

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

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES-
WASHINGTON

7073

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

ORGANIZATION: Location AP0 520, U.S. Army Command or AF 15th Air Force
Group 464th Bombardment Group (H) Squadron 776th Bombardment Sq (H)

SPECIFY: Point of Departure AAB, Pantanella, Italy Course NE
Target Pardubice Type Of Missing Bombing
O/R Czechoslovakia

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
Weather - 1/10 Strrus Visibility 25 miles

GIVE: (a) Date 24 August 1944 Time 1240 Location 49° 8' N - 15° 18' E.
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether: Last Sighted Last Contacted by Radio
 Forced 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-24 H AAF Serial No 42-52479
ENGINES: Type, Model & Series R-1830-43 AAF Serial NO (a) 41-15108
(b) CP-307334 (c) 42-86936 (d) CP-307697

INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Furnish below Make, Type, and Serial Number)

(a) Browning MG-M2-Cal .50	951451	(b) Browning MG-M2-Cal .50	951231
(c) " " " "	951393	(d) " " " "	951318
(e) " " " "	951232	(f) " " " "	951762
(g) " " " "	951868	(h) " " " "	951380
" " " "	952105	" " " "	951723

PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW REPORTED AS: Battle Casualty Non-Battle Cas.

NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10 Passengers 0 Total 10
(Starting with "Pilot" furnish the following particulars; if more than 12 persons were aboard list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach to this form)

GRADE POSITION	NAME IN FULL (Last Name First)	RANK	SERIAL NO	NEAR OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP, AND ADDRESS
Pilot	James, John H.	2d Lt		Mr. Milton P. James (Father) Pleasanton, Kansas
Co-Pilot	Maloney, Edward J.	2d Lt		Mrs. Catherine S. Maloney (Grandmother) 14 Columbia St, Ansonia, Conn.
Navigator	Dunham, Erwin G.	2d Lt		Mr. Harry A. Dunham (Father) 45 Grace St, Bloomfield, N.J.
Bombardier	Weaver, Jr., Walter W.	2d Lt		Mrs. Anna M. Weaver (Mother) Route #2, Clarion, Pa.
Engr-Gun	Jeleniewics, Eugene A.	Sgt		Mrs. Jeleniewics, Edna (Mother) 90 Mercer St, Jersey City, N.J.
Bomb-Or-Gun	D'Amore, John F.	Sgt		Mr. Salvatore D'Amore (Father) 1264 Chaugna Ave, Hollywood, Calif.
Gunner	Robinson, Ralph (MMI)	Sgt		Mrs. Mary Robinson (Mother) 78 Thayer St, New York, N.Y.
Gunner	Ivan, Edward G.	Sgt		Mrs. Mary Ivan (Mother) 304 West 8th Ave, W. Homestead, Pa.

Incl 1

(See Reverse Side)

4520/2

[REDACTED]

- 3714 9. Gunner Watson, Sr, Thad J. Sgt [REDACTED] Mrs. Etha M. Watson (Mother) Norton, N.C.
- 10. Gunner Gleason, Felix B. 321 Sgt [REDACTED] Mrs. Gertrude J. Gleason (Mother) 407 4th Ave, Warren, Pa.
- 11. _____
- 12. _____

11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT AND CHECK APPROPRIATE (only one) COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:

NAME IN FULL RANK SERIAL NO by radio contacted last sighted crash forced landing saw

- 1. John F. Taylor S/Sgt. [REDACTED] I
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____

12. 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) _____

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

14. ATTACH, AS INCLOSURES TO THIS REPORT, EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTIONS OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.

15. 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 could be made due to group formation being directly over target.

