

RESTRICTED

2861093

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.

CERTIFICATE

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) JOHN J MEADE  
Rank 1<sup>ST</sup> LT A. S. N. 0-810192  
Unit 801<sup>ST</sup> B.C., 85<sup>TH</sup> DIV

Signed John J Meade  
Dated AUG 20, 1943  
Witness John J Meade Captal

RESTRICTED

AG P BR HQ SCS

122472

Secret

E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9 (WEA) 8/500/184

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. 810192 Rank 1/Lt. Name JOHN JOSEPH MEADE  
(U.K.: Acting, Temp. or W/S)
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) 7 missions
3. Were you wounded? Give details scratched on landing.
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 801 Bomb Sqn.
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 850 Bomb Gp. 6. Job (Pl. Comd., Rfn., etc.) plane commander
7. Date of Birth 29 January, 1924 8. Length of Service 2 years
9. Peace time occupation student 10. Private address 248-54 88 Dr.

Bellerose, L.I. N.Y.

11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? Photograph.

12. Do you speak French, or any other foreign language? Some French.

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 Pilot.
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 Narrator.

CO-PILOT Lovelace, James L., 2nd/Lt.—Killed in fall when chute tangled.

NAVIGATOR Mitchell, Gerald, E., 2nd/LT.—no information.

BOMBARDIER Bonnin, John D.—evaded with me.

RADIO OPERATOR Jones, Edward J. —Reported by French Aug. 8 with organization on way to Spain.

TOP TURRET GUNNER Hines, Frank E. " " " "

BALL TURRET GUNNER -----

WAIST GUNNER (R.) DuBois, William R. " " " "

WAIST GUNNER (L.) ))) -----

TAIL GUNNER Syra, Ellis, H. — Killed or badly wounded by Mello attack. Did not bail out.

17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B-24, 4 July, 2300 from England.

18. Where and when did you come down? 0100, 5 July at MERTVILLE.

19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? Chute caught in tree, did not hide it.

20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? Yes, ship burned completely. Saw ship four days later.

Secret

Secret

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

(Applies to all British, Canadian, U.S. & Allied Personnel)

Lt. Meade:

BAL OUT  
5 JULY

We were attacked by night fighters at 0100hrs, 5 July, and the plane was set on fire. I rang the alarm bell and we bailed. I landed at Merleville at 0100, 5 July, about 40 miles S. of Paris. A fighter had been Ssing over us in the moonlight. We tried to hide in the clouds, but they were too thin. Coming out of the clouds we thought we had lost the plane, but a burst of fire told us that he still know where we were. No. 2 engine was on fire, and the bomb bay was also on fire except just the front. The radio man tried the extinguisher but it did not work. I rang the alarm bell and at about 6,000 feet we bailed out. out over Merleville at 6000 feet. I landed in a

GIVEN HELP.  
MEETS 3 OF  
CREW 12 JULY

I ran and walked out of the woody swamp, in which I hid until I came to a small town. Three French saw me. I said, "Je suis Américain", but they went off. I hid in a good sized woods until 1100, when I halted a man with a cart. He went off and came back with wine, food, and civilian clothes. I was taken from there to a cave, then by bicycle to a house where I was until July 10th. I then moved on to meet Sgt Jones, Sgt DuBois, and Lt. Bonnin of my own crew, and John Lafferty, a B-17 pilot, and we all had a big champagne party.

VISIT GRAVES OF  
CREW MEMBERS.

On the 12th the two Sergeants left together. We were shown the graves of Lovelace and Syra, which were covered with flowers. A mass had been said for them. We moved about in houses of the region until July 20, when we went to Paris, where we were met and very well taken care of. It was planned to send us to Spain. All was arranged on August 2nd, but a phone message went wrong and we did not go to the train. Right after this the lines were cut again by the Resistance. We were about to try again on the 9th, but again something went wrong. We felt this was our last chance and were very depressed.

GERMAN OFFICER  
IN RED CROSS VEHICLE  
HICLES

On August 11 we took the train to Versailles, and started walking down the main road to Chartres, hoping to join the Americans. We got a lift on a truck, and found on it an escaping French PW. The road was clogged with German high officials leaving, all in cars marked with the Red Cross insignia. I do not believe they could all have been in the Red Cross. Mostly not. They were hurrying plenty.

HALTED BY GERMAN CAPTAIN.

