

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO. 766-767
EVASION IN FRANCE

JOHN C VOLLMUTH, 2d Lt, O-753086 - 1 mission~~s~~
FRANK J McNICHOL, 2d Lt, O-691776 - 2 missions

(Date)

(Name)

(Rank)

(ASN)

748 Bomb Squadron, 457 Bomb Group
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET: AUGSBURG

MIA: 25 February 1944

Arrived in UK:
24 June 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWID)

				Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT	O-804614	2d Lt	James R CHINN	MIA	
CO-PILOT	O-751988	2d Lt	Robert R COOPER	MIA	
NAVIGATOR	O-691776	2d Lt	Frank J McNICHOL		NARRATOR
BOMBARDIER	O-753086	2d Lt	John C VOLLMUTH		NARRATOR
RADIO OPERATOR	32668805	S/Sgt	Robert J MULLINS	MIA	
TOP TURRET GUNNER	32534214	S/Sgt	Vito PERAGINE	MIA	
BALL TURRET GUNNER	6522339	Sgt	Jeremiah B ROLISON	MIA	
WAIST GUNNER	35509849	Sgt	Marion D ROSS	MIA	
WAIST GUNNER	31083240	Sgt	William J SULLIVAN, JR	MIA	
TAIL GUNNER	37471606	Sgt	Dillard V ENGDAHL	MIA	

Were you wounded?

E+E 766-767

Lts. Vollmuth and McNichol

Lt. Vollmuth:

FLAK
AND
FIGHTERS

On our way to the target we were hit by flak and forced to turn back. Shortly after we had left our formation fighters attacked us. The ship suddenly ^{made} went into a violent twist, and we prepared to leave. Lt. McNichol who had a seat type chute got caught in the hatch, and I had to push him out. ~~I~~ ^{Lt McNichol} followed, ~~him~~ out of the ship, and as I left I saw the co-pilot come down ~~for~~ ~~his seat~~ between the seats ready to jump.

SLIGHTLY
DELAYED
JUMP

I delayed my jump only a little. After my chute had ~~opened~~ I saw another chute above me and then saw our ship crash and explode on the edge of a village. I landed next to a hedge in an open field. Several Frenchmen
(next)

MET BY
FRENCHMEN

ran up to me at once and took my chute. I speak ~~some French~~ some French, and I asked them in ~~that language~~ when I should go. They indicated a ravine some distance away, and I ~~ran~~ ran to it, although before I ~~reached it~~

SPOTTED
BY GERMAN
PLANE

had reached it a German plane which had circled me while I was in the air came down above me ^{and} fired in the direction I was going. ~~and then~~ I ran up the ravine ~~to~~ a bit and then saw a patch of woods not far off; but a chute was visible in the trees and I thought that that would certainly attract the Germans to the wood. So I cut across the fields to a hill from which I surveyed the terrain. There was no cover anywhere in sight. I therefore returned to the ravine and hid myself in some bushes at its edge. Presently two men came running
(next)

LACK OF
COVER

Requisition for Foodstuffs

FOUND BY
HELPERS

along the ravine calling "Bon ami, bon ami" ("good friend").

As soon as they saw me one of them gave me his jacket and trousers, took my flying clothes, and left. The other led me up the ravine and around a village to his barn. There he brought me better clothes, and then he took me into the house where I was given

JOINED BY
CREW MEMBER

food and drink. About four hours later Lt/McNichol was brought in, ~~and from here our~~ ~~journey was arranged.~~

~~JOINED BY~~
ARRANGED

Lt/McNichol:

I landed in a wood with my chute ~~entangled~~ in a tree from which I couldn't get it down. I ran into the wood for half an hour, took off my flying equipment, and then went on for another hour and a half. I then noticed a ~~single~~ man

CHUTE
CAUGHT
IN TREE

(next)

Resignation for Postscript

Please supply the following items:

and a woman ~~who~~ who appeared to be ~~discussing~~ arguing about the way they should take through the wood. I hid and observed them for a while, and then I approached and declared myself to them. They had been looking for me, ^{as it turned out,} and ~~by~~ I had ~~shown them~~ been the subject of their discussion.

