MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

1. ORGANIZATION: Location Torretta, Italy Command or Air Force 15th Air Force Group 461st Bombardment Group (H) Squadron 764th Bombardment Sq (H)

2. SPECIFY: Place of departure Torretta, Italy Course Straight to target

   Target Brod, Yugoslavia

3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: CAVu

4. GIVE: (a) Date 19 Jan 45 Time 12:35 Last known position 45°09'N, 18°01'E
   (b) Specify whether: (X) Last sighted, ( ) Forced down, ( ) Seen to crash, ( ) Last contacted by radio, ( ) No information.

5. PERSONNEL (LOST) AS A RESULT OF: (check one only)
   ( ) Enemy aircraft, (X) Enemy anti-aircraft, ( ) Other

6. AIRCRAFT: Type, model & series B24L AAF Serial Number 44-49242

7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT None

8. ENGINES: Type model & series
   (a) 
   (b) 
   (c) 
   (d) 

9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (make, type and serial number.)
   (a) 
   (b) 
   (c) 
   (d) 
   (e) 
   (f) 
   (g) 
   (h) 
   (i) 
   (j) 

10. PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW REPORTED AS: (X) 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 FULL NAME (Last, First, Initial) RANK, SERIAL NUMBER CURRENT STATUS AND ADDRESS
   Pilot Parsonson, Ernest C. 1st Lt 0-737461 RTD Mrs. Jean M. Parsonson (Wife) 234 Dewey St., Royal Oak, Michigan
   Actg Comd Mixson, Marion C. Major 0-382615 RTD Mrs. Gracia I. Mixson (Wife) 129 Ashley Ave., Charleston, S.C.
   Pilot Romanowicz, Anthony A. 1st Lt 0-706638 RTD Mr. Julian Romanowicz (Father) 22 George St., Westfield, Mass.
   Radar-Bmbdr MacDiarmid, Robert A. 1st Lt 0-722336 MIA Mr. James R. MacDiarmid (Father) RFD #1, Simi, Ventura Co., Calif.
   Navigator Chaklos, John F. 2nd Lt 0-1540374 MIA Mrs. Agnes K. Chaklos (Mother) 8694 Sherwood St., Detroit, Michigan
   Navigator Herold, Robert A. 1st Lt. 0-708036 MIA Dr. Armin B. Herold (Father) 3706 W. 179th St., Cleveland, Ohio
   Bombardier Worrell, James E. S/Sgt 36480173 RTD Mrs. Catherine Worrell (Wife) R.R. #2, Streator, Illinois
   Radio Optr Riser, Jr., Willie G. S/Sgt 3651594 RTD Mrs. Verna R. Riser (Mother) Coulwood, Virginia
   Lt Wst Gnr Wieland, Roy J. S/Sgt 39716576 RTD Mrs. Agnes C. Wieland (Mother) 1721 Cedar St., Alhambra, Calif.
   Top Trt Gnr Mills, Jerry Moh. S/Sgt 14154057 RTD Mrs. Winnie S. Mills (Mother) 1123 Floyd St., Covington, Georgia
   Tail Trt Gnr Brickman, Perry F. S/Sgt 38251729 RTD Mrs. Callie E. Brockman (Mother) Genl. Delivery, Gillette, Texas

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

   NAME IN FULL RANK SERIAL CONTACTED LAST SAW FORCED
   Marion C. Mixson Major 0-382615 X
   Ernest C. Parsonson 1st Lt 0-737461 X
13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
   (X) 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 22 January 1945

WILLIAM L HALLAUER
Capt, Air Corps, Adjutant.

Inclosures.
Incl 1-Map, Ap Lost Personnel
Incl 2-Statement, Mixon
Incl 3-Statement Parsonson
I was flying as Staff Pilot on the lead ship on 19 January 1945. Our ship was approaching the target and only a few seconds before bombs away, a burst of flak started a fire between the cockpit and nose section. The fire seemed to be of a serious nature at first and the crew was ordered to standby to abandon ship. The fire was subdued after several minutes and at that time we found that the three men in the nose had left the plane.

Reports from other air-crews definitely indicate that all parachutes opened properly and the men were last seen floating to earth.

Because of the small piece of flak that severed and electrical cable and a hydraulic line to start the fire, I am almost positive that no one in the nose was injured by the flak burst.

The view of the fire from the nose would indicate that the entire plane was aflame and I think the occupants of the nose section saw this and doing the logical thing under the existing condition, bailed out.

MARION C. MIXSON, 0-382615
Major, Air Corps
Commanding
On the mission of 19 January 1945 to Brod, Yugoslavia, I was the pilot on the lead ship and a flak hit caused a good-sized fire in the nose section behind the bombardier. Although the fire did not spread and finally went out, at the moment it must have seemed very serious to the men in the nose. They had been given an alert signal and probably decided that the fire prevented the bail-out signal, so all three men (one bombardier and two navigators) left the plane through the nose wheel doors. Although I did not see the chutes, it has been reported to me by other members of the formation that all the chutes opened. I feel certain that all three men landed safely and are either POWs or in friendly hands.

The fire was brought under control and the plane was able to return to the base and land safely.

ERNEST C. PARSONSON, 0737461
1st Lt, Air Corps
Pilot, 764 Bomb Sq
DATE AFD THE AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN   19 Jan 45 – PM   CASUALTY NO.   ME 2745
PLACE OF CRASH   near Slac-Brod
TYPE OF AIRCRAFT   Liberator
REPORTING OFFICE   Airbase HQ A (o) 111/XVII

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>SERIAL NUMBER</th>
<th>CAPT’D WOUNDED DEAD</th>
<th>PLACE OF INTERNMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MAC DIARMID Robert Archibald</td>
<td>1st Lt</td>
<td>0-722336</td>
<td>captured</td>
<td>Dulag-Luft West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORGEY Jr. George W.</td>
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<td>0-555692</td>
<td>captured</td>
<td>Dulag-Luft West</td>
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<td>2nd Lt</td>
<td>0-1540374</td>
<td>captured</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Jan 25 Detroit, Mich.</td>
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REMARKS:
Dulag-Luft, 8 Feb 45 Wo.
Meldung über den Abschuss eines US-amerikanischen Flugzeuges

Abschuss-Nr. ME 2745

Abschussitag und Zeit: 19.1.45 – Nachm.

Abschussort: b. Slav-Brod

Flugzeugtyp: Liberator

Meldende Dienststelle: Fl. M. Kdtr. A (0) 111/XVII

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Bemerkungen: MACR 11534

DULAG-LUFT. Den 8.2.45 Wo.