

15348

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classification changed  
to **RESTRICTED**  
by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AC  
by F. M. MUECH, Capt., AC  
Date FEB 14 1946

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

R E S T R I C T E D

R-466

WAR 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 aircraft is officially reported missing.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location: England Command or Air Force 8th AF  
GROUP 303rd Bomb (H); SQUADRON 427th Bomb (H); DETACHMENT \_\_\_\_\_
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure England; Course \_\_\_\_\_  
Intended Destination Hamm, Germany; Type of Mission Bombing
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:  
Partly cloudy, Scattered showers, Visibility 4-6 Miles
4. GIVE: (a) Date 1 Feb 43 Time \_\_\_\_\_; And Location of Last ORE, Germany  
known whereabouts of missing aircraft German Dutch Border E of Zwolle  
(b) Specify whether ( ) Last sighted; ( ) last contacted by radio; Holland  
(x) Forced down; (Seen to Crash; or ( ) Information not available.
5. AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF (Check only one:  Enemy Aircraft; ( ) Enemy Anti-Aircraft; ( ) Other Circumstances as follows 6.5 Miles NW of Hamm, Germany
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-17F; AAF Serial No. 41-24569-V48
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series \_\_\_\_\_; AAF Serial No. (a) \_\_\_\_\_  
(b) \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)  
(a) \_\_\_\_\_ (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_  
(e) \_\_\_\_\_ (f) \_\_\_\_\_ (g) \_\_\_\_\_ (h) \_\_\_\_\_
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X  
or (b) Non-Battle Casualty \_\_\_\_\_
10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10; Passengers 0; Total 10  
(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	
DEO	1. Pilot	✓	3 Cole, R. Lloyd	Capt	0-421603	Kia
KIA	2. CP	✓	5 McCune, Robert N.	2nd Lt	0-661514	Kia
EUS	3. BOMB	✓	1 Bryant, Edward Norman	Capt	0-724125	}
EUS	4. NAV	✓	4 Driggs, Robert P	1st Lt	0-727000	
RMC	5. Eng	✓	8 Purinton, Bliss DAVID	T/Sgt	6 571 977	} EUS
RMC	6. Rad Op	✓	6 Miller, George D.	T/Sgt	19 002 027	
EUS	7. B Turanc	✓	10 Witte, Arch, Jr.	S/Sgt	17 034 000	}
EUS	8. T Gun	✓	2 Callery, Philip J	S/Sgt	6 147 027	
KIA	9. } Word Gnc	✓	7 Pennington, James L	S/Sgt	17 027 679	Kia
KIA	10. }	✓	9 Van Etten, JAMES R	Sgt	16 039 671	PDP
	11.					

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

See SR & D # 1. 420

R E S T R I C T E D

WD, Hq AAF, Washington, Missing Air Crew Report.

Name in Full (Last name first)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted by Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1.						
2.						
3.						

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) \_\_\_\_\_

14. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.

15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.

16. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVEN NAME, RANK AND SERIAL-NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Report \_\_\_\_\_

W  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Preparing Officer)

Classification changed

to Confidential  
by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AC  
by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AC  
Date 18 Nov 45

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
CASUALTY INTERROGATION FORM  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

FILE

Date

THE FAMILIES OF MANY OF YOUR COMRADES HAVE NOT BEEN AS FORTUNATE AS YOURS. THEIR SONS AND HUSBANDS HAVE BEEN REPORTED MISSING IN ACTION AND THEY ARE ANXIOUSLY WAITING TO LEARN THEIR FATE. YOU MAY BE ABLE TO SUPPLY THE INFORMATION WHICH WILL HELP TO TERMINATE THE SUSPENSE AND ANXIETY THEY ARE SUFFERING.

IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH IN ACTION OR DURING IMPRISONMENT OF ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FURNISH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DECEASED:

FULL NAME OF DECEASED James R Van Etten 16 039 671  
Waist Gunner B-17  
HOME TOWN OR STATE Unknown  
GRADE OR RANK Sgt.  
ORGANIZATION 427 Bomb Sq 303 Bomb Gp 8th AF  
DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH Feb 4/43 Over Texel Island, Off Holland  
CAUSE OF DEATH Plane attacked by fighters. T/Sgt David Purington told me subject went down with the plane. Purington removed Subjects dead body from the plane after it hit the ground.

PLACE OF BURIAL Not known.

WERE YOU AN EYEWITNESS TO HIS DEATH No.

NAMES OF PERSONS BELIEVED TO HAVE WITNESSED HIS DEATH  
Address T/Sgt David Purington, Engineer  
Unknown.

