

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

E & E REPORT NO. 571
EVASION IN FRANCE

APRIL 20, 1944
(Date)

James A DYSON S/SGT 18041327
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET: LE BOURGET

10
(Number of Missions)

MIA: 16 August 1943
Arrived in UK:

524 Bomb Squadron, 379 Bomb Group
(Squadron) (Group)

APRIL 19, 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

			Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT	0-736081	2d Lt Charles R BIGLER		
CO-PILOT	0-677197	2d Lt Vern P DEEHR		
NAVIGATOR	0-794092	2d Lt John W BRADLEY		
BOMBARDIER	0-733269	2d Lt John T BOYLE		
RADIO OPERATOR	35402140	T/Sgt Benjamin B JOHNSON		
TOP TURRET GUNNER	19080965	T/Sgt Albert P. TYLER TYLER		
BALL TURRET GUNNER	16084957	Sgt Charles J. KUKAWSKI		
WAIST GUNNER	18041327	S/Sgt James A. DYSON		
WAIST GUNNER	31159520	S/Sgt John A. STRACHUR ^A		
TAIL GUNNER	35488678	S/Sgt Paul MATTEWS ^H		

as of 22 April 44

~~MIA~~ KIA E&E # 558
~~MIA~~ P/W
P/W
E&E #138
~~MIA~~ P/W
E&E #139
MIA
NARRATOR
~~MIA~~ KIA
~~MIA~~ P/W

*Saw 7 chts
How many more?*
Were you wounded? **YES**

E&E 571: S/Sgt James A DYSON

SEE 558
138-139

I was right waist gunner in the crew from which LTs BIGLER and BOYLE and Sgt TYLER have returned. (See E&E 558, 138, 139.) I was still at my position when the radio operator came back and told us to bail out, ~~we~~ we were hit over the target, ^{and} I saw the radio operator leave. I am not sure whether the ball turret gunner got out or not; someone was lying on the floor when I jumped from the waist escape hatch at about 3000 feet. I think ^{that} I was the last man to leave the ship. The plane had ^{been} pulled out of its descent three times. Numbers two and three engines were on fire with flames streaming back to the waist.

RAILED OUT

I fell about 1000 feet and opened my chute. FW's were making figure 8's through our group of eight parachutes. I had been instructed in parachuting and made a good landing. While I was picking up my parachute, an old woman asked me whether I was Allemand, and I did not know what she meant. When she said, "Americain?" I answered with the only French word that I knew, "Oui!" She kissed me on both cheeks. A boy rushed up and ^{ow} through me in ^{to} some bushes as if I were a chicken. He gave me his clothes, took my uniform, and put it on.

HELPED IMMEDIATELY

I was taken to a wagon and driven to a cornfield to hide. That evening I was taken to a place from which my journey was arranged.

JOURNEY ARRANGED

Compiled by

D E HERTSON
1st Lt, AUS

Approved by

W STULL HOLT
Lt Col, AG
Commanding

Appendix B

1. The following information has been obtained from a sergeant who evaded capture in enemy occupied territory.
2. Further circulation of this information may be made, but in that case it is important not to divulge any details about the source.

Statement of information covering the period from 16 August 1943 to 22 February 1944

a. Informant was told in November that a Ford factory at COLOGNE had never been hit in the various bombings of that city.

b. Informant was told in October that a small factory at La FRETTE (S. et O.) was making one three-engine sea plane a month.

c. Informant was told in November 1943 that Paris is mined and that some of the mines are surrounded by fences.

Appendix D

1. I did not use my aids box because I was helped immediately; I gave it to my French helpers.
2. I carried a Red purse containing 2000 French francs. I spent the money for tobacco and buried the maps and the hacksaw.
- ~~3. I had no extra aids to evasion.~~
3. I carried three passport-size photographs, but I could not use them because they were too small.
at my base
- 4 I had heard/lectures on evasion by a captain who had come back from France.
I did not find that were in my case,
~~# I do not think that I found the lectures of much value, but I did pick up a couple of points like being careful not to say anything when you are traveling with others.~~
- 5 I think that there should be more money in the purses. Also, men should have shoes with them.

AG 383.6

Hq ETOUSA

19 October 1942

SUBJECT: Safeguarding of P/W Information.

TO : Personnel concerned.

