

**WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON**

The MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

12489

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 766th Bomb Sq (H)
2. SPECIFY: Place of departure Torretta, Italy Course 260°
Target Vienna, Austria Type of mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
Scatter low broken clouds
4. GIVE: [a] Date 13 February 1945 Time Last known position Vienna, 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 L AAF Serial Number 44-49925
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT:
8. ENGINES: Type, model & series P&W R1830-43 AAF serial Number [a] CP-319561
[b] CP-319752 [c] CP-319778 [d] CP-319760
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: [Make, type and serial number] All Browning Cal. 50

[a] LN 1720805	[e] LB 1721230	[i] LT 979936
[b] RN 1720806	[f] RB 1721432	[j] RT 967364
[c] LU 1721116	[g] LW 1721526	
[d] RU 1721333	[h] RW 1721712	

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	Fink, Francis X. 2 nd Lt. 0-711629	MIA	Mrs. Eleanor F. Fink (Wife) 64 W. Valley Stream Blvd., Valley Stream, N.Y.
[2] CP	Sherlock, John P. 2 nd Lt. 0-711253	MIA	Mrs. Catherine G. Sherlock (Mother) 2017 Urand Ave., Bronx, New York City, N.Y.
[3] Bomb	Sullens, Oliver P., Jr. 2 nd Lt. 0-717829	MIA	Mrs. Virginia I. Sullens (Wife) 708 xxxxxx Ave., Bartlesville, Oklahoma
[4] Nav	Ace, Keith F. 2 nd Lt. 0-558003	MIA	Mrs. Eleanor B. Ace (Mother) 325 Russell St., Hudson, Wisconsin
[5] RWG	Mann, Franklin R. Sgt. 34762479	MIA	Mrs. Clare E. Mann (Mother) Rt #1, Danielsville, Georgia
[6] LWG	Mougianis, Emanuel S/Sgt. 13086773	MIA	Mr. Nicholas G. Mougianis (Father) 632 Spearnan Ave., Farrell, Pennsylvania
[7] NTG	Battaglia, Russell J. S/Sgt. 32735829	MIA	Lena Battaglia (Mother) 30 xxxxx St., xxxxxxxx, New York
[8] TTG	Hennon, Ervin R. Sgt. 35090007	MIA	Nellie J. Hannon (Wife) 714 So. Park Ave., Bloomington, Indiana
[9] BTG	Schiffbauer, Edward D. S/Sgt. 15019454	MIA	Rosie May Schiffbauer (Mother) 1165 Welton St., Akron, Ohio

[10] TG	Spencer, Lloyd O., Jr. S/Sgt. 37701960	MIA	Nellie J. Spencer (Mother) Xxxxxx, Valdez, Colorado
[11] Photo	Drena, Michael S/Sgt. 31049732	MIA	Mrs. Delora B. Drena (Wife) 39 Robbins Blvd., xxxington, Kansas
[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] Donald L. MacDougall	Captain	0-732037				
[2]						
[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: **None.**

Date: 16 Feb 1945

/s/ Walter G. Mitton
Major, AC

766TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
461ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP
APO 520 US ARMY

14 February 1945

STATEMENT

I was in the lead ship of the "B" box and saw Lt. Fink's ship go down just before "Bombs Away". Lt. Fink was flying number six position in "A" box and a burst of flak apparently hit his left wing near number one engine. Number one engine started giving off a trail of gray smoke and the ship went into a gentle turn to the left about two to three hundred feet per minute. When the ship went out of my line of view it was still in this attitude.

/s/ Donald L. MacDougall
Captain, Air Corps
Operations Officer

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN **13 February 1945 - noon,** CASUALTY NO. **ME-2459**
 PLACE OF CRASH **Hungary**
 TYPE OF AIRCRAFT **Liberator**
 REPORTING OFFICE **Par Collestion Point Neat**

NAME	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CAPT'D WOUNDED DEAD	PLACE OF INTERNMENT
Fink, Francis X.	2nd Lt.	0-711629	Captured	Dulag-Luft West
Sherlock, John P.	2nd Lt.	0-711253	Captured	Dulag-Luft West
Ace, Keith F.	2nd Lt.	0-558003	Captured	Dulag-Luft West
Sullens, Oliver P.	2nd Lt.	0-717829	Captured	Dulag-Luft West
Mougianis, Emanuel	S/Sgt.	13086773	Captured	Dulag-Luft West
Schiffbauer, Edward D.	S/Sgt.	15019454	Captured	Dulag-Luft West
Spencer, Lloyd O.	S/Sgt.	37701960	Captured	Dulag-Luft West
Hannon, Ervin R.	Sgt.	35090007	Captured	Dulag-Luft West
Battaglia, Russell J.	S/Sgt.	32735829	Captured	Dulag-Luft West
Drena, Michael	S/Sgt.	31049732	Captured	Dulag-Luft West

REMARKS:

Dulag Luft: 6 March 45. Wo.