

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

7165

Classification changed
to **RESTRICTED**
by E. A. BRADONAS, Lt. Col., AC
by F. H. MURCH, Capt., AC
Date MAR 5 1946

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 airplane is officially reported missing.

- ORGANIZATION: Location: ALS #2 : Command or Air Force: XII TAC
 sup 377th F Gp : Squadron: 355th F G Detachment None
- SPECIFY: Point of Departure ALS #2 : Course: 3700
 Intended Destination Bureau, France : Type of mission: Fighter
 Sweep
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
None up to 10,000 ft.
- GIVE: (a) Date 17 July 1944 Time 1500 Location In vicinity
of Bureau, France 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 DESTROYED, OR IS BELIEVED TO BE BEING LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check
 only one) (X) Enemy Airplane; () Enemy Anti-Aircraft; () Other Circumstances as follows:

- AIRPLANE: Type, Model and Series P-51D-5; A.A.F. Serial Number 44-13328
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series V-1650-7; A.A.F. Serial Number (A) V-220982
 (B) (C) (D)
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)
 (a) Make Browning Machine Type C-M2 Serial No 1208704 - 1209000
 (b) Make Gun Cal.50 Type " Serial No 1198496
 (c) Make " Type " Serial No 1193489 - 1205263
 (d) Make " Type " Serial No 1209503

- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty Yes
 (b) Post-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).

Crew Position	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number
Pilot:	<u>Harris, Billie Dove</u>	<u>KIA</u>	<u>1st Lt 0-682635</u>

- IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRPLANE, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMNS TO INDICATE BASIS FOR STATE:

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	by Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
<u>Buer, Glendon J</u>	<u>Capt</u>	<u>0-739369</u>		<u>CCC</u>		

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

- 13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING A PROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRPLANE WAS LAST SEEN. See Incl (Overlay)
- 14. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCE PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRPLANE. See Incl (Statement)
- 15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE. No search conducted



RECEIVED

Date of Report: 20 July 1944

Group Commander:

L. C. Christman

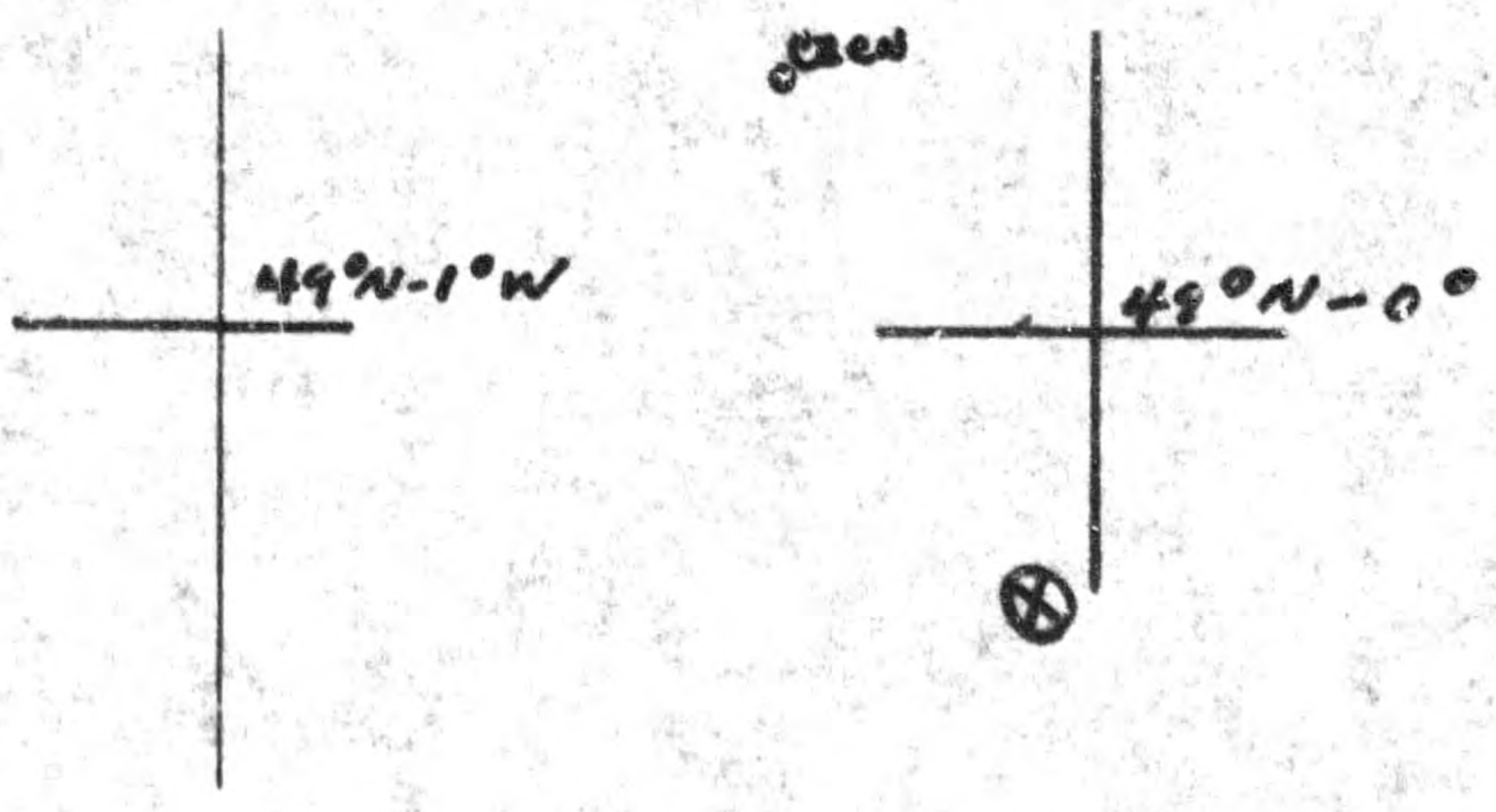
L. C. CHRISTMANSON,
CWO, USA,
1st Adjutant.

