# WAR DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES WASHINGTON

# The MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

5416

IMPO	RTANT <sup>.</sup> Th	is report will be compiled in triplicate by ea	ch Army Air Forces	
11/11	organization within 48 hours of the time an aircraft is officially reported missing.			
1 OP C	Organizatio :SANIZATION	Location Torretta, Italy	Command or Air Force _15 <sup>th</sup> AF	
1. OKC	JANIZATION.	Group _461 <sup>st</sup> Bomb Gp (H)	Squadron 767 <sup>th</sup> Bomb Sq (H)	
2. SPE	CIEV: Dlac	e of departure _Torretta, Italy	Course	
2. SI E	CII I . I Iac	get _Salen de Provence, France		
3 WEA	TALER COND	ITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH	OR WHEN I AST REPORTED.	
J. WLF		ulus broken cerrus at 22000 ft – visibility 15 mile		
4. GIV	1 to .2 cum E· [a] [	Date 27 May 44 Time Last known position	Cane Reux	
1. 01 1		Specify whether: [X] Last sighted, [] Forced do		
	[0] ~	[] Last contacted by radio, []		
5. AIRO	CRAFT [LOST	[] [BELIEVED LOST] AS A RESULT OF: [Check of		
		craft, [X] Enemy anti-aircraft, [X] Other.	3.1	
6. AIR		model & series _ <b>B-24 H</b> AAF Serial Number	42-52399	
7. NICI	KNAME OF A	IRCRAFT:		
8. ENG	INES: Type, m	nodel & series R 1830-43 AAF serial Number	[a] _CP 302692	
	[b] <b>_CP 3013</b>	376 [c] _CP 427214 [d] _CP 301412	<u></u>	
9. INST		PONS: [Make, type and serial number] All Brownia		
	[a] <b>951459</b>	[e] <b>681339</b>	[i] <b>952176</b>	
	[b] <b>951794</b>	[f] <b>952141</b>	[j] <b>951733</b>	
	[c] <b>951269</b>	[g] <b>680082</b>		
	[d] <b>951898</b>	[h] <b>681440</b>		
		TED BELOW REPORTED AS: [X] Battle Casualty		
11. NU		RSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew _10; Passe:	ngers _ <b>0</b> _; Total _ <b>10</b> _	
		12 persons aboard aircraft, use separate sheet]		
	CREW	FULL NAME [Last, First, Initial] CURRENT	NEXT OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP	
		RANK, SERIAL NUMBER STATUS	AND ADDRESS	
	[1] Pilot	Maroney, Gerald Hoseph, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. 0-745139	Mrs Catherine Y Maroney (wife) 1165 Pughlay Ave., Bronx, NY	
	[2] <b>CP</b>	Lawrence, Winston James, 1st Lt.	Mrs Leanna M Lawrence (wife)	
		0-791458	22 Thomas Rd, Vellasley, Mass	
	[3] <b>Bomb</b>	Mudge, Warren Roland, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt.	Mr Phillip C Mudge (father)	
		0-752769	2 Scofield St, East Norwalk, Conn	
	[4] Nav	Golden, Paul A., 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt.	Mr John J Golden (father)	
	[.]	0-691989	403 Eynon St, Archbald, Penn	
	[5] <b>TTG</b>			
		Steele, Harold Curtis, 1/8gt.	Mrs Myrtle R Steele (wife)	
	[0] 110	Steele, Harold Curtis, T/Sgt. 18199369	Mrs Myrtle R Steele (wife) Gen Del, La Grange, Texas	
		18199369	Gen Del, La Grange, Texas	
	[6] <b>RWG</b>	18199369 Zinner, Leon, Sgt.	Gen Del, La Grange, Texas Mrs Thelma Zinner (wife)	
		18199369	Gen Del, La Grange, Texas	
		18199369 Zinner, Leon, Sgt. 12025667	Gen Del, La Grange, Texas  Mrs Thelma Zinner (wife) 4342 North Richmond St, Chicago, Illinois	
	[6] <b>RWG</b>	18199369 Zinner, Leon, Sgt.	Gen Del, La Grange, Texas Mrs Thelma Zinner (wife) 4342 North Richmond St, Chicago,	
	[6] <b>RWG</b>	18199369 Zinner, Leon, Sgt. 12025667 Norrid, Benjamin Howard,	Gen Del, La Grange, Texas  Mrs Thelma Zinner (wife) 4342 North Richmond St, Chicago, Illinois  Mrs Dora D Norrid (mother)	
	[6] <b>RWG</b>	18199369 Zinner, Leon, Sgt. 12025667  Norrid, Benjamin Howard, S/Sgt.	Gen Del, La Grange, Texas  Mrs Thelma Zinner (wife) 4342 North Richmond St, Chicago, Illinois  Mrs Dora D Norrid (mother) 524 Washington Ave, Union City,	
	[6] RWG	Zinner, Leon, Sgt. 12025667 Norrid, Benjamin Howard, S/Sgt. 34507445	Gen Del, La Grange, Texas  Mrs Thelma Zinner (wife) 4342 North Richmond St, Chicago, Illinois  Mrs Dora D Norrid (mother) 524 Washington Ave, Union City, Tenn	
	[6] RWG [7] NTG [8] LWG	18199369 Zinner, Leon, Sgt. 12025667  Norrid, Benjamin Howard, S/Sgt. 34507445 Ellis, Donald Emerson, S/Sgt.	Gen Del, La Grange, Texas  Mrs Thelma Zinner (wife) 4342 North Richmond St, Chicago, Illinois  Mrs Dora D Norrid (mother) 524 Washington Ave, Union City, Tenn  M\Harvey F Ellis (father)	
	[6] RWG	18199369 Zinner, Leon, Sgt. 12025667  Norrid, Benjamin Howard, S/Sgt. 34507445 Ellis, Donald Emerson, S/Sgt.	Gen Del, La Grange, Texas  Mrs Thelma Zinner (wife) 4342 North Richmond St, Chicago, Illinois  Mrs Dora D Norrid (mother) 524 Washington Ave, Union City, Tenn  M\Harvey F Ellis (father) 408 White Horse Pike, Audubon,	
	[6] RWG [7] NTG [8] LWG [9] TTG	18199369 Zinner, Leon, Sgt. 12025667  Norrid, Benjamin Howard, S/Sgt. 34507445 Ellis, Donald Emerson, S/Sgt. 13151557	Gen Del, La Grange, Texas  Mrs Thelma Zinner (wife) 4342 North Richmond St, Chicago, Illinois  Mrs Dora D Norrid (mother) 524 Washington Ave, Union City, Tenn  M\Harvey F Ellis (father) 408 White Horse Pike, Audubon, N.J.  Mr John P Raines (father) 624 Carson Rd, Ferguson Mo.	
	[6] RWG [7] NTG [8] LWG	Zinner, Leon, Sgt. 12025667  Norrid, Benjamin Howard, S/Sgt. 34507445  Ellis, Donald Emerson, S/Sgt. 13151557  Raines, Alvin Lee, S/Sgt.	Gen Del, La Grange, Texas  Mrs Thelma Zinner (wife) 4342 North Richmond St, Chicago, Illinois  Mrs Dora D Norrid (mother) 524 Washington Ave, Union City, Tenn  M\Harvey F Ellis (father) 408 White Horse Pike, Audubon, N.J.  Mr John P Raines (father) 624 Carson Rd, Ferguson Mo.  Mrs Bess Streeper (mother)	
	[6] RWG [7] NTG [8] LWG [9] TTG	Zinner, Leon, Sgt. 12025667  Norrid, Benjamin Howard, S/Sgt. 34507445  Ellis, Donald Emerson, S/Sgt. 13151557  Raines, Alvin Lee, S/Sgt. 37417737	Gen Del, La Grange, Texas  Mrs Thelma Zinner (wife) 4342 North Richmond St, Chicago, Illinois  Mrs Dora D Norrid (mother) 524 Washington Ave, Union City, Tenn  M\Harvey F Ellis (father) 408 White Horse Pike, Audubon, N.J.  Mr John P Raines (father) 624 Carson Rd, Ferguson Mo.	

