~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Merritt, John I., Jr. 1st Lt O440442

74last Sq 455th Gp 7 Oct 44 (Yugoslavia) 24 Nov 44

Tail Gnr Carver, Harry G. Sgt Unknown

Sgt Carver bailed out, his chute did open and he returned a wave to one of the other men on his way down. Approximately thirty minutes after I landed, the Co-pilot and I heard a good many shots from small arms about one half a mile away lasting about five minutes. Soon after we were picked up by Partisans, and the next morning we were told that Sgt Carver had been taken by the Utashi; some Partisans saying that he had been shot, others that he had been only captured.

JOHN I. MERRITT, JR.
1st Lt., 74last Sq.

A TRUE COPY:

WILLIS L. BURNS, JR.,
CWO, USA

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CASUALTY INFORMATION
(Supplemental to Missing Air Crew Report)

PERSON MAKING STATEMENT: Merritt, John I., Jr. (Name) 1st Lt (Rank) 0440442 (ASN)

741st Sq (Squadron) 455th Gp (Group) 7 Oct 44 (Date of Casualty) (Yugoslavia) 24 Nov 44 (Returned to Allied Lines)

(Information contained hereon obtained from returned crew members for use as an aid in determining status of missing U. S. personnel. When information given is considered sufficiently conclusive it will be used as basis for corrected Battle Casualty Report.)

Crew Position	Name	Rank	Status
Tail Gnr	Carver, Harry G.	Sgt	Unknown

STATEMENT:

Sgt Carver bailed out, his chute did open and he returned a wave to one of the other men on his way down. Approximately thirty minutes after I landed, the Co-pilot and I heard a good many shots from small arms about one half a mile away lasting about five minutes. Soon after we were picked up by Partisans, and the next morning we were told that Sgt Carver had been taken by the Utashi; some Partisans saying that he had been shot, others that he had been only captured.

JOHN I. MERRITT, JR.
1st Lt., 741st Sq.

A TRUE COPY:

ELLIS L. BURNS, JR.
CWO, USA

CONFIDENTIAL

I am now discharged and would like to know what happened to my Bombardier Lt. Martin. I am sure he is safely at home in California any further information please write will do all I can.

AFFTC-12.

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name NICHOLAS J. CORBO Rank T/SGT Serial No. 32856518

2. Organization 455 B.GP. Gp Commander (full name) — Rank — Sqn CO (full name) WELLES Rank MAJOR

3. What year 1944 month OCTOBER day 7 did you go down?

4. What was the mission, BOMBING, target, VEINNA, target time, —, altitude, 25,000FT route scheduled, —, route flown —

5. Where were you when you left formation? LEFT FORMATION OVER THE TARGET

6. Did you bail out? YES

7. Did other members of crew bail out? YES

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". TO MY KNOWLEDGE EVERYONE BAILED OUT SAFELY AND WE WERE ALL UNDER THE CONTROL OF TITO'S PARISTANS ABOUT FIVE OR SIX HOUR LATER WITH THE EXECPTION OF OUR TAIL GUNNER CPL CARVER

9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? UNKNOWN - ONLY I THIT AGAINST A MT.

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? _____

14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. TO MY KNOWLEDGE ALL MY CREW MEMBERS ARE SAFELY AT HOME INCLUDING MY TAIL GUNNER WHO WAS CAPTURED AND HELD IN A NAZI PRISON CAMP, LATER ESCAPED AND NOW IS HOME SAFELY AND DISCHARGED HAD LITTLE KNOWLEDGE OF THREE OTHER CREWS THAT WALK THROUGH ENEMY LINE WITH US.

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

TAIL GUNNER (NAME UNKNOWN) BAILED OUT & WAS LAST SEEN by BALL TURRET GUNNER who called to him as the two WERE coming down, AFTER chutes opened. The TAIL GUNNER WAS NOT LOCATED that night. The Following day the PARTISANS REPORTED to us that HE WAS Killed by the PRO GERMAN Yugoslaves.

WE landed NEAR the AREA WERE the PARTISANS & PRO GERMAN Yugoslaves WERE having A battle. The TAIL GUNNER WAS the ONLY MAN NOT to RETURN to Allied CONTROL with the REST of the CREW.

