

RESTRICTED

8-6 1100

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 supercedes 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) Harrison C. Mellor
Rank 1st Lt A. S. N. 0-428403
Unit 448th Bomb Gp, 713th Bomb Sq

Signed Harrison C. Mellor
Dated 24 August 44
Witness John F. White, Capt

REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED
ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG PER
720084

RESTRICTED

AG P BR HQ SOS

122472

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO.
EVASTON IN

21 August 44
(Date)

Mellor, Harrison C. 1st Lt. O-428403
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET: Ludwigshaven

MIA: 1 April 44

Arrived in UK:
20 August 44

7/3rd Bomb. 448th Bomb.
(Squadron) (Group)
8th Mission

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

PILOT	Mellor, H.C.	1 st Lt.
CO-PILOT	Eames, D.J.	2 nd Lt.
NAVIGATOR	Jacobson, F.H.	2 nd Lt.
BOMBARDIER	Goff, M.T.	2 nd Lt.
RADIO OPERATOR	Marx, F.C.	T/sgt
TOP TURRET GUNNER	Warren, W.A.	T/sgt
TAIL TURRET GUNNER	Branch, N.A.	sgt.
WAIIST GUNNER	Little, M.	sgt.
WAIIST GUNNER	Allen, I.R.	sgt.
TAIL GUNNER	Bressler, W. T.	sgt.

Official
Disposition

Narrators
Disposition

Were you wounded? No.

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

EVADED CAPTURE/ESCAPED FROM (Name of Country) France

For All Personnel.

1. No. 0-428403 Rank 1st/Lt. Name HARRISON C. MELLOR
(U.K.: Acting, Temp. or W/S)
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) Air medal one cluster, 8 missions.
3. Were you wounded? Give details no.
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 713 Bomb Sqn.
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 448 Bomb Gp. Job (Pl. Comd., Rfn., etc.) Pilot.
7. Date of Birth 7 April, 1914 8. Length of Service 3 1/2 years.
9. Peace time occupation office manager 10. Private address 131 Harvey Street,
Philadelphia, 44 Pa.
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? Dog tags and escape photos
12. Do you speak French, or any other foreign language? Yes, 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 EAMES, D.V. JR., 2Lt.

NAVIGATOR GOFF, M.T. 2nd LT.

BOMBARDIER JACOBSON, F.H. 2nd LT. All baled out safely

RADIO OPERATOR MARX, F.C. T/SGT. Saw none after landing.

TOP TURRET GUNNER WARREN, W.A. T/SGT

BALL TURRET GUNNER BRANCH, N.A. SGT.

WAIST GUNNER (R.) LITTLE, M. (NMT), SGT.

WAIST GUNNER (L.) ALLEN, I.B. SGT.

TAIL GUNNER BRUSSLER, W.T., SGT.

17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B-24J, Soothing, England, 1 April, 1944, 0620

18. Where and when did you come down? 40 km. N. MEAUX, 132, 1 April.

19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? Buried in woods

20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? yes.

SECRET

E & E Report No. I.S.9(WEA)/8/517/879

SHORT ON GAS
BALE OUT
APRIL 1ST

On our mission to bomb Lügwigshaven on April 1st, our Pathfinder went out over the target. The Deputy Pathfinder took the lead, but we did not drop bombs, going for an hour about North. Our navigator became lost. Our wing found a town and dropped our bombs. Heading back we met an 120 mph headwind and were very low on gas. I transferred fuel to level off the four tanks at about 75 gallons. At 1245 no. 4 engine went out, and I checked our guages. They showed 20-60 gallons per tank. I asked permission to leave the lead of the formation and bale out over France. It was given. We headed S. and feathered engine 4. No. 2 went out at 1330. I rang the bell to bale out. All eight of the crew went out at once, followed by the co-pilot and me. Before I left I broke the gas guages and started to fire the ship, but no. 3 engine went out and the plane started to fall so I left.

LANDS N. MEAUX
HIDES.

My chute opened only on the second pull at about 400 feet, and I hit in a tree about 40 km. N. of MEAUX, above MAY-EN-M. It was 1332, 1 April. I had a laundry bag with G.I. Shoes in it tied to the chute. I put on the shoes and hid my chute and equipment in a hedge. I walked and ran by escape compass to the S., across country, for two hours. I found a barn in a field. Two German officers in a car drew up nearby and I had no exit except across the open field. They went away; I went to sleep.

CONSULTS THE
VILLAGE IDIOT.

Early the next morning I moved on to a village near a wood. I came between two houses, one had wires to it, curtains and fresh paint, the other had a very poor appearance. A boy came out of the rich house and started to throw rocks at the apple trees nearby. A man came by riding on a harrow, dressed in black and not looking like a farmer. I hid. I stopped a man with a cart, and he was friendly. To everything I said he was in cheerful agreement. Finally I noticed bubbles of spit coming out of his mouth. He proved to be an idiot. Another man came and told me that the mayor lived in the rich house and I must avoid it and hide in the woods. I went into a briar patch and heard men beating the bushes. One said very loudly in French "We will find him, then". I suspected that his conversation before was in German.

