

S E C R E T

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

ERNEST D. BEANT / 1st Lt / 11041832  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)  
96th Bomb G. 388th B. Sq.  
(Unit)

9/8/44  
(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.

*May, 26, 1944 - 0900 near Cu, France*

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

*Plane cut in half, heading for the ground.*

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

*1500 ft*

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

*9 killed*

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

*Top Turret Yes.*

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.

*French people told me that one other parachute besides my own captured by Germans. Not from my crew I do not believe.*

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

*Poor*

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?

*French people and the plane was headed down before we knew what happened.*

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) ERNEST D. GRANT Signed [Signature]

Rank S/SGT A.S.N. 11041832 Dated 2/6/41 Place .....

Unit 96 of Bomb Sq 308 B. G. Witness .....

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)

SECRET - AMERICAN  
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

APPENDIX "B" 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.,.....)

S E C R E T

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

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL  
EVADING OR ESCAPING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

Ernest D. Grant s/sgt 11041892  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET:

Date mission in action: May 26-44

13 (No. of missions)

Date arrived in UK: 9/9/44

338 (Squadron) 96 (Group)

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

Indicate what happened to each man and how you know.

PILOT	<u>1st Lt. J. Borkowski</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>Killed</u>	
CO-PILOT	<u>2nd Lt. W. Hester</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>The French people explained to me what happened</u>
NAVIGATOR	<u>F/O C. Ahearn</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>"</u>	
BOMBARDIER	<u>1st Lt. Ream</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>"</u>	
RADIO OPERATOR	<u>T/sgt R. Welch</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>"</u>	
TOP TURRET GUNNER	<u>Myself</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>"</u>	
BALL TURRET GUNNER	<u>s/sgt R. Bazill</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>I myself saw (dead) Anderson on the ground.</u>
WAIST GUNNER	<u>T/sgt W. Anderson</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>"</u>	
WAIST GUNNER	<u>s/sgt R. Hagermier</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>"</u>	
TAIL GUNNER	<u>s/sgt W. Young</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>"</u>	

Decorations: Air Medal

Date of Birth: 22/3/23

Private Address: 63 Conwell Ave. Somerville, Massachusetts

Length of Service: 2 years 9 months

Job as Civilian: Ball Player

From what field did you take off? Take off time.  
6:00

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? Yes

Were you wounded? Give details.

No

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

Yes 2,000 Franc.

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

Did you have identity papers? No

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

*1st Canadian Army Intel. - 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?

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

*Yes. France - 9/6/44*

Date of arrival in Spain: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of arrival at Gibraltar: \_\_\_\_\_

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

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE

AAF STATION 101

APO 634

Operational Research Section

E. & E. CAUSE OF LOSS REPORT

As one of its jobs, the Operational Research Section seeks ways to reduce the number of casualties and the number of aircraft damaged or lost.

To do this, Operational Research Section requires all the information it can get on what happened to aircraft which failed to return to the U. K.

Accordingly, it has been arranged that all returning crew members of lost Eighth Air Force B-17s and B-24s shall fill in this report.

Improvements in tactics, equipment, and aircraft design have resulted from analysis of information supplied by crew members who have already returned after being shot down. Your story may help save other crews.

Answer the following questions, and then tell as completely and as accurately as you can what happened to your aircraft -- the sequence of events which caused your ship to go down.

Two or more members of the same crew may fill out a single report.

Date of this report 9/8/44

Crew Members Filling Out This Report

Name and Rank	Crew Position	Missions Flown (Counting Last One)
<u>S/SGT KENNETH D. GRANT</u>	<u>Top. Turret</u>	<u>13</u>

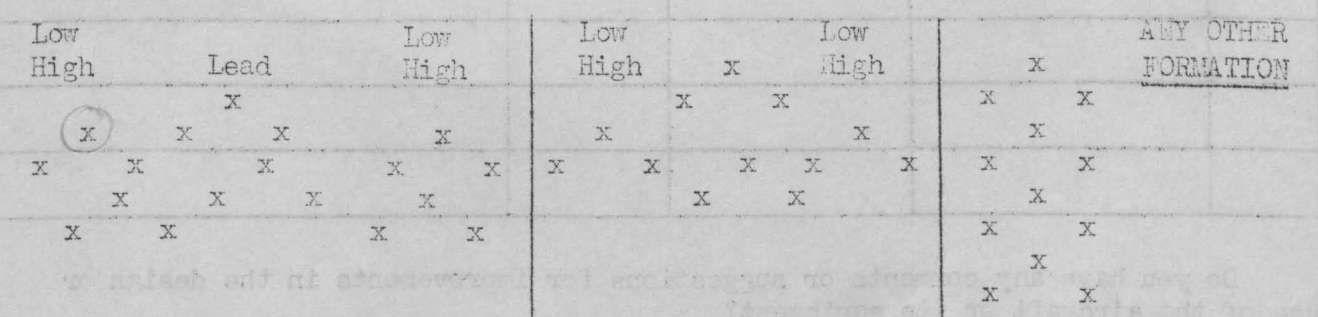
Date aircraft was lost MAY-26 Group and Squadron 96th - 338th Sq.

