

2nd Lt. William H. Gullette ✓

Mrs. Carrie T. Gullette (mother)
Route Number One, Box 241 A
Van Buren, Arkansas

2nd Lt. Herman W. Hanson ✓

Mr. Fred C. Hanson (father)
Gileon Street
Mars Hill, Maine

2nd Lt. Joseph G. Frchette ✓

Mr. Eugene J. Frchette (father)
372 Central Avenue
New Haven, Connecticut

Sgt. Ward C. Price ✓

Mrs. Loy Price (mother)
214 Railroad Street
Witchell, Illinois

Sgt. Clarence E. Shepard ✓

Mr. George W. Shepard, Sr. (father)
212 Marshal Street
Graham, North Carolina

Sgt. Salvatore Mastrottonic ✓

Mr. Carlo Mastrottonic (father)
50 Mount Prospect Avenue
Belleville, New Jersey

Sgt. James F. Hedgecock, Jr. ✓

Mrs. Ethel L. Hedgecock (mother)
Route Number Four, Box 282
Winston Salem, North Carolina

Sgt. Walter B. Lender ✓

Mrs. Carol A. Lender (wife)
25 South 7th Street
Salt Lake City, Utah

Sgt. Granville F. Billingsley ✓

Mrs. Lavenia Billingsley (mother)
1213 South Filmore Street
Amarillo, Texas

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 11151

Name of crew member: FRECHETTE, Joseph C.
 Rank: 2nd Lt.
 Serial number: O-325614
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~or Flight (Fighter)~~: Pilot.

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? In the vicinity of Coblenz, Germany

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: What to do for
the plane, and the order to bail out.

Was he injured? No.

Where was he when last seen? In Camp Patrick Henry, Va.

Any hearsay information: No.

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Was captured
November 30, 1944, taken prisoner of war, and released or liberated in May 1945

Total number of missions of above crew member: 5

Dates and destinations if possible: November 16th, 21st, 23rd, 29th, and 30th.

Three of these missions were scheduled to Merseberg or Leipzig, Germany. Then one
was to Escheiler, Germany, and the other one I do not remember clearly.

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Hedgcock, James F. Rank Sgt Serial No. 34898355
2. Organization 57 B.G. Co Commander Col. Regdn Rank _____ Sqn CO _____ Rank _____
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month November day 30 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, 5, target, leipzig, Germany, target
time, No knowledge, altitude, 27,500ft. route scheduled, _____
No knowledge, route flown no knowledge
5. Where were you when you left formation? over Leipzig, Germany
6. Did you bail out? Yes
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Yes
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". Sgts. Billingsley, Lander, Mastrantonio, and Myself bailed out through the Ball Turret Hatch where we had dropped the turret. The rest left through the nose hatch as far as I remember.
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) Not any.
11. Where were they in aircraft? No
12. What was their condition? -66-----
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? The night after we landed that evening, about 1 oclock in the morning.
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. No knowledge.

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

I, James F. Hedgecock, am discharged now, but I am totally interested in helping in any way that I can for this matter. Please notify me if my service is needed in any way at all, further.

J. F. Hedgecock

J. F. Hedgecock

James F. Hedgesock
P O Box 108
Beane , N.C.

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

To whom It May Concern:

In filling out the INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE, I find that there is a little added information that I would like to add to the information that you had asked for.

I am speaking of one man specially. This man is Sgt. Ward C. Price, 36671117, File #11151.

This man was flying with my crew on November 30, 1944, when shot down over enemy territory. He was flying the position of targetier on that day, and that was supposed to have been his first mission.

When he bailed out of the plane he left from the nose hatch of the B-17, of which we were flying. No one saw him as I know of on the crew after jumping, until late that evening about dark. The Germans had then captured three of us and were marching us to some little village. On the way along the road they halted us in this small village and the people there seemed to be aroused about something. They then taken us (Three of us) to this small shed with a concrete floor and showed us this man. He was lying on the concrete floor wrapped in the canopy of his parachute. He didn't seem to be beaten in any way whatsoever. The Germans had taken his flying jacket off and all he had on was a heavy white sweat shirt, from the waist up.

This may be a small matter to work on, but one of the sure ways of recognizing him was the marking on the equipment of which he was wearing. I recognized him personally, but the marking on the equipment he was wearing was another sure way of knowing that he was the missing man on our crew. The surest way of recognizing him was his dogtag. The Germans said they didn't know what his name was. His dogtag chain had been broken and I saw one of the tags lying down in some of his clothing which was still on his body. The Germans then marched us away and that was the last that we saw of him.

