

9409

CONFIDENTIAL

Date	Writer	Subject
4/22	B	Cole Baker Mellon
		Thomson Seibowitz Willson
		(Railway Burgelberg Hobbs)
	not written	

4905

CONFIDENTIAL

WAP 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 Molesworth ; Command or Air Force 8th A.F.
Group 303rd B (H) Squadron 360th ; Detachment ----
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure Molesworth ; Course As ordered.
Target or Intended Destination Magdeburg, Ger. ; Type of Mission Bombardment
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
8-10/10ths cumulus, tops 16-18,000 feet, visibility aloft unrestricted.
4. GIVE: (a) Day 28 Month September Year 44; Time 1148 Location 52°11'N--10°35'E
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (X); 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) Enemy Aircraft (X); Enemy Anti-Aircraft () ; Other Circumstances as follows: _____

6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17 G ; AAF Serial Number 43-38572
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if Any None
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1820-97 ; AAF Serial Number (a) SW-025781 ; (b) SW-025984 ; (c) SW-026046 ; (d) SW-026076
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number);
(a) _____ ; (b) _____ ; (c) _____ ; (d) _____ ;
(e) This A/C lost in action before record of 12 guns were obtained. ;
(f) _____ ; (g) _____ ; (h) _____ ; (i) _____ ;
(j) _____ ; (k) _____ ; (l) _____ ;
(m) _____ ; (n) _____ ; (o) _____ ; (p) _____ ;
10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X
of (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	<u>RAILING, CHARLES E. JR.</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>0-764448</u>	<u>MIA</u>
2. Co-Pilot	<u>MC CARL, HOWARD D.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>0-767950</u>	<u>MIA</u>
3. Navigator	<u>LEIBOVITZ, MEYER (NMI)</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>0-723637</u>	<u>MIA</u>
4. Bombardier	<u>WILLSON, LOUIS H.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>0-772101</u>	<u>MIA</u>
5. Top Turret	<u>MELLON, JAMES B. JR.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>31281346</u>	<u>MIA</u>
6. Radio Gunner	<u>HANNA, WILLIAM M.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>17099697</u>	<u>MIA</u>
7. Ball Turret	<u>BURGESON, LAWRENCE L.</u>	<u>Sgt.</u>	<u>19173553</u>	<u>MIA</u>
8. Waist Gunner	<u>COLE, LORNE R.</u>	<u>Sgt.</u>	<u>19094014</u>	<u>MIA</u>
9. Tail Gunner	<u>BARBER, RALPH K.</u>	<u>Sgt.</u>	<u>19153474</u>	<u>MIA</u>
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:

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Check Only One Column			
			Contacted by Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1. <u>COLE, BETHEL, A.</u>	<u>T/Sgt.</u>	<u>14103016</u>		<u>X</u>		
2. _____						
3. _____						

(Over)

Sub 7'

- ~~SECRET~~
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) _____
A/C still apparently under control when last seen.
14. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN OR HEARD FROM. **Not required.**
15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT. **See S-2 Summary attached**
16. GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH, IF ANY, INCLUDING DESCRIPTION AND EXTENT None
-
-

Date of Report 1 October 1944

Jesse M. Barrett, Jr.
(Signature of Preparing Officer)

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:

JESSE M. BARRETT,
Major, AC,
Group S-2.

See S-2 Summary attached.

NOV 9 1944



RECEIVED

~~SECRET~~
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 503rd SQ 360th A/C # 45-38572 MISSION DATE 28 Sept. 1944

FIRST PILOT Railing, Charles F. Jr. 1st Lt. O-764448 DESTINATION Magdeburg, Ger.
NAME RANK SER#

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

- (a) By coordinates 52°11'N--10°35'E
- (b) Approximate altitude 25,000
- (c) Last noted heading 80° Magnetic
- (d) If out of formation, approximate distance from formation Still in formation when last seen.

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

Intense and severe attacks from enemy fighters.

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

Right wing on fire.

4. If aircraft was out of control describe appearance:

A/C still apparently under control.

(Over)

~~_____~~

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.):

None Seen.

7. Any other remarks not covered by above:

44-8318

Out of 12 A/C formation only
two returned.

