

Hq ETOUSA

19 October 1942

AG 333.6

SUBJECT: Safeguarding of P/W Information.

TO : Personnel concerned.

1. It is the duty of all Americans to safeguard information which might, either directly or indirectly, be useful to the enemy.
2. It is an offense, carrying heavy penalties, to publish or to communicate to any unauthorized person any information which might be useful to the enemy.
3. 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.
4. 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:
 - (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. 4a.
- e. No lectures or reports are to be given to any unit without the permission of the War or Navy Department.

By command of Lieutenant General EISENHOWER:

(signed) RALPH PULSIFER,
Colonel, AGD, Ass't. Adj. Gen.

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 American Military Attache to whom I first report, or an officer designated by the Commanding General of the Theater of Operations. I understand that disclosure to anyone else will make me liable to disciplinary action.

Name(Print) WINTERS, August Signed August Winters
 Rank 1st Lt A.S.N. 0-729532 Date 29-10-43
 Unit 306th Group 368th Sq Witness Grady Lewis
Major

1475

AG 383.6

Hq ETOUSA

9 April 1943.

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By command of Lieutenant General ANDREWS:

Ralph Pulsifer
 RALPH PULSIFER, *A.T.S.*
 Colonel, AGD, Adjutant General.

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Name (Print) WINTERS, August Signed *August Winters*
 Rank 1st Lt ASN 0-729532 Date 4-11-43
 Unit 306th Group 368th Sq Witness *Richard R. Nelson*
myndal

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

E & E REPORT NO. 179
EVASION IN FRANCE

4-11-43
(Date)

WINTERS, August 1st Lt 0-729532
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

368th 306
(Squadron) (Group)

AGE: 26
LENGTH OF SERVICE: 21 months
HOME ADDRESS: 351-E-7th ave
Chico, Calif.

6-9-43
MIA: 10-10-43
Arrived in Spain:
29-10-43
Arrived in Gibraltar:
3-11-43
Arrived in UK:

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

	Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT 0-729896 2nd Lt Wesley D. Peterson	P.W.	MIA
CO-PILOT 0-671990 2nd Lt Edward L. Maslanke	MIA	THINK P.W.
NAVIGATOR 0-683307 2nd Lt Donald C. Phillips	MIA	MIA
BOMBARDIER 0-729532 1st Lt August Winters		Narrator
RADIO OPERATOR 12011015 T/Sgt William B. Plaskett Jr	MIA	MIA. EVADING.
TOP TURRET GUNNER 15103808 T/Sgt William Littlely	MIA	MIA
BALL TURRET GUNNER 33021170 Sgt Frederick P. Hartunge	MIA	MIA
WAIST GUNNER 16072028 S/Sgt George S. Mouser		NARRATOR Ret'd Duty
WAIST GUNNER 15300732 Sgt William P. Scott Jr		Ret'd Duty
TAIL GUNNER 16127319 S/Sgt Douglas G. Wright	M.I.A.	MIA

see Mouser for crew disposition

Were you wounded? Yes under side of chin & skinned both cheeks and badly torn muscles in left leg.

A Winter

SECRET
EQUALS BRITISH

MOST SECRET

APPENDIX "B"
HIS(X).....179

The following information has been obtained from our interview with
..... (.....) who escaped
after capture by the enemy/evaded capture by the enemy after being
in enemy/enemy occupied territory.

Further circulation of this information may be made, but when doing so
it is important not to divulge any particulars of source.

Statement of information covering period from *Sept. 6 - 43*

The German are not giving ^{to Nov. 1 - 43} the fascist salute
but their salute is similar to ours.

~~The organization needs clothes for escapes.~~

Hear say -

La Bourse - Paris - last Raid - 800 - new German
Pilots + 300 Army Aviators and High ranking officers
were killed.

Food situation is critical in France. Especially
for the poor who can't afford the Black Market.

German uniforms look ragged and dirty.

.....
.....

HIS(X).

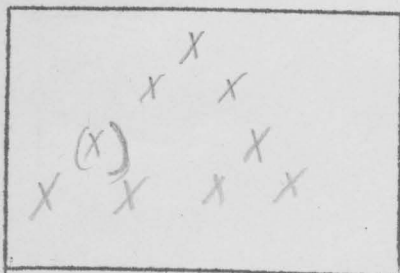
HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
PW and X Detachment
Military Intelligence Service

