7059

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification changed
to RESTRICTED
by E. A. [redacted], Lt. Col., AC
by F. M. MUNROE, Capt., AC
Date 4 MAY 1948

Date	Writer	Wrote About
? ? ?	Adj. Gen. Dept	Kesler.

7059

RESTRICTED

CONFIDENTIAL

MACR 7059

B-24
10 men

Date: 22 July 1944

Place: Albania

Type: Liberator
740 (H.B.) Sqd
455 group
304 wing

Base: SW.Cerignola

Target: AW.Southeast.

Rank	Name	U.S.A. 344	No. ME 1809
		ASN.	
2nd Lt.	MURPHY		6 dead
S./Sgt.	SHUMAKER, James H.	14073871	
S./Sgt.	KESSLER, Jenny K. Jr PPD	14029893	dead

Rest of the crew: dead ?

Kepler written KIA 14 Mar 46
Murphy not written (not on list)

SD Case 5790

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

9. Gunner Hollinsworth, J.W. (10) S/Sgt 38110976 Henry Hollinsworth Father
1569 Emporia Aurora, Colorado

10. Gunner Kesler, Tenny K. Jr. S/Sgt 14029893 Lucille Kesler Mother
1315 Hickman Rd., Augusta, Georgia

11.

12.

11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT AND CHECK APPROPRIATE (only one) COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:

NAME IN FULL	RANK	SERIAL NO	Contacted by Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1. Laffey, Paul L.	1st Lt	O-700473			X	
2. LeCuyer, Albert J.	S/Sgt	36747498			X	
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						

12. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
(X) Parachutes were used ( ) Persons seen walking away from scene of crash
( ) Any other reason (specify)

13. ATTACH, AS AN INCLOSURE TO THIS REPORT, EITHER AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH; MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.

14. ATTACH, AS INCLOSURES TO THIS REPORT, EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTIONS OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.

15. ATTACH, AS AN INCLOSURE TO THIS REPORT, A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK, AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE: (if no search, so state giving reason) No search - Over enemy territory.

Date of this Report: 25 July 1944

Joe B Goodrich
(Signature of Preparing Officer)
JOE B. GOODRICH
Capt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

3 Incls:
Incl 1 - Statement of Lt. Laffey
Incl 2 - Statement of S/Sgt LeCuyer
Incl 3 - Sketch Where Aircraft Last Seen

RECEIVED
AUG 26 1944

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

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ 7059

Classification changed to RESTRICTED
by E. A. BRADUMAS, Lt. Col., AC
by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AC
Date MAR 15 1946

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

IMPORTANT: This report will be compiled by each Army Air Forces organization within 48 hours of the time personnel are officially reported missing.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location San Giovanni Field, Italy Command or AF 15th Group 455th Bomb Gp (H) Squadron 740th Bomb Sq (H)

2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure San Giovanni Field Course Direct Target 44° 56'N / 26° 2'E Type of Mission Combat

3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: Stratus 8/10

4. GIVE: (a) Date 7-22-44 Time 1409 Location 42° 40'N/19° 51'E of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether: ( ) Last Sighted ( ) Last Contacted by Radio
( ) Forced Down (X) Seen to Crash; or
( ) Information not available.

5. AIRCRAFT WAS LOST OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one)
( ) Enemy Aircraft ( ) Enemy Anti-Aircraft (X) Other circumstances as follows: Mid-air collision with another aircraft in formation

6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model & Series B-24H AAF Serial No 42-50424

7. ENGINES: Type, Model & Series R 1830-65 AAF Serial No (a) BP 435473
(b) BP 435313 (c) BP 435382 (d) CP 325651

8. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Furnish below Make, Type, and Serial Number)
(a) 1249556 Browning Cal .50 M2 (b) 224778 Browning Cal .50 M2
(c) 1243030 (d) 224630
(e) 1248301 (f) 256281
(g) 1295693 / 1248046 (h) 1248317 / 225484

9. PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW REPORTED AS: (X) Battle Casualty ( ) Non-Battle Cas.

10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10 Passengers 0 Total 10
(Starting eith "Pilot" furnish the following particulars; if more than 12 persons were aboard list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach to this form)

