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

12761

WAR DEPARTMENT  
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

1. ORGANIZATION: Location, by Name AAF Sta. F-357 ; Command or Air Force 3rd A.D., 8th A.F. Group 78th Fighter ; Squadron 83rd Fighter Detachment
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure F-357 ; COURSE Ljuiden, Steinhuder, Berlin, Hannover & Home . Target or intended Destination Berlin, Germany ; Type of Mission bomber escort
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED 8 to 10/10 strato-cumulus with tops at 6,000 feet
4. GIVE: (a) Day 26 Month Feb. Year 1945 ; Time 1350 ; and Location area north of Hannover, Germany of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft. (b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted (x); last contacted by radio ( ) ; Forced Down ( ) ; Seen to crash ( ) ; 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: unknown, but possible engine failure
6. AIRCRAFT: Type, Model and Series P-51-A-5-NT ; AAF Serial Number 44-11627
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT, if any "GREEN EYES"
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series v 1650-7 ; AAF Serial No. v-326959
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Furnish below Make, Type, and Serial Number): Browning Cal. 50  
 Left (a) 1483867 (b) 1483906 (c) 1474041 (d) all Frigidaire make  
 Right (e) 1495196 (f) 1484112 (g) 1495314 (h) \_\_\_\_\_
10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty x ;  
 or (b) Non Battle Casualty \_\_\_\_\_
11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 1 ; Passengers \_\_\_\_\_ ; Total 1  

Crew Position	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Current Status
<u>Pilot</u>	<u>O'Brien, Charles R. Jr.</u>	<u>F/O</u>	<u>T-125493</u>	<u>M.I.A.</u>
12. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT, AND CHECK APPROPRIATE COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:  

Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Check Only one Column			
			Contacted by Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw Forced Down
<u>1. Barnaby, Harold T.</u>	<u>Capt.</u>	<u>O-2044857</u>		<u>x</u>		
<u>2.</u>						
13. 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 reasons (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_
14. ATTACHED AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN OR HEARD FROM.
15. ATTACHED 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, INCLUDE DESCRIPTION AND EXTENT None

Date of Report: 4 March 1945

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

(Signature of Preparing Officer)  
STUART B. WARWICK, Capt., AG., 3-2 Officer.  
83rd fighter squadron, 78th fighter group.

*Encl 2'*

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MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

I was squadron leader on the mission from which Lt. Olson and F/O O'Brien failed to return. Lt. Olson was element leader and F/O O'Brien was his wingman in my flight.

We were giving support to the bombers on their withdrawal from Berlin and were in the vicinity of Hannover when F/O O'Brien rocked his wings. Lt. Olson attempted to contact him on the radio but failed to establish communications. F/O O'Brien's aircraft apparently had an electrical failure. Lt. Olson said he thought O'Brien wanted to go home. I told Lt. Olson to give him escort. They peeled off and headed on a course of 250 degrees. No further transmissions were heard from the missing aircraft.

3 March 1945

*Harold T. Barnaby*  
HAROLD T. BARNABY, O-2044857,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
83rd Fighter Squadron.

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NIENBURG

CELE

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STEINWIDER LAKE



HANNOVER



HILDESHEIM

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MACR 13761  
44-11627

J 3128

26 Feb 45

1455

Oldebrook, 15 km southwest of Zwolle

Mustang

A L O J 411627 (A)

607 (2) 77

MACR 12761 (date on  
44-11627 flight aircraft  
27 Feb 45)  
P 51  
1 man  
ATT 44-11627

Flak (A)

Concentration center for Air Force

Pot's in the Netherlands 27 Feb 45

82% wreckage

Emergency landing

wounded pilot captured

2nd Lt. O'BRIEN, C. E.

T-125443

KIA H 179

J 3128

26 Feb 45; 1455; emergency landing, caused by Flak; Mustang;  
in the village of Oldebrook; 14 km southwest of Zwolle;  
insignias AL star J; ser # 411627;

MIA 26 Feb 45  
KIA 26 Feb 45

J 3120

N 179

Mustang, emergency landing caused by anti-aircraft fire,  
on 26. February 1945 at 1455 hours in Oldbrook village,  
14 km. SW of Zwolle. Identifications : AL star J, No. 1  
411627.

N 179 S.) 2nd Lt. O'Brien, C.R.,

ASN-T-126493 F

PMU



" 179: On Feb. 26-1945 at 14.50hrs emergency landing of a Mustang  
owned by Antiaircraft, at village Oldstock, 14km southwest of  
Sualle. Markings: AL-cir-J, #1 411637.

179a 5) 2nd Lt. O'BRIEN.

G.R.

E-125483

W.B.

Form, personal effects of the POW's and several captured papers are enclosed.

Airforce PW Collection Point  
Holland

Winter, 1st Lt.

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*O'Brien Charles R  
F-125483*