

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

6996

Pantanello A/B Italy
 464th Bn (H) 777th Bn
 Pantanello AAB, Italy
 Floesti Oil Refinery Roumania

15th AF
 325°
 Bombing

3/10 Cumulus to 10,000 ft. Visibility 15 miles in base

28 Jul 44

1020H

44°56'N 26°02'E

X

X

	B-24 H	42-29275	
	B-1830-65		42-92577
42-92620	HP-429075	42-89613	
RB-369393	RT-232344	LB-231162	Ba-362573
RB-40629	LN-370663	LN-370025	BB-369189
			X
		10	0
			10

	Jones, Ellsworth D.	2nd Lt.	0 818 696	KIA
	Hunsberry, Paul, Jr.	2nd Lt.	0 764 306	KIA
H	Murphy, Francis P.	F/O	7 124 724	MIA
B	Sullivan, John F. —	2nd Lt.	0 708 861	KIA
AND	Stain, Robert C. —	T/Sgt.	33 426 036	MFD
ANN G.	Griffin, Walter S.	S/Sgt.	12 005 169	KIA
RCM G.	Tong, Robert M.	T/Sgt.	11 119 850	MFD
ANN G.	Bottoms, Charlie L.	S/Sgt.	33 628 053	KIA
AFND G.	Fayne, James L.	S/Sgt.	17 056 081	KIA
ANN G.	James, Ben G., Jr.	S/Sgt.	38 388 017	KIA

Gardner, Lawrence E.	S/Sgt.	36 580 208	X
Moore, Edward D.	S/Sgt.	16 175 856	X
Greenhour, Arthur M.	2/Lt.	0 822 123	X *cont'd

No parachutes were seen

No search, as plane blew up over enemy territory

30 July 1944

E. M. O'REILLY

Capt. Adjutant

*Blair, Harry H. 2nd Lt. 0 690 352 Last sighted

~~NIA~~ ARM G BOTTOMS, CHARLIE L. S/Sgt 32628053 Mr & Mrs Curtis L. Bottoms (M & F) 205 Hansmond Circle, Norfolk, Va.
~~NIA~~ ARM G PAYNE, JAMES L. S/Sgt 17056021 Mrs Mardine W. Payne (M) Northport, Nebraska
~~NIA~~ ARM G JAMES, BEN G. JR. S/Sgt 38382017 Mr Ben G. James Sr. (F) 822 Linden St. Shreveport, La.

IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT AND CRASH APPOINTMENTS (only one, CALL BY INDICATE BASIS FOR NAME: Complete Last

NAME IN FULL	RANK	SERIAL NO	Signature	Lighted	Crash	Parasol	Landing
GARDNER, LAWRENCE E.	S/Sgt	36580208					X
MOORE, EDWARD D.	S/Sgt	16175852					X
CRASHMER, ARTHUR M.	2 Lt	0-522423					X
BLAU, HARRY H.	2 Lt	0-690352					X

IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
 Parachutes were used Persons seen walking away from scene of crash
 Any other reason (specify) No parachutes were seen

- ATTACH AS AN INCLOSURE TO THIS REPORT, EITHER AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN. X
- ATTACH, AS INCLOSURES TO THIS REPORT, ANY WITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT. X
- ATTACH, AS AN INCLOSURE TO THIS REPORT, A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK, AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE: (if no search, so state giving reason) No search, as plane blew up over enemy territory.

Date of this Report: 30 July 1944.

Signature of Officer

E.M. O'Reilly

E.M. O'REILLY
 Capt AC,
 Adj.

6 Incls:

- Incl 1. Statement, S/Sgt Gardner
- Incl 2. Statement, S/Sgt Moore
- Incl 3. Statement, Lt Crashmer
- Incl 4. Statement, Lt Blau
- Incl 5. Aerial Photograph
- Incl 6. Location Sketch.



