

CONFIDENTIAL
 R/R DEPARTMENT
 HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
 WASHINGTON

8252

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 PANTANELLA AIR BASE Command or AF 15TH AF
 Group 44TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) Squadron 779TH BOMB SQ (H)

SPECIFY: Point of Departure PANTANELLA AIR BASE Course VIENNA, AUSTRIA
 Target VIENNA Type of Mission BOMBING
AUSTRIA

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
ALTHOUGH US LAYER BROKE TO 5/10 COVERAGE, VISIBILITY 25 MILES.

GIVE: (a) Date 10 SEPTEMBER 44 Time 1042 Location VIENNA, AUSTRIA
 of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
 (b) Specify whether: (X) Last Sighted () Last Contacted by Radio
 () Forced Down () Sent 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 (X) Enemy Anti-aircraft () Other circumstances as follows:

AIRCRAFT: Type, Model & Series B-24 J AAF Serial No 44-41053

ENGINES: Type, Model & Series B 1830-65A AAF Serial No (a) BP-443049
 (b) BP-440289 (c) BP-440310 (d) BP-443447

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

(a) <u>BOEHLING 50 CAL MP</u>	<u>1540227</u>	(b) <u>1203140</u>	<u>1203385</u>
(c) <u>1203385</u>	<u>1538078</u>	(d) <u>1203380</u>	<u>1203380</u>
(e) <u>1538078</u>	(f) <u>1203490</u>		
(g) <u>1540242</u>	(h) <u>1203513</u>		

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)	R/R SERIAL NO	NEXT OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP, AND ADDRESS
<u>Pilot</u>	<u>OVERMONT, NORMAN O.</u>	<u>25 LT</u>	<u>0820035 OTHER WRS</u>
<u>CO-PILOT</u>	<u>EMMA B. JOHNSON, FORTINA, NORTH DAKOTA.</u>		
<u>ENGINEER</u>	<u>BROWN, GEORGE W.</u>	<u>25 LT</u>	<u>0825770 WIFE WRS</u>
<u>ENGINEER</u>	<u>FRANCES C. BROWN, ATLANTA ROAD, BOX 114, MARILITA, GA.</u>		
<u>ENGINEER</u>	<u>ROBINSON, WILLIAM R. 29 LT</u>	<u>0813001</u>	<u>WIFE WRS</u>
<u>NAVIGATOR</u>	<u>PAULINE A. ROBINSON, 3208 POPPLETON APT. 24, CHANA, NEB.</u>		
<u>ENGINEER</u>	<u>BEASLEY, GREN S.</u>	<u>20 LT</u>	<u>0725581 WIFE WRS</u>
<u>ENGINEER</u>	<u>RAMI S. BEASLEY, BOX 414, LIBERTY, TEXAS.</u>		
<u>ENGINEER</u>	<u>VIGOR, LAWRENCE H.</u>	<u>2/MT</u>	<u>0813389 OTHER WRS</u>
<u>ENGINEER</u>	<u>EMILIE TOGER, 208 S. SHERMAN ST., DAY CITY, MICHIGAN</u>		
<u>ENGINEER</u>	<u>GOODOLD, ARTHUR E.</u>	<u>03/MT</u>	<u>3140717 FATHER WRS</u>
<u>ENGINEER</u>	<u>JOSEPH E. GOODOLD, 601 S. CHIMNEY ST., LAKELAND, FLA.</u>		
<u>ENGINEER</u>	<u>SMITH, WILLIAM T. JR</u>	<u>04T</u>	<u>3187307 OTHER WRS</u>
<u>ENGINEER</u>	<u>ANNIE BELLE ANNIE, ROUTE 22, DAY BEACH, GEORGIA.</u>		
<u>ENGINEER</u>	<u>SPRAGUE, DURANT D.</u>	<u>04</u>	<u>1005123 FATHER WRS</u>
<u>ENGINEER</u>	<u>BURLETON P. SPRAGUE, 5203 N. COURT ST., FLINT, MICH.</u>		

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 (See Reverse Side)

No. 572
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AERIAL GNR ZEMAN, MICHAEL V. CPL 32370129 WIFE MRS I
 ELGA ZEMAN, 74 W. MAIN ST., LITTLE FALLS, NEW YORK
 AERIAL GNR GEBHARDT, FREDERICK C. CPL 32778345 MOTHER MRS
 ROSE GEBHARDT, 29-F WRAYLAC MAJOR, ELIZABETH, N. J.