WITH FARMER'S
DAUGHTER TO
PARIS, APRIL 5

As dark fell I walked into the village of MAY-EN-M. I hid in a cowshed. I tried at the church. The man there laughed loudly at me just as heavy boots were heard and a German came by. I hid in a woodshed. The next morning a farmer came in to get a hoe and I asked him for help. He came back with food. His daughter came out, and I asked for a guide to Spain. She thought her uncle in Paris could help me. On the 4th the village schoolteacher, who spoke no English, brought me clothes, and on the 5 April I went by train to Paris with this girl. Four Germans, soldiers, were in the carriage, but they noticed nothing wrong.

TRAIN TO
ORLEANS AREA

I met the girl's uncle and also looked up the father of an old school friend of mine in America. They did not know what to do, and were very respectable and didn't know any of the Resistance. Finally, they bought me a ticket to CERCOTTES, just north of ORLEANS (so I could avoid a large town and controls), with 5,000 francs and saw me off very cordially at the Gare du Sud on April 6th. I got off about dark at CERCOTTES and hid at a farm.

DINNER WITH-
OUT A DUKE

I went into Orleans early in the morning and approached the proprietors of two cafes tactfully, alone. Neither could help. I tried a Gendarme. He said that the Gestapo were very thick in the town and told me to leave quickly. I crossed the Loire and went S. I nearly ran into a chateau near ST. HILAIRE full of German officers. Two big Mercedes came by with high officials. On the 7th, my birthday, I walked 45 km. I tried the cure of a small town, who called four people on the telephone to find one that might speak English. He made me very nervous. I spent the night at LIGNY LE REBEAU. On the 8th I went through CHAUMONT to ST. VIATRE. On the 9th I stopped at a chateau, where the consierge gave me a fine dinner, and said that if the Duke had been in he would have given me a finer one.

TEST TO PROVE
ME AMERICAN.

On the 10th I spoke to a priest at CHATRES, and he suggested that I try the Resistance at GRACAY. I went there and was taken care of by some French for a week. On the 16th they came to ask me a group of key questions the prove that I was an American. I got by the test all right.

SECRET

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SECRET

2.

GESTAPO CATCHES
RESISTANCE.

Attempts were made to get me papers, but by the 1st of May none had yet been secured. It was thought I might go by plane, but that did not work out. I was given 5,000 francs and much friendly advice. On the 9th the chiefs of the Resistance in both ISSOUDUN and CHATEAUROUX were arrested and all feared a widespread purge of the group. I moved about from house to house. I was getting too well known. Finally I found a place to stay in ISSOUDUN on May 26, where I was until August 7. I was wonderfully treated. A Polish Jew, clothing manufacturer, and his wife were in the house with me, and had been there 15 months.

PLAN TO FLY OUT
IN ME 109

There were many plans for getting me out. There was an ME 109 factory nearby, destroyed by us except for one shed with a plane in it. It needed a few parts. It was hoped they could be got and I take off in the unguarded plane. No parts ever came.

RESISTANCE
JUST BOYS

I joined the Resistance one night in blowing up some railroad track. There were nine of us, with Sten guns. They were just kids, 18-21, with no military training and little horse sense. We were hiding 16 in a farmhouse room and they fooled with the guns. One went off and missed me by two inches. They planned to take over the town of ISSOUDUN, and I decided not to join them.

FIASCO AT
ISSOUDUN

On June 10 the Attempt to take ISSOUDUN was made. Just before noon the town was told by the Resistance to assemble in the square. Fortunately many got the idea wrong and hid in their houses. At 1330 the 15 Resistance in one American vehicle came in on one side, the Germans with Mg's on the other. About 400 ~~French~~ French in the square jeered the Germans, who arrived first. The Germans shot in the air. The French jeered more. The Germans shot at the crowd. There was a pole in the center of the square and a boy was climbing it to hand up the Cross of Lorraine. The Germans shot him down. In the end 11 French were killed and 18 wounded. One German was killed and one wounded, and the one who hit them was the only Resistance boy who fired a shot. He ran into the church afterwards and changed into priest's clothing to escape. Two other Resistance left their complete kit in the square and ran away. The Germans came to see the mayor and demanded hostages. He convinced them that since our dead were so much larger the matter was already arranged. The Germans let it pass, and the French were as gay as ever the next day.

