

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

HEADQUARTERS
437TH TROOP CARRIER GROUP, AAF

APO 133, US Army,
26 June 1944.

SPECIAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 127)

E-X-T-R-A-C-T

4. The following-named O's and Flt/O's, orgns indicated, this Gp, WP on DS via Govt MT and/or rail o/a 26 June 1944, fr USAAF Sta 469 to London for approx three (3) days for the purpose of carrying out the VOGG, IX Tr Carr Comd. Upon completion of this temp dy, O's and Flt/O's will return to their proper orgn and sta:

✓ 1ST LT WILBERT G LAIRD	O 373 757 AC	86th Tr Carr Sq
FLT/O WILLIAM KOSTIAK	T 642 AC	84th Tr Carr Sq
FLT/O JAMES M LAURI	T 121 413 AC	86th Tr Carr Sq
FLT/O JAMES L LARKIN	T 121 349 AC	84th Tr Carr Sq

Where Govt qrs or billets are not available, reimbursement of actual cost of qrs not to exceed four dollars (\$4.00) per man per day is atzd, and an allowance of one dollars and twenty-five cents (\$1.25) per man per day for rats is atzd in accordance w/par lc, Cir 63, Hq ETOUSA, dtd 5 June 1944. TDN. 60-136 P 432-02 A 212/40425. (Auth: Ltr, Hq USAAF, UK, subj: "Issuance of Travel Orders", dtd 6 Nov 1943.)

By order of Lt Col FRENCH:

DANIEL F. McCARTHY,
1st Lt, AC,
Adjutant.

OFFICIAL:

Daniel F. McCarthy
DANIEL F. McCARTHY,
1st Lt, AC,
Adjutant.

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

we were introduced to "The Chief", head of the underground (2. in the Mornville area, a big, grizzled farmer about 60, lean, tall, tough, and very spry.

we moved to another ditch the next night and were shelled by our own guns. The French ~~asked~~ ^{asked} us to wear armbands clothes for safety, but CPL JASINSKI refused to do this and ordered his two men not to comply. The idea was abandoned. The next day we met 1st Lt. WILLIAM HITZTALER (53rd wing, 61st gp), C-47 pilot shot down on D day. We hid in a barn where the French had a small arsenal stored up of mines, guns, ammunition. we ate German rations, cognac, smoked German officer cigars. we stayed here until June 23rd, when an American

advance patrol of the 79th Division, Co E under H. FOUCHÉ, came up. There was a battle with three German

machine guns in the area and we joined the American unit. Fifteen French refugees, old men, women and children, were hiding in a barn nearby and were rushed and shot by the Germans. Six of our French helpers were killed by the Americans ~~as~~ they were wearing German coats and had German ammunition and weapons, with only last war

French helmets and an arm band to identify them.
we went back to the Battalion CP where Col Wiggins was
in command, then by jeep to ST. MERE EGLISE, about
15 miles away. The three 57mm. gun crew and
PFC Stewart left to join the 82nd airborne near
ST. SAUVEUR. We went to SUGAR RED beach,
where we were assisted by LT. TROUTMAN of the Navy.
It was too windy for small boats, but the
25th we were taken by C-47 back to our own
group RAMSBURY in the U.K.

C Report.

F/O LARKIN

F/O IKOSTIAK

Typed

our glider ^{crash} landed at 0400, 6 June,

3 miles west of QUETTETOT (MANCHE). LT. IKOSTIAK

and I (LT LARKIN) were unhurt, as were the three

crew members in the 57 mm gun, CPL JASINSKI,

PFC ELEN and PVT BARTON. We hid in dense

woods about a mile from the glider until the night

of June 7th. I approached a kindly house while

the other four covered the door from the bushes. A

Frenchman answered my knock and said, "Americano?"

When I said "yes" he ~~at once offered to~~ was overjoyed

and at once offered to help us. His name was Auguste,

a farmer, about 25. He took us across the road to Xavier,

a short, fat farmer, about 28, with a muddy face and reddish

hair. He showed us our position on the map, fed us,

and we slept in the woods. The next day we returned for food

and slept in the barn. The following afternoon (June 9) we were

joined by F/O SILAS CARSON (437 gp.) and a French

helper VALENTINE, 6 feet, 20, blonde curly hair, reddish face, sharp features, whose home is near RAUVILLE.

