

9298



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

9298-2

779TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)  
APO 520 U. S. ARMY

18 OCTOBER 1944

ON THE 17 OCTOBER 1944 WE BOMBED A TARGET IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA. ABOUT 10 MINUTES AFTER BOMBS AWAY, APPROXIMATELY 1222, I SAW "BLACK ITEM", FLOWN BY 2D LT SALIVAR, DROP FROM THE FORMATION. FROM ALL EXTERIOR SIGNS THERE WAS APPARENTLY NOTHING WRONG WITH THE AIRCRAFT AS HE STAYED AT ALTITUDE ALRIGHT BUT WAS UNABLE TO KEEP UP WITH THE FORMATION. AT NO TIME DID I SEE ANYONE BAIL OUT OF THE AIRCRAFT.

*Donovan A. Himebaugh*

DONOVAN A. HIMEBAUGH,  
SGT, 35913870  
779TH BOMB SQ (H)  
464TH BOMB GP (H)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

*Rec'd #1*

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779TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)  
APO 520 U. S. ARMY

9297-3

18 OCTOBER 1944

ON THE 17 OCTOBER 1944 WE BOMBED A TARGET IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA. AFTER WE HAD CLEARED THE FLAK AREA THE CO-PILOT CALLED BACK AND ASKED US IF WE COULD SEE "BLACK ITEM", FLOWN BY 2D LT SALIVAR. THE TAIL GUNNER, SGT HIMEBAUGH, SAID THAT HE SAW HIM TRAILING THE FORMATION. I LOOKED BACK AND SAW A B-24 TRAILING OUR FORMATION BUT COULD NOT SEE HIS MARKINGS. HOWEVER, AT NO TIME DID I SEE ANY MEN BAIL OUT OF THE AIRCRAFT.

*James W. Holley*  
JAMES W. HOLLEY,  
S/SGT, 19071911  
779TH BOMB SQ (H)  
464TH BOMB GP (H)

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9298-4X

BOMBING OF WEIN  
10/17/44

Wien



AUSTRIA

BOHNAU

17° 00' E



EAST SEEN

CZECH.

HUNGARY

COSECOI  
E6-100W

2-FA-3

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

## INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 9298

Name of crew member: SALIVAR, Charles J.  
 Rank: 2nd Lt.  
 Serial number: O-827829  
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~manning~~(Pilot): Pilot

Did he bail out? YES

Where? KISTANJE, JUGOSLAVIA

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: \_\_\_\_\_

"Good Luck"

Was he injured? BROKE 1 LEG

Where was he when last seen? THE ENGLISH HOSPITAL ON THE ISLE OF VIS (Adriatic)

Any hearsay information: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: \_\_\_\_\_

Well and healthy. the last I heard he was  
 on his way home to get married

Total number of missions of above crew member: 3

Dates and destinations if possible: Oct. 10, 1944 - VIENNA      Oct. 15, 1944 - VIENNA  
Oct. 17, 1944 - VIENNA

All members of this crew eventually returned  
 safely to Allied hands.

Gerald H. Solheid  
 Lt. G. H. Solheid 6-3861, AF

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 9298

Name of crew member: **SALYAS, Charles J.**  
 Rank: **2nd Lt.**  
 Serial number: **0-327839**  
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~as a flight instructor~~: **Pilot**

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Yugoslavia

If not, why not? \*\*\*\*\*

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Was not injured in any way prior to bailing out. Contacted him two days later (Oct. 19)

Was he injured? His right leg was injured in bailing out.

Where was he when last seen? He was returned to allied control in Bari, Italy

Any hearsay information: on or about 23 Oct 44 and returned to US for further hospitalization. Later stationed at separation center Greensborough N.C. on temporary limited duty. This is not just hearsay, I was an usher at his wedding in Sept 1945.

