

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

LEWIS V. STELLIES 2nd LT 0-752931  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)  
401 BOMB GP 612 Sq  
(Unit)

9-3-44  
(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.

0945 6-19-44 JOUDES, CHARENTE, FRANCE

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

COMPLETELY DEMOLISHED BY EXPLOSION IN MID-AIR

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? 5000 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?

PILOT, WAIST GUNNER, SELF (BOMBARDIER) EXPLODED 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?

YES - PILOT, WAIST GUNNER NEXT DAY

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 - CO-PILOT'S RING TURNED OVER TO PILOT - TAKEN FROM BODY. GRAVES OF 7 MEN SEEN IN ANGOULEME, FRANCE

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. NO

What is source's opinion as to the fate of the other crew members and his reason for his opinion? DEATH FOR ALL BUT PILOT - WAIST GUNNER (BERARD)

AND SELF REPORTED BY MANY PEOPLE.

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS  
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QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL  
EVADING OR ESCAPING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

LEWIS V. STELLIES 0-757931  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET: Bordeaux  
Date mission in action: 6-19-44

12 (No. of missions)

Date arrived in UK: 9-3-44

612 401  
(Squadron) (Group)

MEMBERS OF CREW:	(Please list names next to positions)	Indicate what happened to each man and how you know.
PILOT	WM. E. MASSEY 2nd LT. ARRIVED U.K. 9-3-44	
CO-PILOT	DR CERESA 2nd LT. 817388 - MIA	DEAD REPORTS FROM PEOPLE IN VICINITY
NAVIGATOR	WM. NEALON 2nd LT. 707792 - "MIA"	" "
BOMBARDIER	L. V. STELLIES 2nd LT. O.K. 39552839 - MIA	REPORTS FROM PEOPLE IN VICINITY (DEAD)
RADIO OPERATOR	HAROLD JAMES S/Sgt 39035125 - MIA	" " (DEAD)
TOP TURRET GUNNER	FAULKNER S/Sgt 15082447	" "
BALL TURRET GUNNER	MAHMER T/Sgt DEAD	
WAIST GUNNER	FRANCIS BERARD S/Sgt ARRIVED U.K. 9-3-44	
WAIST GUNNER	A. WINTERS S/Sgt - 17098509 - MIA	DEAD REPORTS FROM PEOPLE IN VICINITY
TAIL GUNNER	P. WHITE S/Sgt 18129352 - MIA	" "

Decorations: AIR MEDAL - ONE CLUSTER

Date of Birth: 6-24-16

Private Address: WAKEFIELD RHODE ISLAND

Length of Service: 1 7/12 YRS

Job as Civilian: OWNED CREDIT BUREAU

From what field did you take off? Take off time.  
DENETHORP 0545

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? YES

Were you wounded? Give details. YES LEFT ANKLE + KNEE BADLY SPRAINED FROM PRESSURE OF MEN + MATERIEL WHILE SHIP WAS SPINNING

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

Do you speak FRENCH? NO SPANISH? NO GERMAN? NO ITALIAN? NO OTHER LANGUAGE? NONE

Did you have identity papers? NO



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

NO

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 9-3-44

Date of arrival in Spain: ✓

Date of arrival at Gibraltar: ✓

Place and date of departure for UK. By sea or air. LIMOGES, FRANCE (AIR)

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.

JOSEPH BONET 1st LT A.C. B-26 PILOT

# 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 supercedes 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) LEWIS V. STELLIES  
Rank 2nd Lt AC A. S. N. O-257931  
Unit 401 Bomb Gr 612 Sq.

Signed Lewis V. Stellies  
Dated 9-3-43  
Witness Sub Capt WCC

RESTRICTED

AG P BR HQ SOS

122472

Massen

We were 35 men from  
target when when ship set  
fire back of pits right for us  
thrown reason "finger" I tried  
to get it out with extinguisher, no  
25000 luck only. beating with hands  
ft Then passed out <sup>as reaching for center but I had</sup> off ship in  
Came to in air with chute in  
right hand looked on  
pulled it immediately. Spelt to  
avoid transmission. wires. Padded  
in a pasture as cows went on eating  
did chute & started looking  
around & sitting here suffering  
from shock. Poofee came <sup>2</sup>  
4 men (are you a drink. To  
deserted farmhouse here  
found Stellas

Stellas

Sitting in nose - happened  
to turn & saw sparks in  
watching. I then engineer beat  
up out. Navigator got out of  
flak suit. Did same  
put on candles. About then  
heard the alarm. Engineer  
pulling on ladder I was waiting



a was navigated, hatch stuck  
co-pilot came to help. As  
learned forward to help. As  
went with fire to follow of ship  
I held there so couldn't move  
Must have past out. Next found  
Self in small ball in Plexi nose  
Navigated & others sitting on  
chest also ammo boxes could  
feel ankle going no breath  
to Plexiglass cracking  
Next remember the beautiful  
air. ~~Costume~~ pulled up  
coll but ~~eye~~ could see  
nothing as pressure on  
chest had so bloodshot  
eyes & swollen close  
black. Found I could hold  
them open so saw & untangle  
strapped things. But Gray bit  
tongue felt on ~~ankle~~  
faded 25 ft from road in  
field doz people watching  
Van towards Navy plane  
Catcher inot under car  
avialow as had been  
told. As some mistaked  
in command. Women pld &

