

SECRET - AMERICAN  
MOST SECRET - BRITISH  
MIS(X)

HQ, ETOUSA

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. *Grady W. Roper 2nd Lt. O-790158*
2. Decorations. *None*
3. Unit or Squadron. *327th Bomb. Sqdn.*
4. Division (Army) or Group. *92nd Gp.*
5. Date of Birth. *July 2, 1919*
6. Length of Service. *18 Months*
7. Private Address. *914 First Ave. Albany, GA*
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?  
*Oct. 9 - Lille - Bovingdon - Oct. 9, 1942 - App. 9 o'clock  
St Amand France - 1200 o'clock - Aircraft crashed -  
Bomb sight 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? *French - Slightly*
13. Did you have Identity Papers? *No - They were left at Airdrome*
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? *① Yes. ② Gibraltar - Mr. Darling. ③ 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 - Gibraltar*
17. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air.  
*April 25, 1943. Gibraltar. Air*
18. Place and date of arrival in U.K.  
*April 25, 1943. Port Wreath.*

HQ, ETOUSA

OFFICE OF AC OF S, G-2

MIS DETACHMENT

E & E REPORT NO. 27.  
EVASION FROM FRANCEO-790158, 2/Lt. Grady W. ROPER,  
327 Bomber Squadron, 92 Bomber Group.AGE: 23  
LENGTH OF SERVICE: 18 mths.  
PEACETIME PROFESSION: Draftsman  
PRIVATE ADDRESS: 914 First Avenue,  
ALBANY, Georgia.

1. Main Action: 9 Oct 42
4. Arrived in U.K:  
24 April 1943
2. Arrived in Spain  
1 April 1943
3. Arrived in Alg:  
21 April 43

OTHER MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information has been checked at PWIB)

PILOT	O-442749 1st, Francis H. CHORAK	(Dead)
CO-PILOT	O-788386 2nd Lt. Joseph J. FRACCIA	(P/W)
NAVIGATOR	NARRATOR	
BOMBARDIER	O-659561 2nd Lt. Charles KOLODZINSKI	(P/W)
RADIO OPERATOR	6898584 M/Sgt. James E. LANE	(Dead)
TOP TURRET GUNNER	31035541 S/Sgt. John J. DOLAN	(Dead)
GUNNER	34241906 S/Sgt. Malcolm CULPEPPER	(Dead)
GUNNER	13029445 S/Sgt. Paul R. GORDON	(P/W)
TAIL GUNNER	19053675 S/Sgt. Donald E. BUCKLAND	(Dead)

9 Oct 1942

We left BOVINGTON at 0900 hrs 9 Oct 42 to bomb LILLE. After leaving the target we were attacked by F.W.'s. They came in high and turned off on one side. The only gunner who could get to them was the Radio Operator and he was hit at the beginning of the attack. One shell exploded in the plane and it went into a dive. All the power was off but the pilot pulled out of the dive. He gave the order to abandon ship and I went out at 18,000 ft. I saw 4 chutes in the air. It took me 20 minutes to get down.

Immediate help  
From FRENCH

I landed in a plowed field. I was in a rather *dazed* condition when a Frenchman appeared and helped me get out of my chute. I left the parachute with Frenchmen who arrived on the scene. When they waved me to move on quickly I started running. One Frenchman caught up with me and told me to follow him. We went into some high grass on the banks of a canal where I stayed for ~~12~~ hours. I ate the chocolate and Horlicks tablets from my Escape Box.

St. AMAND

When the Frenchman returned he brought clothes and a bicycle. After I had dressed we rode to his home. In St. AMAND we passed only one German soldier. I gave all the money in my purse to this friend and spent my first night in his home.

Lived in hiding  
For 2 1/2 months

The next day he told me he was afraid to keep me there because he had children but offered to turn me over to a man who would keep me. I was told that the Germans were asking everyone in the neighbourhood for identity cards. At 2200 hrs we went to a place where I was introduced to a Frenchman who took me to a house. There was only one person living here. I stayed at this house for 2 and a half months. On Saturday nights after dark I went out with a friend to visit other people but all the rest of the time I remained inside the house. The food was very good and was paid for and brought by several different people in the neighbourhood.

I had stayed in this house and the neighborhood all this time because the Frenchman who had taken me there came to see me several times a week and each time reported that he was trying to find someone who would take me out of the country. He seemed to be working very hard at this and was always hopeful.

20 Dec 42  
SECURES  
IDENTITY CARD  
PARIS

Finally on 20 December an identity card was brought to me. The picture used on the card was one taken while in ST. AMAND. Also I was given a paper which stated that I received a pension from a workers' union because of a disability. Two friends, a man and woman, took me to PARIS. We travelled 1st Class. We were searched by customs officials to prevent tobacco smuggling but there was no conversation during the inspection. I cannot speak any French other than what I learned in France.

After we reached PARIS the woman left us and the man and I were stopped by a Gendarme. The man had a package of tobacco on him and was arrested. The gendarme said I could leave. The man helping me objected since he felt I would be helpless and finally told the whole story to the gendarme. He let us both go.

