

**WAR DEPARTMENT  
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON**

**The MISSING AIR CREW REPORT**

**7004**

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 Torretta, Italy Command or Air Force 15<sup>th</sup> AF  
Group 461<sup>st</sup> Bomb Gp (H) Squadron 767<sup>th</sup> Bomb Sq (H)
2. SPECIFY: Place of departure Torretta, Italy Course direct to target  
Target Linz, Austria Type of mission bombing
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:  
5/10 to 9/10 cum undercast
4. GIVE: [a] Date 25 July 44 Time 1105 Last known position Between Wieszenbach and Linz, Austria  
[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.
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, model & series B-24 H AAF Serial Number 42-52451
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT: \_\_\_\_\_
8. ENGINES: Type, model & series R 1830-43 AAF serial Number [a] CP 302446  
[b] BP 400206 [c] CP 300065 [d] CP 306899
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: [Make, type and serial number] All Browning Cal. 50  
[a] 951186 [e] 679118 [i] 951753  
[b] 952016 [f] 951244 [j] 951362  
[c] 951626 [g] 680x9x  
[d] 952050 [h] 951928
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	Kane, John J., 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. 0-681434		Mrs John J Kane (Wife) 441 W 79 <sup>th</sup> St., Chicago, Illinois
[2] CP	Koistinen, Paavo A., 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. 0-755362		Mrs. Celia T. Koistinen (Mother) 817 Hampden St., Linden, New Jersey
[3] Bomb	Catana, Anthony M., 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. 0-695801		Dr. Frank J. Ciliberti (Uncle) 5 <sup>th</sup> & Pine St., Camden, New Jersey
[4] Nav	Radovsky, Milton, 1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. 0-691800		Mrs Jennie Z. Canter (Mother) 925 W End Ave., New York, New York
[5] NTG	Fedrau, Abraham, S/Sgt. 39404271		Mrs. Mary Fedrau (mother) 2294 13 <sup>th</sup> St., Reedley, California
[6] TTG	Wells, Bryan J., Jr., T/Sgt. 17175058		Mr. Bryan J. Wells Sr (Father) Rt #8, N. Kansas City, Mo.
[7] RWG	Rogan, Frank G., S/Sgt. 15323643		Mrs. Zlata Rogan (Mother) 1942 Russell Ave., Youngstown, Ohio
[8] LWG	Lavery, Clifford J., Jr., T/Sgt. 12199162		Mr. Clifford J. Lavery Sr (Father) 1190 Cleveland Dr., Cheetawago, New York
[9] BTG	Roberts, Earl N., S/Sgt. 17034118		Mr. George L. Roberts (Father) 814 N Garth, Columbia, Missouri
[10] TTG	Williamson, Harold F., S/Sgt.		Mrs. Sara R. Williamson (Wife)

34611595

Rt #1, Box 207, Yazoo City, Miss.

[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	SAW FORCED LANDING
[1] <b>Richard C. Brady</b>	<b>S/Sgt.</b>	<b>33496193</b>		<b>X</b>		
[2] <b>Edward W. Scherr</b>	<b>Sgt.</b>	<b>12221108</b>		<b>X</b>		
[3] <b>Thomas J. Sullivan</b>	<b>T/Sgt.</b>	<b>11107832</b>		<b>X</b>		
[4] <b>Robert E. Arbuthnot</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lt.</b>	<b>0-690022</b>		<b>X</b>		

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; plane went down in enemy territory.**

Date: 29 July 1944

/s/ Harold D. Bennett

767TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)  
461ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP  
APO 520 US ARMY

STATEMENT

When we started out to bomb the Herman Goering Tank Works at Linz, Austria 25 July 1944 there were twenty-one (21) bombers in the group formation. At the IP from seventy-five (75) to eighty (80) fighters came up and encountered our P-38 escort. ME-410s and ME-210s shot large numbers of rockets into the formation, which then broke up and scattered all over the sky. Then between forty (40) and fifty (50) FW-190s and ME-109s came in abreast from 6:00 o'clock. From then on I couldn't see what bombers went down; I saw at least two (2) or three (3) explode and five (5) or six (6) burning or going down as I tracked fighters. Some could have been the same ones; I just didn't have time to count or look at anything. I saw twenty-five (25) or thirty (30) chutes over the target; but that's just a rough guess. I have no idea whether or not any came from our ships.

