

9132

DECLASSIFIED BY AUTHORITY OF NND DECLASSIFICATION PROJECT 785072,
H.D. MAYER, NARS, SEPTEMBER 10, 1982

Classification changed by E. A. BRADY, Lt. Col., AFM by F. M. MUMFORD, Lt. Col., AFM Date 1. ORGANIZATION: APO 520, U.S. Army

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

1. ORGANIZATION: APO 520, U.S. Army Command or Air Force 15th Air Force
 Group 64th Bombardment Group (H) Squadron 776th Bombardment Sq (H)
 2. SPECIFY: Place of departure AAB, Pantanella, Italy Course 266 West
 Target Tank Factory, St Valentin, Austria Type of mission Bombing
 3. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND VISIBILITY AT TIME OF CRASH OR WHEN LAST REPORTED:
Flying conditions very bad, overcast at 7000 feet.
 4. GIVE: (a) Date 16 October 44 Time 1126 Last known position St Valentin, Austria
 (b) Specify whether: (X) Last sighted, () Forced down, () Seen to crash,
 () Last contacted by radio, () No information.
 5. AIRCRAFT (LOST) (BELIEVED LOST) AS A RESULT OF: (Check one only)
 () Enemy aircraft, (X) Enemy anti-aircraft, () Other
 6. AIRCRAFT: Type, model & series B-24J AAF Serial Number 42-51389
 7. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT None
 8. ENGINES: Type, model & series B-1830-13A AAF Serial Number (a) BP-401959
 (b) BP-401984 (c) BP-401983 (d) BP-402049
 9. INSTALLED WEAPONS: (Make, type and serial number.)
 (a) MG-M2 Cal.50. 1260848 (e) MG-M2 Cal.50. 1261590 (i) MG-M2 Cal.50. 1261934
 (b) MG-M2 Cal.50. 1260925 (f) MG-M2 Cal.50. 1260861 (j) MG-M2 Cal.50. 1260821
 (c) MG-M2 Cal.50. 1261845 (g) MG-M2 Cal.50. 1262057 (k)
 (d) MG-M2 Cal.50. 1260833 (h) MG-M2 Cal.50. 1261891 (l)
 10. PERSONNEL LISTED BELOW REPORTED AS: (X) Battle Casualty, () Non-Battle Casualty.
 11. NUMBER OF PERSONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT: Crew 9; Passengers 0; Total 9
 (If more than 12 persons aboard aircraft, use separate sheet.)

