LOSEY SLIDE SHOW page 1 last update 12 Apr 1995

1. TEXT SLIDE: The Story of Robert Moffat Losey produced by . . .

2. TEXT SLIDE: Photo Credits
The Losey Family Archive
Dovre (Norway) Historical Archive
U.S. Military Academy (West Point)
Time/LIFE
The Associated Press
Doug Melvold, Publisher, Maquoketa Sentinel-Press, Iowa Keith Thienemann

- 3. TEXT SLIDE: In celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Liberation of Norway
- 4. Norwegian Pastoral scenes
 [SCRIPT] "It was one of those wonderful winter-spring days that we have in Norway when everything smells good and fruitful . . .
- 5. Norwegian Pastoral scene:

 [SCRIPT] It smells of wet moss where ever a stone raises its head above the snow. And there was a gentle and sweet sough through the treetops a sough that became audible each time the harsh roar of the German aircraft engines died down for a little while and there was a pause in the gunfire. . . .
- 6. Norwegian Pastoral scene:

 [SCRIPT] This was the day the American Air Attaché, Captain Robert Losey, was killed," so wrote Sigrid Undset, Noble Prize Laureate in Literature, as she recounted her escape from her war-torn land.
- 7. TEXT SLIDE: As the Air Attaché assigned to the American Embassy, Captain Losey was on a special mission:
- 8. TEXT SLIDE: to evacuate the American Ambassador and others seeking safe passage from Norway to Sweden.
- 9. TEXT SLIDE: As the group made their desperate escape, a Nazi air raid forced them into a train tunnel in Dombås.
- 10. TEXT SLIDE: Suddenly, a bomb shrieked from its hatch and exploded, sending splinters of metal bursting across the ground.
- 11. TEXT SLIDE: One splinter struck Captain Losey in the heart, ending his life just short of his 32nd birthday.

LOSEY SLIDE SHOW page 2 last update 12 Apr 1995

- 12. TEXT SLIDE: This is his story and the story of how the people of Norway have remembered this courageous American.
- 13. Farm in Andrew, Iowa
 [SCRIPT] Our story begins in a small midwestern farming town not far from the famed Mississippi River.
- 14. Andrew Iowa spelled out in cross-ties with water tower [SCRIPT] Andrew, Iowa.
- 15. Birthplace of Bob Losey
 [SCRIPT] Robert Losey was born in this Presbyterian Manse at 208 W.
 Benton Street in Andrew on May 27, 1908.
- 16. Bob Losey, 11 months old in Iowa plowing [SCRIPT] And early on, he showed a real talent for farming.
- 17. First Presbyterian Church, Andrew, Iowa
 [SCRIPT] Losey's father, the Rev. Artemus Losey, was pastor of the First
 Presbyterian Church in Andrew. He and his wife Nellie Madeline Moore
 Losey . . .
- 18. Photo of Nellie Losey
- 19. Church door, Andrew, Iowa [SCRIPT] . . . ministered to the community for a number of years.
- 20. The Princeton Class of 1907 (group)
 [SCRIPT] The Rev. Losey graduated from Princeton University in the Class of 1907.
- 21. Bob Losey (age 4) with cup presented to him at the 5th reunion of the Class of 1907 of Princeton University, June 1912

 [SCRIPT] Young Bob was the chosen as Class Boy. Here he is pictured at age 4 with a cup presented to him at the 5th reunion of the class of 1907 in June of 1912.
- 22. Close up of Bob and his father
 [SCRIPT] Here Bob is pictured with his father behind him and his sister
 Margaret Pennington, nicknamed "Peg" on his right
- 23. Bob and his sister Margaret "Peg" Pennington Losey Lee
 [SCRIPT] Here are Bob and his sister Peg in a Christmas portrait in 1914

LOSEY SLIDE SHOW page 3 last update 12 Apr 1995

when Bob was 6 and Peg was 2.

24. Bob and his sister in 1918

[SCRIPT] This next photograph pictures Bob and Peg in 1918 when he was 10 and she was 6

25. Bob Losey, age 11, in the suit he wore at a reunion of the 1907 Princeton University class in 1919

[SCRIPT] In 1919, eleven year old Bob attended the 12th Reunion of his father's graduating class at Princeton, wearing his formal outfit as Class Boy. According to a member of the Class of 1907, "Bob Losey was the finest Princeton alumnus who never went there."

