

19 October 1942

SUBJECT: Safeguarding of P/W Information.

TO : Personnel concerned.

1. It is the duty of all Americans to safeguard information which might, either directly or indirectly, be useful to the enemy.
2. It is an offense, carrying heavy penalties, to publish or to communicate to any unauthorized person any information which might be useful to the enemy.
3. 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.
4. 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:
  - (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. 4a.
- e. No lectures or reports are to be given to any unit without the permission of the War or Navy Department.

By command of Lieutenant General EISENHOWER:

*Ralph Pulsifer*  
RALPH PULSIFER,  
Colonel, AGD, Ass't. Adj. Gen.

## 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 American Military Attache to whom I first report, or an officer designated by the Commanding General of the Theater of Operations. I understand that disclosure to anyone else will make me liable to disciplinary action.

Name (Print) RUSSELL M. BROOKE Signed Russell M. Brooke  
Rank 2nd Lt. A.S.N. O-743310 Date Dec. 4, 1943  
Unit 305 Bomb GP. 366 Bomb Sqd. Witness [Signature]

HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS  
PW and X Detachment  
Military Intelligence Service

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL  
EVADING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1. Full Name, Rank and Serial No. *2nd Lt. Russell M. Brooke O-743310*
2. Decorations. *none*
3. Unit or Squadron. *305 Bomb Group - 366 Bomb Sqd.*
4. Division (Army) or Group. *305 Bomb Group*
5. Date of Birth. *Aug. 17, 1918*
6. Length of Service. *3 years*
7. Private Address. *850 Schuering St, San Francisco, Calif.*
8. If in A.F., on what operation were you engaged? State place, date, and time of departure. Where and when did you come down? Were Aircraft and all instruments and papers destroyed? *Left 305 Bomb Group base at 07:00 hours for Stuttgart, Germany on Sept. 6, 1943. Came down 12:10 hours, near Neufchâtel en Bray, France, Sept. 6, 1943. The aircraft was destroyed. The papers and instruments were destroyed as the plane burnt.*
9. What was your position in aircraft? *Co-pilot.*
10. Were you wounded? *Laceration of both hands, sprained right arch, wrenched back.*
11. Did you pay your guides? If so how much? *no*
12. Do you speak French? Spanish? *no*
13. Did you have Identity Papers? *French made papers.*
14. Have you been questioned before to-day on your escape or evasion? If so, where and by whom? Have you given anyone a written report on your experiences. Where and when? *no*
15. Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom? *no*
16. Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, where and when? *yes - London, England Dec. 4, 1943*
17. Date of arrival in Spain.
18. Date of arrival at Gibraltar.
19. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air.
20. Place and date of arrival in U.K. *Dec. 2, 1943*

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

E & E REPORT NO. 241  
EVASION IN FRANCE

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

RUSSELL M. BROOKE      2nd Lt.      0-743310  
(Name)                      (Rank)                      (ASN)

TARGET: STUTTGART

366 Bomb. Sqd                      305 Bomb. GP.  
(Squadron)                      (Group)

MIA: Sept. 6, 1943  
Arrived in Spain: \_\_\_\_\_

AGE: 25  
LENGTH OF SERVICE: 3 Yrs.  
HOME ADDRESS: 850 Schwerin St.  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

Arrived in Gibraltar: \_\_\_\_\_  
Arrived in UK: 3 Dec 43

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

		Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT	<u>F/O Halliday</u>	<u>P/W - dead? in plane</u>	
CO-PILOT	<u>Brooke</u>	<u>RTD - Narrator</u>	
NAVIGATOR	<u>Curtis</u>	<u>MIA - P/W</u>	
BOMBARDIER	<u>Veach</u>	<u>P/W P/W</u>	
RADIO OPERATOR	<u>McKegney</u>	<u>MIA P/W? - chul may not have opened</u>	
TOP TURRET GUNNER	<u>Shaver</u>	<u>RTD P/W? in several countries</u>	
BALL TURRET GUNNER	<u>Drokal</u>	<u>MIA P/W?</u>	
WAIST GUNNER	<u>Marandola</u>	<u>RTD returned 209</u>	<u>Crew from these</u>
WAIST GUNNER	<u>Jankowski</u>	<u>RTD returned 208</u>	
TAIL GUNNER	<u>Lawhead</u>	<u>RTD returned 245</u>	

Were you wounded?