A FORTUNATE COINCIDENCE

They hid me at once, ~~and~~ brought me civilian clothes, and then led me to their home. After I had been fed these two men came and took me to the house where Lt/ Vollmuth was staying, and from it our journey was arranged.

Journey Arranged.
JAMES
CREW
MEMBER

E + F 766-767

Lt.s. Vollmuth + McNichol

App. C

Lt.s Vollmuth and McNichol came down on ~~the~~ 25 February 1944 near MARVAUX-VIEUX (12 kms S of VOZIERES). Lt. Vollmuth was found almost at once by a young Dutchman (20-25 years ~~and a mi~~ old) and a middle-aged Frenchman (married, a son and daughter in the 20's, and a son P/W in Germany) to whose house in MARVAUX Vollmuth was taken.

McNichol was found in a wood by a middle-aged French couple and their ten year old daughter who took him to their house in MARVAUX whence he was soon transferred to the house where Vollmuth already was.

The Dutchman soon brought two

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young men (about 25 years old) who later ~~was~~ said that they had already handled 17 evaders. These men asked to see Vollmuth's and McNichols' dog-tags and then took the two Americans to AURE (14 kms SSW of VOUZIER) to the home of M. DECORNE, a farmer who had kept an evader before. They spent the night here. That evening two young women (20 years old, chataigne) came in to speak to them. They returned the next day with JEANOT FOSSIER (about 20 years old, speaks some English) and PAUL (tall, blonde; son of a French officer who had served in Algiers; lives in VOUZIER), and a truck-driver (in his forties, married, P/W of last war, speaks fluent German). They all got into a truck and drove to TERRON-SUR-AISNE (6 kms N of VOUZIER). There JEANOT took the two Americans to his home where he lived with his mother and father (M. FOSSIER, a merchant of TERRON) and his sister, MIMI.

Vollmuth and McNichol lived with the FOSSIERs four days. During that time two men came in to interrogate them, and one of these men then brought material for identity cards which JEANOT made up. Vollmuth and McNichol were then given new clothes and taken ~~to VOUZIER~~ by M. FOSSIER and HENRI BILLOT to VOUZIERs to the home of PAUL's father where they found Baristow and Bajenski. The next day ~~all four Americans~~ were taken by PAUL, JEANOT, and HENRI BILLOT took all four Americans to BILLOT's home in AMBONNAY (20 kms SSE of REIMS). There a man named RENE (short, about 35 years old, apparently the chief of the local organization; according to Baristow his last name is HUGHET) came in and assigned the Americans to different houses. Vollmuth and McNichol were taken to the home of CAMILLE LADURELLE (married but without children), 21 RUE GAMBETTA, BOUZY (20 kms SSE

of REIMS) where they stayed for six weeks.

~~Also~~
 During this time DENISE BILLOT, the sister of HENRI (cf. E+E 715) heard that JEANOT and PAUL had been arrested by the Germans. DENISE, a man from REIMS (according to ~~BAIR~~ Bairstow called SERPH [?]), and two men who represented themselves as Americans shot down on the 14 October Schweinfurt raid came to interrogate Vollmuth and McNichol. Although no mention of the capture of JEANOT and PAUL was made, Vollmuth and McNichol believe that they were under suspicion, especially because it was known that Vollmuth could speak German.

During their stay in BOUZY they visited the local chief of resistance, a man in his late forties who kept a general store in BOUZY and lived with his daughter and an old lady, probably his mother. On 8 April the two Americans moved from LADURELLE's house to that of a neighbor, EMILE REMY (~~was~~ in his forties; married; daughter, JACQUELINE 18 years, and son, EMILE, 14 years; another son P/w). After three days here they were taken by a Belgian,

two Frenchmen, one of whom had been a steward on the LEVIATHAN, and RENE to RENE's home in AMBONNAY. They dropped RENE here and went on to pick up Bajenski and Baristow. From here to Paris the journey of all four was identical (cf E+E # 715)

