

920
Comment:

Good work in laying out course while on the way down. Evader was ill advised to insist on entering a house without reconnoitering it thoroughly beforehand. Enough helpers are sacrificed in the ordinary course of their work for us to spare them unnecessary risk. Evader's use of ~~food~~ aid's box indicates need of better briefing. Properly used, the food in the escape kit will carry a man for several days. Evader's tough passage of the Pyrenees was a fine job in every respect.

SECRET

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

E & X REPORT NO 692
EVASION IN FRANCE

AS
Computer?
Proof
AS

30 May 1944
(Date)

James L LILES, 2d Lt, O-687046

(Name) (Rank) (ASN)
8 (No of Missions)

TARGET: AUGSBURG.

Date Missing in Action: 25 Feb 44

326 Bomb Squadron, 92 Bomb Group

(Squadron) (Group)

Date Arrived in UK: 30 May 44

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWLB)

Indicate what happened to
each man
and how you know

PILDT	0-804715	2d Lt	Charles G NASHOLD	MIA
COPILOT	0-687046	2d Lt	James L LILES	NARRATOR
NAVIGATOR	0-811602	2d Lt	George B FAHLSTROM	MIA
BOMBARDIER	0-747974	2d Lt	Fred W BUTLER, JR	P/W
RADIO OPERATOR	32446405	S/Sgt	William E SCHUFF	MIA
TOP TURRET GUNNER	6994027	S/Sgt	William J RICHARDSON	P/W
MID TURRET GUNNER	6998036	Sgt	Lee J CONNORS	MIA
WING GUNNER	39378648	Pvt	Earl E KELLER	MIA
WING GUNNER	14103935	Sgt	Paul V ZEMAN	MIA
TAIL GUNNER	39851808	Pvt	Tommy E. RODMAN	MIA

Were you wounded?

File

and the electrical system
After our number three engine/had been knocked out we were forced to

drop out of formation. For a few minutes we tried to keep up but six fighters were pounding away at us and we had to give the order to bail out. I went with the engineer into the nose hatch. The bombardier and navigator had been unable to release the jammed escape door. We started When we piled ~~in~~ through to the bomb bay the pilot, still at the controls, yelled for us to hurry because the AFCE was not ~~xxx~~ working. I jumped before the engineer because he was nervous and said he wanted to see how it was done.

*Nose ESCAPE
Door JAMMED*

As I cleared the plane I pulled the ripcord, remembering too late that I should have made a ~~more~~ delayed jump. I forgot because I was nervous and excited.

*REMEMBERS
DELAYED JUMP
TOO LATE*

I watched the aircraft, still in level flight, and another chute appeared. Then I was distracted by ~~an~~ FW that peeled away from the ~~xxxxx~~ still attacking fighters to swing by me. I thought he was going to fire, ^{so} I pulled the shroudlines ^s to slip the chute, but he ^{only} wagged his wings and departed.

The rest of descent was uneventful. I untied the first aid packet attached ~~to~~ to my chute harness and put it in my ~~xi~~ shirt pocket. Our plane made a complete turn, started back in my direction but went into a sudden dive and ~~crashed~~ I watched it crash. There were three chutes open behind me and one in front. The three chutes landed in fields about a minute before I got down; they were at least a mile from me. I ~~was~~ ^{floated} over a wood and tried to guide my chute toward the fields, but I ~~xxxx~~ fell through the ^{into} opening of a large tree with my chute draped over the top branches, ^{and} It was easy getting out of the harness because my feet ~~were~~ suspended only a few inches from the ground. I had expected Germans to be running from all directions, but there was little activity. From the air I had ~~engraved~~ ^{memorized}

*No immediate
SEARCH ~~xxxx~~*

the shape of the wood into which I had fallen, on my mind.

While I was slipping out of the chute harness a trainer buzzed me about three times. I yanked only a few seconds on the chute, enough to see that it was too firmly caught in the tree, before I started ^{W through the woods,} running away. I stopped once, about fifty yards from the chute, and threw my mae west and flying boots under ^{an} the embankment of a ^{small stream} ~~small~~ branch. I travelled W because I knew the woods ran in that direction. ~~Continuing to run and walk fast through the thickest underbrush,~~ I found ^{the brush} it thinning out, ^{and knew I was coming} to the edge of the woods. ^{behind me,}

CHUTE REMAINS IN TREE

For a few minutes before this I ~~had~~ heard trucks on a road that I knew ran parallel to the opposite side of the wood. ~~That was behind me and then~~ ^{But it} as I was about to run into the fields I heard a car stop in front of me and men talking. ^{So} I turned south, running quietly and stopping ^{every} each few minutes to listen. ^{Once when I stopped} It was when I had stopped to listen that I saw four Germans walking toward me, about 150 yards away, carrying tommy guns. I turned NE hoping to get across an open field and into another wood that I had spotted during my fall. I think ~~in this instance~~ I was saved because the woods were a flat dull brown ^{and blended with the colors of the woods.} and my flying coveralls, leather jacket and shoes were all brown. Any bright color in that moment of turning away from the Germans would have ~~gave~~ given me away.