900

2nd Lt Elsworth D. Jones ✓

Mrs. Edna D. Jones, (Mother)
Utica, Kansas.

2nd Lt Paul Kennoberry, Jr. ✓

Mrs. Louise J. Kennoberry, (Mother)
38 Mare Street,
San Francisco, California.

T/O Francis P. Murphy ✓

Mr. Frank P. Murphy, (Father)
Bartlett, New Hampshire.

2nd Lt John F. Sullivan ✓

Mrs. Gladys J. Sullivan, (Wife)
One Lincoln,
Westboro, Massachusetts.

T/Sgt Robert C. Stein ✓

Mr. Thomas Stein, (Father)
3034 Kaylor Avenue,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

S/Sgt Walter S. Griffin ✓

Mrs. Emma Griffin, (Mother)
21 Maple Street,
Whitehall, New York.

Mrs. Geneva Griffin, (Wife)
30 South Governor's Avenue,
Dover, Delaware.

T/Sgt Robert H. Yang ✓

Mrs. Neungling Yang, (Mother)
102 Fenton Road,
Quincy, Massachusetts.

S/Sgt Charlie L. Bottoms ✓

Mrs. Marie J. Bottoms, (Mother)
205 Hammond Circle,
Norfolk, Virginia.

S/Sgt James L. Payne ✓

Mr. Leo A. Payne, (Father)
Route 64,
Northport, Nebraska.

S/Sgt Sam G. Jones, Jr. ✓

Mr. Sam G. Jones, Sr., (Father)
632 Linden Street,
Shreveport, Louisiana.

29 July 1944

I was 1st Waist Gunner flying in Easy Box #11. Just before Bombs Away I heard some one shout over the interphones "Ship blew up". I was shooting some pictures at the time and looked down and saw a large cloud of smoke. I turned my camera right at it and I snapped the picture. This was right after the explosion. I saw pieces of the plane going down in flames. There were no chutes from this plane but two men bailed out of YB which was right close to H.

Lawrence E. Gardner

S/Sgt Lawrence E Gardner
36580208
778 Bomb Sq (H)

File # 100

29 July 1944

I was Tail Turret Gunner on Lt Luque's plane which was flying Able Box 21. I heard an explosion and felt the concussion. I looked off to the left and saw Yi in Able Box 22 all in flames from in front of the wings clear back to the tail. Then it fell apart and the scattered pieces began to drop in flames. I figured that the plane got a direct flak hit in the open bombays and started the tank on fire and then it exploded. I saw no chutes.



Edward D Moore
Sgt Edward D Moore
16175056

20 July 1944

I was Co-Pilot on Lt Col's plane which was flying high 25.
I saw bombs leaving a ship in Baker Bay area early. He was flying
in formation over the Bay in which it was flying. I did not see any bombs hit VI but the plane hit at the moment
the bombs would have struck the plane so that it looked as if
the explosion was caused by one of the bombs hitting it.

