

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification changed
to RESTRICTED
by E. A. Bradunas, Lt. Col., AC
by F. M. Muench, Capt., AC
Date Mar 15 1946

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT

9132

1. ORGANIZATION: Location APO 520, U. S. Army Command or Air Force 15th Air Force
Group 464th Bombardment Group (H) Squadron 776th Bombardment Sq (H)
2. SPECIFY: Point 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 only one)
() 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 and series R-1830-43A 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, int.) RANK, SERIAL NUMBER	CURRNT STATUS	NEXT OF KIN, RELATIONSHIP AND ADDRESS
<i>KIA</i> (1) Pilot:	Lee, William W. 1 st Lt. O-818169	MIA	Mr. Asia Adolph Lee (Father) 1001 West 16 th St. Sulphur, Okla.
<i>Exec</i> (2) Co Pilot:	Keller, Robert G. 1 st Lt., O-822458	MIA	Mrs. Herman (Tucker) Keller (Mother) 516-2 nd St. NE, Watertown, S.D. <i>RFD</i>
<i>KIA</i> (3) Navigator:	Farquhar, Raymond J. Jr. 1 st Lt., O-708805	MIA	Mr. Raymond J. Farquhar (Father) 15 Pearl Hill Rd. Fitchburg, Mass
<i>Exec</i> (4) Eng-Gun	Elder, Sidney L. Sgt., 14069218	MIA	Mrs. Katie Myers (Mother) 147 Poplar Ave., Memphis, Tenn
<i>KIA</i> (5) ROM-Gun	Rauen, George M. Sgt., 16134805	MIA	Mr. George Rauen (Father) 6528-32 nd Ave., Kenosha, Wisc.
<i>KIA</i> (6) Armorer Gun:	King, Ralph V. S/Sgt., 39835262	MIA	Mr. Virgil A. King (Father) Box #57 Kamas, Utah
<i>KIA</i> (7) Aerial Gun	Kramer, Norman R. Sgt., 19207020	MIA	Mrs. Beatrice Kramer, (Mother) 724 East Raleigh St., Glendale, Calif.
<i>KIA</i> (8) Aerial Gun	Sturgeon, Shelby J. Jr. Sgt., 17060326	MIA	Mrs. Hazel L. Sturgeon, (Mother) 91 st & Indiana RFD#1 Hickman Mills, MO
<i>KIA</i> (9) Aerial Gun	Brown, Kenneth C. Sgt., 13172568	MIA	Mrs. Edna O. Brown (Mother) RFD#1 West Springfield, Penn

Electronic Transcription of MACR 9132, Page 2

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

NAME IN FULL	RANK	SERIAL No.	CONTACTED		LAST		SAW	
			BY RADIO		SIGHTED		CRASH	FORCED LANDING
(1) Weathers, Henry F.	Sgt.	14083187			X			
(2) Hasselhan, Matthew	Cpl.	12132543			X			
(3)								

13. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Parachutes were used () Persons seen walking away from scene of 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

Enclosures:

- Incl 1- Sketch of approx position. Date 16 October 1944
Incl 2- Eye Witness report of Sgt. Weathers
Incl 3- Eye Witness report of Cpl. Hasselhan


WILLIAM H. REDDELL
Major, Air Corps
Commanding.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

STATEMENT

I was flying as Nose Gunner on Ship #563, which was flying in the 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 chutes 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~~

~~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., B24J, #563,
776th Bomb Sq, 464th Bomb Gp (H),
APO 520, U.S. Army.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

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 here with are the Missing Air Crew Reports on combat crews assigned to this Squadron who were Missing in Action on 16 October 1944 over St. Valentine, Austria.

1st Lt (1092) WILLIAM W. LEE	O818169	MIA
1st Lt (1092) ROBERT G. KELLER	O822458	MIA
1st Lt (1034) RAYMOND J. FARQUHAR JR.	O708805	MIA
Sgt. (748) Sidney L. Elder	14069218	MIA
Sgt. (757) George M. Rauen	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,
Major, Air Corps,
Commanding.

