

**DECLASSIFIED**

Authority: NND 735001

By: NARA NARA Date: 1973

12436

Classification changed to RESTRICTED by E. A. BRADUNAS, Lt. Col., AO By Wm. L. THOMAS, 1st Lt., AO Date MAR 15 1948

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

1. ORGANIZATION: Location Couvron, France Command or Air Force 9th Air Force  
Group 409th Bomb Gp (L) Squadron 642nd Bomb Sq (L) Detachment \_\_\_\_\_
2. SPECIFY: Point of departure Station A-70 Course see overlay map  
Intended Destination see atchd overlay map Type of Mission Combat
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED \_\_\_\_\_  
4 to 5/10ths cumulus cloud, with haze to 4,000 ft.
4. GIVE: (a) Date 16 February 1945 Time 1229 and location Northwest of  
Unna, Germany of last known whereabouts of missing airplane.  
(b) Specify whether (x) Last Sighted; ( ) Last contacted by radio;  
( ) Forced down; ( ) Seen to crash; or ( ) Information not available.
5. AIRPLANE WAS LOST, OR IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST, AS RESULT OF: (Check only one) ( ) Enemy Airplane; (x) Enemy Anti-Aircraft; ( ) Other circumstances as follows: \_\_\_\_\_
6. AIRPLANE: Type, Model and Series A26B-15-RT; A.A.F. Serial No. A3-22303
7. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series P-2800; A.A.F. Serial No. (a) FP-020293  
(b) FP-020300 (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_
8. INSTALLED WEAPONS: Machine Guns, Caliber .50, Browning, M2  
(a) 1536744 (b) 1307069 (c) 1536759 (d) 1756218  
(e) 1536742 (f) 1756501 (g) 1536741 (h) 1756209  
(i) 1756223 (j) 1756437
9. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty W2 or  
(b) Non Battle Casualty \_\_\_\_\_
10. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRPLANE: Crew 3 Passengers 0 Total 3  
(Starting with pilot, furnish the following particulars: If more than 10 persons were aboard airplane, list similar particulars on separate sheet and attach original to this form.)

Crew Position	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number
1. Pilot	Scott, Richmond L.	2nd Lt.	0760918
2. Mech Gunner	Cox, Ralph W.	S/Sgt	36306966
3. Arm Gunner	Corle, Gerald T.	Sgt	33246927
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

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Incl. 11'

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

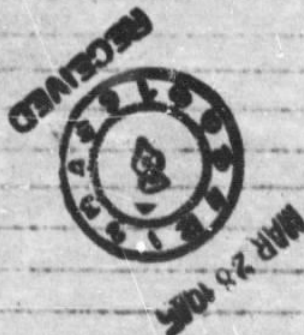
11. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRPLANE, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:

Name in full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	by Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Forced Landing
1. Cochran, Russell A.	S/Sgt	37498209		x		
2. Cartwright, John H.	S/Sgt	32462500		x		
3.						
4.						
5.						

12. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used \_\_\_\_\_; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash \_\_\_\_\_; or (c) Any other reason (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_ no evidence.
13. ATTACH AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRPLANE WAS LAST SEEN: Overlay map in quadruplicate attached.
14. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTION OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRPLANE: Eyewitness statements attached in quadruplicate.
15. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE: no search.

Date of Report 22 February 1945

*John H. Mulliner*  
JOHN H. MULLINER, Capt, AC, Personnel O.  
(Signature of Preparing Officer)



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C O N F I D E N T I A L

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STATEMENT OF EYEWITNESS

APO 140, US Army,  
22 February 1945.

On 16 February 1945, I was flying Tunnel Gunner's position in an A-20, flying number three in the first flight of the first box. I saw Lt Scott get a direct hit and immediately break in half and start down in flames. This hit was scored about one minute or less before Bombs Away. I didn't see any parachutes open from my vantage point.

*John H. Cartwright*

JOHN H. CARTWRIGHT,  
S/Sgt, 32462500,  
642nd Bomb Sq (L),  
409th Bomb Gp (L).

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STATEMENT OF EYEWITNESS

APO 140, 33 Army,  
22 February 1945.

