

8414

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

Classification **RESTRICTED**
to _____
by E. A. BRADONAS, Lt. Col., AG
by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AG
Date MAR 15 1946

PROCESSING
P.O. _____

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

7 85072

IMPORTANT: This report will be compiled in triplicate by each Army Air Forces organization within 48 hours of the time an airplane is officially reported missing.

- ORGANIZATION: Location USAAF Sta 474 Command or Air Force IX TCG
Group 435 Squadron 77 Detachment None
- SPECIFY: Point of Departure Sta 474 Course 82 T40
Intended Destination Sta 474 Type of mission Parachute Drop
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED Mist, Low Ceiling
- GIVE: (a) DATE 6 June 1944 Time 0120B and Location of Etienville, France of last known whereabouts of missing airplane.
(b) Specify whether Last sighted; Last contacted by Radio; Forced down; Seen to crash; or Information not available.
- AIRPLANE WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS RESULT OF:
(Check only one) Enemy Airplane; Enemy Anti-Aircraft; Other circumstances as follows: _____
- AIRPLANE: Type, Model and Series C-47A; A.A.F. Serial No 43-30734
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1830-92; A.A.F. Serial No (a) 43-99070
(b) 43-99724 (c) _____ (d) _____
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial No)
(a) None (b) _____ (c) _____ (d) _____
(e) _____ (f) _____ (g) _____ (h) _____
- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X
or (b) Non Battle Casualty
- NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRPLANE: Crew 5 Passengers 17 Total 22
(Starting with pilot, furnish the following particulars; if more than 10 persons were aboard airplane, 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	SCHAFFERS, JOHN H	Captain	0-737654 KIA
2.	Co-pilot	ASHWORTH, THOMAS (DMI)	2d Lt	0-668541 KIA
3.	Navigator	MULLIVAN, JOSEPH J	1st Lt	0-811795 KIA
4.	Aerial Engineer	Mackerson, Melvin (DMI)	T/Sgt	32781102 KIA
5.	Radio Operator	Mackenzie, David (DMI)	S/Sgt	35506067 KIA
6.	Passenger	Ward, Charles F	S/Sgt	11079063 KIA
7.	Passenger	Schmitt, John A	Sgt	1209989 KIA
8.	Passenger	Tetrault, John A	LC-1st Pfc	11103562 KIA

APPENDIX NO 1A

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

*Passenger list
attached page*

M

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

(Appendix No 1A, Memo No 35-6, Hq, Ninth Air Force, 15 Feb 44, Contd.)

- 9. ~~Passenger~~ MW Le Pochin, Felix J Pvt 36029191 MIA
- 10. ~~Passenger~~ Challin, Roland W Pvt 36630479 MIA

11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRPLANE AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME.

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted		Saw Forced Landing
			by Radio	Last Sighted	
1. HARRISON, JESSE M	1st Lt	0-675587		X	
2. SEERK, PHILIP J	2d Lt	0-745196		X	
3. Diluzio, Rocco	T/Sgt	15315879			X

12. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used _____; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash _____ or (c) any other reason (Specify) unknown

13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRPLANE WAS LAST SEEN.

14. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRPLANE.

15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND FIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE No Search

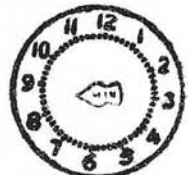
Date of Report 8 June 1944

Jack Mims
 (Signature of preparing Officer)
 JACK MIMS,
 2d Lt, Air Corps,
 Unit Personnel Co.

IDENTIFYING MARKS ON PLANE OTHER THAN SERIAL NO.

THE LETTERS "IB" ON NOSE JUST BEHIND PILOT'S WINDOW.
THE LETTER "P" ON TAIL FIN.

OCT 5 1944



RECEIVED

APPENDIX NO 1A

-2-

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

Captain John H. Schaefer

Mrs. Catherine Schaefer, (Mother) ✓
40 1/2 East Josephine Street,
Ecorse 15, Michigan.