That night Valentine led all six of us off toward MORVILLE. By morning we were near L'ETANG-BERTRAND. A Camouflaged German Truck surprised us, but they failed to see us. We hid in a barn, which we left for an orchard when the Germans came nearby for food. That night we met PAUL M—, short, thin, 24, blonde curly hair, works with French Intelligence and knows Col. Jack. Paul took us to MORVILLE and we hid to the NW of it. That night we were joined by 1st Lt. LAIRD (437th GP) and PFC BEN STEWART (82nd Airborne). PAUL took all 8 of us through MORVILLE to IVETOT, assisted by two other French and many others in the bushes. LT CARSON disappeared on the way and the French were unable to find him after long search. We hid in a ditch where there was a large cache of equipment, largely German. Five men from the 101st, under a S/Sgt, were reported being brought to join us, but the Germans prevented our meeting.

SECRET

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

E & E REPORT NO
EVASION IN

June 27, 44
(Date)

LARKIN, JAMES L. F/O T-121349

TARGET:

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

Date Missing in Action: June 6

84 T.C. Sqn. 437 T.C. Group
(Squadron) (Group)

Date Arrived in UK: June 23

2 crew members + 3 airborne soldiers
MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIR)

Indicate what happened to
each man
and how you know

PILOT James L Larkin T-121349

CO-PILOT Wm. Kostiak T-642

NAVIGATOR

BOMBARDIER

RADIO OPERATOR

TOP TURRET GUNNER

MID TURRET GUNNER

WING GUNNER

WING GUNNER

TAIL GUNNER

{ Corp. Emil Jasinski
Pfc. Carl Glenn
Pvt. John Barton

all of the 82nd Airborne

division - all returned to their

unit no one injured - 57mm AT

Gun in Glider rendered useless by

destruction of firing mechanism - glider
stripped of everything + rendered useless

Were you wounded?

by the French underground

no wounds received by anyone

TOP SECRET

E & E CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

James L. Larkin F/O T-121349
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

June 27, 44
(Date)

84 T.C. Sq. 437 T.C. Group
(Unit)

#784

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

June 6 - 04:00 Appx 3mi west of Quettetot

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out.
Was it on fire, etc?

crash landing - right wing broken off + landing gear & nose section damaged extensively

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

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

none

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

none

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? no

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground?

all alive together

Did he receive any information from others as to whether any other members of the crew were dead or alive? If so give detailed furnished by his informant and whether the other crew members were identified by name or otherwise.

Did source examine the wreckage of the plane? If so, what was its conditions?

Plane damaged extensively - total wreck

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 reason for his opinion?

all safe -

M

DELETE LAST SENTENCE ON MIMEO

He took us to another farmer nearby who showed us our position on the map and fed us. We slept in the woods, returning the ~~fire~~ following day for food and spending the next night in the barn. The next afternoon (9 June) we were joined by F/O CARSON (437 Gp) accompanied by a young French helper.

That night one of the Frenchmen led all six of us off toward Morville. By morning we were near L'Etang-Bernard. We hid in a barn, but moved to an orchard when Germans ^{approached} ~~came~~ ~~nearby~~. That night we went to another hiding place NW of Morville, where we were joined by 1st Lt LAIRD (437 Gp) and Pfc STEWART (82nd AB Div). Other Frenchmen took us from there to Yvetot. ~~XXXXCARSON~~ F/O CARSON disappeared on the way and could not be found, ~~thereafter~~. We hid in a ditch where there was a large cache of German equipment. Five men of the 101st AB Div were said to be on their way to join us, but were prevented from doing so by the Germans.

We moved to another ditch during the night and shells from ~~Allied~~ guns fell in our vicinity. The French asked us to wear civilian clothes for safety, but ^{since} Cpl JASINSKI ~~refused to do this and~~ ordered his men not to comply, ~~the~~

Suggestion

idea was abandoned. The next day we met 1st Lt HITZTALER (E & E #780), ~~G47 pilot shot down on D-day~~. We hid in a barn where the French had a small arsenal of mines, guns, and ammunition. We dined on German rations and cognac, and smoked German officers' cigars.

