

5294

SECRET
WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

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

1. ORGANIZATION: Location HARRINGTON Command or Air Force
VIII AFCC Group 801st Bomb Gp (H) (Prov) Squadron 406th BS (H)
Detachment _____

2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure HARRINGTON Course _____
SECRET Intended Destination FRANCE Type of
Mission OPERATIONAL.

3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST SIGHTED
UNKNOWN.

4. GIVE: (a) Date May 29, 1944: Time 2309 and location HARRINGTON of
last known whereabouts of missing aircraft. (b) Specify whether () Last Sighted
() Last contacted by Radio. () Forced down () Seen to crash or (X) Information not available.

5. AIRCRAFT WAS LOST OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST AS A
RESULT OF: (Check only one) () Enemy aircraft () Enemy antiaircraft () Other circumstances as follows:
UNKNOWN

6. AIRCRAFT: Type model and series B-24DSA or Serial Number 42-40478

7. ENGINES: Type model and Series R-1830-43 and Serial Numbers:

(a) 42-45431 (b) CP-311486 (c) CP-310450 (d) 42-39930

8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below make, type, and serial number.

(a) Browning (b) Cal. 50 (c) M2 (d) 209923
(e) Browning (f) Cal. 50 (g) M2 (h) 474499
(i) Browning (j) Cal. 50 (k) M2 (l) 474254
(m) Browning (n) Cal. 50 (o) M2 (p) 474677

9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualties

YES (b) Non-Battle Casualties

10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 9 Passengers 0

Total 9 .

(Starting with pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 10 persons were aboard aircraft list similar particulars on separate sheet and atch original to this form.)

	NAME IN FULL (LAST NAME FIRST)	RANK	SERIAL NO.	
1. Pilot	<u>FITZPATRICK, ERNEST BEAUMONT, JR</u>	<u>1st Lt</u>	<u>0803801</u>	<u>RTD</u>
2. Co-Pilot	<u>THIRIOT, RICHARD VERNON</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0743217</u>	<u>RTD</u>
3. Navigator	<u>SHERWOOD, JAMES STECK</u>	<u>1st Lt</u>	<u>0808159</u>	<u>RTD</u>
4. Bombardier	<u>LASICKI, JOSEPH JOHN</u>	<u>1st Lt</u>	<u>0682554</u>	<u>RTD</u>
5. Top Turret Gunner	<u>SWARTZ, WALTER WEBSTER</u>	<u>T/SGT</u>	<u>13127988</u>	<u>RTD</u>
6. Ball Turret Gunner	_____	_____	_____	_____
7. R. Waist Gunner	<u>WILLIAMS, JAMES EDWIN</u>	<u>S/SGT</u>	<u>34086363</u>	<u>RTD</u>
8. L. Waist Gunner	_____	_____	_____	_____
9. Tail Gnr	<u>SCHACK, WILLIAM EDWARD</u>	<u>S/SGT</u>	<u>15300227</u>	<u>RTD</u>
10. Radio Opr & Gnr	<u>KASZA, PAUL PETER</u>	<u>T/SGT</u>	<u>35520266</u>	<u>RTD</u>
EXTRA NAVIGATOR –	<u>DEGROTHY, CORNELL (NMI)</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>0687999</u>	<u>RTD</u>

(788th BS (H))

11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME. (Check only one column)

Contacted

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	By Radio
1. _____			
2. _____			
3. _____			
4. _____			
5. _____			

Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1. _____		
2. _____		
3. _____		
4. _____		
5. _____		

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 AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN UNKNOWN.

14. ATTACH EYE WITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT UNKNOWN.

15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK, AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE NONE.

Date of Report: 31 MAY 1944

Howard B Bosworth
(Signature of Preparing Officer)
HOWARD B. BOSWORTH
1ST LT., AIR CORPS
STATISTICAL OFFICER

JUNE 24, 1944
RECEIVED 7:00 PM

AFPPA-12

Report on capture of an
aircraft of the USAAF

Case No. KU 2126

Date and time aircraft was shot down: May 30, 1944 – 01.28
 Place of crash: St. Laurent near Namur
 Type of airplane: Liberator
 Reporting officer: POW-Collecting Center Brussels

NAME	RANK	ASN	CAPT'D WOUNDED DEAD	PLACE OF INTERNMENT ¹ CAMP NAME
LASICKI Joseph John Feb. 11, 17 N.Y.	1/Lt.	0-072554	Capt'd	Dulag Luft
SCHACK William Edward Mar. 2, 22 Chicago, Ill.	S/Sgt.	15300227	“	“
<u>Case No. KU 2126, 1st additional report, of July 20, 1944.</u>				
WILLIAMS James Edwin Jan.2, 20 Athens, Ga.	S/Sgt.	34086363	“	Dulaga Luft
DE GROTHY Cornell Dec. 13, 22 Pittsburgh, Pa.	2Lt.	0-687-999	“	“

Dulag Luft, July 15, 1944

Identification tags: WILLIAM E SHACK
 15300227 T-43-42 A

¹ Schack and Williams were eventually interned in Stalag Luft IV until the end of the war. From “Barbed Wire Interlude”, copyright 1945 by Robert.W. Ludden.

