

CONFIDENTIAL

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AAF FORM:  
NO. 129

WAR DEPARTMENT  
HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES  
WASHINGTON

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.

India

1. ORGANIZATION: Location, by Name Cox's Bazar, ; Command or AF EAC  
Group 2nd Air Commando Squadron 2nd ri Sq ; Detach. "A"
2. SPECIFY: Place of Departure Cox's Bazar, India; Course 131  
Target or Intended Destination Don maung AF ; Type Mis. Strafe
3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED: Good Visibility
4. GIVE: (a) Day 9 Month 4 Year 45 ; Time 1120; and Location 10 miles W of Don maung AF Thailand of last known whereabouts of missing aircraft .  
(b) Specify whether aircraft was last sighted ( ) ; 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: \_\_\_\_\_
6. AIRCRAFT: Type , Model and Series P-51D-15NA; AAF Ser. No. 44-15302
7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT , If Any \_\_\_\_\_
8. ENGINES: Type, Model and Series V-1650-7 ; AAF Ser. No. (a) V-326326 ; (b) \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_ (d) \_\_\_\_\_
9. INSTALLED WEAPONS (Furnish below Make, Type and Serial Number); (a) 6 - .50 Cal. M-1. Serial (numbers not known) ; (e) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (f) \_\_\_\_\_ (g) \_\_\_\_\_ (h) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (i) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (j) \_\_\_\_\_ (k) \_\_\_\_\_ (l) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (m) \_\_\_\_\_ ; (n) \_\_\_\_\_ (o) \_\_\_\_\_ (p) \_\_\_\_\_
10. THE PERSONS LISTED BELOW WERE REPORTED AS: (a) Battle Casualty Yes or (b) Non Battle Casualty \_\_\_\_\_
11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 1 ; Pass. 0 ; Total 1  
(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.)  
Name in Full Serial Current  
Crew Position (Last Name First) Rank Number Status  
1. Pilot Abraham, Albert (NK1) Capt 0-442349 rlt leader  
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
5. \_\_\_\_\_  
6. \_\_\_\_\_  
7. \_\_\_\_\_  
8. \_\_\_\_\_  
9. \_\_\_\_\_  
10. \_\_\_\_\_  
11. \_\_\_\_\_
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

(Over)

*Incl 2*

	Name in Full (Last Name First)	Rank	Serial Number	Contacted By Radio	Last Sighted	Saw Crash	Saw F. Landing
1.	<u>Pakenham, Thomas F.</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>O-796189</u>		<u>X</u>		
2.	<u>Grace, Robert H.</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>O-829977</u>		<u>X</u>		
3.							

13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, ANSWER TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: (a) Parachutes were used Yes; (b) Persons were seen walking away from scene of crash Yes; or (c) Any other reason (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

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

Edward E. Atha Captain O-442343 Search of area by P-51D8s  
Observed what may have been mirror flashes. No sighting other-  
wise.

MAY 9 1945



Date of Report 4-18-45

*Julian Gilliam*  
 JULIAN GILLIAM,

Capt., AG, Asst. Operations O.

(Signature of Preparing Officer)

REMARKS OR EYEWITNESS STATEMENTS:

I was leading a flight of four (4) ships behind Capt Abraham's flight and after a second pass on the target I assembled my flight behind Capt Abraham's about ten miles west of Don Maung AF at 5000 feet. I had heard no radio conversation and first knew he was in difficulty when his canopy came off. A few seconds later his plane nosed down and crashed near some native dwellings about three miles west of the river. Looking behind I saw an open parachute about 2000 feet. I circled until the parachute hit the ground and saw Capt Abraham standing up, apparently uninjured, watching the circling planes. I pin-pointed his position and as I flew off he was gathering up the parachute.

*Thomas F. Pakenham*  
 THOMAS F. PAKENHAM,  
 1st Lt., Air Corps

I was flying Capt Abraham's wing and on our second pass on the target I noticed him suddenly pulling up after firing a short burst. I pulled up closer noticing that he was losing coolant rapidly so I motioned to him trying to tell him what had happened but he nodded that he already was aware of it. We climbed to about 2500 feet and when we were approximately ten miles west of Don Maung AF Capt Abraham released his canopy, trimmed his ship nose heavy, and was thrown clear of the airplane.

His ship dove into the ground burning upon impact and when I saw him open his parachute and hit the ground a few seconds later, he got out of his harness and stood up apparently uninjured; then he gathered up his parachute and was starting to walk off as we left.

*Robert H. Grace*  
 ROBERT H. GRACE,  
 2nd Lt., Air Corps