AVOIDS GERMAN patrol

Before I got to the edge of the wood, I ran ^{unexpectedly} upon a group of woodcutters. It was a sudden encounter and I realized that I was either caught or they were French. ^{While} ~~As~~ they ^{me} surrounded, I repeated several times that I was an American. ~~They~~ I couldn't understand what they were trying to tell me, but from their motions I ^{gathered} knew they wanted me to run in the direction they pointed. ^{I did so, and} Between the fields and the edge of the wood I found a small stream and crawled under an embankment that jugged out over the water.

Helped by French woodcutters

The Germans searched about two hours. They were ^{so} noisy and ^{that} I could keep track of their movements. Once I heard several shots, ~~fire~~ fired.

GERMAN SEARCH ~~was~~

I didn't leave my hiding place until long after the search seemed over.

In the dusk I sat under the trees and watched the cycle and ~~pedestrian~~ ^{further} pedestrian traffic on a main road. There was no German activity.

After getting the lay of the land I knew that I wanted to travel SW and that I must cross this main road. Before starting out I ~~examined my~~ ^{shifted} aids box and purse, shifting the contents ^{of my aids box and purse} into various pockets. Then using the small trees ^{along} that grew on the banks of the stream for cover I moved up ~~to~~ ^{the road} to the road and awaited my chance to cross unseen.

TRAVELS AT NIGHT ~~IN~~ ~~THE~~

I stayed away from the roads, remembering the possibility of a curfew. It was a dark night; I ~~was always~~ ^{kept falling into} pulling myself out of ditches and creeks ~~and running into trees.~~ My progress was steady, though I stopped often ~~to~~ for a few minutes rest and ~~to~~ listen for anyone else moving around. By ~~compass~~ ^{SW} I ~~took a SW heading~~ ^{compass} followed a SW heading ~~since~~ because I thought ~~had known~~ ^{I was in}, in leaving the plane, that we were over the LORRAINE area.

DECIDES TO ASK FOR ~~THE~~

At 0400 hours I was struggling through vineyards. It was sandy and hilly ^{as the country around} country which I was sure I remembered as the NANCY area from having flown over it on previous raids. The truth was that I ~~had become~~ ^{was} so tired I wanted to believe I was in FRANCE. I ~~decided to knock at the door of the~~ ^{first} next house I could find. If it turned out to be a German or collaborator I could run.

FAILS TO RATION HIMSELF EATS ALL OF AIDS BOX CONTENTS

I couldn't find a house, though I ~~kept hearing~~ ^{heard a} a church bell every few minutes and travelled toward the sound. In doing ~~this~~ ^{so} I stumbled into a concrete blockhouse, only the top with ventilator openings was above the ground. I crawled in and built a fire ~~with some~~ ^{with} using leaves, old boards and gunny sacks. I ate practically all the contents of my aids box, being too hungry to save any for a later emergency.

FAILS TO RECOGNIZE HOUSE

At 0630 hours I went out to look for a house before there was too much light and found that I had passed a large house several hundred yards away. I sneaked up to what ~~xxx~~ appeared to be the back door and knocked. The person who answered ~~listened while I said,~~ ^{thought} "Je suis Americain," and then indicated ~~and slammed the door~~ that he believed I was a German. The door was closed in my face. I knocked again, ~~insistently,~~ ^{thing happened,} and the same ~~scene~~ ^{in the door} was repeated but I stuck my foot in the

door as it was being shut a second time. Another person in the house was called from inside the house and I produced my AGO card ~~as well as~~ ^{and} dogtags.

(I did not know that I shouldn't have taken my AGO card with me.) I was pulled inside the house and told that a part of the house was occupied by a local Nazi official. From here my ~~home~~ journey was arranged.