1st Lt Joseph J. Sullivan

Mrs. Katherine Sullivan, (Mother) ✓
815-85 Drive,
Woodhaven, New York.

2nd Lt Thomas Ashworth, Jr.

Mrs. Alice J. Ashworth, (Mother) ✓
23 Melvin Street,
Somerville, Massachusetts.

T/Sgt Melvin Issacson

Mr. Albert Issacson, (Father) ✓
1452 Beach Avenue,
New York, New York.

S/Sgt David MacKinnis

Mr. James Best, (Friend) ✓
10560 Turner Street,
Detroit, Michigan.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AG 319.1 Gas.

5th Ind.

JWP/JFR/rr

HEADQUARTERS, EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS, APO 867. U.S. ARMY, 20 January 1945

TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington, D.C.

1. Reference paragraph 4, letter this headquarters AG 360.33, dated 22 September 1944, which forwarded Missing Air Crew Report concerning aircraft number 43-30734, piloted by Captain John H. Schasfers, O-737654.

2. Records of this headquarters indicate the present status of all crew members of subject aircraft as killed in action, 6 June 1944, with exception of 1st Lt. Joseph J. Sullivan, O-811795, who is shown to be missing in action, 6 June 1944.

3. Records of this headquarters indicate the present status of all paratroopers aboard subject aircraft, as killed in action, 6 June 1944, with the exceptions shown below:

Pvt. Charles F. Wörd	14079063	LWA	2 JAN 1945
Pfc. Lucien A. Tetrault	11103562	LWA	19 DEC 1944
Pfc. Harry B. Brown	15382931	MIA	6 JUN 1944
Pvt. Ollie W. De Haven	35200856	MIA	6 JUN 1944
Pvt. Michael A. Mastandrea	32886086	MIA	6 JUN 1944
Pvt. Michael L. Pushcare	33528899	MIA	6 JUN 1944
Pvt. Corwin J. Randt	36821681	MIA	6 JUN 1944
Pvt. Arthur E. Morin	31311366	RTD	20 JUN 1944.

For the Theater Commander:

H. M. RUND,
Colonel, AGD,
Asst. Adj. General.

2 Incls: n/c

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Supplement

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAR-534
(70)

AG 319.1 Cas. 5th Ind. JWP/JFR/rr
HEADQUARTERS, EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS, APO 887. U.S. ARMY, 20 January 1945

TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington, D.C.

1. Reference paragraph 4, letter this headquarters AG 360.33, dated 22 September 1944, which forwarded Missing Air Crew Report concerning aircraft number 43-30734, piloted by Captain John H. Schaefers, O-737654.

2. Records of this headquarters indicate the present status of all crew members of subject aircraft as killed in action, 6 June 1944, with exception of 1st Lt. Joseph J. Sullivan, O-811795, who is shown to be missing in action, 6 June 1944.

3. Records of this headquarters indicate the present status of all paratroopers aboard subject aircraft, as killed in action, 6 June 1944, with the exceptions shown below:

- Pvt. Charles F. Word	14079063	LWA	2 JAN 1945
- Pfc. Lucien A. Tetrault	11103562	LWA	19 DEC 1944
Pfc. Harry B. Brown	15382931	MIA	6 JUN 1944
Pvt. Ollie W. De Haven	35200856	MIA	6 JUN 1944
Pvt. Michael A. Mastandrea	32886086	MIA	6 JUN 1944
Pvt. Michael L. Pushcare	33598899	MIA	6 JUN 1944
Pvt. Corwin J. Randt	36821681	MIA	6 JUN 1944
- Pvt. Arthur E. Morin	31311366	RTD	20 JUN 1944.

For the Theater Commander:

MAR
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H M Rund
H. M. RUND, W
Colonel, AGD,
Asst. Adj. General.

