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During the Tuskegee Airmen's years of operation from 1941 to 1949, 992 pilots were trained in Tuskegee from 1941 to 1946. 450 were deployed overseas, and 150 lost their lives in accidents or combat. The toll included 66 pilots killed in action or accidents, 84 killed in training and non-combat missions and 32 captured as prisoners of war.



Lt. William Griffin of the 99th Fighter Squadron crash-landed his plane in enemy territory after it was hit by enemy fire on Jan. 15, 1944. Griffin was captured and held at Stalag Luft I until the end of the war with other prisoners of war; he is standing in the back row, fourth from the left.
(Courtesy of Stalag Luft I Online)



PRISONER OF WAR MEDAL

Established: 1986

Significance: Recognizes anyone who was a prisoner of war after April 5, 1917.

Design: On the obverse, an American eagle with wings folded is enclosed by a ring. On the reverse, "Awarded to" is inscribed with space for the recipient's name, followed by "For honorable service while a prisoner of war" on three lines. The ribbon has a wide center stripe of black, flanked by a narrow white stripe, a thin blue stripe, a thin white stripe and a thin red stripe at the edge.

Authorized device: Multiple awards are marked with a service star.

MACR- Missing Air Crew Reports

In May 1943, the Army Air Forces recommended the adoption of a special form, the Missing Air Crew Report (MACR), devised to record relevant facts of the last known circumstances regarding missing air crews, providing a means of integrating current data with information obtained later from other sources in an effort to conclusively determine the fate of the missing personnel.

How to find MACRs from WWII During World War II the U.S. Army Air Forces (AAF) required group echelon units to submit Missing Air Crew Reports. Listing of MACR Full Reports and access to the National Archives Prisoners of War Full Records.

TUSKEGEE AIRMEN TAKEN PRISONER OF WAR

<p>1.</p>		<p><u>2nd Lt. Gene C. Browne</u></p> <p>Date captured: July 18, 1944 Time: 1045 Place captured: Vienna, Austria. Kempton area 47 43 N, 10 20 E Prison camp: Stalag Luft I Cause: enemy aircraft Squadron: 301st Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51C Mustang MACR: 6973</p> <p>One of the youngest pilots in the U.S. Army Air Corps, 1st Lt. Gene C. Browne was forced to crash-land in Germany and was a prisoner of war for more than a year.</p>
<p>2.</p>		<p><u>1st Lt. Harold H. Brown</u></p> <p>Date captured: March 14, 1945 Time: 1115 Place captured: Linz, Austria. East of Bruck, Austria 4738N, 1439E Prison camp: Stalag VIIA Cause: damage from strafing Squadron: 99th Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51C Mustang MACR: 12996</p> <p>On his 12th mission, December 9, 1944, Lt. Brown's plane was hit by enemy ground fire; however, he made it into friendly territory. He blames this on the "exuberance of youth." He and his wingman chased a German ME 262 twin-engine jet. "We should have broken it off and we didn't. So the enemy led us over enemy positions and we got caught in heavy ground fire." After reaching friendly territory, Brown experienced fuel exhaustion. "I began looking for a place to crash land when I spotted an abandoned air strip." The plane was heavily damaged, but he walked away from it. Brown said, "There is an old saying, 'Any landing you can walk away from is a good landing.'" Six days later he made it back to base.</p> <p>On March 14, 1945 flying his 30th mission—a strafing mission—he was shot down and captured. His story of capture is a saga in itself.</p>

<p>3.</p>	 <p>Second Lieutenant Alfred Carroll speaking with Flight Officer Nathaniel Rayburg, seated in the cockpit of an aircraft, before he takes his first flight, Tuskegee, Alabama, 1943.</p>	<p>Lt. Alfred Q. Carroll Jr.</p> <p>Date captured: July 25, 1944 Time: Place captured: Linz, Austria Prison camp: Stalag Luft I Cause: Squadron: Plane type: MACR:</p> <p>2nd Lt. Carroll flew bomber escort missions in the European theater. On July 25, 1944, 2nd Lt. Carroll was flying his P51-C fighter during one of these bomber escort missions led by Captain William Faulkner of Nashville, Tennessee, targeting a tank factory near Linz, Austria. Without warning, the squadron was attacked by enemy fighters, with both Lieutenants Carroll and Starling B. Penn being shot down during the battle. It was on this same mission that Lt. Harold Sawyer shot down a Me-109 fighter, earning the Distinguished Flying Cross. Lieutenants Carroll and Penn became prisoners of war at the Stalag Luft 1 in Barth-Vogelsang Prussia, Prussia. While at the POW camp, Carroll's roommate was fellow Tuskegee Airman Lt. Gene C. Browne. In May of 1945, 2nd Lt. Carroll and his fellow POWs were liberated. 2nd Lt. Carroll would receive the Prisoner of War Medal for his service.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>NO PHOTO AVAILABLE</p>	<p>2nd Lt. Robert H. Daniels Jr.</p> <p>Date captured: August 12, 1944 Time: Place captured: Toulon, France Prison camp: Stalag Luft I and Stalag VIIA Cause: anti-aircraft artillery, ditched in harbor Squadron: 301st Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51C Mustang MACR: none</p>

