

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

0107

Classification [REDACTED]  
to [REDACTED]  
by S. A. [REDACTED], Lt. Col., AD  
by F. E. [REDACTED], AD  
[REDACTED]

CLASSIFICATION: SECRET  
 BY E. A. REAGAN, Lt. Col., AF  
 ON 10/1/50, 10/1/50, 10/1/50  
 FOR P. D. [REDACTED], Capt., AF  
 [REDACTED]

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
 HEADQUARTERS U. S. AIR FORCE  
 WASHINGTON

8107

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 PANTANELLA AIR BASE Command AF 15TH AF  
Group 464TH COMBARDMENT GROUP (H) 779TH BOMB SQ (H)

SPECIFY: Point of departure PANTANELLA AIR BASE Course BLECHHAMMER, GERMANY  
 Target BLECHHAMMER Type of Mission BOMBING  
GERMANY

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH (OR WHEN LAST REPORTED):  
GENERALLY CLEAR VISIBILITY 20 MILES

GIVE: (a) Date 27 AUG 1944 Time 1052 Location HUNGARY  
 of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.  
 (b) Specify weather: (X) Lost Sighted (X) Last Contacted by Radio  
 ( ) Force 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 (X) Other circumstances as follows: AIRCRAFT WAS FORCED TO LEAVE FORMATION OVER HUNGARY DUE TO LOSE OF GAS

AIRCRAFT: Type, Model & Series B-24 J AAF Serial No 42-50796

ENGINES: Type, Model & Series B 1830-43 A AAF Serial No (a) CP-314915  
 (b) CP-314914 (c) CP-312455 (d) CP-312472

INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Furnish below Make, Type, and Serial Number)  
 (a) BOMBING 50 CAL M2 1185570 (b) 1195636 1185904  
 (c) 978754 (d) 1195657 1185071  
 (e) 1527193 (f) 1194788  
 (g) 1135831 (h) 1187857

PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW REPORTED AS: (X) 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)

CREW POSITION	NAME IN FULL (Last Name First)	RANK	SERIAL NO	NEAREST OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP, SHIP, AND ADDRESS
Pilot	<u>BREW, GEORGE D.</u>	<u>F/O</u>	<u>[REDACTED]</u>	<u>MOTHER MRS [REDACTED] RTO</u>
CO-PILOT	<u>CROSBY, DAVID W.</u>	<u>F/O</u>	<u>[REDACTED]</u>	<u>WIFE MRS LOLA RTO</u>
	<u>L. CROSBY, RR #2, FESTUS, MISSOURI</u>			
NAVIGATOR	<u>KOETZ, JAMES B.</u>	<u>2D LT</u>	<u>[REDACTED]</u>	<u>MOTHER MRS [REDACTED] RTO</u>
	<u>MARTHA B. EDLER, 888 N. W. BLVD, COLUMBUS, OHIO</u>			
COMBARDIER	<u>MUTTON, FRANCIS R.</u>	<u>F/O</u>	<u>[REDACTED]</u>	<u>MOTHER MRS [REDACTED] RTO</u>
	<u>PEARL V. MUTTON, 1297 SENECA ST, BUFFALO, N. Y.</u>			
ENGINEER	<u>HASTINGS, CHARLES G.</u>	<u>Y/SGT</u>	<u>[REDACTED]</u>	<u>WIFE MRS ELLA RTO</u>
	<u>M. HASTINGS, 601 N. CENTRAL AVE, PHOENIX, ARIZ.</u>			
ENGINEER	<u>HOLLAND, WILBERT R.</u>	<u>SGT</u>	<u>[REDACTED]</u>	<u>MOTHER MRS [REDACTED] RTO</u>
	<u>LEITCHMAN L. HOLLAND, 2308 MAPLE AVE NE, CANTON, OHIO</u>			
ENGINEER	<u>OLSEN, VICTOR L.</u>	<u>SGT</u>	<u>[REDACTED]</u>	<u>MOTHER MRS [REDACTED]</u>
	<u>EDITH HOLY, ROUTE #2, BOX 192, CHINO, CALIF.</u>			
AND ONE	<u>RICE, JACK E.</u>	<u>SGT</u>	<u>[REDACTED]</u>	<u>MOTHER MRS [REDACTED] RTO</u>
	<u>HILDOR A. RICE, 121 22, BROAD ST, BELDING, MICH</u>			

47502  
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30...LOC 71 2401...  
CA...LOC 71 2401...

