

**WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON**

The MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

14058

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 764th Bomb Sq (H)
2. SPECIFY: Place of departure Torretta, Italy Course straight to target
Target Linz, Austria Type of mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
CAVU
4. GIVE: [a] Date 25 Apr 45 Time 1237 Last known position 48°18'N, 14°19'E approx
[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-24L AAF Serial Number 44-49511
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT: None
8. ENGINES: Type, model & series R-1830-43A AAF serial Number [a] CP-317044
[b] BP-425954 [c] CP-310478 [d] CP-317134
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: [Make, type and serial number] All Browning Cal. 50

[a] <u>1765442</u>	[e] <u>1766074</u>	[i] <u>1304549</u>
[b] <u>1185505</u>	[f] <u>1765915</u>	[j] <u>1304840</u>
[c] <u>1764516</u>	[g] <u>1764975</u>	
[d] <u>1166991</u>	[h] <u>1764715</u>	

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

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

[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	Toothman, Lawrence R., 2 nd Lt. 0-836681	MIA	Mr. Charles A. Toothman (Father) Rt. #4, Mannington, West Virginia
[2] CP	Jones, William (NMI), 2 nd Lt. 0-837489	MIA	Mrs. Mary Jones (Wife) 409 E. 146 th St., Bronx, New York
[3] Nav	Ashworth, Paul R., F/O T-137615	MIA	Mr. Clayborne K. Ashworth (Father) RFD #1, Payson, Utah
[4] As Bomb	Wieland, Roy J., S/Sgt. 39716576	MIA	Mrs. Agnes C. Wieland (Mother) 1721 Cedar St., Alhambra, Calif.
[5] TTG	Scogin, Jr., Oscar L., Cpl. 39497047	MIA	Mrs. Lena Scogin (Mother) Box 422, Slidell, Louisiana
[6] LWG	Baker, Robert C., Cpl. 42022689	MIA	Mr. George A. Baker (Father) 314 Harding Ave., Jamestown, N.Y.
[7] RWG	LaZier, John L., Cpl. 36947474	MIA	Mrs. Ida M. LaZier (Mother) Box 242, Coal City, Illinois
[8] NTG	Morrison, Douglas A., Cpl. 14154460	MIA	Mr. John W. Morrison (Father) Box 675, Gainesville, Georgia
[9] BTG	Acheson, Howard R., Cpl. 36421494	MIA	Mrs. Shirley Y. Acheson (Wife) 931 Monroe Ave., Lowell, Michigan
[10] TTG	Hoskins, Jr., Joseph H., Sgt. 14071888	MIA	Mrs. Annie E. Hoskins (Wife) Pitts Ave., Old Hickory, Tennessee
[11] Panther Opr	Small, William L., S/Sgt. 11141038	MIA	Mrs. Margaret G. Small (Mother) 51 Enmore St., Andover, Mass.

[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 J. Shaw	2nd Lt.	0-2064664		X		
[2] Vance W. Stoutt, Jr.	S/Sgt.	14200176		X		
[3]						
[4]						

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.**

Date: **28 Apr 1945**

/s/ John Tromershausser
Major, Air Corps
Commanding

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

STATEMENT

We were in B box, lead ship, coming in to hit the Main Marshalling Yards in Linz. The flak was heavy, but we were high box and it was all under us and off to right. Just before "bombs away" at 1237, the tail gunner called out, "a ship is going down in Dog box". The ship just peeled off and went into a spin, and there was no fire. One chute came out of the ship at the very first part of its downward plunge. The tail gunner followed it all the way to the ground and no more chutes were reported. It was impossible for me to keep it in view from my position.

/s/ Robert J. Shaw
0-2064664
2nd Lt., Air Corps

STATEMENT

As we started the bomb run on the rail yards at Linz, heavy flak was encountered. We were in B box and got very little flak. D & E box encountered intense flak and just before bombs away, I saw a ship from D box go down in a flat spin. A direct hit in the bomb bays and as it went into a spin one chute came out and that was all I saw. I followed it all the way down and it never pulled out of the spin. The engines seemed to be okay, but the bomb bay was in a mass of flame.