POLISH FIANCEE
SPOILS PLANS

I met a Polish PW who was planning to evade through Spain, and was eager to see his fiancée near the Pyrenees. But the fiancée arrived one day at ISSOUDUN, after a very hard trip, and they went off without me. I heard that the Resistance at LaChatre was very good, and not the sort of thing we had seen. I wrote a note to them, but they replied that I could not be risked in their activities against the Germans.

TRAVEL WITH
MEAT INSPECTOR
AND BEES.

On August 7th I rode with the Maquis to CHATEAUMEILLANT, with a big car and lots of guns sticking out, Chicago gangster style. On the 10th I was taken by two meat inspectors in a truck to the N. Later I rode with a load of bees into NANCY. On the 15th I rode into NOUAN with the inspector of meat and two French. A group of Germans in a truck that was broken down stopped us at pistol point. None spoke French. They made us pull their truck for about 100 yards, but our driver purposely stalled our car and nothing went off. One Frenchman invited the Germans to send someone with us to the N. to get help for the car. They refused. Later the Resistance came back and wiped this party out.

ROWING ACROSS THE
LOIRE AUG. 18

I went on to LA FIERTE ST CYR, and waited until the 17th. A girl went out to see if the coast was clear. There was a good deal of activity. The Germans had come back to collect some dead and wounded with 2 ambulances, 2 armored cars, and 4 French hostages. Such was the fear the Resistance inspired in the area. On the 18th only a few Germans were reported and we left on motor bikes. N.E. of NOUAN at LE CAVERAU, we rowed across the LOIRE, and continued with a motor bike into MEER. THERE we were met with flags and celebration. The Resistance had the town, the FFI were celebrating their victory. I was back with the Allies at last.

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

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Secret.

TOP SECRET

I.S.9 (WEA)

APPENDIX "B" TO E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9(WEA)/8/517/879

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. 0-428403 Rank 1st/Lt. Name HARRISON C MELLOR

Date of interview 19 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?

Evaluation of informant's credibility.

Key.

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

1. CHATEAUROUX had a garrison of about 4,000 Germans on D-day, but they have largely moved out. There is a large turn over in this town and troops are moving through all the time, usually to the N. and E.

OBSERVATION

2. In the area CHATEAUROUX, ISSOUDUN, BLOIS, TOURS the Germans seem to be very much moving out to the N.E. and scared of the American troops. This was seen as late as 18 August.

OBSERVATION

3. TOURS is reported to be well held by the French, about August 15, and would require some pressure to take it.

HEARSAY

4. In the LE CHATRE area the Maquis are very strong and efficient.

OBSERVATION
AND HEARSAY.

5. In the CREUSE Valley area there is one armed S.S. Division, from Yugoslavia, that specializes in handling Resistance groups. There has been heavy fighting with the French in the area. Heard from the French in August.

HEARSAY

~~Secret.~~

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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)/B/517/879

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

No. 0-428403 Rank 1st/Lt. Name HARRISON C MELLOR

Date of Interview 19 August.

On April 5-6 in Paris I met the uncle of the farmer's daughter, M. Farridy, A Swiss who is at the Bourse. He tried to help. I also met M. Charles A. Viriot, the father of my school friend, who works at a brake lining plant.

On April 9th I met Mme. Ramier at THEILLAY. She is English and was very friendly.

At GRACAY on April 10th I met Mme Lewis GARNIER, who was most helpful

On April 19th CLAUDE FARRAGON from ISSOUDUN worked on getting me papers. M. Girard and M. Bonin were very useful to me in June and July and always cooperative. They worked in the AMBOISE area. The daughter of Mme GARNIER also helped considerably. Her name was MADELEINE.

From May 26 to August 7 I stayed in ISSOUDUN with four maiden ladies, ages 45 up. They were the Mmes. CARON. Two worked at the office of the Prefect, two at a small candy store that opened once a week.

On August 8 I met three men of a "jet" team: Lst/Lt. Olmstead, Sgt. Lee and a French Lt. LUCIEN. They were very efficient and able.

Throughout my escape August 8 and later a British agent called ANTOINE or PAUL was of much assistance. He and M. Bonin got me across the LOIRE.

M. BEAUFRERE of ISSOUDUN was very able, as well as M. BONIN. They were the best, although M. BOUGOU, the druggist, called himself the chief and tried to take all the credit. I got the impression that M. BOUGOU was very scared most of the time. He did little actual work for us.

Top Secret.

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CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 0-428403 Rank 1st Lt.

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) HARRISON C. MELLOR

Unit 713 Bomb Sq, 448th Bomb Gp.

has been fully/~~briefly~~/interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S.9(WEA) on 19 August 1944

and has signed a Security Certificate.

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

Cameron J. Blair
2nd Lt A.C.

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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

RTIFIED THAT:

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

NONE.

If returned to UK, this officer should
report to Special Interrogation Center, 63 Brook
St., London

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

IMPORTANT

M.I.2. 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)