

RESTRICTED

1. Because disclosures of information regarding evasion from capture, escape, details of imprisonment, release from internment, and repatriation have been made, the lives and services of fellow soldiers and those who help them have been lost or endangered. All information which you possess on these subjects, including the experiences of others as well as your own, briefings and equipment for evasion and escape, and preparations and other activities in connection therewith, constitutes MILITARY INFORMATION which is classified SECRET by the War Department.

2. You will therefore disclose no information whatever, beyond the fact of your return to duty from "missing in action" or "prisoner of war" or "internment", to anyone except the following military officials:

- a. The first Military Attache to whom you report;
- b. An officer designated by the Commanding General of an overseas Theatre of Operations;
- c. The Prisoner of War Branch, MIS, Washington, D.C., the interrogating agency designated by the A/C of S, G-2, War Department General Staff;
- d. Certain other officers holding written authority from the A/C of S, G-2, WDGS, to interrogate you.

3. You will particularly guard against disclosure of SECRET information to relatives, friends, representatives of the press and radio, and military officials, except as noted in a, b, c and d above.

4. In order to protect yourself against disciplinary action, any question involving publicity must be referred BY YOU PERSONALLY to the A/C of S, G-2, WDGS, Washington, D.C.

CERTIFICATE

I certify that I have read and fully understand all of the foregoing and the Directive of the Secretary of War, 6 Aug 43 (on the reverse side), and will at ALL TIMES hereafter comply fully therewith.

I understand that all information concerning escape, evasion from capture, activities and equipment in connection therewith, and details of imprisonment or release from internment, is SECRET and must not be disclosed to anyone except the military officials specifically designated. I further understand that disclosure to any other person will make me liable to disciplinary action for failure to safeguard MILITARY INFORMATION.

I realize that publicity concerning my experiences, by word of mouth or otherwise, will endanger the lives of many persons and therefore it is my duty to take all possible precautions to prevent it.

I further certify that I have received a copy of the foregoing.

Name (Print) WILLIAM R. DU BOIS Signed William R. Du Bois
Rank S/Sgt A.S.N. 12039333 Dated Aug 28, '44 Place Remains, France
Unit 8508g 801 Bomb Gp Witness Cameron L. Blair
2nd Lt A.C.

RESTRICTED

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WAR DEPARTMENT
The Adjutant General's Office
Washington

AG 383.6 (31 Jul 43) OB-S-B-M

KIS/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 Forces;
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.

RESTRICTED

(See Reverse Side)

1247
SECRET

1634

E. & T. REPORT No. I.S.9 (WHA) 8/223/2614

~~TOP SECRET~~
I.S.9 (WHA)

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

EVASION CAPTURED/ESCAPED FROM (Name of Country) FRANCE

For all Personnel.

1. No. 12039333 Rank S/Sgt Name William R. DuBois
(C.R. Acting, Temp. or W/S)
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of medals) No
3. Were you wounded? Give details. No
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 850 B. Sqn
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 801 B. Gp. 6. Job. (Pl. Cpt. RFA., etc.) Dispatcher
7. Date of Birth 1 May 1921 Length of Service 2 yrs. 9 mos.
8. Peace time occupation Clerk Private address 48 Clermont St.
Saugerties, New York.
9. Dogtags; photos no
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph?
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 AIRCRAFT OR PARACHUTE TROOPS WHO BADE OUT.

15. Post in Crew Dispatcher
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 | <u>1st Lt J.J. Meade</u> | <u>Hands of Resistance in Paris</u> |
| | <u>2d Lt James Lovelace</u> | <u>K.I.A.</u> |
| CO-PILOT | | |
| NAVIGATOR | <u>2d Lt Gerald Mitchell</u> | <u>Don't Know</u> |
| BOMBARDIER | <u>2d Lt John Bonnin</u> | <u>Hands of Resistance in Paris</u> |
| RADIO OPERATOR | <u>T/Sgt E.J. Jones</u> | <u>Safe, in hands of organization, Paris</u> |
| TOP TURRET GUNNER | <u>T/Sgt F.E. Hines</u> | |
| BALL TURRET GUNNER | | |
| WING GUNNER (R.) | | |
| WING GUNNER (L.) | | |
| TAIL GUNNER | <u>S/Sgt Ellis H. Syra</u> | <u>K.I.A.</u> |
17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure. B-24 H, Harrington Eng.,
4 July 44 2300 hrs
18. Where and when did you come down? Nr. Pithiviers (N) 5 July 44 0130 hrs
19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? Hid in woods
20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? No, parts lying around plane
after crash.

