

CONFIDENTIAL.

105

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 13096977 Rank 2nd Lt. USAAF

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) NEKERVIS J-H.

Unit 555 Sqdn 386 Grp (B)

has been ~~fully~~/briefly/interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S.9(WEA) on 1 Sep 1944

and has signed a Security Certificate. ✓

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

Therrell

for 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.

RESTRICTED

WAR DEPARTMENT
The Adjutant General's Office, Washington

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

6 August 1943

KLS/el-2B-939 Pentagon

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.

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) NEKERYIS J. H. Signed J. H. Nekeryis
Rank T/Sgt A. S. N. 13096977 Dated 1 Sept 44
Unit 386th Bomb Gr. 555th Bomb Sq Witness Shewell

RESTRICTED

1404

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Name (Print) NEKERVIS J. H.
Rank T/Sgt AG S. N. 13096977
Unit 386th Bomb Gr 555th Bomb Sq

Signed J. H. Nekervis
Dated 1 Sep 44
Witness J. H. Nekervis

RESTRICTED

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

EVADED CAPTURE/ESCAPED FROM (Name of Country).....

For All Personnel.

1. No. 13096977 Rank 2nd Sgt USAAF Name NEKERVIS, J. H.
(U.K.: Acting, Temp. or W/S)
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) Air medal D.F.C. 65.
3. Were you wounded? Give details No.
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 555 Sqn (B)
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 386 Gp (B) 6. Job (Pl. Comd., Rfn., etc.)
7. Date of Birth 27.7.17 8. Length of Service 2 yrs 2 mths
9. Peace time occupation clerical worker 10. Private address 210 East Maple Ave
Merchantville, N.J.
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? No.
12. Do you speak French, or any other foreign language? No.

FOR R.A.F. ONLY.

13. No. and location of O.T.U. 335 Gp (B) 475 Sqn Barksdalefield,
Louisiana.
14. No. and location of Conversion Unit —

FOR ALL AIR FORCE PERSONNEL AND/OR AIRBORNE OR PARACHUTE TROOPSWHO BALE OUT

15. Post in Crew Radio operator
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 A.G. Burger</u> | <u>Killed</u> |
| CO-PILOT | <u>2 Lt Lodge</u> | <u>do.</u> |
| NAVIGATOR | <u>Sgt F.A. Kondak</u> | <u>do</u> |
| BOMBARDIER | | |
| RADIO OPERATOR | <u>namater</u> | |
| TURRET GUNNER | <u>Sgt Samuelson</u> | <u>Unknown.</u> |
| BALL TURRET GUNNER | | |
| WAIST GUNNER (R.) | | |
| WAIST GUNNER (L.) | | |
| TAIL GUNNER | <u>Sgt L.E. McMonigle</u> | <u>Killed</u> |
17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure Marauder, Eastern Lodge, 12.6.44
1930 hrs
18. Where and when did you come down? Between NORVILLE and ST MAURICE
D'EGAN (NVA 42 8422) about 2045 hrs
19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? Hidden
20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? yes etc Blow up.

(Applies to all BRITISH, CANADIAN, U.S. & ALLIED PERSONNEL)
EVASION CAPTURE/ESCAPED FROM (Name of Country)

For All Personnel.

1. No. *13090000* Rank *2nd Lt U.S. Army* Name *WEKERVIS, R.F. T.H.*
(U.K.: Acting, Temp. or W/2)
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) *in Medal DFC*
3. Were you wounded? Give details *No.*
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Spn. (Air Force) *288 Tsgn (B)*
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) *388 Tsgn (B)*
6. Job (Pl. Comd., Rfn., etc.)
7. Date of Birth *27.7.17*
8. Length of Service *2 yrs 5 mths*
9. Peace time occupation *Technical writer*
10. Private address *210 East Maple Ave*
Westchester, N.Y.
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? *No.*
12. Do you speak French, or any other foreign language? *No.*

FOR R.A.F. ONLY.

