

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
to.....

For Rocket Gun see 'Additional notes'

In about Jan. 7 was told that Dec. 31 raid on aircraft plant in Paris (Hofano?) was dismal failure bombs hitting every dwelling in vicinity except target.

German soldiers in Vernon (barracks there) were a lot younger and a lot of them were poorly equipped as compared with the soldiers that were there a few months previously. French attributed this to fact that many were lost on the Russian front and the Huns were calling up the youngsters.

On train ride from Paris to Bordeaux noticed an very great number of German soldiers in regular and troop trains, moving in both directions (north and south) (many traveled in 40 and 8 cars - in many cases there were many artillery pieces on the trains) indicating that they are preparing a great reception for the invasion. Bordeaux itself had the greatest concentration of both soldiers, Luftwaffe and sailors that I have seen in France. (Also included were girls in auxiliary service to Luftwaffe who wore green uniforms - dark - and matching overseas caps with Luftwaffe wings on cap.)

(over)

In Paris noticed that many more of the regular German soldiers were very young and some of them were poorly equipped with old and poor fitting uniforms. The officers seemed to be very much better clothed and I was impressed by their arrogance and contempt of the French which was more than doubly returned.

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH
MIS (X)

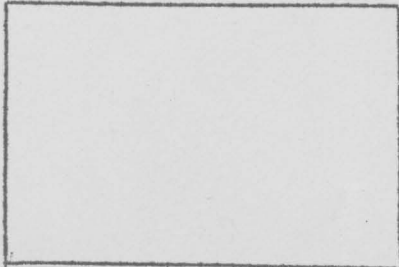
HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
P/W and X Detachment
Military Intelligence Service

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1. Full Name, Rank, and Serial No. WILLIAM A. OLSEN, 2ND LT. - 0-738937
2. Decorations. NONE - YET
3. Unit or Squadron. 392ND GP, 578TH SQAN.
4. Division (Army) or Group. 392ND GP.
5. Date of Birth. JAN. 24, 1919
6. Length of Service. 1 1/4 YEARS.
7. Private Address. 3549 EVERGREEN AVE., CHICAGO, ILL.
8. Job as civilian. CHIEF CLERK - CAGO. UNION STATION CO.
9. From what field did you take off? WENDLING
10. Take off time. 0800.
11. Date and target. DEC. 30, 1943 - LVAWIGSHAVEN
12. Where did you land? NORMANDY, FRANCE - NEAR LOUVIERS. 2km
13. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? YES - IN CRASH.
14. What was your position in aircraft? NAVIGATOR.
15. Were you wounded? CUT WHEN LANDING IN CHUTE.
16. Did you pay your guides? If so how much? NO. - PAID BY ORGANIZATION.
17. Do you speak French? Spanish? NO.
18. Did you have Identity Papers? NOT IN PLANE. FURNISHED BY FRENCH.
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?
QUESTIONED BY BRITISH G-2 IN MADRID BY ORDER OF MILITARY ATTACHE.
NOTHING WRITTEN.
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. IN MADRID ABOUT FEB. 19 AND IN GIBRALTAR FEB. 21.
22. Date of arrival in Spain. JAN. 13, 1944
23. Date of arrival at Gibraltar. FEB. 19, 1944
24. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air. GIB. MAR. 7, 1944 - BY AIR
25. Place and date of arrival in U.K. SWINDON, ENG., ON MAR. 7, 1944.

NAME _____ RANK _____ ASN _____ REPORT NO. _____

SQ _____ GROUP _____ A/C NO. _____ Letter _____ Load _____ Date _____



Position in formation.
Make Diagram

Observed results of Bombing:

Enemy Fighter Tactics:

Markings:

Our Tactics:

Our Fighter Support:

Flak

Time

Place

Quality

Technical Failures

Motors:

Armor:

Armament:

Miscellaneous:

Comments and Suggestions on any of the above:

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) WILLIAM A. OLSEN Signed William A. Olsen

Rank 2nd Lt. A.S.N. 0-738937 Date Feb. 19, 1945

Unit 392nd Inf., 578th Sqn. Witness Harold W. Smith

Cd-G.S.C.

*Ex-Prisoner
Crew List*

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO. 448
EVASION IN France

MAR. 3, 1944
(Date)

OLSEN, WILLIAM L. 1ND LT. 0-738937
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

578 TH 394 ND
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET:

MIA: DEC. 30, 1943
Arrived in UK Spain
OCT. 31, 1943

13 Jan 44
UK - 2 March 44

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

| | | | Official Disposition | Narrators Disposition |
|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| PILOT | JAMES M. SIRLEY | 1ND LT. 0-800411 | | BELIEVED DEAD |
| CO-PILOT | LEONARD (NMI) VOLET | " " | | " " |
| NAVIGATOR | OLSEN, W.L. | " " | | THATS ME |
| BOMBARDIER | ✓ EDWARD O'BOYLE | " " [BORROWED FROM ANOTHER CREW] | | PRISONER |
| RADIO OPERATOR | ✓ PETER (NMI) GARRIS | s/SGT | | PRISONER |
| TOP TURRET GUNNER | U.M. CARUSONE | SGT. | | ESCAPED (WITH ME) |
| BALL TURRET GUNNER | J.L. SULLIVAN | SGT. | | BELIEVED PRISONER |
| ENGINEER | WAIST GUNNER SATTERLEY | s/SGT | | PRISONER |
| WAIST GUNNER | ✓ WALL | SGT (NEW MAN) | | BELIEVED PRISONER |
| TAIL GUNNER | FRED SCHMITT | SGT. | | BELIEVED PRISONER |

Were you wounded? YES - IN BAILING OUT.

2 other clusters

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.

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) WILLIAM L. OLSEN
Rank 2ND LT. (YET) A. S. N. 0-938937
Unit 3rd Lt. 578 TH SQAN

Signed William L. Olsen
Dated Aug. 4, 1943
Witness Walter G. Smith Capt 609C

RESTRICTED

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO. 448
EVASION IN FRANCE

3 March 1944
(Date)

William L OLSEN, 2d Lt, 0-738937
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET:

578 Bomb Sq, 392 Bomb Group
(Squadron) (Group)

MIA: 30 December 1943
Arrived in UK:
2 March 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWID)

| | | | | Official Disposition | Narrators Disposition |
|--------------------|----------|-------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| PILOT | 0-800411 | 2d Lt | James H SIBLEY | MIA | |
| CO-PILOT | 0-807083 | 2d Lt | Leonard VOLET | MIA | |
| NAVIGATOR | 0-738937 | 2d Lt | William L OLSEN | NARRATOR | |
| BOMBARDIER | 0-676412 | 2d Lt | Edward M BOYLE | MIA | |
| RADIO OPERATOR | 32424837 | S/Sgt | Peter GARRIS | MIA | |
| TOP TURRET GUNNER | 11111586 | S/Sgt | Nicholas M CARUSONE | RD 848#415 | |
| BALL TURRET GUNNER | 32605431 | Sgt | John I SULLIVAN, JR | RD 848#340 | |
| WAIST GUNNER | 32545151 | Sgt | Everett F SATTERLY, JR | MIA | |
| WAIST GUNNER | 16022328 | S/Sgt | Frederick M WALD | MIA | |
| TAIL GUNNER | 32673290 | Sgt | Fred T SCHMITT | RD 848#344 | |

Were you wounded?

Type Approval Copy

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND F REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- 0-738937 YNO. LT. WILLIAM L. OLSEN

Unit:- 394 NG GP, 578 TH SAGN.

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? *NO.*
- b. If not, why? *FELL OUT OF SUIT IN JUMP.*
- 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. *(OUT OF ANOTHER KIT) IN MOUNTAINS something & chew on something & chew on is needed in mountains*

Chocolate or Peanut Bar.

Milk (tube).

Denzadrine tablets (fatigue).

Halazone tablets (water purifier). *IN MOUNTAINS*

Matches.

Adhesive tape.

Chewing gum.

Water bottle. *IN MOUNTAINS doesn't hold much when it has tipped spilling, & hard to carry*

Compass.

Sewing kit.

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box?
- 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?

YES. INCLUDE PESETAS BY ALL MEANS.

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? *YES - IN PLANE.*
State color of stripes and letters.
If NOT, State why not.

- b. Did you use the purse? *NO. LOST IN JUMP.*

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

Maps. Which ones?

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.
How did you spend the money?

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion?

No.

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? NO. DID NOT HAVE ANY.
If so, how many?

b. Did you use them? NO. *The delay of evasion and greatly endangered my helpers, as the delay was slowly walking to place where they can't be taken!*

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? YES.
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM. NUMEROUS TIMES IN STATES + ENGLAND
BY S-2 + EVADERS.

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? YES. - HAVE ENLISTED MEN TELL

SPANISH THEY ARE OFFICERS.

I include peetas in ~~the~~ purses,

fire electric boots had to walk in them a while because first helpers had no shoes. Second helpers had old shoes to buy for me. I believe new electric suits with sealed shoes, that look like regular heavy shoes, will solve the problem.

We should be told that Spain is tough + motto and of a country where here are many cases, warm men only to give name rank + ASN in Spanish questionnaires

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

3 March 1944

E & E REPORT NO 448
EVASION IN FRANCE

William L OLSEN, 2d Lt, O-738937
(1 MISSIONS)
578 Bomb Squadron, 392 Bomb Group

TARGET: LUDWIGSHAVEN

MIA: 30 December 1943
Arrived in UK:
2 March 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

| | | | | |
|--------------------|----------|-------|------------------------|-----------|
| PILOT | O-800411 | 2d Lt | James H SIBLEY | MIA |
| CO-PILOT | O-807083 | 2d Lt | Leonard VOLET | MIA |
| NAVIGATOR | O-738937 | 2d Lt | William L OLSEN | NARRATOR |
| BOMBARDIER | O-676412 | 2d Lt | Edward M BOYLE | MIA |
| RADIO OPERATOR | 32424837 | S/Sgt | Peter GARRIS | MIA |
| TOP TURRET GUNNER | 11111586 | S/Sgt | Nicholas M CARUSONE | E&E # 415 |
| BALL TURRET GUNNER | 32605431 | Sgt | John L SULLIVAN, Jr | E&E #345 |
| WAIST GUNNER | 32545151 | Sgt | Everett F SATTERLY, Jr | MIA |
| WAIST GUNNER | 66022328 | S/Sgt | Frederick M WALD | MIA |
| TAIL GUNNER | 32673290 | Sgt | Fred T SCHMITT | E&E #344 |

FLAK DAMAGE NOT
IMMEDIATELY
APPARENT

Our bombs had just been released, when we ran through a thick series of flak bursts. The ship must have been hit, but it was unnoticed at the time. Twenty minutes later the engineer, who was manning a waist gun, called the pilot on the interphone to tell him that oil was escaping from number one engine. The pilot noticed that the oil pressure had dropped considerably and feathered one engine. Another twenty minutes passed and number two engine had oil leakage, and the cylinder head temperature rose so that it was necessary to feather number two.

LOSING ALTITUDE

TOO FAST TO MAKE UK

We had dropped a mile behind the group when we lost the first engine; the group was now out of sight. We had lost altitude steadily, and the pilot asked me asked me to figure the time left for flight, if we were to continue to lose altitude at the rate of 900 feet per minute. I discovered that we would be compelled to ditch close to the French coast. With our knowledge of how a B 24 ditches, we decided to hit the silk.

The pilot gave "prepare to bale-out" over the interphone and also rang the emergency bell. I jumped after the bombardier, at 15000 feet. I turned a few somersalts to see how it felt. There was no

NO FALLING
SENSATION WHILE
FREE FALLING

falling sensation, I just floated. As there was an undercast, I pulled the rip cord almost immediately. My harness had been tightened that morning, in spite of my protests, but it still was not tight enough. I received a strong jerk which caused me to loose my escape kit, ~~as it was not fastened on my flying suit.~~ ^{as it was not} ~~When my~~ ^{When} straps shot up, they knocked off my ~~my~~ helmet. When I broke through cloud cover I was over a town. I thought I would land in it, but there was a high wind which blew me 2 km further south. As I landed, both feet struck a peacefully grazing cow, and, as it flew tore off cross-country, I flew straight into a barbed wire fence. The drag of the chute tore the fence down. By the time I had disentangled myself I was surrounded by French peasants.

LANDS AMONGST
BARBED WIRE

I did not feel that I could waste time talking to them. I rolled up my chute and shoved it under some bushes with my mae west and harness. People were still running towards me from all directions and I decided to take off cross-country. As I was making up my mind as to where I could find the most suitable ~~hiding place,~~ a woman motioned to me to follow her.

HIDES EQUIPMENT
PROMPTLY

We had just entered a cottage, when the husband joined us, yelling excitedly. I gathered that the Germans were on his heels. I tore out the back door and plunged into a clump of tall grass in the back yard. My face had been badly cut on landing, and as I lay there I used my silk glove as a compress to check the bleeding. The Germans immediately entered the house, and, putting guns to the heads of the couple, demanded to know where the American was.

FOLLOWED TO
FRENCH HOME
BY GERMANS

The French claimed no knowledge, but finally admitted that I had run down the road which ran along the side of the cottage. The soldiers left soon after that, and I spent the rest of the day watching the tops of their heads and rifles as they searched down this road. From time to time the woman would glance toward my hiding place, to make sure I was still there. As soon as it was really dark the husband brought me back into the house. They gave me a pair of old trousers and a cape. Then the three of us set off cross-country to another house, where I spent the night.

GERMANS ARE
MISLEAD

PATRIOTIC FRENCH
CAN HAVE POOR
IDEAS ON EVASION

This couple, while very patriotic, was connected with no organized system of helpers. Their plan was to give me some money, a railroad ticket, and put me on the train to PARIS. This couple also tried to destroy my dog tags in their misguided enthusiasm. They did not succeed, but in all events, I had kept ~~my~~ managed to keep one tag concealed from them in my sock.

The next day, 31 December 1943, however, a person who had ~~argued~~ been a guest the previous

FRENCH SACRIFICING
FOOD TO FEED FLIERS

evening, came for me in a car. I was driven off to the home of another patriotic French family, which did everything possible to make my New Year's happy. They even went so far as to kill all their chickens, so that they would have plenty to feed me. On the afternoon of 3 January 1944, I was again whisked away in a car. From then on, the rest of my journey was arranged.

JOURNEY ARRANGED

THE PYRENEES

At 2100 hours on 10 January I started over the Pyrenees in a party which included Lt McDANAL, E&E #444 and Sgt ROSS, E&E #438. We walked up hill, through mud and rock, until 0100 hours on the 11th, when we reached a barn. We were given some bread, and a jug of wine, and we spent the rest of the day sleeping and massaging our feet. That night we set out again and I realized that being fat never slows down, as Pyrenees guides, and that they walk ^{EVEN} faster ^{up} hill. Our next rest period was spent in a pile of hay, without food or drink.

SPAIN

When we reached Spain the guides left us, ^{giving us the usual yarn} saying that we were the proverbial two hours from a nice hotel. ~~There we were to find good beds and plenty of ham and eggs.~~ We finally got there, ^{ARRIVED} that was a hayloft and there was no food at all.

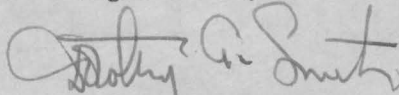
ARREST

At noon on 14 January we reached a town. We were arrested while waiting for a bus to a nearby city. The guards turned us over to a small shop-keeper whom we convinced ~~he did not have~~ ^{nothing} to worry about financially, as the consul would pay him for our lodging. This resulted in our being ^{and he} given beds and food. On the 17th of January we were taken to PAMPLONA with an armed guard.

IN SPAIN GIVE ONLY
NAME, RANK AND
SERIAL NUMBER

We were taken to the office of the civil governor and fingerprinted. We were given a card to fill out with name, address, route into Spain, etc. We put down our names and ranks, and put USA down as home address. We answered nothing else. Later Lt McDANAL and I were taken from the hotel, at which we were staying in PAMPLONA, to a military headquarters. A Spanish officer gave us a list of eighteen questions to answer. One, I remember, was on French morale; another on the location of airports. We politely, but firmly drew a line through the questions. We were taken back to the hotel and allowed to telephone the consul.

