

CERTIFIED THAT:No. 16131251 Rank T/4Name (BLOCK LETTERS) JOSEPH F. GORENCUnit 506 Parachute Inf, 101 AB DIV.

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

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

M. G. Lane
2127CAC
Major

IMPORTANT:

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

CONFIDENTIAL.

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 0-742033 Rank 1st Lt.

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) CHARLES H. THORNTON

Unit 101 Sqn. 445 B. Gp.

has been ~~fully~~/briefly/interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S.9(WEA) on 6th Sept 1944

and has signed a Security Certificate.

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



CENT.

D. C. De C...

Major.

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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 742033 Rank 1/Lt USAAF Name THORNTON C. H.
(U.K.: Acting, Temp. or W/S)
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) Air Medal. 31.
3. Were you wounded? Give details Glass in arm. Flak in R. leg.
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 701 SQN.
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 445 B. Gp. 6. Job (Pl. Comd., Rfn., etc.) Pilot.
7. Date of Birth 9 Oct 1918. 8. Length of Service 2 yrs 5 months.
9. Peace time occupation Accountant. 10. Private address 64119 TEMPLETON ST,
HUNTINGTON PARK, CALIF.
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? Identity Discs. 12 Photos.
All views.
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 TROOPSWHO BALE OUT

15. Post in Crew Pilot.
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 | Narrator. | | |
| CO-PILOT | 1/Lt Bruce D. MACDONALD. | 0-806718 | Returned. 1515 |
| NAVIGATOR | 2/Lt William SCHELLHAS | 0699372 | Killed. MIA |
| BOMBARDIER | S/Sjt S.D. MONTGOMERY | 6281320 | Killed. MIA |
| NOSE TURRET | S/Sjt Robert BROTHERTON | 17155157 | Not known. MIA |
| RADIO OPERATOR | T/Sjt Emilio PRISTINZANO | 32553927 | Killed. MIA |
| TOP TURRET GUNNER | S/Sjt Hassell P EDMONDS | 14149920 | P/W. |
| BALL TURRET GUNNER | S/Sjt Harley M JONES | 34682719 | Returned. 1872 |
| WAIST GUNNER (R.) | S/Sjt HENDERSON | 13094657 | Not known. P/W |
| WAIST GUNNER (L.) | S/Sjt John L McGARRY | 35623727 | Not known. P/W |
| TAIL GUNNER | | | |
17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B 24. TIBENHAM. JUN 20th. Approx. 0400 hrs.
18. Where and when did you come down? In front of Deawy Sq 3040. 0630 hrs.
19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? Hid in undergrowth.
20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? A/c exploded on ground.

Applies to all BRITISH, CANADIAN, U.S. & ALLIED PERSONNEL
EVADUED CAPTURE/ESCAPED FROM (Name of Country)
For All Personnel.

1. No. 0 742033 Rank. 1st Lt USAF Name. THORNTON, C. H.
(U.K.: Acting, Temp. or W/S)
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) Medal.
3. Were you wounded? Give details.
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), 2nd. (Air Force)
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 1st B. Gp.
6. Job (Pl. Comb., Rtn., etc.) Pilot.
7. Date of Birth 2 Oct 1918 Length of Service 2 yrs 5 months
8. Private address 6449 TEMPLAR ST
9. Peace time occupation ACCOUNTANT HUNTINGTON PARK, CALIF.
10. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? 12 Photos. ALL VIEWS.
11. 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 Pilot.
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 Navigator.
CO-PILOT 1st Lt Bruce D. MacDONALD. 0-806712 Returned. 1919
NAVIGATOR 2nd Lt William SCHILLAS, 0-649372 Killed.
BOMBARDIER 2nd Lt S.D. MONTGOMERY - 0-281320 Killed.
RADIO OPERATOR 2nd Lt Robert BROTHERTON, 1-158152 Not known.
TOP TURRET GUNNER 2nd Lt Emilio PRISTANO, 3-252322 Killed.
BALL TURRET GUNNER 2nd Lt Hassell P. KIMMONS, 1-149940 B.M.
WAIST GUNNER (R.) 2nd Lt Harley M. JONES, 3-482219 Returned. 1919
WAIST GUNNER (L.) 2nd Lt John L. MCCANN, 3-252319 Not known.
TAIL GUNNER 2nd Lt John L. MCCANN, 3-252319 Not known.
17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B. 24. TIRANNA. JUN 20th. Approx. 0400 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 "B"
" "C"
" "D"

Disposal: U.K.

Major G.S.

E.C. De Cant Capl Mlt

EX# 1871
CONFIDENTIAL.

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 0-742033 Rank 1st Lt.
Name (BLOCK LETTERS) CHARLES H. THORNTON
Unit 701 Sqn. 445 B. Group

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

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

D. P. DeCand
f. Major.

IMPORTANT.

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M.I.S. ON ARRIVAL IN U.K. OR U.S.A.

APPENDIX "C" TO E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9 WEA/1/179.1/510

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

No. 0- 742033 Rank 1/Lt Name THORNTON C.H.

Date of Interview 6 Sep 44.

Map Used: EUROPE NWF Sheet No.4.

Dr JACQUES VALLES

St SAENS 3739.

Arranged civilian clothes. Medical care. Food and accommodation
for S/Sjt H.M.JONES and myself.

SECRET - AMERICAN
MCST SECRET - BRITISH

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.,.....)

All Territory Captured By
Allies

Landed C 9 hr SW St Sæns (N Rmen)

0630 C 15-16,000' - blacked out - opened alt.

1 day - this - landed go - fully with by get to this
In woods all day

C 2030 th into - helped by woman in field - sheltered.