C

JOSEPH J LASICKI
0-682554 T-43-42

B
C

2 sheets of prisoner's statement (filled out) enclosed.

Airbase Hqs E (v) 217/KI,

OFFICE OF STATION:
Postal Nr. L 35 217, District Postal Office,

LOCATION:
St. Trond 1.7.44 Brussels OFFICE OF APPRAISAL VALUES

REGARDING: DOWNED
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX) UNKNOWN-plane
EMERGENCY LANDINGS)
XXXXXXX
CRASH

AT: NEAR:

PERSONAL RECORDS OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

FAMILY NAME: SURNAME)
LAST NAME) L a s l c k i

FIRST NAME: CHRISTIAN NAME)
GIVEN NAME) Joseph

RANK: 1st/Lt.

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: SERIAL)
SERVICE) 0682554

NATIONALITY: USA Air Corps

STATEMENTS MADE AT TIME OF CAPTURE: 27.6.44
DATE OF CAPTURE:
EXACT LOCATION OF CAPTURE: Liege
CAPTURE EFFECTED BY: 3.Co Local Defence Unit St1. 771, Liege.

STATEMENT MADE AT RECOVERY OF DEAD:
DATE & TIME & PLACE OF RECOVERY:
CONDITION OF BODY:

THE PRISONER WORE: (~~UNIFORM~~) civilian clothes

DESCRIPTION OF IDENTIFICATION TAG:
HOW WERE PERSONAL RECORDS OF DEAD
ASCERTAINED:

DATE AND TIME OF BURIAL:

GRAVE LOCATION:

POSSIBLE IMPUTATION (*PLACING*) UNDER SERVICE OF THE
G.F.P. OR S.D., FOR PURPOSE OF ASCERTAINING ENEMY
PATRONAGE OR FAVOR: until 30 June 1944 Secret Field Police, Liege.

DELIVERED TO HOSPITAL:
DATE:

DATE AND TIME OF TRANSPORTATION TO
PRISONER CONCENTRATION POINT: 1 July 1944, Concentration Point, Brussels

REMARKS:

(*ATTEMPTED ESCAPE, PECULIARITIES IN BEHAVIOR OF PRISONER, ETC.*)

Signed: illegible
Major & Commandant

INVENTORY OF SECURED, PERSONAL EFFECTS OF PRISONER OR DEAD:
INVENTORY OF PERSONAL EFFECTS AND EQUIPMENT OF PRISONER OR DEAD:

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Ku 2126

Airbase Hq. E (v) 215/XI
Florennes.

Local Quarters, 30 May 1944.
Distribution:
Dulag Luft, Oberursal.

Final report on capture of enemy radio equipment and airplane crew-members.

Date of crash: 30 May 1944 – 01.25 – Place: 5km SW of St. Laurent, about 23 km E of Charleroi.

Type of Plane: Liberator

Identification marks: not identifiable
Factory No F or E 840478

Flight to target or return from: probably to target.

Kind of capture: Nightfighter: Downing by Lt. Kern, 1. N.F. Squad 4
By: Explosion in the air

Guard of plane was placed by: 7 Anton, relieved by Defence-Regiment 3/835;
Handed over to mayor of St. Laurent.

Photographs were made by: Air Hq. Le Gulot

Crew: probably escaped: 10 members.

Signed: illegible
Capt & Salvage Officer.

(Technical Information: next page)

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Salvage Troop 1. 50 763
Airbase Hq. E (v) 215/XI
Florennes.

Local Quarters, 31 May 1944

Technical reports.

Not paginated on microfilm
Some items may be out of order

Day of crash: 30 May 1944 01.25

Place: Laurent, 23 km E of Charleroi.