/s/ Vance W. Stoutt, Jr.
14200178
Staff Sergeant, Air Corps

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **ASHWORTH, Paul R.**

Rank: **F/O**

Serial number: **T-137615**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Navigator**

Did he bail out? **Yes.**

Where? **In the near vicinity of Linz, Austria.**

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **He mentioned being hit in the back.**

Was he injured? **Yes.**

Where was he when last seen? **In hospital at Anstedden, Austria.**

Any hearsay information: **Yes, received a letter from his mother shortly after my arrival home stating that he was hospitalized in the U.S. & doing fine. His address was F/O Paul Ashworth T-135615 – Detch of Patient at Bushnell Gen. Hospital – Brigham City, Utah.**

Source: **letter received from his mother.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **He's alive & in the States.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **10 – I believe.**

Dates and destinations if possible: **;**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **JONES, William**

Rank: **2nd Lt.**

Serial number: **0-837489**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Co-pilot**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?:

If not, why not? **Was killed instantly.**

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? **In ship.**

Any hearsay information: **None.**

Source:.

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: **7 – I think.**

Dates and destinations if possible:.

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Oscar L. Scogin, Jr. Rank Sgt. Serial No. 38497047
2. Organization 461st Gp Commander Rank Sqn CO Parsonson Rank Capt.
3. What year 1945 month April day 25 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Linz, Austria, target, N. Marsh. Yards, target time, 1230, altitude, 25,000 ft route scheduled, , route flown
5. Where were you when you left formation? Over target.
6. Did you bail out? Yes.
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Yes – all but the co-pilot.
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? 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) Only the co-pilot, Lt. William Jones.
11. Where were they in aircraft? He was in his customary position.
12. What was their condition? Killed instantly.
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? I saw them all with the exception of the pilot & navigator & panther man & co-pilot on or about 15th June.
- 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: **JONES, William**

Rank: **2nd Lt.**

Serial number: **0-837489**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Co-pilot**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?:

If not, why not? **killed instantly by anti-aircraft.**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Five minutes before target time I put on his flak suit.**

Was he injured? **A direct hit exploded inside the cockpit killing him.**

Where was he when last seen? **Lying on the floor of cockpit.**

Any hearsay information: **The engineer and I felt for his ????? and pulse but there was no sign of life. When I was captured the German guard brought in his wrist identification bracelet and hat. They told us that they found the body in the wreckage of the plane which was partially burned.**

Source: **By the engineer, myself and German soldiers.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Positive of his death.**

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

Dates and destinations if possible: **Unknown.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **ASHWORTH, Paul R.**

Rank: **F/O**

Serial number: **T-137615**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Navigator**

Did he bail out? **Yes.**

Where? **Over Austria.**

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **I saw him bail out.**

Was he injured? **Yes.**

Where was he when last seen? **195 Gen Hosp, Mourmaton, France.**

Any hearsay information: **I received a letter from Bushnell General Hospital, Utah.**

Source: **from Paul R. Ashworth, F/O T-137615.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **He is in hospital recovering from injuries.**

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

Dates and destinations if possible: **Unknown.**

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Small, William L. Rank S/Sgt. Serial No. 11141038
2. Organization 461st Gp Commander Unknown Rank Col. Sqn CO Unknown Rank Maj.
3. What year 1945 month April day 25 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, bombing, target, Linz, target time, 1230, altitude, 25,000 ft route scheduled, unknown, route flown.
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 bt co-pilot.
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? In the area of Martinshen, 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) Jones, William, 2nd Lt. serial no. 0-837489.
11. Where were they in aircraft? cockpit.
12. What was their condition? dead.
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? All were accounted for. Three wounded, one dead, others slightly hurt from parachute jump.
- 14 Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. In immediate area of crash, a B-17 exploded with all but one member of the crew aboard within half hour of our crash. The only survivor was a prisoner with us. Name unknown. The only information was the plane was a 15th Air Force plane based around Foggia, Italy.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **ASHWORTH, Paul R.**

Rank: **F/O**

Serial number: **T-137615**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Navigator**

Did he bail out? **Yes.**

Where? **Southeast (12 minutes) of Linz, Austria.**

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **on bomb run.**

Was he injured? **Yes.**

Where was he when last seen? **In American General Hospital, 194th France.**

Any hearsay information: **Known to have been in Bushnell General Hospital, Utah. Believed to be retired.**

Source: **Direct correspondence.**

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

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

Dates and destinations if possible: **Do not have information.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **JONES, William**

Rank: **2nd Lt.**

Serial number: **0-837489**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Co-pilot**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?:

If not, why not? **Examination by engineer proved him dead.**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **On bomb run.**

Was he injured? **Yes.**

Where was he when last seen? **In plane.**

Any hearsay information: **An Austrian Citizen said they had found him and buried him near where plane had crashed – exact spot unknown.**

Source:.