AERIAL GNR - MARASCO, JOSEPH A. S/SGT FATHER MR. RTD  
NICHOLAS MARASCO, 2111 SO. ROSEWOOD ST. PHILADELPHIA, PA.  
AERIAL GNR KOVAC, WILLIAM (NM1) CPL MOTHER MRS KATIE  
KOVAC, 2455 SO. LAUNDALE AVE, CHICAGO, ILL

IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEST KNOWLEDGE OF AIR-  
CRASH AND CHECK APPROPRIATE (Only one) CIRCLE TO INDICATE BASIS FOR ANSWER:

NAME IN FULL      GRADE      SERIAL NO      Seen      Last      Saw  
Crash      Forced Landing

EARL J. UITENDAAL      1ST LT      [REDACTED]      X      X

IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- ( ) Parachutes were used ( ) Person seen walking away from scene of crash
- ( ) Any other reason (specify NO PARACHUTES WERE USED AS AIRCRAFT  
WAS STILL FLYING WHEN LAST SEEN.)

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

ATTACH, AS ENCLOSURES TO THIS REPORT, ANY WITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH,  
FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.

ATTACH, AS AN ENCLOSURE 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 WAS MADE AS  
PLANE MERELY LEFT THE FORMATION APPARENTLY IN GOOD CONDITION WITH  
THE EXCEPTION OF A GAS LEAK.

Date of this Report: 29 AUGUST 1944

Signature of Officer *Alderson Timmons*

- 2 Incls:  
INCL 1 - STATEMENT OF 1ST LT  
EARL J. UITENDAAL (SEPTUP)  
INCL 2 - MAP OF AREA WHERE PLANE  
WAS SEEN TO LEAVE FORMATION (SEPTUP)

ALDERSON TIMMONS,  
CAPT., AIR CORPS,  
ADJUTANT





BOMBING OF BLECHWARNER  
AUG 27, 1944

COORDINATES  
46° 55' N 17° 42' E

06/12/64

✓  
Sgt. Lt. James R. Korte

Mrs. Martha G. Korte, (mother)  
614 Northwest Boulevard,  
Columbus, Ohio.

✓  
P/O George H. Drey

Mrs. Marion E. Drey, (Mother)  
1403 Bay Villa Place,  
Tampa, Florida.

✓  
P/O David H. Crosby

Mrs. Lola Lee Crosby, (wife)  
Route 2,  
Festus, Missouri.

✓  
P/O Francis R. Hutton

Mrs. Pearl Hutton, (mother)  
1277 Seneca Street,  
Buffalo, New York.

✓  
T/Sgt. Charles S. Hastings

Mrs. Ella S. Hastings, (wife)  
642 North Central Avenue,  
Phoenix, Arizona.

✓  
Sgt. Gilbert E. Holland

Mrs. Leifdunn E. Holland, (mother)  
2325 Maple Avenue,  
Canton, Ohio.

✓  
Sgt. Victor L. Glass

Mrs. Edith Glass, (mother)  
Route Number Two Box 192,  
China, California.

✓  
Sgt. Jack E. Rice *Paul*

Mrs. Eldora E. Rice, (mother)  
221 South Perry Street,  
Baldwin, Michigan.

✓  
S/Sgt. Joseph A. Harasse *Paul*

Mrs. Joseph Harasse, (mother)  
2122 North Sumner Street,  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

✓  
Sgt. William Evans

Mrs. Ruelle E. Evans, (mother)  
2455 South Laramie,  
Chicago, Illinois.

## CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name FRANCIS R MUTTON Rank F/O Serial No. 125722
2. Organization 464 Op Commander ? Rank ? Sqd CO — Rank —
3. What year 1944 (full name) month AUG day 27 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Bombing target, Blaughammer, target time, ?, altitude, 24000' route scheduled, ?  
?, route flown ?
5. Where were you when you left formation? ?
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". James Kestz  
Navigator bailed out of the ~~main~~ Hatch. Joseph  
MARASCA bailed out of Rampay ahead of MR.  
of rest of the crew I have 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) None
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? —
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 WILBERT R HOLLAND Rank T/sgt Serial No. 31032
2. Organization 444<sup>th</sup> Co Commander Col AL SCHROEDER Rank Col Sqd CO Good Year Rank Lt. Col.  
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month Aug day 27<sup>th</sup> did you go down?
4. What was the mission, 11<sup>th</sup>, target, Blechno <sup>Germany</sup> mass, target time, 12:15 P.M., altitude, 2,000 ft. route scheduled, Through Yugoslavia, route flown same
5. Where were you when you left formation? About 1 hour from target.
6. Did you bail out? Yes, over Split Yugoslavia.
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Yes all of them
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? \_\_\_\_\_
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 members of the crew were in the plane when it struck the ground. I saw all the shutles.
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? T/sgt Hastings & I got back to our base with the help of the civilians living in the town we bailed out in Split, Yugoslavia. The Germans fired at us while we were in the shutles and on the ground Hastings was shot in his right wrist.
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)

Name of crew member:

KOVAC, William (NVI)

Rank:

Cpl.

Serial number:

Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~and Pilot (Fighter)~~

Aerial Car.

Did he bail out? Yes, ~~from the~~Where? along the coast of Yugoslavia, Split.

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Justbefore we jumpedWas he injured? NoWhere was he when last seen? going down with his chute openAny hearsay information: the first house I was hiding in, the man that hid me said he saw three of the boys that were shot one through the head and the other two shot close to the heart.Source: Yugoslavia civilians that saved my life.

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

My chute was filled with bullet holes & I know they were shooting at all of us so Kovac was probably one of the fellows that were shot.Total number of missions of above crew member: he was on his 1<sup>st</sup> missionDates and destinations if possible: Aug 27<sup>th</sup> 1944 Bleckhampton

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name STACK EDWIN RICE Rank S/SGT Serial No. [REDACTED]
2. Organization A.S. Op Commander Rank UNKNOWN Rank LT/CDL Sqn CO GOODYEAR Rank LT/CDL  
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month Aug day 27 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, BLECHHAMMER, target, OIL FIELDS, target time, 12:00, altitude, 10,000 FT route scheduled, \_\_\_\_\_, route flown \_\_\_\_\_
5. Where were you when you left formation? HUNGARY
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". BAILED OUT OVER SPLIT, YUGOSLAVIA, ALTITUDE 10,000 FT. AIR SPEED 200 MPH.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? UNKNOWN
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) NONE
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? MEMBERS WERE LAST SEEN, PRIOR BEFORE BAILING OUT
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)

Name of crew member:

OLSEN, Victor L.

Rank:

Sgt.

Serial number:

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~ENGINEER/INSTRUCTOR~~

Engineer

Did he bail out? YESWhere? SPLIT, YUGOSLAVIA

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: LASTCONTACT WAS AT TIME OF CAPTURE BY GERMAN ARMYWas he injured? NOWhere was he when last seen? SPLIT, YUGOSLAVIA

Any hearsay information: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

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

I KNOW HE HAD BEEN SHOT IN COMING DOWN IN CANOE BUT I WAS BADLY INJURED ALSO, HAVING BEEN SHOT THROUGH THE R. LUNG BY THE GERMANS FROM THE GROUND. I DO NOT KNOW HOW HE WAS.

Total number of missions of above crew member: FIRST MISSIONDates and destinations if possible: AUGUST 27 1944