15320

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Classification changed
to RESTRICTED
by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AC
by F. M. WENCH, Capt., AC
Date FEB 14 1946

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AG 201-Marsh, Robert E., (Off)-C 1st Ind. OE/hv
(31 Mar 45)
HQ., MTOUSA, APO 512, U. S. Army, 10 April 1945.

(864)

TO: Commanding General, Fifteenth Air Force, APO 520, U. S. Army.

1. For compliance and reply thru this headquarters.

2. Records fail to show that MACR was ever received. Subject was reported KIA 25 Dec 44 on BCR L-313.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL MCNARNEY:

Owen Elliot

OWEN ELLIOT
Major, AGD
Asst Adj Gen

201-Marsh, Robert E. (Off) 2nd Ind. S: 27 Apr 45.
HQ FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE, APO 520, 12 April 1945. GP/B/eh

(5296)

TO: CG, 304th Wing, APO 520.

For compliance and return. A correction of status to KIA, under present Army AirForces policy, does not obviate the necessity for submission of a Missing Air Crew Report. Circumstances indicated on the Report, however, should reflect all available information.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL TWINING:

Windle D. Reel

WINDLE D. REEL
Major, Air Corps
Asst Adj Gen

APR 12 1945 9 01 AM

No.-2026

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201-Marsh, Robert E. (O) 3rd Ind. → S: 25 Apr 45.
HQ 304TH BOMB WING (HV), APO 520, 14 Apr 45.
TO: CO, 455th Bomb Group (HV), APO 520.

Attention is directed to 2nd Indorsement for compliance.

4-83-B BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL UPTHEGROVE:

Harold g. wilson
HAROLD G. WILSON,
Major, AGD,
Adjutant.

APR 14 1945 5 33 PM

201-Marsh, Robert E (O) 4th Ind. G-CZ-3
455TH BOMB GP (H), Unit Pers Sec, APO 520, 21 Apr 45.
TO: CG, 304th Bomb Wing (H), APO 520.

Missing Air Crew Report is submitted herewith.

For the Group Commander:

Charles E. Ziegler
CHARLES E. ZIEGLER,
1st Lt, Air Corps,
Asst Adjutant.

1 Incl: MACR Lt Binkley & crew w/ 2 incls.

APR 21 1945 6 45 PM

690 201-Marsh, Robert E. (O) 5th
HQ 304TH BOMB WING (HV), APO 520, 22 Apr 45.
TO: CG, Fifteenth Air Force, APO 520.

Hgw H.G.W.

E-272-1

1 Incl: n/c

APR 24 1945 5 25 PM
No.— 2026

4242

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Classification Changed
to RESTRICTED
by E. A. BR[illegible] Lt. Col., AC
by F. M. W[illegible]h, Capt., AC
Date FEB 14 1946

201 - Marsh, Robert E. (Off) 6th Ind. GP/B/eh
HQ FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE, APO 520, 26 April 1945.

TO: CG, MTOUSA, APO 512. Attn: Casualty Branch, AGD.

1 Incl: MACR No. 2566.

W. D. R.

file in R-403

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No. 2026

ADDRESS REPLY TO
COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

CONFIDENTIAL

R-403

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

ATTENTION: AFPPA-8

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

31 March 1945

SUBJECT: Request for Missing Air Crew Report

TO: Commanding General, Headquarters, MTOUSA, A.P.O. 512
U. S. Army, Attention: N.A.A.G.C.

no mack

Request Missing Air Crew Report, as required by AGO letter, 7 July 1944 (AG 704 (5 Jul 44)OB-S-AAF-M), be forwarded with least practicable delay in the case of Second Lieutenant (Grade) Robert E. Marsh (Name) 02066007 (ASN), 740th Bomb Squadron, 455th Bomb Group (Organization), first reported ~~missing~~ missing in action, 25 December 1944 (Date), which report has not been received to date.

For the Commanding General, Army Air Forces:

JOHN D. MARSH
Lt Colonel, Air Corps
Chief, Personal Affairs Division
Assistant Chief of Air Staff, Personnel

