

2-432

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

E & E REPORT NO. 433  
EVASION IN FRANCE

Feb. 28, 1944  
(Date)

JAMES N. QUINN T/SGT 12090499  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

324 91st  
(Squadron) (Group)

AGE: 23  
LENGTH OF SERVICE: 1 yr 7 mos  
HOME ADDRESS: 600 West 179 St  
New York City, N.Y.

MIA: 31 Dec  
Arrived in Spain: \_\_\_\_\_  
Arrived in Gibraltar: \_\_\_\_\_  
Arrived in UK: Feb. 22, 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

	Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT <u>S.B. MENDELSONN. 1st Lt - his pilot had</u>	<u>near Rosarden;</u>	<u>unaccounted for</u>
CO-PILOT <u>L. WOODS - 2nd Lt.</u>	<u>group had pld died</u>	<u>unaccounted for</u>
NAVIGATOR <u>ELLIS - 2nd Lt.</u>		<u>unaccounted for</u>
BOMBARDIER <u>J.A. SCHNEIDER, 2nd Lt.</u>		<u>made the U.K.</u>
RADIO OPERATOR <u>L.N. QUINN, T/SGT</u>		<u>narrator</u>
TOP TURRET GUNNER <u>R.G. HENSLEY, T/SGT</u>		<u>unaccounted for</u>
BALL TURRET GUNNER <u>L.C. HULL, S/SGT</u>		<u>P.W (heard)</u>
WAIST GUNNER <u>A.R. LIEBERMAN, S/SGT</u>	<u>P/W group</u>	<u>P.W (heard)</u>
WAIST GUNNER <u>GATER, S/SGT</u>		<u>unaccounted for</u>
TAIL GUNNER <u>P. CLEMENS S/SGT</u>	<u>P/W - group</u>	

I heard 4 members of crew were taken as Prisoner; 2 died;  
two of us escaped and 2 were unaccounted for - but people who  
saw plane say no bodies were found in it

Were you wounded?

slightly - in head - but of no serious effect

at the 2 fpts - hit by 2 bursts - think Bombay - polonchut - lid to open baby doors - started to  
run - hit BTG - 2 WGs & TG - BTG jumped me - 9/10 in dirt - out 1000 ft &  
fell on my back + next thing I knew was on ground - remember no sense at all - no fear - clutched behind me -  
started out of dirt - and over to brush - 20 people ran - lid to talk - lead me to house - washed into  
coffee - all crowded in here - asked where I'd go - one girl spoke some English - said I'm here where I was - no good -  
he would not wait for Germans - decided to get out - ran over some + Henry told me well -  
a boy took me 3 km through fields - small wds - walled by roadside behind wall - no one passed - got tired  
of waiting - started walking along road - car coming - off road - behind on road - German soldier  
standing by roadside by cycle - he said well, & I asked for light - He lighted  
cigarette - I walked away - he was armed for patrol - I in his suit (coveralls)  
Carrying <sup>one</sup> flying boot - held shoes - no hat - he was about 30 - alone - think he  
was ~~patrol~~ - walked away - 1 km - he French talk - peasants - carrying water on shields - walked 100 yds  
with them then he said hello - they stopped - asked if I'm - yes - one took me to small  
village 1 mile ahead to Kernaville to bakery shop - fed me - wife I kept for some  
in bakery shop - 2 young women called in - the one to finish - in bed - next a.m. - fed - moved  
by 2 boys to another house 3 km - no hospodien - following a.m. into Rosgorden - stopped  
at gendarmes - stayed 2 ~~days~~ <sup>days</sup> - a Frenchman <sup>had</sup> brought clothes from French where had stayed - but -  
wife of gendarme & 2 kids & gendarme - young man brought by gendarme - gave me things - spoke English -  
said nothing to worry about there - no one knew I was there - young fellow making contacts - in Concomnean -  
was going to get I.C. - but the 2 WGs were alive & I could join them - They were hidden in church by  
Priest - went to Concomnean - another man ~~was~~ <sup>George</sup> Martin, Concomnean, came for me,  
fish man - in Concomnean - small talk to Concomnean - but I.C. - stayed five days in jewelry shop.  
M. Hloaean

