MACR 3464

DATE: 1/2/44 1300

PLACE: near Graz

TYPE: Liberator H
Markings: 2 in circle
7/2 (H8) Sqd; 455 Group
304 Wing
BASE: Cerignola

TARGET: Hq. Airbase
A (o) 11/XVII

U.S.A. NE 997

1st.Lt.	PARDO, Willis J.	0801636	missing
2nd.Lt.	COSTELLO,		missing
2nd.Lt.	GOTTLIEB, Leonard M.	0-808326	.
2nd.Lt.	PATTERSON, Thomas Ralph	0-737671	.
T/Sgt.	ROBERT, Leonhard P.	32571886	missing
T/Sgt.	WARREN,		missing
S/Sgt.	KIMBERLEY,		missing
S/Sgt.	MATTHEWS, Robert Franklin	38415681	.
S/Sgt.	LEONHARD, Robert Philip	32571886	.
S/Sgt.	BLACK, Robert Vanney	18198910	.

ort. Eight of the crew members immediately bailed out and landed in the vicinity of Laitila, Yugoslavia. At the end of four days the following members of the crew who originally bailed out were brought together:

Lt. W. J. Pardee
Lt. W. V. Costello
T/Sgt. W. B. Roberts
T/Sgt. J. E. Warren
S/Sgt. H. C. Kimberley

None of the other crew members joined this group during the time they were escaping.

HEARSAY INFORMATION: The pilot, Lt. W. J. Pardee and the co-pilot, Lt. W. V. Costello told the source that they stayed with the plane for an estimated twenty miles after the order was given to bail out and at that time they were the only crew members left in the plane.

The radio operator, T/Sgt. W. B. Roberts, told source that he was hiding near the spot where the waist gunner, S/Sgt. H. V. Black landed and saw him taken prisoner at that time.

No other information was gained regarding other crew members.

CONFIDENTIAL

Incl 3466

HEADQUARTERS
AAF REDISTRIBUTION STATION NO. 2
Miami Beach, Florida

CASUALTY INFORMATION REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

SOURCE: John R. Warren, T/Sgt.

UNIT: 483rd Sq., 742nd Sq.

DATE OF MISSION: 2 April 1944

TYPE AIRCRAFT: B-24H

INTERROGATION OFFICER:
Theodore J. Hirant
THEODORE J. HIRANT,
Major, Air Corps
Chief, Intelligence Division

DATE OF INTERROGATION:
10 June 1944

MEMBERS OF SOURCE'S CREW

POSITION	NAME	RANK	ASN	PRESENT STATUS
PILOT	W. J. Pardee	1st Lt.		Evaded
CO-PILOT	W. V. Costello	1st Lt.		Evaded
NAVIGATOR	L. M. Gottlieb	2nd Lt.		MIA
BOMBARDIER	T. R. Patterson	2nd Lt.		MIA
RADIO OPERATOR	W. H. Roberts	T/Sgt.		Evaded
TOP TUR. GUNNER	J. R. Warren	T/Sgt.		Evaded
BALL TUR. GUNNER	R. P. Leonard	S/Sgt.		MIA
WAIST GUNNER	R. V. Black	S/Sgt.		MIA
[redacted]				
TAIL GUNNER	R. F. Matthews	S/Sgt.		MIA
[redacted]				
[redacted] GUNNER	E. C. Kimberley	S/Sgt.		Evaded
OTHERS				

KNOWN INFORMATION: Source's plane was operating from Cerignola, Italy on a mission 2 April 1944 to bomb Steyr, Austria. Approximately fifteen or twenty minutes before reaching the target plane was attacked by heavy force of fighters. On the first pass plane was hit in the left wing gas tank by a 20 mm shell and had to feather No. 2 engine. On the second pass fighters shot out No. 3 engine. The pilot had to drop out of formation. Controls of the plane had been damaged, the electrical system and the hydraulic system had been shot out. The pilot finally gave orders to the crew to bail