26. Church Window

[SCRIPT] The Losey family moved to Auburn, New York where the Rev. Losey completed his studies at Auburn Theological Seminary. He subsequently pastored churches in New York state and finally moved west, first to Wyoming . . .

- 27. Bob Losey, on horse, age 13 in Wyoming [SCRIPT] . . . then to Terry, Montana. Here is Bob on horseback at age 13.
- 28. Portrait of Bob as teenager

[SCRIPT] Tragically, the Rev. Losey died in less than a year after arriving in Montana during an unsuccessful appendix operation. He was only 43. Bob, shown here at age 15, was left fatherless. The Rev. Merton S. Fales, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Miles City, Montana, conducted Rev. Losey's funeral. In his letter notifying Princeton University of Rev. Losey's death, he wrote, "He had been doing a fine work at Terry and the whole community, where he was the only pastor in the county, is heartbroken." He continued, "Robert, the son, the 1907 Class Boy will be ready for college next year. There is also a ten year old daughter." The Rev. Losey was a very dedicated minister who believed in a strong community church. Although he held eight degrees, he earned less money than a railroad crossing attendant.

- 29. Bob and his sister with their mother, Nellie [SCRIPT] After Rev. Losey's death, the family moved to Trenton, New Jersey were Mrs. Losey was employed at the First Presbyterian Church. Bob graduated from Trenton High School in the Class of 1924.
- 30. Aerial shot of West Point [SCRIPT] In July of 1925, Bob Losey arrived at West Point as a new cadet.

LOSEY SLIDE SHOW page 4 last update 12 Apr 1995

- 31. Bob Losey in white cadet uniform from West Point
- 32. Painting of West Point by Bob Losey
 [SCRIPT] His years at West Point were productive and successful ones and his interest in science and weather began to blossom. This photograph of West Point was taken and hand-painted by Bob Losey in 1929, the year of his graduation.
- 33. Bob Losey's graduation photo from West Point
 [SCRIPT] As noted in the annual report of his graduation class, Bob Losey was remembered as one whose "spirit was not easily rebuffed and who exhibited a wide interest in science." In addition, he was a good sportsman and was described as "an authority on football and golf, an assortment of hobbies and accomplishments, and an aspiration for the Air Corp." He graduated from West Point on June 13, 1929 and was promoted in the Army to Second Lieutenant of Field Artillery.
- 34. Bob Losey in Air Corps uniform
 [SCRIPT] He was transferred to the Army Air Corp in December, 1930 and was subsequently assigned to military bases in California and Louisiana.
- 35. Picture of smiling Kay (cropped)
 [SCRIPT] While in California, Bob met Kay Banta, the daughter of Col.
 William Banta . . .
- 36. Marriage certificate
 [SCRIPT] . . . and they were married in on Apr 10, 1933 in Hot Springs,
 Arkansas. The couple returned to California where . . .
- 37. Photo of clouds
 [SCRIPT] . . . Bob studied meteorology and engineering at California
 Technical Institute of Technology (Cal-Tech)
- 38. Bob Losey's commissioning papers as a First Lieutenant in the Air Corps [SCRIPT] in October of 1934 he was commissioned . . .
- 39. Bob Losey in Air Corps group photo
 [SCRIPT] . . . as a First Lieutenant in the Air Corps.
- 40. Bob Losey in Air Corps group photo close up [SCRIPT] He subsequently served as meteorological officer with a rank of Captain.

LOSEY SLIDE SHOW page 5 last update 12 Apr 1995

41. Dark shot of clouds

[SCRIPT] Most Americans were not aware that dark clouds of war were gathering.

42. Adolf Hitler

[SCRIPT] Adolf Hitler had diabolical plans for Germany's dominance of the entire European continent.

43. Nazis invading Poland

[SCRIPT] As a result, Germany began invading neighboring countries while America paid little attention, and life went on as usual.

44. Music from the era

[SCRIPT] Hit tunes of the era included Mairzy Doates, I Hear a Rhapsody and A Slow Boat to China.

