

89E #1224

# RESTRICTED

## WAR DEPARTMENT The Adjutant General's Office Washington

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

KLS/el-2B-339 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.

### GERTIFICATE

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

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

Name (Print) William F. Rogers

Signed William F. Rogers

Rank 1st Lt. A. S. N. 0-677575

Dated 31-8-44

Unit 750 Sqd. 457 Bomb Grp.

Witness William R. Erichlunger

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

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S E C R E T

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

William F. Rogers 1st Lt 0-677575  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

31-8-44  
(Date)

750 sqd 457 Bomb Grp  
(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.

17-6-44 8:45 AM Monthyon France

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

No 4 out #3 burned & fell off - fire in wing, hydraulic system exploded & burned, no radio, AFCE burned & lost all gas.

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

6000

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

Radio out not sure

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

All - French say 1 failed

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? No - smashed all to pieces

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.

Not identified except co-pilot - bombardier with me.  
by name

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

No bombardier saw.

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.

What is source's opinion as to the fate of the other crew members and his reason for his opinion? Very Good - French say they have them.

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.,.....)

All conceivable transportation moving out. Soldiers not visible wounded riding in Red Cross busses. Moral very low. half of Germans evacuating half out of uniform. ~~By~~ Germans blew up all explosives at airport 4 days before Americans arrived.

Region now in allied hands

(1)

B-17 - flak - just after bombing - #4 engine, then hydraulic fluid started fire, big hole right wing - radio out - 3 engines caught fire - 3 engines fell off while looking for chute - found no gas each engine remaining - bailed out 6,000 -

landed field 0845 near Mouthouy~~en~~  
sprained ankle, hid in wheat trench tall  
straw - have later civilian clothes - crawled  
1/2 mile to woods, hid to 8 P.M. - <sup>old</sup> man  
brought clutch - went to his house 1/2 mile  
one night there -

2d night Inspector of Police Meaus  
came in car - took <sup>(with Bunch)</sup> Marcelly one night  
there then to deserted house outskirts -  
there 1 1/2 months - last days warm -  
removing all houses - moved to woods &  
trench - Jo's hunting rabbits - moved  
to swamp -

heads A's in Chartres, took off on foot -

(2)

first night Quincy, trench sheltered in  
korn, left before dawn -

by next night Cheruy - soft feet in  
bad shape - approached Belgian farmer -  
said a's Bratigny - waited 8 days -  
4th Cavalry.

app "c"

Dre jardin, Emil - Marcell  
fed & sheltered

Belgian - De Cog - Cheruy -

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KLS/el-2B-939 Pentagon

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Name (Print) William F. Rogers  
Rank 1st Lt. A. S. N. 0-677575  
Unit 750 Sqd 457 Grp.

Signed William F. Rogers  
Dated 31-8-43  
Witness William R. Eichellager

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

1st Lt. Wm. E. Rogers

*app. c*

1224

My B-17 was hit by flak just after bombing Le Bourget and I bailed out at 6,000 feet. Landing near Monthoyn, I was taken in hand by French civilians who hid me in nearby woods and quickly provided food and civilian clothes. I moved about in this area frequently, always under the protection of the French, until 29 August ~~when~~ when American troops overran Bretigny.

Frenchmen who helped me were:

Emil Dujardin, Marcilly

A Belgian named ~~xxxxxxx~~ Le Coq, Chevry.

*app. B*  
*... saw in ...*  
*... hands*

*Compiled by:*  
*A. Tiffany*

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

Rogers William F 1st. 0-677575  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)  
29 (No. of missions)  
750 457  
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET: Le Bourget  
Date mission in action: 14/2/44  
Date arrived in UK: 30/3/44

MEMBERS OF CREW: (Please list names next to positions)				Indicate what happened to each man and how you know.
PILOT	Rogers W.F.	1st Lt	Escaped	
CO-PILOT	Walczanski S.	✓	in hands of trench	
NAVIGATOR	Collard W.S.	✓	<del>Unknown</del> returned UK	
BOMBARDIER	Bunch M.	S/Sgt	<del>Escaped</del>	" "
RADIO OPERATOR	Chumas Jno	T/Sgt	Unknown	} French say 2 broken legs & 1 chute failed to open.
TOP TURRET GUNNER	Lane J.D.	✓		
BALL TURRET GUNNER	Quick D.H.	S/Sgt	B-17	
WAIST GUNNER	Shumway O.H.	✓		
WAIST GUNNER				
TAIL GUNNER	Jones Ray	S/Sgt		

Decorations: Air Medal 3 clusters  
Date of Birth: Nov. 9, 1915  
Private Address: 72 N.E. Monroe, Portland, Oregon  
Length of Service: 2 years  
Job as Civilian: Accountant  
From what field did you take off? Take off time.  
Glatton - 5:30 AM.  
Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? yes  
Were you wounded? Give details.  
Sprained ankle  
Did you pay your guides? If so, how much? No  
Do you speak FRENCH? No SPANISH? No GERMAN? No ITALIAN? No OTHER LANGUAGE? No  
Did you have identity papers? yes

(over)



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

VII Corp Hq. Col. Porter

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

No

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

No

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

63 Brook St. London

Date of arrival in Spain:

Date of arrival at Gibraltar:

Place and date of departure for UK. By sea or air. Arr France - Air

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

None Known

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

No names Known

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- *1st Lt William F. Rogers 0-677575*

Unit:- *457 Bomb Grp. 750 Sqd*

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? *Map & Compass - 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.

Chocolate or Peanut Bar.  *French*

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? *No*
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box? *Left hurriedly in the night*
- 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. *Gray-#43*  
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? *French*

Compass, *Yes*

File (hacksaw). *✓*

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.  
How did you spend the money? *2000 Francs*

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps. *Kept*

Compass. *Kept*

File (hacksaw). *Kept*

Surplus currency. *Gone long ago to France*

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? *Yes 5*

b. Did you use them? *No*

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape?

State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.

*Glatton - Feb. 1944 Lt? 91st Wing Hq.*

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?

*Treatment in France varies too much  
& you can't tell what to expect*