

11146

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classification changed
to ~~RESTRICTED~~
by E. A. BRADY, Lt. Col., AC
by F. M. MURPHY, Capt., AC
Date ~~MAR 15 1946~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classification changed

to RESTRICTED

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

by F. M. MUEKCH, Capt., AC

Date 12/15/46 MAR 15 1946

WAR DEPARTMENT

HEADQUARTERS, U.S. AIR FORCE

WASHINGTON

11146

MISSING AIR CRAFT REPORT

IMPORTANT: This Report will be compiled in triplicate by each Army Air Force organization within 48 hours of the time an air crew member is officially reported missing.

- 1. ORGANIZATION: Location, by Name NOTHAMPSHEAD, ENG Group 398th Bomb Bv
Squadron 600th Bomb Bv; Detachment None
Command or Air Force: 8th Air Force
- 2. SPECIES: Place of Departure AAF Station 131 Course:
Target or Intended Destination Misburg, Germany
Type of Mission Operational Bombing
- 3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST OBSERVED: 5/10 Tops 12,000--3/10 middle cloud at 18000
- 4. GIVE: (a) Day 26 Month NOV Year 1944, Time 1224 Approx Location 5221N-0951E of Last Known whereabouts of missing A/C.
(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (X); Last contacted by radio (); Forced down (); Seen to Crash (); or Information not Available ().
- 5. AIRCRAFT LOSS, OR OF BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AND RESULT OF: (Check only one; many aircraft (); enemy anti-aircraft (); other circumstances as follows:

- 6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B17G; AAF Serial No. 42-97740
- 7. NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT, If Any None
- 8. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-1820-97
AAF Serial No. (a) SW-011619, (b) SW-027713, (c) SW-011534
(d) 42-65455

- 9. AIRCRAFT SERIALS (Furnish below name, and Serial Number):
See attached list. (a) _____; (b) _____; (c) _____; (d) _____
(e) _____; (f) _____; (g) _____; (h) _____
(i) _____; (j) _____; (k) _____; (l) _____

- 10. AIRCRAFT SERIALS (a) Battle Casualty
M.I.A. (b) Non Battle Casualty
- 11. NUMBER OF PASSENGERS: Crew 10, Passengers 0; Total 10

(Starting with Pilot, list the following particulars: If more than 10 persons are listed, list similar particulars on separate sheets in original to this form.)

Crew Position	Name	Rank	Serial Number	Current Status
---------------	------	------	---------------	----------------

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Pilot, CA | <u>DOUGLAS, GENE L</u> | Capt | <u>0-798637</u> | MIA <u>POW RTD</u> |
| 2. Navigator | <u>NELSON, HARRY JR</u> | Capt | <u>0-669422</u> | MIA <u>POW RTD</u> |
| 3. Navigator | <u>ANDERSON, RANDOLPH D</u> | 1st Lt | <u>0-703920</u> | MIA <u>POW RTD</u> |
| 4. Bombardier | <u>KETTLE, NORMAN E</u> | 1st Lt | <u>0-762637</u> | MIA <u>POW RTD</u> |
| 5. Pilot | <u>ZIMMER, CHARLES E</u> | 1st Lt | <u>0-814622</u> | MIA <u>POW</u> |
| 6. Bomb-Nav, Radar | <u>KUPTSOV, AARON</u> | 2nd Lt | <u>0-710276</u> | MIA <u>POW</u> |
| 7. Engineer | <u>RUMNEY, OPHER E</u> | T/Sgt | <u>11067317</u> | MIA <u>POW RTD</u> |
| 8. Radio Operator | <u>STRATFORD, JAMES C</u> | T/Sgt | <u>15195342</u> | MIA <u>POW RTD</u> |
| 9. Tail Gunner | <u>STOUT, PHEEN</u> | S/Sgt | <u>37007793</u> | MIA <u>POW RTD</u> |
| 10. Left Waist Gunner | <u>WILLIAMS, JAMES R JR</u> | S/Sgt | <u>14105594</u> | MIA <u>POW RTD</u> |