KITCHEN AT
HOUSE OCCUPIED
BY GERMAN

~~It started~~ In crossing the PYRENEES I was in a party of more than thirty people. We started early ^{one} ~~in the~~ ~~xxx~~ morning and, ~~with little rest,~~ ~~we~~ walked all of one day, crossing a mountain range. Half ~~of~~ the day we struggled through snow. By late afternoon we reached a valley and stopped that night to rest. Our food gave out, ^{as we had brought} There had been only enough for for the one day. ~~This was~~ ~~the~~ ~~day~~

PYRENEES
CROSSING

OUT OF FOOD

The next day we crossed another range on empty stomachs. Part of the time we waded through snow, ^{up to our armpits.} ~~some~~ at ~~arm~~ ~~pit~~ depth. We were caught in a blizzard that turned into a cold rain. After ^{we had wandered lost for} several hours of wandering around, ~~lost~~, the clouds lifted and we found our way into a valley where we ^{found} ~~had to~~ ~~shike~~ shelter from the ~~r~~rain under trees. When the rain stopped we continued our ~~we~~ march, ~~because there was no shelter.~~ One of the Americans in the party ~~falling~~ ~~down~~ was injured in a fall and we had to take turns carrying him. The next morning we were too exhausted, cold, and hungry to move after finding a place to rest in the sun.

SNOW
RAIN

One member of the party, while the rest of us slept, went down the valley, to try to get food in a village. With another ~~member~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ evader I was put on guard duty. ~~and went~~ We walked about 100 ~~yards~~ down the trail and had been there ~~about~~ five minutes when we saw about ten Germans ~~skinning~~ coming up the trail. We ran back to the others, ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~we~~ yelled a warning, and ^{ran} ~~started~~ ~~running~~ around the side of the mountain. As soon as we reached some thick bushes we dived in and heard gunfire ~~break out~~ back where the others were hiding. It lasted about fifteen minutes. I saw Sgt BARLOW and Lt GROLLINGER running in the same direction I had gone. I left my hiding

Surprised
Escaped BY
GERMAN
PATROL

E

place and ran on up the mountain. The rest of the day I walked along the side of the mountain, ~~range following the valley E.~~ That morning before going on guard duty I had studied a map carried by one of the guides until I knew our approximate position and the direction of the frontier.

SAVED BY
SOME OF
KNOWLEDGE OF
GUIDE'S MAP

If I had not done this I could have wandered around for days, because the ~~border~~ ^{frontier} in that area ran N and S instead of E and W.

Before dark I came upon a bridge, and while I watching to see if it was guarded, Sgt BARLOW, Lt DROLLINGER and Sgt KAMISH (RAF) came up behind me. After dark we crossed the bridge and walked ~~slowly~~ slowly along the road toward the last mountain range ~~that~~ that lay between us and SPAIN. We had walked about one kilometer before noticing a German guard sitting on the side of the road trying to keep warm by a small fire. We scrambled into the bushes and up a hill before he saw us. We climbed all night and at daybreak reached the snow line, ~~Soon after getting in the snow~~ ^{and then} Sgt KAMISH yelled that he could see six German soldiers coming up the mountain in our direction.

Followed by
~~SEVERAL~~ PATROL

Two hundred yards ~~from~~ ^{short of} the top I had to ~~stop~~ ^{save out.}. The others couldn't help me and struggled on. I must have slept about two hours. When I awoke the Germans were ~~about~~ ^{below me} 300 yards down the mountain. They started shooting at me as soon as I ~~it~~ ^{so} began to move. I had ~~about~~ ⁵⁰ 50 yards to ~~cover~~ ^{but} before I ~~disappeared~~ disappeared from their sight, ~~and~~ ^{and I had to stop} I made it over the top without seeing them again. It took me all day to get down into the valley into SPAIN, ~~I stopped often to get some sleep.~~ ^{picked me up and took me to} When I finally reached a road I sat there until a truck ~~came~~ ^{arrested me} along and I was ~~given~~ ^{arrested me} a ride into a village, where ~~the~~ ^{and I had to stop} a gendarme picked me up at once and I joined the others who had reached the ~~same~~ ^{small} village earlier in the day.

~~Shot at by~~
~~German~~

John F. White, Jr.

Information gathered
March-April 1944.

APPENDIX B:

- a. At THIONVILLE (LORRAINE) evader observed many JU 87s in flight. French sources stated there was a training school at the airdrome located about 20 km E of THIONVILLE.
- b. French source said ~~that~~ there much flight training in ME 109s and DO 217s at an airport near NANCY.
- c. P51s strafed the NANCY airport one day before 1 March, shooting up two planes on the ground and two in the air. During the last week in March B-24s bombed this airfield, missing the target and causing a heavy French civilian casualties. Evader saw fly from this airfield on several occasions a B-17 with an Me 109 escort.
- d. There is a large ^{infantry trainings} military camp at NANCY, according to the French. It is an infantry camp and the troops are trained here until ready for combat. Of 50,000 personnel at the camp, 10,000 are permanent and 40,000 transient.
- e. There is no ^{AA defence} anti-aircraft at NANCY. (Hearsay and obs.)
- f. French source ~~is~~ stated that fortification lines in the French coastal area were spaced about 10 km apart and built to withstand attack from any direction.
- g. Evader saw ^{AA} anti-aircraft guns on the ALLES DES CYGNES in PARIS. Evader was told that a large factory on the QUAI DE GRENELLE was a ~~precision~~ precision instrument factory. Evader saw street-corner pillboxes in PARIS (April 1944).