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: (refer to above)

Total number of missions of above crew member: 3

Dates and destinations if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

THOMAS P. KESTING JR.  
 1st Lt. A.C. 0-888181  
 302 S. 31 St. Baltol8 Md.  
 6-3861, AF

## INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 9278

Name of crew member: **SALVAT, Charles J.**  
 Rank: **2nd Lt.**  
 Serial number: **0-827829**  
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~as Flight (Bomber)~~: **Pilot**

Did he bail out? YESWhere? NORTH AND EAST OF BANGOVIC YUGOSLAVIAIf not, why not?                     Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane:                     JUST GAVE WORD TO JUMP AS WE WERE LOW ON GAS AND NO PLACE TO LANDWas he injured? YESWhere was he when last seen? HE CAME BACK TO ITALY WITH US AT BARIAny hearsay information: HE WENT HOME FROM BARI (TO NEW YORK)ON A HOSPITAL SHIP.Source: FROM MY COPILOT T.P. KEATINGAny information of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition:                     BEFORE HE BAILED OUT HE LANDED IN A ROCK PIKE AND SPARINED HIS ANKLE. WE FOUND OUT LATER, IT WAS BROKEN.Total number of missions of above crew member: (3) THREE ?

Dates and destinations if possible: ONLY ONE I KNOW IS OUR MISSION  
WE BAILED OUT - THAT WAS OCTOBER 17 1944 TO VIENNA  
AUSTRIA.

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 9386

Name of crew member: **MALIVAR, Charles J.**  
 Rank: **2nd Lt.**  
 Serial number: **0-227020**  
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~and Pilot~~ **Pilot**

PP-8  
 (2)

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? North Central Yugoslavia

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: \_\_\_\_\_

"O.K. Men, you can bail at will."

Was he injured? Right ankle broken

Where was he when last seen? Island of Vis

Any hearsay information: made 1st Lt. in Naples Hospital.

Last contact; Engagement notice from Mitchell Field Hospital.

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of missions of above crew member: 1

Dates and destinations if possible: Oct. 17, 1944 - Vienna  
"South Ordnance Works"

## INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File 9283

Name of crew member: **SALIVAR, Charles J.**  
 Rank: **2nd Lt.**  
 Serial number: **0-4-7829**  
 Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~as a Flight (Pilot)~~: **Pilot**

Did he bail out? Yes

Where? Yugoslavia

If not, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: \_\_\_\_\_

Bail out instructions from the Pilot

Was he injured? Yes

Where was he when last seen? In the air just after he bailed out

Any hearsay information: I was picked up by Chetris and bailed out. They said some of the crew had been picked up by the Partisans and that some of them had been injured

Source: Chetris, Soldier

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: He was turned over to allied control by the Partisans on the Island of Vis in the Adriatic. From there he was sent to Bari Italy where he was treated for a fractured ankle. Later he was sent to Mitchell Field N.Y.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 2

Dates and destinations if possible: The last one was from over Vienna on 17 Oct. 1944. I do not remember the other as I did not fly with him on his first mission

## CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name HARVEY O. WILKINSON Rank EX. SGT Serial No. 33766535  
464 B. GP
2. Organization 779 B. GP Commander \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Sqn CO \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_  
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1944 month 10 day 17 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, VIENNA, target, \_\_\_\_\_, target  
time, \_\_\_\_\_, altitude, 24000 route scheduled, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, route flown \_\_\_\_\_
5. Where were you when you left formation? JUST OFF THE TARGET
6. Did you bail out? YES
7. Did other members of crew bail out? YES
8. Tell all you know about when, where, how each person in your aircraft for whom no individual questionnaire is attached bailed out. A crew list is attached. Please give facts. If you don't know, say: "No Knowledge". All crew members bailed out safely near Spalatin Yugoslavia. Two were taken prisoner by the Germans. Two including myself were held two months by Yugoslavians. The rest were picked up by Yugoslavian partisans.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? No Knowledge
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) NONE
11. Where were they in aircraft? \_\_\_\_\_
12. What was their condition? \_\_\_\_\_
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? All crew members are either discharged or in the U.S.A.
14. Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. \_\_\_\_\_

(Any additional information may be written on the back)