Type of Plane: Liberator

Factory No F or E on tail 8404778

Damage:

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------|--------|---------------|-----|
| 1.) | fuselage: | 98% | landing gear: | 80% |
| | wings: | 90% | tail: | 98% |
| 2.) | Engines: | 1. 98% | 2. 98% | |
| | | 3. 90% | 4. 90% | |

Metal-Propellers: 3 bladed (yellow head on each blade)
DRG No 6477 A-O Ser No: Nabe MFG – No – 10435

Armament:

1. 209926 Browning machine gun USA Cal. 12.7
2. 474254
3. 474499

Ammunition: belt about 100 shells cal 12.7 mm
Arrangement of belt: 2 black – 1 red – 2 blue –²

Bombs cannot be determined.

Plane has been loaded with enemy propaganda material.

Armour-plating: 1 piece 20mm

1 piece 15mm Location on the plane not

1 piece 9mm to be identified anywhere.

Radio equipment, Ser. No.

Referred to next page

² This arrangement would be 2 armor-piercing, 1 tracer, and 2 incendiary bullets.

Report:

On the crashed enemy plane, 30 May 1944,
Place of crash: Sart St. Laurent have been found
Following radio equipment:

- 1 Radio Reciever BC-433-B Serial No 41174
- 1 Radio Reciever BC-455-A Serial No 1389 order No 6373 – NY – 41
- 1 Radio Transmitter BC – 456 – A Serial No 216576
- 1 Radio Transmitter BC – 458 – A Serial No 45117
- 1 Radio Compass Unit BU – 433 – C Serial No 19418
- 1 equipment: NTV/APW – 127 Volt DC 110/B/25 Exou – 23763 – II 81 CRV
- 1 Type C N 43 AAT Aircraft Radio Receiver 24 volts 5 amp. DC Ser. 11595
- 1 Dynamo-engine DM – 32 – A Ser. No. 18782 Order No. 1509 – NY – 41
- 1 REEL (illegible) RL – 42 – A – Ser. No. 13090 Order No. 679 7PT CPO – 42
- 1 Frequency Motor DC – 221 P Serial No 1653
- 1 Equipment MCNT Ser. No 29176
- 6 Drycelles in brass-case 25x20x6cm

signed: illegible

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DATE: 30 May 1944 AT: 0128 RANK: _____ NAME: _____ KU 2126³ _____
PLACE: Sart St. Laurent 1st Lt. LASICKI, Joseph John
10 km southwest of Namur ASN: 0-872554

³ On microfiche, this frame and others are repeated but such identical frames are not shown in this transcription.

	1 st Lt.	FITZPATRICK, Ernest	ASN: ---
TYPE OF CRAFT: Liberator	2 nd Lt.	THIRIOT,	ASN: ---
	1 st Lt.	SHERWOOD, James	ASN: ---
406 (HB) Sqd – 801 Group	S/Sgt.	SCHACK, William Edward	ASN: 15300227
	T/Sgt.	SWARTZ, Walter	ASN: ---
	T/Sgt.	KASZA, Paul	ASN: ---
	S/Sgt.	WILLIAMS, James Edwin	ASN: 34086363
	2 nd Lt.	DE GROTHY, Cornell	ASN: 0-687999
	10 men escaped		

Transit camp Oberursel

Report on shutdown aircraft and POW's

Airdistrict Command: Belgium/North France: 30.May 1944

No.	Downed	time	site of crash	type	disposition of crew
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by

1	night- fighter	01.28	Sart St. Laurent, 10 km SE Namur	Liberator	7 men at large, unknown
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KU 2126

2nd Lt. Cornell DeGrothy

Mrs. Martha B. DeGrothy, (Mother)
9244 Cottage Grove Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

2nd Lt. Richard V. Thiriot

Mr. Ernest V Thiriot, (Father)
1608 South 15th East Street,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

1st Lt. Ernest B. Fitzpatrick, Jr.

Mrs. Elizabeth G. Fitzpatrick, (Mother)
30 Cottage Street,

Laconia, New Hampshire.

1st Lt. James S. Sherwood

Mr. Percy N. Sherwood, (Father)
3617 North Albemarle Street,
Arlington, Virginia.

1st Lt. Joseph J. Lasicki

Mrs. Florence Lasicki, (Mother)
1336 Elder Avenue,
Bronx, New York.

T/Sgt. Walter W. Swartz

Mrs. Martha Catharine Swartz, (Mother)
192 North Avenue E,
Cranford, New Jersey.

S/Sgt. James E. Williams

Mr. John H. Williams, (Father)
263 Milledge Circle,
Athens, Georgia.

S/Sgt. William E. Schack

Mrs. Kathleen L. Schack, (Wife)
1596 Clarence Avenue,
Lakewood, Ohio.

T/Sgt. Paul P. Kasza

Mrs. Nellie Kasza, (Mother)
3296 West 23rd Place,
Cleveland, Ohio.