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

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

Dates and destinations if possible: **Do not have information.**

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Lawrence R. Toothman Rank 1st Lt. Serial No. 0-836681
2. Organization 461st Gp Commander Rogers Rank Col. Sqn CO Trommershausser
Rank Major.
3. What year 1945 month April day 25 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Linz, Austria, target, marshalling yards, target time, 1235,
altitude, 25,500 ft route scheduled, , route flown same as scheduled.
5. Where were you when you left formation? Approx. 1 ½ min. from bombs away.
6. Did you bail out? Yes.
7. Did other members of crew bail out? 10 bailed out – I did not.
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". Everyone bailed out between 5 and 11
minutes southeast of Linz. Everyone landed in same vicinity.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? Near Amstetten, 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) Co-pilot William Jones.
11. Where were they in aircraft? Co-pilot's seat.
12. What was their condition? Engineer's examination revealed him dead.
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already
described above? All members except the co-pilot are known to be in the States or to
have returned to the States within 3 ½ months of time shot down.
- 14 Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have
knowledge. Indicate source of information. No information.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **ASHWORTH, Paul R.**

Rank: **F/O**

Serial number: **T-137615**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Navigator**

Did he bail out? **Yes.**

Where? **Amstetten, Austria.**

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Over inter-communication system about 10 min before loss of plane.**

Was he injured? **Yes.**

Where was he when last seen? **Austrian Hospital, Amstetten, Austria.**

Any hearsay information: **Letter from him when he got back to the States in Aug. or Sept. He was recovering quite well, he wrote.**

Source: **Letter.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Just the letter from hospital in Salt Lake City, Utah (Brigham Young Hosp.).**

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

Dates and destinations if possible: **Unknown.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **JONES, William**

Rank: **2nd Lt.**

Serial number: **0-837489**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Co-pilot**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?;

If not, why not? **He was dead.**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Before take off.**

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

Where was he when last seen? **Dead in co-pilot's seat.**

Any hearsay information: **None.**

Source: **Nobody – I saw it.**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Blown in two by flak shell.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **5.**

Dates and destinations if possible: **Unknown.**

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name LaZier, John L. Rank Sgt. Serial No. 36947475
2. Organization 461st Gp Commander Rank Col. Sqn CO Trommershausser Rank Maj.
3. What year 1945 month April day 25 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, 8, target, railroad yards, target time, 1230, altitude, 25,000 ft route scheduled, U.K., route flown U.K.
5. Where were you when you left formation? No. 4 position.
6. Did you bail out? Yes.
7. Did other members of crew bail out? All but co-pilot.
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 but co-pilot bailed out at 1220-1230 hrs. in vicinity of Amstetten, Austria. Pilot – Toothman – broken arm; engineer – Scogin – flak in leg; togglier – Wieland – flak wound; panther oper – Small – broken arm; radio man – Baker – broken foot; nose gunner – Morrison – back injury; navigator – Ashworth – flak wound in buttox; tail gunner – Hoskins – foot wound; ball gunner – Acheson – wounded in foot.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? Near Amstetten, 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) co-pilot – Lt. Wm. Jones.
11. Where were they in aircraft? In co-pilot seat.
12. What was their condition? Deceased.
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: **ASHWORTH, Paul R.**

Rank: **F/O**

Serial number: **T-137615**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Navigator**

Did he bail out? **Yes.**

Where? **Near Waldhausen, Austria.**

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Navigator telling crew that we had one minute to go to get to target.**

Was he injured? **Yes.**

Where was he when last seen? **Civilian hospital in Amstetten, Austria.**

Any hearsay information:.

Source:.

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: **8 or 9.**

Dates and destinations if possible: **Not known of first few but last over Linz.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **JONES, William**

Rank: **2nd Lt.**

Serial number: **0-837489**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Co-pilot**

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: **Navigator telling crew that we had one minute before bombs away.**

Was he injured? **dead.**

Where was he when last seen? **In plane by pilot.**

Any hearsay information: **Engineer told me how he looked. From my information he was killed instantly.**

Source:;

