

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT NO. 3 (Three)

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

871st Bombardment Squadron
UNIT

Original - ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
(Cross out word not applicable)

- ORGANIZATION: Location, by Name Saipan, Marianas Island; Command or ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ XII; Group A97th; Squadron 871st Bombardment
Detachment ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~;
- SPECIFY: Place of Departure Saipan; Course 244° TC
Target or Intended Destination Nagoya; Type of Mission
Combat;
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
Not known;
- GIVE: (a) Day 3 Month Jan Year 45; Time 1127Z; and Location Unknown. Was asking
for bearing and course last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (); Last contacted
by radio (X); 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 (); Enemy Anti-Aircraft (); Other circumstances
as follows: Trouble with engines-Running out of gasoline;
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B-29; AAF Serial Number
42-63418;
- NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if Any Jumbo
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series _____ AAF Serial
Number (a) _____; (b) _____ (c) _____
(d) _____;
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number):
(a) _____; (b) _____; (c) _____; (d) _____;
(e) _____; (f) _____; (g) _____; (h) _____;
(i) _____; (j) _____; (k) _____; (l) _____;
(m) _____; (n) _____; (o) _____; (p) _____;
- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X
or (b) Non-Battle Casualty _____
- NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 11; Passengers None;
Total 11 (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	
RTD	1. Ap Co	Clifford, Howard M.	Capt	0-789049	MIA	RTD/RTD
DED	2. Co Pilot	Heiden, Robert L.	2d Lt	0-761938	MIA	
RTD	3. Nav-Bomb	Whitley, Montford S.	2d Lt	0-777062	MIA	RTD/RTD
EVS	4. Bomb-Nav	Lynch, Bartram G.	Capt	0-669210	MIA	RTD
DED	5. Flight Engineer	Barnes, Harold C.	2d Lt	0-866495	MIA	
DED	6. Radar Oper	Fest, William R.	Sgt	16159840	MIA	
RTD	7. Radio Oper Gun	Lodato, Pierre V.	Sgt	32604633	MIA	Rep/RTD
DED	8. GFC Gunner	Estes, Jack F.	Sgt	38432408	MIA	
RTD	9. Left Gunner	Smith, H.J. (J.C.) Jr.	Sgt	18123938	MIA	RTD
DYS	10. Flight Gunner	Niess, Oscar L. Jr.	Sgt	38563053	MIA	
DED	11. Tail Gunner	Martin, Delmas W. Sr.	Sgt	31629416	MIA	

- IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF
AIRCRAFT, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:
Check only One Column
- | Name in Full
(Last Name First) | Serial Contacted | Rank | Number by radio | Saw | Last Sighted | Forced | Crash Landing |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|----------|-----------------|-----|--------------|--------|---------------|
| 1. Lepley, James B. | Capt | 0-789182 | X | | | | |
| 2. _____ | | | | | | | |
| 3. _____ | | | | | | | |

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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 OR HEARD FROM.
15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
16. GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH, IF ANY, INCLUDING DESCRIPTION AND EXTENT. _____

DATE OF REPORT 4 January 1945

Robert W. Clowers
ROBERT W. CLOWERS (Preparing Officer)
1st Lt., Air Corps.

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:

At 1127Z 3 January 1945 while on weather strike mission to Nagoya. Capt. Lempley's radio operator heard Capt. Clifford's radio operator ask for true course. Ground stations replied 161 TC then Capt. Clifford's radio operator sent an SOS and clamped key down.

JAN 30 1945



Note: On Supplemental reports it is not necessary to repeat answers to questions previously answered, except questions I and II. Additional statements may be attached hereto.

XXI Bomber Command Casualty Form #3.

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

REPORT NO. SA (Form A)

CONFIDENTIAL

871st Bombardment Squadron
UNIT

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

Original - Supplemental
(Cross out word not applicable)

1. ORGANIZATION: Location, by Name 871st Bombardment Squadron; Command or 871st Bombardment Squadron; Group 487th; Squadron 871st Detachment _____;
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure Spain; Course 344° Target or Intended Destination Madrid; Type of Mission Combat;
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: _____;
4. GIVE: (a) Day _____ Month _____ Year _____; Time _____; and Location _____ of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (); Last contacted by radio (); 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. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series _____; AAF Serial Number _____;
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, If Any _____
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series _____ AAF Serial Number (a) _____; (b) _____ (c) _____ (d) _____;
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number):
(a) _____; (b) _____; (c) _____; (d) _____;
(e) _____; (f) _____; (g) _____; (h) _____;
(i) _____; (j) _____; (k) _____; (l) _____;
(m) _____; (n) _____; (o) _____; (p) _____;
10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X or (b) Non-Battle Casualty _____
11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 11; Passengers None; Total _____ (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. <u>As Co</u>	<u>Clifford, Edward H.</u>	<u>Capt</u>	<u>8789849</u>	<u>RTD</u>
2. <u>Ev-Comb</u>	<u>Whitely, Norford S.</u>	<u>2d Lt</u>	<u>8747862</u>	<u>RTD</u>
3. <u>Ramb-Nav</u>	<u>Lynch, Norman E.</u>	<u>Capt</u>	<u>9692246</u>	<u>LIA</u>
4. <u>Radio Over Gun</u>	<u>Leite, Pierre V</u>	<u>Sgt</u>	<u>32894538</u>	<u>RTD</u>
5. <u>Left Gunner</u>	<u>Smith, H.J. (I.O.)</u>	<u>Sgt</u>	<u>18183938</u>	<u>RTD</u>
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
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:
Check only One Column

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Serial Number by radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash Landing	Forced
1. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

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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 OR HEARD FROM.
15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
16. GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH, IF ANY, INCLUDING DESCRIPTION AND EXTENT. _____

DATE OF REPORT 9 January 1945

Robert W. Clowes
ROBERT W. CLOWES,

1st Lt., Air Corps.

