

344TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H) AC
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

8 MARCH 1945

SUBJECT: AIRCRAFT CASUALTY

TO : GROUP INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

1. AIRCRAFT NUMBER 559-K AND FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS
AND ENLISTED MEN DID NOT RETURN TO BASE AND ARE REPORTED TO
HAVE CRASHED INTO THE ADRIATIC SEA.

PILOT:	GEORGE W. GENNER	1ST LT.	ASN: 0-829195
C-P :	STANLEY L. EVANS	CAPTAIN	0-663500
NAV :	SAMUEL A. PIERSON	2ND LT.	0-2064313
BOMBARDIER:	LOUIS E. MILLER	2ND LT.	0-783357
ENGINEER :	JOHN E. MCDONALD	S/SGT.	20114971
R/OPERATOR:	FRANCIS R. BURKE	S/SGT.	16104791
A/GUNNER :	WARREN G. HOLLAR	S/SGT.	34035554
A/GUNNER :	FRANCIS S. ADAMS	S/SGT.	16175563
A/GUNNER :	MARVIN W. COKER	S/SGT.	34885129
A/GUNNER :	JOHN L. ALARID	S/SGT.	38584059
ADO :	EDWARD H. ENDLER	1ST LT.	0-704805

2. AIRCRAFT 559K COLLIDED WITH ANOTHER SHIP OF THE FOR-
MATION AND SPUN INTO THE SEA. ONE CHUTE WAS SEEN TO COME
FROM THE AIRCRAFT BUT WHEN AREA WAS CIRCLED FOR NEARLY TWO
HOURS BY ANOTHER AIRCRAFT NO SIGN OF LIFE WAS OBSERVED. AIR
SEA RESCUE ALSO MADE A SEARCH OF THE AREA.

344TH BOMB SDN.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND745005
By TG NARA Date 8/14/10

HEADQUARTERS 98th Bombardment GROUP
AFO 520

Date: 8th March 1945

SUBJECT : Enemy Evasion Aid Report.

TO : A. C. of S., A-2, Fifteenth Air Force, AFO 520, U.S. Army, Att: Escape Intelligence.

NOTE: (This report will be expedited to A.C. of S., A-2, Fifteenth Air Force, Att: Escape Intelligence, immediately aircraft is established as missing.)

1. 344th Bombardment Squadron; 343rd. Ship (Yellow) /c Type A/C B-24
42-78420 (C)

2. Date 8th March 1945 : Time 1400

Place of Take Off Fortunato Cesera : Target Komaron, Hungary
A/D Italy

Nature of trouble Low on gas, and Supercharger out.

3. CREW:

<u>Duty</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>U.S.N.</u>
Pilot	Nystrom, Wayne C.	1st. Lt.	0-705775
C.P.	Kingsbury, Charles E.	2nd. Lt.	0-762356
Nav.	Werner, Robert M.	2nd. Lt.	0-2074613
Bomb.	Thyberg, Clarence G.	2nd. Lt.	0-2056739
A.Eng.	Crane, Raymond F.	S/Sgt.	14079809
R. Oper.	Testy, John W.	T/Sgt.	34058657
L.W. Gunner	Law, Honore E.	S/Sgt.	36752880
R.W. Gunner	Phillips, Edward L.	S/Sgt.	13187948
Nose Gunner	Barnett, Thomas E.	S/Sgt.	35678911
Tail Gunner	Yrinea, Ysidro A.	S/Sgt.	19165197

4. WITNESSES' STATEMENTS: (bail out; crashland; number of chutes; pin points; any further pertinent data; names of witnesses.)

At 1400 Hour leader of stag ahead box gave this A/C a heading. Check point no. 10, bearing of 75 °. Distance 13 miles of check point. This was one half hour after target, fifty miles South West of Budapest.

1st. Lt. Lewis B. Poole
Pilot 344th Bombardment Sq.
ASN. 0-818932

(s) _____
Harry C. Bauer,
(t) Major, Air Corps.
GROUP S-2