

Classification changed  
to CONFIDENTIAL  
by E. A. BRADONAS, Lt. Col., AG  
by F. M. MURPHY, Capt., AC  
Date 1-5-1944

HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON  
MISSING AIR CRAFT REPORT

7982

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

- Folkingham, Lincolnshire
- ORGANIZATION: Location Folkingham, Lincolnshire Command or RAF Station IX T.O.  
Group 315th T.G. Squadron 49th T.G. Detachment \_\_\_\_\_
  - SPECIFY: Point of Departure Folkingham Airfield Course South by East  
Intended Destination Cherbourg Peninsula Type of Mission Operational (Passenger)
  - WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LOST:  
REPORTED visibility 5 to 10 miles, 8/10 to 10/10 cloud coverage
  - GIVE: (a) Date 2 June 1944 Time 0822 G and Location N.W. Coast of Cherbourg Peninsula  
of last known whereabouts of missing airplane. ( ) Last contacted by Radio:  
( ) Forced down; ( ) Seen to crash; or ( ) Information not available.
  - 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: Unknown
  - AIRPLANE: Type, Model and Series C-47 AAF Serial No. 42-82268
  - ENGINE: Type, Model and Series R-1820-92 AAF Serial No. (a) 2354542  
(b) 2354591 (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_
  - INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Type, Type and Serial No.)  
(a) None (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_  
(e) \_\_\_\_\_ (f) \_\_\_\_\_ (g) \_\_\_\_\_ (h) \_\_\_\_\_
  - THE WEAPONS LISTED None REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X  
or (b) Non-Battle Casualty \_\_\_\_\_
  - NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRPLANE: Crew 5 Passengers 16 Total 21  
(Starting with pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 10 persons were aboard airplane, list similar particulars on separate sheets and attach original to this form.)

	Crew Position	Name in Full (Last, First)	Rank	Serial Number
1.	Pilot	Reynolds, William Robert	1st Lt	0-772243
2.	Co-Pilot	Shiple, Robert Ross	1st Lt	0-669524
3.	Nav	Tommy, Walter Richards	2nd Lt	0-877318
4.	CC	Schumacher, Martin Robert	1st Lt	14037895
5.	AO	Weyer, Roy Warren	2nd Lt	36361713
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				

*Handwritten:* PASSENGERS ON NEXT PAGE

*Handwritten:* Incc 10

*Handwritten:* Capt. P. H. ...  
1085 Paul St.  
... ..



[REDACTED]

**PARRANGERS:**

1. All persons listed below were members of 508th Parachute Infantry, 82nd Airborne Division.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>A. S. N.</u>
<del>Jann, George D.</del>	<del>1st Lt</del>	<del>0-1287020</del>
<del>Mopherson, Miles B.</del>	<del>Pfc</del>	<del>11096173</del>
<del>Stork, Vernon F.</del>	<del>Pfc</del>	<del>17131632</del>
<del>Laps, George</del>	<del>Pfc</del>	<del>13084701</del>
<del>Gibson, Robert E.</del>	<del>Pfc</del>	<del>34404199</del>
<del>Ledesma, Rigoberto</del>	<del>Pfc</del>	<del>39249511</del>
<del>Prester, Bruno S.</del>	<del>Pfc</del>	<del>33327516</del>
<del>Putt, James S.</del>	<del>Pfc</del>	<del>13125652</del>
<del>Groh, Earl L.</del>	<del>Pvt</del>	<del>32733627</del>
<del>Adelman, Edward A.</del>	<del>Pfc</del>	<del>14133639</del>
<del>Davis, Harry K.</del>	<del>Cpl</del>	<del>15323102</del>
<del>Gouge, Howard H.</del>	<del>Pvt</del>	<del>34404189</del>
<del>Bernardi, Dominic</del>	<del>Pvt</del>	<del>33423479</del>
<del>Kass, Stanley</del>	<del>Pvt</del>	<del>12156731</del>
<del>Marsh, Marvin</del>	<del>Pvt</del>	<del>15100939</del>
<del>Clement III, George W.</del>	<del>Sgt</del>	<del>12152385</del>

