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B11/214/st.1

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Basic: Ltr, Hq 403rd Troop Carrier Group, APO 708, dated 25 November 1943.
Subject: Missing Air Crew Report.

1st Ind. A-1/FAQ/1jd

HEADQUARTERS XIII AIR FORCE SERVICE COMMAND, APO 719, 25 November 1943.

TO: Commanding General, Thirteenth Air Force, APO 719.

For the Commanding Officer:

F. A. Quinn
F. A. QUINN,
Lt. Col., Air Corps,
Actg. Adj. Gen.

AG 704 (25 Nov 43) 2nd Ind. AGP/OHS/bfb
HEADQUARTERS THIRTEENTH AIR FORCE, APO 719, 29 November 1943.

To: Commanding General, Headquarters USAFISPA, APO 502.

For the Commanding General:

C. H. Sherin
C. H. SHERIN,
1st Lt., AGD,
Asst. Adj. Gen.

AG 704 (25 Nov 43) 3rd Ind.
HEADQUARTERS USAFISPA, APO 502, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif.
2 December 1943.

To: The Commanding General, Army Air Force, Washington, 25, D.C.
(Attention: Statistical Control Division)

For the Commanding General:

S.F.O.
S.F.O.

AC
#20616

MSC
to 950

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SECRET
AUTH: C.G., XII
A.F.S.C.
INITIAL: JAA
DATE: 11-26-43

HEADQUARTERS
403RD TROOP CARRIER GROUP, AAF
Office of the Group Commander

THT/fjf

A. P. O. 708,
25 November 1943.

Subject: Missing Air Crew Report

To: The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.
(Thru: Commanding General, USAFISPA, APO #502).

1. The following information is furnished to supplement Missing Air Crew Report of 24 November 1943 on C-47 type airplane 41-18675.

2. The following additional crew member, assigned to Marine Air Group 25, was aboard subject aircraft as Medical Corpsman:

CLARENCE B. LATHAM, Ch Plm USN, Serial Number 295-41-91.

3. The following is a list of passengers aboard subject aircraft:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Branch</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Vernon G. Rubincam	Capt		USMCR	VMTB232
Robert V. Carter	1st Lt		USMCR	VMTB232
Lyman H. Grover	1st Lt		USMCR	VMTB232
Thad D. Reed	1st Lt		USMCR	VMTB232
Elden E. Leach	1st Lt		USMCR	VMTB232
Jack C. Knight	Sgt	362972	USMC	VMTB232
William C. Childers	Cpl	511206	USMCR	VMTB232
Harold C. Soukup	Pfc	441162	USMCR	VMTB232
John D. Comeau	Sgt	378777	USMCR	VMTB232
Joseph J. Poreira	Pfc	372678	USMCR	VMTB232
Francis L. Ballman	Sgt	401953	USMCR	VMTB232
Raleigh T. Parson	Cpl	512529	USMCR	VMTB232
Roy L. Heritage	Pfc	499522	USMCR	VMTB232
Winthrop D. Yadon	Pfc	809824	USMCR	VMTB232
DONALD E. Barker	S Sgt	388535	USMCR	VMTB232
Robert J. Nichols	Sgt	367211	USMC	VMTB232
J. W. Payne	AG2		RNZAF	
R. W. Knap	AG2		RNZAF	
D. S. White	AG2		RNZAF	

4. No further report is available on subject aircraft since its departure from New Caledonia at 0744 local time, 23 November 1943. Extensive search is being made of the area between point of departure and destination.

For the Group Commander:

T. H. Taylor
T. H. TAYLOR,
Captain, AG,
Adjutant.

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1113
Basis: Ltr, Hq 103rd Troop Carrier Group, APO 708, dated 25 November 1943.
Subject: Missing Air Crew Reports.

1st Ind. A-1/PAD/134
HEADQUARTERS XIII AIR FORCE WINDY GORHAM, APO 719, 25 November 1943.

TO: Commanding General, Thirteenth Air Force, APO 719.

For the Commanding Officers:

F. A. QUINN,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Asst. Adj. Gen.

AS 704 (25 Nov 43) 2nd Ind. ADF/ORS/270
HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-NINTH AIR FORCE, APO 718, 28 November 1943.

