

HQ, ETOUSA

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH
MIS(X)

OFFICE OF AC OF S, G-2

MIS DETACHMENT

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1. Full Name, Rank and Serial No. *RICHARD D. ADAMS CAPT. O-424871*
2. Decorations. *None*
3. Unit or Squadron. *306th Bomb Gr. 369th Sqdn.*
4. Division (Army) or Group. *306th GP*
5. Date of Birth. *AUG. 4, 1916²⁶*
6. Length of Service. *1 YEAR 9 MOS.*
7. Private Address. *802 W. BROADWAY. HENRYETTA, OKLA.*
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?
*FIVE LILLE, FRANCE - TARGET
THURLEIGH, ENGLAND, NOVEMBER 8th 1942 at 1030 hrs. - DEPARTURE
~~FOR~~ WAMBUSHIE, FRANCE NOVEMBER 8th 1943
AIRCRAFT AND PAPERS DESTROYED*
- ☒ 9. If in AF, give names of other members of crew and what happened to them.
- ☒ 10. Give details and full story of your trip on attached sheets.
- ☒ 11. Did you pay your guides? If so how much?
12. Do you speak French? Spanish? *No*
13. Did you have Identity Papers? *No*
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 experience? Where and when? *CAPT. BABCOCK - MADRID SPAIN
MR. DONALD DARLING - GIB
NO WRITTEN REPORT*
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 - GIB
17. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air.
GIB - AIR
18. Place and date of arrival in U.K.
PORT WREATH - 4/24/45

MIS DETACHMENT

26

MIA: 8 Nov 42

Arrived SPAIN:

ARRIVED GIB: 21 April 43
" U.K. 24 APRIL 43

1	PILOT	0-726193	2nd Lt. Carl W. COOK	(Returned)	
2	CO-PILOT	0-726045	2nd Lt. Julius C. LANDRUM	(Prisoner)	P/W
3	NAVIGATOR	0-725998	2nd Lt. John A. LATCHFORD	(Prisoner)	P/W
4	BOMBARDIER	13038360	S/Sgt. Peter GREYNO	(Killed)	P/W
5	Engineer	16044132	S/Sgt. John S. SANDERS	(Killed)	KIA
6	BT Gunner	32236430	S/Sgt. Anthony J. LACEK	(Killed)	
7	Trailer	37069811	S/Sgt. Jim T. McCLOY	(Killed)	
8	Radio Operator	15099665	S/Sgt. Ford L. WINCHELL	(Prisoner)	P/W
9	Trailer	35300780	S/Sgt. Frank M. ZECK	(Dead)	KIA

We left THURLEIGH at 1030 hrs 8 November 1942 for LILLE. We made landfall at 23,000 feet and after making our run over the target twice we were hit by flak. The right wing dropped down. I tried to level the plane with full left aileron. The bombardier said we had dropped our bombs. I switched over to Command and found that the leader had not been able to release his bomb load. This explained the second trip over the target. I told Command I was hit and would have to slow down. I jerked off my oxygen mask to ask the Co-Pilot which engine was hit. He seemed in a dazed condition - was sitting with his elbows on his knees. I pushed him against the armor-plating for protection. I could see a large hole in the wing between # 1 and 2 engines. Gas was spraying out and # 2 engine was on fire. The plane was moving in circles. I rang the warning bell and called over the intercom to abandon ship. I signalled the co-pilot to bale out. I was trying to shut off # 2 engine to avoid an explosion. The controls were limp. All this time we were taking a heavy beating from flak. The instruments and oxygen system went dead. The controls were shot away and the bank of the plane increased. Lt. COOK was still sitting in his seat. I jumped up and he followed me. He tried to shove my parachute up to me but it ^{was} ~~it~~ wedged between something. After a struggle it finally loosened. We were then at 20,000 feet. That is the last thing I remember until pulling the 'rip' at 2,000 feet. Whether I fell out, acted automatically or was shoved out by Lt. COOK, I don't know.