No. 2026

CONFIDENTIAL

5-5799, AF

CONFIDENTIAL

2566

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

1. ORGANIZATION: Location San Giovanni Air Field, Italy Command or Air Force 15th AF
   Group 455th Bombardment Group (H) Squadron 740th Bomb Sq (H)
2. SPECIFY: Place of departure San Giovanni Air Field, Italy Course Direct
   Target Wels M/Y, Austria Type of mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
   8/10 stratus at 600 feet, 10/10 stratocumulus at 2,000 feet. Visibility poor
4. GIVE: (a) Date 25 Dec 1944 Time 0930 Last known position 41°11'N - 15°21'E
   (b) Specify whether: ( ) Last sighted, ( ) Forced down, ( ) Seen to crash,
   ( ) Last contacted by radio, ( ) No information. (X) Crashed
5. AIRCRAFT (LOST) (~~RETURNED DAMAGED~~) AS A RESULT OF: (Check one only)
   ( ) Enemy aircraft, ( ) Enemy anti-aircraft, (X) Other Weather conditions
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, model & series B 24 J AAF Serial Number 42-51944
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT
8. ENGINES: Type, mode. & series AAF Serial Number (a)
   (b) (c) (d)
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Make, type and serial number.)
   (a) (e) (i)
   (b) (f) (j)
   (c) (g) (k)
   (d) (h) (l)
10. PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW REPORTED AS: (x) Battle Casualty, ( ) Non-Battle Casualty.
11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10 ; Passengers 0 ; Total 10 .
    (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	Binkley, Wendell H. 1st Lt 0820274	KIA	Mrs. Mildred C. Binkley, Wife RFD #3, Wilmington, Ohio
(2) Co-Pilot	Bensinger, Lyman J. Jr 2d Lt 0823267	KIA	Mrs. Lyman J. Bensinger, Mother Box 110, Grange Hall Rd, Gurnee, Ill.
(3) Navigator	Marsh, Robert E. (Capt T/M Brit) 2d Lt 02066007	KIA	Mrs. Ethel R. Marsh, Mother 1099 W. 16th St, Upland, Calif.
(4) Bombardier	Arbit, Marvin 2d Lt 0777293	KIA	Mrs. Enid R. Arbit, Wife Box 411, Athens, New York
(5) Engineer Gunner	Miller, Norman B. T Sgt 33758650	KIA	Mrs. Jean Miller, Wife Three Springs, Pa.
(6) Radio Opr Gunner	Tacy, Elmer R. T Sgt 33721833	KIA	Mrs. Retha E. Tacy, Mother 1428 W. Fayette, Baltimore, Md.
(7) Asst Engr Gunner	Jordahl, Duane S. S Sgt 36816542	KIA	Mrs. Hattie Jordahl, Mother 717½ Wisconsin Ave, Beloit, Wisc.
(8) Armorer Gunner	Rathjen, Herman F. Jr. S Sgt 18105262	KIA	Mrs. Ethel C. Rathjen, Mother 2005 Palm Blvd, Brownsville, Texas
(9) Gunner	Demitriu, Peter C. S Sgt 36740769	KIA	Mrs. Constance Demitriu, Mother 6063 So. 75th Court, Summit, Ill.
(10) Gunner	Guminski, Edward S. S Sgt 11057680	KIA	Mr. Charles Guminski, Father 307 Millbury St, Worcester, Mass.
(11)			
(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) James H. Gosman	Capt	0369076				
(2)						
(3)						

