

CONFIDENTIAL.

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 0-361178 Rank 1st Lt.

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) HILDEBRANDT, C. N.

Unit 561 Sgdn 388 hq (B)

has been ~~fully~~/briefly/interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S.9 (WEA) on 2 Sep 1944

and has signed a Security Certificate. ✓

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

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.

Therrell kept so
for Major.



ECE# 1406
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25 May

Therrell Kapito
for Major.



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SECRET

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

Wildebrandt C.N. 12/11 0-361178
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)
388 B.G. 561st Sq.
(Unit)

Sept 4 1941
(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.

May 25 - 0830 25 miles SE Dieppe

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

No 2-3 Engines + Gas Tanks in Rear of those engines on fire and entire Bomb Bay

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

20,000

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

Unknown

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

All

?

Did the plane explode on striking the ground?

?

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.

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?

APPENDIX "C" TO E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9 WEA/1/106.1999

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

No. 0- 361178 Rank 1/Lt U.S.A.A.F. Name HILDEBRANDT C.N.

Date of Interview 2 Sep 44.

1. Mme RENE DUMONT

BULLY _ PAR _ BURES _ EN _ BRAY. (NWE 4. M 4245)

2. M. ROGER MESSIER (Farmer)

VIEUX ROUEN SUR BRESLE (M 6755)

3. Photos taken by:

M GORIN,

19, PLACE DU MARQUIS,
NEUFCHATEL _ EN _ BRAY.

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

Hildebrandt, Charles N. 1946 0361178
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)
16 (No. of missions)
561 382
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET: Liege, Belgium 1944
Date mission in action: May 25
Date arrived in UK: Sept 3

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

Indicate what
happened to each man
and how you know.

PILOT Command Pilot - Crew unknown.
WARREN, Lt.

CO-PILOT

NAVIGATOR

BOMBARDIER

RADIO OPERATOR

TOP TURRET GUNNER

BALL TURRET GUNNER

WAIST GUNNER

WAIST GUNNER

TAIL GUNNER

Decorations: Air Medal - 1 clasp

Date of Birth: Oct 16, 1916

Private Address: 22701 Van Owen - Canoga Park, Calif. Service

Length of Service: 6 years

Job as Civilian: Production Control - Aircraft Industry

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

Knetlishtal - 0530

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? Yes

Were you wounded? Give details.

Right hand burned - when closing door to bomb bags

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

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

Did you have identity papers? Yes

(over)

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

Yes - 159 - France

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

Date of arrival in Spain:

Date of arrival at Gibraltar:

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

By Air 3 Sept
RAF

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.

Bombing hiege but before target flake hit us. Had
to pull out of formation. All members of crew
had left plane before I even knew it. Delayed
jump to 500 ft above ground. Landed near
German camp 3 kms S of CAMPNESVILLE^{OF}

handed in woods. 2 Finen ran up + told me to

0830

men. I crawled through underbrush + they
disposed of my equipment. Went up the hill +
stayed until 1600 hrs. Then I headed S + came to
a farm, found a man alone + approached him.
He kept me about a week (M. ROGER
MESSIER, CULTIVATEUR, VIEUX ROUEN^{5 kms S.E. of}
BRESLE S/I) - He told me a fortress fell near
me. 5 men captured; 2 were dead, of these
Germans cut ring finger off of one, took both off
both, + stuffed both into one ~~German~~ coffin.

Making arrangements for A/C to England, but
it fell through. A friend from CAMPNESVILLE was
going to take me to the Spanish border; but he was
sequestered by Germans. MESSIER's hired hand
who lived next door contacted resistance. On 4 or 5
June a grey-haired man came with bikes + took
me to AUMALE + from there by auto to HQ of
resistance where the chief of resistance had been
killed by Germans. We were stopped by 2 Germans
on road + I killed them both with Sten gun.
We went to BULLY near NEUFCHATEL to home.

2
of Mme Renée Dumont à Bully par BURES
EN BRAYES^{S/}. Has big farm. Husband P/w for
four years. She has kept arms for Resistance.
Has 2 small sons. She treated me wonderfully.
She had had 7 evaders before. Sgt Parkinson
(RAF) was brought in after I was here.
Stayed here until 31 August. On 31
Canadians came to 3 miles W. of us. The
hired haul took us out to meet Canadians
who passed us up to Army where I saw
1/S 9. ~~near CHATEAU~~ ^{and order to 627th St.} had a brief interrogation
N. of BRIONNE. From there to RAF man in
charge of Air Movement who gave us transportation
back to U.K. 3 Sept.

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

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

For All Personnel.

HILDEBRANDT C.N.