Compiled by:


DOROTHY A SMITH
Capt, WAC

Approved by:

W S HOLT
Lt Col, AC
Commanding

Alson

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

AD

10 March 1944

APPENDIX "B" TO E & E REPORT NO. 448

1. The following information has been obtained after an interview with an officer who evaded capture by the enemy, while in enemy-occupied territory.
2. Further circulation of this information may be made, but when doing so no information as to the source may be divulged.

Statement of information covering period from 30 December 1943
to 13 January 1944

- S*
- I'll*
- a. Hearsay that the Germans have an experimental rocket field at ~~ISLE DE~~ ADAM from which they intend to send radio controlled rockets with four bursting charges; each ^{CHARGE IS} capable of sending the rocket 50 km on the way to LONDON. The installation is said to be buried 80 meters in the ground. This is the only field of its kind in France, and it is well-protected.
 - b. Hearsay that the results of the raid of 31 December on the Hispano ~~Guiza~~ plant in PARIS were very bad. Many private homes were hit, while the target was missed.
 - c. The arrogance and contempt for the French felt by the ~~German officers~~ ^{of the German officers and their} ~~was still~~ apparent in PARIS in January. *were*
 - d. More soldiers sailors, and members of the Luftwaffe, were observed in BORDEAUX in January than in PARIS. Many troops were observed in transit, *going north and south* both to the north and the south, between PARIS and BORDEAUX. Soldiers often travelled in "40 and 8" cars and in many cases there were a good number of ~~peace~~ ^{guns} artillery on the trains.

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND F REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- 0-738937, 2nd Lt, William L OLSEN

Unit:- 392 Bomb Group, 578 Bomb Squadron

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? No.
- b. If not, why? Fell out of suit in jump.
- 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. (out of another kit) In mountains. It was something to chew on and something to chew on is needed in the mountains.
Chocolate or Peanut Bar.

Milk (tube).

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue).

Halazone tablets (water purifier). Used in the mountains

Matches.

Adhesive tape.

Chewing gum.

Water bottle. Used in the mountains. It doesn't hold much when it has stopped spilling and it is hard to carry.

Compass.

Sewing kit.

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box?
- 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?

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? Yes.
State color of stripes and letters.
If NOT, State why not.
- b. Did you use the purse? No. lost in jump.

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

Maps. Which ones?

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.
How did you spend the money?

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion?

4. PASSEPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

- a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? No. Did not have any. They were
If so, how many? taken a week before but not yet developed. This
delayed my evasion and greatly endangered my helpers,
b. Did you use them? as the Gestapo was closely watching the place where
they had to be taken.

5. LECTURES

- a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? Yes.
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM. Numerous times in States and England by
S-2 and evaders.

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? Yes. Have enlisted men tell
Spanish they are officers. Include pestas in purses.

I wore electric boots and had to walk in them a while because my first
helpers had no shoes for me. Second helpers had old suedes which were too
big for me. I believe the new electric suits with heated shoes that look
like regular heavy shoes will solve the shoe problem. We should be told that
Spain is tough and not the end of everything. In many cases, warn
men, only give name, rank and serial number. In Spain there are many
questions asked and there are many German spies.

On the 30th day of December, 1943, I was sailing blithly along in my B-24, returning to base in England. I thought, after a successful bombing on Ludwigshaven, Germany. Right after the bombs were released and we were turning off we ran through a thick series of flak bursts, some of which undoubtedly hit our ship although it was unnoticed at the time. About 20 minutes after leaving the target, the engineer, who was manning waist gun, called the pilot on interphone informing him that oil was escaping from No. 1 engine. Pilot noticed oil pressure had dropped considerably and feathered engine OK. About 20 minutes later No 2 had oil leakage and cylinder head temperature had risen and it was necessary to feather No 2 which was not as successful as it windmilled very slowly at times. By this time we had dropped a mile or so behind the group and had lost considerable altitude, dropping from about 24,000 feet to 19,000 with No 1 out and after both were out the group went out of sight. Pilot asked me to figure amount of time left for flight from time plane was at about 10,000 feet losing altitude at rate of about 900 ft. per min. and it developed that we would be compelled to ditch a short way off French coast or bail out. Knowing how a 24

Capt Harris

On the 30th day of December, 1943, I was sailing
slightly along in by B-24 returning to base in England.
I thought, after a successful bombing on Ludwigshafen,
Germany. Right after the bombs were released and we were
turning off we ran through a thick series of flak bursts,
some of which undoubtedly hit our ship although it was
unnoticed at the time. About 20 minutes after leaving the
target, the engineer, who was manning what gun, called
the pilot on interphone informing him that oil was escaping
from No. 1 engine. Pilot noticed oil pressure had dropped
considerably and feathered engine OK. About 20 minutes
later No. 2 had oil leakage and cylinder head temperature
had risen and it was necessary to feather No. 2 which was
not as successful as I anticipated very slowly at times.
By this time we had dropped a mile or so behind the group
and had lost considerable altitude, dropping from about
14,000 feet to 12,000 with No. 1 out and after both were
out the group went out of sight. Pilot asked me to figure
amount of time left for flight from time plane was at about
10,000 feet losing altitude at rate of about 900 ft. per
min. and it developed that we would be compelled to ditch
a short way of French coast or pull out. Knowing now a B-24

A. 2 94 JH

Casey

1st idea for ditching a wader impression that already over water
then Olsen insisted over land so after seeing pilot gone take-out

2

ditches we decided to hit the silk. Pilot gave warning over
interphone and by emergency bell. I helped Bombardier out of
turret and followed him to bombays. He finally jumped out
of bay after gentle persuasion and I followed. This was at
about 1500. There was ^{turned a few somersaults to see how it felt} an undercast so I opened chute almost ^{no falling}
immediately. getting a juicy jerk and losing escape kit in ^{lightened that my wings were of protest} ^{all floating}
my flight suit as well as helmet which was knocked off of my
bean by ^{on back} straps flying up as they do in RAF chutes. After
breaking thru undercast I saw I was floating over town (~~Luxvie~~
(Louviers) which I thought I was going to land in by ^{no fastening} due to
a high wind I landed about 2 kilos south - my feet first hitti
ting a nice cow which was peacefully munching some grass and
then flying into a barbwire fence which ^{by to drag q to shale} was torn down and
inflicted a bad cut in my cheek as well as numerous scratches
(I'm bucking for the Purple Heart). Aforementioned cowwent
galloping across the countryside at about 40 MPH losing at
least a months supply of milk. I finally managed to disentangl
myself and by that time numerous French peasants had galloped
up from nearby areas. I didn't stop to chat with them but
gathered up my chute and Mae-west and stuck them under some
bushes. As many people were running up from all directions I
thought it best to take off cross country and while looking
for a suitable place to hide a French girl mentioned for

Wade pulled out
instinctive

me to follow her. As she was fairly pretty I did so without hesitation. She led me to a cottage but almost immediately her husband came rushing in excitedly yelling what I gathered to be the Germans were coming in droves. I immediately took off but spying a nice plot of grass in her back yard plunged into that and lay motionless, using my silk glove as a compress to stop the flow of blood from my cheek (Same Purple Heart) Some German soldiers immediately went into the house and putting guns to the heads of the peasants demanded to know where the American was. They said they did not know but think I ran down a road alongside the house. After a bit I heard them leave but still lay motionless until dark meanwhile taking enjoyment out of watching the heads of Germans going down the road looking for me. (I only saw their heads and tops of their guns due to a hedge which hid the rest of them) At last when night fell (boom) the girl, named Aimee, and her hubby took me into their house and gave me a pair of trousers and cape and I then walked with them to their house in the town of Louviers. The house in the country belonged to Aimee's mother. I stayed there that night - Dec 30 - and they informed me that they would give me some money and a rail ticket to Paris for the next AM where I would travel all alone and would make my own way as this outfit was not connected with any organization in any way. However, later that

I tried to burn the house down but help me out of the house in 1944

(By one of the many ⁴ guests Jeanne) She was going to come back ^{to speak me up}
 night I was informed that other persons had found out of my
 presence and that I would be flown back to England the next
 night. In the meantime they filled me full of wine and Pernoud
 and I slept very well. They ^{31st Avenue under lead died in Paris} next night I was picked up by
 a lady who led me to a car where her husband drove me to her
 home a bit on the outskirts of town. Womans name was Jeanne
 and husbands name Rene - name and address unknown. - Husband
 was a Forester or something and cut down trees. They were
 fairly well to do and had many chickens, etc, which they
 killed off rapidly so that I would be well fed. As that was
 New Years Eve we got properly stiff and retired. I stayed
 there four days and talked to a Mssr. Verny, 2nd chief cook
 to Prince of Wales at Buckingham palace in 1909. who spoke
 a bit of English, and who was eager to have his name men-
 tioned to Intelligence. On Jan. 3, in the afternoon, I was
 picked up by an ex France Army officer in his car who drove
 me to his home and gave me a very nice suit and two cognacs
 after which he drove me to a town called Veñnon and took me
 to the house of Madam Fournier. That evening I met there
^{see sent us 8 wine Convoisier a nurse (VD lost for 6) for}
 Sgt. Carusone, S/Sgt Peter Garris and Lt. Edward O'Boyle,
^{to meet, Carusone here several days,}
 gunner, radio operater and Bombardier respectively on my
 crew. We had identity pictures taken and cards made and the
 following day were taken by her husband to Paris by train.

I found new shoes 4000 francs

She was in Paris in 1944
 first because of new type
 of tanks each of land address
 Hope also met at well Smith &
 wife who had to report regularly
 if they were in Paris

At the station in Vernon we also picked up a so-called Polack who had supposedly escaped from a German labor camp and who accompanied us. Name Alex, blond, age 19 and a bastard.

We got to Paris at about 2100 that evening, Jan. 4, and were met at the train by a French Gendarmerie, Monsieur Bernard, who took us to a tavern where we dined and there we met Mssr.

Robert Thiriet, our blessed benefactor. He was an ex French soldier who had lost both legs at Dunkirk but who had more than enough guts to make up for it. At about 11 PM that evening a flock of females came to the tavern, one for each escapee, and we left with them making it appear as if we

had just come from a party. Among them was Paulette Echaroux (with me) and her girl friend ^{GERMAINE} ~~Geryman~~ or something like that with Carusone. We split up, the four of us going to Paulettes

apartment where Carusone and myself were to stay - address 19 Rue Bridaine. Paulette, incidentally was the sister of Robert who was running the show. (Address 14 Rue Bridaine)

From this point on Carusone and myself saw very little of other crew members and Alex who were staying over some tavern address unknown. We were marvelloussly wined and dined, going out to taverns, theatres, subway riding and partys with

Paulette, Robert, Bernard and friends. About four days later,

Mlle Lilly would come into play cards

(over)

had helped
400
fewer of Tr
wanted
& telling
down hold
gestapo

Two to fort time Paulettes had
been in NY. He sat with her closer
first 5 to many of handle the situation

~~One~~ About Feb¹⁵ met a man in a tavern with whom Robert
talked for 1 1/2 hr (Robert talked long in Paris). This man
may have been called Philippe & was head of the
Cigarette? Had an official job in police dept.
by next am G. had shot him & took out his tongue
6 allied women caught with him

Once Gestapo came into cafe when we
were there. Barman signalled us. Gendarme
Bernard went & demanded their papers &
arrested them saying ~~not~~ not in order. While
this went on we left.

Met Dolores Turner brother was
dead under at Piccadilly, used to act
as interpreter for his Turner maiden
name. Married & Turner lives in
Paris. Gives picture & Gordon address
to all evaders

Robert took C and myself for a train ride - it was a Saturday Jan. 8 or nearby. We left on a 7:45 am train for Bordeaux. Incidentally we had more photos taken ~~and~~ new identity cards in Paris. We arrived in Bordeaux at about 1800 that evening where we walked around for a couple of hours waiting for a train for Dax. ^{1st} Train ride was uneventful. It was loaded with German soldiers who traveled 1st class (we went 3rd) and we ate in the diner on train with a flock of German pigs as dining mates. We left for Dax about 7 PM arriving there at about 9:30. Upon arrival Robert took us immediately to family there who fed us and put us up. Next day - Sunday + Robert and wife of this bloke went to theatre and this fellow (name unknown to me possibly C knew it) took us for a most miserable bike ride to Pyrohadade and return, distance 48 kilos round trip after which C and self were in a state of near exhaustion. The following morning were awakened by Lt McDanal and Sgt. Ross and we were all taken for a ride in an old beat up charcoal burning truck to a large house about 30 kilos south of Pyrohadade accompanied by Robert and friends of Mc and Ross. We stayed in this house until the following night, Jan 10, when we were met by a guide at about 2100 who was to start our walking tour over the Pyrenees. We walked through loads of mud and rocks and about 4 kilos from the house we met another guide and the two of them walked the

Robert
and
C
were
in
a
state
of
near
exhaustion

where
Robert
turned
back.

what you call it off of the four of us and at about one AM the next morning they poured us into a barn on top of a high hill with assurances that we would be met that night by more guides (Robert paid off the ~~guides~~ ^{8,000 per man believe} man at the last house and gave us a few hundred francs for expenses or something.) That morning a woman brought us a jug of wine and some bread which we put away quickly and we then spent a boring day mostly rubbing our feet. That night were met by another guide who was also a fast fast walker and a few hours later another guide rel^{ie}aved him who could walk faster, especially up hill. That night we also slept in a pile of hay and the entire next day we sweat it out without food or water until late that evening when we were brought some bread and wine. A little later we were met by two more guides, one French and one Spanish, who walked us right out of France into Spain, leaving us at the frontier. All of the guides took our name, rank and no. They told us to walk a accouple of hours more and we would come to a hotel where we would get ham and eggs and a nice bed. We finally came to the "hotel" and after a couple of miserable cold hours in another hayloft without food we set out again, arriving at about noon of the 14th in a little town called Orbaceita. There we inquired and found out a bus left for Pamplona on the 17th. The Spanish military police finally picked us up in the

*Dark least notebook & folder
paper with notes that made us
think some had some in addition*

*not worried about
saw. There is
sleep - left alone
from dinner & wonder*

town and turned us over to a good little joe named Geronimo who owned small general store. After some persuasion we convinced him that the consul would take care of him and he arranged for real beds for us to sleep in and gave us food. (I have his card in my envelope, also pictures of Robert and Paulette) On the morning of the 17th we took a bus to Pamplona accompanied by two armed soldiers. They took us to the Cibil Gobierno (civil governer) where we were fingerprinted and given a card to fill out with place for name^s, addresses, way we got into Spain, etc. We only gave our names and rank and put USA as home and left other spaces blank. Enlisted men were given identity cards, officers none and we were all taken to Fonda Pascuelana who was in pay of consul. Officers, Mc and self, were taken to some soldiers headquarters, where Spanish officer gave us a long list of ~~heeey~~ to fill out, including 18 questions on French morale, airports, airfields, etc. which we ~~filled~~ did not answer merely drawing a line after the questions or putting no information ~~down~~. Mc and I were taken back to Fonda ~~from~~ where we called consul in Bilboa, Mr. Wannamker, who saw to it that we had clothes furnished, cigs, and everything else. That same day enlisted men, C and R, were taken by train to Lecumberry - about 12 kilos from Pamplona -

Responde a las preguntas de la lista de preguntas que se le dio

and Mc and I were left there. We stayed in Pamplona almost three weeks. We were free to do as we liked and ate pastries, chocolates, went to movies (in Spanish) with Senoritas and generally had a pretty fair time. We called the consul often for money and smokes and generally drove him crazy. A few weeks later we were picked up, including all enlisted men and a few new arrivals, by a spanish Lt. in the air force and taken to Zaragoza, arriving there late on a Sat. nite. We tore loose in Z for a day or ~~two~~ and left on the following Monday by air force bus for ALHAMA de Aragon. We were very well treated there and were picked up about 12 days later by Col. C. W. Cousland, Military Attache, who took us to Madrid by car. (Jan. 18) There were ~~3~~ 26 of us by that time. We left that same evening for Gib. and arrived there the evening of the 19th. We were issued uniforms - to some extent - and after about 9 days in Gib. left by plane for England and here I am.

