

**WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON**

The MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

10680

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 15th AF
Group 461st Bomb Gp (H) Squadron 765th Bomb Sq (H)
2. SPECIFY: Place of departure Torretta Field, Italy Course Direct to target
Target Odertal Oil Refinery, germany Type of mission Bombing
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
10/10 Undercast
4. GIVE: [a] Date 17 December 1944 Time 1145 Last known position Muglitz, Germany.
[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 J AAF Serial Number 42-52025
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT: Arsenic and Lace
8. ENGINES: Type, model & series P&W R1830-65A AAF serial Number [a] BP-453189
[b] BP-453137 [c] BP-453356 [d] BP-453034
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: [Make, type and serial number]
- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| [a] <u>1757589</u> | [e] <u>1757937</u> | [i] <u>1759010</u> |
| [b] <u>1757482</u> | [f] <u>1758022</u> | [j] <u>1758937</u> |
| [c] <u>1758995</u> | [g] <u>1757665</u> | |
| [d] <u>1757422</u> | [h] <u>1759050</u> | |

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	Smith, Gerald R., 2nd Lt. 0-824959	MIA	Mrs. Helen Smith (Wife) 915 Chippewa Dr., S.E., Grand Rapids, Mich.
[2] Co-pilot	Francisco, Vrooman L., Jr., 2nd Lt. 0-2059020	MIA	Mrs. Evelyn V. Francisco (Mother) 117 W. 2nd St., Little Rock, Arkansas
[3] Nav	Klarsfeld, Hilton A., F/O T-127713	MIA	Mr. Charles Klarsfeld (Father) 82 Brookline Ave., Albany, N.Y.
[4] Bomb	Carlson, Arthur H., 2nd Lt. 0-780116	MIA	Mr. Henry Carl Carlson (Father) 605 S.E. 68th Ave., Portland, Oregon
[5] BTG	Modrovsky, John R., Sgt. 32716898	MIA	Mrs. Amers Modrovsky (Mother) 427 East 71st St., New York, N.Y.
[6] NTG	Brewer, David D., Cpl. 38600941	MIA	Mrs. Lois Dora Brewer (Mother) Route #4, Arkadelphia, Arkansas
[7] RWG	Abramson, Abraham P., Sgt. 32821360	MIA	Mrs. Anna Abramson (Mother) 1200 Seneca Ave., Bronx, New York
[8] LWG	Howard, Edwin L., S/Sgt. 15330425	MIA	Mrs. Irene M. Howard (Mother) 1377 Madison Ave., Columbus, Ohio
[9] TTG	Stewart, Clifton J., Sgt. 11091013	MIA	Mrs. Pearl Stewart (Mother) 103 Ruskindale Rd., Mattapan, Mass.
[10] TTG	Goldman, Morris R., Sgt. 36659975	MIA	Mrs. Dora Goldman (Mother) 3148 W. Ainslie St., Chicago, Illinois
[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] Robert T. Chalmers	Capt.	0-798437		X		
[2] Warren S. Steinhauser	2nd Lt.	0-722386		X		

[3]

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.**

19 December 1944

/s/ Alfred B. Taylor, Jr.
1st Lt., AC, Adj.

HEADQUARTERS
765TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H) AAF
APO 520

19 December 1944

STATEMENT

At about 1145 hours our formation was attacked by about 50 enemy fighters in the vicinity of Muglitz, Germany.

On the first attack I saw Lt. Smith's plane hit by the fighters. The No. three engine was on fire but the plane was still under control. I saw several men bail out of the plane, I believe they made delayed jumps as no chutes were seen to open immediately. Our altitude at the time was 26,500 feet. Lt. Smith's plane then went over to the right and under my plane. My co-pilot saw it continue to the right and down. One wing broke off and the ship blew up.

On checking with other members of my crew who saw the incident it was determined that at least 10 men were seen going out of the plane.

/s/ Robert T. Chalmers
Capt., Air Corps
765th Bomb Sq (H)

26 May 1944

STATEMENT

At about 1145, 17 December 1944, in the vicinity of Muglitz, Germany, I saw 10 men bail out of Lt. Smith's plane, #26. We were at 26,000 feet and consequently I saw no chutes open.

