13712

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: NND 735001
By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

2545
13712

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

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 Ponte Gardene RR Bridge, Italy Type of mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
   C A V U
4. GIVE: (a) Date 11 April 1945 Time 1143 Last known position 46°32'N - 11°30'E
   (b) Specify whether: (X) Last sighted, ( ) Forced down, ( ) Seen to crash,
   ( ) Last contacted by radio, ( ) No information.
5. AIRCRAFT (~~XXXX~~) (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 44-49312
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT none
8. ENGINES: Type, mode. & series R-1830-43 AAF Serial Number (a) 42-93071
   (b) CP-318610 (c) 42-91926 (d) CP-318675
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Make, type and serial number.)

(a) 966526 Browning Cal 50	(e) 1722443	(i) 1548673
(b) 1548709 M-2	(f) 1550042	(j) 1722503
(c) 1746802	(g) 1767048	(k)
(d) 1549436	(h) 1724612	(l)

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 POSITION	FULL NAME (Last, first, initial) RANK, SERIAL NUMBER	CURRENT STATUS	NEXT OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP AND ADDRESS	
(1) Pilot	Aufderheide, John H. (N.Afr) 1st Lt 02059436	MIA	Mrs. Norma J. Aufderheide, Wife 326 N. Minn St, New Ulm, Minnesota	RTD
(2) Co-Pilot	Manbeck, Roland K. (—"—) 2d Lt 02067623	INT MIA	Mr. Roland Manbeck, Father 1104 - 45th St, Des Moines, Iowa	RTD
(3) Navigator	Mitton, Randolph L. (—"—) 1st Lt 0716511	MIA	Mrs. Miriam A. Mitton, Wife 115 Wallace St, Freeport, New York	RTD
(4) Bombardier	Hague, Robert F. (—"—) Flt O T 5790	MIA INT	Mr. Adolphe Hague, Father 46 So. Maple Ave, East Orange, N. J.	RTD
(5) Radio Opr Gunner	Powell, William A. Cpl 35725152	MIA INT	Mrs. Jewel Powell, Mother 1226 N. Main St, Mt Vernon, Indiana	RTD
(6) Engineer Gunner	Wolinsky, David S. Cpl 12178031	MIA INT	Mr. Abe Wolinsky, Father 3021 Holland Ave, New York, N. Y.	RTD
(7) Armorer Gunner	Bowers, Russell W. Cpl 31368822	MIA INT	Mrs. Virginia E. Bowers, Wife 36 N. Beacon St, Allston, Mass.	RTD
(8) Gunner	Weeks, Roy L. Cpl 34884614	MIA INT	Mrs. Lala L. Weeks, Mother Rt 6, Murfreesboro, Tenn.	RTD
(9) Gunner	Mattingly, Scott J. Cpl 35245440	MIA INT	Mrs. Della L. Mattingly, Wife 1403 W. 3rd St, Owensboro, Kentucky	RTD
(10) Gunner	Brown, Ronald A. Cpl 35922614	MIA INT	Mrs. Gertrude W. Brown, Wife 3215 Hillman St, Youngstown, Ohio	RTD
(11) Spot Jammer	Rains, Sidney A. T Sgt 15108157	MIA INT	Miss Dora C. Rains, Sister RFD #1, West York, Illinois	RTD
(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	SAW SIGHTED	SAW CRASH	FORCED LANDING
(1) Robert D. Jones	Flt O	T 136409		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 Flt O Jones

