

**WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON**

The MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

10701

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

1. ORGANIZATION: Location Torretta, Italy Command or Air Force 15th AF
Group 461st Bomb Gp (H) Squadron 766th Bomb Sq (H)
2. SPECIFY: Place of departure Torretta, Italy Course
Target Odertal, Germany Type of mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
8/10 cumulus at 16000

4. GIVE: [a] Date 17 Dec 1944 Time 1245 Last known position South Bratislava, Czechoslovakia

[b] Specify whether: Last sighted, Forced down, Seen to crash,
 Last contacted by radio, No information

5. AIRCRAFT [LOST] [BELIEVED LOST] AS A RESULT OF: [Check one only]
 Enemy aircraft, Enemy anti-aircraft, Other.

6. AIRCRAFT: Type, model & series B-24 J AAF Serial Number 42-95304

7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT: none

8. ENGINES: Type, model & series P&W R-1830-43 AAF serial Number [a] 41-44439
[b] CP-3111748 [c] CP-326490 [d] CP-306828

9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: [Make, type and serial number] All Browning Cal. 50

[a] LN 1184535 [e] LB 1539320 [i] LT 1187017

[b] RN 1184504 [f] RB 1203411 [j] RT 1187564

[c] LU 1187533 [g] LW 1187479

[d] RU 1184494 [h] RW 1185493

10. PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW REPORTED AS: Battle Casualty, Non Battle Casualty

11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10; Passengers 0; Total 10

[If more than 12 persons aboard aircraft, use separate sheet]

CREW POSITION	FULL NAME [Last, First, Initial] RANK, SERIAL NUMBER	CURRENT STATUS	NEXT OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP AND ADDRESS
[1] Pilot	Sidovar, Nicholas, 2 nd Lt. 0-823998		William Sidovar (Father) Railroad Ave., Alpha, New Jersey
[2] Co-pilot	Hawkins, Malcolm C., 2 nd Lt. 0-2057296		Helen L. Hawkins (Wife) c/o Gerner State Park, Concan, Texas
[3] Nav	Chan, Edward N., 2 nd Lt. 0-2060774		Mabel L. Chan (Wife) 1587 Fulton St., Brooklyn, New York
[4] Bomb	Draper, Hal D., Jr., 2 nd Lt. 0-776885		Madaline S. Draper (Mother) End of Grove, Nevada City, California
[5] LWG	Nicolaison, Russell H., Sgt. 37558581		Mrs. Gust Nicolaison (Mother) 1821 East South Street, Duluth, Minnesota
[6] RWG	Oviatt, Winfield C., Cpl. 12200537		Mrs. Henrietta H. Oviatt (Mother) 1408 1/2 18 th St., Niagara Falls, New York
[7] TTG	Woehlke, Robert A., Cpl. 33728213		William E. Woehlke (Father) 1727 Poplar Grove St., Baltimore, Maryland
[8] NTG	Cash, Hugh I., Sgt. 14153842		Mrs. Oza Cash (Mother) 224 Hills Boro St., Franklinton, North Carolina

[9] BTG	Barks, John P., Cpl. 11064289	Mrs. John P. Barks (Wife) Corington, Indiana
[10] TTG	Mooring, Robert L., Sgt. 38422557	Mrs. Ruby Prior (Mother) Route #11, Box #1623-B, Houston, Texas
[11]		
[12]		

12. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT AND CHECK APPROPRAITE [one only] COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:

NAME IN FULL	RANK	SERIAL No.	CONTACTED BY RADIO	LAST SIGHTED	SAW CRASH	SAW FORCED LANDING
[1] Jay M. Garner	1 st Lt.	0-709564	X			
[2]						
[3]						

13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: **Yes**

- Parachutes were used, Persons were seen walking away from the scene of the crash,
- Other reasons [specify] **Plane was under control when last contacted.**

- 14. ATTACH PHOTOGRAPH, MAP OR SKETCH SHOWING LAST KNOWN LOCATION OF AIRCRAFT.
- 15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTIONS OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES.
- 16. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH HERE: **None.**

Date: 20 December 1944 /s/ Robert A. Preciado
Capt., AC

766TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
461ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP
APO 520 US ARMY

STATEMENT

Lt. Sidovar's airplane was hit by fighters just before the target. He tried to feather one of his engines after leaving the target and dropped out of formation. It was about 20 minutes after target time before I finally contacted him on "A" channel. He was trying to contact fighter escort. He told me that the engine would not stay feathered and that it was vibrating badly. He also had a slight gas leak. He finally contacted fighter escort and gave them his position as just south of Bratislava, Czecholovakia at 14,300 feet altitude. He was holding altitude. I then switched back to "B" channel and had no more contact with him.

