

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON
MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

Classification changed to **RESTRICTED**
by E. A. BRADONAS, Lt. Col., AG
by F. M. MUEHCH, Capt., AG
Date **MAR 7 5 1944**

1. **STATUS:** 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.

2. **ORGANIZATION:** Location Cerignola No. 1; Command or Air Force XV
Group 301st; Squadron 419th; Detachment _____
3. **SPECIFY:** Point of Departure Cerignola No. 1; Course Base - Montpellier/Frejorgues, Intended Destination Montpellier/Frejorgues Type of Mission Bombing France.
4. **WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF LOSS OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:** 7-9/10 cumulus, Base 2500', Tops 3-4500', Visibility 7-9 mi. in haze, Winds 320° 20 MPH at
5. **Give:** (a) Date 27 Jan 1944; Time 0853A; and Location Baselice, Italy, 5000' of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether () Last Sighted; () Last Contacted by Radio; () Forced Down; (X) Seen to Crash; or () Information not available
6. **AIRCRAFT WAS ENEMY, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF:** (check only one) () Enemy Aircraft; () Enemy anti-aircraft; () Other Circumstances as follows: Unknown.

7. **AIRCRAFT:** Type, Model and Series B-17F; RAF Serial Number 42-3166
8. **ENGINES:** Type, Model and Series R-1820-97; AAF Serial Number (a) 41-55569
(b) 42-79053; (c) SW-006288; (d) SW-003871
9. **INSTALLED WEAPONS:** (Furnish below Make, Type, and Serial Number) M/Gun M2 Flex .50 Cal
(a) 112992, 198364; (b) 113361, 473318; (c) 113334, 125975; (d) 116472, 473222
(e) 473330; (f) 470706; (g) 470734; (h) _____
10. **THE PERSONS LISTED WERE REPORTED AS:** (a) Battle Casualty Yes.
or (b) _____ Battle Casualty _____
11. **NUMBER OF PERSONS BOARD AIRCRAFT:** Crew 9; Passengers 0; Total 9
(Starting with pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 1 person were aboard aircraft, list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach original to this form).

Status

	Crew Position	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number
<i>KIA</i>	Pilot	GRAVES, BILLY J.	2nd Lt	0-2056078
	Co-pilot	HILL, NORMAN C.	2nd Lt	0-801558
	3. Navigator	HESS, JOHN W.	2nd Lt	0-736643
	4. Bombardier	FRIEDLANDER, RAYMOND (NMI)	2nd Lt	0-676248
	5. Upper Turret Gnr	KOLB, JOSEPH F.	T/Sgt	32411958
	6. Radio Opr Gnr	POWELL, JAMES W.	S/Sgt	38211143
	7. Lower Turret Gnr	BERGIN, JOHN M.	S/Sgt	32627116
	8. Waist Gnr	FRANCISCO, ALFREDO E.	S/Sgt	32416619
	9. Tail Gnr	VANDERBERG, HARLEY A.	S/Sgt	16021729

12. **IDENTIFY PERSONS WHOSE NAMES YOU ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:**

Check only one column

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted			
			By Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Landing

1. **See Inclosed Witnesses' Statements.**
2. _____
3. _____
4. **IF PERSONS ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, FURNISH 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 (See **See Witnesses' Statements.**)
5. **ATTACH AN FIVE PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.**
6. **ATTACH EVIDENCE OF DESTRUCTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.**
7. **ATTACH DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, GRADE AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE 1st Lt. CARL L. DEMORAY, 0-732450.**

Date of Report 2 February 1944.

for
W. J. O'Carroll
P. J. O'CARROLL, Major, AC, Opns Officer.
(Signature of Preparing Officer)

Incl 12