

SECRET

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

Kenneth L. Larson 2nd Lt. 0-690884 Sept. 15, 1944  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN) (Date)  
391st Bomb. Gp. 573rd Bomb. Sqdn.  
(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.

July 5<sup>th</sup> Approx. 10:30 a.m. Near Chartres

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

Ship on fire and right engine out.

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

Approx. 10,000 ft.

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

The bombardier-navigator was burned. I do not know about the 3 enlisted men in the back of the plane.

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

Five members bailed out, one went down with the ship according to what the Germans told me. I do not know who bailed out other than the bombardier.

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

Yes, the bombardier-navigator and I were in the same hospital. 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.

A German officer told me that five chutes came out of the ship and that one man crashed with the ship but had no identification.

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?

Bombardier-Navigator was sent to Germany from a German hospital in Paris. A German officer told me that three of the other four crew members bailed out but I do not know which ones or what happened to them after that.

S E C R E T

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?
- b. If not, why? *No.*
- 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.  
If NOT, State why not.

- b. Did you use the purse?

*No.*

(over)



c. If so, which of the following items in the purse did you use?

Maps. Which ones?

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.  
How did you spend the money?

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

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

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

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

*No.*

b. Did you use them?

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape?

State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.

*yes*  
*Loombridge, Ireland in February.*

b. Did you find the lectures of value?

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

*No.*

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.,.....)

*None.*

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

Kenneth L. Arneson 2nd Lt. 0-690884  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)  
38 (No. of missions)  
573 391  
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET:

Date mission in action: July 5  
Date arrived in UK: Sept. 4  
Approx.

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

Indicate what  
happened to each man  
and how you know.

PILOT Hartman, Lewis E. 1st Lt. 0690884 MIA  
CO-PILOT Arneson, Kenneth L. Narrator  
NAVIGATOR } Collins, Donald E. 1st Lt. 0669007 P/W  
BOMBARDIER } Donald  
RADIO OPERATOR Shearer, D. R. 1st Sgt. 15118030 MIA  
TOP TURRET GUNNER Pawinski, Adolph L. 5th Sgt. 6995380 MIA  
BALL TURRET GUNNER  
WAIST GUNNER  
WAIST GUNNER  
TAIL GUNNER Groves Edward N., Pvt. 13200930 MIA

Decorations:

Date of Birth: Feb. 13, 1918

Private Address: Fairdale, North Dakota

Length of Service: 7 years 3 months

Job as Civilian: School teacher

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

Station 166 Approximately 10 A. M.

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed?

Yes Were you wounded? Give details.

Yes! Burns hands, face, and ankles.

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

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

Did you have identity papers?

No just my dog tags.  
(over)



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

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

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.

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.

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. KENNETH L. ARNESON — "C"

I was co-pilot of a B-26 shot down 5 July near DREUX, N of CHARTRES. I was burned on the hands, face and legs. I was captured, taken to a hospital in CHARTRES. I was kept here 16 days, where I was fairly well treated. Lt Collins of my own crew was here, and a fortress gunner named Phillips, also and RAAF pilot of a Lancaster. I believe all three are probably in Germany as PW's by this time. I was sent from here to a hospital in Paris. Was there 21 July to 19 Aug, when the underground took over control and forced the Germans to take allied patients to another hospital. (There must undoubtedly be BEAUJON and LA PITIÉ hospitals - RSF). I was in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Paris hospital for about 10 days when I was evacuated by the allied occupation forces and sent to UK by medical channels.

Field

TOP SECRET

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

APPENDIX C. TECH. SHEET

1. Did you jump or crash land?
2. What was the town or village nearest to which you jumped or crash landed?  
*Jumped*
3. How long was it before you got help?  
*I was taken to Chartres - first town I knew.*
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.  

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

---



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) *Kenneth L. Arneson* Signed *Kenneth L. Arneson*  
Rank. *2nd Lt.* A.S.N. *0-190884* Dated. *9/15/44* Place. *London*  
Unit *391st Bomb Gp. 578th Bomb Sqn* Witness *R. D. Field*  
*1st Lt.*

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

WAR DEPARTMENT  
The Adjutant General's Office  
Washington

AG 383.6 (31 Jul 43) OB-S-B-M

KIS/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)

C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS  
13TH REPLACEMENT CONTROL DEPOT (AVN)

APC 149, U.S. Army,  
14 September 1944.

SPECIAL ORDERS )

NUMBER 255 )

E X T R A C T

\* \* \* \* \*

13. The following named personnel are reld fr dy and asgmt w/Repl Pool, 13th Repl Contl Depot (Avn), Sta 433, asgd a/o trfd in gr to orgns indicated, WP o/a 16 Sept 1944, to Sta 519 thence to the European Continent reporting to the CO, 20th Repl Contl Depot (Avn), for transportation to their proper orgn and sta. Rations in kind will be furn by QM while traveling. TDN by rail, GMT a/o mil acft. 60-136 P 431-02 A 212/50425. AUTH: Memo 35-15, Hq, Ninth Air Force, 16 Sept 1944.

2ND LT GEORGE W FOSDICK	O-815301 AC	84TH FIGHTER WING, 50TH FIGHTER GROUP
Sgt James F Walsh(932)	11090860	6TH SERVICE SQUADRON
S/Sgt Luvern Kuehl	37192677	365TH FIGHTER SQ., 358TH FIGHTER GROUP

14. The following named EM, orgns indicated, WP Sta 519, o/a 16 Sept 1944, thence to the European Continent reporting to the CO, 20th Repl Contl Depot (Avn) for transportation to their proper orgn. Rations in kind will be furn by QM while traveling. TDN by rail, GMT a/o mil acft.

Pfc Foster R Queen(861)	33305385	455TH BOMB SQ., 323RD BOMB GROUP
Pvt John E Deir(521)	36742534	HQ & HQ SQ., 2ND AIR DEPOT GROUP
Pvt Harold W Small(060)	19055769	XIXTH TACTICAL AIR COMD.

15. 2ND LT KENNETH L ARNESON, O-690884, AC, is reld fr dy and asgmt w/Repl Pool, Sq "C", 13th Repl Contl Depot (Avn), Sta 433, asgd WP Hq, European T of Ops, USA, 63 Brook Street, London, o/a 15 Sept 1944. TDN by rail or GMT. 60-136 P 431-02 A 212/50425.

(Travel directed is pursuant to auth contained in Ltr, Hq, European T of Ops, USA, 24 May 1944)

By order of Major BROWN:

OFFICIAL:

LEROY C. HUTCHISON  
Captain, Air Corps  
Adjutant

*Leroy C. Hutchison*  
LEROY C. HUTCHISON  
Captain, Air Corps  
Adjutant

C O N F I D E N T I A L