

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

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

1. ORGANIZATION: Location, by Name England; Command or Air Force 8 A.F.
Group 457 Bomb. Gp. (H); Squadron 751st; Detachment _____
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure Station 130; Course _____
Target or Intended Destination Harburg, Germany.; Type of Mission _____
Objective Bombing
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: _____
8/10ths cloud cover.
4. GIVE: (a) Day 6 Month Nov. Year 1944; Time 1054; and Location of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft. Between 53-05N 09-12E and 53-28N 09-57E.
(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (X); 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) Enemy Aircraft (); Enemy Anti-aircraft (); Other Circumstances as follows: There was no enemy opposition at time aircraft dropped out of formation. There was no apparent damage to aircraft.
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17G.; AAF Serial Number 43-38904
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if any No name
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1820-97; AAF Serial Number _____
(a) SW-030271; (b) SW-030250; (c) SW-030229; (d) SW-030206
9. INSTALLED GUNS (Furnish below make, type and serial number):
(a) 1768062; (b) 1032705; (c) 1768039; (d) 1032192;
(e) 6452791; (f) 1768024; (g) 1768076; (h) 1037570;
(i) 1768128; (j) 1032571; (k) 1768171; (l) 1768650;
(m) _____; (n) _____; (o) _____; (p) _____
10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X
or (b) Non-Battle Casualty _____
11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 9; Passengers 0; Total 9
(Starting with Pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 11 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	Current Status	
1. PILOT	McGroarty, Edward F. Jr.	2nd Lt.	0825216	MIA	KIA
2. CP	Botwright, Robert V.	2nd Lt.	0714011	MIA	DED
3. N	Gray, Jack J.	F/O	1130074	MIA	DED
4. Chin Turret	McLeroy, Henry D. Jr.	Sgt.	34446413	MIA	KIA
5. TIG	DiCamillo, Angelo M.	Sgt.	32950669	MIA	DED
6. RO	Reddie, James R.	Sgt.	39204764	MIA	KIA
7. WG	Francis, Raymond E.	Sgt.	37482002	MIA	DED
8. BTG	Mueller, Frank T.	Sgt.	16187937	MIA	DED
9. TG	Becker, Clyde A.	Sgt.	39620198	MIA	EUS RTD.
10.					
11.					

12. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO 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	Forced Landin
1. Wood, Robert H.	2nd Lt.	0566478		X		
2. Lackey, Lentz M.	1st Lt.	0817465		X		
3.						

(Over)

CONFIDENTIAL

Jul 20

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

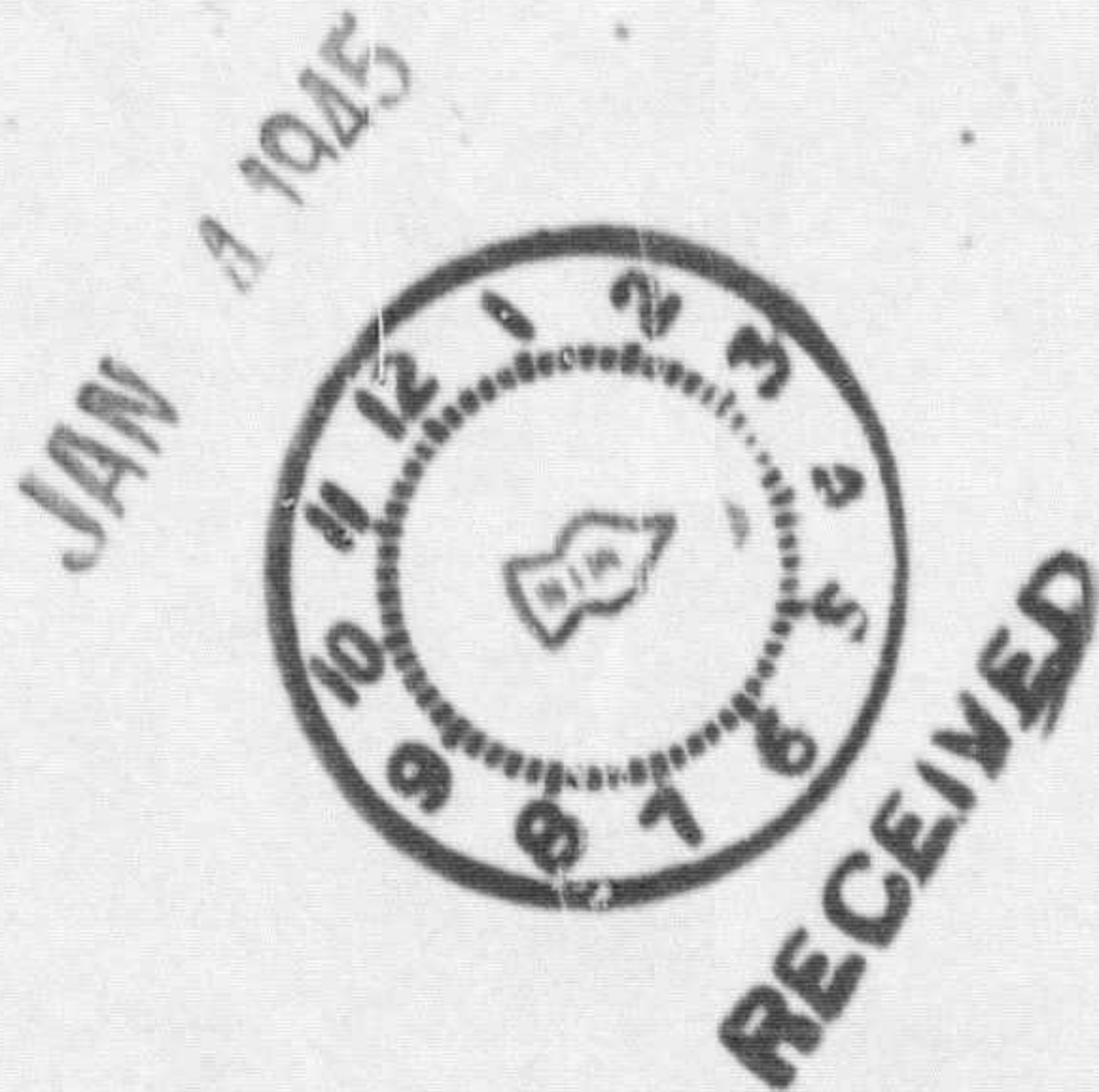
13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used _____; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash _____; or (c) Any other reason (Specify) _____
14. ATTACH WITH PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, or SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN OR HEARD FROM.
15. ATTACH EYE WITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
16. GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH, IF ANY, INCLUDING DESCRIPTION AND EXTENT _____

