

5698

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~~RESTRICTED~~

Classification changed

to ~~RESTRICTED~~ ol., AC
by P. M. AC
Date 15 MAR 1948

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TO: CG, IX Air Force,
Attn: 26 Stat Control Unit.

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5698

Classification changed

to RESTRICTED

by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AC

by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AC

Date 15 MAR 1946

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

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 Saltby, Lincolnshire, England Command IX T.C. Command
Group 314th TC Gp Squadron 50th TC Sq Detachment Course 234-236-183-
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure Saltby Airdrome, UK Course contd 213-303-205-260°
Intended Destination DZ in France Type of Mission Resupply
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED Visibility Unlimited, Ceiling 2500 feet.
4. GIVE: (a) Date 7 June 1944 Time 0618 "B" and location 2 miles East of Ste Mere
of last known whereabouts of missing airplane. Eglise, France
(b) Specify whether () Last sighted; () Last contacted by radio:
() Forced down; (x) 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 C-47A; A.A.F. Serial No. 42-93065
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R1830-92; A.A.F. Serial No. (a) CP-355240
(b) CP-355311 (c) _____ (d) _____
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial No)
(a) NONE (b) _____ (c) _____ (d) _____
(e) _____ (f) ARE BEING (g) _____ (h) _____
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WAS REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X
or (b) Non Battle Casualty _____
10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRPLANE: Crew 5 Passengers 0 Total 5
(Starting with pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 25 persons were aboard airplane, list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach original to this form.)

RTD
DED
KIA
DED
KIA

Crew Position	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number
1. Pilot	<u>RTD Sass, Howard W.</u>	<u>Capt</u>	<u>5 0-729 246</u>
2. Co-Pilot	<u>Necess, Lloyd P.</u>	<u>2d Lt</u>	<u>4 0-700 307</u>
3. Navigator	<u>Lyons, William G.</u>	<u>2d Lt</u>	<u>3 0-697 885</u>
4. Crew Chief	<u>Daley, Edward Jr.</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>2 31 149 309</u>
5. Radio Operator	<u>Bacon, Mitchell W.</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>1 35 431 625</u>
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

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Incl 23

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- 11. _____
- 12. _____
- 13. _____
- 14. _____
- 15. _____
- 16. _____
- 17. _____
- 18. _____
- 19. _____
- 20. _____
- 21. _____
- 22. _____
- 23. _____
- 24. _____
- 25. _____

1111 - 1000



RECEIVED

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 ^a Number	Contacted By Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1. <u>Smith, Merrill E.</u>	<u>Capt</u>	<u>0-729 256</u>			<u>X</u>	
2. <u>Renwick, Foster R. Jr.</u>	<u>1st Lt</u>	<u>0-737 651</u>			<u>X</u>	
3. <u>Kindy, Gerald D.</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>35 258 717</u>			<u>X</u>	

12. 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) (Not believed to have survived) see 14

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

14. ATTACH EYE WITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRPLANE. Eye witness account submitted.

15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND CIRCUMSTANCES, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE: None

Date of Report 8 June 1944

Charles A. Anderson, Jr.
 (Signature of Preparing Officer)
CHARLES A. ANDERSON, JR.,
 1st Lt, AC
 Adj. 50th TC Sq. 314th TC Gp.

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APO 133, U. S. Army,
8 June 1944.

SUBJECT: Eye Witness Account of Crash of C-47 No. 42-93065.

" While piloting ship No. 42-15214 in number four (4) position of 50th Troop Carrier Squadron formation on the morning of 7 June 1944 and engaged in a resupply mission, I saw flames coming from the bottom of the fuselage of aircraft No. 42-93065, piloted by Capt Howard W. Sass, O-729 246, about three quarters (3/4) of a mile from the DZ and west of Ste Mere Eglise. I immediately told 1st Lt Foster R Renwick, Jr, O-737 651, my co-pilot, to radio to Capt Sass and have him salvo his bundles.

" Capt Sass did not drop the bundles until over the DZ and they were released simultaneously with the lead ship. Immediately after dropping the bundles, the formation made a one hundred eighty (180) degree turn to the left and I could see enemy tracers entering the bottom of the flaming ship as it was turning. I watched the ship drop out of formation and immediately dropped out to follow him. I notified Lt Renwick after the one hundred eighty (180) degree turn to radio to Capt Sass and tell him to get as much altitude as he could and bail out. The flames were getting worse all the time and the ship continued to lose altitude until it hit the ground, exploded, and slid into a large hedge. I climbed, made a ninety (90) degree turn to the left and a large mass of flames was all that was visible. I then returned to my base.

" I kept the plane in sight from the time it caught fire until it crashed at 0618 hours 7 June 1944, east of Ste Mere Eglise. No one bailed out and I do not believe any of the plane crew survived the crash. //

Merrill E. Smith
MERRILL E. SMITH, O-729 256,
Capt, AC

I have read the above statement and concur in the facts as given. I saw substantially the same as described.