	Illinois	
[11]		
[12]		

12. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT AND CHECK APPROPRAITE [one only] COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:

						SAW
		SERIAL	CONTACTED	LAST	SAW	FORCED
NAME IN FULL	RANK	No.	BY RADIO	SIGHTED	CRASH	LANDING
[1] Thomas J		11107832		X		
Sullivan						
[2] Densal E Laclef		37028899		X		
[3] Michael Myers		33082304		X		
[4]						

- 13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
  - [] Parachutes were used, [] Persons were seen walking away from the scene of the crash,
- [] Other reasons [specify] Number three engine hit by flak, but plane seemed under control at all times.
- 14. ATTACH PHOTOGRAPH, MAP OR SKETCH SHOWING LAST KNOWN LOCATION OF AIRCRAFT.
- 15. ATTACH EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTIONS OF CRASH, FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES.
- 16. ATTACH A DESCRIPTION OF EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, AND GIVE NAME, RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE OF SEARCH HERE: No search made by this organization.

Date: 1 June44 /s/ Raymond L. Wilcovitz

## 767TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H) 461ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP APO 520 US ARMY

## **STATEMENT**

Lt. Maroney's plane was flying on our right wing. Just as we went over the coast of France, flak came up and it seemed as soon as the flak started, Lt. Maroney's plane got hit. The plane peeled off out of the formation and continued right along the coast. The plane seemed under control. It is my opinion that they would try to make it to the Isle of Corsica.

/s/ Thomas J. Sullivan 11107832 S/Sgt., Crew #68

## **STATEMENT**

We were flying over the coast line of France and heading for our target. Immediately upon reaching the coast line heavy flak was encountered and Lt. Maroney's ship got hit in number 3 engine, feathered same, peeled off from the formation and salvoed his bombs and disappeared into the haze headed in the general direction of Corsica.

