

**MISSING AIR CREW REPORT**

**11977**

1. ORGANIZATION: Location Torretta, Italy Command or Air Force 15<sup>th</sup> AF  
 Group 461<sup>st</sup> B Gp Squadron 764<sup>th</sup> B Sq
2. SPECIFY: Place of departure Torretta, Italy Course Straight to target  
 Target Linz, Germany Type of mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:  
4/10 coverage
4. GIVE: [a] Date 25 Jul 44 Time 11:03 Last known position 48 deg 17'N, 14 deg 19'E  
 [b] Specify whether: [] Last sighted, [] Forced down, [] Seen to crash,  
 [] Last contacted by radio, [] No information
5. AIRCRAFT [LOST] [BELIEVED LOST] AS A RESULT OF: [Check one only]  
 [] Enemy aircraft, [] Enemy anti-aircraft, [] Other A combination of enemy aircraft and anti-aircraft
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, model & series B-24 H AAF Serial Number 41-28693
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT: \_\_\_\_\_
8. ENGINES: Type, model & series R-183043 AAF serial Number [a] C P-30651  
 [b] CP-306808 [c] 42-90319 [d] CP-300601
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: [Make, type and serial number] **All Browning Cal. 50**  
 [a] 967386 [e] 967383 [i] 967067  
 [b] 967186 [f] 966831 [j] 966715  
 [c] 976043 [g] 966911  
 [d] 966984 [h] 966713

10. PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW REPORTED AS: [] Battle Casualty, [] Non Battle Casualty

11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10; Passengers 0; Total 10

[If more than 12 persons aboard aircraft, use separate sheet]

CREW POSITION	FULL NAME [Last, First, Initial] RANK, SERIAL NUMBER	CURRENT STATUS	NEXT OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP AND ADDRESS
[1] Pilot	Freeman, Richard E. 1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. 0812566		Mrs. Joseph Freeman, Mother 219 5 <sup>th</sup> St., Butler, Penna.
[2] CP	Benton, John W. 1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. 0747192		Mrs. Lucy Benton, Mother 3232 N.E. 39 <sup>th</sup> St., Portland, Ore.
[3] Nav	Levine, Abraham 1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. 0801110		Miss Betty Levine, Sister 3066 Brighton 7 <sup>th</sup> St., Brooklyn, NY
[4] Bomb	D'Amante, Armante R. 1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. 0678411		Ida P. D'Amante, Wife 16 Albin St., Concord, N.H.
[5] RWG	Hagen, James P. T/Sgt. 37161861		Geraldine A. Hagen, Wife 717 14 <sup>th</sup> St., S. Fargo, N.D.
[6] BTG	Kendle, Kenneth K. S/Sgt 15377323		Walter Kendle, Father, Zoar, Ohio
[7] LWG	Fulcher, Yancey L. Jr., T/Sgt. 14170016		Mrs. Tiny Fulcher, Mother Geneva, Ala.
[8] TTG	Gibson, Willie S/Sgt. 15339626		Mrs. Mattie W. Gibson, Mother RR1, North Vernon, Ind.
[9] TTG	Franklin, Andrew D. S/Sgt. 14094810		Mrs. Andrew D. Franklin, Wife, RFD #1, Dozier, Alabama
[10] NTG	Salas, Jose M. Sgt. 38442085		
[11]			
[12]			

12. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT AND CHECK APPROPRAITE [one only] COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:

NAME IN FULL	RANK	SERIAL No.	CONTACTED BY RADIO	LAST SIGHTED	SAW	
					CRASH	FORCED LANDING
[1] Douglas A. Herrin	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt.	0820747		Z		

<u>[2] James H. Cain</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Lt.</u>	<u>01703166</u>	<u>Z</u>
<u>[3] Edward D. Rose</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>12205996</u>	<u>Z</u>

13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

Parachutes were used,  Persons were seen walking away from the scene of the crash,

Other reasons [specify] \_\_\_\_\_

14. ATTACH PHOTOGRAPH, MAP OR SKETCH SHOWING LAST KNOWN LOCATION OF AIRCRAFT.

15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTIONS OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES.

16. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH HERE: **No search made by this organization.**

Date: 27 July 1944

WILLIAM L. HALLAUER

1<sup>st</sup> Lt., AC, Adj.

ELLIS L. BURNS, Jr., CWO, USA.

## STATEMENTS

As I was flying No. 5 position in C Flight, I saw the 3 ships ahead of me go down. The fighters came from behind, apparently on our level and slightly above. When one FW-190 came about 10 feet above my left wing, he hit No. 4 ship flown by Lt. Stitch and forcing him out of the formation with No. 2 and No. 3 engines on fire, in a spiral.

Lt. Freeman's ship, flying in No. 2 position was then hit from behind and a fire started in the bomb bay. He dropped out of formation and I saw one man parachute out opening his chute immediately upon leaving the plane.

Lt. Mitchell's ship, flying in No. 3 position dropped out with one engine on fire and I did not see him any more. The No. 1 ship of our formation was forced out with one engine on fire and I did not see him any more. However, he got back to the home field.

I then took No. 6 position in A Flight with one engine feathered. The above happened within a period of about 1 ½ to 2 minutes, the fighters attacking just as we reached the flak and we were still in flak when I got in No. 6 position of A Flight.

The fighters were so numerous and the flak was so heavy, and being engaged in trying to get in formation with A Flight, I did not see the planes after they left the formation.

/s/ Douglas A. Herrin  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt., AC.

Flying position #5 on bomb run, tail gunner called, "Fighters coming in at 6:00 o'clock." Four FW-190's made a pass at us, pulled up, sprayed 2 ship, flown by Lt. Freeman, and 4 ship, flown by Lt. Stitch, then pulled up to the left. Fires started in these B-24's pieces began breaking off Lt. Freeman's ship and it went down and to the right. I saw no chutes.

Fighters came in again hitting Lt. Stitch's ship and it went out of my view. A 190 hit 3 ship, flown by Lt. Mitchell, setting his 3 engine afire. Lt. Mitchell, presumably out of control, did a wingover to the left, then went into a nose-dive out of sight. I saw no chutes.

/s/ James H. Cain  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt., AC.

Tail gunner in lead ship of C Flight, which consisted of five ships. Saw three ships from our flight destroyed by enemy fighters and flak. I saw about seven ships destroyed from four of our Flights.

All 3 ships destroyed from C flight were on fire and the ships flown by Lt. Freeman and Lt. Stitch blew up. Lt. Mitchell's ship burned until it hit the ground. There were at least five parachutes from that aircraft. The other two planes from C flight flown by Lt. Freeman and Lt. Stitch, had at least two or three chutes come from them before they blew up.

I could fairly say an average of three chutes left each ship. Due to the fact that we were under constant attack, I couldn't see any more. It is very possible more airmen escaped than I saw.

/s/ Edward A. Rose  
S/Sgt, AAF

German Reports on Crashed American Aircraft

Date	Time	Place	Height
25 July 44	1123	Near St. Peter i.d. Au, 8 km E. of Steyer	7000 m.
Aircraft type		Identification markings	Serial No.
Liberator		USA	41-28693
How Aircraft Landed		Airframe % Destroyed	

Crashed on fire

Fate of the crewmembers

Because of the distance not observed

Cause of loss

The a/c was one of a unit of approx. 20 type Liberator. The unit was attacking Linz. The a/c was hit and became detached from the formation. It lost altitude, speed and crashed.

Weather conditions: 0/10 cloud, foggy.

Flak Group Linz-West  
(s Flak Sec. 372 (v))  
Sec. Ic.

Hq 22 Aug 1944

Commentary Report

Downing of a Liberator (No. 41/28693) St. Peter in Au, on 25 Jul 1944 at 1123 hours by 3/145 (Eis).

Because of the fog it was impossible to follow the crash.