TARGET:  
STUTTGART

Returning from STUTTGART we were attacked by three fighters after our number three engine ran out of gas. We left the formation, and were hit by several bursts of flak. When the pilot gave the order to bale out I put on my chute, and asked the engineer to give the pilot's chute to him. Then the engineer went into the waist to notify the rest of the crew. I went into the nose and ~~watched~~ <sup>united while</sup> the bombardier and navigator bale out. I swung myself down through the escape hatch, held there for a moment and then dropped.

DELAYS  
JUMP

I planned to delay my jump, and knew that I was leaving the aircraft around 10000 feet. When around 5000 feet, after watching the ground over my left shoulder, I pulled the rip cord. After the chute opened I saw our plane do two perfect ~~shimmy~~ rolls - one to the left and one to the right - before going into a steep dive. Then it crashed and burned.

I counted five chutes while in the air. While descending I saw a peasant working in a field near where I knew I must land. The chute swung me around, and I lost track of him. I missed the field and came down on the side of a hill. Wanting to get out of sight quickly I jerked my chute with me down the hill into some shrubbery; and, when I was ready to run, after hiding the chute with my flying equipment, I saw the peasant searching through the shrubbery for me. I hid, and, after he had looked around for a few minutes, he left. Then I remembered my Aids Box, ~~and~~ Purse and pad of paper which I had left in my flying suit. While I was getting at it the peasant came upon me from another direction, and found me.

IMMEDIATE  
HELP FROM  
FRENCH PEASANT

He motioned me to follow him and led me to the rear of a farmyard. Before taking me into the barn he searched the area carefully to see that no Germans were about. ~~He~~ He brought some members of the family out to see me, and, I was told that a few minutes before I arrived ~~that~~ one of my crew-members had been taken prisoner when he sought refuge at this house. Because of this incident the people wanted me to leave but they were still being friendly.

VISITED BY  
MANY  
FRENCHMEN

I stayed on, trying to get clothes. Either they did not understand me or did not want to understand me, ~~and~~, as more and more people from the neighborhood arrived to look at me, their desire for me to leave became more obvious. In the meantime an English-speaking woman was sent for and when she arrived and learned that I was an American aviator she seemed very friendly and anxious to help. She had a long conversation with the peasant who had brought me to the barn, and, when ~~that was over~~ finished, told me that she had ordered the people to keep me there until she had brought a friend of hers to see me. The people who owned the barn were still friendly to me after she <sup>had left</sup> though I had not expected ~~them to be~~ they would be. The woman returned in an hour ~~with~~ with a man who asked me many questions before taking me to a ~~house~~ hedge-row where I was hidden. Late in the afternoon a note ~~and some food~~ was brought to me. ~~I+~~ after dark The note stated that I would have a visitor, ~~after dark~~ who was bringing clothes, and, when I had changed into these clothes, I was to follow this person to a house.

FRENCH FIX  
~~XXXXXXXX~~  
HIDING PLACE  
IN BARN

At the house to which I was taken I learned that all houses in the vicinity had been searched by the Germans during the afternoon. While this had been going on my friends had built a secret hiding place in a barn and I was hidden in the barn that night and for the next three ~~and~~ days. After that I was moved into the house and my presence kept secret from everyone. I had no visitors nor was I allowed to show myself at windows or move freely about the rooms in the house. I was asked to be patient because people were working to arrange my journey and on 13 September I was visited by a man who took charge of me and arranged my journey.

JOURNEY  
ARRANGED.

