[redacted]

Classification cancelled

to [redacted]

by [redacted], Lt. Col., AC

by [redacted], Capt., AC

Date [redacted]

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

CONFIDENTIAL

~~RESTRICTED~~
E. A. BRADLEY, Lt. Col., AC
F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AC

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

8353

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 48° 11'N 10° 52'E Type of Mission Combat

3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
CAVU

4. GIVE: (a) Date 12 September 1944 Time 1345 Location 48° 09'N/10° 56'E of last known whereabouts 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 IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one)
( ) Enemy Aircraft (X) Enemy Anti-Aircraft ( ) Other circumstances as follows:

6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model & Series B-24H AAF Serial No 41-28996

7. ENGINES: Type, Model & Series R 1830-43 AAF Serial No (a) 42-65669
(b) CP 306811 (c) CP 308182 (d) CP 308041

8. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Furnish below Make, Type, and Serial Number)
(a) 979689 Browning Cal .50 M2 (b) 979312 Browning Cal .50 M2
(c) 980478 (d) 979470
(e) 980278 (f) 979227
(g) 985519 979353 (h) 979889 979389

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 with "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	Bowling, Theodore H.	2nd Lt	0-760236	Elizabeth R. Bowling Mother 7 Rockne Rd. Buffalo, New York	RTD
2.	Co-Pilot	Birmley, Dean W.	1st Lt	0-741576	Minnie E. Birmley Mother 2523 Washington St. Long Beach, Calif.	RTD
3.	Navigator	Otto, Frederick P	F/O	T-126396	Fred A. Otto Father 322 S. Minnesota Ave. Prairie du Chien, Wisc	RTD
4.	Bombardier	Patton, William E. Jr	2nd Lt	0-723815	Edna M. Patton Mother 118 Villa Ave. Buffalo, New York	RTD
5.	Engineer	Chapa, Amancio J.	Cpl	38458262	Petra G. Chapa Mother Route 3 Box 102 Mission, Texas	RTD
6.	Radio	Erdel, Albert (NMI)	Cpl	35067813	Barbara Erdel Mother Marshall Road McDonald, Ohio	RTD
7.	Gunner	Peterson, Wayne M	Cpl	39916826	Ruth A. Peterson Mother 411 Second St. So. Nampa, Idaho	RTD
8.	Gunner	Limb, Byron (NMI)	Sgt	19010938	Mrs. Annie Limb Mother 1557 Redondo Ave. Salt Lake City, Utah	RTD

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Incl #1

(See Reverse Side)

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9.	Gunner Dustin, John P. Jr.	Cpl	31[illegible]96	Evelyn B. Dustin Mother	7D
			Belgrade Ave.	Oakland, Maine	
10.	Gunner Stamm, Neal E.	Cpl	33612214	Olive Stamm Mother	RTD
			RFD #2	Watsontown, Pennsylvania	
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.	Miller, Robert T.	F/O	T-126331		X		
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							
6.							

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

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, aircraft last sighted over enemy territory