Interview by I.S.9 (WHA)

Date 28 Aug. 1944

I grade this evasion 5.

Attached:

Appendix "B"

Appendix "C" ✓

Appendix "D"

Returned to unit.

Disposal:

Cameron J. Laclaire, Jr.
2d Lt AC

Major

SECRET

SECRET

When I landed at 0130 hours, 5 July 1944, approximately fifteen miles north of PITHIVIERS, I buried my chute and took off. Soon the Jerries who were hunting me came near a farmhouse. However, a woman saw me and brought another chap who checked my identification discs. This man took me down a road and showed me a large farmhouse. It was now about 0600 hours.

I decided to take a chance, went up to the farmhouse, and found another American, 1st Lt WILLIAM LAFFERTY. The chap who owned the farmhouse fed us and took us into the woods where we hid all morning while the Jerries hunted us. About 1400 hours our friends came and took us to OUTARCES, where we stayed for about eight days, until 13 July. While there, my radio man came and spent a few days and nights with me. On the 18th the three of us, LAFFERTY, JONES and I split up. I went to a farm near GRENEVILLE-EN-BEAUCE, staying there until 23 July. On that day my radio man joined me and we went to CHARMONT. The third day we were there we met up with our bombardier (26 July). We were then taken to the house of the farmer where I had met my pilot, Lt MEADE. After spending the night there, the radio man and I were taken back to CHARMONT for two days, until 29 July.

Once again I was taken back to the house of the farmer who had first helped us, discovering when we arrived that the pilot and bombardier had already left for ETAMPES and PARIS. The radio operator, Lt LAFFERTY and I spent the night until 0900 hours 30 July.

We then took a train to PARIS with two Resistance chaps who took us to a cafe in the depot where we met additional Resistance people. These people took all of us to various places in PARIS. LAFFERTY and I were taken to the same place where we remained until the Americans entered PARIS.

DISTRIBUTION:

I.S.9(WEA) Hq.....	2
12 Army Gp.....	2
G-2 TUSA.....	1
G-2 FUSA.....	1
File.....	1
	<u>7</u>

SECRET

Top Secret

TOP SECRET.
I.S.9 (WEA)

APPENDIX "C" TO E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9(WEA)/8/223/2614

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

No. 12039333 Rank S/Sgt Name William R DuBois

Date of Interview 28 August 1944

The owner of the large farmhouse where I met Lt LAFFERTY was M. BERTOT.

In OUTAR^S we stayed with the local miller.

In GRENEVILLE-EN-BEAUCE we stayed with a pork butcher named BOUVILLIET.

In PARIS we first stayed in a flat on the corner of the Rue Quincampoix and Blvd Sevastopol.

We also stayed with M TUÇSON on the Blvd Gouvieux-St-Cyr until the Americans arrived. This man was one of the heads of the Resistance in PARIS.

Top Secret.

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WAR DEPARTMENT The Adjutant General's Office Washington

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6 August 1943

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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.

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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.

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) De Bois, William R.

Signed William R. De Bois

Rank S/SGT A. S. N. 12039333

Dated 31 Aug 1944

Unit 850th Bomb Sq; 801st Bomb Sq

Witness Charles A. Brown

1st Lt. A.C.

