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MISSING AIR CREW REPORT 2303

1. ORGANIZATION: Location San Giovanni Air Field, Italy Command or Air Force 15th AF
   Group 455TH Bombardment Group (H) Squadron 742d Bomb Sq (H)
2. SPECIFY: Place of departure San Giovanni Air Field, Italy Course Direct
   Target Augsburg M/Y, Germany Type of mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
   6/10 Stratocumulus, tops 9000; visibility 15 miles in haze
4. GIVE: (a) Date 27 Feb 1945 Time 1331 Last known position 48°15'N - 10°45'E
   (b) Specify whether: (X) Last sighted, ( ) Forced down, ( ) Seen to crash,
   ( ) Last contacted by radio, ( ) No information.
5. AIRCRAFT ~~(MISSING)~~ (BELIEVED LOST) AS A RESULT OF: (Check one only)
   ( ) Enemy aircraft, (X) Enemy anti-aircraft, ( ) Other
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, model & series B-24 L AAF Serial Number 44-49928
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT none
8. ENGINES: Type, mode. & series R-1830-43 AAF Serial Number (a) CP-320591
   (b) CP-320565 (c) CP-320587 (d) CP-320549
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Make, type and serial number.)

(a)	1721061 Browning Cal 50	(e)	966779	(i)	1721616
(b)	1721507 M-2	(f)	1720990	(j)	967297
(c)	1721074	(g)	1721402	(k)	
(d)	1721338	(h)	1721223	(l)	

10. PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW REPORTED AS: (x) Battle Casualty, ( ) Non-Battle Casualty.
11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 11 ; Passengers ; 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	Fotheringham, Donald K. 1st Lt 0775850	INT	Mr. Arch L. Fotheringham, Father Beaver, Utah
(2) Co-Pilot	Eich, Joseph M. RTD 2d Lt 0718594	INT	Mrs. Elizabeth A Eich, Mother Rt #2, Crown Point, Indiana
(3) Navigator	Tollman, Lewis A. 2d Lt 0703410	RTD	Mrs. Frances M. Tollman, Wife Palmyra, Illinois
(4) Bombardier	Reinhart, Donald G. 2d Lt 0777935	MIA	Mrs. Vera Mae Reinhart, Wife Box 237, Roswell, New Mexico
(5) Radio Opr Gunner	Walter, Arnold H. T Sgt 37493205	KIA	Mr. August Walter, Father 711 E. South St., Beloit, Kansas
(6) Engineer Gunner	Frederick, Robert P. T Sgt 16175873	INT	Mr. Amos Frederick, Father Montrose, Michigan
(7) Armorer Gunner	Myles, Thomas E. S Sgt 15337224	INT	Mrs. Rouena E. Myles, Mother Fayetteville, W. Va.
(8) Asst Engr Gunner	Kosinski, Hipolis P. S Sgt 35527801	INT	Mrs. Mary F. Kosinski, Wife RFD #1, Ravenna, Ohio
(9) Gunner	West, Grover C. Jr. S Sgt 34730845	RTD	Mr. Grover C. West Sr., Father 603 No. Front St, Rockwood, Tenn.
(10) Armorer Gunner	Hostetter, Ralph L. S Sgt 37579637	RTD	Mrs. Ida L. Hostetter, Wife Rt. #2, Guthrie, Minn.
(11) Photo-grapher	Vochatzer, Herbert C. Pvt 37499443	INT	Mrs. Pearl M. Vochatzer, Mother 340 Bellefontaine, Kansas City, Mo
(12)			

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 No.	CONTACTED BY RADIO	LAST SIGHTED	SAW CRASH	SAW FORCED LANDING
(1) Theodore R. Combs	2d Lt	0827613		X		
(2)						
(3)						

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.
    (x) Other reasons (specify) Plane was under control when last seen
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