Special Notes.

Was told by fellow who drove me in car from Louviers to Vernon that three of my crew were prisoner. C met Satterly, Schmidt and Sullivan in barn in France and I supposed it was 3 of them although I have since discovered Schmidt and Sullivan have been through here. Evidently entire crew is at least alive.

Don't know how reliable information is worth but have already given same to Lt. Emerson.

C. Olsen 448

The young wife who took me into her house as soon as I landed was Amée. The house of which she took me on 30 December is really her mother's, she and her husband live in Louviers and they took me there that night, Her sister lived in Paris on the 31st so I was passed onto Jeanne and René a forester and his wife who live on the outskirts of Louviers. I stayed here until 3 January. While here I met M. Perry 2nd chief cook of the Prince of Wales in 1909. I also met a man named Atwell Smith and his wife, who have to report of the police regularly.

On 3 January an French

Army officers drove me to his home, where he gave me good civilian clothing, and then took me to Mme Fournier in Narbon. She sent us on to Mme Couvresier who is a nurse in a V.D. hospital for Germans. Here I met Sgt Carson E & E Rpt # , S/Sgt Peter Garros and Lt Edward O'Boyle of my crew. Our pictures were taken and I cards were made ^{by Mme Fournier.} The following day her husband took us to Paris by train. Alex and I near old Pole who had supposedly escaped from a German labor camp joined us at the Narbon railroad station.

We reached Paris on 4 January and were met at the station by M. Bernard a

gendarme. He took us to a
 Tavern for dinner. Here we
 met Robert Thiriet who was
 in charge of us from then on. He
 had lost both his legs at Dunkirk
 At 23 hours we were joined
 by a group of women and left
 to go to a tavern. Carusone and
 I stayed with Paulette Echaroux

19 Rue Bridaine. Germaine, her
 friend brought Carusone to the
 apartment. Paulette is Robert's
 sister. He lives at 14 Rue Bridaine.
 This was the first time Paulette
 had been involved in the evasion
 business, but Robert could not
 handle five of us without her
 help. We were very well treated
 here. M. Bernard called often
 and Mlle Kelly would come to
 play cards. About 6 January

while in a tavern with Robert,
 I met a man, who I believe
 was called Philippe. He was
 head of something called the Chouette.
 He had some sort of official job
 in the police department. By next
 morning the Germans had shot him
 after tearing out his tongue. Six
 allied airmen were caught with
 him. On another occasion,
 when we were in a cafe, the Gestapo
 came in. The barman signalled
 us and Bernard gave us
 time to get away, but going up
 to them and demanding their papers
 and then arresting them because
 he claimed that they were not
 in order. While at Paulette's
 we met Dolores Turner. Her
 brother is the head waiter at the
 Piccadilly. Turner is her maiden

name. She is married to a Frenchman and lives in Paris. She gives her picture and London address to all the readers she meets. She acted as an interpreter for us.

On 8 January Robert took me and Carson to Bordeaux by train. We had had new Idéal made in Paris. Here we caught a train to Dax. Here we were fed and put up for the night with a French family. On Sunday Robert and his wife went to the theater, his husband took us on a 48 km bicycle ride. We were exhausted and furious when we found that we weren't going anywhere except on his idea of a pleasure trip.

On 10 January we were joined by Lt McDonald E 7 Rpt and Lt Ross E 7 Rpt. We were taken, in an old cleared

trucks, & a large house 30 km
south of Pezrebrade. Robert
left us at this house.

On 10 January the Pyrenees
guides came for us and we
~~started~~ the trip over the mountains
(See main report)

I believe Robert paid the
guide 8000 francs for each of
us. All the mountain guides
took our name, rank, and ASN.
As I understand it when the
Germans check your I card
in France now, they also check
to see if you have bread coupons
and a "carte de la guerre."

At Pamplona, two weeks
after reaching Spain, I talked
to a Swiss boy named Izzi
who had been with Robert. Izzi
speaks fluent German. When the

Gestapo came for Robert. He escaped through a toilet window and paid a taxi - driver 4000 francs to take him 18 km out of town. He says he returned later to find city deserted and the stores open. Izzie wants to get into the American paratroopers and told the Spanner he was an American!

He had been made available to the army and escaped after 3 years

Izzie told me that when Robert left ~~me and~~ Carusone and myself he collected O'Boyle, Jarvis and Alex in Paris and brought them to Peyrehorade with a boy from Sgt Ross' crew. Due to Alex they were all caught by the Gestapo, whether this was due to Alex's stupidity or to his being a stool-pigeon is not clear. While he was in Paris a pair of Storm Troopers pants were

8,

found in this pack, and there was some talk of killing him. He is 5 ft 7 in tall about 18 years old weighs 135 lbs and knew a few words of English. Blond and blue eyed he used a long dangling cigarette holder. He had a very bad I card and talked very little when with us. He said he was on his way to join the British Infantry in Italy. When he reached Poyrehada with Robert he got a girl and went through the town boasting that he was ~~and~~ evader traveling with American women. The word spread through the town like wild fire. The ~~platoon~~ who had treated the boy from Pozo crew, warned Robert before making his own get away. Carson saw him in LeCamberry. Later The Gestapo got the group in a

9.

Hotel and Robert was executed,
according to ~~the~~ Izzj.

Robert carried a notebook
with him, which gave, in
code, the names and addresses
of other helpers. Someone is
supposed, however, to have been
able to warn the Paris people
to take cover.

~~Just after our bombs were~~
~~released,~~ Our bombs had just been
released, when we ran through
a thick series of flak bursts.

~~So~~ The ship must have been
hit, but it was unnoticed at
the time. Twenty minutes later,

Flak damage to the engineer, who was manning
not a waist gun, called the pilot on
immediately the interphone, & told him that
apparent oil was escaping from number one
engine. The pilot, noticed that
the oil pressure had dropped
considerably, and feathered the
engine. Another twenty minutes
passed and number two engine
had oil leakage and the cylinder
head temperatures rose so that it
was necessary to feather number
two.

We had ~~dropped~~ dropped a
mile behind group ~~when we~~ lost
lost the first engine; the group was now

out of sight. We lost altitude steadily, ~~at a~~ ~~considerable~~ ~~altitude~~. The pilot ~~was flying at 10,000 ft.~~ asked me to figure the time left for losing flight, if we were to continue to lose altitude at the rate of 900 ft per minute. I discovered that we would be compelled to enter close to the French coast. With our knowledge of how a B 24 ditched, we decided to hit the hills.

The pilot gave "prepare to bale-out" over the interphone, and also rang the emergency bells. I jumped after the bombardier at 15,000 feet. I turned a few somersaults to see how it felt. There was no falling sensation. I felt no falling floated. As there was an undercast sensation I pulled the rip-cord almost immediately while my harness had been tightened that free falling matter, in spite of my protests, but it still was not tight enough, and I received a strong jerk which caused me to lose my escape but as there was not fastening on my flying suit. When my straps

shot up they knocked off my helmet. When I broke through, cloud cover I was over a town. Thought I would land in it, but there was a high wind which blew me ~~in~~ 2 km further south. As I landed, both feet struck

land
amongst
barbed wire

after a peacefully grazing cow, and as it tore off cross-country, I flew straight into a barbed wire fence. The drag of the chute, tore the fence down. By the time I had disentangled myself, I was surrounded by 4 ranch peasants.

I did not feel that I could afford to waste time talking to them. I rolled up my chute, and ~~stashed~~ it under

Hides
Equipment
Promptly

some bushes with my mail bag and harness. People were still running toward me from all directions and I

decided to talk off cross-country. As I was making up my mind as to where I would find the most suitable hiding place, ~~someone~~ a woman mentioned to me to follow her.

We had just entered a cottage, when the husband joined us, yelling excitedly. I gathered that the Germans were on his heels. I tore out

Followed to the back door, and plunged
of F road into a clump of tall grass in
home by the back yard. My face had
Germans been badly cut on landing,
and I used ^{as a bandage} one silk glove
as a compress to ~~stanch~~ to
check the bleeding. The Germans
immediately entered the house,
and putting guns to the heads
of the couple, demanded to know
where the American was.

(5)

no knowledge, but finally admitted
The French claimed that
I had run down the road which
ran along the side of the cottage.
The soldiers left soon after that,
and I spent the rest of the day
watching the tops of their heads
and rifles as they marched down
the road. From time to time
I would glance at
my hiding place, to make
sure I was still there. As
soon as it was really dark,
the husband brought me back
into the house. They gave me
a pair of old trousers and a
cape. Then the three of us
set off, cross-country, for another
house, where I spent the night.

This couple, while very
patriotic, was connected with
no organized system of helpers.

(6)

Their plan was to give me some money, a railroad ticket and put me on to train to Paris.

Patriotic French
often
can have
poor ideas
on occasion

This couple also tried to destroy my dog tags in their misguided enthusiasm. They did not succeed, but in all events, I had managed to keep one tag concealed from them in my sock.

The next day, 31 December 1943,

however, a person who had been a guest the previous evening, came for me in a car. I was driven off to another patriotic

French
sacrificing
Food
represent

family, who did everything possible to make my New Year's happy one. They even went so far as to kill all their chickens so that they would have plenty to feed me. On the afternoon of 3 January 1944, I was again

(7)

wisked away in a car. From then
on, the rest of my journey was
arranged.

at 21.00 hours on 10 January
I started over the Pyrenees in a
party which included Lt Mc Daval
Lt Ross and Sgt Ross.

We walked up hill, through
mud and rocks, until 07.00
hours on the 11th when we reached
The Pyrenees a barn. We were given some
bread, and a jug of wine, and
spent the rest of the day sleeping
and massaging our feet. That
night we set out again and I
realized, that being fat means
slow down a ~~mountain~~ ^{Pyrenees} guide,
and that they all walk much
faster going up hill. Our next
rest period was spent in a
pile of hay, without food
or drink.

When we reached Spain

(8)

to guides left us, saying
that we were the proverbial
two hours from a nice hotel.
Here we were to find good beds
and plenty of lam and eggs. We
finally got there; it was a
hayloft, and there was no
food at all.

At noon on 14 January
we reached a town. We were
arrested while waiting for a
bus to a nearby city. They turned
us over to a small shop keeper
whom we convinced had nothing
about financially - the consul
was to pay him. It has resulted
in our being given beds and
food. On the 17th of January
we were taken to Sampsona with
an armed guard.
~~Here~~ We were taken to

the office of the civil government
and finger pointed. We were
given a card to fill out with
name, address, route into Spain
etc. We put down our names
and ranks, and put U.S.A. down
as home address. We answered
nothing else.

In
Spain
give
only
name
rank
and
serial
number

Later Lt McDaniel and I
were taken from the hotel, at
which we were staying in Pamplona,
of a military headquarters. A
Spanish officer gave us a
list of eighteen questions to
answer. One, I remember, was on
French morale, another on the
location of our ports. We ^{politely but firmly} drew
a line through the questions.
We were taken back to the
hotel and allowed to telephone
the consul.

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
to.....

For Rocket Gun see 'Additional notes'

In about Jan. 7 was told that Dec. 31 raid on aircraft plant in Paris (Hofano?) was dismal failure bombs hitting every dwelling in vicinity except target.

German soldiers in Vernon (barracks there) were a lot younger and a lot of them were poorly equipped as compared with the soldiers that were there a few months previously. French attributed this to fact that many were lost on the Russian front and the Huns were calling up the youngsters.

On train ride from Paris to Bordeaux noticed an very great number of German soldiers in regular and troop trains, moving in both directions (north and south) (many traveled in 40 and 8 cars - in many cases there were many artillery pieces on the trains) indicating that they are preparing a great reception for the invasion. Bordeaux itself had the greatest concentration of both soldiers, Luftwaffe and sailors that I have seen in France. (Also included were girls in auxiliary service to Luftwaffe who wore green uniforms - dark - and matching overseas caps with Luftwaffe wings on cap.)

(over)

In Paris noticed that many more of the regular German soldiers were very young and some of them were poorly equipped with old and poor fitting uniforms. The officers seemed to be very much better clothed and I was impressed by their arrogance and contempt of the French which was more than doubly returned.

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH
MIS (X)

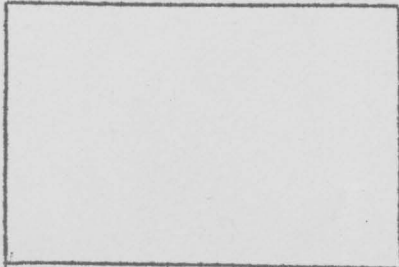
HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
P/W and X Detachment
Military Intelligence Service

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1. Full Name, Rank, and Serial No. WILLIAM A. OLSEN, 2ND LT. - 0-738937
2. Decorations. NONE - YET
3. Unit or Squadron. 392ND GP, 578TH SQAN.
4. Division (Army) or Group. 392ND GP.
5. Date of Birth. JAN. 24, 1919
6. Length of Service. 1 1/4 YEARS.
7. Private Address. 3549 EVERGREEN AVE., CHICAGO, ILL.
8. Job as civilian. CHIEF CLERK - CAGO. UNION STATION CO.
9. From what field did you take off? WENDLING
10. Take off time. 0800.
11. Date and target. DEC. 30, 1943 - LVAWIGSHAVEN
12. Where did you land? NORMANDY, FRANCE - NEAR LOUVIERS. 2km
13. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? YES - IN CRASH.
14. What was your position in aircraft? NAVIGATOR.
15. Were you wounded? CUT WHEN LANDING IN CHUTE.
16. Did you pay your guides? If so how much? NO. - PAID BY ORGANIZATION.
17. Do you speak French? Spanish? NO.
18. Did you have Identity Papers? NOT IN PLANE. FURNISHED BY FRENCH.
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?
QUESTIONED BY BRITISH G-2 IN MADRID BY ORDER OF MILITARY ATTACHE.
NOTHING WRITTEN.
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. IN MADRID ABOUT FEB. 19 AND IN GIBRALTAR FEB. 21.
22. Date of arrival in Spain. JAN. 13, 1944
23. Date of arrival at Gibraltar. FEB. 19, 1944
24. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air. GIB. MAR. 7, 1944 - BY AIR
25. Place and date of arrival in U.K. SWINDON, ENG., ON MAR. 7, 1944.

NAME _____ RANK _____ ASN _____ REPORT NO. _____

SQ _____ GROUP _____ A/C NO. _____ Letter _____ Load _____ Date _____



Position in formation.
Make Diagram

Observed results of Bombing:

Enemy Fighter Tactics:

Markings:

Our Tactics:

Our Fighter Support:

Flak

Time

Place

Quality

Technical Failures

Motors:

Armor:

Armament:

Miscellaneous:

Comments and Suggestions on any of the above:

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) WILLIAM A. OLSEN Signed William A. Olsen

Rank 2nd Lt. A.S.N. 0-738937 Date Feb. 19, 1944

Unit 392nd Inf., 578th Sqn. Witness Hon. W. Smith

Cd-G.S.C.

*Ex-Prisoner
Crew List*

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO. 448
EVASION IN France

MAR. 3, 1944
(Date)

OLSEN, WILLIAM L. 1ND LT. 0-738937
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

578 TH 394 ND
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET:

MIA: DEC. 30, 1943
Arrived in UK Spain
OCT. 31, 1943
13 Jan 44
UK - 2 March 44

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

| | | | Official Disposition | Narrators Disposition |
|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| PILOT | JAMES M. SIRLEY | 1ND LT. 0-800411 | | BELIEVED DEAD |
| CO-PILOT | LEONARD (NMI) VOLET | " " | | " " |
| NAVIGATOR | OLSEN, W.L. | " " | | THATS ME |
| BOMBARDIER | ✓ EDWARD O'BOYLE | " " [BORROWED FROM ANOTHER CREW] | | PRISONER |
| RADIO OPERATOR | ✓ PETER (NMI) GARRIS | s/SGT | | PRISONER |
| TOP TURRET GUNNER | U.M. CARUSONE | SGT. | | ESCAPED (WITH ME) |
| BALL TURRET GUNNER | J.L. SULLIVAN | SGT. | | BELIEVED PRISONER |
| ENGINEER | WAIST GUNNER SATTERLEY | s/SGT | | PRISONER |
| WAIST GUNNER | ✓ WALL | SGT (NEW MAN) | | BELIEVED PRISONER |
| TAIL GUNNER | FRED SCHMITT | SGT. | | BELIEVED PRISONER |

Were you wounded? YES - IN BAILING OUT.

