

6541

CONFIDENTIAL

Date	Name	Photo About
4/9/46	Polk	COOPER
"	"	COOPER
"	"	FELTON
"	"	GASKIN
"	"	JOHNS
"	"	MCKEEFER
"	"	KING
"	"	FISHER

GERMAN RECORDS  
COMPLETED

CONFIDENTIAL



1st Lt. Dale M. Fisher

Mrs. Isabelle R. Fisher, (Mother)  
Empire, Michigan.

2nd Lt. Carlos H. Johns, Jr.

Mrs. Mary O. Johns, (Mother)  
102 East 3rd,  
Arlington, Texas.

2nd Lt. Carl H. Felton, Jr.

Mr. Carl Felton, (Father)  
9 Forrest Avenue,  
Springville, New York.

2nd Lt. Carthel O. Gaskin

Mrs. Nettie Gaskin, (Mother)  
Burgin, Kentucky.

T/Sgt. John M. King

Mrs. Bessie Ann King, (Wife)  
224 North Browning Street,  
San Angelo, Texas.

T/Sgt. Robert H. Johnson

Mrs. Florence H. Andoe, (Mother)  
418 Union,  
Selma, Alabama.

S/Sgt. Bernard E. Mc Keever

Mrs. Ernie M. Mc Keever, (Mother)  
Adams Street,  
Oconto Fall, Wisconsin.

S/Sgt. Victor P. Crandell

Mrs. Ida S. Crandell, (Mother)  
116 South Mount Street,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

S/Sgt. Robert M. Cooper

Mrs. Gertrude Cooper, (Mother)  
Reynoldsville, Pennsylvania.



CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS IAF STATION 107  
303RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)  
APO 634 - US ARMY

6541

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 aircraft is officially reported missing.

- ORGANIZATION: Location Molesworth, England; Command or Air Force 8th A.F.  
Group 303rd Bomb Group; Squadron 360th; Detachment \_\_\_\_\_
- SPECIFY: Point of Departure Molesworth; Course See Attached Chart  
Intended Destination Lille, France; Type of Mission Bombardment
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: 4-5/10ths  
Cumulus, Tops 10,000 Feet, Visibility Excellent above clouds.
- GIVE: (a) Date 22 June 44; Time 1900; and Location Lille, France  
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.  
(b) Specify whether (x) Last Sighted; ( ) Last contacted by Radio;  
( ) Forced down; ( ) Seen to Crash; or ( ) Information not Available.
- AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one) (x) Enemy Aircraft; ( ) Enemy Anti-Aircraft; ( ) Other Circumstances as follows \_\_\_\_\_

- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B17-G; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-31432
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series -1820-97 A.A.F. Serial Number (a) SW-003736  
(b) 43-64986; (c) 43-63 225; (d) SW-003752
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)  
(a) \_\_\_\_\_; (b) \_\_\_\_\_; (c) \_\_\_\_\_; (d) \_\_\_\_\_  
(e) \_\_\_\_\_; (f) See Attached Sheet; (g) \_\_\_\_\_
- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X  
or (b) Non-Battle Casualty \_\_\_\_\_
- NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 9; Passengers 0; Total 9  
(Starting with Pilot, furnish the following particulars; if more than 10 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
1. Pilot	<u>FISHER, DALE M.</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>0-759361</u>
2. Co-Pilot	<u>JOHNS, CARLOS H. JR.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>0-704480</u>
3. Navigator	<u>FELTON, CARL H. JR.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>0-801447</u>
4. Bombardier	<u>GASKIN, CARTEL O.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>0-706840</u>
5. Top Turret Gunner	<u>KING, JOHN M.</u>	<u>T/Sgt.</u>	<u>18054679</u>
6. Radio Gunner	<u>JOHNSON, ROBERT E.</u>	<u>T/Sgt.</u>	<u>14075102</u> RT11
7. Ball Turret Gunner	<u>MC KEEVER, BERNARD E.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>36809149</u>
8. Waist Gunner	<u>GRANDELL, VICTOR P.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>38719277</u>
9. Tail Gunner	<u>COOPER, ROBERT M.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>18133675</u> K/A
10.			

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

Name in Full (Last name first)	Serial Rank	Check Only One Column				
		Contacted By Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing	
1. <u>VITALE, HECTOR E.</u>	<u>2nd Lt. 0-813445</u>		<u>X</u>			
2.						
3.						

- IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used X; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash \_\_\_\_\_; or (c) Any other reason (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN. See Attached Chart.
- ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT. See Attached Statement.
- 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 June 1944.

Jesse M. Barrett  
(Signature of Preparing Officer)  
JESSE M. BARRETT, Major, AC, Group S-2.

Serial 51



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INSTALLED WEAPONS -- A/C #42-31432

683929 K.H.  
890354 B.A.  
684116 K.H.  
684171 K.H.  
890370 B.A.  
684330 K.H.  
882886 B.A.  
684527 K.H.  
684219 K.H.  
890686 B.A.  
647423 F.D. G.M.  
360428 F.D. G.M.

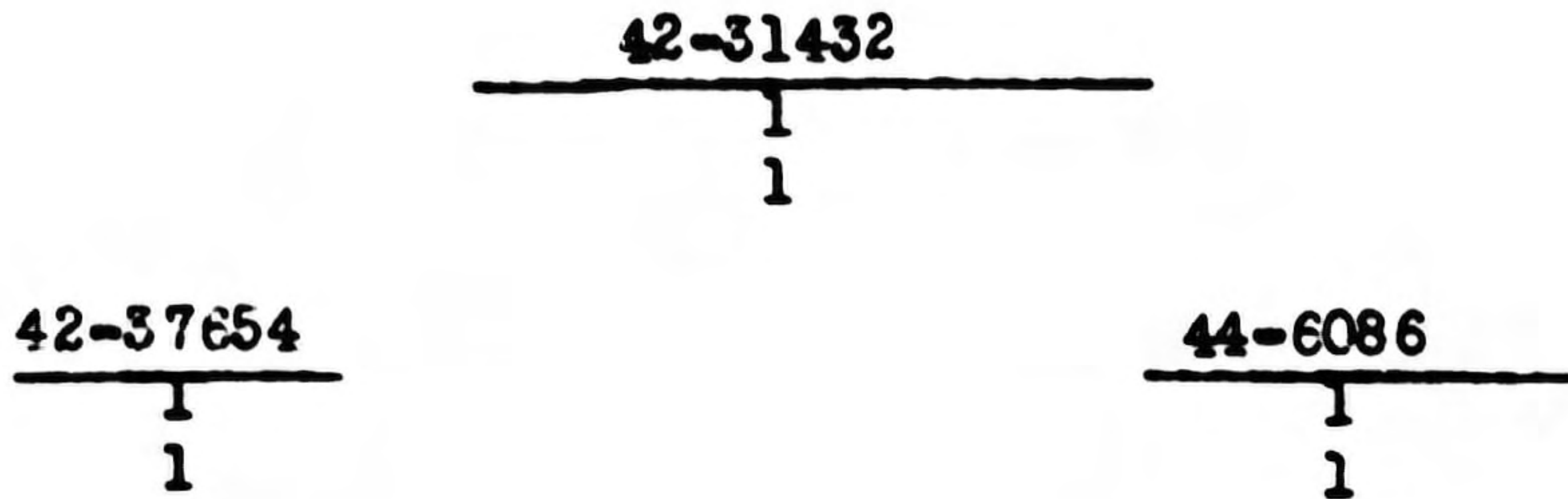
CONFIDENTIAL



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Statement of 2nd Lt. Hector F. Vitale, O-813445.

On the mission to Lille, France on 22 June 1944, I was the pilot of A/C 42-37654 which was flying in #3 position in the 4th flight of the high Group of the 41st B Combat Wing. The missing A/C #42-31432 was flying in #1 position in the same flight as shown by the diagram below. Just after bombs away on the target, the missing A/C received a direct hit from A/A gunfire just back of #3 engine, probably in the gasoline tank. Immediately it burst into flames, spun off to the right and went down. Both wings snapped off as it went down. No one on my crew saw any chutes, but a man from another crew reported seeing one.



