

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

Classification changed to Restricted by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AC by F. M. MUENCH, Capt., AC Date 2/22/88

WAR DEPARTMENT
 HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
 WASHINGTON

STITZER, S.G.

12547

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 KINGS CLIFFE; Command or Air Force 8TH Group 20TH FIGHTER; Squadron 55TH FIGHTER; Detachment 0
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure KINGS CLIFFE; Course 1450
 Target or Intended Destination MURNEBURG AREA; Type of Mission STRAFING
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
O/C AT 6,000 FEET - CLEAR ON DECK
4. GIVE: (a) Day 20 Month FEB Year 1945; Time 1155; and Location N OF WEISZENBURG (4906-1100) 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 LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF:
 (Check only one) Enemy Aircraft () ; Enemy Anti-aircraft () ; Other Circumstances as Follows: EXPLOSION OF TANK CARS. LT. STITZER'S A/C CAUGHT FULL IMPACT OF BLAST.
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series P-51D-50A; AAF Serial Number 44-13661
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if Any None
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series V-1650-7; AAF Serial Number (a) V-322191; (b) _____; (c) _____; (d) _____
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number):
 (a) FRIGIDAIRE; (b) 1268651; (c) FRIGIDAIRE 1267688
 (d) SAVAGE; (e) 1205587; (f) _____; (g) FRIGIDAIRE; (h) 1268611; (i) BROWN LIPE CHAPIN 1535382
 (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	STITZER, SYDNEY GEORGE	1ST LT.	0-719455	MIA
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

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 by		Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Forced Landing
			Radio	Other			
1. <u>LOWMAN, WALLACE EDWARD</u>	<u>1ST LT.</u>	<u>6-825167</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 _____; or (c) any other reason (Specify) _____
14. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN OR HEARD FROM.
15. ATTACH WITNESS 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 20 FEBRUARY 1945

Clifford W. Long
(Signature of Preparing Officer)
1ST LT., AIR CORPS
INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

17. REMARKS:

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Missing Air Crew Report

C-2 SUMMARY OF EYE WITNESS ACCOUNT

20th Fighter Group

55th Fighter Squadron

DATE 20 FEBRUARY, 1945

MISSION STRAFING

Pilot: STITZER, SYDNEY BECKETT 1ST LT. 0-719455
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)
Aircraft P-51D-D-DA 11-13 KI-B
(Type) (Serial No.) (Markings)

1. Position of missing A/C when last sighted or contacted.
 - a. Polar Coordinates: 4906-1100
 - b. Altitude: ON THE GROUND
 - c. Last noted heading: NOT APPLICABLE
 - d. If out of formation, approximate distance from formation: NOT APPLICABLE
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.
PILOT HAD JUST STRAFED TANK CAR WHICH EXPLODED WITH TREMENDOUS FORCE. A/C CAME THROUGH EXPLOSION ON ITS SIDE, ONE WHEEL DOWN, SOMETHING FELL FROM TAIL OF A/C, IT PLUNGED INTO THE GROUND AND EXPLODED.

4. If A/C was out of control, describe.
A/C EMERGED FROM EXPLOSION ON ITS SIDE, ROLLED THROUGH, LEVELLED OUT, ROLLED ON ITS BACK AND PLUNGED INTO GROUND.

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

7. Other remarks, not covered above. If additional space is required, use back of form.

NIL

8. Date of Report. 20 FEBRUARY, 1945

<u>Eye Witnesses:</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>A/C No.</u>
1.	LOWMAN, WALLACE EDWARD	1ST LT.	0-825467	KI-H
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

Interrogating Officer: William W. Long
6th Lt Col Air Corps
Intelligence Officer,
55th Fighter Squadron.