

RESTRICTED

8081097

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) YORK, AUBREY D.
Rank 2nd Lt A. S. N. 0-756078
Unit 367th F.C.P. 382nd F. Sqdn.

Signed Aubrey D. York
Dated 8/21/44
Witness John H. White, Capt

AG P BR HQ SOS

122472

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R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
NINTH AIR FORCE

APO 696, US Army
19 August 1944

SUBJECT: Orders.

TO : 2ND LT AUBREY D YORK, 0756078, 367th Fighter Group.

You will proceed on or about 19 August 1944 from Headquarters, Ninth Air Force to the United States Special Reception Center, 63 Brook Street, London, W-1, England. TDN by MT, mil acft or rail. 60-114 P 432-02 A 212/50425.

By command of Major General VANDENBERG:

V H STRAHM
Brig Gen, USA
C of S

OFFICIAL:

C R BIRBARI
Lt Col, A.C.,
Asst Adj Gen.

R E S T R I C T E D

SECRET

#1097

Grb sink B
Bury 1st

Aubrey D. York, 2d Lt., O-756078
36 missions
392 F. Sqdn. 367 FCP

TARGET: Communications, Normandy
MISSING IN ACTION: 14 August 1944
ARRIVED UK: 3x 20 Aug 44

No view

I

My P-38 was shot down in a battle with 16 FW 190's near Chartres. In landing my chute was burned as the plane exploded and I wrenched my back rather severely as I hit the ground. Unable to run, I lay in a thicket ~~until night.~~ ~~then I walked three or four hours, using my compass to set a course SW for American lines, Tired and unsure of my way, I lay down in a haystack and slept there until morning.~~

A farmhouse was nearby, and after observing it for some time I knocked at the door and told the Frenchman who I was. He and his family were extremely friendly and gave me food, wine and civilian clothes. They begged me to stay but, determined to push on, I left them ~~with the advice of the farmer to head for Chartres. At first I walked through the fields but this was so tiring I switched to the small roads.~~

The second night I slept in a haystack and in the morning continued walking until I met a farmer near Boneval. He took me into his house and soon after returned with ~~a~~ a girl who spoke English. She seemed to know just what to do with me, and I went with her to her home where I ate and slept that night. The next day an American patrol entered Boneval.

APPENDIX B

No military information. Territory now in Allied hands.

No app B
or C

APPENDIX C

I made it a point not to learn the names of the French who helped me.

APPENDIX D

AIDS BOX: This was extremely useful. I used compass, maps, water bag and tablets.

PURSE: I used the map of northern France and gave 1,000 francs to the persons who gave me food and clothes.

PHOTOS: I carried eight of these but did not use them.

LECTURES: I heard lectures on evasion and escape several times in the US and UK. They were valuable.

Compiled by
Lt. Tiffaney

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

YORK, AUBREY D. 2nd Lt 0-756178
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)
867th F. CP- 392nd F. SQDN
(Unit)

8/21/44
(Date)

MEMBERS OF CREW

PRESENT
OFFICIAL STATUS

PILOT
CO-PILOT
NAVIGATOR
BOMBARDIER
RADIO OPERATOR
TOP TURRET GUNNER
BALL TURRET GUNNER
WAIST GUNNER
WAIST GUNNER
TAIL GUNNER

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing. 1500 HRS - 44M1

N.E. OF EVREUX

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. Was it on fire, etc?

LEFT ENG. ON FIRE - CONTROLS OUT + WIND SHIELD OUT

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? 600 FT.

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed?

NO

What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open?

PILOT - YES

Did the plane explode on striking the ground?

YES

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground?

Did he receive any information from others as to whether any other members of the crew were dead or alive? If so, give details furnished by his informant and whether the other crew members were identified by name or otherwise.

Did source examine the wreckage of the plane? If so, what was its condition?

COMPLETELY DESTROYED

If the plane crashed in water how far was the plane from land and by what means was source rescued and what life rafts, wreckage, etc., remained on the surface that would have assisted other personnel to keep afloat.

What is source's opinion as to the fate of the other crew members and his reason for his opinion?

