

# INDIVIDUAL DECEASED PERSONNEL FILE

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96 B6 336 BS

A Stranger	
MEMORIALI REMA	ZATION OF NON-RECOVERABLE INS OF WORLD WAR II
THIS FILE HAS	BEEN AUDITED FOR NON-RECOVERABILITY
NAME (Last, First, Middle)	
TAPHES,	HENRY P
PANK	SERIAL NUMBER
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AME OF REVIEWER	
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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1950 O - 916195

NON	-RECOVERABLE REMAIN	S REEXAMINATION UP	RECORDS
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	CONTROL	LED CASE	
NAME		GRADE	SERIAL NO.
JAMES. HENRY P.		T/sgt	35 428 569
DO NOT TAKE AN WITHOUT THE CO	Y ACTION ON THIS CASE OR F NCURRENCE OF:	ELEASE INFORMATION FROM	THIS FILE
/			Flagged by: (Initial)
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

In Reply QLIGHU 293 World Van Unrgcover	: II		MA
SIPJECT:	Non-Recover	ability of	Remains

R 11 1949

: Commanding General TO American Graves Registration Command European Area AFO 58, c/o Postmaster New York, New York

1. Reference is made to Proceedings of Boards of Officers that have convened at your Headquarters and have determined that the remains of certain World War II dead are non-recoverable.

2. Findings of the Board have been reviewed and approved on all decedents whose names appear on the attached roster.

3. It is requested that all records of your office pertaining to these deceased be amended to read REMAINS NON-RECOVERABLE.

FOR THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL:

l Incl List of nonrecoverables

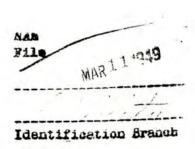
T. H. METZ Lt. Colonel, QLC Memorial Division

NAR File Asatification

## REMAINS NON-RECOVERABLE - EUROPEAN AREA

NAME	RANK	SERIAL NO.
GRIFFIN, JOHN J., JR.	2/LT.	0-734 673
HODULIK, ANDREW J.	T/SGT.	12 051 184
JAMES, HENRY P.	T/SCT.	35 428 569
KRUER, EDWARD J.	2/LT.	0-793 635
LEE, HOWARD R.	S/SGT.	19 128 286
McNEILL, JOHN D.	2/LT.	0-670 776
MESSENGER, PHILIP H.	S/SGT.	39 529 882
REYNOLDS, LOYD W.	M/SGT,	6 820 671
STONEBURNER, WILLIAM N.	l/LT.	0-793 859
STRAND, LAWRENCE R.	l/IT.	0-665 637
VADNEY, WILLIAM J.	S/SGT.	12 170 468
WARD, FREDRIC B.	2/LT.	0-672 912

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m - OWG/sma/1B741/9746

AG 704 (23 Dec 48)

23 December 1948

MEMORANDUM TO: Officer in Charge Casualty Section, Personnel Actions Branch, AGO

SUBJECT: Reports of Death.

1. The following Air Corps personnel were reported missing in action since 17 October 1943, while in flying pay status, in the European Area, place unknown (Cas Msg 297132), and, following their continued absence for a year, were presumed dead as of 18 October 1944, under provisions of Section 5 of the Missing Persons Act:

	lst Lt	Stoneburner, William N.	0 79	3 859	
	2nd Lt	Griffin, John J., Jr.	0 73	4 673	
	2nd Lt	McNeill, John D.	0 67	0 776	
	2nd Lt	Ward, Fredric B.	0 67	2 912	File
	M Sgt	Reynolds, Loyd W.	6 82	0 671	JAN 1 1 1949
	T Sgt	Hodulik, Andrew J.	12 05	1 184	/
~	T Sgt	James, Henry F.	35 42	8 569	AG The Former
/	S Sgt	Lee, Howard R.	19 12	8 286	Capt., QMJ
	S Sgt	Messenger, Philip H.	39 52	9 882	Identification Branch
	S Sgt	Vadney, William J.	12 17	0 468	

2. Missing Air Crew Report No. 1019, from Headquarters 337th Bombardment Squadron, 96th Bombardment Group (H), shows that a B-17F type aircraft, No. 42-30365, with crew comprised of the individuals named above, became missing in action 17 October 1943, when it failed to return to its base in England, when called back from an operational mission on account of bad weather conditions. Crew positions of the men above, in the order listed, were shown as: pilot, bombardier, navigator, co-pilot, right wing gunner, radio operator, engineer, tail gunner, left wing gunner, and ball turret gunner. The weather was reported to have been rainy, visibility zero, and the report showed that no information was available regarding the whereabouts or fate of the missing plane. Confirmation of this lack of knowledge regarding the fate of the plane and crew is found in the fifth of nine wrapper indorsements filed with MACR No. 1019. Dated 23 December 1943, from Headquarters, 96th Bombardment Group, to Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington, D. C., it reads as follows:

"Reference 1st Wrapper indorsement, subject Officers and Enlisted Men departed AAF Station 138 17 October 1943 in B-17F Airplane No. 42-30365 with other Combat Crews of this Command on a projected operational mission to Duren, Germany. Due to inclement weather and poor visibility, the formation was recalled and Subject Crew failed to return. Further information concerning the whereabouts of this Crew or the circumstances under which they failed to return to this Station is unavailable and it is therefore impossible to determine whether or not any of said Crew survived. In a word, the Crew simply disappeared."

