

Electronic Transcription of MACR 14758, Page 1

866th Bombardment Squadron (H)
494th Bombardment Group (H)
APO #903

14758

360.33

SUBJECT: Missing Air Crew Reports.

30 July 1945

TO: Commanding General, Far East Air Forces, APO #925

Transmitted herewith Missing Air Crew Reports on the following airplanes that crashed, 28 July 1945:

B-24J-175-CO Pilot - 2d Lt Thomas C. Cartwright O-831661 AP 44-40680

B-24J-175-CO Pilot - 1st Lt Joseph Dubinsky O-693016 AP 44-40716

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

//s//
LLOYD S. SEWSEY,
Captain, Air Corps
Adjutant

2 Incls:

Missing Air Crew Reports.

AG 319.1

HEADQUARTERS FAR EAST AIR FORCES, APO 925, 15 AUG 45

TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington, 25, D.C.
(Attention: AFPPA-8)

//s//
D.G.W.

Electronic Transcription of MACR 14758, Page 2

(REPORTING HEADQUARTERS)
866TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
494TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

14758

IMPORTANT: This report will be compiled in triplicate by each Army Air Forces organization within 48 hours of the time an air crew member is officially reported missing.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location, by name AP0 903; Command or Air Force VII BC
Group 494th BG; Squadron 866th BS; Detachment _____
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure AP0 903; Course 180
Target of Intended Destination BB Haruna Type of Mission Combat Mission
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
10/10 Undercast strato-cum
4. GIVE: (a) Day 28 Month 07 Year 1945; Time 0404G; and Location 34-03N 132-09E
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (XX); 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 (XX); Other circumstances as follows:

6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Serial B-24 J-175-10; AAF Serial Number 44-40680
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if any LONESOME LADY
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series R-1830-65A; AAF SERIAL _____
Number (a) 42-43475; (b) 42-37012; (c) BP 452808; (d) BP-453021
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number);
(a) 121439; (b) 1202176; (c) 1536280; (d) 1253382
(e) 1196729; (f) 1197503; (g) 1253375; (h) 1253288
(i) (Above weapons); (j) _____; (k) _____; (l) _____
(m) are Browning; (n) 50 cal M2; (o) _____; (p) _____
10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty XX
or (b) Nonbattle Casualty _____
11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 9; Passengers 0; Total 9
(Starting with Pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 11 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	Current Status
1. Pilot	<u>Cartwright, Thomas C.</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>O-831661</u>	<u>MIA</u>
2. Co-Pilot	<u>Looper, Durden W.</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>O-2067143</u>	<u>"</u>
3. Navigator	<u>Pederson, Roy M. Jr.</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>O-2071882</u>	<u>"</u>
4. Bombardier	<u>Ryan, James M.</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>O-785427</u>	<u>"</u>
5. Engineer	<u>Ellison, Buford J.</u>	<u>Sgt</u>	<u>3836855</u>	<u>"</u>
6. Radio Operator	<u>Atkinson, Hugh H.</u>	<u>Sgt</u>	<u>39214204</u>	<u>"</u>
7. Tail Gunner	<u>Abel, William E.</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>36440823</u>	<u>"</u>
8. N/Turret G.	<u>Long, John A. Jr.</u>	<u>Sgt</u>	<u>33707730</u>	<u>"</u>
9. B/Turret G.	<u>Neal, Ralph J.</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>15042164</u>	<u>"</u>
10.	_____	_____	_____	_____

11. _____

12. 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

(Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted by Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Landing
1. Nacci, Vito A.	1st Lt	O-698034		XX		
2. Reeves, Rex E.	S/Sgt	18120053		XX		
3.						

13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used Yes; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash _____; (c) Any other reason (Specify) _____

14. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN OR HEARD FROM.

15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.

16. GIVE NAME, RANK, AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH, IF ANY, INCLUDING DESCRIPTION AND EXTENT _____

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:
Eyewitness statements attached.

Date of Report 30 July 1945

//s//
(Signature of Preparing Officer)
LLOYD S. SWESEY
Capt., Air Corps, Adj

866th Bombardment Squadron (H)
494th Bombardment Group (H)
APO #903

S T A T E M E N T O F
1st LT VITO NACCI

First Lieutenant VITO A. NACCI, ASN O-698034, states that on 28 July 1945 he flew as Bombardier in A/C #980, on mission #139, the target being Japanese BB Haruna at its anchorage near Kre, Honsu. The A/C flew as lead for the 866th Bomb Sq. (H). A/C #680 flown by 2nd Lieutenant THOMAS C. CARTWRIGHT and crew 42B flew in the #2 position. A very few moments after bombs away at 1248I, A/C 680 received a direct hit from an anti-aircraft shell which entered near the pitot tube, appeared to pass through the pilot's position and that of the navigator, and out through the upper raft compartment. At 1304I four parachutes were seen to leave the A/C open. The A/C did not appear to be burning, went into a vertical dive into undercast, and was not seen again. The position of damaged A/C when last seen was 34-03N 132-09E.

S/Sgt rex E. Reeves, ASN 18120053 has read the foregoing statement by Lt NACCI and confirms the same of his own knowledge.

//s//
VITO A. NACCI,
1st Lt., Air Corps

//s//
S/SGT REX E. REEVES