

Secret

E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9 (WEA) / 8/76 / 178

TOP SECRET.
I.S.9 (WEA)

(Applies to all BRITISH, CANADIAN, U.S. & ALLIED PERSONNEL)

EVADED CAPTURE/ESCAPED FROM (Name of Country) France.

For All Personnel.

TWO BALE
8 575+1010

1. No. 32419761 Rank T/Sgt. Name JOSEPH GORRONO.
(U.K.: Acting, Temp. or W/S)
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) 8 missions
3. Were you wounded? Give details slight chest injury from jump
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 548 bomb sq.
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 385 Group. 6. Job (Pl. Comd., Rfn., etc.) top turret gunner
7. Date of Birth 11 July, 1915 8. Length of Service 2 years
9. Peace time occupation mechanic 10. Private address 23-19 24 St.
Astoria, N.Y.
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? Dogtags, Photos.
12. Do you speak French, or any other foreign language? No.

FOR R.A.F. ONLY.

13. No. and location of O.T.U.
14. No. and location of Conversion Unit

FOR ALL AIR FORCE PERSONNEL AND/OR AIRBORNE OR PARACHUTE TROOPS

WHO BALE OUT

15. Post in Crew Top turret Gunner
16. Other members of crew, and information about what has happened to them.
N.B.—Airborne and Parachute Troops: list below names and units of other occupants of plane, including R.A.F. and U.S.A.A.F.
- PILOT Francis Pabich
- CO-PILOT Phillip Capo
- NAVIGATOR Carey Three of these first four believed captured. Informed three were caught.
- BOMBARDIER David Flores
- RADIO OPERATOR George Solomon Last seen August 1st, evading.
- TOP TURRET GUNNER Narrator
- BALL TURRET GUNNER Fulgham Believed captured
- WAIST GUNNER (R.) Francis Graves Believed captured.
- WAIST GUNNER (L.) Emmet Bone-evaded with me
- TAIL GUNNER Donald Hoilman - Last seen Lemans in August.
17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B-17G 1730, 8 Feb., 1944 from Elmswell

18. Where and when did you come down? 1400, 8 Feb., Pont. Audemer
19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? caught in tree, Germans close, left it.
20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? Plane out of gas when last seen. Must have crashed.

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E & E Report No. I.S.9 (WEA) 8/76

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EVASION CAPTURE/ESCAPED FROM (Name of Country) France

BALE OUT
FEB. 8

I landed in a tree at Pont. Audemer about 1400, 8 February. The French showed me where the German patrols were and gave me civilian clothes. I went to Rouen, hoping for a train. Near Pont de Mer I met George Solomon, Emmet Bone, and Donald Hoilman.

JOINS GROUP IN
WOODS.

We went to Evreux and Paris for three days, and then to Neuilly en Thelle for three weeks. Early in May we were at Argenteuil for two weeks. From 25 May to August 13 we were at Basloup hiding in the woods. There were many with us. On the 13th a whole convoy was taken out, and I joined the American forces again.

- 1. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), 2pn. (Air Force) 548 bomb sq.
- 2. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 387 Group.
- 3. Job (Pl. Comd., Rtn., etc.) Top turret gunner
- 4. Date of Birth 11 July, 1917
- 5. Length of service 5 years
- 6. Private address 23-19 24 St. Astoria, O.R.
- 7. Peace time occupation mechanic
- 8. Did you carry any form of identification, or photographs, dog tags, photos?
- 9. Do you speak French, or any other foreign language? No.

