

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 Forces;
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.

RESTRICTED

(See Reverse Side)

RESTRICTED

1. Because disclosures of information regarding evasion from capture, escape, details of imprisonment, release from internment, and repatriation have been made, the lives and services of fellow soldiers and those who help them have been lost or endangered. All information which you possess on these subjects, including the experiences of others as well as your own, briefings and equipment for evasion and escape, and preparations and other activities in connection therewith, constitutes MILITARY INFORMATION which is classified SECRET by the War Department.

2. You will therefore disclose no information whatever, beyond the fact of your return to duty from "missing in action" or "prisoner of war" or "internment", to anyone except the following military officials:

- a. The first Military Attache to whom you report;
- b. An officer designated by the Commanding General of an overseas Theatre of Operations;
- c. The Prisoner of War Branch, MIS, Washington, D.C., the interrogating agency designated by the A/C of S, G-2, War Department General Staff;
- d. Certain other officers holding written authority from the A/C of S, G-2, WDGS, to interrogate you.

3. You will particularly guard against disclosure of SECRET information to relatives, friends, representatives of the press and radio, and military officials, except as noted in a, b, c and d above.

4. In order to protect yourself against disciplinary action, any question involving publicity must be referred BY YOU PERSONALLY to the A/C of S, G-2, WDGS, Washington, D.C.

CERTIFICATE

I certify that I have read and fully understand all of the foregoing and the Directive of the Secretary of War, 6 Aug 43 (on the reverse side), and will at ALL TIMES hereafter comply fully therewith.

I understand that all information concerning escape, evasion from capture, activities and equipment in connection therewith, and details of imprisonment or release from internment, is SECRET and must not be disclosed to anyone except the military officials specifically designated. I further understand that disclosure to any other person will make me liable to disciplinary action for failure to safeguard MILITARY INFORMATION.

I realize that publicity concerning my experiences, by word of mouth or otherwise, will endanger the lives of many persons and therefore it is my duty to take all possible precautions to prevent it.

I further certify that I have received a copy of the foregoing.

Name (Print) DE. EBERHARDT Signed. [Signature]
 Rank. 1st LT. A.S.N. 0-756518 Dated. 9-9-44 Place.....
 Unit. 392nd F.A. 367th F.C. Witness. [Signature]

Lt. Eberhardt

Had Dog Tags.

Plane collided with Gerry who crashed into River and was killed .
He was a full Col. (name can be got). My plane went into flat spin
and I baled out at 1500 ft. Pulled cord at 200 ft. and landed
in a meadow a few yards away from my crashed plane $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. E. of
La Fere spraining my right ankle and left wrists. My chute collapsed
over the plane which was on fire so I left it there and threw my
dinghy on as well. I then ran into a nearby wood where I ditched
my vest . I went through the woods. I could hear shots. I came
out on the other side of the woods where there was a river and
I followed this in the direction of the village. I came to a steep
bank supporting a roadway on the outskirts. I crossed this and
hid in some bushes on the other side. I got up and waded into
clearing where I made a signal to two french who motioned me back
in the bushes. I hid again and was approached by children. I got
up to find a new place and ran into the Chief of police and his
sister. They rushed me off to an Air raid shelter. Told me to
strip. Gave me clothes. Had my clothes there. Led me out and
they walked me to their house . Hid in attic during German search .
At 6 P.M. they told me that Lt. Wilson Harrell had been picked
up badly burned and was being cared for. At 8.30 they the Chief
and another REs. man drove me to Beautor 1 mi. S. to home
of Alfred, 38, slim, looked about 50, wife's name Heannet. He
was R.Es. leader in this town. and here I met Lt. Harrell .
D. Rose went to great pains to care for Harrell who was very badly
A.D. Rose came out from La Fere to look after him. He took care
of REs. patients. Spoke bit of Eng. Stayed here about a week and
then were moved to concrete house about 1 block away where we
stayed until Sat 2nd of Sept. when American A.M.D. unit came. in
with whom was my brother , Lt. Harry. bunrde

Alfred was very active with his band of men. One day he went on the 31st Aug. after a German who had rode by a bike with new tires. He took the German prisoner ~~and~~ but when the Germans later sent in a patrol, he tied the prisoners up, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ and threw his body in the River. There were many skirmishes and many Germans were killed. On the 30 Aug. a German staff car came by with 2 Off and 1 man. The french shot at the car the 3 jumped out but they were shot dead immediately.