NOTE:

THE ABOVE INFORMATION WAS GIVEN TO US by PARTISANS —

AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name MAES, Donald V. Rank 1st Lt Serial No. O-713522

2. Organization 15th A.F. Gp Commander SNOWDEN (full name) Rank Lt Col Sqn CO REEDER, Jack (full name) Rank Maj

3. What year 1944 month Oct. day 7 did you go down?

4. What was the mission, OIL STORAGE, target, VIENNA, target time, 1500, altitude, 21,000 route scheduled, UNKNOWN, route flown UNKNOWN

5. Where were you when you left formation? OVER VIENNA

6. Did you bail out? YES

7. Did other members of crew bail out? YES

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". Pilot, Co-Pilot, Bomb., NAV. & ENGINEER BAILED OUT OF FRONT BOMB BAY, OTHER 5 MEMBERS BAILED OUT OF REAR CAMERA HATCH (NO CREW LIST)

9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? 5 or 10 miles WEST OF KOPREVINCIA, YUGO.

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?

14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information.

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

(OVER)

S-3862, AF

AFPR-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 9041

Name of crew member: MARTIN, Keith E.
Rank: 2nd Lt.
Serial number: O-775 457
Position: Crew (Bomber) [redacted]: Bombardier

Did he bail out? YES

Where? Outside of the Town of Koprevincia, Yugoslavia

If not, why not? —

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: command to abandon Ship

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? Santa Monica Redistribution Station #3, U.S.A.

Any hearsay information: None

Source:

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition:

Total number of missions of above crew member: Unknown

Dates and destinations if possible:

6-3861, AF

AFPP 11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 9041

Name of crew member: MARTIN, Keith E.
Rank: 2nd Lt.
Serial number: O-773 417
Position: Crew (Bomber) [redacted]: Bombardier

Did he bail out? Yes.

Where? About 4 miles South of Kopravincia in Jugoslavia.

If not, why not? ——

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Verbal contact by interphone over Target. (Bombardier To P. & T.)

Was he injured? No.

Where was he when last seen? He Traveled with remainder of Crew (Except H.G. Carver) Thru Partisan underground To Allied security.

Any hearsay information: ——

Source: ——

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Arrived in Italy safely with rest of crew 49 dys. after mission.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Seven.

Dates and destinations if possible: Not possible.

a-1

6-3861, AF

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 9041

Name of crew member: MARTIN, Keith E.
Rank: 2nd Lt.
Serial number: O-775 417
Position: Crew (Bomber) [redacted]: Bombardier

Did he bail out? YES

Where? 6 MILES WEST KOPRIVNICA, YUGOSLAVIA

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

HELPED JETTISON AMMUNITION AND GUNS

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

LT MARTIN RETURNED TO ITALY WITH ME AND WAS SENT BACK TO THE UNITED STATES

Total number of missions of above crew member: 7

Dates and destinations if possible: RETURNING FROM VIENNA

OCT 7, 1944

6-3861, AF

AFPP

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 9041

Name of crew member: MARTIN, Keith H.
Rank: 2nd Lt.
Serial number: O-773 417
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Engineer (Engineer)~~: Bombardier

Did he bail out? YES

Where? JUST INSIDE OF YUGOSLAVIA

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

HAD A CONVERSATION JUST BEFORE HE BAILED OUT

Was he injured? NO

Where was he when last seen? CAMP SHANKS, NEW YORK

Any hearsay information: LT. MARTIN TO MY KNOWLEDGE SAFELY GOT BACK TO OUR BASE IN ITALY. AND LAST HEARD HE WAS LEAVING FOR HIS HOME IN CALIFORNIA FROM CAMP SHANKS.

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

Total number of missions of above crew member: 7

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

6-3861, AF

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 9041

Name of crew member: MARTIN, Keith E.
Rank: 2nd Lt.
Serial number: O-775 417
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~: Bombardier

Did he bail out? YES

Where? NEAR COPRIVNICA YUGOSLOVIA

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: NO CONTACT AT TIME OF BAIL OUT BUT WE MET A FEW HOURS LATER AND RETURNED TO ITALY

Was he injured? NO

Where was he when last seen? NEW YORKCITY NEW YORK.

Any hearsay information: NO HEARSAY INFORMATION.HE RETURNED FROM EVASION OF THE ENEMY AT SAME TIME I DID AND WE RETURNED TO U.S.AT SAME TIME. UNLESS HE RETURNED TO A COMBAT ZONE AT LATER DATE HE IS NOT MISSING IN ACTION BUT IS PROBABLE DISCHARGEDFROM THE ARMY.

