

SECRET

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

9/6/44
(Date)

Joseph Garbish S/SGT. 35583145
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

Strosburg 10
(Target) (Number of missions)

Date Missing in Action: May 26-44

Returned to UK: Sept. 6-44

452nd Group - 728 Sqd.
(Unit)

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

- PILOT and Lt. Mayd., P.W. Milton M. 0-809834 = P/W
- CO-PILOT 2nd Lt. ~~Allen~~ = JOSEPH M ATLAS, 0-818807 = P/W
- NAVIGATOR 1st Lt. ~~Donald~~ P.W. Thomas J. 0-814369 = MIA
- BOMBARDIER and Wiggins - Switzerland, Walton F, 0682409 - Rtd 2421
- RADIO OPERATOR Pyt Heath - Switzerland, Royce 39528369 Rtd 2422
- TOP TURRET GUNNER s/sgt. Boyce - P.W. George 33557049 = P/W
- BALL TURRET GUNNER Returned to U.K. NARRATOR
- WAIST GUNNER s/sgt. Chuck K. - Switzerland, John J 17151559 (2330) ^{Rtd}
- WAIST GUNNER s/sgt. Young - P.W. Sam W. 34720449 = P/W
- TAIL GUNNER s/sgt. Smith - P.W. MARTIN H. 11098895 = P/W

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing. May 26-44 - 1:00 AM.
Near Mulhouse, France.

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. Was it on fire, etc?
Oxygen Hit Plane went into a dive, we hit a tree top and hit ground

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? Crash landed.

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed? no.

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

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? no.

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.

Message From Red Cross Above men P.W. Others: I
Saw in Switzerland. No information on Co-Pilot.
(over)

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

I didn't examine it.

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.

Crashed on land.

What is source's opinion as to the fate of the other crew members and his reason for his opinion?

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?

NO.

List any names previously omitted, showing what help was given.

Names Unknown.

What security briefing were you given?

Give only name Rank + A.S.N. if captured.

What souvenirs do you still possess?

money.

Home address.

609 Sibley, St. Hammond, Indiana

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.

Ginbisk - believe S of Mulhouse

Bailed out ~~Charles~~ - dispersed - met RO ^{1 health}
& travelled with him - going through woods
2 days & 2 nights to Sully

Stayed at farms to eat & drink -
Walked across fields.

Go across - Pa led you to further - not by god - told
that some are found down - easy

Took to school - then to jail where interrogated.

Searched - personal question - if captured - yes
killed. G - No

Locked in hotel front. Not by to Swiss military
of train - ask you, you, when flying from (country)
Ask if captured - not tell you, say
Told him.

Then to camp believe at Olten - 1st - of 2 some the
Then back to school - 22 days. Leave, conditions bad
By O by get mail if.

Then to M/S Rome - without what happened.
3 days & then to Ghent.

Signed paper that not be country until get permission
from M/S

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WAR DEPARTMENT The Adjutant General's Office Washington

AG 388.6 (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 supercedes letter, AG 388.6 (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) Joseph Garbush
Rank S/Sgt. A. S. N. 35383145
Unit 452nd GP, 728 Sgd.

Signed Joseph Garbush
Dated Sept. 6 - 1944
Witness L. J. Amerson Capt (S)

AG P BR HQ SOS

122472

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• BXE# 1578

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY
Office of A.C. of S., G-2
APO 758 US ARMY

C E R T I F I C A T E

31 August 1944
(Date)

1. This is to certify that Joseph Gerbish
(Name)
35583/45, S/SGT., has undergone a preliminary interrogation and
(ASN) (Rank)
will not be further interrogated pursuant to paragraph 4b, NATOUSA letter,
12 July 1944, AG 383.6 P-O, subject: "Repatriation of American Personnel".

2. Above named individual has been cautioned concerning his security obligations and has not signed a security certificate.

T. R. Bruskin
T. R. BRUSKIN,
Lt. Col., Cav. *PC*
Asst AC of S, G-2 (CI)

1578
S/Sgt Joseph GARBISH, 35583145, 728/452 Bomb Gp (H), MIA 26 May 1944
Intrvd 6 Sept 44

crabs-

Garbish thinks that he landed somewhere S of Hulhouse. The crew dispersed. Hemethis RO, Heath, and traveled through the woods with him. In two days and two nights they got to Switzerland, stopping at farmers' for food. They went to Arcon and a Frenchman led them to the border. They were caught by the guard and told him that they were escaped Americans. They were taken to a shack and then to jail where they were interrogated. They assured their questioner that they had escaped from the Germans but had not killed any Germans. They were locked in a htoel for the night. Later a Swiss military man asked them a lot of questions about sq, gp, and missions, but they refused to answer. They were sent to the camp at Olton for one night, the only two Americans there. They went to Bad Lostorf for 22 days, then to MA Berne, for whom they write out what had happened to them. They went then to Glion.

Somewhere along the line they signed a paper that they would not leave the country until they had permission from the MA.

DEE