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

NAME IN FULL GRADE SERIAL NO BY Whose Sighted Crash Forced Landing

JOSEPH A. SHYMANSKI	1ST LT	0737487				X
ANGELO KYRMAS	T/SGT	13031254				X
FRED BONROFF	S/SGT	12098976				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) FOUR MEN WERE SEEN LEAVING THE AIRCRAFT
 BUT ONLY TWO PARACHUTES WERE SEEN TO OPEN.

- 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, EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTIONS OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
- 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 CHANGE HERE: (if no search, so state giving reason) NO SEARCH WAS MADE AS AIRCRAFT WENT DOWN OVER ENEMY TERRITORY.

Date of this Report: 12 SEPTEMBER 1944

Signature of Officer Alderson Timmons
 ALDERSON TIMMONS,
 CAPT., AIR CORPS,
 ADJUTANT

- 4 Incls:
 INCL 1 - STATEMENT OF 1ST LT JOSEPH A. SHYMANSKI (SEPTUP)
 INCL 2 - STATEMENT OF T/SGT ANGELO KYRMAS (SEPTUP)
 INCL 3 - STATEMENT OF S/SGT FRED BONROFF (SEPTUP)
 INCL 4 - MAP OF AREA WHERE PLANE WAS LAST SEEN (SEPTUP)

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779TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
APO 520 U. S. ARMY

12 SEPTEMBER 1944

ON THE 10 SEPTEMBER WE BOMBED A TARGET IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA. AT ABOUT 1042 "BLACK MIKE", FLOWN BY LT. OVERHOLT, WAS HIT BY FLAK AND IT LOOKED LIKE IT'S BOMB BAY WAS ON FIRE. THE AIRCRAFT CAME UP OVER ABLE BOX AND PEELED OFF TO THE LEFT TOWARD CHARLEY BOX. DURING THE PEEL OFF, WHEN "BLACK MIKE" WAS ON ABOUT A 60 DEGREE BANK, I SAW FOUR MEN COME TUMBLING OUT OF THE AIRCRAFT. I COULDN'T SEE WHETHER OR NOT THEIR CHUTES OPENED BECAUSE I WAS IN THE TOP TURRET AND THEY FELL BELOW THE LEVEL OF OUR AIRCRAFT.

Angelo Kyrmaz

ANGELO KYRMAS,
T/SGT, 13031254
779TH BOMB SQ (H)
464TH BOMB GP (H)

Duck 2

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**779TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
APO 520 U. S. ARMY**

