

S/Sgt Louis P. Rosati.

37320524

87E  
1888  
3926p  
11 Sept 44

Rosati landed on 29 January 1944 in a farmyard about 5 kms from WATERLOO, Belgium. The farmer's family let him hide in the brush and during the evening brought to his hiding-place first Sgt Paolantonio and later Sgt McGinley. At midnight they put the three Americans into their barn and brought them civilian clothes. There they were kept until the next evening when they were taken to the house of an elderly couple named ~~88888~~ VANDEVEIDES in CHAPELLE ST LAMBERT 13 kms NE of NIVELLES, ~~88888~~ where they lived two weeks. The day after they arrived the ~~88888~~ mayor of a neighboring village brought Lt. Crouch and James Dykes to the VANDEVEIDES' house, so that there were five ~~88888~~ evaders there. They were helped by many of the people in the town and by a countess who lived in the chateau and who had lived in London during the last war and by her two daughters, 19 and 20 years old. About 14 February all five of the Americans were taken to the home of MME OTS in ARQUENNES (4 kms SW of NIVELLES). They lived there two weeks and then were taken to ECAUSSINES (10 kms WSW of NIVELLES) where for two weeks they stayed with JULES ROSSEUW (spelling?) in the Enghien district. The Glenn Breneche and Howard Sakarias were brought in; and there were now so many that during ~~the~~ each day three of the Americans would have to be put in some other house. One day when Rosati, Paolantonio, and McGinley were out of the house the German police raided the place. JULES got the other four Americans out in time; but he was beaten by the Germans who, however, never discovered that JULES had been sheltering Americans and believed that he had had Belgian refractors in the house. Nevertheless, it was decided to scatter the evaders at once. Rosati and Sakarias were put into the house of a postman, M. GERARD TAMINIUS, in the LALAING district of ECAUSSINES, and lived there for ~~the~~ three weeks. After this all seven evaders were gathered together and taken to BRUSSELS where for 2½ weeks Rosati was passed from house to house. VICTOR and SIMONE then came to see him, told him that they had passed Mattson on three weeks before, and took Rosati to MME. MARCELLE MARTENS, 1 RUE CHARLES BERNAERTS, UCCLE, BRUSSELS. Here Rosati lived for 3½ months. Raymond Penzek was soon brought here also. During this time VICTOR and SIMONE were arrested (although SIMONE got away after five weeks), and MARCEL VAN BUEKENHOUT took over the affairs of the organization. When later on MARCEL also was arrested MME. FERNANDE assumed his work. On 13 August Rosati and Penzek were moved to a convent at 314 RUE LEOPOLD, JETTE, BRUSSELS where many Jewish refugees and other people hiding from the Germans were staying. The Sister Superior took charge of the evaders who were kept strictly confined. On 4 September MME. FERNANDE called for them and took them to the chief of the organization, MME. ANNE, an Englishwoman, who collected all her evaders in a lorry and took them to the Hotel Metropole. On 9 September ~~the~~ Rosati was flown to U. K. by the RCAF.

# Rooati

Fighters attacked on way to target near Belgian-German border because we had dropped out of formation as a result of supercharger trouble. Got away from fighters + dropped bombs before IP + aborted. Flew back in clouds + got order to put on lights. Ran into clear at 4000 ft. + hit by fighters again. Skip on fire. The 4 in rear bailed out of waist window. Second skip crash just after landing. Delayed jump a little.

Landed 5 kms from WATERLOO in a farmyard. Ran into bush. People in farmyard came to me. They let me hide + about 2 hrs later they brought Paolantonio to me. After dark they brought in Wm. McGinley + at 2300 hrs they took us into barn + gave us civilian clothes. Next evening we went to house of Vandeveldes in Chapelle ST. LAMBERT + 4 other people in city + countless 13 kms NW of Nivelles in the Chateau helped us. Day after we got there the mayor of another village brought Lt. Crouch Jr. + James Bykes to the Vandeveldes. News of us. Stayed there 2 weeks. About 14 Feb all 5 of us were taken to ARQUENNES (near NIVELLES) where we stayed 2 weeks with Mme. OTS (address known by Ford Dealer garage in NIVELLES). Then all of us were taken to ECCAUSINES (Enghien) where we stayed 2 weeks with JULES ROSSEUW (?). One

1245 hrs. Had lived in London during war, had 2 daughters 19 + 20 yrs old. Had friends with friends on.

green Breneche + Howard Sakarias were brought in. So many of us here that during the day 3 of us in some other house. One day when I + Talantov + McGinley were away the Germans came into JULES house. JULES got the 4 boys out of the house + to our house. JULES was questioned + beaten but the Germans did not discover that we were Americans but thought we were Belgians hiding from German labor conscription.

