

**WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON**

The MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

8972

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 765th Bomb Sq (H)

2. SPECIFY: Place of departure Torretta Field, Italy Course Direct to target
Target Munich, Germany Type of mission Bombing

3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
CAVU

4. GIVE: [a] Date 4 Oct 1944 Time 1202 Last known position Munich, Germany.
[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 G AAF Serial Number 42-78247

7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT: _____

8. ENGINES: Type, model & series P&W R1830-43 AAF serial Number [a] 426658
[b] 426595 [c] 426708 [d] 426497

9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: [Make, type and serial number]

[a] <u>940182</u>	[e] <u>973913</u>	[i] <u>978002</u>
[b] <u>951720</u>	[f] <u>974324</u>	[j] <u>368920</u>
[c] <u>926626</u>	[g] <u>965153</u>	
[d] <u>974062</u>	[h] <u>974151</u>	

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	Waggoner, William K., 1st Lt. 0-680778	MIA	Mrs. Margaret Waggoner (Mother) 2120 N. Hayes, Little Rock, Arkansas
[2] Co-pilot	Schlarp, Norman C., 2nd Lt. 0-824912	MIA	Mr. Jacob Schlarp (Father) Eagle River Wisconsin
[3] Nav	Brina, Robert R., 2nd Lt. 0-722991	MIA	Mrs. Hedwig Mary Brina (Mother) 1709 Flatbush Ave., Brooklyn, New York
[4] Bomb	Shaffer, Paul D., Jr., 2nd Lt. 0-771984	MIA	Mrs. Thelma N. Shaffer (Wife) Route 3, Box 33, Johnstown, Pa.
[5] RWG	Vinson, Ralph D., S/Sgt. 6951524	MIA	Mrs. Rudy Vinson (Mother) RFD #2, Box 31, Coolidge, Texas
[6] LWG	Hawthorne, Frank C., Sgt. 15171553	MIA	Mrs. Emma M. Hawthorne (Mother) Taylor Lane, St. Clairsville, Ohio
[7] TTG	Turgeon, Armand R., Sgt. 31109011	MIA	Mrs. Anna F. Turgeon (Mother) 119 4th St., Dover, New Hampshire
[8] BTG	Peebles, John A., Sgt. 39621156	MIA	Mrs. Gertrude Peebles (Mother) Choteau, Montana
[9] NTG	Smith, Woodrow W., Sgt. 35201035	MIA	Mrs. Minerva smith (Mother) Route #2, Wayne, West Virginia
[10] TG	Klepper, Edward J., Sgt. 32889999	MIA	Mrs. Anna Klegger (Mother) 101 W. 11th St., Huntington Station, N.Y.

[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] Harry W. Dunham	T/Sgt.	6980505		X		
[2]						
[3]						

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

Parachutes were used, Persons were seen walking away from the scene of the crash,

Other reasons [specify] **Impossible to determine.**

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: **No search made by this organization.**

9 October 1944

/s/ Samuel B. Sinai
Capt., AC Adj.

HEADQUARTERS
765TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H) AAF
APO 520

9 October 1944

STATEMENT

On October 4, 1944, while participating as photographer in a bombing mission over Munich, Germany, I observed ship number 39 which I found out later was piloted by Lt. Waggoner of the 765th Bomb Squadron. The aircraft had just received a direct hit by flak and was peeling away from the formation. As he passed beneath our ship he was losing altitude fast and I saw that number one and number three engines were on fire and were smoking badly.

/s/ Harry W. Dunham
T/Sgt., 6980505
766th Bomb Sq (H)

		U.S.A.		ME-2186
DATE: 4.10.44 – 12.45	Rank	Name	ASN	
PLACE: Airfield	1st Lt.	Waggoner, William	0-680778	
Landsberg / Lech.	2nd Lt.	Edward		
TYPE: Liberator		Schlarp, Norman C.	0-	Hospital,
MARKS: 278247			824912	St.
765 Sqd				Ottilien,
461 Group; 49 Wing				near
AIRBASE: Cerignola	2nd Lt.	Brina, Robert Richard	0-722991	Landsberg
TARGET: Airbase HQs	2nd Lt.	Shaffer, Paul D.	0-771984	
E (v) 214/XII	S/Sgt.	Vinson, Ralph D.	6951524	
	Sgt.	Hawthorne, Frank C.	15171553	
	Sgt.	Turgeon, Armand	31109011	
		Raymond		
	Sgt.	Peebles, John A.	39621156	
	Sgt.	Klepper, Edward John	32889999	
	Sgt.	Smith, Woodrow W.	35201035	