8-47  
6/2/44

[REDACTED]

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

7 June 1944.

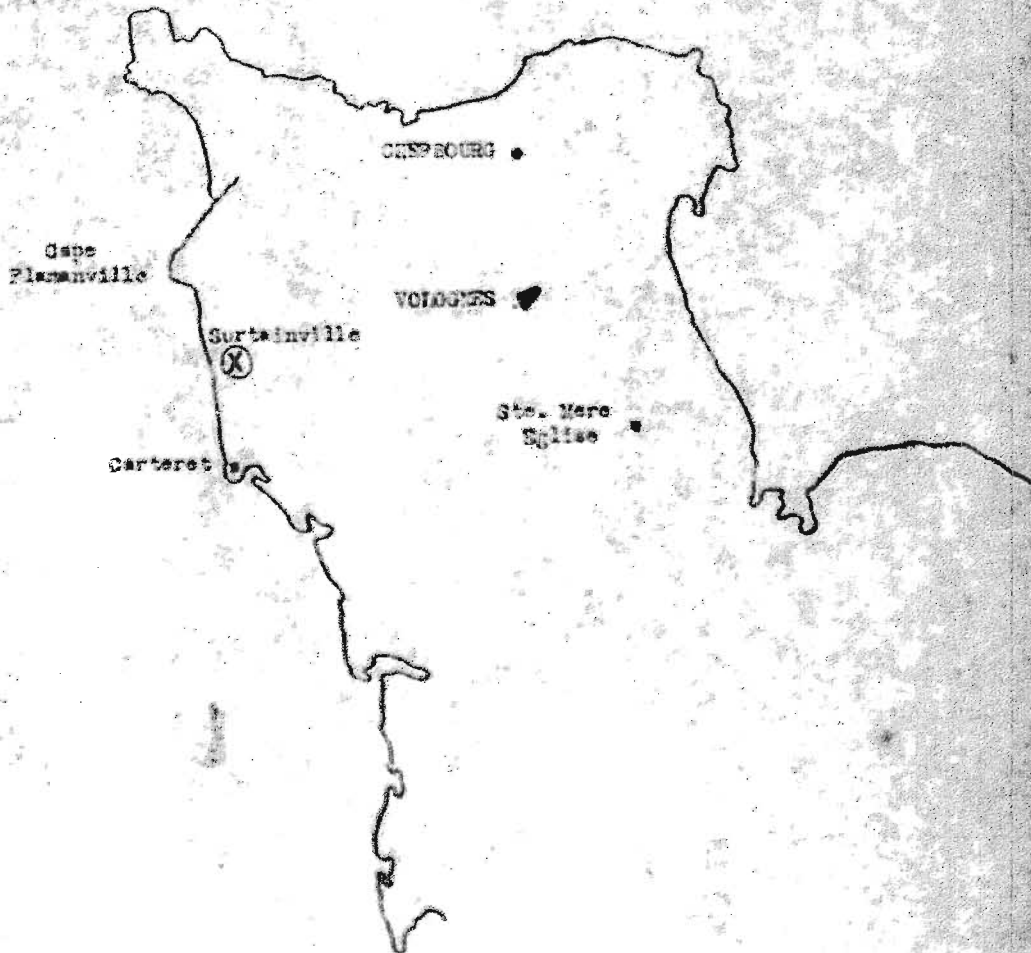
Airplane C-47A, AAF #42-92868, assigned to 49th Troop Carrier Squadron, was last seen flying southeast between Cape Flamenville and the town of Carteret on the Cherbourg peninsula. Aircraft appeared to be functioning properly at that time. Observer entered cloud and did not see subject aircraft again.

*Frederick T. Crouse*  
FREDERICK T. CROUSE,  
1st Lt, Air Corps,

[REDACTED]

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DIAGRAM OF CHERBOURG PENINSULA



(X) - APPROXIMATE POINT AIRPLANE C-47A, AAF 442-22803 WAS LAST SIGHTED.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Missing Air Crew Report.

TO : Commanding General, Ninth Air Force, APO 696, U. S. Army,  
Attention: 26th Statistical Control Unit. (THRU CHANNELS).

