

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification changed  
to RESTRICTED  
by E. A. Brandunas, Lt. Col., AC  
by F. M. Muench, Capt., AC  
Date OCT 15 1945

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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 PANTANELLA, ITALY. Command or AF 15th Air Force  
Group 464th BOMB GROUP (H) Squadron 777th BOMB SQ (H).
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure PANTANELLA A.B., ITALY Course NORTH EAST.  
Target ROMANA Type of mission BOMBING  
OIL REFINERY PLOESTI
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:  
CLEAR FROM DANUBE RIVER TO ADRIATIC SEA.
4. GIVE: (a) Date 22 JULY 1944. Time 1526 Location ADRIATIC SEA  
NEAR BARLETTA  
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.  
(b) Specify whether aircraft was: ( ) 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 (X) Enemy Anti-Aircraft ( ) Other Circumstances as follows:  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model & Serial B-24-G AAF Serial No 42-78392
7. ENGINES : Type, Model & Series R-1830-65 AAF Serial No (a) BP-436739  
(b) BP-436833 (c) BP-436911 (d) BP-437023

INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Furnish below Make, Type, and Serial Number)

- |                       |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) <u>LW 1258941</u> | (b) <u>LN 1249264</u> | <u>L. TOP 1248909</u> |
| (c) <u>RW 1258820</u> | (d) <u>RN 1249066</u> | <u>L.TOP 1249162</u>  |
| (e) <u>LT 1249257</u> | (f) <u>LL 1248651</u> |                       |
| (g) <u>RT 1249003</u> | (h) <u>RL 1249572</u> |                       |

9. PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW AS: (X) Battle Casualty ( ) Non-Battle Cas.
10. NUMBER OF PERSONNEL ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10 Passengers 0 Total 10  
(Starting with the "Pilot" furnish the following particulars; if more than 12 persons were aboard list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach to this form)

	NAME IN FULL (Last Name First)	RANK	SERIAL NO	NEXT OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP, AND ADDRESS
κiA 1.	<u>Pilot GUTHRIE, DALE F.</u>	<u>2 LT</u>	<u>O-686466</u>	<u>ROLAND M. GUTHRIE (F)</u> <u>RR # 3, BOX 60, KENOSHA, WISCONSIN</u>
κiA 2.	<u>Co Pilot. WOLFE, ROBERT H.</u>	<u>2 LT.</u>	<u>O-713677.</u>	<u>TRACY J. WOLFE (F)</u> <u>2730 S.LAFAYETTE ST. ENGLEWOOD, COLO.</u>
EU S 3.	<u>NAV SCHNEIDER, WILLIAM</u>	<u>2 LT</u>	<u>O-718431</u>	<u>(FROM MIA TO LIA )</u>

(See Reverse Side)

- MRS ELLEN H. CONNORS (M)
- κIA 4. BOMBARDIER CONNORS, CLAYTON E.. 2 LT O-1322894. ST FRANCIS, MAINE.  
AGNES WEBER (M) EMILY WEBER (W) RFD # 4
- κIA 5. ENG G. WEBER, WILLIAM J. S/SGT 36453336. JACKSON, MICHIGAN  
BERNARD F. McCLOSKEY SR. 116 SEVENTH AVENUE.
- κIA 6. ROG. McCLOSKEY, BERNARD F. JR. SGT 13169876 CLARION, PA.  
VIOLET KENNEDY (M) 243-22 WELLER AVE.
- κIA 7. ARMORER G. KENNEDY, JAMES W. JR. SGT 32811616 ROSEDALE, NEW YORK.  
ANNETTA P. CORNELL (M) 2425 DIXIE JOGHWAY
- κIA 8. ARMORER G. CORNELL, WILLIAM P CPL 15119151 S.Ft. MITCHELL, KY.
- RTD 9. ARMORER G, TOLEDO, LOUIS E. I G. SGT 39274544 (FROM MIA TO LIA )
- κIA 10. AERIAL G. WARD, ELWOOD J. JR. SGT 18159746 MADGE WARD (M)  
425 SENAGA ST. ARTLESVILLE, OKLA.  
ROSALLA WARD (W) 227 HAINES ST. KANE, PA.