*Capt White*

*W.S. Holt*

APPENDIX B: BROOKE

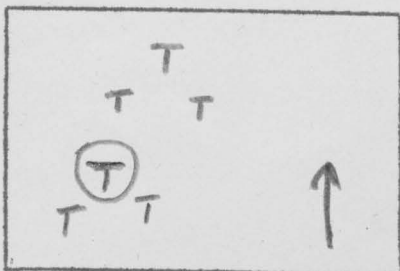
- a. Three Frenchmen who witnessed bombing of NANTES stated that the last wave of bombers ~~to hit the city~~ struck the middle of the city, killing 3000 civilians. Feeling against Americans was quite high in the vicinity of NANTES after this.
- b. French source at <sup>9</sup>DOUARNENEZ stated that German troops along the coast in that area average about one to every ~~three-fourths~~ kilometer. The bulk of German troops have been sent inland where they can be ~~sent~~ immediately to any point threatened by invasion. 25% of the Germans in France, the source stated, have been sent to the Russian Front. *shifted*
- c. French source at <sup>2</sup>NEUFCHATEL stated that the Germans were constructing, six kilometers northwest of NEUFCHATEL, a Tank Park which covered an area of 26 acres. It is built in an apple orchard with the trees serving as camouflage and the farmhouse used to good advantage in the camouflage scheme. Near this Tank Park the Germans were constructing seven buildings 90x30x10 which the French supposed were for the storage of war materials. Two large cannon positions were under construction in this area. The French stated further that a thousand additional troops had been moved to <sup>line</sup>NEUFCHATEL and that NEUFCHATEL was to be the center of a second ~~line~~ defense extending over an area of approximately 70 to 80 kilometers.

6 September-26 September



NAME Russell M. Brooke RANK 2nd Lt ASN 0-743310 REPORT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

SQ 366 GROUP 305 A/C NO. 591 Letter H Load 10x500 Date 6 Sept



Position in formation.  
Make Diagram

Observed results of Bombing:

none

Enemy Fighter Tactics: Individual attacks by three FW 190's  
Markings: from six, seven and five o'clock, high.

Our Tactics: Turned into each fighter coming in from the side.

Our Fighter Support: none

Flak

<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Quality</u>
12:05	near Dieppe	Light

Technical Failures

Motors:

Armor:

Armament:

Miscellaneous:

Comments and Suggestions on any of the above:

Ran out of gasoline in one engine and had to drop out of formation. On so doing the fighters attacked and succeeded in destroying a greater part of the horizontal stabilizer. Flak disabled the right ~~engine~~ ailerons.

Mo & Mo

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- 2nd Lt. Russell M. Brooke  
Unit:- 366 Bomb. Sqd. 305 Bomb. Gp.

Please answer carefully the questions below. Suggestions for improvement of escape equipment and training must 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, had you one on you?
- (c) If not, why had you no aids box?
- (d) If you used it, which of the following items did you use? Put a dash (-) against each item used and state briefly the circumstances, e.g., "Lying up for 2 nights," etc.

Horlicks tablets. - (used for <sup>one</sup> meal)

Chocolate. - (used for <sup>one</sup> meal)

Milk (tube). - (used for <sup>me</sup> meal)

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue).

Halazone tablets (water purifier).

Matches.

Adhesive tape. - Used to bandage Peasant's hand.

Chewing gum. - Gave to French Peasant

Water bottle.

Compass.

- (e) Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? If so, in what respect? The tape was no good. The adhesive came off as the tape was unrolled.
- (f) How did you finally dispose of the box? Gave to Peasant.
- (g) 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? Less Horlicks tablets and <sup>more of</sup> some sort of medical aid.

2. PURSE

- (a) Did you carry a purse?  yes.  
If so, state COLOR. olive drab  
In NOT, State why not.
- (b) Did you use the purse? yes
- (c) If so, which of the following items in the purse did you use? Put a dash (-) against each item used and state briefly the circumstances.

