

WAR DEPARTMENT  
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON

8257

Classification changed  
to ~~RESTRICTED~~  
by E. A. BRADONAS, Lt. Col., AG  
by F. M. MUEKCH, Capt., AG  
Date ~~Mar 15 1948~~

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 Poretta A/D, Corsica; Command or Air Force 12th Air Force Group 47th Bomb (L) ; Squadron 86th Bomb (L) ; Detachment
- SPECIFY: Point of Departure Poretta A/D, Corsica ; Course Intended Destination Roads in area of Milan, Italy ; Type of Mission Night Armed Recce
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: Scattered high clouds within 10 miles of coast, visibility 3-5 miles.
- GIVE: (a) Date 28 July 1944 ; Time Unknown ; and Location Unknown of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.  
(b) Specify whether ( ) Last Sighted; ( ) Last Contacted by Radio; ( ) Forced Down; ( ) Seen to Crash; (X) Information not Available.
- AIRCRAFT WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS A RESULT OF: (Check only one) ( ) Enemy Aircraft; ( ) Enemy Anti-Aircraft; (X) Other Circumstances as Follows Cause is unknown.
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series A-20B ; AAF Serial Number 47-3374
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-2600-23 ; AAF Serial Number (a) 42-154748  
(b) 42-154955 ; (c) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (d) \_\_\_\_\_
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)  
(a) M-2 (1) Flex. .50 (b) M-2(1)Flex. .30 (c) M-2(2)Fixed .50; (d) M-2(2) Fixed .30  
(e) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (f) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (g) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (h) \_\_\_\_\_
- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty X  
or (b) Non-Battle Casualty \_\_\_\_\_
- NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew Four ; Passengers None  
Total Four

(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>Durland, Fredric E.</u>	<u>1st Lieut.</u>	<u>0-736159</u>
2. Bombardier	<u>Corser, Lindsay C.</u>	<u>2nd Lieut.</u>	<u>0-750078</u> <i>0750121</i>
3. Gunner	<u>Cox, George D.</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>37466402</u>
4. Gunner	<u>Dellen, Raymond H.</u>	<u>s/Sgt.</u>	<u>35144216</u>
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 SAID:

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Check only one column			
			Contacted by Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Forced Landing
Not applicable						

No. 537

*AC 677 51-2426*

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

03101010  
03

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.  
Unknown
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 None

Date of Report 31 July 1944

Earl L. Bastian  
(Signature of preparing Officer)

EARL L. BASTIAN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Ass't. Operations Officer.



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

86TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (L) AAF  
A.F.O. #650

31 July 1944.

S T A T E M E N T

*D*  
*7501-1* On the evening of 27 July 1944 at approximately 24:00 hours, 1st Lieut. Fredric E. Durland, O-736159, pilot; 2nd Lieut. Lindsay C. Corser, O-756078, bombardier; S/Sgt. George D. Cox, 37466402, gunner; and S/Sgt. Raymond H. Dellen, 35144216, gunner took off in airplane #41-3374 from Foretta Airfield, Corsica to run an armed reconnaissance mission of the TURIN - MILAN - PIACENZA - area Italy.

The airplane failed to return.

Airplane contacted PT boat on a routine radio check call at 00:30 hours, while enroute to target area.

*Earl L. Bastian*  
EARL L. BASTIAN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Ass't. Operations Officer.

JPC/12/1/44

✓  
1st Lt. Fredric E. Durland

Mrs. Francis E. Durland (wife)  
6500 Nettleton,  
Merriam, Kansas.

✓  
2nd Lt. Lindsay C. Corser

Mrs. Gladys E. Corser (wife)  
3522 Garret Street,  
Houston, Texas.

✓  
S/Sgt. George D. Cox

Mrs. Betty J. Cox (wife)  
Rural Free Delivery Number Two,  
Auburn, Nebraska.

✓  
Sgt. Raymond H. Dellen

Mr. Kenneth H. Dellen (brother)  
4056 North Graceland,  
Indianapolis, Indiana.

HD-211-1885

29 July 1944

Flier's Air Base Headquarters 202/VII - Piacenza

Letter Book No. 1152/44 (Secret)

Incl. Flier's General Command - IC

Letter Book No. 2588/44 (Secret) dated 18 April 1944

Ref: Capture of Enemy Aircraft

To: Distributor:

In the inclosure form page 1 a relatively 2 p. is a report of the capture of enemy aircraft, type Boston III.

2 inclosures -

CASUALTY NO.  
ME-XSU-1836

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: 28 July 1944 at 2:00 o'clock

PLACE OF CRASH: - - - Plane came in contact with ground - crashed - burned.

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: - - -

REPORTING OFFICE: Flier's Air Base Headquarters E (V) 202/VII -

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CREW

SURNAME, AND  
FIRST NAME: Cox,  
George D.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: - - -

SERIAL NUMBER: 37 466 402 - T-43-44 (B<sup>2</sup> on upper right under "P")

CAPTURED:                      WOUNDED:                      DEAD: Body recovered

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP:                      TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

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REMARKS:

Three additional crew members dead, partly burned and mutilated.  
Particulars not ascertainable. The dead were buried in the  
Community Cemetery in Bettola.

Form Page 2 a

Report of the capture of Enemy aircraft

Post: Plier's Air Base Headquarters E (V) 202/VII

Place: Piacenza

Time of Crash: 28 July 1944 at 2:00 o'clock

Place of Crash: Southwest of Bastola on the mountain M. Goria.

Kind of capture: Came in contact with ground

Type of Aircraft: Boston III

Identification of airplane: perpendicular American markings, horizontal stripe in white.

Admission No. Left side - rudder white "9" right side - rudder, white 0 under it on both sides in yellow, the No. 15374

Photo equipment: Not ascertainable

Frequencies: Not ascertainable

Condition of Aircraft: Crashed and burned, 95% destroyed.

Foots Note: The above report covers it self with LMS.

Report (according to Casualty List No. 1151).

All crew members dead. See inclosure, IA, form page 2, one crew member seized.

MACR 8257

A 20  
4 men

Date: 28 July 1944  
at 0200

Place: Southwest of  
Bettola

Type: Boston III  
13374

Target: Air-Base-H.Q.  
E (v) 202/VII  
Viasense

Burial: Community Cemetery at Bettola.

Rank	Name	687	No. ME 1835
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ASN.

COX, George D. DED 37466402 KIA dead

3 unknown dead =

1st Lt	Jurland, Fredric E	0736159	KIA
2nd "	Cerzer, Lindsay C	0750121	KIA
5 Sgt	Dellen, Raymond H.	35144216	KIA

JR 3677



MACR 8257

A 20  
4 men

Date: 28 July 1944  
at 0200

Place: Southwest of  
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Type: Boston III  
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Target: Air-Base-H.Q.  
E (v) 202/VII  
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Burial: Community Cemetery at Bettola.

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S Sgt	Dellen, Raymond H.	35144216	KIA

JR 3677