Appendix D:

1. Of the aids box contents I used the compass ~~for~~ and ate the chocolate. The chewing gum helped me resist temptation to smoke at night. The contents ~~did not prove~~ ^{and} ~~was~~ ^{were} satisfactory and I have no suggestions to make.
 2. I carried the purse, marked with red diagonal stripes. The maps of France were helpful; and I used the 2000 francs for train fare and cigarettes.
 3. No further aids to evasion were issued to me.
 4. I had four escape photos; all were used by helpers.
 5. I was lectured at the 92nd Bomb Grp, by a Captain in the Intelligence section and while training in the States I heard a M/Sgt who had evaded last year. The lectures had good value. ^{were very useful.}
- I think all evaders should remember to get away from the scene of their parachute ^{jump} as quickly as possible. ~~I think one of the greatest dangers~~
~~is to be seen in my evasion was travelling~~

No., Rank, Name:-

LILES

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? **YES**
- b. If not, why?
- c. If you used it, state briefly the circumstances in which you used each item, for example, "While hiding in woods for two nights".
- USED COMPASS TO GUIDE ME AND ATE CANDY**
Horlicks tablets.
NO
- Chocolate or Peanut Bar.
ATE CHOCOLATE WHEN HUNGREY
- Milk (tube).
NO
- Benzadrine tablets (fatigue).
NO
- Halazone tablets (water purifier).
NO
- Matches.
NO
- Adhesive tape.
NO
- Chewing gum.
YES, TO KEEP FROM SMOKING AT NIGHT
- Water bottle.
NO
- Goggles.
YES, TO KEEP MY DIRECTION
- Sewing kit.
NO
- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?
NO
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box?
BURNED IT
- f. Can you suggest any way in which the contents of the aids box might be changed to make it of greater use, bearing in mind that the size of it cannot be larger?
NO

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? **YES**
State color of stripes and letters. **RED STRIPES**
If NOT, State why not.
- b. Did you use the purse?
YES

(over)

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

Maps. Which ones? **THE MAP OF FRANCE**

Compass. **YES**

File (hacksaw). **NO**

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.

How did you spend the money? **2,000 FRANCS FOR TRAIN FARE AND CIGARETTES**

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps. **GAVE THEM TO FRENCH INTELLIGENCE**

Compass. **THREW IT AWAY IN PYRENEES**

File (hacksaw). **BURIED IT**

Surplus currency. **NONE**

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

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? **YES**
If so, how many? **4**

b. Did you use them? **YES**

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? **YES**
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM. **AT 92ND BOMB GROUP BY AN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER; Capt; M/Sgt in State Nebraska**

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**

Think Org handles so many that after time leads start and then danger begins —
always dangerous when travelling in bunches — fewer the better —
Run; was confused by obs — listened for Mustang ran other way —

APPENDIX "B" TO E AND E REPORT NO. 692

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.,.....)

airport 20 kms E of

at Thionville, - Lorraine I observed a good many J.W. 87,5 and the people said there was a training school there.] at Nancy there was a lot of flight training, mostly in Me 109 with a few Dornier 217's. ^{permanent staff 12,000 - transient 40,000} Chateaufort was a military camp with about 50,000 men I was told. The airfield was bombed once ^{last week much} by a group of B 24's. They missed the target and killed about 70 French men and 9 Germans. Two P 51's strafed the field one day and shot up 2 planes on the ground and two in the air, so I was told by the French. The Germans had a B-17 there that they flew nearly every day. ^{Flown with me - secret -}

The French people are very anxious for the invasion to come and some are beginning to doubt that it will come. They say the morale of the German soldier is very low and that all the collaborators and the Germans are worried about what will happen to them when the invasion starts. The French people fear the Russians very much and as a result fall victim to Nazi propaganda about Communism.

There are no anti aircraft guns at Nancy.

In invasion area fortification lines - 10 kms apart - could withstand attack from all directions.

French were planning various sabotage acts - communications, transportation -
ack-ack on Altes des Cygnes
Precision instrument factory on the QUAI de GRENELLE
street corner pill boxes in PARIS.

.....:.....
SECURITY CONTROL OFFICE . BRISTOL (WHITCHURCH) AIRPORT.

The following officer(s) has/. have arrived in this country
and require(s) a railway warrant to:

LONDON SRC.