12  
man with him I set off with  
him thru bush to Chateau de  
cachet. Ground wooded -  
Village of Renard. Led me  
to woods to left & check  
bit in brush. Got alone  
across country to deserted farm  
washed bloody face. hands  
cold water relieved swelling  
no could see cognac bread butter  
Massey got me

Both

Next in farm. Next AM  
to St ~~Colombe~~ Colombe on foot  
with guide & two others. Man in  
wagon for short space. Here  
to a farm for 2 nights. Got here  
in daytime by Renard

Three

Magnus came for us  
of Magnus Camp N of Cherves  
in woods. Commandant of area  
was Chabonais but never saw  
our regular help from chief of  
camping man. When Chabonais  
came he asked for help to Spar

He said Spaur out would feed  
of keep us but it bank refused  
my help out wanted us to stay  
proper fight for new.

Afternoon of 25 June  
heading N ~~east~~ with boy who  
Maud woman who had gotten  
down <sup>down</sup> toward Spaur Reached  
Maud Bean at Le Mas. wait turn  
of Spaur went - Vitrac. Husband  
woman. She was black market  
there the calf had us work  
in wheatfield three days. At the  
camp had been led by Guedry  
of Lt Grant.

Lt McGe of Mass with her  
on river where she was caught  
her hands to smelt for D.D. farmer  
so caught in dentile cart wheel  
She got another through

She advised us, remaining  
she would find us a farm & live

on 27 to all 5 to camp  
farmhouse near maison  
Maud. Local people feed  
us. Owners of farm Migeaud  
of his daughter married at  
Parclaud a farmer Sory



Working in wheat fields

a farmer, Jancus a  
 Bencheron a f - pres of Mbra  
 Committee of Liberation

On 13 July at Macleod for  
 Ranner Magnus told Maj Gilder  
 about us. He drove up

sent word back that we were  
 safe & message confirmed.

Remained waiting for troops  
 Magnus controlled area so  
 went with troops. Met  
 Mr. Micallet of Chasseneuil  
 haberdashery shop. Fed us  
 & put us up when there  
 M. Massonnaud of C also  
 good meals owned "Crémerie".

On 30 August Jo said  
 he would soon have

removes to get A/C He called  
 us at 10 light On 31st word

coming next A.M. He spent

night with us. Removes by  
 the Magnus truck.

~~3 Sept~~ Here to Capt & major  
 at airport for supplies.

Grand held by American  
 paratroopers On 3 Sept

4, at 1:25 took off U.K. 3 Sept  
 at Herouville 13th 4 base



SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- 0-757931 2nd LT. LEWIS V. STELLIES

Unit:- 401 BOMB GP 612 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. CHECK ESCAPE HATCHES AT REGULAR INTERVALS

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. AS AN ADDITION TO FRENCH MEALS

Chocolate or Peanut Bar. AS A SWEET

Milk (tube). NONE

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). LOST

Halazone tablets (water purifier). WHILE THEY LASTED FOR THIRST

Matches. CIGARETTES

Adhesive tape. MINOR CUTS

Chewing gum. CHEW

Water bottle. WATER

Compass. TELL DIRECTIONS WHEN WE MOVED

Sewing kit. NONE

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? NO
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box? THROWN AWAY
- 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?  
YES MORE WATER PURIFIER

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? YES  
State color of stripes and letters. UNKNOWN  
If NOT, State why not.
- b. Did you use the purse? YES

(over)



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

Maps. Which ones? FRANCE

Compass. YES

File (hacksaw). NO

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. 2000 FRANCS

How did you spend the money?

FOR FOOD + LODGING

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps. KEPT WITH MAQUIS

Compass. LOST

File (hacksaw). LOST

Surplus currency. NONE

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? SIX

b. Did you use them? NO

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? YES - DURING PHASE TRAINING  
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.  
IN STATES AND AT BOMB GROUP

b. Did you find the lectures of value? A LITTLE VALUE

c. Do you have any suggestions to make which, from your experience, you feel  
will help other evaders and escapers? NO, COMMON SENSE IS ALL  
THAT IS NEEDED.

SECRET - AMERICAN  
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

APPENDIX "D" 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.,.....)

I have no knowledge of anything of military value I heard many rumors of German atrocities but none of them confirmed by reliable sources. Civilian morale was very good in France and the United States is looked upon as the savior of France. All the people I contacted were only too willing to be of any service to me.