

2166

Class ~~SECRET~~ changed  
to **RESTRICTED**  
by [unclear] Lt. AC  
By [unclear] Lt. AC  
Date **MAR 16 1948**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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 50  
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 120  
 120 19  
 70 26  
 80 13  
 295 58  
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 1184  
 296 24  
 484 15  
 148 39  
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 115

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**CASUALTY BRANCH, A.G.O.  
FILE CHARGE-OUT AND TRANSFER FORM**

CASUALTY BRANCH FILE ON:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL	SERIAL NUMBER	GRADE
TO: SECTION		FOR: CLERK'S LAST NAME	GROUP NO.	ROOM NO.

**SEARCHER'S REPORT**

<input type="checkbox"/> CASUALTY BRANCH FILE ATTACHED	<input type="checkbox"/> NO CASUALTY BRANCH FILE			
<input type="checkbox"/> CHARGED OUT TO:				
SECTION	CLERK'S LAST NAME	GROUP NO.	ROOM NO.	DATE
SEARCHER'S NAME		GROUP NO.	DATE	

TRANSFERRED TO:

SECTION	CLERK'S LAST NAME	ROOM NO.	DATE AND INITIALS
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**RETURN FILE TO:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	OPERATING SECTION NO. _____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	NOTIFICATION SUBSECTION NO. _____	DATE: _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	CERTIFICATION SUBSECTION _____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	OTHER (Specify) _____	SIGNATURE: _____

CASUALTY BRANCH FILE

GPO 48 0 - 224709

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS 70TH FIGHTER WING  
APO 638 U S ARMY

C-G5

360.33

15 February 1944

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Missing Air Crew Report.

TO : Commanding General, IX Air Support Command, APO 638,  
U S Army.  
ATTENTION: Statistical Control Unit.

1. In compliance with paragraph 11, IX Air Force Memorandum 35-6, dated 31 October 1943, Report of Missing Air Crew of the 354th Fighter Group is hereby submitted on the following named officers:

Colonel KENNETH RAY MARTIN, 021608, AC,  
1st Lieut ALBERT WAYNE BARRIS, 0730338, AC,  
2nd Lieut RICHARD (NME) McDONALD, 0744727, AC.

210.56

2. This headquarters has no additional information on these cases.

For the Commanding Officer:



*Donald E. Wendle*  
DONALD E. WENDLE,  
1st Lieut., Air Corps,  
Adjutant.

1st Ind.  
HEADQUARTERS IX AIR SUPPORT COMMAND, APO 638, U S ARMY, 18 February 1944

TO: Commanding General, Ninth Air Force, APO 696, U S Army.  
(Attention: Statistical Control Section)



MAR 1 1944 For the Commanding General:



*J. C. Clark, Sr.*  
J. C. CLARK, SR.,  
Captain, AGO,  
Asst Adj Gen.

3 Incls: n/c.



524-0

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 001123

210.86

2nd Ind.

I-RS-ns

26TH STATISTICAL CONTROL UNIT, HEADQUARTERS NINTH AIR FORCE, APO 696,  
U S ARMY, 20 FEBRUARY 1944.

TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington, 25, D.C.  
Attn: Chief of Statistical Control.

2166

R.J.S.

3 Incls: n/c

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

1120 - Security



J 545- Feb. 11, 1944 Mustang  
Martin, Kenneth Ray, Col, born July 17, 1916  
Ident. Tag: O-21608  
Taken prisoner

1430

CLASSIFIED MAIL SECTION  
~~28 FEB 1944~~  
~~HQ. AAF~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAR DEPARTMENT  
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON

Classification changed  
to **RESTRICTED**  
By **E. A. BRADONAS, 1st Col., AC**  
By **WM. L. INGMAS, 1st Lt. AC**  
Date **MAR 15 1946**

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

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

- ORGANIZATION: Location: AAF Station 150 U.K. Command or Air Force IX ASC 9th, AF  
Group 354th Ftr Gp; Squadron None; Detachment None.
- SPECIFY: Point of Departure AAF Station 150 U.K.; Course 96°;  
Intended Destination AAF Station 150 U.K.; Type of Mission Target  
Support and Bomber escort.
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:  
Visibility, excellent, cumulus clouds 2-4/10 tops 10,000<sup>over</sup>/target, occasional thin \*
- GIVE: (a) Date 11 Feb 44; Time 1222; Location In vicinity  
of Frankfurt, Germany of last known whereabouts of missing  
airplane.  
(b) Specify whether (x) Last Sighted; ( ) Last contacted by radio;  
( ) Forced Down; ( ) Seen to Crash; or ( ) Information not available.
- AIRPLANE WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check  
only one (x) Enemy Airplane; ( ) Enemy Anti-Aircraft; ( ) Other Circum-  
stances as follows:

