

Good.

Comment on '704:

Not many of our men have had to face the problem of evading by night. Tactics employed by this evader were good, except his avoidance of woods. Woods are, to be sure, the obvious place for the enemy to search. At the same time, it is universal ^{practice,} ~~experience,~~ as well as common sense, to use them for a hide-out.

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO. 704
EVASION IN FRANCE

MS
Proof
BY

(Date)

Murray L SIMON, 2d Lt, O-687213

(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

of missions not to be shown.

406 Bomb Squadron, 801 Bomb Group Prov (H)

(Squadron) (Group)

~~T. REPORT; [REDACTED]~~

MIA: 6 May 1944

Arrived in UK:
2 June 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

			Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT	O-687213	2d Lt Murray L SIMON		NARRATOR
CO-PILOT	O-687076	2d Lt French M RUSSELL		MIA
NAVIGATOR	O-800667	1st Lt John A REITMEIER		MIA
BOMBARDIER	O-733073	1st Lt John B MEAD		MIA
RADIO OPERATOR	7084841	T/Sgt Phillips B LATTA		MIA
TOP TURRET GUNNER	34078638	T/Sgt Leo F DUMESNIL		MIA
BALL TURRET GUNNER	NONE			
WAIST GUNNER	37312824	S/Sgt Homer G COLLIER		MIA
WAIST GUNNER	NONE			
TAIL GUNNER	14050901	S/Sgt Graham S HASTY		MIA

Were you wounded?

During a night operation 5 May 1944 our aircraft was set on fire by a night fighter. We suffered other damage and when I smelled gas fumes in the cockpit I ~~told~~^{ordered} the crew to bail out. The copilot remained in the ship until all others were out, then he jumped and I followed immediately.

Knowing our height to be around 5500 feet I counted 1000-2000-3000 as soon as the slipstream picked me up and ~~then~~^{then} pulled the ripcord. I was floating over a wooded area. In the full moonlight I could see the copilot. He yelled to ask if everything was alright. I told him it was, but not to make so much noise. My chute lodged in a tree ~~after I had struggled~~^{after I had struggled} on the edge of the wood, though I had ~~struggled to bring it down in a field.~~ Suspended a few feet from the ground I unbuckled the harness and fell out of it. After a few tugs at the chute I left it, dropped my mae west and ~~struck out through the wood without choosing a direction.~~^{on the run} ~~For~~^{After} twenty minutes I ~~walked and ran, stopping~~^{stopped} ~~them~~^{only} to hide my flying pants and check my ~~compass.~~^{direction by my escape compass.}

Since I knew my approximate location in the center of FRANCE, I turned due S, getting out of the wooded area as soon as possible. ~~because~~ It was the obvious place for the Germans to start their search.

I walked cautiously through the fields and skirted ~~the~~^a farmhouses to avoid the danger of barking dogs. An hour of this brought me to a country road, lined with trees and brush, ~~which followed it in~~^{which followed it in} I ~~walked several kilometers~~^{walked several kilometers} the shadows of the trees, knowing that I could find cover at any time if necessary. There were no houses in the fields. I had covered about two miles when I thought I saw someone walking toward me. ~~quickly~~ I fell to one knee, waited for the sound of footsteps, and, thinking that I heard ~~them~~^{footsteps}, rolled into the ditch. I lay waiting for someone to pass but I neither heard nor saw anything after ~~that~~^{that}.

The ditch was a good place to spend the night. I slept intermittently until daybreak and was awakening when a farmer passed in a cart. I remained motionless but he glanced down at me and was startled. I called out, "Je suis Americain," and received a nod of understanding, but he ~~shrugged~~^{shrugged}, shook his head to tell me that he could not help. I put my finger to my lips to ask him not to give me away and he nodded agreement.

I crawled further along the ditch looking for a better hiding place. The workers ~~were~~^{in pairs} already in the fields, ~~working in pairs~~ and I thought it wiser to catch one alone. Sometime after the farmer had seen me a woman

A/c attacked by
NIGHT FIGHTER

CHUTE CATCHES
IN TREE?

