

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

EVADED CAPTURE/ESCAPED FROM (Name of Country) France

For All Personnel.

- 1. No. 0-744358 Rank 1st Lt. Name L. Colten
(U.K.: Acting, Temp. or W/S)
- 2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) 48
- 3. Were you wounded? Give details See over
- 4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) No 221, 585 Bqn, 394 Gp. USAAF
- 5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 394 B. Gp 6. Job (Pl. Comd., Rfn., etc.)
- 7. Date of Birth 24 May 17 8. Length of Service
- 9. Peace time occupation Student 10. Private address 5424, Sierra Vista,
Los Angeles, California, USA
- 11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? No
- 12. Do you speak French, or any other foreign language? 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 Bombardier - navigator.
- 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 D.M. Ihle Safe in hands of French patriots, 20 Aug
- CO-PILOT B.I. Bowen Unknown
- NAVIGATOR narrator
- BOMBARDIER
- RADIO OPERATOR W.C. Schaefer With me.
- TOP TURRET GUNNER R. Weting Killed when chute failed to open
- BALL TURRET GUNNER
- WAIST GUNNER (R.)
- WAIST GUNNER (L.)
- TAIL GUNNER E. Klinzing, With pilot
- 17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B.26, Holmsley South, Aug. 7. 1944, 1200 hrs
- 18. Where and when did you come down? 4 Kms, S of Lisieux, 1235 hrs.
- 19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? Resistance hid them
- 20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? Yes

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

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

EVASION CAPTURE/ESCAPED/EROMX(Name of Country) France

1. Eyes still smart slightly from gasoline and hydraulic fluid encountered just prior to baling out.
2. Slight back and neck strain from parachute opening.
3. Two weeks of mild ~~diarrhea~~ dysentery, probably caused by change of diet.
4. Gums and teeth in very bad shape.

Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) 48

Were you wounded? Give details: See over

Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn: (Air Force) No 221, 585 Bdm, 394 Gp, USAAF

Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 394 B. Gp. Job (Pl. Comd., Rtn., etc)

Date of Birth 24 May 17 Length of Service

Peace time occupation Student Private address 5424 Sierra Vista, Los Angeles, California, USA

Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? No

Do you speak French, or any other foreign language? French

FOR R.A.F. ONLY

No. and location of O.T.U.

No. and location of Conversion Unit

FOR ALL AIR FORCE PERSONNEL AND/OR AIRBORNE OR PARACHUTE TROOPS

WHO BALE OUT

Post in Crew Bomber/Navigator - navigator

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 D.M. Irlie Safe in hands of French patriots, 30 Aug

CO-PILOT B.I. Bowen Unknown

NAVIGATOR navigator

BOMBARDIER

RADIO OPERATOR W.C. Schneider With me

TOP TURRET GUNNER H. Wetting Killed when chute failed to open

BALL TURRET GUNNER

WAIST GUNNER (R.)

WAIST GUNNER (L.)

TAIL GUNNER E. Kline With pilot

Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B.26, Holmesley South, Aug. 7, 1944, 1200 hrs

Where and when did you come down? 4 hrs S of Labeux, 1235 hrs

Date 4 Aug 44

How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and map? Resistance hid them

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

Were all reports, papers and equipment destroyed? Yes

Disposal:

Major

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) LEONARD COLLEN

Signed Leonard Collen

Rank 1st Lt. A. S. N. 0-744358

Dated 8-26-44

Unit 5-83TH SQ - 394 GRD

Witness Walter Smith Capt WAP

AG P BR HQ SCS

122472

RESTRICTED

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E 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? *No*
- b. If not, why? *Pocket ripped & aids box lost in descent.*
- c. If you used it, state briefly the circumstances in which you used each item, for example, "While hiding in woods for two nights".

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?
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box?
- 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?

A good pocket compass

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? *No*
State color of stripes and letters.
If NOT, State why not.
- b. Did you use the purse?

No
(over)

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

Maps. Which ones?

Compass,

File (hacksaw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.

How did you spend the money?

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

*Goods in pocket
Goods in pocket
Goods in pocket*

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion?

No

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs?

If so, how many?

No

b. Did you use them?

Overseight

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape?

State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.

Yes - Throughout service in Air Force

b. Did you find the lectures of value?