- AIRPLANE: Type, Model and Series F-51B-5; A.A.F. Serial Number 43-6359
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series V-1650-3; A.A.F. Serial Number (A) 43-49743  
(b) \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)  
(a) Make Browning Machine Type AC M-2 Serial No. 409366  
(b) Make Gun Calibre 50 Type " " Serial No. 409379  
(c) Make " " " Type " " Serial No. 409762  
(d) Make " " " Type " " Serial No. 385534

- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty Yes  
(b) Non-Battle Casualty No
- NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRPLANE: Crew 1; Passengers 0; Total 1  
(Starting with pilot, furnish the following particulars; if more than 10  
persons were aboard airplane, list similar particulars on separate sheet  
and attach original to this form).

Status

Crew Position	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number
Pilot: <u>Martin, Kenneth Ray</u>	<u>FRANK E. WAT</u>	<u>Colonel AC</u>	<u>0-21608</u>
2. <u>(No other persons)</u>			
3. _____			

- IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIR-  
PLANE, 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. <u>Buer, Glendon J</u>	<u>1st Lt</u>	<u>0-730639</u>		<u>***</u>		
2. _____						
3. _____						

- IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING  
STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used Unknown; (b) Persons were seen walking  
away from scene of crash No; or (c) Any other reason (Specify) None

\*layer clouds 15,000

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
13. ATTACH SERIAL PHOTO OR, I.P. CHIT, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRPLANE WAS LAST SEEN. **Overlay, Plotting Series (Third Edition) English Channel, Sheet N.W. 48/A**
  14. ATTACH EXHAUSTIVE DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRPLANE. **Statement, 1A Recd**
  15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICE OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE. HERE **No search conducted**

MAR 1 1944

Date of Report: 12 Feb 44



*James H. Howard*  
JAMES H. HOWARD,  
Lt. Colonel, Air Corps,  
Commanding.

(Signature of Preparing Officer)

2 Incls:

Incl 1 - Overlay.

Incl 2 - Statement, 1A Recd.

RECEIVED

REC'D

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

355TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
354TH FIGHTER GROUP  
STATION 150, APO # 638

ENCOUNTER REPORT

A. ENGAGEMENT

B. F.O. # 240, 11 FEBRUARY 1944

C. 355TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

D. 1115, 1155, TO 1230

E. NEAR KOBLENZ

F. LOW SCATTERED, AIR TO AIR VISABILITY GOOD

G. FW 190, ME 109, JU 88, AND ME 410.

H. NONE, NO CLAIMS

I. I WAS FLYING # 4 POSITION IN COL. MARTIN'S FLIGHT ON THE OPERATIONAL MISSION TO FRANKFURT ON 11 FEBRUARY 1944. SHORTLY AFTER PASSING OVER COLOGNE THE SQUADRON WAS BOUNCED BY 8 FW 190'S FROM ABOUT 11 O'CLOCK AT 1115. WE BROKE INTO THEIR ATTACK AND ATTEMPTED TO TURN ON THEIR TAILS AFTER JETTISONING OUR DROP TANKS, BUT THEIR SPEED WAS TOO GREAT FOR US TO CLOSE. LT. GROSS, # 3 MAN, SPUN OUT ON OUR FIRST BREAK AND WAS UNABLE TO REJOIN OUR FLIGHT SO I ASSUMED # 3 POSITION. WE THEN PROCEEDED ON TOWARD THE RENDEZVOUS AND ENROUTE LT. SIMMONS JOINED THE FLIGHT IN # 4 POSITION. WE ASSUMED MUTUAL SUPPORT WITHIN THE FLIGHT AND MADE RENDEZVOUS AT 1140. COL. MARTIN ASSUMED CLOSE ESCORT POSITION ON RIGHT OF BOMBERS FROM FIRST TO SECOND BOX. AS NO OTHER FLIGHT WAS CLOSE TO US I MAINTAINED MUTUAL SUPPORT TO THE RIGHT OF COL. MARTIN AND HIS # 2 MAN, LT. McDONALD. AT APPROXIMATELY 1155 I SAW 12 (PLUS) CONTRAILS APPROACHING US FROM 3 O'CLOCK AND HIGH----JUST AS FIRST BOX OF BOMBERS TURNED SOUTH NEAR KOBLENZ. WE IMMEDIATELY STARTED A RAPID CLIMB TO GAIN ALTITUDE TOWARD THESE CONTRAILS WHEN 6 OR 8 JU 88'S CAME DIVING TOWARD US AND THE BOMBERS AT ABOUT 25,000 FEET. WE TURNED INTO THEM AND POSITIONED OURSELVES ON THEIR TAILS BUT THEY IMMEDIATELY WENT INTO A TIGHT SPIRAL DOWN. TWO ME 109'S ATTEMPTED TO GET ON LT. SIMMONS SO HE ROLLED TO LOSE THEM. COL. MARTIN AND HIS WING MAN CONTINUED AFTER THE JU 88'S AND I COVERED THEM UNTIL THEY ZOOMED AND CLIMBED BACK UP FROM ABOUT 10,000 FEET. WE

