

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, 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) JAMES A. GRUMBLES Signed James A. Grumbles
Rank 2nd Lt. A.S.N. 0-804652 Date 2/4/44
Unit 326th Bb. Sgdr. 92nd Bb. Gp. Witness Wm W. Smith
C. I. G. S. G.

(2)

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 383.6 (5 Nov 42) OB-S-B-M, 7 November 1942, subject: Instructions concerning Publicity in Connection with Escaped Prisoners of War and other previous instructions on this subject.

By order of the Secretary of War:

/s/ J. A. ULIO
J. A. ULIO
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

1. Information about your escape or your evasion from capture *would be useful to the enemy* and a danger to your friends. It is therefore **SECRET**.

2. a You must therefore not disclose, except to the first Military Attache to whom you report, or to an officer designated by the Commanding General of the Theater of Operations, or by A. C. of S., G-2, W. D.

- (1) The names of those who helped you.
- (2) The method by which you escaped or evaded.
- (3) The route you followed.
- (4) Any other facts concerning your experience.

- b You must be particularly on your guard with persons representing the press.
- c You must give no account of your experiences in books, newspapers, periodicals or in broadcasts or in lectures.
- d You must give no information to anyone, irrespective of nationality, in letters or in conversation, except as specifically directed in Par. 4.
- e No lectures or reports are to be given to any unit without the permission of A. C. of S., G-2, W. D., or corresponding organization in the theater.

CERTIFICATE

I have read the above and certify that I will comply with it.

I understand that any information concerning my *escape or evasion* from capture is **SECRET** and must not be disclosed to anyone other than the agency designated by A. C. of S., G-2, War Department, the corresponding organization in overseas theaters of operations, or to the Military Attache in a neutral country to whom I first report. I understand that disclosure to anyone else will make me liable to disciplinary action.

Name (Print) JAMES A. GRUMBLES
Rank 2nd Lt. A. S. N. 0-804652
Unit 326th Signal, 92nd Bomb Gp.

Signed James A. Grumbles
Dated 7/2/44
Witness Walter G. Smith Capt W9C

RESTRICTED

R E S T R I C T E D

(SO 40, ETOUSA, 9 Feb 1944, cont)

