SECRET

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

SECRET
By Authority of
AC of S, G-2
Initials WSH
Date 15 August 1944

15 August 1944

E & E REPORT NO. 848
EVASION IN FRANCE

Charles W ROOF, 2d Lt, O-810224
(12 Missions)
754 Bomb Squadron, 457 Bomb Group

TARGET: MANNHEIM

MIA: 25 April 1944
Arrived in UK:
31 July 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

PILOT	O-742065	1st Lt	John H COMBS, Jr	MIA
CO-PILOT	O-810224	2d Lt	Charles W ROOF	NARRATOR
NAVIGATOR	O-682183	2d Lt	Eugene M HOAG	E&E 769
BOMBARDIER	O-688166	2d Lt	Charles G BIEBER	MIA
RADIO OPERATOR	36435582	T/Sgt	Robert O BEHRENS	E&E 770
TOP TURRET GUNNER	33580391	S/Sgt	Anthony B McKEON	E&E 771
BALL TURRET GUNNER	37314739	S/Sgt	Clayton L MILLER	MIA
WAIST GUNNER	32557920	S/Sgt	Harry L TAMBOER	MIA
WAIST GUNNER	18119298	T/Sgt	Joe WAGNER	MIA
TAIL GUNNER	32745523	S/Sgt	Richard O McCARTHY	MIA

My story is exactly the same as Sgt McKEON (E&E No. 771).

Compiled by

John F White Jr
JOHN F WHITE, Jr
Capt, AC

Approved by

W S Holt
W S HOLT
Lt Col, AC
Commanding

APPENDIX "D"

1. AIDS BOX: I used all the escape aids while hiding in the woods for two days and when crossing the Pyrenees later.

2. PURSE: I used all the purse contents except the hacksaw and gave my money to helpers crossing the Pyrenees later. I had an extra compass.

3. PHOTOGRAPHS: I used one of my escape photos for an identity card.

4. LECTURES: I heard lectures at my Group by S-2 and evaders. The lectures were very helpful.

5. SUGGESTIONS: I suggest that a personal kit, containing toothbrush, razor, etc., would be useful.

DISTRIBUTION:
A

No Appendix "B". Evader had no military information to add to that given in E&E Report No. 771.

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EVASION IN FRANCE

(Date)

Charles W ROOF, 2d Lt, O-810224
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET: MANHEIM

12 Missions
(Number of Missions)

MIA: 25 April 1944
Arrived in UK:
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754 Bomb Squadron, 457 Bomb Group
(Squadron) (Group)

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

				Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT	O-742065	1st Lt	John H COMBS, JR	MIA	
CO-PILOT	O-810224	2d Lt	Charles W ROOF	NARRATOR	
NAVIGATOR	O-682183	2d Lt	Eugene M HOAG	E&E #769	
BOMBARDIER	O-688166	2d Lt	Charles G BIEBER	MIA	
RADIO OPERATOR	36435582	T/Sgt	Robert O BEHRENS	E&E #770	
TOP TURRET GUNNER	33580391	S/Sgt	Anthony B McKEON	E&E #771	
BALL TURRET GUNNER	37314739	S/Sgt	Clayton L MILLER	MIA	
WAIST GUNNER	32557920	S/Sgt	Harry L TAMBOER	MIA	
WAIST GUNNER	18119298	T/Sgt	Joe WAGNER	MIA	
TAIL GUNNER	32745523	S/Sgt	Richard O McCARTHY	MIA	

Were you wounded?

Lt Roof:

My story is exactly the same as Sgt M&K MCKEON (E&E no 771).

Appendix B:
Evader had no military information to add to that given in E&E report no. 771.

APPendix D:

1. I used all the escape aids while hiding in the woods for 2 days and when crossing the Pyrenees later.
2. I used all the purse contents except the hacksaw and gave my money to helpers
3. I had an extra compass.
4. I used one of my escape photos for an identity card.
5. I heard lectures at my Group by IOs and evaders. These lectures were very helpful. I ~~would~~ suggest ~~to evaders~~ that ~~they make up~~ a personal kit, ~~of their own~~, containing toothbrush, razor, etc., would be useful.