① a 2LT LILES J. L. US Army

0-687046

Date 30/5/44.



.....
D. W. ... Lt

Security Control Officer

?.....:.....

SRC.

PHAT 6

E & E CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Liles
#692

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing.

1-25-44, PLANE CRASHED APPROXIMATELY ON OLD GERMAN BORDER NORTH, EAST OF THIONVILLE, LORRAINE

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. NO. 3 ENGINE SHOT
Was it on fire, etc? OUT WITH PROP RUNNING AWAY. BATTERIES SHOT
OUT WITH ALL INSTRUMENTS AND GUN TURRETS DEAD

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? 17000 FT.

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed?

I DON'T KNOW

What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT MEMBERS OF THE CREW BAILED OUT. I SAW
3 CHUTES WHEN I JUMPED AND ONE MORE CAME OUT OF THE PLANE
AFTERWARDS

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? YES

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after
reaching the ground? NO

Did he receive any information from others as to whether any other
members of the crew were dead or alive? If so give details furnished
by his informant and whether the other crew members were identified by
name or otherwise. I WAS TOLD BY FRENCHMEN THAT 3 MEN WERE
CAUGHT BY GERMANS AND ONE WAS WOUNDED VERY BADLY

Did source examine the wreckage of the plane? If so, what was its
condition? NO

If the plane crashed in water how far was the plane from land and what
means was source rescued and what life rafts, wreckage, etc., remained
on the surface that would have assisted other personnel to keep afloat.

What is source's opinion as to the fate of the other crew members and
his reasons for his opinion?

I DON'T KNOW, THEY COULD HAVE ALL JUMPED WITHOUT
ME SEEING THEM

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO. 692
EVASION IN

5-30-44
(Date)

JAMES L. LILES 2ND LT O-687046
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

Spec 22 April 29 May

TARGET: AUGSBURG

326TH 92ND
(Squadron) (Group)

MIA: 2-25-44
Arrived in UK:

5-30-44

8-10-44
MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

Official
Disposition

Narrators
Disposition

PILOT NASHOLD

CO-PILOT LILES

NAVIGATOR FAHLSTROM

BOMBARDIER BUTLER

RADIO OPERATOR

TOP TURRET GUNNER

BALL TURRET GUNNER CANDCER?

WAIST GUNNER KELLER

WAIST GUNNER ZEEMAN

TAIL GUNNER RODMAN

Were you wounded?

YES, SLIGHTLY ACROSS THE FINGERS BY A BULLET OR SHRAPNEL

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 LOUIS LILES 2ND LT. 0-687046
2. Decorations. NONE
3. Unit or Squadron. 326TH SQDN, 92ND BOMB GROUP
4. Division (Army) or Group. 92ND BOMB GROUP
5. Date of Birth. 1-12-20
6. Length of Service. 2 YRS, 4 1/2 MONTHS
7. Private Address. 112 N. DENVER ST., DALLAS, TEXAS
8. Job as civilian. FARMER, RANCHER
9. From what field did you take off? POUNDINGTON
10. Take off time. 0735
11. Date and target. 2-25-44, AUGSBURG
12. Where did you land? IN LORRAINE
13. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? YES
14. What was your position in aircraft? CO-PILOT
15. Were you wounded? YES, VERY SLIGHTLY ON THE HAND
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
19. Have you been questioned before to-day on your escape or evasion? If so, where and by whom? Have you given anyone a written report on your experiences. Where and when?
YES, BY BRITISH INTELLIGENCE IN GIBRALTER
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 GIBRALTER 5-29-44
22. Date of arrival in Spain. 4-22-44
23. Date of arrival at Gibraltar. 5-29-44
24. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air. DEPARTED FROM GIBRALTER
BY AIR ON 5-29-44
25. Place and date of arrival in U.K. ARRIVED IN BRISTOL ON 5-30-44

Tort - civil police - tough + wanted to put us in jail -
said so - hotel on site - then Lerida - escort
Garcia, works for Forsythe in Barcelona - met us a bus -
killed to gendarmerie - ^{said what} taken to HQ & Hendrickson
name of hotel so head shaved & in provincial prison -
took us station for Miranda & had just told Garcia we
were going to HQ Garcia tipped off & he saved us &
got H out of provincial prison - Lerida is bad spot -
still and - hotel - one night - next day

Alhama - everybody put out ^{man} there as
Guatapo - 16 days - ^{4 hrs} Madrid - Col Clark -
GIB - Darling -

at airport: Whitechurch Butler -
a Brit Overseas A C - Brit off - asked questions -
what day did I leave England?