2 also checked

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.

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) WILLIAM L. OLSEN
Rank 2ND LT. (YET) A. S. N. 0-938937
Unit 3rd Lt. 578 TH SQAN

Signed William L. Olsen
Dated Aug. 4, 1943
Witness Walter G. Smith Capt 609C

RESTRICTED

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO. 448
EVASION IN FRANCE

3 March 1944
(Date)

William L OLSEN, 2d Lt, 0-738937
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET:

578 Bomb Sq, 392 Bomb Group
(Squadron) (Group)

MIA: 30 December 1943
Arrived in UK:
2 March 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWID)

| | | | | Official Disposition | Narrators Disposition |
|--------------------|----------|-------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| PILOT | 0-800411 | 2d Lt | James H SIBLEY | MIA | |
| CO-PILOT | 0-807083 | 2d Lt | Leonard VOLET | MIA | |
| NAVIGATOR | 0-738937 | 2d Lt | William L OLSEN | NARRATOR | |
| BOMBARDIER | 0-676412 | 2d Lt | Edward M BOYLE | MIA | |
| RADIO OPERATOR | 32424837 | S/Sgt | Peter GARRIS | MIA | |
| TOP TURRET GUNNER | 11111586 | S/Sgt | Nicholas M CARUSONE | RD 848#415 | |
| BALL TURRET GUNNER | 32605431 | Sgt | John I SULLIVAN, JR | RD 848#340 | |
| WAIST GUNNER | 32545151 | Sgt | Everett F SATTERLY, JR | MIA | |
| WAIST GUNNER | 16022328 | S/Sgt | Frederick M WALD | MIA | |
| TAIL GUNNER | 32673290 | Sgt | Fred T SCHMITT | RD 848#344 | |

Were you wounded?

Type Approval Copy

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND F REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- 0-738937 YNO. LT. WILLIAM L. OLSEN

Unit:- 394 NA GP, 578 TH SAGN.

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? *NO.*
- b. If not, why? *FELL OUT OF SUIT IN JUMP.*
- 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. *(OUT OF ANOTHER KIT) IN MOUNTAINS something & chew on something & chew on is needed in mountains*

Chocolate or Peanut Bar.

Milk (tube).

Denzadrine tablets (fatigue).

Halazone tablets (water purifier). *IN MOUNTAINS*

Matches.

Adhesive tape.

Chewing gum.

Water bottle. *IN MOUNTAINS It doesn't hold much when it has tipped spilling, & hard to carry*

Compass.

Sewing kit.

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box?
- 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?

YES. INCLUDE PESETAS BY ALL MEANS.

2. PURSE

a. Did you carry a purse? *NO. YES - IN PLANE.*

State color of stripes and letters.
If NOT, State why not.

b. Did you use the purse? *NO. LOST IN JUMP.*

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

Maps. Which ones?

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.
How did you spend the money?

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion?

No.

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? NO. DID NOT HAVE ANY.
If so, how many?

b. Did you use them? NO. *The delay of my evasion and greatly endangered my helpers, as the delay was slowly walking to a place where they can't be taken!*

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? YES.
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM. NUMEROUS TIMES IN STATES + ENGLAND BY S-2 + EVADERS.

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? YES. - HAVE ENLISTED MEN TELL

SPANISH THEY ARE OFFICERS.

I include peetas in ~~the~~ purses,

fire electric boots had to walk in them a while because first helpers had no shoes. Second helpers had old shoes to buy for me. I believe new electric suits with sealed shoes, that look like regular heavy shoes, will solve the problem.

We should be told that Spain is tough + motto and of a country where here are many cases, warm men only to give name rank + ASN in Spanish questionnaires

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

3 March 1944

E & E REPORT NO 448
EVASION IN FRANCE

William L OLSEN, 2d Lt, O-738937
(1 MISSIONS)
578 Bomb Squadron, 392 Bomb Group

TARGET: LUDWIGSHAVEN

MIA: 30 December 1943
Arrived in UK:
2 March 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

| | | | | |
|--------------------|----------|-------|------------------------|-----------|
| PILOT | O-800411 | 2d Lt | James H SIBLEY | MIA |
| CO-PILOT | O-807083 | 2d Lt | Leonard VOLET | MIA |
| NAVIGATOR | O-738937 | 2d Lt | William L OLSEN | NARRATOR |
| BOMBARDIER | O-676412 | 2d Lt | Edward M BOYLE | MIA |
| RADIO OPERATOR | 32424837 | S/Sgt | Peter GARRIS | MIA |
| TOP TURRET GUNNER | 11111586 | S/Sgt | Nicholas M CARUSONE | E&E # 415 |
| BALL TURRET GUNNER | 32605431 | Sgt | John L SULLIVAN, Jr | E&E #345 |
| WAIST GUNNER | 32545151 | Sgt | Everett F SATTERLY, Jr | MIA |
| WAIST GUNNER | 66022328 | S/Sgt | Frederick M WALD | MIA |
| TAIL GUNNER | 32673290 | Sgt | Fred T SCHMITT | E&E #344 |

FLAK DAMAGE NOT
IMMEDIATELY
APPARENT

Our bombs had just been released, when we ran through a thick series of flak bursts. The ship must have been hit, but it was unnoticed at the time. Twenty minutes later the engineer, who was manning a waist gun, called the pilot on the interphone to tell him that oil was escaping from number one engine. The pilot noticed that the oil pressure had dropped considerably and feathered one engine. Another twenty minutes passed and number two engine had oil leakage, and the cylinder head temperature rose so that it was necessary to feather number two.

LOSING ALTITUDE

TOO FAST TO MAKE UK

We had dropped a mile behind the group when we lost the first engine; the group was now out of sight. We had lost altitude steadily, and the pilot asked me asked me to figure the time left for flight, if we were to continue to lose altitude at the rate of 900 feet per minute. I discovered that we would be compelled to ditch close to the French coast. With our knowledge of how a B 24 ditches, we decided to hit the silk.

The pilot gave "prepare to bale-out" over the interphone and also rang the emergency bell. I jumped after the bombardier, at 15000 feet. I turned a few somersalts to see how it felt. There was no

NO FALLING
SENSATION WHILE
FREE FALLING

falling sensation, I just floated. As there was an undercast, I pulled the rip cord almost immediately. My harness had been tightened that morning, in spite of my protests, but it still was not tight enough. I received a strong jerk which caused me to loose my escape kit, ~~as it was not fastened on my flying suit.~~ ^{as it was not} ~~When my~~ straps shot up, they knocked off my ~~my~~ helmet. When I broke through cloud cover I was over a town. I thought I would land in it, but there was a high wind which blew me 2 km further south. As I landed, both feet struck a peacefully grazing cow, and, as it ~~then~~ tore off cross-country, I flew straight into a barbed wire fence. The drag of the chute tore the fence down. By the time I had disentangled myself I was surrounded by French peasants.

LANDS AMONGST
BARBED WIRE

I did not feel that I could waste time talking to them. I rolled up my chute and shoved it under some bushes with my mae west and harness. People were still running towards me from all directions and I decided to take off cross-country. As I was making up my mind as to where I could find the most suitable hiding place, a woman motioned to me to follow her.

HIDES EQUIPMENT
PROMPTLY

We had just entered a cottage, when the husband joined us, yelling excitedly. I gathered that the Germans were on his heels. I tore out the back door and plunged into a clump of tall grass in the back yard. My face had been badly cut on landing, and as I lay there I used my silk glove as a compress to check the bleeding. The Germans immediately entered the house, and, putting guns to the heads of the couple, demanded to know where the American was.

FOLLOWED TO
FRENCH HOME
BY GERMANS

The French claimed no knowledge, but finally said admitted that I had run down the road which ran along the side of the cottage. The soldiers left soon after that, and I spent the rest of the day watching the tops of their heads and rifles as they searched down this road. From time to time the woman would glance toward my hiding place, to make sure I was still there. As soon as it was really dark the husband brought me back into the house. They gave me a pair of old trousers and a cape. Then the three of us set off cross-country to another house, where I spent the night.

GERMANS ARE
MISLEAD

PATRIOTIC FRENCH
CAN HAVE POOR
IDEAS ON EVASION

This couple, while very patriotic, was connected with no organized system of helpers. Their plan was to give me some money, a railroad ticket, and put me on the train to PARIS. This couple also tried to destroy my dog tags in their misguided enthusiasm. They did not succeed, but in all events, I had kept ~~my~~ managed to keep one tag concealed from them in my sock.

The next day, 31 December 1943, however, a person who had ~~argued~~ been a guest the previous

FRENCH SACRIFICING
FOOD TO FEED FLIERS

evening, came for me in a car. I was driven off to the home of another patriotic French family, which did everything possible to make my New Year's happy. They even went so far as to kill all their chickens, so that they would have plenty to feed me. On the afternoon of 3 January 1944, I was again whisked away in a car. From then on, the rest of my journey was arranged.

JOURNEY ARRANGED

THE PYRENEES

At 2100 hours on 10 January I started over the Pyrenees in a party which included Lt McDANAL, E&E #444 and Sgt ROSS, E&E #438. We walked up hill, through mud and rock, until 0100 hours on the 11th, when we reached a barn. We were given some bread, and a jug of wine, and we spent the rest of the day sleeping and massaging our feet. That night we set out again and I realized that being fat never slows down, as Pyrenees guides, and that they walk ^{EVEN} faster ^{up} hill. Our next rest period was spent in a pile of hay, without food or drink.

SPAIN

When we reached Spain the guides left us, ^{giving us the usual yarn} saying that we were the proverbial two hours from a nice hotel. ~~There we were to find good beds and plenty of ham and eggs.~~ We finally got there, ^{ARRIVED} that was a hayloft and there was no food at all.

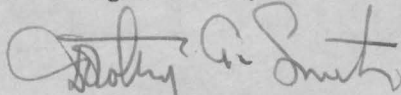
ARREST

At noon on 14 January we reached a town. We were arrested while waiting for a bus to a nearby city. The guards turned us over to a small shop-keeper whom we convinced ~~he did not have~~ ^{nothing} to worry about financially, as the consul would pay him for our lodging. This resulted in our being ^{and he} given beds and food. On the 17th of January we were taken to PAMPLONA with an armed guard.

IN SPAIN GIVE ONLY
NAME, RANK AND
SERIAL NUMBER

We were taken to the office of the civil governor and fingerprinted. We were given a card to fill out with name, address, route into Spain, etc. We put down our names and ranks, and put USA down as home address. We answered nothing else. Later Lt McDANAL and I were taken from the hotel, at which we were staying in PAMPLONA, to a military headquarters. A Spanish officer gave us a list of eighteen questions to answer. One, I remember, was on French morale; another on the location of airports. We politely, but firmly drew a line through the questions. We were taken back to the hotel and allowed to telephone the consul.

Compiled by:


DOROTHY A SMITH
Capt, WAC

Approved by:

W S HOLT
Lt Col, AC
Commanding

Alson

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

AD

10 March 1944

APPENDIX "B" TO E & E REPORT NO. 448

1. The following information has been obtained after an interview with an officer who evaded capture by the enemy, while in enemy-occupied territory.
2. Further circulation of this information may be made, but when doing so no information as to the source may be divulged.

Statement of information covering period from 30 December 1943
to 13 January 1944

- S*
- I'll*
- a. Hearsay that the Germans have an experimental rocket field at ~~ISLE DE~~ ADAM from which they intend to send radio controlled rockets with four bursting charges; each ^{CHARGE IS} capable of sending the rocket 50 km on the way to LONDON. The installation is said to be buried 80 meters in the ground. This is the only field of its kind in France, and it is well-protected.
 - b. Hearsay that the results of the raid of 31 December on the Hispano ~~Guiza~~ plant in PARIS were very bad. Many private homes were hit, while the target was missed.
 - c. The arrogance and contempt for the French felt by the ~~German officers~~ ^{of the German officers and their} ~~was still~~ apparent in PARIS in January. *were*
 - d. More soldiers sailors, and members of the Luftwaffe, were observed in BORDEAUX in January than in PARIS. Many troops were observed in transit, *going north and south* both to the north and the south, between PARIS and BORDEAUX. Soldiers often travelled in "40 and 8" cars and in many cases there were a good number of ~~peace~~ ^{guns} artillery on the trains.

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND F REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- 0-738937, 2nd Lt, William L OLSEN

Unit:- 392 Bomb Group, 578 Bomb Squadron

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? No.
- b. If not, why? Fell out of suit in jump.
- 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. (out of another kit) In mountains. It was something to chew on and something to chew on is needed in the mountains.
Chocolate or Peanut Bar.

Milk (tube).

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue).

Halazone tablets (water purifier). Used in the mountains

Matches.

Adhesive tape.

Chewing gum.

Water bottle. Used in the mountains. It doesn't hold much when it has stopped spilling and it is hard to carry.

Compass.

Sewing kit.

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box?
- 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?

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? Yes.
State color of stripes and letters.
If NOT, State why not.
- b. Did you use the purse? No. lost in jump.

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

Maps. Which ones?

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.
How did you spend the money?

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion?

4. PASSEPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

- a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? No. Did not have any. They were
If so, how many? taken a week before but not yet developed. This
delayed my evasion and greatly endangered my helpers,
b. Did you use them? as the Gestapo was closely watching the place where
they had to be taken.

5. LECTURES

- a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? Yes.
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM. Numerous times in States and England by
S-2 and evaders.

- 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? Yes. Have enlisted men tell
Spanish they are officers. Include pestas in purses.

I wore electric boots and had to walk in them a while because my first
helpers had no shoes for me. Second helpers had old suedes which were too
big for me. I believe the new electric suits with heated shoes that look
like regular heavy shoes will solve the shoe problem. We should be told that
Spain is tough and not the end of everything. In many cases, warn
men, only give name, rank and serial number. In Spain there are many
questions asked and there are many German spies.

