

ARMY SERVICE FORCES
 205th Hospital Ship Complement
 U. S. S. COMFORT AK-6
 Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, Calif.

2 May 1945

SUBJECT: Report of Dead and Wounded Personnel.

TO : Adjutant General, United States Army,
Washington 25, D. C.

1. The Hospital Ship U. S. S. Comfort was proceeding on its way to Guam with a load of patients from Okinawa, Ryuku Islands, on the 28th April 1945 when at 2042 that evening the ship was bombed by a suicide Japanese airplane. The position of the ship was about seventy (70) miles from Okinawa at latitude 25° - 28' N and longitude 127° - 39' E. The plane dove into the ship hitting into the outboard bulkhead on the starboard side of the superstructure deck. When the explosion occurred all normal activities of the hospital were being carried on.

2. The following is a summary of all personnel killed and wounded, with type and extent of wounds received.

A. The personnel named on the attached list as killed in action were so badly burned and mutilated that it is impossible to determine just what killed them. The direct cause of death as far as can be determined was due to the explosion.

B. Seriously wounded.

(1) Lt Col Linsman-Laceration forehead-laceration of right wrist-cerebral concussion, mild.

(2) Capt Maris-Burns, 1st & 2nd degree both legs and left arm-Fracture right arm-Possible laceration right eyeball.

(3) Capt Nicola-Contusion severe right lower chest and flank Blast injury to right kidney-Probable fracture of ribs, right lower chest.

(4) Lt Onsrud- Lacerations forehead and left eyelid.

(5) Lt Trastrail-Burns, 1st & 2nd degree, face, right arm and body -Fracture left wrist and hand.

(6) Lt Goodman-Fracture right femur-Blast injury right ear.

(7) Lt Koonjar-Lacerations left buttocks and scalp-possible fracture of skull-Burns, 1st & 2nd degree face, neck, both arms and both legs.

(8) Tec 3 Holshouser- Fracture right ulna and radius-Possible fracture right ribs- Laceration right chest.

(9) Tec 4 Fern-Fracture left femur.

(10) Tec 4 Hagen-Lacerations left shoulder-Laceration forehead-severe contusion left foot.

(11) Tec 5 Bullock-Laceration of scalp-Concussion abdomen, mild- Possible skull fracture.

No 2063

(12) Pfc Cholette-Fracture compound complete right femur-Fracture simple complete left femur-Fracture simple complete sternum-Contusion left shoulder, left hand and wrist, moderate.

(13) Pfc Deitz-Laceration right scrotum-Gangrene of right testicle-Multiple contusions-Lacerations of face and neck.

(14) Pfc Hunt-Lacerations right hand and arm-Possible cerebral concussion.

(15) Pfc Kuitunen-Blast injury abdomen-Contusion right chest and abdomen and possible fracture ribs right side.

(16) Pfc McMahan-Blast injury, moderate, multiple contusion right chest, shoulder, left shoulder and left chest, left hip and left flank-Probable fracture right ribs-Lacerations, right chest and left wrist.

(17) Pfc Groves-Burns 1st and 2nd degree, face, left leg and arms-Severe laceration right leg-Contusion, chest and abdomen-Lacerations face, moderate.

(18) Pfc Brown-Multiple lacerations of the face and body-Cerebral concussion severe-Severe shock-Expired 29 April 1945 due to aforementioned causes.

C. Slightly wounded-Hospitalized.

(1) Lt Koplowitz-Cerebral concussion-Scalp lacerations, moderate.

(2) Pfc Collins-Blast injury, mild, to chest and abdomen.

(3) Pfc Goracki-Blast injury, chest and abdomen, moderate.

(4) Pfc Lewis-Blast injury chest and abdomen-Multiple foreign body burns, chest and abdomen, right forearm, arm, right thigh, knee, and leg.

(5) Pfc Mollour-Lacerations left forearm-Lacerations left foot with possible fracture.

(6) S/Sgt E. Adams-Burns 2nd degree, face and hands.

(7) Tec 5 Ondricka-Deafness, bilateral, due to blast injury-Blast injury to head, mild.

D. Slightly wounded- Not Hospitalized.

(1) Tec 4 Bicolow-Laceration left hand, moderate.

(2) Tec 4 Hoffstein-Lacerations both hands.

(3) Pfc Cheff-Burns, face, and neck and arms.

(4) Pfc Moran-Lacerations forearm and hand.

(5) Pfc Vondracek-Laceration right hand, possible fracture of Meta-Carpals.

E. Missing in Action.

(1) Pfc Edwards-The remains or any part thereof, has not been found. Pfc Edwards was last seen on the superstructure deck at the Pharmacy where he spoke to some of the enlisted men. Tec 4 Eli Hoffstein who works in the Pharmacy, stated that he saw Pfc Edwards leave the Pharmacy and turn forward on the passageway at approximately the exact spot where the airplane dove into the ship. The explosion being so great must have completely destroyed the body. Parts of human bodies were scattered throughout that section of the ship where the explosion took place, but no trace was

found of any part of a body that could in any way be identified as part of Eric Edwards. It is believed that Edwards is dead, but due to the fact that the explosion blew some personnel from inside the ship through compartments on to the open decks without injury, there still remains possibility of his being blown out through a compartment and over the side of the ship.