LEAVES
WOODS
AREA

SPEND NIGHT
IN DITCH

AWAKENED BY
FARMER

~~cyclized~~ cycled by. She must have known I was there. Her glance signalled recognition, and, again when I put my fingers to my mouth, she seemed to understand.

Soon after she had gone ~~xxxx~~ a man on a bicycle passed, looked in the ditch at me, pretended he ~~had~~ not seen me, and rode on. I was trying to find a way out of the ditch, unobserved by the field workers, when the man returned with civilian clothes and the rest of my journey was arranged.

JOURNEY
ARRANGED

May 1944

Appendix B:

- a. There are 1000 German troops stationed in the vicinity of ROANNE (LOIRE). (Hearsay), ~~xxx~~
- b. The troops in the ROANNE area are of inferior type. Some were Russian, used as a police force.
- c. Men from the LORRAINE area, drafted into German service, were sent to the Russian front. Rarely were more than five put in the same company so they could be carefully watched. (Hearsay).
- d. Evader saw a large former French depot or warehouse located approximately 5 kms N of ROANNE. It did not appear to be in ^{great} use now, thought it was fenced in and new long wooden barracks had been erected.
- e. There did not appear to be much active subversive activity in ROANNE.
- f. All Frenchmen, living in this area, who worked for the Germans had been sent a card on which a noose was printed. This card came from the resistance people.
- g. There were only a few German troops in ST ETIENNE (LOIRE). (Hearsay and Obs).
- h. In LYONS some bomb shelters had been constructed and others were under construction across from the main entrance to the railway station.
- i. In ST ETIENNE evader overheard two German soldiers discussing the raids on Germany. They were depressed about it and expected to find only ruins when they returned.
- j. Resistance people in LOIRE said they were not well equipped to do all they wanted or was expected of them. One year is considered the average working time for a member of the resistance organisations before being caught. If well armed and equipped they felt they could accomplish much.
In ST ETIENNE when the Gestapo caught resistance people they were tortured to reveal names and addresses. One such man had had his eyes gouged out and another was submerged in freezing water until unconscious, revived, ^{and} beaten, and the process continued until the man ~~talked~~ talked or died. In any case these men are killed whether they talk or not. French source ~~with~~ telling evader about this had been active for ten months and showed extreme signs of nervousness and breakdown. He was important in the resistance movement and complained of lack of arms and ammunition. In VALENCE before evader's arrival there was a skirmish between the Maquis and the French militia. The militia had 100 men and the maquis 60 men. The militia suffered 8 dead and 45 wounded; the maquis 1 dead and 6 wounded. The chief of ~~the~~ police in VALENCE was killed and papers found on his person showed lists of suspected people. Evader knew of one night ^{when} on ~~which~~ 25 of the maquis, using plastic time bombs, destroyed 18 locomotives in a nearby marshalling yards. For supplies they were ^{seizing} hi-jacking German trucks, and many of the cars used by the maquis were stolen from the Germans. Also in this area the Germans had, after capturing certain members of the maquis, hung their bodies on a bridge at the edge of a town. As a reprisal the maquis had performed the ~~same~~ action, using German soldiers. Select Gestapo agents were ~~watched~~ watched until a suitable opportunity for killing them; also collaborators.
- k. After an air raid in May on the VALENCE airdrome it was almost useless. (Hearsay).
- l. In the VALENCE area there were some American ^{AA} anti-aircraft guns in use. These guns were captured in Africa. (Hearsay).
- m. Roads in the PYRENEES have been prepared for mining. (Hrsy and obs).

APPENDIX D:

- a. Of the ~~contents~~ aids box contents I ate the Holicks tablets while in hidng the first night. I saved the chocolate bar and benzadrine tablets to use crossing the Pyrenees and the matches I used for cigarettes. I used the compass when running from my chute, ~~to travel in a straight line.~~
2. I used the maps, compass and money from the ~~Purse~~. The surplus money was turned in at the British consulate at BARCELONA.
- ~~3 No extra aids to evasion.~~
- 3 I carried 12 passport size photographs and used some of them.
4. I was last lectured on evasion, 20 April 1944, at HERRINGTON by Lt Bryan. The lectures were valuable. I consider patience and well thought out moves important to any evader.