That night - in bar - Dr. one

Next day - dr take to St Sæns - Dr. Jaeger. Vatter
& wife - active in FFI

Harly M Jones -

Met M Tassel - not sure - next Marie

M Guillon -

big food - also butcher & baker.

M Martin

M Parnell - took casualty info.

Bill White only Sholtozhen.
Br B & lan N with M G?

Co-P & another but Co-P in vicinity.

31 Aug -

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

THORNTON, Charles A 1517 0-742033
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

21 (No. of missions)

701 445
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET: St. Martin Harbor

Date mission in action: June 20, 1944

Date arrived in UK: Sept 9, 1944

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

Indicate what happened to each man and how you know.

PILOT E. H. Thornton
CO-PILOT B. D. Macdonald
NAVIGATOR W. Schellhas
BOMBARDIER S. D. Montgomery
Nose Gunner
RADIO OPERATOR R. Brotherton
TOP TURRET GUNNER E. Prisinzano
BALL TURRET GUNNER H. Edmonds
WAIST GUNNER H. M. Jones
WAIST GUNNER Fetterly
TAIL GUNNER J. L. McGarry

Decorations: Air Medal

Date of Birth: Oct. 9, 1918

Private Address: 3847 Fruitvale Ave. - Oakland, Calif.

Length of Service: 2 yrs. 5 Months

Job as Civilian: ACCOUNTANT

From what field did you take off? Take off time. T. Benham - 0400

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? yes. Plane exploded

Were you wounded? Give details. GLASS IN FACE - FLAK IN LEG
yes HANDS CUT BY GLASS

Did you pay your guides? If so, how much? No

Do you speak FRENCH? No SPANISH? No GERMAN? No ITALIAN? No OTHER LANGUAGE? English

Did you have identity papers? yes 1264 TRGS 91P

(over)

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

Yes - CANADIAN ARMY - London cirrus, 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? No

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

Sept. 7

Date of arrival in Spain: _____

Date of arrival at Gibraltar: _____

Place and date of departure for UK. By sea or air. Sept 9, NCAR BA9AU

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

Hassell P. Edmonds - 14149920

JACK J. Fetterly - 13094657

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

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) *Charles H. Thornton*

Signed *Chas H Thornton*

Rank *1st Lt* A.S.N. *0-742033*

Dated *Sept 10* Place *London*

Unit *445 Bomb group*

Witness *William C. H. H.*

201

Squad

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

T. HORTON, C.H. 1st Lt. 0-742033
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)
701 Squad - 445 Group
(Unit)

Sept-10, 1944
(Date)

MEMBERS OF CREW

PRESENT
OFFICIAL STATUS

PILOT C.H. + HORTON
CO-PILOT B.D. MACDONALD
NAVIGATOR W. Schellhas
BOMBARDIER S.D. Montgomery
RADIO OPERATOR R. Brotherton
TOP TURRET GUNNER C.T. PRISINZANO
BALL TURRET GUNNER H.P. Edmonds
WAIST GUNNER H.M. Jones
WAIST GUNNER J.J. Fetterly
TAIL GUNNER J.L. McGarry

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing.

JUNE 20, 1944 - 0630 NEAR SAINT SAUVS FRANCE

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. Was it on fire, etc?
ON FIRE, NO CONTROLS

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? 16,000

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed? yes - PRISINZANO
+ Schellhas

What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open? ALL BUT PRISINZANO
Schellhas + Montgomery

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? EXPLODED IN AIR

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground?
yes - H.M. Jones ALIVE

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.

yes, PRISINZANO, Schellhas, + Montgomery CRASHED WITH SHIP - IDENTIFIED
by Dog TAGS

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

yes - ENTIRELY DEMOLISHED

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.

ON LAND

What is source's opinion as to the fate of the other crew members and his reason for his opinion?

Edmonds + Fetterly - Prisoners of war - Sold to
Gerries by bad French - McGarry, Jones, MacDonald evaded
capture

1st Lt Charles H THORNTON, 0742033, 701/445 Bomb Gp (H), MIA 20 June 1944
Intvd 10 Sept 44

About 0630 on 20 June THORNTON landed about 4 km SW of St SAENS (N ROUEN).
hung up,
He landed in a tree and was hurt falling out of the tree when he was trying to
get down. He stayed in the woods all day. That night a woman sheltered him
in a barn. A doctor came and the next day took him to St SAENS where he stayed
with Dr JACQUES VALLES and his wife. The doctor was active in the FFI. He met
Sgt Harley M JONES from his crew.

THORNTON met the notaire, M TASSEL, who lived next to the maire, MM GUIDON
and MARTIN, who brought food along with a butcher and baker, and M PAUMELL who
took casualty information.

A British bombardier, Bill WHITE, and a Canadian N, Archy SHOEBOBOTTOM, were
with the Maquis. A CoP (presumably MacDONALD of Thornton's crew) and another
Fort CoP, BILL, were in the vicinity.

THORNTON was liberated by the arrival of allied troops about 31 Aug.

DEE

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- 0-742033 1st Lt Charles H. Thornton

Unit:- 701 Squad - 445 Group

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. *No*Chocolate or Peanut Bar. *yes - in woods 1 day*Milk (tube). *No*Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). *No*Halazone tablets (water purifier). *No*Matches. *No*Adhesive tape. *No*Chewing gum. *yes*Water bottle. *yes*Compass. *No*Sewing kit. *No*

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

*No out of money in report*2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? *yes*
State color of stripes and letters. —
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, NO

File (hacksaw). NO

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.

How did you spend the money?

helped me GAVE it to French who

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

} disposed by French

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion? NO

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? NO

If so, how many? 12

b. Did you use them? yes

they ARE NOT Correct
size

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? yes

State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.

By Group

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?

More Money