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

<u>NAME IN FULL</u>	<u>RANK SERIAL NO</u>	<u>Contacted by Radio</u>	<u>Last Sighted</u>	<u>Crash</u>	<u>Saw Forced landing</u>
<u>COX, CLIFFORD E.</u>	<u>PVT 37239771</u>			<u>X</u>	
<u>HARDT, ROBERT C.</u>	<u>S/SGT 17032447</u>			<u>X</u>	

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

13. ATTACH AS AN ENCLOSURE TO THIS REPORT, EITHER AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROPRIATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN. (X)

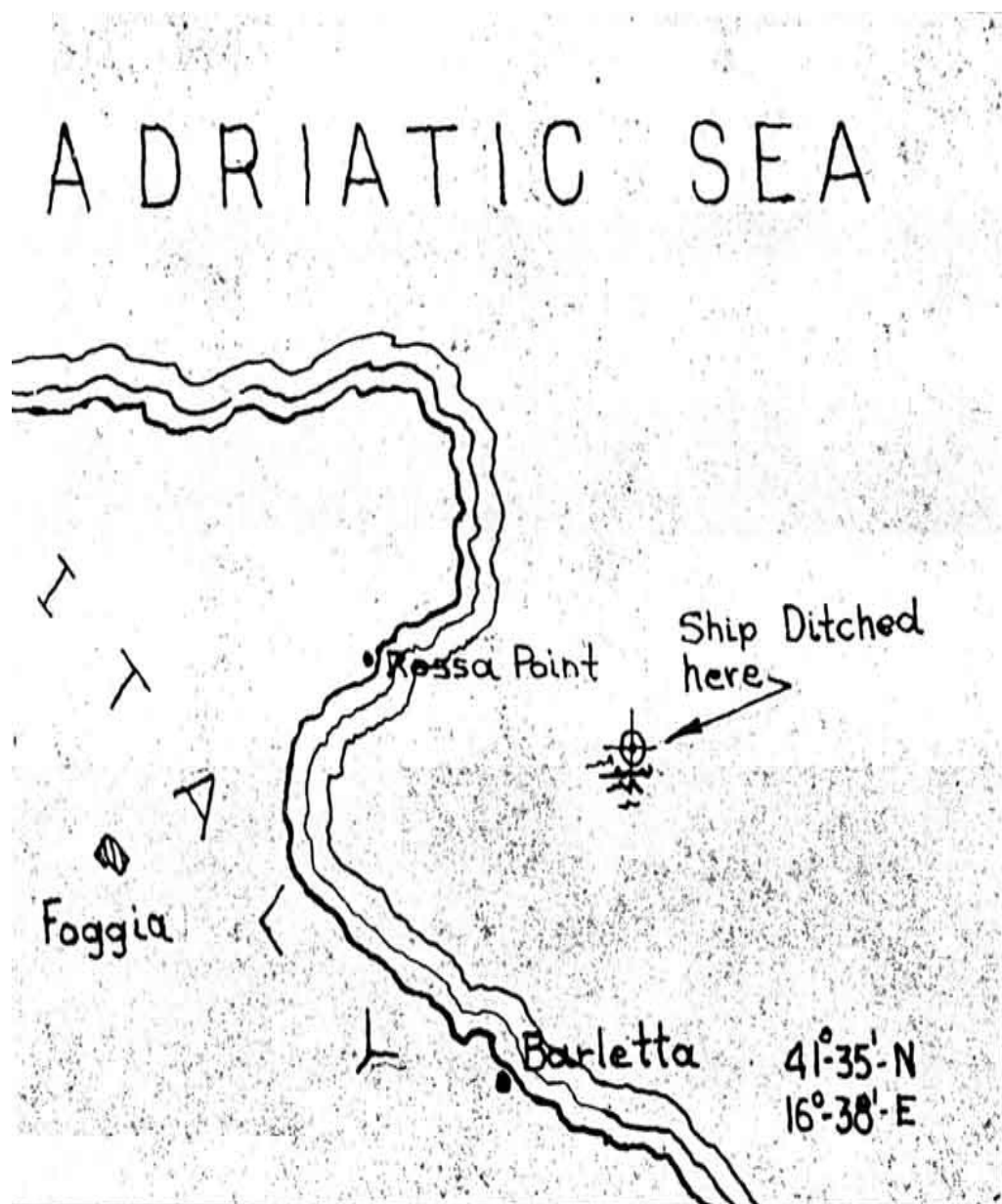
14. ATTACH, AS INCLOSURES TO THIS REPORT, EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTIONS OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT. (X)

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) THIS SQUADRON HAS NOT RECEIVED A REPORT OF THE SEARCH, Lt. SCHNEIDER AND SGT TOLEDO WERE RESCUED BY PLANE, BUT HAVE NOT RETURNED TO DUTY. TO DATE WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY OFFICIAL INFORMATION ON THE REMAINDER OF THIS CREW.