In PARIS Vollmuth and McNichol followed a man who took them to his apartment in CHARENTON. He is about 35 years old, is married, and has two children; he is an engineer for the Algerian Phosphate Co. and had been in the French Air Force. After two days here Vollmuth and McNichol were taken by the hunchbacked doctor (according to Baristow DR. MICHEL POIRIER) to the apartment of DR. GASTON BONHOMME, 83 BLVD. BLANQUI, PARIS XIII, with whom they lived for a week. A young man called PHILIPPE then led them to the home of Mme. VERON(?), a portly, red-headed woman in her

forties, a nurse whose husband is in Poland and whose son is in hiding on a farm. They lived with Mme. VERON for three weeks. Towards the end of their stay GENEVIEVE and a young man about 17 years old (slim and dark) came to see them.

Then the young man called and led them to a park where they met GENEVIEVE, ~~a~~ a man who is BURGUNDY's assistant and is said to be an art

dealer, and two guides, a woman of 20 years and a ~~was~~ slim, bespectacled man of the same age. These two

guides took them by train to PAU where they turned them over to a blondish young man who led them

into town and turned them over to ROSEMARIE. ROSEMARIE took them to a large house which belongs to an Englishman who is not residing there and which is cared for by an elderly woman who comes from a coastal town of France. The

Americans spent the night there. The next ~~day~~ ^{day} ~~after~~ ROSEMARIE and the young man returned, and the latter led the Americans out and turned

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them over to a slight, dark girl in
the early twenties who in turn led
them to the house of an elderly woman
who had her grandson of 14 years
living with her. In the afternoon
ROSEMARIE and the girl who had
brought them here arrived, ~~and~~ led
them to the bus station, and
turned them over to the conductor
on the bus for NAVARRENX. The
conductor put them off at VASSES,
the stop before NAVARRENX;
and here they found ^{first} two Frenchmen
and a Spanish republican ~~man~~
who had been on the bus were
to cross with them. A car with
a guide was waiting for them at
VASSES. They drove into the
foothills and then began the
hike at once. They walked all
night, lay up in a barn the next
day, and at nightfall ~~with~~
proceeded with a new guide
who during the night was relieved
by two others. They ~~then~~ crossed
a cable bridge and climbed a mountain
to the home of a Basque family where

they rested for a day and a night. The Americans also got new shoes here. They then walked a few miles to a barn where they spent the day. Here another party joined them. The following night they resumed their climb, crossing the border early on the morning of 15 May. They were picked up by Spanish police just N of ~~Uta~~ UZTARROZ, who took ~~the~~ all five in the party to ISABA and put them into jail for the night.

The next day Vallmuth and McNichol were taken to PAMPLONA. There they stayed ~~was~~ three weeks, were then taken to ALHAMA for a week, and from there were taken by the American M.A. to Gibraltar via Madrid. They reached Gibraltar on 19 June and left on 23 June for U.K.

E+E 766-767

Lts. Vollmuth and McNichol

App. B.

- a) At BOUZY (20 km SSE of REIMS) informants saw an ME 110, about the nose of which there was a large metal ring.
(Observation, 15 March 1944)
- b) Along the railway ~~line~~ from MONTAUBAN to TOULOUSE there is a line of pill-boxes and camouflaged blockhouses extending for at least ten miles. (Observation, 10 May 1944)
- c) In TOULOUSE a large number of Japanese soldiers was seen entraining. They wore a field-grey uniform much like that of the regular German army, but the officers wore red piping and
(next)

ornaments. (Observation, 10 May 1944)

- d) There are many Japanese troops in PARIS. (Hearsay, ~~at~~ early May 1944)
- e) The ~~GARE~~ GARE D'AUSTERLITZ (PARIS) was badly damaged, the freight warehouses near this station were demolished, and only one line was in operation from the station. (Observation, 9 May 1944)
- f) There is a fighter base just outside of PAU on RN 637. Two of the hangars have been destroyed by bombing but the hangar nearest to the road has not been hit. FW 190's and Fieseler-Storchs were seen in the air over this field. (Observation and Hearsay, 11 May 1944)

E + E 7 66

Vollmuth

App. D

Aids Box : I used the Norlides tablets, peanut bar, matches, water bottle, and compass. The benzadrine tablets I gave to a companion to use in the mountains.

