

Classification changed to

RESTRICTED

11, AO

by J. M. MURPHY, Capt., AO

Date 5 SEP 1943

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY AIR FORCES

WASHINGTON

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

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

1. ORGANIZATION: Location Oudna No. 2; Command or Air Force XII; Group 301st; Squadron 32nd; Detachment
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure Oudna No. 2 (Base); Course CAPUA A/D, ITALY - BASE; Intended Destination Oudna No. 2 (Base); Type of Mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: 3 to 9/10ths
4. Give: (a) Date 4 Sept/43; Time 1630H; and Location 40° 40' N, 13° 10' E of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether (X) Last Sighted; () Last Contacted by Radio; () Forced Down; () 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) (X) Enemy Aircraft; () Enemy Anti-aircraft; () Other Circumstances as follows:
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17FG; AAF Serial Number 42-30344
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1820-97; AAF Serial Number (a) 41-56994
(b) 43-62524; (c) 43-56054; (d) 43-58527
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type, and Serial Number) W/Gun M2 AC Flex .50
(a) 502372; (b) 502866; (c) 502300; (d) 495815 Cal
(e) 502389; (f) 436790; (g) 464201; (h) Up Tur & Tail (unknown)
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty Yes
or (b) Non-battle Casualty
10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 9; Passengers 0; Total 9
(Starting with pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 10 persons were aboard aircraft, list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach original to this form).

	Crew Position	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	
RTD	1. Pilot	GROUCH, WILBUR E.	2nd Lt	0-736120	RTD
RTD	2. Co-Pilot	KINNEY, MALCOLM S.	2nd Lt	0-732555	RTD
EVS	3. Navigator	PLEISCHHAUER, EUGENE T.	2nd Lt	0-711026	RTD
RTD	4. Bombardier	KIMMER, RICHARD D.	2nd Lt	0-689317	RTD
EVS	5. Upper Turret Gunner	ALLEN, THOMAS J.	S/Sgt	32119311	RTD
EVS	6. Radio Operator Gunner	GOLL, HAMILTON A.	S/Sgt	38113443	
W/A	7. Ball Turret Gunner	CURTIGIAN, DAN (NMI)	Sgt	33295666	
EVS	8. 1st Gunner	SKRIPKA, PETER P. JR.	S/Sgt	32389104	RTD
EVS	9. Tail Gunner	KUHLTHAU, PHILIP A.	Sgt	32165607	

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

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Check only one column			
			Contacted By Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1. See Enclosed Witnesses' Statements.						
2.						
3.						

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) This Hq believes there is a possibility of survival since a/c believed headed for
13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.
14. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE No Search.

Date of Report 5 September 1943.

Edward F. Stoddard
EDWARD F. STODDARD, Lt. Col., Air Corps.
(Signature of Preparing Officer)

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