3. Letters from the Air Adjutant General to the families of the crew members, dated 29 January 1944 (copies filed in AG 201's of all except Lt Griffin and Sgt James), state that the plane "departed from the British Isles on an important military mission to Mestern Germany", and gives a resume of information already set forth in this review.

4. The following information was submitted by Mrs. Floyd J. Lee, mother of Sergeant Lee, in a letter to The Adjutant General dated 16 June 1944:

"\*\* \* Two of the families wrote friends of their boys in England had been on this particular mission, and had definitely seen the ship go down. One Lt. wrote me he was flying as wingman with Lt. Stoneburner and saw him leave formation and go down. Then recently another letter stated a returned Captain had talked to this party (a sister of one of the crew) and stated he was on this flight and they were called back to their Base before they left England, and all ships returned except this one. It was supposed they followed a German beam across the Channel \* \* \* \*."

5. In addition, the following notations are found in material on file with individual records of the crew members:

a. On Officer's Qualification Cards of commissioned personnel:

"Officer missing in action: on B-17 #42-30365, location unknown, while on combat mission 17 Cct 1943;"

b. Under "Administrative Remarks" in Service Records of Enlisted Men:

"Sol. missing in action, 17 Oct. 1943, location unknown, while on a heavy Bomb Sortie in B-17 Airplane #42-30365."

c. Indorsements made a part of the individual Service Records of the enlisted men and dated 5 November 1943, show that the 337th Bombardment Squadron (H) was stationed at "Snetterton Heath, England at that time.

6. Reference to a map of the area shows that Duren, in Western Germany, is approximately 350 miles, "as the crow flies" from Snetterton Heath, in Norfolk, England, and that 100 miles of this route lies across the North Sea.

7. A report dated 21 September 1948 has been received from the Memorial Division, OQMG (Mr. Long), stating that the crew of this plane are being processed as "Non-Recoverable" in that office, as the absence of any clue to the fate of the crew has resulted in the belief that their plane crashed in the North Sea. A search of translations of captured German documents and other material on file in this office reveals nothing else of interest to this review.

8. Aircraft No. 42-30365, a B-17 bombardment plane, carrying as its crew the ten men named in paragraph 1 above, was one of a flight dispatched from a

base in England on 17 October 1943, to bomb Duren, Germany. Official reports show that the mission was cancelled, and the planes called back because of the "inclement weather and poor visibility." This plane alone failed to return as ordered. Available evidence does not show whether Lieutenant Stoneburner's plane disappeared before the order to turn back was received by the flight leader. The meager information received by Mrs. Lee (par 4, above) and forwarded by her to the War Department in 1944 is seen to consist of hearsay only and to be of little value beyond suggesting certain possibilities. North Sea crossings were generally made at high altitude in order to avoid antiaircraft fire over the Dutch coast, and under the poor visibility prevailing at the time, it seems obvious that men on the other planes would have lost sight of the missing craft long before it crashed, and probably before realizing that it was suffering mechanical trouble or becoming lost. In evaluating the total absence of evidence regarding the fate of this crew, it must be noted that the enemy proved very methodical in recording, and usually in reporting to the Allied governments, all Allied planes falling in territory under his control. Its crash on the English side surely could not have gone long unreported. On the other hand, known plane losses over the North Sea and English Channel were such that our airmen were relieved to sight land again after each crossing. No tangible trace of plane or crew has been discovered. The only logical conclusion which can be drawn in this case is that Lieutenant Stoneburner's plane crashed in the North Sea, for reasons unknown, carrying all aboard to their death.

9. It is recommended, therefore, that pursuant to the provisions of Section 9, Missing Persons Act, the foregoing information be accepted as an official report of death, and that a casualty report be initiated stating that the Air Corps personnel named in paragraph 1 above were killed in action on 17 October 1943, while in flying pay status, when their plane crashed while crossing the North Sea on a bombardment mission. The systemat will be processed in accordance with Paragraph 2b, Operations Bulletin 35, 1945. The casualty report and official report of death will include the following statement:

> Finding of Death has been issued previously under Section 5, Public Law 490, 7 March 1942, as amended, showing presumed date of death as 18 October 1944. This "Report of Death" is issued in accordance with Section 9 of said Act and its effect on prior payments and settlements is as provided in Section 9.

Station and place of death; European Area Claim, Migraglona OLIVER W. GAYLORD Investigator

CONCURRED : 0. PAULSEN

Captain, AGD OIC, Determination Unit.

APPROVED: Recommended action will be taken

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

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SYLVIO L. BOUSQUIN Lt. Colonel, AGD OIC, Casualty Section Personnel Actions Branch, AGO

Copy for: AG 201 file of each person named in par. 1 Cas. Sec. file of each person named in par. 1 293 (OQMG) file of each person named in par. 1

	NAME	RANK	SERIAL NO.	
293	James, Henry P.	T/Sgt.	35 428 569	7
	an a		A	h

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL: FEB 2 1 ....

MORACE SPEED, JR., Colonel, QMC

APPROVED:

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2 \*\* MAR 1949

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K. L. HASTINGS Brigadier General, QMC Chief, Memorial Division



FEB 2 5 1949	MAR 2 19	MAR 11	an ar	MAR 11 1949
FORWARDED TO BOARD	APPROVED BY	BOARD FIELD NOT	IFIED RECORD CARD M	ADE TO 293 FILE

Stoneburner, William N. Ward, Fredøric B. McNeill, John D. Griffin, John J., Jr. Hodulik, Andrew J. James, Henry P. Vadney, William J. Reynolds, Loyd W. Messenger, Philip H. Lee, Howard R.