2 Incls: n/c

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ACHPAR-5347

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HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY

JWP/wcj

AFPO 871

22 September 1944

AG 319.1

SUBJECT: Missing Air Crew Report Supplement.

TO : Commanding General, 101st Airborne Division, APO 472.

1. Aircraft number 43-30734 is carried on Theater Records as missing in action, 6 June 1944.

2. Information at this headquarters indicates that S/Sgt. Charles F. Word, 14079063 who was a passenger aboard subject aircraft, is present for duty with the 501st Parachute Infantry.

3. Request that a statement by S/Sgt Word pertaining to the loss of subject aircraft, be forwarded to this headquarters. The statement should include the information noted below:

a. Time, location and condition of plane when last sighted.

b. Whether plane encountered enemy aircraft, anti-aircraft fire, or small arms fire.

c. Any information pertaining to the welfare or whereabouts of the crew members.

d. Any additional information relevant to aircraft or crew.

4. It is further requested that if any of the other paratroopers aboard aircraft have knowledge pertinent to the case, that statements by them be attached to the correspondence.

By command of General EISENHOWER:

M. Grano
M. GRANO,
1st Lt., AGD,
Asst. Adj. General.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

STATEMENT ON MISSING AIRCRAFT NO 43-30734

I, S/Sgt Charles F. Word, ASN 14 079 003 was jumpmaster of plane number 43-30734 on the night of 6 June 1944. On approach to the drop zone the plane was hit by anti aircraft fire and I was ordered by the crew chief to jump. The crew Chief was in contact with the pilot by phone, when he gave the order to jump, I yelled "lets go" and jumped.

To the best of my knowledge crew chief did not have on a parachute and as far as I know none of the crew got out of the plane. I landed near Picouville, France.

Charles F. Word.

CHARLES F. WORD
S/Sgt Co "G"

Statement on Missing Plane Number 43-30734

I, Arthur E. Morin, ASN 31 311 366 was a passenger in plane number 43-30734 the night of 6 June 1944. I was jumping number fifteen in a seventeen man stick.

The plane was hit twice by anti-aircraft fire, the first time in the ~~rear~~ radio compartment and resulted in two casualties of parachute echelon. The ship was on fire as a result of first hit as well as the two men near radic compartment door.

The second hit was near tail of plane and on baggage compartment door. Right after the first hit on plane the jumpmaster, S/Sgt Word, hollered, "Let's go" and I bailed out landing near Picouville, France. In order to get out it was necessary for me to climb up towards the door over other members of stick who were laying on floor of plane and dive out the door.

The crew chief did not have a chute on and to the best of my knowledge none of crew members got out of the plane.

Immediately after I landed the plane crashed in flames approximately 250 yards from me and exploded.

Arthur E. Morin

Arthur E. Morin,
Pvt 31 311 366

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

704-AG

4th Ind.

WRW/ws

HEADQUARTERS XVIII CORPS AIRBORNE, APO 109, U. S. Army, 14 October 1944.

TO: Commanding General, ETO USA, APO 887, (Attn: AG Casualty Division)



WRW
W. R. W



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AG 319.1
(22 Sept 44)

1st Ind. (S: 3 Oct 44)

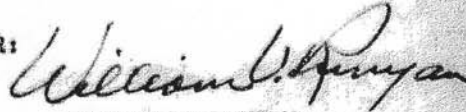
WVR/eag

HEADQUARTERS 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION, APO 472, U. S. ARMY, 1 October 1944

TO: Commanding Officer, 501st Parachute Infantry, APO 472, U. S. Army

For compliance with basic communication and return to this Headquarters by 3 October 1944.

By command of Major General TAYLOR:



WILLIAM V. RUNYAN,
CWO, USA,
Asst. Adj. Gen.

AG 319.1

2nd Ind. (S: 3 Oct 44)

WVR/jrf

HEADQUARTERS 501ST PARACHUTE INFANTRY APO 472, U S Army, 2 October 1944.

TO: Commanding General, 101st Airborne Division, APO 472, U S Army.