In giving this information I have tried to give it so it could be understood clearly. If I have't given it in the right way or if you all need any additional information, I will be more than glad to aid in any way possible.

This man's mother has been writing my folks right after II returned to this country for information of her missing son.

A-1

The other man whom I had a form to fill out and account for is, Joseph C. Brechette, 2nd Lt. , O-325614, Pilot.

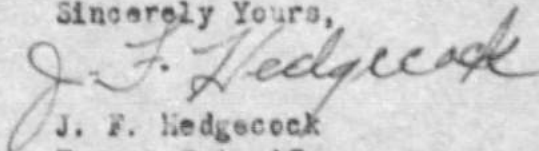
This man I saw in France after liberation and also in Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia, after returning to the United States. He is ok and at home.

In fact, all members of my crew are accounted for except the one mentioned on preceding page.

I know just about how it with the parents of the boys who are still missing and do not know how or where the man is.

If there is anything that I can do to clear up this matter just let me know. Right now I am a civilian, but that means nothing. I am still available for any information of any kind I can give to clear up such matters, or help of any kind.

Sincerely Yours,



J. F. Hedgecock
Former Sgt, AC,
and P.O.W.

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Joseph C Frechette Rank 2nd LT Serial No. 0825614
2. Organization 457 Gp Commander Rogner Rank Col Sqn CO _____ Rank Maj
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month Nov day 30 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, bombing, target, Leipzig, target time, 14:00, altitude, 25,000 route scheduled, direct
_____, route flown direct
5. Where were you when you left formation? Over Target
6. Did you bail out? Yes
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Yes, The entire crew bailed out
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". All bailed out on command, near Coblenz. Lander, Hedgecock, Billingsley, Mastromarino, bailed out through hole left by ball turret. Shepard, Gullette, Hanson, Ward Price, and myself through Nav escape hatch.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? Near Coblenz *
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) None
11. Where were they in aircraft? _____
12. What was their condition? _____
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. None

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

* Ward Price (Sgt.) Was killed when he bailed out due to his chute failing to open. His body was seen on the ground by my radio operator Walter Lander (S/Sgt) whose address when last known was 35 South 7th East, Salt Lake City.

* For exact location of plane crash and bail out incident please write my bombardier William H Gullette (2nd LT) Rural Route #1 Box # 341^H, Van Buren, Ark, who was acting navigator on the mission, and who knows the town where we landed by name.

Joseph C Frechette

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE File # 11151

Name of crew member: PRICE, Ward C.
 Rank: ~~Sgt.~~
 Serial number: 36671117
 Position: Crew (Bomber) on Flight (Fighter): CTO.

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Near Braubach, Ger. Approximately 22 mi. SE Koblenz, Ger.

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____
 Last contact when he bailed out.

Was he injured? No.

Where was he when last seen? Going out NAV. escape hatch

Any hearsay information: ~~His body was seen by Walter Lander,~~
 radio operator, and Clarence Shepherd, tail gunner.

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____
Germans said that his parachute had failed to open.

Total number of missions of above crew member: First

Dates and destinations if possible: Nov. 30, 1944 Dest. Bohlen Oil
 Refinery, in the Leipzig area.

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name William H. Gullette Rank 2nd Lt. Serial No. 0*780306
2. Organization 457th Co Commander Rogner Rank Col Sqn CO Spencer Rank Major
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month November day 30 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, _____, target, Bohlen oil refinery target
time, _____, altitude, 25,500 route scheduled, _____
_____, route flown _____
5. Where were you when you left formation? Rallying off target
6. Did you bail out? Yes
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Yes
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". All crew members bailed out at approx. 1645 near Braubach, Ger, approx. 22mi SE Koblenz, Ger.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? A pprox. 22mi SE Koblenz
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) None
11. Where were they in aircraft? _____
12. What was their condition? _____
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)

Name of crew member: PRICE, Ward C.
 Rank: Sgt.
 Serial number: 36671117
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~on flight crew (Fighter)~~: CTG.

Did he bail out? YES

Where? 20 MILES SE OF NORWICH

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: I TALKED TO HIM ABOUT 15 SECONDS BEFORE I BAILED OUT

Was he injured? NO - NOT BEFORE I BAILED OUT. THE GERMANS SAID HIS CHUTE DIDN'T OPEN. HE WAS KILLED.

Where was he when last seen? IN A SMALL VILLAGE WHERE HE MET DEATH.