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 Forces;
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.

RESTRICTED

(See Reverse Side)

1. Because disclosures of information regarding evasion from capture, escape, details of imprisonment, release from internment, and repatriation have been made, the lives and services of fellow soldiers and those who help them have been lost or endangered. All information which you possess on these subjects, including the experiences of others as well as your own, briefings and equipment for evasion and escape, and preparations and other activities in connection therewith, constitutes MILITARY INFORMATION which is classified SECRET by the War Department.

2. You will therefore disclose no information whatever, beyond the fact of your return to duty from "missing in action" or "prisoner of war" or "internment", to anyone except the following military officials:

a. The first Military Attache to whom you report;

b. An officer designated by the Commanding General of an overseas Theatre of Operations;

c. The Prisoner of War Branch, MIS, Washington, D.C., the interrogating agency designated by the A/C of S, G-2, War Department General Staff;

d. Certain other officers holding written authority from the A/C of S, G-2, WDGS, to interrogate you.

3. You will particularly guard against disclosure of SECRET information to relatives, friends, representatives of the press and radio, and military officials, except as noted in a, b, c and d above.

4. In order to protect yourself against disciplinary action, any question involving publicity must be referred BY YOU PERSONALLY to the A/C of S, G-2, WDGS, Washington, D.C.

CERTIFICATE

I certify that I have read and fully understand all of the foregoing and the Directive of the Secretary of War, 6 Aug 43 (on the reverse side), and will at ALL TIMES hereafter comply fully therewith.

I understand that all information concerning escape, evasion from capture, activities and equipment in connection therewith, and details of imprisonment or release from internment, is SECRET and must not be disclosed to anyone except the military officials specifically designated. I further understand that disclosure to any other person will make me liable to disciplinary action for failure to safeguard MILITARY INFORMATION.

I realize that publicity concerning my experiences, by word of mouth or otherwise, will endanger the lives of many persons and therefore it is my duty to take all possible precautions to prevent it.

I further certify that I have received a copy of the foregoing.

Name (Print) CHARLES W. ROOF Signed Charles W. Roof

Rank 2ND LT. A.S.N. 0-710224 Dated 28 JUN 1944 Place GIBRALTAR

Unit AIR CORPS 458 BOMB GP Witness [illegible]

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

24-88068-12M

TOP SECRET

E & E CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

ROOF, C.W. (Name) 2ND LT. (Rank) 0810224 (ASN) July 31, 1941 (Date)

458th 754th (Unit)

#848

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing.
April 25, 08.45 hours, town of Pathin near VITRY

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out.
Was it on fire, etc?
PLANE was out of control caused by a fighter shooting off our tail. airplane was definitly out of control, the elevators, espcially, being damaged beyond usefulness

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?
about 15,000 feet

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed?
No

What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open?
Ball gunner and left waist did not bail out. Parachute of tail gunner was caught by plane, Bombadier delayed his jump too long (Heaused)

Did the plane explode on striking the ground?
no but soon after

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

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.
yes. four dead and on prisner of war. Information given by the French

Did source examine the wreckage of the plane? If so, what was its conditions?
no.

If the plane crashed in water how far was the plane from land and what means was source rescured and what life rafts, wrechage, 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?
Two members in plane were possibly afraid to jump. Crew member whose parachute was caught did not delay his jump. Other member delayed too long

SECRET

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

E & E REPORT NO 848
EVASION IN France

JULY 31 1944
(Date)

ROOF, CHARLES W. 2ND LT. 0810224
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

12 (No of Missions)

TARGET: MANHEIM

Date Missing in Action: APRIL 25

754 (Squadron) 457 (Group)

Date Arrived in UK: JULY 31, 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

		Indicate what happened to each man and how you know
PILOT	COMBS, J. H.	R. W. - told by Brandt escaped
CO-PILOT	ROOF, C. W.	escaped - Gibraltar interg.
NAVIGATOR	HOAG,	told KILLED - by Brandt
BOMBARDIER	BEIBER, C.G.	escaped - Gibraltar interg.
RADIO OPERATOR	BEHRENS	escaped - Gibraltar interg
TOP TURRET GUNNER	MCKEON, A. B.	killed - told by Brandt
BALL TURRET GUNNER		killed - told by Brandt
WAIST GUNNER	TAMBOAR	escaped - Gibraltar interg
WAIST GUNNER	WAGNER	killed - told by Brandt
TAIL GUNNER	MCCARTHY	

Were you wounded?
yes. Broken leg from bad parachute landing.