Later that day we went to meet a friend in a cafe. I was asked a great many questions after which I was turned over to another man and the rest of my journey was arranged for me.



DRAFT

SECRET  
EQUALS BRITISH

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MOST SECRET

APPENDIX "B"  
MIS(X) .....

Statement of information covering period from 9 Oct 42  
to 24 Apr 43

Oct -  
Dec 42      S.E. of ST. AMAND in a forest (RAISMES) the Germans have a munitions depot. Placed in small buildings dispersed in the forest (hearsay, local French)

Nov '42      At DINANT and DONAI factories are building locomotive and cannon (hearsay by former French P/W at DONAI)

Nov '42      Fighter aerodrome at RAISMES (not in use) between a railroad and highway (hearsay, local French)

Jan -  
Feb 43      Airfield South of ARCHES (in use). Lt. ROPER saw Me.110's here. Said to be used for instruction.

Jan - Feb  
43      In NICE a French Organisation said to meet every Tuesday night for purpose of discussing present and future action against Italians.

March 43      At BERGERAC French were said to be organised for resistance if opportunity arose. Reported guns hidden.

March 43      At NICE told that Italian troops there had been poor quality but were now front line troops

March 43      French who helped Allies were called De Gaullists. They thought very little of GIRAUD, approved DARLAN's assassination.

March 43      Told at PERPIGNAN that German flying was greatly restricted due to gas shortage (hearsay)

Jan 43      Had seen in PARIS a German officers' school on West side of Arc de Triomphe. Many guards outside.

Jan 43      Told that in LILLE German soldiers were quartered in the Citadel. (hearsay)

Jan 43      Saw heavy German troop movements BORDEAUX - MARSEILLES in both directions.



SECRET  
EQUALS BRITISH

MOST SECRET

APPENDIX "B".  
MIS(X).....

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 9 Oct 42.....  
to 24 April 43.....

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at DIXANT and DONAI factories are building locomotives  
and cannon. (hearsay by former French P/W at DONAI)

Nov. 42 Fighter aerodrome at RAISMES (not in use) between a  
R.R. and highway (hearsay: local French)

Airfield South of ARCHES (in use). ~~See~~ Lt. Roper saw  
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MIS(X).

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Darlan's assassination.

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MAY 43 — Had seen in PARIS a German Officers school on West side of Arc de Triomphe; Many Guards outside

Told that in LILLE German soldiers were quartered in the Citadel. (Hearsey)

Saw heavy German troop movements BORDEAUX - MARSEILLES in both directions.

## Appendix B

Oct- Dec 42 Just south of St Amand, s.e. in a forest <sup>Raismes</sup>  
Germans have munitions depot - small blag  
dispersed in forest - told by local French (alfred)

At Dinant and Douai factories are building  
locomotives and cannon - told by local Frenchman  
who had been a P/W at Douai.

Nov. there is a fighter airfield at Raismes <sup>not in use</sup>  
between road and road - told by same Frenchman

airfield south of Arches - in use - ME110s  
seen ~~from~~ by me - told landed there. Said to be  
used for instruction

Jan - Feb In Nice an organization of Frenchmen to join in  
action vs Italians when possible met regularly  
every Tuesday night

At Bergerac they said the French were organized  
to resist when opportunity arose. They had guns  
hidden.



(2) Appended pB

Mar  
43

~~Mr. Lanson~~ At Nice was told the Italian  
had been bad but were now first line  
troops

The French who helped were de Gaullists  
didn't think much of Giraud, approved  
Darlan's assassination.

March  
43

Told at Perpignan that German flying was  
restricted greatly by shortage of gas

A German officers school in Paris on  
west side of Arc de Triomphe. Saw it with  
many guards outside

In Lille German soldiers are quartered in  
the Citadel. Told by first Frenchmen (Alfred)

Heard German troop movement from Bordeaux  
to Marseilles. ~~saw it~~ in both directions.  
Saw it myself.

Hq. E.O.V.P.A.  
Office of AC of S, G-2  
Miss Detachment -

E.E.# 27

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### EVASION IN FRANCE

2<sup>d</sup> Lt. GRADY W. ROPER, O-790158  
327 B.Sq. - 92<sup>d</sup> B

ARRIVED U.K.