AAFRC 115

Incl #1 2

CONFIDENTIAL

3464

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RESTRICTED

Classification changed
to RESTRICTED
by E. [illegible] Lt. Col., AC
by F. M. MUEN H, Capt., AC
Date MAR 15 1945

RESTRICTED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN: 8 April 1944, 0700 p.m. CASUALTY NO. NR 277

PLACE OF CRASH: at Brac

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Force Command A (c) XI/XVII

NAME			RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CAPT'D WOUNDED DEAD	PLACE OF INTERNMENT
MATTHEWS	EVERETT	FRANKLIN	S/Sgt	39415681	captured	Dulag Luft
19 September 1924 Fort Worth, Texas						
GOTTLIEB	LEONARD	M.	2nd Lt.	0-808336	captured	Dulag Luft
PATTERSON	THOMAS	RALPH	2nd Lt.	0-747671	captured	Dulag Luft
LEONARD	ROBERT	PHILIP	S/Sgt	32871886	captured	Dulag Luft
BLACK	ROBERT	VANDOY	S/Sgt	18198918	captured	Dulag Luft
1 March 1923		Mexia, Texas				

REMARKS:

Dulag Luft : 9 May 1944, Wo.

(~~CONFIDENTIAL~~)
(Equals British CONFIDENTIAL)

11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO OR BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COULMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:

Check only one column

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted by Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1. Gronsle, Jay S	2nd Lt	0752939		X		

12. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parchutes were used_____(b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash_____; or (c) Any other reason (Specify) Ship was under control when last seen.
13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.
14. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK, AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE None.

Date of Report 4 April 1944.

William W. Berg

WILLIAM W. BERG,
1st Lieut., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

APR 28 1944

RECEIVED
Air A. G.,

B+P

CONFIDENTIAL
(Equals British CONFIDENTIAL)

48-30

Classification changed to UNCLASSIFIED
by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col. AC
by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AC
Date MAR 1 5 1945

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

IMPORTANT: This report will be complied in triplicate by each Air Force organization within 48 hours of the time an aircraft is officially reported missing.