We never reached the target, and our bombs were scattered all over the area. What was left of the formation tried to rally left, then went right, dodged in and out of flak to get away from the fighters, and finally got lost. Even when we ducked into the flak the fighters followed us. When we started to pull the formation together, as we started home, there were four (4) or five (5) fighters around. Five minutes before three (3) cripples were shot down by FW-190s, but I was unable to identify any of them. Only eight ships were left in the formation when the action stopped. There was only one other ship with red cowlings, and that was Lt. Luebke. I definitely did not see ship #66 (flown by Lt. Kane at any time after we left the target.

/s/ Richard C. Brady, 33496193  
S/Sgt., 767 Bomb Sq

STATEMENT

I saw plane number 66, which was flying at one o'clock and high from my position in Group Formation, when it was hit over the target on 25 July 1944. It appeared that it received a direct hit in the bomb bays or near in-board engines. Plane was burning and fell out of formation, down and to the right. Plane appeared still under control as it went out of my sight to right and rear of formation.

/s/ Robert E. Arbuthnot  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt., Air Corps

STATEMENT

While leaving the radio table to work on the right waist gun I saw about three ships going down on fire. However, because of the excitement and confusion, and the attacks of the enemy fighters, I was unable to see just what ships went down. However, after things cooled off a bit and our pilot (Lt. Henry) got the remaining ships together, I did look for

ship #66, flown by Lt. Kane, and could not find it. I was watching for it particularly carefully because Lt. Kane was a good friend of mine, and I was hoping he had come through it. I looked out from the waist windows from 3 o'clock to about 5:30 o'clock and from 9 o'clock to 6:30 or 7:00, and he was nowhere to be seen. We were the lead ship at the time, having moved up from #2 position when the lead ship went down.

/s/ Thomas J. Sullivan, 11107832  
T/Sgt. 767 Bomb Sq.

#### STATEMENT

I was flying in the top turret of Lt. Henry's ship when the fighters attacked. I saw ship #66, flown by Lt. Kane, in the formation when the fighters hit us, but that was the last time I saw him. He was said to have been flying along with four good engines when four chutes were seen from her. She never did rejoin our formation. We led the rest back home and we never saw #66 after we left the target.

/s/ Edward W. Scherr, 12221108  
Sgt, 767 Bomb Sq.

## German Reports on Crashed American Aircraft

Date	Time	Place	Height
25 Jul 44	1120	Grosser Buchberg, 9 km S.E. of Molln- Breitenau	6100 m

Aircraft type	Identification markings	Serial No.
Liberator B-24	USA	52451 Engine F.E. No. 9830 D.W.G No. 6477 A/O H. 88 A.T. 42

How Aircraft Landed	Airframe % Destroyed
Crashed on fire	Single parts came off

Fate of crewmembers  
8 men bailed out, 6 of them captured, 2 men crashed to death, 2 burned

Cause of loss  
The a/c was one of a formation of 9 type Liberator. The a/c was hit and went on fire. The left engine was on fire. Single parts came off and it crashed.

Datterie Lahrndorf

Lahrndorf, den 29.7.44

A b s c h u s m e l d u n g

1. Zeit (Tag, Stunde, Minute) 25.7.44 11,20 Uhr  
d.Absturzes: Genaue Groser Buchberg, 9 km südostwärts Molln –  
Ortsbezeichnung der Absturzstelle Breitenau – Kartenblatt 4853 (Weyer)  
m.Angabe des Kartenblattes und der Rechtswert 0826000  
Koordinaten: Höhe: Rochwert 0299500  
  
6 100 m
2. Durch welche Einheit ist der Batterie Lahrndorf  
Abschus erfolgt? (auch Züge lei.  
Flaktrupp angeben
3. Flugzeugtyp des abgeschossenen Liberator  
Flugzeuges? Werknummer B 24 A Nr. 52451  
bzw.Kennzeichen: Mot.Bezeichnung F.E.Nr.9830  
D.W.G. Nr.6477 A./O.  
H. 88 A.T. 42
4. Staatszugehörigkeit des Gegners: U.S.A.
5. Art der Vernichtung und des  
Aufschl.:
  - a) Flammen m.dunkler, heller Fahne,
  - b) Einzelteile weggeflogen,
  - c) Zur Landung gezwungen
  - d) Senkrecht, in flachem Winkel usw.
  - e) Diesseits oder jenaeits d.Front
  - a) Flame mit heller Fahne
  - b) Teile in der Luft abmont.
  - c) –
  - d) Aufschlag in flachen Winkel, Aufschlagbrand mit dunkler Qualmwolke.
  - e) -

W E N D E N !

