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WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

Classification changed
to **RESTRICTED**
by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AC
by F. M. MULNICH, Capt., AC
Date **1 MAR 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.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location A-69 Command or Air Force IX Bomb Div (M)
Group 416th Bomb Gp (L) Squadron 668th Bomb Sq (L) Detachment 1
2. SPECIFY: Point of departure A-69 Course See Incl 1
Intended Destination Ebrack, Germany Type of Mission Operational
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED
10/30 Cloud Cover
4. GIVE: (a) Date 28 March 45 Time 0955 and Location Ebrack, 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.
5. AIRPLANE WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS RESULT OF:
(Check only one. () Enemy Airplane; () Enemy Anti-Aircraft; () Other
circumstances as follows: Aircraft last seen to enter clouds near target.
6. AIRPLANE: Type, Model and Series A-26B A.A.F. Serial No. 43-22495
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-2800 A.A.F. Serial No. (a) FP-020807
(b) FP-020967 (c) _____ (d) _____
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial No) 50 Cal. Browning MG
(a) See Reverse (b) _____ (c) _____ (d) _____
(e) _____ (f) _____ (g) _____ (h) _____
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty Battle
or (b) Non Battle Casualty
10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRPLANE: Crew 2 Passengers 0 Total 2
(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
1.	Pilot	<u>Gunkel, Harry G.</u> (1022)	<u>MIA</u> <u>Flt/O</u>	<u>36 125 797</u>
2.	Gunner	<u>Grzona, LeRoy J.</u> (612)	<u>MIA</u> <u>Sgt</u>	<u>36 816 710</u>
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				

Status 5/19

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

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	by Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Forced Landing
1. Lackner, Ralph J.	2d Lt	0 760 872		X		
2.						
3.						

12. 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) _____
13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRPLANE WAS LAST SEEN.
14. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRPLANE.
15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND CITE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE None

Date of Report 31 March 1945

NOSE GUNS
1306940
1307020
1307120
1307006
1305663
1305019

TURRET GUNS
1482231
1482388
1482219
1482310

WING GUNS
1755997
1756321
1545982
1308081
1545783
392831
1038356
1756057

PYRO PISTOL-171225

George Schenkein
GEORGE SCHENKEIN
Capt., Air Corps,
Adjutant

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28 March 1945

STATEMENT

I was flying in the #6 position behind F/O Harry G. Gunkel's airplane, AAF No. 43-22495 in the #3 position in Capt H. M. Evans flight. Just before reaching the I.P. the box ran into a heavy patch of clouds and it was quite difficult keeping in sight of the leader. Just after turning into the I.P. when we were still in 10/10 cloud coverage, F/O Gunkel fell back from his position nearly hitting my airplane and then peeled off to the left, I cut my throttles and dropped down to avoid a collision. That was the last time I saw him. Shortly afterwards on the bomb run I regained my position in the flight.

Ralph J. Lackner
RALPH J. LACKNER,
2nd Lt., Air Corps.

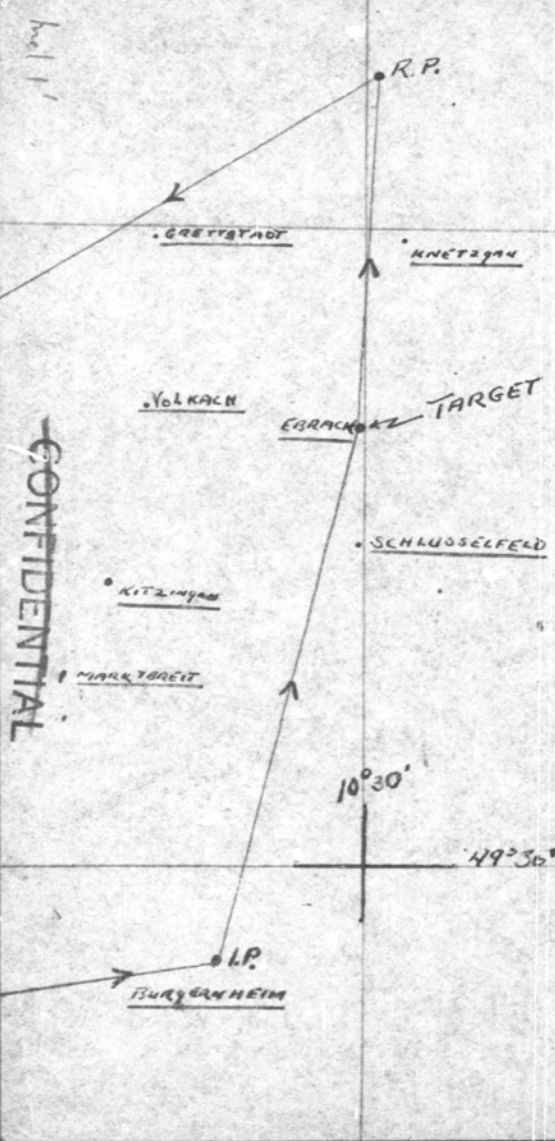
Missing Air Crew Report:

Airplane Number 43-22495 A-26 B

668th Bombardment Squadron (L), 416th Bombardment Group (L).

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MÜNCHEN
1:500,000 EUROPE (AIR)

416 TH Bomb GP 28/3/45
2 Boxes 18 A/L
TARGET - EBRACH Oil DEP
ALT - 15,000 - 11,600
T.O.T. 0959 To 1020
WEATHER 10/10 BELOW
14,000 ALSO SCATTERED
CLOUDS ABOVE 14,000

No FLAK

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

AIRPLANE: 43-22495
PILOTED BY: FTL/0 GUNKEL, HARRY G.
DATE: 28 MAR 45

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Classification changed
to **RESTRICTED**
by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AC
by F. M. MUNCH, Capt., AC
Date 1 MAR 1948

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