IF YOUR INFORMATION IS HEARSAY GIVE NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR INFORMANT  
T/Sgt David Purington, Engineer

3 Aug 45

AUG 3 - 1945  
SIGN HERE Robert P. Driggs  
Name and Serial Number  
ROBERT P. DRIGGS 0727009  
29 Chicago Rd, Rochester, New York  
Your home address

NOTE: THIS FORM IS FOR USE BY CASUALTY BRANCH, THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON 25, D. C. ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THE FORM ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU. PLEASE FILL ONE OUT FOR EACH MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES WHOM YOU KNOW OR BELIEVE TO BE DEAD.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AFPPA-8  
22

Classification changed

to **RESTRICTED**

**RESTRICTED**

by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AC

by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AC

Date FEB 14 1946

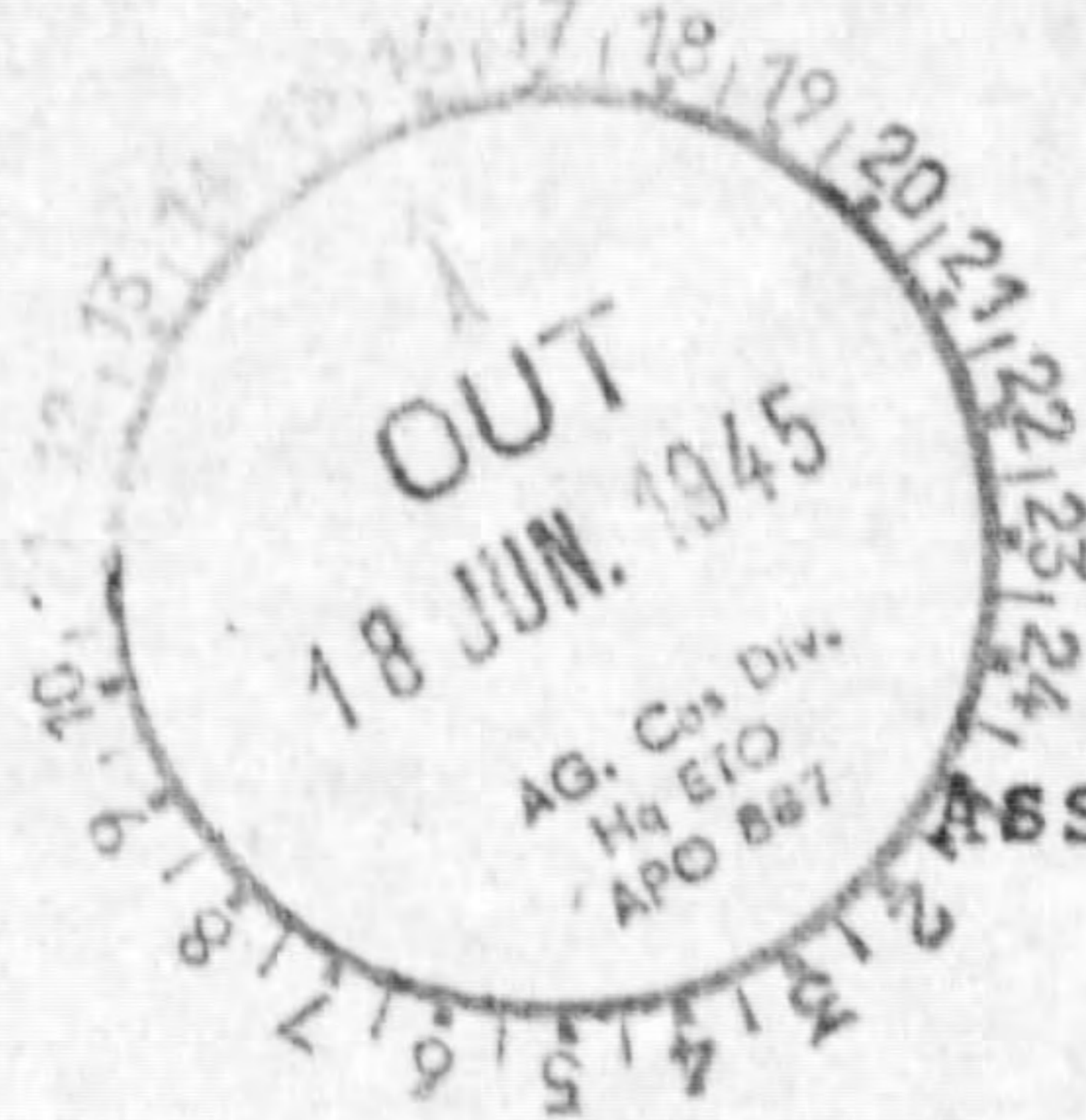
*clm*

AG 319.1 Cas 6th Ind. JWP/JFR.  
HEADQUARTERS EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS, APO 887, US ARMY, 18 June 45.

TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington, 25, D.C.  
Attention: AFPPA-8.

1. Attention invited to 2nd and 3rd Indorsements.
2. Records of this headquarters indicate the present status of S/Sgt James L. Pennington, 17027679, as Killed in Action, 4 February 1943.

FOR THE THEATER COMMANDER:



*Hm Rund*  
 H. M. RUND, *w*  
 Colonel, AGD,  
 Assistant Adjutant General.

RESTRICTED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ PAR-5355-1

3-279②

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

**CONFIDENTIAL**



ATTENTION: **AFPPA-8**

**RESTRICTED**  
**HEADQUARTERS, ARMY AIR FORCES**  
**WASHINGTON**

8 February 1945

**SUBJECT: Request for Missing Air Crew Report**

**TO: Commanding General, Eighth Air Force, A.P.O. 634**  
**c/o Postmaster, New York, New York**

Request Missing Air Crew Report, as required by AGO letter, 7 July 1944 (AG 704 (5 Jul 44)OB-S-AAF-M), be forwarded with least practicable delay in the case of S/Sgt. James L. Pennington 17027679  
(Grade) (Name) (ASN)  
427th Bomb Squadron, 303rd Bomb Group  
(Organisation)  
first reported ~~missing~~, missing in action, 4 February 1943, which report  
(Date)  
has not been received to date.

For the Commanding General, Army Air Forces:

**JOHN D. MARSH**  
**Lt Colonel, Air Corps**  
**Chief, Personal Affairs Division**  
**Assistant Chief of Air Staff, Personnel**



**RESTRICTED**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

5-5799, AF

**CONFIDENTIAL**

(Ltr Hq AAF Washington, subj: "Request for Missing Air Crew Report" dtd 8 Feb 45)

319.1

1st Ind. **RESTRICTED**

SCU-G-9

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE, APO 634, U. S. Army.

MAY 29 1945

TO: Commanding General, 1st Air Division, APO 557, U. S. Army.

For compliance with basic communication and return through this headquarters.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL KEPNER:



*H. S. Wilson, Jr.*  
H. S. WILSON, Jr.  
Major, A.G.D.,  
Asst. Adjutant General.

(Ltr Hq AAF Washington, subj: "Request for Missing Air Crew Report" dtd 8 Feb 45)

319.1

2nd Ind.

P-L-10

HEADQUARTERS 1ST AIR DIVISION, APO 557, U. S. ARMY, 31 May 1945.

TO: Commanding Officer, Station 107, APO 557, U. S. Army.

1. For your information and compliance.
2. Though Missing Air Crew Reports were not required until July 1943, it is requested that as much information as possible be forwarded, including list of crew members and intelligence accounts on loss of aircraft, if available. This information should be submitted on a regular Missing Air Crew Report form, in quadruplicate.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL TURNER:

*John S. Griffin*  
JOHN S. GRIFFIN  
Captain, A.G.D.,  
Ass't Adjutant General

**RESTRICTED**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

319.1

3rd Ind.

RESTRICTED

G-A-1

HEADQUARTERS, AAF STATION 107, APO 557, U.S. Army, 2 June 1945.

TO: Commanding General, 1st Air Division, APO 557, U.S. Army.

All mission records and Intelligence Reports of the 303rd Bomb Group (H) have been forwarded to Commanding General, USAAF, Washington, 25, D.C., Attn. A.C./A.S. Intelligence, Historical Division.

For the Commanding Officer.



*Richard P. Vinal*  
RICHARD P. VINAL,  
Major, AC,  
Adjutant.

319.1

4th Ind.

P-L-7

HEADQUARTERS 1ST AIR DIVISION, APO 557, U. S. ARMY, 7 June 1945.

TO: Commanding General, Eighth Air Force, APO 634, U. S. Army.  
(Att: 21st Statistical Control Unit).

