

4804

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H.D. MAYER, NARS, SEPTEMBER 10, 1982.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

83-96

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON
MISSING AIR CRAFT 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.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location GIOIA ; Command or Air Force 15TH
Group 464TH ; Squadron 778TH ; Detachment _____
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure GIOIA AAB ITALY ; Course 277°
Intended Destination WEINERNEUDSTADT, GERMANY Type of Mission BOMBING
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VESIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
HAZY HI THIN OVERCAST
4. GIVE: (a) Date 10 MAY 44 ; Time 12:14 ; and location OVER TARGET
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 BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one) () Enemy Aircraft; (X) Enemy Anti-Aircraft; () Other Circumstances as Follows: SHIP #42-64441 WAS HIT BY ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE RIGHT OVER THE TARGET AND EXPLODED IN MID AIR.
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B 24 H ; AAF Serial Number 64441
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R1830-65 ; AAF Serial Number (a) 42-91769
(b) 42-91951 (c) 42-92129 (d) 42-91841
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below make, Type and Serial Number)
(a) SEE INCL 1 ; (b) INFORMATION (c) NOT AVAILABLE
(e) _____ ; (f) _____ ; (g) _____ ; (h) _____
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty XX
or (b) Non-Battle Casualty _____
10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10 ; Passengers NONE
Total 10

(Starting with Pilot, furnish the following particulars; If more than 12 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	
	Pilot	WYDAL, LAWRENCE J. ✓	2 LT	42-91769	KIA
371 KIA	CO-PLT	MUNSON, ROBERT C. ✓	2 LT	42-91769	KIA
KIA	NAV	BRETT, ERIC L. ✓	2 LT	42-91769	KIA
EUS	BOMB	MEYERS, WILLIAM F. ✓	F/O	42-91769	RTD
EUS	EG	SHARPWACK, WALTER J. ✓	S SGT	42-91769	RTD
EUS	ROG	ANDERSON, KENNETH L. ✓	S SGT	42-91769	RTD
EUS	AEG	WELLS, WINFRED J. ✓	SGT	42-91769	RTD
RMC	AG	WILCOX, PUETT L. JR. ✓	SGT	42-91769	RTD
KIA	AG	PENROD, DONALD E. ✓	SGT	42-91769	KIA
RMC	AG	HURON, DONALD L. ✓	CPL	42-91769	RTD
11.					
12.					

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Uncl 14

MAY 15 1944

11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR STATE:



Check only one column

	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted		Saw Crash	Saw Landing
				by Radio	Last Sighted		
1.	MC FALL, VERIEL R	SGT	39276706			XX	
2.	FRANCIS, ROY B.	S SGT	32549205			XX	
3.	RHODES, EARL E.	S SGT	14139116			XX	
4.	GORDON HARRY	PVT	38007715			XX	
5.	FORD, GERALD V.	CPL	6954597			XX	
6.							

12. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used SEVEN (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash _____; or (c) Any other reason (specify) _____
13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.
14. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
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

Date of Report 15 MAY 1944

Richard F. Brewer, Jr.
 (Signature of Preparing Officer)
RICHARD F. BREWER, JR.
 MAJOR, AIR CORPS
 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

- 7 INCLS:
 INCL 1-STatement RE WEAPONS
 INCL 2-STatement (MC FALL)
 INCL 3-STatement (FRANCIS)
 INCL 4-STatement (RHODES)
 INCL 5-STatement (GORDON)
 INCL 6-STatement (FORD)
 INCL 7- LOCATION SKETCH

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HEADQUARTERS
778TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
APO 520 US ARMY

RFB:LS

17 MAY 1944

SUBJECT: TRANSMITTAL OF MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

**TO: COMMANDING GENERAL, FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE,
APO 520, US ARMY, (THRU CHANNELS)**

1. TRANSMITTED HERewith IS THE MISSING AIR CREW REPORT ON CREW ASSIGNED TO THIS SQUADRON REPORTED MISSING IN ACTION AS OF 10 MAY 44 ON MISSION OVER WEINERNEUDSTADT, GERMANY.

RANK	NAME	ASN
2 LT	LAWRENCE J WYGAL	0-737220
2 LT	ROBERT C. MUNSON	0-806116
2 LT	ERIC L BRETT	0-683100
F/O	WILLIAM F MEYERS	T-1243
S SGT	WALTER J SHARPNACK	3060232
S SGT	KENNETH L ANDERSON	30118500
SGT	WINGFRED J WELLS	3730122
SGT	PUETT L WILLCOX JR	15005017
SGT	DONALD E. PENROD	37514266
CPL	DONALD L HURON	10113285

2. SUBJECT PERSONNEL ARE BATTLE CASUALTIES AS DEFINED BY PARAGRAPH 2, SECTION II, CIRCULAR 10, MATOUSA, DTD 24 JAN 44.

3. BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT, FORWARDED YOUR HEADQUARTERS, 13 MAY 44.

FOR THE SQUADRON COMMANDER:

Richard F. Brewer
RICHARD F. BREWER, JR
MAJOR, AIR CORPS
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

1 INCL:
INCL 1-MAC RPT, LT WYGAL & CREW,
7 COPIES

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✓ Second Lieutenant Lawrence J. Wygal

Mrs. Helen A. Wygal, (Mother)
340 Bloom Street,
Highland Park, Illinois.

