

12064

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Classification changed
to ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
by E. A. BRADY, Lt. Col., AC
by P. W. WOODS, Capt., AC

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MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

1. ORGANIZATION: Location PANTANELLA AFB, ITALY Command or Air Force 15th AF
 Group 464TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) Squadron 77TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
2. SPECIFY: Place of departure PANTANELLA AFB, ITALY Course WEST
 Target REIMS, FRANCE Type of mission BOMBING
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: 5/10 Cirrus at 30,000'; 10/10 Alto stratus; tops 14000', visibility unlimited above clouds.
4. GIVE: (a) Date 5 Feb 45 Time 1330 Last known position Steinhoring, Germany
 (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 Lack of oxygen
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, model & series B 24 H AAF Serial Number 42-52537
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT Ruby the Raider
8. ENGINES: Type, model & series R 1630-42 AAF Serial Number (a) 42-63618
 (b) CP 312049 (c) CP 312076 (d) 41-13109
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Make, type and serial number) All Browning .50 Cal Machine Guns
 (a) Left Nose 220541 (c) Left Waist 220230 (e) Left Tail 1757988
 (b) Right Nose 317501 (d) Right Waist 317206 (f) Right Tail 1757750
 (g) Left Upper 220413 (h) Left Lower 311, 1750011 (i)
 (j) Right Upper 220705 (k) Right Gun 1757988 (l)
10. PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW REPORTED AS: 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).

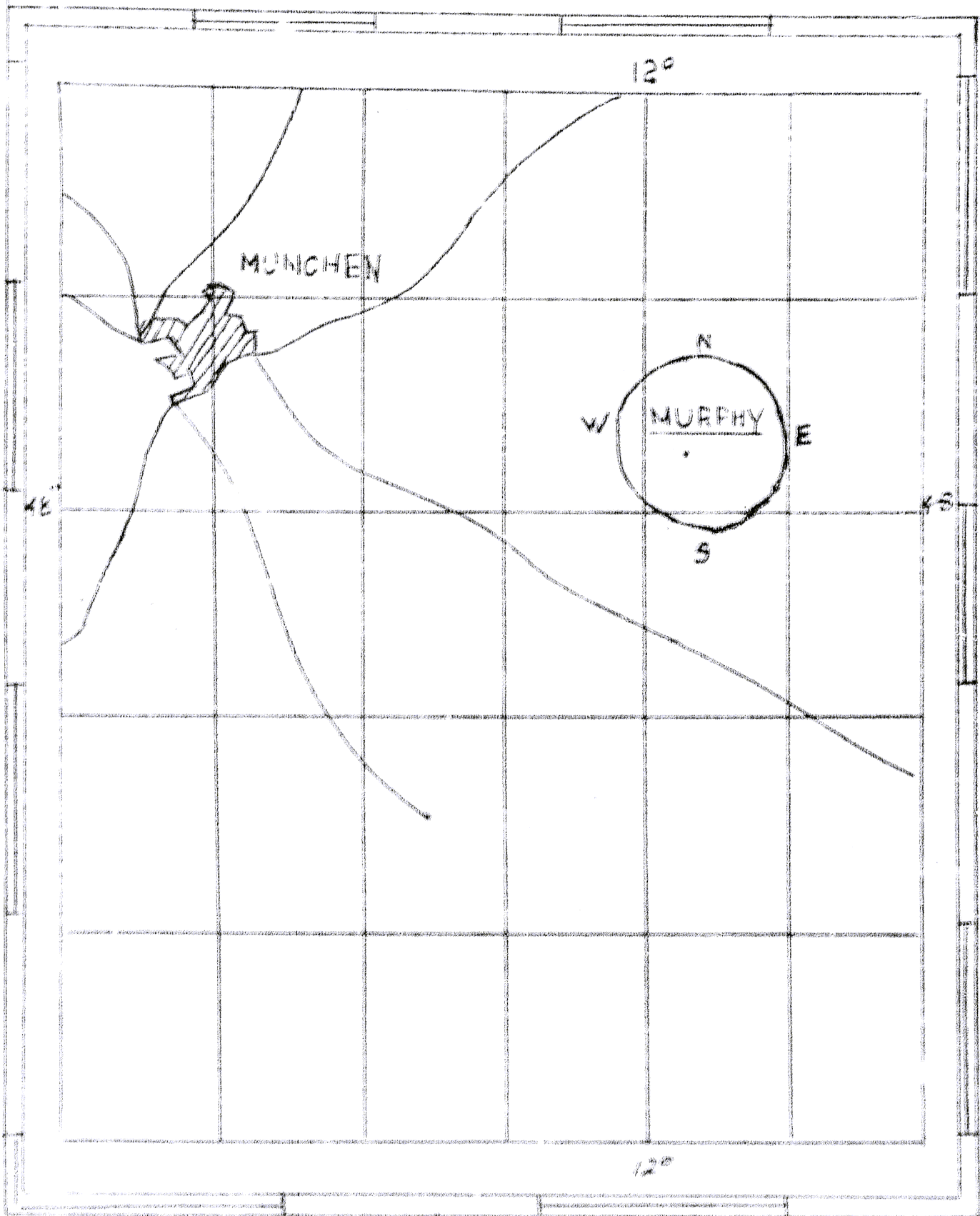
Classified by E. A. BRIDGEMAN, SA, on 10 MAR 16 1964
 Declassify on: OADR