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Check Only One Column			
			Contacted by Radio	Last Sight	Saw Crash Landing	Saw Persons
1. LEWIS, FRANK E	S/Sgt	34684050		X		
2. BUEHLER, JOSEPH	1st Lt	0-719882		X		
3. GARDINGS, D. L.	1st Lt	0-551066		X		
4. VOLOCHKO, JOSEPH S.	2nd Lt	0-820102		X		

13. IF PERSONNEL OF AIRCRAFT OR SHIP WERE WOUNDED, DRAWER WAS TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES: (a) Injured, was used _____; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash _____; or (c) Any other reason (specify) _____ Ship seemed to be under control when last sighted.

14. ATTACH RELEVANT PHOTOGRAPHS, MAPS, CHARTS, OR SKETCHES, AND THE APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF THE AIRCRAFT OR SHIP WHEN LAST SEEN FROM.
15. ATTACH IDENTIFICATION CHIEFS OF OFFICERS, FEDERAL LABELS, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE OF AIRCRAFT OR SHIP.
16. GIVE NAME, GRADE AND SERIAL NUMBER OF PERSON IN CHARGE OF SEARCH, IF ANY, INCLUDING DATE AND TIME OF SEARCH.

No knowledge of any search being made.

Date of Report 3 December 1944

Wallis L Campbell
 WALLIS L CAMPBELL, CAPT, AG, STATISTICAL O.
 (Signature of Reporting Officer)

17. STATE NAME AND GRADE OF WITNESSES:
 (Statements of Witnesses Attached)

Other Aircraft Missing in Action this date and their Commanders were:

- B17G 42-102565 2nd Lt Benjamin G Rolfe, 0468682
- B17G 43-37846 1st Lt Kermit R Pope, 0-677562



3-2 SUMMARY OF WITNESS ACCOUNTS

Instructions: 1. If aircraft returned, only questions 6 and 7 are applicable. 2. Question number 5 not applicable to Fighter Group. 3. Summary will be prepared in five copies, four of which will be forwarded. 4. Interrogating Officer will sign original and second copy.

GROUP 398 600 1/C 42-97740 - Q MISSION DATE 26 Nov, 4'4

FIRST SIGHT Target Area - 5223 N - 0952E DIRECTION Station 131

NAME Gene L. Douglas, RANK Capt., SER # 0-798687

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

(a) By coordinates Target Area 5223 N - 0952 E

(b) Approximate altitude unknown

(c) Last noted heading unknown

(d) If out of formation, approximate distance from formation seen to pull out of formation into a steep dive to the left but under control - originally in lead, lead position.

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

Flak - Intense and accurate.

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

2 engine hit by Flak about 10 seconds before Bombs Away; but plane continued on course until after Bombs Away and then made steep diving turn to the left. No fire but heavy smoke seen coming from #2 engine.

4. If aircraft was out of control describe appearance:

Under control

(Over)

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5. If distressed aircraft was out of formation as it last seen with escort? nil If so, give distinguishing markings of Fighter Group if noted (Group number, color and/or fighter aircraft numbers, nicknames, etc.). nil

6. Number of parachutes seen and description of jumps (approximate altitude, time between jumps, etc.):

nil.

7. Any other remarks not covered by above:

nil.

8. Date of report 28. Nov., 1944.

<u>NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>SERIAL</u>	<u>GROUP</u>
1.	Menzel, Arnold R.,	600th	Capt.	0-75 7624	333 - W
2.	Spenholtz, Milo O.,	600th	2nd Lt.,	0-754298	157 - W
3.	Cumming, D. L.,	600th	1st Lt.,	0-551066	249 - P
4.	Johnson, James M.,	600th	1st Lt.,	0-555631	519 - A
	Scofield, Frank C. Jr.,	601st	Capt.,	0-24304	889

DISSEMINATION CONTROL (Sign Original and one copy):

Matthew Meyer
Meyer, Matthew,

Capt., 0-561680 Assst. Group S-2.
DUTY

NOTE: Supplemental information developing subsequent to this account should be forwarded in manner prescribed in per G, letter 1, AG, 704 dated 10/20/44, subject "Action, Air Crew Reports", July 1944.