/s/ Warren S. Steinhauser
2nd Lt., Air Corps
765th Bomb Sq (H)

293 FILE	DATA ON REMAINS NO YET RECOVERED OR IDENTIFIED			
NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)		GRADE	PRESENT SERIAL NUMBER	
Carlson, Arthur H.		2 nd Lt.	0-780116	
ORGANIZATION	RACE	CREED	FORMER SERIAL NUMBER (If Applicable)	
765 th Bomb Sq 461 st Bomb Gp (H)	White	Prot	19201130	
DATE OF DEATH/MIA	CAUSE OF DEATH		PLACE OF DEATH OR PLACE LAST SEEN IF MIA	
17 Dec 44	KIA		Vicinity of Muglitz, Germany B-24-J 42-52025	
DATE OF FOD				
HEIGHT	WEIGHT	COLOR EYES	COLOR HAIR	SHOE SIZE
6'4"	180	blue	Lt. brown	11 ½ B
DENTAL CHART 8 May 44				
UPPER RIGHT		UPPER LEFT		
8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1		1 2 3 4 5 6 7 X		
LOWER RIGHT		LOWER LEFT		
16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9		9 10 11 12 13 14 15 X		
X = Extracted O = Carious I = Carious Non-Restorable				
FRACTURES AND/OR BREAKS		TATTOOS AND/OR BIRTHMARK		
Fracture right tibia and fibia		Removal of birthmarks: left side of neck, right side of forehead – 1923.		
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION				
Age: 22				
Point of departure: Torretta Field, Italy				
Intended destination: Odertal Oil Refinery, Germany				
Nickname of ship: "Arsenic and Old Lace"				

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY
INTRAOFFICE REFERENCE SHEET

DUE, HOUR AND DATE:																																												
1 No.	2 FROM	3 TO	4 DATE	5 Message																																								
1.	Search Info. Ident. Branch C. Hayden	QM Pentagon Liaison Major Sekowski	7 Oct. 1946	<p>1. Request current status with dates, covering the following military personnel:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-bottom: 20px;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 40%;">Smith, Gerald R.</td> <td style="width: 10%;">2nd Lt.</td> <td style="width: 15%;">0-824959</td> <td style="width: 35%;">EUS-Date N.S.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Francisco, Vrooman L. Jr.</td> <td>2nd Lt.</td> <td>0- 2059020</td> <td>EUS-Date N.S.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Klarsfeld, Milton A.</td> <td>F/O</td> <td>T-127713</td> <td>EUS-Date N.S.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Carlson, Arthur H.</td> <td>2nd Lt.</td> <td>0-780116</td> <td>KIA-17 Dec 44</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Modrovsky, John R.</td> <td>Sgt.</td> <td>32716898</td> <td>EUS-Date N.S.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brewer, David D.</td> <td>Cpl.</td> <td>38600941</td> <td>KIA-17 Dec 44</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Abramson, Abraham P.</td> <td>Sgt.</td> <td>32821360</td> <td>KIA-17 Dec 44</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Howard, Edwin L.</td> <td>S/Sgt.</td> <td>15330425</td> <td>KIA-17 Dec 44</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stewart, Clifton J.</td> <td>Sgt.</td> <td>11091013</td> <td>EUS-Date N.S.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Goldman, Morris R.</td> <td>Sgt.</td> <td>36659975</td> <td>KIA-17 Dec 44</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">ROGERS 72000</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Cable inquiry from field.</p>	Smith, Gerald R.	2 nd Lt.	0-824959	EUS-Date N.S.	Francisco, Vrooman L. Jr.	2 nd Lt.	0- 2059020	EUS-Date N.S.	Klarsfeld, Milton A.	F/O	T-127713	EUS-Date N.S.	Carlson, Arthur H.	2 nd Lt.	0-780116	KIA-17 Dec 44	Modrovsky, John R.	Sgt.	32716898	EUS-Date N.S.	Brewer, David D.	Cpl.	38600941	KIA-17 Dec 44	Abramson, Abraham P.	Sgt.	32821360	KIA-17 Dec 44	Howard, Edwin L.	S/Sgt.	15330425	KIA-17 Dec 44	Stewart, Clifton J.	Sgt.	11091013	EUS-Date N.S.	Goldman, Morris R.	Sgt.	36659975	KIA-17 Dec 44
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CASUALTY NO.
KSU-2566

