

STATEMENT OR REPORT OF INTERVIEW OF RECOVERED PERSONNEL

LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL HAMMOND, Gordon Lee	ARMY SERIAL NUMBER 0742157	GRADE 1st Lt
AS OF DATE OF LOSS TO UNITED STATES MILITARY CONTROL		
Under "Remarks" on reverse side give signed, complete statement in narrative form of the circumstances leading up to and immediately following his capture or other separation from his unit or organization.		
UNIT OR ORGANIZATION 579 Bomb Sq, 392 Bomb Gp, ETOUSAAF 8th AF		
NAME AND GRADE OF IMMEDIATE COMMANDING OFFICER AND ANY OTHER MEMBERS OF HIS ORGANIZATION WHO ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE CIRCUMSTANCES Major Myron H. Keilman, A.C. Capt. Weth C. Everhart, A.C.		
POSITION OCCUPIED OR DUTY BEING PERFORMED Pilot B-24 (Flight Comd'r. and Lead Pilot on three missions previously - Flew one mission as command pilot)		
FOR PERIOD OF ABSENCE FROM UNITED STATES MILITARY CONTROL		
IF TAKEN PRISONER OF WAR		
NAME OF PRISONER OF WAR CAMP OR CAMPS IN WHICH IMPRISONED, AND LENGTH OF TIME SERVED IN EACH Stalag Luft 3, West Camp, Sagan, Germany Left control United States and taken prisoner 22 April 1944, returned to military control 29 April 1945;-Project "R"		
NAMES OF SENIOR UNITED STATES ARMY OFFICERS IN EACH SUCH PRISONER OF WAR CAMP Colonel Darr H. Alkire, A.C.		
DUTIES PERFORMED WHILE IN PRISONER OF WAR CAMP OR CAMPS Duty as A-2:-Interviewed all incoming personnel at above camp ✓		
IF EVADING CAPTURE IN ENEMY-HELD TERRITORY OR IF ESCAPING FROM IMPRISONMENT		
Under "Remarks" on reverse side give signed, complete statement in narrative form of experiences and movements, while escaping or evading capture, including circumstances leading to his return to military control.		
NAMES OF COMPANIONS OR OTHERS WHO ASSISTED IN EVADING CAPTURE OR ESCAPE		
IF AN INTERNEE		
NAME OF INTERNMENT CAMP OR CAMPS IN WHICH INTERNED, AND LENGTH OF TIME SERVED IN EACH		
NAMES OF SENIOR UNITED STATES ARMY OFFICERS IN EACH SUCH INTERNMENT CAMP		
DUTIES PERFORMED WHILE IN INTERNMENT CAMP OR CAMPS		
INTERVIEWED OR CHECKED BY (Last name - first name - initial) Glenn R. Hall HALL, GLENN R. (AAFPDC HLO)	GRADE Major, AC	STATION Oakland ASF Reg. Sta. Hospital, Oakland, 14, Calif. DATE

REMARKS (Use additional sheet if necessary) The following is true excerpt from a letter dated 21 May 1944, written by Major Myron H. Keilman, A.C., O-421819, 579th Bomb Sq., A.P.O. 588, to a sister of Lt. Gordon L. Hammond:—"On Apr 22nd, Gordon was flying as pilot with Capt. Everhart and crew leading the Squadron on a mission to Hamm, Germany. It was Everhart's last mission and he was to instruct Gordon in leading, in that Gordon was to be my next lead pilot."

Statement made by Lt. Gordon L. Hammond follows: "On April 18, 1944, I was listed in 392nd Bomb Group, 8th Air Force, as Flight Commander of 579th Squadron. On April 22, 1944, I was designated to lead the Group on my twenty-first mission to Hamm, Germany. Capt. Wyeth C. Everhart was Command Pilot, and Major Robert L. Cox, Operations Officer of 484th Bomb Group, went as an observer. Due to a second run made on target we were exposed to enemy fighters and without support at the time my ship was set afire 100 miles east of Coblenz, Germany. All members of crew bailed out successfully, were imprisoned, and returned to military control in April 1945. I flew the plane burning for one hour and forty minutes, but was forced to bail out over English Channel when end of right wing melted off. Major Cox and Capt. Everhart were with me until the last minutes and were my companions and roommates during my entire imprisonment in Stalag Luft 3, Sagan, Germany, and Nurenburg, Bavaria, for twelve months and one week. Major Myron H. Keilman, A.C., O-421819, was my Squadron Commander in 579th Squadron and is familiar with my attempt to return to England.

(Continued on attached sheet)

INDORSEMENTS

1ST INDORSEMENT

Hosp. Liaison Officer, AFPDC, Oakland ASF Hosp., Oakland 14, Calif. 10 Oct 45.
TO: Commanding General, AAF Personnel Dist. Command, Louisville 3, Ky.

1. It is recommended that subject officer be promoted to grade of captain on the basis of information furnished by his Sq.C.O., quoted in remarks above, he presumably would soon have been promoted after April or May 1944.

Glenn R. Hall.

GLENN R. HALL, Major AC, AAFPDC HLO

2ND INDORSEMENT

3RD INDORSEMENT

INSTRUCTIONS FOR INTERVIEWING OR CHECKING OFFICER

1. If individual concerned is --
 - a. A commissioned, warrant or flight officer, - a copy of WD AGO Form 66-1, 2 or 3 will be attached to report of interview.
 - b. An enlisted man, - a copy of WD AGO Form 20, an extract copy of service record showing dates of promotions, reductions, courts-martial, if any, and character and efficiency ratings.
2. If no service record, Form 66-1, 2 or 3, or Form 20 is available, then a signed statement by the individual concerning pertinent data will be attached.
3. If individual concerned is a flight or chief warrant officer or enlisted man of the first grade a signed statement that he does or does not desire to make application for appointment as warrant officer junior grade (in cases of enlisted men of first grade) or 2nd lieutenant (in cases of chief warrant and flight officers).

Statement made by Lt. Gordon L. Hammond (Cont'd)

"Among my missions were the first four raids to Berlin March 4, 6, 8 and 9, 1944. The six crucial raids to German Airfield dating Feb. 20 to 26, 1944. One of which my Group received the Presidential Citation to Gotha, Germany, Feb. 24, 1944. Other important raids successfully completed were Kiel, Zwickau, Bernberg, Augsburg, Munster, and Fredirickshaven on the Switzerland boundary line."

Gordon L. Hammond

GORDON L. HAMMOND,
1st Lt., A.C.
O-742157.