We stayed here until 23 June, when a patrol of the 79th Div, under Lt FOUCHE, entered the area. ~~There was a~~ *They were engaged by* battle with 3 German machine guns in the vicinity, following which we joined the American patrol. During the action ~~a crowd of fifteen French refugess, composed of~~ old men, women and children, who were hiding in a nearby barn, were ~~rushed upon and~~ shot by the Germans.

We were taken to the Bn CP, thence by jeep to ~~St~~ *Stc* Mere Eglise. On ~~the 25th~~ *25 June* we returned to our group in the UK.

with rifles. We hid in the woods all day, that
night and the next day. ^{we ate 16 ration and candy, but were short of water.} One of the gun crew crawled
to a point where he could see the French destroying
the glider. There were ten of them and they worked
for some hours on it.

The next night ~~we went up to~~ ^{isolated} I went up to ^{the door}
the door of an ~~house~~ ^{isolated} house, while the other four covered ~~the~~
from the bushes. A Frenchman opened the door
and said "Américains?" When I said "Yes" he
was overjoyed and offered at once to help us. From
then on our journey was arranged.

Compiled by

Appendix D:

- ~~No~~ ^{2d, AUS} ~~was~~
1. ~~We did not have an aids box, None issued to~~ ~~we~~ us.
 2. We carried ~~RED~~ purses, used the maps of FRANCE, compass, and spent the money for food and help.
 3. We carried extra compasses and area maps as further aids to evasion.
 4. We did not have passport photos for identity cards.
 5. We were briefed at Station 469 on evasion and think the lectures were very important. We suggest that French-English dictionaries ^{be} carried. Our main handicap was no knowledge of French.

Appendix B: Evaders were interrogated for military information at Division HQ. ~~and territory they travelled through is now in Allied hands.~~

JEP

SECRET

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

E & E REPORT NO 781-785
EVASION IN FRANCE

hls
Proof
hls

(Date)

JAMES L LARKIN, F/O, T-121349

TARGET:

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

Date Missing in Action: 6 June 1944

84 TC Squadron, 437 TC Group
(Squadron) (Group)

Date Arrived in UK: 23 June 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

Indicate what happened to
each man
and how you know

PILOT T-121349 F/O James L LARKIN

NARRATOR

CO-PILOT *1 mission* T-642 F/O William KOSTIAK

~~REF #705~~ NARRATOR

NAVIGATOR

BOMBARDIER

PARATROOPERS:

RADIO OPERATOR

15076425 Cpl Emil L JASINSKI

RET'D TO UNIT

TOP TURRET GUNNER

36056528 PFC Carl E GLENN

RET'D TO UNIT

MIDDLE TURRET GUNNER

13177146 Pvt John M BARTON

RET'D TO UNIT

82 Airborne Division, 80 Abne AA Bn

WAIST GUNNER:

WAIST GUNNER

TAIL GUNNER

"are you wounded?"

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND F REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- F/O James L. Larkin T-121349

Unit:- 437 T.C. Group - 84 T.C. Squadron

Suggestions for improvement of escape equipment and training come largely from those who make use of them. Your report and comments will help others to evade capture or to escape.

1. AIDS BOX

- a. Did you use your aids box?
- b. If not, why? *Didn't get issued one.*
- 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.

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?
- 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?
State color of stripes and letters.
If NOT, State why not.
- b. Did you use the purse?

Red

(over)

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

Mps. Which ones? map of France

Compass. no

File (hacksaw). no

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. French currency

How did you spend the money? paid guides + French for good

d. How did you dispose of:- received from them

Mps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

} yes disposed of the trench

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

yes a compass + an area map

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? no
If so, how many?

b. Did you use them? no

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape?

State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM. yes - forget by whom

at STA 469 - about D-day minus 20

b. Did you find the lectures of value? yes - very much

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

carry a french-english dictionary or something similar - our lack of knowledge of French was our greatest handicap.

