

1413

8/30:21-6
104-233
8

Celso J. [scribble]

[scribble]

Captain Raymond P. Sanford

EWS

Mr. Raymond A. Sanford, (Father)
2016 South Sierra Vista Avenue,
Alhambra, California.

Flight Officer Raymond C. Roberts

KIA

Mrs. Malinda A. Roberts, (Mother)
New Baden, Illinois.

First Lt. Charles A. Jackson

KIA

Mr. Lorentz A. Jackson, (Brother)
Wagner, South Dakota.

Technical Sergeant Sloan J. Peterson

KIA

Mrs. Ruth A. Peterson, (Mother)
Rural Route Number 2,
Lynchburg, Ohio.

Staff Sergeant William E. Turner

PDD

Mrs. Johnnie W. Turner, (Mother)
1511 Linden Avenue,
Nashville, Tennessee.

Staff Sergeant Robert M. Becker

PDD

Mrs. Helen E. Peers, (Mother)
1751 Sheffield Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

Staff Sergeant Herbert H. King

PDD

Mrs. Jolie Frances Seymour, (Mother)
104 18th Street Southeast,
Washington, D. C.

A-1163

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7423

1st Ind. I-RS/ns
26TH STATISTICAL CONTROL UNIT, HEADQUARTERS NINTH AIR FORCE, APO
696 U S Army, 19 December, 1943.

To: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Attn: Chief, Statistical
Control Division, Washington, D.C.

E.G.H.
E.G.H.

8 Incl:

- Incl 1 - Missing Air Crew Report
- Incl 2 - Sketch of location
- Incl 3 - Aerial Photographs (4 Photos) w/d
- Incl 4 - Statement of Witness 2nd Lt. G.L. Starry
- Incl 5 - " " " T/Sgt E.H. Lynch
- Incl 6 - " " " S/Sgt O.A. Desgalier
- Incl 7 - " " " 1st Lt. R.D. Voorees
- Incl 8 - " " " S/Sgt F.C. Suden

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HEADQUARTERS
386TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
APO #638 U.S.ARMY

C-5

15 Dec. 43

SUBJECT: Missing Air Crew Report.

TO: Commanding General, Ninth Air Force, APO #696,
U.S. Army.
Attn: Stat. Control.

Transmitted herewith, in compliance with Hq. Ninth Air Force
Memo 35-6, dated 31 Oct. 43, subject, "Missing Air Crew Report."

For the Commanding Officer:

G. Dougherty 210.68
G. DOUGHERTY,
Major, A.C.,
Adjutant.

b008

- 8 Incls:
- Incl 1 - Missing Air Crew Report (Trip)
- Incl 2 - Sketch of location "
- Incl 3 - Aerial Photographs (4 Photos)
- Incl 4 Statement of Witness 2nd Lt. G.L. Starry (Trip)
- Incl 5 - " " " T/Sgt E.H. Lynch
- Incl 6 - " " " S/Sgt O.A. Desgalier
- Incl 7 - " " " 1st Lt. R.D. Voorhees
- Incl 8 - " " " S/Sgt F.C. Sudan

26th STATISTICAL CONTROL UNIT



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HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON
WAR DEPARTMENT
MAY 1 1948

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

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USAAF STATION #150

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.

II Bomber

- ORGANIZATION: Location Easton Lodge, Essex Command or Air Force Command ; Group 386th Bomb (M) ; Squadron 555 Bomb (M) ; Detachment
- SPECIFY: Point of Departure Southwold, England ; Course 108° Magnetic ; Intended Destination Amsterdam-Schipol ; Type of Mission Bombardment
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: Clear over target with 6 miles visibility.
- GIVE: (a) Date 13 Dec 43 Time 15:08 ; and Location over target of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether (X) Last Sighted; () Last contacted by Radio; () 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; (X) Enemy Anti-aircraft; () Other Circumstances as follows
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series B26B16MA ; A.A.F. Serial Number 41-31625
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R2800-43 ; A.A.F. Serial Number (a) 41-39346 ; (b) RE-41-39366 ; (c) ; (d)
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)
(a) 290762 ; (b) 290600 ; (c) 290669 ; (d) 290542 ;
(e) 291107 ; (f) 290764 ; (g) 291059 ; (h) 290312
- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty
- NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 7 ; Passengers ; Total ; (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	Sanford, Raymond Page	Capt.	0-724943
2. Co-Pilot	Roberts, Raymond Clifford	1st Lt.	T-120457
3. Bombardier-Navigator	Jackson, Charles Andrew	1st Lt.	0-732846
4. Radio Gunner	Peterson, Sloan E.	S/Sgt.	35502986
5. Aerial Engineer	Turner, William E.	S/Sgt.	11050399
6. Waist Gunner	Reger, Robert M.	S/Sgt.	36320326
7. Tail Gunner	King, Herbert M.	S/Sgt.	20383268
8.			
9.			
10.			