### STATEMENT OF INVESTIGATION

7 February 1949

1. Subject decedents were ten (10) crew members of a B-17 type aircraft #42-30365 which failed to return from a mission to Duren, Germany from Snotterton Heath, in Norfolk, England, 17 October 1943. No trace of aircraft or crew has ever been found.

2. Missing Air Crew Report states weather was rainy and visibility Zero. (Tab "A") Status, Review and Determination Report has been obtained and incorporated in the files, in which it quotes the 5th Wrapper Indorsement filed with the original MACR that, "due to inclement weather and poor visibility the formation was recalled and subject crew failed to return, " also, "In a word, the Crew simply disappeared." (Tab "B") Further information contained in Status, Review and Determination Report #704 states the belief that subject plane and its crew crashed into the North Sea, (Tab "C"), which was the planned route of the missing aircraft.

3. There is no record of a search having been conducted for subject aircraft and its crev.

4. Translations of captured German documents and other material on file in this office have been searched but no association can be made with subject decedents. (Tab "C")

### Statement of Investigation Cont'd.

Page Two.

5. The following files have been checked by this office with negative results in an endeavor to find any possible burial location of subject decedents either as knowns or unknowns:

- a. A-Z file of known interments in U. S. Military Cemeteries, isolated locations and sea burials.
- b. Alphabetical index file of "believed to be" and potentially identified unknowns.
- c. Geographical clue index file of unknowns interred in U. 3. Military Comsteries in the general area in which the subjects deceased were last reported.
- d. Alphabetical file of former unknowns now identified.
- e. 293 files of subject decedents.

6. All information secured confirms the Findings and substantiates the recommendations made by the Overseas Board.

Th. Keller

M. KELLER Analyst.

HEADQUARTERS ALERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION COLLAND EUROPEAN AREA AFO 58 U S ANLY

1 9 MAR 19/9

Proceedings of a Beard of Officers appointed in accordance with letter File AGAC - 3 293.9 (27 Har 47), D-H, Tar Dept, TAGO, 9 Apr 47.

The Board met pursuant to Par. 2, SO No.69, Headquarters, American Graves Registration Command, 9 May 47, at the Astoria Hotel, Paris, France, on . The purpose of the Board was to determine recoverability/identity of certain casualties now under consideration by this command.

The Board reviewed reports of investigation, statements of witnesses and other papers contained in the files of American Graves Registration Command, ETA, pertaining to the case of the following named casualty/ casualties. the remains of which have not been recovered. The case files and other data considered are attached

CASE No.	NALE	SH	GRADE
19	STONEBUENER, William Neal	0-793859	let Lt.
	WARD, Frederick Boyd	C-672912	2nd Lt.
	MC WEILL, John Daniel	C-670776	2nd Lt.
	GRIFFIN, John Hoseph Jr.	0-734673	2nd Lt.
	HODULIK, Andrew John	12051184	T/Sgt.
	JAMES. Henry Price	35428569	I/Sgt.
	VADNEY, William Hoseph	12070468	S/Sgt.
	REYNOLDS, Loyd William	8820671	M/Sgt. See Insert
	MESSEN ER, Philip Hayworth	39529882	S/Sgt,
	LEC, Howard Robert	19128286	S/Sgt.
FINDINCS	· The Beard barries of metullar same		

FINDINGS: The Board having carefully considered the evidence before it, finds the remains of said casualty/casualties may be considered as nonrecoverable and recommends that no further action be taken to recover these remains.

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RRE Forn #17 16 Feb 1948 AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION COMMAND EUORPEAN AREA APO 58 U S ARMY

SPECIAL ORDERS

14 Jan 48

MUMBER 6

1. CAPT ROBERT W. ROSS 01633508 SC is reld fr asgmt this hq and is asgd Hq US Forces Lustria, APO 777, Vienna, Lustria. EDCMR: 23 Jan 48. Off expecting dependents, household goods, baggage or automobile will execute and dispatch EC Form 55-17 "Notification of Permenent Station address" to Bremerhoven Port of Embarkation and will execute and dispatch EC Form 55-22 to transportation officers at both old and new stations if in the European Command. Auth: VO CINCEUR Hq EUCOM, Capt Van Sandt, P&A Div, COAB - Mr Mousty; this hq, 13 Jan 48. PCS. TPA TONT TDN 2180425 801-18 P 431-02 S 99-999 L 114, 115, 103.

2. Par 2 SO 69 and Par 2 SO 139 this hq 1947 pertaining to the Board of Review for identification of Unknown Dead (European Area) are rescinded.

3. PAC 1tr WD 9 Apr 47, Subj: "Astablishment of Boards for identification of Unknown Dead", the fol off, this hq, are aptd a Board of Review for identification of Unknown Dead (European Area):

COL	JOHN H. EVANS	015184	CAV
MiJ	JOHN B. STRAHAN	023631	JAGD
MiJ	GROSVENOR W. FISH	0.12932	TC
C.PT	OVEN F. McCAIN	01595680	QMC

4. PAC ltr MD 9 Apr 47, Subj: "Establishment of Boards for identification of Unknown Dead", the fol off, this hq, are aptd a Board of Review for identification of Unknown Dead (European Area):

MAJ	GEORGE E. SPRINGER	0284512	FA
ILiJ	GEORGE E. WOODS	041840	TC
CAPT	JACK C. HAYES	01577297	QMC
1ST LT	LLOYD D. RETHNEYER	01105778	CE

AUTH: Sec I Cir 157 Ha USFET 23 Oct 46 and Cir 28 Ha EUCOM 9 May 47.

