

SECRET

E&E No. 1025

E. & E. REPORT No. 1. 9 (WEA) 8/97

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.

1. No. 34720360 Rank. Sgt. Name. Joseph M. CONNABLE
(U.K.: Acting, Temp. or W/S)
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) 2 missions
3. Were you wounded? Give details. Injured my right ankle when landed
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 535th Bomb Sqn.
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 381 B. Gp. 6. Job (Pl. Comd., Rfn., etc.) Gunner
7. Date of Birth 11 Nov. 1922 8. Length of Service 18 mos
9. Peace time occupation Aircraft assembler, Memphis, Tenn. 10. Private address 3553 Coleman Ave. Memphis, Tenn.
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? Dogtags and escape 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 Waist 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 | A.G. Clayton | Evaded, in Allied hands |
| CO-PILOT | R.J. Rice | In allied hands |
| NAVIGATOR | R.H. Chisholm | Believed to be sold to Germans |
| BOMBARDIER | C.H. Middleton | In allied hands |
| RADIO OPERATOR | W.H. Williams | French said he broke his leg, and died in German hands. |
| TOP TURRET GUNNER | N.A. Sango | Believed to be sold to Germans |
| BALL TURRET GUNNER | D.W. Souder | In Allied hands |
| WAIST GUNNER (R.) | Narrator | |
| WAIST GUNNER (L.) | | |
| TAIL GUNNER | R.D. Vitkus | In Allied hands |
17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B-17, Ridgewell England, 25 April 1944
about 0600 hrs
18. Where and when did you come down? St. Genieve about 1030
19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? The French buried my parachute and mae west
20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? believed destroyed in ship

SECRET

After being shot down, I was helped by various French (see appendix "C") until I entered the camp in the Forêt de Preteval on 10 June 1944. From here on my story closely parallels H&E Reports I.S.9 (WEA) 8/8/67, 60, 61. 1039 (Daniel).

For All Personnel.

1. No. 1030
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions)
3. Were you wounded? Give details.
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Spn. (Air Force)
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force)
6. Job (Pl. Comb., Rtn., etc.)
7. Date of Birth
8. Length of Service
9. Place time occupation
10. Private address
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph?
12. Do you speak French, or any other foreign language?

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
 16. Other members of crew, and information about what has happened to them.
 17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure
 18. Where and when did you come down?
 19. How did you escape?
 20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed?
- DISTRIBUTION:
- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Hq. I.S.9 (WEA) | 2 |
| 12 Army Gp. | 2 |
| G-2 TUSA | 1 (less "C") |
| G-2 FUSA | 1 (less "C") |
| File | 1 |
| | 7 |

Interviewed by I.S.9 (WEA)
Date 15 August 1944
Attached: Appendix "B" ✓
Appendix "C" ✓
Appendix "D" ✓
Disposal: Returned to unit.
Major

~~Top Secret~~

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APPENDIX "C" TO E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9(WEA)/8/97

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

No. 34720360 Rank Sgt. Name Joseph M. CONNABLE

Date of Interview 15 August 1944

The following people helped me:

Roger Fenri, Mesnil Theribuse,
Machinist

Rene Morel, Haude Valliers,
Cafe Owner

Top Secret.

SECRET

TOP SECRET

I.S.9 (WEA)

APPENDIX "B" TO E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9(WEA)/8/97

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. 34720360 Rank Sgt. Name Joseph M. CONNABLE
Date of interview 15 August 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?

German Fighter Air Field at Chaumont en Oise, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from RR Station.

Evaluation of informant's credibility.

Key.

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

OBSERVATION

SECRET

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

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: METZ

Date mission in action: APRIL 25

Date arrived in UK: AUG 16

CANNABLE JOSEPH M. SGT. 34720360
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

2 (No. of missions)

535TH Bom B SQ DN. 381ST Bom B GP
(Squadron) (Group)

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

Indicate what
happened to each man
and how you know.

PILOT	CLAYTOR, A.G.	EVADED.
CO-PILOT	RICE, R.J.	EVADED.
NAVIGATOR	CHISHOLM, R.	RESISTANCE SAID SOLD BY FRENCH TO GERMAN.
BOMBARDIER	MIDDLETON, CH.	EVADED.
RADIO OPERATOR	WILLIAMS, W.R.	RESISTANCE SAID HE DIED IN GERMAN HOSPITAL.
TOP TURRET GUNNER	SANGO, N.A.	RESISTANCE SAID SOLD BY FRENCH TO GERMAN.
BALL TURRET GUNNER	SOUDER, D.W.	EVADED.
WAIST GUNNER	CANNABLE, J.M.	EVADED.
WAIST GUNNER	NONE.	
TAIL GUNNER	UTKUS, R.D.	EVADED.

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?

(over)

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.

RESTRICTED

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) CONNABLE JOSEPH M.
Rank Sgt. A. S. N. 34720360
Unit 535 BOMB SQDN 381 AF BOMB GR

Signed Joseph M. Connable
Dated August 17, 1944
Witness _____

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

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CONFIDENTIAL.

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 34720366 Rank Sgt

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) JOSEPH MILLEN CONNABLE

Unit 535th Bomb Sq 381st Bomb Gp.

has been fully/~~briefly~~/interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S.9 (WEA) on 15 August 1944

and has signed a Security Certificate.

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

Cameron J. La Clair
3rd Lt AC.

Bar Major Inc.

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:—

IVONE

IF RETURNED TO UK, this EM is to report
to Special Interrogation Center, 63 Brook
St, London, W.

He should not be re-interrogated.
and has signed a Security Certificate.

IMPORTANT

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