On the 30th day of December, 1943, I was sailing blithly along in my B-24, returning to base in England. I thought, after a successful bombing on Ludwigshaven, Germany. Right after the bombs were released and we were turning off we ran through a thick series of flak bursts, some of which undoubtedly hit our ship although it was unnoticed at the time. About 20 minutes after leaving the target, the engineer, who was manning waist gun, called the pilot on interphone informing him that oil was escaping from No. 1 engine. Pilot noticed oil pressure had dropped considerably and feathered engine OK. About 20 minutes later No 2 had oil leakage and cylinder head temperature had risen and it was necessary to feather No 2 which was not as successful as it windmilled very slowly at times. By this time we had dropped a mile or so behind the group and had lost considerable altitude, dropping from about 24,000 feet to 19,000 with No 1 out and after both were out the group went out of sight. Pilot asked me to figure amount of time left for flight from time plane was at about 10,000 feet losing altitude at rate of about 900 ft. per min. and it developed that we would be compelled to ditch a short way off French coast or bail out. Knowing how a 24

Capt Harris

On the 30th day of December, 1943, I was sailing
slightly along in by B-24 returning to base in England.
I thought, after a successful bombing on Ludwigshafen,
Germany. Right after the bombs were released and we were
turning off we ran through a thick series of flak bursts,
some of which undoubtedly hit our ship although it was
unnoticed at the time. About 20 minutes after leaving the
target, the engineer, who was manning what gun, called
the pilot on interphone informing him that oil was escaping
from No. 1 engine. Pilot noticed oil pressure had dropped
considerably and feathered engine OK. About 20 minutes
later No. 2 had oil leakage and cylinder head temperature
had risen and it was necessary to feather No. 2 which was
not as successful as I anticipated very slowly at times.
By this time we had dropped a mile or so behind the group
and had lost considerable altitude, dropping from about
14,000 feet to 12,000 with No. 1 out and after both were
out the group went out of sight. Pilot asked me to figure
amount of time left for flight from time plane was at about
10,000 feet losing altitude at rate of about 900 ft. per
min. and it developed that we would be compelled to ditch
a short way of French coast or pull out. Knowing now a B-24

A. 2 94 JH

Casey

1st idea for ditching a wader impression that already over water
then Olsen insisted over land so after seeing pilot gone take-out

2

ditches we decided to hit the silk. Pilot gave warning over
interphone and by emergency bell. I helped Bombardier out of
turret and followed him to bombays. He finally jumped out
of bay after gentle persuasion and I followed. This was at
about 1500. There was ^{turned a few somersaults to see how it felt} an undercast so I opened chute almost ^{no falling}
immediately. getting a juicy jerk and losing escape kit in ^{lightened that my wings were not of protest} ^{on back} ^{all floating}
my flight suit as well as helmet which was knocked off of my
bean by ^{no fastening} straps flying up as they do in RAF chutes. After
breaking thru undercast I saw I was floating over town (~~Luxvie~~
(Louviers) which I thought I was going to land in by ^{due to}
a high wind I landed about 2 kilos south - my feet first hitti
ting a nice cow which was peacefully munching some grass and
then flying into a barbwire fence which ^{had to drag it to shale} was torn down and
inflicted a bad cut in my cheek as well as numerous scratches
(I'm bucking for the Purple Heart). Aforementioned cowwent
galloping across the countryside at about 40 MPH losing at
least a months supply of milk. I finally managed to disentangl
myself and by that time numerous French peasants had galloped
up from nearby areas. I didn't stop to chat with them but
gathered up my chute and Mae-west and stuck them under some
bushes. As many people were running up from all directions I
thought it best to take off cross country and while looking
for a suitable place to hide a French girl mentioned for

Wade pulled out
Wade pulled out
Wade pulled out

me to follow her. As she was fairly pretty I did so without hesitation. She led me to a cottage but almost immediately her husband came rushing in excitedly yelling what I gathered to be the Germans were coming in droves. I immediately took off but spying a nice plot of grass in her back yard plunged into that and lay motionless, using my silk glove as a compress to stop the flow of blood from my cheek (Same Purple Heart) Some German soldiers immediately went into the house and putting guns to the heads of the peasants demanded to know where the American was. They said they did not know but think I ran down a road alongside the house. After a bit I heard them leave but still lay motionless until dark meanwhile taking enjoyment out of watching the heads of Germans going down the road looking for me. (I only saw their heads and tops of their guns due to a hedge which hid the rest of them) At last when night fell (boom) the girl, named Aimee, and her hubby took me into their house and gave me a pair of trousers and cape and I then walked with them to their house in the town of Louviers. The house in the country belonged to Aimee's mother. I stayed there that night - Dec 30 - and they informed me that they would give me some money and a rail ticket to Paris for the next AM where I would travel all alone and would make my own way as this outfit was not connected with any organization in any way. However, later that

I tried to burn the house down but help me out of the house in a week

(By one of the many ⁴ guests Jeanne) She was going to come back ^{to speak me up}
 night I was informed that other persons had found out of my
 presence and that I would be flown back to England the next
 night. In the meantime they filled me full of wine and Pernoud
 and I slept very well. They ^{31st Avenue under lead died in Paris} next night I was picked up by
 a lady who led me to a car where her husband drove me to her
 home a bit on the outskirts of town. Womans name was Jeanne
 and husbands name Rene - name and address unknown. - Husband
 was a Forester or something and cut down trees. They were
 fairly well to do and had many chickens, etc, which they
 killed off rapidly so that I would be well fed. As that was
 New Years Eve we got properly stiff and retired. I stayed
 there four days and talked to a Mssr. Verny, 2nd chief cook
 to Prince of Wales at Buckingham palace in 1909. who spoke
 a bit of English, and who was eager to have his name men-
 tioned to Intelligence. On Jan. 3, in the afternoon, I was
 picked up by an ex France Army officer in his car who drove
 me to his home and gave me a very nice suit and two cognacs
 after which he drove me to a town called Veñnon and took me
 to the house of Madam Fournier. That evening I met there
^{see sent us 8 wine Convoisier, a nurse (VD lost for 6) for}
 Sgt. Carusone, S/Sgt Peter Garris and Lt. Edward O'Boyle,
^{to meet, Carusone here several days,}
 gunner, radio operater and Bombardier respectively on my
 crew. We had identity pictures taken and cards made and the
 following day were taken by her husband to Paris by train.

Hand new photo from Jeanne

*She was in Paris in 1944
 first because of new type
 of tanks each of land address
 Hope also met at well Smith &
 wife who had to report regularly
 if they were in Paris*

At the station in Vernon we also picked up a so-called Polack who had supposedly escaped from a German labor camp and who accompanied us. Name Alex, blond, age 19 and a bastard.

We got to Paris at about 2100 that evening, Jan. 4, and were met at the train by a French Gendarmerie, Monsieur Bernard, who took us to a tavern where we dined and there we met Mssr.

Robert Thiriet, our blessed benefactor. He was an ex French soldier who had lost both legs at Dunkirk but who had more than enough guts to make up for it. At about 11 PM that

evening a flock of females came to the tavern, one for each escapee, and we left with them making it appear as if we

had just come from a party. Among them was Paulette Echaroux

(with me) and her girl friend ^{GERMAINE} Geryman or something like that

with Carusone. We split up, the four of us going to Paulettes apartment where Carusone and myself were to stay - address

19 Rue Bridaine. Paulette, incidentally was the sister of

Robert who was running the show. (Address 14 Rue Bridaine)

From this point on Carusone and myself saw very little of other crew members and Alex who were staying over some tavern

address unknown. We were marvelloussly wined and dined, going out to taverns, theatres, subway riding and partys with

Paulette, Robert, Bernard and friends. About four days later,

Mlle Lilly would come into play cards

(over)

had helped
400
aware of Tr
wanted
& telling
down hold
gestapo

Two to four times Paulettes had
been in NY. He said they were closer
but 5 to many of female affection

~~One~~ About Feb¹⁵ met a man in a tavern with whom Robert
talked for 1 1/2 hr (Robert talked long in Paris). This man
may have been called Philippe & was head of the
Cigarette? Had an official job in police dept.
by next am G. had shot him & took out his tongue
6 allied women caught with him

Once Gestapo came into cafe when we
were there. Barman signalled us. Gendarme
Bernard went & demanded their papers &
wrested them saying ~~not~~ not in order. While
this went on we left.

Met Dolores Turner brother was
dead under at Piccadilly, used to act
as interpreter for his Turner maiden
name. Married Turner lives in
Paris. Gives picture & Gordon address
to all evaders

Robert took C and myself for a train ride - it was a Saturday Jan. 8 or nearby. We left on a 7:45 am train for Bordeaux. Incidentally we had more photos taken ~~and~~ new identity cards in Paris. We arrived in Bordeaux at about 1800 that evening where we walked around for a couple of hours waiting for a train for Dax. ^{1st} Train ride was uneventful. It was loaded with German soldiers who traveled 1st class (we went 3rd) and we ate in the diner on train with a flock of German pigs as dining mates. We left for Dax about 7 PM arriving there at about 9:30. Upon arrival Robert took us immediately to family there who fed us and put us up. Next day - Sunday + Robert and wife of this bloke went to theatre and this fellow (name unknown to me possibly C knew it) took us for a most miserable bike ride to Pyrohadade and return, distance 48 kilos round trip after which C and self were in a state of near exhaustion. The following morning were awakened by Lt McDanal and Sgt. Ross and we were all taken for a ride in an old beat up charcoal burning truck to a large house about 30 kilos south of Pyrohadade accompanied by Robert and friends of Mc and Ross. We stayed in this house until the following night, Jan 10, when we were met by a guide at about 2100 who was to start our walking tour over the Pyrenees. We walked through loads of mud and rocks and about 4 kilos from the house we met another guide and the two of them walked the

Handwritten note:
 Dax
 Bordeaux
 Paris

Handwritten note:
 Here
 Robert
 turned
 back.

what you call it off of the four of us and at about one AM the next morning they poured us into a barn on top of a high hill with assurances that we would be met that night by more guides (Robert paid off the ~~guides~~ ^{8,000 per man believe} man at the last house and gave us a few hundred francs for expenses or something.) That morning a woman brought us a jug of wine and some bread which we put away quickly and we then spent a boring day mostly rubbing our feet. That night were met by another guide who was also a fast fast walker and a few hours later another guide rel^lieved him who could walk faster, especially up hill. That night we also slept in a pile of hay and the entire next day we sweat it out without food or water until late that evening when we were brought some bread and wine. A little later we were met by two more guides, one French and one Spanish, who walked us right out of France into Spain, leaving us at the frontier. All of the guides took our name, rank and no. They told us to walk a couple of hours more and we would come to a hotel where we would get ham and eggs and a nice bed. We finally came to the "hotel" and after a couple of miserable cold hours in another hayloft without food we set out again, arriving at about noon of the 14th in a little town called Orbaceita. There we inquired and found out a bus left for Pamplona on the 17th. The Spanish military police finally picked us up in the

*Dark least notebook & folder
paper with notes that made us
think some had some in addition*

*not worried about
saw. There is
sleep - not alone
from some of them*

town and turned us over to a good little joe named Geronimo who owned small general store. After some persuasion we convinced him that the consul would take care of him and he arranged for real beds for us to sleep in and gave us food. (I have his card in my envelope, also pictures of Robert and Paulette) On the morning of the 17th we took a bus to Pamplona accompanied by two armed soldiers. They took us to the Cibil Gobierno (civil governer) where we were fingerprinted and given a card to fill out with place for names, addresses, way we got into Spain, etc. We only gave our names and rank and put USA as home and left other spaces blank. Enlisted men were given identity cards, officers none and we were all taken to Fonda Pascuelana who was in pay of consul. Officers, Mc and self, were taken to some soldiers headquarters, where Spanish officer gave us a long list of heeey to fill out, including 18 questions on French morale, airports, airfields, etc. which we ~~filled~~ did not answer merely drawing a line after the questions or putting no information down. Mc and I were taken back to Fonda ~~from~~ where we called consul in Bilboa, Mr. Wannamker, who saw to it that we had clothes furnished, cigs, and everything else. That same day enlisted men, C and R, were taken by train to Lecumberry - about 12 kilos from Pamplona -

*Pascual Pascuelana
 Fonda Pascuelana
 Consul
 Bilboa
 Spain
 to work*

and Mc and I were left there. We stayed in Pamplona almost three weeks. We were free to do as we liked and ate pastries, chocolates, went to movies (in Spanish) with Senoritas and generally had a pretty fair time. We called the consul often for money and smokes and generally drove him crazy. A few weeks later we were picked up, including all enlisted men and a few new arrivals, by a spanish Lt. in the air force and taken to Zaragoza, arriving there late on a Sat. nite. We tore loose in Z for a day or ~~two~~ and left on the following Monday by air force bus for ALHAMA de Aragon. We were very well treated there and were picked up about 12 days later by Col. C. W. Cousland, Military Attache, who took us to Madrid by car. (Jan. 18) There were ~~3~~ 26 of us by that time. We left that same evening for Gib. and arrived there the evening of the 19th. We were issued uniforms - to some extent - and after about 9 days in Gib. left by plane for England and here I am.

Special Notes.

Was told by fellow who drove me in car from Louviers to Vernon that three of my crew were prisoner. C met Satterly, Schmidt and Sullivan in barn in France and I supposed it was 3 of them although I have since discovered Schmidt and Sullivan have been through here. Evidently entire crew is at least alive.

Don't know how reliable information is worth but have already given same to Lt. Emerson.

C. Olsen 448

The young wife who took me into her house as soon as I landed was Amée. The house of which she took me on 30 December is really her mother's, she and her husband live in Louviers and they took me there that night, Her sister lived in Paris on the 31st so I was passed onto Jeanne and René a forester and his wife who live on the outskirts of Louviers. I stayed here until 3 January. While here I met M. Perry 2nd chief cook of the Prince of Wales in 1909. I also met a man named Atwell Smith and his wife, who have to report of the police regularly.

On 3 January an French

Army officers drove me to his home, where he gave me good civilian clothing, and then took me to Mme Fournier in Narbon. She sent us on to Mme Couvresier who is a nurse in a V.D. hospital for Germans. Here I met Sgt Carson E & E Rpt # , S/Sgt Peter Garros and Lt Edward O'Boyle of my crew. Our pictures were taken and I cards were made ^{by Mme Fournier.} The following day her husband took us to Paris by train. Alex and I near old Pole who had supposedly escaped from a German labor camp joined us at the Narbon railroad station.

We reached Paris on 4 January and were met at the station by M. Bernard a

gendarme. He took us to a
 Tavern for dinner. Here we
 met Robert Thiriet who was
 in charge of us from then on. He
 had lost both his legs at Dunkirk
 At 23 hours we were joined
 by a group of women and left
 to go to a tavern. Carusone and
 I stayed with Paulette Echaroux

19 Rue Bridaine. Germaine, her
 friend brought Carusone to the
 apartment. Paulette is Robert's
 sister. He lives at 14 Rue Bridaine.
 This was the first time Paulette
 had been involved in the evasion
 business, but Robert could not
 handle five of us without her
 help. We were very well treated
 here. M. Bernard called often
 and Mlle Kelly would come to
 play cards. About 6 January

while in a tavern with Robert,
 I met a man, who I believe
 was called Philippe. He was
 head of something called the Chouette.
 He had some sort of official job
 in the police department. By next
 morning the Germans had shot him
 after tearing out his tongue. Six
 allied women were caught with
 him. On another occasion,
 when we were in a cafe, the Gestapo
 came in. The barman signalled
 us and Bernard gave us
 time to get away, but going up
 to them and demanding their papers
 and then arresting them because
 he claimed that they were not
 in order. While at Paulette's
 we met Dolores Turner. Her
 brother is the head waiter at the
 Piccadilly. Turner is her maiden

name. She is married to a Frenchman and lives in Paris. She gives her picture and London address to all the readers she meets. She acted as an interpreter for us.

On 8 January Robert took me and Carson to Bordeaux by train. We had had new Teal made in Paris. Here we caught a train to Dax. Here we were fed and put up for the night with a French family. On Sunday Robert and his wife went to the theater, his husband took us on a 48 km bicycle ride. We were exhausted and furious when we found that we weren't going anywhere except on his idea of a pleasure trip.

On 10 January we were joined by Lt McDonald E 7 Rpt and Lt Ross E 7 Rpt. We were taken, in an old cleared

trucks, & a large house 30 km
south of Peirebrade. Robert
left us at this house.

On 10 January the Pyrenees
guides came for us and we
~~started~~ the trip over the mountains
(See main report)

I believe Robert paid the
guide 8000 francs for each of
us. All the mountain guides
took our name, rank, and ASN.
As I understand it when the
Germans check your I card
in France now, they also check
to see if you have bread coupons
and a "carte de la guerre."

At Pamplona, two weeks
after reaching Spain, I talked
to a Swiss boy named Izzi
who had been with Robert. Izzi
speaks fluent German. When the

Gestapo came for Robert. He escaped through a toilet window and paid a taxi - driver 4000 francs to take him 18 km out of town. He says he returned later to find city deserted and the stores open. Izzie wants to get into American paratroopers and told Spanish he was an American!

He had been made available to army and escaped after 3 years

Izzie told me that when Robert left ~~me and~~ Carusone and myself he collected O'Boyle, Jarvis and Alex in Paris and brought them to Peyrehorade with a boy from Sgt Ross' crew. Due to Alex they were all caught by the Gestapo, whether this was due to Alex's stupidity or to his being a stool-pigeon is not clear. While he was in Paris a pair of Storm Troopers pants were

8,

found in this pack, and there
was some talk of killing him.
He is 5 ft 7 in tall about 18 years
old weighs 135 lbs and knew a
few words of English. Blond and
blue eyed he used a long dangling
cigarette holder. He had a very
bad I card and talked very little
when with us. He said he was on
his way to join the British Infantry
in Italy. When he reached
Peyrehorade with Robert he got
a girl and went through the town
boasting that he was ~~and~~ evader
traveling with American women.
The word spread through the
town like wild fire. The ~~platoon~~
who had treated the boy from Pozo's
crew, warned Robert before
making his own get away. Carson
Daw ~~show~~ in Le Camber. Later
The Gestapo got the group in a

9.

