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HEADQUARTERS 306TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) (G-B-3)  
Office of the Commanding Officer  
United States Forces

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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