BY CONCLUMD OF BRIGADIER GENERAL PECKHAM:

OFFICIAL:

CARL V. RAGUSE Colonol, QAC Chief of Staff

/s/ Frank Francis FRANK FRANCIS Major, ACD Asst Adj Gen

DISTRIBUTION "A" & "B" plus: Ea Unit concerned .....4 Ea Indiv concerned .....4 Pers Div ......10 Pers Div TAG ZUCOM.....2

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

DWHF J. SULLIVEN 1st Lt., QHC HEADQUARTERS AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION COMMAND EUROPEAN AREA APO 53 U S ARMY

RRE

1948

SUBJECT: Non-recoverable Remains

TO:

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Non-recoverable Board AGEC

1. It is recommended that the Board take action on the following case.

NAME	STONEBURNER, William Neal	lst Lt	0-793859	
	WARD, Frederick Boyd	2nd Lt	0-672912	
1.2	McNEILL, John Daniel	2nd Lt	0-670776	
	GRIFFIN, John Joseph Jr.	2nd Lt	0-734673	
	HODULIK, Andrew John	T/Sgt	12051184	
	JAMES, Henry Price	T/Sgt	35428569	
	VAINEY, William Joseph	S/Sgt	12170468	
	REYNOLDS, Loyd William	M/Sgt	6820671	
	MESSENGER, Philip Hayrowth	S/Sgt	39529882	
	LEE, Howard Robert	S/Sgt	19128286	

ORGANIZATION: 96th Bomb Group, 337th Bomb Squadron

PLACE OF DEATH: Unknown

DATE OF DEATH: 17 October 1943

SYNOPSIS OF CASE: Aircraft #42-30365, containing the above named crew members, departed from England on an operational mission to Duren, Germany, 17 October 1943. Severe weather conditions prevailed with visibility zero. The mission was cancelled and all planes ordered back to base. Coordinates and time of cancellation are unknown. Subject aircraft failed to return to its base and is believed to have crashed into the North Sea.

Reference is made to MACR IV #71.

2. Every effort has been made to correlate this case with records in this headquarters pertaining to unknown deceased interred in US Military Cemeteries and reported isolated burials.

3. It is recommended that the remains, based upon above information be declared non-recoverable.

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WALTER B. MORROW Major, Infantry Chief, Isolated Burials Branch

# EXTRACT

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# MISSING AIR CREW REPORT NO. IV # 71

1.	ORGANIZ	ATION: Locati	on AAF Station 1	38 : Con	mand or Air Force	Sth AF
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C	as tott	ows ald not	return with Group	when mis	sion was called of	****
	Aircra	aft Nickname	1 and Series <u>B-</u>	17-F	; A.A.F. Serial Nu	mber 42-30365
7.	ENGINES	Type Model	and Series R-182 ; (c) 47-	0-97 ;	A.A.F. Serial Numb	er (a) 43-59084
8.	THETATT	ED WELPONS (B	; (c)+;	59122	; (d) <u>43-58</u>	727
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1. 1	PILOT	STONEBURNER.	William, Neal	lst Lt	0-793859	PDD
2. (	CP	WARD,	Frederic, Boyd	2nd Lt	0-672912	PDD
3. 1	N	MCNEILL.	John, Daniel		0-670776	PDD
+. 1	В	GRIFFIN.	John, Joseph Jr.	2nd Lt		PDD
5. 3	RO	HODUL IK,	Andrew, John	T/Sgt	12051184	FDD
6. 1	PTC	TAMPE	TI Di	-/	TEO JITOT	TUT

	HODULIK,	Andrew, John	T	Sgt	12051184	FDD
	JAMES,	Henry, Price				PDD
	VADNEY,		_			PDD
WG	REYNOLDS,	Loyd. William				PDD
WG	MESSENGER,	Philip, Hayrowth				PDD
G	LEE,	Howard, Robert			19128286	FDD
	TG TG WG WG	TG JAMES, TG VADNEY, WG REYNOLDS, WG MESSENGER,	TG JAMES, Henry, Price TG VADNEY, William, Joseph WG REYNOLDS, Loyd, William WG MESSENGER, Philip, Hayrowth	TG JAMES, Henry, Price T, TG VADNEY, William, Joseph S, WG REYNOLDS, Loyd, William M, WG MESSENGER, Philip, Heyrowth S,	TG JAMES, Henry, Price T/Sgt TG VADNEY, William, Joseph S/Sgt WG REYNOLDS, Loyd, William M/Sgt WG MESSENGER, Philip, Hayrowth S/Sgt	TG JAMES, Henry, Price T/Sgt 35428569 TG VADNEY, William, Joseph S/Sgt 12170468* WG REYNOLDS, Loyd, William M/Sgt 6820671 WG MESSENGER, Philip, Hayrowth S/Sgt 39529882

11. REMARKS:

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PLOTTED BY:

GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES	DULAG LUFT
GRID COORDINATES	ISOLATED BURIALS
NEAREST TOWN	MACR INFORMATION
	OTHER INFORMATION

