

OUTLINE FOR TALKS

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

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

DO NOT GIVE THE NAMES OF TOWNS.

DO NOT GIVE ANY ADDRESSES.

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

Suggestions for others.

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



RICHARD R. NELSON
Major, AC

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

E & E REPORT NO. 476
EVASION IN FRANCE

18 MARCH 1944
(Date)

RALPH K. PATTON 2ND LT. O-680283
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

9th Mission

331st 94th
(Squadron) (Group)

AGE: 23

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 1 yr 11 mo

HOME ADDRESS: 1417 MILL STREET
WILKINSBURG PA.

MIA: 5 JANUARY 1944
Arrived in Spain:

Arrived in Gibraltar:

Arrived in UK:

17 MARCH 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

	Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT	GLENN B JOHNSON - NOW IN GUIN CAMP FRANCE IN THE HANDS	
CO-PILOT	RALPH K PATTON OF THE UNDERGROUND SAW HIM MAR 15	
NAVIGATOR	MILTON CHURCH - FRENCH SAID IN ENGLAND	
BOMBARDIER	JACK McGOUGH - ARRIVED IN ENGLAND 17 MARCH 1944 -	
RADIO OPERATOR	KENNETH BLYE -	
TOP TURRET GUNNER	RALPH HALL - I SAW HIM LEAVE THE SHIP	
BALL TURRET GUNNER	JAMES STUBBLEFIELD	
WAIST GUNNER	ISADORE VIOLA - SAFE IN GUIN CAMP WITH PILOT - I	
WAIST GUNNER	LAST SAW HIM MARCH 15TH MONSON	
TAIL GUNNER	CASEY COLEMAN	

Were you wounded? YES - ON THE CALF OF RIGHT LEG - CAUSE -
UNKNOWN

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY
OFFICE OF THE A. C. OF S., G-2

DATE: 20 March 1944

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, WILLIAM H. GEIER, T/Sgt., AC, ASN 32458061

hereby certify that I have known and have been associated with

RALPH K. PATTON, 2nd Lt., AC, ASN 0-680283

prior to his being reported missing in action over enemy territory.

The person whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon is the individual referred to above.

William H. Geier

Ralph K. Patton
RALPH K. PATTON

RIGHT THUMB PRINT:



=====
The individual whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon has been identified to the satisfaction of this office as RALPH K. PATTON,

2nd Lt., AC, ASN 0-680283 (331 Bomb Squadron - 94 Bomb Group)

previously reported missing in action over enemy territory.

W. F. MARANDA *W.F.M.*
SPECIAL AGENT, C.I.C.

CONFIDENTIAL

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. **RALPH KENNETH PATTON 2ND LT.
O-680283**
2. Decorations. **NONE**
3. Unit or Squadron. **331 ST. SQUADRON**
4. Division (Army) or Group. **94TH BOMB GROUP**
5. Date of Birth. **AUGUST 16 1920**
6. Length of Service. **1 YEAR 11 MONTH**
7. Private Address. **1417 MILL STREET WILKINSBURG PA.**
8. Job as civilian. **CLERK**
9. From what field did you take off? **BURRY ST EDMONDS**
10. Take off time. **0750**
11. Date and target. **5 JAN 1944 BORDEAUX**
12. Where did you land? **KERGRIST-MELLOU - COTES DU NORD
FRANCE**
13. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? **YES - AIRPLANE CRASHED
AND BURNED**
14. What was your position in aircraft? **CO-PILOT**
15. Were you wounded? **SLIGHTLY ON THE CALF OF RIGHT LEG**
16. Did you pay your guides? If so how much? **NO**
17. Do you speak French? Spanish? **NO**
18. Did you have Identity Papers? **YES - (006 TAGS)**
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?
NO
20. Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom? **NO**
21. Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, where and when? **YES LONDON ENGLAND 18 MARCH 1944**
22. Date of arrival in Spain.
23. Date of arrival at Gibraltar.
24. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air. **PAIMPOL - FRANCE -
BY SEA**
25. Place and date of arrival in U.K.
DARTMOUTH 17 MARCH 1944 0800 AM.