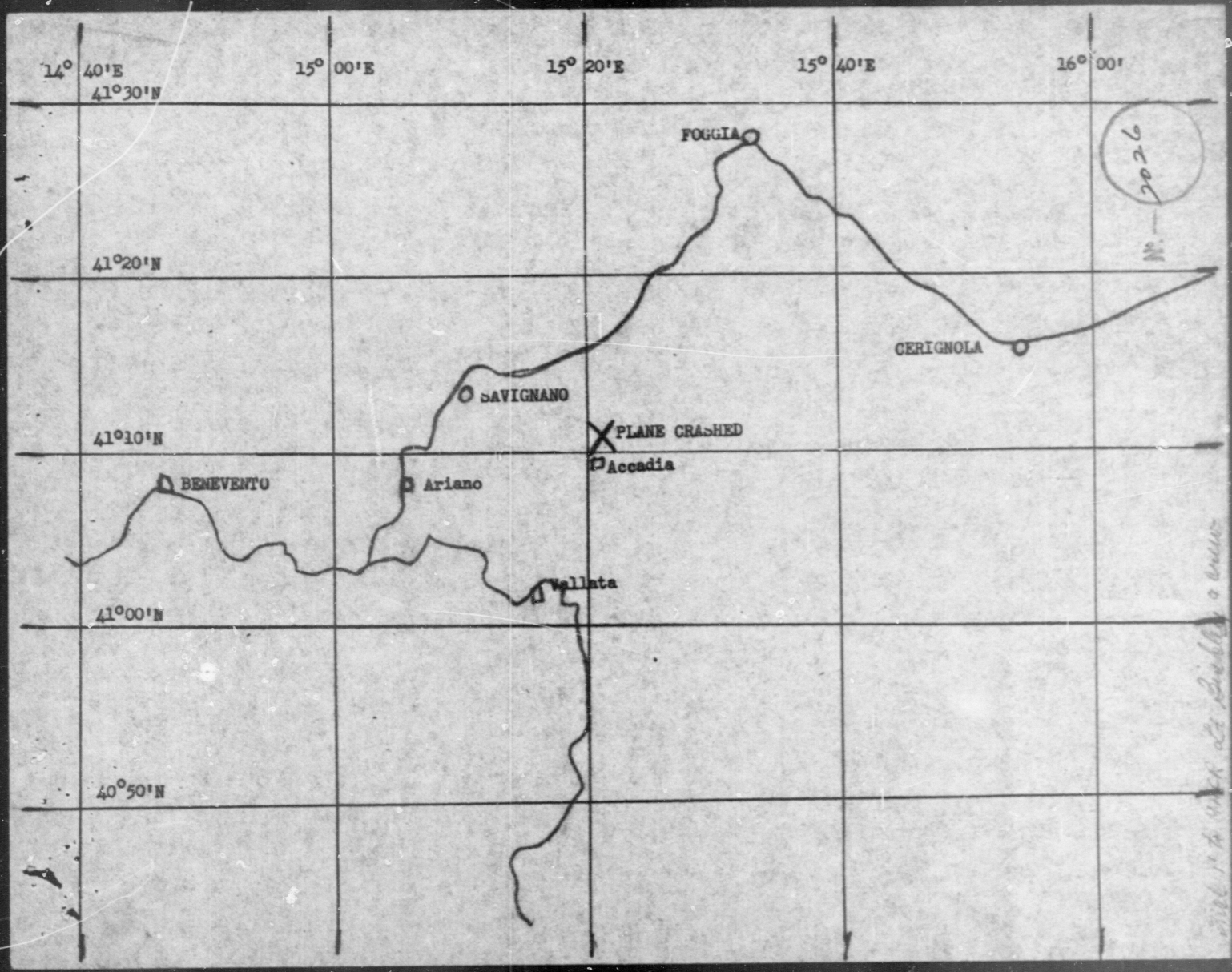
13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
    ( ) Parachutes were used. ( ) Persons were seen walking away from the scene of the crash.
    ( ) Other reasons (specify)
14. ATTACH PHOTOGRAPH, MAP OR SKETCH SHOWING LAST KNOWN LOCATION OF AIRCRAFT.
15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS 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.

2 Inclosures.
Incl 1-Sketch of area Date 21 April 1945
Incl 2-Statement Capt Gosman

Charles E. Ziegler
Signature of preparing officer

2026

CONFIDENTIAL CHARLES E. ZIEGLER, 1st Lt, Air Corps.


14° 40'E
15° 00'E
15° 20'E
15° 40'E
16° 00'
41°30'N
41°20'N
41°10'N
41°00'N
40°50'N
FOGGIA
CERIGNOLA
SAVIGNANO
PLANE CRASHED
Accadia
BENEVENTO
Ariano
Vallata

1st Lt. Wendell H. Binkley	Mrs. Mildred C. Binkley (wife) R.F.D. #3 Wilmington, Ohio
2nd Lt. Lyman J. Bensinger, Jr.	Mrs. Lyman J. Bensinger (mother) Box 110, Grange Hall Road Gurnee, Illinois
2nd Lt. Robert E. Marsh	Mrs. Ethel R. Marsh (mother) 1099 West 16th Street Upland, California
2nd Lt. Marvin Arbit	Mrs. Enid R. Arbit (wife) Box 411 Athens, New York
T/Sgt. Norman B. Miller	Mrs. Jean M. Miller (Wife) Three Springs, Pennsylvania
T/Sgt. Elmer R. Tacy	Mrs. Retha F. Tacy (mother) 1428 West Fayette Street Baltimore, Maryland
S/Sgt. Duane S. Jordahl	Mrs. Hattie Jordahl (mother) 717½ Wisconsin Avenue Beloit, Wisconsin
S/Sgt. Herman F. Rathjen, Jr.	Mrs. Ethel C. Rathjen (mother) 2005 Palm Boulevard Brownsville, Texas
S/Sgt. Peter C. Demitriu	Mrs. Constance Demitriu (mother) 6063 S. 75th Court Summit, Illinois
S/Sgt. Edward S. Guminski	Mr. Charles Guminski (father) 307 Millbury Street Worcester, Massachusetts

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

740TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
455TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
APO 520 U. S. ARMY

15 April 1945

S T A T E M E N TT

The plane piloted by 1st Lt WENDELL H. BINKLEY, 0820274, AC, on the combat mission of 25 December 1944, was found on the top of a mountain in the vicinity of Accadia, Italy. It had crashed soon after taking off into an overcast. The entire plane burned but the bombs did not explode. All of the crew members were killed and the bodies were recovered and positively identified. The plane, a B-24 J #42-51944, was turned over to the Fifteenth AFoC pool for disposal.

James H. Gorman
JAMES H. GORMAN,
Captain, MC,
Flight Surgeon.

No. 2026

Incl 2 to MACR #1 Binkley & Crew