Date 14 April 1945

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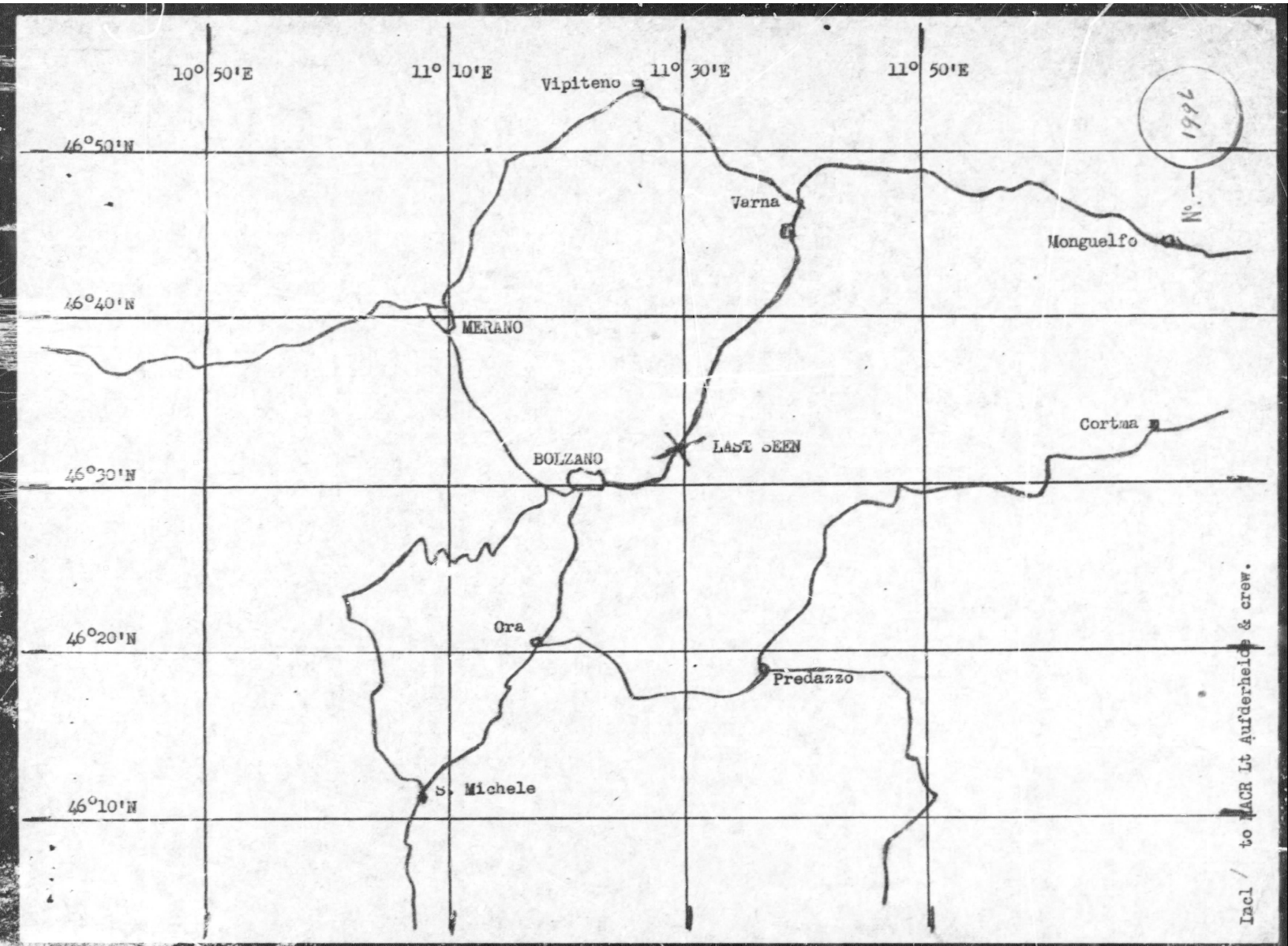
Charles E. Ziegler
Signature of preparing officer
CHARLES E. ZIEGLER, 1st Lt, AC,
Personnel Officer.

1996

Incl 1

By LeTour, Ltd NARS, Date 12/18/85
E.O. 12065, Sec 3-402
NND 735001

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mlw/5/30/45

1st. Lt. John M. Aufderheide	Mrs. Norma J. Aufderheide (wife) 326 North Minnesota Street New Ulm, Minnesota
2nd. Lt. Randolph L. Mitten	Mrs. Miriam A. Mitten (wife) 115 Wallace Street Freeport, New York
2nd. Lt. Roland K. Manbeck	Mr. Roland Manbeck (father) 1304 45th Street Des Moines, Iowa
F/O Robert F. Hague	Mr. Adolphe Hague (father) 46 South Maple Avenue East Orange, New Jersey
T/Sgt. Sidney A. Hains	Miss Dora C. Hains (sister) RFD #1 West York, Illinois
Cpl. William A. Powell	Mrs. Jewel Powell (mother) 1225 North Main Street Mount Vernon, Indiana
Cpl. Ronald A. Brown	Mrs. Gertrude W. Brown (wife) 3215 Hillman Street Youngstown, Ohio
Cpl. Scott J. Mattingly	Mrs. Dalla Mattingly (wife) 1403 W. 3rd Street Owensboro, Kentucky
Cpl. Roy L. Weeks	Mrs. Lela L. Weeks (mother) Route #6 Murfreesboro, Tennessee
Cpl. Russell W. Bowers	Mrs. Virginia M. Bowers (wife) 36 North Beacon Street Allston, Massachusetts
Cpl. David S. Walinsky	Mr. Abe Walinsky (father) 3021 Holland Avenue New York, New York

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~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

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

12 April 1945

S T A T E M E N T

Just after bombs-away on the mission of 11 April 1945, at 1143 hours, plane #312, piloted by Lt Aufderheide, had its control cables shot away by flak. Lt Aufderheide called on VHF and said that he would try to make Switzerland. The plane pulled out of formation at 22,000 feet and was last seen headed due east. The plane was under control when last seen.

Robert D. Jones
ROBERT D. JONES,
Flight Officer,
Navigator.

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

Incl # 7 to MACR Lt Aufderheide & crew.

1996