Have a rough time
glad to be back
what country shot down in?

showed card for intelligence

I could 10 - ran to cabin told them - then ran off up
mt & hid in bushes - then shooting broke out - ended like
Stein guns - 2 in cabin - went on 15 mins - Saw
Barlow & Gollinger - coming out of Kamish later -
went on up mt - walked in 2-story stone hse - got in among
them & then of around them - got her between me
& shooting - walked side of mt following valley till dark
(21st) - village - cement bridge & big power station
under bridge - saw Kamish Gollinger & Barlow coming up
behind me - wld till dark - across bridge - on other
side of valley village + the Spanis - had old map
that aft - 1 Km & ran into Terry guard - he had fire - we saw
him first - got around him - climbed all night - layback
were in snow - no food for 3 days - Got Barlow better
fed - Kamish had bread - find pass in snow - KAMISH
yelled he saw Terry (6) following us - went on up in
snow - 200 yds of top I gave out - went down
to sleep - Germans came up - could see me & shot at
me so I ran toward gutment & got over top before
they got there - guy down - slept & walked - down
about 4 - road to VIELLA - walked 5 km & ride
on truck to VIELLA - gendarme stopped me - au? - yes -
th me gendarme HQ - asked - name - told to keep my ABC
but didn't - to Hotel - find other 3 - following morn - Hendricks & Morris came
in - (others had run out of cabin & into arms of 1/4 Genie coming other direction) -
stayed 16 days in VIELLA - only way out was walk thru snow - full in bad shape -
nearly to go on the week but couldn't - called for the - said to take it out
& finally after 16 days walked to Esterre - bus to

- Custeritz to Toulouse ¹³⁰⁰ ~~1400~~ HRS — 17th April (mon) —
No check on ICs — hair T — transfer (M/M/ou beard?)
Got off at St. — 3 — Whole train unloaded —
one house at station — all went into it — 37 people
in all — packs issued & food passed out started ferrying
us into Mts — Sgt Barlow in party & Kamish (RAF) —
Lt. ~~Lynda~~ B Grollinger — Sgt Wm Bluchickson —
Morris (Br Civ) said son of Eng woman of org captured — is lying in bed —
more Cms — Morris has list of whole bunch — 4 trips in car
at 11 pm — team of hay slept — next am — started walking — snow — over
mt top orange — all day — valley late aft — 3 cabins — nice —
enough food for 14 in our bunch — 1st day — next day — another
range — snow amount deep — blizzard & thin rain — lost —
fed way down — old lifted — valley — LUCHON — trucker stole
our food left over — old in rain under trees tattered — who all into —
carrying farmer — had fallen & was hurt — had to sleep — lying in
sun & at 10 am one member of party went down to village —
waiting for guide to return with food — in evening Morris &
I went on guard — went down trail 100 yds — by tree — Morris
went to sleep under tree so heavy — 5 mins & saw
Stevy coming up trail 150 yds away —

Slim civily blonde guy took us to Paris - bin airport arr at Nancy station -
in Paris at 7³⁰ am. - supposed to be py of people to meet us at station - these
people were to shelter us - didn't meet us - left blonde on spot with 10m
hands - he stl walking & we followed, scattered - he made phone calls -
couldn't get contact - subway - then parker - but us been & left us he -
we sat & waited for him - 10 mins - came back - man came with him & I'd
who seen in crowd in Eng - I'd I & put function - we went with man
to house - man the Dentist practice - listed in CS Directory - wife spoke Eng -
wife's mother ~~from~~ ^{from} ~~Swiss~~ ^{Swiss} - man lived 14 yrs L.A. Calif. - stayed 3
days - he knew the Chf of Org - kept Ans for our emersence - a boy
& girl came & took us by subway to chf's hse - chf's brother & sister
live in chf's hse - boy guide friend of family - all wealthy people
& had beautiful home - chf's brother owned factory - was a chemist -
chf had just returned from England - chf: 5'8" - broad shoulder - heavy
set - 50 yrs old - shapest grey green eyes - iron grey hair - vivid
personality - told story about coming to UK: being bk of there was Nazi
agent - either killed agent & got hints UK - ret'd France by boat -
1st part of April - adopted member of brother's family in China - man
from the Indo clinic - was major in A.C. - works for chf - no
names ever mentioned - chf's sister works in Org - lives with chf -
taken to train - chf there to see us off - in two compartments - 10 of us -
2 women & 2 men guides - blonde headed boy & tall slim black
haired boy friend of chf's family - blonde girl 25 - older girl
not pretty 30, sister to one of chf's helpers & along for change of
scenery - (chf cld his Org Jean - Marie) - chf lives at
Mont Parmasse Blvd - east from sta 2 blocks on R. side set back
by iron fence trees & flowers & a mansion -

