

RESTRICTED

WAR DEPARTMENT The Adjutant General's Office Washington

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

KLS/el-2B-989 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) HERMAN P. EHRHARD JR
Rank S/SGT A. S. N. 17081672
Unit 306 B.G. - 367 B.S.

Signed Herman P. Ehrhard Jr
Dated 14, August, 1944
Witness _____

RESTRICTED

AG P BR HQ SOS

/22472

S/Sgt Herman P ~~Richard~~ Jr 17081672

931

Same crew as Lt William S Smith

306 Gp

14 Aug

On the 17 June 1944, I landed in a field N of Loué (Sarthe). Frenchmen took me immediately and hid me in the brush. After a while, a middle aged Frenchman came to get me with two little girls and hid me for two hours in the cellar of a house in Loué. In the cellar a boy aged 19 told me I was safe and said that if I would ever want to look him up I should write to 1 Place de l'Amiral Brest. (I forgot the boys name). From the cellar I was taken to the house where I met a man called M. Roger who spoke good English and who told me I He also told me that 3 of my crew members had been taken P/W. would be taken to the woods. (He was tall black wavy hair, had been in the navy had helped Americans before in Paris) That night I was taken to another house in Loué; I spent the night there and the next morning I was taken by cart to the woods. On the way we picked up Lt Smith. From there on my journey is the same as his.

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- EHRHARD, HERMAN P. JR 17081672 S/SGT

Unit:- 306 B.G. 367 B.F.

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

1. AIDS BOX

- a. Did you use your aids box? *No*
- b. If not, why? *NO NEED*
- 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? *YES*
State color of stripes and letters. *UNKNOWN*
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?

Compass,

File (hack saw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. FRANCE

How did you spend the money? YES

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps.

Compass.

GAVE TO FRENCH

File (hack saw).

Surplus currency.

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?

b. Did you use them?

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape?
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.

BOVINGTON

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?

SECRET

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

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING OR ESCAPING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

EHRHARD, HERMAN P. JR. S/SGT 17081672
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET: AIRFIELD NEAR ORLEANS

Date mission in action: 17-3-44

Date arrived in UK: 13-7-44

13 (No. of missions)

367 (Squadron) 306 (Group)

MEMBERS OF CREW: (Please list names next to positions)

Indicate what happened to each man and how you know.

PILOT	LT. J.W. PEDERSEN	UNKNOWN
CO-PILOT	LT. L.S. BLOOD	"
NAVIGATOR	LT. GUSTAFSON	"
BOMBARDIER	LT. WA. SMITH	SAFE
RADIO OPERATOR	T/SGT J.W. WANNING	P.W.
TOP TURRET GUNNER	T/SGT B.F. ARNOLD	UNKNOWN
BALL TURRET GUNNER	S/SGT J.E. BLACKWELL	P.W.
WAIST GUNNER	S/SGT WE. KERR	UNKNOWN
WAIST GUNNER		
TAIL GUNNER	S/SGT. H.P. EHRHARD	SAFE

Decorations: NONE

Date of Birth: JUNE 3, 1903

Private Address: 5819th GENEVA AVE. ST. LOUIS, MO.

Length of Service: MAY 25, 1942

Job as Civilian: CLERK

From what field did you take off? Take off time.

THURLEIGH 0900

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed?

UNKNOWN

Were you wounded? Give details.

No

Did you pay your guides? If so, how much? YES 1500 FRANCS

Do you speak FRENCH? No SPANISH? No GERMAN? No ITALIAN? No OTHER LANGUAGE?

Did you have identity papers? No

NONE

Have you been questioned before on your escape or evasion? If so, where and by whom?

15th CORPS 79th DIVISION 9th AIR FORCE

Have you given any one a written report on your experiences. Where and When?

Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom?

15th CORPS 79th DIVISION 9th AIR FORCE

Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, Where and When?

No

Date of arrival in Spain: _____

Date of arrival at Gibraltar: _____

Place and date of departure for UK. By sea or air.

List names of American or British personnel believed to have been arrested by Germans.

S/SGT J.E. BLACKWELL

T/SGT J.E. WOPPING

List names of American or British personnel believed to be evading.

