

42-51886 B24J

CONFIDENTIAL

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

- 1. ORGANIZATION: Location APO 20, U.S. Army Command or Air Force 15th Air Force
Group 464th Bombardment Group (H) Squadron 776th Bombardment Sq (H)
- 2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure AAB, Pantanella, Italy Course NE
Target Oil Refinery, Blechhammer, Germany Type of mission Bombing
- 3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: _____
Not Applicable
- 4. GIVE: [a] Date 2 Dec 44 Time 1400 Last known position 50° 18' N - 18° 15' E
[b] Specify whether: [x] Last sighted, [] Forced down, [] Seen to Crash
[] Last contacted by radio, [] No information
- 5. AIRCRAFT WAS LOST OR BELIEVED LOST AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one)
[] Enemy Aircraft, [] Enemy Anti-Aircraft, [] Other Aircraft returned to Pantanella, Italy
- 6. AIRCRAFT: Type, model & serial Not Applicable: AAF Serial No _____
- 7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if any Not Applicable
- 8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series Not Applicable: AAF SERIAL [a] _____
[b] _____ [c] _____ [d] _____
- 9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: [Make, type and serial number] Not Applicable
[a] _____ [e] _____ [i] _____
[b] _____ [f] _____ [j] _____
[c] _____ [g] _____ [k] _____
[d] _____ [h] _____ [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 NEXT OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP AND ADDRESS
[1] Pilot	<u>Eppley, David R.</u>	<u>RTD</u>	
<u>NON.CAS.RTD</u>	<u>1st Lt. 0705674</u>		
[2] Co-Pilot	<u>Wood, Noel A.</u>	<u>RTD</u>	
<u>NON.CAS.RTD</u>	<u>2nd Lt. 0714828</u>		
[3] Nav.	<u>Mullen, Ralph</u>	<u>RTD</u>	
<u>NON.CAS.EUS</u>	<u>F/O T-127728</u>		
[4] Bombardier	<u>Weinner, James M.</u>	<u>RTD</u>	
<u>NON.CAS.RTD</u>	<u>2nd Lt. 0773030</u>		
[5] Eng-Gun	<u>Madera, Ralph D.</u>	<u>RTD</u>	
<u>NON.CAS.RTD</u>	<u>T/Sgt 18077606</u>		
[6] ROM-Gun	<u>Carlson, Darwin T.</u>	<u>LWA LWA</u>	
<u>RTD</u>	<u>Sgt. 36716249</u>		
[7] Arm-Gun	<u>Davis, Robert R.</u>	<u>DOW MIA</u>	<u>Mrs. Gertrude T. Davis (Mother)</u>
<u>DOW</u>	<u>Sgt. 19175754</u>		<u>8054 Eastern Ave., Bell Gardens, Calif.</u>
[8] Gunner	<u>Michaud, Emile J.</u>	<u>KIA KIA</u>	<u>Mrs. Mary A. Michaud (Mother)</u>
<u>KIA</u>	<u>Sgt. 31386227</u>		<u>12 Balton St., Providence R.I.</u>
[9] Gunner	<u>Franklin, William P.</u>	<u>RTD</u>	
<u>NON.CAS.(EUS)</u>	<u>Sgt. 35804899</u>		
[10] Gunner	<u>McLaughlin, Robert C.</u>	<u>SWA RTD</u>	
<u>EUS</u>	<u>Sgt. 13158051</u>		
[11] _____	_____		
[12] _____	_____		

(Over)

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	LAST	SAW	SAW
			BY RADIO	SIGHTED	CRASH	FORCED LANDING
[1] Elmer M. Reighard Jr.	Sgt.	35601720		X		
[2]						
[3]						

13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- [1] Parachutes were used. [] Persons were seen walking away from the scene of the crash.
- [] Other reasons (specify) _____

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

Date 4 Dec 44

/s/ William H. Reddell /s/

2 Inclosures.

- Incl 1 - Sketch of Area
- Incl 2 - Statement of Sgt. Reighard

WILLIAM H REDDELL,
Lt Col., Air Corps,
Commanding

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~IMMEDIATE ACTION~~

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE
APO 520 US ARMY

GP/S/eh

AG 201 - Davis, Robert R. (EM)

12 December 1944

SUBJECT: Additional Casualty Information

TO : Commanding General, 55th Wing, APO 520

1. Request more detailed information be forwarded this headquarters concerning the missing in action status of Sgt. Robert R. Davis, 19175754., 776th Bomb Squadron, 464th Bomb Group, reported Missing in Action 2 December 1944.

2. As the plane on which Sgt Davis was a crew member returned to base, it is desired that statements providing all relevant details be furnished by one or more members of that crew.

By Command of Major General Twining:

/s/ illegible /s/
for WINDLE D. REEL,
Major, Air Corps,
Assistant AG.

11995

201-David, Robert R. (Enl) 1st Ind.
Hq 55th Bomb Wing (H), APO 520, 13 December 1944.