45. Betty Grable

[SCRIPT] Betty Grable . . .

46. Rita Hayworth

[SCRIPT] and Rita Hayworth were Hollywood's leading ladies.

47. Frank Sinatra

[SCRIPT] Frank Sinatra crooned, and women all over American swooned.

48. I Want You for the U.S. Army poster

[SCRIPT] Posters such as this one were grim harbingers that war was on the horizon, and America braced itself for what was to come.

- 49. Washington Post article "Capt. Losey Sent to Finland to Study Subzero Warfare" [SCRIPT] In January of 1940, well before America became involved in the European theatre, Captain Losey left for Helsinki, Finland, where he was assigned to study Subzero Warfare unaware that he would never return home again.
- 50. T.S. Drottningholm image of boat

[SCRIPT] Traveling aboard the T.S. Drottningholm, Bob wrote to his sister Peg, now Mrs. Morris Lee, "

51. Postcard from Bob about to arrive in Helsinki

[SCRIPT] text of card: January 14, 1940. We are just coming into our berth at Göteborg after a pleasant though very rough trip. At present we are stuck in the ice which we have been battling all day. It is almost three feet thick. Oh

LOSEY SLIDE SHOW page 6 last update 12 Apr 1995

we are moving again so I guess we will land tonight. Love and thanks for everything, Bob.

52. Last postcard from Bob

[SCRIPT] Once in Helsinki, Bob was witness to the beginnings of a major European war. In this, his last postcard home, Bob wrote . . .

53. Text from last postcard from Bob

[SCRIPT] text of card: March 6, Helsinki: Peg and Morris, So far so good . . .been here about two weeks. Things are still quite normal around Helsinki. Lots of air raid alarms but for some reason the Russians haven't dropped any bombs on the city here for some time. Not so with the rest of the country. Food, liquor, etc. is still available however prices are rising some and variety falling. How about you all getting busy back there and send these people some help? If anyone ever deserved it they do. My hat is the pride of Finland. Bob. On April 9, 1940, Captain Losey was assigned as the Air Attache to the American Embassy in Oslo. On that very day

- 54. Germans on dock boarding ship to invade Norway
- 55. Paratrooper
- 56. New York Times Headline
- 57. Arm bands

[SCRIPT] the German army began their attack on Scandinavia

58. "Norway Declares War" headline

[SCRIPT] Norway's response to the attack was swift as they declared war on Germany the same day.

59. Harriman on skis

[SCRIPT] The American Ambassador to Norway, Mrs. Daisy Harriman, was thought to be in jeopardy . . .

60. Losey and Harriman by car

[SCRIPT] . . . and Captain Losey was assigned to escort her safely to neighboring Sweden.

61. Driver in car

[SCRIPT] An American flag was spread across the entire roof of the car containing Mrs. Harriman and Captain Losey to warn off Nazi pilots.

LOSEY SLIDE SHOW page 7 last update 12 Apr 1995

- 62. Losey by car
 [SCRIPT] Days before his death in Dombås, Captain Losey, seen here on the right
- 63. Close up of Losey
 [SCRIPT] was photographed for the last time.
- 64. photo of Dombås [SCRIPT] Dombås, Norway, a railroad and road junction . . .
- 65. Old photo of Dombås station
 [SCRIPT] had a population of 400 people. Dombås was important to the allies and the Germans . . .
- 66. Map of Norway
 [SCRIPT] . . . because of its strategic location between Oslo and Trondheim.
 (Dombås Oslo)
- 67. Map of Norway
 [SCRIPT] (Dombås Trondheim) Concerned about the Nazi's interest in Dombås, the Norwegian military stationed More infantry regiment in Dombås on April 13th to prevent possible sabotage and repel air attacks.
- 68. Prince Olav [SCRIPT] The next day, Crown prince Olav and . . .
- 69. King Haakon
 [SCRIPT] . . . King Haakon, along with several important members of parliament passed through Dombås by train on their way south.
- 70. Parachutist
 [SCRIPT] Five hours later, a small girl reported seeing white flowers falling from the sky. These "white flowers" turned out to be Nazi parachutist dropping on Dombås.
- 71. Crashed german plane
 [SCRIPT] Luckily a thick-low-flying cloud formation thwarted the German pilots and resulted in the 52 aircraft spreading approx. 180 parachutists in a wide area around Dombås.
- 72. Old photo of plane and parachutists
 [SCRIPT] This was only the second parachute attack in history. The first being on April 9, 1940 at the military base at Sola on the southwest coast of

LOSEY SLIDE SHOW page 8 last update 12 Apr 1995

Norway.

