

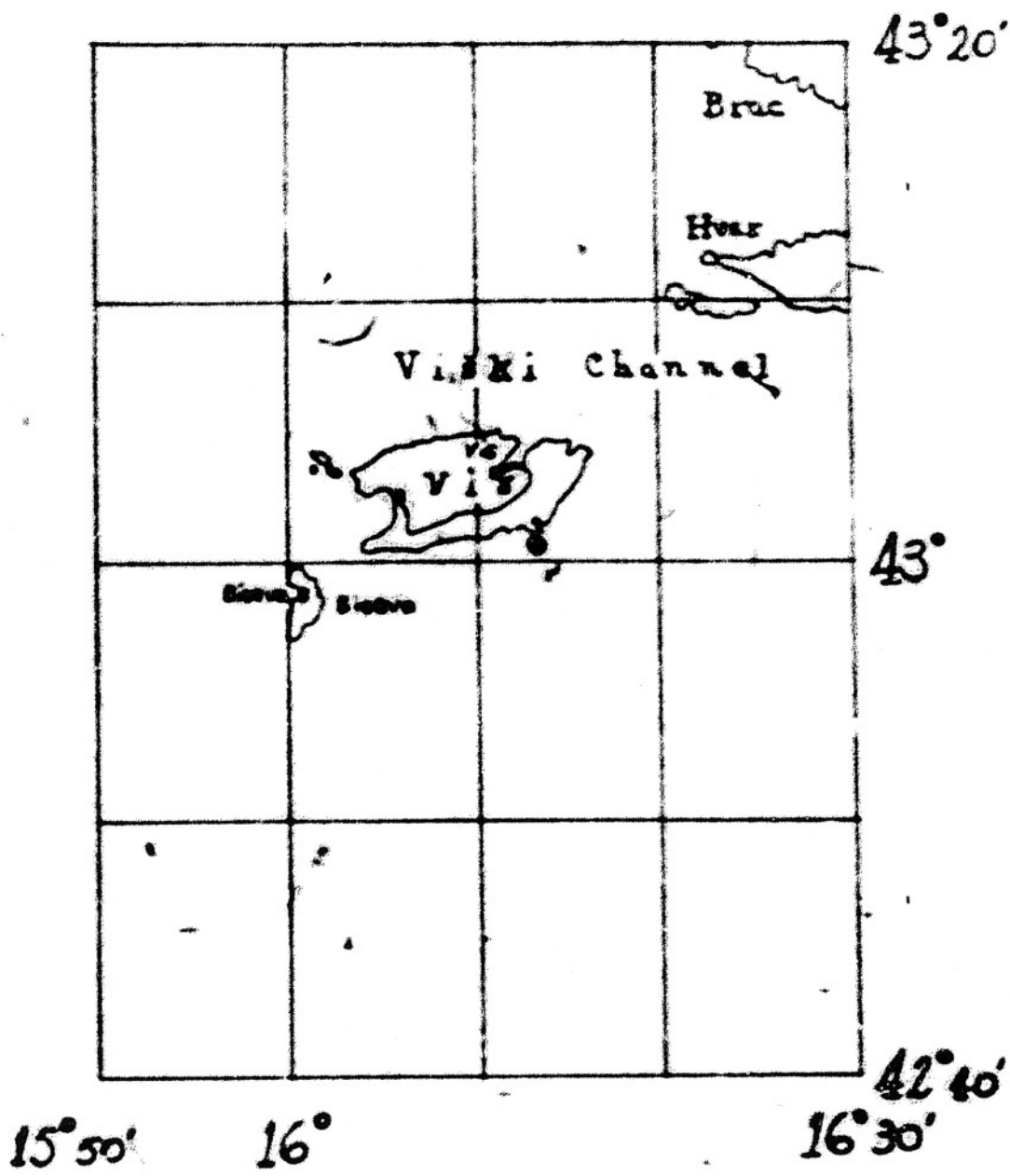
DECLASSIFIED BY AUTHORITY OF NND DECLASSIFICATION PROJECT 785072.
H.D. MAYER, NARS, SEPTEMBER 10, 1982.

9948

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification [redacted]
by [redacted] La. Cal., AS
by V. S. [redacted] AC
[redacted]

[redacted]



VIS, YUGOSLAVIA

● INDICATES AREA IN WHICH SGT. HURST
WAS LAST SIGHTED.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: ERST, James C.

File No. 9968

Rank: Sgt.

Serial number: [REDACTED]

Position: Crew (Bomber) [REDACTED] Sgt-Gun.

Did he bail out? No

Where? _____

If not, why not? Crew remained with ship - aircraft ditched.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Sgt. Ernst

was seated directly behind the pilots seat at the time of impact.

Was he injured? Not before the ship but the water

Where was he when last seen? Behind the pilots seat

Any hearsay information: I believe the Master ^{Upper} Local Transit

was torn loose by the impact and pinned beneath it on the flight deck or between the pilots seats was Sgt Ernst.

As I was huddled through the canopy I didn't get through the escape hatch and never got a chance to check on its occupants.

Source: Yellow members of crew who escaped through flight deck hatch

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

was pinned in the aircraft which broke up and sank no one remembers seeing him outside the ship and as the flight deck was submerged at all times it is not reasonably certain just what did cause his death.

Total number of assignments of above crew member: Five

Dates and destinations if possible: 1 Unknown 2 [REDACTED] 3 San Nicolas I Nov 44;

4 Manila; 5 Recaptured 20 November 44 - ditched

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Mamaux, Harry O., Sgt., 33080081, 776th Sqdn, 464th B. Gr.

APPENDIX F

1. Sgt J. C. Hurst, Engineer, This man was not seen by source after ship was ditched. Presumed dead.

2. All other members of crew are safe.