

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

EVADED CAPTURE/ESCAPED FROM (Name of Country) FRANCE

For All Personnel.

1. No. 16079118 Rank 381 (U.K.: Acting, Temp. or W/S) Name Ray D. VITKUS
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) None, 2 missions
3. Were you wounded? Give details Hurt my right ankle on landing
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 535th Sqn.
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 381. B. Gp.
6. Job (Pl. Comd., Rfn., etc.) Gunner
7. Date of Birth 16 June 1921
8. Length of Service 1 yr 6 mos
9. Peace time occupation Student
10. Private address 6616 S. California Ave.
Chicago, Ill.
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? Photos
12. Do you speak French, or any other foreign language? Some French and Lithuanian

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 Tail 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.
Same as E & E Report 8/97
- PILOT
- CO-PILOT
- NAVIGATOR
- BOMBARDIER
- RADIO OPERATOR
- TOP TURRET GUNNER
- BALL TURRET GUNNER
- WAIST GUNNER (R.)
- WAIST GUNNER (L.)
- TAIL GUNNER
17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B-17, Ridgewell, Eng. 25 April 1944
18. Where and when did you come down? St. Genevieve, 1000 hrs, 25 April 1944
19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? French disposed of them
20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? Believe all destroyed with ship

SECRET

(Applies to all BRITISH, CANADIAN, U.S. & ALLIED PERSONNEL)
I was helped soon after landing, remaining in French hands, (see appendix
"C") until I entered the camp in the Forêt de Preteval. From here on my story
is similar to E & E Reports 1.3.9 (WEA) 8/59, 60, 61. 1039 (Capt. Davis.)

1. No.
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions)
3. Were you wounded? Give details:
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force)
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force)
6. Job (Pl. Comd., Rtn., etc.)
7. Date of Birth
8. Length of Service
9. Peace 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?
13. No. and location of O.T.U.
14. No. and location of Conversion Unit

FOR R.A.F. ONLY

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.
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.

Same as E & E Report 8/97

PILOT

CO-PILOT

NAVIGATOR

BOMBARDIER

RADIO OPERATOR

TOP TURRET GUNNER

BALL TURRET GUNNER

WAIST GUNNER (R.)

WAIST GUNNER (L.)

TAIL GUNNER

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" ✓

" "C" ✓
" "D" ✓

Disposal: Returned to unit.

I grade this evasion 2.

CAMERON J. LACLAIR, JR.

2d Lt AC

Major

Top Secret.

TOP SECRET.
I.S.9 (WEA)

APPENDIX "C" TO E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9(WEA)/8/103

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

No. 16079118 Rank Sgt Name Ray D. VITKUS

Date of Interview 15 August 1944 (Evaded in France)

I was helped by the following:

Maurice Rendu
Fay St. Quenine
Chief of Resistance

Top Secret.

SECRET

~~TOP~~ TOP SECRET

I.S.9 (WEA)

I.S.9(WEA)/8/103

APPENDIX "B" TO E. & E. REPORT No.

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.).

16079118

Sgt

Ray D. VITKUS

No. Rank Name

15 August 1944

Date of interview

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?

Large Radio Tower at Fay St. Quenine near Beauvais.

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:

Date mission in action: 4/25/44

Date arrived in UK: 8/25/44

VITKUS R.D. SGT. 16079118
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

2 (No. of missions)

535 381 BOMB
(Squadron) (Group)

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

Indicate what
happened to each man
and how you know.

PILOT	<u>LT. Clator</u>	<u>here</u>
CO-PILOT	<u>LT. Rice</u>	<u>here</u>
NAVIGATOR	<u>LT. Chisholm</u>	<u>French say he was taken prisoner</u>
BOMBARDIER	<u>Sgt. Middleton</u>	<u>here</u>
RADIO OPERATOR	<u>Sgt. Williams</u>	<u>French say he died in a German hospital with a broken leg</u>
TOP TURRET GUNNER	<u>Sgt. Lingo</u>	<u>French say he was taken prisoner</u>
BALL TURRET GUNNER	<u>Sgt. Londer</u>	<u>here</u>
WAIST GUNNER	<u>Sgt. Connell</u>	<u>here</u>
WAIST GUNNER	<u>none</u>	
TAIL GUNNER	<u>Sgt. Vitkus</u>	<u>narrator</u>

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) VITKUS RAY D.
Rank SGT. A. S. N. 16079118
Unit 381st BOMB GP 535 SQ

Signed Ray D. Vitkus
Dated August 17, 1944
Witness _____

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

RESTRICTED

CONFIDENTIAL.

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 16079118 Rank Sgt.

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) RAY D. VITKUS

Unit 535th Sq., 381 Bomb Gr

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. Blair
2nd Lt A.C.

Ca Major. *mg*

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

IMPORTANT.

M.I.S. 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)