

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

*Clarence B Rich* *2d Lt* *0-706969*  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET: *Airfield N. Lyon*  
Date mission in action: *23 June*

*9* (No. of missions)

Date arrived in UK: *31 Aug.*

*577th* *392nd Bb. Gp.*  
(Squadron) (Group)

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

Indicate what happened to each man and how you know.

PILOT *Warren T. Whittemore* *1st Lt 0-026065 P/W* {from french reports I believe this man was wounded and in care of french people  
CO-PILOT *James M. Ackerman* *2d Lt 0703095 P/W*

NAVIGATOR *Clarence B. Rich* {I was burned  
ASST. NAV. *STANFORD H. BERNBAUM* *2d Lt 0702864 - MIA*

BOMBARDIER *Milton Issenberg* *2d Lt 0699556 - P/W*

RADIO OPERATOR *Robert H. Ammon* *1st Lt 13096618 - MIA*

TOP TURRET GUNNER *Carl L. Peterson* *1st Sgt 39282483 - MIA*

*Command Pilot*  
BALL TURRET GUNNER *Capt. Graper* *1st Lt 0793760 - P/W*

WAIST GUNNER *Charles V. Altmanus* *1st Sgt 37474344 - P/W*

WAIST GUNNER *Maurice Lampe* *1st Sgt 6938055 MIA* {French people said this man was burned to death  
TAIL GUNNER *Robert J. Tremlett* *1st Sgt 32659692 MIA*

Decorations: *None*

Date of Birth: *March 6, 1919*

Private Address: *Dean, Montana*

Length of Service: *2 yrs. 3 months 16 days*

Job as Civilian: *Rancher*

From what field did you take off? Take off time.

*Station 118*

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed?

*I don't know*

Were you wounded? Give details.

*I was burned by gasoline before I parachuted*

Did you pay your guides? If so, how much?

*No*

Do you speak FRENCH? SPANISH? GERMAN? ITALIAN? OTHER LANGUAGE?

*Par Beau Coup*

Did you have identity papers?

*yes, dog tags and French Identity Card*

(over)

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

*Yes by 1st Army G-2 (military information)*

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~~ *No*

Date of arrival in Spain:

*Never*

Date of arrival at Gibraltar:

*Never*

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

*Sta. 118 24 June*

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

*6 of my crew*

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

*Possibly 3 of my crew*

E & E CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

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

June 24 19:30 o'clock  
Barenton Bugay, France

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out.

Was it on fire, etc?

Plane on fire and spinning

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

15000 ft.

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

I don't know

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

All except tail gunner bailed out

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?

No.

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.

French people said 2 members were found by them

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 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 reasons for his opinion?

6 prisoners }  
4 Escapees } French informants  
1 Burned }

"C" Report

1274

2nd Lt. Clarence B. Rich 0-706969  
577/392 23 JUN - 31 Aug

On the 24 June our ship was hit by flak. I bailed out and landed in a swamp on the outskirts of Barenton Bugny (AISNE). There were many Germans in the Area, and I was forced to remain in hiding in the swamp for the next 3 days. On the 2nd day I called to a French boy. He brought me food and a Polish boy who spoke English and promised to bring the Resistance to my aid. A girl brought me food, medicines and clothes. Her father had recently been killed while doing forced labour for the Germans on an air-field. On the 3rd day a Resistance man came to see me. He checked my identity and left me. Another Resistance man came later that day with a note in English. He led me to a woods behind a farmhouse on the S side of Barenton. At midnight the first Resistance man came for me and led me to his mother's home. Here I was questioned by a girl who spoke English. The following morning both Resistance men took me to a house in Laon (AISNE) where I stayed for 3 days. A Doctor was brought in to tend my burns. On the evening of my arrival I met a Frenchman who acted as interpreter at the German Hq. in Laon. He was actually head of the French spy ring. He was about 52, 6 feet, thin, grey hair, partially bald, sallow complexion and ruddy cheeks. Earlier photos of him showed that he was quite fat. On the 3rd day of my stay he procured an identity card for me and took me to a man who was going to take me in his truck to the Underground Hq. in Paris. We had got as far as 10 miles NE of Paris when we were stopped on the road by a German patrol. We were 3rd in a line of trucks and at a signal from the driver I left the truck and hid in a wheatfield. When the Germans left I walked toward Paris. On the outskirts of Paris I stopped a boy and gave him a note in French explaining who I was. He took me to his home where I spent the night. The next morning the boy's mother took me to a friend's house in Sartrouville (SEINE LOISE). This friend introduced me to Adolph Legros, 19 Rue de Seine, Sartrouville, the local butcher and a member of the Resistance. M. Legros had me stay with a woman who worked in the local bicycle shop. He then brought in his cousin who acted as interpreter in the Dornier Flying Boat Factory in Sartrouville. We discussed plans and it was decided that I should remain in hiding. I was taken to M. Legros's house and there I remained until the arrival of the Americans on the 28th August. There were 2 Russians in hiding here with me, 1 was a Partisan, the other a former Sgt. in the Army. A Mme. Maude Alexandre was a Resistance helper and was very helpful to me. The Mayor of Sartrouville, M. Andre Obin, provided us with clothes and identity cards. I also met here a German naval officer who formerly piloted boats on the Seine. He had no relatives in Germany and was anti-Nazi. He lived with a French woman and had deserted 10 days before the arrival of the Americans. In his uniform, he would take a truck to the German supply depot and bring back food and arms for the French. He was well liked by the French who promised to protect him.

R. Sarant  
2nd Lt AUS

Read [Signature]

Canned Dog Tag

Capt. P. Identite.