/s/ Densal E. La Clef 37208899 S/Sgt., Crew Number 71

#### STATEMENT

While flying in number 2 position, flight B we had a good view of Lt. Maroney's ship which was flying in number 7 position of the same flight. Arriving over the coast of France, well before reaching our target, we ran into considerable flak. Lt. Maroney's number 3 engine got hit by flak and I believe the nose turret also. The bombs were salvoed as he peeled off from the formation and continued flying along the coast. The plane seemed under control and then passed out of sight. No parachutes were seen.

/s/ Michael Myers 33082308 T/Sgt. Crew number 71

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN 27 May 1944 - 1000, CASUALTY NO. ME-1289

PLACE OF CRASH 20 km north of Grassa

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT Liberator

REPORTING OFFICE Air Force Command A (o) T/XVII

TEL OTTING OTTICE TH	1 1 01 00	11111ana 11 (0)	, 1111 , 11	
			CAPT'D	
		SERIAL	WOUNDED	PLACE OF
NAME	RANK	NUMBER	DEAD	INTERNMENT
Mudge, Warren Roland 1923	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt.	0-752769	Captured	Dulag Luft
Raines, Alvin Lee	S/Sgt.	37417737	Captured	<b>Dulag Luft</b>

Casualty No. ME 1286 1st Supplementary Report, dates 22 June 1944

Zinner, Leon Sgt. 12025667 Captured Dulag Luft

**REMARKS**:

Dulag Luft: 12 June 1944. We.

# ARMY SERVICE FORCES NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

## INTELLIGENCE & SECURITY DIVISION

DATE: 28 Sep 44

NARRATOR: ARMY SERIAL NO.: HOME ADDRESS:	Donald E. Ellis 13151557 408 White Horse Pike, Audubon, N.J.	GROU TYPE	AIRCRAFT:	767 SQ 461 <sup>st</sup> BG B-24H
EX-REPORT NO.:		MISSI	ON DATE:	27 May 44
POSITION	MEMBERS OF CRI	EW	PWIB REC	CORDS
PILOT	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Gerald J. M		RD	
CO-PILOT	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Winston Law		RD	
<b>BOMBARDIER</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Warren R. M		MIA	
NAVIGATOR	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Paul A. Gold	en	RD	
ENGINEER	M/Sgt. Harold C. S	teele	RD	
RADIO OPERATOR	T/Sgt. Donald E. El	lis	RD	
<b>NOSE GUNNER</b>	S/Sgt. Benjamin H.	Norrid	MIA	
<b>BALL GUNNER</b>	S/Sgt. Owen B. Stre	eper	RD	
RIGHT WAIST	Sgt. Leon Zinner	_	MIA	
GUNNER	-			
TAIL GUNNER	S/Sgt. Alvin L. Rair	ies	MIA	

KNOWN INFORMATION: Saw ten chutes open.

HEARSAY INFORMATION: Free French forces interior reported 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Warren R. Mudge, S/Sgt. Alvin L. Raines and Sgt. Leon Zinner taken prisoner on May 27 and S/Sgt Benjamin H. Norrid captured about 5<sup>th</sup> of July.

# ARMY SERVICE FORCES NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

# INTELLIGENCE & SECURITY DIVISION

DATE: **27 Sep 44** 

NARRATOR: ARMY SERIAL NO.: HOME ADDRESS:	Paul A. Golden 0-691989 403 Eynon St., Archbald, PA	SQUADRON: GROUP: TYPE AIRCRAFT:	767 Sq 461 <sup>st</sup> BG B-24H
EX-REPORT NO.:		MISSION DATE:	27 May 44
POSITION	MEMBERS OF CRE	EW PWIB REC	CORDS
PILOT CO-PILOT BOMBARDIER NAVIGATOR ENGINEER RADIO OPERATOR NOSE GUNNER BALL GUNNER	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Gerald J. Ma 1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Winston Law 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Warren R. M 1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Paul A. Golde M/Sgt. Harold C. St T/Sgt. Donald E. El S/Sgt. Benjamin H. S/Sgt. Owen B. Stre	rence Iudge POW en teele lis Norrid POW	
RIGHT WAIST	Sgt. Leon Zinner	POW	
GUNNER TAIL GUNNER	S/Sgt. Alvin L. Rain	es POW	

KNOWN INFORMATION:.

**HEARSAY INFORMATION:.** 

# ARMY SERVICE FORCES NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

## INTELLIGENCE & SECURITY DIVISION

DATE: **27 Sep 44** 

PILOT CO-PILOT BOMBARDIER	d J. Maroney 139 166 <sup>th</sup> St., Jamaica,	GROUI TYPE	ORON: P: AIRCRAFT: ON DATE:	767 <sup>th</sup> Sq 461 <sup>st</sup> BG B-24H 27 May 44
CO-PILOT BOMBARDIER	MEMBERS OF CRE		PWIB REC	ORDS
ENGINEER RADIO OPERATOR NOSE GUNNER BALL GUNNER RIGHT WAIST GUNNER	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Gerald J. Mar 1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Winston Lawr 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Warren R. M 1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Paul A. Golder M/Sgt. Harold C. Ste T/Sgt. Donald E. Elli S/Sgt. Benjamin H. N S/Sgt. Owen B. Stree Sgt. Leon Zinner	rence udge n eele s Norrid	Evadee Evadee Evadee Evadee Evadee POW Evadee POW Evadee POW	

KNOWN INFORMATION: Evadees came out with me. POWs relatives notified.

