

# 2192

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

CERTIFIED THAT:

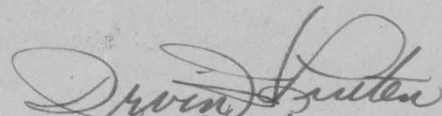
No. 0-416956 Rank 1st Lt.

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) HAMDEN L. FORKNER

Unit 381 Bomb Grp, 534 Sqdn, 8th AAF

has been fully/~~briefly~~ interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S. 9 (WEA)  
on 17 Sep 1944 and has signed a Security Certificate.

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

  
Major, Inf.

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.

If E & E is returned to the United Kingdom, he will report to 63 Brooks  
Street, London

348#2192

E. & E. REPORT No. ... I.S.9. WEA/6/322 332/1651

TOP SECRET  
I.S.9.(6/4A).

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

EVASION CAPTURED/RECOVERED FROM (Name of Country) HOLLAND

For all Personnel.



- 1. No. 0-416956 Rank 1st Lt. Name Hamden L. FORTNER (U.K. Acting, Temp. or W/S)
- 2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) 9 missions
- 3. Were you wounded? Give details No
- 4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 391 B. GP. 534 Sq.
- 5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 8th AF 6. Job. (Pl. Cmd., Rfn., etc.) Pilot
- 7. Date of Birth 22 Dec. 1918 8. Length of Service 3 1/2 yrs
- 9. Peace time occupation student 10. Private address 106 Morningside Drive New York, N.Y.
- 11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? photos and dogtags
- 12. Do you speak French, or any other foreign language? Some French

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 Groups: list below names and units of other occupants of plane, including R.A.F. and U.S.A.A.F.  
PILOT Narrator  
CO-PILOT 0671956 2d Lt. J.A. Kelley PW  
NAVIGATOR 0797321 2d Lt. R.E. Hyatt Unknown  
BOMBARDIER 02043746 1st Lt. E.L. Vincent  
RADIO OPERATOR 11098207 S/sgt C.F. Shattuck  
TOP TURRET GUNNER S/sgt R.E. Shipe Paul F. 3315 2998 R+D 337  
BALL TURRET GUNNER S/sgt R. Stease 15182174 MIA R+D 338  
WAIST GUNNER (R.) 14164586 S/sgt H.H. Horton in hands of friendly Dutch, maybe picked  
WAIST GUNNER (L.) S/sgt E. Sobolewski by Gestapo  
TAIL GUNNER S/sgt Lin F. Chew 1812078 same as above R+D 331
- 17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B-17 Ridgwell, Eng. 17 Aug 1943
- 18. Where and when did you come down? Near Amby, Holland. 1430 hrs 17 Aug 43
- 19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? left where I dropped
- 20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? Believed destroyed

Interview by I.S.9. (WEA)

Date 17 Sep 1944

- Attached:  
Appendix "B"  
Appendix "C"  
Appendix "D"

I grade this evasion No. 4  
IRVIN H. LUTTEN  
Maj. Inf.

Disposal: Returned to UK

Major

DISTRIBUTION:  
Hq. IS9WEA...2  
12 Army Group...2  
9th AF...1 (less C)



Our target was Schweinfurt, Germany. I was leading the high squadron of the low group and saw no escorting fighters. Shortly after crossing enemy coast we were hit hard by fighters and lost 2 motors on the left side. No one was injured so I gave the order to prepare to bale out, we then dropped under our formation. After waiting two minutes I baled out from the nose. Bomb bay was closed and the bombs were on board. I tried to free fall until I counted to 60. When air came appreciably warmer, I pulled the cord. Of the 8 chutes I saw I was the first on the ground. After landing I dropped my chute and most of my equipment. I heard motorcycles in the distance and ran about 300 yds to hide behind a hedge. I was in hiding when the nearest chute hit the ground.

For three days and three nights I lay behind the hedge and was brought food by a Dutch boy. On the fourth evening, about dark, a man came and took me to a farm where he said I should dispose of clothing and shoes. He gave me civilian clothes and took me to where I remained until I was liberated. -- Maastrich Holland.

Another American, Lt. S. Alukinis joined me, but three days later he was taken away. On April 18th 1944 I decided to move, as I was receiving no help. I decided to start alone and walked to the Dutch-Belgian border and looked it over. After spotting a couple of Germans I went back to Maastricht. I asked for help but was unable to get anything, but blank looks. That night I returned to the home where I had been staying. From that time on no one knew I was there except Alukinis. Even the neighbors on both sides of me were unaware that I was hiding there. I went outside three times during my stay in Maastrich. On Christmas Eve, New Years Eve, and April 18th.

I was briefed on escape and evasion in England and in the U.S.

