

HEADQUARTERS 397TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF
Office of the Chaplain

APO - 140
13 February 1945

Mr. Stephen F. Stephensen

Dear Mr. Stephensen:

I send you my personal sympathy on behalf of our Commanding Officer, the Squadron Commander and a host of friends in this time of anxiety over your son, Capt. Mont F. Stephensen, Pilot, of the 599th Bomb Squadron, 397th Bomb Group, missing in action over western Germany since Saturday, December 23, 1944. He left the formation when enemy fighter planes attacked and we know nothing more. Any new developments will reach you in the States before coming to us but I will write to you if I should learn anything. Perhaps you will do the same for me.

I have known your son for many months and besides being good friends I have felt a real admiration for his clean cut character and manhood. We all miss him very much. I realize your anxiety and I wish I could do or write something to relieve you. Only prayer to our God who over-rules the things beyond our control can really help us. I also am writing to each family of the other crew members as we have no further word of any of them. Please be assured that all of us are doing the best we can to break the enemy completely and we have a keen interest in watching for any possible clue to your son's experience. May God bless you.

Sincerely yours,

Clarence R. Comfort, Jr.

CLARENCE R. COMFORT, JR.
Chaplain, Captain, AAF