

10023

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classification ~~changed~~
to **RESTRICTED**
by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AO
by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AO
Date MAR 15 1946

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

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: APO # 324 COMMAND OR AIR FORCE Thirteenth
GROUP 307th; SQUADRON: 372nd; DETACHMENT:
2. SPECIFY: POINT OF DEPARTURE Mokerang Field; COURSE: _____
INTENDED DESTINATION Mokerang Field; TYPE OF MISSION Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST OBSERVED:
Clear - Ceiling and visibility unlimited
4. GIVE: (A) DATE 6-25-44 TIME 1150K; AND LOCATION OF LAST SIGHTING
WHEREABOUTS OF MISSING AIRCRAFT 3 mile SE of S tip of Yap Is.
(B) SPECIFY WHETHER () LAST SIGHTED; () LAST CONTACTED BY RADIO;
() FORCED DOWN; (X) SEEN TO CRASH OR () INFORMATION NOT AVAILABLE.
5. AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF CRASH ONLY
AND: () ENEMY AIRCRAFT; () ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT; () OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES AS
FOLLOWS:
6. AIRCRAFT: TYPE, MODEL AND SERIES B-24J; ASF SERIAL NO. 44-40598
7. ENGINES: TYPE, MODEL AND SERIES R-1830-65A; ASF SERIAL NO. (A)
BP440223 (B) BP439877 (C) BP 440183 (D) BP 440075
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (FURNISH BELOW MAKE, TYPE AND SERIAL NUMBER)
(A) 10 Browning M-2 (B) .50 Cal. Machine Gun - Serial number unknown
(C) 2 .30 Cal. Machine Guns - Serial number unknown (D)
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (A) BATTLE CASUALTY X K.I.A.
OR (B) NON-BATTLE CASUALTY
10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: CREW 10; PASSENGERS: _____; TOTAL 10
(Starting with pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 11 persons were aboard aircraft, list details
particulars on separate sheet and attach original to this form)

CREW POSITION	NAME IN FULL (LAST NAME FIRST)	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	STATUS
(1) PILOT	Coleman, Gerald D.	2nd Lt.	0-806220	KIA
(2) CO-PILOT	Jurica, John E., Jr.	2nd Lt.	0-813010	KIA
(3) Navigator	Unger, Martin B.	2nd Lt.	0-814450	KIA
(4) Bombardier	Lind, James F.	2nd Lt.	0-754917	KIA
(5) Engineer	Wagoner, Robert P.	T/Sgt	35283528	KIA
(6) Ass't Engineer	Lykens, James R. Jr.	S/Sgt	33479095	KIA
(7) Radio Operator	Hurd, James R.	T/Sgt	13121851	KIA
(8) Ass't Radio Operator	McCullough, John R.	Sgt	39293812	KIA
(9) Gunner	Tetreault, Romeo	S/Sgt	20113352	KIA
(10) Armorer Gunner	Williams, Bill J.	S/Sgt	17038239	KIA
(11)				

11. 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	CONTACTED BY RADIO	LAST SIGHTED	SAW CRASH	SAW FORCED LANDING
(1) Martin, Edward H.	S/Sgt	12190717			X	
(2)						
(3)						

12. 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 _____ (C) ANY OTHER REASON SPECIFIED _____
13. ATTACH EVENTNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES
PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
14. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION
WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.
15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL

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.

- ORGANIZATION: Location AFD # 324; Command or Air Force Thirteenth; Group 397th; Squadron 372nd; Detachment _____
- SPECIFY: Point of Departure Mokorang Field; Course _____; Intended Destination Mokorang Field; Type of Mission Combat
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: Clear - Ceiling and visibility unlimited.
- GIVE: (a) Date 6-25-44; Time 1150K; and Location 3 mile SE of tip of Yap Is. of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether () Last Sighted; () Last Contacted by Radio; () Forced Down; (x) 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 Circumstance as follows _____
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Serial B-24J; A.A.F. Serial Number 44-40598
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1930-65A; A.A.F. Serial Number (a) BP440223 (b) BP 439877; (c) BP 440183 (d) BP 440075
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)
(a) 10 Browning M-2 (b) 50 Cal. Machine Gun (c) Serial number unknown
(e) 2 .30 Cal. Machine Guns - Serial number unknown; (h) _____
- THE PERSON LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X K.I.A. or (b) Non-Battle Casualty
- NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 10; Passengers 0; Total 10
(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>Coleman, Gerald D.</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>KIA 0-806220</u>
2. Co-Pilot	<u>Jurica, John E., Jr.</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>KIA 0-813210</u>
3. Navigator	<u>Vogel, Martin B.</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>KIA 0-814450</u>
4. Bombardier	<u>Lind, James F.</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>KIA 0-754917</u>
5. Engineer	<u>Wagoner, Robert F.</u>	<u>T/Sgt</u>	<u>KIA 35283528</u>
6. Ass't Engineer	<u>Mylkens, James R., Jr.</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>KIA 33475095</u>
7. Radio Operator	<u>Hurd, James R.</u>	<u>T/Sgt</u>	<u>KIA 13121851</u>
8. Ass't Radio Operator	<u>McCullough, John R.</u>	<u>Sgt</u>	<u>KIA 39293812</u>
9. Gunner	<u>Tetreault, Romeo</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>KIA 29113352</u>
10. Armorer Gunner	<u>Williams, Bill J.</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>KIA 17038239</u>