Not applicable

c. Do you have any suggestions to make which, from your experience, you feel will help other evaders and escapers?

will help other evaders and escapers?

Probably best to be nervous as they are usually confused and nervous

① While evading, keep physically fit

② Be as careful as possible with diet

③ Act like the people whom you are staying with - i.e., a Frenchman

④ Make every attempt to keep clean

*Be observant and be nervous as they are
Leave as much as you can on trays, pans
but they put knife and fork on opposite
sides of plate & clean plate with bread
Do not throw drinks down in
gulf - sip
Do not pour arms
by an open window*

C

1138

I landed in a puddle
of cow manure. Some French
immediately hid my equipment
while others led me to a farmhouse
for food and then hid me in the woods.
I spent the night in a hay loft.

The next morning a member
of the Resistance took me to St
Martin de la Heue (Calvados)
I spent a week here with Ernest
Mallard who has a Boulterne ~~and~~
Selleme. He gave me civilian
clothes and treated me well.

On 14 ~~July~~ ^{August} the crossroads
was bombed, and with many others,
we took refuge at the farm of a
friend 3 km away. On 22 August the
English arrived.

While I was in St Martin de
la Heue, Raymond Frouard the
Resistance chief here, did a
great deal for me. He made my
ID card, and brought me
information on my crew.

EdE # 1138

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

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TO: The Commanding Generals,
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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.

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 - (1) The names of those who helped you.
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- b* You must be particularly on your guard with persons representing the press.
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GERTIFICATE

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Name (Print) LEONARD COLLEN Signed Leonard Collen
 Rank 1st Lt A. S. N. 0-744358 Dated 8-26-44
 Unit 585th SQ - 394th D.G.P. Witness W. J. Smith Capt USG

AG P BR HQ SCS

122472

RESTRICTED

27 Aug

H. Collier

We had a big hit before
we reached target. I looked
around and saw the whole thing
wobbling all over & nothing happening
of course the controls were shot out of
I went into the bomb bay
and jumped (believe it or not) down
never worked in our A/C 7000 ft
~~altitude~~ bailed till stopped
rolling & pulled up speed when
but started down. I landed
comfortably in a puddle of cow
manure. As I pulled in my
chute several peasants ran
up & said hello. They led me
to the farmhouse & others had
chickens & I saw many west of
chickens. There fed &
hidden in woods until
dark said I were searching
in woods someone ^{trough} ^{residence} came
& said would not I move in
next morning. They never did.
Spent night in bay left also
nearby.

Next day members of Resistance
took me to St. Martin de la Ligne

Here week with Ernest
Mallard. Here civilian clothes
& good treatment. Leader worker
Kullerier & Sellone

Drift to Mander's shouled.
to cross - roads & we
moved out to a farm
3 km away. Belonged to friend
of his many ~~refused out~~ here
On 22 August

I wounded. I went to the
armored H. P. Sent me
to Ruzant here accommodations
poor tried hard but so
very slow Officers in house
while room lasted. All
sergants outside on ground
were wounded. (Know of 2)

4K 25

Raymond F. Roward - Chief
of Resistance at St. Martin
did a great deal for me. Got
into on crew etc. (Report card)

S E C R E T

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

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING OR ESCAPING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

R.R. BRIDGE
TARGET: E. OF PARIS
Date mission in action: 8-7-44
Date arrived in UK: 3-9-44

COLLEN, LEONARD 1st LT. 0-744358
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

48 (No. of missions)

585 394
(Squadron) (Group)

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

Indicate what happened to each man and how you know.

PILOT 1st Lt. DONALD M. INGLE : Evaded capture in some vicinity ... whereabouts unknown now
Resistance took them to Lisians just before capture but it

CO-PILOT 2nd Lt. Buford I. Bowen : ??? possibly down with ship
Saw parts of a chute at ship

NAVIGATOR } 1st Lt. LEONARD COLLEN :
BOMBARDIER }

RADIO OPERATOR T/SGT WALTER C. SCHAEFFER : with me
TOP TURRET GUNNER S/SGT RALPH WETING : Killed!! buried by French

BALL TURRET GUNNER
WAIST GUNNER

WAIST GUNNER
TAIL GUNNER S/SGT EUGENE KLINZING : with pilot when last heard from

Decorations: Air Medal with 5 clusters

Date of Birth: May 24, 1917

Private Address: 5424 SIERRA VISTA, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Length of Service: 2 1/2 yrs.