FOR R.A.F. ONLY

- 10. No. and location of O.T.U.
- 11. No. and location of Conversion Unit
- 12. FOR ALL AIR FORCE PERSONNEL AND/OR AIRBORNE OR PARACHUTE TROOPS

WHO BALE OUT

DISTRIBUTION:

- 13. I.S.9 (WEA) Hq. 3
- 14. Capt. Devereux, Ops 1
- 15. Capt. Arnold, 9AF 1
- 16. G-2 TUSA 1 (less "C")
- 17. G-2 FUSA 1 (less "C")
- 18. File 1/8

- 19. Post in Crew Top turret gunner
- 20. Other members of crew, and information about what has happened to them
- 21. N.B.—Airborne and Parachute Troops: list (less "C")
- 22. and U.S.A.A.F. (less "C")
- 23. PILOT Francis Bishop
- 24. CO-PILOT Phillip Gage
- 25. NAVIGATOR Gerry
- 26. BOMBARDIER David Flores
- 27. RADIO OPERATOR George Solomon—last seen August 1st, evading.
- 28. TOP TURRET GUNNER Harator
- 29. BALL TURRET GUNNER William
- 30. WAIST GUNNER (R.) Francis Graves (Believed captured)
- 31. WAIST GUNNER (L.) James Bone—evaded with
- 32. TAIL GUNNER Donald Hoilman—last seen January in August.
- 33. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B-17G 1730, 8 Feb., 1944 from Maxwell

Secret

Interviewed by I.S.9 (WEA)
Date 14 August, 1944

Richard H. Dana
RICHARD H. DANA
2nd/Lt. CAC

Attached:
Appendix "B"
"C"
"D"

Disposal: returned to unit.

Major

Secret.

TOP SECRET

I.S.9 (WEA)

APPENDIX "B" TO E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9 (WEA) 8/76/176

List of all military information which you observed or were told while evading. Give fullest possible details. (Airfields, troop encampments, coastal and interior defences, A.A. batteries, radar installations, troop movements, results of Allied bombing, location of enemy factories and ammunition dumps, enemy and civilian morale, etc., etc.).

No. 3241976.1 Rank T/Sgt. Name JOSEPH GORRONO

Date of interview 28 August 14, 1944

N.B.—It is of the utmost importance that when giving information on the above subjects you state clearly:—

- (1) Date, time and place where you obtained the information.
- (2) Was it the result of personal observation or a report by someone else ?
- (3) If not from personal observation who was the source (i.e., waiter, farm labourer, hearsay, cafe rumour, etc.), and how accurate do you estimate the source to be?

Evaluation of informant's credibility.

Key.

- X 1.—Reliable.
- 2.—Credible.
- 3.—Questionable.
- 4.—Undetermined.

1. In Pont-Audemer on 6 Feb. there were no fortifications.

OBSERVATION.

2. In Argeuteuil on May 20 there was reported an ammunition dump near the railroad station, far underground, used as general supply depot.

HEARSAY

3. About 20 May hear from woman that Germans are building a very solid line through Soissons, N.E. of Paris. It is a miniature Siegfried line, and is intended to hold the Allies for some time.

HEARSAY

XIX

Secret.

With the exception of items.....above, information herein has been given verbally by E. & E. to.....

Top Secret.

TOP SECRET.
I.S.9 (WEA)

APPENDIX "C" TO E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9(WEA) 8/16/178

If further circulation of this information is made, it is important that its source should not be divulged.

No. 32419761 Rank T/Sgt. Name JOSEPH GORRANO

Date of Interview 14 August, 1944

X. In February we were assisted at Surderisle by M. Morand.

Robert LeBlanc helped us at Pont Audemer. The Resistance were in a wood there. They had lots of guns and grenades from the British, but did not know how to use them. We showed them how to take apart, clean and fire the guns.

We were helped in Juilly sous Thelle by Marcel Lefevre
Mme. DuGonde, 4 Rue Daumesnil, Paris, helped us.

In Basloup, near the forest, Arrain Rene and Roger Bernard helped us. Jean, the woodsman, was very good and a great assistance.

The French organizations I met on the whole were not very good. By far the best was in the Foret de Fronteval. The others in general would not let the evaders go on, and were very afraid of betrayal. The leaders and general organization were poor, even if individuals had good enthusiasm and high ideals.

Top Secret.