Damaged By
FNAK

Delayed Jump

SECURES
IMMEDIATE HELP

About 30 minutes later a French peasant came to me. He had on two suits of clothes. He pulled me out of the straw and motioned me inside the coop. I put on the clothes he had brought and we started walking down the road toward the North. He stopped a couple of boys on bicycles which they gave us and we rode on to a house. I had food and cognac given to me. Several visitors arrived - among them was the first boy I had met who had shrugged his shoulders at me. He brought clothes and shoes.

9 NOV 42

After dark some of the ~~previous~~ visitors came ^{by} and took me to another house 3 miles away. I spent the night there and hid in the barn during the next day. That night an English-speaking person came to see me. After we had talked he took me on to another house. From here my journey was arranged for me.

APPENDIX B

1. Saw 30 miles North of MARSEILLES on railroad running from PARIS to MARSEILLES 2 freight trains mounted with 7 A.A. each. Approximately the same distance South of MARSEILLES towards NICE there were 2 similar trains.
2. At MARSEILLES saw 6-motored German clipper transport on the West side of the harbor.
3. At CASSIS and NICE there were Coast Guard defences. At CASSIS machine guns and anti-tank guns along the harbor inlet. At NICE guards patrolled the sea walk constantly.
4. At NICE in going to the top of a hill to see the Cathedral "Sanctuaire de Notre Dame de la Garde" saw Germans there with portable radio transmitters.
5. On 7 Feb saw concentrations of German troops in TOULOUSE. Heard they were going to Spanish frontier.
6. Around NICE heard that Italians were indifferent to the war. Heard that many were deserting and saw searches organised there for such deserters.

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(3)

Hq Etoussa
O of 84 Cys B-2
Mis Detachment

3 May 1943

CfE # 30.

Evasion in France

Richard D. Adams, Capt., O-424891

369 Sq — 306 Sq —

age : 26

hgt : 1 yr. 9 mos

H. A. : 802 Broadway, Henryetta, Okla —

Other members of crew:

Pilot — navigator

return

Co. Pilot — 2nd Lt. Carl W. COOK, O-726193

P/W

Nav — 2nd Lt. Julius C. LANDRUM, O-726045

P/W

Bombdr — 2nd Lt. John A. LATCHFORD, O-725998

P/W

- 1st Sgt. Peter GREYNO, 13038560

dead

- 1st Sgt. John S. SANDERS, 16044152

dead

1st Sgt. Anthony J. LACEK, 32236430

dead

1st Sgt. Jim T. McChoy, 37069811

dead

1st Sgt. Ford L. WINCHELL, 15099665

P/W

1st Sgt. Frank M. LECK, 35300780

dead

We left Thurleigh at 1030 hrs 8 November 1942 for Lille. We made landfall at 23000 ft and after making our run over the target twice we were hit by flak. The right wing dropped down. I tried to level the plane with full left aileron. I asked the bombardier if we had. The bombardier said we had dropped our bombs. I switched over to Command and found that the leader had not been able to release his bomb load. This explained the second trip over the target. I told Command I was hit and would have to slow down. I jerked off my oxygen mask to ask the Co-pilot which engine was hit. He seemed in a dazed condition - was sitting with his elbows on his knees. I pushed him against the armor-plating for protection. I could see a large hole in the wing between #1 & #2 engines. Gas was spraying out and #2 engine was on fire. The plane was moving in circles. I rang the warning bell and called over the inter-com to abandon ship. I signalled the Co-pilot to bale out. I was trying to shut off #2 engine to avoid an explosion. The controls were limp. All this time we were taking a heavy beating from flak. The instruments and oxygen system went dead. The controls were shot away and the bank of the plane increased.

H. Cook was still sitting in his seat. I jumped up and he followed me. He tried to shove my parachute up to me but it wedged between something. After a struggle it finally loosened. We were then at 20,000 ft. That is the last thing I remember until pulling the 'rip' at 2,000 ft. Whether I fell out, acted automatically or was shoved out by H. Cook I don't know.