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF AN AIRCRAFT OF THE USAAF

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN **4 October 1944 – 1245, ME-2186**

PLACE OF CRASH **Landsberg/Lech**

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT **Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE **Airbase Headquarters E (V) 214/XII**

NAME	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CAPT'D WOUNDED DEAD	PLACE OF INTERNMENT
Waggoner, William Edward	1st Lt.	0-680778	Captured	Dulag Luft
Brina, Robert Richard	2nd Lt.	0-722991	Captured	Dulag Luft
Shaffer, Paul D. 1 Sept. 22 Windber, Pa	2nd Lt.	0-771984	Captured	Dulag Luft
Vinson, Ralph D.	S/Sgt.	6951524	Captured	Dulag Luft
Hawthorne, Frank C.	Sgt.	15171553	Captured	Dulag Luft
Turgeon, Armand Raymond	Sgt.	31109011	Captured	Dulag Luft
Peebles, John A. 5 Dec 24 Choteau, Mont.	Sgt.	39621156	Captured	Dulag Luft
Klepper, Edward John	Sgt.	32889999	Captured	Dulag Luft
Smith, Woodrow W.	Sgt.	35201035	Captured	Dulag Luft

REMARKS:

Dulag Luft: 14 October 1944

ME-KGU-2186

St. Ottilien – 8 October 1944

Goltendorf 65

TELEPHONE

Reserve Hospital St. Ottilien

Staff Doctor

Ref to: Death Report

Case: Written from Reserve Hospital St. Ottilien for 5 October 1944

To: Dulag (Luft) Oberureal/Taunus

Today 4 October 1944 in the Reserve Hospital St. Ottilien the captured American Air Force Prisoner of War, Schlarp, Norman Carl, died of wounds.

Signed,

Lt. Colonel (Ned)
Staff Doctor

ME-KGU-2186

Landsberg a Loch 6 October 1944

App. No. 158

Command Air Station Area II/Vii Abt IC

Ref to: Flight money of a enemy crew member

To: Dulag – West Oberureal, Frankfort/Main

In the enclosure the above Air Station Are Command II/VII Landsberg a Loch transfers \$48.00. The money belonged to the crew member Schlarp, Norman Clark, of the plane that landed on 4 October 1944 in the airfield at Lansdsberg a Loch.

The crew member Schlarp is in the Reserve Hospital St. Ottilien, near Landsberg a Loch.

CASUALTY NO.
ME-KSU-2186

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF CRASH:

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: **Crash landing B-24 Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Force Base Command E (V) 214/XII –
Landsberg/Loch – 4 October 1944**

CREW

SURNAME, AND **Vinson**
FIRST NAME: **Ralph D.**

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: **S/Sgt.**

SERIAL NUMBER: **6951524**

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD:
(Evaluation Station West Oberureal)

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

Captured Runway Air Field Landsberg/Loch – 4 October 1944 – 12.45 o'clock.

CASUALTY NO.
ME-KSU-2186

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF CRASH:

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: **Crash landing B-24 Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Force Base Command E (V) 214/XII –
Landsberg/Loch – 4 October 1944**

CREW

SURNAME, AND **Hawthorne**
FIRST NAME: **F. C.**

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: **Sergeant**

SERIAL NUMBER: **15171553**

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD:
(Evaluation Station West Oberureal)

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

CASUALTY NO.
ME-KSU-2186

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF CRASH:

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: **Crash landing B-24 Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Force Base Command E (V) 214/XII –
Landsberg/Loch – 4 October 1944**

CREW

SURNAME, AND **Smith**
FIRST NAME: **Woodrow W.**

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: **Sergeant**

SERIAL NUMBER: **35201035**

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD:
(Evaluation Station West Oberureal)