While here I met a Mlle. , 5' 4", dark hair, plump, educated, spoke good English, dark complexion, round face , well made up, respectable looking. Lived across the st. from where Johnson stayed (Henot's) (Probably ast the Local R.s. Cheifs house.) She was actively engaged in getting A.men out , i.e. located. She claims to have helped some 35 - 40 men. She was in close contact with the A. ea Maqui chief (6 ft. 190 lbs. 35, resp. and intelligence. light hair, round face.) Dr. Rose said that he would send details of our being safe to England.) He had us fill in a form. He promised to get us Cattes.

When I met my brother with S. t. St. Pierre of 5th Army, who told French that we were brothers. We took Harrell in an Ambulance to La Fere. At La Fere a Correspondent with 5th ~~thay~~ advanced troops got my story. mostly from DR. Rose who talked through Sgt. St. Pierre.

Spent rest of Sat travelling N. , Harrell in Amb. The Amb. was filled and we went to Hospital S. of Soissons. Stayed overnight. On 3rd went to a Hosp. Evac. N. of Paris. Then went to Versailles where Harrell was put in 503 Evac. Hosp. I stayed overnight.

Next day 9.A.F. Hq. told me to hitchhike to Chartes. I went to Air Strip of 368 F.r. Gp. who sent me to A44 , stayed overnight

Outfit arrived next day and flew me to Laval where briefly into. By Lt. Col. Mahar. Went back to A44, Picked up Johnson and

Sawn of flew to England

1711

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
NINTH AIR FORCE

8 Sept

APO 696, US Army,
5 September 1944

25 Aug 3925d

SUBJECT: Orders.

TO : 1ST LT DONALD E EBERHARDT, 0756518, AC, 367 Fighter Gp

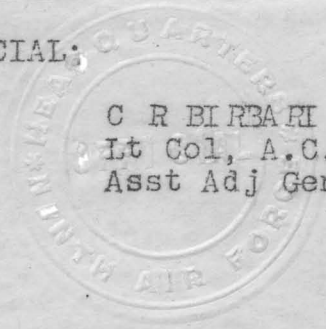
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You will proceed on or about 6 September 1944 from Headquarters, Ninth Air Force to the United States Special Reception Center, 63 Brook Street, London, W-1, England. TDN by MT, mil acft or rail. 60-136 P 432-02 A 212/50425. 130

By command of Major General VANDENBERG:

V H STRAHL
Brig Gen, USA,
C of S.

OFFICIAL:



C R BIRBAHI
Lt Col, A.C.,
Asst Adj Gen.

R E S T R I C T E D

1st Lt. D. ^{Donald} E. Eberhardt O-756518

392/367 FTR

25 Aug
8 Sept

On the 25th Aug. 1944 my plane collided with an enemy fighter and I had to bail out. I landed in a meadow about 1/2 mile E of La Fere (AISNE). I went through the woods and followed the river toward La Fere. On the outskirts of the village I hid in some bushes. I was spotted by children, and as I got up to find a new hiding place I ran into the Chief of Police and his sister. They rushed me to an air-raid shelter where I stripped and put on clothes which they gave me. They then took me to their house where they hid me in the attic. At 20.30 hours the Chief of Police and another Resistance man drove to a house in Beautor (AISNE) where I met Lt. Harrell. This house belonged to Alfred, the Resistance leader of the village. He was about 38 years old but looked 50. His wife's name was Jeannette. Dr. Rose came out from La Fere to look after Lt. Harrell who was very badly burned. He spoke a little English and looked after Resistance patients. He had us fill in a form and promised to get us identity cards. He said he would send word of our well-being to England. Alfred was very active with his band of men. On the 30th Aug. they attacked a German staff car. 3 Germans jumped out but they were shot dead immediately. On the 31st Aug. Alfred took prisoner a German riding by on a cycle. A German patrol entered the town so he bound his prisoner, hit him over the head with a 2 x 4, and pushed his body into the river. While at Alfred's we met a young woman who claimed to have helped 35 to 40 airmen evade. She was 5' 4", plump, respectable in appearance, round face, dark hair and complexion, well made up, and she spoke good English. She lived in a house across the street from the house where Lt. Johnston was kept. This was the house of a M. Henot, Faillouel (AISNE). She probably lived with the Res. Chief of Faillouel. She was in close contact with the area chief, a man respectable and intelligent in appearance, 6 feet tall, 190 lbs., about 35 years old, round face and light hair. 2 days before we were freed by an American unit on the 2nd Sept. we were moved to a concrete house about 1 block away from Alfred's. We were evacuated by the Americans.