HEARSAY INFORMATION: French people notified me that three men were POWs.

# ARMY SERVICE FORCES NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

# INTELLIGENCE & SECURITY DIVISION

DATE: **27 Sep 44** 

NARRATOR:	Winston J. Lawrence	SQUADRON:	767 <sup>th</sup> Sq
ARMY SERIAL NO.:	0-791458	GROUP:	461 <sup>st</sup> BG
HOME ADDRESS:	22 Thomas Rd., Vellesley,	TYPE AIRCRAFT:	B-24H
	Ma		
EX-REPORT NO.:		MISSION DATE:	27 May 44
			v
POSITION	MEMBERS OF CRE		ORDS

Don't know other members.

KNOWN INFORMATION: Worked with British agents and maques (chiefs in France. In constant touch by radio with British intelligence at Algiers.

**HEARSAY INFORMATION:.** 

# ARMY SERVICE FORCES NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

## INTELLIGENCE & SECURITY DIVISION

DATE: **28 Sep 44** 

NARRATOR:	Harold C. Steele	•	DRON:	767 <sup>th</sup> Sq
ARMY SERIAL NO.:	18199369	GROU	P:	461 <sup>st</sup> BG
HOME ADDRESS:	La Grange, Texas	TYPE	AIRCRAFT:	B-24H
EX-REPORT NO.:		MISSI	ON DATE:	27 May 44
POSITION	MEMBERS OF CRI	EW	PWIB REC	CORDS
PILOT	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Gerald J. M	aroney	RD	
CO-PILOT	1st Lt. Winston Law	vrence	RD	
<b>BOMBARDIER</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Warren R. M		MIA	
NAVIGATOR	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Paul A. Gold	en	RD	
ENGINEER	M/Sgt. Harold C. S	teele	RD	
RADIO OPERATOR	T/Sgt. Donald E. El	llis	RD	
<b>NOSE GUNNER</b>	S/Sgt. Benjamin H.	Norrid	MIA	
<b>BALL GUNNER</b>	S/Sgt. Owen B. Stre	eeper	RD	
RIGHT WAIST	Sgt. Leon Zinner		MIA	
GUNNER				
TAIL GUNNER	S/Sgt. Alvin L. Raii	1es	MIA	

KNOWN INFORMATION: Saw ten chutes open.

HEARSAY INFORMATION: French underground reported 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. W.R. Mudge, S/Sgt. A.L. Raines and Sgt. Leon Zinner were captured on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May. S/Sgt. B.H. Norrid was captured about the 25<sup>th</sup> of July.

# ARMY SERVICE FORCES NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

## INTELLIGENCE & SECURITY DIVISION

DATE: **28 Sep 44** 

NARRATOR:	S/Sgt. Owen B. Streeper	SQUA	DRON:	767 <sup>th</sup> Sq
ARMY SERIAL NO.:	36476161	GROU	P:	461 <sup>st</sup> BG
HOME ADDRESS:	401 N. Linden St.	TYPE	AIRCRAFT:	B-24H
EX-REPORT NO.:		MISSI	ON DATE:	27 May 44
POSITION	MEMBERS OF CR	EW	PWIB REC	CORDS
PILOT	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Gerald J. M	aroney	RD	
CO-PILOT	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Winston Lav	vrence	RD	
<b>BOMBARDIER</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Warren R. I	Mudge	MIA	
<b>NAVIGATOR</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Paul A. Gold	len	RD	
<b>ENGINEER</b>	M/Sgt. Harold C. S	teele	RD	
RADIO OPERATOR	T/Sgt. Donald E. E.	llis	RD	
<b>NOSE GUNNER</b>	S/Sgt. Benjamin H.	Norrid	MIA	
<b>BALL GUNNER</b>	S/Sgt. Owen B. Str	eeper	RD	
RIGHT WAIST	Sgt. Leon Zinner		MIA	
GUNNER				
TAIL GUNNER	S/Sgt. Alvin L. Rain	nes	MIA	

KNOWN INFORMATION: I saw ten chutes come out and open.

HEARSAY INFORMATION: We heard S/Sgt. Ben Norrid was taken POW about the 25<sup>th</sup> of July on a F.F.I camp by the Germans. We also heard at our base that Lt. Mudge, S/Sgt. A. L. Raines and Sgt. Zinner are POWs.

