

HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON

1. ORGANIZATION: Location Torretta Italy; Comd or Air Force XV; Group 461st Bomb; Squadron 767th Bomb; Detachment \_\_\_\_\_.
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure Torretta, Italy; Course Direct to target; intended Destination Brasov, Rumania; Type of Mission Bombing.
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED Heavy undercast, fair visibility. Secondary Target, Belgrade.
4. GIVE: (a) Date 16 Apr; Time 1215; and location Belgrade, Yugoslavia of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft. (b) Specify whether (X) Last Sighted; ( ) Last Contacted by Radio; ( ) Forced down; ( ) Seen to Crash; or ( ) Info Unavailable.
5. AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one) ( ) Enemy Aircraft; (X) Ene,my Anti-Aircraft; ( ) Other Circumstances as Follows: \_\_\_\_\_.
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B 24 H; A.A.F Serial Number 42-52395.
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1830-43; A.A.F Serial Number (a) BP400660; (b) CP301479; (c) BP400576; (d) CP300977.
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number) (a) 951354; (b) 952043; (c) 951635; (d) 681889; (e) 951187; (f) 951305; (g) 1152737; (h) 1152666; (i) 951841; (j) 951683.
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X or (b) Non-Battle Cas. \_\_\_\_\_.
10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10; Passengers    ; Total 10.  
(Starting with pilot, furnish the following particulars; If more than 10 persons were aboard aircraft, list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach original to this form.)

<u>Crew Position</u>	<u>Name in Full (Last Name First)</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Serial Number</u>
<u>Pilot</u>	<u>Woodard, Floyd Wiley</u>	<u>1st Lt</u>	<u>0-535006</u>
<u>Co-Pilot</u>	<u>Greene, Edward Francis</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0-751310</u>
<u>Navigator</u>	<u>Myers, Ray Jackson</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0-800751</u>
<u>Bombardier</u>	<u>Love, James (NMI)</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0-684176</u>
<u>Top Turret Gnr</u>	<u>Gibbons, John Francis</u>	<u>T/Sgt</u>	<u>12035354</u>
<u>Right Waist Gnr</u>	<u>Kimball, Wallace Campbell</u>	<u>T/Sgt</u>	<u>39011117</u>
<u>Nose Gunner</u>	<u>Gildart, John Robert</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>11053056</u>
<u>Left Waist Gnr</u>	<u>Spatz, Louis Harold</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>37423057</u>
<u>Tail Gunner</u>	<u>Storts, Buren Harold</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>38131389</u>
<u>Ball Turret Gnr</u>	<u>Stadalman, Carl Raymond Jr</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>17027803</u>

11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT AND CHECK APPRO COLM TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:

<u>Name in Full (Last Name First)</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Serial Number</u>	<u>Check only one col</u>			
			<u>Contacted By Radio</u>	<u>Last Sighted</u>	<u>Saw Crash</u>	<u>Forced Landing</u>
<u>King, Jack Hamilton</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0-685484</u>		<u>X</u>		
<u>Evans, Robert Buckner III</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0-812560</u>		<u>X</u>		
<u>Shiffermiller, William Ernest</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>35134590</u>		<u>X</u>		

12. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used 5; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash    ; or (c) Any other reason (Specify)
13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.

14. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCE PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK, AND ASN OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE No search.

A ship was reported going down in flames about the time I closed my Bombay doors after "Bombs Away." Looking out the right window of the nose I saw Lt Woodard's ship in a steep dive with its Number 3 engine burning. Shortly afterwards the fire burst from under the front bomb bay. Four chutes opened from the rear of the plane. Then an object came from the front part of the ship, but passed out of sight before I could tell whether a chute opened or not. The ship continued in its dive to about 5,000 or 6,000 feet above the ground, and there exploded into numberless parts.

JACK H. KING,  
2nd Lt, Air Corps,  
767th Bomb Sq.

