

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

Classification changed
to **RESTRICTED**
by E. A. BRADONAS, Lt. Col., AG
by F. M. MURCH, Capt., AG
Date **1001 5 2002**

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WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

9275

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 air crew member is officially reported missing.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location, by name Melun, France; Command or Air Force IX Bomb Div (M)
Group 416th Bomb Gp (L); Squadron 671st Bomb Sq(L); Detachment -----
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure AAF Sta A-55; Course See Incl 1
Target or Intended Destination Julich, Germany; Type of Mission Operational
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: 9/10 clouds at 5,000 feet. Thick haze.
4. GIVE: (a) Day 29 Month Sept Year 1944; Time 1639; and Location Julich, Germany
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 (x).
5. AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one) (Enemy Aircraft (); Enemy Anti-Aircraft (x); Other Circumstances as Follows: -----)
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series A-20G-35; AAF Serial Number 43-10165
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if any 'Shocks'
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-2600-23; AAF Serial Number
(a) LE 43-105208 (b) RE 43-105275 (c) ----- (d) -----
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number): Browning 50 Cal
(a) 596366 (b) 612133 (c) 605505 (d) 595555
(e) 504339 (f) 613412 (g) 994866 (h) 981756
(i) 995251 (j) ----- (k) ----- (l) -----
(m) ----- (n) ----- (o) ----- (p) -----
10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty XX
(b) Non Battle Casualty -----
11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 3; Passengers -----; Total 3
(Starting with pilot, furnish the following particulars; if more than 11 persons were aboard aircraft, list similar particulars on separate sheets and attach original to this form.)

	Crew Position	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Current Status
1.	Pilot	York, Robert W	1st Lt	0 750 758	MIA
2.	Mechanic-Gunner	Ashton, Lewis A	Sgt	33 464 270	MIA <i>RIV</i>
3.	Armorer-Gunner	Wills, Harley J.	Sgt	37 115 854	MIA <i>RIV</i>
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					

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(Over)

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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

(Last Name First)	Rank	Number	Contacted by Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1. None						
2.						
3.						

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 None

Date of Report 2 October 1944

George Schenkein
(Signature of Preparing Officer)
GEORGE SCHENKEIN, CAPT, AIR CORPS
Adjutant

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:

None

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Scale 1:500,000 Army/Air Köln

60°

7°

51°

51°

60°

Julich

Köln

Aschman

Boy II

416TH BOMB GP (L)
Fld 0 45-573. Bq 97th Bomb Combat Wg
Target: Julich Marshalling Yards
Weather: 9/10 clouds at 5000 feet. Thick
haze
TOT: 1639

AIRCRAFT: A-20G-35 43-10165

Pilot: York, Robert W 1st Lt 0 750 758
Bomb-Gun: Ashton, Lewis A S Sgt 33 464 770
Aft-Gun: Wilda, Harley J S Sgt 32 115 654

Boy I

Boy II

X - Missing

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CASUALTY NO. **EU 1102 A**

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN:

29 Sept. 1944

PLACE OF CRASH:

Jualich

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT:

Navco

REPORTING OFFICE:

Limburg

CREW

SURNAME, AND
FIRST NAME:

ASHTON, Lewis Alexander

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:

S/Sgt.

SERIAL NUMBER:

33464270

CAPTURED: **captured**

WOUNDED:

DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: **Dulag-Luft West** TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

Dulag-Luft, 14 Dec. 1944 No.

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XU 559A

FORM 1

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: **Air Base Headquarters A(e) 10/VI**

PLACE: **Bonn-Hangelar**

DATE: **30 Sept 1944**

REGARDING: **CRASH: (DOWNED) OF,** According to information from the Liaison Officer
EM. LANDING: AT: of the 3rd Flak Corps (1st Lt. Wedell) the aircraft
was shot down by a battery of Flak-Sturm-Reg. 3.
The PW bailed out of a Marauder.

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) **WILDS**

FIRST NAME: **Harley J.**

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) **S/Sgt. 37115854 T 43-43**

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) **captured**

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: **near Juelich on 29 Sept 1944, 1600 hours**

NAME OF HOSPITAL: **./.**

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT: **./.**

Delivered to Distributor: 30 Sept 1944

Signature illegible
Captain and Staff Officer

MAAC No 9275

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MAAR 9275

A-20

3 men crew

AA # 43-10165

mission to Juelich, Ger

on September 29, 1944

KU 1102

Juelich

Type: Havoc

416 Group, 99 Wing

Lt. YOGH

S/Sgt. ASHTON, Lewis, Alexander

T/Sgt. WELLS

33 46 42 70

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mlw/12/20/44

1st. Lt. Robert W. York

Mr. Walter A. York, (Father)
227 East 68th Street,
Chicago, Illinois. ✓

S/Sgt. Lewis A. Ashton

Mrs. Rebecca Ashton, (Grandmother)
16 Foley Street,
Danville, Pennsylvania. ✓

S/Sgt. Harley J. Wilds

Mrs. Josephine F. Wilds, (Wife)
Blountstown, Florida. ✓

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Dates and destinations if possible: For M. MAY, 15, 1944, to left
27, 1944.

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AFPPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name WILDS. HARLEY, J. Rank S/Lt. Serial No. 37115854
2. Organization 671st Sq. Commander Rank Sqn CO Rank
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month Sept. day 29. did you go down?
4. What was the mission, J. Mich. target, MARCHLING, KARL. target
time, 4:30 P.M. altitude, 10,500 route scheduled,
route flown
5. Where were you when you left formation? over Target.
6. Did you bail out? yes.
7. Did other members of crew bail out? one, (1) S/Lt. Lewis, Ashton.
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? No. Knowledge
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
11. Where were they in aircraft? S/Lt. Lewis, A. Ashton on Floor.
12. What was their condition? Wound in leg.
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? No. Knowledge
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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92757

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by E. A. BRADY, Lt. Col., AG
by F. M. WYCK, Capt., AG
Date: MAR 15 1945

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