Any hearsay information: ~~HE~~ TWO OF MY CREWMEMBER TELL HIM. HE WAS DEAD WHEN SGT W. LANDER & SGT J.F. HEDGECOCK SEEN HIM. THE GERMANS SAID HIS CHUTE DID NOT OPEN. I THINK THAT HE WAS ONLY SEEN BY TWO OF MY CREWMEMBERS

Source: P.O. SGT W. LANDER AND P.T.G. SGT J.F. HEDGECOCK

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: I KNEW BY WHAT MY CREWMEMBERS TOLD ME, WHO SAW HIM AND BY WHAT THE GERMANS TOLD ME.

Total number of missions of above crew member: THAT WAS HIS FIRST MISSION

Dates and destinations if possible: NOV. 20 1944. BOHLEN WAS THE TARGET BUT WE WAS HEADED BACK TO OUR BASE IN FARLAND.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 11151

Name of crew member: FRECHETTE, Joseph C.
 Rank: 2nd Lt.
 Serial number: O-825614
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~and Flightman (Fighter)~~: Pilot.

Did he bail out? YESWhere? 20 MILES SE OF KOBLENZIf not, why not? -Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: ABOUT28 HOURS AFTER WE HAD BAILED OUTWas he injured? -

Where was he when last seen? I WAS WITH HIM ALL THE TIME I WAS IN GERMANY AND I CAME BACK TO THE STATES WITH HIM. WE SEPARATED
 Any hearsay information: IN NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA.

Source: -

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: HE WAS NOT INJURED AND HE CAME BACK TO THE STATES WITH ME.

Total number of missions of above crew member: FIVEDates and destinations if possible: NOV 30 1944. BOBLEN.

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

BPA
22

1. Your name SHEPHERD, CLARENCE R. Rank Sgt Serial No. 34898559
2. Organization 457 B Gp Commander Col. FRANCIS Rank Col. Sqn CO DON'T KNOW Rank —
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month Nov day 30 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Fourth., target, ROHLEN, target time, ABOUT 12:30, altitude, 12000 FT. Not sure route scheduled, DON'T KNOW, route flown DON'T KNOW
5. Where were you when you left formation? OVER THE TARGET
6. Did you bail out? YES
7. Did other members of crew bail out? YES
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". ENGINEER, SA, WING & AND RADIO OPERATOR BAILED OUT OF THE WING WHEN THE BALL TARGET WAS. PILOT CO-PILOT, WING. TAILER AND TAIL G. BAILED OUT THE NEXT
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? 20 MILES SE OF KOBLENZ
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) NONE
11. Where were they in aircraft? _____
12. What was their condition? _____
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. WARD PRICE WAS KILLED. SAUTE DIDNT OPEN TO THE GERMANS TOLD ME. TWO OF MY CREWMEMBERS I SAW HIM BODY LATER.

(Any additional information may be written on the back) A-1.

Name of crew member: PRICE, Ward C.
 Rank: sgt
 Serial number: 36671117
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Engineer (Engineer)~~: CTG.

Did he bail out? YES.

Where? APPROX. 25 KILOMETERS SOUTHWEST KOBLENZ, GERMANY

If not, why not? _____

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

NONE

Was he injured? NOT BEFORE BAILING OUT.

Where was he when last seen? _____

Any hearsay information: ACCORDING TO REPORTS OF OTHER MEMBERS OF MY CREW THIS MAN WAS KILLED DUE TO FAILURE OF PARACHUTE TO OPEN. I DID NOT SEE HIS BODY, BUT OTHERS OF THE CREW DID. I BELIEVE THIS TO BE ^{THE} ACTUAL FATE OF THAT MAN.

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: ONE

Dates and destinations if possible: NOV. 30, 1944 MERSEBURG, GER.
BUNLEN OIL REFINERIES OBJECTIVE

Name of crew member: FRECHETTE, Joseph C.
Rank: 2nd Lt.
Serial number: O-825614
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~max fighter (fighter)~~: Pilot.

Did he bail out? YES

Where? APPROX. 25 KILOMETERS SOUTHWEST KOBLENZ, GER.

If not, why not? _____

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

Was he injured? NO.

Where was he when last seen? CAMP PATRICK HENRY, VA. JUNE, 1945

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

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

Total number of missions of above crew member: SIX MISSIONS

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

Name of crew member: **FRECHETTE, Joseph C.**
 Rank: **2nd Lt.**
 Serial number: **0-325614**
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~or Flight (Fighter)~~: **Pilot.**

Did he bail out? yes

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: Joseph C Frechette was a POW, with me in Barth, Germany. He was returned to the states & is now residing at his home at ³⁷² ~~323~~ Central Ave, New Haven, Conn.

