

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **APPLEBY Jr., Ernest (HMI)**
 Rank: **2nd/Lt.**
 Serial number: **0-828834**
 Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~Observer (Observer)~~: **Pilot**

Did he bail out? I did not see him bail out and observers on the ground claim that only nine parachutes came out of the aircraft.

Where? _____

If not, why not? He remained with the aircraft after we had bailed out; the rest of the crew at 13,000 feet. We were going through bail-out procedures when the aircraft exploded. (Over)1.

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

Appleby told me to go back to the waist and see that all crew members had bailed out, then to go ahead and jump. He said that he had the automatic pilot set up and would jump right away and not to worry about anything. I told him that the ship would blow up any minute and pleaded with him to get out right away, however, he disregarded my pleading and (Over)2.

Was he injured? Unknown

Where was he when last seen? He was still at the controls of the ship when I last saw him.

Any hearsay information: A few members of the underground who examined the wreckage of the aircraft claimed that they found the burned body of a large man in the wreckage. The body had no arms, legs or head and no identification was found.

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: It is my belief that Appleby was killed when the aircraft hit the ground. He was a very large man so the above information seems to support this belief.

Total number of missions of above crew member: Five

Dates and destinations if possible: Unknown

INDIVIDUAL CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Name of crew member: **APPLEBY Jr., Ernest (WMI)**
 Rank: **2nd/Lt.**
 Serial number: **0-82685**
 Position: Crew (Bomber) or ~~ENGINEER~~: **Pilot**

Did he bail out? No

Where? _____

If not, why not? HELD PLANE FOR CREW TO BAIL OUT

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: _____

LT. APPLEBY TOLD US TO JUMP

Was he injured? _____

Where was he when last seen? IN PLANE

Any hearsay information: _____

Source: _____

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: _____

PILOT HELD PLANE WHILE REST OF CREW BAILED
 OUT. BY THAT TIME HE DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH
 TIME TO BAIL OUT.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 5

Dates and destinations if possible: NO KNOWLEDGE

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HEADQUARTERS, ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON



IN REPLY REFER TO: AFPPA-8

20 August 1945

2687

9945

704

559 Book 27 515
597

SUBJECT: Second Lieutenant Ernest Appleby, Jr., 0826834

TO: Commanding General, Headquarters, OAF
A. P. O. 520, U. S. Army
Attention: N. A. A. G. C.

C-32

1. This headquarters is in receipt of a request for details of the death of Second Lieutenant Ernest Appleby, Jr., 0826834, missing in action 20 November 1944, and subsequently reported killed in action on that date, over Europe.

2. Request details sent to this headquarters with least practicable delay.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

N. W. Reed

N. W. REED
Major, Air Corps
Chief, Notification Branch
Personal Affairs Division
Asst Chief of Air Staff

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