

**DECLASSIFIED**

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973



WILKINS

1437

RESTRICTED

Classification change by E. A. BRADY, Lt. Col., AF by F. M. MURPHY, Capt., AF  
WAR DEPARTMENT  
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON  
MISSING AIR CRAFT 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

C-1291-0

1. ORGANIZATION: Location AAF Station F-367; Command or Air Force Eighth  
Group 20th Fighter; Squadron HEADQUARTERS; Detachment AAF Station F-131
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure AAF Station F-131; Course South  
Intended Destination Les Mureaux; Type of Mission Escort
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:  
5 - 7/10ths over Channel and Target
4. GIVE: (a) Date 7 Nov 43; Time 0918; and Location Ruthampstead  
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.  
(b) Specify whether (X) Last Sighted; ( ) Last contacted by Radio;  
( ) Forces 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
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series P-38H510; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-67022
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series V-1710-91A89; A.A.F. Serial Number (a) 42-94750  
(b) 42-30612; (c) \_\_\_\_\_; (d) \_\_\_\_\_
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Link, Type and Serial Number)  
(a) 409619 Cal. 50; (b) 378416 Cal. 50; (c) 587401 20MM; (d) M Gun Frigidaire  
(e) 409635 50; (f) 410291 50; (g) \_\_\_\_\_; (h) Cannon Oldsmobile
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X  
or (b) Non-Battle Casualty \_\_\_\_\_
10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew \_\_\_\_\_; Passengers 0; Total 1  
(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
D#D1. Pilot	WILKINS, JOHN C.	MAJOR (RA)	0-22851
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LOST KING LEADS OR AIRCRAFT, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SALES:  
Check Only One Column

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Number	By Radio	Lost Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
DAVIDSON, JAMES S.	1st Lt.	0-2044333		X		
2.						
3.						

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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) \_\_\_\_\_
13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP CHART, OR SKETCH SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.
14. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Report 9 November 1943.

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William E. Linton

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11 November 1943.

S T A T E M E N T

I was in the Control Tower at AAF Station F-131, and saw Major JOHN G. WILKINS, O-22851, take off on the mission on 7 November 1943 and report the following facts. He did not take-off on the mission in question until seven (7) minutes after the last ship of his formation, which was the last one, had taken-off. He raced around the perimeter taxi-way, after having, apparently, some trouble getting started, and took off on the wrong runway. This is to say that he took-off by himself after the other ships had been gone for seven (7) minutes. After he passed out of sight at this Station, he was not seen or heard from anymore. There was neither radio or visual contact with him again.

11 November 1943.

*James S. Davidson*  
JAMES S. DAVIDSON,  
1st Lt., Air Corps.

8FC/3222P6