

AG 319.1 - GA

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Missing Air Crew Report

To: Commanding General, AAF, Washington, 25, D.C.
ATT: AFPPA-8

1. Transmittal Missing Air Crew Report pertaining to 1st Lt Robert S. Armacost, Jr. O-760224, and crew and passengers.
2. Crew members were not reported as missing inasmuch as rescue was effected within 24 hours after crash.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL

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G.W. McCLUGHAN,
Major, AGD
Asst Air Adj. Gen.

WAR DEPARTMENT
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

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 air crew member is officially reported missing.

1. ORGANIZATION: Location, by name APO 903; Command or Air Force 7th AF
Group 494th BG; Squadron 866th BS; Detachment _____
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure APO 903; Course 262 degrees to 120 E-25
Target of Intended Destination Nielson Fld PI Type of Mission Ferry
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
Instrument on first leg, partial instrument on second leg.
4. GIVE: (a) Day 10 Month 09 Year 1945; Time 1150; and Location 50 mi SW Formosa
of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft.
(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (); Last contacted by radio ();
Forced down (); Seen to Crash (**XX**); 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 (); Other circumstances as follows:
Mechanical failure
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Serial B-24 J; AAF Serial Number 44-40666
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if any LES MISERABLES
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series (4) R-1830-65; AAF SERIAL 44-40666
Number (a) BP432813; (b) BP453111; (c) BP450558; (d) BP425407
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number);
(a) 1000208; (b) 1253235; (c) _____; (d) _____
(e) 1000511; (f) 110879; (g) _____; (h) _____
(i) 1253573; (j) 1196620; (k) _____; (l) _____
(m) 1253538; (n) _____; (o) _____; (p) _____
50 cal Browning Aircraft Machine Guns
10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty _____
or (b) Nonbattle Casualty XX
11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 5; Passengers 20; Total 25
(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>Armacost, Robert S. Jr.</u>	<u>1st Lt</u>	<u>O-760224</u>	<u>Onboard cruiser</u>
2. Co-Pilot	<u>Whitledge, James T.</u>	<u>1st Lt</u>	<u>O-770497</u>	<u>Onboard cruiser</u>
3. Navigator	<u>Ayres, Herbert M.</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>O-928076</u>	<u>Onboard cruiser</u>
4. Engineer	<u>Dunn, William J.</u>	<u>T/Sgt</u>	<u>12215375</u>	<u>Onboard cruiser</u>
5. Radio Operator	<u>Oliver, James V.</u>	<u>T/Sgt</u>	<u>15322272</u>	<u>Onboard cruiser</u>
6. *Passenger	<u>Grieg, Arthur A. Jr.</u>	<u>Gunr</u>	<u>860337</u>	<u>Onboard cruiser</u>
7. *Passenger	<u>Maloney, James</u>	<u>Capt</u>	<u>150545</u>	<u>Onboard cruiser</u>
8. *Passenger	<u>Handly, Thomas J.</u>	<u>Gunr</u>	<u>872550</u>	<u>Onboard cruiser</u>
9. *Passenger	<u>Romary, Clifford</u>	<u>Cpl</u>	<u>1872918</u>	<u>Onboard cruiser</u>
10. *Passenger	<u>Gosner, Bernard</u>	<u>Pvt</u>	<u>7520370</u>	<u>Onboard cruiser</u>

11.	*Passenger	Bennett, Floyd C.	Pvt	3054410	Onboard cruiser
12.	Passenger	Howard, Frederick	Pvt	1902075	Onboard cruiser
13.	**Passenger	Prent, Henrik	S/IC	30316D	Onboard cruiser
14.	*Passenger	Golledge, Gerald	M/Sgt	1415975	Missing
15.	*Passenger	Clapperton, James	Pvt	3055328	Missing
16.	Passenger	Doerfler, Maurice R.	Pvt	6930710	Missing
17.	Passenger	Rigdon, Alvin	Cpl	6971059	Missing
18.	*Passenger	Clarke, John	Gunr	4914894	Missing
19.	Passenger	Taylor, William R.	Pfc	3812346	Missing
20.	*Passenger	Waldron, William H.	Gunr	1075236	Missing
21.	*Passenger	Ward, Richard	Gunr	919795	Missing
22.	*Passenger	Tucker, Charles	Gunr	1104116	Missing
23.	*Passenger	Wardle, Ernest	Gunr	1709551	Missing
24.	*Passenger	Smith, James	Pvt	28818179	Missing
25.	*Passenger	Parsons, Fred	Pvt	5570889	Missing

*British Army Personnel

**Dutch Navy Personnel

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		Saw	Forced Landing
			by Last Sighted	Radio	Crash	
1. Adams, Terence D.	1st Lt	O-699606			XX	

13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used XX; (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 Air Sea Rescue (Playmate) and Cruiser summoned to scene by distress signal of A/C conducted search. No details known.

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:

“We picked up the S.O.S. from aircraft 44-40666 and headed for their position. We saw what we believed to be the smoke from their plane when it crashed. I circled and made contact with a British warship, call sign “Oscar”. I dropped smoke bombs near survivors. A boat from the warship was seen picking up survivors. Before I left, because my gas was running low, I made contact with a Navy Privateer, call sign “Cannonball” and it was circling when I proceeded on course” – 1st Lt Terence D. Adams, Pilot, 866th Bomb Sq (H).

Date of Report 16 SEP 1945

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(Signature of Preparing Officer)
LLOYD S. SWESEY, Capt AC
Adj, 865th Bomb Sq (H)