

11730

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classification changes

~~RESTRICTED~~

by E. A. SMITH, Lt. Col., AF

by F. H. WOODS, Capt., AC

Date: SEP 15 1946

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification changed to RESTRICTED

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

by E. A. BRADSHAW, Lt. Col., ADC
by P. W. MORRIS, Capt., ADC

Date MAR 12 1946

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

IMPORTANT: This Report will be compiled in triplicate by each Army Air Forces organization within 48 hours of the time an air crew member is officially reported missing.

- ORGANIZATION; Location, by Name AAF123; Command or Air Force VIII
Group 458th (H); Squadron 759d (H); Detachment ---
- SPECIFY: Place of Departure AAF 123 Course ---
Target or Intended Destination HARBURG, Germany Type of Mission Combat
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST RECORDED;
3 to 4/10ths ~~///~~ Cloud.
- GIVE: (a) Day 17 Month JAN Year 45; Time 2249; and Location 5352N-0992W
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (); last contacted by radio (); forced down (); seen to crash (); or information not available ().
- AIRCRAFT WAS DOWN, OR IT BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN DOWN, AS A RESULT OF:
(Check only one) Enemy Aircraft (); Enemy Anti-Aircraft (); other Circumstances as follows: _____
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series DC-4; AAF Serial Number 41-28963
- IDENTITY OF AIRCRAFT, if any _____
- ENGINE: Type, Model and Series R 1830-43; AAF Serial Number _____
(a) 41-28792; (b) 42-50827; (c) 42-50857; (d) 42-50943
- INSTALLED EQUIPMENT (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number):
(a) IN-983829; (b) IN-983829; (c) IN-983396; (d) IN-983240
(e) IN-983304; (f) IN-983203; (g) IN-983303; (h) IN-983351
(i) _____; (j) _____; (k) _____; (l) _____
(m) _____; (n) _____; (o) _____
- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE ON BOARD (a) Battle Casualty Yes
OR (b) Non Battle Casualty _____
- LIST OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10; Passengers 0; Total 10
(Starting with Pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 11 persons were aboard aircraft, list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach original to this form.)

Crew Position	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Current Status
1. Pilot	HICKS, ROGER F.	2 Lt	0-720573	MIA
2. Co-Pilot	BERNHART, JOSEPH M.	P/O	T-3974	MIA
3. Navigator	HARRISON, WILLIAM M.	2/O	T-429843	MIA
4. Radio Opr	HUGHES, JOHN JR.	Sgt	37416075	MIA
5. Engin(Opr Grd)	QUANTRON, EDWARD L.	Sgt	36422992	MIA
6. Nose Grd	HAYS, ROBERT E.	Sgt	12175113	MIA
7. Tail Grd	ROBERTSON, MURRAY W.	SR Sgt	95299787	MIA
8. Tail Grd	STEWART, ROBERT G.	Sgt	16192373	MIA
9. Tail Grd	SHAWNEE, ROBERT L.	Sgt	11193904	MIA
10. NCM Grd	BRIDGEMAN, ROBERT V.	S/Sgt	3007731185	MIA

- IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF CRASH, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMNS TO INDICATE BASIS FOR INFO:

Check only one or, column

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted	by	Last Sighted	How	Forced
			by				
			by				
1. ROBERTS, HALDO	1 Lt	0-705299			X		
2. GEORGE, ALBERT E.	1 Lt	0-705299		X			
3. HARRIS, LAURANCE S.	1 Lt	0-700457			X		
4. O'BRIEN, JACK	2 Lt	0-75532			X		

(see reverse) (over)

CONFIDENTIAL

13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used _____; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash _____; or (c) Any other reason (Specify) Doubtful - The fighters came back too soon.
14. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN OR LANDING SPOT.
15. ATTACH SYSTEMS DESCRIPTION OF SPARE, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
16. GIVE NAME, RANK, AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SPARE, IF ANY INCLUDING DESCRIPTION AND EXTENT None.