Hotel and Robert was executed,
according to ~~the~~ Izzj.

Robert carried a notebook
with him, which gave, in
code, the names and addresses
of other helpers. Someone is
supposed, however, to have been
able to warn the Paris people
to take cover.

~~Just after our bombs were~~
~~released,~~ Our bombs had just been
released, when we ran through
a thick series of flak bursts.

~~So~~ The ship must have been
hit, but it was unnoticed at
the time. Twenty minutes later,

Flak damage to the engineer, who was manning
not a waist gun, called the pilot on
immediately the interphone, & told him that
apparent oil was escaping from number one
engine. The pilot, noticed that
the oil pressure had dropped
considerably, and feathered the
engine. Another twenty minutes
passed and number two engine
had oil leakage and the cylinder
head temperatures rose so that it
was necessary to feather number
two.

We had ~~dropped~~ dropped a
mile behind group ~~when we~~ lost
lost the first engine; the group was now

out of sight. We lost altitude steadily, ~~at a~~ ~~considerable~~ ~~altitude~~. The pilot ~~was flying at 10,000 ft.~~ asked me to figure the time left for losing flight, if we were to continue to lose altitude at the rate of 900 ft per minute. I discovered that we would be compelled to enter close to the French coast. With our knowledge of how a B 24 ditched, we decided to hit the hills.

The pilot gave "prepare to bail-out" over the interphone, and also rang the emergency bells. I jumped after the bombardier at 15,000 feet. I turned a few somersaults to see how it felt. There was no falling sensation. I felt no falling floated. As there was an undercast sensation, I pulled the rip-cord almost immediately while my harness had been tightened that free falling matter, in spite of my protests, but it still was not tight enough, and I received a strong jerk which caused me to loose my escape but as there was not fastening on my flying suit. When my straps

shot up they knocked off my helmet. When I broke through, cloud cover I was over a town. Thought I would land in it, but there was a high wind which blew me ~~in~~ 2 km further south. As I landed, both feet struck

land
amongst
barbed wire

after a peacefully grazing cow, and as it tore off cross-country, I flew straight into a barbed wire fence. The drag of the chute, tore the fence down. By the time I had disentangled myself, I was surrounded by 4 ranch peasants.

I did not feel that I could afford to waste time talking to them. I rolled up my chute, and ~~stuck~~ it under

Hides
Equipment
Promptly

some bushes with my mail bag and harness. People were still running toward me from all directions and I

decided to talk off cross-country. As I was making up my mind as to where I would find the most suitable hiding place, ~~someone~~ a woman mentioned to me to follow her.

We had just entered a cottage, when the husband joined us, yelling excitedly. I gathered that the Germans were on his heels. I tore out

Followed to the back door, and plunged
of F road into a clump of tall grass in
home by the back yard. My face had
Germans been badly cut on landing,
and I used ^{as a bandage} one silk glove
as a compress to ~~stanch~~ to
check the bleeding. The Germans
immediately entered the house,
and putting guns to the heads
of the couple, demanded to know
where the American was.

(5)

no knowledge, but finally ^{admitted} that
The French claimed that
I had run down the road which
ran along the side of the cottage.
The soldiers left soon after that,
and I spent the rest of the day
watching the tops of their heads
and rifles as they ^{swayed down}
the road. From time to time
I would glance at
my hiding place, & make
sure I was still there. As
soon as it was really dark,
the husband brought me back
into the house. They gave me
a pair of old trousers, and a
cape. Then the three of us
set off, cross-country, for another
house, where I spent the night.

This couple, while very
patriotic, was connected with
no organized system of helpers.

(6)

Their plan was to give me some money, a railroad ticket and put me on to train to Paris.

Patriotic French
often
can have
poor ideas
on occasion

This couple also tried to destroy my dog tags in their misguided enthusiasm. They did not succeed, but in all events, I had managed to keep one tag concealed from them in my sock.

The next day, 31 December 1943,

however, a person who had been a guest the previous evening, came for me in a car. I was driven off to another patriotic

French
sacrificing
Food
represent

family, who did everything possible to make my New Year's happy one. They even went so far as to kill all their chickens so that they would have plenty to feed me. On the afternoon of 3 January 1944, I was again

(7)

wisked away in a car. From then
on, the rest of my journey was
arranged.

at 21.00 hours on 10 January
I started over the Pyrenees in a
party which included Lt Mc Daval
Lt Ross and Sgt Ross.

We walked up hill, through
mud and rocks, until 07.00
hours on the 11th when we reached
The Pyrenees a barn. We were given some
bread, and a jug of wine, and
spent the rest of the day sleeping
and massaging our feet. That
night we set out again and I
realized, that being fat means
slow down a ^{Pyrenees} ~~mountain~~ guide,
and that they all walk much
faster going up hill. Our next
rest period was spent in a
pile of hay, without food
or drink.

When we reached Spain

(8)

to guides left us, saying
that we were the proverbial
two hours from a nice hotel.
Here we were to find good beds
and plenty of lam and eggs. We
finally got there; it was a
hayloft, and there was no
food at all.

At noon on 14 January
we reached a town. We were
arrested while waiting for a
bus to a nearby city. They turned
us over to a small shop keeper
whom we convinced had nothing
about financially - the consul
was to pay him. It has resulted
in our being given beds and
food. On the 17th of January
we were taken to Samploa with
an armed guard.
~~Here~~ We were taken to

the office of the civil government
and finger pointed. We were
given a card to fill out with
name, address, route into Spain
etc. We put down our names
and ranks, and put U.S.A. down
as home address. We answered
nothing else.

In
Spain
give
only
name
rank
and
serial
number

Later Lt McDaniel and I
were taken from the hotel, at
which we were staying in Pamplona,
of a military headquarters. A
Spanish officer gave us a
list of eighteen questions to
answer. One, I remember, was on
French morale, another on the
location of our ports. We ^{politely but firmly} drew
a line through the questions.
We were taken back to the
hotel and allowed to telephone
the consul.

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
to.....

For Rocket Gun see 'Additional notes'

In about Jan. 7 was told that Sec. 31 raid on aircraft plant in Paris (Hufano?) was dismal failure bombs hitting every dwelling in vicinity except target

German soldiers in Vernon (barracks there) were a lot younger and a lot of them were poorly equipped as compared with the soldiers that were there a few months previously. French attributed this to fact that many were lost on the Russian front and the Huns were calling up the youngsters.

On train ride from Paris to Bordeaux noticed an very great number of German soldiers in regular and troop trains, moving in both directions (north and south) (many traveled in 40 and 8 cars - in many cases there were many artillery pieces on the trains) indicating that they are preparing a great reception for the invasion. Bordeaux itself had the greatest concentration of both soldiers, Luftwaffe and sailors that I have seen in France. (Also included were girls in auxiliary service to Luftwaffe who wore green uniforms - dark - and matching overseas caps with Luftwaffe wings on cap.)

(over)

In Paris noticed that many more of the regular German soldiers were very young and some of them were poorly equipped with old and poor fitting uniforms. The officers seemed to be very much better clothed and I was impressed by their arrogance and contempt of the French which was more than doubly returned.

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH
MIS (X)

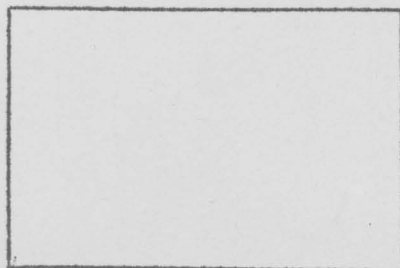
HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
P/W and X Detachment
Military Intelligence Service

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1. Full Name, Rank, and Serial No. WILLIAM A. OLSEN, 2ND LT. - 0-738937
2. Decorations. NONE - YET
3. Unit or Squadron. 392ND GP., 578TH SQAN.
4. Division (Army) or Group. 392ND GP.
5. Date of Birth. JAN. 24, 1919
6. Length of Service. 1 1/4 YEARS.
7. Private Address. 3549 EVERGREEN AVE., CHICAGO, ILL.
8. Job as civilian. CHIEF CLERK - CAGO. UNION STATION CO.
9. From what field did you take off? WENDLING
10. Take off time. 0800.
11. Date and target. DEC. 30, 1943 - LUDWIGSHAVEN
12. Where did you land? NORMANDY, FRANCE - NEAR LOUVIERS. 2km
13. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? YES - IN CRASH.
14. What was your position in aircraft? NAVIGATOR.
15. Were you wounded? CUT WHEN LANDING IN CHUTE.
16. Did you pay your guides? If so how much? NO. - PAID BY ORGANIZATION.
17. Do you speak French? Spanish? NO.
18. Did you have Identity Papers? NOT IN PLANE. FURNISHED BY FRENCH.
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?
QUESTIONED BY BRITISH G-2 IN MADRID BY ORDER OF MILITARY ATTACHE.
NOTHING WRITTEN.
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. IN MADRID ABOUT FEB. 19 AND IN GIBRALTAR FEB. 21.
22. Date of arrival in Spain. JAN. 13, 1944
23. Date of arrival at Gibraltar. FEB. 19, 1944
24. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air. GIB. MAR. 2, 1944 - BY AIR
25. Place and date of arrival in U.K. SWINDON, ENG., ON MAR. 2, 1944.

NAME _____ RANK _____ ASN _____ REPORT NO. _____

SQ _____ GROUP _____ A/C NO. _____ Letter _____ Load _____ Date _____



Position in formation.
Make Diagram

Observed results of Bombing:

Enemy Fighter Tactics:

Markings:

Our Tactics:

Our Fighter Support:

Flak

Time

Place

Quality

Technical Failures

Motors:

Armor:

Armament:

Miscellaneous:

Comments and Suggestions on any of the above:

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) WILLIAM A. OLSEN Signed William A. Olsen
 Rank 2nd Lt. A.S.N. 0-738937 Date Feb. 19, 1945
 Unit 392nd Gp., 578th Sqn. Witness Harold W. Smith

Cd-G.S.C.

Handwritten signature/initials in a circle

SECRET - AMERICAN
 MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO. 448
 EVASION IN France

MAR. 3, 1944
 (Date)

OLSEN, WILLIAM L. 1ND LT. 0-738937
 (Name) (Rank) (ASN)

578 TH 394 ND
 (Squadron) (Group)

TARGET:

MIA: DEC. 30, 1943
 Arrived in UK Spain
OCT. 21, 1943
13 Jan 44
UK - 2 March 44

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWID)

| | | | Official Disposition | Narrators Disposition |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| PILOT | JAMES M. SIELEY | YND LT. 0-800411 | | |
| CO-PILOT | LEONARD (NMI) VOLET | " " | | BELIEVED DEAD |
| NAVIGATOR | OLSEN, W.L. | " " | | THATS ME |
| BOMBARDIER | ✓ EDWARD O'BOYLE | " " [BORROWED FROM ANOTHER CREW] | | PRISONER |
| RADIO OPERATOR | ✓ PETER (NMI) GARRIS | S/SGT | | PRISONER |
| TOP TURRET GUNNER | V.M. CARUSONE | SGT. | | ESCAPED (WITH ME) |
| BALL TURRET GUNNER | J.L. SULLIVAN | SGT. | | BELIEVED PRISONER |
| ENGINEER | SATTERLEY | S/SGT | | PRISONER |
| WAIST GUNNER | WALL | SGT (NEW MAN) | | PRISONER |
| WAIST GUNNER | FRED SCHMITT | SGT. | | BELIEVED PRISONER |

Were you wounded? YES - IN BAILING OUT.

Handwritten notes:
 refused to bail out...
 new man...
 back in full pit...
 EYE# 2
 2005 - 2 days later

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) WILLIAM L. OLSEN
Rank 2ND LT. (DET) A. S. N. 0-938937
Unit 3rd Inf. 578TH SQDN.

Signed William L. Olsen
Dated Aug. 4, 1944
Witness Walter E. Smith Capt WAC

RESTRICTED

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO. 448
EVASION IN FRANCE

3 March 1944
(Date)

William L OLSEN, 2d Lt, 0-738937
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

578 Bomb Sq, 392 Bomb Group
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET:

MIA: 30 December 1943

Arrived in UK:

2 March 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

| | | | | Official Disposition | Narrators Disposition |
|--------------------|----------|-------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| PILOT | 0-800411 | 2d Lt | James H SIBLEY | MIA | |
| CO-PILOT | 0-807083 | 2d Lt | Leonard VOLET | MIA | |
| NAVIGATOR | 0-738937 | 2d Lt | William L OLSEN | NARRATOR | |
| BOMBARDIER | 0-676412 | 2d Lt | Edward M BOYLE | MIA | |
| RADIO OPERATOR | 32424837 | S/Sgt | Peter GARRIS | MIA | |
| TOP TURRET GUNNER | 11111586 | S/Sgt | Nicholas M CARUSONE | RD <i>Ed E # 415</i> | |
| BALL TURRET GUNNER | 32605431 | Sgt | John ^I SULLIVAN, JR | RD <i>Ed E # 340</i> | |
| WAIST GUNNER | 32545151 | Sgt | Everett F SATTERLY, JR | MIA | |
| WAIST GUNNER | 16022328 | S/Sgt | Frederick M WALD | MIA | |
| TAIL GUNNER | 32673290 | Sgt | Fred T SCHMITT | RD <i>Ed E # 344</i> | |

Were you wounded?

Type Approval Copy

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- *D-738937* *YNO. LT.* *WILLIAM L. OLSEN*

Unit:- *397 NA GP, 578 TH SAON.*

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? *NO.*
- b. If not, why? *FELL OUT OF SUIT IN JUMP.*
- 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. (OUT OF ANOTHER KIT) IN MOUNTAINS *something I chew on*
Chocolate or Peanut Bar. *something I chew on is needed in the mountains*

Milk (tube).

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue).

Halazone tablets (water purifier). IN MOUNTAINS

Matches.

Adhesive tape.

Chewing gum.

Water bottle. IN MOUNTAINS *It doesn't hold much when it has tipped spilling, & hard to carry*

Compass.

Sewing kit.

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box?
- 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?
YES. INCLUDE PESTAS BY ALL MEANS.

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? *NO. YES - IN PLANE.*
State color of stripes and letters.
If NOT, State why not.

- b. Did you use the purse? *NO. LOST IN JUMP.*

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

Maps. Which ones?

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.
How did you spend the money?

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion?

NO.

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? NO. DID NOT HAVE ANY.
If so, how many?

b. Did you use them? NO - my helpers, as the delay of my evasion and greatly endangered the place where they had to be taken. *not yet developed taken week before*

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? YES.
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM. NUMEROUS TIMES IN STATES + ENGLAND BY S-2 + EVADERS.

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? YES. - HAVE ENLISTED MEN TELL

SPANISH THEY ARE OFFICERS!

I include peetas in ~~the~~ purses,

my first helpers had no shoes. Second helpers had old shoes which were to big for me. I believe the new electric suits with sealed shoes that look like regular heavy shoes, will solve the shoe problem.

