7142
18 pages

#7142
7/26/1944
44.6168
~~352nd~~
32nd

CONFIDENTIAL

7142 -

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 Lucera A/D #8, Italy Command or AF 15th AF
Group 301st Bomb (H) Squadron 32nd Bomb (H)

2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure Lucera A/D #8, Italy Course Lucera, Italy to Weiner
Target Weiner Type of Mission Bombing Neudorf A/C Fcty, Austria
Neudorf A/C Fcty, Austria.

3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
3/10 to 5/10 undercast

4. GIVE: (a) Date 26 July 1944 Time 1105B Location (47/24N, 15/43E)
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 & Series B-17G AAF Serial No 44-6168

7. ENGINES : Type, Model & Series R-1820-97 AAF Serial No (a) SW-020044
(b) SW-020235 (c) 43-63055 (d) SW-020100

8. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Furnish below Make, Type, and Serial Number) All M2 Flex .50 cal
(a) 1180521 (b) 1180591 (i) 11800645 (m) 11800343
(c) 11800639 (d) 11800611 (j) 1177747
(e) 1180032 (f) 1181217 (k) 11811487
(g) 11811433 (h) 1180717 (l) 1191862

9. PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW REPORTED AS: (X) Battle Casualty ( ) Non-Battle Cas.

10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10 Passengers 0 Total 10
(Starting with "Pilot" furnish the following particulars; if more than 12 persons were aboard list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach to this form)

	CREW POSITION	NAME IN FULL (Last Name First)	RANK	SERIAL NO	NEXT OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP, AND ADDRESS
DED 1.	Pilot	DELONNAY, RALPH C.	1st Lt	0-816436	Myrtle A. Delonnay (Mother) 1029 Lakepointe Ave, Grosse Point Park, Mich.
DED 2.	Co-pilot	KERR, PAUL R.	2nd Lt	0-819535	Mabel G. Kerr (Mother) RFD #6, Lima, Ohio
DED 3.	Navigator	MASSEY, BOBBIE L.	2nd Lt	0-707957	Mr. Robert L. Massey (Father) Pilot Point, Texas
DED 4.	Bombardier	KUHN, JACK S.	2nd Lt	0-762785	Paula Kuhn Schwartz (Mother) 964 S 13th St, Niles, Mich.
DED 5.	Eng Chr	CHESNEY, [illegible]	T/Sgt	33460187	Stasia Chesney (Mother) 73 Railroad St., Glen Lyon, Penna.
DED 6.	Rad Opr Chr	[illegible], JOSEPH K.	T/Sgt	36639201	Caroline Palasek (Mother) 2629 So. Euclid Ave, Berwyn, Illinois
EVS 7.	Lwr Trt Gnr	[illegible]	S/Sgt	16035856	Peter Demos (Father) 535 West 60th Place, Chicago, Illinois
DED 8.	Waist Gnr	[illegible]	S/Sgt	20825132	Alma E. Anderson (Mother) Route #3, Pawnee, Oklahoma

RTD

259

CONFIDENTIAL

Incl #1

(See Reverse Side)

11

EUS 9. Waist Gnr + Stark, [illegible] S/Sgt 17070079 Emma Stark (Mother) RTD
Breda, Iowa

KIA 10. [illegible] Gnr [illegible], [illegible] S/Sgt 37529977 Nellie G. Jenkins (Mother)
1485 Detroit St, Denver, Colorado

11. [illegible]

12. [illegible]

AUG 28 1944

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

NAME IN FULL	RANK	SERIAL NO	Contacted by Radio	Sighted	Crash	Forced Land
1. McKinney, Eugene G.	S/Sgt	35515010			X	
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						

RECEIVED

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) **Surrounding circumstances not reasonably conclusive of KIA casualty status.**

13. ATTACH, AS AN INCLOSURE TO THIS REPORT, EITHER AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHA OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.

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

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)
No search made, since a/c was last seen over enemy territory.