To: Commanding General, Headquarters USAFSPA, APO 802.

For the Commanding General:

G. E. SHERRIN,
1st Lt., ASG,
Asst. Adj. Gen.

AS 704 (25 Nov 43) 2nd Ind.
HEADQUARTERS USAFSPA, APO 802, c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif.
2 December 1943.

To: The Commanding General, Army Air Force, Washington, 25, D.C.
(attention: Statistical Control Division)

For the Commanding General:

G.F.O.

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
103RD TROOP CARRIER GROUP, AAF
Office of the Group Commander

TH/214

A. P. O. 703,
25 November 1943.

Subject: Missing Air Crew Report

To: The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.
(Thru: Commanding General, USAFISPA, APO 8502).

1. The following information is furnished to supplement Missing Air Crew Report of 21 November 1943 on C-47 type airplane 41-13675.

2. The following additional crew member, assigned to Marine Air Group 25, was aboard subject aircraft as Medical Corporal:

GLANCE H. LATHAM, ON FIA USM, Serial Number 295-41-92.

3. The following is a list of passengers aboard subject aircraft:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Branch</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Verdon G. Rubincam	Capt		USMC	VETER 32
Robert V. Carter	1st Lt		USMC	VETER 32
Lynan H. Grover	1st Lt		USMC	VETER 32
Thad D. Reed	1st Lt		USMC	VETER 32
Elden E. Leach	1st Lt		USMC	VETER 32
Jack G. Knight	Sgt	362972	USMC	VETER 32
William C. Childers		511206	USMC	VETER 32
Harold G. Soukup	Pfc	441162	USMC	VETER 32
John D. Ganson	Sgt	370777	USMC	VETER 32
Joseph J. Purcira	Pfc	372678	USMC	VETER 32
Francis L. Ballman	Sgt	401953	USMC	VETER 32
Daloch W. Parnon	Cpl	512529	USMC	VETER 32
Roy L. Heritage	Pfc	499522	USMC	VETER 32
Winthrop D. Yaden	Pfc	809024	USMC	VETER 32
DONALD E. Parker	S Sgt	304535	USMC	VETER 32
Robert J. Nichols	Sgt	357211	USMC	VETER 32
J. W. Payne	AO2		AFCAF	
R. E. Knop	AO2		AFCAF	
D. S. White	AO2		AFCAF	

No further report is available on subject aircraft since its departure from New Caledonia at 0700 local time, 23 November 1943. Extensive search is being made of the area between point of departure and destination.

For the Group Commander:

T. H. TAYLOR,
Captain, AF,
Adjutant.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Basic: Subject, "Missing Air Crew Report fr 69d Tr."

360.33 1st Ind.
HEADQUARTERS, XIII AIR FORCE SERVICE COMMAND, APO 719

To: Commanding General, Thirteenth Air Force, APO 719.

Forwarded.

For the Commanding Officer:

Alex J. Korponic
ALEX J. KORPONIC,
1st Lt, AGD,
Asst Adj Gen.

AG 704 (11-24-43) 2nd Ind. AGP/GHS/bfb
HEADQUARTERS THIRTEENTH AIR FORCE, APO 719, 25 November 1943.

TO: Commanding General, USAFISPA, APO 502.

For the Commanding General:

C. H. Sherin
C. H. SHERIN,
1st Lt., AGD,
Asst. Adj. Gen. SM
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AG 704 (11/24/43) 3rd Ind. GFO/cb
HQ. USAFISPA, APO 502, c/o PM, San Francisco, Calif., 28 Nov. 1943

TO: Commanding General, Hq. Army Air Force, Washington, 25, D.C.
(Attention: Statistical Control Division)

DEC 7 1943



RECEIVED
Air Force

G.F.O.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Classification changed to **RESTRICTED**
 by E. A. BRADONAS, Lt. Col., AO
 by F. M. MUKNOB, Capt., AO
 Date MAR 1 1948

~~SECRET~~
 WAR DEPARTMENT
 HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
 WASHINGTON