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

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WD, Hq AAF, Washington, Missing Air Crew Report. (USAF Form 100-10)

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted By Radio	Date Last Sighted	How Saw Crash	Where Landing
1. Voorhees, Roy D.	1st Lt.	0-730951				
2. Stary, George L.	2nd Lt.	0-670655				
3. Desgallier, Oscar A.	S/Sgt.	12030395				

12. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used (1); (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash _____; or (c) Any other reason (Specify) _____

13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.

14. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.

15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE No additional search.

Date of Report: 15 December 1943.

Herbert L. Loh
HERBERT LOH, 1st Lt., Air Corps
(Signature of Preparing Officer)

* 291231 291129 291962 291237

The following numbered bombsight and stabilizer were also in the airplane:

Sight No. 4911
Stabilizer No. 899

S/Sgt Fred C. Suden, Tail Gunner in the rear of the formation reported an open parachute apparently to have left the stricken airplane. However, this statement is not supported by reports from other crew members and there is considerable doubt, reflected by eyewitnesses, as to the possibilities of anyone getting out of the exploding aircraft.

RECEIVED



JAN 13 1944

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STATEMENT OF EYE-WITNESS

13 December 1943

I was flying as Co-Pilot in a formation of B-26 airplanes on the left wing of airplane #41-31625 which was piloted by Captain Sanford on a bombardment mission over Amsterdam Schipohl 13 December 1943 when I observed the following:

We were directly over the target when Captain Sanford's airplane received a direct flak hit which appeared to be just inboard the left engine. The plane immediately burst into flame, the fuselage being swept by fire from front to tail. The left wing broke off at the root of the wing and soon after the right wing broke off at the fuselage, the remaining skeleton fuselage disintegrating. I saw the pilot and co-pilot slumped down in their seats and there was no indication of activity in the pilot's compartment.

George L. Stary

GEORGE L. STARRY,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
O-670655

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

STATEMENT OF EYE-WITNESS

14 December 1943

I was flying as Aerial Photographer in the number six (6) position of the low box in a formation of B-26 airplanes during a bombardment mission over Amsterdam Schipol 13 December 1943 when I observed the following:

We were on the bombing run and just began to drop our bombs when I noticed a flash toward the upper right. I later learned it was airplane #41-31625, piloted by Captain Sanford. As the plane came into view, it was aflame and I immediately took a picture of the flaming airplane. The plane started to descend and I took the second picture when the airplane was a complete glow of red. I took the third picture when the plane apparently exploded as reaching the ground.

Edward H. Lynch
Edward H. Lynch,
555 Bomb Sq., (M),
T/Sgt, 31126957

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

STATEMENT OF EYE-WITNESS

14 December 1943

I was a tail-gunner in the #2 plane of the lead box in a formation of B-26's while on a bombing mission over Amsterdam Schipohl on 13 December 1943 when I saw the following:

I was looking out to the right when I saw a large burst of flame due to a direct hit on airplane #1-31625 which was piloted by Captain Sanford who was flying #1 position in our box. The nose seemed to rise and then the left wing exploded and fell off. The rest of the ship dove down in flame. It happened in a matter of seconds and I watched it drop about 1,000 feet when due to the excessive flak, I was no longer able to follow it down.

Oscar A. Desgallier
Oscar A. Desgallier,
S/Sgt, 555 Bomb Sq (M)
12030395

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

STATEMENT OF EYE-WITNESS

14 December 1943

I was flying as pilot in a formation of B-26 airplanes on the left wing of airplane #41-31625 which was piloted by Captain Sanford, on a bombardment mission over Amsterdam Schipohl 13 December 1943 when I observed the following:

We were on the bomb run and flak was intense, and we had just gone through one heavy burst when Captain Sanford's airplane sustained a direct hit which appeared to be on the left main gas tank. The plane burst into flames and disintegrated immediately.

Roy D. Voorhees
ROY D. VOORHEES,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
O-730994

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

STATEMENT OF EYE-WITNESS

14 December 1943

I was flying as a tail gunner in a formation of B-26 airplanes while on a bombardment mission over Amsterdam Schipohl 13 December 1943 and observed the following:

We were on our bombing run when I received message over interphone that one of the planes in our formation was going down. I saw pieces of the airplane scattered about the sky and down to my right I saw an open parachute. I could not see anyone in the chute but it seemed to be gliding down as though it were well weighted.