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INSTALLED WEAPONS

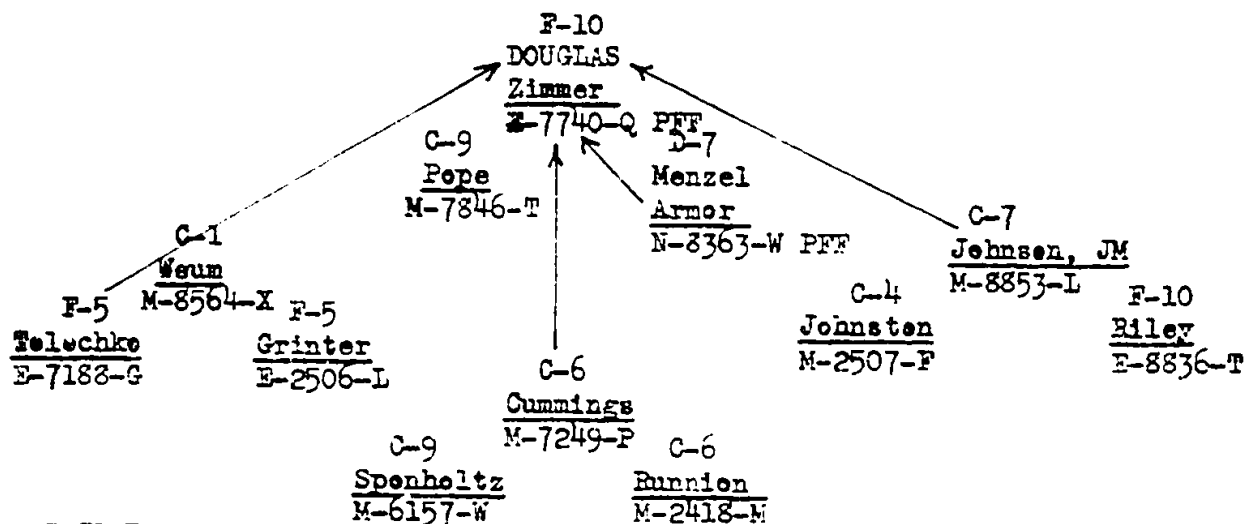
<u>Manufacturer</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Serial Number</u>
1. Frigidaire	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	728954
2. Frigidaire	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	729523
3. Frigidaire	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	645342
4. Frigidaire	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	644734
5. Frigidaire	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	725115
6. Frigidaire	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	726214
7. Frigidaire	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	725324
8. Frigidaire	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	726331
9. Savage Arms	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	948712
10. Savage Arms	.50 Cal A/C Mach Gun	1182127
11.		

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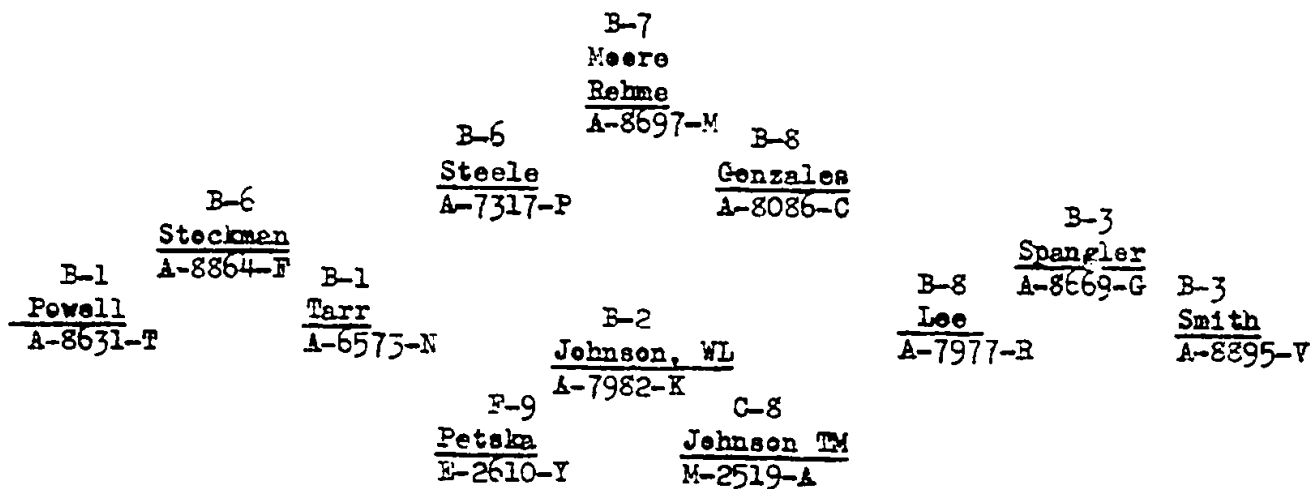
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398th Bombardment Group Ev
Miesburg, Germany 26 November 1944