U.S.A. ME-1269

Name ASN Rank 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. DATE: 5/27/44 1000 Mudge, Warren Roland 0-752779 Raines, Alvin Lee PLACE: 20 km N. 37417737 S/Sgt. Grasse upon "Roe de Sgt. Zinner, Leon 12025667 l'Aigle" Rest unknown

TYPE: Liberator 767 (HB) Sqd 461 Group; 49 Wing TARGET: F.T. Ker E

16/VXX

#### **TELEGRAM**

To Evaluation Station West Oberureal/Tames

Ref to report of a crashed 4 motor enemy plane on 5/27/44 about 100 hrs in the morning, 20 km north Grasse (A.D. 9/2) a third one, the capture of Sgt Leon Zinner, 12025667 T42-43-AH. Delivered to the prisoner of war hospital Dregidgras 5/31/44 on account of bone fracture. The plane lies on Roc Del Aigle about 1600 m high near Gredlieree our Vax.a.M)

Air Base Command e.g. 16/VII Le Lee

ME 1269

#### **TELEGRAM**

To Evaluation Station West Oberureal/Tames

Case: FS.LLEX 39 for 5/30/44 Air Base Command 16/VII

According to the report from prisoner of war hospital Greguignas, the prisoner of war Sgt. Leon Zinner is able to be transferred. He was sent to Dulag Luft Oberureal 6/1/44. Zinner belonged to a 4 motor enemy plane that crashed 5/27/44, about 1000 hrs, 20 km north Grasse (2 0 9/2) near Gradlieres

Air Base Command Le Lee

MR 1269

# TELEGRAM O.U. 30 May 44

Air Base Command A 228/XXX Field Post WL 49/93 Air force camp post office, Paris

Concernings: other booty from the shot down USA Liberaider (4 double-row radial engine) on 5/27/44 at 1017 hrs, 6 km S. Opange and 3 km S. Courtheson, in 04 West North UK9

1 writing (secret) privately coulaoed orders 1 advanced (Instructions Bombsight heating cover, type A-2) 1 table (bomb, G.P. 50-42-AN-M-45) 10 damaged lead maps.

ME 1269

Table of contents
9 table of replacement parts
1 table (table of replacement parts continued)
Sent: Evacuation Station West Oberureal

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: 27 May 1944 – 10:00 o'clock in the morning

PLACE OF CRASH: 20 km North Grasse (A O 9/2)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Ref to: The crash of a 4 motor enemy plane – type

unknown.

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command E 16/VII – Field Post # L-

22007 Air Force Camp Post Office Paris La Lue – 28 May 1944.

**CREW** 

SURNAME, AND Raines FIRST NAME: Alvin L.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: S/Sgt.

SERIAL NUMBER: 37 417 737 – T-43-OF

CAPTURED: Captured WOUNDED: DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

**REMARKS**:

Captured near Cipiere 27 May 1944 at 21:00 o'clock – French police

Set on the march to Dulag-Luft, Oberureal

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: 27 May 1944 – 10:00 o'clock in the morning

PLACE OF CRASH: 20 km North Grasse (A O 9/2)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Ref to: The crash of a 4 motor enemy plane – type

unknown.

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command E 16/VII – Field Post # L-

22007 Air Force Camp Post Office Paris La Lue – 28 May 1944.

**CREW** 

SURNAME, AND Mudge FIRST NAME: Warren R.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:  $2^{nd}$  Lt.

SERIAL NUMBER: **O-752769 – T-42-43-OF** 

CAPTURED: Captured WOUNDED: DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

**REMARKS**:

Captured on 29 May 1944 and set on the march to Dulag-Luft, Oberureal. Near Plan de Pairen 27 May 1944 at 14:00 o'clock through pursuit Command.

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: 27 May 1944 – 10:00 o'clock in the morning

PLACE OF CRASH: 20 km North Grasse (A O 9/2)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Ref to: The crash of a 4 motor enemy plane. The plane dies Rec de l'Aigle about 1600 m high near Greelieree on the Val (A.M.) The entire area is full of terrorists.

REPORTING OFFICE: Fliers Command Post 16/VII – Field Post L-22007

Lg. Pa. Paris – Le Luc – 31 May 1944.

**CREW** 

SURNAME, AND **Zinner** FIRST NAME: **Leon** 

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: **Sgt.** 

SERIAL NUMBER: 12 025 667 - T-42-43-AH

CAPTURED: Captured WOUNDED: DEAD:

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

**REMARKS**:

Captured on 1 June 1944 and sent on the march to Dulag-Luft, Oberureal.

Name of crew member: STEELE, Harold Curtis

Rank: T/Sgt.

Serial number: **18199369** 

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Top Turret** 

Did he bail out? Yes.

Where? Vicinity of Thorence, France.

If not, why not? **Above.** 

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Reported #3 engine** on fire. Later traveled to US.

Was he injured? No.

Where was he when last seen? In United States.

Any hearsay information: Worked with FFI in France.

Source: FFI members.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Safe personal knowledge.** 

Total number of missions of above crew member: No knowledge.

Dates and destinations if possible:

Name of crew member: **NORRID, Benjamin Howard** 

Rank: S/Sgt.

Serial number: 34507445

Position: Crew (Bomber) Nose Turret

Did he bail out? Yes.

Where? Vicinity of Thorence, France.

If not, why not? Above.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Last contact morning of 30 July 1944 at Auchauds, France about 0400. He was later captured by Germans in a skirmish between FFI and enemy forces.

Was he injured? No knowledge.

Where was he when last seen? Heresay – is in the US now.

Any hearsay information: Above.

Source: Harold C. Steele.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: Was taken POW on 30 July 1944.

Total number of missions of above crew member: No knowledge.

Dates and destinations if possible:

Name of crew member: ELLIS, Donald Emerson

Rank: S/Sgt.