Date of this Report: 30 July 1944

Jack A. Nendell
(Signature of Preparing Officer)
JACK A. NENDELL,
Major, Air Corps,
Ass't Opns Officer.

2 Incls:
Incl 1 - Witness' Statements.
Incl 2 - Sketch.

12

7142-2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Restricted

E/JNB/rf

32ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H) AAF
Office of the Operations Officer
APO 520

28 July 1944

SUBJECT: Witness' Statement to Accompany Missing Air Crew Report on A/C #44-6168.

TO : Operations Officer, 301st Bomb Gp (H) AAF, APO 520.

1. I was flying as Tail Gunner on Airplane #44-6189. We were flying along in a good formation when Fighters came into sight at about 7 o'clock. They went around to six o'clock, some going above us, a few staying level, andthe rest going under us. The Fighters started firing at us when they were about 1500 yds out. Airplane #44-6168 was behind us very close. At this time we were hit by an incendiary , and the oxygen caught on fire, I was busy putting the fire out and when I looked back again, 168 was no longer in the sky. I believe the Fighters knocked him down. It is hard to determine as to the chances of survival of the crew members. The plane was last seen at 47° 34'N 15° 43'E.

Eugene G. McKimmy
EUGENE G. McKIMMY,
S/Sgt, 355105010.

John N Buckley
JOHN N. BUCKLEY,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Operations Officer.

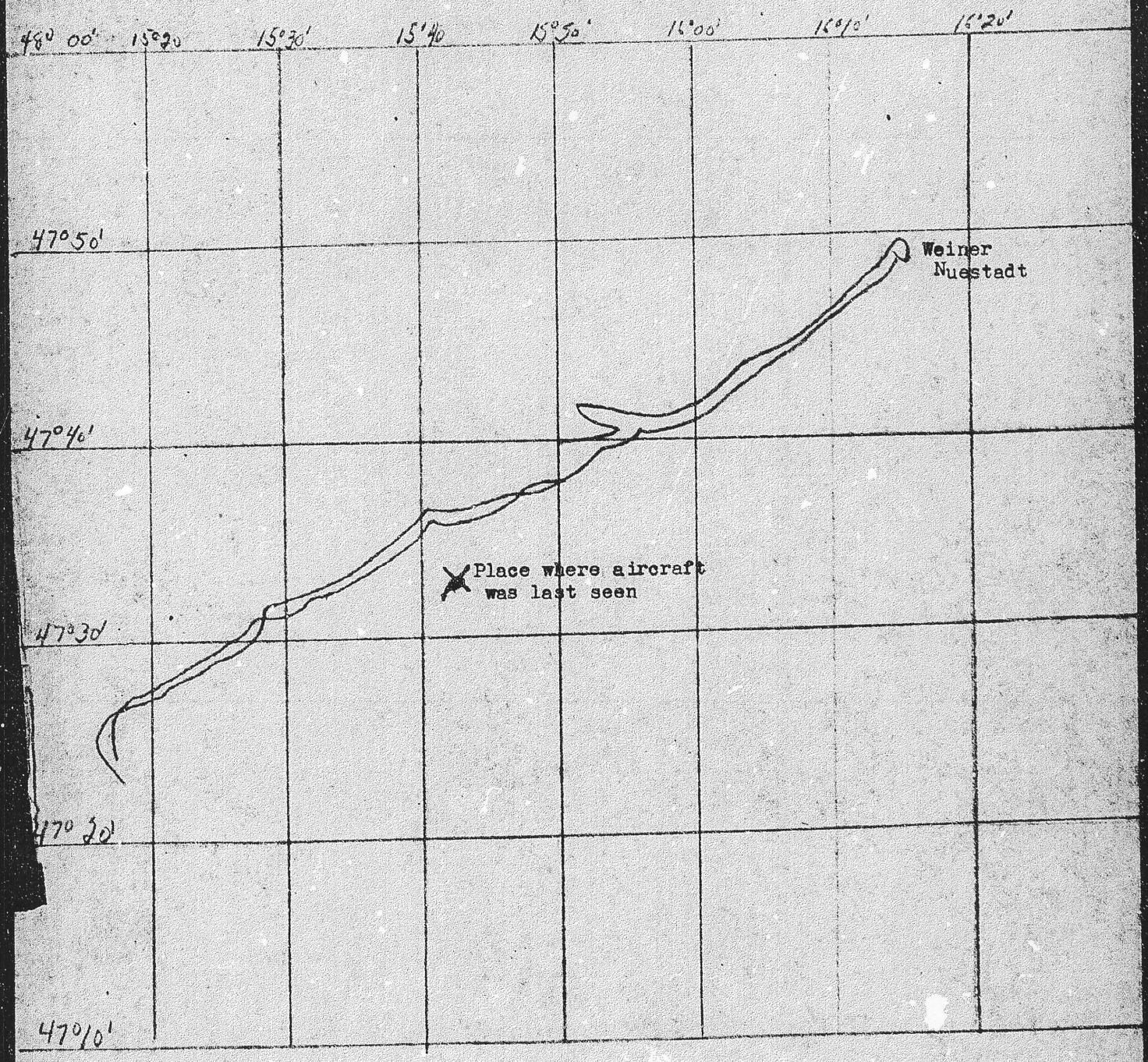
Restricted per authority WDCie 104, 1946
Apol Rec, 25 Feb 49

