

3745

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classification changed
to **RESTRICTED**
by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AG
by F. M. BURRICH, Capt., AG
Date OCT 15 1945

| | | |
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| 3/25/46 | A.P. | Daniel Caldwell 7-11-46 About |
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From our records
(Mc HEE (BUS))
by B...
(...)
Advised
William

GERMAN RECORDS COMPLETED

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HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY

JWP/jh

3745 APO 871
23 Apr 44

AG 319.1

Subject: Missing Air Crew Report.

To: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington, D.C.
Attention: Statistical Control Division.

Forwarded herewith Missing Air Crew Report of aircraft Number 42-107581, piloted by Col Jack E. Caldwell, O-20743.

For the Theater Commander:

H. M. Rund
H. M. RUND,
Lt. Col, AGD,

Asst. Adjutant General.

1 Incl:

Missing Air Crew Report,
387th Bomb Group, B-26.
#42-107581, 12 Apr 44

AC 119456

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WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

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 Station 162 ; Command or Air Force X Bomber Comd ;
Group 387th Bomb Gp ; Squadron 558th Bomb Sq ; Detachment _____
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure AAF Station 162 ; Course 50° heading
Intended Destination AAF Station 162 ; Type of Mission Operational
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: _____
Ceiling and visibility unlimited
4. GIVE: (a) Date 12 April 1944 Time 1528 ; and Location over Dunkirk
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft
(b) Specify whether () Last Sighted; () Last contacted by Radio;
() Forces 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; (X) Enemy Anti-aircraft; () Other Circumstances as follows _____)
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-26-C45 ; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-107581
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-2800-43 ; A.A.F. Serial Number (a) (X) FP-060321
(b) (R) FP-460143 (c) _____ (d) _____
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number See Attached)
(a) _____ ; (b) _____ ; (c) _____ ; (d) _____
(e) _____ ; (f) _____ ; (g) _____ ; (h) _____
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty
or (b) NOT REPORTED
10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 9 ; Passengers 0 ; Total 9
(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 |
|------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| <u>KIA</u> | <u>Pilot</u> | <u>321 Caldwell, Jack E.</u> | <u>Colonel</u> | <u>0-20743</u> |
| <u>KIA</u> | <u>Navigator</u> | <u>Williams, Daniel E.</u> | <u>Major</u> | <u>0-662409</u> |
| <u>DED</u> | <u>Bombardier</u> | <u>Moffitt, Richard C.</u> | <u>1st Lt</u> | <u>0-732886</u> |
| <u>KIA</u> | <u>Nav-Bomb</u> | <u>Busch, Frederick J.</u> | <u>1st Lt</u> | <u>0-798742</u> |
| <u>DED</u> | <u>Co-Pilot</u> | <u>Standard, Donald L.</u> | <u>1st Lt</u> | <u>0-738043</u> |
| <u>EVS</u> | <u>Formation Control Obs</u> | <u>McChas, John R. Jr.</u> | <u>1st Lt</u> | <u>0-731892</u> |
| <u>KIA</u> | <u>Tail Gunner</u> | <u>Dibble, Irving L.</u> | <u>S/Sgt</u> | <u>36210552</u> |
| <u>KIA</u> | <u>Eng Gunner</u> | <u>Hess, Pete (NMT)</u> | <u>S/Sgt</u> | <u>18047409</u> |
| <u>KIA</u> | <u>Radio Gunner</u> | <u>Friess, Valentine G. Jr.</u> | <u>S/Sgt</u> | <u>35495253</u> |

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

| Name in Full (Last Name First) | Rank | Number | Contacted | | | Saw Forced Landing |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------------|
| | | | By Radio | Last Sighted | Saw Crash | |
| 1. <u>Mann, Benjamin E.</u> | <u>1st Lt</u> | <u>0-57</u> | | | <u>X</u> | |
| 2. <u>Shanley, Louis</u> | <u>Sgt</u> | <u>3240428</u> | | | <u>X</u> | |
| 3. <u>Lindsay, William</u> | <u>T/Sgt</u> | <u>31154999</u> | | | <u>X</u> | |

12. 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 SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE _____

- 4 Incls:
1-Incl: Eyewitness Report.
2-Incl: Location Sketch.
3-Incl: Aerial Photo
4-Incl: S.N. of Guns on Ship.