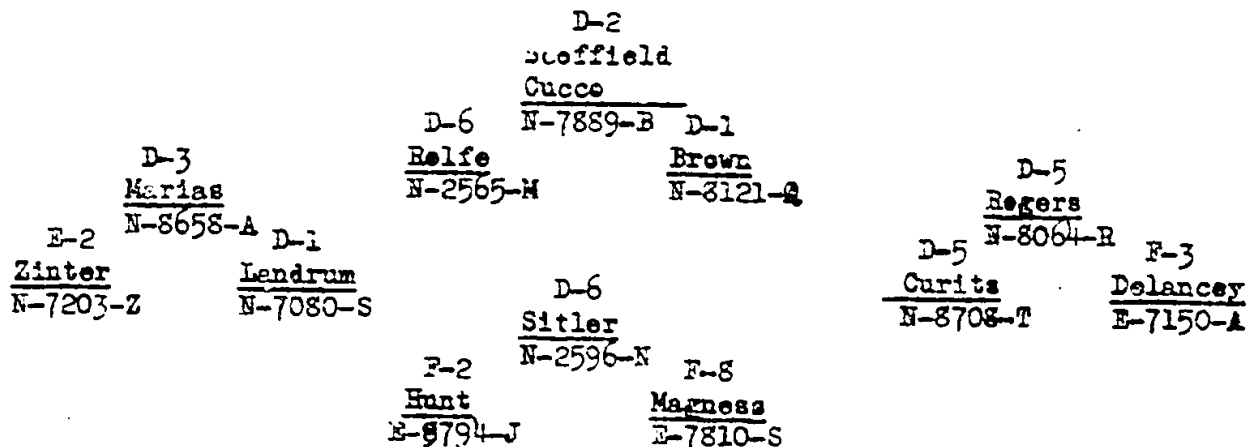
Lead Squadron "C" Group Formation Over Target



Low Squadron "C" Group formation over target



High Squadron "C" Group formation over target



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Statement concerning Missing Aircraft B17G 46-67740, Pilot, Capt, Captain
Gene L Douglas, O-758697, 800th Bomb Squadron, 888th Bomb Group, Tw on
Oper tional Mission to Misburg, Germany 28 November 1944.

Capt Douglas
Lt Pope
About two minutes after bombs away, the deputy lead was hit by the
number three engine and immediately went into a dive however it was
under control. It was a little before or after the deputy lead was hit
that the Lead ship was hit also and immediately went in a dive, however
it also seemed to be under control. I believe the lead ship was hit
in or around bomb bay, however I am not sure. I saw the number three
ship going down but could not tell where it was hit. While all this
was going on we were taking a ninety degree turn to the left, and ships
passed out of sight going down to the right of our plane. All the ships
seemed to be under control. It seemed to me that the Lead Element did
not turn immediately after dropping their bombs. They were being
tracked very closely by a four gun battery.