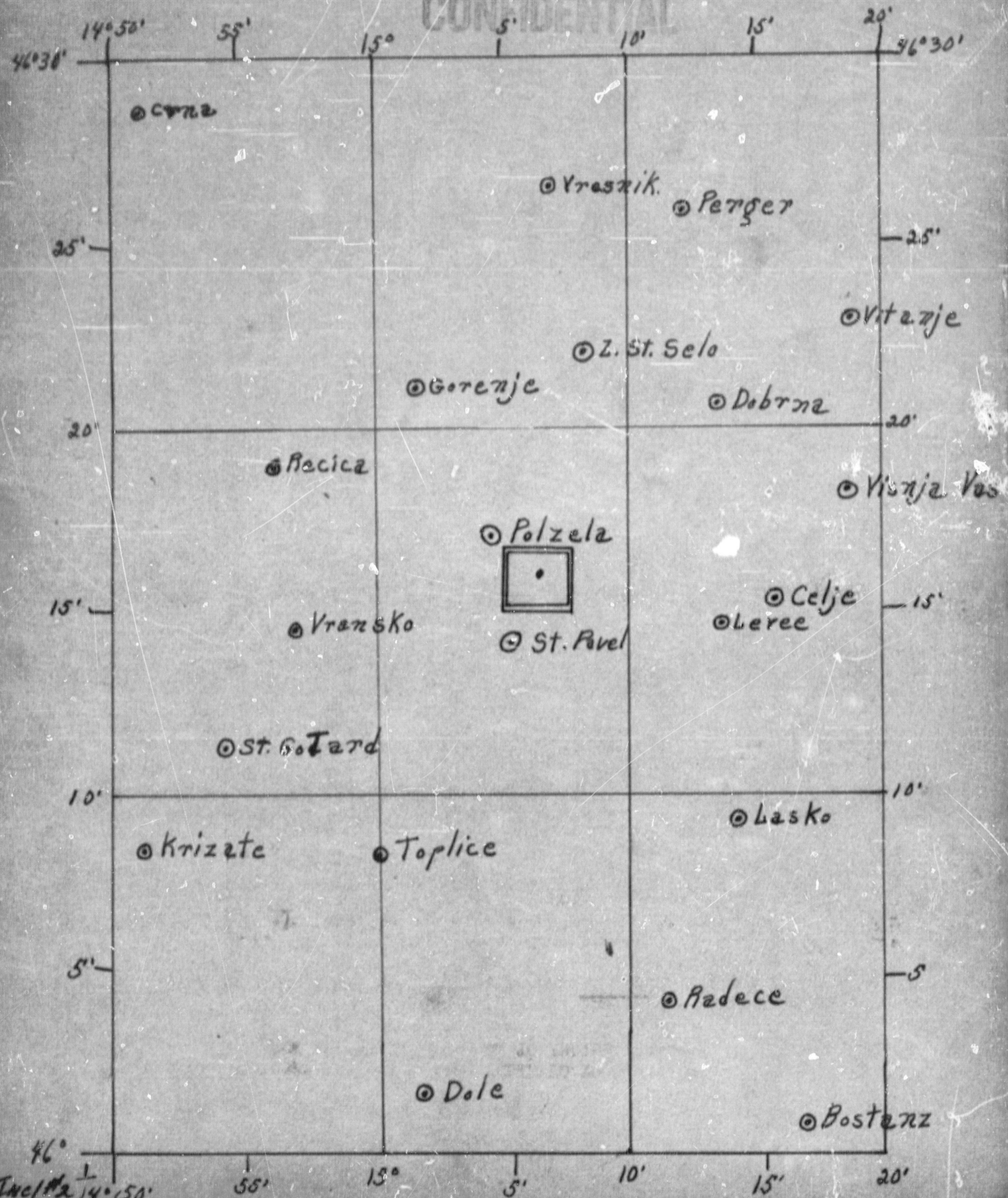
1. ORGANIZATION: Location San Giovanni Fld, Italy. Command or Air Force 15th Air Force. Group 455th Bomb Group; Squadron 742nd Bomb Sqdn; Detachment ____
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure San Giovanni Fld, Italy; Course From San Giovanni Fld, Italy to Andrija, Island 47 deg 36 min North 14 deg 45 min East to 46 deg 16 min North 15 deg 6 min East; Intended Destination Steyr, Austria; Type of Mission High Altitude Formation Bombing.
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: CAVU Ceiling and visibilty unlimited .
4. GIVE: (a) Date 2 April 1944; Time 1115, and location 46 deg 16 min North 15 deg 06 min East, 8 miles North West of Celje, Yugoslavia, 2 miles North of St. Pavel, Yugoslavia, 4 miles South West of Polzela, Yugoslavia, of last known wherebouts of missing aircraft.
   (b) Specify whether (X)Last Sighted; ( ) Last Contacted by Radio; ( ) Forced Down; ( ) Seen to Crash; or ( ) Information not available.
5. AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, OR BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF : (Check only one (X) Enemy Aircraft; ( ) Enemy Anti-Aircraft; ( ) Other circumstances as Follows; _____
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B 24-H; AAF Serial Number 41-29407.
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series B 24-H; AAF Serial Number (a) 431606 (b) 431686 (c) 431673 (d) 431395
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number) all are Browning Air-Craft Machine Guns, Type M-2. (a) 941111 (b) 940517 (c) 941906 (d) 941093 (e) 941419 (f) 941312 (g) 940438 (h) 940629 (i) 941072 (j) 939725
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS (a) Battle Casualty yes . or (b) Non-Battle Casualty _____.
10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10 . Passangers None. Total 10 . (Starting with Pilot, furnish the following particulars; If more than 12 persons were aboard aircraft, list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach original to this form.)