LT. J.W. PEDERSEN

LT. L.J. BLOOD

T/SGT B.F. ARNOLD

ORIGINALLY FILED IN _____

FILED IN _____

SECRET

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

ERHARD, HERMAN P. JR. S/SGT 17081672
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

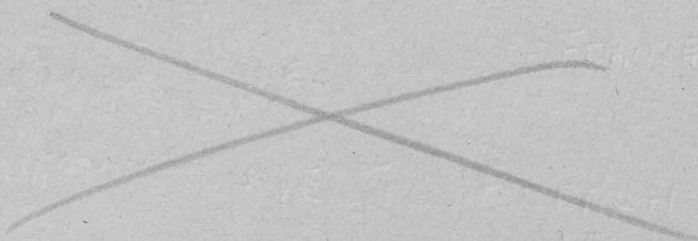
14 AUGUST 1944
(Date)

306 B.G. - 367 B.S.
(Unit)

MEMBERS OF CREW

PRESENT
OFFICIAL STATUS

PILOT
CO-PILOT
NAVIGATOR
BOMBARDIER
RADIO OPERATOR
TOP TURRET GUNNER
BALL TURRET GUNNER
WAIST GUNNER
WAIST GUNNER
TAIL GUNNER



Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing. 17, JUNE 1944

1300 HOURS NEAR TOWN OF LOUE

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

NO 1 ENGINE ON FIRE

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? 19,000 ft.

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

YES.

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

ALL.

YES

Did the plane explode on striking the ground?

UNKNOWN

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

YES

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.

A DOCTOR SAW TWO MEMBERS WHO WERE CAPTURED. ONE IDENTIFIED BY NAME. OTHER BY WOUNDS

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 by 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 reason for his opinion?

3 - P.W.'s 4 UNKNOWN. I CAME BACK WITH ME.

enhanced

N. of Loué (PARIS)

(1)

I landed in field was hiding
picked up by ²⁰ a farmer ^{with reluctance.} got in took me
1/2 mile away in a little bush zone
we food and drink. - One ^{was the man} man and
2 girls came to get us and took me to
Loué. I was put in a cellar of the house -
Stayed 2 hours. A 19 year boy told me
I was safe (he told me he was from
Brest if I want to look him up, he go
to Animal Place, in Brest, ~~forgot his~~
name), - He ~~took me to a house left~~
and ~~another man~~ the man who took
me in cellar (he had met me coming
out of the coat) took me in the
house. ~~He name~~ I was greeted by a
man who knew good English
and who (was tall, ~~black hair, gray~~
^{light hair, gray}) had helped
Americans before in Paris, name was
Mr ROGET. - He assured me I was safe
and told me I would be taken to
the woods. - I was taken to another
place in town to sleep, I ran into
there to the 19 year ^{came into room left.} old boy again, he
lived there with those people in town -
there I saw ^{that evening} the doctor that Lt Smith
saw. He also told me that
3 boys were taken prisoners gave me the
name of the Radio operator (injured)

and tall best runner -
 the next morning I was taken to the
 woods by a penchman who to another
 house met by another penchman
 who took me to the woods. -

We joined walked out to a cart
 and we picked up Lt. Smith on the
 way. - ~~in~~ the along side the cart
 my penchmen walked and 2 others
 with him. - They were farmers -

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

931

DATE: 14 August 1944

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, JAMES H. FRIES, C/Sgt., AC, 3355077

HEREBY CERTIFY that I have known and have been associated with

HERMAN P. BISHARD, JR., S/Sgt., AC, 17081672

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.

Herman P. Bishard Jr.

James H. Fries

RIGHT THUMB PRINT:



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

HERMAN P. BISHARD, JR., S/Sgt., AC, 17081672, 306 Bomb Group, 367 Bomb Sq.

previously reported missing in action over enemy territory.

P. S. Vorey

SPECIAL AGENT, C.I.C.

P. S. VOREY,

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

931

DATE: 14 August 1944

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, JAMES H. FRIES, S/Sgt., AC, 35536077

HEREBY CERTIFY that I have known and have been associated with

HERMAN P. EHRHARD, JR., S/Sgt., AC, 17081672

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previously reported missing in action over enemy territory.

F. S. Verity

SPECIAL AGENT, C.F.C.

F. S. VERITY,

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