Frank E Lewis

FRANK E LEWIS, 34684050
S/Sgt 800th Bomb Sq
Togglier, B17G 46-66853

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Statement concerning Missing Aircraft 3173 43-88363, Pilot, CA, Captain Gene L Douglas, O-718637, 800th Bomb Squadron, 496th Bomb Group HV on Operational Mission to Nisburg, Germany 26 November 1944.

As we approached the target I saw a number of flak bursts hit very close to the ship with Captain Douglas. Just as bombs went away he peeled off to the left losing altitude very rapidly--he seemed to be under control all but the fact of a sharp left bank. He passed under our left wing and that is the last we saw of him.

I would have followed him farther but we were severely hit and fell out of formation ourselves.

Joseph Buehler

JOSEPH BUEHLER, O-719932
1st Lt, Air Corps
Navigator 3173 43-88363

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Statement concerning Missing Aircraft #173 #2-97740, Pilot, Captain
Gene L Douglas, O-788437, 800th Bomb Squadron, 496th Bomb Group BW
on Operational Mission to Wisburg, Germany 26 November 1944.

Just as bombs went away I saw an explosion underneath Capt Douglas' ship, left or just ahead of the bomb bay. A moment or so later he started a diving turn to the left, which seemed normal. I started to follow but he went underneath my ship and I could not see him. As Captain Douglas started his turn Lt Pope did not start his turn and I did not see any of the three ships of the lead element afterward. I did not see any fire in any of the ships and they seemed to be under control the last I saw of them.

W. L. Cummings

W. L. CUMMINGS, O-551086
1st Lt, Air Corps
Pilot, #173 #2-97249

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Statement concerning missing aircraft B17G 42-97740, Pilot, MA, Captain
Gene A Douglas, O-798357, 600th Bomb Squadron, 338th Bomb Group Ev on
Operational Mission to Nisburg, Germany 28 November 1944.

Just after bombs away Lt Pope turned to the left. Capt Douglas kept
flying straight and level and Lt Armor dropped down, as if he had been
hit, and turned very sharply. I couldn't tell just which way he turned.
Last I saw of any of any of those snips.

Joseph S Solochko

JOSEPH S SOLOCHKO, O-820102
2nd Lt, Air Corps
Pilot, B17G 42-107188

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KU-3375

Attached to this case are :

- 1 inventory on secured effects of Captain-GENE L. DOUGLAS.
- 1 slip bearing a Hebrew scripture.
- 1 Receipt about \$ 400.00 , Lt. RANDOLPH D. ANDERSON.
- 7 Identification-tags , Inscription see below.

JAMES C. STRAFFORD
15195342 T 42-43 O
P

GENE L. DOUGLAS
G-798637 T-42-3 O
P

CHARLES E. ZIMMER
O-814622 T42-43 A
P

KEPTSON AARON
O-710276 T43-44 A
P

NORMAN E. KOTTKE
O-762637 T 42-43 A
P

PIERRE STOUT
37007793 T41-42 O
P

HARRY NELSON Jr.
O-669422 T-42-3 A
P

Attached 1 map showing a sketch of a camp at NUREMBERG.

KU-3375

... of

... TELEGRAM FORM ...

... DISTANCE MESSAGE ...

ACCEPTED ... DELIVERED ... RECEIVED ...

DATE: 3 January 1944 THROUGH:
TIME: 0315 p.m.
FROM: LL KO
THROUGH: Frank

REMARKS: Q E M — Q E D — Secret

SSB DLK /FB 174 13/12 (1715)

