

11475

CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED
BY E. A. GHA. 1944. 11. 001, AD
BY P. M. MICHEN. 1944. 11. 001, AD
OCT 11 1944

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Classification changed
to **RESTRICTED**

by E. A. BRADONAS, Lt. Col., AG
by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AG
Date 22-11-1944

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WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

11475

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

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

1. ORGANIZATION: Location Site 1475 Command or Air Force IX TAC 9th AF
Group 370th Fighter Gp Squadron 4th Par 8 Detachment
 2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure USAAW Site A-78 Course unknown
Intended Destination Malmedy, Belgium Type of Mission armed recon
 3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED CAVU
 4. GIVE: (a) Date 26 Dec/44 Time 1400 Location unknown
of last known whereabouts of missing airplane.
(b) Specify whether (X) Last sighted; () Last contacted by Radio; () Forced down; () Seen to crash; or () Information not available.
 5. AIRPLANE WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS RESULT (Check only one) () Enemy Airplane; () Enemy Anti-Aircraft; () Other circumstances as follows: see statement attached
 6. AIRPLANE: Type, Model and Serial P-38 J-15 A.A.P. Serial No 42-104287
 7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Serial V1710-31 A.A.P. Serial No A-035832
Type, Model and Serial V1710-33 A.A.P. Serial No A-035905
 8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make Type and Serial No.)

a	b	c	d	e
Savage	Intl Standard	Savage	Intl Standard	Intl Harvester
(Make)	(Type)	(Make)	(Type)	(Type)
50 cal machine	"	"	"	20mm cannon
1190429	1066050	1189607	591334	124116
 9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty yes
or (b) Non Battle Casualty
 10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRPLANE: Crew 1 Passengers 0 Total 1
(Starting with Pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 10 persons were aboard airplane, list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach original to this form)
- | 1. | Crew Position | Name in Full | Rank | Serial |
|-----|---------------|----------------|--------|----------|
| 1. | Pilot | Griffin John V | 1st Lt | 0-765166 |
| 2. | | | | |
| 3. | | | | |
| 4. | | | | |
| 5. | | | | |
| 6. | | | | |
| 7. | | | | |
| 8. | | | | |
| 9. | | | | |
| 10. | | | | |

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

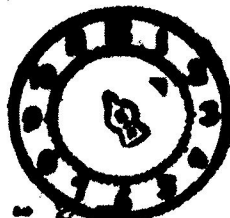
	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted by Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1.	McKee, Seth J	1st Lt	O-373225		X		
2.	Booth, Richard A	2nd Lt	O-762225		X		
3.							

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) _____
13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRPLANE WAS LAST SEEN.
14. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRPLANE.
15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE _____

Date of Report 25 December 1944

Philip A. Hargerty
(Signature of Preparing Officer)
PHILIP A. HARGERTY
1st Lt, Air Corps
Group Staff Officer

FEB 9 1945



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WITNESSES

"On 26 December 1944 on a D/F Mission to Buffalo, I was flying No 2 position, Zenith Red flight. I went down on my bomb run, was hit by flak, pulled up, and at no time saw what happened to Lt. Griffin and Lt. Barry, but No. 3 and 4 men."

/s/ Richard R Booth
/s/ RICHARD R BOOTH
2nd Lt, Air Corps
487th Fighter Squadron

"On 26 December 1944, I was leading Zenith Squadron on a dive bombing mission at Buffalo. After reforming the squadron with completion of dive bombing, No. 3 and 4 men of Zenith Red flight were missing."

/s/ Seth F McKee
/s/ SETH F MCKEE
1st Col, Air Corps
Commanding
370th Fighter Group (TH)

WITNESSED AND CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

Philip A. Hartley
PHILIP A. HARTLEY
1st Lt, Air Corps

SCALE : 1/500,000
FRANKFURT - EUROPE (AIR)

○ SPA

○ MALMEDY

○ STAVELOT

○ ST. VITTH

○ HAUFFALIZE
P-6172