\*\*\*and planes were ordered back

### OWG/sms/18741/9746

362034

### 23 December 1948

#### MEMORANDUM TO: Officer in Charge Casualty Section, Personnel Actions Branch, AGO

#### SUBJECT: Report of Death

1. The following Air Corps personnel were reported missing in Action since 17 October 1943, while in flying pay status, in the European Area, place unknown (Cas Mag 297132), and, following their continued absence for a year, were presumed dead as of 18 October 1944, under provisions of Section 5 of the Missing Persons Act:

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2nd Lt.	Griffin, John J., Jr.	0 734 673
2nd Lt.	McNeill, John D.	0 670 776
2nd Lt.	Ward, Fredric B.	0 672 912
M Sgt.	Reynolds, Lloyd W.	6 820 671
T Sgt.	Hodulik, Andrew J.	12 051 184
T Sgt.	James, Henry P.	35 428 569
S Sgt.	Lee, Howard R.	19 128 286
	Messneger, Philip H.	39 529 882
S Sgt.	Vadney, William J.	12 170 468

2. Missing Air Crew Report No. 1019, from Headquarters 337th Bombardment Squadron, 96th Bombardment Group (H), shows that a B-17F type aircraft, No. 42-30365, with crew comprised of the individuals named above, became missing in action 17 October 1943, when it failed to return to its base in England, when called back from an operational mission on account of bad weather conditions. Crew Positions of the men above, in the order listed, were shown as: pilot, bombardier, navigator, co-Pilot, right wing gunner, radio operator, angineer, tail gunner, left wing gunner, and ball turret gunner. The weather was reported to have been rainy, visibility zero, and the report showed that no information was available regarding the whereabouts or fate of the missing plane. Confirmation of this lack of knowledge regarding the fate of the plane and crew is found in the fifth of nine wrapper indorsements filed with MACR No. 1019. Dated 23 December 1943, from Headquarters, 96th Bomb. Group, to Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington, D. C. it reads as follows:

Page Two.

"Reference 1st Wrapper Indorsement, subject Officers and Enlisted Men departed AAF Station 138 17 October 1943 in B-17F Airplane No. 42-30365 with other Combat Crews of this command on a projected operational mission to Duren, Germany. Due to inclement weather and poor visibility, the formation was recalled and Subject Crew failed to return. Further information concerning the whereabouts of this Crew or the circumstances under which they failed to return to this station is unavailable and it is therefore impossible to determine whether or not any of said Crew survived. In a word, the Crew simply disappeared."

3. Letters from the Air Adjutant General to the families of the crew members, dated 29 January 1944 (copies filed in AG 201's of all except Lt. Griffin and Sgt. James), state that the plane "departed from the British Isles on an important military mission to Western Germany," and gives a resume of information already set forth in this review.

4. The following information was submitted by Mrs. Floyd J. Lee, mother of Sergeant Lee, in a letter to The Adjutant General date 16 June 1944:

" \* \* \* Two of the families wrote friends of their boys in England had been on this particular mission, and had definitely seen the ship go down. One Lt. wrote me he was flying as wingman with Lt. Stoneburner and saw him leave formation and go down. Then recently another letter stated he was on this flight and they were called back to their Base before they left England, and all ships returned except this one. It was supposed they followed a German beam across the Channel \* \* \* \*."

5. In addition, the following notations are found in material on file with individual records of the crew members:

a. On Officer's Qualification Cards of commissioned personnel:

Officer missing in action: on B-17 #42-30365, location unknown while on combat mission 17 Oct 1943;"

b. Under "Administrative Remarks" in Service Records of Enlisted Men:

"Sol. missing in action, 17 Oct. 1943, locations unknown while on a heavy Bomb Sortie in B-17 A/c #42-30365."

Page Three.

c. Indorsements made a part of the individual Service Records of the enlisted men and dated 5 November 1943, show that the 337th Bombardment Squadron (h) was stationed at "Snettertnn Heath, England at that time.

6. Reference to a map of the area shows that Duren, in Western Germany, is approximately 350 miles, "as the crow flies" from Snetterton Heath, in Norfolk, England, and that 100 miles of this route lies across the North Sea.

7. A report dated 21 September 1948 has been received from the Memorial Division, 00MG (Mr. Long), stating that the crew of this plane are being processed as "Non-Recoverable" in that office, as the absence of any clue to the fate of the crew has resulted in the belief that their plane crashed in the North Sea. A search of the translations of captured German documents and other material on file in this office reveals nothing else of interest to this review.

3. Aircraft No. 42-30365, a B-17 bombardment plane, carrying as its crew the ten men named in paragraph 1, above, was one of a flight dispatched from a base in England on 17 October 1943, to bomb Duren, Germany. Official reports show that the mission was cancelled, and the planes called back because of the "inclement weather and poor visibility." This plane alone failed to return as ordered. Available evidence does not show whether Lieutenant Stoneburner's plane disappeared before the order to turn back stoneourner's plane disappeared before the order to turn back was received by the flight leader. The meager information re-ceived by Mrs. Lee (par 4, above) and forwarded by her to the War Department in 1944 is seen to consist of hearsay only and to be of little value beyond suggesting certain possibilities. Nor Sea crossings were generally made at high altitude in order to avoid antiaircraft fire over the Dutch coast, and under the Horth poor visibility prevailing at the time, it seems obvious that men on the other planes would have lost sight of the missing craft long before realizing that it was suffering mechanical trouble or becoming lost. In evaluating the total absence of evidence regarding the fate of this crew, it must be noted that the enemy proved very methodical in recording, and usually in reporting to the Allied governments, all Allied planes falling in territory under his control. On the other hand, known plane losses over the North Sea and English Channel were such that our airmen were relieved to sight land again after each crossing. No tangible trace of plane or crev has been discovered. The only logical conclusion which can be drawn in this case is that Lieutenant Stoneburner's plane crashed in the North Sea, for reasons unknown, carrying all aboard to their death.

