAD EVADED AND MADE HIS WAY THROUGH THE GROUND LINES IN ITALY.

Source: T/SGT. CARL E. MEYER.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: NONE

Total number of missions of above crew member: ?

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name ALBERT C. BRACKE Rank 1ST. LT. Serial No. 0-677138
2. Organization 310 B.Gp Commander FLETCHER Rank Lt. Col. Sqn CO J.C. EDWARDS Rank CAPT.
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1943 month JAN. day 21 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, BOMBARDMENT, target, ORVIETTO R.R. BRIDGE, target time, 12:30, altitude, 9500 route scheduled, _____, route flown _____
5. Where were you when you left formation? DIRECTLY OVER TARGET
6. Did you bail out? YES
7. Did other members of crew bail out? YES
8. Tell all you know about when, where, how each person in your aircraft for whom no individual questionnaire is attached bailed out. A crew list is attached. Please give facts. If you don't know, say: "No Knowledge". NO KNOWLEDGE FOR THE 2 ENLISTED MEN IN REAR OF PLANE. 1ST. LT. ROBINSON, BOMBARDIER BAILED OUT JUST BEFORE ME. CAPT. EDWARDS LEFT JUST AFTER ME. I SAW BOTH IN THE AIR.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? ?
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) NONE
11. Where were they in aircraft? _____
12. What was their condition? _____
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? THE 2 ENLISTED MEN IN THE REAR OF THE SHIP I HAVEN'T SEEN SINCE THE TAKEOFF OF OUR LAST MISSION.
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. _____

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

AG 319.11 1st Ind. C-3
HEADQUARTERS, 43ND WING (US), APO 520, US ARMY, 25 January 1944.

TO: Commanding General, XII Bomber Command, APO 520, US Army.

J. B. B.
J. B. B.
J.B.B.

Corrected Listing of Incls as Rec'd:

- 9 Incls:
- Incl 1 - Missing Air Crew Report.
- Incl 2 - Sketch.
- Incl 3 - Statement of Captain Cook.
- Incl 4 - Missing Air Crew Report.
- Incl 5 - Sketch.
- Incl 6 - Statement of Captain Cook.
- Incl 7 - Missing Air Crew Report.
- Incl 8 - Sketch.
- Incl 9 - Statement of Captain Cook.

319.11 2nd Ind. C/BLM/wm
HEADQUARTERS, XII BOMBER COMMAND, APO 650, US ARMY, 28 JANUARY 1944.

TO: Commanding General, 42nd Wing, APO 650, US Army.

Returned for following entries on Missing Air Crew Report.

- a. Under Item 2, Intended Destination and Course to be filled in.
- b. Under Item 8, enter make and serial number of weapons, if known.

For the Commanding Officer:

R. J. Martin
R. J. MARTIN,
1st Lt, A. C.
Actg Asst Adj Gen.

9 Incls: n/c

AG 319.11 3rd Ind. C-3
HEADQUARTERS, 42ND WING (US), APO 650, US ARMY, 1 February 1944.

TO: Commanding Officer, 320th Bomb Group, APO 650, US Army.

For immediate compliance with preceding indorsement and return through this headquarters.

By Command of Brigadier General WEBSTER:

Joseph B. Bott
JOSEPH B. BOTT,
1st Lieut., Air Corps,
Assistant Adjutant. *J.B.B.*

9 Incls: n/c ~~U. S. CONFIDENTIAL - Equals - British CONFIDENTIAL~~ - 2 -

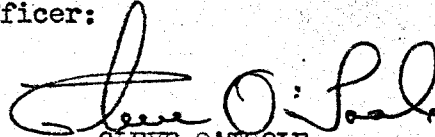
319.11 4th Ind.
HEADQUARTERS, 320TH BOMB GROUP, APO 650, U.S. ARMY, 3 February 1944.

TO: COMMANDING GENERAL, 42nd Wing, APO-650, US Army.

In compliance with 2nd Ind.

- a. Under Item 2, Intended Destination and Course are filled in.
- b. Under Item 8, serial number of weapons are unknown.

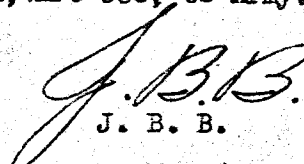
For the Commanding Officer:


CLEVE O'TOOLE,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

319.11 5th Ind. C-3
HEADQUARTERS 42ND WING (US), APO 650, US Army, 4 February 1944.

TO: Commanding General, XII Bomber Command, APO 650, US Army.

9 Incls: n/c


J. B. B.
Hub

319.11 6th Ind. C/HAH/wm
HEADQUARTERS, XII BOMBER COMMAND, APO 650, US ARMY, 7 FEBRUARY 1944.

TO: Commanding General, Twelfth Air Force, APO 650, US Army.

9 Incls: n/c


S. J. B.

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AG 360.33
HQ, TWELFTH AF, APO 650, US Army, 18 Feb 1944.

7th Ind

XAG-LHG-jap-5

TO: CG, NATOUSA, APO 534, US Army. Att: Battle Cas Section

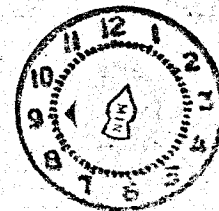
1. Attention is invited to basic communication.
2. Casualties reported by this hq on Battle Casualty Report (B 119) submitted 17 Feb 44.

For the Commanding General:

C.C. Parks
C. C. PARKS,
Major, AGD,
Asst Adj General.