1 Incl:
Incl 1 - Missing Air Crew Report
W/3 Inc1s. (8 copies)

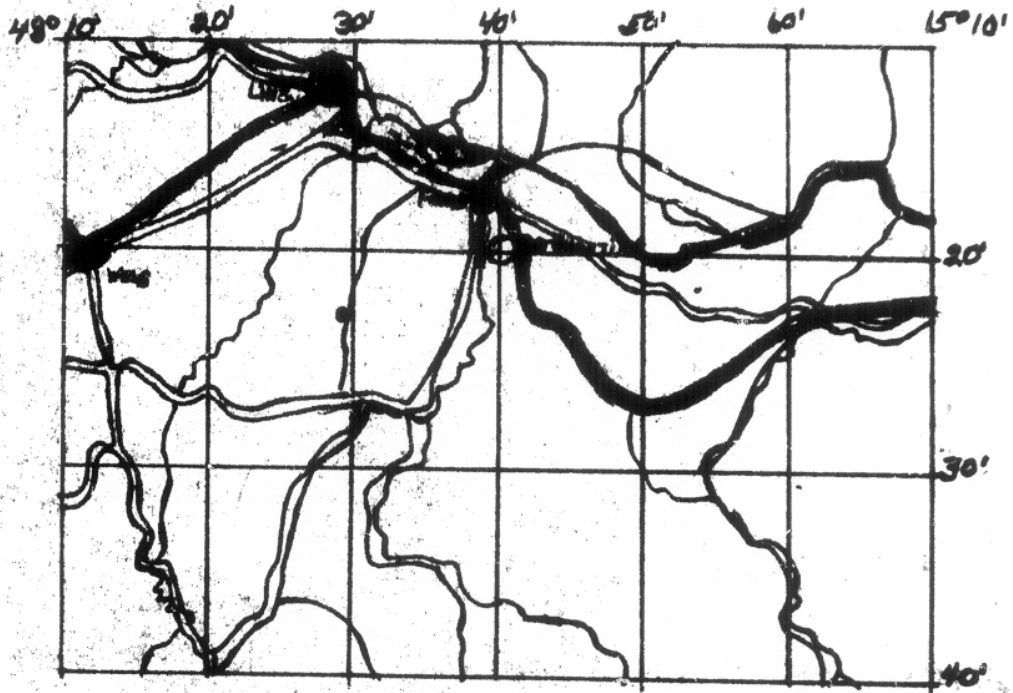
1st Ind
Hq, 464th Bomb Gp (H), APO 520 , US Army, 19 Oct 44
TO: CG, 55th Bomb Wg (H), APO 520, US Army

/hwf

1 Incl:
2 cc Incl 1 W/D


D.D.J.





MAN # 9132

AUSTRIA

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

BEARING — 48° 9' N, 14° 30' E.

Electronic Transcription of MACR 9132, Page 7

Date and Time Aircraft Was shot down 16 October 1944 at 11:50
Casualty no. ME 2280
Place of Crash Leonding
Type of Aircraft: Liberator MACR No 9132
Reporting Offices Airbase Headquarters Hoersching

Name		Rank	Serial Number	Captured Wounded Dead	Place of Interment
ELDER	Sidney Leon	Sgt	14069218	captured	Dulag Luft Dest
KELLER	Robert Graham Watertown, S.D.	1st Lt	O-822458	*	dido
LEE	William W.	1st Lt	O-818169	dead	Cemetery. Leonding/Linz on 17 October 1944
FARQUHAR	Raymond J.	1st Lt	O-708805	dead	dido
RAUEN	George M.	Sgt.	16134805	dead	dido
KING	Ralph V.	S/Sgt.	39835262	dead	dido
STURGEON	Shelby J.	Sgt.	17060326	dead	dido
BROWN	Kenneth C.	Sgt.	13172568	dead	dido
KRAMER	Norman R.	Sgt.	19207020	dead	dido

Dulag Luft , 6 November 1944

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 enclosed 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 enclosed 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