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

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

PAGE # 2

TIGHT SPIRALED UP TO ABOUT 20,000 FEET WHEN TWO ME 410'S BOUNCED US. WE ENGAGED IN A TURNING FIGHT WITH THEM AND I FIRED A FEW BURSTS IN STEEP TURNS HEAD ON. I WAS UNABLE TO OBSERVE ANY RESULTS AS MY WINDSCREEN WAS COVERED WITH OIL. TWO MORE ME 410'S ENGAGED US AND I GOT IN A FEW MORE HIGH DEFLECTION SHOTS WITH NO OBSERVED RESULTS. WE DISENGAGED AT ABOUT 12,000 FEET AND TIGHT SPIRALED UP TO ABOUT 20,000 FEET. JUST AS WE STARTED TO LEVEL OFF AND STOP SPIRALING I STARTED TO SKID TO THE LEFT AND ASSUME MUTUAL SUPPORT POSITION ON COL. MARTIN AND LT. MCDONALD. A FW 190 PASSED DIRECTLY OVER ME, APPARENTLY COMING OUT OF THE SUN AND FIRED AT LT. MCDONALD. I SAW STRIKES ON LT. MCDONALD'S FUSELAGE AND WINGS. THE FW 190 HALF-ROLLED TO THE RIGHT AND LT. MCDONALD HALF-SNAPPED TO THE LEFT NOW GOING STRAIGHT DOWN. I WAS UNABLE TO OBSERVE ANYTHING FURTHER AS COL. MARTIN STARTED A SHALLOW TURN TO THE LEFT. THIS ACTION TOOK PLACE AT ABOUT 1120. I MAINTAINED MUTUAL SUPPORT WITH COL. MARTIN AND WE HEADED BACK TOWARD THE DIRECTION THE BOMBERS HAD GONE. AT APPROXIMATELY 1122 A ME 410 CAME DIVING FROM 12 O'CLOCK LOW AND WE DIVED TO MEET HIM HEADON. COL. MARTIN MET HIM HEADON AND I COULD SEE BOTH OF THEM FIRING. I LOOKED BACK TO CLEAR THE COLONEL'S TAIL AND JUST THEN SAW A BRIGHT FLASH. THE ME 410 WAS A SOLID MASS OF FIRE AND COL. MARTIN'S SHIP WAS SNAPPING OVER AND OVER BUT APPARENTLY NOT ON FIRE OR SMOKING. ALL THAT REMAINED OF THE ME 410 WAS A PUFF OF BLACK SMOKE HANGING IN THE AIR. I SAW A FW 190 CLOSING ON MY TAIL SO I PULLED UP IN A TIGHT SPIRAL AND SHOOK HIM. I LEVELED OFF AT 28,000 FEET AND AS I WAS VERY LOW ON OXYGEN AND WITH NO BOMBERS OR FRIENDLY FIGHTERS IN SIGHT I HEADED HOME AT 1230. I SAW NO FRIENDLY OR ENEMY AIRCRAFT ON ENTIRE TRIP HOME. CROSSED OUT AT DIEPPE AT 15,000 FEET. NO CLAIMS PENDING ASSESSMENT OF FILM.

*Glendon J. Buer*  
GLENDON J. BUER,  
1ST LT., AIR CORPS,  
OPERATIONS OFFICER.

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



## CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

J 166

1. Your name Kenneth R. Martin Rank Col Serial No. 0-21608
2. Organization 354th Gp Commander Wes Rank Col Sqn CO \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_  
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month Feb day 11 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Escort, target, Frankfurt, Germany, target time, \_\_\_\_\_, altitude, 25,000 route scheduled, \_\_\_\_\_, route flown \_\_\_\_\_
5. Where were you when you left formation? Did not leave
6. Did you bail out? Yes
7. Did other members of crew bail out? Was a single plane fighter
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
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? Unknown
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) None
11. Where were they in aircraft? \_\_\_\_\_
12. What was their condition? \_\_\_\_\_
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? None other
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. None

(Any additional information may be written on the back)

8°E-50°N

Wingsteden



Frankfurt

Darmstadt

9°E-49°N

PLOTTING SERIES (THIRD EDITION STYLE)  
ENGLISH CHANNEL SHEET N.W. 49/4

MERCATOR PROJECTION SCALE 1:1,000,000 AT 50°N.  
HEIGHTS SHOWN IN METRES