Age - 23

24 APRIL 1943

P.O.S. - 18 months

Pedestrian P.W.: Draftsman

Home Address: 914 FIRST AVE. Albany, Georgia -

Other members of crew -

Pilot:	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. FRANCIS H. CHORAK	O-442749	(Dead)
Co-pilot:	2 <sup>d</sup> Lt. JOSEPH J. FRACCIA	O-788386	(P/W)
Nav:	Narrator		
Bombardier:	2 <sup>d</sup> Lt. CHARLES KOLODZINSKI	O-659561	(P/W)
Radio Op-:	M/Sgt. JAMES E. LAYE	6898584	Dead
Top turret Gun:	Sgt. JOHN J. DOLAN	31035541	Dead
Gunner:	Sgt. MALCOLM CULPEPPER	34241906	Dead
Gunner:	S/Sgt. PAUL R. GORDON	13029445	P/W
T/Gunner	S/Sgt. DONALD E. BUCKLAND	19053675	Dead

We left Bovingdon at 0900 hrs 9 Oct 42 to bomb Lille. After leaving the target we were attacked by F.W.s. They came in high and turned off on one side. The only gunner who could get to them was the Radio operator and he was hit at the beginning of the attack. One shell exploded in the plane and it went into a dive. All the power was off but the pilot pulled out of the dive. He gave the order to abandon ship and I went out at 18000 ft. I saw 4 chutes in the air. It took me 20 minutes to get down.

Landed in a plowed field. I was in a rather crotchety when a Frenchman appeared and helped me get out of my chute. I left the scene quickly with the Frenchman who other Frenchmen warned us to leave hurriedly. parachute with Frenchmen who arrived on the scene. When they warned me to move on quickly I started running. One Frenchman caught up with me and ~~said to~~ told me to follow him. We went into some high grass on the banks of a canal where I stayed for 5 hours. I ate the chocolate and Horlicks tablets from my Escape Pot.



When the Frenchman returned he brought clothes and a bicycle. After I had dressed we rode to his house. In St. Amand we passed only one German soldier. I gave all the money in my purse to this friend and spent my first night in his home.

The next day he told me ~~that~~ he was afraid to keep me there because he had children but offered to turn me over to a man who would keep me. I was told that the Germans were asking everyone in the neighborhood for identity cards. At 22 hrs we went to a place where I was introduced to a Frenchman who took me to a house. There was only one person living here. I stayed at this house for 2 and half months. On Saturday nights after dark I went out with a friend to visit other people but all the rest of the time I remained inside the house. The food was very good and was paid for and brought by several different people in the neighborhood.

I had stayed in this house and the neighborhood ~~for~~ all this time because the Frenchman who had taken me there came to see me

several times a week and each time reported that he was trying to find someone who would take me out of the country. He seemed to be working very hard at this and was always hopeful.

Finally on 20 December an identity card was brought to me. The picture used on the card was one taken while in St. Amand. Also I was given a paper which stated that I received a pension from a workers union because of a disability. Two friends - a man and woman - took me to Paris. We travelled 1st class. We were searched by customs officials to prevent tobacco smuggling but there was no conversation during the inspection. I cannot speak any French other than what I learned in France.

After we reached Paris the woman left us and the man and I were stopped by a Gendarme. The man had a package of tobacco on him and was arrested. The gendarme said I could leave. ~~on~~ The man helping me objected since he felt I would be helpless and finally told the whole story to the gendarme. He let us both go.

Later that day we went to meet a friend in a cafe.  
I was asked a great many questions after which I was  
turned over to another man and the rest of my  
journey was arranged for me. }



①

was a draughtsman in civil life

⑥

Roper - navigator - 1st raid

(over)

attacked by F.W. 190s - after coming off target  
attacked near high - slightly one side - only man  
could reach him was radio who was <sup>hit</sup> at once

{ Sgt Dolan - radio - believed dead  
Sgt Gordon - ball turret - ?  
Sgt Buckland waist gunner - ?  
Sgt Culpepper tail gunner - ~~[O/W]~~ ?  
1st Lt ~~Chorals~~ Chorals pilot - French helper said he was P/W  
2nd Lt Fracchi co-pilot - ~~[O/W]~~  
2nd Lt Kolodjinski bombardier - ~~[O/W]~~  
Sgt Lane top turret - bailed out

shell exploded in plane - plane down, all power off  
pilot pulled out, order to bail out, saw 4 chutes

Lucille  
north of  
St Amant  
almost  
on border  
helped get parachute off - left with French, - people  
tried to get away quickly, - started running - Roman  
caught and said go with him. - went to high  
grass by canal - stayed there 5 hours. <sup>ate chocolate and Horlicks</sup> ~~used~~ matches

→ he brought back clothes [don't know his name] - ~~took~~ put  
on and rode bike to his house, - saw one Germ. soldier  
in town St Amant - stayed overnight there -  
I had given all the money in the purse.

2 planes of my element turned back. We  
pulled in the diamond with a group of Fs  
when we turned at the target ~~they~~ the Fs  
pulled away from our E and we were  
left alone.