FL-45

MACR
9132

DATE:	16 Oct. 1944 at 1130		U S A	ME 2280	
PLACE:	500 meter West of Leonding near Ruefling	1st Lt	LEE, William W.	O-818169	φ dead
TYPE:	Liberator	"	KELLER, Robert Graham	O-822458	*
	776th (K.E.) sqd.	"	FARQUHAR, Raymond J.	O-708805	dead
	464th Grp. 55th Wing	Sgt.	ELDER, Sidney Leon	14069218	*
TARGET:	HQ of airf., Hoersching	"	RAUEN, George M.	16134805	dead
		S/Sgt.	KING, Ralph V.	39835262	dead
buried on	17 Oct. 44 in Cemetary	Sgt.	STURGEON, Shelby J.	--	dead
	Leonding, near Linz/Donau	"	BROWN, Kenneth C.	--	dead
		"	KRAMER, Norman R.	--	dead

MACR 9132

B-24

AAF 42-51389

9 men

Date: 16 Oct. 1944 at 1130

U.S.A.

ME 2280

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 Linz/Donau.

1st Lt.	LEE, William W.T	✓	Kia 0-818169	φ	dead
"	KELLER, Robert Graham		Eus 0-822458	*	
"	FARQUHAR, Raymond J.	✓	Kia 0-708805		dead
Sgt.	ELDER, Sidney Leon		Eus 14069218	*	
"	RAUEN, George M.T	✓	Kia 16134605		dead
S/Sgt.	KING, Ralph V.T	✓	Kia 39835362		dead
Sgt.	STURGEON, Shelby J.T	✓	Kia 17060326		dead
"	BROWN, Kenneth C.T	✓	Kia 13172568		dead
"	KRAMER, Norman R.T	✓	Kia 19207020		dead

Electronic Transcription of MACR 9132, Page 11

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>EUS</i>
KELLER	Robert Graham Watertown, S.Dak.	1st Lt.	0-822458	"	dido	<i>EUS</i>
LEE	William W.	1st Lt	0-818169	<i>KIA</i>	dead cemetery Leonding/Linz On 17 October 1944	
FARQUHAR	Raymond J. <i>JR.</i>	1st Lt.	0-708805	dead	dido	- <i>KIA</i>
RAUEN	George M.	Sgt	16134805	dead	dido	- <i>KIA</i>
KING	Ralph V.	39835353	S/Sgt	dead	dido	- <i>KIA</i>
STURGEON	Shelby J. <i>JR.</i>	Sgt	<i>17060326</i>	dead	dido	- <i>KIA</i>
BROWN	Kenneth C.	Sgt	<i>13172568</i>	dead	dido	- <i>KIA</i>
KRAMER	Norman R.	Sgt	<i>19207020</i>	dead	dido	- <i>KIA</i>

Dulag Luft, 6 November 1944

MACR 9132

KSU 2280

Downing of Liberator on 16 Oct. 1944, Time 1130, near Rufing (near Linz)

Name:	FARQUHAR, Raymond J. Jr	Dead	--KIA
ASN:	O-708805 T 43-44		
Name:	KING, Ralph V.	Dead	--KIA
ASN:	39835262 T 43-44		
Name:	RAUEN, George M	Dead	--KIA
ASN:	16134805 T 43-44		
Name:	LEE, William W.	Dead	--KIA
ASN:	O-818169 T 43-44		
Name:	KRAMER, Norman R.	Dead	--KIA
ASN:	19207020		
Name:	BROWN, Kenneth C.	Dead	--KIA
ASN:	13172586		
Name:	STURGEON, Shelby J., Jr.	Dead	--KIA
ASN:	17060326		

CASUALTY NO. KSU-2280

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: 16 Oct. 44 at 11:50

PLACE OF CRASH: At Rufling, 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

Keller

FIRST NAME:

Robert G.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:

1st Lt.

SERIAL NUMBER:

0-822408 T43-44 O.

CAPTURED: Kuernberger

WOUNDED:

DEAD:

Forest near Rufling 17 Oct. 44 at 11:00

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH

TYPE OF INJURY:

CAMP:

GRAVE LOCATION

REMARKS:

CASUALTY NO. KSU 2280

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: 16 Oct. 44 at 11:50

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 Elder

FIRST NAME: S. L.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK: Sgt.

