

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

9-7-44
(Date)

Willard Alber s/sgt 16027284
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)
Night Fighter Base in
Northeastern France
(Target) (Number of missions)

Date Missing in Action: 6-28-44

Returned to UK: 9-7-44
9-6-44

303rd Bomb Grp. (H) 422 Bomb Sq. (H)
(Unit)

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

PILOT	<u>Wardowski</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>s/Lt.</u>	<u>P. W.</u>
CO-PILOT	<u>Hanlin</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>?</u>
NAVIGATOR	<u>Burnbaum</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>?</u>
BOMBARDIER	<u>Eisel</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>P. W.</u>
RADIO OPERATOR	<u>Willard</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>s/sgt</u>	<u>Evadot</u>
TOP TURRET GUNNER	<u>Kowatch</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>sgt.</u>	<u>?</u>
BALL TURRET GUNNER	<u>Hope</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>sgt.</u>	<u>?</u>
WAIST GUNNER	<u>Snedc</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>sgt.</u>	<u>Evadot</u>
WAIST GUNNER	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
TAIL GUNNER	<u>Wagner</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>sgt.</u>	<u>?</u>

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing. 1 mile N.E.

Ebelux France 6-28-44 - 10:22 A.M.

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

Direct Flack Hit in number 3 engine - Fire Followed
by explosion in 20 or 30 seconds

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

24,000 Ft.

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

To my knowledge The bombardier was injured, and
Four possible fire were killed in the explosion

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

To my knowledge The Pilot Bombardier Waistgunner
and Radio operator bailed out safely - one chute burned.

Did the plane explode on striking the ground?

exploded AT 24000 Ft.

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground?

saw positively four men reaching The ground

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.

Received information as to the effect: Pilot prisoner
Bombardier prisoner, and came in contact personally
(over) with waistgunner.

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

*Witnessed Explosion And examined small pieces on
The ground.*
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?

*Pilot And Bombar dier P.W. - Received information
From French. Waist gunner Grador personal contact.
Other members unknown*

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?

Yes

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

None

What security briefing were you given?

*Lecture As To Nature
of security importance*

What souvenirs do you still possess?

*German Helmet, French
Army jacket.*

Home address.

1726 W. 14th Pl. Chicago, Ill.

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

S. L. War dowski P. W

" Eisel P. W

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

None

303 Lt - 28 June 41

Pilot	Stanley Wardowski, 2d Lt, 0813449	MI A
Copilot	Neal E. Hainlin, 2d Lt, 01541829	P/W
NAV	Warren L. Birnbaum, Jr. 2d Lt, 0716622	MI A
Bomb	Charles F. Eisel, 2d Lt, 0703473	P/W
R.O.	Narrator	
TTG	Raymond J. Kowatch, Sgt, 65486 ⁰ 7	MI A
BTG	Benjamin L. Hope - Sgt - 37529290	P/W
WG	John L. Snede, Sgt, 37572877	- 1598
WG		
TG	Ronald Wagner, Sgt, 37484642	MI A

B+D file checked (JED)

AGE# 1597
CONFIDENTIAL.

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 16077734 Rank S/Sgt

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) ALBERT WILLARD

Unit 427 Bomb Sq, 303 Bomb Gp

has been fully/briefly/interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S.9 (WEA) on 5 Sept 1944

and has signed a Security Certificate.

He should/should not/be re-interrogated.

*To be returned to UK through
Replacement channel. Upon arrival in U.K. must
report to 63 Buxton St, London. Should not be
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.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Hg159 1597
183

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and has signed a Security Certificate.

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*To be returned to D.K. through
Replacement Channel, upon arrival in U.K. must
report to 63 Brook St, London. Should not be
coincident suspect, straggler or D.W.*

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.

If any further information is required concerning this report detailed application should be made to I.S.9 (WEA) G-2 Div. S.H.A.E.F. giving the E and E Report No.

DISTRIBUTION:

I.S. 9 (WHA).....3

P/W & X Det. MIS

~~G-2 Div., STAFF~~

~~(Less App. "G" & "D")~~

File

SECRET

E. & T. REPORT No. IS9(WEA)7/183/744

TOP SECRET

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

EVADED CAPTURED/XXXXXX FROM (Name of Country) France

For all Personnel.

