

October 20, 1992

George R. Maupin

Dear George,

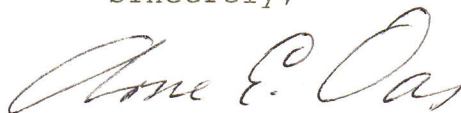
While brousing thru the October issue of the "Jing Bao Journal" this mourning I happened to read your request regarding your Fathers last mission. I happened to be on that same mission as co-pilot of the "Lonesome Polecat" piloted by Al L. Lawrence. As I recall there were seven B-24s of the 425th squadron that departed Kunming for Chabua that mourning. Three of us landed safely at Chabua. One other crew, Milt "Stub" Werners, bailed out of their airplane right over the airport and were all safe. The other three, including "Haley's Comet", were to my knowledge never heard from again.

On this type of supply mission we usually carried a minimum amount of fuel from China to India. On that particular day we apparently got a bad weather forecast because the entire area around Chabua was covered with fog. As you've probably been informed it's also a very dense jungle. There were also some very high mountains not too distant. Whether the ship actually crashed or the crew bailed out over the jungle is anyones guess.

The pilot, Harry Musinski, was Squadron Commander of the 425th and Charles Mortimer was the Flight Surgeon. I ran into Roger Haley at the 14th Air Force convention in New Orleans in the summer of 91 so He's probably still a member. You should be able to get his address by contacting Ernie R. Kitterman, 19830 Allisonville Avenue, Noblesville, IN 46060.

It's been almost fifty years ago and I've had to strain the memory but I think I got most of it right. I hope it's been of some help.

Sincerely,



Arne E. Oas

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