German Reports on Crashed American Aircraft

Date	Time	Place	Height
25 July 44	1123	On Zauchersteg near St. Peter in Au (8 km E. of Steyer)	7000 m.
Aircraft type		Identification markings	Serial No.
Liberator		American	41/28693
How Aircraft Landed		Airframe % Destroyed	

Crashed on fire

Fate of the crewmembers

2 men dead, the rest bailed out and captured

Cause of loss

The a/c was one of a unit of type Liberator. The a/c was hit and became detached from the formation. It went on fire and flew towards S.E. of Ebelsberg. It lost altitude and crashed. Most of the crewmembers bailed out. 2 men were found dead in the wreckage.

German Reports on Crashed American Aircraft

Date	Time	Place	Height
25 July 44	1123	St. Peter i.d. Au, 8 kn E. of Steyer, DK 6	7000 m.
Aircraft type		Identification markings	Serial No.
Liberator		American	41/28693
How Aircraft Landed		Airframe % Destroyed	
Crashed on fire			

Fate of the crewmembers

5 men captured, 1 man dead, the rest unknown

Cause of loss

The a/c was one of a unit flying at a height of 7000 m. The a/c was hit and became detached from the formation. The a/c lost altitude, and went on fire. It crashed near St. Peter.

Weather conditions: 2/10 cloud, good and clear visibility.

	USA	NW 1705	
On: July 25 – 44; at 11-12	Rank	Name	A.S.N.
Place: near Linz/Danube			
Type: Liberator	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt.	Freeman, Richard Earl	0812566 .v
764 <sup>th</sup> (N.H.) Sqd	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt.	Benton, John Wesley	0747192 .v
Airbase H.Q. Hoeraching	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt.	Levine, Abraham	0801110 .v
	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt.	D'Amante, Armanto Ricardo	0678411 .v
	T/Sgt	Hagen, James	Missed
	T/Sgt	Fulcher, Yancy Leon	Missed
	S/Sgt	Franklin, Andrew D.	14094810 .v
	S/Sgt	Gibson, Willie	Missed
	S/Sgt	Kendle, Kenneth Kirk	15377323 .v
	S/Sgt		missed



Date and Time  
aircraft was shot down

25 July 1944 – 1100/1200

Case No ME 1705

Place of crash

Linz/Danube

Type of plane

Liberator

Reporting yest

Air Base Hqs Hoerseking

Name and first name, date and place of birth		Rank	ASN	Captured wounded dead	Disposition – name of camp type of injury grave location
Kendle	Kenneth Kirk Parral, Ohio	S/SGT	15377325	Captured	Dulag-Luft
Freeman	Richard Earl	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt	0812566	Captured	Dulag-Luft
Franklin	Andrew D.	S/SGT	14094810	Captured	Dulag-Luft
Levine	Abraham	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt	0801110	Captured	Dulag-Luft
D'Amante	Armanto Richardo USA	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt	0678411	Captured	Dulag-Luft
Benton 2 Aug 20	John Wesley Dallas, Ore.	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt	0747192	Captured	Dulag-Luft

Dulag-Luft

7 August 1944 No.

## CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name **John W. Benton, Jr.** Rank **Captain** Serial No. **0-747192**
2. Organization **764<sup>th</sup> Gp Commander Frederick E. Glantzberg** Rank **Col** Sqn CO **Edwin T. Goree** Rank **Major**
3. What year **1944** month **July** day **25** did you go down?
4. What was the mission, **Linz, Austria**, target, **Herman Goering Tank Works**, target time, **1230**, altitude, **24,000 ft** route scheduled, **Across Yugoslavia**  
**in direction**, route flown **on course**
5. Where were you when you left formation? **On bomb run just prior to bomb release point.**
6. Did you bail out? **Yes.**
7. Did other members of crew bail out? **Yes**
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". **Seven other crew members bailed out at approximately the same time.**
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? **25 miles southwest of Linz, Austria.**
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) **Fulcher, Yancy L., Jr., T/Sgt and Hagen, James P., T/Sgt.**
11. Where were they in aircraft? **Fulcher was on flight deck and Hagen was in the waist.**
12. What was their condition? **Dead**
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? **Stalag Luft 1, I last saw Lts. Freeman, Levine, and D'Amante in good physical condition.**
- 14 Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. **No knowledge**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **FRANKLIN, Andrew D.**

Rank: **S/Sgt.**

Serial number: **14 094 810**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **TTG**

Did he bail out? **Yes.**

Where? **Somewhere in the target area.**

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **I was in the bomb bay and he was near the Ball Turret**

Was he injured? **No**

Where was he when last seen? **Near the Ball Turret**

Any hearsay information: **Yes, I seen him May 23, 1945 at LaHarve, France. And have had letters from him since he had been in the States.**

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **None**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **51, fifty one**

Dates and destinations if possible:

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **HAGEN, James P.**

Rank: **T/Sgt.**

Serial number: **37 161 861**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **RWG**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?