	Crew Position	Name in Full (Last name first)		(Rank)	Serial Number
1.	Pilot	Pardee, Willis J	1	1st Lt	0801636
2.	Co-Pilot	Costello, William V Jr	2	2nd Lt	0810832
3.	Navigator	Gottlieb, Leonard M	3	2nd Lt	0808326 RTD
4.	Bombardier	Patterson, Thomas R	8	2nd Lt	0747671 RTD
5.	Radio Operator Gunn	Roberts, William B	9	T Sgt	16160070
6.	Engineer Gunn.	Warren, John E	10	T Sgt	13032596
7.	Asst Radio Op. Gunn	Black, Robert V	4	S Sgt	18198910
8.	Gunner	Kimberly, Edward C	4	S Sgt	34332229
9.	Asst Engineer Gunn	Leonhard, Robert P	5	S Sgt	32571886
10.	Armorer Gunner	Matthews, Robert F	6	S Sgt	38415681 RTD

Incl #1

Scale 1:250,000

CONFIDENTIAL



1st Lt. Willis J. Pardoe	Mrs. Martha A. Pardoe, (wife) 133 Oakhurst, Clarksdale, Mississippi.
2nd Lt. William V. Costello, Jr.	Mrs. Ruby J. Costello, (wife) 103 Elm Street, Rome, Georgia.
2nd Lt. Leonard M. Gottlieb	Mrs. Adele T. Gottlieb, (wife) 2092 Davidson Avenue, New York, New York.
2nd Lt. Thomas R. Patterson	Mrs. Roy W. Patterson, (mother) 5614 Loraine, Detroit, Michigan.
T/Sgt. William E. Roberts	Mrs. Eva Roberts, (mother) Deer Street, Manistique, Michigan.
T/Sgt. John R. Warren	Mrs. Minnie E. Warren, (mother) 709½ State Street, Bristol, Virginia.
S/Sgt. Robert V. Black	Mr. Dee Black, (father) Route Four, Box 55, Mexia, Texas.
S/Sgt. Edward C. Kimberly	Mr. Edward A. Kimberly, (father) 307 East Second Avenue, Lenoir City, Tennessee. Mrs. Pauline Kimberly, (mother) 864 Jackson Street, Memphis, Tennessee.
S/Sgt. Robert P. Leonhard	Mrs. Charlotte Leonhard, (mother) 24 Elmwood Avenue, Belleville, New Jersey.
S/Sgt. Robert F. Matthews	Mrs. Douglas P. Matthews, (mother) 702 Avondale Street, Houston, Texas.

1st Lt. Willie J. Pardoe	Mrs. Martha A. Pardoe, (wife) 133 Oakhurst, Clarksdale, Mississippi.
2nd Lt. William V. Costello, Jr.	Mrs. Ruby J. Costello, (wife) 103 Elm Street, Rome, Georgia.
2nd Lt. Leonard M. Gottlieb	Mrs. Adele T. Gottlieb (wife) 2092 Davidson Avenue, New York, New York.
2nd Lt. Thomas R. Patterson	Mrs. Ray W. Patterson, (mother) 5614 Loraine, Detroit, Michigan.
T/Sgt. William E. Roberts	Mrs. Eva Roberts, (mother) Deer Street, Manistique, Michigan.
T/Sgt. John E. Warren	Mrs. Minnie E. Warren, (mother) 709½ State Street, Bristol, Virginia.
S/Sgt. Robert V. Black	Mr. Dee Black, (father) Route Four, Box 55, Mexia, Texas.
S/Sgt. Edward C. Kimberly	Mr. Edward A. Kimberly, (father) 307 East Second Avenue, Lenoir, City, Tennessee. Mrs. Pauline Kimberly, (mother) 864 Jackson Street, Memphis, Tennessee.
S/Sgt. Robert P. Leonhard	Mrs. Charlotte Leonhard, (mother) 24 Elmwood Avenue, Belleville, New Jersey.
S/Sgt. Robert T. Matthews	Mrs. Douglas P. Matthews, (mother) 702 Avondale Street, Houston, Texas.