Date of Report 14 November 1944.

Gerald H. Galligan
(Signature of Preparing Officer)

17. REMARKS OR EYE WITNESS STATEMENTS:

GERALD H. GALLIGAN,
Capt., A. C.,
Air Statistical Officer.



NOV 1 1944

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

10343

(S-2 Summary of
Eye-Witness Accounts)

C O N F I D E N T I A L

(S-2 Summary of
Eye-Witness Accounts)

Instructions: 1. If aircraft returned, only questions 6 and 7 are applicable. 2. Question number 5 not applicable to Fighter Groups. 3. Summary will be prepared in five copies, four of which will be forwarded. 4. Interrogating Officer will sign original and second copy.

GROUP 457th Sqdn. 751st A/C No. 43-38904

MISSION DATE 6 November 1944 FIRST PILOT Edward F. McGroarty Jr.
(Name)

2nd Lt. 0-825216 DESTINATION Harburg
(Rank) (Serial No.)

1. Position of missing aircraft when last sighted or contacted:

(a) By coordinates Between I.P. (5305-0912) and Target (5328-0957)

(b) Approximate altitude Unknown

(c) Last noted heading Unknown

(d) If out of formation, approximate distance from formation Unknown

2. Describe enemy opposition (intensity of flak, intensity and method of enemy fighter attack, etc., with particular reference to missing A/C):

There was no enemy opposition at time aircraft dropped out of formation.

3. Description of extent of damage to missing aircraft (including fires, explosions, etc):

There was no apparent damage to aircraft.

4. If aircraft was out of control describe appearance:

Aircraft was not seen to be out of control.

(Over)

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

5. If distressed aircraft was out of formation, was it last seen with escort? No If so, give distinguishing markings of Fighter Group if noted (Group number, color and/or fighter aircraft numbers, nicknames, etc.): _____

6. Number of parachutes seen and description of jumps (approximate altitude, time between jumps, etc.):

No parachutes were seen to come from this aircraft.

7. Any other remarks not covered by above:

Aircraft was flying number five, low section, lead squadron. Somewhere between I.P. and target the aircraft dropped out of the formation. No one witnessed what became of it. One crew member reported seeing what looked like a spinning aircraft within 5,000 feet of the ground just after the target, with no chutes visible. Another crew member reported seeing one chute, with no plane visible, just after bombs away. Another crew member reported seeing a B-17 "not from our Group" dive through clouds at 5345-0948, 1120 hours, 22 minutes after bombs away. A/C 43-38904 was not identified with any of these reports, however.