ON ERSE prepared - clear of flames - 5500 ft above surge of rubble flak - no warning +
suddenly caught gas fire - evasive action bright - live - coming out - no
solder cut - cloth cut - "get B&N out of Abse - ^{Lucas} no curtain -
electrical system out - they on flight deck - fire in back of ship -
AFCE out - "salvo load" - static line ^{taken off} contours - told men
to fight fire + hold on - no BO yet - 1/2 hr of fight - numerous hits -
would to BO men over target if could make - would check on
damage - hit again - fire in Bombay - evasive action - gas fumes
told men to BO - told Cpt to check ship + hang on til sun all out -
then told him to go - followed him immediately - a/c in flames
come of flight deck - out quick - flames - slipstream got me up - counted
1000 - 2000 - 3000 - pulled rip - no chute sensation of opening - no
falling sensation til 300 ft off ground - over large wooded area - full
moon - copilot yelled to me - asked "OK" - yes, "keep quiet" - tried to
clear wood - failed - landed on edge - saw tree landing coming -
closed eyes + raised hands as god - was hanging in harness 1 ft
off ground - chute in tree - unbled + fell to ground - tried to get down
chute - no success - off MW - took off in wds on foot - no
direction chosen - flat terrain - walked 20 mins - stopped to rid of
fl pants + out compass - due south - knew app. location - avoided
wooded area - that berry would look there - 100 yd visibility in open field -

clear of fences - leary of dogs - he walk - flds - cut over path
& entry dirt road - lined with flds & trees - decided to take to road -
was shadowy & old hick cypress - few miles down rd -
no hses - saw someone coming - 25 fds ahead - to me knee -
looked for movement - to other knee & held into ditch - observing
rd - no one passed - decided to spend night in ditch - lay there
rest of nite - (0300 hrs to -) - early next am. got bag break -
0730 hrs - farmer passed in cart - saw me thro hiding - "called
out 'je suis Americain' - he motioned no help - I signalled
for him to be quiet - got affirmative shake of head - I lay
there - old hick fld worked - always in pairs - woman on cycle
passed & saw me - she seemed to recognize me for what was -
signalled "quiet" - aff. nod - other people passed - not noted -
man on cycle - looked at me - no indication of having seen
me - puzzled me so that to move - how get out unobserved? -
Then man stand with man on motorcycle - stopped near me
& had fr. conversation - man on motorcycle trying to be assured of
companion's patriotism - then came over to me - spoke
fairly - wld stay with Civics 2 hrs - helped cover me
with tree branches - rd former fr. med. W. Army H. - asked
if ok - yeah - sd Graham Hasty, T&C in hosp in Gerry hands -
off on motorcycle & stand in line - with clothes - vest, overalls,
sweater - belt - placed uniform in gummy sack - hid it in a ditch -
signalling passing it for invasion - told me not to speak while walking - intend me to get
on back of cycle - preceded to his home - "Dr. Madzor" - Mably -
6 kms N.W. of Roanne - explained he had cut off local magain org - he
was coming soon - he had just been repatriated from P/W camp -
pam me as Girard - in 3/4 he local magain club there -

2)