FOR ALL AIR FORCE PERSONNEL AND/OR AIRBORNE OR PARACHUTE TROOPS
WHO BALE OUT

13. No. and location of O.T.U. *332 Tsgn (B) 412 Tsgn Parachute*
14. No. and location of Conversion Unit
15. Post in Crew *Radio Operator*
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 *1st Lt C.E. Burgess*
CO-PILOT *2nd Lt*
NAVIGATOR *2nd Lt J.A. Ganss*
BOMBARDIER
RADIO OPERATOR *2nd Lt*
TOP TURRET GUNNER *2nd Lt*
BALL TURRET GUNNER
WAIST GUNNER (R.)
WAIST GUNNER (L.)
TAIL GUNNER *2nd Lt E.E. MacFarlane*
17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure *Warner, Canton, Mass., 12.6.44*

Interviewed by I.S.9 (WEA)

Date

Attached:

Appendix "B"
"C"
"D"

Disposal:

Major

APPENDIX "C" TO E. & E. REPORT No.

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

No. 13096977 Rank Tech Sgt Name NEKERVIS. J. H.

Date of Interview 1st Sept 44

Helped by.

- ① GEORGES BENET who lives at VATTEVILLE
LA RUE (NWE-4. 49122) on the banks of
the Seine. Small house next to a very large
one.
- ② ROBERT CAVÉ, who lives at NOTRE DAME
DE GRAVENCHAN. (L. 8324)
Keeps a bicycle shop.

APPENDIX "D" TO E. & E. REPORT No. 1/105No. 13096977 Rank 2nd Sgt. Name NEKERVIS. J-H.Unit 555 Sqn 386 Gp. (B)

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 or escape capture.

I. AIDS BOXES.

- (a) Did you use your aids box ? yes
- (b) If not, why not ? _____
- (c) If you used it, state briefly when and where When I first landed for 2 days near Neville barley.
- (d) What did you use ? Harlick's tablets, Halazone tablets, sugar
- (e) Did any of the items prove unsatisfactory ? no
- (f) How did you finally dispose of the box ? Lost it ~~swam~~ Burned it.
- (g) 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 it cannot be larger ? no.

2. PURSE.

- (a) Did you carry a purse ? yes If not, why not ? -
State colour of purse light brown
- (b) Did you use it ? no.
- (c) If so which of the items in it were used ? Maps ? lost while swimming the Seine
Compass ? _____ File ? _____
Foreign currency _____ State countries and amounts used ? _____
What was it spent for ? _____
- (d) How did you dispose of : Maps _____ File _____
Compass _____ Surplus currency _____

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion ? no.4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS.

Did you carry any passport size photographs ? If so, how many ? no.

Did you use them ? _____

5. LECTURES.

- (a) Were you lectured on evasion and escape ? State where, when, and by whom if possible ? yes
Frequently by Sqn Ld. 1944.
- (b) Did you find the lectures of value yes.
- (c) Do you have any suggestions based on your experience which will help other evaders and escapers ? yes.
Take great care of Aids Box. ~~Keep contents of aids~~

E & E CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

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

6/12/14 - 20:50 - Midway between Norville + St Maurice de
Entielle

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

Was it on fire, etc?

ENTIRE LEFT ENGINE A FIRE - FLAK
PENETRATING FUSALAGE BY TURRET

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

~~1000~~ P Told chute
open APPROX 400 M. (1300 FT)

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

No

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

Reported 1 other chute opened

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.

YES-

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

No - Ship blew up shortly upon STRIKING
GROUND - Did NOT inspect ship wreckage

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?

Lodge - McGonigle - Kondak and Berger definitely Killed source
visiting graves with possible exception of latter (Berger) this
fourth grave bore only serial number of sep number -
first two being 84 that of probably officer - Samuelson -
Unknown

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

NEKERVIS John H. T/Sgt 13096977
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET: PARIS

Date mission in action: 6/12/44

65 (No. of missions)

Date arrived in UK: 9/3/44

555th Bomb 386th Bomb
(Squadron) (Group)

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

Indicate what
happened to each man
and how you know.