65-38532 43-37930

42-97805

(Missing
A/C)

43-38572 42-97329

8. Date of report 30 September 1944

<u>EYE-WITNESSES:</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>SER #</u>	<u>A/C #</u>
1.	<u>Cole, Bethel A.</u>	<u>T/Sgt.</u>	<u>14103016</u>	<u>43-38532</u>
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____

INTERROGATING OFFICER (Sign Original and one copy):

Joseph G. Robinson
NAME

Capt.
RANK

0-904618
SER #

Ass't S-2.
DUTY

JOSEPH G. ROBINSON

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-AAF-M, subject "Missing Air Crew Report", 7 July 1944.

28 Sep. 1944

at 1305

Fortress 17 G

2 km West of Schladen

C 38572 - A

15 km East of Goslar

Fighter (A)

Air Base Goslar

- Lt. WILSON LOUIS, R †
- Lt. MEYER, LAIBOWITZ, †
- Lt. MAC DERMOTT †
- S. MILLON JAMES B. JR. †
- S. HANNA WILLIAM, W †
- S. BARBER RALPH K. †
- S. FREDENBURG, WILLIAM
- S. MILLER RAY, A

5 †

To Secretary Section West (Revised)
(Last part)

In District Station, 1/10/50, at Albany, was also seen by Captain
Henry B. G. Identification markings with star mark. The mark
seen on 10/10/50 at 1200 hours. The markings are directly opposite to
the air, parts spread over 1/10/50

1/10/50

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN 28 September 1944 1300 hrs.

MACR 9409-

CASUALTY NO. KU 3062PLACE OF CRASH HornburgTYPE OF AIRCRAFT BombardierREPORTING OFFICE H: Air Base Goslar

NAME	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CAPT'D WOUNDED DEAD	PLACE OF INTERMENT	
LEIBOWITZ ✓	Meyer	Officer	0-723637	dead	grave # 1092
WILSON ✓	Louis H.	Officer	0-772101	dead	grave # 1090
HOLLEN ✓	James B. Jr.	Sgt.	31281346	dead	grave # 1096
BARBER ✓	Ralph E.	Sgt.	19153474	dead	grave # 1089
KANNA ✓	William M.	Sgt.	17099697	dead	grave # 1091
2 UNKNOWN DEAD					graves # 1094/1104

Buried in Cemetery Schladen

Casualty No. KU 3062

First Supplementary Report, dated 13 February 1945

MC DEBROU

Officer 3-765702 dead ✓

REMARKS:

Dilag Luft, 5 December 1944

Er.

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN 28 September 1944 1300 hrs.

CASUALTY NO. KH 3062

PLACE OF CRASH Borsbarg

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT Bombardier

REPORTING OFFICER Hq Air Base Guelph

NAME	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CAPT'D WOUNDED DEAD	PLACE OF INTERMENT
LEIBOWITZ	Major	0-723637	dead	grave # 1092
WILSON	Officer	0-772101	dead	grave # 1090
MILLER	Sgt.	31-81346	dead	grave # 1096
BARKER	Sgt.	1915577	dead	grave # 1089
HANNA	Sgt.	17099697	dead	grave # 1091
2 UNKNOWN DEAD				graves # 1094/1104

Buried in Cemetery Schladon

Casualty No. KH 3062

First Supplementary Report, dated 15 February 1945

NO REPORT

Officer 0-765702 dead

REMARKS:

Relay left, 5 December 1944

Er.

9409

MACR 9409
9 man crew
B-17
AAF# 43-38572

CHAS. F. RAILING, JR., 0764448
HOWARD D. McCARL, 0767950
LAWRENCE L. BURGESSON, 19173533
MEYER LEIBOVITZ, 0723637
LOUIS H. WILLSON, 0772101
JAMES B. MELLON JR., 31281346
WM. M. HANNA, 17099697
RALPH K. BARBER, 19153474
LORNE R. COLE, 19094014

Mixed Crew

MACR
9409
9413
9770

DATE: 28 Septem r 1944 AT: 1300	RANK	NAME	K U 3062
PLACE: Horaburg	1092	LEIBOVITZ, Meyer (dead) ASN: 0-723637	
TYPE OF CRAFT: Fortress	1090	WILSON, Louis H. (dead) ASN: 0-772101	
MARKINGS: 4338572	H	MAC DEMONT (dead) ASN: 0-765702	K A
	1096	MOLLEN, James E. Jr. (dead) ASN: 31281346	
	1089	BARBER, Ralph K. (dead) ASN: 19153474	
	1091	HANNA, William M. (dead) ASN: 17099697	
		FREIDENBURG, William ASN: 19175185	
		MILLER, Roy Alton ASN: 33508867	

TARGET: Airbase Goslar

Dead buried at cemetery of Schlacken,
2 unknown grave No.: 1094 and 1104.