8. Date of report 13 November 1944.

EYE-WITNESSES:	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>A.S.N.</u>	<u>A/C No.</u>
1.	<u>Robert H. Wood</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>0-566478</u>	<u>44-8157</u>
2.	<u>Lentz M. Lackey*</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>0-817465</u>	<u>43-38885</u>
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____

INTERROGATING OFFICER (Sign Original and One Copy):

Hugh M. Hamill

HUGH M. HAMILL

(Name)

1st Lt.

(Rank)

0-571919

A.S.N.

Asst. Gp. S-2.

Duty

NOTE: Supplemental information developing subsequent to this account will be forwarded in manner prescribed in par 6, letter WD, AG, 704 (5 July 44) OB-S-44F-M, subject "Missing Air Crew Report", 7 July 44.

The pilot of the A/C flying number six, low section, lead squadron, right beside 43-38904, said that both his A/C and 43-38904 had difficulty keeping up with the formation and that he did not see 43-38904 again after the turn at the I.P.

* Pilot of aircraft flying number six, low section, lead squadron.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

10343

Identification Tags

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----|
| 1) CLYDE A. DECKER | 39620198 T43-44 | O P |
| 2) HENRY D. McLEROY Jr. | 36666413 T43-44 | O P |
| 3) JAMES R. REDDIE | 39204764 T43-44 | O P |

2513
DECKER

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Air Base Command A (o) 15/XI

PLACE: Zwischenahn

DATE: 11/6/44 2000hrs.,

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, Boeing Fortress II
Boehmerwold/Jergum; pursuit plane square DP 31
EM. LANDING: AT: 11/6/44 1210 hrs. (German grid System)

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) McCROARTY

FIRST NAME: Edward F. Jr.

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 0-325216 T43-44 O C

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) dead

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE:

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT: 11/7/44 about 1100 hrs., at the southwest corner
of Cemetery Boehmerwold.
(altogether 6 dead)

Air Base Command A (o) 15/XI

Zwischenahn, 11/12/44

Referre: D (Luft) 2706/07.

Subj.: Downing of a Boeing Fortress II on 11/6/44 near Boehmerwold/Jergum,
DP 31 (grid Sytem).

To : Dulag-Luft, Oberursel/Frankfurt/M.

Enclosed we send the form 1 which reported about 1 dead found among
the wreck of the craft.

Six crewmembers of the crashed plane are dead. They have been buried
on the south west corner of the Cemetery Boehmerwold 11/7/44.

In connection with it we send four maps proabably belonging to the
crashed craft. They were found near Loga, Section Leer by militia.

Enclosed: 5 pages.

s/ von ROGUES
Maj. and Staff Officer

TELEGRAM FORM

DISTANCE - MESSAGE

-OBERURSEL-

NAME OF DISTANCE-MESSAGE WRITER: LLBL 220

ACCEPTED:

DELIVERED:

RECEIVED:

DATE: -

TIME:

TO:

DATE: 11/13/44

THROUGH:

TIME: 1520

ROLL:

FROM: LLEN

THROUGH: illegible

REMARKS:

Speed LFFZ Nr. 62 11/7 2250 hrs.,

To Dulag-Luft, Oberursel.

Subj.: Capture of Members of Enemy Airforces.

see D(Luft) 2706/07 page 7, nr. 1 (one)

A) 6 dead

B) 1) Sgt. E DECKER, Clyde Arnold, 39620198 T43-44 0

2) REDDIE, James R., 39204764

3) McLEROY Jr., Henry D., 34446413

C) Nr. 1) is captured, Nr. 2) and 3) dead. 3 more dead not identifiable.

D) Boeing Fortress II, B 17.

E) on tail-assembly only E

F) 338-304

G) Direct-hit by flak

2) The prisoner will be trfd. to Oberursel 11/8/44.

Air Base Command A (o) 15/XI, Zwischenahn

s/ Major von Rogues.

6-3224, AF(5)

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Air Base Command A (o) 15/XI

PLACE: Zwischeahn

DATE: 11/6/44 about 1800 hrs.,

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, Boeing Fortress II
Boehmerwold/ Jengum, grid DP 31.
EM. LANDING: AT: 11/6/44

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) McLEROY, Jr.

FIRST NAME: Henry D.