5.



1st Lt. Clarence N. Driver

Date captured: March 31, 1945
Time: 1315
Place captured: Northern Italy, 4620N, 1250E
Prison camp: Stalag VIIA
Cause: lack of fuel
Squadron: 100th Fighter Squadron
Plane type: P-51 Mustang
MACR: 13211

6.



1945 William Campbell (left) and Thurston Gaines, Jr. of the Tuskegee Airmen 332nd Fighter Group at Ramitelli Airfield, Italy, March 1945.
 Photograph by Toni Frissell

Flight Officer Thurston L. Gaines Jr.

Date captured: April 15, 1945
Time: 1430
Place captured: 40 miles from Muhldorf, Germany 4816N, 1203E
Prison camp: Stalag VIIA
Cause: anti-aircraft artillery
Squadron: 99th Fighter Squadron
Plane type: P-51C Mustang
MACR: 13798

On his 26th mission, on April 15, 1945, while flying a P-51 in the 99th Fighter Squadron, 332nd Fighter Group, Gaines went missing at 1430 hours about 40 miles from Muhldorf, Germany, after being hit by enemy antiaircraft artillery fire. He was a flight officer at the time.

The underside of the cockpit was hit. Gaines jettisoned the canopy, unhooked his harness, oxygen and radio headset, and stayed with the plane as long as it would fly, hoping to make it behind Allied lines. The plane crashed in German territory. Gaines was quickly captured and was held as a prisoner of war in Stalag Luft VII in Moosburg, Germany, with 25,000 allied POWs, to include 8,000 flying officers. He was repatriated by Patton's 14th Armored Division. After the war, Gaines went back to Tuskegee as a pilot trainer in the B-25 bomber. Photo: 1945 William Campbell (left) and Thurston Gaines, Jr. of the Tuskegee Airmen 332nd Fighter Group at Ramitelli Airfield, Italy, March 1945.

7.	NO PHOTO AVAILABLE	<p><u>1st Lt. Roger B. Gaiter</u></p> <p>Date captured: November 19, 1944 Time: 1346 Place captured: 15-20 mi NE of Lake Balaton, Hungary Prison camp: Stalag VIIA Cause: loss of coolant Squadron: 99th Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51C Mustang MACR: 9932</p>
8.		<p><u>Flight Officer Newman C. Golden</u></p> <p>Date captured: March 20, 1945 Time: 1132 Place captured: Linz, Austria Prison camp: Stalag VIIA Cause: engine trouble Squadron: 99th Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51B Mustang MACR: 13126</p>
9.		<p><u>1st Lt. Alfred M. Gorham</u></p> <p>Date captured: February 25, 1945 Time: 1145 Place captured: Germany, east of Munich 4808N, 1149E Prison camp: Stalag VIIA Cause: mechanical failure Squadron: 301st Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51C Mustang MACR: 12670</p> <p>On July 27, 1944, 2nd Lt. Gorham shot down two German Focke-Wulf 190 Fighters over Budapest, Hungary while escorting B-24 Bombers. On Feb. 25, 1945, he developed engine trouble and had to bail out of his P-51 Mustang over Munich, Germany. Gorham was immediately captured by German troops and was held as a prisoner of war until the end of the war.</p>