KIA 1.
KIA 2.
KIA 3.
KIA 4.
KIA 5.
No Record 6.
KIA 7.
KIA 8.
KIA 9.
KIA 10.

Classified 1/18/45

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

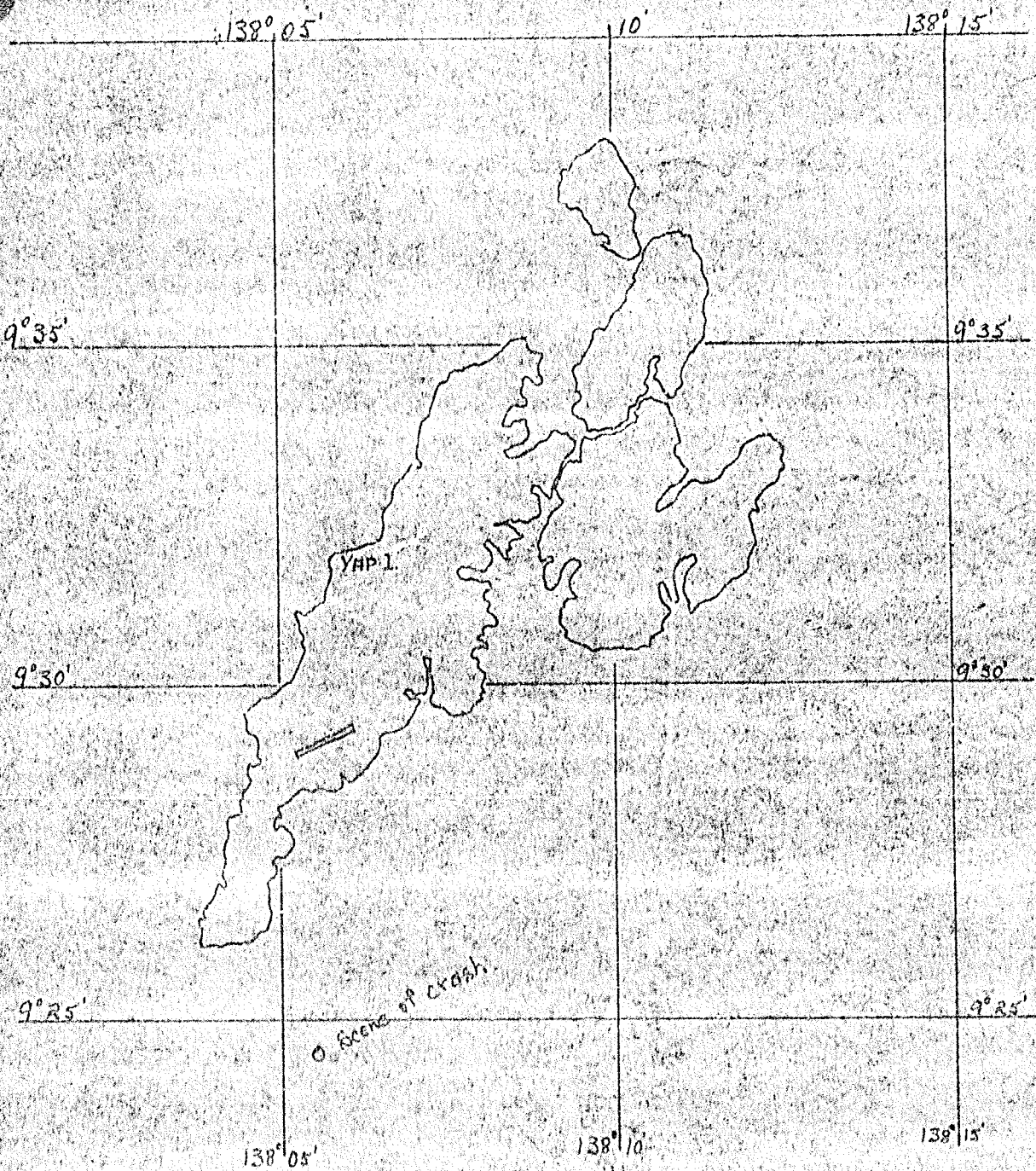
Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Check Only One Column			
			Contacted By Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1. <u>Martin, Edward H.</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>12190717</u>			<u>Y</u>	
2. _____						
2. _____						