(Signature of Preparing Officer)

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:

Capt. Clifford and crew ditched at 2127H 8 January 1945 due to engine trouble and lack of gas/line. Capt's Clifford and Lynch, Lt. Whitelaw and Sgt. Lohate were picked up 6 miles west of plane at 18 19H, 144 53E on 8 January 1945 by the Destroyer Grayson. Sgt. Smith, who was alone in the raft, was picked up at 18 27H, 144 19E at 0040K 8 January 1945, by the Destroyer Grayson. No one was seriously injured. Capt Lynch who was slightly injured is being hospitalized.

Upon interrogation, the following facts were obtained in regards to the other crew members who are still missing:

Lt. Heiden y the Co Pilot, was cut of the water and last seen hanging on the wing e

Lt. Barnes wasn't observed.

All the remaining crew members with the exception of Martin, Tail Gunner, are certain to have gotten out.

The search is still being continued.

Note: On Supplemental reports it is not necessary to repeat answers to questions previously answered, except questions I and II. Additional statements may be attached hereto.

XXI Bomber Command Casualty Form #3.

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973



CONFIDENTIAL

10901



HEADQUARTERS CENTRAL PACIFIC BASE COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
APO 968

In reply refer to:
AG 704/1379

Classification changed
to **RESTRICTED**
by T. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AG
by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AC
Date **OCT 15 1945**

PPA-8
(22)

20 January 1945.

SUBJECT: Transmittal of missing air crew reports.

TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington, D. C.
(Attention: Statistical Control Division).

Transmitted herewith missing air crew report on following named personnel:

- Captain Howard M. Clifford, O-789049 MIA
- Second Lieutenant Robert L. Heiden, O-761938 MIA
- Second Lieutenant Montford S. Whiteley, O-747062 MIA
- Captain Bertram G. Lynch, 0669240 MIA
- Second Lieutenant Harold C. Barnes, O-868625 MIA
- Sergeant William R. East, 16159860 MIA
- Sergeant Piere V. Lodato, 32604633 RTD
- Sergeant Jack F. Estes, 38432408 MIA
- Sergeant H. J. Smith, 18123938 RTD
- Sergeant Oscar L. Niece Jr., 38563053 MIA
- Sergeant Delmas D. Martin, 34623416 MIA

For the Commanding General:

Paul C. Baker
PAUL E. BAKER,
1st Lt, AGD,
Asst Adjutant General.

- #2 Incls:
Incl 1 - Missing AC RPT #3 fr 871 Bomb Squadron.
Incl 2 - Supplemental Missing AC RPT #3 fr 871 Bomb Squadron on:
Howard M. Clifford
Montford S. Whiteley
Bertram G. Lynch
Piere V. Lodato
H. J. Smith

CONFIDENTIAL

ACHD-56703

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

11/01/1945

MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS PROHIBITED

COPY NO. 1

<input type="checkbox"/> RESTRICTED
<input type="checkbox"/> CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS Tenth Air Force
 OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER
 WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
 CONFIDENTIAL
 Classification changed
 by T. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AC
 by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AC
 Date OCT 15 1945

AC	SECRET
By Authority of Commanding General Twentieth Air Force	
DATE	INITIALS

EXTRACT OF TELETYPE CONFERENCE BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND **MEMPHIS (ORIN)** DATE **4 JANUARY 1945**
 WASHINGTON PARTIES TERMINAL PARTIES

14 Col. Smith Colonel Antonsen

TELECOM MESSAGE NO. SUBJECT

MACR
10901

237 V 313 HR 25 Crew Members Missing in Action

(From: COMIN 73 237 V 313 HR 25 To: COMIN 50 From: DEWING 20)

Following report of crew members missing in action is forwarded in compliance with telecon 1-3-45: 671st Bomb Squadron 497th Bomb Group. (Signed O'Donnell 73 HR 0 0210)

Burns, Harold C, 2nd Lt, 066825 - nearest relative Mrs. Dorothy Anderson Burns (wife) 119 Sefton Drive, New Britain, Connecticut.

Clifford, Howard H, Capt, 073040 - nearest relative Mr. H. E. Clifford (father) 122 State St, Perth Amboy, New Jersey.

Estes, Jack F, Sgt, 304248 - nearest relative Mrs. Jean Mary Estes (wife) 717 South Montgomery, Sherman, Texas.

East, William R, Sgt, 151736 - nearest relative Mrs. Leona East (wife) 5101 Highland, Detroit, Michigan.

Halden, Albert L, 2nd Lt, 071297 - nearest relative Mrs. Isabel Halden (mother) 159 E. W. 2nd St, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Locato, Piero V, Sgt, 260423 - nearest relative Mr. Joseph Locato (father) 45 4th Ave, Westwood, New Jersey.

Lynch, Arthur G, Capt, 066240 - nearest relative Mrs. Shirley Golden Lynch (wife) 1974 Spring Drive, Louisville, Kentucky.

Martin, Delmas D, Sgt, 360316 - nearest relative Mrs. Miriam May Martin (wife) 1806 East Harrison St, Bogalusa, Mississippi.