Attention is invited to 3rd Indorsement.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:



*Harry T. Hance*  
HARRY T. HANCE  
Major, AGD  
Adjutant General

RESTRICTED

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

319.1

5th Ind. RESTRICTED

SCU-G-9

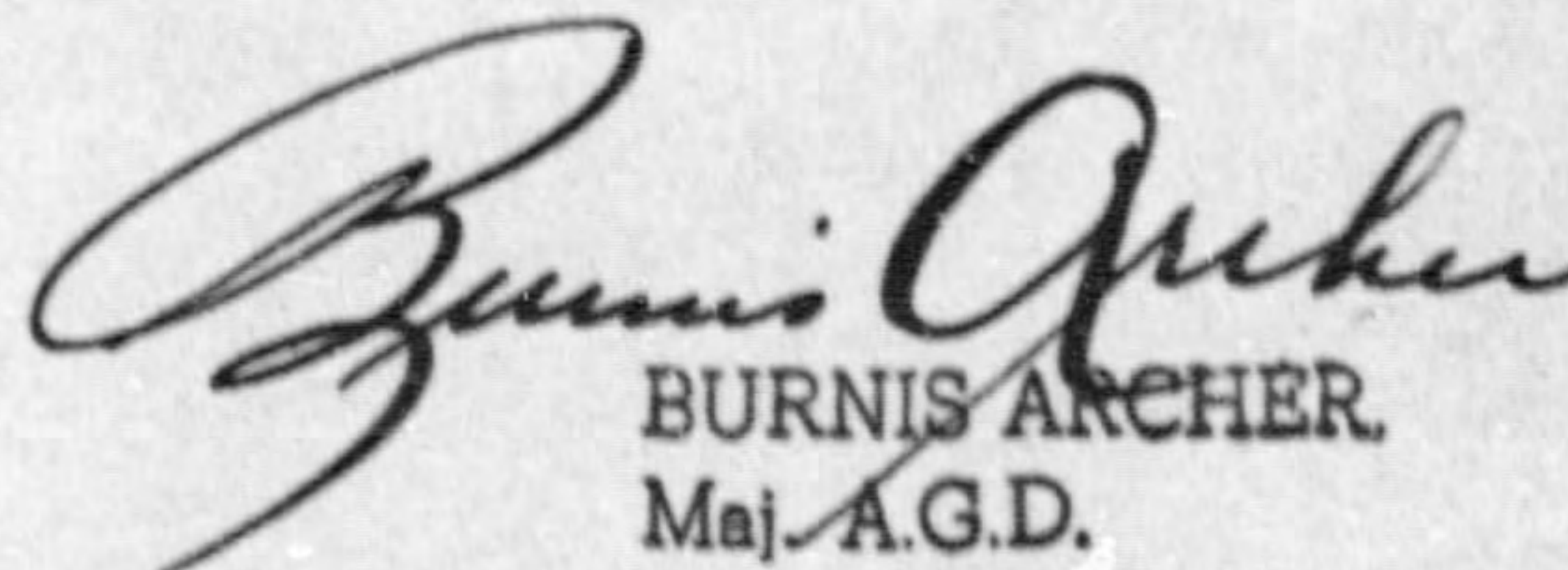
JUN 14 1945

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE, APO 634, U. S. Army.

TO: Commanding General, European Theater of Operations, APO 887, U. S. Army.

Attention invited to 2nd and 3rd Indorsements.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:



BURNIS ARCHER.  
Maj. A.G.D.  
Asst. Adj. Gen.



RESTRICTED

- 4 -

CONFIDENTIAL

## CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

R-468

1. Your name BRYANT, EDWARD N Rank CAPT. Serial No. O-724125
2. Organization 303<sup>RD</sup> Gp Commander J.A. WALLACE Rank COL. Sqn CO HASENBUCK Rank CAPT.  
(full name) (full name) 42<sup>ND</sup> A.S.
3. What year 1943 month FEB. day 4 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, BOMBING, target, HAMM, target time, DIDN'T MAKE IT, altitude, 79 700 route scheduled, OVER ZUIDER ZEE, TARGET APP., route flown MISSION BOMBED EMDEN (ALTERNATE) FROM THE NORTH
5. Where were you when you left formation? GERMAN DUTCH BORDER EAST OF ZWOLLE HOLLAND
6. Did you bail out? YES
7. Did other members of crew bail out? ONE OTHER (NAVIGATOR) LT. ROBERT P. DRIGGS NOW LIVING IN ROCHESTER, N.Y.
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". ONLY 2 CREW MEMBERS BAILED OUT; MYSELF & THE NAV. MENTIONED ABOVE
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? NEAR TEXEL ISLAND (ZUIDER ZEE)
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) PILOT, CO-PILOT, ENG. TAIL GUNNER, TWO WAIST GUNNERS, BALL GUNNER & RADIO O.P.
11. Where were they in aircraft? (P, C.P., & ENG. IN COCKPIT) REST IN RADIO ROOM
12. What was their condition? CO-PILOT (DEAD) 2 WAIST GUNNERS (DEAD) PILOT (BADLY WOUNDED LATER DIED) ENG. & BALL GUNNER (WOUNDED)
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? Just before jumping saw the men in cockpit Pilot (badly wounded) (Co-pilot) (dead) Eng. (wounded) rest of the crew were in the radio room as I learned from the radio op. 2 days later.
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)