If not, why not? **He was killed. He was hit with two twenty mm.**

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

Was he injured?

Where was he when last seen? **Near the Ball Turret on the floor**

Any hearsay information: **None.**

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **None**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **50, fifty**

Dates and destinations if possible:

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **FULCHER, Yancey L., Jr.**

Rank: **T/Sgt.**

Serial number: **14 170 016**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **LWG**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?

If not, why not? **He was killed in the plane**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **None**

Was he injured?

Where was he when last seen?

Any hearsay information: **The pilot Lt. Richard Freeman said he had a direct hit in the head and was killed instantly**

Source:

~~Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition:~~ **As I was going through the bomb bay I saw him on the floor near the top turret. He looked as though he was dead.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **48, forty eight**

Dates and destinations if possible:

## CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name **Gibson Willie** Rank **T/Sgt** Serial No. **15339626**
2. Organization **461** Gp Commander **Frederick E. Glantzberg** Rank **Col** Sqn CO Rank
3. What year **1944** month **July** day **25** did you go down?
4. What was the mission, **Linz, Austria**, target, **Herman Goering Tank Works**, target time, **1230**, altitude, **23,000 ft** route scheduled, , route flown
5. Where were you when you left formation? **About 5 minutes after we were on the bomb run.**
6. Did you bail out? **Yes.**
7. Did other members of crew bail out? **Yes, all but two**
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".
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? **No knowledge.**
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) **Left waist gunner, T/Sgt Hagen, and top turret gunner, Fulcher.**
11. Where were they in aircraft? **Top turret and waist.**
12. What was their condition? **T/Sgt. Hagen was dead**
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? **T/Sgt. Hagen had two direct hits in the left side with 20mm.**
- 14 Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **HAGEN, John P.**

Rank: **T/Sgt.**

Serial number: **37 161 861**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **RWG**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?

If not, why not? **Dead, went down in ship**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Checked Positions, Guns OK Crew OK**

Was he injured? **Not at the time of crew check**

Where was he when last seen? **In position**

Any hearsay information: **BTG reported Sgt. Hagen shot thru chest. Dead**

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Killed immediately by enemy fire.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **49<sup>th</sup> mission**

Dates and destinations if possible: **On records. 201 file**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **FRANKLIN, Andrew D.**

Rank: **S/Sgt.**

Serial number: **14 094 810**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **BTG**

Did he bail out? **Yes.**

Where? **Over target**

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Checked Positions,  
Guns OK Crew OK**

Was he injured? **No**

Where was he when last seen? **In Concentration Camp**

Any hearsay information: **None**

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Last seen in good  
condition in concentration camp. Last heard from wife that he was en route home to  
Alabama.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **49<sup>th</sup> mission**

Dates and destinations if possible: **On records.**



INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **FULCHER, Yancey L., Jr.**

Rank: **T/Sgt.**

Serial number: **14 170 016**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **TTG**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?

If not, why not? **Dead. Went down in ship**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Checked positions.**  
**Guns OK Crew OK**

Was he injured? **Not at time of crew check**

Where was he when last seen? **In position**

Any hearsay information: **Navigator reported Sgt. Fulcher shot thru neck. Dead**

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Killed immediately by enemy fire.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **49<sup>th</sup> mission**