*Hector F. Vitale*  
HECTOR F. VITALE,  
2nd Lt. AC,

CONFIDENTIAL

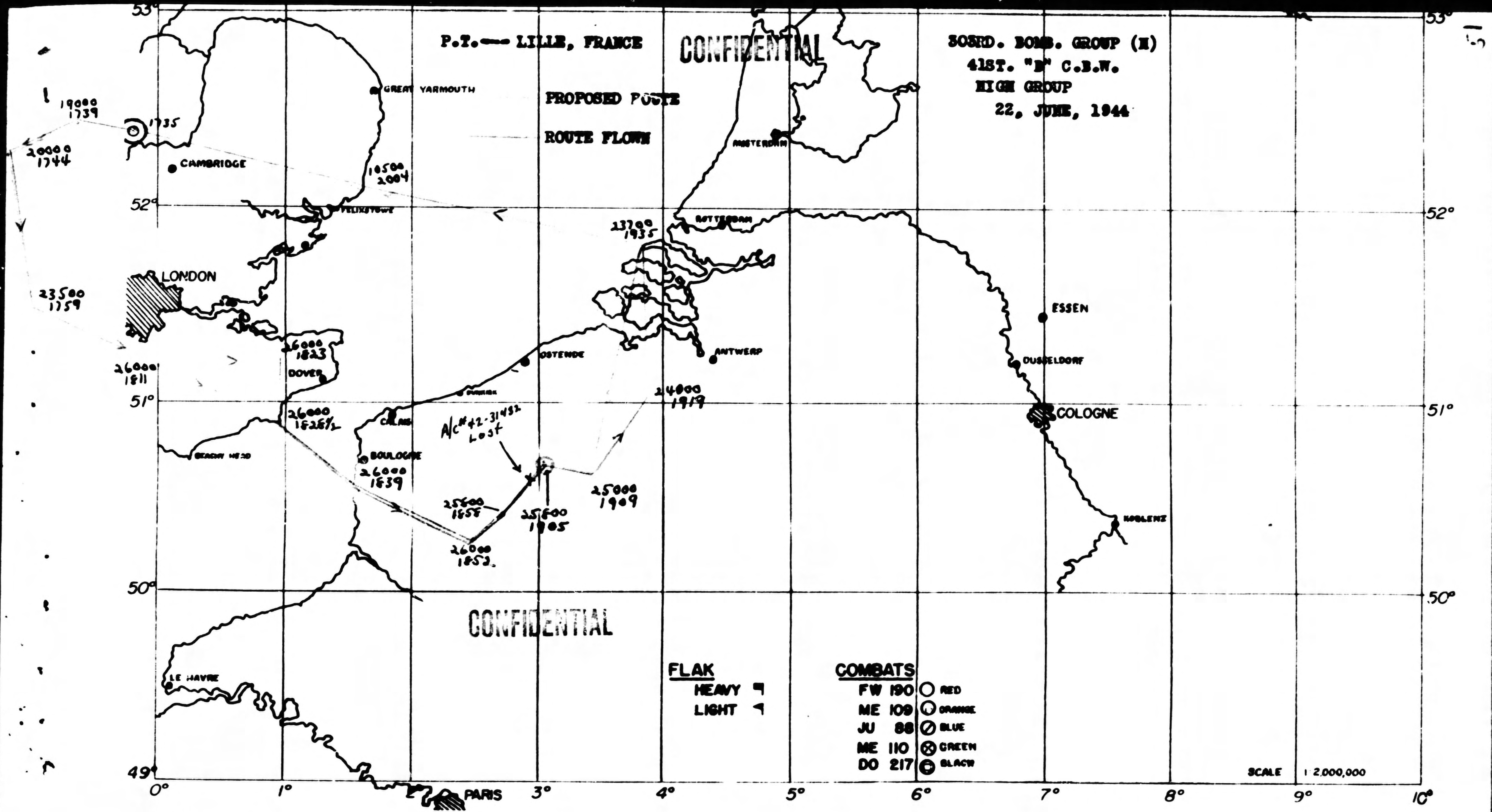


P.O. --- LILLE, FRANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

305RD. BOMB. GROUP (H)  
41ST. "B" C.B.W.  
HIGH GROUP  
22, JUNE, 1944

PROPOSED POSTE  
ROUTE FLOW



CONFIDENTIAL

FLAK  
HEAVY  $\square$   
LIGHT  $\triangle$

COMBATS

FW 190	○ RED
ME 109	○ ORANGE
JU 88	○ BLUE
ME 110	⊗ GREEN
DO 217	⊙ BLACK

SCALE 1:2,000,000



Airbase Eps E (v) 220/II  
 Airforce Replacement Batt.  
 Boumonster 'Waldstein

Casualty Report No. 28  
 This covered by report 15 June - 23 June 44  
 To War Information Center for War Casualties and PW's Berlin W 30  
~~Manufacturestrasse 47/48.~~