On 16 February 1945, I was an Engineer Gunner in an A-26 which was flying the fourth position in the flight that Lt Scott flew as number five. Just as the bomb bay doors opened, I felt a concussion of an explosion. I turned to see the cause and saw Lt Scott's ship blown into a number of pieces with the wings and body going in different directions. No chutes opened as far as I could see.

*Russell A. Cochran*

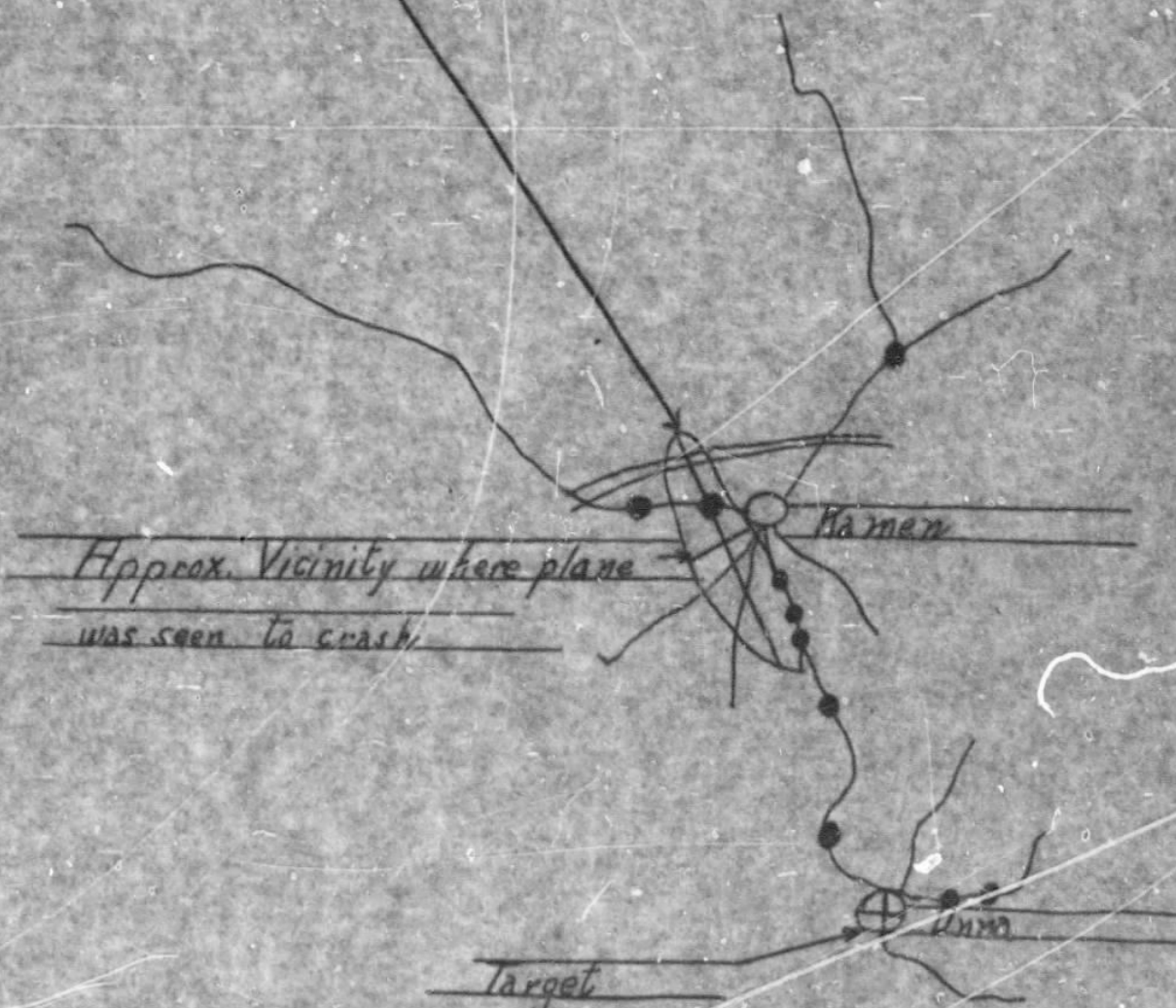
RUSSELL A. COCHRAN,  
S/Sgt, 37458209,  
642nd Bomb Sq (L),  
409th Bomb Gp (L).