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1. Full Name, Rank and Serial No. *WINTERS, August 1st Lt 0-729582*
2. Decorations. *3 Oak leaf clusters Air Medal.*
3. Unit or Squadron. *368 th Sq 306 th Group.*
4. Division (Army) or Group. *306 th Group*
5. Date of Birth. *5-12-16*
6. Length of Service. *21 months*
7. Private Address. *351-E-FIRST AVE CHICO, CALIF.*
8. If in A.F., on what operation were you engaged? State place, date, and time of departure. Where and when did you come down?
Were Aircraft and all instruments and papers destroyed?
*STUTTGART, Germany Sept 6, 1943 0901 AM
Between Bouvoniis & GORNEY, FRANCE.
AIRCRAFT Blow-up in Air.*
9. What was your position in aircraft? *BOMBARDIER*
10. Were you wounded? *Yes - By Parachute or something*
11. Did you pay your guides? If so how much? *NO*
12. Do you speak French? Spanish? *NO*
13. Did you have Identity Papers? *Yes*
14. Have you been questioned before to-day on your escape or evasion? If so, where and by whom? Have you given anyone a written report on your experiences. Where and when?
*By British Council BARCELONA
" & American AT GIB*
15. Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom?
*No Written Report signed by me
NO*
16. Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, where and when?
Yes - Barcelona - Gib - London.
17. Date of arrival in Spain. *Madrid
10-10-43*
18. Date of arrival at Gibraltar. *29-10-43*
19. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air. *3-10-43*
20. Place and date of arrival in U.K. *New Quay - Port mawgan*

NAME Winters, August RANK 1st Lt ASN 0-729532 REPORT NO. 179

SQ 368 GROUP 306 A/C NO. _____ Letter _____ Load _____ Date 4-11-43



Position in formation.
Make Diagram

Observed results of Bombing:

None

Enemy Fighter Tactics: usual usual ~~usual~~

Markings:

Our Tactics: normal evasion

Our Fighter Support:
didn't see any

Flak

<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Quality</u>
	<u>Target Stuttgart</u>	<u>Heavy & accurate</u>

Technical Failures

Motors: No Gas

Armor:

Armament:

Miscellaneous: Ran out of gas

Comments and Suggestions on any of the above:

S E C R E T

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO. 179.

No., Rank, Name:- *Winters, August 1st Lt.*

Unit:- *306th Group. 368th Sq.*

Please answer carefully the questions below. Suggestions for improvement of escape equipment and training must 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, had you one on you?
- (c) If not, why had you no aids box?
- (d) If you used it, which of the following items did you use? Put a dash (-) against each item used and state briefly the circumstances, e.g., "Lying up for 2 nights", etc.
- (i) Horlicks tablets. —
- (ii) Chocolate —
- (iii) Milk (tube).
- (iv) Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). —
- (v) Halazone tablets (water purifier).
- (vi) Matches. —
- (vii) Adhesive tape. —
- (viii) Chewing gum. —
- (ix) Water bottle.
- (x) Compass —
- (e) Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? If so, in what respect? *Adhesive tape not enough.*
- (f) How did you finally dispose of the box? *The organization took away from me.*
- (g) 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?

2. PURSE

- (a) Did you carry a purse? *Yes*
If so, state COLOR.
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? Put a dash (-) against each item used and state briefly the circumstances.
- (i) Maps. Which ones? *—*
- (ii) Compass. *—*

- (iii) File (hacksaw).
- (iv) Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. —
How did you spend the money.
- (d) How did you dispose of:-
 - Maps. *Yes*
 - Compass. *Yes*
 - File (hacksaw). *Yes*
 - Surplus currency. *No*

3. AIDS TO ESCAPE - (GADGETS+)

(+Issued separately from aids boxes and purses.)

- (a) Did you carry or wear any of the following?
If you used any of them, state briefly WHEN and WHERE
 - (i) Round compass. - *Immediately after landing.*
 - (ii) Stud compass. *No*
 - (iii) Swinger compass. *No*
 - (iv) Fly-button compass. *No*
 - (v) Pencil clip compass. *No*
 - (vi) Tunic button compass. *No*
 - (vii) Pipe compass. *No*
 - (viii) Pouch
 - (ix) Special flying boots (and knife). *No*
- (b) Were they satisfactory? *Yes*
- (c) Can you suggest any improvements, additions, or substitutions which would improve the above equipment?

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

- (a) Did you carry passport-size photographs?
If so, how many? *Yes - One*
- (b) Did you use them?
State how. *Passport*

5. LECTURES

- (a) Were you lectured on evasion and escape?
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.
Yes - At my Base - 306.
- (b) Did you find the lectures of value?
Yes

Lt WINTERS

179

(4)

TT

BOMBED
SECONDARY
TARGET.

OUT OF
GASOLINE.

BAILED
OUT.

BLACKED
OUT.

We left THURLEIGH 0900 hours 6 September 1943 to bomb STUGGART, Germany. We had fighter escort most of the way. We encountered no flak to amount to anything until just before the target. We circled the target once, then without dropping our bombs, took a heading of 300°, flew about 20 minutes and dropped our bombs on a small town railroad station with very good results. We then headed for home.