Mission No? My ninth mission

Lt. Patton and Lt. Mc Gough

We took off from Bury St. 5 Jan. 44 about
about 0720 to bomb aerodrome in Bordeaux. Our
ship was not attacked by fighters and there was
little flak before target. We dropped our bombs
on the target which our bombs hit and as we
turned off target flak caught out horizontal stabilizer.
We remained in formation, however. Fifty or sixty
FWs attacked the formation as we left the
target. Five in line made a frontal attack; they were
aiming at the lead ship and we were deputy lead.
As we started to cross the coast one or two 20mm.
hit the left horizontal stabilizer + something hit
the elevator on left side. Ship vibrated violently; took
both pilots to hold it on even keel. We began to drop
back from formation. ^{We got one fighter coming in 120° clock level.} Pilot trimmed ship. As we
dropped back the fighters left. The formation began to
descend from 20000. Our ship vibrated violently over 155.
We kept high to rear + right of formation. They went down to
12,000 ft. We were about 13000 ft. As we crossed land
near horizon, ~~one~~ AA gun shot at us. We evaded his fire.
About 1/4 way across peninsula two FW 190s attacked
our ship out of the sun. We took violent evasive action.
We were going 200 mph on dive and as we pulled out

the tail snapped off at the tail wheel. Just before this ⁽²⁾
a 50 calibre hit us in the nose. We went into a steep
climb. The controls were gone. The pilot called to Bail out.
The bombardier, navigator, co-pilot went out the
nose escape hatch; pilot & engineer went out the
bomb-bay. ~~The~~ One waist gunner was thrown out the
hole where the tail broke off.

Lt. Patton: I went out the hatch head first following
the bombardier. We jumped at about 12,000 feet. After
I had cleared the ship I pulled the ripcord at
about 10,000 ft. A FW passed me high to the west as I
fell. I could see that I was headed for a tree and
people gathering on the ground. I saw the plane
crash & burn. I skimmed over the tree & landed on my
heels; my chute hung in the tree. I took off my
chute and made west. ^{which hung in the tree} I saw five people standing
near the nearby house and I went toward them
and said "American". They seemed not to understand,
so I turned to leave. As I turned I saw Lt.
McGough. We started to move south when the
pilot approached. The three of us headed west,
went 100 yards, stopped in a ravine to talk the
situation over.

Lt. McGough: As the ship turned its nose
up I went back to open the escape hatch. After a
little trouble I opened it and went out head first.
I fell free & was about to pull my ripcord but
our ship buzzed me three times, so I refrained
from opening the chute. When I pulled the
ripcord the chute opened easily. While falling I
saw 9 American & 1 German chutes in the air. Our
plane crashed immediately below me & caught fire
at once. I landed easily but very close to our
burning plane. I took off the chute & started
running. I ran across the field, looked back
and saw 2 chutes near the ground, and I started

toward the one in the tree. As I got close to it I saw that it was Lt. Patton. We started toward the other cove and met Lt. Johnson. The 3 of us were together within 2 minutes.

We disposed of our flying equipment in the ravine. We decided to get away from the spot fast and headed N.W. across country. We walked for 15 minutes and then hid in tall grass for about 20 minutes. ~~The pilot~~ ^{we} disposed of personal papers. At this point Lt. Patton discovered that he was slightly wounded in the leg and opened my kit to find a dressing, in default of which I put the milk from the tube on the wound. We got out our maps to orient ourselves. We turned east toward Pontivy. We walked in ravine but had to cross a hill, ~~then crossed a road~~ saw a German in the field ahead, and made for a thicket. We finally followed wagon trails & were climbing a hill when we saw a Frenchman from whom we tried to hide. We then walked on & when we sat down to rest in a field, a Frenchman approached us & ~~asked~~ ^{asked} us ~~whether~~ whether we were hungry. He & his young son left & returned with food and wine. We then left him & went on east, crossed a road cautiously & walked through fields. It was getting dusk; we went to sit down near a haystack. A woman saw us but did not approach us. After 1/2 an hour we approached a house & asked for a place to sleep. An old woman & girl of 21 finally told us to follow them. They took us to a house on a hill. Here we were told that 4 men had been found dead in our ship. A man here an hour later led us across country about a mile or two. We passed a house ^{which} the man called "Nazi"; he finally led us to a farmhouse where the farmer put us up for the night. About 8 AM the farmer brought us breakfast. Here we learned that we had come down ^(N.W. 11) near Bergrist-Moelon. The farmer led us toward Pontivy and showed us the way to the town. We walked until 11 A.M. when we met another Frenchman who took us to his house and ~~led us~~ pointed out the direction to Pontivy & led us across fields for a way in that direction. We walked on and finally saw a group of Frenchmen who motioned us toward them. They told us that 2 American fliers