His wife set up dinner - Magie chef spoke no Eng - Dr.
interpreter - told him of work I was doing - happy to hear about it -
he was armed - after dinner - on cycle with Magie chef (M. Charlot)
to his home - passed depot - (Fr. Army depot now German) - good German 20
+ soldiers - no alt - his wife + brother in law at the home (M. Bouleau) -
They spoke some German - I spoke some German - could understand each
other - they evld from (Metz - LORRAINE) - M. Charlot is Reg
Fr. Army Off (10 yrs) - bed - on evening introd to Mme B, a telephone optr -
she spoke German - M. Charlot - only he - cut off - he sent courier to
St. Etienne for prep my arrival - ^(Sat) maybe - sat around all day - talk -
1000 Germans in area - courier not heard - Mme Bouleau telephoned friend in St Etienne
advising her that M. Charlot would arrive + would she meet him at station -
I told that on following am would take train from small station outside
Roanne for St Etienne - did - with M. Charlot - I deaf +
dumb - on car M. Charlot had our tickets - I following him -
gendarme at gate - lady between M. Charlot + me + M. Charlot showed
tickets + ticket collector stopped - Charlot over situation - Mlle
ROEDLICH met us - from Metz - walked away - Fr. convertn -
we kept walking - took train - got off in city + walked to meet
Fr. priest known to my two helpers - introd to father Thomas - he from
METZ - on with priest to apt of Mlle Roedlich - Charlot + Thomas
out to find Magie locals -

then - melle Roedlich went to work - she explained to me that
a young sister would arrive - should explain in German to her who I was -
I told - not to answer door - sister arrived - got her with fingers to lips -
she said she knew who I was - had met sister - lunch - sister +
Thomas + Charlotte rtd + exec off of local magui - young truckman
some English - will read cadet when Ann signed - rd I would stay til
arr made to ship me on to LYON - three radios in contact with London
I did receive orders from there but for landing option to take
place - after lunch would return later in day 4 books - rtd + rd arr
made to leave next day by train - next day - taken to RR station -
found there - tickets already purchased - I to follow judic carriage - I deaf &
dumb - one friend said this aloud to other in carriage so no
incident would occur - at ~~RR~~ station things went as planned - man
in carriage near me didn't look French - nordic type - suspicious
looking - I on guard - off at LYON - out of station - walked thru city
to private home - local magui department chief - tld next day would
go to Valence to see Ann Oguel - Jean Pierre -
phum suitcase containing documents of local magui I all receiving files -
next a.m. ^{with} same guide "Danny" & suitcase - we went to ST PERRA, 4 kms
from VALENCE x onto train - into Valence - walked to local
P.O. - unsuccessful in making the contact desired - went to Danny's home -
~~told us~~ lived with mother + sister - he went out to find Jean Pierre -
brother - Jean Pierre not in town - was escorting an Am to Sp. frontier -
return not known - I wrote message to be sent to London -
"flak near Roanne - crew out safely - Hasty would be captured - rest of crew in
"good hands" - told would leave that aft for hiding - Danny off - 2 truckman
came in - one spoke good Eng - tld me would see JP as soon as returned -
told me escorting Mustang pilot down in raid in airbase Valence - JP
was major in US marine corps - JP had killed a Boche with
bare hands - photo taken for IC - rtd + said I go with him
to be taken in to hiding - outside of Valence to open air cafe -
wtd - man came - introd - another man on cycle with messages - In contact -
message from J.P. - had rtd -

taken to garage - "Fiat" car - dept Maguin chief of Valencia invited me
 to get in car - refer to as the "Germine" - goes into clozein
 taken to St Roman de Pera Village - home of the
 "Germine" - nice place - spoke little Eng - told Lt. Glover had
 been taken down by JP - (former Lt. in tr. AF: the Germine) - JP coming
 next day - told of work they were doing - stayed 2 nights - wife & kids
 & child - met Lt, a killer, - picture of Glover - next am -
 JP arr - had my story - highly pleased to hear Am's in this work - told me
 something of work on ground - he recd orders to str to London via Spain -
 he was to cable address to London where a sp. guide should be sent
 to lead him to Spain - didn't like it - had own contacts - he
 had some unfinished business - in LYON - next day JP came
 with another man in car - told me they were to LYONS - went by car
 to JP's apt - his 3rd apt - JP wearing his Am Marine uniform -
 carrying his blouse - once Henry stepped in & looked thru stress
 I pd no attention to uniform - he went out - almost trapped -
 nestapo had blown c home he went to Occastondly - JP not armed -
 paratro knife - "Lousette" girl courier, cooked our lunch -
 JP out with her - business - next am. - prepared report in
 code - in aft his French agent, PIERRE, 40 yrs old, Lt Col in tr -
 paratypis came in with girl courier - PIERRE was not rec'd
 to London - Henry, Brit agent, str to London, by order