date of this report: 25 August 1944

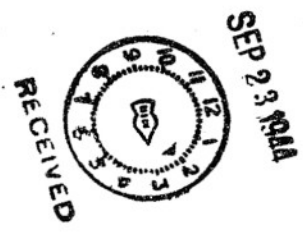
signature of officer William H. Reddell

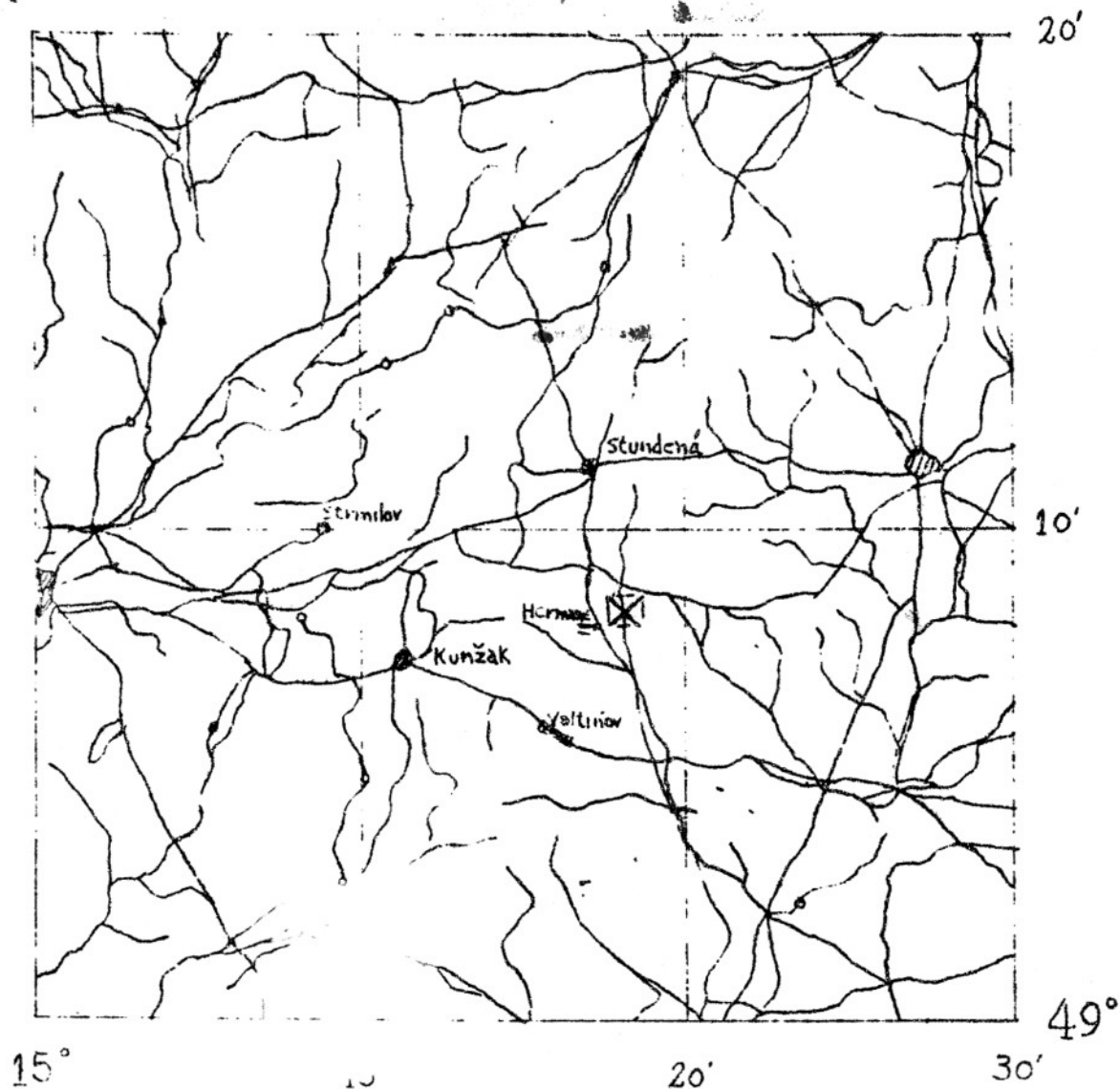
3 incls:

WILLIAM H. REDDELL,
 Major, Air Corps,
 Commanding.

- Incl 1 - Sketch of approx position ship was last sighted.
- Incl 2 - Eye Witness report of S/Sgt. Taylor.
- Incl 3 - Ltr, 776th Bomb Sq, Subj: "Supporting Interrogation Information"

[REDACTED]





⊠ INDICATES AREA IN WHICH LT. JAMES^{CAPT.}, LEVERETT^{LT.} AND VAGUE'S RESPECTIVE CREWS LAST SIGHTED.

BEARING - 49° 8' N. 15° 18' E.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

2nd. Lt. John H. James 5

KIA

Mr. Milton P. James, (Father)
Florescenton, Kansas.

2nd. Lt. Edwin G. Dushan 2

KIA

Mr. Harry A. Dushan, (Father)
45 Grace Street,
Bloumfield, New Jersey.

2nd. Lt. Walter W. Weaver, Jr. 10

KIA

Mrs. Anna H. Weaver, (Mother)
Route Number Two,
Clarion, Pennsylvania.

Sgt. Eugene A. Jelenicwicz 6

KIA

Mrs. Edna D. Jelenicwicz, (Mother)
98 Harcor Street,
Jersey City, New Jersey.

Sgt. John F. D'Amore 1

EUS

Mrs. Catherine J. D'Amore, (Wife)
50 Cabnet Street,
Needham, Massachusetts.

