



Personal info

Full name

ISENBERG, Bernard

Date of birth

2 May 1915

Age

29

Place of birth

Rahway, Union County, New Jersey

Hometown

Perth Amboy, Middlesex County, New Jersey

Religion

Jewish

Military service

Service number

32460878

Rank

Sergeant

Unit

**47th Squadron,
313th Troop Carrier Group**

Awards

**Purple Heart,
Air Medal**

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

24 March 1945

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Margraten

| Plot | Row | Grave |
|------|-----|-------|
| N | 11 | 3 |

Immediate family

Members

Louis Isenberg (father)

Frances Isenberg (mother)

Eleanor Isenberg (sister)

Leonard Isenberg (brother)

Jeanette Isenberg (wife)

Plane data

Serial number

44-77637

Data

Type: C-46D

Destination: Dropzone "X", north of Wesel, Germany

Mission: Paratrooper Drop

MACR: 13424

More information

Sgt Bernard Isenberg graduated from Perth Amboy High School in 1934. He worked as a retail manager before he enlisted in Newark, New Jersey on 18 August 1942.

The aircraft carried four crew members and 22 passengers, all members of the 513th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

According to a witness statement of Capt Leroy L. Bryant, the pilot of another C-46 in the same group, this airplane dropped his paratroopers over the drop zone. As the group crossed the Rhine, back to allied occupied territory, he sighted that the left wing behind the gas tank was on fire. As he was catching up with the aircraft to call the pilot over the VHF, it started to go down in a slow glide, as if preparing to crash-land. Instead of putting the aircraft down straight ahead, the pilot started a low turn at what seemed to be a slow airspeed. When the aircraft went into the turn, the fire spread to the extreme end of the left wing, burning the aileron off almost immediately. Unable to straighten the aircraft out, the left wing struck the ground, followed by the nose and then the right wing. The aircraft then exploded, and the tail section was thrown clear of the wreckage.

Three crew members were killed, one man, T/Sgt Rhoads, crash-landed in the burning aircraft and suffered only minor injuries. He was taken to an aid station by British forces.

Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, Terry Hirsch, www.abmc.gov, www.archives.gov, www.wwiimemorial.com, www.findagrave.com, www.ancestry.com - Jewish Servicemen Card / 1930 Census / Headstone and Interment Record, <http://www.usaaf.com>, <http://www.armyaircorpsmuseum.org>, <http://forum.armyairforces.com/313th-Association-Web-site-Reunion-details-m54821.aspx>

Photo source: www.findagrave.com - Des Phillipet, Perth Amboy High School yearbook 1934