Foster R. Renwick Jr.
FOSTER R. RENWICK, JR.
1st Lt, AC O 737 651

" I saw one of the bundles on fire as we approached the DZ. Capt. Sass salvoed his bundles at the DZ, but the fire remained. I then temporarily lost sight of the ship until we made our 180 deg. turn, when I saw the plane beneath us, heading for a crash landing. As we were turning I could see the radio and navigator compartments in flames. The plane then hit the ground, slid into a row of hedges or trees, and then exploded. //

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 8th day of June 1944.

Charles A. Anderson, Jr.
CHARLES A. ANDERSON, JR.
1st Lt AC O 569 042

Document No. 5988
S/Sgt. Gerald D. Kindy
S/Sgt Gerald D. Kindy, 35 256 717

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

Ogers

2nd Ind.
HEADQUARTERS, 52ND TROOP CARRIER WING, AAF, APO 133, U. S. ARMY, 7 July 1944.

TO: Commanding General, IX Troop Carrier Command, APO 133, U. S. Army.

Subject Missing Air Crew Report was forwarded to your Headquarters by 1st Indorsement dated 9 June 1944.

For the Commanding General:

William F. Navran
WILLIAM F. NAVRAN,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

AG 704 (4 July 44)

3rd Ind.

C-K

HEADQUARTERS, IX TROOP CARRIER COMMAND, APO 133, US ARMY. 9 July 1944

TO: Commanding General, Ninth Air Force (Rear), APO 696, US Army.
ATTN: 26th Statistical Control Unit.

Subject Missing Air Crew Report forwarded to your headquarters 11 June 1944.

For the Commanding General:



O. W. Howland
O. W. HOWLAND,
Colonel, A. G. D.,
Adjutant General.
04531



7858

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Document No.....

C O N F I D E N T I A L

50TH TROOP CARRIER SQUADRON, AAF
APO 133, U. S. Army.

4 July 1944.

SUBJECT: Supplemental Missing Air Crew Report.

TO : Commanding General, Ninth Air Force, APO 696. (Att: 26 Statistical Control Unit).

1. Reference Missing Air Crew Report submitted by this organization, dated 8 June 1944. The following change has been made on the casualty status as shown below, for Aircraft No. 42-93065:

SASS, HOWARD W. Capt 0 729 246 From MIA to SIA.

2. Capt. Sass to this date is the only known survivor of C 47 A Aircraft No. 42-93065, missing on Neptune-Bigot Mission 7 June 1944. He has no knowledge as to the fate of his crew, as he has no memory of events from the time approximately two miles from the DZ until 12 June 1944.

For the Commanding Officer:

Charles A. Anderson, Jr.
CHARLES A. ANDERSON, JR.,
1st Lt, AC.
Adj.

704.

1st Ind. 137

C-J-9

HEADQUARTERS, 314TH TROOP CARRIER GROUP APO 133, U.S. ARMY, 6 July 1944.

TO: Commanding General, 52nd Troop Carrier Wing, APO 133 U.S. Army.

Missing air crew report referred to in basic communication was forwarded to your Headquarters by letter of transmittal this Headquarters dated 9 June 1944.

For the Group Commander:

William J. Carmichael
WILLIAM J. CARMICHAEL,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Actg. Adj.



C O N F I D E N T I A L

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY

⑪
m50
JWP/jh

APC 871
26 July 44

AG 319.1

Subject: Missing Air Crew Report Supplement.

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

1. Forwarded herewith Supplemental Report to the Missing Air Crew Report concerning aircraft number 42-93065, which was forwarded to your headquarters by letter this headquarters, AG 360.33, Subject: "Missing Air Crew Reports", dated 29 June 1944.

2. Records of this headquarters indicate the present status of Capt. Howard W. Sass, O-729246 to be returned to duty, 22 June 1944.

For the Theater Commander:

H. M. Rund
H. M. RUND,
Lt. Col, AGD,
Asst. Adjutant General.

1 Incl:
Letter from 50th Troop Carrier Sq. AAF
APO 133, Subj: "Supplemental MACR"
dated 4 July 1944,; and indorsement
thereto.

5698

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MC-17793

AC-20-24627

Status as of 12/7/44 yhw

Capt. Howard W. Sass *RTD*

Mrs. Wanda Sass ✓ (Wife)
Rural Free Delivery #1,
Bristolville, Ohio.

2nd Lt. Lloyd P. Menees *MIA*

Mr. Ola E. Menees ✓ (Father)
Rural Route Number Two,
Anna, Illinois.

2nd Lt. William C. Lyons *KIA*

Mr. William H. Lyons ✓ (Father)
158 Lincoln Avenue,
Newark, New Jersey.

S/Sgt. Edward Daley Jr. *MIA*

Mr. Edward Daley Sr. ✓ (Father)
98 East Avenue,
Centerdale, Rhode Island.

S/Sgt. Mitchell W. Bacon *KIA*

Judge John M. Woods ✓ (Uncle)
9 D Brookland Court,
Charleston, West Virginia.