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

Total number of missions of above crew member: FIVE

Dates and destinations if possible: UNKNOWN

6-3861, AF

Continued—

(8) 5. Corbo, Nicholos (engineer)
6. Dupree (Gunner)
7. Martin, Keith E. (Bombardier)

} Ther group out of forward section of Bomb. bay

---

8. Rudolph, Carl G. (Navigator)
9. Maes, Donald (Co-Pilot)

} From forw'd sect. of Bomb. bay just prior To exit of Pilot.

AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name John I. Merritt, Jr. Rank 1st Lt. Serial No. O-440442
2. Organization 455 B.G., 741st S.Sq. H.C. Gp Commander (full name) Col. Cool Rank Col. Sqn CO (full name) _____ Rank Lt. Col.
3. What year 1944 month October day 7 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Vienna, target, Oil Refinery (Winterhaven), target time, 1245 (Approx.), altitude, 23500 route scheduled, _____, route flown _____
5. Where were you when you left formation? Over Vienna.
6. Did you bail out? Yes.
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Yes.
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".
   1. Wheeler, R.F. (R.O.)
   2. Johnson (Gunner)
   3. Cunningham (Gunner)
   4. Carver, H. G. (Gunner)

   } all bailed out of the camera hatch (B-24). Order of bailing-out unknown.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? _____ (over →)
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? _____
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. _____

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

6-3862, AF

~~AEEE~~*

ALL OF CREW HAS BEEN ACOUNTED FOR.ALL EXCEPT GILMAN CARVER, RETURNED TO THE U.S. WITH ME. I HAVE SINCE HEARD FROM GILMAN CARVER BY LETTER AND HE SAID HE HAD BEEN CAPTURED BUT WAS LIBERATED BY THE AMERICANS WHEN THEYTOOK GERMANY.HE WAS THEN SENT TO A HOSPITAL IN ENGLAND AND HAS SINCE RETURNED TO U.S. I BELIVE HE HAS BEEN DISCHARGED NOW.

SO IF THIS QUESTIONARE HAS BEEN SENT IN THE BELIEF THAT SOME MEMBER OF OUR CREW IS STILL MISSING,YOU HAD BETTER CHECK THE RECORDS.

AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name ROBERT FORSTE WHEELER Rank T/SGT ERC Serial No. 19186701
   455 BG 741 BS 15th AF
2. Organization _____ Gp Commander unknown (full name) Rank ___ Sqn CO unknown (full name) Rank _____
3. What year 1944 month October day 7 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, VIENNA ASTRIA, target, OIL TANKS, target time, 1500, altitude, 21,000 ft. indicated route scheduled, Uknown, route flown unknown
5. Where were you when you left formation? OVER TARGET
6. Did you bail out? YES
7. Did other members of crew bail out? YES ALL 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". ALL BAILED OUT AT THE SAME PLACE, COPRIVNICA, YUGO. TOWN NOT VERIFIED, BUT IN THAT SECTION OF THE COUNTRY. ALL OF THE CREW EXCEPT GILMAN CARVER-TAIL GUNNER, GOT TOGETHER IN A FEW HOURS AND WALKED OUT OF YUGOSLOVIA TOGETHER. CARVER LAST SEEN BAILING OUT OF AIRPLANE. NATIVES SAID HE WAS CAPTURED.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? 3 OR 4 MILES SOUTH OF COPRIVNICA.
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? NONE
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

Classification changed to [redacted] by L. A. BRADUMAS, Lt. Col., AC by F. M. [redacted], Capt., AC Date [redacted]

[redacted]

9041

CASUALTY REPORT FOR AGO

ARMY SERVICE FORCES
NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

INTELLIGENCE & SECURITY DIVISION

DATE: DEC 22 1944

NARRATOR	: CORBO, NICHOLAS J	SQUADRON	: 741 ST
ARMY SERIAL NO.	: 32866518	GROUP	: 455TH
MOST ADDRESS	: WITHERBEE, NEW YOR	TYPE AIRCRAFT	: B-24
EX-REPORT NO.	:	DATE OF MISSION	: OCTOBER 7, 1944

POSITION	MEMBERS OF CREW	PWIB RECORDS
PILOT	1ST LT MERRITT, JOHN	
CO-PILOT	1ST LT MAISE, DONALD	
NAVIGATOR	1ST LT RUDOLPH, GROVER, C	
BOMBIEDAR	1ST LT MARTIN, KIETH	
ENGINEER	T/SGT CORBO, NICHOLAS J	
RADIO	T/SGT WHEELER, ROBERT F	
WAIST GUNNER	T/SGT JOHNSON, ARTHUR R	
NOSE "	S/SGT ~~DUPREE~~, ARNOLD, D	
BALL "	S/SGT CUNNINGHAM, ELLIOTT	
TAIL "	CPL CARVER, GILLMAN H	

KNOWN INFORMATION:

CARVER - SEEN LAST BAILING OUT -
REST OF CREW R.T.D.