Barenton Bugay

Target Airfield

Unloaded when hit by flack. Plane took fire. All but  
Tail gunner baled out (French say). I went last at 12,000  
delayed to 1900. Tail turret man got. Copilot badly  
hurt & ~~French~~ & died into Catwalk. I don't know his  
1/2 to. French told me the T Turret gunner was dead - they  
had seen his body & got his name from dog tags. Saw  
6 chutes above me - all taken prisoner (French)

I landed in swamp and out skirts of Barenton Bugay.  
I saw beermans as I came down & was tried by a French  
who signed me to swim, so I ditched my chute I hid in high  
grass. I buried here my identification, headset & watch.  
I then hid in wood till after for 2 day & 2 night, the first night  
carefully concealed as beermans were searching area. ~~On 2nd day~~  
~~French~~ ~~by~~ ~~the~~ ~~1st~~ ~~day~~ in swamp I called a French boy  
who brought food, & a girl brought me more stuff. There were  
beermans all around this vicinity. He also brought a Polish boy  
who spoke English who told me to inquire being help from Resistance.  
Following day Res. came with ~~choking~~ ~~at~~, took my identification  
etc. Choking was brought by girl who Po was killed while working  
(forced was being a field). On the 3rd day a Res. man came  
with me in English. I follow him out of swamp <sup>wood behind</sup> ~~to~~ ~~an~~ ~~house~~  
on S. side of town. Medicaments were brought on 2nd day by girl.  
Stayed in wood until midnight. Reg A then led me to his mother's  
home. Stayed there overnight. Was questioned by girl who spoke  
English. I left in AM with both Res Men to Laon;

a frenchman's home & a fox-leaded me here. I stayed  
here 3 days. In evening here a frenchman came & was an interloper  
for going to the loan but unofficially he was head of French  
Spy ring (left talk, about 60, grey hair part bald, thin, but  
earlier photo showed him to be fat. Blue, pallor but reddish cheeks)  
He took me the last night <sup>(much identity copy)</sup> to a man who took  
me a ferry toward Paris (we were heading for Undergr. Hq.)  
but we were stopped 10 N.E. of Paris by German. searching for  
coached AM. He was 3rd in line of trucks; I ducked on signal  
from frenchman & hid in wheat field. When German left  
I took road for Paris. Wandered into German airfield &  
but succeeded in getting out, when I tumbled into AA battery  
but OK. Reached out head of Paris, approached French  
boy. I showed him a note in French saying who I was. He took  
me to his home where I spent the night. The next  
day his mother took to Santrouville N.W. of Paris  
(La Ferrière house). This is a retired life butcher (and den)  
who was Rev. His name Adolphe Regras, 19 Rue de Selins.  
He hid me with a woman who worked in local cycle shop.  
The Butcher brought in his cousin (an interloper in German  
Flying Boat factory (Dornier) in Santrouville. He liked plain  
and he advised me to stay put. But when I stayed with  
butcher until American cond. on 2nd. 4 Aug. At butch there  
were 2 Russians. 1 Partisan  
the other Sgt in Army.

Madeleine Maude Alifantoe, a resistance helper, 10 Rue  
de Pascal <sup>Santrouville</sup> called of her own half part.

Mayor = Grosse & red identity cards (André Obino) clothes  
all of us.

These people helped women. Reproductive escapes etc.

First contact with Lt. Col. 419 Corp. ~~Wagoner~~ (Butcher etc)  
 4 German rifles for F.F.I. He advised me to go to Paris.  
 I did & went to Col. in charge Stein & Stupic who gave me pass  
 & driver & sent I reported to Coghlin May under Lt Col.  
 Nelson & Windsor, on 29<sup>th</sup>. ~~Reported to~~ I went  
 called back to Satorville & ~~where I~~ <sup>where I</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~detained~~ <sup>detained</sup> by G2.  
 19 Corp ~~to~~ <sup>HCA</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>for</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>with</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>Col. Lawrence</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>AF</sup>  
 by a Col. they lodged me & sent me back next day to 9 A.F.  
 Hq. An A-2 <sup>(Capt. Campbell)</sup> ~~advised~~ <sup>advised</sup> me, spent night there &  
 next day flew to Weston.

I saw a German Naval officer (Sea boat) no relatives  
 in Germany anti-Nazi, lived with French women.  
 He deserted 10 days before Yanks got there. In uniform  
 he had went to German supply & brought food for  
 friends as well as arms; French like him & are going to  
 protect him.

Rode back from 9<sup>th</sup> Army Hq to 9 A.F. Base  
 Campway with life correspondent. I gave him  
 no details of my adventure - just general  
 info.

# 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) Clarence B. Rich  
Rank 2nd Lt. A. S. N. 0-706969  
Unit 5-77th Sq. 39th and 86. Gp.

Signed Clarence B. Rich  
Dated 31 August 1944  
Witness Dolly G. Smith Capt AGC

AG P BR HQ SOS

122472

# RESTRICTED



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 BOXa. 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. *Yes, Hiding in swamp 3 days*Chocolate or Peanut Bar. *" " " "*Milk (tube). *" for burn ointment*Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). *No*Halazone tablets (water purifier). *yes, hiding in swamp*Matches. *yes,*Adhesive tape. *no*Chewing gum. *no*Water bottle. *yes*Compass. *yes*Sewing kit. *yes*

d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?

e. How did you finally dispose of the box? *Chewing gum*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? *buried it.**Small amount of burn ointment*2. PURSEa. Did you carry a purse? *no*

State color of stripes and letters.

If NOT, State why not.

b. Did you use the purse? *Gave it to my Nose Turret Navigator**because of Extra Crew member*

(over)

c. If so, which of the following items in the purse did you use? *None*

Maps. Which ones?

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.  
How did you spend the money?

d. How did you dispose of:- *None*

Maps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

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? *Yes*

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape?  
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.

*Yes Sta. 118*

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?

*Yes*