Nice, Oscar L, Jr, Sgt, 306303 - nearest relative Mrs. Esther L. Nice (mother) Ada, Kansas.

Smith, H J (I O), Sgt, 151293 - nearest relative Mrs. Doris J Smith (wife) Baylor Nurses Home, Dallas, Texas.

DISTRIBUTION	ACTION	
CONFIDENTIAL		c/s

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS PROHIBITED

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: NND 735001
 By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

→ THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS PROHIBITED ←

COPY NO. _____

HEADQUARTERS TWENTIETH AIR FORCE
 OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
 WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

SECRET By Authority of Commanding General Twentieth Air Force	
DATE _____	INITIALS _____

<input type="checkbox"/> RESTRICTED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONFIDENTIAL


**EXTRACT OF TELETYPE CONFERENCE
 BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND _____**

WASHINGTON PARTIES	TERMINAL PARTIES

TELECOM MESSAGE NO: WAF Y JLS JR 25	SUBJECT Crew Members Missing in Action (Contd)
---	--

Whitely, Montford S. 2nd Lt, 0877000 - nearest relative Mrs. Geraldine Emma Whitely (wife) 3041 Selma Street, Denver, Colorado.

Circumstances: This aircraft started taking fire position reports about 2100H and continued until approximately 2230H at which time the aircraft went out on SOS and presumably ditched.