6. Schicksal der Besatzung? 8 Mann mit Fallschirm abgesprungen, davon 6 Mann gefangen, 2 Mann tödlich abgestürzt, waiters 2 Mann beim Aufschlag verbrannt.
7. weshalb wurde Art des Aufschlages bzw.Schicksal der Besatzung nicht beobachtet? --
8. Welche Zeugen haben  
a) den Aufschlag einwandfrei beobachtet  
b) die Aufschlagstelle festgestellt? siehe Batterie Aschach

Ausführlicher Gefechtsbericht des Battr.-Führers mit einer Zielwegskizze und einer kleinen Handskizze sind in der Anlage beigefügt.

/s/ Oberleutnant u.Battr.-Führer

G e f e c h t s b e r i c h t  
Über die Gefechtstätigkeit am 25.7.44

Am 25.7.1944 um 11,14<sup>30</sup> Uhr wurde der 1.pulk einer Welle von Feindmaschinen, bestehend aus 9 Liberator, von der Batterie Lahrndorf (r 54 55 010,0 – h 53 18 512,8) aufgefasst. Das Feuer konnte mit allen 5 Geschützen 8,8 cm an der Grenze des Wirkungsbereiches um 11,15 Uhr eröffnet werden. Es wurde eine Zielhöhe von 6100 m und eine mittlere Vh von 104 m/sec. ermittelt. Flugrichtung des anfliegenden Verbandes war von 11 über 9 nach 7.

Die Batterie scho mit Kdo.G.40 opt.Ortung. Es wurden in schnellem Gruppenfeuer 25 Gruppen mit 125 Schu geschossen. Nach einigen Gruppen fing die mittlere maschine des 1.pulks an zu brennen, blieb zurück, verlor weiter an Geschwindigkeit und montierte teilweise ab. Es stellte sich später als Luftschraube heraus, die etwa 2,5 km südlich der Stellung Aschach festgestellt wurde. Ein stetiger Höhenverlust wurde festgestellt. Die Maschine brannte am linken motor mit heller Flamme.

Es wurde unter Beteiligung von anderen Batterieen des Einsatzes Steyr durch Bekämpfung dieses Pulks 1 Maschine abgeschossen.

Eigene Jäger wurden im Einsatzraum nicht beobachtet.

Im Angriffssektor war gute Sicht.

Eigene Verluste und Schäden sind nicht aufgetreten.

/s/ Oberleutnant u.battr.-Führer



Meidung über den Abschub eines

Abschub-Nr. ME 1709

Abschubtag und Zeit: 25.7.44 – 11.-12.00  
Abschubort: b. Linz a.D.  
Flugzeugtyp: Liberator  
Meidende Dienststelle: F1.H.Kdtr. Hörsching

Besatzung:

Name und Vornamen: Geburstag und –ori:	Dienstgrad	Erk.Marke	Gef.: Verw.: Tot:	Verbleib: Weiches Lager Art d. Verwundung Grabiage
Koistinen, Paavo Arthur 19.6.? New Jersey	1.Lt.	0-755362	Gef.	Dulag-Luft
Kane, John Joseph	1.Lt.	0-681434	Gef.	Dulag-Luft
Radovsky, Milton	1.Lt.	0-691800	Gef.	Dulag-Luft
Wells, Bryan Jennings 1923 N. Kansas City, Mo.	T/Sgt.	17175058	Gef.	Dulag-Luft
Catana, Anthony Michael 10.10.22 Camden, N.J.	2.Lt.	0-695801	Gef.	Dulag-Luft
Fedrau, Abraham 24.9.21 Calif. Dunuba	S/Sgt.	39404271	Gef.	Dulag-Luft

Bemerkungen:

DULAG-LUFT. Den 7.8.44 Wo.

