

SECRET

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

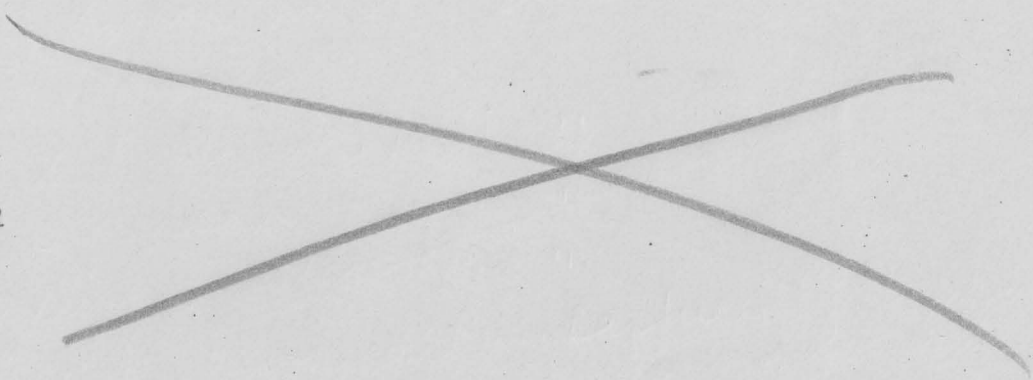
REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

H.C. Collier S/sgt 37312829 Sept 13-44
(Name) (Rank) (ASN) (Date)
406th Bomb sqd 801 at B.G.
(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. 2 Kilometers north of Roanne France May 6th 44 time approx 00.45

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. Was it on fire, etc? fire on both wings & tail section rudder controls shot away electrical system out

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? 5000 ft

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed? yes tail gunner wounded by flak

What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open? all - no two chutes didn't open properly. I tore mine open with my hands

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? before it hit the ground

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

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.

through members of F.F.I. I heard what happened to rest of crew.

Did source examine the wreckage of the plane? If so, what was its condition? Have picture of wreckage taken by Bombardier after it crashed

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?

Given above
two were taken prisoner & the rest evaded capture

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QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING OR ESCAPING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

Collier H.C. Sgt 37312824
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET:

Date mission in action: May 44

13
(No. of missions)

Date arrived in UK: Sept 13 44

406 801
(Squadron) (Group)

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

Indicate what happened to each man and how you know.

PILOT	<u>Murray L Simon 2nd Lt</u>	<u>Evaded</u>
CO-PILOT	<u>Frank M Russell</u>	<u>" " " "</u>
NAVIGATOR	<u>John A Rietman 1st Lt</u>	<u>" " " "</u>
BOMBARDIER	<u>John B Mead</u>	<u>" " " "</u>
RADIO OPERATOR	<u>Phillips B Latta</u>	<u>" " " "</u>
TOP TURRET GUNNER	<u>Leo F Dummesnil</u>	<u>Captured by Germans after a German turned him in french man later shot by Nazis</u>
BALL TURRET GUNNER		
WAIST GUNNER		
WAIST GUNNER		
TAIL GUNNER	<u>Stephen S Kasty</u>	<u>wounded by flak & taken by Germans</u>

Decorations:

Date of Birth: March 6th 1912

Private Address: Brantford north Dakota

Length of Service: 2 years

Job as Civilian: farmer

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

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? yes

Were you wounded? Give details. no

Did you pay your guides? If so, how much? no they would not accept payment

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

Did you have identity papers? yes

(over)

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

France
yes, Caserta Italy - England

Have you given any one a written report on your experiences. Where and When?

not a full report brief in Lyon France Sept 70

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?

Date of arrival in Spain:

Date of arrival at Gibraltar:

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

Sept 15th Caserta I

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

Garnet Columbus (Can.)

