WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

The MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

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 _
Target _Linz, Austria_ Type of mission _Combat_

3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
5/10 cumulus at 12,000 feet

4. GIVE: [a] Date _16 Oct 1944_ Time _1315_ Last known position _Exact position unknown – probable position N.E. Pascara, Italy_
[b] Specify whether: [ ] Last sighted, [ ] Forced down, [ ] Seen to crash, [X] Last contacted by radio, [ ] No information

5. AIRCRAFT [LOST] [BELIEVED LOST] AS A RESULT OF: [Check one only]
[X] Enemy aircraft, [ ] Enemy anti-aircraft, [ ] Other.

6. AIRCRAFT: Type, model & series _B-24 J_____AAF Serial Number _44-41093_

7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT: _none_

8. ENGINES: Type, model & series _P&W R-1830-658_____AAF serial Number [a] _CH-56319_
[b] _CH-65296_____ [c] _CH-65329_____ [d] _CH-56218_

9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: [Make, type and serial number] All Browning Cal. 50
[a] LN 1261113 [e] LB 1203714 [i] LT 1537965
[b] RN 1540218 [f] RB 1209411 [j] RT 1203675
[c] LU 1200409 [g] LW 1539317
[d] RU 1208278 [h] RW 1539320

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

11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew _10_; Passengers _ 0_; Total _10_
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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME IN FULL</th>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>SERIAL No.</th>
<th>CONTACTED BY RADIO</th>
<th>LAST SIGHTED</th>
<th>SAW CRASH</th>
<th>SAW FORCED LANDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stanley O. Hutchison</td>
<td>1st Lt.</td>
<td>0-553934</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John W. Booth</td>
<td>T/Sgt.</td>
<td>39834741</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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:

   Date: 19 October 1944
   /s/ Robert A. Preciado
   Capt., AC
766TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
461ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP
APO 520 US ARMY

STATEMENT

I was leading “B” Flight, 1st attack unit on 16 Oct 44. Airplane #45 was flying no. 5 position and I was under the impression he was in formation until 1315 hours which put us close to the coast of Italy. He was calling us on the radio the entire mission at about 15 minute intervals. He wasn’t receiving because he never answered the planes calling. His transmissions were loud and clear and the last contact he tried to make was 1315 which was very clear. No message was given.

/s/ Stanley O. Hutchison
1st Lt., Air Corps.
TO: Suker
FROM: Plowman, Teddy

PRIORITY

Ten airmen bailed out about 17 October at Vazariste in Goapic area. This refers to your #49. Plane crashed and burned. Partisan Terenski Radnici were in region where 6 dropped. Butler and Haynes not able to walk and were secreted in woods and the remaining 4 were smuggled through to me. Regard to my 28 of 22 October. A Ustashi Patrol found out the location of Butler and Hayes and 2 days later attacked them. One Partisan was wounded twice, but escaped, one Partisan was killed. Hayes and Butler were machine gunned at once and stripped of their personal goods. Thereafter, Ustashi left. Bodies later buried together in woods at Buzin Selo. Three others of crew dropped beside a Ustashi barracks at Gudin-Klanac. They were put to death and stripped the next morning. Places of burial unknown other crew member landed at Jadovno. Was found by Terenski Radnici, who later infiltrated him to Ciasth source in 35 Division and questioning of twice wounded Partisan by myself.

Sent to Caserta 11/22/44
REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN: 16 October 1944, CASUALTY NO. ME-2314
PLACE OF CRASH: Kroatien
TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator
REPORTING OFFICE: Airforce Command: South-east

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>SERIAL NUMBER</th>
<th>CAPT'D</th>
<th>WOUNDED</th>
<th>DEAD</th>
<th>PLACE OF INTERNMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Keeney, Thomas H.</td>
<td>2nd Lt.</td>
<td>0-713469</td>
<td>Captured</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stalag Luft 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuhlman, Roy F.</td>
<td>2nd Lt.</td>
<td>0-713477</td>
<td>Captured</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van Gundy, Dale, Jr.</td>
<td>Sgt.</td>
<td>16135216</td>
<td>Captured</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stalag Luft 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REMARKS:
Dulag Luft: 30 November 1944.
2nd Lt. Roy F. Kuhlman  
Mr. Fred Kuhlman (Father)  
Route One  
Lewisville, Minnesota

2nd Lt. Robert L. Hays  
Mrs. Rachel E. Hays (Wife)  
3441 Chestnut Street  
Kansas City, Missouri

2nd Lt. John E. Butler  
Mrs. Loretta M. Butler (Mother)  
6646 Sedgewick Place  
Brooklyn, New York

2nd Lt. Thomas H. Keeney  
Mrs. Betty S. Keeney (Wife)  
Belton, Missouri

T/Sgt. Richard W. Reichard  
Mrs. Ida E. Reichard (Mother)  
2139 Allen Street  
Allentown, Pennsylvania

T/Sgt. Wiley R. Hawkins  
Mrs. Annie E. Hawkins (Mother)  
R.F.D. Number One, Box 185  
Washington, North Carolina

S/Sgt. Joseph R. Horanzy  
Mrs. Helen Horanzy (Mother)  
71 Smith Street  
New Britain, Connecticut

S/Sgt. Robert O. Vallee  
Mrs. Lucilda Vallee (Mother)  
45 Gilbert Street  
Berlin, New Hampshire

Pfc. John A. Hovancik  
Mrs. Louise T. Hovancik (Mother)  
1025 Mechanic Street  
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Pfc. Dale Van Gundy, Jr.  
Mrs. Louise Van Gundy (Wife)  
Route Number Two  
Lawrenceville, Illinois