HEARSAY INFORMATION:

[redacted]

GIA 84 (18 Sept 44)

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C [redacted] I A L

CASUALTY REPORT FOR AGO

ARMY SERVICE FORCES
NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

INTELLIGENCE & SECURITY DIVISION

DATE: 12/22/44

NARRATOR	: Arnold D. Dupree	SQUADRON	: 741
ARMY SERIAL NO.	: 34622154	GROUP	: 45
HOME ADDRESS	: 221 So 4th Ave Laurel Miss	TYPE AIRCRAFT	: B-24
EX-REPORT NO.	:	DATE OF MISSION	: Oct. 7th

POSITION	MEMBERS OF CREW	PWIB RECORDS
Pilot	1 T. Monette	
Co-Pilot	1 T. Mason	
Bombardier	1 T. Mattar	
Navigator	1 T. Rouff	
Eng.	S/Sgt. Carter	
Radio Op	S/Sgt. Miller	
Asst Eng	S/Sgt. Dupree	
Tail Gunner	Sgt. Conner	
~~Waist Gunner~~	S/Sgt. Covington	
	S/Sgt. Jackson	

KNOWN INFORMATION:

All of the above men are in the State except Harry C Conner Tail Gunner

HEARSAY INFORMATION:

Was told by Partner that Harry C Conner Tail Gunner was shot By F.W. Parker while Landed

C O [redacted] I A L

GIA 84 (18 Sept 44)

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

CASUALTY REPORT FOR AGO

ARMY SERVICE FORCES
NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

INTELLIGENCE & SECURITY DIVISION

DATE: 12 Dec. 44

NARRATOR	: Johnson, Arthur R	SQUADRON	: 741st Bomb Sqdn
ARMY SERIAL NO.	: 19320369	GROUP	: 455th Bomb Grp (H)
HOME ADDRESS	: 113 N 7th St Sterling Colo	TYPE AIRCRAFT	: B-24
EX-REPORT NO.	:	DATE OF MISSION	: 7 Oct 1944

POSITION	MEMBERS OF CREW	PWIB RECORDS
P.	1st Lt. John I Merritt Jr	T/Sgt. Arthur R Johnson - R.W.
Co P.	1st Lt Donald V. Mayes.	S/Sgt. Arnold D Dupree - Nose.
Nav -	1st Lt Grover C Rudolph.	Cpl. Gilman H. Corbet - Tail.
Bom. -	1st Lt Keith Martin	
Eng. -	T/Sgt Nicholas J. Corbo M.T	
Radio. -	T/Sgt. Robert F. Wheeler - LW.	
Armorer	S/Sgt. Elliot L Cunningham. B.T.	

KNOWN INFORMATION:

Tail Gunner bailed out and chute was seen To open.
All other crew members R.T.D.

HEARSAY INFORMATION:

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

GIA 84 (18 Sept 44)

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

CASUALTY REPORT FOR AGO

ARMY SERVICE FORCES
NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

INTELLIGENCE & SECURITY DIVISION

DATE: Nov 22, 1944

NARRATOR : Donald V. Maes
ARMY SERIAL NO. : O-713522
HOME ADDRESS : 120 E. Dodson St
EX-REPORT NO. :

SQUADRON : 741 Bomb Sq
GROUP : 455 Bomb Gp
TYPE AIRCRAFT : B-24
DATE OF MISSION : Aug 2, 1944

POSITION	MEMBERS OF CREW	PWIB RECORDS
Pilot	1st Lt John I. Merrit	R.T.D.
C. Pilot	2nd Lt Donald V. Maes	
Navig.	2nd Lt Grover C. Rudolph	
Bomb.	2nd Lt Kirk Martin	
A.E.	Sgt. Corbo	
R.O.	" Weeller	
A.G.	" Cunningham	
A.G.	" Johnston	
A.G.	" Dorpee	
A.G.	" Carver	M.I.A.