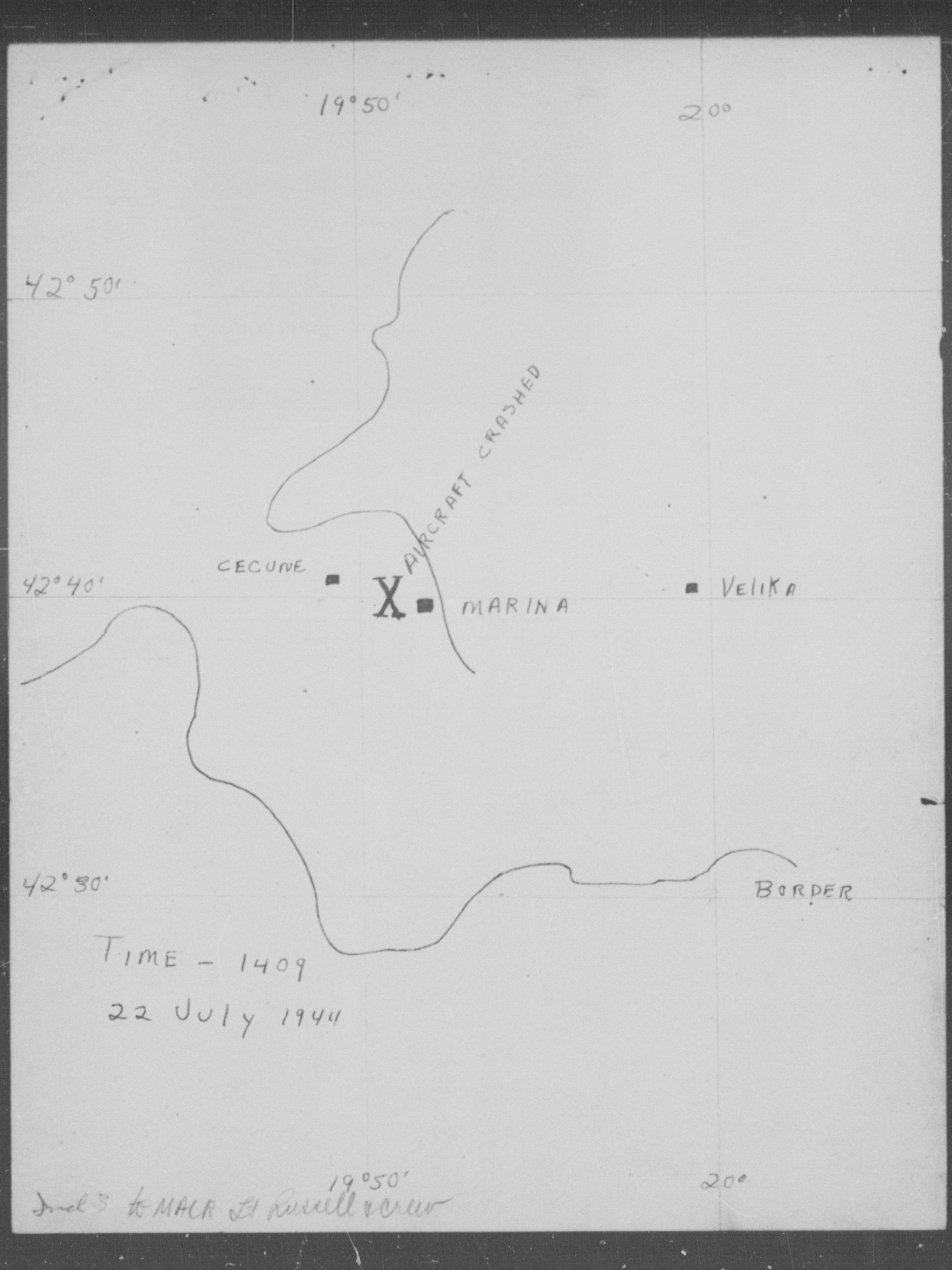
	CREW POSITION	NAME IN FULL (Last Name First)	RANK	SERIAL NO	NEXT OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP, AND ADDRESS
1.	Pilot	Russell, Edmund C.	1st Lt	0-813423	Mrs. Olive Russell Wife
					120 Thomas Ave., Baldwin, New York
2.	Co-Pilot	Meeker, Dolson G.	2nd Lt	0-696390	Mrs. C. Joan Meeker Wife
					914 E. 9th St., Des Moines, Iowa
3.	Navigator	Emery, William D.	1st Lt	0-695635	Mr. Francis Emery Father
					1725 Wilbraham Rd., Springfield, Mass.
4.	Bombardier	Swanson, John L.	1st Lt	0-678494	Carl O. Swanson Father
					Route 1, Box 61 Eaton, Colorado
5.	Engineer	Jozefowicz, Benedict (NMI)	S/Sgt	16031239	Mrs. Josephine Jozefowicz
					Mother 5211 28th St., Detroit, Michigan
6.	Ast Engineer	Graham, William E.	S/Sgt	18004674	Mrs. Beverly S. Graham
					Wife 1660 E. 6th St., Stockton, Calif
7.	Radio	Shumaker, James H.	Pfc	14073871	Mrs. Bertha C. Shumaker
					Mother #15 Ambassador Apts, Durham, N.C.
8.	Gunner	Hanides, Simone J.	S/Sgt	31258381	Mr. James Hanides Father
					78 Westford St., Haverhill, Mass.