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Restricted

OVERLAY OF GRAZ SECTIONAL MAP 1:500,000 Europe (Air)

7142-3x



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Restricted per authority WD Cir 104, 19/6
Opac Rice
25 Feb 49

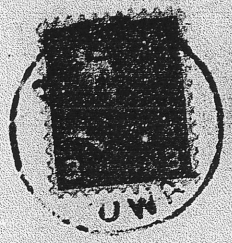
Check on status received
July 27,

1st Lt Ralph C. Delaney Mia 26 July 44 E.A. 10 Aug 44	Mrs. Myrtle A. Delaney, (Mother) 1[illegible] Lake Pointe Avenue, Grosse Point Park 30, Michigan.
2nd Lt Paul H. Herr Mia 26 July 44 E.A. 9 Aug 44	Mrs. Betty J. Herr, (Wife) Rural Route Six, Lima, Ohio.
2nd Lt Bobbie L. Massey Mia 26 July 44 E.A. 9 Aug 44	Mr. M. L. Massey, (Father) Box 337, Pilot Point, Texas.
2nd Lt. Jack S. Kuhn Mia 26 July 44 E.A. 9 Aug 44	Mrs. Paula H. Schwartz, (Mother) [illegible] South 13th Street, Niles, Michigan.
T/Sgt Gilbert J. Chesney Mia 26 July 44. E.A. 9 Aug 44	Mrs. Stella Chesney, (Mother) 73 Railroad Street, Glen Lyon, Pennsylvania.
T/Sgt Joseph K. Salasek Mia 26 July 44 E.A. 11 Aug 44	Mrs. Caroline Salasek, (Mother) [illegible] South Euclid Avenue, Berwyn, Illinois.
S/Sgt George Dunes E.U.S. date not shown 9 July 45	Miss Pauline Dunes (sister) [illegible] West 60th Place, Chicago, Illinois.
S/Sgt Eugene H. Anderson Mia 26 July 44. E.A. 9 Aug 44	Mrs. Mildred E. Anderson, (Wife) [illegible] Dorothy Lane, Fort Worth, Texas.
S/Sgt Melvin K. Stark E.U.S date not shown E.A. 21 June 45	Mr. Richard J. Stark, (Father) Breda, Iowa.
S/Sgt Roscoe G. Fulton Mia 26 July 44 E.A. 9 Aug 44	Mrs. Ruth P. Fulton, (Wife) 1[illegible] Detroit Street, Denver, Colorado.