I landed in a pasture with no injuries though I hit the ground hard. The opportunity for evasion I can attribute to a delayed jump. I got out of my chute immediately and started running toward the hedges. When I got in a hedgerow I took off my mae west and hid it. Not far away I saw a forest and ran towards it. There was a peasant boy on road — I said RAF. He shrugged his shoulders and ran on toward the forest. A lady across the road signalled me to go back. I saw some straw over a chicken coop and crawled into this. In about 10 minutes someone came along and straightened the straw over me.

about 30 minutes later a French peasant came to me. He had on two suits of clothes. He pulled me out of the straw and motioned me inside the cobg. I put on the clothes he had brought and we started walking down the road toward the North. He stopped a couple of boys on bicycles which they gave to us and we rode on to a house. I had food and cognac given to me. Several visitors arrived - among them was the 1st boy I had met who had shrugged his shoulders at me. He brought clothes and shoes.

After dark some of the previous visitors came by and took me to another house 3 miles away. I spent the night there and hid in the barn during the night day. That night an English speaking person came to see me. After we had talked he took me on to another house. From here my journey was arranged for me.

9 Nov.

App B-

1. Saw ~~an AA~~, 30 miles north of MARSEILLES on R.R. running from Paris to Marseilles. 2 freight trains ~~were~~ mounted with 4 A.A. each. Approximately the same distance South of MARSEILLES toward Nice there were 2 similar trains.
2. At MARSEILLES saw 6-motored German clipper transport on the West side of the harbor.
3. At CASSIS & NICE there were Coast Guard defenses. At CASSIS machine guns and anti-tank guns along the harbor inlet. At NICE guards patrolled the sea walk constantly.
4. At NICE in going to the top of a hill to see the Cathedral "Sanctuaire de Notre Dame de la Garde" saw Germans there with portable radio transmitters.
5. 7 Feb 43 saw concentrations of ~~troop~~ German troops in TOULOUSE. Heard they were going to Spanish frontier.
6. Around NICE heard that Italians were indifferent to the War. Heard that many were deserting and saw searches organized there for such deserters.

(14)

We left Th. 8 Nov. at 10:30 for Lille - 2300 ft.
~~over~~ Thedelingen + hit flak often being over
target twice. Left target & hit by flak. Right
wing dropped down - tried to right plane full left
Celeron & talking to Brude & switched back to
command. Asked Brude if he had dropped
bombs - yes - 5/4 had not - here 2nd trip -
Switched to Command & called to 5/4 to slow
down because I was hit - jerked oxygen
mask & yelled to co-pilot which engine
was hit - Co-pilot in daze - elbows on
knees - pushed him against armor plating
for protection - looked out on right side
I saw large hole between #1 & 2 engines
Gas was spraying out - Close to #2 -
#2 smoking badly - on fire - Rang bell
& plane was going in circles - plane in
fairly good right turn - Called over
inter-com to BO - Signalled to co-pilot to
BO - trying to shut off #2 to avoid
explosion - Controls limp - All this time
we were taking beating I think from
flak - all instruments went dead

Oxygen system died - Control shot
away - tank increased - Cook
still sitting there - jumped up &
saw him not moving - He followed
me & tried to shove parachute up to me
it wedged - finally got it - about
20000 ft. From this time on there is lapse
until 20000 ft above ground when
pulled up - possibly acting automatically
or shoved out by Cook - Hit hard -
no injuries - Landed in pasture - Think
escape due to delayed pump - Got out of
chute & started running toward hedges -
chute left on ground x Got to hedge &
look off NW & hid it in hedges. Saw
a forest - Ran toward it x Passed a
road - said "RAF" Kid shrugged shoulders
& started to run on to Forest lady across
street signalled me to go back x Saw
straw over chicken Coop & crawled under
there Stayed here 10 mins. Someone came
along & stationed it out over as better
protection