A lady took us + scattered us in different houses in the district. I + Sakarias lived with M. GERARD TAMINUS, postman in ECLEAUSSINES (Lalainge) for 3 weeks. Then all 7 were gathered together by organization + taken to Brussels by train from BRAIN-LE-COMPTÉ. I was moved from house to house for about 2 1/2 weeks + filled out a questionnaire.

Then a girl + <sup>SIMONE</sup> <sup>2</sup> <sup>VICTOR</sup> came + told me that Mattson had been passed on by them 3 weeks before. Then they took me to Mlle Marcelle Martens (1 Rue Charles ~~Bernaert~~ <sup>Bernaert</sup>, Uccle, Brussels). Stayed with her for 3 1/2 months. Raymond Penzek was brought in here + stayed with me. During this time M Marcel (a detective) took over when VICTOR was arrested. Simone was arrested too but got away after 5 weeks.

On 13 Aug we were moved to a convent <sup>Rue</sup> (314 <sup>Rue</sup> Leopold, LEITZ Brussels) where many Jewish refugees were being kept and other people hiding from Germans. Sister Superior was in charge of us.

On 3 September at night we stayed on roof watching Germans blowing up + shelling + the British bombers coming in. Next morning we were allowed downstairs. Then Mme Bernande came to get us + got all the evaders she had together. On Thursday we were turned over to an English woman, "Mme Ann", the chief, who had a truck in which she took us to Hotel Metropole. On 9 Sept. given train transportation by RCAF to U.K. + came to 63 Biddle St.

When M. Marcel was arrested (now safe, escaped from last train) + "Mme Bernande" took over.



## RESTRICTED

1. Because disclosures of information regarding evasion from capture, escape, details of imprisonment, release from internment, and repatriation have been made, the lives and services of fellow soldiers and those who help them have been lost or endangered. All information which you possess on these subjects, including the experiences of others as well as your own, briefings and equipment for evasion and escape, and preparations and other activities in connection therewith, constitutes MILITARY INFORMATION which is classified SECRET by the War Department.

2. You will therefore disclose no information whatever, beyond the fact of your return to duty from "missing in action" or "prisoner of war" or "internment", to anyone except the following military officials:

- a. The first Military Attache to whom you report;
- b. An officer designated by the Commanding General of an overseas Theatre of Operations;
- c. The Prisoner of War Branch, MIS, Washington, D.C., the interrogating agency designated by the A/C of S, G-2, War Department General Staff;
- d. Certain other officers holding written authority from the A/C of S, G-2, WDGS, to interrogate you.

3. You will particularly guard against disclosure of SECRET information to relatives, friends, representatives of the press and radio, and military officials, except as noted in a, b, c and d above.

4. In order to protect yourself against disciplinary action, any question involving publicity must be referred BY YOU PERSONALLY to the A/C of S, G-2, WDGS, Washington, D.C.

### CERTIFICATE

I certify that I have read and fully understand all of the foregoing and the Directive of the Secretary of War, 6 Aug 43 (on the reverse side), and will at ALL TIMES hereafter comply fully therewith.

I understand that all information concerning escape, evasion from capture, activities and equipment in connection therewith, and details of imprisonment or release from internment, is SECRET and must not be disclosed to anyone except the military officials specifically designated. I further understand that disclosure to any other person will make me liable to disciplinary action for failure to safeguard MILITARY INFORMATION.

I realize that publicity concerning my experiences, by word of mouth or otherwise, will endanger the lives of many persons and therefore it is my duty to take all possible precautions to prevent it.

I further certify that I have received a copy of the foregoing.

Name (Print) Louis P. Rosati Signed Louis P. Rosati  
Rank Sgt A.S.N. 37720524 Dated 10 Sept 44 Place London  
Unit 539 Bom B. Gdn 392 Bomb B. Gp Witness .....

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

WAR DEPARTMENT  
The Adjutant General's Office  
Washington

AG 383.6 (31 Jul 43) OB-S-B-M

KLS/el-2B-939 Pentagon

6 August 1943

SUBJECT: Amended Instructions Concerning Publicity in Connection with Escaped Prisoners of War, to Include Evaders of Capture in Enemy or Enemy-Occupied Territory and Internees in Neutral Countries.

TO: The Commanding Generals,  
Army Ground Forces;  
Army Air Forces;  
The Commander-in-Chief, Southwest Pacific Area;  
The Commanding Generals,  
Theaters of Operations;  
Defense Commands;  
Departments;  
Base Commands;  
The Commanding Officers,  
Base Commands;  
Director, Bureau of Public Relations.