RESTRICTED

80 8 1010

WAR DEPARTMENT
The Adjutant General's Office
Washington

AG 383.6 (31 Jul 43) OB-S-B-M

KLS/el-2B-939 Pentagon

6 August 1943

SUBJECT: Amended Instructions Concerning Publicity in Connection with Escaped Prisoners of War, to Include Evaders of Capture in Enemy or Enemy-Occupied Territory and Internees in Neutral Countries.

TO: The Commanding Generals,
Army Ground;
Army Air Forces;
The Commander-in-Chief, Southwest Pacific Area;
The Commanding Generals,
Theaters of Operations;
Defense Commands;
Departments;
Base Commands;
The Commanding Officers,
Base Commands;
Director, Bureau of Public Relations.

1. Publication or communication to any unauthorized persons of experiences of escape or evasion from enemy-occupied territory, internment in a neutral country, or release from internment not only furnishes useful information to the enemy but also jeopardizes future escapes, evasions and releases.
2. Personnel will not, unless authorized by the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department General Staff, publish in any form whatever or communicate either directly, or indirectly, to the press, radio or an unauthorized person any account of escape or evasion of capture from enemy or enemy-occupied territory, or internment in a neutral country either before or after repatriation. They will be held strictly responsible for all statements contained in communications to friends which may subsequently be published in the press or otherwise.
3. Evaders, escapees, or internees shall not be interrogated on the circumstances of their experiences in escape, evasion or internment except by the agency designated by the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department General Staff, or the corresponding organization in overseas theaters of operations. In allied or neutral countries, American Military Attaches are authorized to interrogate on escape, evasion and internment matters.
4. Should the services of escaped prisoners of war, evaders, or internees be deemed necessary for lecturing and briefing, such services will be under the direct supervision of the agency designated by the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department General Staff, or the corresponding organization in overseas theaters of operations.
5. Commanding Officers will be responsible for instructing all evaders, escapees, and internees in the provisions of this directive which supersedes letter, AG 383.6 (5 Nov 42) OB-S-B-M, 7 November 1942, subject: Instructions concerning Publicity in Connection with Escaped Prisoners of War and other previous instructions on this subject.

By order of the Secretary of War:

/s/ J. A. ULIO
J. A. ULIO
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

1. Information about your escape or your evasion from capture *would be useful to the enemy* and a danger to your friends. It is therefore **SECRET**.
2. *a* You must therefore not disclose, except to the first Military Attache to whom you report, or to an officer designated by the Commanding General of the Theater of Operations, or by A. C. of S., G-2, W. D.
 - (1) The names of those who helped you.
 - (2) The method by which you escaped or evaded.
 - (3) The route you followed.
 - (4) Any other facts concerning your experience.
- b* You must be particularly on your guard with persons representing the press.
- c* You must give no account of your experiences in books, newspapers, periodicals or in broadcasts or in lectures.
- d* You must give no information to anyone, irrespective of nationality, in letters or in conversation, except as specifically directed in Par. 4.
- e* No lectures or reports are to be given to any unit without the permission of A. C. of S., G-2, W. D., or corresponding organization in the theater.

GERTIFICATE

I have read the above and certify that I will comply with it.

I understand that any information concerning my *escape* or *evasion* from capture is **SECRET** and must not be disclosed to anyone other than the agency designated by A. C. of S., G-2, War Department, the corresponding organization in overseas theaters of operations, or to the Military Attache in a neutral country to whom I first report. I understand that disclosure to anyone else will make me liable to disciplinary action.

Name (Print) GORRANO JOSEPH J.
Rank 1st Sgt. A. S. N. 32419761
Unit 548 Bomb Sq. 385 Bomb Group

Signed Joseph J. Gorran
Dated Aug. 17, 1944
Witness _____

AG P BR HQ SCS 2-44/2M/22472

RESTRICTED

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
P/W and X Detachment
Military Intelligence Service

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING OR ESCAPING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

TARGET: FRANKFOYT

GORRONG JOSEPH T/SPT 32419701
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

Date mission in action: FEB 8

Date arrived in UK: AUG 16

8 (No. of missions)

548 Bomb 385 Bomb
(Squadron) (Group)

MEMBERS OF CREW: (Please list names next to positions)

Indicate what happened to each man and how you know.

