

AG 704/1538a 1st Ind.  
HEADQUARTERS CPBC, APO 958, 28 February 1945.

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

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PAUL E. BAKER,  
1st Lt, AGD  
Asst Adjutant General

1 Incl:  
Incl 1 - Map

Report Number 3

REPORTING HEADQUARTERS

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 7<sup>th</sup> AF  
Group 494<sup>th</sup> BG(H); Squadron 864<sup>th</sup> BS; Detachment \_\_\_\_\_
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure Tacloban, Leyte, PI; Course 30 degrees  
Target of Intended Destination Angaur Island Type of Mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:  
Clear and visibility unlimited
4. GIVE: (a) Day 25th Month January Year 1945; Time 15:07; and Location Samar, PI  
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:  
Crashed and burned just after take off, on the island of Samar, PI in the Philippines, reasons unknown.
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Serial B-24 J; AAF Serial Number 44-40690
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if any THE HORRIBLE MONSTER
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series Pratt & Whitney Radial; AAF SERIAL R-1830 65A  
Number (a) BP-44-5899; (b) BP-44-5867; (c) BP-42-9964; (d) BP-44-5135
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number);  
(a) 10 ea. 50 Cal.; (b) Serial Numbers; (c) \_\_\_\_\_; (d) \_\_\_\_\_  
(e) 2 ea. 30 Cal.; (f) Not Available; (g) \_\_\_\_\_; (h) \_\_\_\_\_  
(i) 1 ea. Carbine; (j) \_\_\_\_\_; (k) \_\_\_\_\_; (l) \_\_\_\_\_  
(m) 30 Cal.; (n) \_\_\_\_\_; (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 11; Passengers 0; Total 11  
(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<br>(Last Name First) | Rank                     | Serial<br>Number | Current<br>Status |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Pilot                 | <u>Morris, Gerald E.</u>          | <u>2nd Lt</u>            | <u>O-713535</u>  | <u>KIA</u>        |
| 2. Co-Pilot              | <u>Siler, Lee M.</u>              | <u>2nd Lt</u>            | <u>O-775598</u>  | <u>KIA</u>        |
| 3. Navigator             | <u>Lazarus, William W.</u>        | <u>2nd Lt</u>            | <u>O-127716</u>  | <u>KIA</u>        |
| 4. Bombardier            | <u>Brennan, Richard M.</u>        | <u>2nd Lt</u>            | <u>O-776612</u>  | <u>KIA</u>        |
| 5. Engineer              | <u>Ellensburg, James B.</u>       | <u>S/Sgt</u>             | <u>14072798</u>  | <u>KIA</u>        |
| 6. Radio Operator        | <u>Langston, Gordon R.</u>        | <u>Cpl</u>               | <u>39168002</u>  | <u>KIA</u>        |
| 7. Lower Ball Gunner     | <u>Glossip, Chester C.</u>        | <u>Cpl</u>               | <u>37503088</u>  | <u>KIA</u>        |
| 8. Turret Gunner         | <u>Quinliak, John W.</u>          | <u>Sgt</u>               | <u>32185025</u>  | <u>KIA</u>        |
| 9. Nose Gunner           | <u>Burns, Cosmo R.</u>            | <u>Sgt</u>               | <u>19147992</u>  | <u>KIA</u>        |
| 10. Tail Gunner          | <u>Albright, William C.</u>       | <u>Cpl</u>               | <u>17135578</u>  | <u>KIA</u>        |
| 11. Acting Command Pilot | <u>Settle, John R.</u>            | <u>1<sup>st</sup> Lt</u> | <u>O-792317</u>  | <u>KIA</u>        |

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. <b>Talbott, Harold B.</b> | <b>Major</b>             | <b>O-420605</b> |                    | <b>XX</b>    |           |                    |
| 2. <b>Siegel, Merle R.</b>   | <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Lt</b> | <b>O-705991</b> |                    |              | <b>XX</b> |                    |
| 3.                           |                          |                 |                    |              |           |                    |

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) UNKNOWN

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 At this date, there has been no report from the search party, but an Artillery Unit stationed one mile from the crash has been notified of the crash by the Base Commander at Tacloban, Leyte, PI. No report has been received as of this date.

17. REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:

**Certificates of Statements; will follow as supplement to this report.**

Date of Report 1-27-45

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(Signature of Preparing Officer)  
WILLIAM E. GERNERT  
Major, Air Corps