10. Capt CLAUDE R. MINARD, 0511751, CMP, is reld fr atchd unasgd to Civil Affairs Cen, American Sch Cen, ETOUSA, is asgd to this hq for dy w/SHAEF. TCNT. Reimbursement for qrs not to exceed \$4.00 and \$1.25 per day for subs is atzd. TDN. 91-5 P 431-02 A 212/40425.
11. DP 1st Lt BRUCE CRUIKSHANK, 01036491, CWS, AAF Sta 155, Eighth AF, is det in the AC.
12. Lv of abs is granted Maj THETTUS E. SIMS, 0386319, GSC, for eight (8) days, eff 11 Feb 1944.
13. Lt Col LEONARD H. GREENFIELD, 0235677, Inf, is, in addition to his primary dy as CO, 89th Repl Bn, NIBS, SOS, ETOUSA, designated as Acting Depot Commander, FFRD No. 7, NIBS, SOS, ETOUSA.
14. The following EM are trfd in gr fr Ord Sv, Hq Det, SOS, APO 871 to Ord Depot O-642, SBS, SOS, ETOUSA, APO 519:
Tec 5 GEORGE G. GONDELL, 35138305 Tec 5 RICHARD J. OSBORNE, 35630173
TCNT. Reimbursement for qrs and rat is atzd while on travel status in accordance with Cir 85, this hq, 1943. TDN. 91-5 P 431-02 A 212/40425.
15. Cpl JEROME J. PAYSOR, 35285312, is trfd in gr fr Hq Det, SOS (Engr), APO 871, to Hq Det, SBS, SOS, ETOUSA, for dy w/Engr Bridge Camp. TCNT. Reimbursement for qrs and rat is atzd while on travel status in accordance with Cir 85, this hq, 1943. TDN. 91-5 P 431-02 A 212/40425.
16. Tec 5 JOHN D. CATES, 38339667, 228th Sta Hosp, APO 578, is trfd in gr to Hq & Hq Det, 6th Ord Bn, APO 230. TCNT. Reimbursement for qrs and rat is atzd while on travel status in accordance with Cir 85, this hq, 1943. TDN. 91-5 P 431-02 A 212/40425.
17. Lv of abs is granted Col ARCHIBALD A FALL, 07521, AGD, for three (3) days, eff o/a 11 Feb 1944.
18. 2d Lt WALLACE W. HINSEN, 01846163, QMC, is reld fr asgmt to 3626th QM Truck Co, CBS, is asgd to this hq for dy with G-4 Sec.
19. 2d Lt COMER H. BLACKERBY, 0515315, SC, is reld fr asgmt to Det "F", 827th Sig Sv Co, APO 871, is asgd to this hq, APO 887 for dy w/Sig Sv. TCNT. Reimbursement for qrs not to exceed \$4.00 and \$1.25 per day for subs is atzd. TDN. 91-5 P 431-02 A 212/40425.
20. M Sgt ANDREW F. SCHERER, 20381003, is trfd in gr fr Hq Det, SOS, APO 871, to 668th Engr Topo Co, APO 305. TCNT. Reimbursement for qrs and rat is atzd while on travel status in accordance with Cir 85, this hq, 1943. TDN. 91-5 P 431-02 A 212/40425.
21. Maj ANDREW D. FAULKNER, 0903528, FD, is reld fr asgmt to this hq, is asgd to Hq 15th PE, APO 507 for dy as Finance O. TCNT. Reimbursement for qrs not to exceed \$4.00 and \$1.25 per day for subs is atzd. TDN. 91-5 P 431-02 A 212/40425.
22. Capt HOLGAR A. WIKSTROM, 0423901, MAC, is reld fr asgmt to Gen Dep G-35, WBS, SOS, ETOUSA, is asgd to this hq for dy in C of the GPA. TCNT. Reimbursement for qrs not to exceed \$4.00 and \$1.25 per day for subs is atzd. TDN. 91-5 P 431-02 A 212/40425.
23. Lv of abs is granted 1st Lt JOHN J. LIBERA, 0466885, SC, for seven (7) days, eff o/a 15 Feb 1944.
24. Confidential.
- 25 to 42 published in extract form.

By command of General EISENHOWER:

R. B. LORD,

Colonel, GSC, Deputy Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL

R. B. LOVETT

Brigadier General, USA, Adjutant General. -2-

R E S T R I C T E D

(4)

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH
MIS (X)

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

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1. Full Name, Rank, and Serial No. *JAMES A. GRUMBLES; 2nd Lt.; O-804652*
2. Decorations.
3. Unit or Squadron. *326th Sqdn. 92nd Bomb. Gp.*
4. Division (Army) or Group. *92nd Bomb. Gp.*
5. Date of Birth. *July 3, 1917*
6. Length of Service. *3 yrs. 5 mo.*
7. Private Address. *104 BROWN ST.; SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA.*
8. Job as civilian. *SALESMAN*
9. From what field did you take off? *Podington.*
10. Take off time. *07:30*
11. Date and target. *12/31/43. AIRDROME AT CONAC - FRANCE*
12. Where did you land? *South of NIORT*
13. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? *YES*
14. What was your position in aircraft? *PILOT*
15. Were you wounded? *NO.*
16. Did you pay your guides? If so how much? *YES; 10,000 FRANCES*
17. Do you speak French? Spanish? *NO.*
18. Did you have Identity Papers? *NO.*
19. 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?
YES. GIBRALTER. BRITISH. NO.
20. Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom? *NO.*
21. Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, where and when? *YES, SPAIN + GIBRALTER.*
22. Date of arrival in Spain. *JAN. 4, 1944.*
23. Date of arrival at Gibraltar. *FEB. 3, 1944.*
24. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air. *GIBRALTER, FEB. 5; AIR -*
25. Place and date of arrival in U.K. *PRESTWICK; FEB. 6;*