(Signature of Preparing Officer)

- 2 Incls:
- Incl 1 - Overlay.
- Incl 2 - Statement (Capt Buer)

USE
 PA 2
 PA 5
 TO
 CIRCULATION CONTROL

CONFIDENTIAL
PLOTTING SERIES (THIRD EDITION STYLE)
ENGLISH CHANNEL SHEET N.W. 48/4



CONFIDENTIAL

2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

S T A T E M E N T

I, Captain Buer, was leading White flight when we engaged about 50 ME 109's and FW-190's just a few miles Southwest of Evreux. White #2 and #3 were with me at the start of the fight, but after one tight spiral up I could not see them anywhere. During the fight a P-51 with a FW-190 on his tail passed in front of me; even though the range was too great I fired to try to scare the Jerry off. However it was to no avail and the FW-190 got strikes on the P-51. The P-51 rolled over slowly into a dive streaming white smoke and crashed near a heavily wooded area. I saw no chute, but was unable to watch the P-51 in its entire dive due to the number of E/A still around us. I believe this P-51 to have been White #3 because shortly afterward someone (thought to be White #2) announced over the R/T that large number of E/A were headed toward the front. Lt Mason was flying as White #2 and Lt Harris as White #3.

Glendon J. Buer
GLENDON J. BUER,
Captain, Air Corps,
O-730369.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