CASUALTY NO.  
KSU-1709

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT  
WAS SHOT DOWN: **25 July 44**

PLACE OF CRASH:

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT:

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Base Command, Hoersching, near Linz, on  
Danube, 29 July 44**

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CREW

SURNAME, AND **Catana**  
FIRST NAME: **Anthony M.**

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: **Lt.**

SERIAL NUMBER: **0-695 801**

CAPTURED: **Captured** WOUNDED: DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

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REMARKS: **Captured at Upper Danube, Molln, parish Kirchdorf**

CASUALTY NO.  
KSU-1709

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT  
WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF CRASH:

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT:

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Base Command, Hoersching, near Linz,**  
**Danube, 26 July 44, 12:00**

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CREW

SURNAME, AND **Kane**  
FIRST NAME: **John J.**

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: **Lt.**

SERIAL NUMBER: **0-681 434 T-43-42 O**

CAPTURED: **Captured**      WOUNDED:      DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION:      WHICH CAMP:      TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

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REMARKS: **Captured at Breitensa near Molln**  
**1 Id. Tag**

CASUALTY NO.  
KSU-1709

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT  
WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF CRASH:

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT:

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Base Command, Hoersching, near Linz, on  
Danube, 26 July 44**

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CREW

SURNAME, AND **Koistinen**  
FIRST NAME: **Paavo**

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: **Lt.**

SERIAL NUMBER: **0-755 362 T-43-42 O**

CAPTURED: **Captured** WOUNDED: DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

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REMARKS: **Captured at Breitensa near Molln, 25 July 44  
1 Id. Tag**

CASUALTY NO.  
KSU-1709

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT  
WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF CRASH:

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT:

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Base Command, Hoersching, near Linz, on  
Danube, 26 July 44**

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CREW

SURNAME, AND **Radovsky**  
FIRST NAME: **Milton**

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: **Lt.**

SERIAL NUMBER: **0-691 800 T-43**

CAPTURED: **Captured** WOUNDED: DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

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GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS: **Captured at Breitensa near Molln  
1 Id. Tag**

CASUALTY NO.  
KSU-1709

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT  
WAS SHOT DOWN: **25 July 44**

PLACE OF CRASH:

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: **Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Base Command, Hoersching, near Linz, on  
Danube, 29 July 44**

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CREW

SURNAME, AND **Fedrau**  
FIRST NAME: **Abraham**

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: **S/Sgt.**

SERIAL NUMBER: **39 404 271 T-43**

CAPTURED: **Captured**      WOUNDED:      DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION:      WHICH CAMP:      TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

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REMARKS: **Captured at Molln, parish of Kirchdorf**

Report on Capture Am. Air Craft

Post: -----Hoersching

Time: 2 Aug 44 13.00

Date of crash: 25 July 44 11:15

Place: Interior Breitenau near Molln, greater Buchberg

Type capture: pursuit

Type plane: Liberator B-24 M-16-F.O.

Insignia (White) 66 YING 4F, Registry No: 42-52451

Bombsight: Complete and safeguarded

Frequencies: 1 badly damaged apparatus, safeguarded. Also burned remnants of table of frequencies.

Condition of craft: 98% destroyed, spread over area of about 700 meters

“Imprint” on left side of nose

U.S. Army B-24 H-16-F.O.

Air Force Serial No 42-52451

Since this airplane with 100 octane fuel

In case of emergency use next higher grade suitable for aeronautics 90402

**REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT**

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN **25 July 44 – 1100/1200** CASUALTY NO. **ME-1709**

PLACE OF CRASH **Linz/Danube**

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT **Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE **Air Base Hqs Hoersching**

NAME	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CAPT'D WOUNDED DEAD	PLACE OF INTERNMENT
<b>Koistinas, Paavo Arthur 19 June ?</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lt.</b>	<b>0-755362</b>	<b>Captured</b>	<b>Dulag Luft</b>
<b>Kane, John Joseph</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lt.</b>	<b>0-681434</b>	<b>Captured</b>	<b>Dulag Luft</b>
<b>Radovsky, Milton</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lt.</b>	<b>0-691890</b>	<b>Captured</b>	<b>Dulag Luft</b>
<b>Wells, Bryan Jennings 1923 W. Kansas City, Mo.</b>	<b>T/Sgt.</b>	<b>17175058</b>	<b>Captured</b>	<b>Dulag Luft</b>
<b>Catana, Anthony Michael 10 Oct 22 Camden, N.J.</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Lt.</b>	<b>0-695801</b>	<b>Captured</b>	<b>Dulag Luft</b>
<b>Fedrau, Abraham 24 Sept 21 Calif. Dunuba</b>	<b>S/Sgt.</b>	<b>39404271</b>	<b>Captured</b>	<b>Dulag Luft</b>