2 Inclosures.
Incl 1 - Sketch of area
Incl 2 - Statement-Lt Combs

Date 2 March 1945

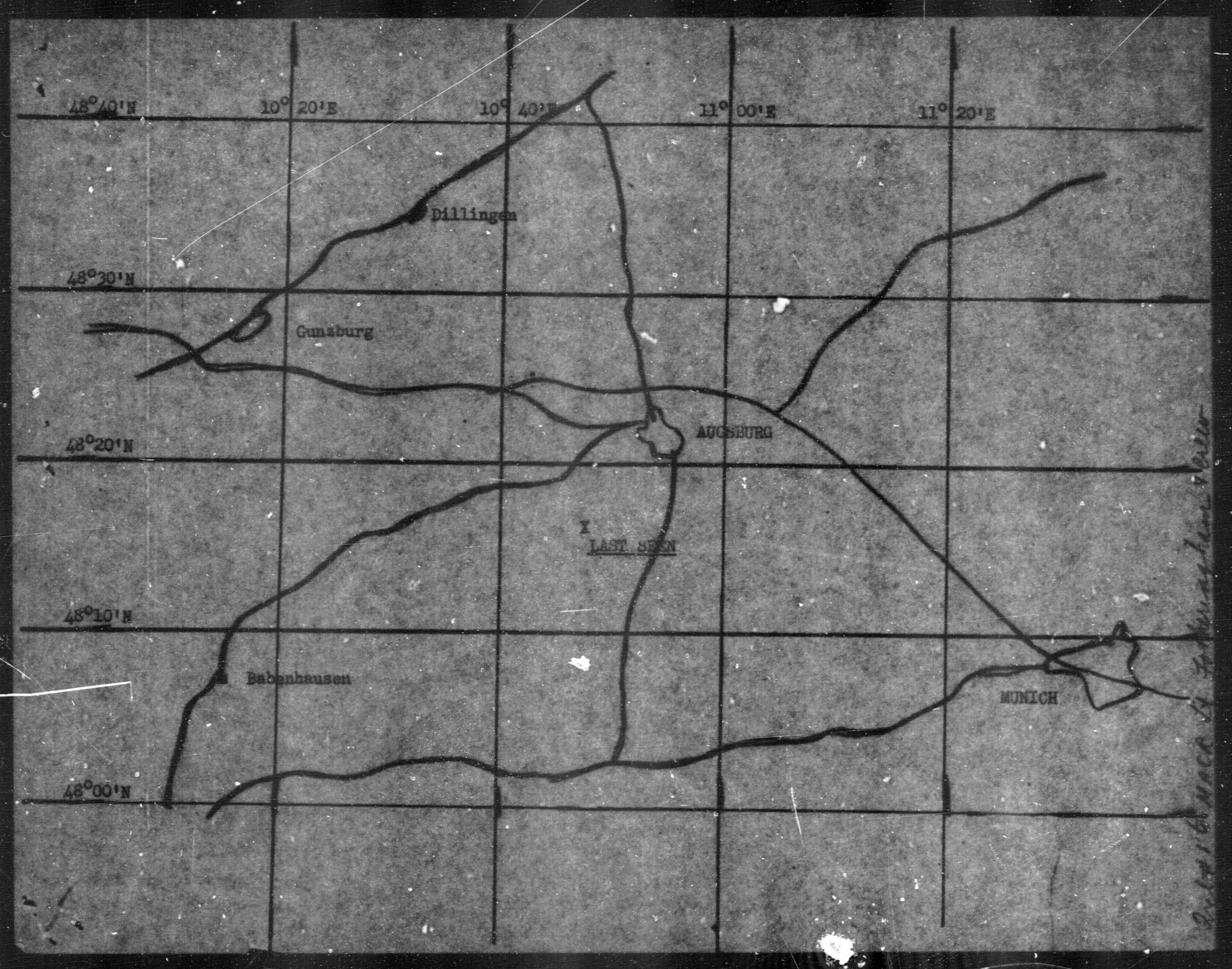
Charles E. Ziegler
Signature of preparing officer

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CHARLES E. ZIEGLER, 1st Lt, AC
Personnel Officer.

1049

Rel 1


48°40'N
10° 20'E
10° 40'E
11° 00'E
11° 20'E
Dillingen
48°30'N
Gunzburg
AUGSBURG
48°20'N
X
LAST SEEN
48°10'N
Babenhausen
MUNICH
48°00'N

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742D BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
455TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
APO 520 U. S. ARMY

1 March 1945.

STATEMENT

Plane #928, piloted by Lt Fotheringham, was hit by flak in #4 engine just before the target at 1331 hours, 27 February 1945. The bombs were immediately dropped and the bomb-bay doors were closed. The plan peeled off and headed for Switzerland under control.

Theodore R. Combs

THEODORE R. COMBS,
2d Lt, Air Corps,
Pilot.

Rel #2 to 455th Lt Fotheringham & crew