

By E. A. BRADUNAS Lt. Col., AG  
By F. H. MUNCH Capt., AG  
Date 15 Oct 44

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 aircraft is officially reported missing.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location AAF Sta 111 ; Command or Air Force 8th  
Group 306th Bomb (H) ; Squadron 369th Bomb(H); ~~MISSING~~
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure Thurleigh, England ; Course As prescribed  
Intended Destination Berlin, Germany ; Type of Mission Heavy Bomb.
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:  
10/10 clouds, poor visibility
4. GIVE: (a) Date 9 May/44; Time 10:42 ; and Location Perleberg, Germany  
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.  
(b) Specify whether ( ) Last Sighted; ( ) Last contacted by Radio;  
( ) Forced Down; (X) Seen to Crash; or ( ) Information not Available.
5. AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one ( ) Enemy Aircraft; ( ) Enemy Anti-Aircraft; ( ) Other Circumstances as follows Collided with other aircraft in the air.
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17-G ; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-31969
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1820-97; A.A.F. Serial Number (a) 43-56688  
(b) SN-006785 ; (c) SN-08194 ; (d) SN-008243
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)  
(a) KH-685137 ; (b) KH-687125 ; (c) BLC-727440 ; (d) F-969307  
(e) F-645458 ; (f) BLC-728025 ; (g) BLC-726927 ; (h) BLC-727703
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X  
or (b) ~~REGULATED~~
10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10 ; Passengers 0 ; Total 10  
(Starting with pilot, furnish the following particulars; if more than 10 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
11A1. Pilot - Pilot	Schlecht, Edwin C. Jr.	1st Lt	0-806354
11A2. Pilot - Co-Pilot	Hunt, Frank W.	2nd Lt	0-696777
11A3. Navigator - Navigator	Gorder, Edwin W.	1st Lt	0-757484
11A4. Bombardier - Nose Gunner	Ware, Richard K.	2nd Lt	0-756934
11A5. Aer Eng - Top Turret Gun.	Davis, James H.	T/Sgt	17161015
11A6. Radio Opr - Radio Opr.	Pillen, Charles B.	T/Sgt	39615385
11A7. Aer Gunner - Ball Turret Gun.	Michalicki, Stanley (NMI)	S/Sgt	32800285
11A8. Aer Eng Gun - R. Waist Gun.	Wharton, John R.	S/Sgt	18163254
11A9. Aer Eng Gun - L. Waist Gun.	Hinds, Chester E.	S/Sgt	38394581
11A10. Aer Eng Gun - Tail Gunner	Haudenshield, John D.	S/Sgt	33278503

11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME.

Check Only One Column

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted By	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1. Magee, Edward W.	1st Lt	0-752221			X	
2. Burgess, Lowell W.	2nd Lt	0-754410			X	
3.						

2. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used yes ; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash ; or (c) Any other reason (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_
13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.
14. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS 306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)  
Office of the Commanding Officer  
United States Forces

(G-B-3)

9 May, 1944

SUBJECT: Eye-witness account of incidents pertaining to Aircraft No.  
42-37942, (Pilot Lt E.H. JACOBS), missing in action 8 May, 1944.

TO: Commanding General, Hq., First Bombardment Division, APO 557.

1. 1st Lt Edward W. Magee (O-752221) and 2nd Lt Lowell W. Burgess (O-754410), Pilots in the same formation, flew near the three aircraft involved in the collision and agree that the following is substantially what happened:

Lt Lambert was flying No. 6 position in the lead Squadron, high composite Group. Lt Jacobs was flying in No. 2 position of lead element low Squadron, high composite group. Lt Schlect was leader of second element in low Squadron on high composite group. Near Perleberg, Germany, at 10:42 hours with heavy, persistent condensation trails making visibility difficult, Lt Lambert, apparently caught in prop wash, was pitched around. Lt Lambert moved to his left trying to avoid the prop wash, and his plane came down on top of Lt Jacobs ship. Lt Lambert's left wing panel flew off and his aircraft seemed to make a loop around the fuselage of Lt Jacob's ship, cutting or knocking the tail completely off. The tail section dropped and hit the wing of the plane in the "hole" (Aircraft No. 42-31989, Pilot Schlecht) knocking him down as well. No more than one to three parachutes were reported to have been observed from all three aircraft but visibility was not good.

For the Commanding Officer:

*Paul J. Baillie*  
PAUL J. BAILLIE,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Asst. Adjutant.

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Rec # 1