

APPENDIX II
MISSING AIR CREW REPORT # 9187



DECLASSIFIED BY AUTHORITY OF NND DECLASSIFICATION PROJECT 785072,
H.D. MAYER, NARS, SEPTEMBER 10, 1982.

9187

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classification changed
to **RESTRICTED**
by E. A. BRAUNAS, Lt. Col., AO
by F. M. MUENH, Capt., AO
Date MAR 15 1946

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Date MAR 15 1948

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

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

1. ORGANIZATION: Location AAF STRIP #74 Command or Air Force NINTH
Group 48TH FTR GP Squadron 492ND FTR SQ (SE) Detachment
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure AAF STRIP 74 Course BASE, RESCHELD, TARGET
Intended Destination A/R KOBLENZ Type of Mission ARMED RECONNAISSANCE
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
7/10 THIN CLOUDS AT 4,000 FEET; HOLE IN CLOUDS OVER TARGET
4. GIVE: (a) Date 27 SEPT. 1944 Time 0805 and Location 2 MILES WEST OF SCHLEIDEN, 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; (X) Enemy Anti-Aircraft; ()
Other circumstances as follows: _____
6. AIRPLANE: Type, Model and Series P-47 D-28; AAF Serial No. 42-28861
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-2800-59; AAF Serial No. N.P.-004078
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial No.) BROWNING 50 CALIBER
RIGHT (a) 1274099 (b) 1273517 (c) 1274145 (d) 1273698
LEFT (e) 1274038 (f) 1274126 (g) 1273920 (h) 1274034
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty XX
or (b) Non Battle Casualty
10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRPLANE: Crew 1 Passengers _____ 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
1. Pilot	HARRISON, JAMES W. JR.	2nd Lt.	0-815329

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 | Contacted | | Saw | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| | | | By Radio | Last Sighted | Saw Crash | Saw Landing |
| 1. SWITTE , GEORGE R. | 2nd Lt. | 0814703 | | X | | |
| 2. UPDIKE, JAMES M. | Capt. | 0663800 | | X | | |

- 1 -

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Encl. 2'

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12. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachute was used YES; (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 GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE _____

Date of Report 29 September 1944

Jerome J. McCabe
(Signature of Preparing Officer)
JEROME J. MC CABE,
Major, Air Corps,
Commanding, 492nd Ftr Sq (SB)



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492ND FIGHTER SQUADRON (SE)
48TH FIGHTER GROUP AAF

APO #595, U. S. Army,
29 September 1944.

S T A T E M E N T

"I, GEORGE R. KNITTLE, ASN-0814703, 2nd Lt., was flying No. 4 in Yellow Flight, which was acting as top cover on an armed reconnaissance mission over Rescheid Base Target, on 27 September 1944. 2nd Lt. JAMES W. HARRISON JR. was flying No. 2 position in the same flight.

"Half-way around a shallow left turn, Lt. Harrison's plane turned sharply right and started to spin. At about 2,000 feet, I saw his parachute open. His plane crashed 10 or 15 miles East of Aachen. He landed in the next field. We flew over the field and saw that he had left his parachute and taken cover.

"It is believed that the belly of Lt. Harrison's aircraft was hit by flak because it was streaming gas on it's way down. The spin that the P-47 went into was a very flat spin, and Lt. Harrison could not recover as he was only 6,500 feet high at the start of the spin."

George R Knittle
GEORGE R. KNITTLE,
2nd Lt., AC.

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492ND FIGHTER SQUADRON (SE)
48TH FIGHTER GROUP AAF

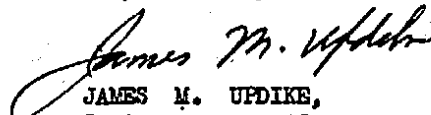
APO #595, U. S. Army,
29 September 1944.

S T A T E M E N T

"I, JAMES M. UPDIKE, ASN-0863800, Captain, was leading Yellow Flight, which was acting as top cover on an armed reconnaissance mission over designated target, Rechoid Base, Germany, on 27 September 1944. 2nd Lt. JAMES W. HARRISON JR. was flying No. 2 position in my flight.