LA. ROOF.

ANDRÉ ~~CARL~~ AUBLET. = SURMÂIZE département de la Marne.-

~~Suisse~~.

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:-

Unit:-

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

1. AIDS BOX

a. Did you use your aids box?

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.

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?

(over)

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

Maps. Which ones? Southern parts of France and Spain

Compass. yes

File (hacksaw). no

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.
How did you spend the money? Spent 2000 francs for guide and food

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps. given to american consul in Spain

Compass. kept.

File (hacksaw). buried

Surplus currency. for more

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

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs?
If so, how many? yes. one card of identity

b. Did you use them? yes

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape?
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM. yes. at home base by S2 officer and escapist

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? Make a pack of cigarette, a bar of candy, and possibly a self improvised
escape kit with razor, tooth paste etc) as standard equipment.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

DATE: 2 August 1944

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, JULIUS E. SPENCER, 1st Lt., AC, O-811460

HEREBY CERTIFY that I have known and have been associated with

CHARLES W. ROOF, 2nd Lt., AC, O-810224

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.

Charles W. Roof Julius E Spencer 1st Lt. AC

RIGHT THUMB PRINT:



The individual whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon has been identified to the satisfaction of this office as

CHARLES W. ROOF, 2nd Lt., AC, O-810224, (754 Bomb Sq., 458 Bomb Group)

previously reported missing in action over enemy territory.

J. F. Carroll

J. F. Carroll, SPECIAL AGENT, C.I.C.

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH
MIS (X)

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

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1. Full Name, Rank, and Serial No. CHARLES WILLIAM ROOF 2ND LT. O-811224
2. Decorations. AIRMEDAL
3. Unit or Squadron. 954
4. Division (Army) or Group. 458
5. Date of Birth. MARCH 28, 1918
6. Length of Service. one year 10 months
7. Private Address. Lindel, new york
8. Job as civilian. Farm, making apiarie
9. From what field did you take off? HORSHAM ST. FAITH
10. Take off time. 06.00
11. Date and target. APRIL 25, 1944, MANHIEM
12. Where did you land? PONTHIN FRANCE
13. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? no airplane equipted
14. What was your position in aircraft? Co pilot
15. Were you wounded? yes
16. Did you pay your guides? If so how much? yes 1000 francs
17. Do you speak French? Spanish? some french, no spanish
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 at Gibralta by offical British intelligence officer. no
20. Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom? no
21. Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, where and when? yes at Gibralta
22. Date of arrival in Spain. June 15, 1944
23. Date of arrival at Gibraltar. July 28, 1944
24. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air. July 30, 1944 from Gibralta via Poolt by air
25. Place and date of arrival in U.K. S.T. Haugne July 31, 1944

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.

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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 *SEGRET*.

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.

CERTIFIGATE

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 *SEGRET* 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) CHARLES W. ROOF
Rank 2ND LT. A. S. N. 0-710224
Unit HSP-754

Signed Charles W. Roof
Dated July 31 1944
Witness

AG P BR HQ SOS /22472

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WAR DEPARTMENT
The Adjutant General's Office
Washington

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Departments;
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The Adjutant General.

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(1) The names of those who helped you.
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CERTIFICATE

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Name (Print) CHARLES W. ROOF — Signed Charles W. Roof

Rank 2ND LT. — A. S. N. 0-710224 — Dated July 31, 1944

Unit 458 - 754 — Witness

AG P BR HQ SOS 122472

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