- TO: Computing Center WEST OBERURSSEL .
SUBJECT: Final Report on Grasbes of Enemy Aircrafts. on 26 November 1944
Daylight attack Traffic installations Area HAMB-BIELEFELD-O.NABRUECK.
1.0100 p.m. Boeing at East of BERSHORNHAGEN 5 km GUTSWALD HETZOLD, 98% destroyed
10 prisoners, claimed by 22nd Flak-Division.
2.0115 p.m. Boeing ... 7,5 km ... 5/4 99% destroyed
burst in the air, 2 prisoners
3.0100 p.m. Liberator ... 18 km northeast MINDEN, GT 5/4 98% destroyed, 3 dead
rest unknown, claimed by 22nd Flak-Division.
4.1115 a.m. Boeing at ... 7 km east VLOTHE HS 6/6 98% destroyed ,1 prisoner
9 unknown
5. 1130 a.m. Mosquito 3 km southwest highway COESFELD LP 1/9 99%destroyed 2 dead.
6.1031 a.m. Thunderbolt 4 km southwest SCHAPEN 13 km northeast ... 4/4
claimed by 22nd Flak-Division , 1 prisoner
7.1255a.m. Liberator ... 3 km east MINDEN IS 6/9 98% destroyed 7 dead,
3 prisoners.
8.0145 Boeing KLOSTER SION at DEVENTER GN 8/1 ,99% destroyed ,burst in the air,
7 prisoners.

Turn over

- 9.0312 p.m. Mitchell DEVENTER HN 9/1 95% destroyed bursted in theair
- 10.0151 p.m. Boeing VELSVIJK IN 2/3 8% destroyed Emergency Landing 6 prisoners
- 11.0151 p.m. Mustang Air Base SOKSTERBERG HL 5/5 15%destroyed Emergency Landing 1 prisoner
- 12.1150 a.m. Boeing HAULERWIJK 21 km west GROENINGEN DN 7/9 99% destroyed burned out by crash, 33 prisoners.
- 13.1219 a.m. Boeing 1,5 km northeast HESSEN at HANN 50C = north Ber Highways Q 3/4 98% destroyed bursted in the air. 4 dead, 3 prisoners claimed by 22nd Flak-Division.
- 14.0320 p.m. Spitfire VLJYN HOCHKAMER STRASSE 7km WSE NOERS. LO 1/4 98% destroyed & 1 dead.
- 15.0100 p.m. Boeing in APELDOORN IN BOSCHPARK HN 1/4 95% destroyed burned out by crash 2 dead, 7 prisoners
- 16.0200 p.m. Boeing 1 km south GUT MEERHOF at AMELN 3/3 99% destroyed burned out by crash , 2dead, 7 prisoners claimed by 7th Flak Division.
- 17.0115 p.m. Liberator GUT LAGE 11 km northeast BRANSCH GR 1/1 98% destroyed crashed on the ground. 9 prisoners ,claimed by 22nd Flak Division.

LFL KDO REICH O QU/ QU 1 NR 054 847/44 GEB I A

s/ HOFFMANN

Lt. Colonel in General Staff

SECRET

(12)

SECRET
 REPORT ON CRASH OF BOEING B-29 SUPERFORTRESS
 1. On 17.12.44 a B-29 Superfortress was shot down near HANN 50C, north of Berlin. The aircraft crashed in a field and bursted into flames. The wreckage was found in the morning of 18.12.44. The aircraft was destroyed by a single 20mm shell fired from a German anti-aircraft gun. The aircraft was carrying 10 crew members and 10 prisoners. The prisoners were rescued by the German ground forces. The wreckage was found in the morning of 18.12.44. The aircraft was destroyed by a single 20mm shell fired from a German anti-aircraft gun. The aircraft was carrying 10 crew members and 10 prisoners. The prisoners were rescued by the German ground forces.

Report on Downings of an USA Aircraft

Date and time: 26. November 1944
 Place of crash: Detmold
 Type: Fockwulf
 Reporting Officer: Detmold

Crew:

Name:	WILSON, Harry	Rank:	Capt.	ASN:	0-669422	captured
24. January 1916	DOUGLAS, Louis Leroy Sgt.				0-793637	"
1922	ANDERSON, Randolph David Sgt.	Lt.			0-703280	"
	RUTSON, Angus	Lt.			0-712276	"
	HOPKIN, Norman Edward	Lt.			0-762637	"
	ZEDLER, Charles Edward	"			0-814622	"
					
	STUT, Franz	Sgt.			15295342	"
	HENRY, Oskar, Elliott	Sgt.			12047377	"
19. October 1922	Williams, James Richard Detmold, Ala.	Sgt.			14105726	"
Remarks:	Folgt Luft Post.					