JP
Comment on 784-785:

This evasion is a model
of prudent conduct in the
(For) zone of combat. Note evaders'
care in preventing use of
gun by the enemy and in
keeping the house covered
while investigating

Report to Col. Singleton (Bn. Commander).
on CPL JASINSKI (82nd AIRBORNE)

Information received from F/O James L. Larkin
and F/O William Kestiak who were with CPL Jasinski
from June 6 to June 23, 1944, while making their
way back to our own lines after a crash landing
3 miles west of GUETTETOT (MANCHE), 0400.

6 June:

These officers state that during the 17 days
of their trip, guided by the French, the behavior
of Cpl Jasinski seriously endangered the lives of
the other members of the party. They report that
he was loud and abusive, refusing to cooperate and
creating a dangerous amount of noise during night
travel, that he constantly complained to the French
who were helping the party, that he was insulting and
insubordinate to both officers, that he constantly fought
and argued with his own two men, that he had one of
the Frenchmen carry his pack, that he categorically

(3491081A) refused to obey the advice of the French that civilian clothes be worn for safety, and ordered his men not to obey, and that his conduct in general was not that becoming a soldier. The officer at one time seriously considered shooting Cpl. Juvinski because of the severe danger he created for the party's successful evasion to our own lines; they felt that they would have been fully justified in so doing.

The behavior of PFC Glenn was, in contrast, unusually fine under difficult circumstances and was warmly commended by LTS LARKIN and ICOSTIAK.

(facts taken down by LT DANA.)

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.

CERTIFICATE

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

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

Name (Print)

James L. Hardin

Rank

Flight Officer A. S. N. T-121349

Unit

84 T.C. Sqn. 437 T.C. Group

Signed

Dated

Witness

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

RESTRICTED

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

APPENDIX "B" 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.,.....)

German AA fire in the MORVILLE area was very heavy but inaccurate.

The Germans in the MORVILLE area used a large number of horses to haul equipment.

When our planes were attacking, a lone German rifle shot was usually heard, when they were hearing two shots would be fired - apparently a signal.

The German troops seemed nervous and fired very readily.

The French in the YUETOT area were very well organized and had concealed a large amount of German weapons and ammunition for their own use.

The French helpers use the Free French insignia, red white and blue, with the Cross of Lorraine and a star. Many use this as an armband, some on their leg under the trousers, one tattooed on his leg. They would cross closed fists as a sign of allied flags together. Six French, however, were shot by a patrol of the 179th Div on June 23rd because they wore German peaked caps, and used German guns and ammunition belts. The armband and French last war helmet is not enough to make clear to American soldiers that they are French.

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH
MIS (X)

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

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

T-121349

1. Full Name, Rank, and Serial No. James Lincoln Larkin, F/O AC
2. Decorations. none
3. Unit or Squadron. 84th T.C. Squadron
4. Division (Army) or Group. 437 T.C. Group
5. Date of Birth. Feb 12th 1923
6. Length of Service. 2 years + 3 months
7. Private Address. 5336-45 Ave. So. Minneapolis, Minn
8. Job as civilian. Sales manager + salesman
9. From what field did you take off? 469 (Ramsbury)
10. Take off time. 01:45
11. Date and target. June 6th - LZ St. mere Eglise
12. Where did you land? west of Quettot (3 mi appx)
13. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? yes
14. What was your position in aircraft? pilot
15. Were you wounded? no
16. Did you pay your guides? If so how much? yes - 80 dollars
17. Do you speak French? Spanish? (a little French now)
18. Did you have Identity Papers? no
19. Have you been questioned before to-day on your escape or evasion? If so, where and when and by whom? Have you given anyone a written report on your experiences. Where and when?
yes - 437 Group Intelligence at Sta 469 - written report 6/23/44
20. Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom?
21. Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, where and when? no
22. Date of arrival at Beachead 6/21/44
23. Date of arrival in U.K. 6/23/44
24. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air. (By air from Land-
ing strip A+B in Normandy)
25. Place and date of arrival in U.K. on 6/23/44
arrived Sta. 469 on 6/23/44
in C-47A 437 T.C. Group

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.,.....)

Lost