Date of this report: 25 JULY 1944

Signature of Officer /s/ Clyde Crabtree /s/  
 CLYDE CRABTREE,  
 Capt, AC, Executive Officer

- 3 Incls:  
 Incl 1. Statement of Pvt COX  
 Incl 2. Statement of S/Sgt HARDT  
 Incl 3. Location sketch



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

HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE  
APO 520 US ARMY

GP/j/gow

6920

2 August 1944

AG 360.33

SUBJECT:: Transmittal of Missing Air Crew Reports.

TO : Commanding General, NATOUSA, APO 534. Attention:  
Casualty Branch, AGD.

1. In compliance with letter, War Department, AG

360.33 (5-21-45) OB-S-AF-M, "Missing Air Crew Report", 23 May, 1943,  
transmitted herewith Missing Air Crew Roberts as follows:

<u>Incl No.</u>	<u>Date of MAC Rpt</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Name of Pilot</u>
1.	25 July 44	464th Bomb Gp	Guthrie, D. F.
2.	23 July 44	485th Bomb Gp	Baker, T.F.
3.	21 July 44	460th Bomb Gp	Remlinger, C.F.
4.	22 July 44	460th Bomb Gp	Rhodabarger, B.D.
5.	24 July 44	460th Bomb Gp	Larr, W.K.
6.	20 July 44	485th Bomb Gp	Sandall, J.C.
7.	21 July 44	485th Bomb Gp	Lewis, V.P.
8.	24 July 44	460th Bomb Gp	Weldon, W.C., Jr.
9	23 July 44	450th Bomb Gp	Furrow, J.R.
10.	16 July 44	464th Bomb Gp	Folsom, B.A., Jr.

For the commanding General:

/s/ I. R. Stern /s/  
I. R. STERN

10 Incls:  
Missing Air Crew Reports as  
Listed in dup.

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

AFPPA/aba/76365/11/25/44.

✓ 2nd Lt William J. Schneider	Mrs. Rose Schneider, (Mother) 2530 South Austin Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
✓ 2nd Lt Dale F. Guthrie	Mr. Roland M. Guthrie, (Father) R. F. D. Number Three, Box 60, Kenosha, Wisconsin
✓ 2nd Lt Clayton E. Connors	Mrs. Ellen H. Connors, (Mother) 10 Catell Street, Bangor, Maine.
✓ 2nd Lt Robert H. Wolfe	Mr. Tracy J. Wolfe, (Father) 2730 South Lafayette, Englewood, Colorado.
✓ S/Sgt William J. Weber	Mrs. Emily G. Weber, (Wife) Route #1, Atlantic Drive, St. Simons Island, Georgia.
✓ Sgt Elwood J. Ward, Jr.	Mrs. Rosalla N. Ward, (Wife) 227 Haines Street, Kane, Pennsylvania.
✓ Sgt Bernard F. McCloskey	Mr. Bernard F. McCloskey, (Father) 116 7th Avenue, Clarion, Pennsylvania.
✓ Sgt Louis E. Toledo	Mr. Osterio N. Toledo, (Father) 3712 South McClintock Avenue, Los Angeles, California.
✓ Sgt. James W. Kennedy, Jr.	Mr. James W. Kennedy, (Father) 3752 89th Street, Jackson Heights, Lone Island, New York.
✓ Cpl William P. Cornell	Mrs. Annette P. Cornell (Mother) 2425 Dixie Highway, South, Fort Mitchell, Kentucky.

23 July 1944

We were flying in Easy Box, position unknown at the time, when I saw Lt Guthrie's plane flying vertically directly under our plane. His plane went out of sight for a moment and I saw it again just after it crashed into the Adriatic Sea. I did not see any rafts or men in the water but the plane was still afloat when I last saw it.

/s/ Clifford E. Cox /s/  
CLIFFORD E. COX  
Pvt 37239771

23 July 1944.

We were flying Easy Box #12 when I saw Lt Guthrie's plane at four o'clock crash into the Adriatic Sea but we were too far away to see anything very clearly. We circled back over Lt Guthrie's plane and it was broken in two at the waist. I think I saw three men holding on to the left wing but am not sure due to oxygen bottles and wreckage around the plane. The second time we circled we dropped a life raft which landed within 100 feet of the wreckage and when we circled the third time I saw a man swimming toward the raft. The fourth time we circled, the ship was still afloat but I am not sure that I saw anyone.

/s/ Robert C Hardt /s/  
ROBERT C. HARDT  
S/Sgt 17032447