

OTTAWA, Canada, 25th April, 1944

A I R M A I L

Mr. Charles Leonard,
Crows Nest, B.C.

Dear Mr. Leonard:

It is my painful duty to confirm the telegram recently received by you which informed you that your son, Warrant Officer Second Class Raymond Gale Leonard, is reported missing on Active Service.

Advice has been received from the Royal Canadian Air Force Casualties Officer, Overseas, that your son was a member of the crew of an aircraft which failed to return to its base after air operations over Lens, south west of Lille, France, on the night of April 20th and the early morning of April 21st, 1944. There were three other members of the Royal Canadian Air Force in the crew and they also have been reported missing. Since you may wish to know their names and next-of-kin we are listing them below:

Warrant Officer Second Class H.C. Wilson
Next-of-kin: Mr. Henry H. Wilson, (father)
Ste 3 Bradeen Apartments, Winnipeg, Man.

Sergeant J.H.J.P. Bourcier
Next-of-kin: Mr. A. Bourcier (father) *Safe*
Chateaguay Village, P.Q.


Sergeant R.A. Anderson
Next-of-kin: Flying Officer A.A. Anderson (father)
Suite 11 Alexandra Blk., Brandon, Man.

This does not necessarily mean that your son has been killed or wounded. He may have landed in enemy territory and might be a Prisoner of War. Enquiries have been made through the International Red Cross Society and all other appropriate sources and you may be assured that any further information received will be communicated to you immediately.

Your son's name will not appear on the official casualty list for five weeks. You may, however, release to the Press or Radio the fact that he is reported missing but not disclosing the date, place or his unit.

May I join with you and the members of your family in the hope that better news will be forthcoming in the near future.

Yours sincerely,



R.C.A.F. Casualty Officer,
for Chief of the Air Staff.