HADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE
APO 520 - U.S. Army

7 December 1944
Ref: USA/SKP/280

ESCAPE STATEMENT

1. Crinkley, Robert A., 2nd Lt., 0-709510, 767 Sq., 461 Gp.

Born - 26 Nov. 1923 Enlisted - 6 Nov. 1942

Home Address - 4825 Garfield Ave. S., Minneapolis. Minn.

Peacetime Profession - Student.

MIA - 20 Nov. 1944 RTD - 2 Dec. 1944 Missions - 5

2. Mission was to bomb Oil Refineries in Blechhammer South. Reached target and dropped bombs. Hydraulic system was shot out. Bomb bay doors opened and they couldn't manage to get them closed. They tried to make Vis and ran out of gas. Pilot ordered crew to bail out. Source landed about 20 miles from Zara (44 20N 15 10E).

3. Never in the hands of the enemy.

4. Source was picked up by Yugoslav civilians who brought him to a neighboring house. A Partisan Officer took him to harbor at Zara. Stayed on British hospital ship in harbor of Zara for 11 days. Was then brought to Vis by British Air Sea Rescue Ship. Stayed at Vis overnight and was evacuated by ship to Bari arriving here 3 Dec. 1944.

C.N. KALCOUNOS
1st Lt., Sig. C.
Interrogator

2 Incls.
Incl 1 - Ltr. 383.6
Incl 2 - Appendix F