KNOWN INFORMATION:

HEARSAY INFORMATION:

Sgt. Carver was seen going down in his parachute & in good condition, never seen of since. Patisians reported him killed by Utashi

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

GIA 84 (18 Sept 44)

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

CASUALTY REPORT FOR AGO

ARMY SERVICE FORCES
NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

INTELLIGENCE & SECURITY DIVISION

DATE: Dec 22, 44

NARRATOR	: 1st Lt Keith F Martin	SQUADRON	: 741st
ARMY SERIAL NO.	: 0-773417	GROUP	: 455
HOME ADDRESS	: 246 S Hope St Los Angeles Cal	TYPE AIRCRAFT	: B24
EX-REPORT NO.	:	DATE OF MISSION	: Oct 7, 44

POSITION	MEMBERS OF CREW	PWIB RECORDS
~~Pilot 1st Martin~~		
Pilot	John J Merritt	RTD
Co-Pilot	Donald V. Mags	RTD
Nav	Grover C Rudolph	RTD
Eng Lower-upper	Keith F Martin	RTD
Radio waist-LT	Carlo	RTD
Armorer Ball-turret	Wheeler	RTD
Tail Gunner Tail-Turret	Lepree	RTD
Asst Engr Waist-Turret	Cunningham	RTD
	Carver	RTD
	Johnson	RTD

KNOWN INFORMATION:

HEARSAY INFORMATION:

Tail-Gunner H. Carver Killed.

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

GIA 84 (18 Sept 44)

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

CASUALTY REPORT FOR AGO

ARMY SERVICE FORCES
NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

INTELLIGENCE & SECURITY DIVISION

DATE: 22 DEC 44

NARRATOR	: R.F. WHEELER	SQUADRON	: 741
ARMY SERIAL NO.	: 19186701	GROUP	: 455
HOME ADDRESS	: RT 1 BOX 366 YUCAIPA CALIF	TYPE AIRCRAFT	: B-24
EX-REPORT NO.	:	DATE OF MISSION	: OCT 7 44

POSITION	MEMBERS OF CREW	PWIB RECORDS
PILOT	LT MERRITT	EVADER
CO PILOT	LT MAYES	EVADER
NAVI	LT RUDOLPH	EVADER
BOMB	LT MARTIN	EVADER
ENG	SGT CORSO	EVADER
RADIO	SGT WHEELER	EVADER
BALL	SGT CUNNINGHAM	EVADER
WAISTE	SGT JOHNSON	EVADER
NOSE	SGT DUPREE	EVADER
TAIL	SGT CARVER	UNKNOWN

KNOWN INFORMATION: ALL BUT CARVER RETURNED WITH ME. CARVER'S SHUTE WAS SEEN TO OPEN. NEVER SEEN ON GROUND.

HEARSAY INFORMATION: PARTIZANS SAID HE WAS CAPTURED LATER SAID HE WAS DEAD. DIDN'T SEEM TO HAVE ANY CLEAR INFORMATION AS TO WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM.

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

GIA 84 (18 Sept 44)

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9041

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification changed
to RESTRICTED
by K. [redacted], Lt. Col., AC
by F. M. [redacted], Capt., AC
Date [redacted] 1946

RETURN TO:
MILITARY RECORDS BRANCH
ARMY-AIR FORCE DEFENSE UNIT
GSA, R3, FRC, BLDG. 12
FRANKLIN & UNION STS.
ALEXANDRIA, VA. 22314

A54-233

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RESTRICTED

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

704 C-WM-5 1st Ind. S: 6 Dec 44
201-Carver, Harry G. (Enl)
HQ 304TH BOMB WING (HV), APO 520, 1 Dec 44.
TO: CO, 455th Bomb Group (HV), APO 520.

Attention is directed to basic communication.

By command of Brigadier General UPTHEGROVE:

17005-B.

Harold G. Wilson (R)
HAROLD G. WILSON,
Major, AGD,
Adjutant.

1 Incl: Casual Infm.

DEC 1 1944 2 05 PM

704 G-RV-3 2nd Ind. S: 4 Dec 44
201-Carver, Harry G. (Enl)
Hq. 455th Bomb Gp (H), APO 520, US Army, 2 Dec. 1944.
TO: CO, 741st Bomb Sq (H), APO 520, US Army.