PILOT	<u>1st Lt A. G. Berger, Jr</u> <u>0667933</u>	<u>MIA</u> <u>Believe Killed</u>
CO-PILOT	<u>2nd Lt Lodge, Warren F. Jr</u> , <u>0816511</u>	<u>MIA</u> <u>Killed</u>
NAVIGATOR	<u>Sgt Kondak, Stanley J.</u> <u>32196897</u>	<u>MIA</u> <u>Killed</u>
BOMBARDIER	<u>T/Sgt J. H. NEKERVIS</u>	<u>Evaded (U.K.)</u>
RADIO OPERATOR	<u>Sgt Samuelson, Morris L.</u> <u>12043758</u>	<u>UNKNOWN</u>
TOP TURRET GUNNER		<u>MIA</u>
BALL TURRET GUNNER		
WAIST GUNNER		
WAIST GUNNER		
TAIL GUNNER	<u>S/Sgt J. E. McGonigle</u> <u>33084199</u>	<u>MIA</u> <u>Killed</u>

GRAVES of men in courtyard of house in ST. MAURICE

Decorations: Air Medal - D. F. C.

Date of Birth: July 27, 1917

Private Address: 210 E. Maple Ave. Merchantville, N.J.

Length of Service: 2 years 3 months

Job as Civilian: Office Clerical

From what field did you take off? Take off time. DUNMOW (Sta 164) EASTON Lodge
19:30

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? YES - Ship Blew up

Were you wounded? Give details. - FLAK Left hand - small scar

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

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

Did you have identity papers? YES (Dog Tags)

(over)

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

YES - CANADIAN Hdgt - FRANCE

Have you given any one a written report on your experiences. Where and When?

YES - CANADIAN Hdgt - FRANCE

Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom?

YES - CANADIAN Hdgt FRANCE

Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so; Where and When?

YES - CAN

Date of arrival in Spain: No

Date of arrival at Gibraltar: No

Place and date of departure for UK. By sea or air. B-14 Location?

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.

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Name (Print) NEKERYIS John H
Rank T/Sgt A. S. N. 13096977
Unit 386th B Gr 555th B S

Signed John H. Nekeryis
Dated 4 Sept. 1944
Witness _____

AG P BR HQ SOS

122472

RESTRICTED

ship hit by flak 2050 or 2055 before
target. Put in left motor. Immediate fire.

Between
NORVILLE
&
ST. MAURICE
(E of
Hanse)
Went into dive + I was thrown twice against
ceiling of fuselage. I landed very quickly.
ran ~~like~~ to a grain field. Ship landed
near me + blew up. I ran up road to a

small forest near a cathedral. Two Fr boys
with bicycles met me + beckoned to me + took
me into forest + then to a barn. One of the
boys then went + brought two men, one of whom
stayed with me till dark + the other brought
me civilian clothes. They then took me to

NORVILLE to a farmhouse where I washed +
then the man put me into barn for the
night. Next morning the woman came + told
me the Germans were looking for me. Then the

man took me in a cart back near the
first barn + from there I walked to the
SEINE. Got there at ¹¹⁰⁰ hrs. Then I walked
towards ROUEN. That afternoon I hid + that
night slept in barn near a sawmill. On morning
of 14 I swam across the river at 1000 hrs
on outgoing tide. I took 40 minutes. On the
bank was a small house next to a big house.

A girl saw me + got her brother who took me in
and gave me clothes + food + kept me that night,

VATTEVILLE LA RUE + I stayed next day
15 June and the night of the 15th in a gipsy

big house,
wife +
children
here.

13 June

caravan in the yard of the big house. The man's name

was GEORGES BENET. Next morning the son of
BENET took me to FAIXPORT, ~~where~~ crossed
SEINE on ferry. Then he led way but I
lost him + got to Notre Dame de Gravenchon.
Here I asked for a drink at a bicycle shop.
She brought M. PREVOST who speaks
English (slightly bald, ~~slightly~~ medium height,
54 yrs old). He interrogated me + then I
stayed with the CAVES from 16 June until
31 August. Only one day out when we went
to Mme CAVÉ's mother in NORVILLE. On
31 British came into town. Next morning
I went out. That afternoon I met a British
Intelligence Sgt who made arrangements
to meet me next morning; ^{but next morning}
we went to Norville + met a ^{Lieut. Captain} ~~captain~~ of
Dutch troops who took me to liaison officer.
Thence to Canadian HQ outside of MAIN.
Saw IS9 there + thence to RAF who
flew us across to London. 3 Sept.