(2)

next day at his suggestion, afraid to sleep because  
he had children, but would turn over to a man who  
would keep. Said next day Germans were asking people  
for identity cards. That night at 10, went to a  
pub <sup>then closed</sup> and there was introduced to a Frenchman  
who took me at once to another house where an  
old lady lived alone. (In St. Arnaud) [name illegible]  
A] Stayed there 2 1/2 months - went out  
every Sat night to visit ~~the~~ married son  
who lived there - rest of time stayed in - food  
good - paid for by mayor and his friend who had  
owned the now defunct newspaper - bought a  
radio - got BBC news - no jamming - lady  
and visiting son listened to BBC French news which  
usually was difficult to receive - apparently everyone  
listened and believed. Frenchman who took me there  
said he would get help I wanted for him - He  
came in several times a week. While there my picture  
was taken. On 20 Dec received identity card, brought by a  
man who took me to Paris - old lady went too (and a  
paper saying I received a pension from some workers  
union in Lille on grounds of being disabled) traveled  
1st class - <sup>searched</sup> ~~inspected~~ by customs officials because of



(3)

I could speak very little or none.

Tobacco smuggling but no words were spoken.  
Dinner on train. French helper had tobacco package  
and after leaving old lady, we were stopped by French  
policeman who asked for tobacco - arrested helper  
told me I could go, helper objected knowing I would be  
helper, ~~asked~~ <sup>told</sup> policeman who I was, he let us go.

met St. John in cafe late in evening (about 10, curfew  
about one o'clock) who, after talking with me, asking  
name, number and general discussion, turned me over to  
a Frenchman (M. Le Veck?), had dinner with him  
and went to a candy shop where couple spoke English  
stayed one night. Next evening, a Frenchman took me  
an apartment where I dined, ~~at~~ where a Professor of  
the University of Paris had a long conversation about  
French opinion etc, slept in another apartment in same  
building. Next morning before daylight I was taken to  
another apt where I stayed 18 days, until 9 Jan 43.

[name forgotten] During that period visited sights of  
Paris always accompanied by a French young man  
never was stopped, when we saw policeman we went around them.

On 9 Jan ~~the~~ same Frenchman, who had brought  
me to Paris from St Amant, ~~met~~ <sup>met</sup> at station and took  
over me to Toulouse. By train from Paris to Dijon, from  
first class - no control on train.

At the ~~same~~ station there 10 others besides the French guide. They included Lt Frost, a Wing Commander, a RA F Sgt named Cyril, a Sgt Jack Dawson, a Belgian Prince who is a pilot in the RA F, a French young man named Roger a Frenchman called Frederic, ~~an~~ Belgian who guided groups around Chalon, and his son Louis. On train it was crowded enough so we scattered in small groups.

(The group generally were well dressed - not farmers or laborers - but white collar - tie - scarf - coat - most had gloves.)

(Roger and Frederic were going on trip to learn from Jean how to run such an expedition. They later guided Sgt Jones, Sgt Cox, and New Zealand and British RA F.)

(4)

(5 in one box)  
all 7 in one room, others in another room

Dijon to Chalon s.m. by bus. Stayed there one night because passer had been caught. A new passer was found. Chalon full of German, patrolling the town, especially the road running parallel to the river. <sup>the night, just after dark</sup> Crossed the river where it curves, going in shadow of a bridge to a boat which took us across in 2 trips, no patrols on bridge but on road which passes end of bridge. The passer (I think he was paid 30000 francs - Jean was short of money and some of the fellows gave him money which came from their escape kits) left, we went on to meet 2 guides who led us to the river and rowed us across it again in 2 boats. Walked to a pub, had a drink, walked for 3 hours to a house - walking one by one about 50 yards apart and not too fast (6 km in 3 hours). The road was patrolled by French police. At the house where lady gave us a room until 12:30 AM. Went out to get a train, it didn't stop, went back to house, got a train to Lyon - Jean again bought the tickets - 1st class - no control not very crowded - got on at 5:30 AM. Germans at the



(5)

station but no checks of papers - just walked off to cafe 200 yds off, drinks, and to barber shop and all had haircuts. (Roger said we were all deaf and dumb. When barber held mirror behind my head I said "bon". Roger put finger over lips). Walked around to cathedral, to movies, and then to some cafe. Roger had ~~left~~ <sup>gotten</sup> food - we had eaten for several days except bread & cheese - ate good meal (cost 3000 francs for all of us) Later at night (11 or so) took train for Toulouse arriving about 8:30 to 9 next morning. Train crowded, first class, no talking, slept, French police came through <sup>about 2 hours out of Toulouse</sup> asking for identity cards - ours from north of demarcation line - only one of us, a Frenchman Frederic was asked questions. He got by. Station patrolled by both French police and Germans, only French at ~~door~~ gate, our Frenchmen carried all our bags in case of questions. Cafe - breakfast - then spread out 50 yds apart in 3 groups with one or more French or Belgian in each group. Seven of us (Roger, Frost, Wing Commander, the Belgian Prince (whose name was Marseilles), Sgt Dawson, Cyril with Jean as guide) went to Pauls - others went to hotel. I saw no

