

SECRET

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

HANSON MELVIN G. 1ST LT. 0702915

(Name)

(Rank)

(ASN)

9
10 SEPT 1944

(Date)

USAAF

(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 JULY 1944 0630 BOSTE LA HARD (NEAR TOTES) FRANCE

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

ENG. ON FIRE HYDRAULIC LINES BROKEN

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? 15,000 FT.

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

YES PILOT KILLED NAVIGATOR SMALL FLAK WOUND IN
SHOULDER

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

NAV + BOMB CO-PILOT AND COMMAND PILOT SCHUTES OPENED

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? YES

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

YES THE CO-PILOT

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

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

NO

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?

I THINK THEY WERE CAPTURED BECAUSE THE F.F.I. REPORTED
SEVERAL SCHUTES SEEN.

EHE# 1793

CONFIDENTIAL.

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 0-702915 Rank Brig. Lt. USAAF
Name (BLOCK LETTERS) HANSON. M.O.
Unit 562 Sqdn 388 Gp



has been ~~fully~~/briefly/interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S.9(WEA) on 6 Sep 1944
and has signed a Security Certificate.

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

Drewell

A 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.

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

EVADED CAPTURE/ESCAPED FROM (Name of Country) FRANCE.

For All Personnel.

1. No. 0 702915 Rank 1/Lt U.S.A.A.F. Name HANSON M.O.
(U.K.: Acting, Temp. or W/S)
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) Air Medal. 14 Missions.
3. Were you wounded? Give details. Flak wound. R. shoulder and R. ankle burnt leaving a/c.
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 562 SQN
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 388 Gp 6. Job (Pl. Comd., Rfn., etc.) -
7. Date of Birth 7 Sep 1922 8. Length of Service 21 months.
9. Peace time occupation A/c mechanic. 10. Private address TERRY, MONTROSE,
BOX 405.
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? Tags. No.
12. Do you speak French, or any other foreign language? Little French and Spanish.

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 TROOPSWHO BALE OUT

15. Post in Crew Navigator.
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 GILL R.E. | Killed. |
| CO-PILOT & TAIL GNR. | 1/Lt BISHOP H.L. | I.S.9 WEA/1/181. |
| NAVIGATOR | Narrator. | |
| BOMBARDIER | 1/Lt OLIVER G.I. | Baled Out. |
| RADIO OPERATOR | T/Sjt McKINNEY D.M. | Baled Out. |
| TOP TURRET GUNNER | T/Sjt WEST J.P. | Unknown. |
| BALL TURRET GUNNER | S/Sjt SANDERS G. | Baled Out. |
| WAIST GUNNER (R.) | S/Sjt THORPE J.D. | Baled Out. |
| WAIST GUNNER (L.) | S/Sjt PAGE T. | Baled Out. |
| Comd Pilot. | 1/Lt WILCOX V.M. | I.S.9 WEA/1/91. |
| TAIL GUNNER | S/Sjt STAWASZ L.P. | Baled Out. |
17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B 17 G. NETTERSHALL 8 JUL 44. 0400 hrs.

18. Where and when did you come down? 1 mile from MONTREUIL EN CAUX NWE 4 M 2742
19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? Hidden.
20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? Yes a/c blew up.

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

EVASION CAPTURE/RESCUED FROM (Name of Country) FRANCE

For All Personnel.

1. No. 0 702912 Rank 1/Lt U.S.A.A.F. Name HANSON M.O.
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) Air Medal.
3. Were you wounded? Give details. Flak wound. R. shoulder and R. ankle burnt leaving a/c.
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), 2dn. (Air Force) 388 GP
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 388 GP
6. Job (Pl. Comd., Rtn., etc.)
7. Date of Birth 7 Sep 1922 Length of Service 21 months
8. Private address TERRY, MONTROSE BOX 402
9. Peace time occupation A/c mechanic.
10. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? Tags. No.
11. Do you speak French, or any other foreign language? Little French and Spanish.

FOR R.A.F. ONLY.

12. No. and location of O.T.U.
13. No. and location of Conversion Unit

FOR ALL AIR FORCE PERSONNEL AND/OR AIRBORNE OR PARACHUTE TROOPS

WHO BALE OUT

14. Post in Crew Navigator.
15. 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.
16. PILOT 1/Lt GILL R.E. Killed.
17. CO-PILOT & TAIL GNR. 1/Lt BISHOP H.L. I.S.9 WEA/1181.
18. NAVIGATOR Navigator.
19. BOMBARDIER 1/Lt OLIVER G.I. Baled Out.
20. RADIO OPERATOR T/Sgt MOLONEY D.M. Baled Out.
21. TOP TURRET GUNNER T/Sgt WEST J.P. Unknown.
22. BALL TURRET GUNNER S/Sgt SANDERS G. Baled Out.
23. WAIST GUNNER (R.) S/Sgt THOMAS J.D. Baled Out.
24. WAIST GUNNER (L.) S/Sgt FRANK T. Baled Out.
25. TAIL GUNNER S/Sgt STANLEY P.P. I.S.9 WEA/1181. Baled Out.
26. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B 17 G. WINTERHALL 8 JUL 44. 0900 hrs.

Interviewed by I.S.9 (WEA)

18. Where and when did you come down? Date 6 Sep 44

19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and map west? Briefly interrogated.

Attached:

Appendix "C"

" "C"

" "C"

Yes a/c blew up U.K.

Disposal:

There are papers and equipment destroyed?

Major

G.S.

APPENDIX "C" TO E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9 WEA/1/182.1513

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

No. 0 702915 Rank 1/Lt USAAF Name HANSON M.O.