REMARKS:

**Dulag Luft: 7 August 1944. We.**



		<b>U.S.A.</b>		<b>ME-1709</b>
	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>ASN</b>	
<b>DATE: July 25 – 44 at</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lt.</b>	<b>Kane, John Joseph</b>	<b>0-681434</b>	
<b>11-12</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lt.</b>	<b>Koistinen, Paavo</b>	<b>0-755362</b>	
<b>PLACE: Linz/Danube</b>		<b>Arthur</b>		
<b>Breitenau</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lt.</b>	<b>Radovsky, Milton</b>	<b>0-691800</b>	
<b>TYPE: Liberator</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lt.</b>	<b>Catana, Anthony</b>	<b>0-695801</b>	
<b>767<sup>th</sup> (HB) Sqd</b>		<b>Michael</b>		
<b>461<sup>st</sup> Group; 49<sup>th</sup> Wing</b>	<b>T/Sgt.</b>	<b>Wells, Nryan Jennings</b>	<b>17175058</b>	
<b>TARGET: Air Base</b>	<b>T/Sgt.</b>	<b>Lavery, Clifford W.</b>	<b>12199162</b>	
<b>Hoersching</b>	<b>S/Sgt.</b>	<b>Fedrau, Abraham</b>	<b>39404271</b>	
	<b>S/Sgt.</b>	<b>Roberts, Earl R.</b>	<b>17034118</b>	
	<b>S/Sgt.</b>	<b>Williamson, Harold F.</b>	<b>54611595</b>	
	<b>S/Sgt.</b>	<b>Rogan, Frank M.</b>	<b>15323643</b>	

## CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name **Koistinen, Paavo A.** Rank **1<sup>st</sup> Lt.** Serial No. **0-755362**
2. Organization **461st** Gp Commander **Glantzberg** Rank **Col** Sqn CO **Knapp** Rank **Lt. Col.**
3. What year **1944** month **July** day **25** did you go down?
4. What was the mission, **bombing**, target, **Linz, Austria**, target time, **11:00**, altitude, **20,000 ft** route scheduled, , route flown
5. Where were you when you left formation? **Dropped back because of engine trouble.**
6. Did you bail out? **Yes.**
7. Did other members of crew bail 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". **As soon as the plane caught fire, crew started to bail out, all except Williamson and Lavery.**
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? **Gros Buchberg Mountain, near Molln, 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) **Williamson and Lavery, tail gunner and engineer-waist gunner respectively.**
11. Where were they in aircraft? **Tail gunner and waist.**
12. What was their condition? **Not known**
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? **Roberts' body in truck; Rogan also in truck, still alive, but on the verge.**
- 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: **ROGAN, Frank G.**

Rank: **S/Sgt.**

Serial number: **15323643**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Right waist gunner**

Did he bail out? **Yes.**

Where? **Vicinity of Linz, Austria, near Molln, Austria.**

If not, why not?.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Just before interphone was shot out.**

Was he injured? **Yes.**

Where was he when last seen? **In the truck bearing Roberts' body. Kane, Radovsky and myself to the jail in Molln.**

Any hearsay information:.

Source:.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Still alive, but at the point of expiration. I visited Rogan's family in Youngstown, Ohio, last weekend, and they showed me letters from the War Graves Registration Officer showing Rogan's grave plot in Nurnberg, Germany. Also shown a letter from the WD containing a prayer said over Rogan's grave after burial by some order of Catholic nuns in Austria.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **Close to 50.**

Dates and destinations if possible:.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **ROBERTS, Earl R.**

Rank: **S/Sgt.**

Serial number: **17034118**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Ball Turret Gunner**

Did he bail out? **Yes.**

Where? **Vicinity south of Linz, Austria, near Molln.**

If not, why not?.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Last contact was sometime before the interphone system went out.**

Was he injured? **Dead.**

Where was he when last seen? **In the truck carrying us to local clink in Molln.**

Any hearsay information:.