Page Four.

9. It is recommended, that pursuant to the provisions of Section 9, Missing Persons Act, the foreging information be accepted as in official report of death, and that a casualty report be initiates stating that the Air Corps personnel named in paragraph 1, above were killed in action on 17 October 1943, while in flying pay status, when their plane crashed while crossing the North Sea on a bombardment mission. The systemat will be processed in accordance with Paragraph 2b, Operations Bulletin 35, 1945. The casualty report and official report of death will include the following statement:

Finding of Death has been issued previously under Section 5, Public Law 490, 7 March 1942, as amended, showing presumed date of death as 18 October 1944. This "report of death" is issued in accordance with Section 9 of said Act, and its effect on prior payments and settlements is as provided in Section 9.

Station and place of death; European Area

/s/ Oliver W. Gaylord /t/ OLIVER W. GAYLORD Investigator

CONCURRED:

/s/ 0. Paulsen /t/ 0. PAULSEN Captain, AGD OIC, Determination Unit.

APPROVED: Recommended action will be taken.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

/s/ SYLVIO L. BOUSQUIN, Lt. Colonel, AGD OIC, Casualty Section AG 201 file of each person named/ Personnel Actions Branch, AGO Cas. Sec, file of each person named P. 1. 293 (00MG) file of each person named in Par. 1.

COPY

# SENSITIVE SURFACE - HANDLE FOGES ONLY

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### WAR DEPARTMENT

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

FULL NAME						ARMY SERIA	L NUME	IER	GRADE	E	
James, He	enry P.					35,428,569			T/Sgt.		
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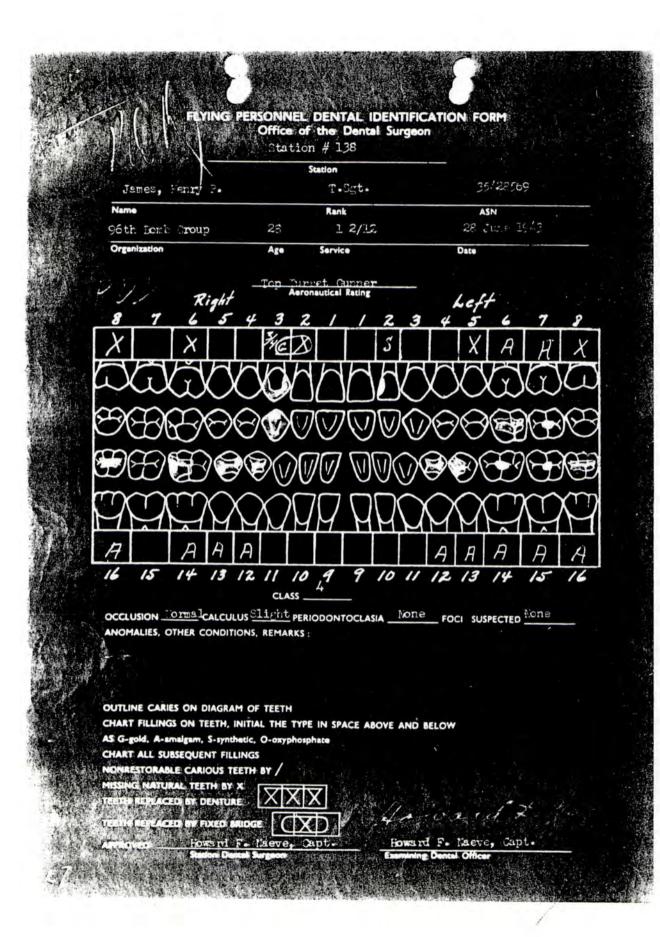
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James, Henry P. - 35428569

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#### WAR DEPARTMENT

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

-BATTLE	CASUALTY	<b>REPORT</b>
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NAME		3	ERIAL NU	MBER	GRADE	SERVICE	THEATRE
James, Henry P.		35	42880	9 T/	Sit.	AC	
PLACE OF CASUALTY		TE OF CASUA		FLYING OR	TYPE OF CABUALTY	SHIP	ENT NUMBER
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NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE

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MR MRS MISS-FIRST NAME-MIDDLE INITIAL-LAST NAME	RELATIONSHIP	DATE NOTIFIED
Lirs, kartha A. Horner	(mother)	
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Frazetovi, Sent Virginia

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REMARKS: (G ... 1 (18 005 44) [

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Neme, Uniti, d.a. dr., «FINDING OF DEATH OF MISSING PRESON was made in the case of this individual under provisions of Public Law 490, 7 March 10+2, as amended, «APRESUMED DATE OF DEATH 16 Oct 44. In line of daty, not due to own missonduct, on duty status, station of deceased Surobean Area.

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# THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

1348 DEC

in

WASHINGTON 25. D. C.