J. L. M. 10 1/2

Place and date of casualty    I. name    Name    Died    Date of burial    Place of burial

Trossin 10 km east of Lille  
 Boeing Fortrees V star H

Place and date of casualty	I. name	Name	Died	Date of burial	Place of burial
"	Bernard	KEEVER 36809149	yes	23 June 44	Village cemetery Trossin 10 km east of Lille
"	Robert	COOPER 13133675	"	"	"
"	Victor	GRANDELL 33719277	"	"	"
"	Carl H	FELTON Jr O-802447	"	"	"
"	Carlee	JOHNS O-704480	"	"	"
"	Carthel	CASLIN O-706840	"	"	"
✓	UNKNOWN		"	"	"
✓	UNKNOWN		"	"	"

Local quarters 5 July 1944

Illegible

Cpt. and Off. assigned to spec. duty

1 duplicate

MIA-22 Jun 44  
 KIA-22 Jun 44  
 RIA-23 Jun 44

AC

MACR-6541

RU 2349  
 AV 1115/44



22 June 44

A.V. 1115/44

Airbase Hqs E (v) 220/XI  
Airforce Replacement Btl.  
Neumunster Halstein

Casualty Report No. 28  
Time covered by report 15 June - 23 June 44  
To War Information Center for War Casualties and PW's Berlin W 30  
Hohenstaufenstrasse 47/48.

Place and date of casualty    I. name    Name    Died    Date of burial    Place of burial

Tressin 10 km east of Lille  
Boeing Fortress V star N

Place and date of casualty	I. name	Name	Died	Date of burial	Place of burial
"	Bernard Mc	KEEVER 36809149	yes	23 June 44	Village cemetery Tressin 10 km east of Lille
"	Robert	COOPER 13133675	"	"	"
"	Victor	CRANDELL 33719277	"	"	"
"	Carl	FELTON O-801447	"	"	"
"	Carles	JOHNS O-704480	"	"	"
"	Carthel	GASKIN O-706849	"	"	"
"	unknown		"	"	"
"	unknown		"	"	"

KIA 22 June 44

Local quarters 5 July 1944

Illegible

Cpt. and Off. assigned to spec. duty

1 duplicate

MAR 6541  
See Kiu 2349



REPORT on CAPTURE of an AIRCRAFT of the USAAF

Case - Nr. KU 2349

DATE and TIME AIRCRAFT was shot down: Jun. 22, 1944 - 19,07  
 PLACE of CRASH: Pont a Cassin near Lille  
 TYPE OF CRAFT: Fortress  
 REPORTING STATION: Air Base Command Vendeville

C R E W :

NAME and FIRST NAME: DATE and PLACE of BIRTH:		RANK	SERIAL NUMBER:	CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD:	DISPOSITION: NAME of CAMP TYPE of INJURY GRAVE LOCATION
PELTON	Carl	Offc.	O-801 447	dead	Municipal Cemetery Tressin, near Lille
JOHNS	Charles	Off.	O-704 480	"	"
GASKIN	Carthelo	Off.	O-706 840	"	"
MC KEEVER	<del>Robert M.</del> Bernard E.	- -	3680 9149	"	"
COOPER	Robert M.	1313	3675	"	"
CRANDELL	Victor P.	- -	3371 9277	"	"

*MA CR 654 1  
 See AV 1115144  
 Page 99*

REMARKS: \_\_\_\_\_

DULAG-LUFT Aug. 16, 1944. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date



KU 2-34

36) 22. Jan. about 19.07 Fortress near Pont a Treessin SEM est Lille. 100% destroyed. Marks: ? Star N. Serial Nr. 31432 N In white Triangle "C"  
5 men dead. Identified:  
    Ms. Keever B.E.                   36809149  
    Cooper R. M.                    13133675  
    Grandall V. P.                  33719277  
1 prisoner. Name is still unknown.



MACR 6541  
B-17  
9 men

DATE: 22 June 1944

AT: 1907

RANK:

NAME:

RU - 2349

PLACE: Pont A Drecin,  
8 km east of Lille

TYPE OF CRAFT: Fortress

MARKINGS: 31432

TARGET: Airbase H. - Vandeville

FELTON, Carl

dead

ASN: 0-801447

JONES, Charles H

dead

ASN: 0-704480

GASKIN, Cathale

dead

ASN: 0-706810

Sgt

MC KEEVER, Bernard E

dead

ASN: 36809149

Sgt

COOPER, Robert H

dead

ASN: 13133675

Sgt

CRANDALL, Victor P

dead

ASN: 33719277

8 dead, buried in cemetery Tressin,  
near Lille.

