

RESTRICTED
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 aircraft is officially reported missing.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location: APC 925 Command or Air Force Army
GROUP 3rd Bombardment; SQUADRON 90th Bombardment; DETACHMENT _____
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure _____; Course _____
Intended Destination _____; Type of Mission Bombing Run
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: _____
4. GIVE: (a) Date 23 July 43 Time _____; And Location of Last known whereabouts of missing aircraft Hanische Harbor, Huon Gulf, N. G.
(b) Specify whether (X) Last sighted; () last contacted by radio; () Forced down; () Seen to Crash; or () Information not available.
5. AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF (Check only one: () Enemy Aircraft; () Enemy Anti-Aircraft; () Other Circumstances as follows _____
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series _____: AAF Serial No. _____
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series _____; AAF Serial No. (a) _____
(b) _____ (c) _____ (d) _____
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)
(a) _____: (b) _____: (c) _____: (d) _____
(e) _____: (f) _____: (g) _____: (h) _____
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty x
or (b) Non-Battle Casualty _____
10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 5: Passengers _____: Total 5
(Starting with pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 10 persons were aboard aircraft, 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:	Wertz, Oscar L.	Capt.	0-408875
2. CP	Houser, Charles J.	2/Lt.	0-733193
3.	Maddox, Glenn J.	2/Lt.	0-735620
4.	Keith, Jack R.	S/Sgt.	14032940
5.	Kennedy, Walter J.	S/Sgt.	33182755
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			

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

Captain Oscar L. Werts
(Killed in action)

Mrs. Oscar L. Werts, (Wife)
839 Floral Drive,
Orlando, Florida.

2d Lt Charles J. Houser
(Killed in action)

Mrs. Laura W. Houser, (Mother)
108 Lexington Road,
Montgomery, Alabama.

2d Lt Glenn J. Maddox
(Killed in action)

Mrs. Glenn J. Maddox, (Wife)
614 West Howard Street,
Muncie, Indiana.

S/Sgt Jack R. Keith
(Killed in action)

Mrs. Pat McCarty, (Mother)
319 West 18 Street,
Hopinsville, Kentucky.

S/Sgt Walter J. Kennedy
(Killed in action)

Mrs. & Mrs. Walter Kennedy, Sr., (Parents)
160 East 48 Street,
New York, New York.

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BASIC: Ltr fr AAF, Washington, file AAF 201-Houser, Charles J. 0733193,
dtg 18 Dec 43, subject: "Missing Air Crew Personnel".

AG 201-Houser, Charles J. (C) 1st Ind.
HEADQUARTERS, FIFTH AIR FORCE, APO 925, 3 January, 1944.

R-1

TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington, D.C.

1. In compliance with paragraph 1 of basic communication the following details concerning the circumstances under which Second Lieutenant CHARLES J. HOUSER, O-733193, was "killed in action" are submitted. The following named personnel comprise a complete list of the men aboard a 90th Bombardment Squadron, 3rd Bombardment Group Airplane which was reported "missing in action" 23 July, 1943, when it was observed to crash after making a bombing run on some enemy barges near Hanische Harbor, Huon Gulf, New Guinea:

Captain	OSCAR L. WERTZ	O-408875
2nd Lieut.	CHARLES J. HOUSER	O-733193
2nd Lieut.	GLENN J. MADDOX	O-735620
Staff Sgt.	JACK R. KEITH	14032940
Staff Sgt.	WALTER J. KENNEDY	33182755

Some time later, after the Allied troops had taken the ground positions in the vicinity that the plane was lost, the airplane and the remains of the personnel were found making it necessary to change their casualty status from "missing in action" to "killed in action".

2. A Missing Air Crew Report was not rendered by the 90th Bombardment Squadron, 3rd Bombardment Group, at the time that the aircraft was lost due to the fact that the report was not then required by the Fifth Air Force. The report is now believed to be unnecessary inasmuch as all personnel aboard the airplane were "killed in action". This Headquarters has interpreted War Department Letter AG 360.33(5-21-43)OB-S-AF-M, dated 23 May, 1943, to mean that Missing Air Crew Reports were required only on "Missing" or "Missing in Action" cases, as, according to paragraph 1: "Existing casualty reports concerning missing Air Crew personnel do not cover in sufficient detail all known facts with which other sources can be checked and a determination of the fate of such personnel made at some later date."

For the Commanding General:

O. C. Van Hoesen
O. C. VAN HOESEN
Lt Col AGD
Adj Gen.

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To*

Classification changed
to **RESTRICTED**
by E. A. BRADONAS, Lt. Col., AG
by F. M. MURPHY, Lt. Col., AG
Date **OCT 15 1945**

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