CREW LIST

	STATUS
1st Lt. Willis D. Pardoe	— Evaded
2nd Lt. William V. Costello, Jr.	- Evaded
2nd Lt. Leonard M. Gottlieb.	- Reported P.W.
2nd Lt. Thomas R. Patterson	— Reported P.W.
T/Sgt. William B. Roberts	— Evaded
T/Sgt. John S. Warren	— Evaded
S/Sgt. Robert V. Black	— Reported P.W.
S/Sgt Edward C. Kimberly	- Evaded
S/Sgt. Robert P. Leonhard	- Reported P.W.
S/Sgt. Robert F. Matthews.	Reported P.W.

Gottlieb, Patterson, Black, Leonhard, and Matthews probably captured immediatly in town of Litva. - Located near Ljubljanna, Yugoslavia.

Pardoe, Costello, Kimberly were together within three hours. Roberts and Warren were together shortly after bailing out.

These two Groups later got together on or about April 6, 1944 and returned to Allied Territory together.

Roberts and Warren suffered very minor Innuries before leaving Plane.

Wm. V. Costello, Jr.
1st Lt. Reserve
321 Cross Street
Pineville, Louisinna

AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

3464

1. Your name WILLIAM VANIN COSTELLO, JR. Rank 2ND LT Serial No. O-810832
   742ND B.S.
2. Organization 455TH BG Gp Commander KENNETH COOL Rank LT. COL. Sqn CO EDWIN AMBROSE Rank MAJOR.
   (full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month APRIL day 2 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, STEYR, AUSTRIA, target, _____, target time, 1130 (APPX), altitude, 20,000 - SCHEDULED route scheduled, DIRECT, route flown AS SCHEDULED - CREW ABANDONED SHIP BEFORE ALTITUDE WAS REACHED AS RESULT OF ENEMY FIGHTER ACTION. (15,000 FT.)
5. Where were you when you left formation? NEAR LJUBLJANA, ~~AUSTRIA~~ YUGOSLAVIA.
6. Did you bail out? YES
7. Did other members of crew bail out? YES - ENTIRE CREW BAILED OUT.
8. Tell all you know about when, where, how each person in your aircraft for whom no individual questionnaire is attached bailed out. A crew list is attached. Please give facts. If you don't know, say: "No Knowledge". SEE BACK - NO CREW LIST ATTACHED TO QUESTIONNAIRE.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? VICINITY OF LITIJA, YUGOSLAVIA
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) NONE
11. Where were they in aircraft? —
12. What was their condition? —
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? SEE BACK
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. NONE

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

6-3862, AF

CASUALTY NO. KSU 997

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN: 2 Apr 44

PLACE OF CRASH:

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: unknown

REPORTING OFFICE: Airbase HQ A(O)11/XVII
Graz
4 Apr 1944

CREW

SURNAME, ABO: BLACK
FIRST NAME: Robert V.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:

SERIAL NUMBER: 18198910

CAPTURED: place & time unknown WOUNDED: DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

EUS

CONFIDENTIAL

STATEMENT

After being under constant and persistent fighter attack since about 1040, Lt. Pardoe was seen by me to turn gradually to the left, losing a altitude at about 300-500 feet per minute. The plane seemed to be under control (with # 2 engine feathered) and appeared to be turning back at 1115 as if to try a run back to the base. I saw no crew members bailing out, but four enemy fighters were criss-crossing over and under him constantly.

The last I saw him, he was about 8000 feet, still slowly descending and turning gradually toward Ljubljana.