I heard the pilot say that we had 325 gallons of gas left. Very shortly after this either our No 1 or No 2 engine cut out and gasoline was transferred. The engineer was kept busy draining gasoline from one tank to another. The pilot said he was going to call the group leader and say that we were going to leave. About this time all four engines cut out.

I told the navigator to bale out and picked up my walk-around bottle. I went back to where the co-pilot was getting ready to bale out. I saw the pilot was setting the plane on AFC. I urged the co-pilot to jump and before I went out, I looked back and saw the ball turret gunner leave. I then went back and dropped out through the bomb bay.

I jumped at about 17,000 feet, turned over twice and then pulled my rip cord. I blacked out and came to again at about 3,000 feet. I saw five chutes above me but did not see the plane. I noticed two fences below me and in trying to avoid them, hit an apple tree. My chute fell over the top of it. Since I could not get it down, I cut the shroud lines. Several French peasants came close to where I was and I tried to talk to them. But they did not seem to want to come very close, so I worked

and finally managed to get my chute up, gathered it up and climb over a fence. I put my chute, flying clothes and mae west into a haystack. One of the Frenchmen motioned me to set fire to it. I did not wish to do this as I was afraid it would attract the Germans. But he came up and did it himself. The Frenchmen then took me with them to a farm occupied by either two or three families. On the way I gave them two packages of cigarettes, some chocolate and my knife.

FRENCH
HELP.

As we approached the house several dogs started barking, so I was guided to a pigpen. There were a great many blackberry bushes with briars, so I crawled in there and hid. In about 20 or 30 minutes they called and I wouldn't come out. They came after me and when I did get out they had my co-pilot with them. They fed us both in the yard and while there they looked at our escape kits and purses. In a short while we were taken and hidden in a barn. They gave us a jug of cognac to keep with us. In about half an hour they brought us some peasant clothing and we discarded the rest of our uniforms.

We decided to start out, and the farmer directed us on a wrong road and we landed in a forest. We sat down to take stock of what we had and where we wanted to go and to discard all unnecessary things. We stayed in this forest about five hours. We had come down just west of GOURNAY.

About 1800 hours the co-pilot started walking. I could not go with him owing to the fact that I had injured my left leg when I landed. I waited there until dark and was then so cold that I felt I had to move. As I started I heard three ladies talking, and after watching them for a short while, I approached them. I was almost crawling. I asked them for food and they hid me in a covered wagon. One of them went for her brother and when he came I found he could talk a little English. He and in hid me in an empty barn/about half a hour brought me food. I spent

five nights here. Then the brother came and said it was getting dangerous for me to stay there and moved me to a schoolhouse which was about three miles in the direction of BEAUVAIS. I slept there for two nights. He sent one of his friends to try to arrange help for me. From here the rest of my journey was arranged.

WINTERS

Left Thunleigh 0900 Sept 6th 1945 to bomb
 Stuttgart Germany. Fighter escort. No flak to
 account to anything until just before target was circled.
 then took a heading of 300° flew about 20 min dropped
 our bombs on a little town R.R. station good hit.
 We headed for home. I heard pilot say 325 gal of gas left.
 Very shortly either 1 or 2 cut out and gas was transferred.
 We kept engine draining gas from us talk to another.
 Pilot said he was going to call Gen leader + say we were
 going to leave. All 4 engines cut out. I told Navigator
 to bail out and I took my canteen and bottles + went back
 Co. Pilot was ready to bail out Pilot was setting
 place on A.T.C. I urged Co. Pilot not to jump. I
 looked back and ball turret gunner had just left.
 I went back and dropped out through bomb bay.
 I out about 17000 ft turned over twice and then
 pulled up and I hooked out. I came to at
 about 3000 ft. I saw 5 chutes above me. Did not see
 plane. I tried to avoid 2 fences and hit apple tree
 chute fell over it ~~I jumped it~~. Looked up and F.W. was
 circling and other chutes were coming down. I could not
 get chute down so cut shoulder lines. Saw French
 people came close I tried to talk but they did not