Job as Civilian: STUDENT

From what field did you take off? Take off time. HOLMSLEY SOUTH
1130 AM

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? yes

Were you wounded? Give details. yes ... Back & neck strain ... eyes filled with fuel & hydraulic fluid

Did you pay your guides? If so, how much? NO

Do you speak FRENCH? yes SPANISH? NO GERMAN? NO ITALIAN? NO OTHER LANGUAGE? NO

Did you have identity papers? No

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

YES --- British Army; Bayeux, France

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?

NO

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

YES

Date of arrival in Spain: _____

Date of arrival at Gibraltar: _____

Place and date of departure for UK. By sea or air.

Air Strip #14 - air
8-25-44

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.

1st Lt Donald M. Ihle

S/Sgt Eugene Kleinzig

SECRET

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

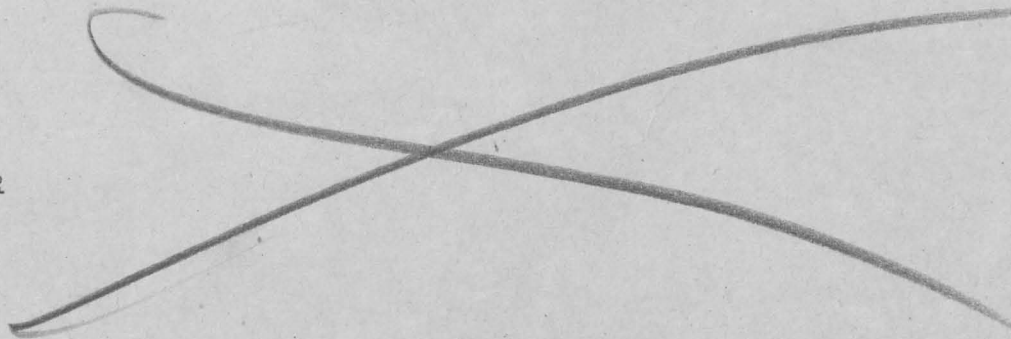
COLLEN, LEONARD 1st Lt. 0744358
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)
585th Sq - 394th B.Gp.
(Unit)

8-26-44
(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. *Crashed 2 miles S. of St Martin de la Ligne on road to Ferraguier*

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. Was it on fire, etc? *Don't know controls shot away by flak*

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? *7000 ft*

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed? *yes - waist gunner received flak wound in head*

What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open? *Schaefer, Fike, Klinging, Weting (chute evidently did not open)*

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? *I don't think so*

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground? *yes - Schaefer (alive)*

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. *No*

Did source examine the wreckage of the plane? If so, what was its condition? *yes - totally demolished - spread over 1/4 mile*

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? *See "Questionnaire for Service Personnel" - learned of Weting's death & burial by a friend (citizen) - also saw spot where he fell & his grave (St Martin de la Ligne 1 1/2 miles S. of Ferraguier) [in Church cemetery]*

Refer case file to St. P.

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

CONFIDENTIAL.

27E#1138



CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 0-744358 Rank 1/Lt

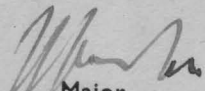
Name (BLOCK LETTERS) CULLEN + Leonard

Unit 585 Sqn. 394 Gp. (M) USAAF

has been ~~fully~~/briefly/interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S.9(WEA) on 24 Aug 44 19

and has signed a Security Certificate.

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


for Major. GS

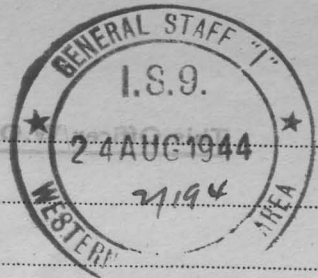
IMPORTANT.

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.

DISTRIBUTION:

I.S. 9 (WEA) Hq. 3
P/W & X Det. MIS
G-2 Div., SHAEF
(Less App. "C" & "D")
File

EYE # 1138
CONFIDENTIAL.



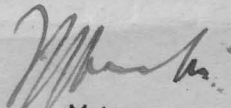
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