C-DRW-14

TO: CO, 464th Bomb Group (H), APO 520.

For immediate compliance with basic communication.

By command of Brigadier General ACHESON

/s/ E J McClure /s/
E. J. McClure,
Major, CWS,
Asst Adj.

~~IMMEDIATE ACTION~~
- 1 -
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

201-Davis, Robert R. (Enl) 2nd Ind
Hq, 464th Bomb Gp (H), APO 520, US Army

S: 16 Dec 44
DDJ/hwf

To: CO, 776th Bomb Sq (H), APO 520, US Army

For immediate compliance.

By order of Colonel SCHROEDER:

/s/ Daryl D. Johns /s/
DARYL D. JOHNS
Major, Air Corps
Adjutant

201-Davis, Robert R. (Enl) 3rd Ind
Hq, 776th Bomb Sq (H), APO 520, US Army, 16 Dec 44

WHR/rc

TO: CO, 464th Bomb Gr (H), APO 520, US Army

The only information available was obtained from Sgt
Carlson. Enclosed statement submitted herewith.

/s/ William H Reddell /s/
WILLIAM H. REDDELL
Lt. Co., Air Corps,
Commanding.

1 Incl:
Incl 1 - Statement by Sgt. Carlson (7copies)

201-Davis, Robert R. (Enl) 4th Ind
Hq, 464th Bomb Gp (H), APO 520, US Army, 17 Dec 44

VF/hwf

TO: CG, 55th Bomb Wg (H), APO 520, US Army

/s/ VF /s/
V. F.

1 Incl:
1 cc Incl 1 withdrawn

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL
IMMEDIATE ACTION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CONFIDENTIAL

MACR 10029 Supplement

201-Davis, Robert R. (Enl) 5th Ind. C-DRW-14
Hq 55th Bomb Wing (H), APO 520, 18 December 1944.

TO: CG, 15th AF, APO 520.

/s/ Far /s/
F. A. R.

1 Incl: n/c

201 - Davis, Robert R. (EM) 6th Ind. GP/B/eh
HQ FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE, APO 520, 22 December 1944

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

Forwarded for inclusion with missing air crew report for Sgt.
Robert R. Davis, 19175754.

For the Commanding General:

/s/ Windle D. Reel /s/
WINDLE D. REEL,
Major, Air Corps,
Assistant AG.

1 Incl: n/c

AG 360.33/030-C 7th Ind. JKR/Imm
(12 Dec 44)
HQ., MTOUSA, APO 512, U. S. Army, 27 December 1944.

TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington 25, D. C.
(Attn: Statistical Control Division)

Forwarded for inclusion with MACR bearing Casualty Control #1103,
dispatched from this headquarters 13 Dec 44.

For the THEATER COMMANDER;

/s/ Jack K. Roberts /s/
JACK K. ROBERTS,
1st Lt., AGD,
Asst. Adjutant General.

1-Incl: n/c

CONFIDENTIAL

STATEMENT

I was flying as Radio Operator, and Sgt. Robert Davis, was the Ball Gunner. After the ship received a direct hit through the left side, I started to open the escape hatch near the tail turret. Sgt. Davis was to my right while I was trying to open this hatch. After realizing the ship was not going down, I looked around, and Sgt. Davis was not present. The lapse of time from when I started to open the hatch, and saw that Sgt Davis was missing, was fifteen seconds at the most.

It is my belief, that Sgt. Davis thinking the ship was on it's way down, did bail out through the hole blown on the left side of the ship.

/s/ Darwin T. Carlson /s/
Darwin T. Carlson
Sgt. 36716249



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

776th BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
APO 520 U.S. Army.

S T A T E M E N T

I was flying as Ball Gunner on B-24, Red K. on the 2nd of December 1944.

As we went over the target I saw none of our planes fall out of formation and there was no indication that any of our crews were leaving their ships. Later I saw a single parachute floating about 1500 or 2000 feet below.

After returning to our base I learned that Sgt. Davis was missing from his plane, The parachute I saw may have been Sgt. Davis.

/s/ Elmer M. Reighard Jr /s/
Elmer M. Reighard Jr.
Sgt., 35601720
776th Bomb Sq (H)
Ball Gunner.

MACR 10029

Status of CREW

Carlson,Darwin T.✓	36 716249.....	RTD
Davis, Robert R.✓	19175754.....	DOW
Eppley,David R.✓	0-705674.....	RTD
Franklin,William P.	35804699.....	EUS
Madera,Ralph D.	18077606.....	Rtd
McLaughlin,Robert C.	13158051.....	Eus
Michaud,Emil J.	31386227.....	KIA 3 Dec.1944
	Buried Bari, Italy,L-4-1621	
Mullen,Ralph	T-127728.....	Eus
Wiener,James M.	0-773030.....	RTD
Wood,Noel A.	0-714828.....	RTD