AG P BR HQ SOS

/22472

RESTRICTED

S E C R E T

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 31, 1944
(Date)

DuBois, William R - 3/ser 12039333
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

FRANCE 6
(Target) (Number of missions)

Date Missing in Action: JULY 5, 1944

Returned to UK: AUGUST 30, 1944

850 Bomb Sq, 801st Bomb Sq
(Unit)

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

PILOT 1/ser John J. Meade - Crashed
CO-PILOT 2/ser James Lovelace - Killed
NAVIGATOR 2/ser Gerald Mitchell - Crashed
BOMBARDIER 2/ser John Bonnin - Crashed
RADIO OPERATOR 7/ser Edward J. Jones - Crashed
TOP TURRET GUNNER 7/ser Frank E. Hines - Crashed
BALL TURRET GUNNER _____
WAIST GUNNER 3/ser William C. DuBois - Crashed
WAIST GUNNER _____
TAIL GUNNER 3/ser Ellis H. Sza - Killed

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

July 5, 1944, Plane crashed near village of Angerville in the Dept. of Loiret, France

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

No 2 engine and bomb bay were afire

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

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

Tail Gunner, 3/ser Sza, was killed in plane

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

All members except tail gunner bailed. The co-pilot Lt. Lovelace was killed in the jump. His chute somehow fouled up after opening

Did the plane explode on striking the ground?

Yes

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground?

Yes

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.

The man I was staying with checked up on other crew members from him I learned their whereabouts. He had names of members. That all except the navigator, Lt Mitchell. But the man described him
(over)

so I knew it was St Mitchell. And, from what I could gather, St Mitchell hadn't been picked up by the organization, because, when approached by the Frenchmen, he would run away.

- 2 -

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

Yes. The plane was burned so bad that I could only identify Vertical Stabilizer. 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?

Sgt Lyra, the tailgunner, was shot by the enemy fighter (ME 110) in his turret. Evidently the Co-pilot, St. Loulace, had fell wrapped up in his chute.

Were you wounded?

No.

Were you in German hands?

No.

Did you kill any Germans in escaping?

No.

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?

By Intelligence from Washington and Group Int.

What souvenirs do you still possess?

cigarette lighter, arm band of F.F.I., perfume

Home address.

48 Clermont St; Saugerties, N.Y.

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.

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 12039333 Rank S/Sgt.

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) William R. DuBois

Unit 850 Bomb Sq. 801 Bomb Group

has been fully/~~briefly~~/interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S.9(WEA) on 28 Aug 1944

and has signed a Security Certificate.

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

James J. DuBois
2nd Lt. AC.

—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

CERTIFIED THAT:

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

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) *William R. De Bois*
Unit *820 (Low)*
If returned to U.K. report to *63 Brook St. London.*

has been fully interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.2.9 (WEA) on *25 Aug 1949*
and has signed a Security Certificate.
He should/should not be re-interrogated.

James G. De Bois
2nd Lt. WEA

Major.

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)

BILLETING OFFICE
CENTRAL BASE SECTION
COM Z., ETOUSA

7 Feb 44
0686

30-8-44

SUBJECT: Assignment of Billet.

TO : ~~S/Sgt. William Dubois, 1203933, 801 Bomb Gp.~~
(Name, rank, branch and ASN)

1. You are assigned the following government billet:

~~Room 9, Lurgan Hotel, 115 Cromwell Road, SW 7~~
(Room No., hotel and address)

2. You are responsible for extras which you incur; for example; laundry, cleaning, food, etc.

3. You will check in and out of the hotel in the usual manner.

4. Officers leaving this station must leave billet and clear with the Billeting Office before 1000 hours on date of departure. This is accomplished by obtaining Hotel Cashier's signature on the space allotted on reverse side, and presenting this chit to the Billeting Office. Failure to comply with this directive will be reported to your Headquarters for disciplinary action.

Assignment of Billet.

Page 2.

5. Officers leaving this station on Temporary Duty or Leave will notify the Billeting Office. Failure to comply will result in termination of billet.

For the Commanding General:

Donald E. Wentzel
DONALD E. WENTZEL
Captain, AC
Billeting Officer

This is to certify that the officer named hereon has paid all bills for extras as outlined in paragraph 2 on reverse side.

Date

31.8.44

P. V. Cumbergen
(Hotel Cashier)