

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

23/9/44  
(Date)

MARTIN, John B. 1st Lt. D-668537  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

South of St. Omer. 31  
(Target) (Number of missions)

Date Missing in Action: 5/2/44

Returned to UK: 23/9/44

323 B.G. 453 Sqdn  
(Unit)

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

PILOT P.W. ARNOLD, J. Mandiberg. 1st Lt.

CO-PILOT Me.

NAVIGATOR

BOMBARDIER

Winton A. Scott. 1st Lt. P.W.

RADIO OPERATOR Returned. Hendrickson, W. B. S/Sgt.

TOP TURRET GUNNER P.W. Pearce, P.C. Sgt.

MID TURRET GUNNER

W/ST GUNNER

W/ST GUNNER

TAIL GUNNER White, R.C. in Switzerland.

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing. 51400 5/2/44  
Southwest of Lillers, P.de.C. FRANCE.

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

Rt. engine completely destroyed. Lt. engine very hot. 350°C. No radio.  
No electrical system or hydraulic system.

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? It was not on fire.

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

What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open? ALL MEMBERS  
Bailed out. All chutes opened.

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? I don't know.

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.

(over)

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? *As stated. According to my Sgdn.*

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.

*None.*

What security briefing were you given? *W.C.A.*

What souvenirs do you still possess? *Just Personal things.*

Home address. *Osage, Iowa.*

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

*I Know of None.*

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

*None.*

CONFIDENTIAL

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CONTINUED THAT:

No. 0-668537 Rank 1/Lt

Name (BLOCK LETTERS)

John R. Martin

Unit

323 B Gp

has been fully/~~briefly~~ interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S. 9 (WEA)

on 17 Sept 1944 and has signed a Security Certificate.

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

Robert H. Bacon  
Major 2/Lt, Ac.

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.

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

EVADED CAPTURE ~~ISOLATED~~ FROM (Name of Country): FranceFor all Personnel

1. No. 0-668537 Rank 1st Lt Name Martin, John R.  
(U.K: Acting, Temp. or W/S)
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions). 31
3. Were you wounded? Give details No
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 453 B. Sq.
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 323 B. Gp. 6. Job (Pl. Cmd., Rfn., etc) Co-Pilot
7. Date of Birth 24 Mar. 1921 8. Length of Service 30 mos.
9. Peace time occupation Laborer 10. Private Address Osage, Iowa
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? French papers
12. Do you speak French, or any other foreign language? little French
- FOR B.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 Co-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 1st Lt A.J. Mandiberg either Pilot, or Bomb-Nav landed in tree and was machine-gunned by Germans
- CO-PILOT Narrator
- NAVIGATOR 1st Lt. W.A. Scott
- BOMBARDIER
- RADIO OPERATOR s/sgt W.B. Handrickson PW Hearssay 714
- TOP TURRET GUNNER sgt P.C. Peace " "
- BALL TURRET GUNNER None
- WAIST GUNNER (R.) "
- WAIST GUNNER (L.)
- TAIL GUNNER s/sgt White PW
17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B-26 Earls Colne Eng. 5 Feb 44 1200
18. Where and when did you come down? Hidden in straw Perne. N. St. Pol. 1400
19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? Hidden in straw
20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? unknown

Attached:

Appendix "B"  
Appendix "C"  
Appendix "D"

Interviewed by I.S.9 (WEA)

Date 17 Sep 1944I grade this evasion No. 3Robert H BaconROBERT BACON  
2d Lt. AC

Major

Disposal: Returned to UKHq. I.S.9(WEA) 212 Army Group 2 (less C)9th AF 1

I have been briefed in England and I carried my aids box and (Unknown color) purse.  
I gave some money to helpers.

Target: Flying Bomb Site. Hit by flad at St. Pol, bailed out because right engine was completely destroyed. Left engine was 350° when I left ship. I landed and hid my parachute and myself. A man came and I stayed 2 days with him. I was taken to Lillers where I stayed for 2½ mos. Stayed another place for 3 mos. .

M. Ausart was K/A when Eng. tanks had come and were fighting the Germans.

APPENDIX "C" TO E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9(WEA)6/246/1716

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

No. 0-668537 Rank 1st Lt. Name MARTIN

Date of Interview 17 Sep 1944

The following people helped me;

Bouquet, Joseph, Pressy les Pernes en Arisais, PDC stayed for 2 days.

Ansart, Augustin, Lillers, PDC stayed for 2½ months.

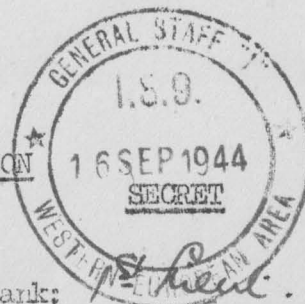
Descamp, Henri, 144 Rue de Coutrainne Lillers stayed here 2 months.

Titren, Henri, Rue d'Houdain, Auchel, PDC stayed here for 15 days and this man paid the following people 500 francs per week and 1000 francs for my emergency.

De'Rosiaux, Octave 63 Rue L'Ecrivain, Calonne-Ricourt. stayed here 4 months.

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## ESCAPED P.O.W. (ALLIED) -- MEDICAL EXAMINATION



No: 0-668537 Name & Initial: MARTIN, J.R. Rank: *1st Lieut.*  
 Service: 2½ yrs. Regiment: 323 Gp. Examined at: I.S.G. (W. P.A.)  
 Age: 23 yrs. 453 Sqdn. Date: 15 Sep 44.  
 U.S.A.A.F.

General Appearance, including skin and nutrition: - *General Condition - good.*  
*Skin clean - F.F.I. Nutrition - good.*

Weight 1940 (2nd Echelon to complete):

Weight at Examination: 165 lbs.

Examination:-

1. Mouth, Gums, Teeth and Eyes. *N.A.D.*
2. E.N. Throat. *N.A.D.*
3. Heart, Lungs and Circulatory System. *N.A.D.*
4. Nervous System. *N.A.D.*
5. Genital and Urinary (with V.D. history or signs). *N.A.D.*
6. Mental Outlook. *Normal*

General Opinion.

*Quite fit.*

*Comat Capt. R.A.M.C.*

If evacuated to hospital, this fact should be notified here giving number, location and date of evacuation.

DISTRIBUTION: Receiving Units  
 MO 33 Rft HU.

# 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 supercedes letter, AG 883.6 (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.

### GERTIFICATE

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) MARTIN, JOHN B.  
Rank 1st Lt. A. S. N. O-668537  
Unit 323 Bomb. Gr. 453 SQDN.

Signed John B. Martin  
Dated 23/9/44  
Witness \_\_\_\_\_

AG P BR HQ SOS

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