

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) DAYLE H. YODER

Signed Dayle H. Yoder

Rank 3/SGT. A. S. N. 39272678

Dated August 5, 1944

Unit 489TH BG. 845TH B.S.

Witness _____

AG P BR HQ SOS 2-44/2M/22472

RESTRICTED

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: 6/25/44

Date arrived in UK: 7/29/44

DAVLE H. YODER 3LT 3972678
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

(No. of missions)

845TH 489TH
(Squadron) (Group)

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

Indicate what
happened to each man
and how you know.

PILOT J.D. COFFMAN

CO-PILOT FRED CARR

NAVIGATOR R.E. WALLER - EVADED WITH ME

NOSE GUNNER STEVE PELUS
BOMBARDIER

RADIO OPERATOR D.H. YODER

TOP TURRET GUNNER D.M. CHESHIR

BALL TURRET GUNNER WILLIAM ALEXANDER

WAIST GUNNER VAN DONGEN

WAIST GUNNER MAUK

TAIL GUNNER EARL FIX

Decorations: AIR MEDAL

Date of Birth: 12/2/22

Private Address: 1013 NO. 6TH FT. SMITH, ARK.

Length of Service: 18 MONTHS

Job as Civilian: MACHINIST

From what field did you take off? Take off time. HALESWORTH ARMY AIR FIELD
APPROX. TIME OF TAKE-OFF 1130

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? YES

Were you wounded? Give details. YES - FLAK HITS IN HEAD AND BACK

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

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

Did you have identity papers? NO

(over)

Have you been questioned before on your escape or evasion? If so, where and by whom?
YES - HAWESWORTH AIR BASE

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? NO

Date of arrival in Spain:

Date of arrival at Gibraltar:

Place and date of departure for UK. By sea or air. AUG. 27, 1944

List names of American or British personnel believed to have been arrested by Germans.

LT. J. D. COFFMAN

List names of American or British personnel believed to be evading.

W. ALEXANDER
S. PEGUS
D. M. CHESSHIRE
VAN DONGEN
E. FIX
F. CARR
MAUK

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? *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".

Horlicks tablets. *TO MAKE FRIENDS WITH SOME FRENCH PEOPLE*

Chocolate or Peanut Bar. *WHILE CROSSING COUNTRY*

Milk (tube). *WHILE CROSSING COUNTRY*

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). *WHILE EVAIDING THE ENEMY*

Halazone tablets (water purifier). *WHILE CROSSING COUNTRY*

Matches. *CROSSING COUNTRY*

Adhesive tape. *TO AID WOUNDS*

Chewing gum. *TO HELP WARD OFF FATIGUE*

Water bottle. *TO OBTAIN WATER*

Compass. *FOR CROSSING COUNTRY*

Sewing kit. *TO PATCH CLOTHS*

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? *NO*
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box? *THREW AWAY*
- 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?
NO

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? *YES*
State color of stripes and letters. *NOT 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? *MAP OF FRANCE*

Compass, *YES*

File (hacksaw). *NO*

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. *FRENCH MONEY 2500 FRANKS*
How did you spend the money?

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps. *THREW AWAY*

Compass. *THREW AWAY*

File (hacksaw). *THREW AWAY*

Surplus currency. *KEPT*

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? *6*

b. Did you use them? *NO*

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? *YES*
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM. *HALESWORTH AIR BASE - MAY 1944*

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*

SECRET

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

DAVID H. HOFFER 3LT 39272678
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)
489TH B.G. 845TH B.S.
(Unit)

AUG. 28, 1944
(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. JUNE 26, 1944
1630 NORTHEAST OF PARIS

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

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? 8000 FT.

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed?
TO MY KNOWLEDGE I AM THE ONLY ONE INJURED

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

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? STRUCK THE GROUND

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground?
YES - ONE MEMBER 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? NO

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? SOME FRENCH PEOPLE TOLD ME THE PILOT
WAS CAPTURED BY THE ENEMY

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

APPENDIX "B" 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.,.....)

GERMANS WERE TRANSPORTING SUPPLIES IN AMBULANCES
RESULTS OF ALLIED BOMBING WAS TOLD TO ME TO
BE VERY GOOD