

CONFIDENTIAL

12746

A 54, 238
B 77

CONFIDENTIAL

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

23322746

1. ORGANIZATION: Location Pantanello, Italy Command or Air Force 15th Air Force
 Group 464th Bomb Gp (H) Squadron 777th Bomb Sq (H)
 2. SPECIFY: Place of departure Pantanello Air base, Italy Course North-Northeast
 Target Augsburg, W/Y, Germany Type of mission Bombing

3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
5/10 to 6/10 stratus tops 12,000 feet, visibility approximately 15 miles in haze.

4. GIVE: (a) Date 27 Feb 45 Time 14:25 Last known position Fuzzen, 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

6. AIRCRAFT: Type, model & series B-24 J AAF Serial Number 42-51903

7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT None

8. ENGINES: Type, model & series B-1830-65 AAF Serial Number (a) BP-428038
 (b) R 1830-65, P-454918 (c) R 1830-65, P-454722 (d) R 1830-65, 42-39632

9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: [Make, type and serial number]
 (a) NIL 1034751 (e) HTL 1034132 (i) WL 1757589
 (b) NIL 1548076 (f) BTR 1037379 (j) WL 1757457
 (c) UTL 1014036 (g) TIL 2395796 (k) _____
 (d) UTH 1034131 (h) TTR 1037973 (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]

CREW POSITION	FULL NAME (Last, first, initial)	RANK, SERIAL NUMBER	CURRENT NEXT OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP STATUS AND ADDRESS
1) Pilot	LAMBERT, DOUGLAS W.	1st Lt. O-823501	MIA Virginia C. Lambert (wife) 20 Auburn St., Opelika, Alabama. RTD
2) CoP	DAVES, BOB D.	1st Lt. O-831678	MIA Elizabeth B. Daves (wife) 336 Marion St., Rock Hill, S.C. RTD
3) NA	ROPER, WILLIAM T.	2nd Lt. O-2063478	MIA George H. Roper (Father), 107 Ury St., Union City, Tenn. RTD
4) Bomb	PEARCE, CLARENCE E.	2nd Lt. O-765837	MIA Madeline P. Pearce (wife), 10 W. Washington St., Chambersburg, Pa. RTD
5) EG	RICKENBAKER, HENRY B.	T/Sgt 34651223	MIA Mannie W. Kickenbaker (Father), Gen. Del., Summerton, S.C. RTD
6) AG	QUINN, LOUIS F.	S/Sgt 11138094	MIA John P. Quinn (Father), 596 Rubber Ave., Naugatuck, Conn. RTD
7) AG	LEJEUNE, ALEXANDER J. JR.	S/Sgt 11101541	MIA Alexander J. Lejeune Sr. (Father), 177 D.P., Torrington, Conn. RTD
8) AG	HATTAWAY, ROBERT S.	S/Sgt 3203433	MIA Pearl S. Hattaway (Mother), 109 N. 16th St., Ft. Smith, Arkansas. RTD
9) AG	EMERSON, BILLY	S/Sgt 18027905	MIA Mary Jane Emerson (Mother), 102 Archer St., Dallas, Texas. RTD
10) Bomb	CYR, ALBERT L.	T/Sgt 31223049	MIA Melina Cyr, (Mother), 324 Main St., Acushnet, Mass. RTD
(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 LAST BY RADIO	SAW SIGHTED	FORCED CRASH LANDING
(1) CLARENCE H. STRITTMATTER	CPL	38531467		X	
(2) ROYD E. BURANEK	CPL	36676108		X	
(3)					

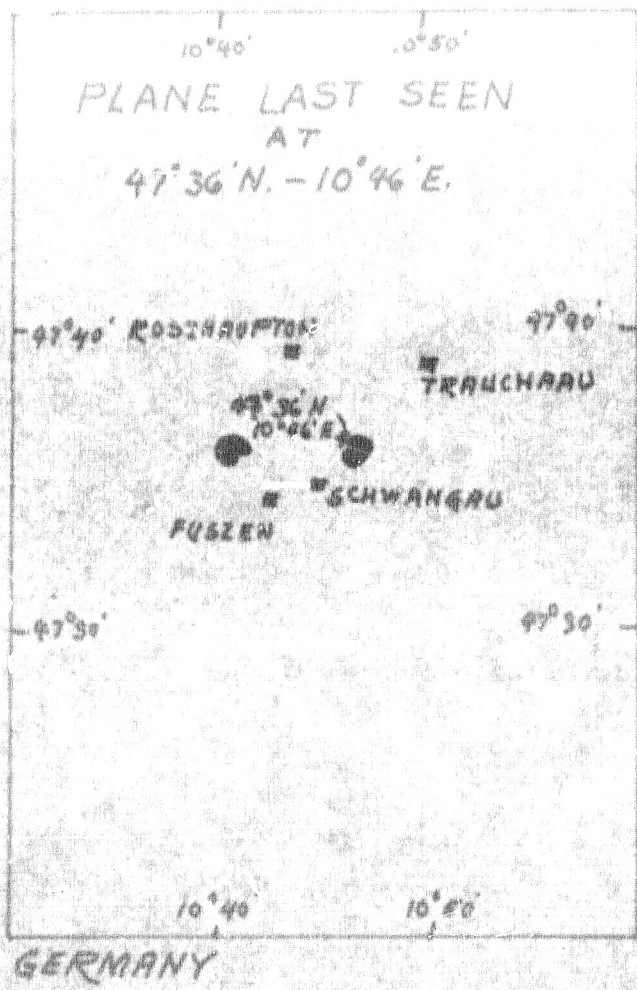
13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
 Parachutes were used. Persons were seen walking away from the scene of the crash.
 Other reasons (specify) Aircraft under control when last seen.

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, last seen over enemy territory.

3 Enclosures.
 Incl 1. Location sketch Date 1 March 1945
 Incl 2. Statement, Strittmatter
 Incl 3. Statement, Buranek
 CONFIDENTIAL
 Signature of reporting officer
 S. E. BOWEN, Captain, AF, Adjutant



777TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
APO 520 U.S. ARMY

28 February 1945

WITNESS STATEMENT

I was flying #23 position in Charlie Box. I saw a burst of flak burst under the right wing of Y/W, which was flying No. 13 in our box. Number 4 engine was feathered and number 2 engine started to smoke. The plane left the formation and I last saw it still going down to the left of the formation. The plane appeared to be under control when last seen.

Clarence H. Strittmatter

CLARENCE H. STRITTMATTER
Cpl, 38531467
777th Bomb Sq (H)

Set 21

777TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
APO 245 U.S. ARMY

28 February 1945

WITNESS STATEMENT

I was flying in position No. 23 in Charlie box. I saw Y/W, number 13 position in our box, leave his position over the target. After that I didn't see any more of it. One of his engines was feathered and No. 2 engine was smoking.

Boyd E. Hurane

BOYD E. HURANE
Cpl, 36676108
777th Bomb Sq (H)

2nd 3'