Date of Report 13 April 1944

Lester K. Sherman
LESTER K. SHERMAN, 1ST LT, AIR 0661887

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EYEWITNESS REPORT

I was along as cameraman in Lt Felker's ship. We had just finished our bomb run, and I was at the ^{LEFT BEM} right waist gun window when I first saw the lead ship going down in a dive. The ^{RIGHT BEM} left wing had come off and the plane was spinning down. I kept the falling plane in my camera.

The tail came off three seconds after I spotted the falling ship. Only one chute was seen to open by the camera. The plane was seen to crash about a half mile outside of the harbor. The chute was last seen going inland directly over the target.

B. Mann
BENJAMIN E. MANN,
1st Lt, Air Corps.

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EYEWITNESS REPORT

Flying as waist gunner in Lt Weise's ship of the high box, I first saw the Colonel's ship as it turned over on its back, the left wing off by the motor. The plane seemed to be three thousand feet below.

I noticed one chute about three thousand feet above the water. Just before the ship hit the water I noticed another chute. The ship struck the water not far outside the harbor.

W. H. Lindsey

William H. Lindsey,
T/Sgt, 31154999.

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EYEWITNESS REPORT

Flying as tail gunner in Captain Will's ship in the high box, I first noticed the Colonel's ship spiraling down with only one wing. When I was able to look again, I saw a chute though I first thought that it was a balloon. It must have been about six or seven thousand feet above the water.

I last saw the ship hit the water about two hundred (200) yards outside the harbor.

Louis F. Shanley,
Pvt., 32409428.

Louis F. Shanley

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INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: CALDWELL, Jack E.
 Rank: Colonel
 Serial number: 0-20743
 Position: Crew (Bomber) Pilot

Did he bail out? Don't Know

Where? —

If not, why not? Ship out of control

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Interphone, one minute prior to loss of plane

Was he injured? Don't Know

Where was he when last seen? Pilot's seat

Any hearsay information: In my opinion Col. Caldwell had not the time to make any attempt to leave the ship. He most likely was injured by the shell, which struck the left wing very close to the cockpit.

Source: —

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Unless he was blown clear of the ship as I was, my opinion is, that he never left the ship. The ship landed in Dunkirk Harbor.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Unknown to me.

Dates and destinations if possible: —

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: _____
 Rank: _____
 Serial number: _____
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~9717A4777711477777777777~~ **MOFFITT, Richard**
 1st Lt.
 O-732886
 Bombardier

Did he bail out? _____

Where? _____

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 necessary information: _____

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

Information on this crew member same as 6-3861-AF that on Col. Coldwell.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member:

BUSCH, Frederick J.

Rank:

1st Lt.

Serial number:

O-798742

Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Nav-Bomb

Did he bail out? _____

Where? _____

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: _____

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

Information on this crew member same 6-3861-AF
as that on Col. Caldwell.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: STANDARD, Donald L.
 Rank: 1st Lt.
 Serial number: O-738043
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~1101/1111/1111/1111/1111~~ CO-Pilot

Did he bail out? _____

Where? _____

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: _____

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

*Information on this crew member same as 6-3861-AF
 that on Col Caldwell.*

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **FRISZ, Valentine G. Jr.**
 Rank: **S/Sgt.**
 Serial number: **35495253**
 Position: Crew (Bomber) **Radio Gunner**

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Over Dunkirk France

If not, why not? _____

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

Was he injured? No information

Where was he when last seen? In the water about a half mile out.

Any hearsay information: The Germans informed me the this man was dead when they reached him. Cause of death unknown to me.

Source: Germans guarding me.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: He may have been blown from the plane at the same time I was. We were both in the sea. It is very likely that that he was badly injured and drowned after landing in the water. The Germans were quite a long time getting out to him.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Don't know.

Dates and destinations if possible: This information can be obtained from the records of the 538th Sqd 387th Bombrg.