Chamberlain, codename of IP - some of his prev -
mil. Hist - spent that night in Lyons - next day - Louise
had 2 1st class tickets to diff stations beyond destination -
Before leaving for sta - Pierre came back - finished business -
IP sd if anything arose on train we wd not separate - cld throw
German sentry off together - train late in evening - sat
in station cage - 2 Gestapo agents in - sat beside us -
they thked in German + Fr. - no notice of us - Jean Pierre in
full Marine uniform - blouse in trousers + zip
up jacket - 2 carrying bag of dirty laundry - 2 drunk
men + Fr girl - IP told me they Gestapo agents - clothes
and accent gave them away - we mvd down platform -
IP noticed man walking around near us - we went to exit
of platform to the cafe - stayed til train - no control -
off at Carcassonne ^{16 May} - to meet Polish refugee - "Stanny"
local train to Quillan - Stanny told IP to go to local cafe
& wait - 3 Sp. refugees at our table 2 men & woman - one Sp said
to IP you are not French are you - IP said yes he was - walked
down road out of Quillan with Stanny - flwd by Polish
boy - Polish Org - went to wded area - in hiding - awaiting
taxi to go further in into - Stanny told Chamberlain that
Polish ^{boy} not to be trusted - taxi arrived - 809 Poles - Stanny
left - Lucienne (Daisy Mae) - pyrenees mt girls - fell for IP -
with us - she got us three ~~unseen~~ ^{SAXAT} unseen - viked guide -
car stopped at wded area - Polish boys hidden in wds -
IP + I taken on to Artigues (NOT ~~ORANGUT~~) - stnd on foot
and went to a canteen - fed there - Sp refugee m₂ working on power line
(varags) -

Left in Andorra that night - 2 good chits for hotel bills -
went by taxi to frontier - hid in hills - Navarros went away
I returned with 2 guides - set out on foot - Crossed
frontier 0100 hrs 21 May - lunch in frontier -
at dawn marched till 11 and stopped to rest on plateau -
rested - IP disgusted - went to a house known to guides - fed -
got in fids - guides stalling - IP ~~part~~ forced them to take us on -
bunch of his men - little village - hotel - waiting for courier
from Barcelona - next day no courier - IP gave them till 0900
the next am. - in aft found about Sp. Captain who was part of
Dag's who had a car - Courier arrived & had been to
Am. Consul & was refered to Brit Consulate & they arranged
for Sp. Captain to come - did - in car - control
roadcheck - notable - arr Barcelona - 24 May -
in home - went to Consulate to see Miss Courtley -
on to Madrid - 26 May - met Polish boy who came thru
& when they reached Spain the suspicious Pole blew -
was Gestapo - IP knows organizer of Pole Passage
Org - original organizer of this org is in London
now -

after supper Lucienne + Martinez took us to Artigues - private
home - wtd for guides to return from Spain - then across with
Pole - tld they slow - march usually 3 days - This
grieved Jean Pierre - Lucienne rtd next day & sd Pollack
acted suspicious night before - he had demanded he stay with
2 am off - IP dedcd to have talk with him - IP meant to kill
him if suspec - next day IP tld Martinez, tobacco smuggler,
to get us thru to Barcelona as soon as possible - arrangements
made to leave next am. at 4 a.m. - appealed to Martinez sp
patriotism - went to refuge in mts outside Artigues -
acc by Martinez + 2 tobacco smugglers - Suspicious Pole here
with others - he spoke to SP and asked him to deliver
message to London - sd he was in Polish G-2 - we met
~~Russian~~ P/w escaped (^{sr} Sgt in Russian tank outfit) - 2 hrs march found
another refuge + met by 2 tobacco smugglers - walked 29 hrs
before Andorra separated from all others except
Martinez & Russian P/w + guide - walked 24 hrs out of 29 -
crossed Andoran border 0200 hrs 19 May - to refuge in Andoran
mts - 2 hrs - joined main party - to SOK DEU -
HOTEL - taxi - ESCANDES - HOTEL - Navarro cuttd by
Martinez - he to see us thru to BARCELONA - Navarro wntd SP & write
msg to Barcelona - got diplomatic car -