1. Publication or communication to any unauthorized persons of experiences of escape or evasion from enemy-occupied territory, internment in a neutral country, or release from internment not only FURNISHES USEFUL INFORMATION TO THE ENEMY but also JEOPARDIZES FUTURE ESCAPES, EVASIONS AND RELEASES.

2. Personnel will not, unless authorized by the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department General Staff, publish in any form whatever or communicate either directly, or indirectly, to the press, radio or an unauthorized person any account of escape or evasion of capture from enemy or enemy-occupied territory, or internment in a neutral country either before or after repatriation. They will be held strictly responsible for all statements contained in communications to friends which may subsequently be published in the press or otherwise.

3. Evaders, escapees, or internees shall not be interrogated on the circumstances of their experiences in escape, evasion or internment except by the agency designated by the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department General Staff, or the corresponding organization in overseas theaters of operations. In allied or neutral countries, American Military Attaches are authorized to interrogate on escape, evasion and internment matters.

4. Should the services of escaped prisoners of war, evaders, or internees be deemed necessary for lecturing and briefing, such services will be under the direct supervision of the agency designated by the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department General Staff, or the corresponding organization in overseas theaters of operations.

5. Commanding Officers will be responsible for instructing all evaders, escapees, and internees in the provisions of this directive which supersedes letter, AG 383.6 (5 Nov 42) OB-S-B-M, 7 November 1942, subject: Instructions concerning Publicity in Connection with Escaped Prisoners of War and other previous instructions on this subject.

By order of the Secretary of War:

/s/ J.A. ULIO  
J.A. ULIO  
Major General,  
The Adjutant General.

RESTRICTED

(See Reverse Side)

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS  
P/W and X Detachment  
Military Intelligence Service

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL  
EVADING OR ESCAPING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

LOUIS P. ROSATI S/SGT 37320524  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)  
8  
(No. of missions)  
579 392  
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET: FRANKFORT  
Date mission in action: 1-29-44  
Date arrived in UK: APR 29 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW:	(Please list names next to positions)	Indicate what happened to each man and how you know.
PILOT	JOHN STOKUS 1st LT - P/W	} Hearsay
CO-PILOT	JOHN MOFFAT 2nd LT - P/W	
NAVIGATOR	RONALD LINDLOW 2nd LT	} Dead in Plane - Hearsay
BOMBARDIER	LESTER E. GENTRY 2nd LT	
RADIO OPERATOR	JAMES DYKES T/SGT - SAFE - HAS RETURNED	
TOP TURRET GUNNER	WILLIAM MATTHEW T/SGT	
BALL TURRET GUNNER	LOUIS P. ROSATI T/SGT - SAFE - HAS RETURNED	" "
WAIIST GUNNER	JOE E. McCRARY S/SGT -	" "
WAIIST GUNNER	ANTHONY PAOLANTONIO S/SGT	" "
TAIL GUNNER	WILLIAM MCGINLEY S/SGT	" "
	<del>1st LT WILLIAM CROUCH JR. - NOSE GUNNER</del>	" "

Decorations: AIR MEDAL

Date of Birth: DEC. 6 - 1919

Private Address: 1323 - 14TH AVENUE EAST Hibbing, MINNESOTA

Length of Service: 2 YEARS

Job as Civilian: DIESEL ENGINE MECHANIC

From what field did you take off? Take off time. WENDLING - 0800

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? ?

Were you wounded? Give details. NO.

Did you pay your guides? If so, how much? NO

Do you speak FRENCH? SPANISH? GERMAN? ITALIAN? OTHER LANGUAGE?

Did you have identity papers? YES



Have you been questioned before on your escape or evasion? If so, where and by whom?

Have you given any one a written report on your experiences. Where and When?

Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom?

Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, Where and When? YES 15 SEPT 18. 1944 London

Date of arrival in Spain: —

Date of arrival at Gibraltar: —

Place and date of departure for UK. By sea or air. SEPT 9/1944 BRUXELLES

List names of American or British personnel believed to have been arrested by Germans.

1st Lt. John Stokus, — Pilot

2nd John Moffat — Co Pilot

List names of American or British personnel believed to be evading.

1st Lt. William Crouch Jr.

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS  
P/W and X Detachment  
Military Intelligence Service

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

(Name)

(Rank)

(ASN)

(Date)

(Unit)

MEMBERS OF CREW

PRESENT  
OFFICIAL STATUS

PILOT  
CO-PILOT  
NAVIGATOR  
BOMBARDIER  
RADIO OPERATOR  
TOP TURRET GUNNER  
BALL TURRET GUNNER  
WAIST GUNNER  
WAIST GUNNER  
TAIL GUNNER

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing.

JAN 29, 1944 - TIME 1245 - CRASH NEAR WATERLOO BELGIUM

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. Was it on fire, etc?

