

Logan Soldier Found Safe in South Italy

Logan.—S. Sgt. Robert J. Savings, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Savings, reported missing in action over Northern Italy on Feb. 28, has written his parents that he is safe at his former base in Southern Italy.

Sgt. Savings, a waist gunner, was forced down over Bressanone on his 23rd mission. Overseas since September, 1944, he wears the Air Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters. He formerly attended Holy Rosary School in Columbus, but finished his elementary work in St. John's parochial school here. He is a grandson of Mr. and Mrs. John Savings, 377 Berkeley road, Columbus, and of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. McGuire, 1606 E. Rich-st., Columbus.

the parents that William was buried in an Allied cemetery on a Pacific island, pending cessation of hostilities.

LOGAN, O.—Sgt. Robert J. Savings who was reported missing over Bressanone, Italy, as of Feb. 28, has written his parents Mr. and Mrs. Walter Savings, Logan,



that he is now safe and stationed in northern Italy.

On May 5 he wrote that he had had his first hot bath in two months and had been attired with an entire new outfit. His letter indicated that two previous letters had been sent but

S/Sgt. Savings these, which no doubt carry the details of his rescue, have not been received.

Sgt. Savings was a waist gunner on his 23rd mission when the bomber was downed. He had been overseas since September, 1944.

He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. John Savings, 377 Berkeley road and Mr. and Mrs. R. J. McGuire, 1606 E. Rich-st., Columbus.

ROSEVILLE, O.—Pfc. Thomas Wayne Anders, 37, was killed in action in Germany April 18, ac-

TODAY'S CROSSWORD

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With Hocking Service Men

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Savings, 36 South Culver St., have received a letter from the War Department advising that witnesses who saw the plane on which their son, Sgt. Robert Savings, was a turret gunner, had stated that no parachutes left the plane. Damaged by flak, the plane had been on a bombing mission over Northern Italy and had been dropping behind the formation. Sergeant Savings has been missing since Feb. 28. It was his 23rd mission.

Mrs. Keith Schultz has received a letter from her husband advising that he was promoted to coxswain in Feb. and is now located on an ESM in the Philippine area. Coxswain Schultz was president of city council at the time of his induction.

Mrs. Charlene Overly in receipt of a letter from her husband, Mr. Emory Overly, in which he advises her that he went through the entire campaign of two Jims without a scratch, and is now headed out a much needed rest period somewhere in the Pacific.

ASKD Top George McGonagle spent Wednesday visiting with Logan friends. Seaman McGonagle who has recently returned from 18 months active duty in the South Pacific is spending a 30-day leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John McGonagle, 1606 E. Rich-st., Logan residents.

Logan Aerial Gunner Missing

S/Sgt. Bob Savings Is Latest Casualty

In a War Department communication received Tuesday afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. J. Walter Savings, 36 South Culver Street, were notified their son, S/Sgt. Robert J. Savings was missing in action as of February 28 over Italy.

Sgt. Savings, recently cited for meritorious service and the wearer of a two oak leaf clusters, was a turret gunner on a B-24 Liberator bomber with the 15th Air Force stationed in Italy. He was on his 23rd mission when reported missing.

A graduate of Logan High School in the class of 1943, he enlisted in the Air Force reserve shortly after his graduation and was called for duty in January 1944. He went overseas in September 1944.

Logan Aerial Gunner Safe Parents Learn

S/Sgt. Bob Savings, Listed as Missing Writes from Italy

A letter received Thursday by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Savings, 36 South Culver Street brought the glad news from their son, S/Sgt. Robert Savings that he was safe and "all right." He gave no details as to where he had been, or whether or not he had been held as a prisoner.

However, he intimated in the letter dated May 5 that he was near his former base and spoke how swell it was to taste good food again. He said he had many experiences to tell his parents when he returned, which he thought would be soon.

Assigned as a turret gunner on a B-24 Liberator bomber with the 15th Air Force, Sgt. Savings was on his 23rd mission when reported missing in action over Italy on February 28. No further word had been received since the War Department communication on March 20, listing him as missing.

He had been cited for meritorious service previously, for his last mission and was the wearer of two Oak Leaf clusters.

A graduate of Logan High School in 1943, he enlisted in the Air Force Reserve shortly after his graduation and was called for duty in January 1944. He went overseas in September 1944.

Sgt. Savings Missing in Recent Flight

LOGAN — Mr. and Mrs. Walter Savings were notified Tuesday that their son, Sgt. Robert Savings, was missing in action as of Feb. 28, over Italy.