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO. 704
EVASION IN

JUNE 2, 1944
(Date)

MURRAY L. SIMON 2ND LT. 8-687213
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

406th 801st Bomb Gr. P.O.V. (H)
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET: SECRET

MIA: _____
Arrived in UK: _____

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

	Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT		
CO-PILOT <u>FRENCH M. RUSSELL</u>		
NAVIGATOR <u>John A. REITMEIER</u>		
BOMBARDIER <u>John B. MEAD</u>		
RADIO OPERATOR <u>Phillip LATTA</u>		
TOP TURRET GUNNER <u>LEO F. DUMENISLI</u>		
BALL TURRET GUNNER		
WAIST GUNNER <u>HOMER COLLIER</u>		
WAIST GUNNER		
TAIL GUNNER <u>GRAHAM F. HASTY</u>		

Were you wounded?

No

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, AGC; 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) MURRAY L. SIMON Signed Murray L. Simon
 Rank 2nd Lt. A.S.N. 0-687213 Date May 31, 1944
 Unit Hob 7th Sp. 801st Bomb Gp. Prod. (H) Witness Horace W. Forster
 HORACE W. FORSTER,
 Colonel, G.S.C.,
 U. S. Mil. Lia. Off.

CONFIDENTIAL

MILITARY LIAISON OFFICE
AMERICAN CONSULATE
GIBRALTAR

31 May 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
NUMBER.....28)

1. Pursuant to authority contained in WD Cablegram, Number 45, dated 4 February 1943, the officer named below, having reported at this station on 31 May 1944, is placed on temporary duty this station. Upon completion of this temporary duty you will proceed by first available transportation to LONDON, ENGLAND, where you will report to the Commanding General, European Theater of Operations, U.S. Army. In lieu of subsistence a flat per diem of \$5.00 is authorized while traveling on official business (except by belligerent or government vessel) and while on temporary duty at this station, in accordance with existing law and regulations. TDN 91-26 P 432-02 A 212/40425.

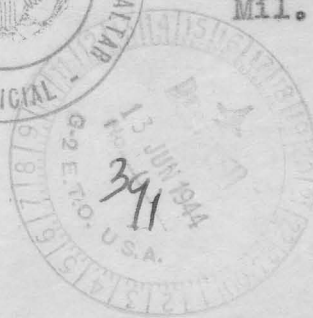
2nd Lt. MURRAY L. SIMON 0-687213 801st Bn.Grp.,Prev.H

Distribution.
A.C.of S., G-2, WD
Hq ETOUSA (A.C.of S., G-2)
Personnel concerned
File



Horace W. Forster

HORACE W. FORSTER,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Mil. Lia. Officer.



CONFIDENTIAL

TOP SECRET

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ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS "A" FORCE
c/o Force Headquarters,
APO 512 - - U. S. Army

Ref: 39/104/44

10 June 1944

M.I.9,
War Office,
LONDON

The attached copy of a translation of information concerning the fate of a bomber which crashed in FRANCE, is forwarded for your information.

Original was received from Deuxieme Bureau through O.S.S.

/s/t/ JOHN W. HUFFER
Lieut. Colonel.

Copy to: S/Ddr. J. Walker,
R.A.F. Special Operations
c/o G-3 Spec. Ops.
A.F.H.Q.

* * * * *

TRANSLATION

Reliability: B-3

Date: 15/5/44

(84E704)
SIMON - MIA 6 MAY 44
WANDED - 0110 hours, 18 miles N. of Roanne
Secret Mission
S/sgt Hasky (A.G.) wounded in right thigh

On 6 May, at about 1 a.m. an American bomber, probably a four-engine 'plane, crashed in flames in the woods of "LA BARTHE" (4 kms. North of MABLY).