Date of Report 18 January 1945

Walter H. Rine
 ROLLAND H. RINE,
 Major, Air Corps,
 Air Inspector.

(Signature of Preparing Officer)

17. SUMMARY OF WITNESSES STATEMENTS:

Lt BOERS reports A/C left formation at 5350N - 0950E for Denmark, the trouble uncertain.

Lt GRENZ reports heard over the VEF asking for fighter support. Fla k hit in gas tank and gasoline streaming out. The time was 1245, 5340N - 1013E, possibly heading for Sweden.

Lt HAYNES reports Lt HIGGS left the formation at 1249, 15 miles north of Hamburg. #3 engine feathered and fire in the bomb-bay and losing gasoline, heading for Sweden.

Lt HEFFMAN reports HIGGS had #3 engine feathered at 1909 position 5407N - 0900E. He turned off to the right at this point.

Captain LOCKRIDGE reports at 1256 saw a B24 head for Sweden, low on gas, engine out and smoking.

Lt O'NEALAN, reports HIGGS started for Sweden but doesn't believe he made it for the fighters came back too soon. He left the formation just before leaving the coast on the way out.

Lt FERRICKL reports HIGGS had a gas leak, claimed he had 20 minutes gas left. Probably did not make Sweden.

11. (cont)

			Cont by	Last
			Radio	Sighted
LOCKRIDGE, CHARLES L.	Capt	0-813601		x
HEFFMAN, RALPH G.	2 Lt	0-678264		x
FERRICKL, HERBIECK E.	2 Lt	0-826682	x	



ATT. P. O. Bureau
1918. No. 107 50
Washington, D. C.
1918.



Commanding General

Army Air Forces ATT. AFPPA-8

Washington D. C.

PPA
⑧

Robert F. Hicks
512 HARDWICK ST.
BELVIDERE, N.J.



Commanding General
Army Air Forces
Attention: AFPPA-8
Washington 25 (2)
D.C.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE File # 117730

Name of crew member: BRITTAIN, Robert F.
Rank: S/Sgt.
Serial number: 32831189
Position: Crew (Bomber) or-Flight (Fighter): R.C.M. OPERATOR

Did he bail out? YES

Where? FALKENBERG, SWEDEN

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

ALIVE AND NOW RESIDING AT

32 ZENNER ST.

BUFFALO, N.Y.

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 11730

Name of crew member: Schausell, Robert I.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 11136364
Position: Crew (Bombardier) on flight: Tail Gunner.

Did he bail out? YES

Where? FALKENBERG, SWEDEN

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

ALIVE AND NOW RESIDING AT

63 ALVERSON, AVE.

PROVIDENCE (9), R. I.

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE File 11730

Name of crew member: VERDAR, John Jr.
 Rank: Sgt.
 Serial number: 3316035
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~xxxxxxx (Fighter)~~: Radio Operator.

Did he bail out? YES

Where? FALKENBERG, SWEDEN

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

ALIVE AND NOW RESIDING AT
77 E. 27th ST.
BAYONNE, N.J.

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 11730

Name of crew member: BRITTAIN, Robert F.
 Rank: S/Sgt.
 Serial number: 32831189
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~xxx~~ ~~Right~~ ~~(Left)~~: ECM Operator.

Did he bail out? yes

Where? Falunberg Sweden

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

Was he injured? yes

Where was he when last seen? Västera Sweden

Any hearsay information: The above named crewmember is not missing or dead and was interned in Sweden with me for six months after which time we all returned to the states.

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: unknown

Dates and destinations if possible: unknown

Name of crew member: B E R D A R, John Jr.
 Rank: Sgt.
 Serial number: 334160985
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~(Bombardier)~~: Radio Operator.

Did he bail out? yes

Where? Falkenberg Sweden

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? New Orleans La.

Any hearsay information: The above named crew member
is not missing or dead and was interred
with me for six months after ^{which} ~~month~~ time
we all returned to the states.