MEMORIAL DIVISION

26 January 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Reclassification of Missing Air Crew Reports

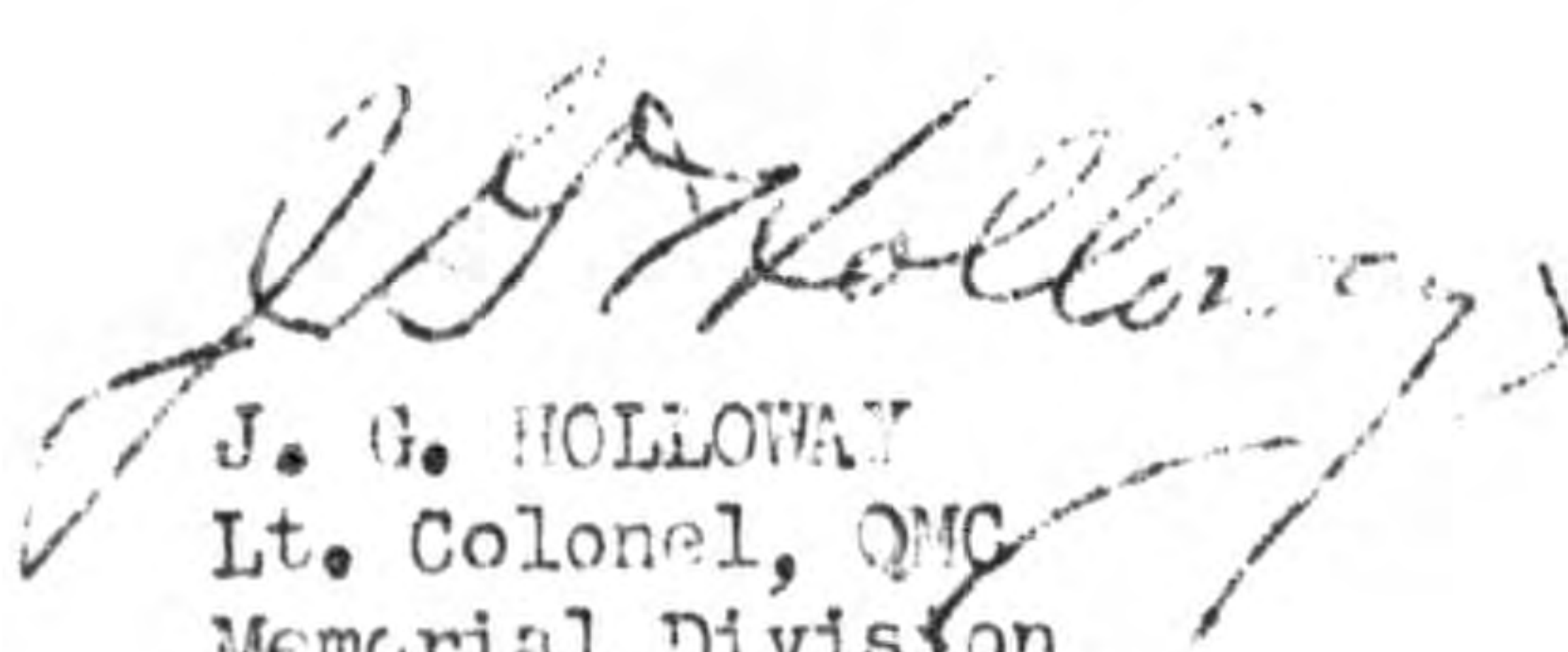
1. Per authority contained in Par 1, Sec I, War Department Circular No. 346, dated 26 November 1946, War Department Circular No. 268, dated 5 September 1946, and Sec III, War Department Circular No. 104, dated 24 April 1947, Missing Air Crew Reports are downgraded to RESTRICTED.

2. At first opportunity this case is processed or reviewed, officer or civilian employ will physically delete present classification and indicate RESTRICTED on all correspondence and documents pertaining thereto.

3. Reclassification will be accomplished by citing the authority and signing each paper as follows:

"Classification changed to RESTRICTED per authority WD Cir 104, 1946.

Name _____ Date _____


J. G. HOLLOWAY
Lt. Colonel, QMC
Memorial Division

J-1650

9/11/43
7163

On case J - 1650

1 Passport photograph and
1 Identification tag :

BILLIE D. HARRIS

O - 682635 T 43 C

MRS. NELLIE HARRIS

705 E NAVAJO ST

ALTUS OKLA P

2-1650

Airfield headquarters
CONCHES
A.P.O. No. L 34941 P/PARIS

18. July 1944

R E G I S T E R

of the confiscated items of the American pilot BILLIE D. HARRIS, shot down on 17. July 1944 about 19.30 at the City limit LES VENTES, about 12.5 km east southeast of CONCHES in the forest.