(6)

more of any of them except Louis. Stayed in Paul's house — American wife from Chicago. — he is a Jew. — Belgian Prince and W/Co left next day for Bergerac — ~~About~~ The second day we were there Pat visited us, gave some new identity cards mine and Frost's were O.K., Three or 4 nights later a one-eyed former R.A.F. man (I believe he was Belgian) came for us after news had come that some one, later said to be the radio operator, had been caught. (Belgian Prince later said r.o. and assistant, a girl, were in hotel when Germans arrived to arrest them, r.o. jumped out window, Germans chased him, girl dashed across street into another hotel and escaped with help of man in whose room she ran.) We left quickly (4-7) us Roper, Frost, Cyril, Sgt Dawson and Jean as guide) got a train for Marseille. Very crowded, stood up, 1st class, no control. Next 8 am Marseille, had to show identity cards at gate, went to an apartment for 2 or 3 hours where Albert and Fabian came for us, took us to Mme Martin's apartment. Plenty of Germans in Marseille. Stayed about 3 days. Went out once to get pictures taken for new identity — with Fabian

(7)

cards, made by Albert. He told me I was going to Nice where there were 3 other Americans. Going into station at Marseilles had to show identity cards. Fabian took me. Arrived at Nice, after normal trip during which I saw the French ships at Toulon from a distance with parts sticking out of water. No check at station in Nice. Paul <sup>(wife +</sup> ~~and~~ sister had left Toulouse day after us) met us at station. We went to Mme. Saisson's apt and there met Capt Adams, Lt Gise and ~~Sgt~~ Wissnerback. The latter two were told next morning they would leave for Spain. They left with Fabian. Adams & I stayed there about 3 to 4 weeks. Walked <sup>During that time</sup> ~~left~~ Dawson and Cyril joined us. around one Sunday during day, and several nights. The rest of the time we remained inside. I received a suit of clothes and overcoat from Mme Saisson. No inspection when passing from German zone to Italian zone. Some Italians in Nice. Had a radio heard BBC, so did French. Good reception. Fabian visited several times who supplied Mme Saisson with money. She got good food from black market. Around 15 of Feb Fabian <sup>and Albert</sup> came for Adams, <sup>Dawson, Cyril</sup> and me. We all went to Marseilles, changed trains and on to Toulouse. There Guy met us at station, Albert left. Fabian and



(8)

Guy took us on to Bergerac. Separated in 3  
buses, Adams and I stayed in house of ~~Louis~~  
Maurice Loupias. Adams left in 3 days for  
Toulouse, I stayed 2 weeks. Very good food.  
Some Germans about. Guy came and took 2 other  
Englishmen, Dawson, Cyril and me to Toulouse.  
On way to Toulouse, ~~Belmont~~<sup>Edward</sup> got on train and  
joined party as a guide. One night in Toulouse,  
here told we were on way to mountains. Next  
day left 3<sup>d</sup> class on local train for small town  
(forget name - ask Adams or Frost) near frontier  
due east of Andorra. At station in Toulouse were  
joined by another party including Adams, Frost, ~~an~~  
~~Englishman from~~ Louis (the Belgian) the Wing / Co, the  
Belgian Prince. At small town, no control, was  
raining hard, very dark, went to old hotel with no  
one in it. Stayed over night. Cold, no place to sleep, no food  
no water. Next night guides came at 10, brought cold  
meat, no water. Walked all night in a group with 2  
Spanish guides after Guy paid them. ~~Belmont~~ had  
already left. Next 5 AM reached lonely cabin, a few  
sandwiches & wine, started on. Dawson and I got sick  
(nauseated etc) Belgian Prince offered to return to

(9)

Toulouse with us as our guide. We three walked back to cabin, stayed until late in afternoon, started back for small town — all down grade steep. We stayed night in hotel, Belgian Prince having borrowed 1000 francs from Spanish guides. Next morning to Toulouse 11 AM 3<sup>d</sup> class no control went to Paul's, there met Sgt Jones, Sgt Cox <sup>(U.S.A. 93 Bomb group)</sup>, Sgt Kidd a New Zealander and a British P.A.F. 7/0 — just come from Paris with Roger and Frederic. Belgian Prince left for Marseilles. The second day a group who had escaped from a French prison at Rennes including an American Sgt a Canadian and 8 Frenchmen arrived in Toulouse, 2 of the Frenchmen coming to Paul's house. (The Am Sgt went with Sgt Jones and was caught.) One Frenchman left next day, and 3 more arrived. One a radio operator Philip Franc had been working for Pat. He reached Spain. About 7 or 8 days later Pat had arranged for all Frenchmen, Jones, Cox, Kidd, Englishman to cross into Spain by a new route and Jones told me how some including Guy, the Am Sgt, the Canadian and 2 Frenchmen got caught jumping off a train. ~~Pat~~ Pat, Belvoir and Guy had gone with them to Banyuls sur Mer. Pat wired Paul about Guy's arrest, so

(10)