Folgt Luft Post on 11. December 1944.

ME 11146
 E-17
 AH F-42-77740
 10-1-44

26 Nov. 1944 1300
 Detachment

8 Dec.

EU 3375

Type: Fortress
 600 HBo Sqd. 398 Group

1st Lt. ANDERSON	Randolph David	O-703920	capt
Cot. DOUGLAS	Gene Le Roy	O-798637	capt
Cpt. NELSON	Harry Jr.	O-669122	capt
1st Lt. KOTTKE	Norman Edward	O-762617	capt
2nd Lt. HUFTSCH	Aaron	O-710276	capt
T/Sgt. FURNEY	Opker Ellett	11067317	capt
S/Sgt. STOUT	Phern	37007793	capt
C/Sgt. WILLIAMS	James Richard	1/105594	capt
T/Sgt. STRAPFORD	James	15105312	
1st Lt. ZIMMER	Charles Edward	O-814622	

Captain Gene L. Douglas

Mrs. Gladys L. Douglas, (Wife)
2701 16th Street, Northwest,
Apartment 506,
Washington, D. C.

Captain Harry Nelson, Jr.

Mrs. Olga Nelson, (Mother)
3661 North Teutonia Avenue,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

1st Lt. Randolph D. Anderson

Mr. David Anderson, (Father)
68 Whipple Street,
Worcester, Massachusetts.

1st Lt. Norman E. Kottke

Mrs. Adeline M. Kottke, (Wife)
Gibben, Minnesota.

1st Lt. Charles E. Zimmer

Mrs. Augusta L. Zimmer, (Mother)
144-21 38th Avenue,
Flushing, New York.

2nd Lt. Aaron Kuptsov

Mr. David Kuptsov, (Father)
3000 South Sydenham Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

T/Sgt. Oliver E. Rumney

Mrs. Ada W. Rumney, (Sister-in-law)
Manchester Depot, Vermont.

T/Sgt. James C. Strafford

Mrs. James B. Strafford, (Wife)
1170 Franklin Avenue,
Columbus, Ohio.

S/Sgt. Phara Stout

Mr. Roy W. Stout, (Father)
Lockwood, Missouri.

S/Sgt. James R. Williams, Jr.

Mrs. James R. Williams, (Mother)
224 Barbour Street,
Eufaula, Alabama.

**Meldung über den Abschub eines
US-amerikanischen Flugzeuges**

Abschub-Nr. KU 3375

Abschubtag und Zeit: 16.11.44 -
 Abschubort: Detmold
 Flugzeugtyp: Portress
 Meldende Dienststelle: Detmold

Besatzung:

Name und Vornamen: Geburts-tag und -ort:	Dienst-grad	Erk.-Marke:	Verbleib:	
			gef.: verw.: tot:	welches Lager Art d. Verwundung Grablage
✓ NELSON Harry	Cpt.	0-6694	gef.	Dulag-Luft West
DOUGLAS 24.1.16	Lene Leroy Iowa	Cpt.	0-798637	gef. Dulag-Luft West
ANDERSON 1922	Randolph David Mass.	1.Lt.	0-703920	gef. Dulag-Luft West
KUPTZOW	Aaron	1.Lt.	0-71076	gef. Dulag-Luft West
KOTTKE	Norman Edward	1.Lt.	0-762637	gef. Dulag-Luft West
ZIMMER	Charles Edward	1.Lt.	0-81462	gef. Dulag-Luft West
STRATFORD	James Craigmalls	T/Sgt.	1519534	gef. Dulag-Luft West
STOUT	Phern	S/Sgt.	37007743	gef. Dulag-Luft West
RUMNEY	Opher Ellett	T/Sgt.	11067377	gef. Dulag-Luft West

Bemerkungen:

DULAG-LUFT, den 11.12.44 ho.