Oct. 14

1st Lt. Ralph C. Delonnay	no award	Mrs. Myrtle A. Delonnay (mother) 1029 Lake Pointe Avenue, Grosse Point Park 30, Michigan
2nd Lt. Paul M. Kerr	m.d.a	Mrs. Betty J. Kerr (wife) Rural Route Six, Lima, Ohio
2nd Lt. Bobbie L. Massey	m.d.a	Mr. R. L. Massey (father) Box 337, Pilot Point, Texas.
2nd Lt. Jack S. Kuhn	m.d.a	Mrs. Paula K. Schwartz (mother) 964 South 13th St., Niles, Michigan.
T/Sgt. Gilbert J. Chesney	m.d.a	Mrs. Stasia Chesney (mother) 73 Railroad Street, Glen Lyon, Pennsylvania
T/Sgt. Joseph K. Salasek	m.d.a	Mrs. Carolina Salasek (Mother) 2629 South Euclid Avenue, Berwyn, Illinois.
S/Sgt. George Demos	pass	Miss Pauline Demos (sister) 535 West 60th Place, Chicago, Illinois.
S/Sgt. Eugene H. Anderson	m.d.a.	Mrs. Mildred E. Anderson (wife) 1304 Dorothy Land, Fort Worth, Texas.
S/Sgt. Melvin K. Stark	~~m.d.a.~~	Mr. Richard J. Stark (father) Breda, Iowa.
S/Sgt. Roscoe G. Fulton	m.d.a	Mrs. Ruth P. Fulton (wife) 1485 Detroit Street, Denver, Colorado

Melvin K. Stark
17070079
Breda, Iowa



War Department
Headquarters Army Air Forces
Washington 25, D.C.

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: SALASEK, Joseph K File # 7142
Rank: T/Sgt
Serial number: 36639801
Position: Crew (Bomber) on ~~[illegible]~~ Radio Op and Gunner

Did he bail out? _____

Where? _____

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

_____

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

_____

_____

6-3861, AF

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: CHESNEY, Gilbert J File # 7142
Rank: T/Sgt
Serial number: 33460187
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~[illegible]~~ Engineer

Did he bail out? _____

Where? _____

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

_____

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

_____

_____

6-3861, AF

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 7142

Name of crew member: KUHN, Jack S
Rank: 2nd Lt
Serial number: 0-762785
Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Flight (Fighter)~~: Bombardier

Did he bail out? _____

Where? _____

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

6-3861, AF

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 7142

Name of crew member: MASSEY, Bobbie L
Rank: 2nd Lt
Serial number: 0-707957
Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Flight (Fighter)~~: Navigator

Did he bail out? _____

Where? _____

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

6-3861, AF

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: KERR, Paul M File # 7142
Rank: 2nd Lt
Serial number: 0-819535
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~[illegible]~~ Co-Pilot

Did he bail out? _____

Where? _____

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

_____

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

_____

_____

6-3861, AF

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: DELONNAY, Ralph C File # 7142
Rank: 1st Lt
Serial number: 0-816436
Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Fighter (Fighter)~~ Pilot

Did he bail out? _____

Where? _____

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

_____

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

_____

_____

6-3861, AF

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: ANDERSON, Eugene H File # 7142
Rank: S/Sgt
Serial number: 20825132
Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Flight (Fighter)~~: Waist Gunner

Did he bail out? _____

Where? _____

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

_____

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

_____

_____

6-3861, AF

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: FULTON, Roscoe G File # 7142
Rank: S/Sgt
Serial number: 37329977
Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Flight (Fighter)~~: Tail Gunner

Did he bail out? Not that I know of

Where?

