

~~SECRET~~

HEADQUARTERS

EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS

P/W and X Detachment

Military Intelligence Service

Classification changed

to **RESTRICTED**

by E. A. BRADONAS, Lt. Col., AC

by P. M. MURPHY, Capt., AC

Date **MAR 15 1948**REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICEWilliam R HITZTALER, 1st Lt, O-524956

(Name)

(Rank)

(ASN)

21 June 1944

(Date)

14 Troop Carrier Squadron, 61 Troop Carrier Group

(Unit)

EAE #780

MEMBERS OF CREWPRESENT
OFFICIAL STATUS

| | | | | |
|-------------------|----------|--------|---------------------|-----|
| PILOT | O-524956 | 1st Lt | William R HITZTALER | RD |
| CO-PILOT | O-701914 | 2d Lt | Stanley E EDWARDS | MIA |
| NAVIGATOR | O-698627 | 2d Lt | John H HENDRY | RD |
| BOMBARDIER | | | | |
| RADIO OPERATOR | 17089122 | S/Sgt | Orlo A MONTGOMERY | MIA |
| TOP TURRET GUNNER | | | | |
| MID TURRET GUNNER | | | | |
| WING GUNNER | | | | |
| WING GUNNER | | | | |
| WING GUNNER | | | | |
| ENGINEER | 39678075 | T/Sgt | Alvin F VEZINA | MIA |

Carried 19 paratroopers; dropped 18 successfully.

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing.

6 June 1944; 0315 hours; North west of VALOGNES

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. Was it on fire, etc?

Shot up a lot; it was on fire; left engine and trail edge of left wing near fuselage were burning.

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

between 1000 and 1500 feet.

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed?

One paratrooper injured; crew unknown.

What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open?

Navigator - chute opened.

Did the plane explode on striking the ground?

I don't know.

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground?

No.

Did he receive any information from others as to whether any other members of the crew were dead or alive? If so, give details furnished by his informant and whether the other crew members were identified by name or otherwise.

I did not hear about or see any members of crew until by return to UK.

Did source examine the wreckage of the plane? If so, what was its condition?

No

If the plane crashed in water how far was the plane from land and by what means was source rescued and what life rafts, wreckage, etc., remained on the surface that would have assisted other personnel to keep afloat.

What is source's opinion as to the fate of the other crew members and his reason for his opinion?

See navigator, EAE #781.