Overseas since last September, Sergeant Savings has been stationed in Italy the entire time and was on his 23rd mission as a turret gunner with the 15th Air Force.

Mr. and Mrs. Savings had last heard from him in a letter dated Feb. 26. Educated at St. John's Parochial School and Logan High School class of 1943, he has one brother in the U. S. Navy now en route from Sampson, N. Y., to San Diego, Calif., for training at the U. S. Naval Hospital.

Mr. Keith M. Bullock
A-6491 Mils Bei Imst, HNr. 62
Truik-Austria-Europe

March 2, 1998

Dear Mr. Bullock (Keith),

Your most interesting and timely letter arrived today the 53rd anniversary of our misfortune over Northern Italy in 1945.

We were out of Cerignola, Southern Italy with the 459th Bomb Group, 759th Squadron. We were on our 23rd mission leading a group of 21 Liberators to a target in Northern Italy.

I believe there was some misunderstanding regarding the correct target approach route and 2 elements (14 planes) in the formation deployed as we flew straight in. Three planes in our formation of seven were shot down near Bressanone. Bob Rechten, our tailgunner was severely wounded. We helped him out the tail escape hatch but he died after reaching the ground in German custody. I believe the remaining crew parachuted successfully and as far as I know evaded capture. Three of those on board were not regular members of our crew. They were on special assignment.

Lowell W. King and I landed in the snow in the mountains near Belluno, Italy, to the waiting members of the Communist Partisan Underground. We were hidden in a cave while German soldiers searched the area. The other crew members, I understand, landed in the general area but we did not see or join them at any time afterward.

With the partisans, we were lead, in disguise through the city of Belluno to an area deemed more secure. We lived in a cave, high up in the mountains with a band of 10-12 partisans through March. On a number of occasions we were involved in raids of German positions below.

In early April we spent 3 days and nights hiking to a completely secure mountain area near Victoria Veneto, south of Belluno. The compound there was made up of aviators and escapees from the U.S., England, Australia, New Zealand and partisans totaling about 36 persons.

The group built an airstrip in the mountains with the intent of flying all personnel to the Allied hands. The OSS used the strip successfully on 2 occasions to change personnel and a German ME109 crash-landed on it (pilot never caught). Plans were sent in for us on 2 nights but fog prevented their landing. We subsequently on May 1, descended to the

city of Vittorio Veneto and joined the citizens welcoming elements of the advancing British Army.

Radio operators Glen Pollard, bumped from our crew for a special radio operator, volunteered to fly with another crew that day. His plane received a direct hit and was one of the three lost from our formation.

The crew has never maintained any correspondence or contact since then and I don't know any current addresses.

The memories of those 60 some days are still very vivid and I relish every once in a while recalling them.

I'd be happy to do so for you.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Saying
44 Hillcrest Drive
Piscataway N.J. 08854
USA
732-699-0201

leh

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

IN REPLY REFER TO:

AG 201 Saving, Robert J.
PC-N MTO 066

24 March 1945

Mr. Walter Saving
36 Culver Street
Logan, Ohio

Dear Mr. Saving:

This letter is to confirm my recent telegram in which you were regretfully informed that your son, Staff Sergeant Robert J. Saving, 15,406,217, has been reported missing in action over Italy since 28 February 1945.

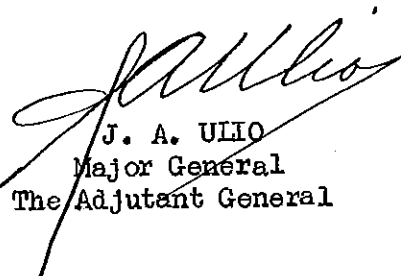
I know that added distress is caused by failure to receive more information or details. Therefore, I wish to assure you that at any time additional information is received it will be transmitted to you without delay, and, if in the meantime no additional information is received, I will again communicate with you at the expiration of three months. Also, it is the policy of the Commanding General of the Army Air Forces upon receipt of the "Missing Air Crew Report" to convey to you any details that might be contained in that report.

The term "missing in action" is used only to indicate that the whereabouts or status of an individual is not immediately known. It is not intended to convey the impression that the case is closed. I wish to emphasize that every effort is exerted continuously to clear up the status of our personnel. Under war conditions this is a difficult task as you must readily realize. Experience has shown that many persons reported missing in action are subsequently reported as prisoners of war, but as this information is furnished by countries with which we are at war, the War Department is helpless to expedite such reports.