After having warned the "Feldgendarmarie" the ROANNE Brigade proceeded to where the 'plane had crashed and ascertained that the aircraft had been almost completely destroyed as a result of fire and of two successive explosions that were heard after the crash.

It appears that the 'plane was shot down by a night fighter as machine-gun fire was heard a short time before the crash.

The aircraft was loaded with leaflets "L'AMERIQUE EN GUERRE" No. 99 dated 26/4/44 which were all destroyed or badly damaged. A detachment of "T.O." is guarding the wreck and making enquiries.

One of the crew members, severely wounded, was taken to the E.P.S. hospital of ROANNE and immediately operated upon.

No bodies having been found, it is thought that the other crew members parachuted to safety. They are being looked for.

(Over)

(over)

One white silk parachute was found in a wooded area 1 km. North East of GARRANDIERE. A bag containing clothes belonging to one of the crew members was found near the dirt road starting from GARRANDIERE in an easterly direction.

At about 10.30 a.m. witnesses saw at this same point, a man lying in the ditch. He ran away before the arrival of the police.

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[Faint, mostly illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

Date: 12/1/54

Reference: 3-3

Reference:

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E & E CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Prisoner
#704

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

MAY 6, 1944 0110 18 MILES NORTH OF ROANNE, FRANCE

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out.

Was it on fire, etc? NO RUDDER CONTROL, ELECTRICAL SYSTEM OUT
INTERPHONE OUT, ELEVATOR TRIM TAB OUT - ELEVATOR CONTROL
PARTLY OUT, FIRE IN BOMB BAY & WAIST & WINGS.

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? 5000 FT.

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

S/SGT G. HASTY, WAS WOUNDED IN RIGHT THIGH

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

ALL MEMBERS, ALL CHUTES OPENED

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. TWO OTHER CREW MEMBERS WERE SAFE, WERE NOT IDENTIFIED.

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.

NO

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

ALL SAFE & IN HIDING, EXCEPT FOR SGT. HASTY, WHO WAS CAPTURED. Based on hearsay info -

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO. 704

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

1. 1000 Gotrip in area of ROANNE-
2. 20 kms from where landed German Infanterie coy in training
3. Inferior tips - (Russians (Mongols & Caucasians - Police force)
4. Awareness of lost war →
5. Lorraine area boys pressed into service on Russian front - usually 5 to a company -
6. Civilian morale is good -
The gunn receives flowers & food -
7. Roanne (app 5 kms N) former tr. depot - not in great use now - fenced in by long wooden blocks -
8. not much active subversive activity in Roanne -
9. Any tr. working for them sent card showing a notice -
10. Gery tip not very numerous in St Etienne
11. Lyons - bombs hit up Rh station -
12. St Etienne: German curfew (2 G. soldiers): horrible about bombing back home - nothing but ruins -
13. Magui - feel not well equipped to do all work & expected -
He is any time of his ups, working uncaught - creates impatience for invasion
If well used & expected accomplish quite a bit -
In St Etienne: when Gestapo caught men were tortured to reveal names and addresses - one man eyes gouged out - one man submerged in pool of water until unconscious & then revived & beaten & same performance - whether talk or not - all killed - my source active 10 months - shows signs of nervousness - witness arms & ammunition
In Valence: dept. chfs home - change of identity every two weeks - homes changed - skirmish: local Magui fought fr. militia organisation - FM had 100 men & Magui 2 sections - (50-60 men) - FM captured - 45 wounded - 8 deaths - Magui had 1 death 60 wounded - Magui wore fr. Army uniform & insignia of R. org or dept - chf of police killed & papers found showing records of movements of suspected people -
Magui had with 25 men using plastic time bombs destroyed 8 locomotives in 1 night
operating in nearby marshalling yds - hijacking German trains - food & supplies - stealing German cars, etc. - Germans caught some Magui & mutilated bodies & hung them on bridge with sign: this is what happens to Magui - Magui did RV. - select Gestapo

agents swept out & dealt with - also collaborators -

Met Lina in Valence:

airborne at Valence after severe damage after Axis raid - excellent results -

30% expected over aerial target - circled over gravel pit - never found target - disturbed because arms needed badly -

German ack-ack battery eggs with An guns - came from Africa -
in use -

roads in foothills of Pyrenees - prepared for mining -

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.