371 ✓ Second Lieutenant Robert C. Munson

Mrs. Florence R. Munson, (Wife)
911 Asylum Avenue,
Hartford, Connecticut.

✓ Second Lieutenant Eric L. Brett

Mrs. Nancy W. Brett, (Mother)
361 East Upsal Street,
Philadelphia., Pennsylvania.

✓ Flight Officer William F. Meyers

Mrs. Mathilde H. Meyers, (Mother)
3705 South Grand Avenue,
Los Angeles, California.

✓ Staff Sergeant Walter J. Sharpnack

Mrs. Margaret Lewis Sharpnack, (Mother)
1st Street,
West Elizabeth, Pennsylvania.

✓ Staff Sergeant Kenneth L. Anderson

Mrs. Mary L. Anderson, (Mother)
301 View Street,
Mountain View, California.

✓ Sergeant Prett L. Wilcox, Jr.

Mrs. Ruby B. Wilcox, (Mother)
1804 Tutwiler Avenue,
Memphis, Tennessee.

✓ Sergeant Winfred J. Wells

Mrs. Cynthia A. Wells, (Mother)
Louisburg, Kansas.

✓ Sergeant Donald E. Penrod

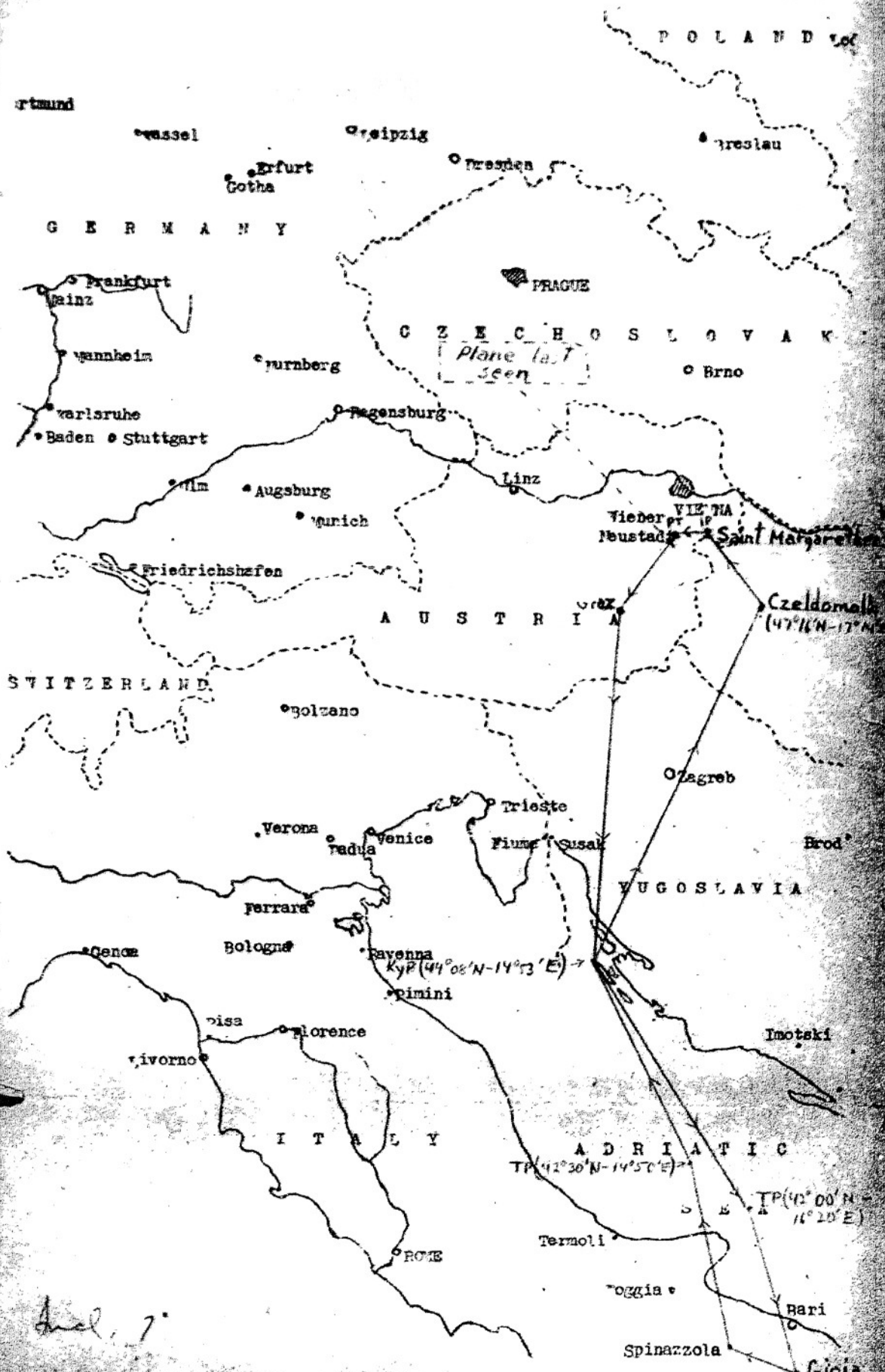
Mrs. Alta L. Penrod, (Mother)
Haggard, Kansas.