Date of this Report: 15 September 1944

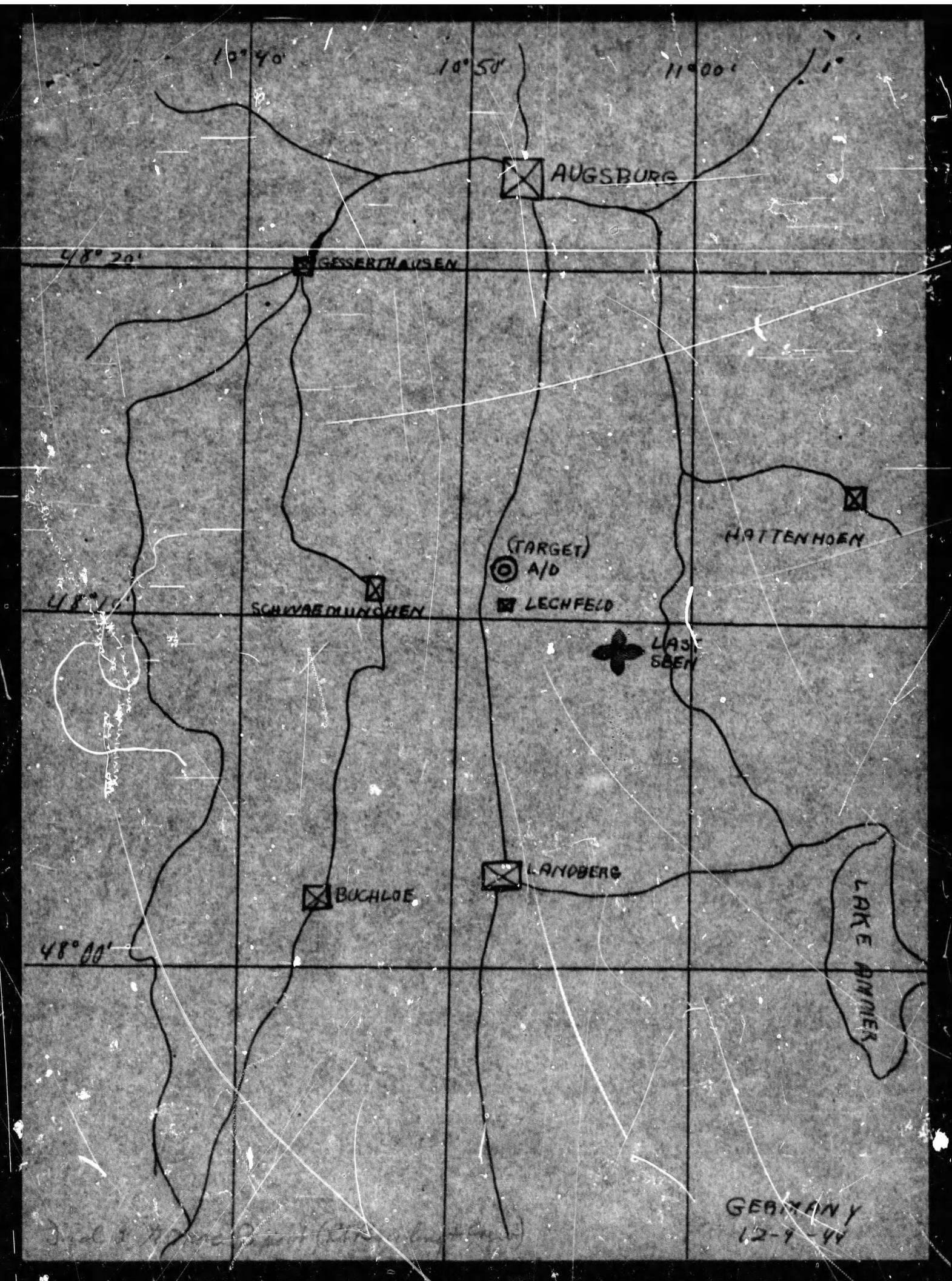
Harry H. Horn
(Signature of Preparing Officer)
HARRY H. HORN
1st Lt, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

2 Incls:
Incl 1 - Statement of F/O Miller
Incl 2 - Sketch Where Aircraft Last Seen

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ob/12/13/44

2nd Lt. Dean V. Hawley	Mrs. Minnie E. Hawley, (mother) 2523 Washington Street, Long Beach, California.
2nd Lt. William E. Pebbles, Jr.	Mrs. Mina E. Pebbles, (mother) 118 [illegible] Avenue, Buffalo, New York.
2nd Lt. Theodore F. Zoeling	Mrs. Elizabeth E. Zoeling, (mother) 7 Elmhurst Road, Buffalo, New York.
Sgt. Albert Brizzi	Mrs. Barbara Brizzi, (mother) Marshall Road, Rockville, Ohio.
Sgt. Byron Lamb	Mrs. William A. Lamb, (Mother) [illegible] Columbia Avenue, Salt Lake City, Utah.
T/Sgt Frederick P. Otto	Mr. Fred A. Otto, (father) [illegible] South Thirteenth Street, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin.
Sgt. Armando Jose Chaya	Mrs. Petra C. (Chaya, mother) Route Number Three, Box No. [illegible], Hilmlen, Texas.
Sgt. Emil E. Sturm	Mrs. Olive Sturm, (mother) Route Number Two, Watsontown, Pennsylvania.
Sgt. Myron H. Peterson	Mrs. Gloria M. Peterson, (wife) [illegible] 2nd Street, South Nampa, Idaho.
Cpl. John P. Dowling, Jr.	Mrs. Evelyn B. Dowling, (mother) [illegible] Avenue, Oakland, Maine.

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

16 Sept 44

SUBJECT: Eyewhitness description of missing aircraft.

TO : Whom it may concern.

1. While flying on the mission of September 12, 1944, we did not see ship 994 go over the target with us but apparently followed another box over it.

Robert T. Miller

ROBERT T. MILLER,
F/O, Air Corps,
Navigator.

Encl 1 to Rpt (Lt Bowling & Crew)