8038
 TWENTIETH AIR FORCE
 HEADQUARTERS


DISTRIBUTION →	ACTION	Page - 2 - C/S DO/S Ops; A-3; AG; G-3; G-4; G-5; G-6; G-7; G-8; G-9; G-10; G-11; G-12; G-13; G-14; G-15; G-16; G-17; G-18; G-19; G-20; G-21; G-22; G-23; G-24; G-25; G-26; G-27; G-28; G-29; G-30; G-31; G-32; G-33; G-34; G-35; G-36; G-37; G-38; G-39; G-40; G-41; G-42; G-43; G-44; G-45; G-46; G-47; G-48; G-49; G-50; G-51; G-52; G-53; G-54; G-55; G-56; G-57; G-58; G-59; G-60; G-61; G-62; G-63; G-64; G-65; G-66; G-67; G-68; G-69; G-70; G-71; G-72; G-73; G-74; G-75; G-76; G-77; G-78; G-79; G-80; G-81; G-82; G-83; G-84; G-85; G-86; G-87; G-88; G-89; G-90; G-91; G-92; G-93; G-94; G-95; G-96; G-97; G-98; G-99; G-100; G-101; G-102; G-103; G-104; G-105; G-106; G-107; G-108; G-109; G-110; G-111; G-112; G-113; G-114; G-115; G-116; G-117; G-118; G-119; G-120; G-121; G-122; G-123; G-124; G-125; G-126; G-127; G-128; G-129; G-130; G-131; G-132; G-133; G-134; G-135; G-136; G-137; G-138; G-139; G-140; G-141; G-142; G-143; G-144; G-145; G-146; G-147; G-148; G-149; G-150; G-151; G-152; G-153; G-154; G-155; G-156; G-157; G-158; G-159; G-160; G-161; G-162; G-163; G-164; G-165; G-166; G-167; G-168; G-169; G-170; G-171; G-172; G-173; G-174; G-175; G-176; G-177; G-178; G-179; G-180; G-181; G-182; G-183; G-184; G-185; G-186; G-187; G-188; G-189; G-190; G-191; G-192; G-193; G-194; G-195; G-196; G-197; G-198; G-199; G-200; G-201; G-202; G-203; G-204; G-205; G-206; G-207; G-208; G-209; G-210; G-211; G-212; G-213; G-214; G-215; G-216; G-217; G-218; G-219; G-220; G-221; G-222; G-223; G-224; G-225; G-226; G-227; G-228; G-229; G-230; G-231; G-232; G-233; G-234; G-235; G-236; G-237; G-238; G-239; G-240; G-241; G-242; G-243; G-244; G-245; G-246; G-247; G-248; G-249; G-250; G-251; G-252; G-253; G-254; G-255; G-256; G-257; G-258; G-259; G-260; G-261; G-262; G-263; G-264; G-265; G-266; G-267; G-268; G-269; G-270; G-271; G-272; G-273; G-274; G-275; G-276; G-277; G-278; G-279; G-280; G-281; G-282; G-283; G-284; G-285; G-286; G-287; G-288; G-289; G-290; G-291; G-292; G-293; G-294; G-295; G-296; G-297; G-298; G-299; G-300; G-301; G-302; G-303; G-304; G-305; G-306; G-307; G-308; G-309; G-310; G-311; G-312; G-313; G-314; G-315; G-316; G-317; G-318; G-319; G-320; G-321; G-322; G-323; G-324; G-325; G-326; G-327; G-328; G-329; G-330; G-331; G-332; G-333; G-334; G-335; G-336; G-337; G-338; G-339; G-340; G-341; G-342; G-343; G-344; G-345; G-346; G-347; G-348; G-349; G-350; G-351; G-352; G-353; G-354; G-355; G-356; G-357; G-358; G-359; G-360; G-361; G-362; G-363; G-364; G-365; G-366; G-367; G-368; G-369; G-370; G-371; G-372; G-373; G-374; G-375; G-376; G-377; G-378; G-379; G-380; G-381; G-382; G-383; G-384; G-385; G-386; G-387; G-388; G-389; G-390; G-391; G-392; G-393; G-394; G-395; G-396; G-397; G-398; G-399; G-400; G-401; G-402; G-403; G-404; G-405; G-406; G-407; G-408; G-409; G-410; G-411; G-412; G-413; G-414; G-415; G-416; G-417; G-418; G-419; G-420; G-421; G-422; G-423; G-424; G-425; G-426; G-427; G-428; G-429; G-430; G-431; G-432; G-433; G-434; G-435; G-436; G-437; G-438; G-439; G-440; G-441; G-442; G-443; G-444; G-445; G-446; G-447; G-448; G-449; G-450; G-451; G-452; G-453; G-454; G-455; G-456; G-457; G-458; G-459; G-460; G-461; G-462; G-463; G-464; G-465; G-466; G-467; G-468; G-469; G-470; G-471; G-472; G-473; G-474; G-475; G-476; G-477; G-478; G-479; G-480; G-481; G-482; G-483; G-484; G-485; G-486; G-487; G-488; G-489; G-490; G-491; G-492; G-493; G-494; G-495; G-496; G-497; G-498; G-499; G-500; G-501; G-502; G-503; G-504; G-505; G-506; G-507; G-508; G-509; G-510; G-511; G-512; G-513; G-514; G-515; G-516; G-517; G-518; G-519; G-520; G-521; G-522; G-523; G-524; G-525; G-526; G-527; G-528; G-529; G-530; G-531; G-532; G-533; G-534; G-535; G-536; G-537; G-538; G-539; G-540; G-541; G-542; G-543; G-544; G-545; G-546; G-547; G-548; G-549; G-550; G-551; G-552; G-553; G-554; G-555; G-556; G-557; G-558; G-559; G-560; G-561; G-562; G-563; G-564; G-565; G-566; G-567; G-568; G-569; G-570; G-571; G-572; G-573; G-574; G-575; G-576; G-577; G-578; G-579; G-580; G-581; G-582; G-583; G-584; G-585; G-586; G-587; G-588; G-589; G-590; G-591; G-592; G-593; G-594; G-595; G-596; G-597; G-598; G-599; G-600; G-601; G-602; G-603; G-604; G-605; G-606; G-607; G-608; G-609; G-610; G-611; G-612; G-613; G-614; G-615; G-616; G-617; G-618; G-619; G-620; G-621; G-622; G-623; G-624; G-625; G-626; G-627; G-628; G-629; G-630; G-631; G-632; G-633; G-634; G-635; G-636; G-637; G-638; G-639; G-640; G-641; G-642; G-643; G-644; G-645; G-646; G-647; G-648; G-649; G-650; G-651; G-652; G-653; G-654; G-655; G-656; G-657; G-658; G-659; G-660; G-661; G-662; G-663; G-664; G-665; G-666; G-667; G-668; G-669; G-670; G-671; G-672; G-673; G-674; G-675; G-676; G-677; G-678; G-679; G-680; G-681; G-682; G-683; G-684; G-685; G-686; G-687; G-688; G-689; G-690; G-691; G-692; G-693; G-694; G-695; G-696; G-697; G-698; G-699; G-700; G-701; G-702; G-703; G-704; G-705; G-706; G-707; G-708; G-709; G-710; G-711; G-712; G-713; G-714; G-715; G-716; G-717; G-718; G-719; G-720; G-721; G-722; G-723; G-724; G-725; G-726; G-727; G-728; G-729; G-730; G-731; G-732; G-733; G-734; G-735; G-736; G-737; G-738; G-739; G-740; G-741; G-742; G-743; G-744; G-745; G-746; G-747; G-748; G-749; G-750; G-751; G-752; G-753; G-754; G-755; G-756; G-757; G-758; G-759; G-760; G-761; G-762; G-763; G-764; G-765; G-766; G-767; G-768; G-769; G-770; G-771; G-772; G-773; G-774; G-775; G-776; G-777; G-778; G-779; G-780; G-781; G-782; G-783; G-784; G-785; G-786; G-787; G-788; G-789; G-790; G-791; G-792; G-793; G-794; G-795; G-796; G-797; G-798; G-799; G-800; G-801; G-802; G-803; G-804; G-805; G-806; G-807; G-808; G-809; G-810; G-811; G-812; G-813; G-814; G-815; G-816; G-817; G-818; G-819; G-820; G-821; G-822; G-823; G-824; G-825; G-826; G-827; G-828; G-829; G-830; G-831; G-832; G-833; G-834; G-835; G-836; G-837; G-838; G-839; G-840; G-841; G-842; G-843; G-844; G-845; G-846; G-847; G-848; G-849; G-850; G-851; G-852; G-853; G-854; G-855; G-856; G-857; G-858; G-859; G-860; G-861; G-862; G-863; G-864; G-865; G-866; G-867; G-868; G-869; G-870; G-871; G-872; G-873; G-874; G-875; G-876; G-877; G-878; G-879; G-880; G-881; G-882; G-883; G-884; G-885; G-886; G-887; G-888; G-889; G-890; G-891; G-892; G-893; G-894; G-895; G-896; G-897; G-898; G-899; G-900; G-901; G-902; G-903; G-904; G-905; G-906; G-907; G-908; G-909; G-910; G-911; G-912; G-913; G-914; G-915; G-916; G-917; G-918; G-919; G-920; G-921; G-922; G-923; G-924; G-925; G-926; G-927; G-928; G-929; G-930; G-931; G-932; G-933; G-934; G-935; G-936; G-937; G-938; G-939; G-940; G-941; G-942; G-943; G-944; G-945; G-946; G-947; G-948; G-949; G-950; G-951; G-952; G-953; G-954; G-955; G-956; G-957; G-958; G-959; G-960; G-961; G-962; G-963; G-964; G-965; G-966; G-967; G-968; G-969; G-970; G-971; G-972; G-973; G-974; G-975; G-976; G-977; G-978; G-979; G-980; G-981; G-982; G-983; G-984; G-985; G-986; G-987; G-988; G-989; G-990; G-991; G-992; G-993; G-994; G-995; G-996; G-997; G-998; G-999; G-1000.
	INFORMATION	