1. The Missing Air Crew Report is herewith transmitted of Aircraft C-47A, AAF Serial No. 42-92868. The Pilot was 1st Lt WILLIAM ROBERT ROYCRAFT, ASN G-729243, 49th Troop Carrier Squadron, 313th Troop Carrier Group.

2. 1st Lt WILLIAM R. ROYCRAFT took off in this aircraft from Folkingham Airdrome, Lincolnshire County, England, at 2320 hours, 5 June 1944, on operational mission "Neptune No.1".

3. Identifications on the aircraft were as follows: The Squadron Code Letter M2 was painted gray in six inch strokes forty-eight inches high between the pilot window and navigation window on both the port and starboard side of the fuselage; the individual aircraft code letter "T" was painted gray in six inch strokes forty-eight inches high on both sides of the vertical stabilizer, and approximately four inches from the rear of the vertical stabilizer; the field number 294 was painted in white in two inch strokes twelve inches high on both sides of the nose section; the aircraft AAF serial number 292868 was painted in red parallel with and below the individual aircraft code letter on both sides of the vertical stabilizer in two inch strokes approximately eight inches high; and the Chalk figure 16 was marked on the fuselage left of the cargo door.

4. Aircraft was last sighted over enemy occupied territory.

For the Squadron Commander

Signed

GEORGE A. SMITH,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Operations Officer

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49TH TROOP CARRIER SQUADRON  
313TH TROOP CARRIER GROUP  
ARMY AIR FORCES

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

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Missing Air Crew Report.

TO: Commanding General, Ninth Air Force, APO 696, U. S. Army,  
Attention: Statistical Control Unit. (THRU CHANNELS).

1. The Missing Air Crew Report is herewith transmitted of Aircraft C-47A, AAF Serial No. 42-92868. The Pilot was 1st Lt WILLIAM ROBERT ROYCRIFT, ASN O-729243, 49th Troop Carrier Squadron, 313th Troop Carrier Group.

2. 1st Lt WILLIAM R. ROYCRIFT took off in this aircraft from Fellingham Airbase, Lincolnshire County, England, at 2320 hours, 5 June 1944, on operational mission "Operation No. 17".

3. Identifications on the aircraft were as follows; The Squadron Code letter H8 was painted gray in six inch strokes forty-eight inches high between the pilot window and navigation window on both the port and starboard side of the fuselage; the individual aircraft code letter "E" was painted gray in six inch strokes forty-eight inches high on both sides of the vertical stabilizer, and approximately four inches from the rear of the vertical stabilizer; the field number 294 was painted in white in two inch strokes twelve inches high on both sides of the nose section; the aircraft AAF serial number 292868 was painted in red parallel with and below the individual aircraft code letter on both sides of the vertical stabilizer in two inch strokes approximately eight inches high; and the Greek figure 16 was worked on the fuselage left of the cargo door.

4. Aircraft was last sighted over enemy occupied territory.

For the Squadron Commander:

*George A. Smith*  
George A. Smith,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Operations Officer.

3 Encls:

- Incl 1 - Missing Air Crew Report (in trip).
- Incl 2 - Geographical Sketch (in trip).
- Incl 3 - Statement, 1st Lt. Crouse (in trip).

*MSC-1*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS  
UNITED STATES ARMY

JWP/eg.

AG 360.33

AFPO 871.  
8 September 1944.

SUBJECT: Missing Air Crew Report.

TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington, D.C.  
ATTENTION: Statistical Control Division.

1. Forwarded herewith, Missing Air Crew Report of the Ninth Air Force.
2. Records this headquarters indicate the present status of the crew members to be as shown below:

1st Lt.	William R. Roycraft	0-729243	MIA	6 June 1944.
1st Lt.	Robert F. Shipley	0-446624	MIA	6 June 1944.
2nd Lt.	Walter R. Remsey	0-807313	MIA	6 June 1944.
T/Sgt.	Martin R. Schumacher	16037695	MIA	156 June 1944.
S/Sgt.	Roy W. Gayer	36351713	MIA	6 June 1944.