Chateau Bernard
Airdrome Grace
31 Dec
3rd raid

Over the Bay of Biscay on the way
~~the~~ target #3 oil line burst & had to
 jettison it. Dropped a bit behind
 formation & could never catch up.
 Abort and started back. As I
 turned #1 prop ran away, decided
 to head into France as I didn't
 think we could make England.
 We crash-landed in a field because
 everyone wanted to stay together and the
 engineer had opened his chute by
 accident in the aircraft. Had
 them to make for the woods on their
 own as soon as we ~~had~~ landed.
 When we hit the ground, two Me
 circled us. They made passes at
 the plane ^{commencing in grass field} and hung around. I got
 out of the plane and watched them
 from the bushes. The
 crew had left, I did not think it safe
 to return and destroy the plane.
 Had to destroy the equipment

and radio operator to destroy
IFF & fuel destroyed my
flimsy.

I didn't know how soon
the patrol would be here and the
woods were far away. I left.
I followed the hedgerows southeast
to the woods and 30 minutes later
joined two crew members who said
everyone had cleared to plane
uninjured. Five ~~10~~ ¹⁵ minutes after
landing I saw the ~~German's~~ ^{first} guard
patrol in the field. He saw through the
bushes. I fell on the ground, crawled
back to the bushes & ran to
a deep ditch in which I stayed until
night. Then I got out and walked
till the moon went down (midnight)
& reached a woods and stayed until next
morning. At daylight I set out again
and reached a farmhouse.

We couldn't make ourselves
understood & no help forthcoming. They
did show me general direction in which
to walk. It was ~~night~~ dusk before I
got help. Saw a haystack on the
edge of town ^{ruined} and sat on the edge of the
road beside it. Had been traveling by
map & compass. Wore A2 jacket & hat
with ^{under arm} and shoulder insignia. A man
& several

He said
to go
to
the
house
at
night
and
stay
there
until
daylight

Jan

The mother said she would be ready
to go in two hours. We rode back
of the restaurant. Restaurant-bicycle
owner gave me 10,000 francs.

Mme Beauf bought me a ticket to
Elne. We got on the train (Mme + Mlle
Beauf + M. Mme Monjeant & self)

N
J
J

I went to Linges where we changed
trains. The Monjeants left us there
and the Beaufs took me to Perpignan
where we changed to train
to Elne. Just before we reached
Perpignan the Germans boarded the
train to check papers. I used
that of Mme Beauf's son. He didn't
look like me at all, but they only
looked at the card & not at me.

532
J
J

At Elne went to house of
daughter's friend, a man of 50.
He and an old man talked awhile,
& gave me something to eat. I wasn't
hungry but they insisted because
I was leaving soon. They also
gave me food & take over the mts
& collected my 10,000 francs.
The old man went & got a guide
About 0330 that PM we started out

(3)

Got to the house of the guide after dark
I rested in a ditch for an hour & then
went into the house for wine at 2000
hrs we started up the mts. Bet 12:30
and 1000 hrs to 4th we reached the Spanish
border & he left me. The ground was
frozen hard & snow covered. I started
down & kept going I really did not
know the way at 0800 I got down
and hit a village I went on & hit
the main road to Barcelona I was
caught by the police at 1000 hrs.