R. Sarant
2nd Lt AUS

Read
R/S

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:-

1ST LT. DE. ERERHART 0-256518

Unit:-

362nd FF.

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. *BARTER*

Chocolate or Peanut Bar. *—*

Milk (tube). *—*

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). *—*

Halazone tablets (water purifier). *—*

Matches. *USED*

Adhesive tape. *TO BANDAGE BURNED BUDDY*

Chewing gum. *BARTER*

Water bottle. *—*

Compass. *BARTER + ORIENTATION*

Sewing kit. *—*

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? *No*
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box? *LOST*
- 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?

TOOTH BRUSH - PICTURES SMALLER -

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? *yes*
State color of stripes and letters. *yellow*
If NOT, State why not.

- b. Did you use the purse? *yes*

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.

How did you spend the money? GAVE ALL TO FRENCH

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps. GAVE AWAY

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?

If so, how many?

YES - BUT THEY WERE LARGER THAN THE FRENCH

b. Did you use them?

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? YES

State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.

BY 523 - MANY TIMES

b. Did you find the lectures of value?

VERY MUCH

c. Do you have any suggestions to make which, from your experience, you feel will help other evaders and escapers?

NO

ALWAYS WEAR

GLOVES + JACKET

WHITE FLUFF

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

DONALD E. EBERHARDT / 1st LT. 0-756518
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET:

Date mission in action: 8-25-44

51 (No. of missions)

Date arrived in UK: 9-8-44

392nd FS 367th FG
(Squadron) (Group)

NONE

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

Indicate what happened to each man and how you know.

PILOT DONALD E. EBERHARDT

CO-PILOT

NAVIGATOR

BOMBARDIER

RADIO OPERATOR

TOP TURRET GUNNER

BALL TURRET GUNNER

WAIST GUNNER

WAIST GUNNER

TAIL GUNNER

Decorations: AIR MEDAL

Date of Birth: 3-1-44

Private Address: 910 VERA AVE. - REDWOOD CITY, CALIF.

Length of Service: 2 yrs - 3 mo.

Job as Civilian: AIRCRAFT MECH.

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

A-2 } FRANCE 11:30

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed?

YES

Were you wounded? Give details.

SLIGHT BRUISES + SPRAINED ANKLE

Did you pay your guides? If so, how much?

yes 2500 FR.

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

LITTLE

Did you have identity papers?

NO

(over)

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?

Yes - 9th A.F.

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

No

Date of arrival in Spain:

Date of arrival at Gibraltar:

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

T-2 FRANCE - Sept-8. - 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.

SECRET

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

O. E. FERHMAN 1ST Lt 0-256518 9-9-44
(Name) (Rank) (ASN) (Date)
392nd FX. 362nd FB.
(Unit)

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.

8-25-44 - 1230 - 1/2 mi. - E. of La Fere, France

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

B: PROP-COWLING, -WING TORN OFF
SMALL FIRE.

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

1500 feet.

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

NONE

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

PILOT Yes

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 MEMBERS

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 CREW

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

YES - SMASHED + BURNED - HAD BEEN INSPECTED BY GERMANS

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 "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.,.....)

OBSERVED 60 ME 109's flying from airfield near La Ferre - Bombs bombed all field around, but never touched this one. - they used it up to two days before Americans arrived. - - all enemy planes operated very close to ground on all their mission. Flew 1st missions - - 3 or 4 a day. - - Blew up Bridges 3 days ahead of American columns.