- 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) _____
- ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.
- ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
- ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE OF DAMAGE, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE.

Classification changed to RESTRICTED
by E. A. _____, Lt. Col., AG
by F. M. MURPHY, Capt., AC
Date _____

Date of Report 27 June 1944
Clement B. Baldwin
(Signature of Preparing Officer)
CLEMENT B. BALDWIN, 2nd Lt., AC,
Assistant Operations Officer.

CONFIDENTIAL



YAP ISLANDS (CAROLINE IS.)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

C
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1st Ind

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON HV, 307TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP HV, APO 719, 26 Oct 45.

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Forces Western Pacific, APO 707.

1. The following information, concerning the deaths of T/Sgt. Robert P. Wagoner, 35283528 and S/Sgt. William J. Williams, 17038238, is extracted from the Combat Mission Report of 25 June 1944.

"As part of a formation of B-24 bombers striking at the enemy held stronghold of Yap Island, Aircraft #598 piloted by Lt. Coleman, was attacked by enemy aircraft about a minute and a half after bombs away. Direct hits were scored by the enemy interceptors on #2 and #3 engines. The cockpit and bombardiers compartment were seen with flames coming out of the windows which had been shot out. The plane made a perfect loop, then fell off to the right in a spin and crashed in the water 2 miles South of the runway. They were strafed all the way down and also after hitting the water. No parachutes were seen and it is believed that all members of the crew are dead."

2. No further information has been received by this office.

For the Commanding Officer:

/s/ Donald C. Edson
DONALD C. EDSON,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

1st Ind
372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON BV, 307TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP BV, APO 719, 26 Oct 45.

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Forces, Western Pacific, APO 707.

1. The following information, concerning the deaths of T/Sgt. Robert P. Wagner, 35283528 and S/Sgt. William J. Williams, 17032238, is extracted from the Combat Mission Report of 25 June 1944.

"As part of a formation of B-24 bombers striking at the enemy held stronghold of Yap Island, Aircraft #598 piloted by Lt. Coleman, was attacked by enemy aircraft about a minute and a half after bombs away. Direct hits were scored by the enemy interceptors on #2 and #3 engines. The cockpit and bombardiers compartment were seen with flames coming out of the window which had been shot out. The plane made a perfect loop, then fell off to the right in a spin and crashed in the water 2 miles South of the runway. They were strafed all the way down and also after hitting the water. No parachutes were seen and it is believed that all members of the crew are dead."

2. No further information has been received by this office.

For the Commanding Officer:

/s/ Donald C. Eison
DONALD C. EISON,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

MACR#
10023
SERIAL#
44-40598

JOHN RAYMOND
DEC 14 1923
VAIL, IA

MCCULLOUGH
[Signature]

COUSIN
RAYMOND JOSEPH
~~MESSENGER~~
MCDONNELL

GARL
309-762-8573

-SCAN-

COPY

COPY

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
OFFICE OF THE OPERATIONS OFFICER
A.P.O. # 324