Maps. Which ones? - French

Compass.



File (hacksaw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. 2000 France  
How did you spend the money? Gave to a Frenchman.

(d) How did you dispose of:-

Maps. Left with Peasant

Compass. " " "

File (hacksaw). " "

Surplus currency. none

3. AIDS TO ESCAPE - (GADGETS+) *not issued*  
(+Issued separately from aids boxes and purses.)

(a) Did you carry or wear any of the following?  
If you used any of them state briefly WHEN and WHERE.

Round compass.

Stud compass.

Swinger compass.

Fly-button compass.

Pencil clip compass.

Tunic button compass.

Pipe compass.

Pouch

Special flying boots (and knife).

(b) Were they satisfactory?

(c) Can you suggest any improvements, additions, or substitutions,  
which would improve the above equipment?

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

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

no, I had no passport size photos and had not been at base long enough.

(b) Did you use them?  
State how.

5. LECTURES

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

yes - In the states. Dyers - burg, Tenn. July 6. Bovington, England. at base - 366<sup>rd</sup> by Intelligence officer

(b) Did you find the lectures of value?

yes.

Carried out of stall

back from Stuttgart - lead ship - 1/2 eng out of gas - 3 fighters  
 behind - 1 1/2 fine made plane 1/2 - order by Pilot to  
 BO - 2 WGs BO's without instructions - put in chute -  
 asked eng to leave pilot chute - Bombs BO - 1/2 to  
 BO'd - 2 swung out after door swung off - eng  
 back to tell crew out - I swung to side of escape hatch  
 & let go - then saw B's go by - planned to delay jump as long as  
 possible - complete presence of mind - tension - 10,000 ft -  
 dived 5 or 6 seconds - think around 5,000 ft - on back saw over  
 left shoulder & that's how to pull chute - harness nice fit -  
 easy opening - saw 1/2 do perfect chandelles - one to  
 left & 1 to right - out of control - steep stall - down vertical -  
 saw crash & fire - cut's chutes - flying with back to chute drift - had to  
 turn so face to drift - closed - on side of hill - not too great shock -  
 not serious injury - saw peasant from air - in field - 1,000 ft up -  
 disapp'd - jerked chute down hill to short berry - both of chutes &  
 flying egg-mat - starting to leave - saw peasant came down hill -  
 hill - he lkd a moment for me - left - had to get escape  
 kit & knife & pad out of flying chute - peasant down  
 hill again - find me - invited me to follow him -  
 did to finish the war - he lkd for Germans before  
 taking me in barn - met wife & son - found

where Jerry was & heard that Bomber was taken by  
Jerry on this farm - heard where was (4 kms so of Neu/Chatel)  
St. Martin le' Hotier - they wanted me to leave - people of village  
came in barn - trying to get clothes - not understood or want to  
help - sent for ES lady - several other Frenchmen came in -  
she came - fed I am & happy - anxious to help - her  
husband owned farm. That was peasant's life of I come  
and - stayed 45 min til husband came. He  
left for place to stay - 20 min back & I taken by  
young farmer over fields to meet Dumachel - then  
he led me over fields & hid me in bush - said  
something about 'interpretation in Paris' - no contact  
tho - around 1:30 - had 30° at 12:10 - there  
til 6 pm. - came farmer back - note - name  
Dumachel - said someone at 9 - peasant - had  
Hortie's - peasant at 9 with Mr. Dumachel -  
clothing - while I think a young girl came up behind us -  
she left us, ignored - went with peasant Joseph Prevost -  
to his house - more clothes - satd til 10 pm - then to barn -  
name Dumachel's house searched by 2 German after  
I to Prevost house -