10.		<p><u>2nd Lt. Cornelius Gould, Jr.</u></p> <p>Date captured: December 2, 1944 Time: 1213 Place captured: Hungary, 4827N, 1704E Czechoslovakia Prison camp: Stalag Luft I Cause: engine trouble, bailed out Squadron: 301st Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51B Mustang MACR: 10045</p>
11.		<p><u>2nd Lt. William E. Griffin</u></p> <p>Date captured: January 15, 1944 Time: 1315 Place captured: Rome, Italy Prison camp: Stalag Luft I Cause: anti-aircraft artillery Squadron: 99th Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-40L MACR: 1797</p> <p>Griffin was shot down over Italy and spent more than a year at a prisoner of war camp.</p>
12.	<p>NO PHOTO AVAILABLE</p>	<p>1st Lt James L. Hall</p> <p>Date captured: April 12, 1945 Time: 1508 Place captured: over Romania Prison camp: Cause: Mid-air collision with Lt. Leftenant, White #2 while flying close formation. Squadron: 99th Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51C-10-NT / 43-10594 MACR: None Mission: Bomber Escort</p>

		<p>Details: Ship last seen at 1508 hours at 10,000ft heading south, ship appeared to be under control, pilot later bailed out over Rumania and captured by the Germans.</p>
13.		<p><u>Lt. Lloyd C. Hathcock</u></p> <p>Date captured: May 29, 1944 Time: 1520 Place captured: Rome, Italy Prison camp: Stalag Luft III and Stalag VIIA Cause: Pilot Error. While ferrying an ex-325th FS P-47D-16RE / 42-75971, Buzz# 27, Ruthless Ruthie from Capodichino Airfield to Ramitelli On the second leg of the flight the pilot took off from Foggia Main Airfield enroute to Ramitelli Airfield. He flew in the wrong direction, got lost and landed at enemy held Rome-Littorio Airfield. Squadron: 301st Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-47D MACR: 6921</p>
14.		<p><u>2nd Lt. Lincoln T. Hudson</u></p> <p>Date captured: March 23, 1945 Time: 1310 Place captured: northeast of Vienna, Austria 4842N, 1655E Prison camp: Stalag VIIA Cause: lost oil Squadron: 301st Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51C Mustang MACR: 13256</p>

15.



[2nd Lt. George J. Iles](#)

Date captured: February 25, 1945

Time: 1245

Place captured: Augsburg, Germany

Prison camp: Stalag VIIA

Cause: anti-aircraft artillery

Squadron: 99th Fighter Squadron

Plane type: P-51C Mustang

MACR: 12664

While flying a mission over Germany, Iles' plane was hit by anti-aircraft fire. In her biography of Iles, Linda Mayfield wrote: "He continued flying long enough to be in radio contact with his leader and was told to try to make it to Switzerland and land, but soon all communication ended. For months, no one knew if he had survived. His wife, the former Cornelia Elizabeth Vinton, living with her mother at 2026 Spruce, received an official letter notifying her that he was missing in action and that he had been awarded the air medal with one oak leaf cluster."

He was reported missing on February 25, 1945. Luckily, Iles did survive the crash of his plane, but he was captured by German soldiers. He would be taken first to Stalag Luft 3 Sagan-Silesia Bavaria and then moved to Nuremberg-Langwasser.

While a POW, Iles would be reunited with fellow [Tuskegee Airman Harold Brown](#).

16.



[2nd Lt. Alexander Jefferson](#)

Date captured: August 12, 1944

Time:

Place captured: Toulon, France

Prison camp: Stalag Luft III and Stalag VIIA

Cause: anti-aircraft artillery

Squadron: 301st Fighter Squadron

Plane type: P-51 Mustang

MACR:

The second lieutenant's 19th mission took him to Toulon Harbor, France, to strafe an air field. After several pilots successfully hit their targets, Jefferson flew in to hit an air control tower. Before he could fire on the tower, his P-51 Mustang was rocked by anti-aircraft fire.

		<p>"Out of the nine months of training, we never had one minute of training on how to get out of an airplane. I remember the tail going by and I pulled the D-ring on the parachute." Jefferson landed in trees, injuring his left arm and knee. He was immediately captured by the same German artillery crew that had shot him down and became a prisoner of war. None of Jefferson's fellow airmen saw him eject from his plane, and assumed he died. His parents received a killed in action letter, and didn't find out their son was alive until a letter from the Red Cross arrived a month later.</p> <p>Lt. Col. Alexander "Jeff" Jefferson received his Purple Heart 57 years after he was wounded.</p>
17.	NO PHOTO AVAILABLE	<p>2nd Lt. Joe A. Lewis</p> <p>Date captured: October 6, 1944 Time: 1400 Place captured: 3803N, 2832R near Athens, Greece Prison camp: Stalag Luft III and Stalag VIIA Cause: anti-aircraft artillery Squadron: 301st Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51C Mustang MACR: 8980</p>
18.		<p><u>2nd Lt. Wilbur F. Long</u></p> <p>Date captured: September 13, 1944 Time: Place captured: Brechhammer, Poland Prison camp: Stalag Luft III and Stalag VIIA Cause: unknown Squadron: 99th Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51C Mustang MACR: 8626</p>