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: **4 or 5.**

Dates and destinations if possible: **Last mission over Linz.**

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name **Howard R. Acheson** Rank **Sgt.** Serial No. **36421494**
2. Organization **461st** Gp Commander Rank Sqn CO **Trommershausser** Rank **Major.**
3. What year **1945** month **April** day **25** did you go down?
4. What was the mission, **No. 7**, target, **Linz**, target time, **1230**, altitude, **26,000 ft** route scheduled, , route flown.
5. Where were you when you left formation? **Linz, Austria.**
6. Did you bail out? **Yes.**
7. Did other members of crew bail out? **All but co-pilot.**
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". **Pilot, toothman; nav, Ashworth; nose gunner, Morrison; engineer, Scogin; togglier, Wieland; and panther, Small bailed out front bomb bay. I bailed out rear bomb bay. Baker, LaZier & Hoskins bailed out rear escape hatch. Jone, co-pilot, dead.**
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? **Near Waldhausen.**
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) **2nd Lt. William Jones, co-pilot.**
11. Where were they in aircraft? **In cockpit.**
12. What was their condition? **Their condition was alright.**
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.;

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **ASHWORTH, Paul R.**

Rank: **F/O**

Serial number: **T-137615**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Navigator**

Did he bail out? **Yes.**

Where? **Waldhausen, Austria.**

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Instructed me to leave the tail turret and man the camera.**

Was he injured? **Yes.**

Where was he when last seen? **German civilian hospital in Amstetten, Austria.**

Any hearsay information: **Paul R Ashworth was returned to the United States. Have corresponded with him by mail. At last news I had from him he was in Bushnell General Hospital, Brigham City, Utah.**

Source: **Personal letter.**

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: **10 or 11.**

Dates and destinations if possible: **April 8 – 10 – 12 – 14 – 15 – 16 – 20 – 23 – 25, 1945. These are the ones he flew with me over northern Italy & Austria.**

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **JONES, William**

Rank: **2nd Lt.**

Serial number: **0-837489**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Co-pilot**

Did he bail out? **No.**

Where?:

If not, why not? **Was killed instantly by flak burst.**

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **He checked me for oxygen & flak suit just before we were hit.**

Was he injured? **Was killed instantly.**

Where was he when last seen? **Slumped in his seat & going down with the ship.**

Any hearsay information: **A member of German search crew reported that our ship had been found with one crewmember still in wreckage. The other ten men of our eleven man crew were all captured alive. The one found in the wreckage must have been Lt. Jones.**

Source:.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **One A.A. shell entered our ship near bombardier window, penetrating to the cockpit and exploding between pilot and co-pilot. Lt. Jones chest was crushed. Wounds in head and abdomen. The pilot escaped with multiple fractures to right arm.**

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

Dates and destinations if possible: **April 8 – 10 – 12 – 14 – 15 – 16 – 20 – 23 – 25, 1945. These missions were flown over northern Italy & Austria. Our ship was a B-24L. Don't know serial no, but ship was named "Miss Lace" and crashed in vicinity of Waldhausen, Austria.**

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name **Joseph H. Hoskins, Jr.** Rank **S/Sgt.** Serial No. **14071888**
2. Organization **461st** Gp Commander Rank Sqn CO Rank.
3. What year **1945** month **April** day **25** did you go down?
4. What was the mission, **bombing**, target, **Linz, Austria**, target time, **1215**, altitude, **24,500 ft** route scheduled, , route flown.
5. Where were you when you left formation? **30 seconds short of bomb release.**
6. Did you bail out? **Yes.**
7. Did other members of crew bail out? **Yes, all but co-pilot 2nd Lt. William Jones. He was killed by explosion of flak in cockpit.**
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". **Nose gunner, navigator, panther opr togglier, engineer & pilot went out front end of open bomb bay. Sherry ball gunner through back end bomb bay. Armorer, radio opr & tail gunner (myself) through camera hatch.**
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? **Vicinity of Waldhausen, 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) **2nd Lt. William Jones, co-pilot.**
11. Where were they in aircraft? **Crumpled up in co-pilots seat.**
12. What was their condition? **Dead. Chest caved. Holes in abdomen & head.**
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? **Pilot is at home. Multiple fractures in right arm but doing fine. Nose gunner at home in fine shape. Navigator in hospital – Bushnell General Hospital, Brigham City, Utah. Toggler – somewhere in U.S., last seen on boat coming home and in fine shape. Engineer in U.S., last seen in Camp Lucky Strike, France feeling fine. Radio man in hospital in N.Y., broken leg, last seen in Lucky Strike, France. Had letter from Armorer from his home in Ohio, feeling fine. Pantheropr was last seen in civilian hospital in Amstetten, Austria. Letter from my navigator says he is now home too. Had compound fractures in right arm. Sperry ball gunner writes me from his home in Lowell, Michigan that he is doing fine.**
- 14 Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information.;

FORMER CREW MEMBER CASUALTY INFORMATION

Name Rank and ASN of Casualty: 2nd Lt. William Jones

Name rank and ASN of POW: Sgt. Robert C. Bker, 42022689

Crew position of Casualty: Radio Op – Gunner

Unit: 461st Bomb Gp; 764th Bomb Sq; 15th Air Force

Date last seen: 25 April 1945

Place last seen: in aircraft over Germany

Circumstances surrounding loss of aircraft: Disabled by flak over Linz, Austria. Crew bailed out.