Dawson and I  
~~all of us~~ at Paul's house left again in a  
hurry for another house in Toulouse, staying  
2 nights, Belvoir came and took us to Marseilles.  
Check of ~~papers~~ baggage at random by French in  
station at Toulouse, check of papers going out of  
station at Marseilles. There went again to Mme  
Martin meeting the Belgian Prince and 2 British  
Marines, one a Major. Said they had been sent to  
France in a special mission. <sup>also met Eddie, the radio op.</sup> He next day Jones, Sgt Cox,  
Kidd and RA 7 F/O returned and joined us at Mme Martin's.  
They were sent on to Nice the following day. Four days  
later Pat appeared, said he had arranged passage  
for 2 Marines, <sup>the Prince</sup> ~~F/O~~ and Dawson. They left.  
Three or 4 days later Albert arrived with news that  
Pat and Paul had been arrested at Toulouse by  
Germans. Albert told of Pat's suitcase full of stamps  
for identity cards etc. So Eddie and I were told we had  
to leave. Next morning Albert took us to a doctor's house  
in Marseilles. Wife said Germans had been there the  
morning and Albert decided we must go on. We next took  
to Mme Martin's and Fabian took me alone to Nice  
(1st class, not crowded, no inspection at zone Genoa to Italy)  
to Mme Saisson. Met there Jones Kidd Cox etc. Two



(11)

while there an Australian - Frenchman named Tony, Carol, said we must have 1943 identity cards, with pictures in profile. We got some with Nancy's help

the Australian,  
days later Nancy and Fabian arrived. Cox and British  
H/O went to Grenoble with Fabians. Several days  
later Belnoir arrived with news that the Martins  
Albert and Fabian had been arrested - Albert at Lyon  
the others in Marseilles. So M. Saisson arranged  
with a friend (unknown <sup>made sheets</sup>) to take us in, Mme S.

→ furnishing the food although her money was low.  
Belnoir left for Perpignan to arrange passage over  
mts - and got the money from Barcelona. Several  
days later Nancy, Kidd, Jones and I left Nice for  
Perpignan, M. Saisson bought tickets, 1<sup>st</sup> class  
crowded. Left Nice at 5 P.M. - about 10 o'clock  
passing from Italian zone to German zone ( ? at Cannes ? )  
2 German officers entered compartment, lights were out,  
there was a Jewish looking young man in the compartment  
Germans put on lights, ~~looked at~~ looked around,  
turned out lights, went out. [ Read in French  
papers <sup>in Feb</sup> after ~~the 11th~~ German occupation that  
people in No France had to have identity cards  
stamped 1943 on back or new card to pass old  
line of demarcation ] Changed trains once at Arignon  
changed again at Narbonne to 3<sup>rd</sup> class to  
Perpignan - no control on trip. There met Belnoir

about  
March  
22<sup>nd</sup>  
—

(12)

Bernard said he had to go back to Toulouse for

at station. He took us to house of Spanish guide

~~He had Eddie~~ <sup>Eddie, asst guide</sup> ~~(as a asst to of)~~ ~~Nancy~~, a little

French woman called Ronnie whom I had seen  
around Toulouse with the group, 3 Frenchmen who  
had escaped from prison at Nîmes, and we were to  
wait at guide's house in Perpignan. They arrived  
in 4 days. On 31 March at 10 AM guide took

March  
31<sup>st</sup>

us to a garage where we met Philip and a Frenchman  
we called the Pastor - Kidd, Jones, & Philip

and the Pastor <sup>and 1 Frenchman</sup> put in a truck, covered with a  
tarpaulin, drove to a mountain north of Ceret.

We lay in grass, 2 hours later they brought  
the rest of party (Eddie, Nancy, Ronnie, 2 Fr.  
escapers and Bernard) stayed there till dark  
when ~~the~~ other guides arrived. Walked down, through

a valley, to a bridge just outside Ceret, German  
patrol came down to the bridge, we all ran over,  
went around town, up a hill, waited for 2 guides  
(a man and wife) who with one of the guides, John, led us  
over mts. Then started, walked through mountains,  
warned of houses with German guards perhaps 2 or  
3 miles apart, walked until 2 AM, ate some food  
& wine, not too cold, rainy, went in hut. Rested, then

crossing the frontier.

1 April walked until daylight. (Carried knapsack, wore rope-soled shoes, carrying other shoes in knapsack.) Stopped at farmhouse, breakfast, dried clothes, went out <sup>1/4 mile</sup> in mts to spend the rest of day. After dark about 6 PM started, walked all night. Next morning all tired, stopped on mountain <sup>on nothing</sup> rested all day. Just before dark started, soon passed a Spanish patrol on a highway, walked until 11 arriving at another farmhouse. Guide John arranged for food and slept in barn. Next day at 6 AM started again, arriving at 2 PM <sup>near</sup> ~~at~~ the farmhouse, went to it after dark. It was near Bañolas. Spent night in barn. Next morning guide John went to Barcelona, we men went out on mountain for the day. We stayed there three days. John returned, said <sup>British</sup> consul had arranged to send transportation. That night the Spanish police (Guarda Civil) came, arrested everyone except Bernard, Eddie and a Frenchman who got away. Walked us to a little hut in jail, all in one cell, there three days. Second day an interpreter came - mayor of town spoke poor English, he telephoned British ~~or~~ American consul. We were