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

Ed Mason

Geo Hirst

John Rintner

John Mead

French Russel

Graham Buchanan

Bob Carney

Eric Brearley

Johnnie Nilmes

James Carter

~~*Garnet Columbus*~~

Norman Sue

Phillip Latta

Don Doubler

Alfred Wendt

Geo Weinbrenner

A.P. Bell

J.H. Harrell

Murray S. Simon

TOP SECRET

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APPENDIX C. TECH. SHEET

1. Did you jump or crash land? *Jump*
2. What was the town or village nearest to which you jumped or crash landed? *Marcigny France*
3. How long was it before you got help? *6 hrs.*
4. List the people who helped you and the location (city, town, or village) in which you were with them, including addresses where possible. After the name or description of each person with whom you stayed give the approximate dates between which you were with him.

peasant near St. Germain (name unknown).
 May 16th 7 AM. stayed with him 3 days, while
 he contacted members of F.F.I. taken from there
 into Roanne where I was questioned. stayed there
 5 days with a family (name unknown) taken from
 there to St. Etienne on a train stayed overnight
 taken from there to St. Front by train except for
 the last 20 miles which we walked there I remained
 with a family named Thote for 2 weeks then
 I was moved with a company of F.F.I. to Mt.
 Marchat where I was taken to a group of English
 Canadian & Air boys who were residing.
 next help came from another American Chief
 named Cobey dates from June 18th to July 10th
 next help came from a group under Paul Couderc
 next help came from Madame Madeline Dupuis

5. List other American and British evaders whom you saw during your evasion and state where you saw them.

J/ Lt. Ed. Mason Can.	1/sgt Phillips B Letta AAF
Lt Leo Hirst English	5/sgt Herb Campbell "
Lt French or Russell A.A.F.	5/sgt Don Doulter
F/sgt Graham Buchanan A.A.F.	sgt Alfred West
5/sgt Bob Carney A.A.F.	Major Geo Washburn
sgt Eric Pennington E.	F/sgt A.P. Bell (Can)
W/O Johnnie Hulmes Can.	Lt J.H. Harrell (E)
Lt James Carter A.A.F.	Lt John B Mead
Lt Garnet Columbus Can.	
Lt Morrison Sel (E)	

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST 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.,.....)

message sent to Hq. London by
F.F.C. asking what to be done with the
17 allied airmen. Message received
regard these men with suspicion
which may have cost them their
lives

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) Homer G. Collier Signed Homer G. Collier
 Rank S/Sgt A.S.N. 37312824 Dated Sept 13-44 Place London
 Unit 406 B.S. 801 B.C. Witness Charles A. Byron
1st Lt. A.C.

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)

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:-

Unit:-

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? *no*
- b. If not, why? *lost on boating out*
- 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.

Chocolate or Peanut Bar.

Milk (tube).

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?

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? *yes*
State color of stripes and letters. *forgotten*
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, *✓*

File (hacksaw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. *French 2000 F*
How did you spend the money?

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps. *put one give others to Maurice for*

Compass. *put*

File (hacksaw). *put*

Surplus currency. *put in suitcase*

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion?

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? *yes*
If so, how many?

b. Did you use them? *yes*

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? *yes*
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.

b. Did you find the lectures of value? *no*

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

B-24 -
On the 6 May -
6045 -

Sgt ~~Collier~~
Collier.

(Same crew as Lt. M.L. Simon -)

I had to ~~take~~ my chute open -

Landed about 1 km S.W. of MARCIAN (Saone et
Loire) - Landed in a cow pasture - hid chute and
May went in hedge - (had only my pipe, no escape kit)

I ~~got help~~ walked until daylight, hid behind
a hedge, saw a farmer who came out to get his
cows - I told him who I was, he told me to
wait ^{in this wood patch} - I waited all day, that night he brought
food and blankets - He told me to wait and the
following day on the 7th came with maguin's
man who showed me parts of the plane to
identify - was taken to ~~the~~ farmer's house for 3
days and then was taken to ROANNE (Allier?)
there I was taken to a family, named ^(my interrogated through) POULLY

The man who picked me up to take me to Roanne
was the same man who picked up SIMON
he told me he had Simon and Rustel, stayed
with the Poully's 5 days - (the Poully were 2 boys of
23 and 28 ^{tried with their} ~~and their~~ mother, one had just escaped
from Germany) From there this boy and 2

other maguin members took me by train to
ST. ETIENNE stayed one night in a house with a lady
who had raised many americans → From there
we took train to LE CHAMBON (Haute Loire) from

there took truck to MAZET (Haute Loire)

there I was taken to see a maguin chief (he wore
glasses and had red moustaches, captain in the old french
army aged 40)

from there we ~~stayed~~ walked from MAZET to ST FRONT (Hauts Loire). (There I gave a picture ^{showing the mayain camp for the night on the way we dropped 2 of the mayain men, stayed alone with my guide})

of myself and given identity card 2 weeks later). There I stayed all night in Hotel and ~~the~~ was taken to the house of PIERRE GLOPPE (2km W. of ST. FRONT he lived with his father. and my co-pilot RUSSEL ~~stayed~~ with whom I met at Hotel stayed with this boss uncle who lived at the LAKE of ST. FRONT.