KNOWN INFORMATION: (Eyewitnesses)

HERESAY INFORMATION WITH ESTIMATE OF RELIABILITY: Lt. Jones was killed by bursting flak shell in co-pilot's cockpit. Witnessed by pilot, 2nd Lt. L. R. Toothman & Sgt. O. L. Scogin, engineer.

/s/ Robert C. Baker, Sgt. 42022689

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **SPEHALSKI, Raymon E.**

Rank: **2nd Lt.**

Serial number: **0-715830**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Pilot**

Did he bail out? **His chute opened but attached itself to the falling bomber.**

Where? **Over Kingstadt, Austria.**

If not, why not?.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **He ordered us to bail out.**

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

Where was he when last seen? **Bailing out.**

Any hearsay information: **He was seen attached to his bomber at the tail surface with his shroud lines attached to the plane. He seemed to be hanging very limp. About 8 hours later, we learned he was dead and was identified on the ground about ten feet from the wreckage. His body was broken and bruised.**

Source: **Radio man Rayburn's chute landed nearby and he identified the pilot's body.**

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: **17.**

Dates and destinations if possible: **I was not on all his missions.**

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Farley, George D. Rank S/Sgt. Serial No. 32374633
2. Organization 461st Gp Commander Rank Sqn CO Mixon Rank Major.
3. What year 1945 month March day 26 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Vienna, Austria, target, , target time, , altitude, 23,000 ft route scheduled, , route flown.
5. Where were you when you left formation? Kingstadt, Austria.
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 members of the crew bailed out in quick succession, but the pilot's chute attached itself to the bomber and he appeared to be unconscious in the air.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? 20 miles south of Kingstadt, 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) Raymon E. Spehalski, 2nd Lieut.
11. Where were they in aircraft? About to parachute out, but chute caught on bomber.
12. What was their condition? I bailed out before he did. He was OK when I last saw him.
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? I saw all members except Lieut. Spehalski and Lieut. Leasure within 8 hours after we bailed out.
- 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: **SPEHALSKI, Raymon E.**

Rank: **2nd Lt.**

Serial number: **0-715830**

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Pilot**

Did he bail out? **Yes.**

Where? **Near Bruck, Austria, place of exit from plane unknown.**

If not, why not?.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **"Hit the silk".**

Was he injured? **Believe so by close flak burst.**

Where was he when last seen? **Pilot's cockpit.**

Any hearsay information: **Injured by close flak burst.**

Source: **Co-pilot (Lt. Christ Dallas).**

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Chute caught onto wingtip, supposedly seen by other crewmembers.**

Total number of missions of above crew member: **Crew had 14, I had 15.**

Dates and destinations if possible:.

2d Lt. William Jones	Mrs. Mary E. Jones (Wife) 409 E. 146th Street New York, New York
2nd Lt. Lawrence R. Toothman	Mr. Charles A. Toothman (Father) Route Number Four Mannington, West Virginia
F/O Paul R. Ashworth (Father)	Mr. Clayborne K. Ashworth R.F.D. Number One Payson, Utah
S/Sgt. Roy J. Wieland	Mrs. Agnes C. Wieland (Mother) 1721 Cedar Street Alhambra, California
Sgt. William L. Small	Mrs. Margaret G. Small (Mother) 17 17 Falmouth Street Lawrence Massachusetts
Sgt. Joseph H. Hopkins, Jr.	Mrs. Annie E. Hopkins (Wife) Pitts Avenue Old Hickory, Tennessee
Cpl. Howard R. Acheson	Mrs. Shirley Y. Acheson (Mother) 931 Monroe Avenue Lowell, Michigan
Cpl. Douglas A. Morrison	Mr. John W. Morrison (Father) Box 675 Gainsville, Georgia
Cpl. John L. LaZier	Mrs. Ida M. LaZier (Mother) Box 15 Coal City, Illinois
Cpl. Robert C. Baker	Mr. George A. Baker (Father) 314 Harding Avenue Jamestown, New York
Cpl. Oscar L. Scogin, Jr.	Mrs. Lena M. Scogin (Mother) Box 422 Slidell, Louisiana