27 June 1944

C E R T I F I C A T E

Lt Coleman was flying ship No. 598. He was flying in B-1 position in our squadron. As we were making a left turn off the target the Jap fighter started his attack. He came in on the tail at eight o'clock high, his altitude was about 1,000 yards higher than our formation. He was way out of range, possibly 2,000 yards. At this time, a white Zeke, with orange or yellow meat balls on the under side of his wings made an attack on our plane; I moved my turret around at this fighter coming up at seven o'clock low on our tail. I fired at him and he broke away. I immediately turned my turret around to six o'clock. The Jap fighter that was at eight o'clock slid over to four o'clock high, he moved his wings a little and came in for the attack. His attack was made from four o'clock high and he used a pursuit curve attack from about 1,000 yards out and 1,000 yards higher than Lt Colemans' ship. He broke away at five o'clock and headed straight down. This happened in a matter of seconds; I was only able to fire a burst at him. Right after that I saw pieces flying off of Lt Colemans' right wing; the hole was between No. 4 engine and the wing tip right on the trailing edge. This hole was approximately two feet in circumference. Lt Coleman's ship slid over to the right just a little, big flames licked out of the bombardiers' compartment on both side. Both ammunition boxes for the nose turret in the bombardiers' compartment must have been hit. This ship wiggled it's wings a little then it's nose went straight up into the air. The ship made a loop that was approximately 100 to 200 yards above our formation. The ship went straight down for about 3,000 yards in a dive then started turning in a tight circle. Lt Colemans' ship kept going down. I kept my eye open for parachutes but no one bailed out of Lt Colemans' ship. This ship dived straight into the water. There was a big ring and the center of it was black. Lt. Colemans' ship went down approximately three to five miles southeast of the southern tip of Yap Island. I saw all this happen from my position which is "tail gunner" on the lead ship.

/s/ EDWARD H. MARTIN
/t/ EDWARD H. MARTIN
Staff Sergeant
Tail Gunner

COPY

COPY

2nd Lt. Gerald D. Coleman	Mrs. Katherine B. Coleman, (wife) Box 654, Idabel, Oklahoma.
2nd Lt. John E. Jurica, Jr.	Mrs. Susan V. Jurica, (mother) 425 Center Street, Freeland, Pennsylvania.
2nd Lt. Martin B. Unger	Mrs. Pearl C. Unger, (wife) 675 Walton Street, New York, New York.
2nd Lt. James F. Lind	Mrs. Betty A. Lind, (wife) 1020 West 60th Place, Los Angeles, California.
T/Sgt. Robert P. Wagoner	Mrs. Laverne I. Wagoner, (wife) Box 72, Bison, Kansas.
T/Sgt. James H. Hurd	Mrs. Betty W. Hurd, (mother) Box 138, Martinsville, Virginia.
S/Sgt. James R. Lykens, Jr.	Mr. Alfred V. Lykens, (uncle) R. F. D. #1, Coatesville, Pennsylvania.
S/Sgt. Romeo Tetreault	Mrs. Beatrice I. Tetreault, (wife) 130 Tinkham, New Bedford, Massachusetts.
S/Sgt. Bill J. Williams	Mrs. Alma Williams, (wife) 114 North Carey, Grand Island, Nebraska.
Sgt. John H. McCullough	Mrs. Blanche H. McCullough, (mother) 330 South Orange Avenue, Covina, California.

gms/22/44

12/22/44

2nd Lt. Gerald D. Coleman	Mrs. Katherine B. Coleman, (wife) Box 654, Idabel, Oklahoma.
2nd Lt. John E. Jurica, Jr.	Mrs. Susan V. Jurica, (mother) 426 Center Street, Fresland, Pennsylvania.
2nd Lt. Martin E. Unger	Mrs. Pearl C. Unger, (wife) 675 Walton Street, New York, New York.
2nd Lt. James F. Lind	Mrs. Betty A. Lind, (wife) 1020 West 60th Place, Los Angeles, California.
T/Sgt. Eobert P. Wagner	Mrs. Lavergne I. Wagner, (wife) Box 72, Bison, Kansas.
T/Sgt. James H. Hurd	Mrs. Hetty W. Hurd, (mother) Box 130, Martineville, Virginia.
S/Sgt. James R. Lykens, Jr.	Mr. Alfred V. Lykens, (uncle) R. F. D. #1, Coatesville, Pennsylvania.
S/Sgt. Romeo Tetreault	Mrs. Beatrice L. Tetreault, (wife) 130 Tinkham, New Bedford, Massachusetts.
S/Sgt. Mill J. Williams	Mrs. Alma Williams, (wife) 114 North Cayce, Grand Island, Nebraska.
Sgt. John E. McCullough	Mrs. Blanche H. McCullough, (mother) 320 South Orange Avenue, Covina, California.

2nd Lt. Gerald D. Coleman

Mrs. Katherine B. Coleman, (wife)
Box 654
Idabel, Oklahoma.

2nd Lt. John E. Jurica, Jr.

