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Stichting Urk in Oorlogstijd

Crash Report T3085

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Crash Report T3085

CASUALTY REPORT

AIR FORCES

Date	: 13-11-1943	Time:	: 1245*
Aircraft	: B-24D	Nickname	: Battleaxe
Codes	: 42-40973		
Group/Squadron	: 44BG/66BS	8th AF	
Base	:		
Crashed	: IJsselmeer**		
Crash due	: Flak or fighters		
Target	: Bremen, Germany		

* Time reported in MACR; Several times are mentioned.
 ** In MACR 30 min. before English Coast; North Sea is also mentioned. Most likely it is the IJsselmeer – crew members washed ashore at Island of Urk, Enkhuizen, Lemmer and Hoorn

On November 1943 the 44th Bomb Group was tasked with a mission to the port of Bremen. This turned out to be a tough mission, as the crews had to contend with bad weather, cold and fierce attacks by the Luftwaffe. Around 50 German fighters attacked the formation from all angles, often using the contrails of the bombers to hide their approach.

2nd Lt. Hacker and his crew flew in B-24 #42-40973 "Battleaxe". The formation flew through inaccurate flak and the German fighter attacks petered out the moment the P-38 escort fighters joined the fight. The port of Bremen was bombed at 11.47.

"Battleaxe" was hit by either flak or fighters and one engine was trailing smoke. Over the North Sea it started to glide out of formation, but under control. This was when the Bomb Group was within 20 minutes flying time to the English coast. The Air-Sea Rescue Service was notified when it appeared that the bomber had not returned to base. No one had seen it crash or ditch, but in the following days and weeks, the bodies of five crew members washed ashore on the Dutch coast. S/Sgt Lundstrom and S/Sgt Iorgov are buried in Margraten. Three others, 2nd Lt. Seiler, T/Sgt Davis and S/Sgt Towning are today buried in the United States. Five others are mentioned on the Wall of the Missing in Margraten.

Missing in Action:

P	:	ALMLIE	HARLAN C.	1st Lt.	0-676714	Bricelyn WOM Margraten	Minnesota
CP	:	HACKER	WILLIAM E	2nd Lt.	0-531342	Roslindale WOM Margraten	Massachusetts
N	:	SCHEXNAYDER	JOSEPH L.	2nd Lt.	0-684807	Louisiana WOM Margraten	Garyville
RO	:	PERMAR	EVERETT E	T/Sgt	35497759	Indiana WOM Margraten	Aurora
TG	:	ROBINSON	FREDERICK A.	S/Sgt.	12171724	Albany WOM Margraten	New York

Killed:

B	:	SEILER	WALTER J. Washed ashore on, Urk [date unknown]	2nd Lt. Buried at General cemetery of Urk 13-01-1944 Reinterred in Ardennes	0-678476 Grave: 611 -1 of 3	Chicago	Illinois
E	:	DAVIS	DONALD A. Recovered by fisherman 30-01-1944	T/Sgt Buried at General cemetery of Enkhuizen 01-02-1944 Reinterred in Ardennes	36343869	Rockford	Illinois
BTG	:	IORGOV	GEORGE W	S/Sgt Buried at General cemetery of Lemmer 14-02-1944 Reinterred in Margraten	18025712 Grave: B-1-3	Donna	Texas
RWG	:	TOWNING	JOHN L.	S/Sgt Reinterred in Ardennes – NOT SURE!***	39542241	Bell	California
LWG	:	LUNDSTROM	JOHN V. was still alive when recovered, died shortly	S/Sgt. Buried at General cemetery of Hoorn	35372611 Plot VV- 10-248	Terra Haute	Indiana



Crash Report T3085

afterwards by exposure

Reinterred in Margraten

Grave:
A-8-30

TG	ROBINSON	FREDERICK A.	S/Sgt.	12171724	Albany WOM Margraten	New York
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*** CR – Jan Hey is not clear, fussy.

Prisoner of War:

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Evaded:

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Sources:

- T3085 : SGLO list
- 1375 : MACR Missing Aircrew Report
- DGB0012 : En nooit was het stil Pagina 116; geen vermelding van deze crash
- DGB0082 : The 44th bombergroup in world war II Pagina 78
- Websites : greenharbor.com www.greenharbor.com/ROHPDF/ROHN43.pdf
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