1. It is the duty of all Americans to safeguard information which might, either directly or indirectly, be useful to the enemy.
2. It is an offense, carrying heavy penalties, to publish or to communicate to any unauthorized person any information which might be useful to the enemy.
3. Information about your escape or your evasion from capture would be useful to the enemy and a danger to your friends. It is therefore SECRET.
4. a. You must therefore not disclose, except to the first Military Attache to whom you report, or to an officer designated by the Commanding General of the Theater of Operations:
 - (1) The names of those who helped you.
 - (2) The method by which you escaped or evaded.
 - (3) The route you followed.
 - (4) Any other facts concerning your experience.b. You must be particularly on your guard with persons representing the press.
c. You must give no account of your experiences in books, newspapers, periodicals or in broadcasts or in lectures.
d. You must give no information to anyone, irrespective of nationality, in letters or in conversation, except as specifically directed in Par. 4a.
e. No lectures or reports are to be given to any unit without the permission of the War or Navy Department.

By command of Lieutenant General EISENHOWER:

(signed) RALPH PULSIFER,
Colonel, AGD, Ass't. Adj. Gen.

CERTIFICATE

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

I understand that any information concerning my escape or evasion from capture is SECRET and must not be disclosed to anyone other than the American Military Attache to whom I first report, or an officer designated by the Commanding General of the Theater of Operations. I understand that disclosure to anyone else will make me liable to disciplinary action.

Name (Print) JAMES A. DYSON Signed James A. Dyson
Rank Sgt. A.S.N. 18041327 Date April 12, 1944
Unit 524th Bomb Sq 37th Bomb Grp. Witness W. W. ...
Col. G.S.C.

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.,.....)

turrets in construction at Silver Beach.
Ford factor at ~~Cologne~~ ^{Cologne}. Germany has not
been hit yet by ~~bombs~~.

little factor at La Frette that make a three
engine sea plane. it makes 1 a month.

Paris is mined ~~that~~. they fences around
the mined.

RESTRICTED

WAR DEPARTMENT The Adjutant General's Office Washington

KLS/el-2B-939 Pentagon

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

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.

GERTIFIGATE

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

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

Name (Print)

JAMES ARTHUR DYSON

Signed

James A. Dyson

Rank

Sgt

A. S. N.

18041327

Dated

April 20 1944

Unit

584th Bomb Sq 379th Bomb Grp

Witness

Johnson 1ST LT AVS

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

RESTRICTED

Dyon

Just before I saw 5 fts - at 1st that 47 escort - they made
pass in low pass - 3 in our trail TG shot 2 down.
Took part of stability in M in our pass. I in our route - I shot
left in M. They start down after 6 FW alt also that
know M. No flash yet. LWC pull M O2 & IP, trail out -
RO ran back - still out position. He told me get chit on - but at
Blument down pull at one. RO out. Not see whether
BT out or not - some by the when I went at.

35 cal & bullets req'd. Out WEH c 8,000' - think I
lost. Plan had pulled at 3 tons - No 2 & 3 up in fire -
2 throwing fire back to wait.

Sell c 1000' chit open enough. FW making figure 8's
through us. Saw 1 man hit. Trying to find it.

Hit not too bad - pulled up as instructed - fell over on side -
not dazed - picked up chit. Old woman ask Allement -

I met him, American, ^{6'2 120 dark hair 22} ~~Dark~~ ^{By} ~~Remind me~~ ^{only}
thru me in looks like chicken. ^{5 km from 5 km} ^{La foret - in front}

Saw me clothes - part of my uniform - I gave him c 3 lbs. in chit.
He & another ^{c 47, 5'8", 150} by with me to wagon. Latter took me to road - got

to the, for, in, into live c 1 1/2 km from where fell.
on ligels from another man - c 30 to around, give me money -

325 lbs. Kid kept money & EK. T. confused, staying at
house where were & 3 kids; Seen that by man in see. ¹⁹ ^{high 5'}

& Belgian who live in town 7 years come - guy loaded, c 185, ^{2 yrs in} ^{town school}
& dth. V met in town that night. Took me on ligels c 3 hrs

0500 to his home. Stay there 2 days, go to front.
Said getting hot, is passing through town.

Then walked to town in front - stay there - 2 days. Man come up on

as m. I moved to another part of front near farmhouse - then out & next day. Rained - taken to farmhouse. Old man who been at monastery then - Old lady & back of people and - had helped Marlaine. Then that night - must go back to front - then day & night.

The man came see me - took picture to Lt Bigler - Lt say I ok. They moved to St Lee Lee meet - taken by Marie & Secty - to him where engineer work in Paris - wife. ^{Attended} 22 Aug 12 Sept then got hot & moved - little girl 3 stand stick talking about her patients.

moved told man & old lady - 75, 71 - out & day - hot Marlaine in by my fellow - M Jant - with RO. RO & ? moved Marlaine out. Next day got hot for me - is not yet that stops till man I have to report to police.

Old man taken - his books burned - he school professor. Sam man as took M - took with M Jant - woman collaborate with Gestapo next door.