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1-inch to  
1.58 Miles



Approx. Vicinity where plane  
was seen to crash

Namen

Target

Uma

Target

Target

Target

Target

Target

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MACR  
12490  
A 26  
3 men  
AAF 43-22300

	Rank:	Name:	KU 1271 a
Date:	16 Feb 45, at	1200	2nd Lt. SCOTT, Richard L. ASN: O-760918
Place:	Naam	S/sgt. COX, S/sgt. CORLE, O.T.	Lead Squad
Type of craft:	Marauder		
Markings:	- 602 (MBo) Sqd. 409 Group		

Case 5420  
✓ Cox, Ralph W. 36306866  
✓ Corle, Gerald T. 33246927

See KU 9747

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CASUALTY NO. **EU 1271 A**

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT  
WAS SHOT DOWN: **16 Feb. 1945, 1200 hrs**

PLACE OF CRASH: **Hann**

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: **Mustang**

REPORTING OFFICE: **Hq, Local Airbase Werl**

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CREW

SURNAME, AND  
FIRST NAME: **SCOTT, Richmond L.**

DATE OF BIRTH: **6 Aug. 1924**

RANK: **2nd Lt.**

SERIAL NUMBER: **O-760918**

CAPTURED: **captured**      WOUNDED:      DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: **Dulag-Luft West**      TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

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REMARKS:

**Dulag-Luft, 9 March 1945      v.S.**

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MACR 12436  
B-26  
AAF 43-27  
3men

MACR | 2436

15 Feb 45

16 Feb 45

Date of Crash: 21 Feb. 45, at 1300 hours  
Place of Crash: In Stocku.-Eckel near Herbern  
Aircraft type: Douglas, Invader, 322303  
Kind of Capture: By Flak  
S. Corle, Gerhardt DEAD K/A  
S. Cox, Ralph E. DEAD K/A

See KU 1271-A

for complete crew account MACR  
asked for MACR 30 Jan 48  
See SA 5420  
(This case is  
tail fouled up)

Pilot Scott, Richmond L. 0760918  
Mech Gunner Cox, Ralph W. 36,306,966  
Arm Gunner Corle, Gerald J. 33,246,927

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mlw/4/10/45

2nd. Lt. Richmond L. Scott

Mrs. Pearl J. Scott (wife) ✓  
Route 9, Box 131  
San Antonio, Texas

S/Sgt. Ralph W. Cox

Mrs. Lola P. Cox (mother) ✓  
Sidell, Illinois

Sgt. Gerald T. Corle

Mrs. Elizabeth Corle (mother) ✓  
Rural Delivery 1  
New Paris, Pennsylvania

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AFPPA: 11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 12436

Name of crew member: CORLE, Gerald T.  
Rank: Sgt.  
Serial number: 33246927  
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~Crew (Fighter)~~ Arm Gunner

Did he bail out? UNKNOWN

Where? —

If not, why not? —

Last contact or conversation prior to or at time of loss of plane: BEFORE STARTING

BOARD RUN T CONTACTED SGT. THAT WE WERE APPROACHING TARGET.

Was he injured? UNKNOWN

Where was he when last seen? —

Any hearsay information: NONE (I QUESTIONED THE GERMANS AT THE FLAK

BATTERY WHERE I WAS TAKEN AND THEY EXPLAINED THAT THE AIRCRAFT EXPLODED,  
BREAKING INTO PIECES, AND THAT MINE WAS THE ONLY PARACHUTE.

CREW  
OTHER MEMBERS OF OTHER AIRCRAFT IN FORMATION REPORTED NO PARACHUTES  
SEEN TO LEAVE AIRCRAFT.)