(14)

questioned, we said we were military personnel & Mayor played well for us in questioning. On 4 morning taken on bus to Gerona with 3 guards (civil), John was handcuffed, but got out an open window and escaped. The rest went on to Gerona, questioned by Spanish officials, there met British consul from Barcelona and a representative, a Mr Oliver, from Am. Consulate. That afternoon they got the whole party out and we went to a hotel in Gerona. Told to stay there until given permission to leave. Stayed 12 days (Nanny, Ronnie, the Pastor left for Barcelona in about 8 days - don't know what became of them.) Then Spanish Air representative took Jones, Kidd and me to Alambra. Stayed at hotel (Alambra de Aragon) for 6 days, Capt Babcock came, drove us in station wagon to Madrid, picked up Adams, Frost, and on immediately to Gibraltar (23 April) Left Gib 25 arrived U.K. 25.

## Appendix A.

old lady St Amund — Mme Veuve Götte  
 125 ~~St~~ rue Gustav ~~deproy~~  
 poor — kept him 2<sup>1/2</sup> months

Frenchman — called Jean brought identity card — took  
 me to Paris <sup>where he lived</sup> — had been a Capt in French army — had  
 a son in Alt 7. — <sup>checked me up</sup> ~~returned to Paris~~ and took me to Toulouse

St John in Paris

Le Vee in Paris

Paul in Toulouse, in ~~France~~ Nice, in Toulouse

Albert y Marseille

Fabian y

Mme Martin — stayed in apartment in Marseille 3 days

Mme Laison — stayed in apt in Nice — 3 to 4 weeks

Maurice Loupias — stayed in house in Bergerac <sup>2 weeks</sup>

<sup>Bernard Gohin</sup>  
~~Bernard~~ acted as a guide — many trips

8  
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) Roper, G. W. Signed Grady W. Roper  
Rank 2nd Lt. ASN 0-790158 Date April 25, 1943.  
Unit 92nd Bomb. Grp. Witness \_\_\_\_\_



10

29-4-43

2nd Lt Grady W Roper's clothing sent to  
Kansas City on 10 February 1943.

This information was received by Lt Darnell.

Cpl Bodle

Known to white

to white

*2nd Lt. Grady W. Roper*  
*Ops*

R E S T R I C T E D  
Hq ETOUSA

SO 117

27 Apr 1943

1. PAC WD Cable S-1453, 24 Jan 1943, announcement is made of the temp apmt, DP, of KENNETH EDWARDS HERBSTER as 2d Lt, AUS, eff 27 Apr 1943. His ASN is 02044471.
2. PAC WD Cable S-1453, 24 Jan 1943, 2d Lt KENNETH E. HERBSTER, 02044471, AUS, now at Hq & Hq Sq, Eighth AF, is ordered to EAD, eff 27 Apr 1943, for the duration of the war and six months thereafter, unless sooner reld. He is asgd to Hq Eighth AF, and will rpt to the CG thereof for dy with AAF. He will rank fr 27 Apr 1943. TCNT. A per diem of \$6.00 is auth while on travel status. TDN. FD 31 P 431-02 A 0425-23.
3. PAC WD Cable S-1453, 24 Jan 1942, announcement is made of the temp apmt, DP, of STEPHEN FRANCIS COLLINS, JR, as 2d Lt, AUS, eff 27 Apr 1943. His ASN is 02044469.
4. PAC WD Cable S-1453, 24 Jan 1943, 2d Lt STEPHEN F. COLLINS, JR, 02044469, AUS, now at Hq Sq, VIII AF Serv Comd, Eighth AF, is ordered to EAD, eff 27 Apr 1943, for the duration of the war and six months thereafter, unless sooner reld. He is asgd to Hq VIII AF Serv Comd, Eighth AF, and will rpt to the CG thereof for dy with QMC. He will rank fr 27 Apr 1943.
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. TDN. FD 31 P 431-02 A 0425-23.
6. 1st Lt WILLIAM A. HOWLE, 01010213, Cav, is reld fr asgmt to this hq and fr dy at Base Censor Office No. 4, is asgd to Hq SOS, ETOUSA, APO 887, and will rpt to the CG thereof for dy. TCNT. A per diem of \$6.00 is auth while on travel status. TDN. FD 31 P 431-02 A 0425-23.
7. DP, and under the provisions of AR 605-145, 1st Lt CLARK CRAIG, 0885026, AGD, is reld fr asgmt to dy with the AGD.
8. 1st Lt CLARK CRAIG, 0885026, AUS, is reld fr asgmt to this hq, is asgd to Hq SOS, ETOUSA, APO 887, and will rpt to the CG thereof for dy.
9. So much of par 1, SO 100, this hq, cs, as reads: "ALFRED C. GAILLEY, 0561062, AUS", is amended to read: "ALFRED C. GAILLEY, 0561062, AUS".
10. Secret.
11. PAC WD Cable S-1453, 24 Jan 1943, announcement is made of the temp apmt, DP, of JOHN FRANK THOMPSON as 2d Lt, AUS, eff 26 Apr 1943. His ASN is 02044465.
12. PAC WD Cable S-1453, 24 Jan 1943, 2d Lt JOHN F. THOMPSON, 02044465, AUS, now at Hq SOS, ETOUSA, is ordered to EAD, eff 26 Apr 1943, for the duration of the war and six months thereafter, unless sooner reld. He is asgd to Hq SOS, ETOUSA, and will rpt to the CG thereof for dy with QMC. He will rank fr 26 Apr 1943.
13. PAC WD Cable S-1453, 24 Jan 1943, announcement is made of the temp apmt, DP, of CARL FREDERICK ALBRECHT as 2d Lt, AUS, eff 26 Apr 1943. His ASN is 02044466.
14. PAC WD Cable S-1453, 24 Jan 1943, 2d Lt CARL F. ALBRECHT, 02044466, AUS, now at 162nd Sig Photo Co, SOS, ETOUSA, is ordered to EAD, eff 26 Apr 1943, for the duration of the war and six months thereafter, unless sooner reld. He is asgd to 162nd Sig Photo Co, SOS, ETOUSA, and will rpt to the CG thereof for dy with SC. He will rank fr 26 Apr 1943.