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN: **17 Dec 1944 at 1200 hrs (1130 Klarsfeld)**

PLACE OF CRASH: **5 km from Olauets**

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: **Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Base Command A (O) 13/XVII –
20 Dec 44 at Prossnite**

CREW

SURNAME, AND FIRST NAME:	Smith Gerald	Francisco Vrooman	Klarsfeld Milton	Modrovsky John
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DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:	2nd Lt.	2nd Lt.	F/O	Sgt.
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SERIAL NUMBER:	0-824959	0-2059020	T-127713	32716898
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CAPTURED:	17 Dec 44-1200 (1130-Klarsfeld)	WOUNDED:	(18 Dec 44-6 o'clock-Modrovsky)	DEAD:
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DISTRIBUTION:	WHICH CAMP:	TYPE OF INJURY:
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GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

Personal effects (Smith, Francisco)
1 id. Tag

Personal effects (Klarsfeld)
1 id. Tag
4 coins

Personal effects (Modrovsky)
1 id. Tag
2 personal id. Papers
1 lighter
12 dollars

CASUALTY NO.
KSU-2566

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN: **18 Dec 1944**

PLACE OF CRASH: **at Bystreman near Olauets**

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: **Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Base Command A (O) 13/XVII –
Prossnite 18 Dec 44**

CREW

SURNAME, AND **Carlson**
FIRST NAME: **Arthur H.**

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:

SERIAL NUMBER: **0-780116 T43-44 0**

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

CASUALTY NO.
KSU-2566

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN: **17 Dec 1944**

PLACE OF CRASH: **at Olauets**

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: **Liberator no. 42-52025**

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Base Command A (O) 13/XVII –
Prossnite/Monovia 17 Dec 44**

CREW

SURNAME, AND **Goldman**
FIRST NAME: **Morris**

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:

SERIAL NUMBER: **36659975 T43-44 A**

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD:

Result ???

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

Personal effects
1 wrist watch
1 gold ring

		U.S.A.		ME- 2566
DATE: 17 Dec 1944	Rank	Name	ASN	
PLACE: Area of Bruena	2nd Lt.	Smith, Gerald Robert	0-624959	
TYPE: Liberator	2nd Lt.	Francisco, Vrooman L.	0-2059020	
MARKINGS:	F/O	Klarsfeld, Milton Aaron	T-127713	
TARGET: Airfield HQ	2nd Lt.	Carlson, Arthur H.	0-780116	
Pressmitz	Sgt.	Abramson, Abraham P.	32821360	
	S/Sgt.	Howard, Edwin L.	15330425	
	Sgt.	Stewart, Clifton J.	11091013	
	Sgt.	Modrovsky, John Robert	32716898	
	Sgt.	Goldman, Morris	36659975	
	Cpl.	Brewer, David D.	38600941	
		(Four dead)		

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN **17 December 1944** CASUALTY NO. **ME-2566**

PLACE OF CRASH **Bresena**

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT **Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE **Air Base Headquarters Pressnitz**

NAME	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CAPT'D WOUNDED DEAD	PLACE OF INTERNMEN T
Klarsfeld, Hilton Aaron 1922 U.S.A.	F/O	T-127713	Captured	Stalag Luft West
Francisco, Jr., Vrooman Lasalle 1922 U.S.A.	2nd Lt.	0-2059020	Captured	Stalag Luft West
Smith, Gerald Robert 1920 U.S.A.	2nd Lt.	0-824959	Captured	Stalag Luft West
Modrovsky, John Robert 1923 U.S.A.	Sgt.	32716898	Captured	Stalag Luft West
Stewart, Clifton James 1924 U.S.A.	Sgt.	11091013	Captured	Stalag Luft West

Casualty No. ME 2566

1. supplement from 26 Nov 1944

Carlson, Arthur H.

2nd Lt. 0-780116 Dead

REMARKS:

Dulag Luft on 10 January 1945.