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) MURRAY L. SIMON
Rank 2ND LT. A. S. N. 0-687213
Unit 801ST Bomb Gp. Prov. (H)

Signed Murray L. Simon
Dated June 3, 1944
Witness _____

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

RESTRICTED

IC., Rank, (Name):- MURRAY L. SIMON
 (Unit:- 406th Sq. 801st Bomb Gp. Prov. (H))

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".
- Horlicks tablets. IN FIELD WHILE IN HIDING
- Chocolate or Peanut Bar. CROSSING PYRENEES
- Milk (tube). No
- Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). CROSSING PYRENEES
- Halazone tablets (water purifier). No
- Matches. YES (CIGARETTES)
- Adhesive tape. No
- Chewing gum. YES, IN SPAIN
- Water bottle. No
- Compass. YES, TO MAKES SURE I WAS HEADING IN ONE DIRECTION WHEN GETTING AWAY FROM CHUTE.
- Sewing kit. No
- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? No
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box? BRITISH CONSULATE, BARCELONA
- 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.
 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?

Maps. Which ones? 43/B

Compass. YES

File (hacksaw). NO

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. FRENCH 2000 FRANCS

How did you spend the money? CHANGED FOR SPANISH MONEY BY

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps. BARCELONA

Compass. BARCELONA

File (hacksaw). BARCELONA

Surplus currency. BARCELONA

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

NO

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs?

If so, how many? 12

b. Did you use them?

YES

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? YES, HERRINGTON, APRIL 20, 1944
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM. LT. BRYAN

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, BE PATIENT, THINK

BEFORE MAKING A MOVE.

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. *MURRAY L. SIMON RMO LT. 0-689213*
2. Decorations. *NONE*
3. Unit or Squadron. *406th Sq.*
4. Division (Army) or Group. *861st Bomb Gr. Pro. (M)*
5. Date of Birth. *DEC. 1, 1920*
6. Length of Service. *3 yrs. 8 months*
7. Private Address. *118-04 109th AVE RICHMOND HILL, NEW YORK CITY*
8. Job as civilian. *DENTAL TECHNICIAN*
9. From what field did you take off? *HERRINGTON*
10. Take off time. *# 2258*
11. Date and target. *MAY 5, 1944 (TARGET SECRET)*
12. Where did you land? *8 MILES NORTH OF ROANNE, FRANCE*
13. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? *YES*
14. What was your position in aircraft? *P. LOT*
15. Were you wounded? *NO*
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?
20. *QUESTIONED IN GIBRALTOR BY A CIVILIAN LIASON OFFICER (BRITISH)*
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 - BRITISH CONSULATE, BARCELONA*
22. Date of arrival in Spain. *AMERICAN LEGATION, GIBRALTOR*
MAY 21, 1944
23. Date of arrival at Gibraltar. *MAY 31, 1944*
24. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air. *JUNE 1, 1944 GIBRALTOR*
25. Place and date of arrival in U.K. *HENDON JUNE 2, 1944*

OUTLINE FOR TALKS

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

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

DO NOT GIVE THE NAMES OF TOWNS.

DO NOT GIVE ANY ADDRESSES.

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

Suggestions for others.

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



RICHARD R. NELSON
Major, AC

CONFIDENTIAL

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

DATE: 2 June 1944

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, FREDERICK C. KELLY, 2nd Lt., AC, O-681112

hereby certify that I have known and have been associated with

MURRAY L. SIMON, 2nd Lt., AC, O-687213

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.

Murray L. Simon

RIGHT THUMB PRINT:



Frederick C. Kelly

=====
The individual whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon has been identified to the satisfaction of this office as MURRAY L. SIMON,

2nd Lt., AC, O-687213 (406 Bomb Squadron - 801 Bomb Group Provisional)

previously reported missing in action over enemy territory.

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

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