

5712

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RESTRICTED

Classification changed
to **RESTRICTED**
by E. A. HANNA, Lt. Col., AC
by P. H. BUENCH, Capt., AC
Date 26 April 1946

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✓
Captain Robert Bennett

Mrs. Shirley Bennett, (wife)
109 Callender Street,
Dorchester, Massachusetts.

✓
2nd Lt. Robert E. King.

Mrs. Mary L. King, (mother)
5415 Augusta Boulevard,
Chicago, Illinois.

✓
I/Sergeant Anthony Kosta

Mrs. Jennie Gray, (sister)
156 A Jackson Avenue,
Jersey City, New Jersey.

✓
S/Sergeant Joseph M. Sofranko

Mrs. Anna Sofranko, (mother)
933 West Centre Street,
Mahanoy City, Pennsylvania.

TO: Commanding General
Ninth Air Force
ATTN: 26th Statistical Control Unit.

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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 England
Sally, Lincolnshire ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ IX TC
Group 314th Tr. Carrier Squadron 32d Tr. Carrier Detachment (248°)
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure Sally Air Base Course 236°, 183°, 213°, 123°, 205°
Intended Destination Picauville, France Type of Mission Combat-re-supply
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED Weather Good, visibility 10 to 15 miles, ceiling 4000 feet
4. GIVE: (a) Date 7 June 1944 Time 06178 hours and location App. 2 mi. N.N.E., Picauville, France.
(b) Specify whether (X) 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; () Enemy anti-aircraft; ()
Other circumstances as follows: See Annexes 2 and 3
6. AIRPLANE: Type, Model and Series C-47A; A.A.F. Serial No. 43-15146
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series C-47A; A.A.F. Serial No. 14688-354315
right: CP-354462 (c) (d)
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial No)
(a) none (b) (c) (d)
(e) are being (f) (g) (h)
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW ~~xxx~~ 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.)

	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	
1. Pilot	<u>BENNETT, ROBERT</u>	<u>Capt</u>	<u>0729108</u>	<u>RTD</u>
2. Co-Pilot	<u>KING, ROBERT B.</u>	<u>2d Lt</u>	<u>0813716</u>	<u>RTD</u>
3. Navigator	<u>MANCUSO, ARTHUR J.</u>	<u>2d Lt</u>	<u>0700639</u>	<u>RTD</u>
4. Crew Chief	<u>Kosta, Anthony</u>	<u>T/Sgt</u>	<u>32231192</u>	<u>RTD</u>
5. Radio Opr.	<u>Sofranko, Joseph M.</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>33291763</u>	<u>RTD</u>
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				

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Incl 3A

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JUL 10 1944



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

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 By Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1. <u>Rosengraft, David E.</u>	<u>2d Lt.</u>	<u>0525179</u>		<u>X</u>		
2. <u>Purkey, Glenn E.</u>	<u>2d Lt.</u>	<u>0525180</u>			<u>X</u>	
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) Unknown

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

14. ATTACH WITNESS 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 not applicable.

Date of Report 9 June 1944

John C. Green

(Signature of Preparing Officer)

JOHN C. GREEN,
1st Lt, AC,
Adj.

3 Annexes:

Annex 1. Chart.