1st

Police kept me overnight & then
took me to Figueras. Stayed in jail
that day for finger printing etc. Then
that night to prison. In prison
till night of the 9th. Then to Gerona
3 or 4 days. Barcelona 3 or 4 days
onto Zaragozza for a week. Here
had trouble McConell / Kravchuk, J.
Hente & self. Used to go to Cafe
Amos Mundo twice daily for concerts

Sunday night at the end of the 9 o'clock
concert started back to hotel. So almost
to plaza in center of town. Heard man
of hisist thought they were 2
Englishmen from our hotel (Saw Beak
looked around. Kept on walking reached
hotel not realizing we were being
followed. I was last one in off
street. One grabbed me by arm
had two guns. I called others
back. Men with guns wanted
to know if we spoke Deutsch or
were American wanted us to stand
at attention then to go out with
them. We went into hotel they
followed with the guns. Asked ~~man~~
score of man ^(manager) at desk but he
couldn't understand. Gunmen still
trying to get us out one grabbed
McGinnell he jerked away I did
same. They motioned us upstairs
if we went. Crawford came
back & looked thru grill. Gunmen
were ~~looking at~~ desk register. We
got manager to call Consul.
Consul came & asked for police
We toured town with police

but found no trace. Arrested
manager & put him in solitary
~~because~~ (Someone said because called
consul first)

Next day Consul had me
phone Major Clark.

From now on followed by
Sicks. Next night gave police
story of episode & it took all night
& next day (a Monday) to
Alabama for a week & to
at hundred to get.

(6)

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO. 395
EVASION IN

(Date)

JAMES A. GRUMBLES, 2nd Lt.; O-804652
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET: Conac

326th 92nd Bomb
(Squadron) (Group)

MIA: DEC. 31, 1943

Arrived in UK:

FEB. 6, 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

	Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
✓ PILOT GRUMBLES, JAMES; 2nd Lt.		
CO-PILOT Busboom, Lloyd; F/O		} saw them hiding in woods after crash landing
NAVIGATOR NEU, Edward; 2nd Lt.		
BOMBARDIER McCEE, Robert; 2nd Lt.		
RADIO OPERATOR FRIEVALT, Richard; Sgt.		
TOP TURRET GUNNER MUNTJINGER, CLARENCE; S/Sgt.		
BALL TURRET GUNNER DOMINSKI, ALEX; S/Sgt.		
WAIST GUNNER BILLS, M. J. and; Sgt.		} crash-landing all left plane alive
WAIST GUNNER HALSELL, Hugh; Sgt.		
TAIL GUNNER CAHILL, MICHAEL; Sgt.		

Were you wounded? NO.

Scrambles:

We were over the Bay of Biscay on our way into the target, when number three oil line burst and I had to feather the engine. We dropped a bit ^{to leave} back of the formation, and I never ^{could} catch up, so I finally aborted and started back. As ^{to} ~~to~~ be made to turn number one prop ran away. I decided ^{get off the water and lead} into France, as I did not think we could make England. The engineer opened his chute by accident in the aircraft, so it was decided to crash-land, as the crew wanted to stay together. I gave orders for everyone to make for the woods as soon as we ^{crash} landed. We came down in an open field.

(2)

As soon as we hit the ground,
two me circled us, I got out of the
plane, and watched from the
bushes. The me continued to loop
around, coming in ^{one behind the other} ~~in a single file~~
make passes at our aircraft. The
crew had now all left. I had
told the navigator to destroy his
equipment and the radio operator
to destroy the IFF. I had destroyed
my flimsy. I did not think
it safe to return and destroy the plane,
and did not know how soon the
patrol would be there. The woods
seemed very far away and I
abandoned my aircraft.

Aircraft
not
destroyed

Following the hedgerows, I
reached the woods, ~~that~~ ^{several} minutes
later, I joined two crew members,
who assured me that everyone
had left the plane alive and uninjured.
Then I saw the first German

(3)

Hides
From
German

coming through the field. He
saw me through the bushes. I
fell to the ground and crawled
back to the thickest bushes I could
find. Then I ran to a deep ditch,
and stayed in it until midnight.
It was too cold to sleep there, so
as soon as it grew dark, I got
out and walked until the moon
went down. Then I stayed in a
woods until daylight when I set
out again until I reached a
farmhouse.