X ref made for 9770
9413

Ku 3021 T-126758 Elvin A. Lane

Kin

Ku 3021 37074182 Charles E. Jones

Kin

7
1

7
5

9409-28

List of Identification tags

1.) LOUIS H. WILLSON	0-772101	T 43 - 44	O-P
2.) Wm. M. HANNA MR. J. R. HANNA	17099697 413 E gth	T 43 - 44 Newton, Kans.	O-C
3.) LEIBOVITZ MEYER	0-723637	T 43 - 33	O-H
4.) RALPH H. BARBER	19153474	T 43 - 44	AB - P
5.) JAMES B. MELLON JR.	31281346	T 43 - 43	B-C

28 Sep. 1944 at 1305

Fortress 17 G

2 km West of Schladen

G 38572 - A

15 km East of Goslar

Fighter (A)

Air Base Goslar

Lt. WILSON LOUIS, H †

Lt. MEYER, LEIBOWITZ, †

Lt. MAC DERMONT † ✓

S. MILLON JAMES B. JR. †

S. HANNA WILLIAM, M †

S. BARBER RALPH K. †

S. FREDENBURG, WILLIAM ✓

S. MILLER RAY, A ✓

5 †

TELEGRAM FORM

DISTANCE - MESSAGE

-OBERURSEL-

NAME OF DISTANCE-MESSAGE WRITER: **LSOU 47**

ACCEPTED:

DELIVERED:

4 Oct 1944

RECEIVED:

DATE:-

TIME:

TO:

**aircorps Transit Camp
Watzlar**

DATE: **2 Oct 1944**

THROUGH:

TIME: **1815**

ROLL:

FROM: **LSEB**

THROUGH: **Koehler**

REMARKS:

A LFGL 12 1 Oct. 1944 1220

To Evaluation HMM Point West Oberursel

One Boeing AB crashed on 28 Sep. 1944 about 1200 near Hornburg 2 km West of Schladen.

Identification marks and production No could not be established.

Exploded by crash. Destruction 98 %

**Air Base Goslar
Examination Point**

DIRKHUT

AFPPA/blt
76365 Rm. 4313
12/23/44

2nd Lt. Charles F. Halling, Jr.	Mrs. Bonnie H. Halling, ✓ Route Harbor Ten, Wilmington, Vermont.	(Mother)
2nd Lt. Howard B. McCarl,	Mrs. Elaine B. McCarl, ✓ 1790 Southwest Terrace Drive, Portland, Oregon.	(Wife)
2nd Lt. Meyer Leibovitz	Mrs. Lillian Leibovitz, ✓ 2615 Bellwood Avenue, Jacksonville, Florida.	(Mother)
2nd Lt. Louis H. Willson K I A	Mrs. Marjorie A. Willson, ✓ 802 Hedge Avenue, Iowa, Iowa.	(Wife)
S/Sgt. James H. Mallon, Jr.	Mrs. Teresa H. Mallon, ✓ 62 Riverside Drive, Hartford, Connecticut.	(Wife)
S/Sgt. William H. Harn	Mr. John H. Harn, ✓ 413 East 9th Street, Lawton, Kansas.	(Father)
Sgt. Lawrence L. Dargatzis,	Mr. Henry H. Dargatzis, ✓ 11395 Dunbar Street, West Los Angeles, California.	(Father)
Sgt. Lewis R. Cole	Mrs. Emily R. Cole, ✓ Route One, Box 217, Hesperia, California.	(Mother)
Sgt. Ralph K. Hester	Mrs. Melissa J. Hester, ✓ Route One, Box 141, Sehalan, Oregon.	(Mother)