

DECLASSIFIED BY AUTHORITY OF NND DECLASSIFICATION PROJECT 785072,
H.D. MAYER, NARS, SEPTEMBER 10, 1982.

6594

$$\begin{array}{r} 54 - 233 \\ \hline 42 \end{array}$$

11/21/11

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS, U. S. AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

6534

IMPORTANT: This report will be compiled by each Army Air Force organization within 48 hours of the time personnel are officially reported missing.

ORGANIZATION: Location Pantanello Air Base, Italy Command or AF 15th AF
Group 464th Bombardment Group (H) Squadron 778th Bombardment Sq(H)

SPECIFY: Point of Departure Pantanello Air Base, Italy Course 90°
Target BLECHHAMMER, 157th Division Bombing
Germany

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
3/10 to 4/10 CUMULUS TOP 16000' TARGET

GIVE: (a) Date 7 July 1944 Time 1120B Location W50°20' N18°20'E
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify weather: Last Sighted () Last Contacted by Radio
() Parachute Down () Seen to Crash; or
() Information not available.

AIRCRAFT AS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one)
() Enemy Aircraft Enemy Anti-Aircraft () Other circumstances as follows: _____

AIRCRAFT: Type, Model & Series B 24H AAF Serial No 42-95228

ENGINES: Type, Model & Series R 1830-43 AAF Serial No (a) CP 310178
(b) CP 309397 (c) CP 310379 (d) CP 310931

INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Furnish below Name, Type, and Serial Number)
(a) BROWNING 50CAL L Nose 1187556 (b) BROWNING 50CAL R Nose 1187324
(c) BROWNING 50CAL L Upper 1187814 (d) BROWNING 50CAL R Upper 1188121
(e) BROWNING 50CAL L Waist 1185531 (f) BROWNING 50CAL R Waist 1185555
(g) BROWNING 50CAL L Ball 1187418 (h) BROWNING 50CAL R Ball 1187178
(i) BROWNING 50CAL L Tail 1187390 (j) BROWNING 50CAL R Tail 1187902
PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW REPORTED AS: (X) Battle Casualty () Non-Battle Cas.

NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10 Passengers none Total 10
(Starting with "1" list the following particulars; if more than 12 persons were aboard list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach to this form)

CREW POSITION	NAME OF FULL (Last Name First)	GRADE	SERIAL NO	NAME OF KIN, RELATION-SHIP, AND ADDRESS
Pilot	WESTLAKE ✓ JOHN W ✓	2Lt	0-686614	Mrs John Henry Westlake, mother, 1311 S Braddock Ave, Pittsburgh, Pa. RTD
CP	YOAST ✓ CHARLES ✓	F/O	T-122218	Mrs Samuel Houston Yoast, mother, Rte 1, Box 699, Ft Worth, Texas RTD
N	MYDLAND ✓ JAMES ✓	2 Lt	0-748086	Mrs Dora Ann Mydland, wife, 77 S Wheeler, St Paul, Minn. KIA
B	McKEE ROBERT C JR ✓	2 Lt	0-691650	Mr R. C. McKee, Sr, father, 5846 Sherrier Place NW, Washington, DC RTD
EG	DOWNEY EARL P ✓	T SGT	39193520	Mrs Inga Marie Downey, mother, Cambridge, Idaho RTD
ARG	MAJORS ✓ ELWIN ✓	S SGT	38356404	Mrs Marcelle P Majors, wife, Belleville, Arkansas RTD
ROG	BRANDIS ✓ RAYMOND ✓	T SGT	16151920	Mrs Ivas Brandis, mother, 3415 Northdale Street, Lansing, Mich. RTD

[REDACTED]

AG FRANKENFIELD ✓ HERBERT W S SGT 3532489 Lloyd Frankenfield, F. 1st, (M)
 RR #2, Nevada, Ohio
 AG HORN ✓ WILLIAM F S SGT 35131885 Mrs Georgia Horn, mother, (M)
 427 Park Ave, Lexington, Ky
 AG HOLLEY ✓ FRANCIS R S SGT 15130201 Frank W. Holley, father,
 Windsor, Ohio

IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIR-
 CRAFT AND CHECK APPROPRIATE (only one) COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR LIST:
 Conducted Last Day
 NAME IN FULL NAME SERIAL NO GRADE or Position Crash Forced Landing

Frank L. Barnes	Sgt 38399787	X
Gordon J. Reed	S Sgt 36278541	X
Jesse O. Franklin	2 Lt 0-713015	X

IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE KNOWLEDGE OTHER THAN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
 (O) Parachutes were used () Persons seen walking away from scene of crash
 () Any other reason (specify) _____

ATTACH AS AN INCLOSURE TO THIS REPORT, EITHER AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART,
 OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.

ATTACH, AS INCLOSURES TO THIS REPORT, ANY OTHER DESCRIPTIONS OF CRASH,
 FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER SIMILAR SITUATIONS PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.