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

APPPA/bja/77117
Rm. 4322, 3/15/45

2d Lt. Robert L. Heiden

Mrs. Mabel C. Heiden (Mother) ✓
1629 North West 22d Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

371 2d Lt. Harold C. Barnes

Mrs. Dorothy H. Barnes (Wife) ✓
119 Sefton Drive
New Britain, Connecticut

371 Sgt. William R. Past

Mrs. Lenoyne K. Past (Wife) ✓
5101 Maplewood Street
Detroit, Michigan

371 Sgt. Jack F. Estes

Mrs. Jana H. Estes (Wife) ✓
717 South Montgomery Street
Sherman, Texas

Sgt. Oscar L. Higgs, Jr.

Mrs. Esther L. Guter (Mother) ✓
Tulsa, Arkansas

Sgt. Dalsas D. Martin, Sr.

Mrs. Miriam K. Martin (Wife) ✓
1006 East Harrison Avenue
Pascagoula, Mississippi

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

2d Lt. Robert L. Heiden

Mrs. Habel C. Heiden (Mother)
1629 North West 22d Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

2d Lt. Harold C. Barnes

Mrs. Dorothy E. Barnes (Wife)
119 Sefton Drive
New Britain, Connecticut

Sgt. William R. Fast

Mrs. Lemoyne K. Fast (Wife)
5101 Maplewood Street
Detroit, Michigan

Sgt. Jack F. Estes

Mrs. Jana M. Estes (Wife)
717 South Montgomery Street
Sherman, Texas

Sgt. Oscar L. Niess, Jr.

Mrs. Esther L. Gunter (Mother)
Iuka, Arkansas

Sgt. Delmas D. Martin, Sr.

Mrs. Miriam K. Martin (Wife)
1006 East Harrison Avenue
Pascagoula, Mississippi

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 10901

Name of crew member: FAST, William R.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 12150000
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~as Pilot (Pilot)~~: Radar Oper.

Did he bail out? No.

Where? _____

If not, why not? Ditching was decided in preference to bailing over the ocean
250 miles NW of Saipan.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Sgt. East
notified the co-pilot that he was in position and prepared to ditch.

Was he injured? Not before the crash. Possibly afterward.

Where was he when last seen? In his ditching position against the rear pressurized compartment bulkhead.

Any hearsay information: Sgt. Smith of our crew claims to have heard Sgt. Fast's voice in the darkness after the ditching.

Source: Sgt. Smith of the same crew.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: It may be supposed that Sgt. Fast escaped the airplane after ditching, drifting away in the darkness and subsequently drowned.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Three (3).

Dates and destinations if possible: All targets were Nagoya, Japan. Two (2) in the month of December 1944, and one (1) on 3 January 1945.

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 10901

Name of crew member: ESTES, Jack F.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 38432408
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~as a flight engineer~~: CFO Gunner

Did he bail out? No.

Where? _____

If not, why not? Ditching was decide in preference to bailing over the ocean
250 miles NW of Saipan.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Sgt. Estes
notified the co-pilot just prior to ditching that he was in position for
ditching.

Was he injured? Not before. Probably after ward.

Where was he when last seen? In his ditching position.

Any hearsay information: None.

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: It may be sup-
posed that Sgt. Estes was injured in the crash and subsequently drowned.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Three(3).

Dates and destinations if possible: All Targets were Nagoya, Japan. Two(2) in the
month of December 1944 and one (1) on 3 January 1945.

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AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 10901

Name of crew member: NIECE, ONIS L. JR.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 3222153
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~gunner~~ Right Gunner

Did he bail out? No.

Where? _____

If not, why not? Ditching was decided in preference to bailing over the ocean 250 miles NW of Saipan.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Sgt. Niece informed the co-pilot just before ditching that he was in his ditching position prepared to ditch.

Was he injured? Not before the crash. Possibly afterward.

Where was he when last seen? In his ditching position against the rear pressurized compartment bulkhead.

Any hearsay information: None.

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: It is supposed that Sgt. Niece escaped from the airplane and drifted away in the darkness and subsequently drowned.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Three(3).

Dates and destinations if possible: All targets were to Nagoya, Japan. Two(2) in the month of December 1944 and one(1) on 3 January 1945.

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 10301

Name of crew member: MARTIN, Delmas B. Sr.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 34228415
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Navigator (Navigator)~~: Tail Gunner

Did he bail out? No.

Where? _____

If not, why not? Ditching was decided in preference to bailing over the ocean
250 miles NW of Saipan.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Sgt. Martin
informed the co-pilot that he was prepared to ditch.

Was he injured? Not before the crash. Possibly afterward.

Where was he when last seen? Leaving the rear pressurized compartment going to
his ditching position in the tail turret.

Any hearsay information: None.

