

DECLASSIFIED BY AUTHORITY OF NND DECLASSIFICATION PROJECT 785072,
H.D. MAYER, NARS, SEPTEMBER 10, 1982. ' 1

6588

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~RESTRICTED~~

Classification changed
to ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Lt. Col., AC
by F. M. MURN H, Capt., AD
Date: MAR 15 1948

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RECEIVED
14 JUL 44

<u>R7D</u> Eng G.	<u>Wilson, Delbert T.</u>	<u>T/Sgt</u>	<u>34645415</u>
<u>Notaras, Arm G.</u>	<u>Overturf, Cecil S.</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>37258493</u>
<u>Rmc</u> - Arm G.	<u>Lawson, Frederick L.</u>	<u>S/Sgt</u>	<u>35706938</u>
<u>Notaras, Arm G.</u>	<u>Fucello, Mark C.</u>	<u>Pfc</u>	<u>32247767</u>

1. IDENTIFY BELOW THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LAST KNOWLEDGE OF AIRCRAFT AND CHECK APPROPRIATE (only one) COLUMN TO INDICATE BASIS FOR SAME:
- | NAME IN FULL | RANK | SERIAL NO | Contacted | Last | Saw | by Radio | Sighted | Crash | Forced Landing |
|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------|------|-----|----------|---------|-------|----------------|
| <u>DE LAUNDER, ROBERT K.</u> | <u>2nd Lt.</u> | <u>O-822933</u> | | | | | | | <u>X</u> |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
2. IF PERSONNEL ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE SURVIVED, CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
 Parachutes were used () Persons seen walking away from scene of crash
 Any other reason (specify) One parachute did not open
3. ATTACH AS AN INCLOSURE TO THIS REPORT, EITHER AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, CHART, OR SKETCH, SHOWING APPROXIMATE LOCATION WHERE AIRCRAFT WAS LAST SEEN. X
4. ATTACH, AS INCLOSURES TO THIS REPORT, EYEWITNESS DESCRIPTIONS OF CRASH, X FORCED LANDING, OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES PERTAINING TO MISSING AIRCRAFT.
5. ATTACH, AS AN INCLOSURE TO THIS REPORT, A DESCRIPTION OF THE EXTENT OF SEARCH, IF ANY, (ALSO GIVE NAME, RANK, AND SERIAL NUMBER OF OFFICER IN CHARGE HERE: (if no search, so state giving reason) No search,
Plane examined by crew members on island after crash

Date of this Report: 14 July 44

Signature of Officer

E.D. Truett

2 Incls:

Incl 1 Statement of Lt DE LAUNDER
 Incl 2 Location Sketch

E.D. TRUETT,
 Capt., AC
 Adj



6388-2
13 July 1944.

I was Co-Pilot on Lt Judy's plane on 7 July 1944 when we were on a bombing mission over the Blechhammer North Oil Plant, Germany.

The plane was hit by flak over the target. Our automatic pilot, the Co-Pilot's controls, the hydraulic and electrical systems were completely shot out. We were able to stay in formation for a short time but over Lake Balatine, Austria, No. 2 engine went out of control and we dropped behind. We had difficulty feathering it but finally got it stopped. We continued our course back to the base. Then we noticed our gas was low. The engineer found a leak and stopped it. Five minutes before we reached the Adriatic No. 1 engine went out. It was then we decided to head for Vis but the plane wouldn't turn that way and kept to the left. We finally were able to turn the plane in a circle toward Vis. Just as Vis came into view the fuel pressure dropped on No. 3 engine and we bailed out five seconds later, dropping into the Adriatic near the island of Kordula. The plane crashed on the island and blew up.

All ten men bailed out. S/Sgt Dominetto's chute came out of the pack but did not blossom. I saw him falling from about 2,000 feet and I saw him hit the water but I did not see him again.

