

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

EVADED CAPTURE/~~ESCAPED FROM~~ (Name of Country) **FRANCE.**For All Personnel:

1. No. **Q. 754685** Rank **2nd Lieut.** Name **STEVENS HV**
(U.K.: Acting, Temp. or W/S)
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) **Air Medal.**
3. Were you wounded? Give details. **Burns on face, neck and wrist. Badly twisted knee.**
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) **402 Ftr Sqn**
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) **370 Ftr Gp.** 6. Job (Pl. Comd., Rfn., etc.) **PILOT.**
7. Date of Birth **19.2.21.** 8. Length of Service **2 yrs.**
9. Peace time occupation **Factory worker.** 10. Private address **RUSH, N.Y.**
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? **Dog tags & Passport photos.**
12. Do you speak French, or any other foreign language? **No.**

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 TROOPSWHO 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 **LIGHTNING - Andover - 4 Jul 44 - 1430 hrs.**
18. Where and when did you come down? **East of BERNAY (sq 8079 - sht 7F/4) 1500 hrs.**
19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? **Taken by French people.**
20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? **Destroyed by fire.**

(1) Mission.

I was pilot of a Lightning a/c detailed to execute an armed recon in area South of PARIS on the afternoon of the 4 Jul 44.

On our way to the target in the BERNAY (8079 sht 8F/4) area our group of 36 a/c were attacked by enemy planes.

(2) Set on fire.

We were flying at 12000 feet between two layers of cloud. When I saw an ME109 diving through the formation on my left. Almost simultaneously I felt strikes and some tracer passed my a/c which caught fire.

(3) Baled out.

I baled out at about 9000 feet but I had no time to contact my flight leader. I opened my chute almost immediately on leaving the a/c. My brother was flying in this formation and I wanted to show him that I was OK.

I landed in an orchard severely twisting my right knee.

(4) French help.

I was immediately surrounded by French people who took my chute and rushed me into an adjacent Chateau near the village of ST CLAIR D'ARCEY (837765) where I had my burns dressed and was given civilian clothes. I was then immediately taken to the nearby woods. About half an hour later a doctor came to give me further attention.

(5) Dines well.

I slept that night in the chateau having dined off fried eggs and champagne!

(6) 5 Jul 44.

The next day I was taken to a nearby barn and hidden in the loft. I stayed two days and one night. During which time I had medical attention four times a day.

On the evening of the 6th I was collected from this barn by a farmer in a buggy and taken to his house. From this point my journey was arranged for me.

1. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure
2. How did you escape?
3. Where and when did you come down?
4. How did you escape?
5. How did you escape?
6. How did you escape?
7. How did you escape?
8. How did you escape?
9. How did you escape?
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17. How did you escape?
18. How did you escape?
19. How did you escape?
20. How did you escape?

Interviewed by I.S.9 (WEA)

Date 27 Aug 44.

Attached:

Appendix "A"

"C"

"B"

Disposal: RTU

Major

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APPENDIX "C" TO E. & E. REPORT No. IS9WEA/2/259/621

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

No. Q. 754685 Rank 2nd Lieut Name STEVENS H.V.

Date of Interview 27 Aug 44.

Maps used - FRANCE 1:50,000 Sht 8F/4

The following people were at the chateau where I was taken immediately on landing.

Mme LAMBERT
LA BROUTINIERE
ST CLAIR D'ARCY
BERNAY
(MR 823782)

also
M. & Mme RETBY
26 rue POUCHET,
PARIS 17.

I was under the care of these people for about three days. They were very kind and saw that I ~~wanted~~ received medical attention. As far as I know they were not members of the resistance group but were very good patriots.

The farmer who took me to his farm on the night of 6 was M. ROBERT GRISEL, ST AUBIN LE VERTEUX, BERNAY (MR 800746+).

I was with this farmer who was a member of the resistance group from 6 Jul 44 to 23 Aug 44. Most of the time I was kept comfortably in a room in his house.

On about 9 Jul 44 I was woken up early and moved to a barn in the woods. The farmer told me this was necessary because a farmhouse nearby had been burnt by the Germans because the owners had helped two S. American parachutists who the Frenchman now suspected of having been stool pigeons. The farmer who had owned this farm was reputed to be the head of the resistance group for this area.

Towards the end of July a lot of German troop movement was seen in this area and it was impossible to avoid them. To the Germans I posed as a Frenchman and to the visiting French people I was a Polish servant.

Another man who helped me and spoke English was M. MAURICE ANTOINE ST CLAIR D'ARCY BERNAY. He had been taken P/W by the Germans in 1940 and was supposed to be working as an electrical engineer at Westinghouse in PARIS.

I had been unable to make tracks for the British lines on my own as the scabs on my face would have given me away and my knee made walking very difficult.

On 23/24 however I heard the Canadians were at BERNAY and the farmer M. GRISEL took me in his buggy and I contacted Allied troops.

I was unable to give these people any money as I had lost my escape box and purse also my passport photos on baling out of the a/c.

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) STEVENS HENRY J
Rank 2nd Lt A. S. N. 0-754685
Unit 402 nd Flt Sq 370 th Flt Group

Signed Henry J Stevens
Dated _____
Witness _____

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

Aug 29 1944
(Date)

STEVENS HENRY J 1st Lt 0-754685
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

South of Paris
Armed Reconnaissance 25
(Target) (Number of missions)

Date Missing in Action: July 4, 1944

Returned to UK: Aug 29 1944

402nd Ftr Sq 370 Ftr Group
(Unit)

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

PILOT P38

CO-PILOT

NAVIGATOR

BOMBARDIER

RADIO OPERATOR

TOP TURRET GUNNER

BALL TURRET GUNNER

WAIIST GUNNER

WAIIST GUNNER

TAIL GUNNER

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing. July 4, 1944 - 15:00
4 miles South East of Bernay
Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. Was it on fire, etc?

PLANE WAS ON FIRE BELIEVE BELLY TANK HIT

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? 7000 FT

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

I had Burns About The eyes - Neck & Left Wrist

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.

(over)

Yes

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

completely demolished

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?

Were you wounded? *Had Burns about eyes - Neck - LEFT wrist and severely Twisted right knee on landing*

Were you in German hands?

NO

Did you kill any Germans in escaping?

NO

Have you previously given the names of your helpers?

*Yes - English intelligence
Bayer*

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

What security briefing were you given?

*1. Taken by English intelligence
Bayer*

What souvenirs do you still possess?

- German boots with 1 Heeled

Fin Travel

Home address.

Rush New York USA.

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.

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.

DISTRIBUTION:

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

CONFIDENTIAL.

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 0-754655 Rank 2nd Lt

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) STEVENS NENNY

Unit 402nd STB Sqn 320th FTR 601st

has been fully/~~briefly~~/interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S.9 (WEA) on 27/8 19 44

and has signed a Security Certificate.

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

aw J. L. 8/1/44

MIA 4 July
UK 29 Aug

9th AF
10

Major.

SS.

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.