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: After the ditching
it is supposed that he drifted away from the aircraft and life rafts in the
night.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Three(3).

Dates and destinations if possible: All targets Nagoya, Japan. Two(2) missions
in December 1944 and one(1) on 3 January 1945.

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AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 10901

Name of crew member: HEIDEN, Robert L.
Rank: 2nd Lt.
Serial number: O-761938
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~: Co-Pilot

Did he bail out? No.

Where? _____

If not, why not? Ditching was decided on in preference to bailing 250 miles
NW of Saipan

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: He was sit-
ting next to me as the airplane hit the water.

Was he injured? Not before the crash. Possibly afterward.

Where was he when last seen? In the co-pilot's seat.

Any hearsay information: Lt. Whitely, the navigator, claims to have heard Lt.
Heiden's voice after the crash coming from the darkness in the water.

Source: Lt. Montford Whitely

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: It may
be supposed he was injured in the crash and subsequently drowned.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Three (3)

Dates and destinations if possible: All 3 missions were to Nagoya, Japan in
the month of December 1944, there were two(2) and one January 3 1945.

6-3861, AF

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Howard M. Clifford Rank Captain Serial No. Q-789049
Stuart P. Wright Frank L. Davis
2. Organization 497 Gp Commander Rank Col. Sqn CO Rank Lt. Col.
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1945 month January day 3 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Bombing, target, Nagoya, Japan, target
time, 1530 King, altitude, 25,000 ft. route scheduled, direct
to target , route flow: as scheduled
5. Where were you when you left formation? Enroute to base after bombs away,
50 miles from target.
6. Did you bail out? No one bailed out.
7. Did other members of crew bail out? No.
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".
No Knowledge.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? In the Pacific Ocean 250 miles NW
of Saipan
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should
cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires)
The complete crew of 11 was in the aircraft when it hit the water.
11. Where were they in aircraft? In their normal ditching positions.
12. What was their condition? Unhurt and intact .
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already des-
cribed above? Five (5) crew members including myself were subsequently
rescued. I last saw Lts. Heiden and Barnes just prior to the ditching
and never since. They were in good condition in their positions as co-
pilot and flight engineer in the nose compartment of the airplane. I
last saw sgts. Martin, Niece, Estes, and Fast in good condition before
takeoff at Saipan. They remained in their positions in the rear comp-
artment of the airplane during the entire flight.
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you
have knowledge. Indicate source of information.
No knowledge.

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

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AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 10901

Name of crew member: MARTIN, Delmas D. Sr.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 34623416
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~tail gunner~~: Tail Gunner

Did he bail out? NO

Where? #

If not, why not? Aircraft was ditched

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

over target

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? Prior to take off

Any hearsay information: None

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

Injured on impact, subsequent drowning

Total number of missions of above crew member: 3

Dates and destinations if possible: #1, 12/11/44 Nagoya

#2, 12/22/44 Nagoya

#3, 1/3/45 Nagoya - ditched

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AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 10901

Name of crew member: NIECE, Oscar L. JR.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 38563053
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~man~~ ~~Right Gunner~~ Right Gunner

Did he bail out? No

Where? #

If not, why not? Decision was to ditch aircraft

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

about five minutes before impact

Was he injured? No.

Where was he when last seen? Pressed against aft bulkhead.

Any hearsay information: None

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

Quarred

Total number of missions of above crew member: 3

Dates and destinations if possible: Same as Martin -

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INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 10001

Name of crew member: **ESTES, Jack F.**
Rank: **Sgt.**
Serial number: **38432408**
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Flightman (Fighter)~~: **GPO Gunner**

Did he bail out? No

Where? _____

If not, why not? Ditched

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

None

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? In water

Any hearsay information: None

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

Downed

Total number of missions of above crew member: 3

Dates and destinations if possible: Same as others

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

-AFPPA-11

File 10901

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: FAST, William R.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 16159860
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~gunfighter (gunner)~~: Radar Oper.

Did he bail out? No

Where? _____

If not, why not? Ditched

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

None

Was he injured? No

Where was he when last seen? in water

Any hearsay information: None

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

Drowned

Total number of missions of above crew member: 3

Dates and destinations if possible: Same as others

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFFPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 10901

Name of crew member: **BAKER, Harold C.**
Rank: **2nd Lt.**
Serial number: **0-98825**
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~_____~~: **Flight Engineer**

Did he bail out? No

Where? _____

If not, why not? Ditched

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

Was he injured? yes, pinned in by instrument panel

Where was he when last seen? at station

Any hearsay information: None

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

Drowned

Total number of missions of above crew member: 3

Dates and destinations if possible: Same as others

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 10901

Name of crew member: ESTRINE, Robert K.
Rank: 2nd Lt.
Serial number: 0-711000
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~or Flight (Fighter)~~: Co-Pilot

Did he bail out? No

Where? _____

If not, why not? Ditched

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

all was well

Was he injured? ?

Where was he when last seen? Hanging on wing

Any hearsay information: None

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

Drowned

Total number of missions of above crew member: 3

Dates and destinations if possible: Same as others

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name MONTFORD S. Whiteley Rank 1st Lt. Serial No. 0-747062
2. Organization 497 Gp Commander O'Donnell Rank B-6 Sqn CO Davis Rank LtC
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1945 month Jan day 3 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, # 17, target, Miyaya, target time, 2030, altitude, Ditched route scheduled, Direct, route flown Direct
5. Where were you when you left formation? Over Japanese mainland.
6. Did you bail out? No
7. Did other members of crew bail out? NO
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". None Bailed Out.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? 16°00'N - 145°00'E.
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) ALL.
11. Where were they in aircraft? At stations for ditching
12. What was their condition? good
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above?
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)

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 1000

Name of crew member: MARTIN, Delmas E. Sr.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 3422916
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~available (Bomber)~~: 2nd Gunner

Did he bail out? No

Where? _____

If not, why not? We ditched the aircraft because it was night and it was raining

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: just before we hit the water.