Source: INFORMATION GIVEN FROM GERMANS AND SQDN. COMRADES AFTER MY RESCUE.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: IT IS MY CONVICTION

THAT SGT. CORLE WAS KILLED FROM SHRAPNEL OF THE SHELL THAT EXPLODED INSIDE  
BOMBAY. AND THAT HE WAS IN THE AIRCRAFT (AFT SECTION) WHEN IT STRUCK THE

GROUND. I LANDED IN PARACHUTE AT EDGE OF TOWN. TAIL SECTION HIT A  
SHORT DISTANCE FROM ME. I WAS NOT ABLE TO EXAMINE IT. THE FUSE LAGE  
WAS BROKEN IN HALF JUST FORWARD OF THE GUNNER'S COMPT. THE HATCH APPEARED TO BE UNOPENED.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 19

Dates and destinations if possible: OCT. 3-1944 - FEBRUARY 16, 1945

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AFPPA-11

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

File # 12436

Name of crew member: GOX, Ralph W.  
Rank: S/Sgt.  
Serial number: 36306966  
Position: Crew (Bomber) ~~or Pilot (Fighter)~~ Mech.Gunner

Did he bail out? UNKNOWN

Where? —

If not, why not? —

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Contacted diff.

asked me to look over to get on flak unit, <sup>that</sup> and we were approaching target.

Was he injured? Unknown

Where was he when last seen? —

Any hearsay information: I questioned the <sup>air force</sup> survivors at the flak <sup>before</sup> that I was taken about the fate of my crew. They told me that the aircraft exploded, breaking into pieces, and that mine was the only parachute seen. Other crew members on mission reported no parachute leave the aircraft

Source: Information received by survivors & rescue comrades after my liberation

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: It is my conviction that Sgt. Cox was pulled instantly by scrap metal from the wheel that exploded inside the bomb bay, and that he was in the aircraft (aft part) when it struck the ground. Landed at the edge of a town(?) Tail section hit a short distance from me. I was not allowed to examine it. The fuselage was broken in half just forward of fuselage emp. The hatch appeared to be unopened.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 14

Dates and destinations if possible: Oct. 3, 1944 - February 16, 1945

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AFFPA-12

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Your name RICHMOND L. SCOTT Rank 1ST LT. Serial No. 0-760913
2. Organization 4098G Gp Commander H. FORD Rank COL. Sqn CO JOSEPH MAY Rank LT. COL.  
(full name) (full name)
3. What year 1945 month FEBRUARY day 16 did you go down?
4. What was the mission, UNNA GERMANY, target, SUPPLY DUMP, target  
time, 12:30, altitude, 13500 route scheduled, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, route flown \_\_\_\_\_
5. Where were you when you left formation? APPROXIMATELY 5 MI. NORTH OF TARGET
6. Did you bail out? YES
7. Did other members of crew bail out? UNKNOWN
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". AIRCRAFT SUSTAINED TWO DIRECT 88MM FLAK HITS INSIDE BOMBAY AND LEFT ENGINE. BOMBS WERE RELEASED WHEN HIT BUT AIRCRAFT EXPLODED, BREAKING IN HALF AT BOMBAY, AND WINGS AND ENGINES SPORING OFF. REGAINING CONSCIOUSNESS, AIRCRAFT ENDED IN FLAMES, I RELEASED EMERGENCY HATH AND WAS THROWN FROM AIRCRAFT.
9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? APPROXIMATELY 5 MI. NORTH OF TARGET
10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) NO KNOWLEDGE
11. Where were they in aircraft? IN ASSIGNED POSITIONS
12. What was their condition? UNKNOWN
13. When, where, and in what condition did you last see any members not already described above? PRIOR TO BOMB RUN. I NOTIFIED CREW TO PUT ON FLAK SUITS. THAT WE WERE APPROACHING TARGET.
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)

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MACR 12436

SCOTT, RICHMOND L.

O 760918

RMC-NS-ETO-132085

EUS-NS-ETO-166027

2/27 latest

Scott, Richmond L O-760918

ret of army

423 Patton Blvd.  
San Antonio Texas

77304

12436 - 5/15

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Classification changed  
to **RESTRICTED**  
by E. A. BRIDGEMAN, Lt. Col., AC  
By WM. L. THOMAS, 1st Lt. AC  
Date **MAR 15 1946**

**GERMAN RECORDS  
COMPLETED**

*Case complete*

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