/s/ Jay M. Garner
1st Lt., Air Corps.
Pilot

	Rank	U.S.A. Name	ASN	ME-2569
DATE: 17 Dec 1944 at 1415	2 nd Lt.	Sidovar, Nicholas	0-823998	
PLACE: 20 miles southwest of Agram Karlevas	2 nd Lt.	Kawkins, Malcolm Charles	0-2057296	
TYPE: Liberator	2 nd Lt.	Chan, Edward N.	0-2060774	
MARKINGS: 766th (HB) Sqd. 461 Group	2 nd Lt.	Draper, Hal Daniel, Jr.	0-776885	
TARGET: HQ of Airfield Agram	Sgt.	Nicolaison, Russel Henry	37558581	
	Cpl.	Oviatt, Winfield Crissy	12200537	
	Sgt.	Woehlke, Robert Alexander	33728213	
	Sgt.	Cash, Hugh Irving	14153842	
	Sgt.	Mooring, Robert Layton	38422557	
	Sgt.	Barks, John Patrick	11064289	

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN **17 December 1944 at 1400, CASUALTY NO. ME-2569**

PLACE OF CRASH **Agram**

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT **Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE **Air-Base-Headquarters Agram**

NAME	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CAPT'D WOUNDED DEAD	PLACE OF INTERNMENT
Hawkings, Malcolm Charles 24 May 1922 U.S.A.	2nd Lt.	0-2057296	Captured	Stalag Luft West
Sidovar, Nicholas U.S.A.	2nd Lt.	0-823998	Captured	Stalag Luft West
Chan, Edward	2nd Lt.	0-2060774	Captured	Stalag Luft West
Draper, Jr. Hal Daniel	2nd Lt.	0-776885	Captured	Stalag Luft West
Nicolaison, Russell Henry	Sgt.	37558581	Captured	Stalag Luft West
Oviatt, Winfield Crissy 28 June 1924 U.S.A	Cpl.	12200537	Captured	Stalag Luft West
Woehlke, Robert Alexander	Sgt.	33728213	Captured	Stalag Luft West
Cash, Hugh Irving	Sgt.	14153842	Captured	Stalag Luft West
Mooring, Robert Layton 27 July 1924	Sgt.	38422557	Captured	Stalag Luft West
Barks, John Patrick	Sgt.	11064289	Captured	Stalag Luft West

REMARKS:

Dulag Luft: 10 Jan. 1945.

2nd Lt. Nicholas Sidovar	Mr. William Sidovar (Father) Railroad Avenue Alpha, New Jersey
2nd Lt. Malcolm C. Kawkins	Mrs. Helen Kawkins (Wife) c/o Garner State Park Concan, Texas
2nd Lt. Edward N. Chan	Mrs. Mabel Chan (Wife) 1587 Fulton Street Brooklyn, New York
2nd Lt. Hal D. Draper, Jr.	Mrs. Madaline S. Draper (Mother) Grove Street Navada City, California
Sgt. Robert L. Mooring	Mrs. Ruby V. Prior (Mother) Route 11, Box 1623-B Houston, Texas
Sgt. Hugh I. Cash	Mrs. Oza L. Cash (Mother) 224 Hillsboro Street Franklinton, North Carolina
Sgt. Russell H. Nicolaison	Mrs. Lillian J. Nicolaison (Mother) 1821 East South Street Duluth, Minnesota
Cpl. Winfield C. Oviatt	Mrs. Henrietta Oviatt (Mother) 1408 ½ 18th Street Niagara Falls, New York
Cpl. Robert A. Woehlke	Mr. William C. Woehlke (Father) 1727 Poplar Grove Street Baltimore, Maryland
Cpl. John P. Barks	Mr. Olin F. Barks (Father) 790 Onally Street Fall River, Massachusetts