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: **Headquarters A.Air Base A(o) 13/XVII**

PLACE: **Pressnitz**

DATE: **17 December 1944**

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF: **Liberator**

EM. LANDING: AT: **Brodak on 17 December 1944, time about 1200**

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) **Clifton**

FIRST NAME: **J. Stewart Sgt.**

SERIAL NUMBER: **11091013**

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) **captured**

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: **on 17 December 1944 at Brodak, 12 km south of Pressnitz**

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

Personal property:

1 Identification tag

1 Escape bag with 48 dollars

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: **Headquarters A.Air Base A(o) 13/XVII**

PLACE: **Pressnitz**

DATE: **18 December 1944**

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF: **Liberator**

EM. LANDING: AT: **Bystreuan near Olmastz on 18 December 1944**

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) **Brewer**

FIRST NAME: **David D.**

SERIAL NUMBER: **32600941 T 44-44O**

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) **dead**

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE:

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

Personal property:

1 Escape bag with 48 dollars

1 navigation book

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **Carlson, Arthur H.**

Rank: **2nd Lt.**

Serial number: **0-780116**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Bombardier**

Did he bail out? **I don't know – interphone was shot out.**

Where? **Around Brunn, Czechoslovakia.**

If not, why not? **Unknown**

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

Was he injured? **Don't know.**

Where was he when last seen? **Flight deck taking oxygen checks.**

Any hearsay information: .

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **While a captive in a Czech police station a Czech told me that they found a bomber with five dead bodies which could be Howard, Abramson, Carlson, Goldman , & Brewer.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **11 missions.**

Dates and destinations if possible: **10-20-44 – Milan, Italy; 10-23-44 – Munich; 11-1-44 – Vienna; 11-6/44 – Vienna; 11-11-44 – Linz, Austria; 11-17-44 – Vienna; 11-19-44 – Vienna; 12-2-44 – Blechhammer, Germany; 12-11-44 – Vienna; 12-15-44 – Linz, Austria; 12-17-44 – Odertal, Germany.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **Brewer, David D.**
Rank: **Cpl.**
Serial number: **38600941**
Position: Crew (Bomber) **Nose Turret Gunner**

Did he bail out? **I don't know – interphone was shot out.**

Where? **Around Brunn, Czechoslovakia.**

If not, why not? **Don't know.**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **While joking over interphone about 1 hr before attack.**

Was he injured? **Don't know.**

Where was he when last seen? **Don't know.**

Any hearsay information: .

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **While a captive in a Czech police station a Czech told me that they found a bomber with five dead bodies which could be Howard, Abramson, Carlson, Goldman , & Brewer.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **11 missions.**

Dates and destinations if possible: **10-20-44 – Milan, Italy; 10-23-44 – Munich; 11-1-44 – Vienna; 11-6/44 – Vienna; 11-11-44 – Linz, Austria; 11-17-44 – Vienna; 11-19-44 – Vienna; 12-2-44 – Blechhammer, Germany; 12-11-44 – Vienna; 12-15-44 – Linz, Austria; 12-17-44 – Odertal, Germany.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **Abramson, Abraham P.**

Rank: **Sgt.**

Serial number: **32821360**

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

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?;

If not, why not? **He was killed by a 20 mm shell.**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **He was laying dead by waist window. I examined the body to make sure.**

Was he injured? **Killed.**

Where was he when last seen? **Dead by waist window.**

Any hearsay information: **While firing back at an enemy ship he was shot through the chest & blown to bits with a 20 mm from an enemy plane.**

Source: **I was an eye witness.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Just as mentioned above.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **9 missions.**

Dates and destinations if possible: **10-20-44 – Milan, Italy; 10-23-44 – Munich; 11-11-44 – Linz, Austria; 11-17-44 – Vienna; 11-19-44 – Vienna; 12-2-44 – Blechhammer, Germany; 12-11-44 – Vienna; 12-15-44 – Linz, Austria; 12-17-44 – Odertal, Germany.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **Howard Edwin L.**

Rank: **S/Sgt.**

Serial number: **15330425**

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

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where? :