ATTACH, AS AN INCLOSURE TO THIS REPORT, A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF
 SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, GRADE, AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN
 CHARGE HERE: (if no search, so state giving reason) No search

Date of this Report: 9 July 1944

Signature of Officer Carl V. Hardy
 CARL V. HARDY
 CAPT, AC
 ADJ

- Incls:
 Incl 1-Statement Barnes
 Incl 2-Statement Reed
 Incl 3-Statement Franklin
 Incl 4-Sketch



AUG 9 1944

[REDACTED]

✓ 2nd Lt. John W. Westlake

Mrs. J. H. Westlake, (mother)
1311 South Braddock Avenue,
Edgewood, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

✓ 2nd Lt. James L. Mydland *EUS*

Mrs. Dora Ann Mydland, (wife)
77 South Wheeler Street,
Saint Paul, Minnesota.

✓ 2nd Lt. Robert C. McKee, Jr. *EUS*

Mr. Robert C. McKee, Sr., (father)
5646 Sherrier Place, Northwest,
Washington, D. C.

✓ P/O Charles Yoast *EUS*

Mrs. Bernice Miss Yoast, (mother)
Box 699, Rural Free Delivery #1,
Fort Worth, Texas.

✓ T/Sgt. Earl P. Downay *EUS*

Mrs. W. H. Downay, (mother)
Cambridge, Idaho.

✓ T/Sgt. Raymond L. Brandis *EUS*

Mrs. Inez Brandis, (mother)
3415 North Dale Street,
Lansing, Michigan.

✓ S/Sgt. Elwin L. Majors *EUS*

Mrs. Marcelle P. Majors, (wife)
General Delivery,
Bellefonte, Arkansas.

✓ S/Sgt. Kerbert A. Frankenfield *EUS*

Mr. Lloyd A. Frankenfield, (father)
Route Number Two,
Nevada, Ohio.