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? Never saw him after we hit the water.

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Suppose he drowned as it was night and raining very hard.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Three

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFFPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 10001

Name of crew member: **HEUR, Oscar L. JR.**
Rank: **Sgt.**
Serial number: **282708**
Position: Crew (Bomber) **Flight (Station): Right Gunner**

Did he bail out? No

Where? _____

If not, why not? We ditched the aircraft because it was night and it was raining.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: just before
we hit water

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? Never saw him after we hit the water.

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: suppose he
drowned as it was night and raining very hard

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

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AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 1002

Name of crew member: WYNN, Jack F.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 3042200
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~or Pilot (Pilot)~~: OPC Gunner

Did he bail out? No

Where? _____

If not, why not? We ditched the aircraft because it was night and it was raining.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: just before we hit the water.

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? Never saw him after we hit the water

Any hearsay information: _____

Sources: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Suppose he drowned as it was night and raining very hard.

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFFPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 10001

Name of crew member: **FAF, William R.**
Rank: **Sgt.**
Serial number: **16180000**
Position: Crew (Pomber) ~~on Flight (Fighter)~~: **Radar Oper.**

Did he bail out? No

Where? _____

If not, why not? We ditched the aircraft beause it was night and it was raining.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: just before we hit the water.

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? Never saw him after we hit the water.

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Suppose he was drowned as it was night and raining very hard.

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFFPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 1000

Name of crew member: HEINZ, Robert L.
Rank: 2nd Lt.
Serial number: 0-76193
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~on Flight (Flight)~~: Co-Pilot

Did he bail out? No

Where? _____

If not, why not? We ditched the aircraft because it was night and it was raining.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: just before we hit the water

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? Never saw him after we hit the water.

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Suppose he was drowned as it was night and raining very hard.

Total number of missions of above crew member: _____

Dates and destinations if possible: _____

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name Lynch, Bertram Gerald Rank Capt. Serial No. 0-669240
2. Organization 871st Bomb Sq 197th Bomb Gp Gp Commander Stuart Wright Rank Col. Sqn CO F.L. Davis Rank Lt. Col.
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1945 month January day 3 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Bombing Mission, target, Nagoya, Japan, target time, 14:30, altitude, 18,000 feet route scheduled, Saipan to Japan to Saipan, route flown _____
5. Where were you when you left formation? in bombardier seat
6. Did you bail out? No
7. Did other members of crew bail out? No

8. on back 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". Pilot - (Capt. Clifford) went down with the nose of aircraft and finally broke loose and came to surface. Radio & Navigator (Sgt. Ladato & Lt. Whitley) after crash landing escaped through navigation door. Left Gunner (Sgt. Smith) in position to ditch aircraft
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? We crash landed 90 to 100 miles North West of Saipan
 10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) All of the crew were in the aircraft.

11. on back Where were they in aircraft? Capt. Clifford - in pilot seat. Lt. R.L. Heiden in
12. What was their condition? Everyone was well (no injuries before crash)
 13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? _____

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)

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8. I don't know how he escaped. Bombardier (Capt. Lynch) was thrown through nose of aircraft.

No one on the aircraft bailed out every member of the crew crash landed with the aircraft.

11. co-pilot seat. Lt. Barnes, H.C. in Flight Engineer seat. Capt. Lynch, B.G. sitting next to Lt. Barnes. Lt. Whitley and Sgt. Ladato were behind the upper forward gun turret. Sgt. Martin, Sgt. Niece, Sgt. Estes, Sgt. Fast, and Sgt. Smith were in rear unpressurized compartments. (Every one was in their ditching position)

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Authority: NND 735001
By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

WPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 10901

Name of crew member: ~~BRIDEN, Robert L.~~ BARNES, Harold C..
Rank: ~~2nd Lt.~~ 2nd Lt.
Serial number: ~~0-761938~~ 0-868625
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Engineer (Navigator)~~: Co-Pilot

Did he bail out? No. Ditched.

Where? 16/16N 144/53E

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Intercommunicatio
with crew members. Probably spoke to members in forward compartment.

Was he injured? Before impact, No. After impact, unknown.

Where was he when last seen? Last seen at his station in proper ditching
position.

Any hearsay information: Believed to have been crushed by engineer's panel.

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on suppositio: Believed to have
been crushed by engineer's panel. Navigator or Bombardier might have
stated having seen him in such condition. Probably never freed himself

Total number of missions of above crew member: three

Dates and destinations if possible: November 1944 Nagoya. December 1944, Nagoya.
January 3, 1945, City of Nagoya.

6-3861, AF

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPRA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 10901

Name of crew member: ~~BARRIS, HARRY O.~~ HEIDEN, Robert L.
Rank: ~~2nd Lt.~~ 2nd Lt.
Serial number: ~~0-668635~~ 0-761938
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~as Navigator (Engineer):~~ ~~Flight Engineer~~ Co-Pilot

Did he bail out? No. ditched.

Where? 16/16N 144/53E

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Seated by pilot and talked to all crew members during preparation for ditching.

