



### Personal info

Full name

**SCHLOSSER, Walter O**

Date of birth

**8 March 1923**

Age

**21**

Place of birth

**Michigan**

Hometown

**Lake City, Missaukee County, Michigan**

### Military service

Service number

**16083944**

Rank

**Staff Sergeant**

Unit

**856th Bombardment Squadron,  
492nd Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

**Purple Heart,  
Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster**

### Death & Grave

Status

**Finding of Death**

Date of death

**7 July 1944**

Cemetery

**American War Cemetery Henri-Chapelle**

**Tablets of the Missing**

### Immediate family

Members

**Hazel I. Schlosser (mother)**

## Plane data

Serial number

**44-40145**

Data

**Type: B-24J**

**Destination: Bernburg, Germany**

**Mission: Bombing of the Junkers-Zweigwerke aircraft factory**

**MACR: 7231**

## More information

S/Sgt Walter O. Schlosser worked in a metal factory before he joined the Air Corps of the US Army Reserve in Detroit, Michigan on 21 August 1942.

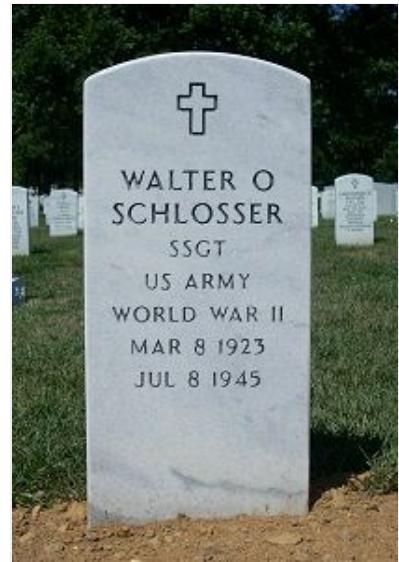
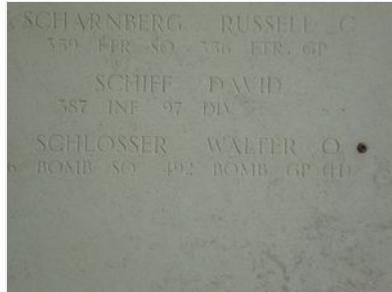
On the way back from the mission, the Luftwaffe caught the Group without any fighter protection. The 492nd lost a dozen of their planes.

The initial MIA report thought the crew might had gone down in the Baltic Sea. Later reports suspected they had gone down in the North Sea. Almost sixty years later the wreckage was discovered near the initial battle zone.

The excavated remains of the crew were sent to Hawaii for DNA identification. Everyone in the crew was positively identified except for S/Sgt Cote. However his ring and dogtags were found in the wreckage and forensics were able to conclude his remains are among the parts from which DNA could not be extracted.

Leonard Ray was buried in Maryland on 5 October 2007. Robert Flood was buried in Pennsylvania on the following day. Hyman Stiglitz was buried on 28 December 2007 in Tucson, Arizona. The other four identified through DNA were buried at Arlington on 12 June 2008 along with a mass burial for the entire crew which contains all of the remains that could not be identified.

## Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, Peter Schouteten, Terry Hirsch, [492ndbomgroup.com](http://492ndbomgroup.com), Sue

Photo source: Peter Schouteten, <http://arlingtoncemetary.net/army-aircrew-07-07-1944.htm>, Michel Beckers, [492ndbomgroup.com](http://492ndbomgroup.com), Sue, Peter Schouteten