### -BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT

NØ 201	JAMES HENRY P ASN 35428569	GRADE T SGT SON	
AND AD	MRS MARTHA A HORNER		DATE POLEORAM SENT
DRESS DF E A.	FRAMETOWN WEST VIRGINIA		14 Jan . 1949

GRAPHIC AND LETTER NOTIFICATIONS WILL BE SENT TO THIS PERSON. THE RELATIONSHIP, IF ANY, IS SHOWN BELOW. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THIS PERSON IS NOT NECESSARILY THE NEXT-OF-KIN OR RELATIVE DESIGNATED TO BE PAID SIX MONTHS' PAY GRATUITY INCASE OF DEATH.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR HAS ASKED ME TO EXPRESS HIS DEEP REGRET THAT YOUR

GRADE	NAME		SERIAL NUME	ER	ARM OR SERVICE	THEATRE		SHIPMEN"
T/SGT	JAMES, HENRY P.		35428569		AC		ĸ	36203
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### WAR DEPARTMENT

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

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# WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON 25. D. C.

### -BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT

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James, Herry P.		35	42886	9 T/	Sgt.	AC	
PLACE OF CASUALTY	DAT	HONTH	YEAR	FLYING OR JUMPING STAT	TYPE OF CASUALTY	-	IENT NUMBER
	**	**	**	L		195099	-C-1X

NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE

MR MRS MISS FIRST NAME MIDDLE INITIAL LAST NAME	RELATIONSHIP	DATE NOTIFIED
Mrs. kartha A. Horner	(mother)	and the second second
NO. AND NAME OF STREET-CITY-STATE		
Prazetom, t Virginia		

REMARKS: (] -11 (18 005 44)

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CORRECTED COPY

Memo, Jaiof, J.J. Hr., FFINDING OF DEATH of MISSING PERMON was made in the sale of this individual under provisions of Public Law 490, 7 March 1945, ad anomad. \*\*PRESUMED DATE OF DEATH 18 Cot 44. In line of duty, not all to own missonduct, on duty status, station of deceased darobean area.

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COPIES FURNISHED: SEE CASUALTY BRANCH MEMORANDUM NO. 48. 1944.

W. D., A.G.O. FORM NO. 0348

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ARMY SERVICE FORCES KANSAS CITY QUARTERMASTER DEPOT 601 Hardesty Avenue Kansas City 1, Missouri

In Reply Refer To: Ciclinia

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Thank you for the information furnished the Army Effects Bureau, to enable disposition of personal effects belonging to your som, Tachnical servent form . Firms.

This property is being forwarded in one carton and should reach you in the near future.

My action in transmitting the property does not, of itself, vest title in you. The items are forwarded only in order that you may act as gratuitous bailee in caring for them, pending the return of the owner. In the event he later is reported a casualty, and I sincerely hope he never is, it will be necessary that the property be turned over to the person or persons legally entitled to receive it.

When delivery has been made, I shall appreciate your acknowledging receipt by signing one copy of this letter in the space provided below, and returning it to this Bureau.

For your convenience, there is inclosed an addressed envelope which needs no postage.

Yours very truly, B B. Friess

(3-11-81-34) 271 :Ti:wb Motorer 51, 1944

. :. TIIIS Deinistrative Assistant Ann - Chots Prosu

Incl. -Envelope

Receipt acknowledged: Martha Horner Oct. 31-44 (Date) (Signature of Bailee.

Eff. QM Form 205a

### ARMY SERVICE FORCES ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU

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### EFFLCTS QUARTERMASTER U.K. DLPOT G-14 United States Army

HGL/jg

15th October, 1944.

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Inventories of Effects.

TO : The Effects quartermaster, Kansas City M Depot,
601 Hardesty Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri.

1. The attached Inventories have been on hand at this office for 30 days or more; the effects to which they refer have never been received by this office. It is believed the effects may have been erroneously forwarded direct to your office, to the beneficiary; or to the Effects quartermaster in France. In view of the fact that we are unable to contact the Units to ascertain disposition of the effects, and that ultimately all effects will be received by your office, we are forwarding these forms for your records.

2. The method of handling Form 54's at this office is that all Form 54's are checked against effects on hand. Where effects have been received, such forms will be forwarded by letter of transmittal to your office giving information as to the disposition of the effects, and at the expiration of one month, if no effects are received, the forms will be transmitted to your office in accordance with paragraph 1.

> R. J. MOULTON. Lt. Col. JMC. Effects J M U.K.

Incls: Inventories and List in duplicate.

377 FITTER



ARMY SERVICE FORCES KANSAS CITY QUARTERMASTER DEPOT 601 HARDESTY AVENUE KANSAS CITY 1. MISSOURI

JRM: VM :mg

IN REPLY REFER TO SPODK 201 (92049 M)

JRM:VM:mg 26 September 1944

SUBJECT: Disposal of Personal Record

TO : The Commanding Officer, Pyote, Texas QQ12

Transmitted herewith for disposition certain personal record of Henry P. James, 35428569, S/Sgt., A.C., missing in action.

