

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority: NND 735001
 By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

WAR DEPARTMENT
 HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
 WASHINGTON

SERROS, J.C.
10234

Classification changed
 to **RESTRICTED**
 by S. S. [unclear] AC
 Date **MAR 15 1946**

Col., AC MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

This report will be compiled in triplicate by each Army Air Forces organization within 48 hours of the time an air crew member is officially reported missing.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location, by Name KINGSCLIFFE : Command or Air Force 8TH AF
 Group 20TH : Squadron 55TH Fighter : Detachment ---
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure KINGSCLIFFE : Course 064
 Target or Intended Destination MERSEBURG : Type of Mission ESCORT
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
HAZY 8/10 CLOUD COVER
4. GIVE: (a) Day 2 Month NOV Year 1944 : Time 1203 : and Location 5240 N-0750 E
10 Mi W Quackenbruck of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft
 (b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (x); 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: UNKNOWN - MECHANICAL FAILURE
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series P51D SNA : AAF Serial Number 44-13838
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if any ORIE BLOKIE
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series V1650-7 : AAF Serial V320578
 Number (a) _____; (b) _____; (c) _____; (d) _____
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number):
 (a) SAVAGE 1205163; (b) SAVAGE 1193270 : (c) SAVAGE 1194020
 (d) FRIGIDAIRE 1267385; (e) FRIGIDAIRE 1267577; (f) SAVAGE 1203784
 (g) _____; (h) _____; (i) _____
 (j) _____; (k) _____; (l) _____
 (m) _____; (n) _____; (o) _____
10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty YES
 or (b) Non Battle Casualty _____
11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 1 : Passengers 0 : Total 1
 (Starting with Pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 11 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	Current Status
1.	Pilot	SERROS, JEROME CHRIS	KIA	CAPTAIN 0-660688	MIA
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					

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

Check Only One Column

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted		Saw	
			by Radio	Last Sighted	Forced Crash	Landing
1. FREEMAN, DAVID L.	2ND LT	0-810316				X
2.						
3.						

13. 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) ALTITUDE GAVE AMPLE TIME TO BAIL OUT
14. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN OR HEARD FROM.
15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
16. GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH, IF ANY, INCLUDING DESCRIPTION AND EXTENT _____

Date of Report 8 NOVEMBER 1944

C. H. English

(Signature of Preparing Officer)

**C. H. ENGLISH,
 MAJOR, AIR CORPS,
 ADJUTANT.**

17. REMARKS:

- 2 -

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Missing Air Crew Report

S-2 SUMMARY OF EYE WITNESS ACCOUNT

20th Fighter Group

55th Fighter Squadron

DATE 2 NOVEMBER 1944 MISSION MERSEBURG BOMBER ESCORT
Pilot: SERROS, JEROME C. CAPTAIN 0-660688
(Name) (rank) (ASN)
Aircraft P-51D 5NA 44-13838 AB 4-320578 KI-3
(type) (Serial No.) (Markings)

1. Position of missing A/C when last sighted or contacted.
 - a. Polar Coordinates: 5240-0750
 - b. Altitude: 22,000
 - c. Last noted heading: 098 DEGREE
 - d. If out of formation, approximate distance from formation: IN FORMATION AT THE TIME HE PULLED AWAY.
2. Enemy opposition: None, type, intensity; Enemy aircraft, type, number, method of attack etc., with particular reference to missing A/C.

NIL

3. Damage to Missing A/C: fires, explosions, where sustained, etc. LOSS OF COOLANT. MECHANICAL FAILURE.
4. If A/C was out of control, describe. GOING DOWN IN UNCONTROLLED SPIN.
5. Not Applicable.
6. If pilot bailed out: Describe jump, including altitude of bailout, opening of chute, landing of pilot on ground. NO CHUTE SEEN BUT HIS ALTITUDE GAVE AMPLE TIME TO BAIL OUT.
7. Other remarks, not covered above. If additional space is required, use back of form. HE SAID ON R/T HE WAS TURNING BACK TO BASE. HE MADE THE TURN AND THEN ALMOST IMMEDIATELY STARTED SPINNING.

8. Date of Report. 2 NOVEMBER 1944

<u>Eye Witnesses:</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>A/C No.</u>
1.	FREEDMAN, DAVID L.	2ND LT.	0-810346	KI-P
2.	LEON, JACK D.	F/O	T-62399	KI-M
3.				
4.				
5.				

Interrogating Officer: Dean E. Eerlandson

DEAN E. ERLANDSON Capt, A/C.
Intelligence Officer,
55th Fighter Squadron.