Sgt. Thad J. Watson, Sr. 9

KIA

Mrs. Stella V. Watson, (Wife)
c/o O. H. Martin,
Macon Gap, Georgia.

Sgt. Ralph Robinson 8

KIA

Mr. Joseph Robinson, (Father)
78 Thayer Street,
New York City, New York.

Sgt. Edward G. Ivan 4

KIA

Mrs. Mary Ivan, (Mother)
324 West 6th Avenue,
Homestead, Pennsylvania.

391 Sgt. Felix S. Gleason 3

KIA

Mrs. Gertrude J. Gleason, (Mother)
407 4th Avenue,
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

2nd. Lt. Edward J. Maloney 7

KIA

Mrs. Catherine E. S. Maloney, (Grandmother)
14 Columbia Street,
Ansonia, Connecticut.

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN

24 August 1944 - 1257

CASUALTY NO. ME 2009

PLACE OF CRASH

Willschütz

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT

Liberator

REPORTING OFFICE

Maintenance Squad. 19/XIII

NAME	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CAPT'D WOUNDED DEAD	PLACE OF INTERNMENT
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NAME John Francis
DATE 24 July 44
LOCATION Boston, Mass.

RANK S/SGT

SERIAL NUMBER 11001879

CAPT'D captured

PLACE OF INTERNMENT D-Tag-1476

Casualty No: ME 2009

first supplementary report, dated 2 November 1944

NAME	John E	RANK	2nd Lt	SERIAL NUMBER	[REDACTED]	CAPT'D	Dead
NAME		RANK	2nd Lt	SERIAL NUMBER	[REDACTED]	CAPT'D	Dead
NAME	Everitt G	RANK	2nd Lt	SERIAL NUMBER	[REDACTED]	CAPT'D	Dead
NAME	Jr. Walter W	RANK	2nd Lt	SERIAL NUMBER	[REDACTED]	CAPT'D	Dead
NAME	Eugene	RANK	S/SGT	SERIAL NUMBER	[REDACTED]	CAPT'D	Dead
NAME	Ralph	RANK	Pfc	SERIAL NUMBER	[REDACTED]	CAPT'D	Dead
NAME	Felix	RANK	SGT	SERIAL NUMBER	[REDACTED]	CAPT'D	Dead
NAME	Thomas J	RANK	SGT	SERIAL NUMBER	[REDACTED]	CAPT'D	Dead
NAME	Edward	RANK	SGT	SERIAL NUMBER	[REDACTED]	CAPT'D	Dead

Not on file

REMARKS:

D-Tag-1476 29 September 1944 wa.

July 18 1946

50 Calumet St.

Roxbury Mass.

In Reference To AFPPA-8

AAF 201-(7968) Maloney, Edward J, O-823654

Dear Sir,

In regards to your letter dated 11 July 1946 requesting additional information concerning the death of Lt. E. J. Maloney and the other eight crew members of my plane, I will describe the circumstances to the best of my knowledge. We were flying in a formation of 10 planes at the tail position, after dropping our bombs on the target we headed for the rally point when a group of Me 109's came in to attack us.

I was firing the left waist gun when six 20mm. shells entered the waist section, three went through the other waist gunner Sgt. Edward Ivan, and the other three went in between my legs, then our ship went into a flat spin. I believe that another group of shells exploded in the front section of the plane instantly killing the pilot Lt. John James, and the co-pilot Lt. Maloney because there was no effort to bring the ship out of the spin.

Sgt. Ivan and myself were the only ones with our parachutes on at the time of the attack and he appeared to be dead from the enemy gunfire, I was pinned down to the fuselage beside him due to the centripetal force.

After spinning down about 20,000 ft. the ball turret fell out of the ship with the turret gunner still in his position

The ball turret gunner was Sgt. Ralph Robinson. Then the plane broke just about where the turret fell off, the force was off my body and I immediately rolled out of the plane and pulled my rip cord. My parachute opened about 75 ft. above the ground the front section had already hit the ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ground and the four engines were a mass of fire. I pulled the side lines of my parachute and avoided landing in the fire, being unable to walk I crawled on the ground until two Czecho-Slovakian farmers picked me up and carried me into thier farm house. After I left the plane I never saw any of my crew members again. Several hours later I was turned over to a German officer and taken prisoner.

I was taken to the city of Budweis Czecho-Slovakia, but I never did find out the name of the small willage where the plane went down, however I believe near the Czecho-Slovakian Austrian border about 30 miles south of the above city near the vicinity of a place called Neuhouis.

I hope that this information will be of some value .

Respectfully Yours,

John F D'Amore

JUL 22 1945