Serial number: 13151557

Position: Crew (Bomber) Left Waist Gunner

Did he bail out? Yes.

Where? Vicinity of Thorence, France.

If not, why not? **Above.** 

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: Have conversed with Ellis in United States.

Was he injured? No.

Where was he when last seen? US.

Any hearsay information: None.

Source:.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **Stayed under cover in France – evaded capture.** 

Total number of missions of above crew member: No knowledge.

Dates and destinations if possible:

#### CASUALTY QUESTIONAIRE

- 1. Your name Winston James Lawrence Rank Capt. Serial No. 0-791458
- 2. Organization 461st Gp Commander Glantzberg Rank Col Sqn CO Knapp Rank Col.
- 3. What year <u>1944</u> month <u>May</u> day <u>27</u> did you go down?
- 4. What was the mission, <u>Province du Avion</u>, target, <u>German Airfield</u>, target time, <u>no knowledge</u>, altitude, <u>23,000 ft</u> route scheduled, <u>no knowledge</u>, route flown <u>over coast at Antibes</u>, <u>France</u>
- 5. Where were you when you left formation? <u>Vicinity of Antibes, France.</u>
- 6. Did you bail out? Yes.
- 7. Did other members of crew bail out? Yes
- 8. Tell all you know about when, where, how each person in your aircraft for whom no individual questionnaire is attached bailed out. A crew list is attached. Please give facts. If you don't know, say: "No knowledge". The following crew members jumped safely from the buring B-24 (engines 3 & 4 out and burning, wing area burning, and props of respective engines wind milling) in the vicinity of Thorence, France on 27 May 1944: 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Gerald J. Maroney; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Paul A. Golden; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Warren R. Mudge; 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Winston J. Lawrence; T/Sgt. Harold C. Steele; S/Sgt. Benjamin N. Norrid; S/Sgt. Donald E. Ellis; S/Sgt. Alvin L. Raines; S/Sgt. Owen B. Streeper; Sgt. Leon Zinner. Mudge, Raines and Zinner were captured on landing. Maroney, Golden, Ellis and Streeper hid out in the vicinity of the village of La Sausse, France from 27 May 1944 to 21 August 1944. Norrid worked with British agents and FFI until capture on 30 July 1944 at Auchauds, France. Steele worked with FFI. Lawrence worked with British agents and FFI and had knowledge of movements of entire crew with the exception of Steele. Lawrence, with assistance of a British agent, assembled Maroney, Golden, Steele, Ellis and Streeper on 21 August 1944 and proceeded to beach head at Sna Tropez, France. Upon arrival reported to Lt. Col. Corning, G-2, and were flown to naples, Italy on 22 August 1944. It is understood from conversation with most of the crew members that the entire crew is in the United States.
- 9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? **Rock d'Aigle near town of Thorence**, **France**.
- 10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) **None.**
- 11. Where were they in aircraft? **Answer 10 above.**
- 12. What was their condition? **Answer 10 above**

- 13. When, where, and in what condition did you <u>last</u> see any members not already described above? **Described in answer 8 above.**
- 14 Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. <a href="Earl Rodenburg">Earl Rodenburg</a>, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt., Co-Pilot, B-17, 97 BG (H) from Foggia, Italy did solo jump on or about 27 May 1944 approximate vicinity being inland from Nice, France. Rodenburg stated that flares caught on fire on flight deck and pilot ordered him to jump. I contacted Rodenburg through assistance of FFI and he worked behind lines with me until captured on 30 July 1944 in village of Auchauds, France. Source: Personal conversation and contact with Rodenburg.

Name of crew member: STEELE, Harold Curtis

Rank: T/Sgt.

Serial number: **18199369** 

Position: Crew (Bomber) **Top Turret** 

Did he bail out? Yes.

Where? Near Peak de l'Aigle, Les Sausses, Le Mas, Alpes Maritimes, France.

If not, why not?.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: <u>Can't remember – something about not being able to open the bomb bay doors.</u>

Was he injured? Flak wounds in fingers, frost bitten fingers.

Where was he when last seen? **NYPE, Camp Shanks, N.Y.** 

Any hearsay information: This is fact: Sgt. Steele tried to contact me the day after the accident, but was unable to do so because of the German search. I heard from the local citizenry (later proved true) that he lived for three months with a family of father and daughter near St. Auban in the above named province.

Source: **Sgt. Steele.** 

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **None.** 

Total number of missions of above crew member: **About 23.** 

Dates and destinations if possible: **No record.** 

Name of crew member: **NORRID, Benjamin Howard** 

Rank: S/Sgt.

Serial number: 34507445

Position: Crew (Bomber) Nose Turret

Did he bail out? Yes.

Where? Near Peak de l'Aigle, Les Sausses, Le Mas, Alpes Maritimes, France.

If not, why not?.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **No conversation.** 

Was he injured? **Don't know.** 

Where was he when last seen? <u>In a Maquis Camp by 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Winston J. Lawrence, near Puget-Theniers.</u>

Any hearsay information: <u>Sgt. Norrid lived in this camp until he was captured in a German raid, almost three months after May 27, 1944.</u>

Source: 1st Lt. Winston J. Lawrence.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: No.