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

CASUALTY NO.
ME-KSU-2186

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF CRASH:

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: **Crash landing B-24 Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Force Base Command E (V) 214/XII –
Landsberg/Loch – 4 October 1944**

CREW

SURNAME, AND **Waggoner**
FIRST NAME: **William**

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: **1st Lt.**

SERIAL NUMBER: **0-680778**

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD:
(Evaluation Station West Oberureal)

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

CASUALTY NO.
ME-KSU-2186

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF CRASH:

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: **Crash landing B-24 Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Force Base Command E (V) 214/XII –
Landsberg/Loch – 4 October 1944**

CREW

SURNAME, AND **Peebles**
FIRST NAME: **John A.**

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: **Sergeant**

SERIAL NUMBER: **39621156**

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD:
(Evaluation Station West Oberureal)

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

CASUALTY NO.
ME-KSU-2186

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF CRASH:

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: **Crash landing B-24 Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Force Base Command E (V) 214/XII –
Landsberg/Loch – 4 October 1944**

CREW

SURNAME, AND **Shaffer**
FIRST NAME: **P. D.**

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: **2nd Lt.**

SERIAL NUMBER: **0-771984**

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD:
(Evaluation Station West Oberureal)

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

CASUALTY NO.
ME-KSU-2186

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF CRASH:

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: **Crash landing B-24 Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Force Base Command E (V) 214/XII –
Landsberg/Loch – 4 October 1944**

CREW

SURNAME, AND **Brina**
FIRST NAME: **Robert R.**

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: **2nd Lt.**

SERIAL NUMBER: **0-722991**

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD:
(Evaluation Station West Oberureal)

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

CASUALTY NO.
ME-KSU-2186

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF CRASH:

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: **Crash landing B-24 Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Force Base Command E (V) 214/XII –
Landsberg/Loch – 4 October 1944**

CREW

SURNAME, AND **Turgeon**
FIRST NAME: **Armand R.**

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: **Sergeant**

SERIAL NUMBER: **31109011**

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD:
(Evaluation Station West Oberureal)

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

CASUALTY NO.
ME-KSU-2186

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF CRASH:

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: **Crash landing B-24 Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Force Base Command E (V) 214/XII –
Landsberg/Loch – 4 October 1944**

CREW

SURNAME, AND **Schlarp**
FIRST NAME: **Norman Clark**

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: **Lieutenant**

SERIAL NUMBER: **31109011**

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: **Wounded** DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

Captured at Runway Airfield Landsberg/Loch
Reserve Hospital St. Ottilien near Landsberg/Loch

CASUALTY NO.
ME-KSU-2186

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF CRASH:

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: **Crash landing B-24 Liberator**

REPORTING OFFICE: **Air Force Base Command E (V) 214/XII –
Landsberg/Loch – 4 October 1944**

CREW

SURNAME, AND **Klepper**
FIRST NAME: **Ed J.**

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: **Sergeant**

SERIAL NUMBER: **32889999**

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD:
(Evaluation Station West Oberureal)

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

Reserve Hospital St. Ottilien
Chief – Surgeon

St. Ottilien, 8 Oct 1944
Telephone: Geltendorf
No.55

Subject: Death report

Reference: Letter of Reserve Hospital St. Ottilien of 5 Oct 1944

To the Armed Forces Information Center on War Casualties and Prisoners
of War

Sealfeld/Saale

The American Prisoner of War (Air Force) Lt. Schlarp, Norman Carl, who
was admitted to Reserve Hospital St. Ottilien on 4 Oct 1944, died of his wounds today.

Illegible
Lt. Col., Med. Corps and Chief Surgeon

REPORT ON DEATH AND BURIAL OF A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES.

Name: Schlarp, Norman Carl
Rank: Lt.
Place of birth: unknown (U.S.A.)
Date of birth: 9 July 1920
Place of death: St. Ottilien
Date of death: 7 Oct 1944
Serial number: 0-824912 T 43 – 44 (54/118)
Nationality: U.S.A.
Cause of death: Injuries
Embolism of grease-tissue
Kind of injuries: Flak fragments in right upper leg,
fracture and weakness of heart and blood circulation.
Place of burial: St. Ottilien
Location of grave: Kloster Cemetery
Date and time of burial: 11 Oct 1944 at 0600

The dead sustained his injuries in an U.S.A. – Terror bomber.