S/Sgt Hughes dropped into the water and ^{THE} Bombardier heard him call to him. The Bombardier directed him to follow the sound of his voice. Sgt Hughes did not know how to swim and the water was rough. No one knows if his life vest worked for after his first calls he was not heard again and he may have been picked up by the enemy.

The partisans picked us up in boats and took us to Vis. The eight of us returned to U.S. Military Authority.

Robert K. De Lawder
ROBERT K. DE LAWDER
2nd Lt 0-822933

Pantanello Air Base, Italy
 464th Bomb Gp (H) 777th Bomb Sq (H)
 Pantanello Air Base, Italy
 Blechhammer N. Oil Plant, Germany

15th Air Force
 To Yugoslavia to
 Neustadt

Clear, Slightly windy
 7 July 44

1410
 Island c^o Korcula, Yugoslavia

X

X

	B-240		42-78241
	R-1830-65		
BP-426203	BP-426225	BP-432307	BP-428557
RN-967984	LM-967946	LM-9677706	RM-967519
LT-979004	LW-967864	RT-968074	RM-977791
			X
		10	0 10

	Judy, Clyde S.	2nd Lt	0-750505	RTD
	De Lawder, Robert K.	2nd Lt	0-822933	RTD
AFM G.	Hughes, Hubert W.	S/Sgt	36681322	KIA
AFM G.	Dominetto, Joe (NMI)	S/Sgt	36677580	KIA
Nav.	Costello, James J.	2nd Lt	0-709297	EUS
Bomb	Gray, Francis A.	2nd Lt	0-706850	Not a Casualty
Eng G.	Wilson, Delbert T.	T/Sgt	34645415	RTD
Arm G.	Overturf, Cecil S.	S/Sgt	37258493	Not a Casualty
Arm G.	Lawson, Frederick L.	S/Sgt	35706938	RMC
Arm G.	Fucello, Mark C.	Pfc	32247767	Not a Casualty

De, Lawder, Robert K. 2nd Lt 0-822933

X

10

One parachute did not open

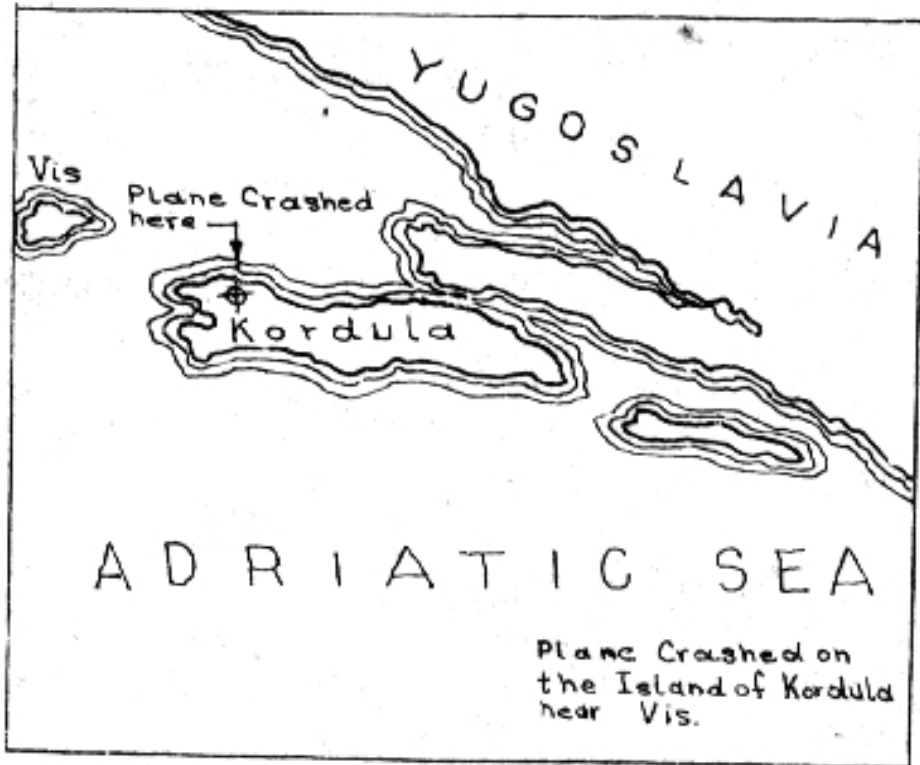
island after crash.