SECRET
 AUTH: C.G., XIII
 A.F.S.C.
 720 7/2/43

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.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location Espiritu Santos New Hebrides; Command or Air Force 13th Air Force;
 Group 403rd T.C. Gp; Squadron 63rd T. C. Sq; Detachment None
2. SPECIFY: Point of Departure Tontouta New Caledonia; Course 100 True;
 Intended Destination Espiritu Santos, Hebrides; Type of Mission Passenger
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
1000 ceiling - 1 - 2 miles vis Mod continuous rain
4. GIVE: (a) Date 11/24/43; Time 0714 Local; and Location Take off Tontouta AD
 of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
 (b) Specify whether () Last Sighted; () Last Contacted by Radio;
 () Forced Down; () Seen to Crash; or (x) 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 Unknown
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series C-47; A.A.F. Serial Number 41-28675
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series P & W; A.A.F. Serial Number (a) 42-444658
 (b) 43-444412; (c) _____; (d) _____
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number)
 (a) No Weapons; (b) _____; (c) _____; (d) _____;
 (e) _____; (f) _____; (g) _____; (h) _____
9. THE PERSON LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty
 or (b) Non-Battle Casualty x
10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 5; Passengers 19; Total 24
 (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		Rank	Serial Number
	(Last Name First)			
DEB 1. Pilot	Anders, Philip C.	<i>Dead</i>	2nd Lt	0-670484
DEB 2. Co-Pilot	Harpe, Richard L.	<i>Dead</i>	2nd Lt	0-670898
DEB 3. Navigator	Richardson, George S.	<i>Dead</i>	2nd Lt	0-797394
DEB 4. Crew Chief	Boeckmann, Carl F.	<i>Dead</i>	S Sgt	39249930
DEB 5. Radio Operator	Pitkus, Lawrence W.	<i>Dead</i>	S Sgt	12145060

7. Supplemental report of nineteen (19) passengers will be furnished as soon as practicable.

11. 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		Saw	Saw	Forced Landing
			By Radio	Last Sighted			
1. None							
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) _____
13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN. NONE
14. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT. NONE
15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE Brigadier General T. MOORE, USMC

Date of Report 11/24/43
[Signature]
 (Signature of Preparing Officer)
 L. C. MESSENGER,
 Major, AG, Commanding.

(over) ~~SECRET~~

Approved for Release by NSA on 05-08-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526

RECEIVED
U.S. AIR FORCE
HONOLULU, HAWAII
MAY 1 1948

Subject airplane was assigned to the 63rd Troop Carrier Squadron, 403rd Troop Carrier Group. The air crew was assigned to the 64th Troop Carrier Squadron, 403rd Troop Carrier Group. The Aircraft was performing a mission under the jurisdiction of the South Pacific Combat Air Transport.

2nd Lt. George S. Richardson

Mrs. Isabel R. Baxter, (Mother)
1234 South Dover Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

2nd Lt. Philip O. Anders

Mr. Franklin B. Blockson, (Friend)
203 Beach,
Plainview, Texas.

2nd Lt. Richard L. Harpe

Mrs. Leona M. Harpe, (Mother)
Ash Grove, Missouri.

S/Sgt. Carl F. Boeckmann

Mrs. Ralph S. Boeckmann, (Sister-in-law)
1115 East 31st Street,
Minneapolis, Minnesota.

S/Sgt. Lawrence N. Pitkus

Mrs. Ray B. Pitkus, (Mother)
1901 Henneay Place,
New York, New York.

2nd Lt. George S. Richardson

Mrs. Isabel R. Baxter, (Mother)
1234 South Dorer Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

2nd Lt. Philip C. Anders

Mr. Franklin B. Blockson, (Friend)
203 Beech,
Plainview, Texas.

2nd Lt. Richard L. Harpe

Mrs. Leona M. Harpe, (Mother)
Ash Grove, Missouri.

S/Sgt. Carl F. Boeckmann

Mrs. Ralph S. Boeckmann, (Sister-in-law)
1115 East 31st Street,
Minneapolis, Minnesota.

S/Sgt. Lawrence M. Pitkus

Mrs. Ray D. Pitkus, (Mother)
1901 Hennesey Place,
New York, New York.

DECLASSIFIED BY AUTHORITY OF NND DECLASSIFICATION PROJECT 785072,
H.D. MAYER, NARS, SEPTEMBER 10, 1982.