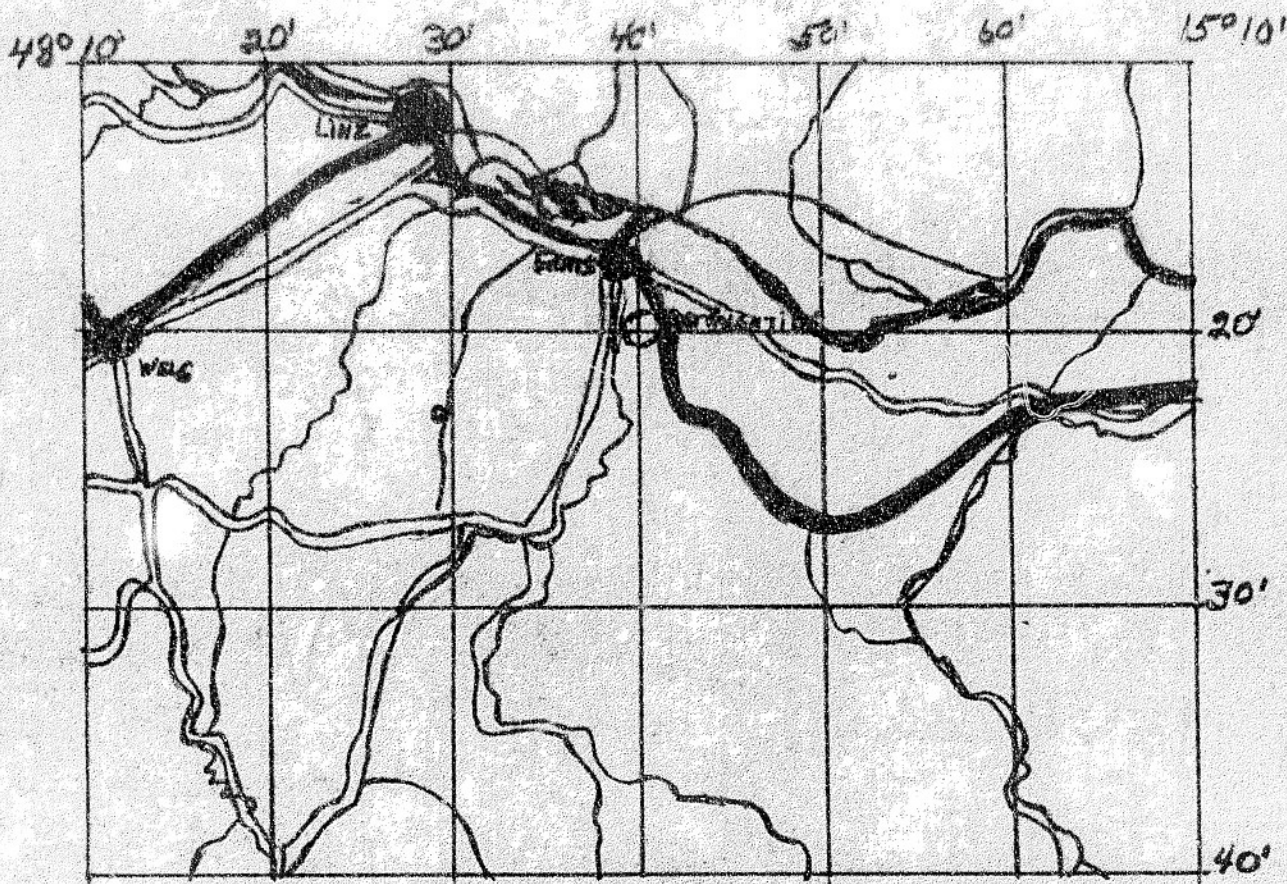
CREW POSITION	FULL NAME (Last, first, initial) RANK, SERIAL NUMBER	CURRENT NEXT OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP STATUS AND ADDRESS
(1) Pilot	<u>Lee, William W.</u> 1st Lt., O-818169	MIA Mr. Asia Adolph Lee (Father) 1001 West 16th St., Sulphur, Okla.
(2) Co-Pilot	<u>Keller, Robert G.</u> 1st Lt., O-822458	MIA Mrs. Herman (Tucker) Keller (Mother) 516-2nd St. NE, Watertown, S.D.
(3) Navigator	<u>Farguhar, Raymond J. Jr.</u> 1st Lt., O-708805	MIA Mr. Raymond J. Farguhar (Father) 15 Pearl Hill Rd., Fitchburg, Mass.
(4) Eng-Gun	<u>Elder, Sidney L.</u> Sgt., 14069218	MIA Mrs. Katie Myers (Mother) 147 Poplar Ave., Memphis, Tenn.
(5) BOM-Gun	<u>Bauza, George M.</u> Sgt., 16134805	MIA Mr. George Bauza (Father) 6528-32nd Ave., Keshona, Wisc.
(6) Armorer Gun	<u>King, Ralph V.</u> S/Sgt., 39835262	MIA Mr. Virgil A. King (Father) Box #57, Kamas, Utah.
(7) Aerial Gun	<u>Kramer, Norman R.</u> Sgt., 19207020	MIA Mrs. Beatrice Kramer, (Mother) 724 East Raleigh St., Glendale, Calif.
(8) Aerial Gun	<u>Sturgeon, Shelby J. Jr.</u> Sgt., 17060325	MIA Mrs. Hazel L. Sturgeon, (Mother) 91st & Indiana, RFD #1, Hickman Mills, MO.
(9) Aerial Gun	<u>Brown, Kenneth C.</u> Sgt., 1312568	MIA Mrs. Edna O. Brown (Mother) RFD #1, West Springfield, Penn.



12. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT AND CHECK APPROPRIATE (one only) INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME: SAW CONTACTED LAST BY RADIO SAW FORCED SIGHTED CRASH LANDING
- | NAME IN FULL | RANK | SERIAL No. | SAW CONTACTED LAST BY RADIO | SAW FORCED | SIGHTED CRASH LANDING |
|-------------------------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------------|
| (1) <u>Weathers, Henry F.</u> | <u>Sgt.</u> | <u>1408318</u> | | | <u>X</u> |
| (2) <u>Nasselhan, Matthew</u> | <u>Cpl.</u> | <u>1213243</u> | | | <u>X</u> |
| (3) | | | | | |
13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
 (X) Parachutes were used. () Persons were seen walking away from the scene of the crash.
 () Other reasons (specify)
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.

Incl 1-Sketch of Date 16 October 1944 approx position. William H. Weathers Major, Air Corps, Signature of reporting officer

Incl 2-Eye Witness report of Sgt. Weathers Major, Air Corps,



Map # 9132

AUSTRIA

⊕ — INDICATES AREA IN WHICH LT. LEE'S
CREW LAST SIGHTED.

BEARING — 48° 9' N, 14° 30' E.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

STATEMENT

I was flying as Nose Gunner on Ship #563, which was flying in Dog Box Position #23.

I saw flak hit the wing of Red O and explode. Red O made a complete turn over and righted itself as it went by our nose. The ship went down under our ship just missing the nose. I lost sight of Red O when it went under our ship.

I watched Red O until it disappeared under our ship and during my observation of this ship I saw no chute open.

Henry F. Weathers,
Sgt., 14083187,
Nose Gun., B-24J, #563,
776th Bomb Sq, 464th Bomb Gp (H),
APO 520, U.S. Army.

Henry F. Weathers

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Incl #12

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

STATEMENT

I was flying as Left Waist Gunner in Ship #563, which was flying in Dog Box Position #23.

I was dropping Chaff when I saw Red O below our ship. I noticed the about twenty-five (25) feet of her left wing was missing and she was in a flat spin.

I watched Red O until it disappeared into the clouds below and I only saw two (2) chutes open.

Matthew Hasselhan

Matthew Hasselhan,
Cpl., 12132543,
Left Waist Gun., B-24J, #563,
776th Bomb Sq, 464th Bomb Gp (H),
APO 520, U.S. Army.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

incl #3

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

9359

776TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
Office of the Commanding Officer
APO 520 U.S. Army

WHR/vme

313.3

18 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Missing Air Crew Report.

TO : Commanding Officer, Hq. 464th Bombardment Group (H),
APO 520, U.S. Army.

1. Transmitted herewith are the Missing Air Crew Reports on combat crews assigned to this Squadron who were Missing in Action on 16 October 1944 over St Valentin, Austria.

1st Lt (1092)	WILLIAM W. LEE	371	0818169	MIA
1st Lt (1092)	ROBERT G. KELLER		0822458	MIA
1st Lt (1034)	RAYMOND J. FARQUHAR JR.		0708805	MIA
Sgt. (748)	Sidney L. Elder		14069218	MIA
Sgt. (757)	George M. Rauon		16134805	MIA
S/Sgt. (612)	Ralph V. King		39835262	MIA
Sgt. (611)	Norman R. Kramer		19207020	MIA
Sgt. (611)	Shelby J. Sturgeon Jr.		17060326	MIA
Sgt. (611)	Kenneth C. Brown		13172568	MIA

2. Subject personnel are battle casualties as defined by paragraph 2, Section II, Circular #10, NATOUSA, dated 24 January 1944 as amended.

3. Battle Casualty report was forwarded your Headquarters 17 October 1944.

William H. Reddell
 WILLIAM H. REDDELL,
 Major, Air Corps,
 Commanding.

