

secret

E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9 (WEA) / 8/153 / 266

TOP SECRET. I.S.9 (WEA)

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

EVADED CAPTURE/ESCAPED FROM (Name of Country) France

FE 7/155

For All Personnel.

- 1. No. 0-808329 Rank 2nd Lt Name Frederick F. WILSON (U.K.: Acting, Temp. or W/S)
- 2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) Air Medal, 3 clusters; Purple Heart; 39 missions
- 3. Were you wounded? Give details. No
- 4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 511 Fighter Bomber Sq
- 5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 405 F B Gp 6. Job (Pl. Comd., Rfn., etc.) Pilot
- 7. Date of Birth 20 February 1922 8. Length of Service 2 years, 3 months
- 9. Peace time occupation Student 10. Private address Poinsettia Hotel, Sarasota, Florida.
- 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 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 / / /

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 P-47, A-8 Base, Picanville, France; 1300 12 August 1944

18. Where and when did you come down? Plains of Moinville, east of Chatres, 1345 12 Aug 44

19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? Left near plane and ran

20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? Returned later that night and blew it up with 4 sticks of dynamite.

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1.2.9 (WEA)

At approximately 1330 12 August 1944, eight of us were on an armed reconnaissance mission, when we were jumped by 32 Me 109s. I destroyed one and got one probable, but they got 1st Lt JULIAN MORFORD and 2nd Lt ROBERT E. HAAS. I am sure of this, because I helped to bury them later. Four Me 109s attacked me and shot off my tail, and I started down in a spin. While trying to recover, I hit the ground, and then one of them came down and strafed me while I was trying to get out of the ship, but he missed. I then ran a half mile into the woods and hid for five hours, during which time there did not seem to be any search.

I contacted a French farmer who passed by, and he took me into his farm at once, hid me, fed me, and kept me for one day. Another Frenchman came to see me the following day, and directed me to Denonville, where I stayed in hiding until the Americans came on 19 August 1944.

While at Denonville I came across one of the German planes that we had shot down, searched it, and found something resembling a gyro-compass - which I have never heard of before in a German fighter plane. It was encased on a shelf, back of the armor plate, in the fuselage, with one electrical connection, to what I was unable to determine, as the wire was broken and hanging loose. There were three circles to the main compass; the first two attached together with a multitude of small springs, and the other two rocking at 90° angles to each other. I also found some apparant canon shells, which resembled 40mm shells in miniature because of a top fuse which was set to explode at a pre-determined distance.

On 14 - 16 August I was told by four different sources from four completely different localities about something which I took to be the launching procedure of some form of flying bomb. They said that first in one town and then in another, approximately 15 miles northeast of Paris, they had seen a big canon about 26 feet long, calibre unknown, set up in the street between the houses. When this thing was moved into town in a convoy of 20 - 30 covered vehicles, everyone was evacuated from the surrounding area. It would fire from two to three shots at a time, and then stop for perhaps six hours or so, or perhaps stop altogether for that night. At an altitude of approximately 1000 feet, the projectile would visibly sprout wings, there would be an audible explosion, a sheet of red flame would spurt out behind the projectile, and there would be a high-pitched purring sound, by which time the projectile would be out of sight. The men who operate this weapon have been seen to wear one-pieced rubberized clothing, with big thick black rubber gloves up to the elbow. There was always a large quantity of gasoline around, because many empty cans would always be found in the vicinity the following day. Two of my informants told me that similar barrels had been carried to a certain emplacement after two days of firing. The apparatus was usually moved at night, and vehicles such as our American tank-wreckers were always seen in the vicinity.

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Interviewed by I.S.9 (WEA)

Date 21 August 1944

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

I grade this evasion No. 5
Robert Bacon

ROBERT BACON,
2nd Lt, AC. Major

Disposal: Returned to unit.

Top Secret.

TOP SECRET.
I.S.9 (WEA)

APPENDIX "C" TO E. & E. REPORT No. IS9 (WEA)/8/153/266

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

No. 0-808329 Rank 2nd Lt Name Frederick F. WILSON

Date of Interview 21 August 1944

1. In Moinville it was the Mayor, M. Savourie, who directed me to M. Bois of the organization in Denonville. M. Bois gave me into the keeping of M. Camille Malicot, the butcher in Denonville, and it was there that I stayed from 13 - 19 August 1944.

Top Secret!

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
NINTH AIR FORCE

APO 696, US Army,
24 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Orders.

TO : 1ST LT FREDERICK F WILSON, 0808329, 405th Fighter Group.
~~2ND LT PAUL J GOLDBERG, 0756543, 364th Fighter Group.~~

You will proceed on or about 24 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:

G R BERRI
Lt Col, A.C.,
Asst Adj Gen.



R E S T R I C T E D

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 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.

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) FREDERICK F. WILSON

Signed Fredrick F. Wilson

Rank 2nd Lt. A. S. N. 0-808329

Dated August 25th 1943

Unit 511st F.B. Sq. 405th F.B. Sq.

Witness _____

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SECRET

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
and QUESTIONNAIRE FOR I.S. 9 (WEA) PERSONNEL

August 28th 1944
(Date)

FREDERICK F. Wilson 2nd Lt. 0-808329
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

39
(Target) (Number of missions)

Date Missing in Action: August 12th 1944

Returned to UK: August 27th 1944

511st Fight. Bom. Sq. 405th F.B. Gr.
(Unit)

MEMBERS OF CREW: (List names by positions and indicate what happened to each one)

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

Fighter Pilot

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing.

2 mls. west of Sauterif

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

did not bail out

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

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

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

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? *no*

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.

Two other pilots which crashed with me were dead and were buried by me at the cemetery of Moinville. They were (over) put to Julian Merford and Capt. B Robert F. Haas HAAS. Both I only recognized and identified by their dog tags.

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

Yes. I came back during the night and blew it up with 4 sticks of 250 grams of dynamite.

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.

no

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

Were you wounded?

no

Were you in German hands?

no

Did you kill any Germans in escaping?

not in escaping but later on.

Have you previously given the names of your helpers?

yes.

List any names previously omitted, showing what help was given.

What security briefing were you given?

multiple lectures by security officers & interrogators.

What souvenirs do you still possess?

none

Home address.

Poinsetia Hotel Sarasota Fla.

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.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Regent Palace 482

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 0-808329 Rank 2nd Lt.

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) FREDERICK W. WILSON

Unit 511 7B Sq, 405 7B Gr.

has been fully/briefly/interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S.9(WEA) on 21 Aug 1944

and has signed a Security Certificate.

He should/should not/be re-interrogated.

12 Aug
26 11

Robert Bacon
2/Lt, Major. AC

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:—

1. Gyro-Compass,
2. Cannon,
3. Flying Bomb.

Suggest that he be interrogated by 9th AF technicians.

He has been absent since 12 Aug 44.

French Identity card?

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.2. ON ARRIVAL IN U.K. OR U.S.A.

DISTRIBUTION:

Capt Devereux, Ops	1
G-2 FUSA	1
Capt Arnold, 9 AF	1
G-2 TUSA	1
File	1
Hq. I.S.9 (WEA)	3
P/W & X Det. MIS	
G-2 iv. SHARF	
(less App. "C" & "D")	
File	

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