

Classification changed to **RESTRICTED**

CONFIDENTIAL

14030 2582

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

By **FM THOMAS**, 1st Lt. AC

1. ORGANIZATION: Location **Lucera Fld #8, Italy** Command or Air Force **15th A.F.**  
Group **501st Bomb Group (H) AAF** Squadron **32nd Bomb Sq (H) AAF**
2. SPECIFY: Place of departure **Base** Course **Target**  
Target **Vipiteno M/Y, Italy** Type of mission **Bombing**
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: **CAVU**

4. GIVE: (a) Date **20 April 1945** Time **1228 B** Last known position **46° 53' N 11° 10' E**  
(b) Specify whether: (X) Last sighted, ( ) Forced down, ( ) Seen to crash,  
(X) Last contacted by radio, ( ) No information.

5. AIRCRAFT (XXXX) (BELIEVED LOST) AS A RESULT OF: (Check one only)  
( ) Enemy aircraft, (X) Enemy anti-aircraft, ( ) Other

6. AIRCRAFT: Type, model & series **B-17G** AAF Serial Number **44-6387**

7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT **Princess O'Rourke**

8. ENGINES: Type, model & series **R-1820-97** AAF Serial Number (a) **SW-018161**

- (b) **SW-771** (c) **SW-009221** (d) **SW-023473**

9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Make, type and serial number.)
- |                   |                    |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| (a) <b>224689</b> | (c) <b>153356</b>  | (i) <b>1306542</b> |
| (b) <b>224780</b> | (f) <b>1305989</b> | (j) <b>1306451</b> |
| (c) <b>634550</b> | (g) <b>1305885</b> | (k) <b>256458</b>  |
| (d) <b>153353</b> | (h) <b>1305414</b> | (l) <b>224906</b>  |

10. PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW REPORTED AS: (X) Battle Casualty, ( ) Non-Battle Casualty.

11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew **10**; Passengers **-**; 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 STATUS AND ADDRESS                                                    |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (1) Pilot           | <b>Adams, Robert M.</b>          | <b>1st Lt., 0778685</b>  | <b>MIA Mrs. Marjorie E. Adams (Wife)</b><br><b>1195 - 15th St., Centerville, Iowa</b> <b>RTD</b>        |
| (2) Co-Pilot        | <b>Llewellyn, Edman E.</b>       | <b>2nd Lt., 02001916</b> | <b>MIA Mr. Wesley E. Llewellyn (Father)</b><br><b>R.F.D. #2, Frostburg, Maryland</b> <b>RTD</b>         |
| (3) Navigator       | <b>Blair, David R.</b>           | <b>2nd Lt., 02074649</b> | <b>MIA Mrs. Lura Mae Blair (Mother)</b><br><b>3835 W. Richmond St., Chicago, Illinois</b> <b>RTD</b>    |
| (4) Toggaler        | <b>Knapp, Frederick R.</b>       | <b>T/Sgt., 12239457</b>  | <b>MIA Mrs. Sally Knapp (Mother)</b><br><b>45 Mohawk St., Rochester, New York</b> <b>RTD</b>            |
| (5) Engineer        | <b>Stemac, Frank</b>             | <b>Sgt., 35916377</b>    | <b>MIA Mr. Joseph Stemac, Sr. (Father)</b><br><b>7609 Linwood Ave., Cleveland, Ohio</b> <b>RTD</b>      |
| (6) Radio Oper.     | <b>Rasmussen, Frederick A.</b>   | <b>Sgt., 16160006</b>    | <b>MIA Mrs. Pearl Rasmussen (Mother)</b><br><b>625 Eastlawn, Detroit, Michigan</b> <b>RTD</b>           |
| (7) Ball Turr. Gnr. | <b>Orman, Verdon E.</b>          | <b>Sgt., 37682823</b>    | <b>MIA Mrs. Ida B. Orman (Mother)</b><br><b>607 Chester Ave., Ottumwa, Iowa</b> <b>RTD</b>              |
| (8) Waist Gnr.      | <b>Burnham, Alonzo F.</b>        | <b>Sgt., 36444396</b>    | <b>MIA Mrs. Roberta M. Burnham (Mother)</b><br><b>1300 N. Sheridan Rd., Peoria, Illinois</b> <b>RTD</b> |
| (9) Waist Gnr.      | <b>Gamal, Vincent A.</b>         | <b>Sgt., 11121271</b>    | <b>MIA Mrs. Ranzy Gamal (Mother)</b><br><b>210 Franklin St., South Braintree, Mass.</b> <b>RTD</b>      |
| (10) Tail Gnr.      | <b>Whitbeck, Harold B.</b>       | <b>Sgt., 39304317</b>    | <b>MIA Mrs. Blanche R. Whitbeck (Mother)</b><br><b>Box 82, LaSalle Drive, Rainer, Oregon</b> <b>RTD</b> |
| (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 LAST BY RADIO | SAW      | FORCED |
|-------------------------------|------|------------------|-------------------------|----------|--------|
| (1) <b>Meyer E. Fried</b>     |      | <b>23106508</b>  |                         | <b>X</b> |        |
| (2) <b>Ronald S. McDonell</b> |      | <b>061644579</b> |                         | <b>X</b> |        |
| (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. **landing in Switzerland**  
(X) Other reasons (specify) **Pilot contacted Comd Pilot by radio and said he would attempt a**
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.

2-Inclosures.

Incl #1 Sketch (Sex) Date **26 April 1945**

Incl #2 Witness Statements (Sex) **CONFIDENTIAL**

**KENNETH E. WERTS, Major Air Corps,**

Signature of preparing officer

Commanding