Date of Interview 6 Sep 44.

1. ANDRE VITTECOQ
MONTREUIL EN CAUX par ST VICTOR L'ABBAYE (NWE 4 M 2742)
e
2. M L'ABBE PETIT
ST VICTOR L'ABBAYE
S INF (NWE 4 M 2540).
3. M & Mme ANDRE GOSSE
ST VICTOR L'ABBAYE.
4. Mme R. LECLERE
CHEZ Mme CABOT,
ST VICTOR L'ABBAYE
5. A man who owns a fair, lives in MONTREUIL and is known by VITTECOQ.

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) MELVIN O. HANSON Signed Melvin O. Hanson

Rank 1st Lt. A.C. A.S.N. 0:202715 Dated 10 Sep 44 Place London

Unit U.S. AAF Witness [Signature]

RESTRICTED

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

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

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING OR ESCAPING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

TARGET:

HANSON MELVIN O. 1ST LT. 0702915

(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

Date mission in action: 7 JULY 44

14 (No. of missions)

Date arrived in UK: 9 SEPT. 1944

562 388 BOMB.
(Squadron) (Group)

MEMBERS OF CREW: (Please list names next to positions)		Indicate what happened to each man and how you know.
COMMAND PILOT	V.G. WILCOX 1 ST LT.	RETURNED U.K.
PILOT	R.E. GILL 1 ST LT.	KILLED SEEN BY CO-PILOT
CO-PILOT	H.L. BISHOP 1 ST LT.	RETURNED U.K.
NAVIGATOR	M.O. HANSON 1 ST LT.	"
BOMBARDIER	G.I. OLIVER 1 ST LT.	UNKNOWN
RADIO OPERATOR	D.M. MCKINNEY T/SGT.	"
RADIO GUNNER	L.P. STAWASZ S/SGT.	"
TOP TURRET GUNNER	J.P. WEST T/SGT.	"
BALL TURRET GUNNER	G. SAND S/SGT.	"
WAIST GUNNER	J.D. THORPE S/SGT.	"
WAIST GUNNER	T. PAGE S/SGT.	UNKNOWN
TAIL GUNNER	← 1 ST LT.	

Decorations: AIR MEDAL

Date of Birth: 7 SEPT. 1922

Private Address: BOX 405 TERRY, MONTANA U.S.A.

Length of Service: 21 MO.

Job as Civilian: AIRCRAFT MECHANIC

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

K NEITESHALL 0400

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? YES

Were you wounded? Give details.

SLIGHTLY SMALL FLAK WOUND RT. SHOULDER HURT ANGLE

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

YES 1600 FRANKS

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

LITTLE LITTLE NO NO NONE

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?

NO

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

YES LONDON IERES, FRANCE.

Date of arrival in Spain: —

Date of arrival at Gibraltar: —

Place and date of departure for UK. By sea or air. BY AIR 9 SEPT 1944

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

AMERICAN S/SGT G. SAND

LT. G.I. OLIVER

T/SGT R. MCKINNEY

T/SGT J. WEST

S/SGT L. STAWASZ

S/SGT J. THORPE

S/SGT T. POAGE

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

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:-

1ST LT MELVIN O. HANSON

Unit:-

U.S.A.A.F.

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? *ONE OF THEM*
- b. If not, why? *THE OTHER WAS LOST WHEN SHIP WAS HIT*
- c. If you used it, state briefly the circumstances in which you used each item, for example, "While hiding in woods for two nights".

Herlicks tablets.

Chocolate or Peanut Bar.

Milk (tube).

THIS ONE WAS LOST

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue).

Halazone tablets (water purifier).

Matches.

Adhesive tape.

Chewing gum.

Water bottle.

Compass.

Sewing kit.

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box?
- 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?

*EACH MAN SHOULD HAVE A TOOTH BRUSH RAZOR AND KNIFE*2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? *YES*
State color of stripes and letters. *RED*
If NOT, State why not.
- b. Did you use the purse?

YES

(over)

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?

2000 FRANKS

d. How did you dispose of:-

*400 FOR PERSONAL ITEMS SUCH AS COMB
RAZOR & TOOTH BRUSH WHICH WERE VERY HARD TO
OBTAIN 1600 FRANKS TO THE PEOPLE WHO
KEPT ME.*

Maps. *BURNED*

Compass. *TO THE F.F.I.*

File (hacksaw). *"*

Surplus currency. *"*

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?

THEY WERE LOST WHEN PLANE WAS HIT.

b. Did you use them?

NO

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape?

State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.

YES SEVERAL TIMES AT OUR BASE AT KNETTESHALL

b. Did you find the lectures of value? *YES*

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

*PICTURES (IDENT) AND ESCAPE KITS SHOULD BE
ATTACHED TO SCHUTE HARNESS*

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.,.....)

THE TERRITORY WE WERE IN IS NOW IN ALLIED HANDS
THE MORALE OF THE ENEMY WHILE RETREATING WAS VERY
BAD. THE MEN SEEMED TO STAY VERY WELL ORGANIZED
AS LONG AS THEY HAD OFFICERS IN CHARGE BUT
SEVERAL GROUPS LOST THEIR OFFICERS AND IN
OTHERS WHICH WERE JUST AHEAD OF OUR TROOPS, THE
OFFICERS REMOVED THEIR RANK AND DESTROYED
MANY PAPERS. THEY HAD LITTLE TRANSPORTATION
AND SEEMED TO KIND OF EXPECTING CAPTURE ALL
THE TIME.