- 1 identification tag with pendant
- 1 cover with 2 passport photographs
- 1 rubber bag with :
 - 1 handkerchief with map on it.
 - 1 escape file
 - 1 escape compass

Remarks : The above mentioned items have been delivered by the French town office, which received them from civilians.

Signed : (illegible)
Captain in charge.

J - 1 6 5 0

Airfield headquarters

C O N C H E S

AB96No. L 34941 P/PARIS

18. July 1944

File sign 6 File No. 75/44

Ref. to :Field A. F. Service Command Wfr., leading group 1c/V.O.

No. 0225/44 red of 24. April 44.

Subject : Crash of enemy aircraft

Enclosure : -2 -/ 1 parcel

To

Distributor

According to above mentioned reference, we send you enclosed the report on the capture of an enemy airplane and of members of enemy air forces, of the THUNDERBOLT, shot down on 17. July 1944 about 19.30 about 12,5 km east south east of CONCHES, town limit of LES VENTES.

The American pilot BILLIE D. HARRIS, ASN. O - 682635 T 43 has been killed in this, and will probably be buried on 19. July 1944 in the French civilian cemetery in LES VENTES.

Signed: (illegible)
Captain Commanding

Seen by :

(illegible)
Major in charge of Airbase.

REPORT ON CAPTURED AIRCRAFT

POST: Airfield Command

LOCATION: CONCHES

DATE: 18. July 1944

DATE AND TIME: 17. July 1944 19.30
AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN

PLACE OF CRASH: LES VENTES about 12,5 km east south east of CONCHES
(NEAREST TOWN) in the forest at the town - limit

KIND OF CAPTURE: Fighter
(FLAK, HUNTER, NIGHT HUNTER,
EMERGENCY LANDING)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: THUNDERBOLT

MARKINGS OF CRAFT: Insignia G O
(LETTERS, FRONT OR REAR OF INSIGNIA)

ADMITTANCE NO: not recognizable

EQUIPMENT:
F.T. FREQUENCIES: not recognizable
CONDITION OF AIRCRAFT: 100 %

DELIVERED TO DISTRIBUTOR:
(DULOG -LUFT, ETC.)

On a metal cover were written the words : " MARY PAT III "
Just below the cockpit was written : Capt. M. G. LONG, pilot."

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airfield Command

PLACE: CONCHES

DATE: ~~XX~~ 18. July 1944REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF THUNDERBOLTENCOUNTERED AT: LES VENTES about 12.5 km east south east of CONCHES
in the forest near town limit 17. July 44

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) H A R R I S

FIRST NAME: B I L L I E D.

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) e - 682635 T 43 0

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) dead

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE:

NAME OF HOSPITAL:

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT: French civilian cemetery in LES VENTES
presumably on 19. July 1944

17. July 1944

19.30

THUNDERBOLT

LES VENTIS, 12.5 km east of CONCHES /EURE

G O O ?

Airfield Command CONCHES 18. July

100 % damaged

BILLIE D. HARRIS ?

pilot dead

I-1650

TELEGRAM FORM

DISTANCE - MESSAGE

-OBERURSEL-

NAME OF DISTANCE-MESSAGE WRITER: **L S O U**

ACCEPTED:

DELIVERED:

RECEIVED:

DATE:-

TIME:

TO:

DATE: **EXX 19. July 1944**

THROUGH:

TIME: **22.10**

ROLL:

FROM: **L S E B**

THROUGH: (illegible)

REMARKS: **Q E M * * Q B D - - HUNDE**

S S D

L L O S No. 21 18. July 21.35

To information station **WEST OBERURSEL / TAUNUS**

Downing of a **THUNDERBOLT** on 17. July 1944 19.30 near **LES VENTES**, about 12.5 km east of **CONCHES (Dep. EURE)**. Pilot **BILLIE D. HARRIS** dead, **ASN : O - 682635 T 43 O**

Craft 100 % damaged, markings: insignia **G J** with following inscriptions:

below the cockpit **Capt. M. G. LONG**, pilot,

on the metal cover **MARY PAT III** in red letters, the other letters were black.

Written report follows.

Airfield Command CONCHES.