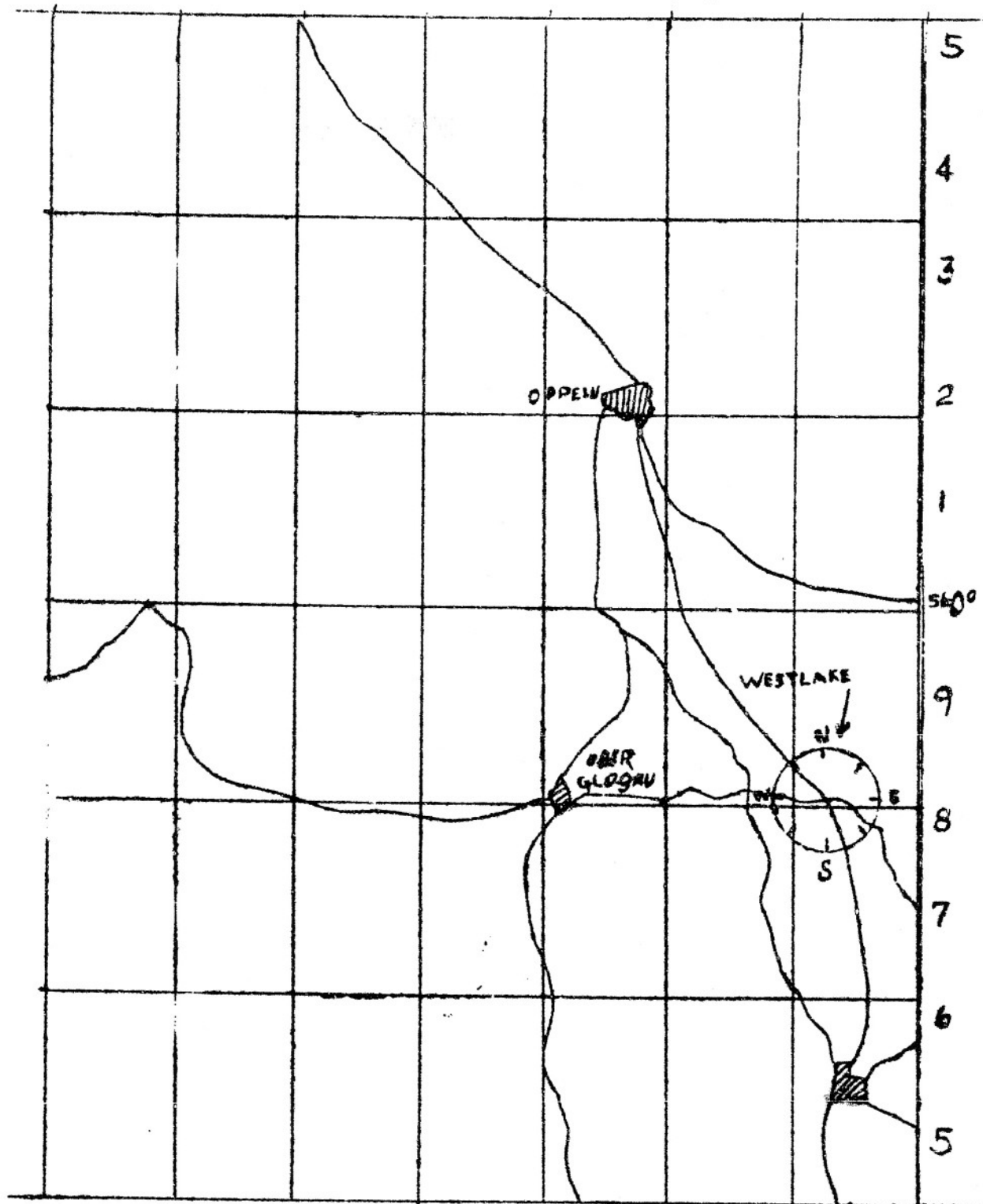
✓ S/Sgt. William F. Horn

Mrs. Georgia A. Horn, (mother)
427 Park Avenue,
Lexington, Kentucky.

✓ S/Sgt. Francis R. Holley

Mr. Frank W. Holley, (father)
Windsor, Ohio.

50-20-N
18-70-E



18°

18°00

50-20-N

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name McKEE, ROBERT CARTER JR. Rank 1st Lt. Serial No. O-231650
2. Organization 484 Gp Commander _____ Rank _____ Sqn CO Foff, C. Rank Lt. Col.
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month July day 7 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Elechhammer, target, North refinery, target time, 11:30, altitude, 21,000 route scheduled, in from south, turn east before, route flown normally right. route flown.
5. Where were you when you left formation? Right after bomb's away.
6. Did you bail out? Yes
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Six others that I know of.
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". All bailed out regularly assigned positions with the exception of those supposed casualties, of whom we know nothing.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? Supposedly where we bailed out.
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) Nothing positive is known about this.
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?
See three personal sheets with this report.
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)

I was bombardier on this mission and was in the nose of the ship, at the time of being hit and bailing out. The nose gunner is the only one I saw, after we were hit, until that night at around 12:00 o'clock, when I was placed in a cell, by the Germans, with my co-pilot and tail gunner.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: W-E-S-T-L-A-K-E---John-W.- Mydland, James L.
 Rank: 2nd LT
 Serial number: -----0-- 686-611--
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~as Pilot~~ (Navigator): -Pilot-
Navigator

Did he bail out? Not known

Where? _____

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Last seen
by me after takeoff(20 minutes from field)

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? By other crew member---in bomb bay ,apparently
ready to jump.

Any hearsay information: None other than above

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Possibly was
hit and couldn't get out or passed out before pulling cord. Never heard
of again is rumor or fact.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Around 32

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **MAJORS Elwin L.**
 Rank: **S/Sgt**
 Serial number: **38 356 404**
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~as Flight Engineer~~: **A E G**

Did he bail out? Not known

Where? _____

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Just after take off--by myself.

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: Hadn't, as yet, put on parachute when tail gunner jumped.

Source: Tail gunner.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: My supposition is that this member failed to get his parachute on (in time) and crashed with plane. There is nothing to confirm this statement.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Around 32.

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: HOLLEY Francis R.
 Rank: S/Sgt
 Serial number: 15 130 201
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Stagger AG

Did he bail out? Not known

Where? _____

If not, why not? _____

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

Just after take off--by me.

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: Hadn't, as yet, but on a parachute when tail gunner jumped.

Source: Tail gunner.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: My supposition is that this man failed to get his parachute on (in time) and crashed with plane. There is nothing to confirm this statement.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Around 32.

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name BRANDIS, RAYMOND L. Rank T/Sgt. Serial No. 16151920
 2. Organization 464 Gp Commander Rank CLARENCE G. Sqn CO POFF Rank MAJOR
 (full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month July day 7 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, BLECHHAMMER, target, _____, target time, _____, altitude, _____ route scheduled, _____, route flown _____
5. Where were you when you left formation? TARGET AREA
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
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? NO KNOWLEDGE
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) NO KNOWLEDGE
11. Where were they in aircraft? NO KNOWLEDGE
12. What was their condition? NO KNOWLEDGE
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? _____
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)

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Herbert W. Frankfield Rank S/Sgt Serial No. 35632489
464 B Group (H)
2. Organization 464 B Group (H) Gp Commander Bonner Rank Col. Sqn CO Poff Rank Major
 (full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month July day 7 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, _____, target, Blechhammer, target
 time, 10:30 or 11:30 AM., altitude, 22,000 ft route scheduled, over Zegrab
Austria, route flown Same
5. Where were you when you left formation? over the 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". All of us that bailed out, bailed out over the target
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? About 1 1/2 mi. North of the target
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) S/Sgt Francis R. Halley
& S/Sgt Flwin L. Majors
11. Where were they in aircraft? Holley - Ball Turret - Majors - L. waist
12. What was their condition? D. K.
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? I saw all the rest of them at one time or another during our prison life
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

Name of crew member: **WESTLAKE John W.**
 Rank: **2nd LT**
 Serial number: **o - 686 614**
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~or Flight (Fighter)~~: **Pilot**

Did he bail out? _____

Where? _____

If not, why not? _____

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

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

WELL, MET LT. WESTLAKE AT A.A.F.

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Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____