5 Jan
44

had passed that way an hour before. One of the Finen ~~showed~~ gave us a sketch map + pointed out our direction. We followed a power line + went down a R.R. track which we left when we heard a train coming. Cutting across country we met a boy of 17 or 18 years to whom we tried to talk. A man came by in a cart who tried to talk to us; he stopped a woman passing on a bicycle + talked to her for five minutes. She made us understand to stay where we were, left us, and 20 or 30 minutes later a Finen came toward us on a bicycle very fast. He was a schoolmaster at Gouarec. He began to talk to us when a F. policeman came up, talked to the schoolmaster, and went on. The schoolmaster said that was bad and motioned us to go on alone, because the policeman didn't have a good reputation. After walking across fields and up a road, ^{street Finen showed us} ~~and~~ over fields till we reached a canal 30 ft wide. It was almost dark. We were looking for a way to cross + got on to a road parallel to the road. We came to a bridge + were crossing it when the Finen on a bicycle whom we had seen before passed us, stopped, + came back + called to us. He had hardines + bread which he gave us. We asked for a place to sleep. He told us to hide in a field + he'd be back at 9 ~~o'clock~~ P.M. We saw heavy flak on the horizon at this time. About 8.30 we heard a whistle, went out, + found the F. man with ~~another~~ an old man (about 50). He took us down a side road + showed us a note written in English which told us to follow this man tonight + he would get us at 6 o'clock next morning. He also had eggs, bread, + coffee. We followed these two men $\frac{3}{4}$ mile down a poor road to a big hay-stack. We crawled in ~~and~~ ^{to} spend the night. The dogs started barking and after 30 minutes a farmer came to the haystack and looked in. We told him that we were Americans, so he smiled and pushed the hay back + went away. He came back with bread + Calvados. Then he went + brought two women + a man to see us. They finally left + let us try to sleep.

* young man about 20 had been in the army

Jan 7 At 6 o'clock our French friend came back as promised and told us to follow him. He led us back to the bridge + back towards Gouarec. About 75 yds past

we saw a bicycle coming and suddenly stopped; two forms jumped out of the ditch. I saw that they were in flying clothes. ^{we} ^{recognized} One was Viola, one of our waist gunners. The other introduced himself as Lt. Norman R. King who had been shot down same day in same region as we were. The F. man led all of us toward Guarec. He said that 15 Germans were quartered here. He led us straight through Guarec and on the other side he hid us on a hillside just opposite a

German O.P. He told us to stay here while he called a friend of his in a monastery. At noon he brought dinner + a young woman (25 yrs) who spoke some English. Through her he told us that he'd be back at 6 P.M. to lead us to a monastery 27 kms away. We hid all day; our friend brought us supper at 6.30 P.M. + he led us through town again along the canal for 8 kms. Then we took a road ^{to the Abbey of Langonnet.} He walked with us until 11 P.M. We stopped to rest in an orchard when our friend saw a F. man on the road to whom he talked. Our friend came back and told us that it was dangerous to travel at night since the German patrol was out. He gave us a map with directions + left, telling us to find a place to stay that night we couldn't find a place to stay, found no haystacks. We found a little valley + tried to sleep there on pine boughs. About 5.30 am we started walking toward the monastery. It was still dark. We

~~we~~ ^{circled} a village, ^{and then walked through} ~~came to~~ (Mellionec) walked on a road going west and at a fork asked a farmer for directions (we later heard that his wife called the Germans + told them that 5 Americans had passed through; we heard that she suspected us of being Gestapo). They gave us a drink of water + he gave us good directions. When we reached the main highway we went into the country following this highway which we kept in sight. We found an old F. man who told us that there were no Germans in Plouray + took us to the road + showed us how to go through the town. We were afraid, however, and so circled the village, came back to the road + saw a little boy. We tried to hide from him but he was watching us. We finally ignored the boy + went on and at the church of St. Guenin we walked past a F. man who spoke to the Cost man who passed. We said "Americans"

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and he said "Comrade", so we stopped to hear what he ^{about 2 P.M.} had to say. He asked whether we were hungry + we said yes. He motioned us to follow him + led us across the fields circling the church to a house on the road which we entered from the back door. We went into the cellar and he fed us. F. men began to come in until there were about 20. When we had finished eating a crippled boy (François Dorlot, 17 yrs old) came in.