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 34446413

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) dead

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE:

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT: will be reported later.

s/ illegible
Lt. Col. and CO Airbase

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Air Base Command A (o) 15/XI

PLACE: Zwischenahn

DATE: 11/6/44 about 1800 hrs.,

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF, Boeing Fortress II
Boahmerwold/ Jemgum, grid DP 31
EN. LANDING: AT: 11/6/44

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) DECKER

FIRST NAME: Clyde Arnold

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) 39620198 T43-44 0

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: at Jergum 11/6/44 1300 hrs.,

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT:

s/ illegible
Lt. Col. and CO Airbase

REPORT ON CAPTURED AIRCRAFT

POST: Air Base Command A (o) 15/XI

LOCATION: Zwischenahn

DATE: 11/6/44 1915 hrs.

to Pfc. Zinke, Koflu 22/XI

DATE AND TIME: 11/6/44 1210 hrs.
AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWNPLACE OF CRASH: Boehmerwold, 10 km. W. Leer, DP 31
(NEAREST TOWN)KIND OF CAPTURE: by flak
(FLAK, HUNTER, NIGHT HUNTER,
EMERGENCY LANDING)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: B 17

MARKINGS OF CRAFT: only E on tail-assembly
(LETTERS, FRONT OR REAR OF INSIGNIA)

ADMITTANCE NO: 338-304

EQUIPMENT: not recognizable

F.T. FREQUENCIES: no sets: Receiver B 348 R and R 1355

CONDITION OF AIRCRAFT: crashed after direct-hit by flak, crashed and burned,
99% destr., 1 prisoner, 5 dead.

DELIVERED TO DISTRIBUTOR:

(DULOG -LUFT, ETC.) Air Base Command
GL/A - Rus.

TELEGRAM FORM

DISTANCE - MESSAGE

-OBERURSEL-

NAME OF DISTANCE-MESSAGE WRITER: **LLBL 194**

ACCEPTED:

DELIVERED:

RECEIVED:

DATE:-

TIME:

TO:

DATE: **11/11/44**

THROUGH:

TIME: **1840**

ROLL:

FROM: **LLEN**

THROUGH: **Breunig**

REMARKS:

Speed LFFZ 61 11/7 2250
 To Ev. Center West, Oberursel
 Downing of a Boeing Fortress II B17 on 11/6/44, 1210 hrs., Boehmerwold/Jengum, 10 km W. Leer/Eastern Frisland, by flak.-
 Type of craft: Boeing Fortress II B 17.
 Markings: only E on tail-assembly.
 Admittance Nr. : 338 304
 1 prisoner: Sgt. DECKER, Clyde Arnold, 39620198 T43-44 O. He will be trfd to Oberursel 11/7/44.
 5 dead: McLEROY Jr., Henry D., 34446413; REDDIE, James R., 39204764. 3 dead were not identified. Date and Time of burial will be reported later.
 Air Base Command A (o) 15/XI, Zwischenahn, s/ Major von Rogues.

11/6/44

120 hrs.

Fortress 17

near Boehmerwold/Jemgun

338 304

10 km W. Leer/Eastern Friesland

Flak (A)

Air Base Zwischenahn

S. McLEROY, Henry D. Jr. dead

S. REDDIE, James R. dead

*Perkas
7/2/45
see*

2nd Lieutenant Edward F. McGroarty, Jr. ✓

*KIA 6 Nov 44
2 April '45*

Mr. Edward F. McGroarty, Sr.
(Father)
32 Division Street
Kingston, Pennsylvania

2nd Lieutenant Robert V. Botwright ✓

MIA

Mr. George E. Botwright (Father)
1108 Main Street
Essesville, Michigan

Flight Officer Jack J. Gray ✓

MIA

Mrs. Laura W. Spotts (Mother)
Rural Free Delivery One
Landisburg, Pennsylvania

Sergeant Henry D. McLeroy, Jr. ✓

*KIA 6 Nov 44
31 Jan '45*

Mrs. Mabel B. McLeroy (Mother)
Route Number One
Riverdale, Georgia

Sergeant Angelo M. DiCamillo ✓

MIA

Mrs. Mary DiCamillo (Mother)
742 Tulip Street
Camden, New Jersey

Sergeant James R. Reddie ✓

KIA

Mr. Patrick J. Reddie (Father)
Box 103
Ritzville, Washington

Sergeant Raymond E. Francis ✓

MIA

Mrs. Helen Francis (Wife)
5737 Huntington Avenue
Lincoln, Nebraska

Sergeant Frank T. Mueller ✓

MIA

Mrs. Bertha Mueller (Mother)
2432 Belleplaine Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Sergeant Clyde A. Decker ✓

*POW
EUS
not 6 June*

Mrs. Martha M. Decker (Wife)
Box 774
Whitefish, Montana

MACR 10343

McGroarty, Edward F., Jr.	0825216	K. I. A.	6 Nov 44	079116
McLeroy, Henry D.	34,446,413	K. I. A.	6 Nov 44	362143
Decker, Clyde A.	30,201,198 39 620,196	(P. O. W.) (R. M. C.) (E. U. S.)	6 Nov 44 29 Apr 45 Date not shown	362143 Ship.# 142 155092

MACR 10343

Reddie, James R.

39,204,764

K. I. A.

6 Nov 44

362143