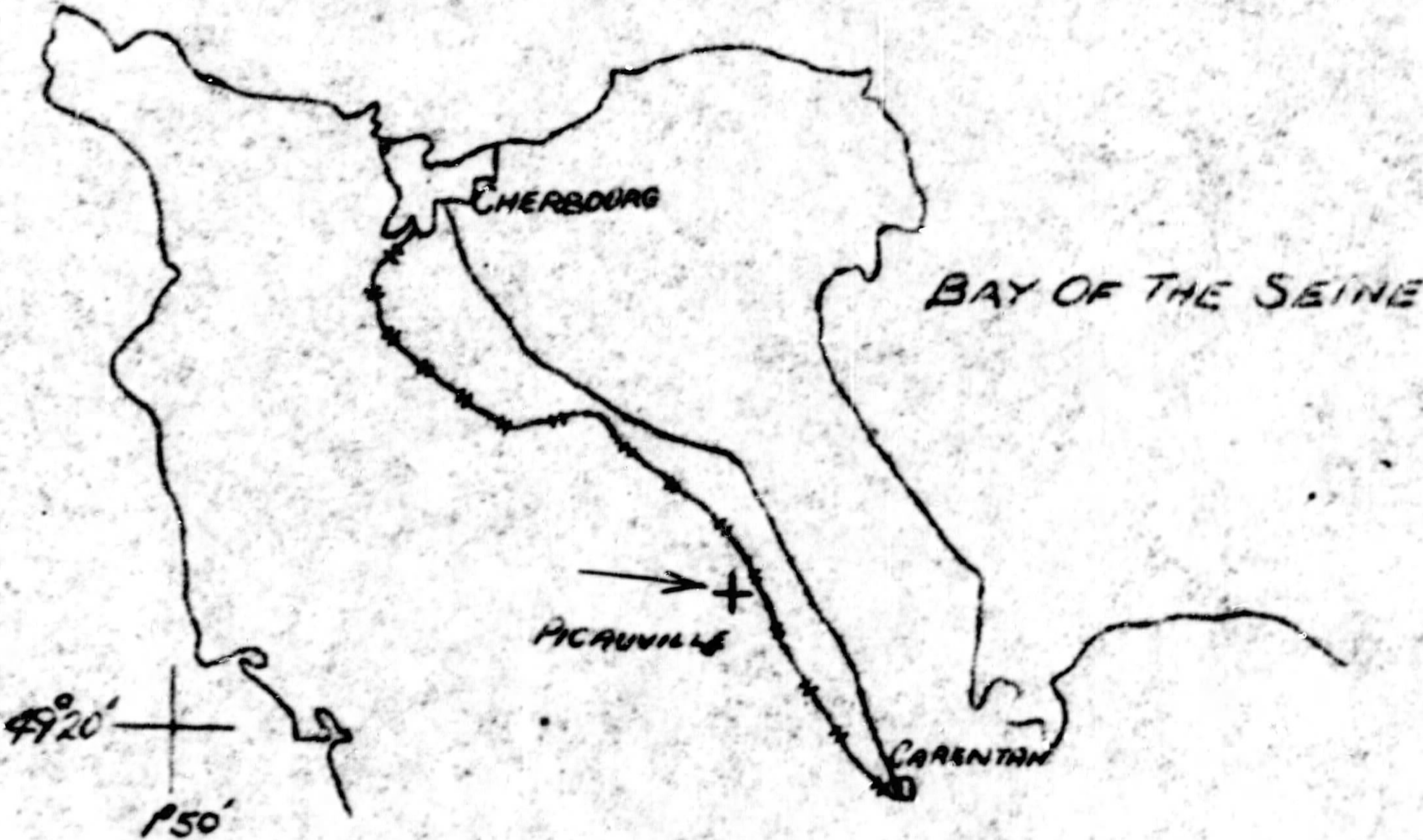
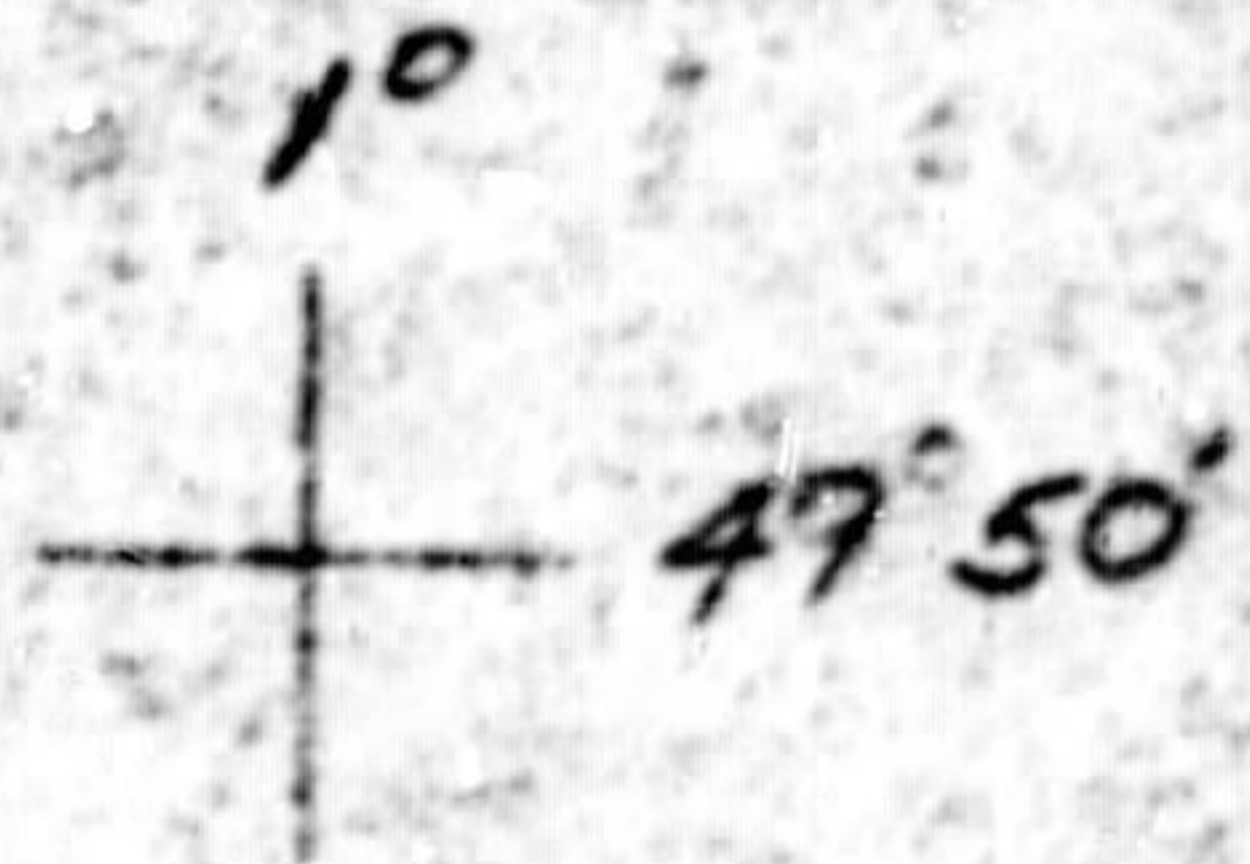
Annex 2. Statement of Lt. Rosengraft.