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

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

Territory in allied hands

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: 8/14/44

Date arrived in UK: 8/20/44

YORK, AUBREY D. 3rd Lt 0-75607D
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

36 (No. of missions)

392 F. Sqdn 367th F. GP.
(Squadron) (Group)

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

Indicate what
happened to each man
and how you know.

PILOT YORK, AUBREY D.

CO-PILOT

NAVIGATOR

BOMBARDIER

RADIO OPERATOR

TOP TURRET GUNNER

BALL TURRET GUNNER

WAIST GUNNER

WAIST GUNNER

TAIL GUNNER

Decorations: AIR MEDAL with 8 CLUSTERS.

Date of Birth: 9/12/18

Private Address: VICK, ARKANSAS.

Length of Service: 2 YRS - 9 Mo.

Job as Civilian: SCHOLAR.

From what field did you take off? Take off time. A-10 - 1300 8/14/44

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? YES

Were you wounded? Give details. BLUISE OVER LEFT KIDNEY
& SMALL CUTS ON FACE & HAND.

Did you pay your guides? If so, how much? YES - 1000 FRANCS.

Do you speak FRENCH? SPANISH? GERMAN? ITALIAN? OTHER LANGUAGE? NONE

Did you have identity papers? ONLY I.D. TAGS.

(over)

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

NO

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

NO

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

YES to 392nd F. Sqdn S-2 - 8/18/44

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

YES - 63 Brook St. London - 8/21/44

Date of arrival in Spain:

Date of arrival at Gibraltar:

Place and date of departure for UK. By sea or air. A19 - A-22 - 8/20/44

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.

shot down in battle 16 Feb 1905.
Chute buried as plane exploded,
back hurt, couldn't run so lay in
thicket to night; saw no one, after
dark waited 3 hours, slept in
haystack. First farmhouse got
food, civilian clothes, food, drink -
they wanted hide but pushed on -
at first tried fields, but got
tired so used small roads -

I'd note, slept haystack - headed
Charters on advice first farmer.
Stopped Bonaval, farmer brought
girl who spoke English - took to
her house, ate, went to bed -
girl returned with French man
who said A's he in town tomorrow -
gave civilian clothes - Americans
came next day -

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Name (Print) YORK, AUBREY D.
Rank 2nd Lt A. S. N. 0-756078
Unit 267th F. GP 392nd F. SQdn

Signed Aubrey D. York
Dated 8/21/44
Witness _____

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AG P BR HQ SOS

122472

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND F REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:-

Unit:-

Suggestions for improvement of escape equipment and training come largely from those who make use of them. Your report and comments will help others to evade capture or to escape.

1. AIDS BOX

- a. Did you use your aids box? *YES*
- b. If not, why?
- c. If you used it, state briefly the circumstances in which you used each item, for example, "While hiding in woods for two nights". *I USED COMPASS, MAPS - WATER BAG & TABLETS*
Horlicks tablets.
Chocolate or Peanut Bar. ✓
Milk (tube).
Benzadrine tablets (fatigue).
Halazone tablets (water purifier). ✓
Matches. ✓
Adhesive tape. ✓
Chewing gum. ✓
Water bottle. ✓
Compass. ✓
Sewing kit.
- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? *NO*
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box? *THREW IN RIVER*
- f. Can you suggest any way in which the contents of the aids box might be changed to make it of greater use, bearing in mind that the size of it cannot be larger?
NONE

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? *YES*
State color of stripes and letters. *UN KNOWN*
If NOT, State why not.
- b. Did you use the purse? *YES*

(over)

c. If so, which of the following items in the purse did you use?

Maps. Which ones? *ONE OF NORTHERN FRANCE*

Compass.

File (hacksaw). *NO*

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. *FRANCE - 1000 FR.*
How did you spend the money? *TO PAY FOR CLOTHES & FOOD*

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

RETURNED TO UNIX

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion? *NO*

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? *YES*
If so, how many? *EIGHT*

b. Did you use them? *NO*

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? *YES*
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.
SEVERAL TIMES IN STATES & U.K.

b. Did you find the lectures of value? *YES*

c. Do you have any suggestions to make which, from your experience, you feel will help other evaders and escapers? *NO*