The personal effects of an individual missing overseas are held by his unit for a period of time and are then sent to the Effects Quartermaster, Kansas City, Missouri, for disposition as designated by the soldier.

Permit me to extend to you my heartfelt sympathy during this period of uncertainty.

Sincerely yours,


J. A. ULLO
Major General
The Adjutant General

1 Inclosure
Bulletin of Information



HEADQUARTERS, ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON



IN REPLY REFER TO: AFPFA-8

AAF 201 (12509) Saving, Robert J.
15406217

16 April 1945

Mr. Walter Saving
76 Culver Street
Logan, Ohio

Dear Mr. Saving:

I am writing you with reference to your son, Staff Sergeant Robert J. Saving, who was reported by The Adjutant General as missing in action over Italy since 28 February 1945.

Additional information has been received indicating that Sergeant Saving was the waist gunner on a B-24 (Liberator) bomber which participated in a bombardment mission to Northern Italy on 28 February 1945. The report reveals that during this mission about 11:40 a.m., near Bressanone, Italy, your son's bomber sustained damage from enemy anti-aircraft fire and left the formation. Because of the intensity of enemy action crew members of accompanying planes were unable to continuously observe the disabled craft, and it is regretted that the foregoing constitutes all the information available in this headquarters relative to the whereabouts of Sergeant Saving.

Believing you may wish to communicate with the families of the others who were in the plane with your son, I am inclosing a list of these men and the names and addresses of their next of kin.

Please be assured that a continuing search by land, sea, and air is being made to discover the whereabouts of our missing personnel. As our armies advance over enemy occupied territory, special troops are assigned to this task, and agencies of our government and allies frequently send in details which aid us in bringing additional information to you.

Very sincerely,

N. W. Reed

N. W. REED
Major, Air Corps
Acting Chief, Notification Branch
Personal Affairs Division
Assistant Chief of Air Staff, Personnel



1st. Lt. Robert F. Horan	Mr. Maurice L. Horan (father) 1642 E. 84th. Street Chicago, Illinois
1st. Lt. Louis S. Foldes	Mrs. Harriet E. Foldes (wife) 4519 S. Christiana Chicago, Illinois
1st. Lt. Charles B. Shepherd	Mrs. Nellie S. Shepherd (mother) Rural Route 4 Clarksville, Tennessee
2nd. Lt. John J. Miner	Mr. Martin P. Miner (father) 46 Sheldon Terrace Rochester, New York
2nd. Lt. Alexander D. Kiertanis	Mr. Dominick Kiertania (father) 160 Prospect Street, Norwick, Connecticut
T/sgt. Albert B. Reynolds	Mrs. Willie D. Reynolds (wife) 814 South Lawrence Street Montgomery, Alabama
S /S gt. Harold Cohen	Mr. Louis Cohen (Father) 1460 Vyse Avenue New York, New York
S/sgt. Lowell W. King	Mrs. Lena King (mother) 674 Youngblood Drive Fort Worth, Texas
S/sgt. Trui V. Sivils	Mrs. Mary E. Sivils (wife) 420 11th. Street, N.W. Washington, D.C.
S/sgt. Robert J. Saving	Mr. Walter Saving (father) 36 S. Culver St. Logan, Ohio
S/sgt. Robert B. Rechten	Mrs. Mary K. Rechten (mother) 1110 Parkway Street, Covington, Kentucky

FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Commanding General
A. P. O. 520

17 March 1945

Mr. Walter Saving
36 Culver Street
Logan, Ohio

Dear Mr. Saving:

Your son, Staff Sergeant Robert J. Saving, 15406217, has been missing in action since February 28, 1945. Undoubtedly, your concern for his safety has been great since you first learned of his disappearance. As I am unable to give you any assurance as to his fate, perhaps the events of his recent mission will interest you.

On the above date, Bob served as waist gunner aboard a Liberator which was on a combat mission over strategic enemy installations in northern Italy. Over the target the bomber became disabled when it received a direct hit by flak. The stricken aircraft left the formation almost immediately and began to lose altitude. No parachutes were seen to leave the stricken aircraft before it finally passed from sight.

The Effects Quartermaster, Army Effects Bureau, Kansas City, Missouri, will receive your son's personal possessions in due time. From that point they will be forwarded to the designated beneficiary.

We can never repay these brave airmen for the marvelous work they have accomplished during the past months. Bob has been awarded the Air Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster for meritorious service. Please rest assured that the War Department will notify you immediately should there be any change in his status.

