

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE AREA COMMAND
PACIFIC THEATER

WHC/hma*

APD 707

24 Sep 46

S: 24 Jan 46

GSQMM 293

SUBJECT: Request for Discontinuance of Active Search

TO : Quartermaster General, Washington 25, D.C.

1. Attention is invited to inclosed correspondence.
2. Statements of eye witnesses indicate the B-24J, AAF Serial No. 42-110139 crashed into the water close to Yap Island on 23 June 1944.
3. The status of all crew members has been changed from MIA to KIA.
4. In view of the above and the fact that there is no known land area where a concentrated search can be made, it is requested that this headquarters be authorized to discontinue active search for the remains of the following:

BOLTON, William M.	2nd Lt.	0-750934
CHRISTIANSEN, Wesley D.	2nd Lt.	0-760784
MOSSBURG, Louis G.	2nd Lt.	0-701266
REILLY, William L. Jr	2nd Lt.	0-701646
JONES, Earl F.	S/Sgt	6945349
TROTTER, James W.	S/Sgt	18139039
BIGLEY, Norbert	T/Sgt	36645810
LERNER, Hyman	S/Sgt	12184873
BARROW, Herbert T.	S/Sgt	34765871
SATTERFIELD, Luther S.	S/Sgt	34607882

5. Copies of this correspondence are retained in the files of this headquarters for future reference.

Lee M. Hester
LEE M. HESTER
Colonel, OMC
Commanding

2 Incls:

- Incl #1 - Ltr Hq AFWESPAC, file GSQMM 704.5,
subj: Cas Info, dtd 6 May 46, w/1st Ind.
Incl #2 - Statements of seven crew members,
dtd 24 June 44

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Authority NND 785095

By KJ NARA Date 10/30/08

24 June 1944

S-T-A-T-E-M-E-N-T

No further search is being made for this plane and crew. Rescue Catalina will not go into that area because of distance from base and proximity of YAP Island.

B-24's on strike in that area will not descend to search altitude (1000') because of critical fuel problem.

At time of Lt. Boltin's water landing, Auburn 1A called Submarine "ASPRO" on Channel "D", VHF, giving position of wreckage in terms of distance and bearing from YAP Island. Additional messages, giving position of wreckage, were sent to Submarine from base.

ARTHUR J. FINNELL,
1st Lt., Air Corps
Operations Officer

C O P Y

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Authority NND 785095

By KJ NARA Date 10/30/08

Incl