

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

**AITMAN
1969**

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E.O. 12065, Sec. 3-402

775072

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

By 3/2/69 NARS, Date 1/27/21

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 aircraft is officially reported missing.

- ORGANIZATION: Location AAF Sta F-368; Command or Air Force VIII F Comd.
Group 20th Fgtr Grp; Squadron 55th F Sq Detachment
 - SPECIFY: Point of Departure Sta F-368; Course 67° out
Intended Destination Kiel, Germany; Type of Mission Target Support
 - WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
C A V U
 - GIVE: (a) Date Jan 5/44 Time 1120; and Location South Shore, Wengerooge Island, Germany
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft. (b) Specify whether () Last Sighted; () Last contacted by Radio; () Forces Down; (X) Seen to Crash; or () Information not Available.
 - AIRCRAFT WAS LOOT, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one () Enemy Aircraft; () Enemy Anti-Aircraft; () Other Circumstance as follows None
 - Aircraft: Type, Model and Series P-38 J 510 A.A.F. Serial Number 42-67194
 - ENGINES: Type, Model and Series V-1710-91A89A A.A.F. Serial Number (a) 42-94377
(b) 42-30495; (c) _____; (d) _____
 - INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)
(a) M/G UR 407220 (b) M/G UL 409829 (c) Frigidaire; (d) 20 MM Cannon
(e) M/G LR 397744 (f) M/G LL 406814 (g) Frigidaire; (h) International
 - THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty Yes Harvester
or (b) Non-Battle Casualty _____
 - NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 1; 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 |
|---------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Pilot | <u>AITMAN, ARTHUR THEODORE, JR</u> | <u>2nd Lieut.</u> | <u>0-745991</u> |
| 2. _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4. _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 5. _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 6. _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 7. _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 8. _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 9. _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 10. _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
- 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
- | Name in Full (Last Name First) | Rank | Serial Number | Contacted by | | Saw | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-------|----------------|
| | | | Radio | Last Sighted | Crash | Forced Landing |
| 1. <u>SERROS, ROME CHRIS</u> | <u>1st Lt.</u> | <u>0-660688</u> | | <u>X</u> | | |
| 2. _____ | _____ | _____ | | | | |

and 2'

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Missing Air Crew Report cont'd.

- ~~RESTRICTED~~
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.
 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 FROM None

Date of Report 7 January 1944

Charles F. Salter

(Signature of Preparing Officer)

CHARLES F. SALTER
Major, Air Corps
Adjutant

Reproduced at Ho. VIII FC
G-D-2 26 June 1943

RECEIVED
AIR G. S.



26 JAN 1944

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[REDACTED]

56TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, 20TH FIGHTER GROUP
ARMY AIR FORCES STATION F-368
A.P.O. #637, U. S. ARMY

JCS/E-4

6 January 1944.

S T A T E M E N T

1. Lt. Altman was flying behind me and on my right. I noticed that his right engine was smoking so I called him and told him to feather his propeller. There was no answer.

2. Later, I saw a P-38 go down with an engine smoking. I cannot say for sure that this airplane was Lt. Altman's.

X
Jerome C. Serros

JEROME C. SERROS,
1st Lt., Air Corps.

X

[REDACTED]

Jan 31