Primary Target \_\_\_\_\_ A/C Type & Serial No. B-17G-2102515

Target Actually Bombed (if different) \_\_\_\_\_ Name of A/C, if any \_\_\_\_\_

Bomb Load: H.E. — I.B. — Both — Pilot's Name 1st Lt. Joseph Bonkowski

Indicate in one of the diagrams below position of A/C in formation at assembly:



If A/C assumed any other position in formation, indicate which position, and why change was made.

On the other side of this sheet, tell the story of what happened to your aircraft, as nearly as possible in the order in which it occurred.





EYEH 1715-

CONFIDENTIAL.

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 1104 18 32 Rank S/Sgt. U.S.A.A.F

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) GRANT E.D.

Unit 338 Sqdn 96 Gp (B)

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

and has signed a Security Certificate.

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

*Dwight D. Bardo*

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. 1715



CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 11041832 Rank S/Sgt. U.S.A.A.  
Name (BLOCK LETTERS) E.D. GRANT  
Unit 338 Sqn 96 B Group.

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

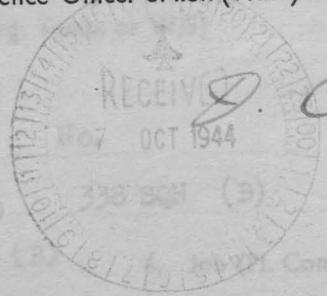
and has signed a Security Certificate.

2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F. No. of medals)

He should/should not/be re-interrogated.

3. Were you wounded? Give details

4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force)



J. C. De...  
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

CERTIFIED THAT:

This Officer/W.O./N.C.O. has special information on the following subjects:—

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) *GRANT E.J.*

Unit *338 Signal Coy (R)*

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

and has signed a Security Certificate.

He should/should-not/be re-interviewed.

*Sumner*

Major.

IMPORTANT

M.I.5. ON ARRIVAL IN U.K. OR U.S.A.  
AN OFFICER OF M.I.9 OR (AMERICAN), AN OFFICER OF P.W. & X. DET.  
THIS CERTIFICATE MUST BE RETAINED AND HANDED TO (BRITISH)

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

For All Personnel.

1. No. 11041832 Rank s/Sjt U.S.A.A.F. Name GRANT E.D.  
(U.K.: Acting, Temp. or W/S)
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) 13 Missions.
3. Were you wounded? Give details No.
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 338 SQN (B)
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 96 Gp (B) 6. Job (Pl. Comd., Rfn., etc.) -
7. Date of Birth 22 Mar 23 8. Length of Service 3 yrs.
9. Peace time occupation Ball Player. 10. Private address 63 CONEVALL AVE  
SOMERVILLE, MAS.
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 TROOPS  
WHO BALE OUT

15. Post in Crew Top Turret Gnr.
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 BROKOWSKI, Joseph A - 1st Lt + 0810808 Killed. MIA
- CO-PILOT 2/Lt HESTER, Walter 0818870 -do- MIA
- NAVIGATOR F/O AHEARN, Wm C. T-123281 -do- MIA
- BOMBARDIER 1/Lt REAM, Theodore 02043740 -do- MIA
- RADIO OPERATOR T/Sjt WELCH, ROSS 32832602 -do- MIA
- TOP TURRET GUNNER Narrator
- BALL TURRET GUNNER S/Sjt BAZELL BIRZEILL, Ralph I 356582500 MIA
- WAIST GUNNER (R.) T/Sjt ANDERSON, Wm A 33225735 -do- MIA
- WAIST GUNNER (L.) T/Sjt HEGERMATRE HAGENMAIER, Ralph 37002735 -do- MIA
- TAIL GUNNER S/Sjt YOUNG, Wallace, 17142870 -do- P/W

17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B. 17. SNEDDERTON HEATH. 27 26 May 44. 0600 hrs.

18. Where and when did you come down? NWE 4. approx. M 4878
19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? Hidden. Attached: "B" Appendix "C" "D"
20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? Unknown.



Grant

Coming into EU. A plane of our high squad, hit  
by flak + came over on top of us + cut our  
plane in half. I got out at 1500 feet through  
a hole in fuselage. Only half of my chute  
was fastened when I got out. Landed in field  
where front part of sheep had fallen.  
Anderson (st w.g.) was ~~there~~ <sup>dead</sup> without chute. hid chute  
in bush + took off into woods. Stayed  
till 2200 hrs + approached farmhouse.  
They gave me food + told me to sleep in  
woods near house. Stayed 2 days + finally  
brought someone who spoke some English.  
I was taken to another farmhouse  
near Eu. Stayed 7 days. M. Bonvisage  
came then + took me to a cage near  
there where I stayed 2 days. Then he  
came + took me to Fresnoy where  
I met Warfel - Same from here on.