D.O. took me to Daniel Charton (son) of M. & Mrs Charton 1 Rue St. Lambert,
rue beer parlor - clearing house for all Nancy det - all family in det -
D.O. goes to PARIS & sees ^{English} woman hd of Org - at villa 50 kms out of PARIS
between there & Lille - she going to send some of her men to Nancy -
1st Lt. Robt Lumsden ^{1st} brot in by a woodsman - The D.O. wrote letter -
no answer - other evaders pouring in - one RAF crew (Sgt Stanley Kamish),
an Amer & Kamish has name: James ^{1st pilot} from N.I. down 7 months - D.O. in
flurry - no answer from woman gone 3 days - when back ~~at~~ said -
to Paris & Lille - did find no one - in Lille learned whole
Org caught - this capture took place between 8 & 614 March -
D.O. had told me she could arrange to have me flown - of other evaders
another RAF brot in by C. of P. - I was at Daniel's 5 weeks - D.O.
at loss - Charton could find another Org if D.O. could produce - Daniel's
mother phoned asylum (Lisieux) & spoke to man working there who was
contact with Jean-Marie Org. - 3 men came to see us - nervous -
not wanting to be seen - took my AGO pass to show chg in Nancy -
accepted my AGO & asked did I trust rest & I said yes - 2 days
later Jean & Mickey walked in - Jean: 5'3" - fat - paunchy -
brown eyes - double chin - puffy cheeks - Mickey: taller than Jean 5'4"
heavy-set - dark brown hair & brown eyes - broad face - no sp Eng }
they saw the Chartons & the D.O. - Jean agreed to take all of us & took D.O.
into his Org - would move us out in 10 days - In 10 ² days nowed
of him - but 11th day had Berry had control on Nancy station - Jean kept
putting us off - next date set was 8 April - on 11th came & said leaving that
night - Jean had tall blonde skin curly headed man with him -
Ten of us - went that night - 2^d group behind & to follow * (Charton had another
Org up their sleeve) * Jean-Marie was Fr. Org, set up & run by Fr. -

M^{me} Charles exp^d lie wth her entry & she here - friend of m^{me} Margaret NOEL, next to Nazi officials. She brought & clothes - m^{me} Charles was surprised & worried when I bro^t them - my two helpers went out & got drunk with M. Jost - when drunk they sat around cursing Hitler - stay^d 4 days at m^{me} Charles - Margard bro^t ^(now only got to garage there) Eng. officer, man & he sd they were sending for man from NANCY to take me into France - He come - a workman - brought cards - kept alone - they never understood when I said Underground or Intelligence - man thing me over time had worked for husband - no money paid - Rene LE BRUN took me to Nancy - used his wife's card - her name old be boy or girl & he wrote on card - deaf & dumb - I was his brother - preted we being deaf & dumb - fixed me two passports - other one sd Jean Beane but and was for France - when he plld out red card I plld white & black - black - & when Gerry came in I was to expose him until last minute - arrive him of sleepness - I ignored Gerry (in train 100 at night) & he got mad & Rene shoot me & sd pass Papier & I handed to Gerry who had hardly looked at it - & handed it back - This happned twice - arr. NANCY 4:30 a.m. - wtd while Rene looked for control - or gestapo - man lks like gestapo in station. so we went through goods yards - to Rene home - our ticket was confer pass for the extra train - confer off at 0500 hrs - to bed & slept - wife in at 10am - dinner - stayed 3 days - Rene sd wld take me to SPAIN - fine - he mislget me passport - come back with tale of flying me to Spain - was getting it from chf of Police - failed - then wld take me border - Then chf of police sd liaison officer with Paris Org in town - Chf of Police advised Debrun to turn me over to the Dist off + C of P sent the officer to see me - Rene still wntd to take me south - on 3rd day, Dist O ^(now with them - maybe) came for me - he was liaison with ^{English} a woman who was hd of Org est. by Eng for sole purpose of Escapes - he was 5'9", piercing grey eyes - small head - sharp features, 29 - had been ham' RO & Radio repair man - had own set - his mother in Insurance agency in Nancy - she in Dist. - funds of P of C of Nancy.