(OVER)

THE CREW LIST MENTIONED WAS NOT SENT. CREW ON THIS MISSION LISTED BELOW:

PILOT: CAPT. L. R. COLE (DEAD)  
CO PILOT: 2ND LT. R. N. MCEUNE (DEAD)  
BOMB: 1ST LT. E. N. BRYANT  
NAV: 1ST LT. R. P. DRIGGS  
ENG.: T/S PURINTON  
RADIO. O.P.: T/S MILLER  
LOWER TUR: S/S ANWITTE JR.  
TAIL GUN: S/S P. J. CALLERY  
WAIST GUN: SGT. PENNINGTON (DEAD)  
WAIST GUN: SGT. VAN ETTE (DEAD)

} IN U.S.A.

HBB  
PPA  
RECEIVED

AGRA-C 201 Pennington, James L. 3d Ind  
(24 Aug 45)

WD AGO, Orgn Records Br, Savannah ASF Depot, Savannah, Ga., 28 Sep 45

TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington 25, D. C.

1. Attention is invited to 1st Ind.
2. The records of 303d Bomb Group (H) have not been received in this office to date.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

*Paul W. Peck*  
Adjutant General

*Lat*

*file in  
R-468*

WAR DEPARTMENT SECTION

RECEIVED

**CONFIDENTIAL**



TO ASSOCIATED AIR

Authority of Major N.W. Reed

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY AIR FORCES

WASHINGTON



IN REPLY REFER TO:

24 August 1945

*R-468*

SUBJECT: Staff Sergeant James L. Pennington, 17027679

TO: Commanding Officer, 427th Bomb Squadron, 303rd Bomb Group  
A.P.O. 557, c/o Postmaster, New York, New York

1. Reference is made to our requests of 8 February and 18 May 1945, requesting the details of the mission in which Staff Sergeant James L. Pennington, 17027679, was initially reported missing in action 4 February 1943.

2. In your reply to this request, it was stated that all mission records and intelligence reports of the 303rd Bomb Group (H) have been forwarded to the Assistant Chief of Air Staff, Intelligence, Historical Division.

*m/c*

3. A check with the Historical Division reveals that there are no individual flight reports on record. Request that your squadron forward all details you have relative to this particular mission to this headquarters, including the names of the men in the aircraft.

4. Was the aircraft in which Sergeant Pennington flew, and ultimately went down in the Ship 619, with serial number 41-24619?

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

*N. W. Reed*  
N. W. REED  
Major, Air Corps  
Chief, Notification Branch  
Personal Affairs Division  
Asst Chief of Air Staff - 1

FILE No. 201

RESTRICTED

**CONFIDENTIAL**

PJA  
22

201 - Pennington, James L. (Enl) 1st Ind. NAFD/Pers/PAO/RGW/am  
Hq, NAFD-ATC, (1250th AAF Base Unit), APO 396, U. S. Army. 10 Sep 45.

TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington.

1. There is no available information at this Headquarters as records of 303rd Bomb Group have been forwarded to the Temporary Records Depot, NASC, APO 600, c/o FM., New York, N. Y., in compliance with WD Circular No. 416, dated 23 October 1944.

2. Subject records were completely processed and addressed to Organization Branch AGO, Savannah, A.S.F. Depot, Savannah, Ga., where it is assumed they may be found after having been forwarded by the Temporary Records Depot.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

*Charles R. Fox*  
CLYDE W. NIELSEN  
for  
1st Lt, Air Corps  
Actg Asst Adj Gen

COPY IN  
HQ NAFD - ATC  
CENTRAL FILES

201 - Pennington, James L. (Enl) 2nd Ind.

AFPPA-8

Hq AAF, Washington 25, D.C., 20 September 1945

TO: Commanding Officer, Organization Branch, AGO, ASF Savannah Depot Savannah, Georgia

1. Forwarded for compliance with basic communication.
2. If records are not available at your station, request communication be forwarded to proper headquarters.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

*N. W. Reed*

N. W. REED  
Major, Air Corps  
Chief, Notification Section  
Personal Affairs Branch  
Personal Services Division, AC/AS-1

(A)

22083