1/2 hr later some French peasant
came by with 2 suits of clothes
on + pulled me out of straw and
gestured me to get into coop - Did
change to clothes he had - Started
walking North down road. Stopped couple
boys on bikes which they gave to us
+ rode on farther to house converted
to a pub + in back door +
given Cognac + in kitchen had food.
Several visitors - 1st young boy with clothes
shoes etc - that night they came by
+ we rode 3 miles down road to where
I stayed all night - next day hid
in barn behind house - that night
fellow with Org came by - could speak
Eng - working Massie-Harris Canning Org -
Truhum had been to school in London +
(Sounded like Williams) - He talked for awhile
I said back at 9 p.m. to go to another
house - Came by at pre-designated
hour to my bike stopped a Canadian
woman's house - husband P/W - She

playout took camera picture for identity card

was part of Org (Name) Stopped at another house - going into Lille - Went to Mde Playart's for a week - Jean came by we went to Paris - bought tickets - 16 November - 3rd class - We arrived & were met downtown by a Greek (little) - spoke English - Went to show to bar to meet ^{Bishop} Seveck - To his house for a week - 39 Ave d'Orleans - Norwegian - ~~At~~ Thor Waerner - arrived 19 Nov - Stayed in same block of bldgs - Jean came by on 23rd Nov & we took train to Marseilles - at Train met another fellow taking Trichin across L of D - This man helped us get across Ramon - Jean taking care of Waerner & self - Got off train at Dijon - ^{Bus to Chalon} - Crossed L of D by getting in back of truck - & drove to an old mill then crossed on a dam - walked to a house mile from crossing Stayed 2 hrs + truck - came me picked us up & went to Hotel - about 16 Frenchmen here ate dinner - back in truck to RR station

Got to house near station for 2 or 3 hrs.
3 a.m. caught train & rode to Marseilles.
(Neikhal Neival) apt - Couldn't contact Ray
here because Neival had given it up -
Someone named Paul had given in to Germans.
Moved to a Doctor's place (Greek) - Stayed here
from 3 days (26-28 Nov) 29th went to
Cassis - Guide was Albert & Fabian -

Stayed in house rented for couple of
for who were North - Food condition bad &
had to go to Marseilles - 7th Dec back to Marseilles

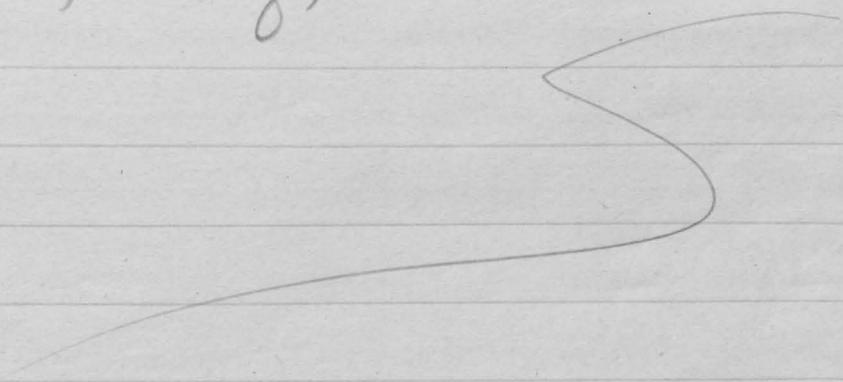
Here Gosling (Eng) & New Zealand ^{Ray} navigator on
Bubbs were at Doctor's. Four of us staying
here - 12th Thor Ray & Gosling went to
Toulouse with Pal x 14th Albert & I

went to Nice x Stayed at Rene Sanson -
Was here about - late part of January
Fabian & ~~Paul~~ ^{Albert} (Allman) took us to Toulouse

(Two Eng ^{Penne & Dawson} joined us at Nice & Roger & Laurie x

We left immediately for Bergerac x ~~Got off~~
train. Alice took over at Toulouse x Fabian
stayed with us & Albert - At Bergerac (Roger & I)
got there by car - Met two Englishman at a

town before getting to Beziers - They were
guided by Bernard - All had dinner
in this town - Roger + I in car in Beziers
Alex took us - after dark went to another house
Stayed 3 days + I left + Roger stayed -
Bernard took me to Toulouse, stayed
around Toulouse until 7 Feb - Here was ^{first} John +
Marcel, Aubrey, Louise —————



Italians indifferent toward war - heard
that lot of Italians were deserting - saw
many searches & garrisons for such deserters -
Germans had defeated at the d. -
thought they would lose war -