## APPENDIX "C" TO E. &amp; E. REPORT No. I.S.9(WEA)6/322

332/1651

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

No. 0-416956 Rank. 1st Lt. Name Hamden L. FORKNER

Date of Interview 17 Sept. 1944

In Maastrich I was hiding from 17 Aug 1943 until 15 Sept. 1944 at the home of; Mademoiselle PINKAS Brusselschweg 120 Maastricht, Holland. Mademoiselle pinkas had at one time been connected with an organization helping airmen, but she severed these connections when many in the organization were captured by the Gestapo. She continued, however, to help Jewish refugees. Most of her work seemed to be with the Jews who were hiding from the Germans. She traveled a great deal and was always gone during the day. She was of Czech nationality.



SECRET

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
and QUESTIONNAIRE FOR I.S. 9 (WEA) PERSONNEL

18 Sept 1943  
(Date)

FORKNER, HAMDEN L. 1st Lt 0-416956  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

Schwienfurt 9  
(Target) (Number of missions)

Date Missing in Action: 12 Aug 43

Returned to UK: 18 Sept 43

381st Bomb Gp. 534th Sq  
(Unit)

MEMBERS OF CREW: (List names by positions and indicate what happened to each one)

PILOT	HAMDEN L. Forkner	<del>not</del>
CO-PILOT	Joseph Kelley	<del>SP</del> Picked up by <del>the</del> Germ.
NAVIGATOR	Robert E Hyatt	= - no info
BOMBARDIER	Edward L. Vincent	- no info
RADIO OPERATOR	Chester Shattuck	- no info
TOP TURRET GUNNER	Paul F. Shippe	- no info
MID TURRET GUNNER	Ralph E. Stease	- no info
W/ST GUNNER	Harry Horton	} Kept afloat 3 weeks & then picked up on boarder between Belg & Holland Leg
W/ST GUNNER	Edward Sobolewski	
TAIL GUNNER	Lin F. Chew	Picked up - Injured/on fall

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing. 12 Aug 43 - 1430 - Maastricht, Holland

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

#1 + #2 Engines inoperative

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? 21000'

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed? no

What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open? ~~Yes~~ Pilot, CP, Nav. Bomb. Eng. Tail Gunner 2 waist Gunners \* One chute didn't open - no info as to whom -

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? - no info

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground? no

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. Heard. ~~other~~

(over) Kelley. alive, well & picked up by germans.  
Sobolewski - " " & helped.  
Horton " " & helped.  
Chew. " bad leg & picked up by germans

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?

Kelley - Picked up by Germans <sup>heard from people</sup>  
Hyatt - no info.  
Vincent - no info.  
Slife - no info.  
Sobolewski - ~~Picked up by Germans~~ <sup>heard from people</sup>  
Horton - <sup>Told me by people</sup>  
Stearse - no info.  
Shattuck - "  
Chew - Picked up. <sup>heard from people</sup>

Were you wounded? no

Were you in German hands? no

Did you kill any Germans in escaping? no

Have you previously given the names of your helpers? yes

List any names previously omitted, showing what help was given.

What security briefing were you given? IS9 - WEA

What souvenirs do you still possess? none

Home address. 106 Morningside Drive, New York City, N.Y.

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

Joseph Kelley  
Lin F. Chew  
Harry Horton  
Edward Sobolewski

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

Stanley Alukonis 2d Lt.

# 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;  
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.

1. 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**.

2. 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, or by A. C. of S., G-2, W. D.

- (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. 4.

e No lectures or reports are to be given to any unit without the permission of A. C. of S., G-2, W. D., or corresponding organization in the theater.

### 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 agency designated by A. C. of S., G-2, War Department, the corresponding organization in overseas theaters of operations, or to the Military Attache in a neutral country to whom I first report. I understand that disclosure to anyone else will make me liable to disciplinary action.

Name (Print) HAMDEN L FORBNER  
Rank 1st Lt A. S. N. O-416956  
Unit 381st Bn 534th Sq

Signed Hamden L. Forbner  
Dated 18 Sept 44  
Witness \_\_\_\_\_

RESTRICTED



1st Forkner-

amb

Did not with 300 yds I when I fell - 1st + 4th no help -  
2d by men come - say get help.

3 day fellows with glasses named Harry. say get that not.

Red got that pm - negotiations came miss man who got

pick up.

2 yds fellows.

4th by English going fellow come with another - say Lewis Horton.  
& Sobolewski

That not then 2 come - I had more faith in Harry than then - and  
turn them down.

Finally Harry come - get with non-English going fellow -

Harry take me to Red haired farmer.

By bicycle with Harry - to Pinkas

120 Brunsbücheler Weg  
Münster, West

Peter Zouren - visit - long - live on Durt St. frontier

Took day trip to Brunsbücheler - and after then - not return.

In 9 days -

Picked up in March by best go. in Düsseldorf.

Slukovics but by long - picked up March - date.

Kenneth - had been in April 73.

Myrleen Van Aas (?) picked up about time that.

Bill Braun - photo in M - do work for go.

Traveling - taking care of Jewish families - for prisoners Jews.

St. kept the most down with Rosnydeberg.

Thy house was there.

Cops troops XIX - G-2 -

Sent with MP channels -

Major ~~huit~~ <sup>ten</sup> interrogated.