1. Forwarded for necessary action.

By order of Lt-Colonel SNOWDEN:

Richard H. Vicenti
RICHARD H. VICENTI,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

1 Incl: Casual Infm.

3rd Ind

704 B-ECJ
201 Carver, Harry G. (Enl)
741st Bomb Sq, 455th Bomb Gp (H) AAF, APO 520, US Army 6 Dec 44
TO: CO, 455th Bomb Group (H) AAF, APO 520, US Army

1. Statement enclosed of LT. JOHN I. MERRITT, JR. does not alter casualty status of subject enlisted man.

2. Copy of statement has been attached to Missing Air Crew Report.

For the Squadron Commander:

Edward C. Jones
EDWARD C. JONES
1st Lt., Ordnance,
Adjutant.

1 Incl: Casual infm - Copy W/D

CONFIDENTIAL

WACR 2041

704 4th Ind. G-RV-2
Hq. 455th Bomb Gp (H), APO 520. 6 Dec 44.
TO: CG, 304th Bomb Wing (H), APO 520.

R.H. ✓
R. H. V.

1 Incl: n/c

704 C-DB-5 5th Ind.
201-Carver, Harry G. (Enl)
HQ 304TH BOMB WING (HV), APO 520, 8 Dec 44.
TO: CG, Fifteenth Air Force, APO 520.

Attention is invited to 3rd Indorsement.

For the Commanding General:

Harold G. Wilson
HAROLD G. WILSON,
Major, AGD,
Adjutant.

DEC 9 1944 8 01 AM

AG 201 - Carver, Harry G. (EM) 6th Ind. GP/B/eh
HQ FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE, APO 520, 17 December 1944.

TO: CG, MTOUSA, APO 512. Att'n: Casualty Branch, AGD.

Forwarded as supplement to missing air crew report.

For the Commanding General:

I. R. STERN,
Captain, AGD,
Assistant AG.

1 Incl: n/c

No. — 1161

CONFIDENTIAL

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

GP/R/blj

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE
APO 520 US ARMY

S: 8 December 1944
28 November 1944

SUBJECT: Supplement to Missing Air Crew Report.

(5911) TO : Commanding General, 304th Wing, APO 520.

1. Inclosed information, supplementary to Missing Air Crew Report, has been obtained from:

(Name)	(Rank)	(ASN)	(Organization)
John I. Merritt, Jr.	1st Lt	0440442	455th B Gp

2. It is desired that casualty status of personnel referred to be reviewed.

a. In cases where men are declared to be dead, if the commanding officer believes evidence to be reasonably conclusive, appropriate corrected battle casualty report will be submitted. If evidence is not deemed sufficient, then a statement will be made of reasons for presumption of survival.

b. If place of casualty shown on original battle casualty report does not agree with statement, corrected report should be submitted for those men still missing.

c. Personnel should be reported Captured or Interned only when evidence shows actual incarceration in an established prison camp or safe arrival in a neutral country.

d. If no change is indicated, statement has been forwarded to you for information and inclusion of copy with Missing Air Crew Report.

3. Report will be made by indorsement hereon of action taken.

By command of Major General TWINING:

WINDLE D. REEL,
Major, AC,
Assistant AG.

Incl.

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

NOV 30 1944 10 37 AM

CONFIDENTIAL

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

9041

1. ORGANIZATION: Location San Giovanni Field, Italy Command or Air Force 15th AAF
   Group 455th Bomb Group (H) Squadron 741st Bomb Squadron (H)
2. SPECIFY: Place of departure San Giovanni Field, Italy Course Direct
   Target Vienna, Austria Type of mission Operational
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
   2/10 Cumulus
4. GIVE: (a) Date 7 October 44 Time 1304 Last known position 48°11'N - 16°33'E
   (b) Specify whether: (X) Last sighted, ( ) Forced down, ( ) Seen to crash,
   ( ) Last contacted by radio, ( ) No information.
5. AIRCRAFT [redacted] (BELIEVED LOST) AS A RESULT OF: (Check one only)
   ( ) Enemy aircraft, ( ) Enemy anti-aircraft, ( ) Other Unknown
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, model & series B-24-H AAF Serial Number 42-50125
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT Liberty's Belle
8. ENGINES: Type, model & series R-1830-43 AAF Serial Number (a) 4264698
   (b) CP-3116141 (c) BP-435452 (d) [redacted] CP-312244.
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Make, type and serial number.)