Total number of missions of above crew member: 23 or 24.

Dates and destinations if possible: **No record.** 

Name of crew member: **ELLIS, Donald Emerson** 

Rank: S/Sgt.

Serial number: **13191557** 

Position: Crew (Bomber) Left Waist Gunner

Did he bail out? Yes.

Where? Near Peak de l'Aigle, Les Sausses, Le Mas, Alpes Maritimes, France.

If not, why not?.

Last contact or conversation just prior to or at time of loss of plane: **Can't remember.** 

Was he injured? Yes. Flak in leg.

Where was he when last seen? **BS #1 Atlantic City, N.J.** 

Any hearsay information: No. Sgt. Ellis lived with me for the three months we evaded capture. We lived with M. Joseph Pommier in the above mentioned town and signed chit for our keep for 89 days. Sgt. Ellis sailed from Naples on the USS James Parker on Sept 12, 1944.

Source: No.

Any explanation of his fate based in part or wholly on supposition: **No.** 

Total number of missions of above crew member: **About 23.** 

Dates and destinations if possible: **No record.** 

#### CASUALTY QUESTIONAIRE

- 1. Your name Gerald J. Maroney Rank 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Serial No. 0-745139
- 2. Organization <u>461st</u> Gp Commander <u>Glantzberg</u> Rank <u>Col</u> Sqn CO <u>Knapp</u> Rank Lt. Col.
- 3. What year <u>1944</u> month <u>May</u> day <u>27</u> did you go down?
- 4. What was the mission, **bombing**, target, **Salon de Provence**, target time, **about noon**, altitude, **20,000 ft** route scheduled, **direct past Capd'Antibes, west**, route flown **same.**
- 5. Where were you when you left formation? #5 C flight first section.
- 6. Did you bail out? Yes.
- 7. Did other members of crew bail out? **All.**
- 8. Tell all you know about when, where, how each person in your aircraft for whom no individual questionnaire is attached bailed out. A crew list is attached. Please give facts. If you don't know, say: "No knowledge". On taking a burst of anti-aircraft fire just under the right wing, I immediately left the formation because the two right engines (B-24) were shot out and I couldn't feather either one. I jettisoned the bombs immediately and the bombardier, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Warren Mudge used the last of the hydraulic pressure to close the bomb bay doors. I headed for Switzerland, but soon abandoned the plan as we were losing altitude fast and the mountains were very high. Then fire broke out under the right wing and one report from the waist informed me that the flames reached to the tail. Due to the drag of the props we were falling about 700'p.m. at 140 M.P.H. Here I gave the order to bail out. The navigator, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Paul A. Golden and Lt. Mudge went out the nose hatch. Sgt. Leon Zinner, right waist gunner, S/Sgt. Donald E. Ellis, radio and left waist gunner, Sgt. Alvin Raines, tail gunner, and Sgt. Owen B. Streeper, ball turret gunner bailed out the waist windows. They were followed later out these windows by 1st Lt. Winston J. Lawrence, co-pilot, and T/Sgt. Harold C. Steele who could not open bomb bay doors. S/Sgt. Benjamin H. Norrid also left by the nose hatch. After all had left the ship, I left my seat and bailed out through the nose. By this time the bomb bay was full of gasoline and hydraulic fluid. All crew members bailed out at least 2000' above the terrain which was about 12,000' elevation. I bailed myself at about 400', and landed 25 yards from the wreckage. I made good my escape as did Lt. Lawrence, Lt. Golden, Sgt. Steele, Sgt. Ellis, Sgt. Streeper, and Sgt. Norrid. Sgt. Norrid was captured almost three months later. Lt. Mudge, Sgt. Zinner and Sgt Raines were captured immediately. Of these, I was informed by the local citizens, two were injured..
- 9. Where did your aircraft strike the ground? **Peak de L'Aigle Alpes Maritimes, France.**
- 10. What members of your crew were in the aircraft when it struck the ground? (Should cross check with 8 above and individual questionnaires) **None.**

- 11. Where were they in aircraft?
- 12. What was their condition? No knowledge.
- 13. When, where, and in what condition did you <u>last</u> see any members not already described above? 1st Lt. Winston J. Lawrence (now Captain) last seen at VAAF, Victorville, Calif. Condition good. May, 1945. 1st Lt. Paul A. Golden last seen RS #1, Atlantic City, N.J. Condition good. Oct. 1944. M/Sgt. Harold C. Steele last seen NYPE, Camp Shanks, N.Y. Condition good. Sept. 1944. T/Sgt. Donald E. Ellis last seen RS#1, Atlantic City, N.J. Condition good. Oct. 1944. S/Sgt Owen B Streeper last seen NYPE, Camp Shanks, N.Y. Condition good. Oct. 1944. Sgt. Leon Streeper last seen May 27, 1944 before bail out. Sgt. Alvin Raines last seen May 27, 1944 before bail out. S/Sgt. Ben H. Norrid last seen May 27, 1944 before bail out. I received a Christmas card drom Sgt. Zinner in 1945 indicating that he had returned from overseas. It was mailed from Chicago.
- 14 Please give any similar information on personnel of any other crew of which you have knowledge. Indicate source of information. **None.**

# HEADQUARTERS 767<sup>TH</sup> BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H) ARMY AIR FORCES APO 520 U.S. ARMY

1 June 1944

SUBJECT: Missing Air Crew Report.