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name John R. McBee, Jr Rank Capt. Serial No. 0-131992
2. Organization 391st Bomb Sq. Commander J.E. Caldwell Rank Col. Sqn CO Keller Rank Capt.
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month Apr. day 12 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Bombing, target, Dunkirk, target time, afternoon, altitude, 12 Thousand route scheduled, North Foreland
Eng. the target, route flown as scheduled.
5. Where were you when you left formation? over target
6. Did you bail out? no.
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Don't know.
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, other
but that was given
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? In the harbor at Dunkirk
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) As far as I know all members of the crew remained aboard until 7:15 and one.
11. Where were they in aircraft? In their appointed positions.
12. What was their condition? No knowledge.
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above?
No knowledge
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)

Sender: Airfield Command E (v) 202/VI
Field Post No. L 30309
Air District Command Post Office Amsterdam via Benthe m

To : Army Information Officer for War Casualties, Berlin W. 30.

Casualty Report No.70, Period: 11 April to 10 June 1944
.....

1, Floated ashore at Nordwijk at Sea, coast km 83 Fortification Point 35 h
at 2025 hrs on 10 June 1944

FredERIC J. B U S C H Identity Tag: No. 0798742 A.J.Busch 75 Reid Ave
Brooklyn, N.Y.

buried on 12 June 1944 on Local Cemetery Nordwijk at Sea Row 6, No. 8

Because of being too much decayed and garments too much decomposed the body
could not be identified further.

/S/ Holste
Lt.Col. and Commander of Airfield.

STATEMENT ON CAPTURE OR RECOVERY OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

REPORT IS MADE THROUGH:

DISTRIBUTOR: HQ AIRDISTR. BELGIA-NORTHFRANCE
TRANS.P.W.C. A.F.OBERURSEL
HQ AIR BASE AREA

OFFICE OR STATION: HQ AIR BASE AREA 8/III

LOCATION: L I L L E

TIME: 24 APRIL 44

OFFICE OR APPRAISAL-VALUES:

REGARDING: DOWNED) of a
EMERGENCY ~~LANDINGS~~) MARAUDER
CRASH)

DATE AND TIME: 12. APRIL 44 1535

AT:

NEAR: DUNKERQUE over sea

PERSONAL RECORD OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

FAMILY NAME: SURNAME)
LAST NAME) M E GREENFIRST NAME: CHRISTIAN NAME)
GIVEN NAME) J. R.

RANK:

2 nd Lt.

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: SERIAL)
SERVICE) 731 392

NATIONALITY:

STATEMENTS MADE AT TIME OF CAPTURE:

DATE OF CAPTURE: 12. APRIL 44

EXACT LOCATION OF CAPTURE: near DUNKERQUE

CAPTURE EFFECTED BY: A A

STATEMENT MADE AT RECOVERY OF DEAD:

DATE & TIME & PLACE OF RECOVERY:

CONDITION OF BODY:

THE PRISONER WORE (UNIFORM) UNIFORM

DESCRIPTION OF IDENTIFICATION TAG:
HOW WERE PERSONAL RECORDS OF DEAD
ASCERTAINED?DATE AND TIME OF BURIAL:
GRAVE LOCATION:POSSIBLE IMPUTATION (PLACING) UNDER SERVICE OF THE
G.F.P. OR S.D., FOR PURPOSE OF ASCERTAINING ENEMY
PATRONAGE OR FAVOR:DELIVERED TO HOSPITAL: HOSPITAL ST. OMER
DATE: 12 APRIL 44DATE AND TIME OF TRANSPORTATION TO
PRISONER CONCENTRATION POINT:

REMARKS:

(ATTEMPTED ESCAPE. PECULIARITIES IN BEHAVIOR OF PRISONER, ETC.)

INVENTORY OF SECURED, PERSONAL EFFECTS OF PRISONER OR DEAD: ****

INVENTORY OF PERSONAL EFFECTS AND EQUIPMENT OF PRISONER OR DEAD:

1 money waist belt
for escape, opened
but complete
2 coins
1 lighter
1 automatic pencil

KU 1509

3746

No Identification marks are attached to this case.

There are however 2 paper sections from an American Newspaper, showing FRISZ and his brother.

1 letter on
Frisz written
Case completed

STATEMENT ON CAPTURE OR RECOVERY OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

REPORT IS MADE THROUGH:

DISTRIBUTOR: Air-District Command
Belgium-Northern France

OFFICE OR STATION: Air-Field Area 8/III

LOCATION: LILLE

OFFICE OR APPRAISAL-VALUES: OBERURSEL/Taunus

REGARDING: DOWNED) Marauder
~~SWING-WING PLANE~~)
CANNON)

DATE AND TIME: 12 Apr 1944 15.35

AT: NEAR: DUENKIRCHEN into Sea

PERSONAL RECORD OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

FAMILY NAME: SURNAME)
LAST NAME) MC GHEE jr.FIRST NAME: CHRISTIAN NAME)
GIVEN NAME) J. R.