Very sincerely yours,



N. F. TWINING
Major General, USA
Commanding



SQUADRON A. LOCKBOURNE AIR BASE

COLUMBUS 17, OHIO

TOTAL COMBAT MISSIONS

S/SGT. ROBERT J. SAVING
759th. BOMB SQUADRON
CHERIGNOLA, ITALY

A.S.N. 15406217
459th. BOMB GROUP
SEPT. 9, 44 MAY 31, 1945

	SS	TARGET		TIME	TOTAL
1944					
OCT.	10 124	Latisana RR Bridge	Italy	5:30	5:30
	11 125	Wiener L/W	Austria	6:10	11:40
	13 127	Blechhammer O/R	Germany	8:35	20:15
	16 130	Spittal M/Y	Austria	6:30	26:45
	17 131	Vienna	"	7:30	34:15
NOV.	1 136	Graz	"	7:20	41:35
	4 138	Wels M/Y	"	6:45	48:20
	17 148	Gyor M/Y	Hungary	7:50	56:10
	18 149	Vicenza A/D	Italy	7:00	63:10
	20 152	Hodonin M/Y	Czechoslovakia	8:00	71:10
	22 153	Munich East M/Y	Germany	7:00	78:10
DEC.	6 157	Graz M/Y	Austria	7:05	85:15
	15 163	Linz F/Y	"	7:30	92:45
	16 164	Brux O/R	Czechoslovakia	8:45	101:30
	17 165	Odertal O/R	Germany	8:30	110:00
	27 171	Graz M/Y	Austria	6:15	116:15
1945					
JAN.	4 174	Verona Vescova M/Y	Italy	6:30	122:45
FEB.	5 182	Regensburg O/S	Germany	8:45	131:30
	7 184	Moosebierbaum O/R	Austria	8:00	139:30
	15 189	Vienna Folisdorf M/Y	"	7:20	146:50
	19 193	Pola S/Y	Italy	6:35	153:25
	24 198	Non Effective Sortie		6:00	159:25
	28 201	VICENZA M/Y (MIA)	Italy	4:00	163:25

TOTAL CREDITED SORTIES - 23

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME HIT</u>	<u>BAIL OUT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
FEB. 28, 1945	11:30	11:35	Belluno Italy	Evadee
MAY 1, 1945	----	----	Came down from mountains at Victorio Veneto, Italy	
MAY 3, 1945	----	----	Contacted 5th. Army Hdqs. at Treviso Italy.	
MAY 5, 1945	----	----	Flown to 15 AAF Hdqs. Bari Italy	



Left to Right Standing

2nd Lt Charles B Shephard

Pilot

2nd Lt John J Miner

Co Pilot

2nd Lt Carson J Morris

Bombardier

T/O Wesley K Daniels

Navigator

Left to Right Kneeling

S/Sgt Albert B Reynolds

Engineer

Cpl Glenn Pillard

Radio Operator

Cpl Robert J Saving

Asst Engineer

Cpl Edward C Raether

Armorer Gunner

Cpl Truie V Livels

Asst Radio Operator

Cpl Robert B Reckters

Asst Armorer Gunner

CLASS OF SERVICE
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WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
 PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS
DL=Day Letter
NL=Night Letter
LC=Deferred Cable
NLT=Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

CZT113 44 GOVT=WUX WASHINGTON DC MAR 20 255P

WALTER SAVING=
 36 CULVER ST

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DESIRES ME TO EXPRESS HIS DEEP REGRET THAT YOUR SON STAFF SERGEANT ROBERT J SAVING HAS BEEN REPORTED MISSING IN ACTION SINCE TWENTY EIGHT FEBRUARY OVER ITALY IF FURTHER DETAILS OR OTHER INFORMATION ARE RECEIVED YOU WILL BE PROMPTLY NOTIFIED=

J A ULIO ADJUTANT GENERAL

320P

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

CLASS OF SERVICE
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WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
 PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
 CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
 FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

1201

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CZV28 25 GOVT=WUX WASHINGTON DC MAY 17 858P

WALTER SAVING=
 36 CULVER ST LOGAN OHIO=

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DESIRES ME TO EXPRESS HIS PLEASURE THAT YOUR SON S/SGT ROBERT J SAVING RETURNED TO DUTY IN ITALY 4 MAY 45=

J A ULIO THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

837A MAY

5631

SELF

830A MAY 18

E.S.

FILE