Jay S. Gaenzle

JAY S. GAENZLE,
2nd Lieut., Air Corps,
0-752989

CONFIDENTIAL

Incl # 3 1

455th Bombardment Group (H)
742nd Bombardment Sqdn (H)

WWB/cw h

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APO 520 U. S. Army
4 April 1944

SUBJECT : Transmittal of Missing Air Crew Report.

TO : Commanding Officer, 455th Bombardment Group (H) APO 520 U. S. Army.

Transmitted herewith Missing Air Crew Report of 1st Lt. Willis J. Pardoe and Crew missing since 2 April 1944.

For the Commanding Officer:

William W. Berg

WILLIAM W. BERG,
1st Lieut., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

3 Incls:
Incl No. 1 Missing Air Crew Report (quin)
Incl No. 2 Sketch of where Ship was last seen (quin)
Incl No. 3 Statement by Lt. Ganzle of missing Aircraft (quin)

1st Ind.

Headquarters, 455th Bombardment Group (H), APO 520, U. S. Army 4 April 1944.

TO : Commanding General, 304th Bombardment Wing, APO 520, U. S. Army.

Forwarded.

For the Group Commander:

C. A. Olson

C. A. OLSON,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

3 Incls: n/c

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

US. CONFIDENTIAL EQUALS BRITISH CONFIDENTIAL

(458)

360.33 C-DB-4 2nd Ind.
HQ, 304TH BOMB WING (HV), APO 520, 5 Apr 44.
TO: CG, 15th AF, APO 520.

15-38

H.G.W. Hgw

1 Incl: MAC Rpt Lt Pardoe and Crew. (quad)

(6153)

AG 360.33 3rd Ind. GP/HEN/m/dbs
HQ, FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE, APO 520, 8 April 1944.

TO: CG, NATOUSA, APO 534. Att'n: Casualty Branch, AGD.

1. Personnel included in attached MAC Report were processed on consolidated BCR #L-48, dated 6 April 1944, which was forwarded to the 30th MRU, 6 April 1944.

For the Commanding General:

Harold B. Neely
HAROLD B. NEELY,
Major, A. G. D.,
Assistant AG.

1 Incl:
Incl 1 - (dup).

Incl #1

US CONFIDENTIAL EQUALS BRITISH CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
(EQUALS BRITISH CONFIDENTIAL)

(1) M5

AG 360.33/300 - C. Wrapper Ind. 3464 OE/rf
HQ., NATOUSA, APO 534, US Army, 14 April 1944.

TO: CG, Army Air Forces, Washington, D.C. - (Att; Statistical Control Div.)

9 Incls. - Missing Air Crew Reports.

1 - A/C 41-29407, 4 April 44,
Pardoe, Willis J., 1st Lt., thru
Matthews, Robert F., S/Sgt.

2 - A/C 42-52314, 22 March 44,
Grant, Charles W., 2nd Lt., thru
Ross, Albert W Jr., S/Sgt.

3 - A/C 41-29310, 22 March 44,
Elfrink, Lysle William, 2nd Lt., thru
Gaines, William Wiley, S/Sgt.

4 - A/C 42-28659, 22 March 44,
Groot, Lawrence Albert, 2nd Lt., thru
Jurczak, Michael, Sgt.

5 - A/C 42-75736, 21 March 44,
Mallett, Walter J., 2nd Lt.

6 - A/C 42-7623, 28 March 44,
Ridgway, Warren H., 1st Lt., thru
Rabent, Raymond J., Sgt.

7 - A/C 41-3176, 19 March 44,
Blackstock, James C., 1st Lt., thru
Batchelder, John P., S/Sgt.

8 - A/C 42-52271, 3 Apr 44,
Brunson, Clyde P., 1st Lt., thru
Moore, Wesley E., S/Sgt.

9 - A/C 42-64443, 3 March 44,
Giraudo, John C., 1st Lt., thru
Arlington, James B., PFC.

CONFIDENTIAL
(EQUALS BRITISH CONFIDENTIAL)