(a)	224959	(e)	1250159	(i)	1249880
(b)	1249763	(f)	1248130	(j)	225380
(c)	225375	(g)	1242851	(k)	
(d)	447782	(h)	1295740	(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 1st Lt.	MERRITT JR., JOHN I 0-440442	X	MIA	Jonnie Frances Merritt, Wife, 2407 Gorman Ave, Waco, Texas	RTD
(2) Co-Pilot 2nd Lt.	MAES, DONALD V. 0-713522	X	MIA	Arline R. Maes, Wife, 1717 West Garvey, El Monte, California	RTD
(3) Navigator 2nd Lt.	RUDOLPH JR., GROVER C. 0-874023	X	MIA	Grover C. Rudolph, Father, 505 Maine, Ave., Aldan, Pennsylvania	RTD
(4) Bombardier 2nd Lt.	MARTIN, KEITH E. [redacted] 0-773417	X	MIA	May Martin, Mother, 2416 South Hope St., Los Angeles	H
(5) Rad-Op-Gunner Cpl.	Wheeler, Robert F. 19186701	X	MIA	Florence E. Wheeler, Mother, Rt #1 Box 366, Yuciapa, California	RTD
(6) Eng-Gunner Cpl.	Corbo, Nicholas J. [redacted] 32856518	X	MIA	Catherine Corbo, Mother, Witherbee New York	RTD
(7) Eng-Gunner S/Sgt.	Johnson, Arthur R. 19203369	X	MIA	Elsie L. Johnson, Mother, Sterling, California	RTD
(8) Armorer-Gunner Cpl.	Cunningham, Elliott L. 37556877	X	MIA	Alice Cunningham, Mother, 1539 Miller St., Worthington, Minnesota	RTD
(9) Aerial Gunner Cpl.	Dupree, Arnold D. 34625254	X	MIA	Buna G. Dupree, Mother, 828 South 4th Ave., Laurel, Mississippi.	RTD
(10) Aerial Gunner Cpl.	Carver, Harry G. 31439977	X	MIA	Hazel E. Carver, Wife, 23 Oak St. Bellows Falls, Vermont.	RTD
(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) BOSLER, ERWIN M	1st Lt.	0-709276		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.
    ( ) Other reasons (specify) No Parachutes used, - Plane was last seen under control.
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. None. Plane was over Enemy Territory

2 Inclosures.
Incl 1 Sketch of Area
Incl 2 Statement by BOSLER

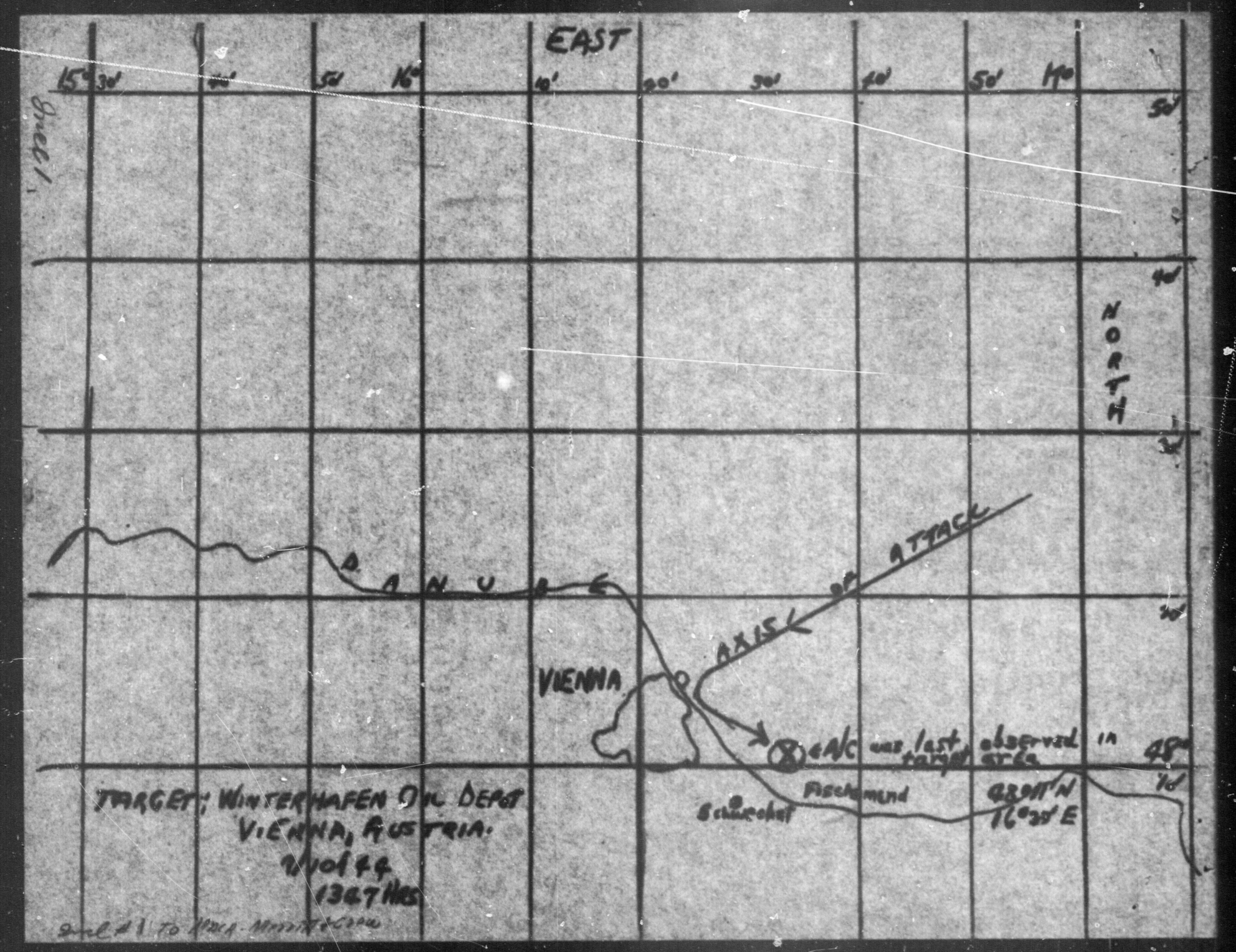
Date 10 October 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