In compliance with basic communication, inclosures one (1) and two (2) are statements of the only personnel who were recovered from subject aircraft.

For the Commanding Officer:



E. B. ROBERTS,
Captain, Infantry,
Adjutant.

2 Incls:

- Incl 1 - Statement of S/Sgt Word.
- Incl 2 - Statement of Pvt Morin.

319.1

3d Ind.


REW/rp

HEADQUARTERS 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION, APO 472, U. S. Army, 13 October 1944.

TO: Commanding General, XVIII Corps Airborne, APO 109, U. S. Army.
(Atten: AG Casualty Branch)

Attention is invited to 2nd Indorsement.

For the Commanding General:



RALPH E. WELBY,
CWO, USA,
Asst. Adj. Gen.

2 Incls.
n/c



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT cont'd.~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PARAGRAPH 10: (Cont'd) - NUMBER PERSONS ABOARD AIRPLANE:

ALL PASSENGERS WERE MEMBERS OF 501 PARA. INF. REG., 101 AIRBORNE DIV.

11. Passenger	✓	W Brown, Harry B.	Pfc	15382931	MIA
12. Passenger	✓	W Salemi, Anthony	Pfc	13143375	MIA
13. Passenger	✓	W Ludy, Milo W.	Pfc	35571350	MIA
14. Passenger	✓	W DeHaven, Ollie W	Pvt	35200856	MIA
15. Passenger	✓	W Reynolds, James	Pvt	14142691	MIA
16. Passenger	✓	W Mastandrea, Michael A ✓	Pvt	32886086	MIA
17. Passenger	✓	W Pushears, Michael L.	Pvt	33558899	MIA
18. Passenger	✓	W Raadt, Corwin J.	Pvt	36821681	MIA
19. Passenger	✓	W Morrison, Gene W	Cpl	19193353	MIA
20. Passenger		W Morin, Arthur E.	Pvt	31311366	RTD
21. Passenger	✓	W Schieralski, William A	Cpl	39197602	MIA
22. Passenger	✓	W Burnett, Tony A	Pfc	19126110	MIA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REPORT OF CO-PILOT ON C-47A, No. 43-30720.

We were flying on the right wing of the third flight of the second wave. Captain Schaefer's was flying lead ship of the third flight of the second wave. We crossed landfall at approximately 1800 feet. Captain Schaefer's ship was alright at that time.

At 0118 we gave the paratroopers warning that we were approaching the DZ. At 0119 I saw the left wing of Captain Schaefer's ship burst into flames. He continued to fly on course losing approximately 300 feet, it seemed that he was flying with the automatic pilot.

As his stick of paratroopers had been standing for one minute it is possible that they did jump. I did not see anyone jump as the flames were so bright.

I did not see the plane crash.

Philip J. Serrek
PHILIP J. SERREK,
Ed Lt, Air Corps,
O-745196
77th T. C. Sq,
435th T. C. Gp.

REPORT OF PILOT ON C-47A, No. 43-30720.

We were flying on the right wing of the third flight of the second wave. Captain Schaefer's was flying lead ship of the third flight of the second wave.

When we were in a few minutes of our DZ Captain Schaefer's left wing burst into flames. I'm not sure whether the underneath of the ship was on fire or not.

We were flying about 1800 feet at 140 mph. My Co-Pilot gave me the time of 0119 that Captain Schaefer's plane caught fire, he continued on course then peeled off and went down under me. I did not see him crash.

It is possible that his paratroopers had time to jump.

Jesse M. Harrison
JESSE M. HARRISON,
1st Lt, Air Corps,
O-545587
77th T. C. Sq.
435th T. C. Gp.

REPORT OF CREW CHIEF ON G47 A - No. 42-24095

8 June 1944

Our ship was flying on the left wing of the first flight of the second wave. Captain Schaefer was flying lead ship of the third flight in the second wave. I was standing at the rear door about four minutes from the DZ getting ready to release the door load, when I saw the left wing of Captain Schaefer's ship catch on fire.