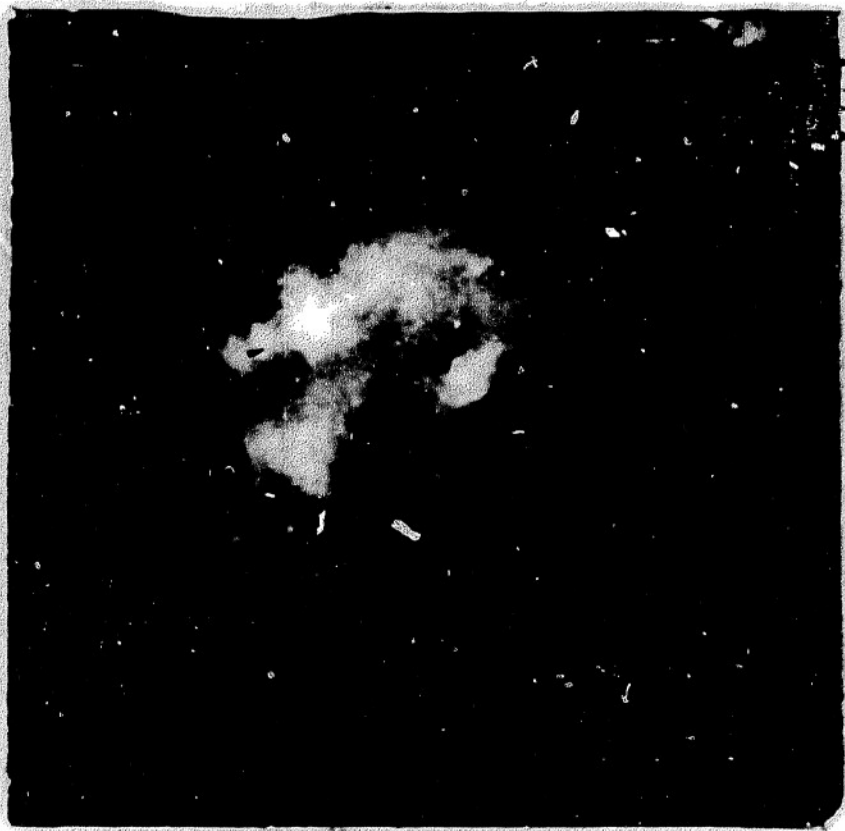
Arthur W. Covachman

2nd Lt Arthur W Covachman
C-521203

29 July 1918

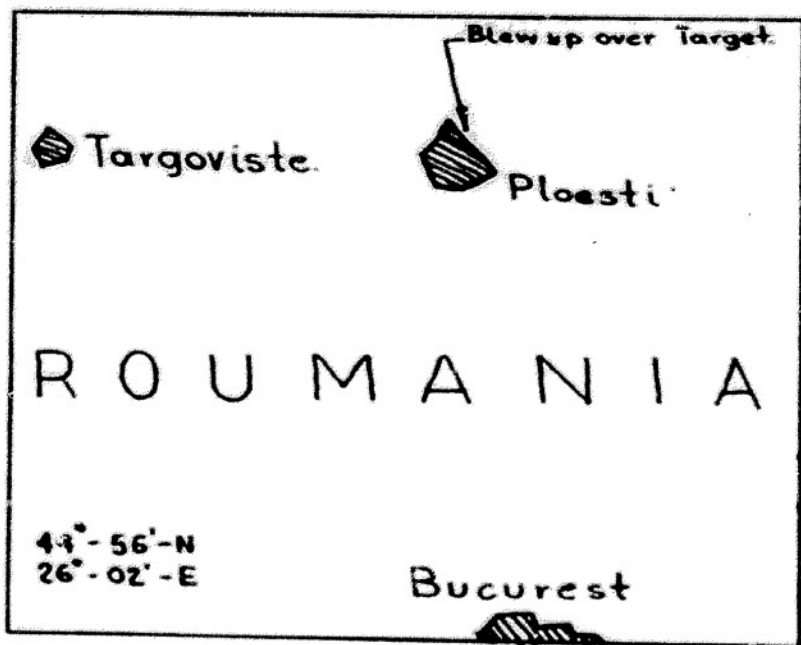
I was Navigator on Lt Schad's plane. Shortly before Bombs Away I was watching out the nose window and happened to be looking right at II. I saw several bombs descending right over this plane, still falling in a horizontal position, just as they fell out of the bomb racks. Before I had time even to think that they might hit the plane, there was a tremendous explosion and II blew up in a great flash and cloud of smoke in mid air.

Harry H. Blau
2nd Lt Harry ■ Blau
0-690352



FIELD PHOTO OF DEBRIS OF LT JONES' PLANE SECONDS AFTER EXPLOSION
OVER BANGSI, CAMBODIA, 18 JULY 1968

MADE BY SGT LAWRENCE E. GARDNER
3050112



March 1976

Sheet 6 -