I heard a report on our right wing, and looked out and saw the number 3 engine on Lt. Woodard's plane on fire. Then, as the fire spread to the bomb bay, I saw three men drop out of the camera hatch. I did not see the chutes open as the whole scene passed out of my view under our right wing. However, I did see the three chutes start to open.

Robert B. Evans III  
2nd Lt, Air Corps,  
767th Bombardment Squadron

As tail gunner in the Number 1 ship in B flight I saw the plane on our right wing hit by anti-aircraft fire in the number 3 engine, catching it on fire. The fire spread to the bombays and the plane slid off to the right. At this time I observed four men bail out, from what part of the plane I do not know. I lost sight of the plane for a short time. Later I saw it fall apart at about 5,000 feet. I did not observe any more chutes at this time.

William E. Shiffermiller  
S/Sgt, 767th Bomb Sq.

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Storts, Buren Harold Rank S/Sgt. Serial No. 38131389
2. Organization 461 Go Commander Glantzberg Rank Col. Sqn CO Knapp Rank Major
3. What year 1944 month April day 16 did you go down?
4. What was the missions, Belgrade, target, Airfield, target time, 0011, altitude 23,000 route scheduled, briefed to airfield near Ploesti, route flown No knowledge
5. Where were you when you left formation? Directly over Belgrade
6. Did you bail out? Plane blew up just after I had put on my chute, was blown out.
7. Did other member of crew bail out? I saw three men 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". Sgts. Kimball, Gildart & Stadalman bailed out escape hatch directly over target when we saw there was no other alternative as Bombay was flaming so badly that at times the hatch was covered. Lt. James Love & Sgt Gibbons were brought to the same jail we were in that afternoon
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? Just outside some Belgrade suburb
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) Lts Woodard, Greene & S/Sgt Spatz. This is according to the German guards. Lt Myers chute did not open, his body was seen by Lt. Love.
11. Where were they in aircraft? Lts Woodard & Greene in cockpit & Sgt Spatz in the nose.
12. What was their condition? Smashed & burned (this was information of the guards)
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? I did not see Lts Woodard, Greene, Myers & Sgt. Spatz after we got in the plane before takeoff.
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. No knowledge

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name John R. Gildart Rank T/Sgt. Serial No. 11053156
2. Organization 461 Go Commander Glantzberg Rank Col. Sqn CO Knapp Rank Major
3. What year 1944 month April day 16 did you go down?
4. What was the missions, airfield & FW plant, target, airfield & FW plant, target time, 1130, altitude 23,500 route scheduled, ?, route flown ?
5. Where were you when you left formation? No. 3
6. Did you bail out? Yes.
7. Did other member of crew bail out? Yes 5 others
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". Sgts. Kimball R.O. bailed out with me, & Carl Stadalman & B. H. Storts went out escape hatch in the waist position. The rest I don't know for sure
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) For sure I don't know. I think Lts Woodard, Greene & Myers & S/Sgt Spatz.
11. Where were they in aircraft? No knowledge.
12. What was their condition? No knowledge
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? T/Sgt W.C. Kimball in POW camp good condition, S/Sgt Storts bad wound inleg, S/Sgt Stadalman good condition, T/Sgt Gibbons was burned about the face & ears, before we were liberated, we were all in fair condition.
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. No knowledge

Individual casualty questionnaire

Name of crew member: Woodard, Floyd Wiley  
Rank: 1st Lt.  
Serial number: 0-535006  
Position: Crew (Bomber): Pilot

Did he bail out? No definite knowledge

Where? Directly over target, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

If not, why not? Plane must have shed tail & exploded before he had a chance to escape

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: when he asked how badly we were hit, just before being hit the second time

Was he injured? I don't think so

Where was he when last seen? At controls

Any hearsay information: was still at controls when last seen by T/Sgt. John F. Gibbons, just before he jumped

Source: T/Sgt John F. Gibbons

Any explanation of his fate based in part of wholly on supposition: Plane must have shed tail & exploded before he had a chance to escape. Germans told us three bodies were in plane wreckage

Total number of missions of above crew member: Nine

Date and destinations if possible: Ferrara, Italy, Zagreb, Yugoslavia, Nis, Yugoslavia, Bucharest, Roumania April 15, 1944, Belgrade, Yugoslavia, April 16, 1944



Individual casualty questionnaire

Name of crew member: Woodard, Floyd Wiley  
Rank: 1st Lt.  
Serial number: 0-535006  
Position: Crew (Bomber): Pilot

Did he bail out? Don't know

Where? ?

