

SECRET

WAR DEPARTMENT  
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON

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By Authority of  
The Commanding General  
23rd Fighter Group

7348

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

16-8-44

RJS

Classification changed

to **RESTRICTED**

by E. A. BRADONAR, Lt. Col., AC

by F. M. MURPHY, Capt., AC

Date **MAR 15 1948**

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 APD 430, New York Command or Air Force 14TH AF; Group 23RD PTR GP; Squadron 118TH TRS; Detachment \_\_\_\_\_
- SPECIFY: Point of Departure APD 430, NEW YORK; Course 230°; Intended Destination APD 430, NEW YORK; Type of Mission COMBAT
- WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED CEILING 1500' VIS. 8 MILES - THUNDERSTORMS
- GIVE: (a) Date 8-14-44; Time 1500; and Location 10 MILES WEST of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft. YOGHOW  
(b) Specify whether ( ) Last Sighted; (X) Last Contacted by Radio; ( ) Forced Down; ( ) Soon to crash; or ( ) 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; ( ) Other Circumstances as follows: SMALL GROUND PILOT PLANE-PILOT SAID HE WAS GOING TO HAVE TO BAIL OUT.
- AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series P-40N-21-GU; AAF Serial No. 63-24155
- ENGINES: Type, Model and Series V-171C-99; AAF Serial No. (a) A-041705  
(b) \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_
- INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number) (a) 6 - (50 Cal.) MI  
(b) \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_  
(e) \_\_\_\_\_ (f) \_\_\_\_\_ (g) \_\_\_\_\_ (h) \_\_\_\_\_
- THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty 1  
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 No.
1.	<u>off</u>	<u>STUTEMAN, RICHARD E.</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>0-686870</u>
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				

11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT; AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:

Name in Full (Last name first)	Rank	Serial No.	Check only One Column			
			Contacted by Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1. <u>BLEY, CARL W.</u>	<u>CAPTAIN</u>	<u>0-686870</u>	<u>X</u>			
2.						
3.						

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) PILOT INTENDED USING HIS PARACHUTE

13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN. Refer 23rd Ptr. Gp.

14. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT. One Statement Attached

15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE: Refer 23rd Ptr. Gp.

1 Incl:  
Incl 1 - Statement

Date of report: 14 AUGUST 1944

Ira B. Jones III  
(Signature of Preparing Officer)  
IRA B. JONES III, Maj., A.C.,  
Operations Officer

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INDIVIDUAL REPORT OF DOWNED AIRCRAFT

(To be forwarded to A.G.A.S. immediately after incident)

Plane No. Unknown

Type P-40

Unit 118 Tac Recon Sq.

Date lost 14 August 1944 Position, Lat. & Long. or other orientation if known, enemy or friendly territory if known.

Pilot last contacted by radio. Reported plane smoking and bailed out 10 miles West of YOCHOW

Bail-out, Crash Forged-landing, shot down or missing; and any other known circumstances surrounding the incident.

Bail-out

Condition of crew when ship abandoned, if known.

Unknown

PARTICULARS OF PERSONNEL

<u>NAME</u> (First & last with middle initial)	<u>RANK</u>	<u>A.S.N.</u>	<u>DESIGNATION</u>
STUTZMAN, Richard E.	1st Lt.	0-686870	Pilot

Source: Battle Casualty Report.

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*off*

13 SEP 1944

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SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION ON DOWNED AIRCRAFT AND PERSONNEL.

(To be sent to A.G.A.S. immediately additional information received)

STUTZMAN, RICHARD E. 1st Lt. O-686870 Pilot

Plane.No.	Unknown	Type	P-40	Unit.	118 Tac Rcn Sq.
Date lost.	14 August 1944				

The following additional information regarding this and/or its personnel has been received:

Telegram received-pilot walking out 3 September 1944.

SOURCE: Battle Casualty Report.

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W. M. WUNNICH, Capt., AG  
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SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION ON DOWNED AIRCRAFT AND PERSONNEL.

(To be sent to A.G.A.S. immediately additional information received)

STUTZMAN, RICHARD E. 1st Lt. O-686870 Pilot  
Plane.No. Unknown Type P-4

Unit. 115 Tac Rcn Sq.

Date lost. 14 August 1944

The following additional information regarding this and/or its personnel has been received:

Returned and hospitalized 23 September 1944.

SOURCE: Battle Casualty Report.

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By \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
The \_\_\_\_\_  
23rd \_\_\_\_\_

STATEMENT

18-8-44

BTS

14 August 1944

On mission to Paluchi Airdrome Lt. Stutzman was hit by ground fire believed to be about 10 miles S-SW of Paluchi. He called me after we had turned back from Paluchi and said he was going to have to bail out. I instructed him to get as much altitude and hold on until the engine was about to stop running. He headed 230° out over Tung Ting Lake and went out of sight after flying into the rain at about 1000'. I did not see him bail but he called **just** before he got out and at that time he was over the lake about 3 miles from the North East corner. Pilot acted O.K. physically.

*Carl W. Eley*  
CARL W. ELEY  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Flight Leader

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