SERIAL NUMBER: 14069218 T42-43

CAPTURED: Alhartinger

WOUNDED:

DEAD:

Forest near Linz 17 Oct. 44 forenoon

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH TYPE OF INJURY:

CAMP:

GRAVE LOCTION

REMARKS:

CASUALTY NO. KSU-2280

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: 16 Oct. 44 at 11:50

PLACE OF CRASH: At Rufing, 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 Farquhar

FIRST NAME: Raymond

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:

SERIAL NUMBER: O-708805 T 43-44 A.

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD: Dead

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH TYPE OF INJURY:

CAMP:

GRAVE LOCATION

Buried by Com. Leonding (near Linz) Upper Danube

REMARKS:

CASUALTY NO. KSU-2280

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE 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
18 Oct. 44

CREW

SURNAME, AND

King

FIRST NAME:

Ralph V.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:

SERIAL NUMBER:

39935262 T43

CAPTURED:

WOUNDED:

DEAD: Dead

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH
CAMP:

TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCATION

Buried 17 Oct. 44 by Com. Of
Leonding

REMARKS:

CASUALTY NO. KSU-2280

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: Rauen
George M.
DATE OF BIRTH:
RANK:
SERIAL NUMBER: 16134805 T43-44 O.
CAPTURED: Alhartinger WOUNDED: DEAD: Dead
Forest near Linz 17 Oct. 44 forenoon
DISTRIBUTION: WHICH TYPE OF INJURY:
CAMP:

GRAVE LOCTION

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

REMARKS:

Casualty No. KSU 2280

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

WAS SHOT DOWN: 16 Oct. 44 at 11:50

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 Sturgeon

FIRST NAME: Shelby J.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:

SERIAL NUMBER: 17060326

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD: Dead

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH TYPE OF INJURY:

CAMP:

GRAVE LOCTION

17 Oct. 44 by Com. Leonding (near Linz)

REMARKS: Name supplied by S. L. Elder

CASUALTY NO. KSU-2280

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

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

PLACE OF CRASH: At Rufing, Community Leonding (near Linz)

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator

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

CREW

SURNAME, AND

Kramer

FIRST NAME:

Norman R.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:

SERIAL NUMBER:

CAPTURED:

WOUNDED:

DEAD: Dead

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH
CAMP:

TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCTION

REMARKS: Name given by S.

L. Elder, living crew member/

CASUALTY NO. KSU-2280

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

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

PLACE OF CRASH: At Rufing, 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: Brown
Kenneth C.
S. L.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:

SERIAL NUMBER:

CAPTURED: WOUNDED: DEAD: dead

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH TYPE OF INJURY:
CAMP:

GRAVE LOCATION

17 Oct. 44 by Community
Leonding (near Linz)

REMARKS: Name supplied by
living crew member S. L. Elder

CASUALTY NO. KSU-2280

REPORT ON SHOT-DOWN AIRCRAFT

DATE AND TIME AIRCRAFT

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

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

TYPE OF AIRCRAFT: Liberator

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

CREW

SURNAME, AND

Lee

FIRST NAME:

William W.

DATE OF BIRTH:

RANK:

Lt.

SERIAL NUMBER:

O-818169 T43-44

CAPTURED:

WOUNDED:

DEAD: Dead

DISTRIBUTION: WHICH
CAMP:

TYPE OF INJURY:

GRAVE LOCTION

Burial by Community Leonding
on 17 Oct. 44

REMARKS:

JPP1/1/45

1 st Lt. William W. Lee	Mr. Asia A. Lee (father) 1001 West 16 th St., Sulphur, Okla.
1 st Lt. Robert G. Keller	Mrs. Lois T. Keller (mother) 516 Second Street Northeast, Watertown, South Dakota
1 st 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 K. Rauen, (wife) 401 Mitchell Avenue, Elmhurst, Illinois
Sgt. Norman R. Kramer	Mrs. Beatrice Kramer (mother) 724 E. Raleigh Street, Glendale, California
Sgt. Shelby J. Sturgeon Jr.	Mrs. Mary E. Sturgeon (wife) Route Eight North Kansas City, Missouri
Sgt. Kenneth C. Brown	Mrs. Edna O. Brown (mother) Rural Free Deliver, #1, West Springfield Missouri