I stayed at this place 2 weeks. The group leader of the mayain came and told us that he would take Russel and I to a plane.

From there on my journey is the same as ~~Frank~~ Russel until June 10th - when the ~~17~~ ¹⁷ of us left. Mount Mouchet - ~~for 2 weeks on my journey~~ ~~May 17th to June 10th 1945~~ (P. 10/11/45) - we arrived there on the 4 June

At Mt. MOUCHEZ an American Lt. Coast Artillery Intelligence officer had been dropped and was a liaison. ^{his name:} JACQUES LA BAQUES. - Also an English

- Major. The seventeenth airman - where ~~the~~
- F/Lt Ed. MASON - Canadian - (head was killed)
 - Sgt. George HURST R.A.F. (he is out).
 - Lt. RUSSEL. = U.S. back in U.K.
 - F/Sgt. Graham Buchanan: Australian
 - S/Lt. Bob. CARNY - (Carnes crew).
 - Sgt. ERIC BREARLEY. (R.A.F.) back to U.K. told by parachute in 4000
 - W/O JOHNNY - NIELMES (Canadian) told by French he was killed

1st COLLIER.-

1st Garnett COLOMBUS. - (Canadian). -

1st NORMAN LEE (RAF) was told he his back to UK.

1/2 Lt. HURD CAMPBELL. - (U.S.) Killed by Germans -
Major Weinberger saw his name.

1/2 Lt. DON DOWLER. - (USA)

1st. Alfred E WENDT (US) he is back here. -

Major George WEINBRENNER. - (back with us). -

Lt. CAYTOR (I interrogated him). -

SAT. G.C. FEURMAN (English RAF) / ~~RAF~~

On the 10 June (Saturday) we were attacked
by a German division. We were 10,000 in the
camp (you were armed with small arms). -

When attacked the 17 of us went together. -
~~about 2000~~ ~~of Fontannes~~ (Fontannes)

~~the~~ ~~Fontannes~~ - and from there on, until
Haute-Loire
FONTANNES (P de Rome) are joining in

the same as Major WEINBRENNER. -

in Fontannes the Major knew some one.

This man put 1st HURST Latta and me
with a maquis which was headed by

PAUL COUTEL know as Jean-Marie. -

we stayed one day, the Germans attacked so we
left with ^{one} the maquis, ^{troupe} marched 3 nights and
hid in the woods N W of BRIOUDE (~~P de Rome~~ ^{H. Loire?})

the chief of our group was ~~CORRA~~ CORRA.
~~LA~~

Fct COLLIER

We stayed there on July 10th - COBRA took us to another group which was going to take us to Switzerland - so we went to town ~~of GENN~~ near ^{we were put in major's uniform} CHAMPAGNAC ^(Vc of champagne) (called ^{with intelligence} Gennessais?) (H. Loire). We stayed there until 12 August.

12 August we went ^{dropped in major's uniform} in Brioude (H. Loire and occupied it). The same day ^{English professor} Monsieur DOUCHET ^{counseled with intelligence} came and talked to us ^{and} to leave our major's uniforms and he would ^{give} take us ^{a guide} to

(Paris in civilian clothes, the guide never came from Paris - The Germans were coming. The following saw M. Douchet took us and his family to AGNAT (Haute Loire)

He took us to a family called MONTAINIENNE (spelling? the major Weihenm had stayed there)

As the Germans never came ^{M. DOUCHET daughter Jacqueline}

took us back on the 19th to BRIOUDE ~~to~~ to find the ~~guide~~ ^{Guide}. ~~As the~~ stayed at DOUCHET

house 2 days then as the Guide did not turn up, ~~Douchet daughter to Jacqueline~~

~~took us to~~ the major of Jean-Marie

came from ^{the} chateau de LAVAL at LES GREZES (H. Loire)

Sgt. COLLIER

(7)