Mrs. Susan V. Jurica, (mother)
426 Center Street
Freeport, Pennsylvania

2nd Lt. Martin B. Unger

Mrs. Pearl C. Unger, (wife)
675 Walton Street
New York, New York

2nd Lt. James F. Lind

Mrs. Betty A. Lind, (wife)
1020 West 60th Place
Los Angeles, California

T/Sgt. Robert P. Wagoner

Mrs. Leverage I. Wagoner, (wife)
Box 72,
Bison, Kansas

T/Sgt. James R. Murd

Mrs. Hetty W. Murd, (mother)
Box 138,
Martinsville, Virginia

S/Sgt. James R. Lykens, Jr.

Mr. Alfred V. Lykens, (uncle)
R.F.D. #1
Coatesville, Pennsylvania

S/Sgt. Romeo Tetreault

Mrs. Beatrice L. Tetreault, (wife)
130 Tinkham,
New Bedford, Massachusetts.

S/Sgt. Bill J. Williams

Mrs. Alma Williams, (wife)
114 North Carey
Grand Island, Nebraska.

Sgt. John R. McCullough

Mrs. Blanche H. McCullough, (mother)
330 South Orange Avenue
Covina, California.

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1st ind

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON BV, 307TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP BV, APO 719, 26 Oct 45.

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Forces Western Pacific, APO 707.

1. The following information, concerning the deaths of T/Sgt. Robert P. Hagener, 35283528 and S/Sgt. William J. Williams, 17038238, is extracted from the Combat Mission Report of 25 June 1944.

"As part of a formation of B-24 bombers striking at the enemy held stronghold of Iap Island, Aircraft #598 piloted by Lt. Coleman, was attacked by enemy aircraft about a minute and a half after bombs away. Direct hits were scored by the enemy interceptors on #2 and #3 engines. The cockpit and bombardiers compartment were seen with flames coming out of the windows which had been shot out. The plane made a perfect loop, then fell off to the right in a spin and crashed in the water 2 miles South of the runway. They were strafed all the way down and also after hitting the water. No parachutes were seen and it is believed that all members of the crew are dead."

2. No further information has been received by this office.

For the Commanding Officer:

/s/ Donald C. Eison
DONALD C. EISON,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

MACR#
10023
SERIAL#
44-40598

MCCULLOUGH
[Signature]

JOHN RAYMOND
DEC 14 1923
VAIL, IA

642L
309-262-8573

COUSIN
RAYMOND
MCDONNELL

SCAN

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

10,023 (12)

AG 360.33
(29 July 44)

4th Ind

HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST AIR FORCES, APO 925, 25 September 1944.

TO: Commanding General, USAFFE, APO 501.

Desired Missing Air Crew Report was filed at this headquarters as A.C.O. letter, 23 May 1943 (AG 360.33 (5-21-43) OB-S-AF-M), has been interpreted to the effect that subject report is not required in cases where the entire crew has been reported to be killed in action.

For the Commanding General:

G. W. McClughan

G. W. McCLUGHAN
Captain, A.C.D.
Asst. Air Adj. Gen.

1 Incl:
Incl 1- Missing Air Crew Report.

*PPA-8
man*

AG 360.33
(29 July 44)

5th Ind.

HQ UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES IN THE FAR EAST, A.P.O. 501, 30 September, 1944.
TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington 25, D. C.

For the Commanding General:

D. F. Ross

D. F. ROSS
2d Lt, AGD
Asst Adj Gen

1 Incl: n/c.

-3-
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

023507
Ac# BR 21719

MACR 10023

BASIC: Ltr fr Hq AFWESPAC, APO 707, File GSQNM 704.5,
Subj: Casualty Information, dtd 23 May 46, re:
HURD, James R., 12131851 - MC CULLOCH, John R.,
39293812.

APPPA-8/SEB/cis 4th Ind.

Hq., AAF, Washington 25, D.C. 29 July 1946

TO: Commanding General, Western Pacific Command, United States Army, APO 707.

THRU: Commanding General, Pacific Air Command, United States Army, APO 925.

1. Records this headquarters reviewed and reveal complete crew list, brief narrative, and map sketch, see inclosures 5, 6, 7, and 8.

2. No additional information available this headquarters.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL

WILLIAM H. BRADOCK
Lt. Col., Air Corps
Chief, Notification Section
Personal Affairs Branch
Personnel Services Division, AC/AS-1

- 8 Incls:
- 1 thru 4 n/e
- 5 Missing air crew report
- 6 Statement
- 7 Crew list
- 8 Map sketch

Enclosures in 201

119741
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

29 July 1944

SUBJECT: Second Lieutenant Martin B. Unger, O814450,
307th Bomb Group,
Killed in Action 25 June 1944.