1 Incl:
Incl 1 - Missing Air Crew Report
w/3 Incls. (8 copies)

1st Ind
Hq, 464th Bomb Gp (H), APO 520, US Army, 19 Oct 44
TO: CG, 55th Bomb Wg (H), APO 520, US Army

/invf

1 Incl:
2 cc Incl 1 W/D ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[Signature]
D. I. J.

[Handwritten marks]
787

6175

371 1st Lt. William W. Lee Mr. Asia A. Lee (father) ✓
 1001 West 16th Street,
 Sulphur, Oklahoma.

1st Lt. Robert G. Keller Mrs. Lois T. Keller (mother) ✓
 516 Second Street, Northeast,
 Watertown, South Dakota.

371 1st Lt. Raymond J. Farquhar, Jr., Mr. Raymond J. Farquhar (father) ✓
 15 Pearl Hill Road,
 Fitchburg, Massachusetts.

S/Sgt. Ralph V. King Mrs. Patricia L. King (wife) ✓
 470 F. Street,
 Salt Lake City, Utah.

Sgt. Sidney L. Elder Mrs. Evelyn L. Elder (wife) ✓
 147 Poplar Avenue,
 Memphis, Tennessee.

Sgt. George M. Rauen Mrs. Patricia M. Rauen (wife) ✓
 401 Mitchell Avenue,
 Elmhurst, Illinois.

Sgt. Norman R. Kraser Mrs. Beatrice Kraser (mother) ✓
 724 E. Halseigh Street,
 Glendale, California.

371 Sgt. Shelby J. Sturgeon, Jr., Mrs. Mary E. Sturgeon (wife) ✓
 Route Eight,
 North Kansas City, Missouri.

371 Sgt. Kenneth C. Brown Mrs. Edna O. Brown (mother) ✓
 Rural Free Delivery, #1,
 West Springfield, Pennsylvania.

WAR DEPARTMENT
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

AGPO-CR

By recent letter from this office, your assistance was requested in the further investigation of the status of your former crew member(s). To date no reply has been received. In the event that you did not receive the original letter, a copy is inclosed for your information.

It is earnestly requested that you furnish the desired information at your earliest convenience in order that the investigation may be completed and notification made with the least possible delay. To facilitate your reply, there is inclosed a self addressed envelope, which requires no postage.

Sincerely yours,

2 Incls

1. Copy of Letter
2. Self Addressed Envelope

EDWARD F. WITSELL
Major General
The Adjutant General

Date and Time Aircraft
was shot down

16 October 1944 at 1130

Casualty No. ME 2280

Place of Crash:

Leonding

Type of Aircraft:

L i b e r a t o r

Reporting Office:

Airbase Headquarter Hoersching

*MACR No
9/32*

Name	Rank	Serial Number	captured wounded dead	Place of Internment
ELDER	Sidney Leon	Sgt 14069218	captured	Dulag Luft West
KELLER	Robert Graham Watertown, S.Dak.	1st Lt. 0-822458	"	dido
LEE	William W.	1st Lt 0-818169	dead	cemetery Leonding/Lins on 17 October 1944
PARQUHAR	Raymond J.	1st Lt. 0-708805	dead	dido
RAVEN	George M.	Sgt 16134805	dead	dido
KING	Ralph V.	39835353 S/Sgt	dead	dido
STURLEON	Shelby J.	Sgt	dead	dido
BROWN	Kenneth C.	Sgt	dead	dido
KRAMER	Norman R.	Sgt	dead	dido

Dulag Luft, 6 November 1944

Date and Time Aircraft
was shot down

16 October 1944 at 1130

Casualty No. ME 2280

Place of Crash:

Leonding

Type of Aircraft:

L i b e r a t o r

Reporting Office:

Airbase Headquarter Hoersching

Name	Rank	Serial Number	captured wounded dead	Place of Internment
ELDER	Sidney Leon	Sgt 14069218	captured	Dulag Luft West <i>EW</i>
KELLER	Robert Graham Watertown, S.Dak.	1st Lt. 0-822458	"	didc <i>EW</i>
LEE	William W.	1st Lt 0-818169	<i>KIA</i> dead	cemetary Leonding/Lina on 17 October 1944
FARQUHAR	Raymond J. <i>JR.</i>	1st Lt. 0-705805	dead	didc - <i>KIA</i>
RAUEN	George H.	Sgt 16134805	dead	didc - <i>KIA</i>
KING	Ralph V.	39835353 S/Sgt	dead	didc - <i>KIA</i>
STURGEON	Shelby J. <i>JR.</i>	Sgt 17060326	dead	didc - <i>KIA</i>
BROWN	Kenneth C.	Sgt 13172568	dead	didc - <i>KIA</i>
KRAMER	Norman R.	Sgt 19207020	dead	didc - <i>KIA</i>

Dulag Luft, 6 November 1944

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9132

DATE: 16 Oct. 1944 at 1130

U S A

ME 2260

PLACE: 500 meter West of Leoding

near Ruefling

TYPE: Liberator

776th (H.B.) Sqd.

464th Grp. 55th Wing

TARGET: H. of airf. Hoersching

buried on 17 Oct. 44 in Cemetery

Leoding, near Lins/Densa.

1st Lt.	LEE, William W.	O-818169	§ dead
"	KELLER, Robert Graham	O-822455	.
"	FARQUHAR, Raymond J.	O-708805	dead
Sgt.	ELDER, Sidney Leon	14069218	.
"	HAUEN, George W.	16134605	dead
S/Sgt.	KING, Ralph V.	39835262	dead
Sgt.	STURGEON, Shelly J.	--	dead
"	BROWN, Kenneth C.	--	dead
"	KRAMER, Norman R.	--	dead

MACR 9132
 B-24
 AFF 42-51389
 9 men

Ready for file

DATE: 16 Oct. 1944 at 1130
 PLACE: 500 meter west of Leonding
 near Ruefling
 TYPE: Liberator
 776th (H.B.) Sqd.
 464th Grp. 55th Wing
 TARGET: Hq of airf. Hoersching
 buried on 17 Oct. 44 in Cemetery
 Leonding, near Lins/Denam.

U S A

ME 3280

Rank	Name	Serial	Status
1st Lt.	LEE, William W.	0-818189	dead
"	KELLER, Robert Graham	0-822459	.
"	FARQUHAR, Raymond J.	0-708805	dead
Sgt.	ELDER, Sidney Leon	14069218	.
"	RAVEN, George M.	16134805	dead
S/Sgt.	KING, Ralph V.	39835752	dead
Sgt.	STURGEON, Shelly J.	1206216	dead
"	BROWN, Kenneth C.	12172515	dead
"	FRAMER, Norman R.	12209210	dead

not on file

MAOR 9132

KSU 2280

Downing of a Liberator on 16 Oct. 1944, Time 1130, near Ruffing (near Lins)

Name: ^{JR.} PARQUHAR, Raymond J. ~~or Raymond J.~~
ASN : 0-706805 T 43-44

Dead - KIA

Name: KING, Ralph V.
ASN : 39835262 T 43-3

Dead - KIA

Name: RAUEN, George M.
ASN : 16134805 T 43-44

Dead - KIA

Name: LEE, William W.
ASN : 0-818169 T 43-44

Dead - KIA

Name: KRAMER, Norman R. 19207020
ASN : Unknown

Dead - KIA

Name: BROWN, Kenneth C. 13172568
ASN : Unknown

Dead - KIA

Name: STURGEON, Shelby A. J., JR.
ASN : Unknown

Dead - KIA

17060326

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFTDATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: 16 Oct. 44 at 11:30

PLACE OF CRASH: Ruffing, Community Leonding (near Linz)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command, Hoersching, near Linz, Upper
Danube 18 Oct. 44

CREW

SURNAME, AND
FIRST NAME: Lee
William W.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: Lt.