73. Old photo captured germans

[SCRIPT] Due to the widely dispersed parachutist, More battalion and local militia were able to either capture or kill most of the Nazis during the ensuing 24 hours.

- 74. Wounded Nazi
- 75. Old photo of walking germans
 [SCRIPT] Here, Norwegians soldiers dressed in camouflage white, escorted captured Nazis.
- 76. TEXT SLIDE 21 APR 1940
- 77. Germans bombers in cockpit

[SCRIPT] When the Nazi high command learned of the defeat of their parachute unit, they began a one week intensive bombing of Dombås to destroy the railroad complex and prevent deployment of military units to key Norwegian areas. During this bombing raid, Capt. Losey was killed.

78. Old photo of town

[SCRIPT] Capt. Losey and his driver Lars M. Fröislie arrived in Dombås just before 3pm. As they sat in a restaurant, a siren sounded an air alarm and they ran for a nearby railway tunnel with a number of townspeople. . . .

79. Old photo of tunnel

[SCRIPT] There were about 80 people in the tunnel, mostly civilians. As recounted by Lars Fröislie in an affidavit dated April 25, 1940, he said, "The sides of the tunnel were uneven and many people lay down and many got into the uneven niches in the wall. The first planes did not come over the station and we heard some machine guns and anti-aircraft guns firing at them. We heard the plane go away and thought the raid was over. Then someone shouted that the planes were coming back. . . .

80. Photo of Dombås sign bombed

[SCRIPT] . . . Everybody ran back deeper into the tunnel, and I got into the same place as before. A bomb hit a rock just north of the fork of the tracks. There was a terrific explosion, and I felt the air pressure lift me up. The tunnel was filled with soot, smoke and dust and many people were running toward the opposite end from where the bomb had hit. As soon as the smoke cleared, I saw that several people had been injured. I ran directly to Capt. Losey and found him lying with a big hole in his left side from which the

LOSEY SLIDE SHOW page 9 last update 12 Apr 1995

blood was spurting. A doctor was already there and tried to stop the flow. I put my hand over the wound to stop the blood but the doctor said that there was nothing that could be done. The captain was still breathing when I got to him but I don't think he was ever conscious after he was hit. . . .

81. Cleaning up Dombås

[SCRIPT] . . . Five people were killed besides Captain Losey and twelve were wounded."

- 82. Old photo of town burning
- 83. Men standing by bombed building
- 84. Trucks
- 85. German bomb kills US Attache article

[SCRIPT] Capt. Losey's death was major news in America and Europe. Countless news stories chronicled the events leading up to and after his death

- 86. American Air Attache is Killed article
- 87. The Detroit News
- 88. Photo killed in Norway
- 89. Newsweek
- 90. 16 Americans article
- 91. Life cover

[SCRIPT] But one of the most detailed and lengthy accounts of Capt. Losey's death and its aftermath appeared in the May 13, 1940 issue of Life magazine.

92. Close up of Harriman in car

[SCRIPT] The 69 year old American Ambassador to Norway, Florence "Daisy" Harriman was left to escape on her own. For three days after Capt. Losey's death, she played hide and seek with German bombers and motorized patrols. She went without sleep for 27 hours then slept on sofas in farm homes, gratefully living on eggs, toast and sardines. She endured mud, snow and ice on her harrowing journey to safety in Sweden. Once there . . .