✓ Corporal Donald L. Huron

Mrs. Merita G. Huron, (Wife)
15001 Cass Avenue,
Detroit, Michigan.

TRACE CHART

GROUP: _____ TARGET: _____ DATE: _____
ROUTE AS FLOWN: _____ ROUTE AS BRIEFED: _____



Anal. 7

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: 10 May 1944 at 12.30 hrs.
PLACE OF CRASH: 1 km S. Mollram(Dist. Neunkirchen)
TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Consolidated Liberator B 24 H
REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command A(0)1/XVII
Wiener Neustadt May 10, 1944

CREW

SURNAME, AND Munson,
FIRST NAME: Robert C.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: Lt.

SERIAL NUMBER: ~~100~~ T43-3 0

CAPTURED:

WOUNDED:

DEAD: Recovered dead.
at place of crash.

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP:

TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION: County cemetery Neunkirchen
on May 12, 1944

REMARKS:

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: May 10, 44 at 12.30 hrs
PLACE OF CRASH: 1 km S. Mollram, (Dist. Neunkirchen)
TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Consolidated Liberator B 24 H
REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command A(o)1/XVII
Vienna Neustadt May 10, 1944

CREW

SURNAME, AND Brett
FIRST NAME: Eric L.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: Lt.

SERIAL NUMBER: ~~683109~~ T43-44 0

CAPTURED:

WOUNDED:

DEAD: Recovered dead.
at place of crash.

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP:

TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION: County Cemetery Neunkirchen
on May 12, 1944

REMARKS:

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: May 10, 1944

PLACE OF CRASH:

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Membership to a certain downing not ascertainable

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command A(0)1/XVII
Vienna-Neustadt May 10, 44

CREW

SURNAME, AND FIRST NAME: Meyers
William F.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: F/O

SERIAL NUMBER: ~~21213~~ T43-44

CAPTURED: near St. Egyden WOUNDED: DEAD:

(Dist. Vienna-Neustadt) May 10 44 at ?? hrs.

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

Was released on May 24, 1944 as transportable from the
Air Corps Hospital 5/XVII-Bypass station Felbring.

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: May 10, 44 at 12.30 hrs.

PLACE OF CRASH: Rosental, Comm. Lautenkirchen, Dist. Wiener Neustadt

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Presumably 4 mot. Bomber

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command A(0)1/XVII
Wiener Neustadt May 10, 44

CREW

SURNAME, AND Sharpnack
FIRST NAME: Walter

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: S/Sgt

SERIAL NUMBER: ~~100/0000~~ T43-44 A

CAPTURED: Vicinity of WOUNDED: DEAD:

Weikersdorf-May 10, 44, app. 12.10 hrs.

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: May 10, 1944 app. 12.30 hrs.

PLACE OF CRASH: Rosental (Comm. Lanzenkirchen-Dist. Wiener Neustadt)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Presumably 4 mot. Bomber

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command A(o)1/XVII
Wiener Neustadt May 10, 1944

CREW

SURNAME, AND Anderson
FIRST NAME: Kenneth L.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: S/Sgt

SERIAL NUMBER: ~~9110000~~ T43-444 A

CAPTURED: app. 25 km. E. of WOUNDED: DEAD:
Wiener Neustadt on May 10, 44 at 13.10 hrs.
DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: May 10, 44 - 12.30 hrs.

PLACE OF CRASH: Rosenthal(Comm. Lanzsenkirchen, District Wiener Neustadt)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Presumably 4 mot. Bomber

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command A(o)1/XVII
Wiener Neustadt May 10, 1944

CREW

SURNAME, AND FIRST NAME: Wells
Winfred J.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: Sgt

SERIAL NUMBER: [REDACTED] T43-3 0

CAPTURED: near Weikersdorf WOUNDED: DEAD:

May 10, 44 at app. 13.00-14.00 hrs.

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: May 10, 1944 app. 12.30 hrs.

PLACE OF CRASH: Rosental(Comp. Lanssenkirchen-Dist. Wiener Neustadt)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Presumably 4 mot. Bomber

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command A(o)1/XVII
Wiener Neustadt May 10, 1944

CREW

SURNAME, AND Willcox, Jr.
FIRST NAME: Puett, L.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: Sgt.

SERIAL NUMBER: [REDACTED] T43-3-A

CAPTURED: near Weikeradorf WOUNDED:
on May 10, 44

DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP:

TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: HURON Donald L.
Rank: Cpl.
Serial number: ~~██████████~~
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~XXXXXXXXXX (Fighter)~~ Aerial Gunner

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Wiennern ustagth, Austria

If not, why not? _____

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

Was he injured? Yes

Where was he when last seen? On his way back to the States
Camp Lucky Strike, France

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: Two

Dates and destinations if possible: 5th or 6th of May, 1944

Pod ricka, Yugo 10th of May, 1944 Wiennernustagth, Austria