TO : Commanding General, Thirteenth Air Force, A.P.O. 719,
c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

1. This headquarters is in receipt of a request for details concerning the circumstances under which the subject named was reported ~~missing~~ (in action) on the date shown.
killed

2. A search of the records of this headquarters indicates that a Missing Air Crew Report, as required by A.G.O. letter, 23 May 1943, (AO 360.33 (5-21-43)OB-S-AF-M), has not been received to date in this case. It is requested that this report be forwarded with the least practicable delay.

For the Commanding General:

E. A. Bradunas

E. A. BRADUNAS,
Major, A. G. D.,
Chief, Notification Branch,
Personal Affairs Division,
Assistant Chief Air Staff, Personnel.

5-509,AF

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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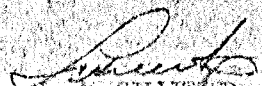
BASIC: Ltr, Hq, AAF, Washington 25, D.C., dtd 29 July 1944 Subj:
"Second Lieutenant Martin B. Unger, O614450, 397th Bomb
Group, Killed in Action 25 June 1944."

AG 201 - Unger, Martin B. (O) 1st Ind. G/4/mcm
HEADQUARTERS THIRTEENTH AIR FORCE, APO 719, 10 September 1944.

TO: Commanding General, XIII Bomber Command, APO 719.

For your compliance.

For the Commanding General:



L. A. CHITIZER,
Captain, Air Corps,
Actg. Asst. Adj. Gen.

360.33 2nd Ind. HMB/vgb U
HEADQUARTERS XIII BOMBER COMMAND, APO #719, 12 September 1944.

TO: Commanding General, Thirteenth Air Force, APO #719.

Missing Air Crew report forwarded your headquarters by 2nd W/Ind
this headquarters 30 June 1944.

For the Commanding General:

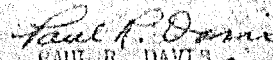

HOWARD R. STRATTON,
1st Lt., A.G.F.,
Asst. Adj. Gen.

AG 201 Unger, Martin B. (O) 3rd Ind G/3/avic
HEADQUARTERS THIRTEENTH AIR FORCE, APO 719, 17 September 1944

TO: Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, APO 925.

Missing Air Crew Report forwarded your headquarters on or about
1 July 1944.

For the Commanding General:


PAUL R. DAVIS,
Major, AGD,
Adjutant General.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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CONFIDENTIAL

372ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
Office of the Operations Officer
A.P.O. # 324

27 June 1944

C E R T I F I C A T E

Lt Coleman was flying ship No. 598. He was flying in B-1 position in our squadron. As we were making a left turn off the target the Jap fighter started his attack. He came in on the tail at eight o'clock high, his altitude was about 1,000 yards higher than our formation. He was way out of range, possibly 2,000 yards. At this time, a white Zeke, with orange or yellow meet balls on the under side of his wings made an attack on our plane; I moved my turret around at this fighter coming up at seven o'clock low on our tail. I fired at him and he broke away. I immediately turned my turret around to six o'clock. The Jap fighter that was at eight o'clock slid over to four o'clock high, he moved his wings a little and came in for the attack. His attack was made from four o'clock high and he used a pursuit curve attack from about 1,000 yards out and 1,000 yards higher than Lt Coleman's ship. He broke away at five o'clock and headed straight down. This happened in a manner of seconds; I was only able to fire a burst at him. Right after that I saw pieces flying off of Lt Coleman's right wing; the hole was between No. 4 engine and the wing tip, right on the trailing edge. This hole was approximately two feet in circumference. Lt Coleman's ship slid over to the right just a little, big flames licked out of the bombardiers' compartment on both sides. Both ammunition boxes for the nose turret in the bombardiers' compartment must have been hit. This ship wiggled its wings a little then it's nose went straight up into the air. The ship made a complete loop; it went up, and back and straight down. This ship made a loop that was approximately 100 to 200 yards above our formation. The ship went straight down for about 5,000 yards in a dive, then he started turning in a tight circle. Lt Coleman's ship kept going down. I kept my eye open for parachutes but no one bailed out of Lt Coleman's ship. This ship dived straight into the water. There was a big ring and the center of it was black. Lt Coleman's ship went down approximately three to five miles southeast of the southern tip of Yap Island. I saw all this happen from my position which is "tail gunner" on the lead ship.

Edward H. Martin
EDWARD H. MARTIN,
Staff Sergeant,
Tail Gunner.