Bacon, MITCHELL W. 35 431625

KIA - 7 months - 3' 7"

WACR 5698 Lunch 7 Jan

SASS, How 450

W.

0729246

FTD 52 Jan 44

ETC 116

MAR 5698

Lamb

1 Can

Bacon, Mitchell W. 35 431625

KIA - 7 months - 1968

WACR 5698 Lunch 7 Jan

LYONS, WILLIAM B. : 0697885

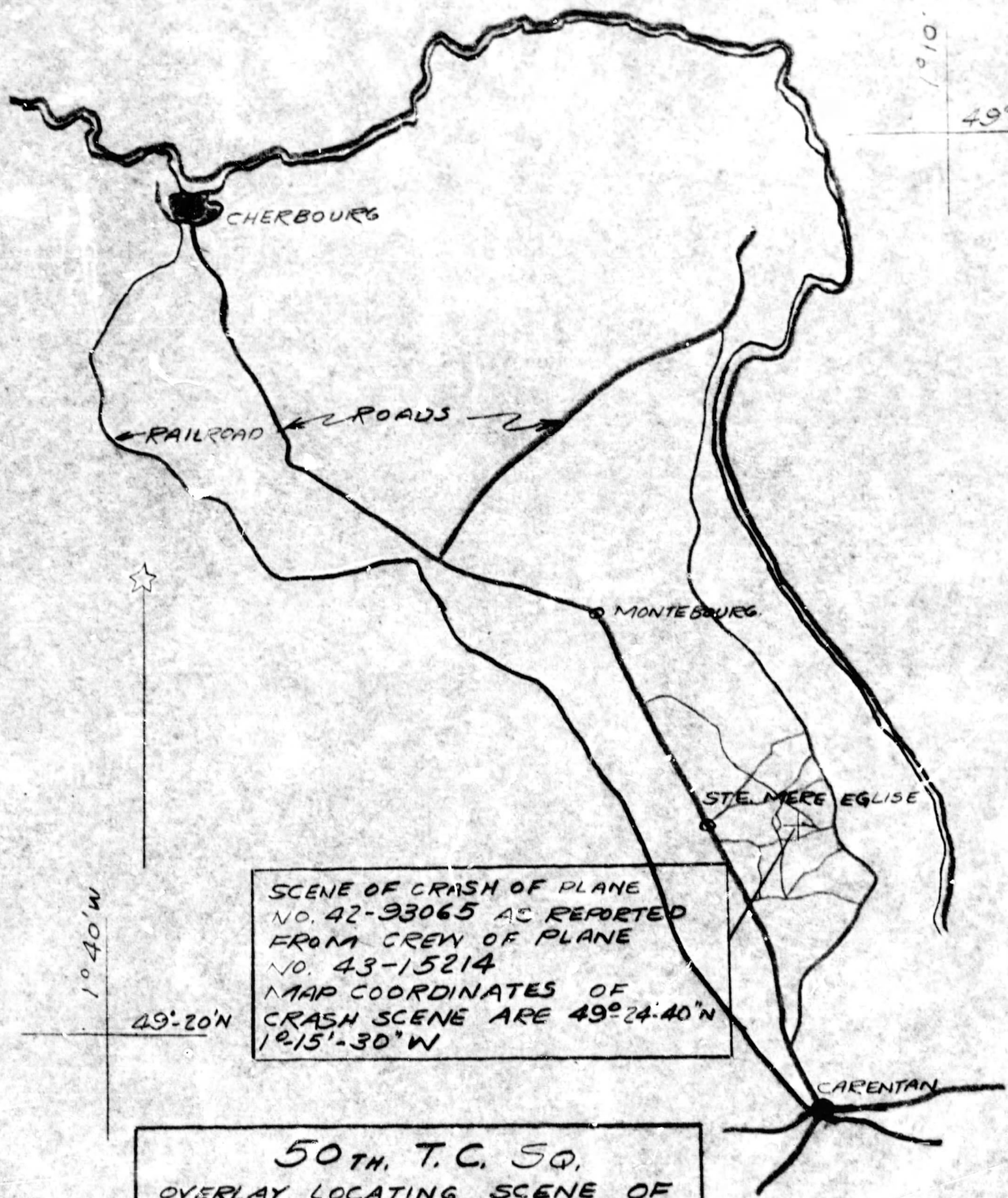
MAOP 5698

Saint

7 Jan

M. 0161

49° 40' N



SCENE OF CRASH OF PLANE
 NO. 42-93065 AS REPORTED
 FROM CREW OF PLANE
 NO. 43-15214
 MAP COORDINATES OF
 CRASH SCENE ARE 49° 24.40' N
 1° 15' - 30' W

50TH. T. C. SQ.
 OVERLAY LOCATING SCENE OF
 PLANE CRASH IN NEPTUNE
 BIGOT MISSION
 DATE - MORNING OF 7 JUNE 1944
 MAP: 6565 3982 SHEET M.30/9
 CHERBOURG SCALE 1:250,000
 DWN BY SGT. OVERHOLT