while in clute Jerry fired up on us from ground -  
had bullets -



morning, meal in barn - rearrangement of barn this morning  
 to provide secret concealment - in barn three bags fed by  
 Prevosto - France known to several Frenchmen - never  
 saw all again - asked them <sup>more P.</sup> were working for contacts -  
 told of my having courage & patience - I had to write English for  
 Mme Dunaclut to understand - told her patient - on 10 Sept  
 you took girl with Mme D from Fr. Resistance Org (Brit  
 National) from Rouen - the Org nothing to do with  
 practicals & only Resistance - would try to help me in Rouen -  
 that knew contacts - in this vicinity 3 days - then person  
 with whom saw head staying contact Org which would take us out -  
 Original plans to leave 17 Sept - got to Rouen with 2 people  
 who also to PARIS - that flown back to England - following Friday  
 17<sup>th</sup> saw head's helper said plans changed - would remain  
 several more days - not from business to get out identity -  
 I had nothing but dog tags had no P's picture - in post sly  
 H's bus before 15<sup>th</sup> said - phitzler came to take my papers I  
 Mme D married for IC - with Prevost until 26 Sept - worked on  
 farm - picked apples - helped with calf birth - got caution P's with here from Denny -  
 said 17<sup>th</sup> plans fell thru because saw head's helper word that someone who find him -  
 On 20<sup>th</sup> Sep. Pres<sup>t</sup> (help of h.) came to house - with PARIS girl - to get  
 identity - told report - that later in 6 days - on 26<sup>th</sup> - Pres<sup>t</sup> came to said  
 get ready - would leave for Paris -

Peasant got buggy - picked up L. & went to train - met girl from Paris -  
at Neufchatel - train to Paris - we mute - acct 20 - asleep in compartment  
with people curious of our identity - train bled - Paris at 0200 on 27<sup>th</sup> -  
Met by another member of Org - to Capt house 3 blocks from station -  
27<sup>th</sup> - on train with 7 aviators (Hargrove, Rice, <sup>Sgt</sup> Checketts, <sup>Sgt</sup> 5/2dr <sup>gimmick</sup> <sup>Wilson</sup> <sup>??</sup>)

Went to Joigny, arr. on 27<sup>th</sup> - stayed until 1 Oct - a boy from  
Paris came & took us back to Paris (Biege, Hargrove, Rice, Checketts - <sup>Sgt</sup> Wilson)

To large apt in Paris - Hdqtrs - met Raoul - 20 aviators <sup>in apt</sup> - went back -  
apt is at subway called Main d'Arcy - we 20 left for Vannes in 3 convoys -  
~~arr.~~ arr. 2 Oct - went with Cunningham to Dr's house - 2 days later  
H. L. Drew arr. - stayed til 7<sup>th</sup> - taken to this house by lady  
and daughter - Dr Audite (his 11 yrs in Spokane Wash)

Raoul - 6'1" - black kinky hair, slender, pugny face, upper  
teeth protruded. Dark eyes - red posture - no mustache -

7<sup>th</sup> Oct - went to Quimper with 10 aviators - Carl, Martin, <sup>Sgt</sup> Allen,  
we went to home Pierre Phillipone, others on to Brest - Allen  
& Martin with Pierre & Carl to home of M<sup>me</sup> Selan - spent  
night - returned next day to Pierre's home - left train for Douarnenez  
with Martin & Allen & Carl - gendarme asked leader for identity  
papers - no papers to be on coast - got by - went to <sup>M</sup> Laurent's - warty -  
stayed - til 30 Oct - 3 who in one room - Gustave caught two of  
Laurent's friends in another Org - Martin & Allen moved to  
another house - on 30 Oct driven to Plourmoudian - met woman  
in Org - Erre's mother - dinner that evening - ~~Dr. drove us back~~  
Pierre came to see us & went with us & Dr. back to Quimper.  
On 30 Oct - stayed with Pierre 3 weeks - ~~no~~ Rice & Hargrove  
had missed Communist boat & were living near us - 4<sup>th</sup> week  
went into country to stay with Jean Banéan (Bouinera), lawyer -