CREW POSITION	FULL NAME (Last, first, initial)	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CURRENT NEXT OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP STATUS AND ADDRESS
1) Pilot	<u>ROBERT L. MURPHY</u>	<u>1st Lt</u>	<u>0-713267</u>	<u>Robert L. Murphy Mother 611 E Main St, Collinsville, Okla</u>
2) CP	<u>INOS DAVID GROSBY</u>	<u>2d Lt</u>	<u>0-2022978</u>	<u>Inos David Grosby Mother Lyons, Nebraska</u>
3) P	<u>PAUL G. STEVENS, SR</u>	<u>1st Lt</u>	<u>0-2750507</u>	<u>Paul G. Stevens, Sr Father Rt 21, Box 53, Oswego, Oregon</u>
4) S	<u>LEON DEMITTELS</u>	<u>P/O</u>	<u>0-128636</u>	<u>Leon Demittels Father 931 Albany Ave, Brooklyn, NY</u>
5) W	<u>MIRKO GANDRI</u>	<u>Sgt</u>	<u>0-2073829</u>	<u>Mirko Gandri Father 1734 Granite Ave, Granite City, Ill</u>
6) T	<u>DELIA SMITH</u>	<u>Sgt</u>	<u>0-205196</u>	<u>Delia Smith Mother 11231 Eldorado Ave, Chicago, Ill</u>
7) A	<u>DAWN A. GRAY</u>	<u>Cpl</u>	<u>0-121267</u>	<u>Dawn A. Gray Wife 6 Robert Street, Binghamton, New York</u>
8) G	<u>FLOESSIE MCCARTNEY</u>	<u>Sgt</u>	<u>0-2079207</u>	<u>Floessie McCartney Mother 615 N 14th St, Leokuk, Iowa</u>
9) G	<u>STELLA M. POLANSKI</u>	<u>Cpl</u>	<u>0-121057</u>	<u>Stella M. Polanski Wife 411-10th Street, Brooklyn, New York</u>
10) G	<u>LOUISE L. BOBBITT</u>	<u>Cpl</u>	<u>0-2081497</u>	<u>Louise L. Bobbitt Mother 316 Green Street, Starkville, Miss</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:
- | NAME IN FULL | RANK | SERIAL NO. | CONTACTED BY RADIO | LAST SIGHTED | SAW FORCED CRASH | SAW LANDING |
|--------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>ROBERT L. MURPHY</u> | <u>1st Lt</u> | <u>0-713267</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <u>INOS DAVID GROSBY</u> | <u>2d Lt</u> | <u>0-2022978</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | |
13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
 Parachutes were used, Persons were seen walking away from the scene of the crash,
 Other reasons (specify) None
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: No search

3 Enclosures. Date 7 Feb 45
 Incl 1-Sketch
 Incl 22-Statements
 Signature: Paul V. Hardy

25-45



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6 February 1945

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I was Co-pilot on Lt McCowan's crew on 5 February 1945 during a mission to Hagenburg, Germany. Because of a late take off we were flying with the 484th Bombardment Group, 49th Bombardment Wing. Immediately after target time, at approximately 13:25 hrs I heard White K calling urgently for fighter protection, for a period of two or three minutes, on "1" Channel, VHF. I heard no answer.

Chuck E. Sherry
Major, USAF
2d Lt, AC
3-6-6839
778th Bomb Sq (H)

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6 February 1945

C E R T I F I C A T E

I was Pilot of White 8 leading Fox Fox on 5 February 1945 during a Mission to Regensburg, Germany. Right after target time at about 13:30 hrs, I heard White 8 who was on my left wing, state over the radio that all Oxygen was gone, that crew personnel were using walk-around bottles and that two men in the nose had passed out. White 8 asked permission to leave formation and go down to lower altitude to try to get to Switzerland. This permission was granted and I observed White 8 drop out of the formation, pass under us toward the right and head approximately West, losing altitude. The plane appeared to be under full control.

CLARENCE CHILTS
1ST LT, AC
O-711994
779th Bomb Sq (B)

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Carl W. Hardy
Capt. 1st Lt., AC

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2nd Lt. Paul G. Stevens Jr.

Mr. Paul G. Stevens Sr., (father)
Route Number One, Box 53,
Goway, Oregon.

2nd Lt. Ruth C. Crosby

Mrs. Joan F. Crosby, (mother)
Lyons, Nebraska.

P/O Frederick De Mattela

Mr. Leon De Mattela, (father)
711 Albany Avenue,
Brooklyn, New York.

Sgt. Raymond C. Smith

Mrs. Della Smith, (mother)
7221 Lawrence Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

Sgt. Joseph J. Chanski

Mr. Elmer Chanski, (father)
1234 Granite Avenue,
Granite City, Illinois.

Cpl. James E. Sobitt

Mrs. Louise Sobitt, (mother)
206 Cross Street,
Marksville, Mississippi.

Cpl. Stephen Palonak

Mrs. Stella M. Palonak, (wife)
111 10th Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

Cpl. Melvin L. De Cartney

Mrs. Florence De Cartney, (mother)
615 North 14th Street,
Española, Iowa.

Cpl. Cyrus E. Gray

Mrs. Joan E. Gray, (wife)
6 Robert Street
Hinghamton, New York.

2nd Lt. Jack L. Murphy

Mrs. Mabel L. Murphy, (mother)
611 E. Main Street,
Caldwellville, Missouri.