If not, why not? **He was killed by enemy fire.**

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

Was he injured? **Killed.**

Where was he when last seen? **By waist window dead.**

Any hearsay information: **When attacked he fired back at enemy planes & was hit in the stomach with a 20 mm shell fired from an attacking plane. I examined the body to make sure before parachuting to make sure that he was dead..**

Source: **I was an eye witness.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Same as above.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **11 missions.**

Dates and destinations if possible: **10-20-44 – Milan, Italy; 10-23-44 – Munich; 11-1-44 – Vienna; 11-6/44 – Vienna; 11-11-44 – Linz, Austria; 11-17-44 – Vienna; 11-19-44 – Vienna; 12-2-44 – Blechhammer, Germany; 12-11-44 – Vienna; 12-15-44 – Linz, Austria; 12-17-44 – Odertal, Germany.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **Goldman, Morris R.**

Rank: **Sgt.**

Serial number: **36659975**

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

Did he bail out? **Don't know.**

Where? **Around Brunn, Czechoslovakia.**

If not, why not? **Don't know.**

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

Was he injured? **Don't know.**

Where was he when last seen?;

Any hearsay information:;

Source:;

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **While a captive in a Czech police station a Czech told me that they found a bomber with five dead bodies which could be Howard, Abramson, Carlson, Goldman & Brewer.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **11 missions.**

Dates and destinations if possible: **Same number & same targets as Carlson.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **Brewer, David D.**
Rank: **Cpl.**
Serial number: **38600941**
Position: Crew (Bomber) **Nose Turret Gunner**

Did he bail out? **No (Hearsay).**

Where?;

If not, why not? **Trapped in ship (Hearsay).**

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

Was he injured? **Unknown.**

Where was he when last seen? **Tunnel under flight deck (hearsay).**

Any hearsay information: **Navigator, F/O M. A. Klarsfeld reported that he had helped Brewer from his turret and they had proceeded to abandon ship, but that the nose wheel doors would not open and that the exit to the bomb bays were blocked by the bodies of Lt. Carlson and Sgt. Goldman.**

Source: **F/O M. A. Klarsfeld.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Killed in the explosion of the fuel tanks.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **11.**

Dates and destinations if possible: **10-20-44 – Milan, Italy; 10-23-44; 11-1-44; 11-6/44; 11-11-44; 11-17-44; 11-19-44; 12-2-44; 12-11-44; 12-15-44; 12-17-44 – Odertal, Germany.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **Howard Edwin L.**

Rank: **S/Sgt.**

Serial number: **15330425**

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

Did he bail out? **No (Hearsay).**

Where?;

If not, why not? **Killed by enemy gunfire (Hearsay).**

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

Was he injured?;

Where was he when last seen? **On floor of waist position.**

Any hearsay information: **Above.**

Source: **Sgt. Modrovsky.**

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: **eleven.**

Dates and destinations if possible: **10-20-44 – Milan, Italy; 10-23-44; 11-1-44; 11-6/44; 11-11-44; 11-17-44; 11-19-44; 12-2-44; 12-11-44; 12-15-44; 12-17-44 – Odertal, Germany.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **Abramson, Abraham P.**

Rank: **Sgt.**

Serial number: **32821360**

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

Did he bail out? **No (Hearsay).**

Where?;

If not, why not? **Killed by enemy gunfire (Hearsay).**

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

Was he injured?;

Where was he when last seen? **On the floor of the waist position.**

Any hearsay information: **Above from Sgt. Modrovsky.**

Source: **Sgt. Modrovsky.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Killed by enemy machine gun fire from fighter aircraft.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **9 missions (not sure).**

Dates and destinations if possible: **10-20-44 – Milan, Italy; 11-6-44; 11-11-44; 11-17-44; 11-19-44; 12-2-44; 12-15-44; 12-17-44 – Odertal, Germany.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **Goldman, Morris R.**

Rank: **Sgt.**

Serial number: **36659975**

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

Did he bail out? **No (Hearsay).**

Where?;

If not, why not? **Anoxia (Hearsay).**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Saw him leave his turret.**

Was he injured? **Unknown.**

Where was he when last seen? **Collapsed at flight deck entrance.**

Any hearsay information: **He had been helped from his turret by Lt. Carlson and both lost consciousness, collapsing at the flight deck entrance and could not be moved.**