Walking with the French PW and Lt. Bonnin about 10 miles N. of Chartres we were stopped by a German Captain, who wanted to know why we were walking toward Chartres. I replied, "Mon pere", and the French PW let forth a regular stream of conversation. He was in a hurry and let us go, saying that other soldiers would stop us. They did, but we got by in the same manner, arriving at Chartres about 1800.

AT  
AMERICANS AT  
CHARTRES CATHEDRAL  
AUGUST 16.

In Chartres we stayed with friends until the 16th, when the Americans arrived, going by the Cathedral about 0800. They met considerable sniping and we joined them later in the day. We were taken to the Division Hq. and gave all the information we could to the G-2, there, Lt. Col. Gibson.

DISTRIBUTION:

I.S.9(WEA) Hq.	3
Capt. Devereux, Ops.	1
Capt. Arnold, 9AF	1
G-2 FUSA	1 (less "C")
G-2 TUSA	1 (less "C")
File	1
	8

Secret

Interviewed by I.S.9 (WEA)

Date 17 August, 1944

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

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

Disposal: returned to unit.

Major

Top Secret

TOP SECRET.  
I.S.9 (WEA)

APPENDIX "C" TO E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9 (WEA) /8/500/184

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

No. 0-810192 Rank 1st/Lt. Name JOHN JOSEPH MEADE

Date of Interview 17 August, 1944

In Merreville, where I arrived July 10, M. Chevalier took very good care of me. He passed me on the M. Berteau nearby, and from there I moved to the DeRossier house.

On July 20 M. Poirier took me and Lt. Bonnin to Paris, where we stayed with Mme. Christol. The organization in Paris was very active and in good spirits, ready to take over the town when the Americans got nearer.

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Name (Print) JOHN J. MEADE

Signed John J. Meade

Rank 1st LT A. S. N. 0-810-92

Dated AUG 20, 1944

Unit 801st BOMB GP 850th BD

Witness \_\_\_\_\_

# RESTRICTED

SECRET - AMERICAN  
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO.  
EVASION IN

AUG 20, 1944  
(Date)

MEADE 1<sup>st</sup> LT 0-810192  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

                                           
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET:

MIA: JULY 4, 1944  
Arrived in UK: AUG 19, 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

	Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT MEADE, J.J.		
CO-PILOT LOVELOCE, J.L. - BAILED OUT. CHUTE OPENED BUT WAS ENTANGLED IN IT & KILLED. I SAW GRAVE		
NAVIGATOR MITCHELL, G.E.		
ENGINEER BONNIN, J.D. - SAW BAIL OUT. NO INFORMATION ARRIVED IN UK WITH ME		
RADIO OPERATOR JONES, E.J. - BAILED OUT - I SAW HIM A WEEK LATER		
OP TURRET GUNNER HINES, F.E. - FRENCH SAY ON WAY TO SPAIN		
REAR TURRET GUNNER		
BAILED OUT. FRENCH VERIFY ALIVE		
WAIST GUNNER DUBOIS, W.R. - BAILED OUT - I SAW A WEEK LATER		
WAIST GUNNER		
FRENCH SAY ON WAY TO SPAIN		
TAIL GUNNER SYRA, E.H. - KILLED IN ATTACK BY ME110		
I SAW GRAVE		

Were you wounded?

SCRATCHED FACE & CUT EAR SLIGHTLY

DISTRIBUTION:

Capt <sup>W</sup> evereux, Ops	1
Capt Arnold, ( 9AF	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. SHAEP	
(less App. "C" & "I	
File	

**CONFIDENTIAL.**

**CERTIFIED THAT:**

No. 0-810192 Rank 1st LT

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) JOHN J. MEADE

Unit 801 BG, 850 SA

has been fully/briefly/interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S.9(WEA) on 17 Aug 1944

and has signed a Security Certificate.

He should/should not/be re-interrogated.

*Richard H. Lane*  
C/LT, CAC  
Major.

**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

To the best of my knowledge and belief this  
Officer is the person he represents himself to be.

I returned to the U.K. this Officer should  
report to 63 Brook St, London.

R.I.R.

M.I.2. ON ARRIVAL IN U.K. OR U.S.A.  
AN OFFICER OF M.I.3 OR (AMERICAN), AN OFFICER OF P.W. & X. DET.  
THIS CERTIFICATE MUST BE RETAINED AND HANDED TO (BRITISH)

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