SHIP WAS SUNKED WITH GASOLINE + ON FIRE

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

LAST KNOWN ALTITUDE READING 4000.

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed?

I DO NOT KNOW

What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open?

NOSE GUNNER. 2 WAIST GUNNERS  
RADIO OPERATOR. BALL TURRET TAIL GUNNER

Did the plane explode on striking the ground?

I DO NOT KNOW

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground?

YES.

Did he receive any information from others as to whether any other members of the crew were dead or alive? If so, give details furnished by his informant and whether the other crew members were identified by name or otherwise.

YES. - I HAVE BEEN HIDING WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE TAKEN CARE OF  
WILLIAM MATTHEWSON - ENGR. THEY KNOW HIM BY NAME AND DESCRIPTION.

Did source examine the wreckage of the plane? If so, what was its condition?

NO. EXCEPT FOR SMALL PARTS SHOWN TO ME BY FRIENDS

If the plane crashed in water how far was the plane from land and by what means was source rescued and what life rafts, wreckage, etc., remained on the surface that would have assisted other personnel to keep afloat.

What is source's opinion as to the fate of the other crew members and his reason for his opinion?

PILOT + CO PILOT - PRISONERS.  
NAVIGATOR + BOMBARDIER - DEAD



APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- 37320524- S/Sgt. Louis P. Rosati

Unit:- 579 Sgdn 392 Group

Suggestions for improvement of escape equipment and training come largely from those who make use of them. Your report and comments will help others to evade capture or to escape.

1. AIDS BOX 1 Lost THE AIDS BOX + PURSE - WHILE BAILING OUT.

- a. Did you use your aids box? NO
- b. If not, why? DID NOT NEED IT
- c. If you used it, state briefly the circumstances in which you used each item, for example, "While hiding in woods for two nights".

Horlicks tablets.

Chocolate or Peanut Bar.

Milk (tube).

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue).

Halazone tablets (water purifier).

Matches.

Adhesive tape.

Chewing gum.

Water bottle.

Compass.

Sewing kit.

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box?
- f. Can you suggest any way in which the contents of the aids box might be changed to make it of greater use, bearing in mind that the size of it cannot be larger?

2. PURSE Lost WHILE BAILING OUT OF SHIP

- a. Did you carry a purse? NO  
State color of stripes and letters.  
If NOT, State why not.
- b. Did you use the purse?

c. If so, which of the following items in the purse did you use?

Maps. Which ones?

Compass,

File (hacksaw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.

How did you spend the money?

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion?

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? *YES*

If so, how many? *9*

b. Did you use them? *YES*

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape?

State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.

*YES AT CHELSEA - Oct 1945*  
*By INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS, 3-2*

b. Did you find the lectures of value? *YES*

c. Do you have any suggestions to make which, from your experience, you feel will help other evaders and escapers? *NO*

SECRET - AMERICAN  
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

List all military information which you observed or were told while evading. Give fullest possible details. (Airfields, troop encampments, coastal and interior defenses, AA batteries, radar installations, troop movements, results of allied bombing, location of enemy factories and ammunition dumps, enemy and civilian morale, etc., etc.,.....)

AIR FIELDS NEAR BRUXELLES - OPERATING JH. 882  
ME-110s DAY + NIGHT FIGHTERS. OPERATING DAILY  
SINCE D-DAY. HEAVY AA BATTERIES IN AND AROUND  
THE CITY.

ALLIED BOMBING - RAIL COMMUNICATIONS AT  
SCHAERBEEK, BRUXELLES. IN MAY 1944 FAIR TO GOOD  
AIR FIELDS - BOMBED NEAR BRUXELLES. August 14  
BY ENGLISH HEAVIES.

RAIL ROAD + LOCOMOTIVE SHOPS. BOMBED BY MEDIUM  
BOMBERS. IN MARCH. 2 ATTACKS - 2 or 3 DAY IN  
BETWEEN. SECOND ATTACK, AS TOLD TO ME BY  
FRIENDS. WHO HAVE WITNESSED THE SCENE  
55 TO 60 LOCOMOTIVES. DESTROYED + BADLY DAMAGED.  
AT LOUVRE, BELGIUM.

ENEMY MORAL - VERY LOW. AND VERY ACTIVE  
CONTROL OF CIVILIANS + TRAFFIC BY SEARCHING  
CIVILIANS FOR WEAPONS AND CHECKING OF  
THEIR IDENTIFICATION PAPERS + WORK CARDS.  
CIVILIAN MORAL - VERY GOOD AND KEPT  
ON GETTING BETTER AS THE ALLIED AIR  
AND LAND FORCES CONTINUED IN THEIR  
ADVANCES.