Heard Raoul + Jeanette <sup>Little</sup>, Pierre, Jack Ryan were in cafe & having drink to French gestapo (Rolli de Jeanmaire) who has worked with Raoul - turned traitor - got 100 men shot & one fish captured - entered cage - Raoul recognized him & fought - German intruded - shot Raoul running - Raoul found in another home by gestapo <sup>at the</sup> - Pierre + Jeanette escaped & are in hiding in Paris)

left 27<sup>Nov</sup> Jean B- is for Quimper - lady came to Jean's with letter from Drew ~~and~~ and she said we were going to Brest & go out by boat - Du Quimper, Carl stayed with Pierre - on 29 Nov left for Brest - Mme. 'Joe' took us - to house & met Thompson + Wilson - Ray (Woodside's crew) W<sup>m</sup> (Thompson knows) - stayed this house - were to leave 30<sup>th</sup> - no message - on 1<sup>st</sup> - in truck 23 aviators + 2 French Paul (Brest) + Pierre Philippe (plans to come over & looked hard for Americans, seemed to be head of org after Raoul) - Rice - Hargrove - Wilson - Drew - Allen - Martin - 2 Englishmen Harry - RAY <sup>BYE</sup> (Woodside) - Williams <sup>(Thompson)</sup> Herman Schaffer (Navy) - 23 covered #

Went thru Brest - left truck single file thru German positions - in country - 1/2 hr - farmer's house - in haystack - at 11 the day Bye, Harry, Paul, Pierre - sent to island in ~~Salties~~ - supposed to signal to Eng boat - they could get our signals from coast - something wrong with plans - all on mainland - low tide ~~same~~ <sup>as Thompson</sup>



The following information has been obtained from our interview with .....  
..... (.....) who escaped after capture  
by the enemy/evaded capture by the enemy after being in enemy/enemy occupied territory.

Further circulation of this information may be made, but when doing so it is important not  
to divulge any particulars of source.

Statement of information covering period from Sept. 6, 1943.....  
to...Dec. 2, 1943.....

During my three month stay in France I made it a point to observe a German soldier or sailor every time I saw one. In addition I asked many questions concerning the morale of the troops and my conclusion is that their morale is very low. During my observations of all the troops I never saw a German smile or laugh even when large groups were in conversation. They seemed to have a depressed attitude about everything in general. The French are quite outspoken in their assertion of this fact. They believe the German soldier knows he is defeated but can't give up because of the reprisals that will come to the German people when or if that happens. German soldiers fear an invasion tremendously and have ~~just~~ begun to predict its date, week by week.

The French morale is probably better now because of the successes of the allied forces but they seem quite skeptical of both the American and British aspirations after the war.

On the American bombing of Nantes the last wave to bomb hit the middle of the city and killed 3000 civilians. After this, feeling was quite high against the Americans in the vicinity of Nantes. This was told by three people <sup>who</sup> witnessed the bombing.

The number of German planes I saw over France was surprisingly few even when I was near Dieppe.

While on the coast at Bourdeaux, I was told that German troops on the coast <sup>in this vicinity</sup> numbered one to every three quarters of a kilometer. I was also told

The bulk of the German troops had been moved inland in a position to send them immediately to any point threatened by an invasion. I was also told that 25% of the Germans in France had been called out to fight on the Russian front. In addition it is a very obvious fact that the troops in France now are not the good troops of the old army but are either old men or young boys. The French are quite puzzled why the invasion still fails to materialize.

Concrete  
masonry  
foundations

During my stay at Neufchâtel I was told the Germans were constructing an emplacement for tanks 6 kilometers northwest of Neufchâtel which covered an area of 26 acres. It was being built in an apple orchard camouflaged by the trees and made to blend with a farm house and the natural surroundings. In this same area they were constructing seven buildings 90 x 30 x 10 which were presumably for the storage of war material. In this same area were <sup>two</sup> cannon emplacements. During my stay there the Germans moved in five thousand additional troops (I was told) and were building a second line with Neufchâtel as the center extending over an area of approximately seventy to eighty kilometers.