Dates and destinations if possible: **On records**

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Armante R. D'Amante Rank Capt Serial No. 0-678411
2. Organization 461 Gp Commander Frederick E. Glantzberg Rank Col Sqn CO Goree Rank Major
3. What year 1944 month July day 25 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, 51<sup>st</sup> Mission, target, Herman Goering Tank Works, target time, 11:10 AM, altitude, 24,000 ft route scheduled, cannot remember, route flown same
5. Where were you when you left formation? Over target.
6. Did you bail out? Yes.
7. Did other members of crew bail out? All but two members
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".
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? Haag, Austria.
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) TTG – Yancey L. Fulcher, Jr. T/Sgt and RWG – James P. Hagen T/Sgt.
11. Where were they in aircraft? In position.
12. What was their condition? Dead
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? Pilot – Lt. R. Freeman – prison camp – OK. Co-Pilot – Lt. Benton, Jr. – prison camp – OK. Navigator – Lt. Levine – prison camp – OK. BTG – Sgt. Franklin – concentration camp – OK. NTG – Sgt. Kendall – concentration camp – OK. LWG – Sgt. Gibson – ship – OK. TTG – Sgt. Salas – ship - OK.
- 14 Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. No knowledge

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **HAGEN, John P.**

Rank: **T/Sgt.**

Serial number: **37 161 861**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **RWG**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?

If not, why not? **Killed by gun fire of enemy fighters**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **No conversation**

Was he injured?

Where was he when last seen? **Last seen by crew members lying in rear of plane**

Any hearsay information: **None**

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Crew members reported to me that he was killed and was lying in rear of plane when they bailed out. I am certain that he crashed with the plane..**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **Not known**

Dates and destinations if possible: **No knowledge**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **FRANKLIN, Andrew D.**

Rank: **S/Sgt.**

Serial number: **14 094 810**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **BTG**

Did he bail out? **Yes.**

Where? **Between Linz and Styer, Austria**

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **None**

Was he injured? **No**

Where was he when last seen? **Franklin was in Camp Lucky Strike, France**

Any hearsay information: **After we were liberated, I talked to him there. I know that he arrived safely in the States and was still in Air Corps in August 1945. He was not a casualty while serving in the E.T.O.**

Source:

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: **No knowledge**

Dates and destinations if possible: **No knowledge**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **FULCHER, Yancey L., Jr.**

Rank: **T/Sgt.**

Serial number: **14 170 016**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **TTG**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?

If not, why not? **Instantly killed in position by gunfire of enemy fighters**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **No conversation**

Was he injured?

Where was he when last seen? **Fulcher was lying on flight deck when plane crashed**

Any hearsay information: **None**

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Fulcher crashed with plane which immediately burned and exploded.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **Not known**

Dates and destinations if possible: **No knowledge**

## CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name **Freeman, Richard E.** Rank **1<sup>st</sup> Lt.** Serial No. **0-812566**
2. Organization **461 Gp Commander Frederick E. Glantzberg** Rank **Col** Sqn CO **Goree** Rank **Major**
3. What year **1944** month **July** day **25** did you go down?
4. What was the mission, **Linz, Austria**, target, **Goering Tank Works**, target  
time, **Approx. 12:**, altitude, **21,500 ft** route scheduled, , route flown **as scheduled**
5. Where were you when you left formation? **Over Linz, Austria.**
6. Did you bail out? **Yes, through bomb bay.**
7. Did other members of crew bail out? **8 members of crew bailed out**
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". **1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Hohn W. Benton – bailed out between Linz & Styer – Bombay. 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Abraham Levine – bailed out between Linz & Styer – Bombay. S/Sgt. Kenneth K. Kendell – bailed out between Linz & Styer – Bombay. S/Sgt. Willie Gibson – bailed out between Linz & Styer – Bombay. S/Sgt. Andrew D. Franklin – bailed out between Linz & Styer – Bombay. Sgt. Jose M Salas – bailed out between Linz & Styer – Bombay.**
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? **8 miles from Styer, Austria.**
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) **Sgt. James P. Hagen; Sgt. Yancey L. Fulcher**
11. Where were they in aircraft? **Sgt. Fulcher – flight deck; Sgt. Hagen – rear of plane.**
12. What was their condition? **Both were instantly killed in the attack**
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? **Sgts. K.K Kendel, Willie Gibson, A.D. Franklin were in Camp Lucky Strike, France in May 1945. I saw Lt. Levine & Lt. A.R. D'Amante in Stalag Luft I after liberation. Sgt. Jose M. Salas was not seen after he left the plane.**
- 14 Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. **No knowledge**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **HAGEN, John P.**

Rank: **T/Sgt.**

Serial number: **37 161 861**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **RWG**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?

