

Trooper Denis Ernest Martin Brook

Layforce

POW Bardia Raid

Escape / Evasion

Date 9 - 5 - 45 Signature D E M Brook

Escape and Release

I with <sup>PRIVATE</sup> John Barnard, <sup>SURREY</sup> and <sup>SOMERSET</sup> Frank Blayton on the 10<sup>th</sup> Sept 1943 were released from a working Camp 112/7. Sassino. we made off in a northerly direction but were unable to cross the river Po. so retraced our steps & reached a high point overlooking the camp. remained 1 night in a wood. they walked to REZZA where we found a hut in a valley between Rezza and SAN MARTINO. & the people round - abouts supplied food & blankets until the 19<sup>th</sup> Oct 43. the 15<sup>th</sup> Oct 43. we then were taken by train by some communists from Porto Nuovo Turin to Barge where we remained for 1 week. then made our way to Monte VISO but owing to snow & mist were unable to pass over into France & retraced our steps & reached VALLEY Scursatone near REZZA. John <sup>ENERGY</sup> being lost when we had to run from a Fascist on a cycle. Frank & I only arrived at this point. 20<sup>th</sup> Oct 43. we were taken by 2 cycles to Bosco Nero. from there by train to Alpette Canavese. where I remained with the Partisans until 4<sup>th</sup> May 1944 when (Frank left for buses in December 43) when the Fascists with some came up the mountain & I then took the train from Campore to Settimo from there to Rezza on foot. Arrived in the same evening stayed at Farmhouse from 8 May 44 till 14 May 1944. left there - stayed in <sup>the</sup> MADRELLA 15 June 1944 till 3 May 45 at SAN MARTINO. CASTIGLIONE - then I reported to 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Henderson U.S. ARMY. 6<sup>th</sup> MAY 45 left Turin by plane arrived ROSIGNANO from there by ARMY TRUCK from 7<sup>th</sup> May. arrived Rome stayed the night in Transit Camp. left in morning for Naples & 2<sup>nd</sup> B Repatriation Camp arrived 8 May 1945.