Source:.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Two enemy fighters came in and strafed. He was hit in the back by machine gun bullets from these planes.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **forty-some, close to fifty.**

Dates and destinations if possible:.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **LAVERY, Clifford J., Jr.**

Rank: **T/Sgt.**

Serial number: **12199162**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Left Waist Gunner**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?;

If not, why not? **Apparently killed in ship.**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Sometime before the interphone was shot out.**

Was he injured?;

Where was he when last seen?;

Any hearsay information: **Sgt. Rogan told me just before we left the truck that he saw Lavery killed.**

Source:.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Probably killed in ship, still in ship when it hit the ground.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **Close to fifty.**

Dates and destinations if possible:;

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **WILLIAMSON, Harold F.**

Rank: **S/Sgt.**

Serial number: **34611595**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Tail Gunner**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?;

If not, why not? **Apparently killed in turret.**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Reported that his guns wouldn't fire when an enemy plane was closing in from the tail.**

Was he injured? **Yes.**

Where was he when last seen?;

Any hearsay information: **An officer flying in another plane to the rear of us told me in prison camp that a whole string of 20mm cannon shells literally blew the turret apart. If I remember correctly it was a Lt. Drew flying as bombardier on Lt. Owen's crew.**

Source:.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **He did not leave the plane.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **Close to fifty missions.**

Dates and destinations if possible:;

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **WILLIAMSON, Harold F.**

Rank: **S/Sgt.**

Serial number: **34611595**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Tail Gunner**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?:

If not, why not? **Killed while aboard the ship.**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Conversation held over inner-phone just before attacked by fighters.**

Was he injured? **Killed by 20 mm fired by FW-190.**

Where was he when last seen? **In the tail turret of our ship.**

Any hearsay information: **No.**

Source:.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **No.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **Forty-nine.**

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

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **ROGAN, Frank G.**

Rank: **S/Sgt.**

Serial number: **15323643**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Right waist gunner**

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: **Over inner-phone just before the attack.**

Was he injured? **Killed.**

Where was he when last seen? **30 miles southwest of Linz.**

Any hearsay information: **Pilot, Lt. John J. Kane held conversation with him just before he died – 30 miles southwest of Linz.**

Source: **Obtained from Lt. John J. Kane.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Actual facts obtained from my pilot.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **Forty-eight.**

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



INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **ROBERTS, Earl R.**

Rank: **S/Sgt.**

Serial number: **17034118**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Ball Turret Gunner**

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: **Conversation held over the inner-phone just before we bailed out.**

Was he injured? **He was strafed while going down in his chute.**

Where was he when last seen? **In the Alps 30 miles SW of Linz.**

Any hearsay information: **Lt. Paavo Koistinen, co-pilot, found him hanging from his chute in a tree full of machine gun holes. Dead.**

Source: **Information gained from Lt. Paavo Koistinen.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Information listed actual facts gained from my pilot and co-pilot.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **Approximately forty-eight.**

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

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **LAVERY, Clifford J., Jr.**

Rank: **T/Sgt.**

Serial number: **12199162**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Left Waist Gunner**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?:

If not, why not? **Killed when attacked by fighters.**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Conversation over inner-phone when attacked.**

Was he injured? **Killed by machine gun fire – FW-190.**

Where was he when last seen? **Aboard the ship.**

Any hearsay information: **No.**

Source:.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Actual facts.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **Forty-five.**

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

## CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name **Bryan J. Wells, Jr.** Rank **T/Sgt.** Serial No. **17175058**
2. Organization **461st** Gp Commander **Glantzberg** Rank **Col** Sqn CO **Knapp** Rank **Lt. Col.**
3. What year **1944** month **July** day **25** did you go down?
4. What was the mission, **Linz, Austria**, target, **Hermann Goering Tank Plant**, target time, **1330**, altitude, **23,000 ft** route scheduled, , route flown.
5. Where were you when you left formation? **Linz.**
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". **All personnel bailed out with the exception of Williamson, tail gunner, and Lavery, waist gunner/engineer, at Linz. These two were killed aboard the ship by 20 mm and machine guns from fighters – FW-190.**
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? **30 miles SW of 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) **Williamson and Lavery.**
11. Where were they in aircraft? **Williamson in tail turret; Lavery in waist.**
12. What was their condition? **Dead.**
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? **In German prison camp – condition good.**
- 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: **ROBERTS, Earl R.**

Rank: **S/Sgt.**

Serial number: **17034118**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Ball Turret Gunner**

Did he bail out? **Yes.**

Where? **Over Molln, Austria.**

If not, why not?.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **None, radio shot out quite a while before bail out order.**