19.		<p><u>2nd Lt. Richard D. Macon</u></p> <p>Date captured: August 12, 1944 Time: Place captured: Montpellier, France Prison camp: Stalag Luft III and Stalag VIIA Cause: anti-aircraft artillery Squadron: 99th Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51C Mustang MACR: none</p> <p>On August 12, 2nd Lt. Macon was part of an escort mission to Toulon, France, to destroy radar stations. The target was destroyed, but the fighters drew ground fire. Lt. Langdon E. Johnson and Lt. Joseph E. Gordon were hit by anti-aircraft fire, or flak, and killed.</p> <p>After his plane was hit by flak and crashed, Macon spent most of military career as a prisoner of war.</p>
20.		<p><u>1st Lt. Walter L. McCreary</u></p> <p>Date captured: October 12, 1944 Time: 1400 Place captured: Kaspovar, Hungary 25 miles SE of Lake Balaton Prison camp: Stalag Luft III and Stalag VIIA Cause: flak, bailed out Squadron: 100th Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51B Mustang MACR: 9084</p>

21.		<p><u>Capt. Armour G. McDaniel</u></p> <p>Date captured: March 31, 1945 Time: 1215 Place captured: south of Berlin, Germany 5210N, 1205E Prison camp: Stalag VIIA Cause: enemy aircraft Squadron: 301st Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51D Mustang MACR: 13267</p> <p>Lt. Col. Armour G. McDaniel Sr. was a prisoner of war for a month after leading the 332nd Fighter Group on a mission that would earn it a Distinguished Unit Citation.</p>
22.		<p><u>2nd Lt. Woodrow F. Morgan</u></p> <p>Date captured: May 26, 1944 Time: Place captured: Rome, Italy Prison camp: Stalag Luft III and Stalag VIIA Cause: Squadron: 99th Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-40L MACR: 5071</p>

23.		<p><u>2nd Lt. Starling B. Penn</u></p> <p>Date captured: July 25, 1944 Time: Place captured: Lint, Austria Prison camp: Stalag Luft I Cause: enemy aircraft Squadron: 301st Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51C Mustang MACR: none</p> <p>Lt. Starling B. Penn spent 10 months in a German prisoner of war camp after his plane was shot down.</p>
24.	NO PHOTO AVAILABLE	<p>1st Lt Lewis C. Smith</p> <p>Date captured: June 8, 1944 Time: 1120 Place captured: Near Viterbo, Italy Prison camp: Stalag Luft III and Stalag VIIA Cause: anti-aircraft artillery Squadron: 99th Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-40L MACR: 6067</p>

25.		<p><u>1st Lt. Luther H. Smith</u></p> <p>Date captured: October 13, 1944 Time: 1412 Place captured: 4636N, 1641E Yugoslavia Prison camp: Hospital and Stalag 18A Cause: flak Squadron: 302nd Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51B Mustang MACR: 9085</p> <p>Smith's service with the 332nd Fighter Group included 133 combat missions within eight months, destroying two German aircraft in air and 10 in ground strafing attacks. On his final mission, Smith's aircraft was heavily damaged and he bailed out over Yugoslavia, where he was taken captive as a POW for seven months. He was badly injured and emaciated by the time Allied forces liberated him, and endured a further two years of recovery stateside. He earned numerous commendations for his service and sacrifice, but his career as a military aviator came to a grinding halt, bringing Smith an early retirement and at the doorstep of starting over again.</p> <p>"I flew 133 missions. On the last one, I didn't make it back. It was Friday the 13th. It was my lucky day — I'm still alive," Capt. Luther H. Smith said in 2007 before the Tuskegee Airmen were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal.</p>
26.	NO PHOTO AVAILABLE	<p>Lt. Floyd A. Thompson</p> <p>Date captured: June 29, 1944 Time: Place captured: Forli, Italy Prison camp: Stalag Luft III and Stalag VIIA Cause: anti-aircraft artillery Squadron: Plane type: P-40L MACR: None</p> <p>On 29 June 1944 whilst flying P-40L A-31 on a dive-bombing mission Lt. Thompson's ship was struck by anti-aircraft artillery, he bailed out and landed near Spescia, Italy and was captured.</p>

27.