If not, why not? **Dead**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **He said enemy planes at 6:30 low**

Was he injured? **Dead – not then**

Where was he when last seen? **In the waist**

Any hearsay information: **None**

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **on seeing him myself.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **51**

Dates and destinations if possible: **No knowledge**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **FULCHER, Yancey L., Jr.**

Rank: **T/Sgt.**

Serial number: **14 170 016**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **TTG**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?

If not, why not? **Dead**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **None**

Was he injured?

Where was he when last seen?

Any hearsay information: **None**

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **seeing him myself**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **49**

Dates and destinations if possible: **No knowledge**



INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **FRANKLIN, Andrew D.**

Rank: **S/Sgt.**

Serial number: **14 094 810**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **TTG**

Did he bail out? **Yes.**

Where? **Linz, Austria**

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Seen him on the ground**

Was he injured? **No**

Where was he when last seen? **May 24, 1945**

Any hearsay information:

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Based on fact**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **51**

Dates and destinations if possible: **No knowledge**

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Richard E. Freeman – Bailed out over target. Was not wounded

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. John W. Benton, Jr. – Same as above.

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Abraham Levine – Same as above.

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Armante R. D'Amante – Bailed out over target. Was wounded in the left leg.

T/Sgt. Yancey L. Fulcher, Jr. Was killed on the I.P.

T/Sgt. James P. Hagen – Same as above.

S/Sgt. Willie Gibson – Was wounded on back and legs. Bailed out.

S/Sgt. Andrew D. Franklin – Bailed out. Wasn't wounded.

S/Sgt. Jose M. Salas – Was wounded in the head, back and legs. Bailed out

All of them were taken prisoner.

## CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name **Kendle, Kenneth K.** Rank **S/Sgt.** Serial No. **15377383**
2. Organization **461** Gp Commander **Frederick E. Glantzberg** Rank **Col** Sqn CO **Goree** Rank **Major**
3. What year **1944** month **July** day **25** did you go down?
4. What was the mission, **51**, target, **Linz, Austria**, target  
time, **12:10**, altitude, **26,000 ft** route scheduled, , route flown
5. Where were you when you left formation? **In D Flight.**
6. Did you bail out? **Yes.**
7. Did other members of crew bail out? **Yes**
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".
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? **Near Linz.**
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) **Hagen & Fulcher**
11. Where were they in aircraft? **Hagen was in the waist; Fulcher was in the flight deck.**
12. What was their condition? **Both were dead**
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above?
- 14 Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information.

1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Richard E. Freeman	Mrs. Nellie M. Freeman (mother) 219 Fifth Street Butler, Pennsylvania
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. John W. Benton, Jr.	Mrs. Lucy C. Benton (mother) 3232 Northeast 39 <sup>th</sup> Street Portland, Oregon
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Abraham Levine	Miss Bessie Levine (sister) 3066 Brighton 7 <sup>th</sup> Street Brooklyn, New York
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Armante R. D'Amante	Mrs. Ida P D'Amante (wife) 16 Albin Street Concord, New Hampshire
T/Sgt. Yancey L. Fulcher, Jr.	Mrs. Tiny Fulcher (mother) Geneva, Alabama
T/Sgt. James P. Hagen	Mrs. Geraldine A. Hagen (wife) 717 South 14 <sup>th</sup> Street Fargo, North Dakota
S/Sgt. Kenneth K. Kendle	Walter Kendle (father) Zoar, Ohio
S/Sgt. Willie Gibson	Mrs. Mattie Gibson (mother) Route Number Three North Vernon, Indiana
S/Sgt. Andrew D. Franklin	Mrs. Jewel E. Franklin (wife) Route Number One Dozier, Alabama
Sgt. Jose M. Salas	Mrs. Jessica M. Salas (mother) Box 804 Santa Rita, New Mexico