green shirt & trousers - flying coroll + brown A-2 jacket - was brown - had on English G.I.s - didn't lumber them up - soles off 1st night - A Bin coroll jacket - Emergency kit in shirt jacket - Purse in coroll pocket - opened all things while hiding - put money + maps in shirt jacket -

looked at road - cross it? - France? Germany - that France - or near I did walk into France - location was indefinite but in mind from time of flight - dark - into field - followed bushes to road - crossed quickly - along bushes - stayed off road - that of possible curfew - stayed in fields - fields, ditches, creeks, thru woods - very dark night - walk + stop to let legs - ^{walked 7-8 miles -} quiet - steady progress - rest only few minutes - SW heading (logically) - at 0400 hrs - in vine yards - trouble - thought must be France - sandy hill type of country - remembered from raid on Nantes - tired so made self believe in France - decided to chance knock on door - children like hell if not OK - didn't find her - found church - stayed close to it - had bell ring after - ran into concrete blocks in ground - just top showing - crawled in to find gunny sack + 3 birds - got leaves & built fire with cig lighter - found AB - ate everything + burned case - stayed til 6:30 am - left to look for her before too light - had passed house - large old chateau - went up to back door - smoke out of chimney - knocked - to woman - sd am - she sd "no, allemand" - did door - knocked again - insisted - put foot door - ^{brother} ~~husband~~ called - showed him ABO pass - he accepted it but not convinced / phoned me in - sd nazi lived in another side of house - nazi sprayer of local work - taken upstairs - showed when to hide if nazi came - fed - had asleep ~~and~~ slept til night - covers - brot a friend for supper - gave A-2 jacket to helper + fruit coroll - walked 3 kms to small station - caught train to THIONVILLE-LORRAINE - caught train at 9:30 p.m. - at T-L about 11:50 - had come from NE (language was German - wanted to get near across border in France) would take no money - In T-L taken to mme Charles (Karl) Jost - she French & husband German - was member of Nazi party I would have nothing to do with me - the attitude that his wife's business was her own - was a contact for Nazis in that area -

40 to Augsburg - fog with - ching fog - #3 hit fault - electrical system out - #3
prop ran away - when hit, in front, & peeled off to BO given - quick - I grabbed
controls & tried back to front - old man not to BO yet - didn't catch front then & 6 fog
on us - tests dead & radio - then called to BO - fog hitting us - 2,000
& dropping fast - I got out of seat & put a chute - p on controls - B & N still
in - Eng there - went with me nose hatch - wouldn't open - kicked on
door - holding it open - saw man from rear fall - Eng & I & B & N still for
bomb bay - thru cockpit - Puffed Henry - AFCE not working - I want me
to go 1st to see me do it - as soon as clear fld. rip - excited - watched 1/2
& another chute sail - FW peeled off & came by - waggled wings -
put r' aid pht in pocket - 1/2 tried around & came back then saw it
crash - watched ground - 3 chutes behind me & 1 in front - saw
them land in fields - had to guide chute into flds - sailed into woods -
thru hole in tree tops - chute hung with the feet just off ground - saw no
activity before down - a train followed me down - buzzed chute
3 times - down a mile from others - think 4th man down in wood - out of chute -
didn't pull chute down - saw 50 yds to branch & threw m w & 4 boots under
embankment - then ran - good tree cover - was going ^{west} because knew that
woods ran that way - run & walk fast - in thickest part - wds thinned - cl
bear tracks on road - had seen rd from air - was behind me - kept going -
then had them in front - car, talking - trend south - ran into 4 Series - coming
toward me - they had Tommy guns - 150 yds away - trend NE - hpd to get across
open to another wds - ran into 5 wdcutters - rd go due west & hide in branch
I pld, fields from timber - hd walked right into them - they walked over to me - I
sd Am - that jig up - they looked branch - very old - they pld direction - went to branch
& laid down under embankment - well hidden - cl'd hear Henry in distance - had several chits
fired - s'ched two hrs - shyd til dark - crawled out on edge of fld & watched cycli-
truffe & walkers - getting lay of land -

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 I. LILES

Signed

James I. Liles

Unit 2ND Lt A.S.N. 0-687046

Date

5-29-44

Unit 92ND BOMB GROUP

Witness

Horace W. Forster

HORACE W. FORSTER,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
U. S. Mil. Lia. Off.

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) JAMES L LILES

Signed James L. Liles

Rank 2ND LT. A. S. N. 0-687046

Dated 5-30-44

Unit 316TH SQDN, 92ND BOMB GROUP

Witness _____

RESTRICTED

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

CONFIDENTIAL

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

DATE: 31 May 1944

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, MICHAEL J. KULICK, T/Sgt., AC, 15016691 692

hereby certify that I have known and have been associated with

JAMES L. LILES, 2nd Lt., AC, O-687046

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 L. Liles

Michael J. Kulick

RIGHT THUMB PRINT:



The individual whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon has been identified to the satisfaction of this office as JAMES L. LILES,
2nd Lt., AC, O-687046 (336 Bomb Squadron - 92 Bomb Group)

previously reported missing in action over enemy territory.

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

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