I could not make myself
understood at all. No help
was forthcoming, although they
did give me an idea of in
which general direction I should
walk, so I moved on
escape I walked all day ^{traveling by my escape map and compass} eating huckleberries
and

tablets and drinking water that I had purified with Maltone. At dusk I saw a haystack near a village and I sat down on the edge of the road beside it. I was wearing pants with a khaki shirt under my coveralls. My A2 jacket with shoulder insignia was under my arm. ~~When~~ ^{a man} saw ~~me~~ ^{me}

Sits beside
Road in
~~the~~ kit
uniform

~~and~~ I could not leave because I knew he had seen me. He came up to me with a friend and stood looking at me.

I said "American", to which they replied "Deutsch". I pulled out my maps and other escape aids. In about ten minutes I had convinced them of my identity. He advised me to remove my insignia and to take my hands off my A2 jacket. I was taken

Taken for
a German

(5)

French
Help

to a house here for food and
shelter. I now then on
French people took care
of me ^{passing} ^{my} ^{along} ^{guide} until I was turned
over to a Pyrenees guide.

We started over the Pyrenees
at 2000 hours and walked until
we reached to frontier at 0100 hours.

The
Pyrenees
was freezing hard and snow
covered. I started down the
mountains alone without any
clear idea of the way. at 0800
hours I reached a village
and started on the main road
of Barcelona. The police caught
me at 1000 hours. The police
kept me comfortable for a night
another after a day of being
checked into the local jail, I
went to prison. I was in prison
four days, and then to American consul

Arrest

(6)

arranged my release.

One night in Zaragoza
part of us were on the way home
from a café concert. We heard
someone whistle, but seeing no
one behind went on. I was the
last into the hotel, as I started
through the door someone grabbed
my arm. I turned and found
at a man with a revolver, a second
Zaragoza armed man was with him. I
called to the others who came back.
These men wanted to know if
we spoke Deutsch or were ^{Allemandy} ~~Allemandy~~
they tried to make us stand at
attention then they wanted us to
go off with them. We went
into the hotel, and the Gunner
followed. The hotel manager
was at the desk and we tried
to ask him what it was all
about, but he could not
understand us. The Gunner
still wanted us to go but
we walked away when they

(7)

grabbed our coats. They motioned us ~~up~~ upstairs and we went. When one of the boys came back and looked through the grill, the gunmen were going through the Hotel register at the desk. As they left we went downstairs, and ~~had~~ the manager call the consul. The consul came and called the police. We took the town with the police, but there was no trace of the men. Next

Consul Comes Immediately

morning the hotel manager was put in jail ~~to~~ in solitary confinement! The next morning the consul and me call Major Clark in Madrid. The police questioned us ~~all~~ ~~that~~ night about the episode, until we left the town, detectives followed us ~~everywhere~~ ~~from~~ ~~then~~ but we never learnt anymore. Everything was routine after that.

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

List all military information which you observed or were told while evading. Give fullest possible details. (Airfields, troop encampments, coastal and interior defenses, AA batteries, radar installations, troop movements, results of allied bombing, location of enemy factories and ammunition dumps, enemy and civilian morale, etc., etc.,.....)

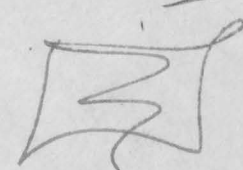
Troops at Toulouse 20-25 - } RR Stations
" " Perpignan 200 or more }

Airborne 5 miles out from Perpignan to Elne.
JU 88s well dispersed 12
no bargans

200 or more German soldiers were observed
in the Perpignan railroad station on
2 January 44

Only 20 to 25 German soldiers were
observed in the Toulouse railroad
station on 2 January 44

There is an airport 5 mi south of Perpignan
~~there is~~ Twelve JU 88s were observed
dispersed on the field on 2 January 44.
No bargans were observed

29 3


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

21 February 1944

E & E REPORT NO. 395
EVASION IN FRANCE

Cognac

James A GRUMBLES, 2d Lt. O-804652
326 Bomb Squadron, 92 Bomb Group

TARGET: *Cognac* CONAC

MIA: 31 December 1943

Arrived in UK:

6 February 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with FWIB)

PILOT	O-804652	2d Lt	James A GRUMBLES	NARRATOR
CO-PILOT	T-001482	F/O	Lloyd C BUSBOOM	MIA
NAVIGATOR	O-809694	2d Lt	Edward F NEU	MIA
BOMBARDIER	O-2043697	2d Lt	Robert G McGEE	MIA
RADIO OPERATOR	36408929	Sgt	Richard J FRIEVALT	MIA
TOP TURRET GUNNER	35327408	S/Sgt	Clarence J MUNTZINGER	MIA
BALL TURRET GUNNER	16020903	S/Sgt	Alex J DOMINSKI	MIA
WAIST GUNNER	36159755	Sgt	Miland W BILLS	MIA
WAIST GUNNER	14119476	Sgt	Hugh L HALSELL, Jr	MIA
TAIL GUNNER	12027434	Sgt	Michael F CAHILL, Jr	MIA

FORCED TO
LEAVE
FORMATION

We were over the Bay of Biscay, on our way into the target, when number three oil line burst and I had to feather the engine. We dropped a bit back of the formation, and I never could catch up. I finally aborted and started back. As we made the turn number one prop ran away. I decided to get off the water and head into France, as I did not think we could make England. The engineer opened his chute by accident in the aircraft, so it was decided to crash-land, as the crew wanted to stay together. I gave orders for everyone to make for the woods as soon as we landed. We came down in an open field.

CRASH LANDING

AIRCRAFT
NOT DESTROYED

As soon as we hit the ground, two ME's circled us. I got out of the plane, and watched from the bushes. The ME's continued to hang around, coming in one behind the other to make passes at our aircraft. The crew had now all left. I had told the navigator to destroy his equipment and the radio operator to destroy the IFF. I had destroyed my flimsy. I did not think it safe to return and destroy the plane, and did not know how soon the patrol would be there. The woods seemed very far away and I abandoned my aircraft.

HIDES FROM
GERMAN

Following the hedgerows, I reached the woods. Several minutes later, I joined two crew members, who assured me that everyone had left the plane alive and uninjured. Then I saw the first German coming through the field. He saw me through the bushes. I fell to the ground and crawled back to the thickest ~~brush~~ I could find. Then I ran to a deep ditch and stayed in it until night-fall. It was too cold to keep here, so as soon as it grew dark, I got out and walked until the moon went down. Then I stayed in a woods until daylight, when I set out again until I reached a farmhouse.

SITS BESIDE ROAD
IN UNIFORM

I could not make myself understood at all. No help was forthcoming, although they did give me an idea of in which general direction I should walk, so I moved on. I walked all day, traveling by my escape map and compass eating Horlicks tablets, and drinking water that I had purified with Halazone. At dusk I saw a haystack near a village, and I sat down on the edge of the road beside it. I was wearing pinks with a khaki shirt under my coveralls. My A-2 jacket with shoulder insignia was under my arm. I saw a man, but I could not leave because I knew he had seen me. He came up to me with a friend and stood looking at me.

TAKEN FOR
GERMAN

I said, "American", to which they replied "Deutsch." I pulled out my maps and other escape aids. In about ten minutes I had convinced them of my identity. They advised me to remove my insignia, and to take my name off my A-2 jacket. I was taken to a house ~~then~~ for food and shelter. From then on French people took care of me, passing me along quickly, until I was turned over to a Pyrenees guide.

FRENCH HELP

ON 3 JANUARY

THE PYRENEES

We started over the Pyrenees at 2000 hours, and walked until we reached the frontier at 0100 hours. Here the guide left me. The ^{frozen} ground was ~~an~~ ~~and~~ snow covered. I started down the mountains alone, without any clear idea of the way. At 0800 ^{ON 4 JANUARY} hours I reached a village and started on the main road to BARCELONA. The police caught me at 1000 hours. The police kept me comfortably for a night and then after a day of being checked into the local jail, I went to prison. I was in prison four days, and when the American consul arranged my release.