Source: **Lt. Francisco, F/O Klarsfeld.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Killed in the explosion of the fuel tanks.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **11.**

Dates and destinations if possible: **10-20-44 – Milan, Italy; 10-23-44; 11-1-44; 11-6/44; 11-11-44; 11-17-44; 11-19-44; 12-2-44; 12-11-44; 12-15-44; 12-17-44 – Odertal, Germany.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **Carlson, Arthur H.**

Rank: **2nd Lt.**

Serial number: **0-780116**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Bombardier**

Did he bail out? **No (Hearsay).**

Where?;

If not, why not? **Anoxia (Hearsay).**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **He informed me that the bomb bays were on fire. I ordered him to bail out. He seemed O.K.**

Was he injured? **Not to my knowledge.**

Where was he when last seen? **Collapsed at flight deck entrance (Lt. Francisco, F/O Klarsfeld).**

Any hearsay information: **Information from Lt. Francisco & F/O klarsfeld indicates that he was unconscious from lack of oxygen, and had collapsed at the entrance to the flight deck beside Sgt. Goldman (also unconscious) and could not be moved.**

Source: **Stated above.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **I believe that he was caught in the explosion of the fuel tanks while unconscious.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **eleven.**

Dates and destinations if possible: **10-20-44 – Milan, Italy; 10-23-44 – Munich; 11-1-44 – Vienna; 11-6/44 – Vienna; 11-11-44 – Linz, Austria; 11-17-44 – Vienna; 11-19-44 – Vienna; 12-2-44 – Blechhammer, Germany; 12-11-44 – Vienna; 12-15-44 – Linz, Austria; 12-17-44 – Odertal, Germany.**

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Gerald R. Smith Rank 2nd Lt. Serial No. 0-824959
2. Organization 461st Gp Commander Hawes Rank Col Sqn 765th CO Hardy Rank Lt. Col.
3. What year 1944 month December day 17 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Gleiwitz, target, Odertal Oil Ref., target time, 12:25, altitude, 26,000 ft route scheduled, unknown, route flown direct on a line just east of Vienna.
5. Where were you when you left formation? Near Olmutz.
6. Did you bail out? Yes.
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Lt. Francisco, F/O Klarsfeld, Sgts. Stewart, Modrovsky.
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". Lt. Francisco, flight deck hatch, F/O Klarsfeld, blown clear, Sgt. Stewart and Sgt. Modrovsky bailed out of rear of aircraft, exact exit unknown.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? Unknown, but somewhere near Olmutz, Czechoslovakia.
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. Abramson, Sgt. Howard and presumably Sgt. Goldman, Cpl. Brewer and Lt. Carlson.
11. Where were they in aircraft? Positions described on questionnaires.
12. What was their condition? All presumed dead (hearsay).
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. None.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **Carlson, Arthur H.**

Rank: **2nd Lt.**

Serial number: **0-780116**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Bombardier**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?:

If not, why not? **Passed out from anoxia.**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Motioned for me to release bombs as bomb bays were on fire.**

Was he injured? **He did not appear to be.**

Where was he when last seen? **Right below the upper turret gun.**

Any hearsay information: **None.**

Source: **None.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Enemy fighter bullets punctured oxygen system. He was trying to release upper gunner so lack of oxygen and over exertion caused him to pass out..**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **Approximately 11 (eleven).**

Dates and destinations if possible: **From about 17 Oct 1944 to 17 Dec 1944. Four missions over Vienna, Brux, Blechhammer and elsewhere.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **Brewer, David D.**
Rank: **Cpl.**
Serial number: **38600941**
Position: Crew (Bomber) **Nose Turret Gunner**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?;

If not, why not? **Passage from nose to bomb bay blocked by Bombardier and emergency nose wheel door did not release.**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Some comment on enemy rockets.**

Was he injured? **The navigator does not think so. I do not know.**

Where was he when last seen? **In the navigators compartment by navigator.**

Any hearsay information: **None.**

Source: **None.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Lack of oxygen caused by fear because his means of escape were hampered.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **Approximately 11 (eleven).**

Dates and destinations if possible: **From about 17 Oct 1944 to 17 Dec 1944. Four missions to Vienna, Brux, Blechhammer and elsewhere.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **Abramson, Abraham P.**

