

**From:** Jan Hey <memusaf@home.nl>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 19, 2008 6:27 AM  
**To:** TE, ret.  
**Subject:** Re: For your files.

**Importance:** High

Good morning Tom,

About 12 year ago I have bought from NARA a box full of micro-fiches with MACRs that had not been declassified up to then (situation remained unchanged up to today). They had no inventory-list, so I had to buy the lot 'carte blanche'. It paid off because I found a few hundreds of losses of the 8th and 9th AF. The rest was Pacific, Mediterranean, Africa. One of these was MACR Nr. 15309, stating

**21 January 1945 B-24H 42-52484 406 BS from Cheddington**  
**The a/c was badly damaged by flak over enemy territory and returned. The crew bailed out but before the two Pilots could jump the B-24 exploded and crashed 12 miles E of Carboin near Chateau-Thierry.**  
**Killed were : Pilot 2/Lt William B. FERGUSON, 2/Lt 0-828996 and**  
**Co-Pilot 2/Lt James P. RUSH Jr. 0-830965**  
**Eight others of the crew bailed out safely, one of these had to be hospitalized.**

Full names + ASNs have been checked by me in the Roster KIA/MIA of NARA. Further research proves that both were initially buried in the US temporary Military Cemetery Champigneul at Chalons-sur-Marne, in about 1948 reinterred in Arlington National Cemetery, VA, in separate graves. The correct location is 2 miles (3 km) NW of Courboin, a town 8 km SE from Chateau-Thierry in northern France.

Have a good week-end !

Regards  
John  
----- Original Message -----

**From:** [TE, ret.](#)  
**To:** [Hey, John](#)  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 19, 2008 12:22 AM  
**Subject:** For your files.

John,

Was this a B24? Seems to be it's first combat flight whatever type it was.

All The Best,  
TE, ret.

From: <Tombrittan@aol.com>  
To: <801492bg.historian@comcast.net>  
Subject: Re: Crash question  
Date: Saturday, January 19, 2008 1:54 PM

Tom,

I show B-24H-15 FO 42-52484 as 15 AF, 464 BG, 776 BS, named FREE DELIVERY. I have no other information except that it was probably an original aircraft and that it was lost on 5 Jul 44 when, on a mission to bomb the port of Toulon, France, it exploded at 20,000 ft and crashed in the Quartier St-Jean, La Valette, immediately east of Toulon. Here is what is on the Army Air Force.com MACR database:

MACR #  
Date  
A/C Type  
Serial #  
Group  
Squadron  
6379 7/5/1944 B-24 42-52484 464

I think you may mean B-24J NITE-401 CF 42-50484 406th NLS, RCL unknown, which crashed and exploded during the night of 21/22 Jan 45 near Reims, France. It was salvaged battle-damaged on 2 Feb 45 by 5 SAD from Merville, France. I show it with the name GEROCKO but have not seen a photo. No other info.

Tom B.

Dans un e-mail daté du 19/01/2008 21:36:03 Romance Standard Time, 801492bg.historian@comcast.net a écrit :

B-24H 42-52484

Just a short history of the plane, I have the personnel and location details.

Many thanks,  
TE, ret.