

Bomber Debris Cleared Away

JUL 17 1944

Crash Crew Here From Rome; Bodies of 5 Dead Removed

An Army Air Force crash crew from the Rome Air Depot today was clearing away the remains of the four-motored bomber which crashed Saturday morning on the North Hill farm of B. J. Carpenter, near Blockville, killing five and injuring four of the crew.

Remains of the fliers who met death as the bomber crashed, exploded and burned have been sent to the Syracuse Army Air Base including the body of Lt. Levine S. Nelson, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar G. Nelson of Blockville and husband of Mrs. Marian Nelson, Chautauqua.

List of dead as released by the Syracuse Army Air Base following identification by the bomber's home field at Topeka, Kans. is:

2d Lt. Levine S. Nelson.

2d Lt. Vernon E. Stiltz, Milwaukee, Wis.

2d Lt. John Jurzazak, Chicago, Ill.

Sgt. Art L. Brown, Sterling, Ill.

Corp. Cleo Boody, Shelton, Neb.

Confined to Jamestown General Hospital are:

Lt. Harold L. Stanley, Martinsburg, W. Va., whose condition when admitted Saturday was critical but improved today. He sustained body burns, lacerated scalp and left leg.

Sgt. Philip J. Marks, 30, of Cincinnati, minor burns, back injury and head laceration, condition good.

Sgt. James W. Caldwell, 23, of Port Arthur, Tex., scalp lacerations.

Cpl. Lewis Moldovan, 18, Storm Lake, Iowa, knee injury and shock.

Corporal Moldovan, the crew member who sought help after the crash was dismissed from the hospital Saturday afternoon and returned for treatment.

Details concerning funeral services for Lieutenant Nelson have not been announced.

First accounts at the scene of the accident were that the crew comprised ten members based on information found in the log book.

Only 9 in Crew

Upon the return of Corporal Moldovan to the scene, it was learned that only nine members were in the crew. The tenth had been presumed to be missing, the belief being that his body was buried in the wreckage. Later it was established he had not been aboard.

Arriving at the scene reporters found the plane blazing fiercely. In the midst of the wreckage were three burned bodies, huddled together. One body, a bit clear of the wreckage was lying on the ground. Another, tossed against the bank of the gully was charred.