3. Correspondence has been initiated by this headquarters to obtain supplementary information concerning subject aircraft from the Paratroopers who were passengers aboard aircraft, and are now present for duty. The correspondence will be forwarded to your headquarters upon completion.

For the Theater Commander:

*N. M. Rumb*  
M. RUMB,  
Col., AGD,  
Adjutant General.

- 3 Incls:
- Incl 1 - Missing Air Crew Report, 313rd T. C. Op. C-47A, 42-42868, 6 June 1944.
  - Incl 2 - Letter Headquarters 49th T.C. Squadron, Subj: "Transmittal Missing Air Crew Report," dated 7 June 1944.
  - Incl 3 - Letter Headquarters 313rd T.C. Op, Subj: Supplemental Missing Air Crew Report; dated 20 August 1944.

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*MC-24776*

*AC# 20-8324*



CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS  
3RD TROOP CARRIER GROUP, AAF  
APO 133, U. S. ARMY

704.

20 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Supplemental Missing Air Crew Report.

TO : Commanding General, Ninth Air Force (Rear), APO 896, U. S. Army. Attention: 26th Statistical Control Unit.  
(THRU CHANNELS)

1. Attention is invited to Missing Air Crew Report, 45th Troop Carrier Squadron this Group, dated 7 June 1944 pertaining to aircraft C-47A, AAF Serial No. 42-02866, 1st Lt. William R. Roycraft, O-729243, pilot.

2. It is requested the present status "Missing in Action" on T/Sgt. Martin R. Schumacher, ASN 16037405, crew chief on the above missing aircraft, be amended to read "Killed in Action", 15 June 1944. A true copy of the Report of Burial received this date from Headquarters, Ninth Air Force. No further information received re remainder of crew.

For the Commanding Officers:

*E. J. Lovett*  
E. J. LOVETT,  
Capt, AG,  
1st Lt Pers O.

704

1st Ind.

G-5

HEADQUARTERS, 52ND TROOP CARRIER WING, AAF, APO 133, U.S. ARMY, 21 Aug. '44

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

*H. F. H.*

*Supplemental  
Information*

Incl 3

Document No. 2587

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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AG 704 (20 Aug 44) 2nd Ind. C-1K  
HEADQUARTERS, IX TROOP CARRIER COMMAND, APO 133, US ARMY, 26 August 1944

TO: Commanding General, Ninth Air Force (REAR), APO 696, US ARMY;  
ATTENTION: 26th Statistical Control Unit.

Missing Air Crew Report pertaining to subject casualty was forwarded to your headquarters on 10 June 1944.

For the Commanding General.

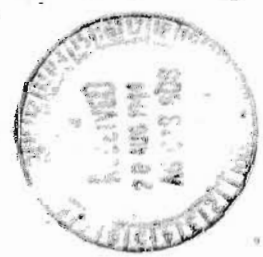


*O. W. Howard*  
O. W. HOWLAND,  
Colonel, A. G. D.,  
Adjutant General.  
0-13600

704. 3rd Ind. I-RS-12  
26TH STATISTICAL CONTROL UNIT, HEADQUARTERS NINTH AIR FORCE (REAR), APO 696, U S ARMY, 26 August 1944

TO: Commanding General, SOS, ETOUSA, APO 871, U S Army,  
Attention: Statistical Control Section.

For the Commanding Officers:



*Robert J. Sutton*  
ROBERT J. SUTTON,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Operations Officer.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

8987

HEADQUARTERS 506TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY  
A.P.O. 230, U. S. ARMY

15 September 1944

SUBJECT: Additional information.

TO: Commanding General, Hqs., European T of Opas U. S. Army, A PO  
871, U. S. A ray. Thru(Commanding General, 82nd A/B Div, APO 469  
U. S. A ray).

1. Statement by 1st Lt. George D. Lamm, O1287020 is forwarded your headquarters giving information pertaining to aircraft number 42-92868 which is carried on Theatre records as missing in action, 6 June 1944.