Fred C. Suden
Fred C. Suden,
S/Sgt., 555 Bomb Sq (M),
37017343

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CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

709

1. Your name SANFORD, RAYMOND P. Rank Major AC Serial No. 0-724983
2. Organization 386 Bomb. Gp. Col. Lester J. Sherman R. Then,
555 Sq Gp Commander, Maitland Rank Col Sqn CO Beatty Rank Lt. Col.
(full name) (full name) Now Separated
3. What year 1943 month December day 13 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, Bomb Airdrome, target, Schipol, Amsterdam/Holland
time, 1500 GWT, altitude, 12,000 feet. route scheduled, Over Chan-
nel to S.E. of Target, route flown over channel to Holland Coast
Bomb run North Shot down on bomb run.
5. Where were you when you left formation? Bomb run. #4 lead box; Deputy lead
6. Did you bail out? NO. Plane exploded and I was blown out top.
7. Did other members of crew bail out? No. I do not presume that they had
time, due to the rapidity of the two explosions.
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" other than as per attached individual
questionnaires.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? Southern edge of Schipol Airdrome
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should
cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires)
"No Knowledge" Airplane disintegrated when gasoline tanks exploded.
11. Where were they in aircraft? In crew positions at time of explosion
12. What was their condition? "No Knowledge" after explosion.
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already des-
cribed above? Saw crew before takeoff. Saw Co-pilot during flight.
When I hit the ground, I was captured immediatly and was not allowed
to investigate the wreckage.
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)

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: ROBERTS, Raymond Clifford
 Rank: F/O.
 Serial number: T-120450
 Position: Crew (Bomber) on ~~mission~~: Co-Pilot

File # 1413

Did he bail out? NoWhere? Amsterdam, HollandIf not, why not? Plane lost left wing, exploded shortly thereafter

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

made
 Prior to bomb run, pilot ~~xxx~~ parachute check, answer was
 "Parachute ready." OK "ROGER"

Was he injured? Assumed soWhere was he when last seen? in plane

Any hearsay information: from mother of Herbert M. King received information from the Dutch that Roberts was dead at time of German investigation.

(HERBERT KING'S MOTHER)

Source: Mrs. Ida Seymour, Washington, D. C. local address unknown

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

Roberts was wearing English harness type parachute. Pre-
 sumption was that he was killed when plane exploded.

Total number of missions of above crew member: unknown--Roberts was replacement for regular member of crew

Dates and destinations if possible: unknown

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: PETERSON, Sloan B. File # 1413
 Rank: T/Sgt.
 Serial number: 35502986
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~of Flight / Lighter~~: Radio Gunner (Was flying waist gunner position)

Did he bail out? no

Where? Amsterdam, Holland

If not, why not? Plane lost left wing, exploded shortly thereafter

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

Prior to bomb run, pilot made parachute check, answer was "Parachute ready"

Was he injured? assumed so

Where was he when last seen? in plane

Any hearsay information: from mother of Herbert M. King received information from the Dutch that Peterson was dead at time of German investigation.

Source: Mrs. Ida Seymour, Washington, D. C. local address unknown

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

Peterson was wearing English harness type parachute. Presumption was that he was killed when plane exploded.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Believed to be 25 or more

Dates and destinations if possible: Schipol
Balloon Gun Sights, France 9 Sept 43
Amsterdam Schoepel Airbase, 13 Dec 43, others as listed--dates unknown--Amsterdam ~~Schoepel~~, Woensdreck, Holland, St. Omer, Lille Nord, Several Marshalling yards, the rest unknown--can be obtained by contacting Captain Wyman E. Ruple, the regular co-pilot for this crew who was grounded for this mission.

NOTE: RUPLE
RUPLE, WYMAN E. CAPT. LAST KNOWN STATION WAS
WILLIAMS FIELD, CHANDLER, ARIZ.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: BECKER, Robert M. File # 1413
 Rank: S/Sgt.
 Serial number: 36320326
 Position: Crew (Bomber) of ~~flight~~ (Waist Gunner): Waist Gunner (Was flying in radio operator's position)

Did he bail out? no

Where? Amsterdam, Holland

If not, why not? Plane lost left wing, exploded shortly thereafter

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

Prior to bomb run, pilot made parachute check, answer was

"Parachute ready"

Was he injured? assumed so

Where was he when last seen? in plane

Any hearsay information: from mother of Herbert M. King received information from the Dutch that Becker was dead at time of German investigation.