"Although I didn't see any flak, it appeared to me, Lt. Harrison's aircraft was hit, because his plane was out of control. He pulled up steep, then rolled over and went into a flat spin. His parachute was seen to open at approximately 2,000 feet.

"I believe Lt. Harrison is safe, but in enemy territory."


JAMES M. UPDIKE,
Capt., AC.

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REPORT ON CAPTURED AIRCRAFT

POST: Airbase Command A (o) 10/VI
 LOCATION: Bonn-Hangelar
 DATE: 28. September 1944
 DATE AND TIME: 27. September 1944
 AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN.
 PLACE OF CRASH: 500 mtr. N of Kall, 6 km. SE of Gemuend, OO 7/4 co-ord.
 (NEAREST TOWN)
 KIND OF CAPTURE: unknown
 (FLAK, HUNTER, NIGHT HUNTER,
 EMERGENCY LANDING)
 TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Thunderbolt.
 MARKINGS OF CRAFT: not ascertainable
 (LETTERS, FRONT OR REAR OF INSIGNIA)
 ADMITTANCE NO: " "
 EQUIPMENT: Camera : not present
 F.T. FREQUENCIES: - -
 CONDITION OF AIRCRAFT: crashed and burned, 85% damage.
 DELIVERED TO DISTRIBUTOR: on 28. September 1944
 (DULOG: -LUFT, ETC.)

Dulag-Luft	1 copy
GL/A-Bue	1 "
Files	1 "

(signed)

Capt., Staff Officer of Airbase.

REPORT ON CAPTURE OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

POST: Airbase Command A (o) 10/VI

PLACE: Bonn-Hangelar

DATE: 28. September 1944

REGARDING: CRASH: (DOWNED) OF: Thunderbolt
on 27. September 1944~~PRECEDENCE~~AT: 500 mtr. N of Kall, 6 km. SE of Gemuend
Co-ordinates: OO 7/4

NAME: (LAST OR SURNAME) H a r r i s o n

FIRST NAME: James Rank : 2nd Lt.

SERIAL NUMBER: (USA) O-815329

RESULT: (DEAD OR CAPTURED) captured

PLACE AND TIME OF CAPTURE: - -

NAME OF HOSPITAL: - -

PLACE, DATE AND TIME OF INTERMENT: - -

DELIVERED TO DISTRIBUTOR : on 28. September 1944

Dulag-Luft Oberursel, 1 copy
Files 1 "

(signed)

Capt., Staff Officer of Airbase.

TELEGRAM FORM

DISTANCE - MESSAGE

-OBERURSEL-

NAME OF DISTANCE-MESSAGE WRITER: LSOU (78)

ACCEPTED:

DELIVERED:

RECEIVED:

DATE:-

TIME:

TO:

DATE: 2. October 1944

THROUGH:

TIME: 0830 hours

ROLL:

FROM: LSEB

THROUGH: Frank

REMARKS: QEM

A LABH 23, 29. September 1944 0900 hours.-

To Dulag-Luft Oberursel.-

Subject : Downing of two Thunderbolts on 27. September 1944.-

To 1.) 500 mtr. NE of Kall, 6 km. SE of Gemünd, Co-ordinates: 00 7/4.

Engine type : double radial engine. Armament : normal. Radio
~~receiver~~ receiver B C /966. Cause of downing : unknown,
 Crashed and burned, 85% damage, identifications and admittance
 No. unknown.

Crew : 2nd Lt. James Harrison, A/N-O-815329, captured.

To 2.) 500 mtr. S of Hellenthal, 6 km. SW of Schleiden, co-ordinates

PN 3. Engine type, armament and radio equipment unknown.

Downing by anti-aircraft, crashed and burned, 100% damage,

identifications and admittance No.: not ascertainable.

Crew : unknown, dead, presumably an officer. Interred on 27.

September 1944 beside site of crash.

Airbase Command A (o) 10/VI, Bonn-Hangelar, dated 28. September

1944. (signed) Fischer, Capt., Staff Officer.

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