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: five

Dates and destinations if possible: Dec. 11 Hanau, ~~Jan 1~~

Schonleben, Jan. 2 Reamagen, Jan. 3

Homburg, Jan. 17 Hanburg

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 11730

Name of crew member: **BERDA E, John Jr.**
 Rank: **Sgt.**
 Serial number: **37414095**
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~as flight instructor~~ **Radio Operator.**

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Near Falkenberg, Sweden

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

I Transmitted order to bail out. Was only conversation.

Was he injured? Not that I know of.

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: None

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: Five

Dates and destinations if possible: Dec. 11, 1944 ----- Frankfurt (Hannan)

Jan. 1, 1945 ----- Koblenz Jan. 2, 1945 ----- Bonn

Jan. 3, 1945 ----- Neukirchen Jan. 17, 1945 ----- Hamburg

*5/0 J. M. Sivotnak
 T-3977
 513 Edgar St.
 Thebes 12 - Penna 6-3861, AF*

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 11730

Name of crew member: SCHAEKEL, Robert I.
 Rank: Sgt.
 Serial number: 1113636
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~or Pilot (Fighter)~~: Tail Gunner.

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Near Falkenberg, Sweden

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

No conversation. Saw him preparing to bail out.

Was he injured? Slightly on landing

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: None

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: Five

Dates and destinations if possible: Dec. 11, 1944 ----- Frankfurt (Hannau)

Jan. 1, 1945 ----- Koblenz Jan. 2, 1945 ----- Bonn

Jan. 3, 1945 ----- Neukirchen Jan. 17, 1945 ----- Hamburg

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE File 11730

Name of crew member: BRITTAIN, Robert F.
 Rank: S/2nd.
 Serial number: 32931169
 Position: Crew (honorary ~~air~~~~flight~~~~lieutenant~~): ECM Operator

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Near Falkenberg, Sweden

If not, why not? ****

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

No conversation. Saw him preparing to bail out.

Was he injured? Injured leg on bail out.

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: None

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: unknown on my part

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 11730

Name of crew member: SCHAUSKIL, Robert I.
 Rank: Sgt.
 Serial number: 11136364
 Position: Crew (Bomber) or Pilot (Fighter): Tail Gunner.

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Falkenburg, Sweden

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

Ordered him to bail out.

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? Ex-POW Casualty Detachment London, England.

Any hearsay information: No.

Source: _____

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

He landed safely and is now home, discharged from the AAF.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Same as Berdar.

Dates and destinations if possible: Same as Berdar

W. L. Haslam
No T-129 443

Name of crew member: **BRITTAIN, Robert F.**
 Rank: **S/Capt.**
 Serial number: **32831189**
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~and Pilot~~: **BN Operator**

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Falkenburg, Sweden

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

Kicked him out of escape hatch when he refused to jump.

Was he injured? Bruised tendon on right leg.

Where was he when last seen? Ex-POW Casualty Detachment London, England.

Any hearsay information: No.

Source: _____

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

He landed safely and is now home, discharged from the AAF.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Unknown as he was ailed to

Dates and destinations if possible: crew for the Hamburg mission only.

W. L. Lusk
 20 FI 29443

Name of crew member: BERDAE, John Jr.
 Rank: Sgt.
 Serial number: 33416035
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Radio Operator~~ Radio Operator.

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Falkenburg, Sweden

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

Instructed him to bail out.

Was he injured? No.

Where was he when last seen? London, England Ex-POW Casualty Detachment

Any hearsay information: No.

Source: _____

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

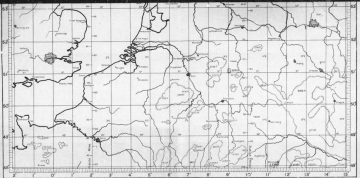
He landed safely and is now home, discharged from the AAF.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Five

Dates and destinations if possible: 11 Dec. 44 Frankfurt, Germany 1 Jan 45
Cologne, 2 Jan 45 Bulge support, 3 Jan 45 Bulge Support, 17 Jan. 45
Hamburg, Germany

W. L. Haslauer
 No F129443





HEIGHTS IN FEET

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1:50,000
1:50,000