If not, why not? It probably took both pilots to keep it level so the rest could get out

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

Was he injured? None

Where was he when last seen? Flying at pilots position

Any hearsay information:

Source: None

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: Credit for 9

Date and destinations if possible: The places in Yugoslavia Zagreb Yugoslavia Ferrara Italy Potesti Oil Fields outside couldn't remember the name Bucharest

Individual casualty questionnaire

Name of crew member: Greene, Edward Francis  
Rank: 2nd Lt.  
Serial number: 0-751310  
Position: Crew (Bomber): Co-Pilot

Did he bail out? No definite knowledge

Where? Directly over target, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

If not, why not? Plane must have shed tail & exploded before he had a chance to escape

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Can't recall, most have been just routine conversation on mission

Was he injured? I don't think so

Where was he when last seen? At controls

Any hearsay information: was still at controls when last seen by T/Sgt. John F. Gibbons, just before he jumped

Source: T/Sgt John F. Gibbons

Any explanation of his fate based in part of wholly on supposition: Plane must have shed tail & exploded before he had an opportunity to escape. Germans told us three bodies were in plane wreckage

Total number of missions of above crew member: Six or seven

Date and destinations if possible: Zagreb, Yugoslavia, Bucharest, Roumania April 15, 1944, Belgrade, Yugoslavia, April 16, 1944

Individual casualty questionnaire

Name of crew member: Greene, Edward Francis  
Rank: 2nd Lt.  
Serial number: 0-751310  
Position: Crew (Bomber): Co-Pilot

Did he bail out? No definite knowledge

Where? Directly over target, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

If not, why not? Plane must have shed tail & exploded before he had a chance to escape

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Can't recall, most have been just routine conversation on mission

Was he injured? I don't think so

Where was he when last seen? At controls

Any hearsay information: was still at controls when last seen by T/Sgt. John F. Gibbons, just before he jumped

Source: T/Sgt John F. Gibbons

Any explanation of his fate based in part of wholly on supposition: Plane must have shed tail & exploded before he had an opportunity to escape. Germans told us three bodies were in plane wreckage

Total number of missions of above crew member: Six or seven

Date and destinations if possible: Zagreb, Yugoslavia, Bucharest, Roumania April 15, 1944, Belgrade, Yugoslavia, April 16, 1944

Individual casualty questionnaire

Name of crew member: Greene, Edward Francis  
Rank: 2nd Lt.  
Serial number: 0-751310  
Position: Crew (Bomber): Co-Pilot

Did he bail out? Don't know

Where? Directly over target, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

If not, why not? It probably took both pilots to keep it level so we could get out, then didn't have time himself

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: He asked "How bad are we hit" last words I heard him say

Was he injured? Don't know

Where was he when last seen? Flying at co-pilot position

Any hearsay information: None

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: I think he went down with the ship

Total number of missions of above crew member: Six

Date and destinations if possible: April 2 Yugoslavia, April 3 Zagreb Yugoslavia I don't remember

Individual casualty questionnaire

Name of crew member: Myers, Ray Jackson  
Rank: 2nd Lt.  
Serial number: 0-800751  
Position: Crew (Bomber): Navigator

Did he bail out? No knowledge but he must have - according to information given me by Lt. Love & T/Sgt. Gibbons

Where? Directly over target, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Just as last bomb was released, told bombardier bomb bay was clear

Was he injured? Dazed, but explosion of 88 hits according to information of engineer

Where was he when last seen? On flight deck in dazed condition

Any hearsay information: Had chute on when T/Sgt. John F. Gibbons he jumped. His body was later seen by Lt. James Love, chute unopened, but pilot chute out.