Then to 19 Sept - Lt Bigler letter from Taverny on bridge - he stayed with Marlaine that night - next day to woods to rendezvous with truck.

In bottle ^{Beaufils name} I saw suspect - go to home - is not - this man told that he got this address in London - supposed

381 or 384 B
6 Sept Wd Lur W Kee - Co-P Stones, Eng Bruns - Edgworth ^{Saw in Oct}
In Nov they in Paris - staying with woman with 7 E & 3 B
brides them.

Jant told me P-47 Capt safe in Paris Oct

2
Mrs Lane & I - at just - Villacoublay - some 20's hunting
around parachutist.

Saw chits from parachutists a few not sure whether first or a not
Villacoublay or Remont & Ford.

C. 2 weeks after I fell for patriots - Mammais dis posed of
2 German agents had picked. Follow big light note something
on paper - found a cigarette.

Some women at St Antonin - Mrs Dumont - Wanted very 1
pairs 900 Rodney Dr, Saint Leonards, Cal
Hubert & I well - I more baby girl. OK.

22 Feb.

I went from Pamplona to some place, back to Pamplona,
Alhama, Madrid, S. V.

Some day at Alhama asked is who come into Spain, how & other
Filled out form for Col Koryland.

Capt.

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH
MIS (X)

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

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1. Full Name, Rank, and Serial No. JAMES ARTHUR DYSON, S/SGT, 18041327
2. Decorations.
3. Unit or Squadron. 524 Bomb Sq. 379th Bomb GP
4. Division (Army) or Group. AAF.
5. Date of Birth. JUNE 28, 1922
6. Length of Service. 2 years 9 months
7. Private Address. Box 58, KERMIT, TEXAS
8. Job as civilian.
9. From what field did you take off? 379th Bomb GP. AIRFIELD.
10. Take off time.
11. Date and target. Aug. 16, 1943 Le Bourget.
12. Where did you land? IN A PLOWED FIELD. w/ Taverny
13. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? Radio OPERATOR DESTROYED SOME PAPERS
14. What was your position in aircraft? RIGHT WAIST.
15. Were you wounded? YES
16. Did you pay your guides? If so how much? YES
17. Do you speak French? Spanish? NO
18. Did you have Identity Papers? YES NO DOG TAGS 2 I/P
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?
ENGLISH OFFICER IN GIB.
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 UPON ARRIVED IN GIB.
22. Date of arrival in Spain. FEB. 22, 1944
23. Date of arrival at Gibraltar. APRIL 13, 1944
24. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air. AIR FROM GIB
25. Place and date of arrival in U.K. A AIR FIELD NEAR TALWAN BACH (WALES)

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:--

Unit:--

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? **did NOT NEED IT.**
- 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. **GATE**

Chocolate or Peanut Bar.

Milk (tube).

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue).

Halazone tablets (water purifier).

Matches.

Adhesive tape.

Chewing gum.

Water bottle.

Compass.

Sewing kit.

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box? **GIVE IT AWAY.**
- 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. **RED, RED**
If NOT, State why not.

- b. Did you use the purse? **YES**
(over)

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

Maps. Which ones?

Compass. **IDENT.**

File (hacksaw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. **FRENCH 2000 FRs.**
How did you spend the money? **FOR TOBACCO.**

d. How did you dispose of:- **BURIED THE MAPS and FILES.**

Maps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency. **SPEND IT.**

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

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? **YES**
If so, how many? **3**

b. Did you use them? **NO TOO SMALL.**

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? ^{spt fr}
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM **A CAP. GIVE SOME LECTURES ON ESCAPE AT THE FIELD.**

b. Did you find the lectures of value? **NO** ^{BUT good - NOT say anything when out with others.}

c. Do you have any suggestions to make which, from your experience, you feel will help other evaders and escapers?

PUT MORE MONEY IN CURRENCY KIT. ABOUT 4000 FRs. MORE.
Should have shoes with you.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

571

DATE: 20 April 1944

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, CHARLES R. BIGLER, 2nd Lt., AC, O-736081

hereby certify that I have known and have been associated with

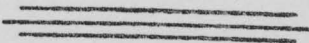
JAMES A. DYSON, S/Sgt., AC, 18041327

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.

James A. Dyson Charles R. Bigler

RIGHT THUMB PRINT:



The individual whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon has been identified to the satisfaction of this office as JAMES A. DYSON,
S/Sgt., AC, 18041327 (524 Bomb Squadron - 379 Bomb Group)

previously reported missing in action over enemy territory.

W. F. MAHANDA, SPECIAL AGENT, C.I.C.

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