Annex 3. " " Lt. Purkey.

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DIAGRAM OF MISSING AIRCRAFT



MAP
LE HAVRE 1:500,000
G S G S NO. 4072

+ LOCATION OF CRASH

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SECRET

Document No.

782

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8 June 1944.

Statement of 2nd Lt. David E. Rosengrants, 0525179, Pilot, 32d T.C. Sq.

As we were going into the DZ on 7 June 1944 at about 0617 hours, I saw an element of three planes off to my right. Ship No. 43-15146 was flying off the right wing of the element. I passed over the DZ right behind this element and the last I saw of ship No. 43-15146, it had made a 180 degree turn to the left and was in a spiral with the left wing low. I did not see this ship crash nor did I see it again. At the time I witnessed this, Ship No. 43-15146 was about fifty feet off the ground and my altitude was approximately 250 feet.

David E. Rosengrants
DAVID E. ROSENGRANTS,
2nd Lt, AC,
Pilot

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Annex 2¹

Document No. 6098

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Statement of 2nd Lt. Glenn E. Purkey, 0525180, Pilot, 32d T. C. Sq.

I have read the statement of 2nd Lt. Rosenkrantz and I saw the element off to his right drop their bundles and turn. I also saw a ship in this element crash on the ground. I do not know the number of the ship that crashed, however, its left wing went into the ground first. I knew that 2nd Lt. Rosenkrantz' ship was just ahead of me as he had passed me and was in my sight from the time of passing until we were over the DZ.

Glenn E. Purkey
GLENN E. PURKEY,
2nd Lt, AC,
Pilot.

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MACR 5712
C-47

5.

7 June 44 at 0630
Places Picanville (Cotontan)
Type C 47-Dakota
32nd T.C.Sqd.
61st T.C.Group
Base Grantham

Cpt. BENNETT, Robert
2nd Lt. KING,
2nd Lt. MANGUJO, (559 A ?)
S/Sgt. SOFRANCO, Joseph M.
Sgt. KOSTA, A.

No.: 1000/A/29

0-729138 .

33291763 .

MACR
5712

REPORT OF CAPTURE OF PARATROOPERS

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN

6/7/44 0630

CASUALTY NO. USA 1000/A/29

PLACE OF CRASH

COLUMBIA

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT

C-47

REPORTING OFFICE

NAME	RANK	SERIAL NUMBER	CAPT'D WOUNDED DEAD	PLACE OF INTERNMENT
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SOFRANCO,	Joseph H.	A/Sgt. 33291763	captured	Dulag Luft
HEWITT,	Robert	Capt. 0-729108	captured	Dulag Luft

REMARKS
Dulag Luft, 9/7/44 No.