Source: Personal Knowledge

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: _____

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Hanson, Norman W Rank Lt A Serial No. 0-2058175
2. Organization 457th Gp Commander Rogner Rank Col Sqn CO Rollins Rank Maj
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month Nov day 30 did you go down? yes
4. What was the mission, _____, target, Mexsburg, target
time, 1300, altitude, 25500 route scheduled, _____
_____, route flown _____
5. Where were you when you left formation? Just Passed over target
6. Did you bail out? yes
7. Did other members of crew bail out? yes
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". All members except Price were P.O.W.s & returned safely to states
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? Somewhere between target & France
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) None.
11. Where were they in aircraft? _____
12. What was their condition? _____
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)

Name of crew member: PRICE, Ward C.
 Rank: Sgt.
 Serial number: 36871117
 Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Flight~~ (Fighter): CTO.

Did he bail out? yes
 Where? About 150 miles from Wiesenburg heading toward France

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: The bombardier was helping to get him out of escape hatch

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? Leaving Plane

Any hearsay information: After one day in a small town, the German guards claimed his body was found, & his chute had never opened. One of my crew members was shown a body assumed to be that of Price, & Price's dog tags were around the neck.

Source: Crew member

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: He acted almost petrified on leaving plane, and it is my opinion that he never pulled the rip chord.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 1 (this was his first mission)

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

Name of crew member: PRICE, Ward C.
 Rank: Sgt.
 Serial number: 36671117
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~on [unclear] [unclear]~~: CEG.

Did he bail out? yes

Where? Germany (out the nose escape door)

If not, why not? _____

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

No contact from England to Germany

Was he injured? no - dead

Where was he when last seen? In barn, about 1/2 mile from place of

Any hearsay information: two crew members & I saw him in a barn

laying on his back, parachute was open, his mouth was open, missing some teeth, other wise no injuries that we noticed.

Walter B. Lander, read his dog-tags, name was Price, Ward C.

On his helmet the name Price, was painted on also.

Source: Salvator Mustrantonic, (myself)

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: To me it

appears he was shot while coming down or he was scared so much, that he pulled the rip-cord too late.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 1st

Dates and destinations if possible: November 30, 1944. Target was

"Bohlen", Germany, from 1st Division, Peterborough, England.

Name of crew member: F R E C H E T T E, Joseph C. (He is not a Casualty,
 Rank: 2nd Lt. *he was safe like me!*
 Serial number: O-825614
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~or Pilot~~: Pilot. *other crew members.*

Did he bail out? yes

Where? Germany, (near escape door)

If not, why not? _____

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

minutes before bail out he spoke to another man over
interphone.

Was he injured? no

Where was he when last seen? NEAR "COBLENZ, GERMANY."

Any hearsay information: WALTER B. LANDER, James Hedgecock & I LANDED

CLOSE TOGETHER. AFTER CAPTURE WE ALL MET, THE PILOT,

CO-PILOT, NAVIGATOR, RADIO W/MN, LOWER BALL & WAIST GUNNER & I.

PRICE, WAS DEAD IN BARN, ENGINEER, BILLINGSLEY, ESCAPED.

7 OF US MET - 1 DEAD - 1 ESCAPED.

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: He was hit

by Quilbin with clubs, after he bailed out, also ~~was~~ navigator.

He was feeling O.K. though. Was in temporary camp with

him for 1 week after capture.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 4 or 5

Dates and destinations if possible: NOT SURE, EXCEPT LAST

MISSION WAS NOV. 30, 1944, "BOHLEN," GERMANY.

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

PPA-8
22

1. Your name M. ANTONIO-SALVATORE A. Rank S/SGT. Serial No. 32606157
2. Organization 457 Bomb Group AIR FORCE Gp Commander _____ Rank _____ Sqn CO _____ Rank _____
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month NOV. day 30 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, GERMANY OIL PLANT, target, BOHLEN, target
time, 3 minutes to 5, altitude, 23,000, route scheduled, _____
_____, route flown _____
5. Where were you when you left formation? NEAR TARGET (AFTER DROPPING BOMBS)
6. Did you bail out? Yes
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Yes (EVERYONE)
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? Near "COBLENZ" Germany
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) None
11. Where were they in aircraft? _____
12. What was their condition? _____
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)