We should be told that Spain is tough + not the end of operation where here are many questions in many cases, warm men ought to give some rank + ASN in Spain many questions further are

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

3 March 1944

E & E REPORT NO 448
EVASION IN FRANCE

William L OLSEN, 2d Lt, O-738937
(1 MISSIONS)
578 Bomb Squadron, 392 Bomb Group
~~(1 MISSION)~~

TARGET: LUDWIGSHAUEN

MIA: 30 December 1943
Arrived in UK:
2 March 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

| | | | | |
|--------------------|----------|-------|------------------------|-----------|
| PILOT | O-800411 | 2d Lt | James H SIBLEY | MIA |
| CO-PILOT | O-807083 | 2d Lt | Leonard VOLET | MIA |
| NAVIGATOR | O-738937 | 2d Lt | William L OLSEN | NARRATOR |
| BOMBARDIER | O-676412 | 2d Lt | Edward M BOYLE | MIA |
| RADIO OPERATOR | 32424837 | S/Sgt | Peter GARRIS | MIA |
| TOP TURRET GUNNER | 11111586 | S/Sgt | Nicholas M CARUSONE | E&E # 415 |
| BALL TURRET GUNNER | 32605431 | Sgt | John L SULLIVAN, Jr | E&E #345 |
| WAIST GUNNER | 32545151 | Sgt | Everett F SATTERLY, Jr | MIA |
| WAIST GUNNER | 6022328 | S/Sgt | Frederick M WALD | MIA |
| TAIL GUNNER | 32673290 | Sgt | Fred T SCHMITT | E&E #344 |

FLAK DAMAGE NOT
IMMEDIATELY
APPARENT

Our bombs had just been released, when we ran through a thick series of flak bursts. The ship must have been hit, but it was unnoticed at the time. Twenty minutes later the engineer, who was manning a waist gun, called the pilot on the interphone to tell him that oil was escaping from number one engine. The pilot noticed that the oil pressure had dropped considerably and feathered one engine. Another twenty minutes passed and number two engine had oil leakage, and the cylinder head temperature rose so that it was necessary to feather number two.

LOSING ALTITUDE

TOO FAST TO MAKE UK

We had dropped a mile behind the group when we lost the first engine; the group was now out of sight. We had lost altitude steadily, and the pilot asked me asked me to figure the time left for flight, if we were to continue to lose altitude at the rate of 900 feet per minute. I discovered that we would be compelled to ditch close to the French coast. With our knowledge of how a B 24 ditches, we decided to hit the silk.

The pilot gave "prepare to bale-out" over the interphone and also rang the emergency bell. I jumped after the bombardier, at 1500 feet. I turned a few somersalts to see how it felt. There was no

NO FALLING
SENSATION WHILE
FREE FALLING

falling sensation, I just floated. As there was an undercast, I pulled the rip cord almost immediately. My harness had been tightened that morning, in spite of my protests, but it still was not tight enough. I received a strong jerk which caused me to lose my escape kit, as it was not fastened on my flying suit. When my straps shot up, they knocked off my ~~my~~ helmet. When I broke through cloud cover I was over a town. I thought I would land in it, but there was a high wind which blew me 2 km further south. As I landed, both feet struck a peacefully grazing cow, and, as it ~~then~~ tore off cross-country, I flew straight into a barbed wire fence. The drag of the chute tore the fence down. By the time I had disentangled myself I was surrounded by French peasants.

LANDS AMONGST
BARBED WIRE

I did not feel that I could waste time talking to them. I rolled up my chute and shoved it under some bushes with my mae west and harness. People were still running towards me from all directions and I decided to take off, cross country. As I was making up my mind as to where I could find the most suitable hiding place, a woman motioned to me to follow her.

HIDES EQUIPMENT
PROMPTLY

We had just entered a cottage, when the husband joined us, yelling excitedly. I gathered that the Germans were on his heels. I tore out the back door and plunged into a clump of tall grass in the back yard. My face had been badly cut on landing, and as I lay there I used my silk glove as a compress to check the bleeding. The Germans immediately entered the house, and, putting guns to the heads of the couple, demanded to know where the American was.

FOLLOWED TO
FRENCH HOME
BY GERMANS

The French claimed no knowledge, but finally admitted that I had run down the road which ran along the side of the cottage. The soldiers left soon after that, and I spent the rest of the day watching the tops of their heads and rifles as they searched down this road. From time to time the woman would glance toward my hiding place, to make sure I was still there. As soon as it was really dark the husband brought me back into the house. They gave me a pair of old trousers and a cape. Then the three of us set off cross-country to another house, where I spent the night.

GERMANS ARE
MISLEAD

PATRIOTIC FRENCH
CAN HAVE POOR
IDEAS ON EVASION

This couple, while very patriotic, was connected with no organized system of helpers. Their plan was to give me some money, a railroad ticket, and put me on the train to PARIS. This couple also tried to destroy my dog tags in their misguided enthusiasm. They did not succeed, but in all events, I had managed to keep one tag concealed from them in my sock.

The next day, 31 December 1943, however, a person who had ~~xxxxxxx~~ been a guest the previous

FRENCH SACRIFICING
FOOD TO FEED FLIERS

evening, came for me in a car. I was driven off to ~~the~~ home of another patriotic French family, ~~who~~ ^{who} did everything possible to make my New Year's happy. They even went so far as to kill all their chickens, so that they would have plenty to feed me. On the afternoon of 3 January 1944, I was again whisked away in a car. From then on, the rest of my journey was arranged.

JOURNEY ARRANGED

THE PYRENEES

At 2100 hours on 10 January I started over the Pyrenees in a party which included Lt McDANAL, E&E #444 and Sgt ROSS, E&E #438. We walked up hill, through mud and rock, until 0100 hours on the 11th ^{JAN} when we reached a barn. We were given some bread, and a jug of wine, ~~and~~ we spent the rest of the day sleeping and massaging our feet. That night we set out again and I realized that being fat never slows down, ~~an~~ ^{EVEN} Pyrenees guide, and that they walk ~~much~~ ^{3 1/2} faster up hill. Our next rest period was spent in a pile of hay, without food or drink.

SPAIN

When we reached Spain the guides left us, ~~saying~~ ^{giving us the usual yarn} that we were ~~the~~ proverbial two hours from a nice hotel. ~~There we were to find good beds and plenty of ham and eggs.~~ We finally ~~got there,~~ ^{ARRIVED} ~~that~~ ^{the} was a hayloft and there was no food at all.

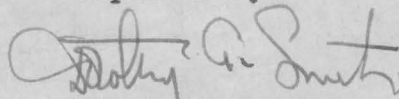
ARREST

At noon on 14 January we reached a town. We were arrested while waiting for a bus to a nearby city. The guards turned us over to a small shop-keeper whom we convinced ~~we~~ ^{that he} did not have ~~anything~~ ^{nothing} to worry about financially, as the consul would pay him for our lodging. This resulted in our being ~~given~~ ^{and he} beds and food. On the 17th of January we were taken to PAMPLONA with an armed guard.

IN SPAIN GIVE ONLY
NAME, RANK AND
SERIAL NUMBER

We were taken to the office of the civil governor and fingerprinted. We were given a card to fill out with name, address, route into Spain, etc. We put down our names and ranks, and put USA down as home address. We answered nothing else. Later Lt McDANAL and I were taken from the hotel, at which we were staying in PAMPLONA, to a military headquarters. A Spanish officer gave us a list of eighteen questions to answer. One, I remember, was on French morale; another on the location of airports. We politely, but firmly drew a line through the questions. We were taken back to the hotel and allowed to telephone the consul.

Compiled by:



DOROTHY A SMITH
Capt, WAC

Approved by:

W S HOLT
Lt Col, AC
Commanding

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

10 March 1944

APPENDIX "B" TO E & E REPORT NO. 448

1. The following information has been obtained after an interview with an officer who evaded capture by the enemy, while in enemy-occupied territory.
2. Further circulation of this information may be made, but when doing so no information as to the source may be divulged.

Statement of information covering period from 30 December 1943
to 13 January 1944

- a. Hearsay that the Germans have an experimental rocket field at ISLE ~~DE~~ ADAM from which they intend to send radio controlled rockets with four bursting charges; each ^{charge is} capable of sending the rocket 50 km on the way to LONDON. The installation is said to be buried 80 meters in the ground. This is the only field of its kind in France, and it is well-protected.
- b. Hearsay that the results of the raid of 31 December on the Hispano ~~Suiza~~ plant in PARIS were very bad. Many private homes were hit, while the target was missed.
- c. The arrogance and contempt for the French felt by the German officers ^{of the German officers and their} ~~was still~~ apparent in PARIS in January. ^{were}
- d. More soldiers, sailors, and members of the Luftwaffe, were observed in BORDEAUX in January than in PARIS. Many troops were observed in transit, both to the north and the south, between PARIS and BORDEAUX. Soldiers often travelled in "40 and 8" cars and in many cases there were a good number of ~~peace~~ artillery on the trains. ^{guns}

going north
and south

S E C R E T

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND F REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- 0-738937, 2nd Lt, William L OLSEN

Unit:- 392 Bomb Group, 578 Bomb Squadron

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? No.
- b. If not, why? Fell out of suit in jump.
- 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. (out of another kit) In mountains. It was something to chew on and something to chew on is needed in the mountains.
Chocolate or Peanut Bar.

Milk (tube).

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue).

Halazone tablets (water purifier). Used in the mountains

Matches.

Adhesive tape.

Chewing gum.

Water bottle. Used in the mountains. It doesn't hold much when it has stopped spilling and it is hard to carry.

Compass.

Sewing kit.

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box?
- 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?

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? Yes.
State color of stripes and letters.
If NOT, State why not.
- b. Did you use the purse? No. lost in jump.

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

Mops. Which ones?

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.
How did you spend the money?

d. How did you dispose of:-

Mops.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion?

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

- a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? No. Did not have any. They were
If so, how many? taken a week before but not yet developed. This
b. Did you use them? as the Gestapo was closely watching the place where
they had to be taken.

5. LECTURES

- a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? Yes.
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM. Numerous times in States and England by
S-2 and evaders.
- 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 escapees? Yes. Have enlisted men tell
Spanish they are officers. Include peetas in purses.

I wore electric boots and had to walk in them a while because my first
helpers had no shoes for me. Second helpers had old suedes which were too
big for me. I believe the new electric suits with heated shoes that look
like regular heavy shoes will solve the shoe problem. We should be told that
Spain is tougher and not the end of everything. In many cases warn
men, only give name, rank and serial number. In Spain there are many
questions asked and there are many German spies.

On the 30th day of December, 1943, I was sailing blithly along in my B-24, returning to base in England. I thought, after a successful bombing on Ludwigshaven, Germany. Right after the bombs were released and we were turning off we ran through a thick series of flak bursts, some of which undoubtedly hit our ship although it was unnoticed at the time. About 20 minutes after leaving the target, the engineer, who was manning waist gun, called the pilot on interphone informing him that oil was escaping from No. 1 engine. Pilot noticed oil pressure had dropped considerably and feathered engine OK. About 20 minutes later No 2 had oil leakage and cylinder head temperature had risen and it was necessary to feather No 2 which was not as successful as it windmilled very slowly at times. By this time we had dropped a mile or so behind the group and had lost considerable altitude, dropping from about 24,000 feet to 19,000 with No 1 out and after both were out the group went out of sight. Pilot asked me to figure amount of time left for flight from time plane was at about 10,000 feet losing altitude at rate of about 900 ft. per min. and it developed that we would be compelled to ditch a short way off French coast or bail out. Knowing how a 24

Capt Harris

On the 30th day of December, 1943, I was sailing
blithely along in my B-24 returning to base in England,
I thought, after a successful bombing on Ludwigshafen,
Germany. Right after the bombs were released and we were
turning off we ran through a thick series of flak bursts,
some of which undoubtedly hit our ship although it was
unnoticed at the time. About 20 minutes after leaving the
target, the engineer, who was manning what gun, called
the pilot on interphone informing him that oil was escaping
from No. 1 engine. Pilot noticed oil pressure had dropped
considerably and feathered engine OK. About 30 minutes
later No. 2 had oil leakage and cylinder head temperature
had risen and it was necessary to feather No. 2 which was
not as successful as I anticipated very slowly at times.
By this time we had dropped a mile or so behind the group
and had lost considerable altitude, dropping from about
14,000 feet to 12,000 with No. 1 out and after both were
out the group went out of sight. Pilot asked me to figure
amount of time left for flight from time plane was at about
10,000 feet losing altitude at rate of about 900 ft. per
min. and it developed that we would be compelled to ditch
a short way of French coast or bail out. Now, how a B-24

A 2 94 JFF

Baseball

me to follow her. As she was fairly pretty I did so without hesitation. She led me to a cottage but almost immediately her husband came rushing in excitedly yelling what I gathered to be the Germans were coming in droves. I immediately took off but spying a nice plot of grass in her back yard plunged into that and lay motionless, using my silk glove as a compress to stop the flow of blood from my cheek (Same Purple Heart) Some German soldiers immediately went into the house and putting guns to the heads of the peasants demanded to know where the American was. They said they did not know but think I ran down a road alongside the house. After a bit I heard them leave but still lay motionless until dark meanwhile taking enjoyment out of watching the heads of Germans going down the road looking for me. (I only saw their heads and tops of their guns due to a hedge which hid the rest of them) At last when night fell (boom) the girl, named Aimee, and her hubby took me into their house and gave me a pair of trousers and cape and I then walked with them to their house in the town of Louviers. The house in the country belonged to Aimee's mother. I stayed there that night - Dec 30 - and they informed me that they would give me some money and a rail ticket to Paris for the next AM where I would travel all alone and would make my own way as this outfit was not connected with any organization in any way. However, later that

*I must have done something to receive
 that help and I must have been in good
 luck*

(By one of the many ⁴ guests Jeanne) She was going to some ^{place} and I was to go with her

night I was informed that other persons had found out of my presence and that I would be flown back to England the next night. In the meantime they filled me full of wine and Pernoud and I slept very well. They next night I was picked up by a lady who led me to a car where her husband drove me to her home a bit on the outskirts of town. Womans name was Jeanne and husbands name Rene - name and address unknown. - Husband was a Forester or something and cut down trees. They were fairly well to do and had many chickens, etc, which they killed off rapidly so that I would be well fed. As that was New Years Eve we got properly stiff and retired. I stayed there four days and talked to a Mssr. Verny, 2nd chief cook to Prince of Wales at Buckingham palace in 1909. who spoke a bit of English, and who was eager to have his name mentioned to Intelligence. On Jan. 3, in the afternoon, I was picked up by an ex France Army officer in his car who drove me to his home and gave me a very nice suit and two cognacs after which he drove me to a town called Veñon and took me to the house of Madam Fournier. That evening I met there Sgt. Carusone, S/Sgt Peter Garris and Lt. Edward O'Boyle, gunner, radio operater and Bombardier respectively on my crew. We had identity pictures taken and cards made and the follwing day were taken by her husband to Paris by train.

She was a very nice woman
first because she was a nurse
she had a car of her own

Hope also met Alwell Smith
wife who said to report independent
of organized work

Kind news about 1900 France

At the station in Vefnon we also picked up a so-called Polack who had supposedly escaped from a German labor camp and who accompanied us. Name Alex, blond, age 19 and a bastard.

We got to Paris at about 2100 that evening, Jan. 4, and were met at the train by a French Gedarme, Monsieur Bernard, who took us to a tavern where we dined and there we met Mssr.

Robert Thiriet, our blessed benefactor. He was an ex French soldier who had lost both legs at Dunkirk but who had more than enough guts to make up for it. At about 11 PM that evening a flock of females came to the tavern, one for each escapee, and we left with them making it appear as if we

had just come from a party. Among them was Paulette Echaroux (with me) and her girl friend ~~Geryman~~ ^{GERMAINE} or something like that with Carusone. We split up, the four of us going to Paulettes

apartment where Carusone and myself were to stay - address 19 Rue Bridaine. Paulette, incidentally was the sister of Robert who was running the show. (^{Robert} Address 14 Rue Bridaine)

From this point on Carusone and myself saw very little of other crew members and Alex who were staying over some tavern address unknown. We were marvelloussly wined and dined, going out to taverns, theatres, subway riding and partys with Paulette, Robert, Bernard and friends. About four days later,

*had helped
400
fearless
bravery
& telling
down to
escapee*

*Also the fortune Paulette had
been in it. He was with her when
but 5 to many of similar situation*

Mlle Lilly would come into pay cards

(over)

~~June~~ About that ^{he} met a man in a tavern with whom Robert
talked for a 1/2 hr (Robert called him in Paris). This man
may have been called Philippe & was head of the
Chouette? Had an official job in police dept.
By next am G. had shot him & torn out his tongue
6 allied women caught with him

By once Gestapo came into cafe when we
were there. Barman signalled us. Gendarme
Bernard went & demanded their papers &
wrested them saying ~~not~~ not in order. While
this went on we left.