TO: Commanding Officer, 461<sup>st</sup> Bombardment Group, APO 520, U.S. Army.

- 1. In compliance with Letter, 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force, file AG 360.33 dtd. 5 January 1944, subject: Preparation of Missing Air Crew Reports, submitted herewith is Missing Are Crew Report for B-24-H **42-52399**, **2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Gerald J. Maroney** and crew.
- 2. Subject crew personnel are battle casualties as defined by Paragraph 2, Section II, Circular No. 10, Headquarters, NATOUSA.
- 3. Battle Casualty Report forwarded your headquarters 28 May 1944.

For the Squadron Commander:

/s/ Raymond L. Wilcovitz 1<sup>st</sup> Lt., Air Corps, Adjutant

AG 360.33 1st Ind. LCP/rfq Headquarters, 461st Bomb Group, APO 520, 1 June 1944.

TO: CO, 49<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing, APO 520, U.S. Army.

Forwarded for necessary action.

For the Group Commander:

/s/ Louis C. Pfister, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt., Air Corps Personnel Officer AG 360.33 2<sup>nd</sup> Ind. C-WRT-57

Hq. 49<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing (H), APO 520, 3 June 1944.

TO: C.G. Fifteenth Air Force, APO 520.

/s/ J.E.M.

AG 360.33 3<sup>rd</sup> Ind. GP-hm/gow HQ, FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE, APO 520, 7 June 1944.

TO: CG, NATOUSA, APO 534. Attn: Casualty Branch, AGD.

Personnel included in attached MAC Report were processed on consolidated BCR No L-93, dated 30 May 1944, which was forwarded to the 30<sup>th</sup> MRU, 30 May 1944.

For the Commanding General:

/s/ Harold B. Neely, Major, AGD, Assistant AG.

Prepared by MIS-X Section POW Branch

DATE: **31 May 44** 

NARRATOR: ARMY SERIAL NO.: HOME ADDRESS: EX-REPORT NO.:	M/Sgt. Oscar R. Ives 19076326 Diagonal, Iowa ???	SQUADRON: GROUP: TYPE AIRCRAFT: MISSION DATE:	767 <sup>th</sup> Sq. 461 <sup>st</sup> BG B-24 2 Apr 44
POSITION	MEMBERS OF CRE	W PWIB REC	CORDS
PILOT	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt., W. H. Zumst	eg KIA	
CO-PILOT BOMBARDIER NAVIGATOR ENGINEER RADIO OPERATOR	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Fuller 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Repko 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Fleber S/Sgt. Lerna Sgt. Kadlecek	KIA KIA KIA KIA KIA	
WAIST GUNNER NOSE GUNNER TAIL GUNNER	M/Sgt. Oscar R. Ive S/Sgt. Clayton S/Sgt. Allecce		

KNOWN INFORMATION: Our plane collided with another near Bihac, Yugoslavia at about 1000 hours on 2 April 1944. We were flying at about 20,000 feet. The ship broke apart, the nose, tail and waist sections falling in separate pieces. I was knocked unconscious, regained my senses at about 5,000 feet and at 3,000 feet, managed to bail out of the waist. I was brought the dog tags of Lts. Fuller, Repko, Felber and Sgt. Clayton by the Partisans, and saw the graves in which the Partisans buried them. I do not know what happened to Lt. Zumsteg or Sgt. Allecce.

HEARSAY INFORMATION: The only other crew member in the waist with me was Sgt. Kadlecek, the radio operator. I was told by other members of the flight, when back in Bari later, that someone went out of the waist, which could have only been Sgt. Kadlecek. He did not have a chute on.

2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Gerald J. Maroney	Mrs. Patrick J. Maroney (Mother)

87-23 166<sup>th</sup> Street Jamaica, New York

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Warren R. Mudge Mrs. Phillip C. Mudge (Mother)

2 Scofield Street

East Norwalk, Connecticut

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Paul A. Golden Mr. John J. Golden (Father)

**Box 3076** 

Tampa, Florida

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Winston J. Lawrence Mrs. Leanna M. Lawrence (Wife)

22 Thomas Road

Wellesley, Massachusetts

T/Sgt. Harold C. Steele Mrs. Myrtle R. Steele (Wife)

La Grange, Texas

S/Sgt. Benjamin H. Norrid Mrs. Dora D. Norrid (Mother)

**524 Washington Avenue** Union City, Tennessee

S/Sgt. Donald E. Ellis Mrs. Adelaide E. Ellis (Mother)

408 Whitehorse Pike Audubon, New Jersey

S/Sgt. Alvin L. Raines Mr. John P. Raines (Father)

624 Carson Road Ferguson, Missouri

S/Sgt. Owen B. Streeper Mrs. Bess Streeper (Mother)

**401 North Linden Street** 

**Normal Illinois** 

Sgt. Leon Zinner Mrs. Thelma Zinner (Wife)

4342 Richmond Street

Chicago, Illinois