

384th Bombardment Group (Heavy)  
Grafton Underwood Airfield, AAF Station 106, England  
World War II



PERSONAL WAR SERVICE RECORDS

of

OLIVER EUGENE REED



545th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy)

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**Individual Personnel Data**

<b>Name</b>	Reed, Oliver Eugene
<b>Rank</b>	Staff Sergeant / Technical Sergeant
<b>Serial Number</b>	35355941
<b>Unit</b>	545th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy)
<b>Duty</b>	Radio Operator / Gunner
<b>MOS</b>	757 - Radio Operator / Mechanic / Gunner, AAF
<b>Unit Assignments</b>	Assigned to the 545th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), per Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho, Special Orders #70 dated 11 March 1943
<b>Last Duty Date</b>	22 June 1943 Reported missing on MACR 2165
<b>Results</b>	Prisoner Of War POW Camp: Stalag 7A Moosburg Bavaria 48-12 (Work Camps 3324-46 Krumbachstrasse 48011, Work Camp 3368 Munich 48-11)

**Crew Composition When Assigned to the 384th BG  
Original 384<sup>th</sup> Combat Crew**

CREWMEMBER	POSITION	RESULTS
2nd Lt. Olbinski, Robert James	Pilot	POW
2nd Lt. Swift, Harry R	Co-pilot	POW
2nd Lt. Grandpre, Richard Elias	Navigator	POW
2nd Lt. Turner, Douglas H	Bombardier	KIA
<b>S/SGT. Reed, Oliver Eugene</b>	Radio Operator / Gunner	POW
S/SGT. Trickett, Ernest M	Engineer / Top Turret Gunner	KIA
S/SGT. Werbanec, George Frank	Ball Turret Gunner	POW
S/SGT. Cooke, Harold J	Tail Gunner	KIA
S/SGT. Hanna, William L	Flexible Gunner	CT
PVT. Waterman, George W	Flexible Gunner	KIA

**Crew History**

The Olbinski Crew joined the 545th BS at Wendover on 11 March 1943. Identified as 'Crew #17' on the assignment order, they became the first 'Crew #59' in the squadron. Prior to transferring overseas, Counihan replaced Hanna for unknown reasons. They trained at Wendover, Sioux City, and Kearny, and then flew to England together.

They entered combat together, flying the 384th's first mission on 22 June 1943, but were shot down over enemy territory. Turner, Trickett, Cooke and Waterman were KIA, and the rest of the crew became POWs for the duration of the war.

**Missions, Aircraft, Crews**  
**This individual was credited with 1 Combat Mission.**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Aircraft</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1	22 June 1943	General Motors Truck Factory Industry Antwerp, Belgium	Radio Operator	42-30076	<b>Combat Mission Credit</b> Shot down by enemy aircraft; crashed near Wilhelminadoorp, The Netherlands. MACR 2165

## SORTIE REPORT #9

**MISSION DATA:**

DATE	384th BG Mission #	8th AF Mission #	384th PRIMARY TARGET
1943-06-22	1	65	General Motors Truck Factory Industry Antwerp, Belgium

First 384th Combat Mission: Col Budd J Peaslee led the 384th Bombardment Group (H) on this mission.

**COMBAT CHRONOLOGY: EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (8th Air Force)**

VIII Bomber Command Mission Number 65: In the first large-scale daylight raid on the Ruhr, 235 B-17's are dispatched to hit the chemical works and synthetic rubber plant at Huls in the main attack; 183 bomb the target; we claim 46-21-35 Luftwaffe aircraft; we lose 16 and 75 others are damaged; casualties are 2 KIA, 16 WIA and 151 MIA; this plant, representing a large percentage of the country's producing capacity, is severely damaged. 11 YB-40's accompany the Huls raid; 1 is lost.

**In a second raid, 42 B-17's are dispatched to bomb the former Ford and General Motors plants at Antwerp; 39 hit the target; they claim 1-2-9 Luftwaffe aircraft; we lose 4, 1 is damaged beyond repair and 17 others are damaged; casualties are 1 KIA, 3 WIA and 40 MIA.**

An additional 21 B-17's fly an uneventful diversion.

**SORTIE DATA:**

COMBAT CREDIT	STATUS	TARGET ATTACKED (MODE)
Yes	<b>Failed to Return</b> Comments: Shot down by enemy aircraft; crashed near Wilhelminadoorp, The Netherlands. MACR 2165	Primary (Visual)

**- SORTIE AIRCRAFT DATA:**

TYPE	SERIAL NUMBER	SQ CODE	NAME
B-17F	42-30076	JD*V	not known

**- SORTIE CREW DATA:**

POSITION	CREWMEMBER	UNIT	STATUS
Pilot	Olbinski, Robert James	545	POW
Co-pilot	Swift, Harry R	545	POW
Navigator	Grandpre, Richard Elias	545	POW
Bombardier	Turner, Douglas H	545	KIA
Radio Operator	Reed, Oliver Eugene	545	POW
Engineer/Top Turret	Trickett, Ernest M	545	KIA
Ball Turret	Werbanec, George Frank	545	POW
Tail Gunner	Cooke, Harold J	545	KIA
Flexible Gunner	Waterman, George W	545	KIA
Flexible Gunner	Counihan, William J, Jr	545	POW

**- SORTIE-RELATED DOCUMENTS:**

TYPE	IDENTIFICATION
MACR	Missing Air Crew Report Number 2165

**Oliver Eugene Reed flew combat missions  
with the 9 crewmates listed below.**

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Missions Flown Together</b>
S/S	Cooke, Harold J	TG	1
S-S/S	Counihan, William J	WG	1
2Lt	Grandpre, Richard Elias	N	1
2Lt	Olbinski, Robert James	P	1
2Lt	Swift, Harry R	CP	1
S/S-T/S	Trickett, Ernest M	TT	1
2Lt	Turner, Douglas H	B	1
Pvt-S/S	Waterman, George W	WG	1
S/S	Werbanec, George Frank	BT	1

**Oliver Eugene Reed flew one combat mission in the aircraft listed below.**

<b>Serial Number</b>	<b>Sq. Code</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Missions</b>
42-30076	JD*V		1