Was he injured? **Yes - killed.**

Where was he when last seen? **On way to town in truck covered with his chute.**

Any hearsay information: **My pilot said his body was riddled in the back from machine gun fire and that he was hanging in his chute in a tree dead.**

Source: **1<sup>st</sup> Lt. John Kane – pilot of our crew.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **My supposition is that he was machined gunned in his chute on the way to the ground by a fighter plane in the area who also made a pass at me & several others.**

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

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

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **WILLIAMSON, Harold F.**

Rank: **S/Sgt.**

Serial number: **34611595**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Tail Gunner**

Did he bail out? **Not known.**

Where?;

If not, why not? **Not known.**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **He was asked to shoot at attacking planes. He screamed back, "I can't! I can't!".**

Was he injured? **Yes.**

Where was he when last seen? **In his tail position.**

Any hearsay information: **Gunner Rogan said he was in his turret when plane went down. It had been hit directly by 20 mm cannon fire and he had slumped over his guns.**

Source: **Right waist gunner Rogan.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **That he was either very badly wounded or dead and that it was impossible for him to bail out and he went down with the ship.**

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

Dates and destinations if possible: **Not known.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **LAVERY, Clifford J., Jr.**

Rank: **T/Sgt.**

Serial number: **12199162**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Left Waist Gunner**

Did he bail out? **Not known.**

Where?;

If not, why not? **Not known.**

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

Was he injured? **Not known.**

Where was he when last seen? **At his position.**

Any hearsay information: **Gunner Rogan said he was dead on waist floor when he left.**

Source: **Right waist gunner Rogan.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **He was killed by 20 mm cannon fire and went down with the ship.**

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

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

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **ROGAN, Frank G.**

Rank: **S/Sgt.**

Serial number: **15323643**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Right waist gunner**

Did he bail out? **Yes.**

Where? **Over Molln, Austria.**

If not, why not?.

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

Was he injured? **Yes.**

Where was he when last seen? **On truck on way to hospital.**

Any hearsay information: **Right leg blown off at hip by 20 mm cannon fire – other flak wounds and internal injuries. Pilot said he died in his arms.**

Source: **Pilot 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. John J. Kane.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **He was so badly wounded he died in pilots arms on way to hospital due no first aid and slow transportation to hospital.**

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

Dates and destinations if possible: **Not known.**

## CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Anthony M. Catana Rank 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Serial No. 0-695801
2. Organization 461st Gp Commander Glantzberg Rank Col Sqn CO Knapp Rank Lt. Col.
3. What year 1944 month July day 25 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, tank factory, target, tank factory, target time, 11:05, altitude, 22,000 ft route scheduled, not known, route flown same as scheduled.
5. Where were you when you left formation? 10 mi S of target – went down about 30 mi south of target.
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". No knowledge.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? On side of mountain and blew up.
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) No knowledge.
11. Where were they in aircraft? Not known.
12. What was their condition? Not known.
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. No knowledge.



<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Milton Radovsky</b>	<b>Mrs. Jennie Canter (Mother) c/o Mrs. Myer Canter 21 Shawmut Street Lewiston, Maine</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Paavo A. Koistinen</b>	<b>Mrs. Paavo H. Koistinen (Mother) 817 Hampden Street Linden, New Jersey</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Anthony M. Catana</b>	<b>Mrs. Ella May Catana (Wife) 14 East Greenwood Avenue Oaklyn, New Jersey</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. John J. Kane</b>	<b>Mr. George E. Kame (Father) 441 West 79<sup>th</sup> Street Chicago, Illinois</b>
<b>T/Sgt. Clifford J. Lavery, Jr.</b>	<b>Mrs. Alice Lavery (Mother) 1190 Cleveland Drive Cheetwago, New York</b>
<b>T/Sgt. Bryan J. Wells, Jr.</b>	<b>Mr. Bryan J. Wells, Sr. (Father) Route Number Eight North Kansas City, Missouri</b>
<b>S/Sgt. Frank G. Rogan</b>	<b>Mr. &amp; Mrs. August and Goldie Rogan (Parents) 1942 Russell Avenue Youngstown, Ohio</b>
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<b>S/Sgt. Harold F. Williamson</b>	<b>Mrs. Sarah R. Williamson (Wife) 504 South Broadway Greenville, Mississippi</b>