He could speak some English + had an English-French dictionary. We asked whether he could help us + he said that he would get us clothes + take us to a forest that night close to Guerin. He left + the man who picked us up into the fields where he hid us near the church and 2 F. men stayed with us (Joseph ~~the~~ [Macadoo], the butcher boy from Plouray and René [Lequin?] son of a man who own a bicycle shop in Plouray). They told us that at 8 P.M. they'd take us into the church + give us clothes + get a bicycle for Viola whose feet were very bad. About an hour later 2 women + a young boy (9 or 10 yrs) came running up (Mme. Marie-Antoinette Pirion + Josephine Veley) Mme. Pirion spoke fluent English, was a school-teacher in boys school in Plouray. The boy was the one who had seen us on the road, ran to school, told his teacher, Mme. Pirion who dismissed class + came running to find us. She asked us whether we knew Frank Green. ~~She~~ Lt. McGough did know a man by that name who had gone down over France. She said that she had got him out of France. She said that she whom Lt. McGough had evaded. She said that she was in touch with an organization which ~~had~~ could get us out of France. She told us to stay there + that that night she would take us to her house in Plouray. (She came back about 8 P.M. (Joseph + René stayed with us until that time) Germans came into the village that afternoon asking about F. men

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The people in the village acted as scouts leading the Germans
off from our hiding-place. Mme. Pirion came back with
Francis Dorlot, his father, Josephine Veley, Francis' uncle, Marcel
and Marcel (Josephine's fiancé). Two of the men carried Viola
& the rest of us walked to Mme. Pirion's school-house in Plouray.
She said she'd keep us there until she got the organization.
(Her brother Alain was hiding there to escape work in Germany.)
All 5 were to stay in her house during the day & Patton &
McGough slept there at night, Johnson & Viola slept at the
home of Mlle. Josephine Veley, Norman King slept with Marcel,
Josephine's fiancé. Lt. Patton stayed her 6 weeks & the
day, Lt. McGough 5 weeks & 1 day (until 13 Feb.).

* The Monday after the Sat. on which we arrived Mme.
Pirion (whose husband is a P/W in Germany) wrote to her club
with the Paris organization (M. Lucien). No answer came
for 2 weeks. Meanwhile she notified her elder brother
(Jean) ex naval man, a radio operator with organization
in Auray) who came to see us with a friend who was
looked for by Germans. They brought us our first civilian
clothes. Lt. McGough gave Marcel (J.'s fiancé) 2000 francs
for which he bought a new civilian suit. Jean knew Lucien &
so waited for word from him. After 2 weeks Mme. Pirion
went to Gourin & came back that night. Next day

the mayor of Gourin & a retired professor (Kagaravette?)

she told us that these 2 men were heads of org. in Gourin &
would get us out in two weeks. Kagaravette gave McGough
1000 francs. Lt. King had photos from base 2 of which he gave to
Kagaravette. Rest of us had no photos. He told us they'd
get papers for us & send us out by boat. Nothing happened

for a long time & the other people in town became jealous of
Mme. & wanted her to share us out among them & kept
gunning to Kagaravette. Dorlot came in one night with
many others who had helped us & demanded that Mme.

evacuate the school-house at once. She refused & ordered
them out of the house. That night all 5 of us had to stay there
that night. After we'd been here ~~one~~ a month a confederate
in Gourin whose father is important in the org. & has spent six
years in N.Y. came & asked for our name, rank, age, serial no.

We took photos for our papers with a camera, but we ran
out of film & Viola had to go to Gourin for photos. One this trip

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Viola heard that Lt. Church (our navigator) was in the hands of the org. there along with 2 of King's crew (his bomb + med. sp.) and 1 other American we didn't know.

The next day (Sunday) a young man school teacher from Priziac came to see Mme. Pirion + she explained her troubles to him. ^{Sunday afternoon} This school teacher said he would return at 8 AM the next day. Sunday aft. a note came from Kagavette saying that we should split up + Mme could keep 2 of us. That night they locked the 5 of us in and all of them went to ~~the~~ Veley's for a meeting to smooth things over. While they were gone we heard a knock on the door, we didn't answer; the man went around + knocked on the window which we ignored until he gave the knock ... - so we opened the window. We thought that he was the hotel keeper who was at Veley's so King told him to go to the door which he couldn't open. When King opened another window King saw that he was a stranger. This man asked for one of the people who was at Veley's so King sent him over to Veley's. Fifteen minutes later he came back with all the crowd from Veley's. This stranger was head of a

school in Priziac, an ex lieutenant in the French army.