M.
CAVÉ
(west
end of
town)

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND F REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- *T/Sgt J. H. NERKERVIS*

Unit:- *386th Bomb Gr. 555th Bomb Sq*

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. *While hiding in bushes for 1 day*

Chocolate or Peanut Bar. *✓*

Milk (tube). *No*

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). *No*

Halazone tablets (water purifier). *YES*

Matches. *No*

Adhesive tape. *No*

Chewing gum. *YES*

Water bottle. *YES*

Compass. *No*

Sewing kit. *No*

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? *- Contents badly damaged from poor handling by other before me*
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box? *Burned*
- 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?

More care be taken of this box by everyone

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? *yes*
State color of stripes and letters. *?*
If NOT, State why not.
- b. Did you use the purse? *No*

(over)

c. If so, which of the following items in the purse did you use?

Mps. Which ones? *No*

Compass. *No*

File (hacksaw). *No*

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.

How did you spend the money?

Lost - in Seine River

d. How did you dispose of:-

Mps. *Buried*

Compass. *"*

File (hacksaw). *"*

Surplus currency. *Lost in Seine*

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion?

Compass -

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? *No*
If so, how many?

b. Did you use them? *No*

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? *YES - Bimonthly - S.I.O.*
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.

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?

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.,.....)

Troop movements - Evacuation of supplies & equipment from La Haute district nightly from middle of July until about Aug 24th

N.D. de Havenshon was to have been head of section for defense of La Haute and lower Seine River to Caudebec.

1404
T/Sgt John H. Nekervis.

Sgt. Nekervis landed on 12 June 1944 near NORVILLE (S.I.). Two French boys led him to a barn where they hid him and two which they brought two men who brought him civilian clothes and led him to the farmhouse of one of these men in ~~NORVILLE~~ NORVILLE. The next day he left on his own when he was warned by the farmer's wife that the Germans were searching the region for him. He then walked to VATTEVILLE ~~LA~~ LARUE (15 kms SSW of YVETOT) where GEORGES BENET kept him for two days. BENET'S son then undertook to guide him on his way, but Nekervis got separated from his guide on the road and wandered into NOTRE DAME DE GRAVENCHAN (18 kms SW of YVETOT). There he stopped at the bicycle shop of M. CAVE to ask for a drink. Mme CAVE called in M. PREVOST, a slightly bald man of 54 years who speaks English. After M. PREVOST had interrogated him, he stayed with the CAVEs from 16 June until 31 August. On that day the British troops entered the town, and Nekervis made arrangements with a sergeant in the Intelligence Corps to be sent back the next day. On the next day, however, a Lieut. Kaapengarde of the Dutch Forces took him to a liaison officer who sent him back to Canadian HQ where he saw a representative of IS 9 and was given transportation by air to U. K. Nekervis reported at 63 Brook St., London on 3 September.

E+E 1404
CONFIDENTIAL.

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 13096977 Rank Tech Sgt USAAF

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) NEKERVIS J.H.

Unit 558 Sqdn 386 Wp (B) 9

has been ~~fully~~/briefly/interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S.9(WEA) on 1 Sept 1944

and has signed a Security Certificate. ✓

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

12 June
Thermal copy
for 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.



1404
MOVEMENT ORDER FOR EVACUATION TO UK (AMERICAN)

No. 13096977 Rank. F/Sgt Name NEKERVIS, J. H.

You are directed to travel by the route and method which will be indicated to you and to report immediately to an officer of the P.W. & X. Det. M.I.S. 63 Brook St. LONDON W. This Movement Order together with Medical Report will be handed to the Officer Commanding, L.D.A.C. upon arrival.

Bearer is not in possession of AB 64 Pts. I and II AF B 2606 Form 1250



R. H. H. H. Lieut.

I.S.9 (WEA)
First Cdn Army

This man has not been medically examined
R. H. H.