F. Killed in action-temporary duty personnel from Med Sv CPBC, APO 958.

(1) Lt O'Brien-Killed as a direct result of explosion.

G. Slightly wounded-Not Hospitalized-temporary duty personnel from Med Sv. CPBC, APO 958.

(1) Major Brannan-Laceration, palm of front right hand.

(2) Lt Dene-Multiple lacerations and contusion of right arm and both lower legs.

For the Commanding Officer:

DUNCAN P. STEWART
1st Lt, MAC
Adjutant

FROM: CO, 205TH HOSP SHIP COMP, USS COMFORT, c/o FLEET POST OFFICE, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

TO : THE ADJUTANT GENERAL, US ARMY, WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

KIA

ECKERSON, EDWIN B.	MAJOR	MC	O-241700
CLARK, CHARLES D.	CAPTAIN	MC	O-1684608
FOSS, ERNEST JR.	CAPTAIN	MC	O-430250
MACPHERSON, WILLIAM A.	CAPTAIN	MC	O-1703321
GREWSE, FLORENCE T.	1st Lt	ANC	N-737659
BILLINGS, MARGARET M.	2nd Lt	ANC	N-737148
CHESLEY, FRANCIS O.	2nd Lt	ANC	N-751725
ECKERE, LVELYN C.	2nd Lt	ANC	N-760263
STANKE, DOROTHY M.	2nd Lt	ANC	N-783678
GREENWOOD, JDA M.	2nd Lt	ANC	N-737583
SALISBURY, HOWARD H.	TEC 4	MD	32666320
ISENBURG, ROBERT O.	TEC 5	MD	32054663
KRAUSS, JOHN R.	TEC 5	MD	36156825
DAMMERMAN, CECIL H.	PFC	MD	37414358
SMITH, CLOVIS E.	PFC	MD	34687022
SUTKER, SAMUEL D.	PFC	MD	34752162
WALTERS, DUANE M.	PFC	MD	33449448
WOODWORTH, CLAYTON R.	PFC	MD	37471496

SERIOUSLY WOUNDED 28 APRIL 1945

LINSMAN, JOSEPH F.	LT. COL	MC	O-21476
MARIS, LEE M.	CAPT	MC	O-491585
NICOLA, JOSEPH S.	CAPT	DC	O-478686
ONSRUD, MYRTLE S.	1st Lt	ANC	N-736618
TRESIRAIL, GLADYS C.	1st Lt	ANC	N-736497
GOODMAN, VALERIE A.	2nd Lt	ANC	N-783665
KOOMJAN, HELEN	2nd Lt	ANC	N-737376
HOLSHOUSER, VAN H.	TEC 3	MD	36056130
FERR, HAROLD W.	TEC 4	MD	36730208
HAGEN, NORMAN	TEC 4	MD	35712863
BULLOCK, THOMAS E.	TEC 5	MD	34536093
CHOLETTE, LYMAN J.	PFC	MD	36564567
DEITZ, DAVID	PFC	MD	36790297
HUNT, CHARLES J. JR.	PFC	MD	32953755
KUITUNEN, GOERGE J.	PFC	MD	36413493
McMAHAN, JOE A.	PFC	MD	33430516
GROVES, KENNETH R.	PFC	MD	36637795
DREWA, HARRY J.	PFC	MD	36801329 (EXPIRED 29 Apr 45)

SLIGHTLY WOUNDED 28 APRIL 1945 HOSPITALIZED

KAPLOWITZ, LEONARD S.	1st Lt	SNC	O-1039715
COLLINS, RAYMOND E.	PFC	MD	35221178
GORECKI, ALFON A.	PFC	MD	31277306
LEWIS, BENJAMIN A.	PFC	MD	39924105
MOLLEUR, ARTHUR J.	PFC	MD	31267573

SLIGHTLY WOUNDED 28 APRIL 1945 HOSPITALIZED 29 APRIL 1945

ADAMS, NUCLID G.	S/Sgt	MD	34113753
ONDREICKA, WILLIAM	TEC 5	MD	36384933

SLIGHTLY WOUNDED 28 APRIL 1945 NOT HOSPITALIZED

BIGELOW, ADRIAN L.	TEC 4	MD	39557437
HOFFSTEIN, ELLI	TEC 4	MD	31307573
CHEFF, CLARK E.	PFC	MD	39048166
HORAN, AUGUSTUS N.	PFC	MD	33538048
VONDRAČEK, GEORGE J. JR.	PFC	MD	37477743

MIA 28 APRIL 1945

EDWARDS, RICHARD J.	PFC	MD	36801329
---------------------	-----	----	----------

KIA 28 APRIL 1945 TEMPORARY DUTY PERSONNEL FROM MED SV CPBC APO 958

O'BRIEN, JOHN F. JR.	1st Lt	MC	O-477914
----------------------	--------	----	----------

SLIGHTLY WOUNDED 28 APRIL 1945 NOT HOSPITALIZED TEMP BY PERSONNEL
FR MED SV CPBC APO 958

BRANNAN, DORSEY	MAJOR	MC	O-489474
DONE, ROBERT W.	1st Lt	MC	O-472558

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

DUNCAN P. STEWART
1st Lt, MC
Adjutant