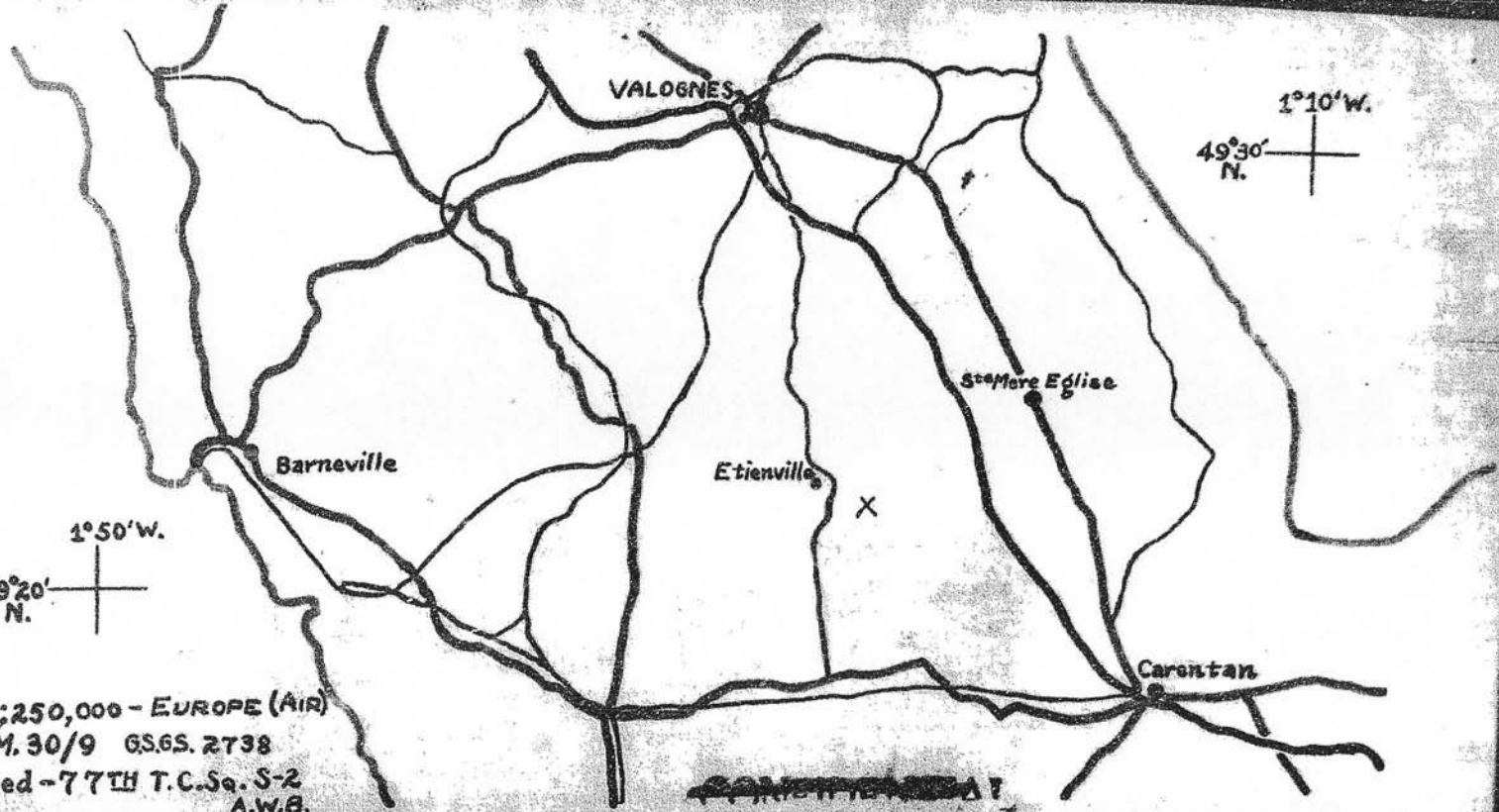
He continued on course at 1000 ft. for approximately 200 yards, then went into a gentle glide to the left. I watched the plane until it hit the ground; it did not explode but continued to burn.