9 Incls: n/c

MAR 9 1944



RECEIVED

Air A. G.

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110274

3-

Classification changed

~~RESTRICTED~~

A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AC
WM. L. THOMAS, 1st Lt. AC
ite MAR 15 1946

HEADQUARTERS 320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)
APO 520
US ARMY

24 January 1944.

SUBJECT: Missing Air Crew Report.

TO : Commanding General, 42nd Wing (US), APO 520.

1. Transmitted herewith Missing Air Crew Reports for the following named Battle Casualties:

- ✓ 1st Lt. Louis Valls, O-730992
- ✓ 2nd Lt. Woodrow W. Owens, O-746415 1
- ✓ 2nd Lt. Benjamin E. Sylvester, O-746917 /
- ✓ 2nd Lt. John B. Williams, O-741874
- ✓ S/Sgt. Blake Chilton, 18007323 RDT
- ✓ S/Sgt. Gilbert S. Corona, 39648130
- ✓ S/Sgt. Walter F. Herbert, 32626599

- ✓ 1st Lt. Robert B. Currie, O-791195 RTD (N. Afr.)
- ✓ 2nd Lt. Howard A. Brewer, O-745603 RTD (N. Afr.)
- ✓ 2nd Lt. Paul L. Perkins, O-731531 RTD (N. Afr.)
- ✓ 2nd Lt. Harold F. Konvalinka, O-744854 RTD (N. Afr.)
- ✓ S/Sgt. Edgar L. Fendrich, 32246440 RTD
- ✓ S/Sgt. Joseph T. De Marco, 32445425 RTD
- ✓ S/Sgt. Norman H. Derau, 33185623 RTD

- ✓ 1st Lt. John C. Edwards, O-659962
 - ✓ 2nd Lt. Albert C. Bracke, O-677238
 - ✓ 1st Lt. Elton E. Robinson, O-731225 1
 - ✓ 2nd Lt. Charles D. McDowall, Jr., O-807266
 - T/Sgt. Carl E. Meyer, 36038743
 - S/Sgt. John F. Calnan, 33318579 RDT
 - Sgt. Milton D. Lanier, 14067693 RTD
- (see crew) →

2. Battle Casualty Reports on the above named personnel were submitted 22 January 1944.

For the Group Commander:

Cleve O'Toole
CLEVE O'TOOLE,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

3 Incls:
Missing Air Crew Reports (in quint)

2302

APPENDIX "D". For Adjutant General's Office, Washl, D.C.

1. Source:

Name - 2nd Lt. CHARLES D. McDOWALL, JR., C-807266.
Unit - 320th Bomb Group, 444th Bomb Squadron.
Date of Mission - 21 January 1944.
Date of Interrogation - 13 June 1944.

2. Members of Crew:

<u>Position:</u>	<u>Rank:</u>	<u>Name:</u>	<u>Status:</u>
Pilot	1st Lt.	J. C. Edwards	MIA /
Co-Pilot	2nd Lt.	Broche	MIA /
Bombardier	1st Lt.	B. E. Robinson	Alive /
Navigator	2nd Lt.	C. D. McDowall, Jr.	Source /
Gunners - (3) - Names and Status unknown by Source.			Unknown

Lt. B. E. Robinson was last seen by Source on 7 May in the Anticoli Corrado area from where he headed for Anzio. Has not been seen since.

Nothing Follows.

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E.O. 12065, Sec. 3-402

785072
By WCL
JB NARS, Date 12/11/70

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPENDIX "D". - For Adjutant General's Office, Washington, D.C.

1. Source:

Name - Sgt. MILTON D. LANIER, 14067698
Unit - 320th Bomb Group, 444th Bomb Squadron.
Date of Mission - 21 January 1944.
Date of Interrogation - 17 January 1944.

Macr 2302

2. Crewmembers:

<u>Position</u>	<u>ASN:</u>	<u>Rank:</u>	<u>Name:</u>	<u>Status:</u>
Pilot	0-659962	1st Lt.	John C. Edwards /	MIA
Co-Pilot	0-677238	2nd Lt.	Albert C. Bracke /	MIA
Navigator	0-807266	2nd Lt.	Charles D. McDowell /	RTD
Bombardier	0-731225	1st Lt.	Elton E. Robinson /	MIA
Engineer-Gunner	36038743	T/Sgt.	Carl E. Myer	MIA
Radio Gunner	33318579	S/Sgt.	John F. Calnan	MIA RTD
Tail-Gunner	14067698	Sgt.	Milton D. Laneir	RTD RTD

3. On 21 January 1944 at 1245 hours crew was given orders to bail from the plane near the ORVIETO bridge. The right engine of the craft had been hit by flak and burst into flames. Source bailed out at approximately 6,000 feet had witnessed three chutes other than his own descending. S/Sgt. Myer had preceded source in bailing. S/Sgt. Calnan was adjusting his parachute at the time Source left the craft. He had also witnessed Lt. Edwards' chute as he was descending.

Source was informed by friendly Italians that four planes had fallen in the area, and that two men had been killed. When Source met Lt. Edwards later, the pilot informed him that he believed all had bailed out, inasmuch as he had given preparatory orders which all members had acknowledged.

Source saw Lt. Edwards on 15 April in the MONTEBUONA area, at which time they separated, the pilot joining a group of men in an attempt to make for the lines.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12065, Sec. 3-402

785072

By WGL MARS, Date 12/1/80
PC