1. No. 16077734..... Rank... s/sgt..... Name... Albert Willard
(U.K. Acting, Temp. or W/S)
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions)..... 6 missions
3. Were you wounded? Give details.... No
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force)..... 427 Bomb Sqn
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 303rd GP..... 6. Job. (Pl. Cnd., Rfn., etc.) Radio Oper
7. Date of Birth.... 1 Jul 1921..... 8. Length of Service... 2 1/2 yrs
9. Peace time occupation Radio & X-ray Techn 10. Private address... 1726 W. 14th Place,
Chicago, Ill
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph?.. 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..... 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..... 2nd Lt Wardowski - French say he is PW
CO-PILOT..... 2nd Lt Lenlin
NAVIGATOR..... 2nd Lt Birnbaum
BOMBARDIER..... 2nd Lt Eisel - French say he is PW. Wounded
RADIO OPERATOR..... Narrator
TOP TURRET GUNNER Sgt Kowatch
BALL TURRET GUNNER Sgt Hope
WAIST GUNNER (R.)... Sgt Snede (See E&T Rept No. 196)
WAIST GUNNER (L.)...
TAIL GUNNER..... Sgt Wagner
17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure... B-17, Molesworth, 28 Jun 44,
0500 hrs.
18. Where and when did you come down?... 1 mi NW Ebelle, France, 28 Jun 44
19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? Hid under hay stack
20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? Yes

Attached:

Appendix "B"
Appendix "C"
Appendix "D"

Disposal: Returned to unit in U.K.

DISTRIBUTION:

HQ, IS9(WEA) 3
G-2, FUSA 1 (less "C")
G-2, TUSA 1 ("")
12th Army Gp 2 ("")
File 1

Interview by I.S.9. (WEA)

Date... 5 Sept 44

I gr ade this Evasion No. 4

Pfc Herbert E. Markley

MAJOR

SECRET

Our target was a night fighter base about 25 mi SW of Charleville. We reached the target and made bomb runs before we dropped the bombs at 1020 hrs. About one minute after "Bombs away," flak hit us. The plane started to burn. I baled out, and I know four of the crew got out. I can't be sure about the rest because the plane exploded immediately. I baled out at 24,000 ft and delayed my jump until about 3,000.

When I hit the ground, French girls gathered around and helped hide my chute, mae west, and harness under hay stacks. They confused me with their directions so finally I ran when I heard Germans coming on motorcycles. I ran into a wheatfield, and the Germans passed by within a few feet of me. I crawled about 100 yds through the wheat. Then five yds from me were 2 Germans. I lay still for 8 hrs. Then at 1800 hrs a young Frenchman came looking for me. He found me and hid me in a wooded area. Later he took me to his home. The next night I met Sgt Snede (See E&E Rept No. 196) here. They gave us civilian clothes and took all identification from ^{me} except dogtags.

I stayed here until 1 July, and then went to a town called Tavons. On 6 Jul a parachute of Russian material dropped. There were two wireless sets, cigarettes, booklets in Russian, and cards with French and English on them. I put one of the radios together, and I could receive. The set ~~was~~ capable of transmitting, but I never did. I don't think the material was meant for the French.

On 10 Jul everything was taken from us. 2000 francs from our escape kits were said to be counterfeit, and they would give us but 600 francs for them. We moved again at this time to a place 3 mi east of Rumigy. We lived in the forest of Swoif in self-made huts. In a field at the edge of the woods, parachutes were to be dropped nightly from English planes, but we never saw one. We stayed until 21 of Aug, and then went to another woods about 5 miles to the west where we stayed 2 days. Both of these places were camps for the resistance groups. After 2 days we went to a woods 3 mi S of Aubington. We were told that an English plane would come on 27 Aug and evacuate us. It never came. On 28 Aug we heard shelling. Later we found out ~~it~~ was the Americans so we went out and were picked up and came through PW channels to the First Army PWE.

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET.
I.S.9 (WEA)

APPENDIX "C" TO E. & E. REPORT No. IS9(WEA)7/183/744

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

No. 16077734 Rank S/Sgt Name Albert Willard

Date of Interview 5 Sept 44

The young Frenchman who found me in the wheatfield and took me to his house and gave me civilian clothes is Jean Labrose. He lives in Montigny la France.

In Tavons I met Pierre Mojean. He seemed to be heading a resistance group who did acts of sabotage. He had machine guns and about 10 men who went out on missions. In the camp at the Forest of Swoif, I was to signal by light planes coming over to drop supplies. None came, but one night a German plane flew over, and one of the men ran out to signal. The group seemed to be without order, and we did not get along very well with them. They wanted me to transmit on the Russian radio I had assembled, but I refused to do so as I had no license to carry on such operations.

TOP SECRET

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.

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) Willard Albert Signed Willard
Rank S/Sgt A. S. N. 16077734 Dated _____
Unit 303rd Bomb Grp 427 Bomb Sq. Witness _____

RESTRICTED

AG P BR HQ SOS

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