Was he injured? Unknown after impact. O.K. before impact.

Where was he when last seen? Believed to have been last seen by Navigator, Whitely, hanging onto No.2 engine nacelle.

Any hearsay information: Navigator believed he saw him come up out of water and grab hold of No. 2 engine nacelle. Other members of the forward compartment who were rescued did not see him.

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Believed to have drowned.

Total number of missions of above crew member: three

Dates and destinations if possible: November 1944 Nagoya, December 1944 Nagoya, January 3, 1945, Nagoya.

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 10901

Name of crew member: FAST, William R.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 16159860
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~man~~ ~~flight~~ ~~(flight)~~: Radar Oper.

Did he bail out? No. ditched.

Where? 16/16N 144/53E

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Spoke just before impact.

Was he injured? Before impact, No. After impact, Unknown.

Where was he when last seen? Last seen seated prepared for impact just one person away from escape hatch.

Any hearsay information: May have escaped from airplane and may have been one who called for help.

Source: Sgt H. J. Smith, Jr. 18123938

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Believe he drowned or was pinned in sinking part of aircraft.

Total number of missions of above crew member: three

Dates and destinations if possible: December 1944 Nagoya, November 1944 Nagoya
Jan 3 1945 Nagoya, city of.

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 10301

Name of crew member: MARTIN, Daines D. SR.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 24623618
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~or Pilot (Fighter)~~: Tail Gunner

Did he bail out? No, Ditched

Where? 16/16N 144/53E

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Just before impact on intercommunication set.

Was he injured? Before impact, no. after impact, unknown.

Where was he when last seen? Last seen several hours before reaching target

Any hearsay information: None I was the only survivor from the aft of our airplane and did not see anyone except a flashlight held by someone and several calls for help.

Source: Sgt. H. J. Smith, ASN 18123938, 497th Bomb Gp. 73rd Wing.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Believed he was either knocked unconscious by the impact or that he emerged from the sinking tail of the ship only to drown. Could have been pinned down by loose equipment in tail and sunk with the tail because it broke off from the fuselage.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Three

Dates and destinations if possible: Night mission to Nagoya. Daylight raid on A/C Plant at Nagoya. Jan. 3, 1945 Daylight incendiary raid on city of Nagoya. (In order)

6-3861, AF

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Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

APPRO-11

File 10901

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: KIRBY, Oscar L. JR.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 3822053
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Navigator (Navigator)~~: Right Gunner

Did he bail out? No, ditched.

Where? 16/16N 144/53E

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Sat adjacent
Sgt H. J. Smith, Jr., 18123938
to me just aft the rear pressure bulkhead.

Was he injured? Before impact, no. After impact, unknown.

Where was he when last seen? Sitting beside Sgt H. J. Smith, Jr. 18123938

Any hearsay information: May have been seen after impact carrying flashlight.
Could possibly have been heard.

Source: Sgt. H. J. Smith, 18123938.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Believed escaped
from ship but drowned or floated until exhausted without being rescued.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Three

Dates and destinations if possible: Night mission to Nagoya. Daylight raid on
A/C Plant at Nagoya. Jan. 3, 1945 Daylight incendiary raid on city
of Nagoya. (In chronological order)

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 10901

Name of crew member: ESTES, Jack F.
Rank: Sgt.
Serial number: 38432408
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~man-flightman (lighter)~~: OFC Gunner

Did he bail out? No, ditched.

Where? 16/16N 144/53E

If not, why not? _____

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Sat nearest escape hatch just aft of rear pressure bulkhead. Spoke to members just before impact.

Was he injured? Slight injury on right hand from coral while swimming before mission. Not serious. Hand useful.

Where was he when last seen? Braced against pressure bulkhead prepared for impact

Any hearsay information: Believe Auxiliary Power Plant pulled loose and crushed him upon impact.

Source: Sgt. H. J. Smith, Jr. 18123938

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Believed killed or unconscious upon impact. Uncertain.

Total number of missions of above crew member: three

Dates and destinations if possible: November 1944 Night raid Nagoya. December 1944 Daylight raid on A/C Plant, Nagoya. Jan. 3, 1945 City of Nagoya.

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By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name H. J. Smith, Jr. Rank Sergeant Serial No. 18123938
2. Organization 497 Gp Commander Johnson Rank Col. Sqn CO Davis Rank Lt. Col.
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1945 month January day 3 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Incen. Bomb., target, Nagoya, Japan; Urban, target
time, Afternoon, altitude, 30,000 feet route scheduled, Saipan by
Iwo Jima, route flown same
5. Where were you when you left formation? Japanese seacoast
6. Did you bail out? No - Ditched.
7. Did other members of crew bail out? No
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".

9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? Struck water at 16/16N 144/53E
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) All
11. Where were they in aircraft? Six in forward compartment, five in aft.
12. What was their condition? Excellent
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? Sgt. Oscar Lee Niece, Sgt Jack F. Estes, Sgt William R. East all ditched in same position as I, just beyond aft pressure bulkhead. I last saw them immediately before impact, before ship broke in pieces. I heard two men calling for help while I was swimming and saw that one had a flashlight. I never heard any more from them in a matter of few minutes.
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. Capt. Peterson and crew from 871st Squadron, 497th Group, 73rd Wing, 20th AF ditched very close to Iwo Jima when it was still enemy held. Friends stated having seen the men stop the floating airplane late in evening. No trace ever found following morning.

(Any additional information may be written on the back)