

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

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4544

Classification changed

**RESTRICTED**

by 1. M. MUSEB, Capt., AC  
 Date 1 May 44

WAR DEPARTMENT  
 HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES  
 WASHINGTON  
 MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

IMPORTANT: This report will be completed in duplicate by each Army Air Forces organization within 48 hours of the time an aircraft is officially reported missing.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location AAF Sta F-368; Command or Air Force VIII  
 Group 20th Fighter; Squadron 55th Fighter Detachment
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure AAF Sta F-368; Course 119°  
 Intended Destination Liege, Belgium; Type of Mission Bomber escort
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:  
Hazy
4. GIVE: (a) Date 1 May 44; Time 1850; and Location Edy Airbase  
 of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.  
 (b) Specify whether  Last Sighted;  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 Reasons unknown
6. AIRCRAFT Type, Model and Series P38J 1510; A.A.F. Serial Number 42-104304
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series V-1710-91; A.A.F. Serial Number  
 (b) A-036392; (c) E-1710-89; (d) A-037827
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)  
 (a) 50 cal High standard IL 613562; (c) UL 614596; (d) IR 611511  
 (e) UR 613664; (f) 20mm Int. Harv; (g) 124445; (h) \_\_\_\_\_
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty yes  
 or (b) Non-Battle Casualty \_\_\_\_\_
10. 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>SHULTZ, WILLIAM GREGORY</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>O-744778</u>
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____
9. _____	_____	_____	_____
10. _____	_____	_____	_____
11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE USEFUL KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR S.I.D.:  
 Check Only One Column: \_\_\_\_\_ Contacted \_\_\_\_\_ Saw \_\_\_\_\_  

(Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	by Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Forced Landing
1. <u>WILSON, CY (MMT)</u>	<u>Lt. Col.</u>	<u>O-21538</u>		<u>X</u>		
2. <u>ERLANDSON, DEAN ERICKSON</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>O-571588</u>				<u>Took statement from 55th F. Gp.</u>

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Missing Air Crew Report cont'd.

12. IF PERSONNEL WERE 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) No information available.
13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN.
14. ATTACH EYE WITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, POSSIBLE CAUSE, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE HEIGHT OF SKY, WIND, AND TIME, AND NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE none

Date of Report 3 May 1944

*Charles F. Salter*  
(Signature of Preparing Officer)

CHARLES F. SALTER  
Major, Air Corps  
Adjutant

Reproduced at Hq VIII FC  
C-D-2 26 June 1943



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55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, 20TH FIGHTER GROUP  
A.P.O. #637, U. S. ARMY

DEE/S1

1 MAY 1944

STATEMENT

1. THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER OF THE 55TH FIGHTER GROUP REPORTED THE FOLLOWING: "ON 1 MAY 1944 THE 55TH "B" GROUP WAS DISPATCHED ON A SWEEP OVER ENEMY TERRITORY. CAPTAIN LEINWEBBER WAS LEADING THE GROUP ON THIS MISSION. AS THEY WERE CROSSING IN AT THE FRENCH COAST THEY SAW A TWIN-ENGINE AIRCRAFT, FLYING AT ABOUT 14,000 FEET, HIT BY FLAK AT 1954 HOURS. THE AIRCRAFT STARTED TO SPIN AND CONTINUED ON DOWN UNTIL OUT OF SIGHT."

2. THIS AIRCRAFT IS BELIEVED TO BE THE ONE PILOTED BY LT. SHULTZ BECAUSE OF THE FACT THERE WERE NO OTHER AIRCRAFT OF THIS TYPE REPORTED MISSING IN THAT IMMEDIATE AREA AT THE TIME OF THIS INCIDENT.

*Dean E. Erlandson*

DEAN E. ERLANDSON  
1ST LT., AIR CORPS  
INTELLIGENCE OFFICER  
55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
20TH FIGHTER GROUP

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*[Handwritten signature]*

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45442  
55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, 20TH FIGHTER GROUP  
A.P.O. #637, U. S. ARMY

MRM/S1

1 MAY, 1944

C E R T I F I C A T E

1. I CERTIFY THAT I, CY WILSON, LT. COL., AIR CORPS,  
SAW WILLIAM G. SHULTZ, 2ND LT., A.C., IN P-38-J15-L0, NO.  
42-104314, OVER ENEMY TERRITORY ON 1 MAY, 1944 AT APPROXIMATELY 1820 HOURS.

2. I WAS FLYING WHITE FLIGHT AND HAD TAKEN MY FLIGHT  
DOWN TO STRAFE HODY A/D. WE CROSSED THE FIELD FROM WEST  
TO EAST. THE FLAK WAS INTENSE ALL THE WAY ACROSS THE A/D.  
AFTER LEAVING THE FIELD I STAYED ON THE DECK FOR THIRTY  
SECONDS AND THEN TURNED BACK TO A 310 DEGREE COURSE. I  
NOTICED THAT MY RIGHT WING MAN WAS FLYING AS HIGH AS ONE  
THOUSAND (1,000) FEET. MY LEFT WING MAN HAD DISAPPEARED.  
I THEN CLIMBED TO REJOIN THE REST OF THE SQUADRON WHICH HAD  
BEEN PROVIDING TOP COVER. WHEN WE REFORMED MY RIGHT WING  
MAN WAS GONE.

*Cy Wilson*  
CY WILSON  
LT. COL., A.C.

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Flak Unit, Le Culot  
Heavy Flak Bn 594(v)(RAL)  
APO No. L 50244  
Air Zone PO Brussels  
Commanding Officer

Command Post, 6 May 1944

COMMENTARY

In the course of a great number of incoming and outgoing flights of enemy aircraft, among which the ER Repair Shops, <sup>(down)</sup> Loewen\* of this operational area were attacked, a number of Lightnings flew over the Le Culot field at an altitude of 2000-4500 met., 1 May 1944 at 1900 Hours. While these high flying craft were being successfully engaged by our heavy batteries, 4 other Lightnings appeared coming from a northerly direction, which separated (in different directions) shortly before reaching the field. Two craft turned toward the northeast, somewhat later 2 others toward the south east.

The aircraft fired with all their guns. The IIIId/4/744 suffered one killed and 2 wounded.

At the opportune moment, the light AA weapons opened fire on the closed formation of 4 Lightnings, before they had separated. One of the two which had turned to the northeast immediately showed a red gleam of fire and crashed shortly after northeast of the field. (1904 Hrs)

After the crash of this a/c, the light AA weapons were able for the greater part to effect change of target and to engage the a/c flying a north-westerly direction, whereupon one of the two craft crashed at 1905 Hours at Jodoigne.

The crash of both Lightnings was effected without question by the AA weapons located on the field. Fighters did not take part in the downing.

Request that downing of Lightning at 1904 Hours at Le Culot be credited to I/II/ and III/2/744, I/II/IV/ & V/4/744, I/II/III/ & IV/2/691 and Light AA Unit of 2/594 and 3/553.

For the second downing at 1905 Hours southwest of Jodoigne, request credit to I/II/ and III/2/744, I/II/ and III/744, III/2/691 and the Light AA Unit of 2/594 and 3/553/

CWD 9 Sep 47  
CQMG

/s/ (illegible)  
Oberstleutnant and Bn CO