I did not see anyone leave the ship as the door was on the side opposite me.

ROCCO DI LUZZIO,
T/Sgt., Air Corps,
Crew Chief

Rocco Di Luzzio

CONFIDENTIAL



VALOGNES

1°10' W.
49°30' N.

Ste Marie Eglise

Barneville

Etienville

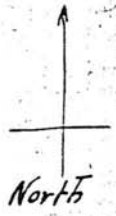
X

Carestan

1°50' W.
49°20' N.

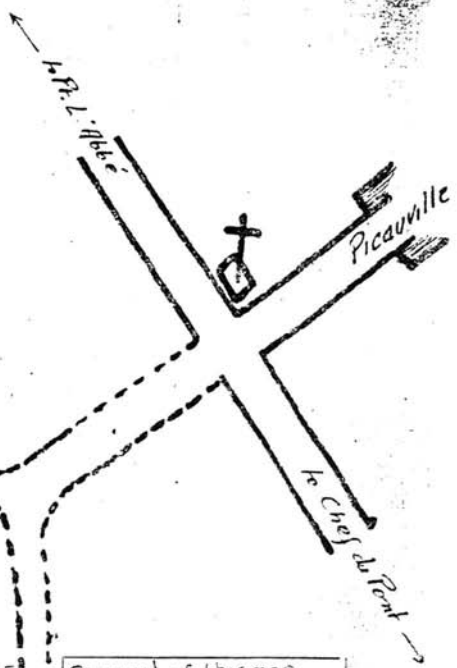
Scale 1:250,000 - EUROPE (AIR)
Sheet M. 30/9 GS. 65. 2738
Produced - 77TH T.C. Sq. S-2
A.W.B.

~~CORRECTION~~



Line of flight

Commune
of
Picaeuville



Home of Mayor Touraine

Original of this map prepared by Lt. Hoover in 1947. - found in box file #5 corresponds to 1992 photos by P. Nekrassoff

Plane clipped barn and trees before coming to rest on Simone farm

② barn

② trees

③

④

① Home of Mrs. Simone
Mayor organized burial here
C-47 No 330734

Lebrun farm, where Morin and Tetiaut hid in barn - 250 meters ⑤



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

① msc

HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY

JWP/wcj

APO 871

22 September 1944

AG 360.33

SUBJECT: Missing Air Crew Report.

TO : Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington, D.C.
Attention: Statistical Control Division

1. Forwarded herewith Missing Air Crew Report of the Ninth Air Force.

2. Records of this headquarters indicate the present status of the crew members of aircraft number 43-30734 to be as shown below:

Pilot	Captain	John H. Schaefer,	0-737654	KIA	6 Jun 44
Co-pilot	2nd Lt.	Thomas Ashworth, Jr,	0-668541	KIA	6 Jun 44
Navigator	1st Lt.	Joseph J. Sullivan,	0-811795	MIA	6 Jun 44
Aer. Eng.	T/Sgt.	Melvin Isserson,	32781102	MIA	6 Jun 44
Radio Oper.	S/Sgt.	David Mac Kenzie,	36506067	KIA	6 Jun 44

3. Information received from the 101st Airborne Division indicates that all passengers aboard subject aircraft are present or accounted for.

4. Correspondence has been initiated by this headquarters to obtain additional information concerning the loss of subject aircraft. Action will be forwarded to your headquarters upon completion.

For the Theater Commander:

H. M. Rund
H. M. RUND,
Lt. Col, AGD,
Asst. Adjutant General.

1 Incl:
Missing Air Crew Report, 435 T.C. Gp
C-47A, 43-30734, 6 June 1944.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MC-27447

AC-40-12521