Rank: **Sgt.**

Serial number: **32821360**

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

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?:

If not, why not? **He was killed by enemy fighter bullets.**

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? **Near right waist window by gall gunner.**

Any hearsay information: **None.**

Source: **None.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Enemy fighters criss crossed from both sides of plane killing him and engineer.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **Approximately 11 (eleven).**

Dates and destinations if possible: **From 17 Oct 1944 to 17 Dec 1944. Four missions to Vienna, Brux, Blechhammer and elsewhere.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **Howard Edwin L.**

Rank: **S/Sgt.**

Serial number: **15330425**

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

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?;

If not, why not? **Killed by enemy fighter bullets.**

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? **Near left waist window.**

Any hearsay information: **He was dead at time ball and tail gunner were ready to abandon plane.**

Source: **tail and ball gunners.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Case same as Abraham P. Abramson.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **Approximately 11 (eleven).**

Dates and destinations if possible: **From 17 Oct 1944 to 17 Dec 1944. Four missions to Vienna, Blechhammer and Brux and elsewhere.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **Goldman, Morris R.**

Rank: **Sgt.**

Serial number: **36659975**

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

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?:

If not, why not? **Passed out from anoxia.**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **“Enemy fighters six o’clock level.”**

Was he injured? **He did not appear to be.**

Where was he when last seen? **Half way out of the upper turret.**

Any hearsay information: **None.**

Source: **None.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Enemy fighter bullets punctured oxygen system. His seat release would not work properly. In excitement he probably used his oxygen up very rapidly.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **Approximately 11 (eleven).**

Dates and destinations if possible: **From 17 Oct 1944 to 17 Dec 1944. Four missions to Vienna, Brux, Blechhammer and elsewhere.**

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Francisco, Vrooman L. Rank 2nd Lt. Serial No. 0-2059020
2. Organization 461st Gp Commander Hawes Rank Col Sqn 765th CO Hardy Rank Lt. Col.
3. What year 1944 month December day 17 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, tenth, target, Blechhammer, target time, 12:00, altitude, 26,000 ft route scheduled, over Adriatic, Alps and Slovakia, route flown same.
5. Where were you when you left formation? 9 minutes from target on bomb run.
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? In northeastern tip of Czechoslovakia.
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) Bombardier, nose gunner, upper gunner, both waist gunners. A.H. Carlson, D.D. Brewer, M.R. Goldman, A.P. Abramson and E.L. Howard.
11. Where were they in aircraft? At their respective positions.
12. What was their condition? So injured or dead and some apparently all right.
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? At a central jail before being sent for interrogation to Frankfurt.
- 14 Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. Phillip Crossman's crew met them at Stalag Luft One.

2nd Lt. Gerald R. Smith	Mrs. Helen L. Smith (Wife) 915 Chippewa Drive Southeast Grand Rapids, Michigan
2nd Lt. Vrooman L. Francisco, Jr.	Mrs. Evelyn V. Francisco (Mother) 117 West 2nd Street Little Rock, Arkansas
F/O Milton A. Klarsfeld	Mr. Charles Klarsfeld (Father) 82 Brookline Avenue Albany, New York
2nd Lt. Arthur H. Carlson	Mr. Carl H. Carlson (Father) 605 Southeast 68th Avenue Portland, Oregon
Sgt. John R. Modrovsky	Mrs. Amara Modrovsky (Mother) 427 East 71st Street New York, New York
Cpl. David D. Brewer	Mrs. Lois D. Brewer (Mother) Rural Route Number Four Arkadelphia, Arkansas
Sgt. Ahraham P. Abramson	Mrs. Anna Abramson (Mother) 1200 Seneca Avenue New York, New York
S/Sgt. Edwin L. Howard	Mrs. Margaret Howard (Wife) 1389 Franklin Avenue Columbus, Ohio
Sgt. Clifton J. Stewart	Mrs. Pearl Stewart (Mother) 104 Ruskindale Road Mattapan, Massachusetts
Sgt. Morris R. Goldman	Mrs. Bettye Goldman (Wife) 3148 West Ainslie Street Chicago, Illinois