He had a place for us near Priziac. Two of us were to leave Mon. night + Tues. the other 3 were to leave.

Sunday night Patton + King slept in the school house; Viola + Johnson went to Leouen's + McGough stayed with Borlot.

On Monday someone came with a note from Kagavette saying that we should stay in Peouray. We stayed until

Thursday when Le Tougenec came in a car with 2 friends. Patton went in this car with Mme. ^{and} Le Tougenec and M. Les Bidot (the driver of the car) went to see Kagavett + explained the situation + Patton said they wanted to avoid all trouble. Kagavett decided that the five Americans should leave as soon as possible + sent a note ordering the others in Peouray to turn the others over to Mme.

Patton's story

Friday night the five of us met at a party + talked over the plans + we all agreed to leave. Sat. night Patton left with King, ~~and~~ Mme's brother (Alain) + M. Daniel (~~the~~ Mme's assistant teacher) went ahead + arranged things in Triziac. Mme led them half-way to Triziac + turned them over to three men from Triziac who took them to a bistro 7 kms. from Pleouray. Here Patton + King stayed together above the bistro (Jean Viola was responsible for keeping us [had wife, father-in-law, brother-in-law, + 2 sisters in law (23 + 25 yrs)])

Patton + King stayed here + were together all the rest of the way: After they were here 1 week they went in to see the other 3 Americans in Triziac. Mme came to visit them here several times. After they were here about 10 days they were moved to a hotel directly opposite the Abby of Langonnet where they stayed in the rear with a couple that had been bombed out at Lorient. After a week here they were moved, met Viola + Johnson and were taken to a farm 2 kms from the town of Langonnet. Here was ^(Louis + Baptiste) old woman + 2 sons, ^(spoke only Breton) without the arrangements were made by a man called Germain who spoke good English (short, fat man who had been in both wars). ~~who told them that they~~ On Tuesday ^{town of} Germain had intended to move them to Langonnet, but on Tues. afternoon 2 men came into the room + told us to hurry for we were leaving for England. One of these men Lt. Patton recognized as the coiffeur in Gourin, so they hurried + left with them. Baptiste led them 1/2 mile across country to a truck. Here they met Lt. MacGough.

had been a servant in Triziac for a Dutchman

Lt. Mcgough on Feb 13 was separated from Patton
 with understanding that next day he alone was to go to
 Priziac to house of M. Dorlot. But it was not for another
 week that on Monday night, Johnson + Viola + Mcgough left
 with Mrs. Pirion, went to her house, where Alain + Daniel +
 the hotel man (Carlae) led them to meet the men from
 Priziac whom they met near the monastery. André Le Fieur
 + Maurice (ran the hotel in Le Croisty) guided Mcgough
 to within a mile of Priziac where Johnson was taken off to
 the place where he was to stay, and Viola was taken off to
 a bioto in Priziac. Mcgough was taken 5 kms. on to
 Le Croisty (near Priziac) to M. Joseph Lucas (spent 4
 yrs in U.S. + spoke fluent English) at whose house Mcgough
 stayed (Lucas was also hiding a f. man [Joseph Jacques] from
 horient) from 22 Feb until 14 March. On 14 March 2 P.M.

the truck came. André came suddenly + told M. Lucas that
 Mcgough was leaving at once. As Mcgough went to the house he
 met the coiffeurs who told him they were catching the train at
 Guerin. Mcgough got into the truck + they drove to Langonnet
 where they backed up to a store. Here Germans passed ~~them~~
 the truck. Here they picked up a boy who took them to get
 Patton, Johnson, Viola, and King.

From here they went to Guerin + missed the train.
 The coiffeur took them to his house + told them where they stayed
 that night + on the next day they caught the 4.20 train at Guerin.

At the coiffeur's. The boy (23-24 yrs) was brought in who was to be their guide. They were given new identity cards here too. They were taken through the back door of the station & got onto the train. At Guinecamp they followed their guide off the train & met 3 Frenchmen who were waiting for them. (King Johnson & Viola were taken off by 1 F. man in one direction) & Patton & Mcgough were taken to a house of Mme Laurent in Guinecamp. They had been told they'd leave on the 21st but here ^{after talking to a tall blonde} the boy told them they might leave "tomorrow" (the 16th). They stayed here that night. ~~At 3:30~~ ^{About} 4 P.M. the house bell rang & Mme Laurent came up & told them they were to leave that night. At 7.13 P.M. the tall blonde F. man came with another man, went in and listened to the radio after which they said it was alright for leaving. They took P. & Mc. outside where a truck was waiting. They drove to a village where they picked up 6 more Americans. They left the main road, drove about 2 hours & stopped out in the country. Here a F. man met them & made them follow him ^(then of them) in single file. They were taken to a farm house ^{into} ~~cellar~~ ^{cellar} of another house where they met ~~the rest of~~ ^{other} the Americans (22). Here the British I.O. (Captain Short) interrogated them. An English ~~man~~ & American evader then came in. ~~He led~~ They were then ^{led} down single file down a cliff to the beach where they waited until they were picked up by the boats.