JOHN F. DAVIS, Signature of preparing officer
Capt. Air Corps, Adjutant.

735

Incl 1


EAST
15°
30'
40'
50'
16°
10'
20'
30'
40'
50'
NORTH
50'
40'
30'
20'
10'
45°
Sheet 1
DANUBE
VIENNA
AXIS OF ATTACK
A/C was last observed in this area
Fischamund
Schwechat
48°11'N
16°38'E
TARGET: WINTERHAFEN Oil DEPOT
VIENNA, AUSTRIA.
2 Wolf 44
1347 Hrs
Sheet #1 TO HQ 4 - Mission Copy

HEADQUARTERS
Truax Field, Madison 7, Wisconsin

SUBJECT: Interrogation of Former Prisoners of War

TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington 25, D.C.
Attn: Personal Affairs Branch, Room 4315 Munitions Building.

1. In compliance with your TWX AFPPS 3909, 28 sep 45, the following information is submitted:

a. Name of casualty None .

b. Rank _____. c. Crew position _____.

d. Date last seen _____. e. Place last seen _____.

f. Circumstances of loss of aircraft B-24, damaged by flak

_____.

g. Known information (eye witness only)

h. Hearsay information (all other information about above named casualty, with estimate of reliability)

(Note: Reverse side may be used if more space is needed in giving any information requested above.)

S/Sgt. E.L. Cunningham
Rank and name of reporter

37556877 455th. B.G.
ASN Unit

cc: CG, AFTRC
cc: Sub Comd Hq

Incl #1 To Ltr 39-18, 23 Oct 45

AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name RUDOLPH, GROVER C. JR Rank 1ST LT Serial No. 0874023

2. Organization 455 Gp Commander (full name) — Rank ___ Sqn CO (full name) — Rank ___

3. What year 1944 month OCT day 7 did you go down?

4. What was the mission, VIENNA, target, OIL STORAGE, target time, 1200, altitude, 23,000 route scheduled, ___ route flown ___

5. Where were you when you left formation? OVER TARGET

6. Did you bail out? YES

7. Did other members of crew bail out? YES

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". ALL MEMBERS OF THE CREW BAILED OUT SUCCESSFULLY

9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? 6 MILES WEST KOPRIVNICA, 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? I SAW ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE CREW IN GOOD CONDITION SEVERAL HOURS LATER, EXCEPT FOR THE TAIL GUNNER WHO WAS TAKE BY THE GERMANS

14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. NONE NO KNOWLEDGE

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

6-3862, AF

STATEMENT

About 1304, 7 October 1944, I saw plane, B-24 H, No. 42-50425, drop behind formation over the target, Vienna, Austria. At this point we encountered intense and accurate flak and I was unable to observe the plane beyond this point. There was no apparent cause for this plane to drop behind which I could observe.

Erwin M. Bosler 1st Lt A/C

ERWIN M. BOSLER
1st Lt., Air Corps.

Inclosure #2 to MACR - Lt Merritt + Crew