¶ We stayed at the chateau for 2 weeks and
around 1 September, we got a pass from
Jean Marie - from ~~the~~ LES AREFRES - one was
taken by care by Jean-Marie to BRIOUDE.
from there we took a train to BRASSAC
LES MINES (Puy de Dôme.) There we met the
Major Weinhenner. - He was staying with
Mlle Lucrene Briat. ~~the~~ Latta and Collier
were staying with the RAPP'S Monsieur
RAPP et sa famille. - from there on
our Tourner is the same as Major
Weinhenner. -

S/Sgt. ^{amer} H. J. Collier

37312824

2065

8016p

14 Sept

Sgt Collier came down on 6 May 1944 one km SW of MARCIGNY (25 kms N of ROANNE).
in the
He walked S and ~~the next~~ morning approached a farmer who hid him in a patch of woods
and that night brought him food and blankets. The next day the farmer returned with
a man of the maquis, and the two of them led Collier to the farmer's house where
he lived three days. The man who had picked up Lt. Simon then came and took
Collier to ROANNE to the home of a family named POULLY, two men, 23 and 28 years
old who lived with their mother. With them Collier lived five days, after which
the man who had brought him there returned with two maquisards and took him by
train to ST ETIENNE (LOIRE), where he stayed one night in the house of a woman
who had handled many American evaders, and thence by train to CHAMBON and by
truck to MAZET ST VOY (HAUTE LOIRE) to a maquisard chief, a capatin in the French
army who had ~~had~~ a red moustache and wore glasses. Thence ~~to~~ Collier and his
guide walked to ST FRONT (18 kms S of YSSINGEAUX, HAUTE LOIRE) where Collier
was put into a hotel for one night and then was taken to the house of PIERRE
GLOST and his father, two kms W of ST FRONT. It was with the uncle of PIERRE GLOST
that Lt. Russell, whom Collier met in the hotel at ST FRONT, was staying. Collier
lived with PIERRE GLOST and his father two weeks. From that point Collier's story
is the same as Lt. Russell's (E&E 828) until ~~to~~ 10 June when the maquis in which
they were staying was threatened by a German attack and the 17 evaders left. From
that point ~~to~~ Collier's story is the same as that of Major George Weinbrenner
(E&E 2060) until they reached ~~BOULLE~~ FONTAINNES (HAUTE LOIRE. N.B. There are three
towns of this name in HAUTE LOIRE, ~~one~~ one in LOIRE, and none of this name or
any remotely similar name in PUY DE DOME, in which department Collier thinks that
the place was situated!). There Major Weinbrenner knew a man who put Collier and
Sgt, Hurst into a maquis which was commanded by PAUL COUTEL who went by the name
of JEAN-MARIE. After they had been a day here the Germans attacked the camp, and
the two Americans left with one group of the maquis led by a chief called COBRA.

(LATTA,
A)

(over)

marched three nights, and camped in a wood NW of ~~BREZES~~ BRIOUDE (HAUTE LOIRE).

On 10 July COBRA turned the Americans over to another group which was going to take them to SWITZERLAND. With this group they remained in a town SE of CHAMPAGNAC LE VIEUX (HAUTE LOIRE) until 12 August. On that day they accompanied the maquis into BRIOUDE which they occupied. On the same day M. DOUCHET, a professor of English who has a daughter named JACQUELINE, approached them and offered to get them a guide to take them to SPAIN. The next day, however, the Germans approached BRIOUDE, and so M. DOUCHET took the three Americans with his family to AGNAT (HAUTE LOIRE) where he quartered them with a family named MONTAINIENNE (spelling?) with whom Maj. Weinbrenner had stayed. On 19 August M. DOUCHET took the three Americans back to his own home in BRIOUDE. They lived with him for two days; but then, since the guide whom M. DOUCHET was expecting did not appear, JEAN-MARIE came and took them to the CHATEAU DE LAVAL at LES GREZES where his group was quartered. They lived at this chateau until about 1 September, when JEAN-MARIE gave them a laissez-passer and sent them to BRASSAC LES MINES (PUY DE DOME) where they met Maj Weinbrenner again. In BRASSAC LES MINES Weinbrenner was staying with MME. LUCIENNE BRIAT; Collier and Iatta lived with the family of M. RAPP. From this point their journey was the same as that of Maj. Weinbrenner (E & E 2060).