ARREST

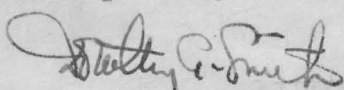
GUNMEN AT
ZARAGOSSA

One night in ZARAGOSSA, four of us were on the way home from a café-concert. We heard someone whistle, but seeing no one behind ^{us} went on. I was the last into the hotel; as I started through the door, someone grabbed my arm. I turned and found a man with a revolver, a second armed man was with him. I called to the others who came back. These men wanted to know if we spoke "Deutsch" or were "Allemand" and tried to make us stand at attention. Then they wanted us to ~~off~~ with them. We went into the hotel, and the gunmen followed. The hotel manager was at the desk and we tried to ask him what it was all about, but he could not understand us. The gunmen still wanted us to go out, but we jerked away when they grabbed our arms. They motioned us upstairs and we went. When one of the boys came back and looked through the grill, the gunmen were going through the hotel register at the desk.

CONSUL COMES
IMMEDIATELY

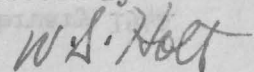
As soon as they left we went downstairs, and had the manager call the consul. The consul came and called the police. We toured the town with the police, but there was no trace of the men. Next morning the hotel manager was put in jail in solitary confinement! ~~The next morning~~ ^{the} consul had me call Major ~~Clark~~ in Madrid. Until we left the town, detectives followed us everywhere. The police questioned us all the next night about the episode, but we never learned anymore. Everything was routine after that

Compiled By:



DOROTHY A SMITH
Capt, WAC

Approved By:



- a. 200 or more German soldiers were observed in the PERPIGNAN railroad station on 2 January 1944.
- b. Only 20 to 25 German soldiers were observed in the TOULOUSE railroad station on 2 January 1944.
- c. There is an airport five miles south of PERPIGNAN. Twelve JU 88's were observed dispersed on the field on 2 January 1944. No hangars were observed.

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND F REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- 2 MLT. JAMES A. GRUMBLES

Unit:- 326th Sqdn. 92nd Bomb. Gp.

Suggestions for improvement of escape equipment and training 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, why?
- c. If you used it, state briefly the circumstances in which you used each item, for example, "While hiding in woods for two nights".

Horlicks tablets. YES. ate one every two or three hours while travelling on my own

Chocolate or Peanut Bar.

Milk (tube).

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue).

Halazone tablets (water purifier). YES. I purify water while travelling alone.

Matches.

Adhesive tape.

Chewing gum.

Water bottle. YES. It's a good thing to have along.

Compass. YES I would have walked in circles without it

Sewing kit.

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? NO.
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box? BURIED IT.
- f. 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?
NO.

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? YES
State color of stripes and letters. RED.
If NOT, State why not.
- b. Did you use the purse? NO YES

c. If so, which of the following items in the purse did you use?

Maps. Which ones? *FRANCE*

Compass. *YES*

File (hacksaw). *NO*

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. *FRANCE 2000 French*
How did you spend the money? *Never bought anything*

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps. *GAVE THEM TO PEOPLE WHO HELPED ME*

Compass. *Turned in at GIBRALTER*

File (hacksaw). *Turned in at GIBRALTER*

Surplus currency. *Taken in SPANISH PRISON I was given a receipt for it which I gave to major Clark.*

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion? *NO*

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? *YES*
If so, how many? *SIX*

b. Did you use them? *NO - They were not used due to the circumstances of my evasion*

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? *YES*
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM. *PODINGTON - DEC. 1943*

b. Did you find the lectures of value? *YES*

c. Do you have any suggestions to make which, from your experience, you feel will help other evaders and escapers? *NO*

I wore PX boots and am still wearing them