Military Info. Lt. Patton & Lt. McGough.

Every morning about 6 A.M. a German plane, twin engine, passes over Le Croisty (observation, March 44). French said that it was on a daily run from Brest to Pontivy.

French said there are 3 Jap submarines in Lorient, one so big that it projects out of the pen (Hearsay ~~on~~ 15 March 44)

French said Germans were building additional trenches & laying land mines around Lorient (March 44)

French said that there are 400-500 Germans in Guincamp and that the Germans were building fortifications (pill boxes) etc. in vicinity of Guincamp (Hearsay March 44)

French said there are considerable numbers of White Russians in Pontivy (March 44)

Germans about 500, now carry sub-machine guns
 in Pontivy (Hearsay March 44).

French said ~~that~~ the American bombing
 around Lorient was good (Hearsay March 44)

French don't understand why British +
 Americans don't send them arms and why
 American aviators don't carry pistols to
 give them (Feb. - March 44).

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

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

RESTRICTED

WAR DEPARTMENT The Adjutant General's Office Washington

AG 383.6 (31 Jul 43) OB-S-B-M

KLS/el-2B-939 Pentagon

6 August 1943

SUBJECT: Amended Instructions Concerning Publicity in Connection with Escaped Prisoners of War, to Include Evaders of Capture in Enemy or Enemy-Occupied Territory and Internees in Neutral Countries.

TO: The Commanding Generals,
Army Ground;
Army Air Forces;
The Commander-in-Chief, Southwest Pacific Area;
The Commanding Generals,
Theaters of Operations;
Defense Commands;
Departments;
Base Commands;
The Commanding Officers,
Base Commands;
Director, Bureau of Public Relations.

1. Publication or communication to any unauthorized persons of experiences of escape or evasion from enemy-occupied territory, internment in a neutral country, or release from internment not only furnishes useful information to the enemy but also jeopardizes future escapes, evasions and releases.

2. Personnel will not, unless authorized by the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department General Staff, publish in any form whatever or communicate either directly, or indirectly, to the press, radio or an unauthorized person any account of escape or evasion of capture from enemy or enemy-occupied territory, or internment in a neutral country either before or after repatriation. They will be held strictly responsible for all statements contained in communications to friends which may subsequently be published in the press or otherwise.

3. Evaders, escapees, or internees shall not be interrogated on the circumstances of their experiences in escape, evasion or internment except by the agency designated by the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department General Staff, or the corresponding organization in overseas theaters of operations. In allied or neutral countries, American Military Attaches are authorized to interrogate on escape, evasion and internment matters.

4. Should the services of escaped prisoners of war, evaders, or internees be deemed necessary for lecturing and briefing, such services will be under the direct supervision of the agency designated by the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department General Staff, or the corresponding organization in overseas theaters of operations.

5. Commanding Officers will be responsible for instructing all evaders, escapees, and internees in the provisions of this directive which supersedes letter, AG 383.6 (5 Nov 42) OB-S-B-M, 7 November 1942, subject: Instructions concerning Publicity in Connection with Escaped Prisoners of War and other previous instructions on this subject.

By order of the Secretary of War:

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

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

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

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

b You must be particularly on your guard with persons representing the press.

c You must give no account of your experiences in books, newspapers, periodicals or in broadcasts or in lectures.

d You must give no information to anyone, irrespective of nationality, in letters or in conversation, except as specifically directed in Par. 4.

e No lectures or reports are to be given to any unit without the permission of A. C. of S., G-2, W. D., or corresponding organization in the theater.

GERTIFICATE

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

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

Name (Print) RALPH KENNETH PATTON

Signed Ralph K. Patton

Rank 2ND LT A. S. N. 0-680283

Dated 18 March 1944

Unit 94TH BOMB GP 331 SQ.

Witness _____

RESTRICTED

AG P BR HQ SOS 2-44/2M/22472