PILOT PABICH - F.F. 1ST LT.
 CO-PILOT CAPO. P. 2ND LT.
 NAVIGATOR CAREY. E. 2ND LT.
 BOMBARDIER FLORES 2ND LT. - BELIEVED CAPTURED
 RADIO OPERATOR SOLOMON. G T/SPT - LAST SEEN IN FRANCE
 TOP TURRET GUNNER
 BALL TURRET GUNNER FULGHAM. J. S/SPT - BELIEVED CAPTURED
 WAIST GUNNER BONE. E S/SPT - EVADED
 WAIST GUNNER GRAVES. F.W. S/SPT - BELIEVED CAPTURED
 TAIL GUNNER HOLLMAN. D. S/SPT - EVADED

Evaded man - papers to me by intelligence. P.W.'s were held to see by French magazine

Decorations:

Date of Birth:

Private Address:

Length of Service:

Job as Civilian:

From what field did you take off? Take off time.

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed?

Were you wounded? Give details.

Did you pay your guides? If so, how much?

Do you speak FRENCH? SPANISH? GERMAN? ITALIAN? OTHER LANGUAGE?

Did you have identity papers?

Have you been questioned before on your escape or evasion? If so, where and by whom?

Have you given any one a written report on your experiences. Where and When?

Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom?

Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, Where and When?

Date of arrival in Spain:

Date of arrival at Gibraltar:

Place and date of departure for UK. By sea or air.

List names of American or British personnel believed to have been arrested by Germans.

List names of American or British personnel believed to be evading.

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Theaters of Operations;
Defense Commands;
Departments;
Base Commands;
The Commanding Officers,
Base Commands;
Director, Bureau of Public Relations.

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Name (Print) GORRANO JOSEPH. I.
Rank T/59T A. S. N. 32419761
Unit 546 Bomb Bn 385 Bomb Group

Signed Joseph I. Gorrano
Dated Aug 17, 1943
Witness _____

AG P BR HQ SOS 2-44/2M/22472

RESTRICTED

If any further information is required concerning this report detailed application should be made to I.S.9 (WEA) G-2 Div S.H.A.E.F. giving the E and E Report No.

DISTRIBUTION:

Capt Devereux, Ops	1
Capt Arnold, 9 AF	1
G-2 FUSA	1
G-2 TUSA	1
File	1
Hq. I.S.9 (WEA)	3
P/W & X Det. MIS	✓
G-2 Div. SHAEF	
(Less App. "C" & "D")	
FILE	

CONFIDENTIAL.

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 32419761 Rank T/SGT.

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) JOSEPH GORRANO

Unit 548 Bomb Sq, 285 Jp.

has been fully/~~briefly~~/interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S.9(WEA) on 5 Aug 1944

and has signed a Security Certificate.

He ~~should~~/should not/be re-interrogated.

Or H. Davis
21LT, CAC
Major. 201

IMPORTANT.

THIS CERTIFICATE MUST BE RETAINED AND HANDED TO (BRITISH)
AN OFFICER OF M.I.9 OR (AMERICAN), AN OFFICER OF PW. & X. DET.
M.I.S. ON ARRIVAL IN U.K. OR U.S.A.

CONFIDENTIAL

CERTIFIED THAT:

This Officer/W.O./N.C.O. has special information on the following subjects:—

None.

*If sent to U.S. this man must
report to 63 Brook St, London.*

Q. W. D.

IMPORTANT

M.I.S. ON ARRIVAL IN U.K. OR U.S.A.
AN OFFICER OF M.I.S. OR (AMERICAN), AN OFFICER OF P.W. & X. DET.
THIS CERTIFICATE MUST BE RETAINED AND HANDED TO (BRITISH)

Major M.

He should not be re-interrogated and has signed a Security Certificate. This man must have been interviewed by an Intelligence Officer of I.S. (WEA) on 19 Aug 1944.

Unit 348 Band R, 1827

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) 1025PH 405740

No. 2587124