RANK: 1st Lieutenant

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: SERIAL
SERVICE 731892

NATIONALITY:

STATEMENTS MADE AT TIME OF CAPTURE:

DATE OF CAPTURE: 12 Apr 1944

EXACT LOCATION OF CAPTURE: Near DUENKIRCHEN

CAPTURE EFFECTED BY:

STATEMENT MADE AT RECOVERY OF DEAD:

DATE & TIME & PLACE OF RECOVERY:

CONDITION OF BODY:

THE PRISONER WORE (UNIFORM)

DESCRIPTION OF IDENTIFICATION TAG:
HOW WERE PERSONAL RECORDS OF DEAD
ASCERTAINED?

DATE AND TIME OF BURIAL:

GRAVE LOCATION:

POSSIBLE IMPUTATION (PLACING) UNDER SERVICE OF THE
G.F.P. OR S.D., FOR PURPOSE OF ASCERTAINING ENEMY
PATRONAGE OR FAVOR:DELIVERED TO HOSPITAL: 13 Apr. 1944 Army Hospital CALMETTE (LILLE)
DATE:DATE AND TIME OF TRANSPORTATION TO
PRISONER CONCENTRATION POINT: 21 May 1944

REMARKS:

(ATTEMPTED ESCAPE. PECULIARITIES IN BEHAVIOR OF PRISONER, ETC.)

Page 23

INVENTORY OF SECURED, PERSONAL EFFECTS OF PRISONER OR DEAD:

INVENTORY OF PERSONAL EFFECTS AND EQUIPMENT OF PRISONER OR DEAD:

KU 1509

STATEMENT ON CAPTURE OR RECOVERY OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

REPORT IS MADE THROUGH:

DISTRIBUTOR: Air-District Command
Belgium-Northern France
Dulag Luft OBERURSEL
Command of Air-Field Realm

OFFICE OR STATION: Air-Field Area 8/III

LOCATION: LILLE

OFFICE OR APPRAISAL-VALUES:

REGARDING: DOWNED)
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~) Narander
CRASH) DATE AND TIME: 12 Apr 1944 15.35

AT: NEAR: DUENKIRCHEN into Sea

PERSONAL RECORD OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

FAMILY NAME: SURNAME)
LAST NAME) FRIESZFIRST NAME: CHRISTIAN NAME)
GIVEN NAME) G.

RANK: Sergeant

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: SERIAL SERVICE 35 495 253

NATIONALITY:

STATEMENTS MADE AT TIME OF CAPTURE:

DATE OF CAPTURE:
EXACT LOCATION OF CAPTURE:
CAPTURE EFFECTED BY:

STATEMENT MADE AT RECOVERY OF DEAD:

DATE & TIME & PLACE OF RECOVERY: 12 Apr 1944
CONDITION OF BODY: Beach of DUENKIRCHEN

THE PRISONER WORE (UNIFORM)

DESCRIPTION OF IDENTIFICATION TAG: see above
HOW WERE PERSONAL RECORDS OF DEAD
ASCERTAINED: By enclosed paperclippings

DATE AND TIME OF BURIAL: 14 Apr 1944

GRAVE LOCATION: Community Grave Yard
DUNKERQUE (DUENKIRCHEN)POSSIBLE IMPUTATION (PLACING) UNDER SERVICE OF THE
G.F.P. OR S.D., FOR PURPOSE OF ASCERTAINING ENEMY
PATRONAGE OR FAVOR:DELIVERED TO HOSPITAL:
DATE:DATE AND TIME OF TRANSPORTATION TO
PRISONER CONCENTRATION POINT:

REMARKS:

(ATTEMPTED ESCAPE. PECULIARITIES IN BEHAVIOR OF PRISONER, ETC.)

INVENTORY OF SECURED, PERSONAL EFFECTS OF PRISONER OR DEAD:

INVENTORY OF PERSONAL EFFECTS AND EQUIPMENT OF PRISONER OR DEAD:

2 Paperclippings
1 Letter
1 Foto
1 Dollar (Note)4 maps
1 Signal book
1 Dictionary
6-3224, AF(3)