12 SEPTEMBER 1944

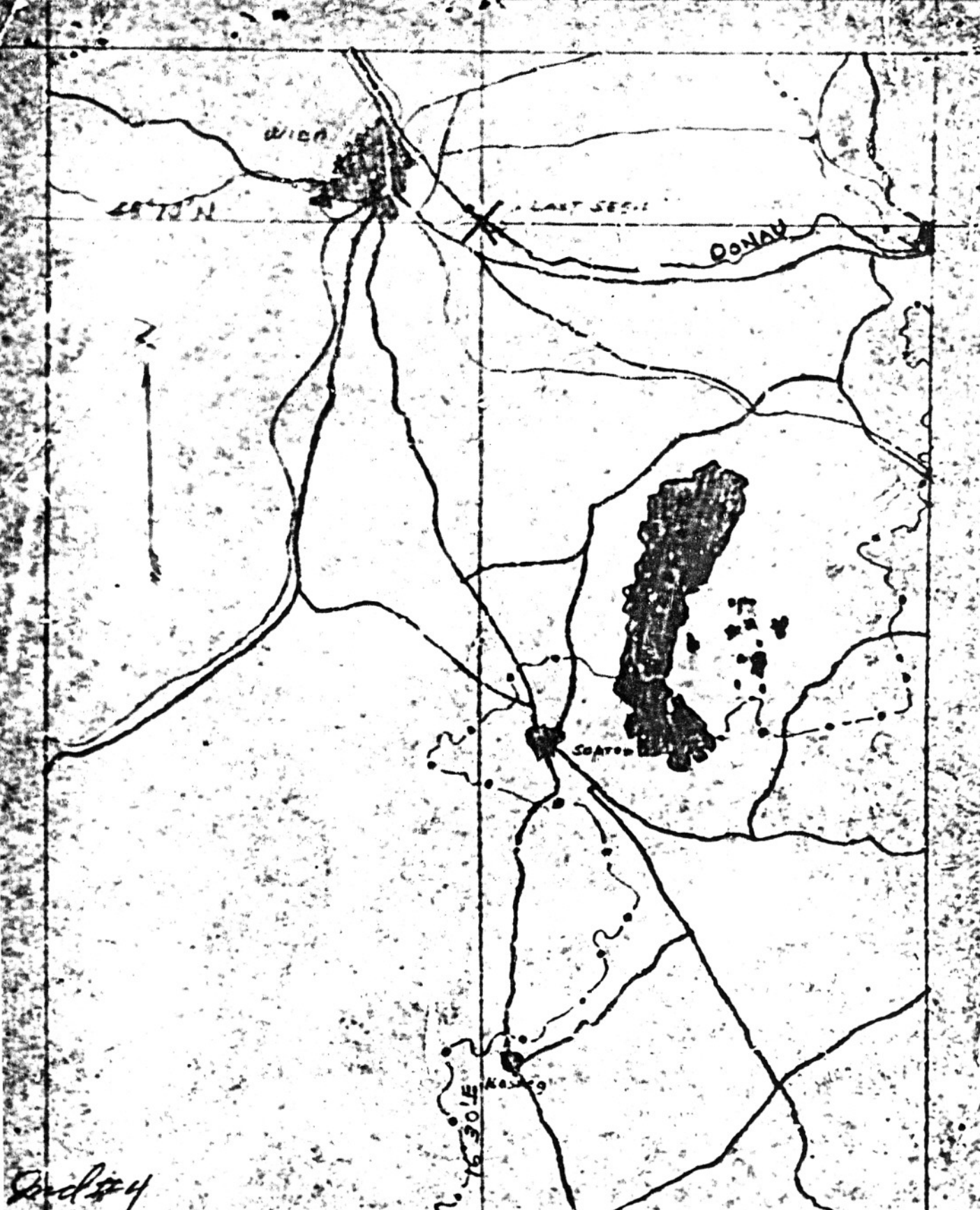
ON THE 10 SEPTEMBER 1944 WE BOMBED A TARGET AT VIENNA, AUSTRIA. "BLACK MIKE", FLOWN BY LT. OVERMOLT, WAS FLYING IN NUMBER TWENTY TWO POSITION IN ABLE BOX, DIRECTLY BEHIND US. AT ABOUT 1042 "BLACK MIKE" RECEIVED A DIRECT HIT AT THE ROOT OF THE LEFT WING, SEEMS AS THOUGH ONE OF THE GAS TANKS WAS HIT BECAUSE FIRE BROKE OUT IMMEDIATELY. "BLACK MIKE" FLEW IN THE FORMATION FOR A FEW SECONDS AFTER RECEIVING THE HIT AND THEN PEELLED OFF TO THE LEFT. AS THE PLANE LEFT OUR BOX, I SAW TWO MEN DIVE OUT OF THE BACK HATCH. I DIDN'T SEE THEIR CHUTES OPEN BECAUSE THE STABILIZER BLOCKED BY VIEW.

Fred Gonroff

**FRED GONROFF,
S/SGT, 12098976
779TH BOMB SQ (H)
464TH BOMB GP (H)**

Incl # 3

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Andrey

SEPT. 10, 1944 BOMBING OF OESTERREICHISCHE SAUERBERE 48° 10' N - 16° 30' E COORDINATES

12/9/

2nd. Lt. Norman O. Overholt

Mr. Alvin Overholt, (Brother)
Peebles, Montana.

2nd. Lt. George Brown

Mrs. Frances A. Brown, (Wife)
Box 114,
Marietta, Georgia.

2nd. Lt. William B. Robinson

Mrs. Pauline I. Robinson, (Wife)
404 Glen Avenue,
Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Srd. Lt. Owen S. Beasley

Mrs. Susan S. Beasley, (Wife)
Box 114, Liberty, Tennessee.

M/sgt. Laurence R. Tubar

Mrs. Nellie Tubar, (Mother)
208 South Sherman Street,
Bay City, Michigan.

S/sgt. Arthur K. O'Connell

Mr. Joe O'Connell, (Father)
901 West Quincy Street,
Lakeland, Florida.

Sgt. William T. Davis, Jr.

Mrs. Annie R. Davis, (Mother)
Route Number Two,
Dry Branch, Georgia.

Cpl. Derrant B. Sprague

Mrs. Fannie J. Sprague, (Mother)
503 West Court Street,
Flint, Michigan.

Cpl. Michael V. Lanza

Mrs. Olga Lanza, (Wife)
14 West Main Street,
Little Falls, New York.

Sgt. Frederick C. Schmidt

Mrs. Kate M. Schmidt, (Mother)
29-7 Broadway Street,
Klincksch, New Jersey.

Handwritten signature

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 6212

Name of crew member:

CHAMBERLAIN, Frederick G.

Rank:

Capt.