Landsberg on the Loch, 11 Oct 1944

En Lieu illegible

Lt. Col.

To the Deputy Command of VIIth
Army Corps, Section Ic
Munich (Munchen)

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Woodrow W. Smith Rank Sgt. Serial No. 35201035
2. Organization 461st Gp Commander Unknown Rank Sqn CO Applegate Rank Lt. Col.
3. What year 1944 month October day 4 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, bombing, target, RR Yards Munich, Germany, target time, about 1200 noon, altitude, 25,000 ft route scheduled, as briefed, route flown after leaving target....
5. Where were you when you left formation? Just after bombs away over target.
6. Did you bail out? No.
7. Did other members of crew bail out? No.
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". None bailed out.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? Near Landsberg, 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) All crew members.
11. Where were they in aircraft? At proper stations except nose was cleared.
12. What was their condition? Co-Pilot was injured by flak.
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? Co-Pilot, Lt. Norman C. Schlarp was left near the aircraft after being removed from the plane. He was wounded but other members of the crew were taken away as prisoners by the Germans. Lt. Schlarp was the only crew member wounded.
- 14 Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. No knowledge.

The following is a complete list of the crew:

1 st Lt. William K. Waggoner 2120 North Hayes Street Little Rock, Arkansas	Pilot	Returned to USA after liberation
2 nd Lt. Norman C. Schlarp Eagle River, Wisconsin	Co-Pilot	Died of wounds received in action
2 nd Lt. Robert H. Brina 1709 Flatbush Ave. Brooklyn, N.Y.	Navigator	Returned to USA after liberation
2 nd Lt. Paul D. Shaffer, Jr. Rural Del. Three Box 133 Johnstown, Pa.	Bombardier	Returned to USA after liberation
S/Sgt. Ralph D. Vinson RFD 2 Box 31 Coolidge, Texas	Engineer	Returned to USA after liberation
Sgt. Frank C. Hawthorne Taylor Lane St. Clairsville, O.	Lt W. Gunner	Returned to USA after liberation
Sgt. Armand R. Turgeon 119 4 th St. Dover, N.H.	Tail Gunner	Returned to USA after liberation
Sgt. John A. Peebles Choteau, Montana	Ball Gunner	Returned to USA after liberation
Sgt. Woodrow W. Smith Box 13 Hi Hat, Ky.	Nose Gunner	Returned to USA after liberation
Sgt. Edward J. Klepper 101 West 11th Street Huntington Station, New York	U. T. Gunner	Returned to USA after liberation

1st Lt. William K. Waggoner

**Mrs. Margaret L. Waggoner (Mother)
2120 North Hayes Street
Little Rock, Arkansas**

2nd Lt. Norman C. Schlarp

**Mr. Jacob Schlarp (Father)
Eagle River, Wisconsin**

2nd Lt. Robert R. Brina

**Mrs. Hedwig M. Brina (Mother))
1709 Flatbush Avenue
Brooklyn, New York**

2nd Lt. Paul D. Shaffer, Jr.

**Mrs. Thelma N. Shaffer (Wife)
Rural Delivery Three, Box 133
Johnstown, Pennsylvania**

S/Sgt. Ralph D. Vinson

**Mrs. Ruby Vinson (Mother)
Rural Free Delivery #2, Box 31
Coolidge, Texas**

Sgt. Frank C. Hawthorne

**Mrs. Emma M. Hawthorne (Mother)
Taylor Street
Saint Clairsville, Ohio**

Sgt. Armand R. Turgeon

**Mrs. Anna F. Turgeon (Mother)
119 4th Street
Dover, New Hampshire**

Sgt. John A. Peebles

**Mrs. Gertrude Peebles (Mother)
Choteau, Montana**

Sgt. Woodrow W. Smith

**Mrs. Minerva Smith (Mother)
Route Number Two
Wayne, West Virginia**

Sgt. Edward J. Klepper

**Mrs. Anna S. Klepper (Mother)
101 West 11th Street
Huntington Station, New York**