R E S T R I C T E D

R E S T R I C T E D

(SO. 117, ETOUSA, 27 Apr 1943, cont)

15. PAC WD Cable S-1453, 24 Jan 1943, announcement is made of the temp apmt, DP, of JOHNSTON FOLK PEEPLES as 2d Lt, AUS, eff 27 Apr 1943. His ASN is 02044470.

16. PAC WD Cable S-1453, 24 Jan 1943, 2d Lt JOHNSTON F. PEEPLES, 02044470, AUS, now at Hq 317th Serv Gp, Eighth AF, is ordered to EAD, eff 27 Apr 1943, for the duration of the war and six months thereafter, unless sooner reld. He is asgd to Hq VIII AF Serv Comd, Eighth AF; and will rpt to the CG thereof for dy with QMC. He will rank fr 27 Apr 1943. TCNT. A per diem of \$6.00 is auth while on travel status. TDN. FD 31 P 431-02 A 0425-23.

17. Announcement is made of the temp promotion of 1st Lt GERALD D. ROTTER, 0726077, AUS, to the gr of Capt, AUS-AC, with rank fr the date of this order, under the provisions of Public Law 455, 77th Congress, approved 16 Feb 1942. This promotion will auto terminate eff upon relief fr dy with the AAF or AAF instl.

18. Announcement is made of the temp promotion of the following officers to the gr indicated in the AUS with rank fr the date of this order:

Capt to Maj

ELWOOD L. MacDONALD, 0416483, AUS

1st Lt to Capt

SAMUEL S. BOSTON, 0907827, AUS

LeROY CUNNINGHAM, 0447298, AUS

JAMES J. McGOWAN, 0477813, MAC-AUS

MORRIS R. SCHLEIFER, 0378887, MC

2d Lt to 1st Lt

GLENN C. BREITENWISCHER, 01573741, AUS

WILLIAM T. BUXTON, 0564964, AUS

STUART I. CURRIE, 0855075, AUS

ROBERT U. DUGGAN, 0728186, AUS

(Temp 1st Lt, AUS-AC)

ROBERT B. FORSYTH, 0855393, AUS

JOSEPH A. GUERRA, 0563178, AUS

KARL E. KRAFT, 0660272, AC

(Temp 1st Lt, AUS-AC)

HENRY L. KRAYBILL, 0421243, AC

(Temp Capt, AUS-AC)

DON W. LOEFFLER, 0662655, AC

(Temp 1st Lt, AUS-AC)

MATTHEW J. MURRAY, 0792052, AC

(Temp 1st Lt, AUS-AC)

LOUIS W. WESTOVER, 0913480, AUS

19. Published in extract form.

20. Published in extract form.

By command of Lieutenant General ANDREWS:

C. H. BARTH,

Brigadier General, GSC, Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

RALPH PULSIFER

Colonel, AGD, Adjutant General.

R E S T R I C T E D



CONFIDENTIAL

MILITARY OBS. GIBRALTAR

12

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 0660420, and  
2ND LT GRADY W ROEPER 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. TDM PD 33 P 433-02 A 0425-23.

Distribution:

WIS  
HQ ETOUSA  
Personnel concerned  
File.

*Carl W. Holcomb*

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

CONFIDENTIAL

MILITARY OBS. GIBRALTAR

AG 383.6

Hq ETOUSA

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, AGC, 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) Grady W. Raper Signed Grady W. Raper  
Rank 2nd Lt. A.S.N. 0-790158 Date 22 APR 1943  
Unit 327th Bomb. Sqdn. 92nd Grp. Witness Carlo Holcomb  
Lt. Col. Carl W. Holcomb, C.A.C.  
United States Army  
GIBRALTAR