Serial number:

3777345

Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Navigator/Observer~~ Assistant GunnerDid he bail out? No knowledge

Where? _____

If not, why not? Plane blew up when hitLast contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Never saw him until just before flight was madeWas he injured? Never saw him after plane was hitWhere was he when last seen? At his gun position

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: This was his first

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 8212

Name of crew member: BRUNSON, William D.
 Rank: 2nd Lt.
 Serial number: 06792
 Position: Crew (Bombardier) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Bombardier

Did he bail out? No Knowledge

Where? _____

If not, why not? Plane exploded when hit

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Never saw him until just before flight was started.

Was he injured? Never saw him after plane was hit.

Where was he when last seen? At his position

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: First Mission

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 8262

Name of crew member:

OVERHEAT, Norman G.

Rank:

2nd Lt.

Serial number:

000000

Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Pilot

Did he bail out? No Knowledge

Where? _____

If not, why not? Plane exploded when hitLast contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Never saw him until just before flight was startedWas he injured? Never saw him after plane was hitWhere was he when last seen? At his position

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: Second MissionDates and destinations if possible: Two days before--same target.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 0000

Name of crew member:

WILLIAMS, William R., Jr.

Rank:

Sgt.

Serial number:

345707

Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Engineer~~ ~~Asst. Pilot~~

Engineer

Did he bail out? No Knowledge

Where? _____

If not, why not? Plane exploded when hit

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Never saw him until just before flight was started.

Was he injured? Never saw him after plane was hit.

Where was he when last seen? At his gun position

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: First Mission

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 626

Name of crew member:

STRICK, Barrett B.

Rank:

Cpl.

Serial number:

149123

Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Answer Card

Did he bail out? No Knowledge

Where? _____

If not, why not? Plane exploded when hitLast contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Never sawhim until just before flight was made.Was he injured? Never saw him after plane was hitWhere was he when last seen? At his gun position

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: First Mission

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 622

Name of crew member:

SMITH, Michael V.

Rank:

Cpl.

Serial number:

1076219

Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Aerial Gun.

Did he bail out? No Knowledge

Where? _____

If not, why not? Plane blew up when hit

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Never saw him until just before flight was made

Was he injured? Never saw him after plane was hit

Where was he when last seen? At his gun position

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: First Mission

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name ARTHUR E. GODBOLD Rank T/SGT Serial No. 34409717
2. Organization 464th Gp Commander Rank Col. Sqn CO Goodyear Rank Lt. Col.
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month September day 10 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, _____, target, Vienna, Austria, target
time, 1040 a.m., altitude, 26000 route scheduled, as planned
_____, route flown as planned
5. Where were you when you left formation? Hit while in formation
6. Did you bail out? Yes
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Three more bailed out
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? On 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) 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? Never saw any of them
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)

A-1

MG 1 8262

DATE: 9/10/44 - 11.30 hrs
 PLACE: W.M.
 TYPE: Liberator.

779 (H.B.) Sqd.
 464 Group - 95 Wing
 AIRBASE: Fontenelle.
 PAR COUR: Airbase HQs A (c)

*NOAA E262
 on the ground
 Radio - 1000
 (nothing to see)
 22 July*

Rank Name U.S.A. ASN Reg REL STATUS

KIA	1st Lt. Overholt, Norman, G.		✓	0-628343		(dead)
EUS	1st Lt. Brown, George, W.			0-613770		(dead)
KIA	1st Lt. Johnson, William, B.			0-673701		(dead)
EUS	1st Lt. Hooley, Glen B.			0-723501		missing (Recp.)
✓	Sgt. Teter, Lawrence H.			6913369		missing PFD
✓	Sgt. Davis, William T.			34687387		missing PFD
✓	Sgt. Sprague, Belmont			16031267		missing PFD
✓	Sgt. Gothardt, Fred. G.			32779148		missing PFD
	Sgt. McKee, Robert W.			39843633		missing (dead)
✓	Sgt. Soren, Michael V.			31379129		missing PFD

NOAA E262

Final Supplementary REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES dated 17 March 1945

PLACE:

DATE:

NAME AND FIRST NAME OF PRISONER:

AGE:

YEAR OF BIRTH:

RANK:

PLACE AND DATE OF CAPTURE:

Gebhardt, Frederick C

G E B H A R D T (GEBHARDT ?), Fred C.
~~32779545~~

./.

Sgt.

captured, Stalag Luft 4

PARTICULARS CONCERNING CAPTURE:-
(CRASHED? EMERGENCY LANDING? SHOT DOWN?)

TYPE OF CRAFT

MIA - 10 Sep 44

REMARKS:

R.I.A. 10 Sep 44

AC