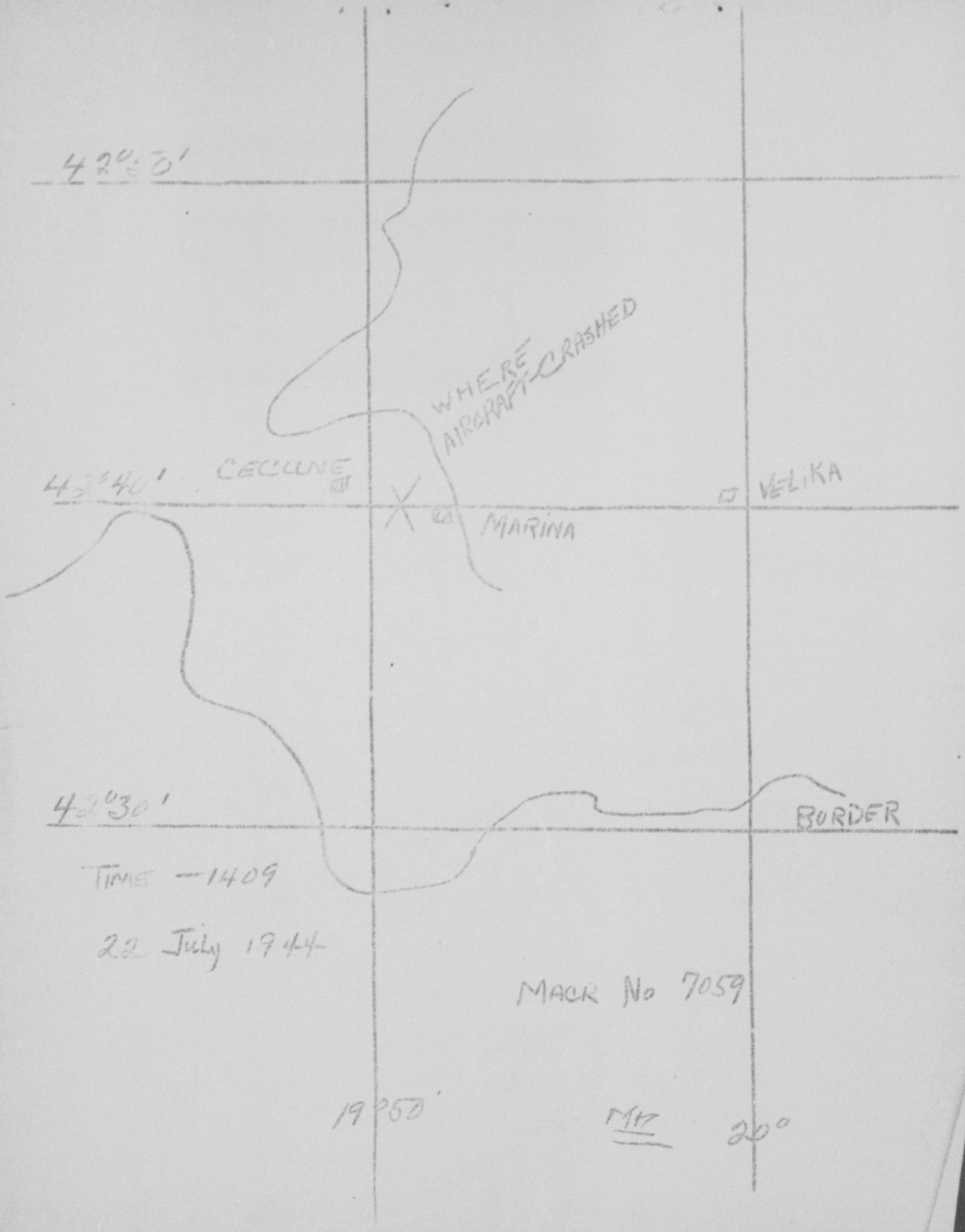
~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

Incl #1

(See Reverse Side)

187
15 Aug 49 FTR


19°50'
20°
42°50'
AIRCRAFT CRASHED
CECUNE
42°40'
X
MARINA
VELIKA
42°30'
BORDER
TIME - 1409
22 July 1941
19°50'
20°
Incl 3 to MACR Lt Purcell & crew