1. No. 0- 361178 Rank 1/Lt Name
(U.K.: Acting, Temp. or W/S)
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) Air Medal + 1. 16.
3. Were you wounded? Give details Right hand burned.
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 561 SQN (B)
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 388 Gp (B) 6. Job (Pl. Comd., Rfn., etc.) -
7. Date of Birth 16 Oct 1916 8. Length of Service 6 yrs.
9. Peace time occupation Production control a/c Manufacture. 10. Private address 22701 VAN OWEN CANOGA PARK, CAL.
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? Tags. No 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 BALED OUT

15. Post in Crew Command - Pilot (After Formation Leader)
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 1/Lt WARREN. Unknown- believed baled out.
- Acting as CO-PILOT Narrator.
- NAVIGATOR Only mission with this crew. All baled out
- BOMBARDIER French said 5 taken P/W. 2 Killed.
- RADIO OPERATOR One of the dead believed to be wireless operator.
- TOP TURRET GUNNER One other - fate unknown.
- BALL TURRET GUNNER
- WAIST GUNNER (R.)
- WAIST GUNNER (L.)
- TAIL GUNNER
17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B 17. KNETTESHALL. 25 MAY 44. 0530 hrs.
18. Where and when did you come down? 3 Kms S.E. of CAMPNEUSEVILLE (NWE 4. M 6757) 0830 hrs.
19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? Hidden by French.
20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? A/c blew up.

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

For All Personnel.

HIDEOUT O.M.

1. No. 0-36178 Rank Lt Name
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) Air Medal + 1. 16.
3. Were you wounded? Give details Right hand burned.
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 561 Bn (B)
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 388 Gp (B)
6. Job (Pl. Comd., Rtn., etc.)
7. Date of Birth 16 Oct 1916
8. Length of Service 6 yrs.
9. Peace time occupation Production control No manufacture.
10. Private address 22701 VAN OWEN CANOGA PARK, CAL.
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? No 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 TROOPS
- WHO BALE OUT

15. Post in Crew Command - Pilot (After formation leader)
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.
Unknown—believed baled out.
17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B-17, KENTSHALL, 25 MAY 44, 0830 hrs.
18. Where and when did you come down?
19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and map? Hidden by French.
20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? Yes all secret papers and equipment destroyed.

Attached:
Appendix

" C "
" D "

Disposal: U.K.

Interviewed by I.S.9 (WEA)

Date 2 Sep 44

Briefly interrogated.

Major G.S.

APPENDIX "D" TO E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9 WEA/1/106.1999No. 0-361178 Rank 1/Lt U.S.A.A.F. Name HILDEBRANDT C.N.Unit 561 SQN 388 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 ? Fell out of my tunic on baling out.
- (c) If you used it, state briefly when and where _____
- (d) What did you use ? _____
- (e) Did any of the items prove unsatisfactory ? _____
- (f) How did you finally dispose of the box ? _____
- (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 ? _____

2. PURSE.

- (a) Did you carry a purse ? _____ If not, why not ? As above.
State colour of purse _____
- (b) Did you use it ? _____
- (c) If so which of the items in it were used ? Maps ? _____
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 Station I.O.s 1944 at Gp.
- (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.
Emphasize more than ever delayed drop.

Lt. Hildebrandt landed on 25 May 1944 near CAMENEUSEVILLE (30 kms SSW of ABBEVILLE). He made his way to VIEUX ROUEN SUR BRESLE (5 kms SE of CAMPNEUSEVILLE) where he approached the farmhouse of M. ROGER MESSIER who took him in and kept him for a week. MESSIER's hired man who lived next door got in touch with an organization, and on the 4 or 5 June a grey haired man arrived and took Hildebrandt by bicycle to AUMALE and thence by automobile to the large farm of MME. RENEE DUMONT, BULLY par BURES EN BRAY (BULLY being 5 kms W of NEUFCHATEL). On the way hither they were stopped by two Germans, both of whom Hildebrandt claims to have killed with the Sten gun which he had been given by his escort. The farm of MME. DUMONT, whose husband has been a P/W since 1940, is HQ for a resistance group, and seven Allied evaders had been kept there before the arrival of Hildebrandt. He stayed here until the 31 August, and during his stay Sgt. Parkinson of the RAF was also brought in. On 31 August the Canadian troops reached the vicinity, and MME. DUMONT's hired man led Hildebrandt and Parkinson to them. The Canadians sent the evaders to Army N. of Brionne where they saw IS 9 and where Hildebrandt was given orders to report to 63 Brook St., London. He arrived in the U.K. by air on 3 September.

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- 0-361178 1st Lt Hildebrandt, Charles W.

Unit:- 388 B. Cr. 361 Bgd.

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? *No*
- b. If not, why? *Lost during descent*
- 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.

Chocolate or Peanut Bar.

Milk (tube).

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue).

Halazone tablets (water purifier).

Matches.

Adhesive tape.

Chewing gum.

Water bottle.

Compass.

Sewing kit.

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box?
- 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?

2. PURSE

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

(over)

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

Maps. Which ones?

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.

How did you spend the money?

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

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

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

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

b. Did you use them?

5. LECTURES

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

*Yes - during training
in U.S. - and by Group Intell. Off.*

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?

Emphasize delayed jumps.

RESTRICTED

WAR DEPARTMENT The Adjutant General's Office Washington

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

KLS/el-2B-989 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.

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) Hildebrandt, Charles N.
Rank 1st Lt A. S. N. O. 361178
Unit 388 B. Gp. 561 Sgd.

Signed Charles N. Hildebrandt
Dated 4 Sept. 1944
Witness _____

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

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED E + E # 1406

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.

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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.
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- (1) The names of those who helped you.
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Name (Print) Hildebrandt Charles N
Rank 1st Lt A. S. N. G-361178
Unit 388th B. Cp. 561st Sig.

Signed Charles N. Hildebrandt
Dated 4 Sept. 1944
Witness _____

RESTRICTED

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