went to see close so I got them up charts, flint, fence and put charts, flying clothes, Mac West and hid them under a small hay stack. I looked around and one Frenchman motioned to me to set fire to it I did not want to but he did it. They then took me with them I gave them 2 pts legs, chocolate, gum, knife they took me to farm house 2 or 3 families. Dogs started barking they chased me + guided me to a fig cove with blackberry bushes + nettles + I crawled in. In 20 or 30 min they called + I would not come out they found me + when I looked around he was my Co. pilot. We were both fed in yard. We looked at escape kits + purses. Took to bar + hid in bar gave us mug of cognac. In 1/2 hr bought peasant's clothes. We had asked location of Germans. Farmer directed us got on wrong road + got into Forest. She took sth and got rid of all unnecessary things. Stay in forest about 5 hrs. We were then just West of LOURNAY. About 6 P.M. Co. Pilot started I could not walk due to left leg hurt on jump. I waited until dark + then so cold I had to move. I heard some 3 loches + watched them for a while. I approached them almost crawling. I asked for food they hid me in a covered wagon they had. One next to his brother he came + could talk a little English. He hid me in an empty bar 1/2 mile away + bought food. I spent 5 nights here. Then at 1 P.M. 5th night both cars said it was getting dangerous. Moved me to school house 3 miles toward Beaumont. I slept there in his bed 2 nights. I asked him ^{to go to} Beaumont to see if he could contact Cpt. Howe. While here a French officer came had pictures of Sgt Munson and showed it to me. Said had 3 of crew. They would go to Paris next day + I in 4 days. Next day to come with I.C. + Engineer clothes took everything I had. Took me to Beaumont in pick up truck then met Sgt Munson Plaskett, Scott. Stayed in Forest left home that night next A.M. to Paris in tin 3 class in Paris. Sgt Munson never taken to Dr. Alice's apt stayed 7 days then to Toulouse. Saw or Sgt Scott here.

St Winters

- During a recent raid on
- a. The Germans are not giving the ~~F~~acist salute, ~~but using one~~ ^{instead they are} similar to American salute. ~~Personal observation~~
 - b. LE BOURGET ~~raid~~ - 800 new German pilots and 300 Army girls as well as ^{also} high ranking officers ^{were} killed. (Hearsay)
 - c. Food situation is critical in France, particularly amongst those who cannot afford to pay the prices of the Black Market
 - d. German uniforms look ragged and dirty. ^{Observation & hearsay}

E + E # 179
(Lt. August Winters)
Appendix C

Lt. Winters came down on 6 Sept. 1943 E. of GOURNAY-EN-BRAY. Some farmers hid him and brought Lt. Maslauka to him shortly thereafter. The farmers fed the two Americans and gave them peasant clothing. Lts. Winters and Maslauka then walked off on their own; but, ~~the~~ since Winters was hampered by an injured leg, he was ~~so~~ soon left behind by Maslauka. Winters approached three women who hid him in the cart they had while one went for her brother who spoke a little English. This man hid Winters in a barn for five nights and then moved him to a schoolhouse for two nights, going to BEAUVAIS meanwhile to find organized aid. A French officer then came to the school-house and, showing Winters a picture of Sgt. Monser, told him that three of his crew were safe. ~~and~~ The next day this officer took Winters to BEAUVAIS where he saw Monser, Plasketh, and Scott. That night he spent in the ~~the~~ house of a French ~~Sgt~~ captain and the next day went with the whole party to PARIS where Monser and Winters were taken to the flat of DR. ALICE WILLM. After nine days here they were taken to TOUHOUSE. ~~from~~ Winters' story from this point is the same as Scott's.

CONFIDENTIAL

MILITARY LIAISON OFFICE
AMERICAN CONSULATE
GIBRALTAR

29 October 1943

SUBJECT: Orders.

TO : Personnel named below.

✓ 1st Lieut. August Winters, O-729532, 306th Bm. Grp.
2nd Lieut. Leonard J. Fink, O-796510, 384th Bm. Grp.
2nd Lieut. William E. Harnly, O-736703, 92nd Bm. Grp.
2nd Lieut. James G. McMath, O-680668, 384th Bm. Grp.
Tech Sgt. Norman Kreitenstein, 35114035, 100th Bm. Grp.
Staff Sgt. Pasquale J. Del Vento, 31104691, 95th Bm. Grp.

having reported at this station on 29 October 1943, you are placed on temporary duty this office. Upon completion of this temporary duty you will proceed by first available transportation to LONDON, ENGLAND, where you will report without delay to the Commanding General, European Theater of Operations, U.S. Army. Under authority of WD Cablegram Number 45, 4 February 1943, in lieu of subsistence, a flat per diem of \$6.00 is authorized while traveling on official business (except by belligerent or government vessel) and while on temporary duty this station, in accordance with existing law and regulations. TDN FSA 1-5600 P 432-02 A 0425-24.

By order of Colonel FORSTER:

GRADY LEWIS,
Major, Air Corps,
Executive Officer.

OFFICIAL:

Grady Lewis
GRADY LEWIS,
Major, Air Corps,
Executive Officer.

Distribution.

MIS
Hq ETOUSA (A.C. of S., G-2)
Personnel concerned
File

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