

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

CONFIDENTIAL  
 WAR DEPARTMENT  
 HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES  
 WASHINGTON

12498

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 air crew member is officially reported missing.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location, by Name Kingsliffe : CGS or Air Force 8th  
 Group 20th Fighter : Squadron 77th Ftr. : Detachment
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure Kingsliffe : Course SEAS.  
 Target or Intended Destination Magdeburg Area : Type of Mission Strafing
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:  
Easy on deck - Cloud cover at 5,000 feet.
4. GIVE: (a) Day 19 Month Feb. Year 1945 Time 1350-1450 and Location 5 miles N of Northala  
 of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft  
 (b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted ( ) : Last contacted by radio ( ) : Forced down ( ) : Seen to crash (X) : or information not available ( )
5. AIRCRAFT WAS DOWN, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF:  
 (Check only one) Enemy Aircraft ( ) : Enemy Anti-Aircraft ( ) : Other Circumstances as Follows: Collision - struck tree.
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series P-51 D15 : AAF Serial Number 44-14715 ✓
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if Any None
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series V-1650-7 : AAF Serial Number (a) V-125693 ; (b) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (c) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (d) \_\_\_\_\_
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number):  
 (a) RD-127107 : (b) LG - 1277472 : (c) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (d) RD - 1277095 ; (e) LS - 1277214 ; (f) All Frigs.  
 (g) RI - 1277457 ; (h) LI - 1277478 ; (i) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (j) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (k) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (l) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (m) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (n) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (o) \_\_\_\_\_
10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X  
 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	<u>McCall, Robert E.</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>0-471061</u>	<u>MIA</u>
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.	<u>Yay, William C.</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>O-827184</u>				<u>X</u>
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 \_\_\_\_\_; (c) Any other reason (Specify) Unknown
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 None

Date of Report 21 February 1945

Joseph R. Genest  
(Signature of Preparing Officer)

JOSEPH R. GENEST,  
1st Lt., Air Corps.

17. REMARKS:

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Missing Air Crew Report  
S-1 SUMMARY OF EYE WITNESS ACCOUNT  
20th Fighter Group  
11th Fighter Squadron

DATE 19 February 1945 MISSION Strafing

Pilot: Murrell, Robert E. 1st Lt. O-674061  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

Aircraft P-51 D15 44-14975 LO-K  
(Type) (Serial No.) (Markings)

- Position of missing A/C when last sighted or contacted.
  - Polar Coordinates: 51°N - 100°E
  - Altitude: On track
  - Last noted heading: 25°N
  - If out of formation, approximate distance from formation: ---
- Enemy opposition: flak, type, intensity; Enemy aircraft, type, number, method of attack etc., with particular reference to missing A/C.

No flak noted on train which casualty was strafing.
- Damage to Missing A/C: fires, explosions, where sustained, etc.

Left wing hit tree while plane was traveling at high speed and aircraft went into ground. When last seen fuselage was intact, not burned.
- If A/C was out of control, describe.

Pilot seemed to misjudge distance needed for recovery.
- Not Applicable. ---
- If pilot bailed out: Describe jump, including altitude of bailout, opening of chute, landing of pilot on ground.

Nil.
- Other remarks, not covered above. If additional space is required, use back of form. While strafing in area approximately 2 miles N of Northam, Lt. Murrell made pass on a locomotive. On this pass his left wing struck tree, wing exploded and burned and rest of plane went into ground. Lt. Fay, his wingman (over)

Date of Report: 21 February 1945

<u>Eye Witness</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>A/C No.</u>
1.	Fay, William C.	1st Lt.	O-827185	44-11566
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

Interrogating Officer: Joseph R. Lewis  
Intelligence Officer,  
11th Fighter Squadron.

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