42°-0'
WHERE AIRCRAFT CRASHED
42°40'
CECLINE
VELIKA
MARINA
42°30'
BORDER
TIME — 1409
22 July 1944
MACR No 7059
19°50'
MH
20°

JPC/11/25/44

1st Lt. John L. Swanson PDD	Mr. Carl C. Swanson (father) Route 1, Box 61, Eaton, Colorado.
1st Lt. William D. Emery PDD	Mr. Francis E. Emery (father) 1725 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, Massachusetts.
1st Lt. Edmund C. Russell PDD	Mrs. Olive H. Russell (wife) 120 Thomas Street, Baldwin, New York.
2nd Lt. Dolson C. Meeker PDD	Mrs. Christaina Jean Meeker (wife) 914 East 9th Street, Des Moines, Iowa.
S/Sgt. J. W. Hollinsworth PDD	Mrs. Marjorie M. Hollinsworth (wife) 1541 Emporia Street, Aurora, Colorado.
S/Sgt. William E. Graham PDD	Mrs. Beverly Graham (wife) 1660 East 6th Street, Stockton, California.
S/Sgt. Benedict Jozefowicz PDD	Mrs. Josephine Jozefowicz (mother) 5211 28th Street, Detroit, Michigan.
S/Sgt. Simone J. Manides PDD	Mr. James Manides (father) 78 Westford Street, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
S/Sgt. Tenny K. Kesler, Jr., PDD	Mr. Tenny K. Kesler, Sr., (father) 2320 Cental Avenue, Augusta, Georgia.
Pfc. James H. Shumaker	Mrs. Bertha C. Shumaker, (mother) 15 Ambassador Apartments, Durham, North Carolina.

MACR NO 7059

74OTH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H) AAF
Office of The Operations Officer

23 July 1944

SUBJECT: Eyewitness description of aircraft accident.

TO : Whom it may concern.

1. While on the mission of July 22, 1944, we were flying in formation, when we went through an unexpected flak area, and the ship flying right wing of ship 424 seemed out of control, as it crashed into ship 424, It crashed just after the wing breaking the ship in half and both ships went spinning to the ground. Two chutes were seen to open.

S/t/ PAUL L. LAFFEY,
FIRST LIEUTENANT, AIR CORPS,
PILOT, O-700478

740TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H) AAF
Office of The Operations Officer

23 July 44

SUBJECT: Eyewhitness description of aircraft accident.

TO : Whom it may concern.

1. While on the mission of July 22, 1944, we were flying in formation, when we went through an unexpected flak area, and the ship flying right wing of ship 424 seemed out of control, as it crashed into ship 424. It crashed just aft the wing breaking the ship in half and both ships went spinning to the ground. Two chutes were seen to open.

Paul L Laffey

PAUL L. LAFFEY,
1st Lt, Air Corps,
Pilot. O-700478

Lt. to Pilot Lt Powell's crew

740TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H) AAF
Office of The Operations Officer

23 July 44

SUBJECT: Eyewhitness description of aircraft accident.

TO : Whom it may concern.

1. While flying on the mission of the July 22, 1944, I was riding in the tail turret of the lead ship. Having reported to the pilot that the ships were back in formation after the unexpected flak, I saw the right wing man of ship 424 fly into the latter amidship and to the rear. There was a terrific collision and metal was flying all over the sky.

2. Ship 424 was broken in two just to the rear of the wing. There was no fire or explosion. Both ships went into a spin, and it seemed about half way down one chute opened, from which ship I cannot say.

3. I followed both until each one hit the ground and a large flame was seen and black smoke. Just near the wreckage another chute opened which seemed to be but fifty feet above the ground. The first chute landed on a mountain side not too far from the wreckage. The other ship was also a yellow tail.

Albert LeCuyer.

ALBERT LE CUYER,
S/Sgt, Tail Turret Gunner.
36747498

Sent to MACR #1 Russell & Crew

UALTY NO. MR 1809

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN: 22 July 1944

PLACE OF CRASH: Albania

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator

REPORTING OFFICE: A. W. southeast

CREW

SURNAME, AND FIRST NAME: SHUMAKER James H

DATE OF BIRTH: 7 October 1923 Winston, Salem, N.C.

RANK: S/Sgt

SERIAL NUMBER: 14073871

CAPTURED: ~~XXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXX~~

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: Stalag-Luft 4 TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

6-3224.AF(6)

Dulag-Luft 26 September 1944 We.