File  
MACR  
4541



Airfield District - Command 3/XI

Schleswig

Section II/I Letter-book NO. 103/43

Schleswig, 18 June 1943

Reports transmitted to:

Air District - Command XI

Hamburg - Blankensee

Ic/ASS

by order:

Signature illegible

Major



## INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: GRANDELL, Victor P.  
 Rank: S./Sgt.  
 Serial number: 33719277  
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Waist Gunner~~: Waist Gunner

Did he bail out? NO

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why not? SHIP BLEW UP IN MID AIR

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

AWAY FROM BOMBARDIER

Was he injured? KILLED

Where was he when last seen? IN WAIST

Any hearsay information: SHIP BLEW UP IN AIR. NO ONE HAD EN  
 PARACHUTE EXCEPT MYSELF. TO MY KNOWLEDGE NO ONE  
 REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS EXCEPT MY SELF, ALL BODIES  
 WERE FOUND BY FRENCH. IN OR NEAR PARTS OF PLANE

Source: FRENCH UNDERGROUND

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: THE FRENCH  
 GAVE ME THE IDENTIFICATION TAGS WHICH THEY TOOK  
 FROM BODIES, I CARRIED THOSE BACK TO LONDON

Total number of missions of above crew member: 8 FLOWN 1 CREDITED

Dates and destinations if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

ALL INFORMATION ON THIS PAGE APPLIES  
 TO EVERY CREW MEMBER



INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: McKEEVER, Bernard E.  
Rank: S./Sgt.  
Serial number: 36809149  
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Ball Turret Gunner~~: Ball Turret Gunner

Did he bail out? NO

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why not? SHIP BLEW UP IN MID AIR

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_\_



INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 6541

Name of crew member: KING, John N.  
Rank: T./Sgt.  
Serial number: 18054679  
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~man/flightman/flightman~~: Top Turret Gunner

Did he bail out? \_\_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_\_



INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: GASKIN, Carthel O.  
Rank: 2nd Lt.  
Serial number: 0-706240  
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~and Pilot (Fighter)~~: Bombardier

Did he bail out? \_\_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_\_



INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **JOHNS, Carlos E. JR.**  
 Rank: **2nd Lt.**  
 Serial number: **O-704480**  
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~as Pilot (Fighter)~~: **Co-Pilot**

Did he bail out? \_\_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_\_



INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **FISHER, Dale M.**  
Rank: **1st Lt.**  
Serial number: **O-759361**  
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~or Pilot (Fighter)~~: **Pilot**

Did he bail out? \_\_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

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 ROBERT H JOHNSON Rank T/SGT Serial No. 14075102
2. Organization 303 Gp Commander Col Stines Rank Col Sqn CO \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_  
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month JUNE day 22 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, ~~over~~ <sup>8<sup>TH</sup></sup> ~~FRANCE~~, target, LILLE FRANCE, target time, 1905, altitude, 30,000 route scheduled, STRAIGHT ACROSS CHANNEL, route flown SAME
5. Where were you when you left formation? OVER TARGET
6. Did you bail out? YES
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". NO ONE BAILED OUT EXCEPT MY SELF
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? IN VICINITY OF <sup>LILLE</sup> 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) ALL CREW MEMBERS
11. Where were they in aircraft? IN REGULAR POSITIONS ~~WHEN~~  
WHEN SHIP BLEW UP
12. What was their condition? FAIR
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? DID NOT SEE ANYONE AFTER SHIP BLEW UP
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)



Identification Tags

*705 ER 65-41*

1) Carlos H.	JOHNS	0-704480	T 43 - 44	A. P.
2) Bernard E.	McKEEVER	36809149	T 43 - 44	A. C.
3) Victor P.	CRANDELL	33719277	T 43 - 44	O. C.
4) Carthel O.	GASKIN	0-706840	T 42 - 43	O. P.
5) Robert M.	COOPER	13133675	T 43 - 44	A. P.
6) Carl H.	FELTON Jr.	0-80 <sup>14</sup> 47	T 42 43	A. P.

Medal

- 1) Identification bracelet  
C.H. FELTON Jr.

*CM*