SERIAL NUMBER: O-818169 T43-44

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD: Dead

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

Buried by Community Leonding on 17 Oct. 44

REMARKS:

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFTDATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: 16 Oct. 44 at 11:30

PLACE OF CRASH: Near Ruffling, Com. of Leonding (near Linz)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command, Hoersching near Linz. Upper
Danube 17 Oct. 44

CREW

SURNAME, AND
FIRST NAME: Keller
Robert G.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: 1st Lt.

SERIAL NUMBER: O-822468 T43-44 O.

CAPTURED: Kuernberger WOUNDED: DEAD:
Forest near Ruffling 17 Oct. 44 at 11:00
DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFTDATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: 16 Oct. 44 at 11:30

PLACE OF CRASH: At Ruffling, Com. of Leonding (near Linz)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command, Hoersching near Linz, Upper Danube
16 Oct. 44

CREW

SURNAME, AND FIRST NAME: Farquhar
Raymond

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:

SERIAL NUMBER: O-706806 T-43-44 A.

CAPTURED:

WOUNDED:

DEAD ~~Dead~~

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP:

TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

Buried by Com. Leonding (near Linz) Upper Danube

REMARKS:

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFTDATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: 16 Oct. 44 at 11:30

PLACE OF CRASH: At Ruffling, Com. of Leonding (near Linz)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command, Hoersching near Linz. Upper Danube
18 Oct. 44

CREW

SURNAME, AND
FIRST NAME: Elder
S. L.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: Sgt.

SERIAL NUMBER: 14069215 T42-43

CAPTURED: Alhartinger WOUNDED: DEAD:

Forest near Linz, 17 Oct. 44 forenoon
DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN:

PLACE OF CRASH: At Ruffling, Com. of Leonding (near Linz)
 TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator
 REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command, Hoersching, near Linz, Upper
 Danube 18 Oct. 44

CREW

SURNAME, AND FIRST NAME: Rauert
 George M.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:

SERIAL NUMBER: 16134805 T43-44 O.

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD: Dead

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

Buried Oct. 17 by Com. of Leonding (near Linz)

REMARKS:

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFTDATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: 16 Oct. 44 at 11:30

PLACE OF CRASH: At Ruffling, Com. of Leonding (near Linz)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command, Hoersching, near Linz. Upper
Danube 16 Oct. 44

CREWSURNAME, AND FIRST NAME: King
Ralph V.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:

SERIAL NUMBER: 30335262 T43

CAPTURED:

WOUNDED:

DEAD: Dead

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP:

TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

Buried 17 Oct. 44 by Com. of Leonding

REMARKS:

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFTDATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: 16 Oct. 44 at 11:30

PLACE OF CRASH: AT Rurling, Community Landing (near Lins)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command, Hoersching, near Lins, Upper
Danube 16 Oct. 44

CREWSURNAME, AND FIRST NAME: Kramer
Norman R.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:

SERIAL NUMBER:

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD: Dead

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

REMARKS:

Name given by S.L.Elder, living crew member/

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT
WAS SHOT DOWN: 16 Oct. 44 at 11:30

PLACE OF CRASH: At Ruffling Community Landing (near Lins)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command, Hoersching near Lins, Upper
Danube 18 Oct. 44

CREW

SURNAME, AND
FIRST NAME: Strugeon
Shelby S.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:

SERIAL NUMBER:

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD: Dead

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP: TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

17 Oct. 44 by Co. Landing (near Lins)

REMARKS:

Name supplied by S.L. Elder

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFTDATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: 16 Oct. 44 at 11:30

PLACE OF CRASH: Hugling, Community Landing (near Linz)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator

REPORTING OFFICE: Air Base Command, Hoersching near Linz, Upper Danube
16 Oct. 1944

CREW

SURNAME, AND
FIRST NAME: Brown
Kenneth C.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:

SERIAL NUMBER:

CAPTURED:

WOUNDED:

DEAD: Dead

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH CAMP:

TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION:

17 Oct. 44 by Community Landing (near Linz)

REMARKS:

Name supplied by living crew member S. L. Elder