93. Mrs. Harriman Awaits body article [SCRIPT] . . . she awaited the body of the fallen attache.

LOSEY SLIDE SHOW page 10 last update 12 Apr 1995

- 94. FDR [SCRIPT] Back home, President Franklin Roosevelt . . .
- 95. Telegram to White House
 [SCRIPT] . . . received a telegram the next day informing him of Capt.
 Losey's death.
- 96. Göring
 [SCRIPT] That week, German Field Marshall Goring sent condolences of the Third Reich to the commanding officer of the American Army Air Corps.
- 97. Cordell Hull [SCRIPT] Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State . . .
- 98. Hull Telegram [SCRIPT] . . . notified Kay Losey of her husband's untimely death.
- 99. Close up of Kay in Article
- 100. Capt Losey's body article
 [SCRIPT] Meanwhile, arrangements were being made for Capt. Losey's funeral, text of article
- 101. Swedish military guard
- 102. Losey funeral held

[SCRIPT] text from article: Stockholm, April 26. Simple funeral services attended by many foreign diplomats were held today for Capt. Robert M. Losey, United States Air Attaché at Oslo, Norway, who was killed during the German bombing of Dombås. After the body is cremated the ashes will be sent to the United States. The funeral was held in a small chapel of a Protestant cemetery. A guard of honor, composed of six Swedish air cadets, stood at attention around the bier during the half-hour ceremony. The coffin was covered with an American flag belonging to Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, United States Minister to Norway. The Rev. H. C. Jones, a British chaplain, conducted the services. The organ played Chopin's Funeral March, and the congregation sang two hymns. Besides Mrs. Harriman, those present included Frederick A. Sterling, United States Minister to Sweden; Hallett Johnson, American Consul General here; members of the United States Legation staff, the Polish Minister and the military and air attachés of Great Britain, France, Norway, Finland and Rumania.

103. Woman Guarded article

LOSEY SLIDE SHOW page 11 last update 12 Apr 1995

[SCRIPT] Following the funeral, Capt. Losey's body was cremated and the ashes return home under guard.

- 104. TEXT SLIDE OF JOURNEY HOME
- 105. Obituary article
- 106. Burial photo
 [SCRIPT] Capt. Losey's ashes were buried with full military honors at his
 Alma Mater, the US Military Academy at West Point.
- 107. Mrs. Nellie article
 [SCRIPT] An interesting note here is the fact that Capt. Losey's mother, who died a year previously, was also cremated and her ashes were buried in her son's coffin.
- 108. Photo of headstone
- 109. Ripley's Believe or Not
- 110. portrait of Kay Banta Losey Bunker 3 years before her death in 1980 in Palm Springs, CA
- 111. Bob's sister Peg at unveiling of plaque at Bob's high school in Trenton, NJ
- 112. Monument to Losey at Memorial Park in Dombås
- 113. King Olav V at unveiling
- 114. Ambassador Ruppe speaking at monument in 1990 at the 50th anniversary of Capt. Losey's death
- 115. Lillehammer 1994 logo
- 116. Koss skating champion
- 117. USA Today article lead "Norway Honors First US Victim of World War II"
- 118. USA Today article "US Soldier Honored in Small Town"
- 119. Keith Thienemann and Chris Albers
- 120. USA Today article "Hero's Cousin? Why, yes I am"

LOSEY SLIDE SHOW page 12 last update 12 Apr 1995

- 121. The News & Advance article "Piece of Norway's WWII History Found in Lynchburg"
- 122. Bob Losey Lee (nephew of Capt. Losey) and Chris Albers
- 123. Bob Losey Lee (nephew of Capt. Losey) and Chris Albers
- 124. Penny Braniff (Losey's niece), Peg Losey Lee (Losey's sister) and Bob Losey Lee (Losey's cousin) all going to Norway to lay wreath at monument (first visit for all)
- 125. Family members named after Robert Moffat Losey: Bob Losey Lee (nephew), Bob Braniff (great nephew), Bob Lee (great nephew) and Robby Braniff (great-great nephew)
- 126. TEXT SLIDE: George Bush relationship
- 127. letter from Bush
- 128. TEXT SLIDE: Wm Howard Taft relationship
- 129. TEXT SLIDE: Chris Albers relationship
- 130. portrait of Bob in cockpit
- 131. portrait of Bob in cockpit with stamp overlay
- 132. TEXT SLIDE: USA and Norwegian flags "God Bless America" and "Ja vi elsker dette landet" (Yes, we love this land)