Met Dolores Turner. Brother was
head worker at Piccadilly, used to act
as interpreter for his Turner wander
name. Married to Turner lives in
Paris. Gives picture & London address
to all evaders

Robert took C and myself for a train ride - it was a Saturday Jan. 8 or nearby. We left on a 7:45 am train for Bordeaux. Incidentally we had more photos taken ~~for~~ new identity cards in Paris. We arrived in Bordeaux at about 1800 that evening where we walked around for a couple of hours waiting for a train for Dax. ^{1st} Train ride was uneventful. It was loaded with German soldiers who traveled 1st class (we went 3rd) and we ate in the diner on train with a flock of German pigs as dining mates. We left for Dax about 7 PM arriving there at about 9:30. Upon arrival Robert took us immediately to family there who fed us and put us up. Next day - Sunday + Robert and wife of this bloke went to theatre and this fellow (name unknown to me possibly C knew it) took us for a most miserable bike ride to Pyrohadade and return, distance 48 kilos round trip after which C and self were in a state of near exhaustion. The following morning were awakened by Lt McDanal and Sgt. Ross and we were all taken for a ride in an old beat up charcoal burning truck to a large house about 30 kilos south of Pyrohadade accompanied by Robert and friends of Me and Ross. We stayed in this house until the following night, Jan 10, when we were met by a guide at about 2100 who was to start our walking tour over the Pyrenees. We walked through loads of mud and rocks and about 4 kilos from the house we met another guide and the two of them walked the

Robert
and
wife

where
Robert
turned
back.

what you call it off of the four of us and at about one AM the next morning they poured us into a barn on top of a high hill with assurances that we would be met that night by more guides (Robert paid off the ~~guides~~ man at the last house and gave us a few hundred francs for expenses or something.) That morning a woman brought us a jug of wine and some bread which we put away quickly and we then spent a boring day mostly rubbing our feet. That night were met by another guide who was also a fast fast walker and a few hours later another guide rel^{ie}aved him who could walk faster, especially up hill. That night we also slept in a pile of hay and the entire next day we sweat it out without food or water until late that evening when we were brought some bread and wine. A little later we were met by two more guides, one French and one Spanish, who walked us right out of France into Spain, leaving us at the frontier. All of the guides took our name, rank and no. They told us to walk a couple of hours more and we would come to a hotel where we would get ham and eggs and a nice bed. We finally came to the "hotel" and after a couple of miserable cold hours in another hayloft without food we set out again, arriving at about noon of the 14th in a little town called Orbaceita. There we inquired and found out a bus left for Pamplona on the 17th. The Spanish military police finally picked us up in the

*Don't read notebook in forest
paper in gutter that made us
panic & run to house in darkness*

*not worried because
even though we were
sleeping in hayloft
for several hours*

8,000 per man believe

and Mc and I were left there. We stayed in Pamplona almost three weeks. We were free to do as we liked and ate pastries, chocolates, went to movies (in Spanish) with Senoritas and generally had a pretty fair time. We called the consul often for money and smokes and generally drove him crazy. A few weeks later we were picked up, including all enlisted men and a few new arrivals, by a spanish Lt. in the air force and taken to Zaragoza, arriving there late on a Sat. nite. We tore loose in Z for a day or ~~two~~ and left on the following Monday by air force bus for ALHAMA de Aragon. We were very well treated there and were picked up about 12 days later by Col. C. W. Cousland, Military Attache, who took us to Madrid by car. (Jan. 18) There were ~~3~~ 26 of us by that time. We left that same evening for Gib. and arrived there the evening of the 19th. We were issued uniforms - to some extent - and after about 9 days in Gib. left by plane for England and here I am.

Special Notes.

Was told by fellow who drove me in car from Louviers to Vernon that three of my crew were prisoner. C met Satterly, Schmidt and Sullivan in barn in France and I supposed it was 3 of them although I have since discovered Schmidt and Sullivan have been through here. Evidently entire crew is at least alive.

alex said he was 18 knew a few by wds (H)
135 lbs blond blue eyed long dark hair
by older Polish he claimed. Said he
was conscripted for labor & escaped
my bad wadity card tallest very little

In Paris down troopers
parts were found in his pack
so people were suspicious & he was
to be killed but we never
knew much about it

After Robert had taken Nick C and myself through he went
back after O'Boyle and Garris and Alex and learned about
two weeks later from Swizz boy in Pamplona that this bastard
Alex was a Gestapo agent or was at least the cause of Robert
Thiriet, Garris, O'Boyle and another American boy who was in
same crew as Sgt. Ross being caught in town of Pyrohadade.
Boys were taken prisoner (including Swizz boy) and Robert
executed. Robert carried notebook with names and addresses
in code of other members of underground but some friend
was supposed to have immediately left for Paris to warn other
members to take cover immediately. Do not know if he was
successful but would appreciate knowledge of same if you find
out. Boy in Ross' crew had been burned in explosion of plane
and Pharmacist who had given him treatment escaped into Spain
after being warned but was unable to talk with him account
of language difficulties. Am not sure Robert is dead but
Swizz boy told C he was.

Was told by Bernard in Paris that Germans had an
experimental rocket field at Ile a' Adam from which they
intended to send radio controlled rockets with four bursting
charges, each capable of sending rocket 50 kilos, on London.
He said they were buried 80 meters in ground and were well
protected. Added that it was only field of kind in France.

7 Jan

Swizz had been made pilot
+ Thair's escape from a plane
for 3 wks. Spike G. + 7th see Carusone

Swizz wants to get in American Paratroopers
+ Spanish he was American. Spike fluent G-

He went around Pyrohadade with a girl
in a tent he was an escapee with
Garris & an American. Went down all
the time. Pharmacist was in a Redoubt
of Carusone's name. Swizz boy was captured from
tallest windows + paid 4000 francs to take of Alex
from train + returned to Paris + find them
described their whole plan

Don't know how reliable information is worth but have already given same to Lt. Emerson.

C. Olsen 448

The young wife who took me into her house as soon as I landed was Aimée. The house of which she took me on 30 December is really her mother's, she and her husband live in Louviers and they took me there that night, her sister had in Paris on the 31st so I was passed onto Jeanne and René a forester and his wife who live on the outskirts of Louviers. I stayed here until 3 January. While here I met M. Verany 2nd chief cook of the Prince of Wales in 1909. I also met a man named Aitwell Smith and his wife, who have to report of the police regularly.

On 3 January at French

Army officer drove me to
 his home, where he gave me
 good civilian clothing, and
 then took me to Mme Fournier
 in Nernon. She sent us on to
Mme Couvresse who is a nurse
 in a V.D. hospital for Germans.
 Here I met Sgt Carson & E
 Rpt # , S/Sgt Peter Garrow and
 Lt Edward O'Boyle of my
 crew. Our pictures were taken
 and I cards were made ^{by Mme Fournier}. The
 following day her husband took
 us to Paris by train. Alex and I
 near old Pale who had supposedly
 escaped from a German labor camp
 joined us at the Nernon
Railroad station.

We reached Paris on 4
 January and were met at the
station by M. Bernard a

gendarme. He took us to a
 tavern for dinner. Here we
 met Robert Thiriet who was
 in charge of us from then on. He
 had lost both his legs at Dunkirk.
 At 23 hours we were joined
 by a group of women and left
 to go to tavern. Carusone and
 I stayed with Paulette Echary

19 Rue Bridaine. Germaine, her
 friend brought Carusone to the
 apartment. Paulette is Robert's
 sister. He lives at 14 Rue Bridaine.

This was the first time Paulette
 had been involved in the evasion
 business, but Robert could not
 handle five of us without her
 help. We were very well treated
 here. M. Bernard called often
 and Mlle Lily would come to
 play cards. About 6 January

while in a tavern with Robert,
 I met a man, who I believe
 was called Philippe. He was
 head of something called the Churelle.
 He had some sort of official job
 in the police department. By next
 morning the Germans had shot him
 after tearing out his tongue. Six
 allied airmen were caught with
 him. On another occasion,
 when we were in a cafe, the Gestapo
 came in. The barman signalled
 us and Bernard gave us
 time to get away by going up
 of them and demanding their papers
 and then arresting them because
 he claimed that they were not
 in order. While at Paulette's
 we met Dolores Turner. Her
 brother is the head waiter at the
 Preadilly. Turner is her maiden

name. She is married to a Frenchman and lives in Paris. She gives her picture and London address to all the readers she meets. She acted as an interpreter for us.

On 8 January Robert took me and Carson to Bordeaux by train. We had had new tickets made in Paris. Here we caught a train to Day. Here we were fed and put up for the night with a French family. On Sunday Robert and his wife went to the theater the husband took us on a 48 km bicycle ride. We were exhausted and furious when we found that we weren't going anywhere except on his idea of a pleasure trip.

On 10 January we were joined by Lt McDonald E 4 E Rpt # and Lt Ross E 7 E Rpt # We were taken, in an old charcoal

trucks, & a large house 30 km
south of Peyrehorade. Robert
left us at this house.

On 10 January the Pyrenees
guide came for us and we
~~started~~ the trip over the mountains
(See main report)

I believe Robert paid the
guide 8000 francs for each of
us. All the mountain guides
took our name, rank, and ASN.
As I understand it when the
Germans check your I card
in France now, they also check
to see if you have bread coupons
and a "carte de la guerre".

At Pamplona, two weeks
after reaching Spain, I talked
to a Swiss boy named Gezi
who had been with Robert. Gezi
speaks fluent German. When the

Gestapo came for Robert he escaped through a toilet window and paid a taxi - driver 4000 francs to take him 18 km out of town. He says he returned later to find city deserted and the stores open. Izzzi wants to get into American paratroopers and told the Spanish he was an American!

He had been made POW while remaining in the army and escaped after 3 years

Izzzi told me that when Robert left ~~me and~~ Carusone and myself he collected O'Boyle, Goria and Alex in Paris and brought them to Peyrehorade with a boy from Sgt Ross' crew. Due to Alex they were all caught by the Gestapo, whether this was due to Alex's stupidity or to his being a stool-pigeon is not clear. While he was in Paris a pair of Storm Troopers pants were

9.

hotel and Robert was executed,
according to ~~the~~ 933i.

Robert carried a notebook
with him, which gave, in
code, the names and addresses
of other helpers. Someone is
supposed, however, to have been
able to warn the Paris people
to take cover.

~~Just after our bombs were released~~
~~Our bombs had just been released~~, when we ran through a thick series of flak bursts.

The ship must have been hit, but it was unnoticed at the time. Twenty minutes later,

Flak damage to the engineer, who was manning a waist gun, called the pilot on immediately by interphone, to tell him that apparent oil was escaping from number one engine. The pilot, noticed that the oil pressure had dropped considerably, and feathered the engine. Another twenty minutes passed and number two engine had oil leakage and the cylinder head temperatures rose so that it was necessary to feather number two.

We had ~~dropped~~ dropped a mile behind group when we lost the first engine; the group was now

out of sight. We had lost altitude steadily ~~at~~ ¹⁰⁰⁰
~~at a considerable altitude~~. The pilot
~~asked me to figure the time left for~~
losing flight, if we were to continue ~~at~~
altitude loss altitude at the rate of 900 ft
to fast to per minute. I discovered that we
might be compelled to enter close
to the French coast. With our knowledge
of how a B 24 ditched, we decided
to hit the hills.

The pilot gave "prepare
bale-out" over the interphone, and also
rang the emergency bell. I jumped
after the bombardier at 15,000 feet. Turned
a few somersaults to see how it felt.
There was no falling sensation. I just

Mo falling floated. As there was an undoubted
sensation I pulled the rip-cord almost immediately
while My harness had been tightened that
free falling ~~making~~, in spite of my protests,
but it still was not tight enough,
and I received a strong jerk which
caused me to loose my escape
but as there was not fastening on
my flying suit. When my straps

shot up they knocked off my helmet. When I broke through, cloud eyes I was over a town. Thought I would land in it, but there was a heavy wind which blew me ~~in~~ ~~2~~ km further south. As I landed, both feet struck

~~after~~ a peacefully grazing cow, and as it tore off ~~land~~ cross-country, I flew straight amongst ~~the~~ a barbed wire fence. The barbed wire drag of the chute, tore the fence down. By the time I had disentangled myself, I was surrounded by 4 or 5 peasants.

I did not feel that I could afford to waste time talking to them. I rolled up my chute, and ~~stuck~~ it under some bushes with my main west and harness. People were still running toward me from all directions and I

Hides
Equipment
Promptly

deceaded of talk off cross-
country. As I was making
up my mind as to where
I would find the most suitable
hiding place, ~~someone~~
mentioned to me to follow her.

We had just entered
a cottage, when the husband
joined us, yelling excitedly,
I gathered that the Germans
were on his heels. I tore out

Followed to the back door, and plunged
to the road into a clump of tall grass in
home by the back yard. My face had
been badly cut on landing,
and I used ^{as a bandage} one silk glove
as a compress to ~~stanch~~ the
bleed, the bleeding. The Germans
immediately entered the house,
and putting guns to the heads
of the couple, demanded to know
where the American was.

(5)

no knowledge but finally admitted

The French claimed that

I had run down the road which ran along the side of the cottage.

The soldiers left soon after that, and I spent the rest of the day watching the tops of their heads

German and rifles as they moved down the road.

From time to time I would glance at my hiding place, & make sure I was still there.

As soon as it was really dark, the husband brought me back into the house. They gave me a pair of old trousers and a cape. Then the three of us set off, cross-country, for another house, where I spent the night.

This couple, while very patriotic, was connected with no organized system of helpers.

Their plan was to give me some money, a railroad ticket and put me on the train to Paris. This couple also tried to ~~destroy~~ ^{often} my dog tags in their ^{poor ideas} misguided enthusiasm. They ^{on occasion} did not succeed, but in all events, I had managed to keep one tag concealed from them in my sock.

The next day, 31 December 1943, however, a person who had been a guest the previous evening, came for me in a car. I was driven off ^{to the home of} another patriotic French family, who did everything possible to make my New Year's ~~happy~~ ^{Food} ~~happy~~ ^{happy} one. They even went so far as to kill all their chickens so that they would have plenty to feed me. On the afternoon of 3 January 1944, I was again

(7)

wisked away in a car. From then
on, the rest of my journey was
arranged.

at 21.00 hours on 10 January
I started over the Pyrenees in a
party which included Lt Mc Daval
Lt Ross and Sgt Ross.

We walked up hill, through
mud and rock, until 07.00
hours on the 11th when we reached
the Pyrenees a barn. We were given some
bread, and a jug of wine, and
spent the rest of the day sleeping
and massaging our feet. That
night we set out again and I
realized, that being fat means
slow down a ~~mountain~~ ^{Pyrenees} guide,
and that they all walk much
faster going up hill. Our next
rest period was spent in a
pile of hay, without food
or drink.

When we reached Spain

(8)

two guides left us, saying
that we were the proverbial
two hours from a nice hotel.

Spain

Here we were to find good beds
and plenty of ham and eggs. We
finally got there; it was a
hayloft, and there was no
food at all.

At noon on 14 January
we reached a town. We were
arrested while waiting for a
bus to a nearby city. They turned
us over to a small shop keeper
whom we convinced ^{and making}
about financially - the consul
was to pay him. This resulted
in our being given beds and
food. On the 17th of January
we were taken to Samplona with
an armed guard.

Arrest

~~How~~ We were taken to

to office of the civil government
and finger pointed. We were
given a card to fill out with
name, address, route into Spain
etc. We put down our names
and ranks, and put U.S.A. down
as home address. We answered
nothing else.

Later Lt McDonald and I
were taken from the hotel, at
which we were staying in Pamplona,
of a military headquarters. A
Spanish officer gave us a
list of eighteen questions to
answer. One, I remember, was on
French morale, another on the
location of airports. We ^{partly, but firmly} drew
a line through the questions.
We were taken back to the
hotel and allowed to telephone
the consul.

In
Spain
give
only
name
rank
and
serial
number