Source: Mrs. Ida Seymour, Washington, D. C., local address unknown

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

It Becker was wearing English harness type parachute.

Presumption was that he was killed when plane exploded.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Believed to be 25 or more

Dates and destinations if possible: Schipol Balloon Gun Sights, France 9 Sept 43

Amsterdam Schoepel Airrome, 13 Dec 43, others as listed--

dates unknown--Amsterdam Schoepel, Woonstreek, Holland, St.

OMER, Lille Nord, Several marshalling yards, the rest

unknown--can be obtained by contacting Captain Wyman E. Ruple,

the regular co-pilot for this crew who was grounded for this mission.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: KING, Herbert M.
 Rank: ~~1st~~/Sgt.
 Serial number: 20383268
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~of 7/7/43/7/7/43/7/7/43~~: Tail Gunner

File # 1413

Did he bail out? no

Where? Amsterdam, Holland

If not, why not? Plane lost left wing, exploded shortly thereafter

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Prior to bomb run, pilot made parachute check, answer was "Parachute reedy"

Was he injured? assumed so

Where was he when last seen? in plane

Any hearsay information: from King's mother who received information from the Dutch ~~we~~ that King was alive and lived until Christmas Day.

Source: Mrs. Ida Seymoure, Washington, D. C. local address unknown

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: King was wearing English harness type parachute. Presumption was that he was killed when plane exploded.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Believed to be 25 or more.

Dates and destinations if possible: Schipol Balloon Gun Sights, France 9 Sept 43 Amsterdam Schipol Airdrome, 13 Dec 43, others ~~is~~ as listed-- dates unknown -- Amsterdam ~~Schipol~~, Woensdreck, Holland, St. Omer, Lille Norde, Several marshalling yards, the rest unknown--can be obtained by contacting Capt. Wyman E. Ruple, the regular co-pilot for this crew who was grounded for this mission.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: JACKSON, Charles Andrew
 Rank: 1st Lt.
 Serial number: O-732948
 Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Navigator~~: Bombardier-Navigator

File # 1413

Did he bail out? No

Where? Amsterdam, Holland

If not, why not? Plane lost left wing, exploded shortly thereafter.

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

Prior to bomb run, pilot made parachute check, answer was "Parachute ready"

Was he injured? assumed so

Where was he when last seen? in plane

Any hearsay information: from mother of Herbert M. King received information from the Dutch that Jackson was reportedly alive after crash but died few hours later. Source

Source: Mrs. Ida Seymour, Washington, D. C. local address unknown

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

Jackson was wearing English/type ^{harness} parachute. Presumption was ^{that} he was killed when plane exploded.

Total number of missions of above crew member: believed to be 25 or more

Dates and destinations if possible: ^{Schiphol} ^{Bologna} Helicon Gun Sights, France -Sept 9, 43
 Amsterdam Schoepel Airdrome, 13 Dec 43, others as listed dates unknown--Amsterdam ~~Schiphol~~; Wogsdreck, Holland, St. Omer, Lille Nord, Several Marshalling yards, the rest unknown--can be obtained by contacting Captain Wyman E. Ruple, the regular co-pilot for this crew who was grounded for this mission.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: TURNER, William E.
 Rank: S/3gt.
 Serial number: 14050399
 Position: Crew (Bomber) of ~~the 7th/11th/14th/17th~~ Aerial Engineer

File # 1413Did he bail out? noWhere? Amsterdam, HollandIf not, why not? Plane lost left wing, exploded shortly thereafter

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Prior to
bomb run, pilot made parachute check, answer was "Parachute "ready"

Was he injured? assumed soWhere was he when last seen? in his plane

Any hearsay information: from mother of Herbert M. King received information
from the Dutch that Peterson was dead at time of German
investigation.

Source: Mrs. Ida Seymour, Washington, D. C. local address unknown

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

Turner was wearing English harness type parachute. Presumption
was that he was killed when plane exploded.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Believed to be 25 or more.

Dates and destinations if possible: Schiphol ^{Bologna} ~~Bologna~~ Gun Sights, France 9 Sept 45
Amsterdam ~~Schiphol~~ Airdrome, 15 Dec 45, others as listed -
dates unknown -- Amsterdam ~~Schiphol~~ ^{Schiphol}, Woensdreck, Holland,
St. Omer, Lille Nordde, Several Marshalling yards, the rest
unknown -- can be obtained by contacting Capt. Wyman E. Ruple,
the regular co-pilot for this crew who was grounded for this
mission.