Source: Lt James (NMI) Love & T/Sgt John F. Gibbons

Any explanation of his fate based in part of wholly on supposition: His chute wouldn't open, or he was uable to get clear of flaming wreckage in time to open it, or was blown out by explosions and was not conscious

Total number of missions of above crew member: Eight or nine

Date and destinations if possible: Bucharest, Roumania April 15, 1944, Belgrade, Yugoslavia, April 16, 1944, Ferrara, Italy, Zagreb, Yugoslavia

Individual casualty questionnaire

Name of crew member: Love, James  
Rank: 2nd Lt.  
Serial number: 0-684176  
Position: Crew (Bomber): Bombardier

Did he bail out? Lt Love bailed out and was captured, spent 1 year 13 days as POW. Last seen at RAMP

Where? Camp Lucky Strike in May 1945

If not, why not?

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

Was he injured?

Where was he when last seen? Any hearsay information:

Source:

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

Total number of missions of above crew member:

Date and destinations if possible:

Individual casualty questionnaire

Name of crew member: Love, James  
Rank: 2nd Lt.  
Serial number: 0-684176  
Position: Crew (Bomber): Bombardier

Did he bail out? Is alive. Lives in New York. Was POW in Stalag Luft III

Where?

If not, why not?

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

Was he injured?

Where was he when last seen? Any hearsay information:

Source:

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

Total number of missions of above crew member:

Date and destinations if possible:

Individual casualty questionnaire

Name of crew member: Spatz, Louis Harold  
Rank: S/Sgt.  
Serial number: 37423057  
Position: Crew (Bomber): Nose Gunner

Did he bail out? I don't know. I was in the waist gunner's position, he was a nose gunner

Where?

If not, why not?

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: He was telling us about the flak before bomb run

Was he injured? I don't know

Where was he when last seen? I saw him in ship just after takeoff

Any hearsay information: I think it was Lt. Love that said he saw four (4) bodies in a wheel barrow. Don't think he could identify the bodies.

Source: Lt Love of our crew

Any explanation of his fate based in part of wholly on supposition: We were hit in number 3 engine. He may have been hurt. Lt. Love said that he let him out of his turret and that he seemed okay

Total number of missions of above crew member: Nine some were counted as doubles - total six

Date and destinations if possible: Yugoslavia April 2, 44, Zagreb, Yugoslavia, Ferrara, Italy, Buckarest, Belgrade, Yugoslavia last mission

S/Sgt Spatz was nose gunner & not waist gunner as you have it.



1st Lt. Floyd W. Woodard	Mrs. Edna N. Woodard (Mother) 511 North Tenth Avenue Phoenix, Arizona
2nd Lt. Edward F. Greene	Mrs. Edward F. Greene (Wife) Box 264 Lansing, New Jersey
2nd Lt. Ray J. Myers	Mrs. Eleanor V. Neal (Mother) 1218 North Jalties Wilmington, Illinois
2nd Lt. James Love	Mrs. Sarah G. Love (Mother) 5049 46th Street Long Island City, New York
T/Sgt. John F. Gibbons	Mrs. Marie V. Gibbons (Wife) 1029 Willett Street Schenectady, New York
T/Sgt. Wallace C. Kimball	Mrs. Gertrude Kimball (Mother) Tuelusia, California
S/Sgt. John R. Gildart	Mrs. Margaret Gildart (Wife) North Amity, Maine
S/Sgt. Louis M. Spatz	Mrs. Dalla M. Spatz (Wife) 636 South 5th Street Salina, Kansas
S/Sgt. Buren M. Storts	Mrs. Frankie Storts (Wife) General Delivery Sallisaw, Oklahoma
S/Sgt. Carl R. Stadalman Jr.	Mr. Carl R. Stadalman (Father) Lost Springs, Kansas