No search, Plane examined by crew members on

14 July 1944

E. D. THIBET
 CAPTAIN, AC
 ADJ

6580 34



Map 2, 10/41

CASE UNDER
INVESTIGATION

FORM 371 BEING PREPARED

DATE

5 Dec 47

LT. SULLIVAN

W.M. R. # 6588

NAME

GRADE

SERIAL NO.

2. It is requested that information on the above deceased be furnished this office in accordance with provisions of Letter, The Adjutant General's Office, file AGAO-S 293.9 (27 Mar 47) D-M, subject Establishment of Boards of Review for Identification of Unknown Dead Overseas, dated 9 April 1947.

FOR THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL:

Incl
Form 371 (5 cys)

POOLE ROGERS
Captain, QMC
Memorial Division

AIR MAIL

MAR 62 - 10 6538

STATEMENT ON CAPTURE OR RECOVERY OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

REPORT IS MADE THROUGH: **Restricted** DISTRIBUTOR: **Draft copy
Commanding General, 1st
Flight Command, 1st
Evaluation Center West**

OFFICE OR STATION: **Airbase HQ E (v) 213/VII**

LOCATION: **Bassaldella/Udine on 25 Jan 45** OFFICE OR APPRAISAL-VALUES:

REGARDING: DOWNED)
EMERGENCY LANDINGS)
CRASH) **4-engined** DATE AND TIME: **20 Jan 45 (time not reported)**
by antiaircraft

AT: NEAR: **north-northeast of Bogliuno (Istria)**

PERSONAL RECORD OF MEMBERS OF ENEMY AIR FORCES

FAMILY NAME: SURNAME)
LAST NAME) **COSTELLO** Year of birth: **1919**

FIRST NAME: CHRISTIAN NAME)
GIVEN NAME) **James Joseph** Last residence before war:
**3520 Jasper-Street
Philadelphia, Pa.**

RANK: **1st Lt** SERIAL

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: SERVICE **0-709297**

NATIONALITY:

STATEMENTS MADE AT TIME OF CAPTURE:
DATE OF CAPTURE:
EXACT LOCATION OF CAPTURE: **20 Jan 45**
CAPTURE EFFECTED BY: **same place**

STATEMENT MADE AT RECOVERY OF DEAD:
DATE & TIME & PLACE OF RECOVERY:
CONDITION OF BODY:

THE PRISONER WORE (UNIFORM)

DESCRIPTION OF IDENTIFICATION TAG:
HOW WERE PERSONAL RECORDS OF DEAD
ASCERTAINED?

Emergency parachuting

DATE AND TIME OF BURIAL:
GRAVE LOCATION:

POSSIBLE IMPUTATION (PLACING) UNDER SERVICE OF THE
G.F.P. OR S.D., FOR PURPOSE OF ASCERTAINING ENEMY
PATRONAGE OR FAVOR:

DELIVERED TO HOSPITAL:
DATE:

DATE AND TIME OF TRANSPORTATION TO
PRISONER CONCENTRATION POINT:

REMARKS:

1 wounded (Hospital), remaining 7 crew members captured together
(ATTEMPTED ESCAPE, PECULIARITIES IN BEHAVIOR OF PRISONER, ETC.)

INVENTORY OF SECURED, PERSONAL EFFECTS OF PRISONER OR DEAD:
INVENTORY OF PERSONAL EFFECTS AND EQUIPMENT OF PRISONER OR DEAD:

signed: **Granier**
Lt. Colonel and airbase
commander
6-3114, AF(3)