For the Commanding Officer:

G. H. GALVIN, JR. 1st Lt. Q.M.C. Assistant

1 Incl-Air Corps Identification Card



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ARMY SERVICE FORCES KANSAS CITY QUARTERMASTER DEPOT 601 HARDESTY AVENUE # 92049 M KANSAS CITY 1, MISSOURI

(S-10-25-44) JRM:VM:mg September 25, 1944

IN REPLY REFER TO\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mrs. Martha Horner Frametown, West Virginia

Dear Mrs. Horner:

Technical Sergeant Henry P. James.

father

his

F. A. ECKHARDT Captain Q.M.C. Assistant 11111 T/Set

307th Bombardsont Equadron (R)

17th day of Getober 1943

Missianaous letters à papers 2 3111 folda

3pr Low-out shoes 6 Towels Towels 5 Cotton undershirt 1 Khaid shirt -3pr Cotton shorts Spr Joaks lpr Sain tranks lpr Cloves lpr Boots Plashlights 2 Ha Mine caniels 3 1 Cap / 1 Belt lpr Galeses 1 Joap bez 1 Jacknife lpr Identification tags 1 Load percil. 2 Shoe braches 1 Hunting kaile -1 Fingernall file

MRS. MARTHA A. HORNER MRS. MARTHA A. HORNER IPB. Martha . HORNER Privationa, Ost Virginia FRAMETON

Money: Thomas

1930 Advanced Air Depot Sc.2

20 635 U.S. AFET.

RISTIN D. MITH, Capt., A

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A.# 138

11 Nov. 43

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James	Heary	P	35428569
ITH'I	me) (First Pano) T/Sgt 337th B	(Tiddle Initial) sombardment Squadron (H	(Serial No.)
Missing	(Grade) in letion on the 17th	(Organization or arm day of October 1943	or service)

CLASS I. - Seber, insignia, decorptions, medals, campaign badges, watches, manuscripts, and other articles valuable chiefly as keepsakes.

No.	urticles	No.	rticles
	Miscianeous letters & papers		
2	Pillfolds	-++	
L			

CL.SS II - Other effects

No.	Articles	No.	Articles
3pr	Low-out shoes		
6	Towels		
5	Cotton undershirts		
1	Khald shirt		
3pr	Cetton shorts		
	Socks		
lpr	Swim trunks		
	Gloves		
	Boota		
2	Flashlights		
3	Handkerchiefs		
1	Cap		
1	Belt		
-	Galsses		
1	Scap bax		
1	Jacknife		
	Identification to s		
	Lead pancil		
	Shoe brushes		1
	Hunting knife		
1	Fingernail file	1	*



BENEFICL.RY: Mother

Mrs. Martha . Horner, Frametown, est Virginia

MONEY:

Government Check E Nove (3 Check direct to quarternaster ETOUSA.

#PECOLISEE STREET FOR STREET STRE

JUSTIN J. MITH, Capt., AC

Executive Uniter

A. 2 133 (Station)

, 19 43 (Date)

ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU KANSAS CITY QUARTERMASTER DEPOT 601 Hardesty Avenue Kansas City 1, Missouri

JRM:SP:nls AEB 17 July 1944 CASE NO. 92049 (S-17 Sept. 44)

TO: The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.

Please complete and return to the Effects Quartermaster, Army Effects Bureau, Kansas City Quartermaster Depot, Kansas City, Missouri

James (**)	Henry	P.	35428569	T/Sgt.
(Last Name)	(First Name)	(Middle Initial)	(Serial No.)	(Grade)

- 1. Organization and APO number: (Missing in Action 17 Oct.1943)
- 2. Name, Relationship and Address of:

a. Beneficiary:	Mrs. Martha Horner (Mother),
b. Alternate Beneficiary:	Frametown, West Virginia. None. Declined to designate.
c. Nearest Relative:	Mrs. Martha A.Homer (Mother).
State V	Frametown, West Virginia
d. Emergency Addressee:	Mrs. Martha A. Horner (Mother),
	Frametown, West Virginia.
e. Bailee shown on W.D., A.G.O	. Form 43: Mrs. Martha A. Horner (Mother).

- (\*) If the above ASN is not assigned to the soldier named, it is requested that the AEB be advised the name, rank and present mailing address of the soldier to whom this ASN is assigned, together with the information requested in paragraph 2 above.
- (\*\*) In the event the above ASN is not assigned to this soldier, it is further requested that this Bureau be furnished available information regarding this soldier of record in your office.

RET:ml Eff QM Form 20 (Rev. 10/12/43)



337TH BOFBARDLENT SQUADBON (H) AAF Office of The Squadron Commander

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APO 634, U.S. Army 15 Nov 1943

SUBJECT: Effects of Enlisted Man Hissing in Action

TO

: Effects Quartermaster, General Depot G-14, APO 507, U.S. Army

1. Transmitted nerewith inventory of effects of T/Sgt Henry P. James, , 35428569 , whic failed to return from scheduled mission ove: enemy territory on 17 Oct 43 . Said effects are being forwarded under separate cover. Shipped by rail 12 Nov 43.

2. There are no creditors or debtors known in this Theater and person concerned is not known to possess a bank account in this Theater.

3. (X) No monetary effects found during inventory.

( )U.S. Official Jucck No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of E (\_\_\_\_\_pound , \_\_\_\_\_shilling , \_\_\_\_\_pence; \$ found with effects is forwarded herewith. ) and representing cash

> 4. (x) Designated bone liciary ( )Ferson to be notified in emergency is: Mrs. Martha A. Horner, ()Nearest relative

Frametown, West Virginia.

For The Squadron Commander

1 Incls:

triplicate 1. Inventory of effects (4/4/4/4/4)

Capt Executive