App A

2. In Nice - bought drinks - food
 • lent money to Rose & W. Weinbach
 at border gave 500 francs to Ble -

App B -

30 miles No Marseilles at RR running from
 Paris to Marseilles - mounted freight cars
 2 trains - 4 guns each
 anti-air guns + app same distance
 on other side of Marseilles towards Nice
 2 here

at Marseilles saw 6-motorized clipper transport
 in harbor - west side

at Cassis + Nice - Coast Guard defence ^{machine} guns 6
 at Cassis - anti-tank guns - harbor (inlet fishing)
 defence - machine gun along coast -
 Nice - Guards with rifles - parapets along
 the sea walk -

at Nice - went to top of hill to see cathedral - ^{Sanctuary of} ~~not yet done~~ ^{de la Vierge} ~~German~~
 with portable radio transmitters -

Saw concentration of troops at Toulouse 7 Feb - being
 moved to Spanish frontier -

9 April 1943

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 ANDREWS:

Ralph Pulsifer
RALPH PULSIFER,
Colonel, AGD, Adjutant General.

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) Richard D. AdamsSigned Richard D. AdamsRank CAPT. ASN O-424871Date 4/25/43Unit 306th Bomb Gr. 364th Sqdn

Witness _____

THE COMMANDANT
LONDON TRANSIT CAMP,
GREAT CENTRAL HOTEL,
MARYLEBONE STATION,
LONDON.

RAILWAY WARRANT TO BE OBTAINED AT THE
PORT OR AERODROME OF ARRIVAL FROM THE
TRANSPORT OFFICER ON THE SPOT.

7

REPORT TO COLONEL MENZIES, LONDON DISTRICT TRANSIT CAMP,
GRAND CENTRAL HOTEL, OPPOSITE THE MARYLEBONE STATION, LONDON.

CONFIDENTIAL

MILITARY OBS. GIBRALTAR

8

OFFICE OF THE MILITARY OBSERVER
AMERICAN CONSULATE
GIBRALTAR

22 April 1943.

Subject: Orders.

To: Personnel named below.

CAPT RICHARD D ADAMS 0424871,
2ND LT JOHN S TROST 0860420, and
2ND LT GRADY W ROPER 0790158,

having reported at this station on April 21, 1943, will proceed by the first available transportation to LONDON, ENGLAND. Upon arrival they will report without delay to Headquarters European Theater of Operations, U.S. Army, London. TDN FD 33 P 433-02 A 0425-23.

Distribution:

MIS
HQ ETOUSA
Personnel concerned
File.

Carl W. Holcomb
Carl W. Holcomb,
Lt. Col., CAC.
Comdg. U.S. Army Casuals,
Gibraltar.

CONFIDENTIAL

MILITARY OBS. GIBRALTAR

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY

SPECIAL ORDERS)

NUMBER

117

27 Apr 1943 1942

E X T R A C T

5. The following officers, AC, are asgd to Hq Eighth AF, are placed on TD at this hq in the G-2 Sec. Upon completion of this TD they will rpt to the CG, Eighth AF for dy:

Capt RICHARD D. ADAMS, 04244871

2d Lt HOWARD W. KELLY, 0726785

2d Lt GRADY W. ROPER, 0790158

2d Lt JOHN S. TROST, 0660420

TCNT. A per diem of \$5.00 is auth while on this TD and per diem of \$6.00 is auth while on travel status. TDM. PD 31 P A31-02 A 0425-23.

By command of Lieutenant General ANDREWS:

C. H. BARTH,

Brigadier General, GSC, Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

RALPH PULSIFER,

Colonel, AGD, Adjutant General.

RESTRICTED

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:

(signed) 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) Richard D. Adams Signed Richard D. Adams
Rank Capt. A.S.N. 0-424871 Date 22 APR 1943
Unit 306th Bomb Gr. Witness Carl W. Holcomb
369th Bomb Sqdn.

Lt. Col. Carl W. Holcomb, C.A.C.
United States Army
GIBRALTAR