Smoking  
man came - guy to take me to Brest where a Col was in charge - the man would  
see R.W.G. next day - next day Gen. Martin said that 2 W.G.s had been captured with  
Priest + housekeeper at Pont Aven - a day later he got Jim Schneider -  
taken to George's house - visited Jim - intended to stay at jeweler's shop -  
and George also had Hugonnet who had told him of Genach - they came  
to visit me Sun - moved that night to Martins - and Hugonnet -

til - early 4 Feb - left others at Station in Caudanne -  
went with Mickey in street - the Mrs. Madame asked Madame Michy who  
I was - Michy said Martin from Brest - but Madame told her to hide  
in hallway - I found Michy's friend "Dermain" - lives Plogoff -  
rode bus 10 kms in Plogoff - in house where Gestapo had caught a woman -  
moved next day to unoccupied house - where I stayed - cycled with  
Mickey there where he stayed - on coudaine by cycle day before  
ship was sunk - met Jean Pierre - could work her - the Mickey  
boat deal off - were going to hide on boat which was rarely stopped -  
then take over ship & sail to England - back to Plogoff house -  
had next a.m. of boat that sunk - heavy patrolling at port - I hid  
in haystack - all houses searched - stayed 4 days in haystack -  
Germans hot up 200 anti-tank men - 400 Russian cosacs - got food when  
they found less - I moved after 4 days to barn - of Dermain - stayed two  
days - next a.m. at 0600 - arrangement made with bus driver to take  
me on bus - covered by 2 girls - into Caudanne met Gordon -  
Mickey & Gordon - to Quimper by bus with Mickey & 2 ladies -  
Gordon with us - in cage at CP - Mickey wanted to take us to Brest - Gordon didn't  
want to go to Brest - to Paris - I gave Mickey money (given me at 28 Feb 4 000f)  
to buy tickets to PARIS - 1000f - shortly I gave 500f - and with Mickey about 1000f  
Mickey wanted to take us to de la Marnie - Mickey lost tickets for Paris -  
Thursday 10 Feb - PARIS 11 Feb - Mickey took us while he visited sister -  
then went to live that Gordon knew about - Mickey & I hid in park -  
Gordon came up to us & living park Hendarmes looked at papers -  
asked me what had in package - read - turned loose - Gordon &  
I went on to live to Dr. Gorges - met Olympe - Marcel  
couldn't look names & living houses - stayed 2 weeks - Mickey died  
in Paris - Mickey phoned up an Air flyer P-38 Recceit me from Wisconsin  
Marcel was guy to take him over - from Paris to Guingamp with  
RAMON & Feinsold Tarlington - and also Hugonnet -

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.,.....)

- 1 Movement of 200 troops out of Reperden to possibly N. France
2. Large <sup>training</sup> School in Reperden & German barracks - <sup>on hill - north</sup>
3. 11 forts. in Concarneau - <sup>also building</sup> Submarine base - <sup>very large</sup>
4. Warships & Submarine in Port Harbor. (cruiser <sup>16 gun</sup>)
5. Russian troops in St. Nic-Pentrey - learned germ. have <sup>in sail many</sup> great contempt for Russ. even if fight for them - <sup>manual labor</sup>
6. 20 M. guns on all trains in France.  
Germans sandwich their cars between French cars on R.R.
7. Destruction of Nantes almost complete - large construction & industry there in Harbor.
8. 300,000 soldiers along Somme R. (very) large defense  
Part of Invalides given over to Barracks of Germans -  
3 machine guns on top of Invalides -  
Street and metro in Paris mined - (Dr. acid) can pull boxes in St.  
French fear Germans will cut all gas, electric & water if  
Paris is attacked -
- (Believe in early Feb) 4. German Port coast do not make complete town - <sup>180°</sup>  
167,200 German planes destroyed when Allied Raided  
Villa Cub La - Planes were loaded with Bombs -  
Imagined defenses 4 Kilomet. W.S.W. of Reims (Believe type looking here)  
Patrol Plane passed over Ploegf every morning, at 8:40 AM.  
or thereabouts - either ME 210 or Ju-88.  
no fishing, vessels allowed to leave port from Ploegf  
to Concarneau.  
Food plant in Paris turns out 200,000 trucks a year -  
formerly turned out 900,000  
when other ship sent in Ploegf. Germans sent out