Aircraft No. 42-92868 was my carrier in the operation of 6 June 1944. All the paratroopers in the plane jumped at hr. 0230, 6 June 1944 about 1500 yards west of St. Mere Eglise, France. This was the last seen of the aircraft and when last seen it was receiving small arms fire however it did not seem to be in any trouble. It was flying in a westerly direction in the direction we had come in. The plane had received some anti-aircraft and small arms fire when we hit landfall coming in from the west on course to D.Z. however it had no noticeable effect at the time. We had missed the D.Z. so flew towards the East coast and then turned and came back on course to D.Z. in a westerly direct on. As we jumped we got some small arms fire but until the last man left the plane it had no effect. The last man out saw it headed west back the way we came in and it seemed to operating proper. I can't give any other information of value except when we jumped all the crew members were un-injured and there was no sign of anything wrong with the aircraft.

I certify that the above statement is a true copy of statement given by named officer.

For the Commanding Officer:

  
JOSEPH L. HARTSOUGH  
1st Lieut, Infantry  
Personnel Officer

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HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS  
UNITED STATES ARMY.

S: 98 October 1944.

JWP/eg.

AFO 871.

10 September 1944.

AG 319.1

SUBJECT: Additional information.

TO: Commanding Officer, 508th Parachute Infantry.  
THRU: Commanding General, 82nd Airborne Division, AFO 469.

1. It is requested that a statement by 1st Lt. George D. Lamm, O-1287020 be forwarded to this headquarters giving information pertaining to aircraft number 42-92868 which is carried on Theater records as missing in action, 6 June 1944. The statement should include the information noted below.

- a. If all paratroopers parachuted from aircraft.
- b. Time, location and condition of aircraft when last contacted.
- c. Whether aircraft encountered enemy aircraft, anti aircraft, or small arms fire.
- d. Any information concerning the welfare or whereabouts of the crew members of subject aircraft.
- e. Any additional information relevant to the loss of the plane.

2. It is further requested that if any other paratroopers who were aboard subject aircraft have knowledge of pertinent information, statements by them be included in the correspondence.

By command of General EISENHOWER:

*M. GILLES*  
M. GILLES,  
1st Lt. AGD,  
Asst. Adj. General.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

*Cur*

704

1st Ind.

OFF/g3v

HEADQUARTERS 82D AIRBORNE DIVISION, APO 459, U. S. Army, 17 September 1944.

TO: Commanding General, European Theater of Operations, APO 871, U. S. Army.

Basic communication complied with.

For the Commanding General:

*M. E. Stuart*  
M. E. STUART,  
Major, A. G. D.,  
Actg. Adj. Gen.

1 Incl added:  
Statement by Lt. Lamm





SUPPLEMENTAL  
THEATER CONFIDENTIAL

MSC. 17

7982

AG 319.1 2nd Ind. JWP/for  
HEADQUARTERS, EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS, APO 871, U.S. ARMY,  
22 September 1944.

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

1. The attached statement by 1st Lt. George D. Lamm, O-1E87020 is forwarded as a supplement to the Missing Air Crew Report concerning the loss of aircraft number 42-92868.

2. The original Missing Air Crew Report concerning aircraft number 42-92868 was forwarded to your headquarters by letter this headquarters AG 360.35, subject: "Missing Air Crew Report," dated 8 September 1944.

3. No additional information is available.

For the Theater Commander:

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

*Helli*  
1 Incl:  
n/c

[REDACTED]

MC-27207

96-12151

1st Lt. William A. Roycraft

Mrs. Leah A. Roycraft, (Wife)  
513 Pleasant Street,  
Mankato, Minnesota.

2nd Lt. Walter E. Rowley

Mrs. E. E. Rowley, (Wife)  
127 Chestnut Street,  
Holyoke, Massachusetts.

1st Lt. Robert F. Shipley

Mrs. Kathryn Klein, (Mother)  
1605 Pope Street,  
Saint Louis, Missouri.

T/Sgt. Martin R. Schmacher

Mrs. Emma Johns, (Mother)  
631 Saint John Street,  
Elgin, Illinois.

S/Sgt. Roy E. Geyer

Mr. Joseph E. Geyer, (Father)  
1913 Montrose Avenue,  
Chicago, Illinois.