1st Lt. Quitman C. Walker

Date captured: November 19, 1944

Time: 1415

Place captured: near Lake Balaton, Hungary

Prison camp:

Cause: anti-aircraft artillery

Squadron: 99th Fighter Squadron

Plane type: P-51D Mustang

MACR: 9933

Lt Walker's 29th mission would prove to be his last when the 332nd Fighter Group was sent on a strafing mission in Hungary and Austria on Nov. 19, 1944. Pilots from the 99th Fighter Squadron destroyed 15 horse-drawn vehicles and wagons, and damaged 100 more horse-drawn vehicles, two locomotives, 40 wagons and 10 trucks. During a pass over a river, Lt. Roger B. Gaiter's P-51 Mustang was hit by anti-aircraft fire, and was shot down. On the way back to Ramitelli, Walker's plane was hit by anti-aircraft fire near Lake Balaton, Hungary.

Gaiter evaded Nazi soldiers for four days before he was captured; Walker was not heard from again. However, his remains were recovered at some later point and he was buried at the Ardennes American Cemetery and Memorial in Belgium.

28.		<p><u>1st Hugh J. White</u></p> <p>Date captured: April 23, 1945 Time: Place captured: Stanghella, Italy Prison camp: Cause: Ship hit by 20mm flak, 10 minutes later engine caught fire. Squadron: 99th Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51D-15-NA / 44-15457 MACR: Mission: Bomber Escort Details: Pilot bailed out near Stanghella, Italy, captured immediately by the Germans, beaten and held for three days, Germans later surrendered to Pilot.</p>
29.	NO PHOTO AVAILABLE	<p>2nd Lt. Charles T. Williams</p> <p>Date captured: August 30, 1944 Time: 1100 Place captured: 44 23 N, 16 05 E Yugoslavia Prison camp: Stalag Luft III and Stalag VIIA Cause: unknown Squadron: 301st Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51 Mustang MACR: 8332</p>
30.	NO PHOTO AVAILABLE	<p>Lt. Kenneth I. Williams</p> <p>Date captured: October 4, 1944 Time: 1310 Place captured: Athens, Greece Prison camp: Stalag Luft III and Stalag VIIA Cause: unknown Squadron: 99th Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51 Mustang MACR: 8982</p>

31.		<p><u>2nd Lt. Henry A. Wise, Jr.</u></p> <p>Date captured: August 26, 1944 Time: Place captured: Over Krujino, Yugoslavia Prison camp: Satellite Bulgaria Cause: low oil pressure Squadron: 99th Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51C Mustang MACR: none</p> <p>A pilot with the 99th Pursuit squadron, Lt. Henry A. Wise Jr. flew 13 missions over France, Romania, Germany and Italy before his plane was shot down in a raid on the Polesti oil fields in Romania, and he was a prisoner of war for three weeks.</p>
32.		<p><u>1st Lt. Carrol S. Woods</u></p> <p>Date captured: October 6, 1944 Time: 1400 Place captured: Kalamaki Airdrome, Greece Prison camp: Stalag Luft III and Stalag VIIA Cause: anti-aircraft artillery Squadron: 100th Fighter Squadron Plane type: P-51 Mustang MACR: 9035</p> <p>Woods was drafted into the Army. In 1942, he was selected for flight training at the Tuskegee Army Air Base and, as a second lieutenant, became one of the legendary Tuskegee Airmen.</p> <p>During World War II, Woods became part of the 99th Fighter Squadron in Italy. There, he flew 107 combat missions. He was shot down over Greece and was taken as a prisoner of war for seven months. Woods was not released until April 28, 1945, to Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army.</p>

Sources:

- St. Louis Post-Dispatch http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/military/tuskegee-airmen-held-as-prisoners-of-war/article_e11815c8-6910-11df-a73e-00127992bc8b.html
Compiled from the U.S. Air Force Historical Research Agency; "Red Tail Captured, Red Tail Free" by Alexander Jefferson; Post-Dispatch research
- [332d Fighter Group Missing Crew](#)
- [Table of Missing Air Crew Reports Available on Tuskegee Airmen Pilots](#)
- [Table of Tuskegee Airmen Missing in Action \(MIA\)](#)
- [Table of Tuskegee Airmen Reported Lost on Missions](#)
- [Report-Major George Roberts-332nd May 1945](#)

Thank you to Dr. Daniel Haulman, PhD, retired Air Force historian, and Craig Huntly, Tuskegee Airmen Subject Matter Expert, for their expertise in helping to compile this information.

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