If not, why not? I heard the tail gunner say that there were

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: About 40 fighters coming up at 6 o'clock low and about the

Was he injured? same time the tail gunner, left waist

Where was he when last seen? Gunner and ball turret gunner

Any hearsay information: started to fire. I finally saw the fighters and only fired about 25 shots when I I got hit. I did not hear any more over the interphone from any body. I saw Anderson laying by the open waist door with his parachute on after

Source: the plane went out of control the first time.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: The plane was all full of holes, you could see the sky almost any place. The plane went out of control the second time and when it leveled off Anderson wasnt in the plane. There were

Total number of missions of above crew member: So many bags and ammunition

Dates and destinations if possible: cans laying around that he may have been under these but I am not sure of this but really think that being he was so close to the open door he most have rolled out when the plane went out of control. I dont know if Anderson was wounded or if he was unconscious because he was laying there all rolled up like a ball. No doubt that he was

6-3861, AF

WOUNDED BECAUSE 20 MM'S WERE LAYING ON THE FLOOR AND THEN THEY WOULD EXPLODE. I WAS THE RIGHT WAIST GUNNER AND THIS IS HOW I WAS WOUNDED. I WAS AFRAID THAT THE PLANE WOULD GO OUT OF CONTROL AGAIN SO I BAILED OUT. ALL THE WHILE THIS HAPPENED I FELT AS IF I WERE IN A FOG AND REALLY CAN'T GIVE TOO MUCH INFORMATION BECAUSE IT ALL HAPPENED SO FAST. WHEN I BAILED OUT I PASSED OUT AND CAME TO ABOUT 2000 ft. FROM THE GROUND. I LOOKED UP AND SAW TWO OTHER CHUTES COMING DOWN AND ALSO PARTS OF A PLANE ALL ON FIRE. I REMEMBERED LOOKING AT MY WATCH AT 11:05 AM. AND IMMEDIATELY ATER THIS WE WERE HIT. OUR TARGET TIME I THINK WAS SUPPORE TO BE 11:30 AM. I LANDED IN SOME TALL TREES AND WHEN I GOT TO THE GROUND IT WAS JUST 12:00. THE CIVILIANS GOT ME AND I STAYED WITH THEN THE REST OF THE DAY & NIGHT. THE NEXT MORNING AT 4:30 AM. THEY TOOK ME TO A TRAIN AND I RODE FOR ABOUT AN HOUR WHEN SOME AMERICAN BOYS FROM OUR GROUP CAME AND PUT ME WITH THEM ON THEIR TRAIN. THERE WERE ABOUT 12 OF US ALL TOGETHER. AND THEY TOOK US TO AN AIRFIELD AT GRAZ, AUSTRIA. I WAS TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL RESERVE LAZARET STALAG 3B IN GRAZ. THE REST OF THE BOYS WENT ON TO BUDAPEST. DEMOS, THE BALL TURRET GUNNER WAS WITH THESE BOYS. HE TOLD ME THAT WHEN HE LEFT THE PLANE IT WAS ON FIRE. HE MUST HAVE BAILED OUT AFTER I DID. I THINK THAT OUR TARGET ALTITUDE WAS 23,500 ft. I CANNOT GIVE AN ACCOUNT OF ANY OF THE OTHER CREW MEMBERS. BUT IF YOU WANT TO KNOW ANYTHING ELSE I WOULD BE GLAD TO HELP OUT IF I CAN.

Melvin K. Stark
17070079
Buda, Ga.

26 July 44

AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name MELVIN K. STARK Rank S/Sgt Serial No. 17070079

2. Organization 301st Bomb Gp 32nd Sqd Gp Commander _____ (full name) Rank ___ Sqn CO UNKNOWN HARDING (full name) Rank MAJOR

3. What year 1944 month July day 26 did you go down?

4. What was the mission, WIENER-NEUDORF AUSTRIA target, ? , target time, 11:30 , altitude, 23,500 ft route scheduled, ? , route flown ?

5. Where were you when you left formation? ?

6. Did you bail out? YES

7. Did other members of crew bail out? DENGS BALL TURRET GUNNER

8. Tell all you know about when, where, how each person in your aircraft for whom no individual questionnaire is attached bailed out. A crew list is attached. Please give facts. If you don't know, say: "No Knowledge". NO KNOWLEDGE

9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? NO KNOWLEDGE

10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) NO KNOWLEDGE

11. Where were they in aircraft? NO KNOWLEDGE

12. What was their condition? NO KNOWLEDGE

13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? _____

14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. _____

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

6-3862, AF