400 Corsacks to hunt them - left them there 3 days without  
provisions - <sup>was caught by SOE</sup>

2 flat guns on hill 2 stations from Brest - (Kerzhov)

Tank traps around ROSPORDEN - in flds - also on main road to  
Concarneau from Rosporden -

**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 supersedes 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.

**GERTIFICATE**

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

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

Name (Print) JAMES N. QUINN  
Rank T/SGT A. S. N. 12090499  
Unit 324B-5-912 B.G.

Signed James N. Quinn  
Dated February 28, 1944  
Witness \_\_\_\_\_

**RESTRICTED**

OUTLINE FOR TALKS

1. Complete description of everything that happened in plane before jump.
2. Description of jump and landing.
3. Description of what you did with your equipment.
4. Tell story of experiences up to time you met the person who put you in contact with organization.

DO NOT GIVE THE NAMES OF PEOPLE WHO HELPED YOU AT ANY TIME.

DO NOT GIVE THE NAMES OF TOWNS.

DO NOT GIVE ANY ADDRESSES.

5. How you crossed Pyrenees (General Location)
6. Your experiences in Spain.

Suggestions for others.

If there is some helpful incident that happened after you were picked up, do not mention it until it has been discussed with M.I.S. Interrogator.

*Richard R Nelson*

RICHARD R NELSON  
Major, AC

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

~~SECRET-AMERICAN~~  
~~MOST SECRET - BRITISH~~

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL REPATRIATED FROM ENEMY CONTROL

1. Full Name, Rank, and Army Serial No. *JAMES Nicholas Quinn, 11591-1200499*
2. Unit or Squadron. *324B.S.*
3. Division (Army) or Group. *91<sup>st</sup> B.G.*
4. Date of Birth. *FEB. 18, 1921*
5. Length of Service. *1 yr. 7 mos.*
6. Decorations. *NONE*
7. Private Address. *600 WEST 179<sup>ST</sup>. NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.*
8. If in air force, on what operations 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?  
*91<sup>ST</sup> B.G. GROUP - DEC. 31, 1943 - 495<sup>TH</sup> - RAIDED COGNAC  
NEAR-RESPORDEN - 144<sup>TH</sup> -  
AIRCRAFT BURNED - DON'T KNOW IF ALL PAPERS AND INSTRUMENTS  
WERE DESTROYED*
9. What wounds did you have?  
*2 SLIGHT WOUNDS IN HEAD -*
10. Have you been questioned before today on your experiences in enemy hands? If so where and by whom? Have you given anyone a written report on your experiences? Where and when?  
*NO*
11. Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom?  
*NO -*
12. Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your experiences in enemy hands? If so, where and when?  
*YES - FEB. 28, 1944 - LONDON, ENG.*
13. Place and date of arrival in neutral territory.  
*—*
14. Place and date of arrival in UK.  
*DARTMOUTH - DEC. 27, 1944*
15. In what prisoner of war camps or hospitals were you held?  
*NONE*
16. Who was the Senior American Officer in each camp? Senior British Officer? Camp Leader or Senior Non-commissioned Officer? Man-of-Confidence?  
*—*
17. How many Americans were held in the camp or hospital with you? British? Other Nationalities?  
*—*