Purse: I had a yellow purse. I used the compass and map of France. The ~~1000 French francs, 300 Belgian francs, and 25 Dutch~~ ^{the money} ~~guilder~~ I turned in at Gibraltar.

Photographs: I had five photographs. They were used for French papers.

Lectures: ~~I had~~ during pre-operational training and at my base in U/K, I heard S2 officers and evaders lecture. The lectures were valuable to me; but more emphasis should be put upon necessity in Spain.

E & E 767

McNichol

App D

Aids Box : lost in running from the scene of landing.

Purse : lost in running from the scene of landing.

Photographs: I had six photographs which were used for French papers.

Lectures: I heard the divisional Intelligence Officer lecture on evasion in January 1944. The lecture was useful to me.

Comment on 766-7:

Note how quickly the German search plane was on the job.

Good work on crater's part in recognizing the danger of exposed paratroops. Note Lt Vollmuth's warning on lack of security in Spain — one of many.

Vollmuth

~~Hit~~ Fleak over Luxembourg + turned back.
Left formation + fighters attached. Only two
guns firing. Presently top turret stopped firing
One engine feathered + low pressure on other. Ship
suddenly twisted. We started to leave.
McNicholl started out. Seat pack + got
caught in hatch. Vollmuth pushed him
out. I saw co-pilot come down. I followed
McNicholl out. I delayed my jump a
little. Then saw another chute come out
of plane. Plane was in spin + crashed +
exploded on edge of village. A German plane
flew above us + fired but not at us. I
landed next to a hedge in a field.
Three German men ran up to me + took my
chute. A woman of 27 rushed up +
kissed me. I asked her where to go. They
pointed up to a ravine + I ran towards it.
The ME came down and fired in the direction I
was running. I got onto a road + ran
along a ditch. The German came down low +

waved at me. I got into ravine but I didn't want to go to wood because I saw McNicholl's chute there. I then cut across country to a hill but there was open country everywhere. I then went to the ravine again + hid in a little thicket.

Two men came running up looking for me. One came out when they reached the thicket. One of these was a Dutchman ^(about 23 or 24 yrs) who with whom I spoke in German. He gave me his jacket + pants + took my flying clothes away. The other man

MARVAUX-VIEUX
East of
YOUZIERES
12 kms
S of
YOUZIERES

took me on up the ravine, skived village, + went into his barn. He then brought me clothes + then took me in to his house ^(son P/W in Germany). He gave me food + drink. Soon another man

came in + said they had a comrade of mine. The Dutchman came back too + said he knew an sq. that would fly us back to England from Belgium. About 4 hrs later (5 PM) McNicholl was brought in.

McNicholl:-

I landed in the woods.

I ran for about half an hour. + ~~walk~~ took off flying clothes + walked about 1 1/2 hrs. I came upon two middle aged men + wife of one + girl of 8 or 10. They had been looking for me. They hid me + the little girl brought me clothes, then they took me to their house in the village.

After I'd eaten two men came + took me to the house where Vallentin was.

(Man + wife - about 45 yrs - 2 children - boy + girl in teens) tall + heavy I'd had an American before.

Two other men came in with Vallentin's equipment

(The Dutchmen had gone for them) + asked for our dog tags + said that another member of our crew had made off as soon as he had landed (seemed to have been 24 or 25 years old co-pilot). These two men took us to AURE

14 KMS SSW
D VOZIER

to home) M. DECORNE (farmer, an old lady, a younger woman, several children (had had an American before) here we ate again + slept that

Two girls came in at night + asked for dog tags (About 20, Chataigne) + night. Next afternoon a truck came back

with JEANOT FOSSIER (speaks some English,

and PAUL (tall, blonde) and a truck driver. We all got on to truck + drove to

TERRON - sur-Aisne. Got off outside of town with JEANOT + from there in a store house JEANOT drove us to his home in TERRON where we met his father + mother + sister (MIMI) (45 or 50 - merchant)

not now clear

here for 3 1/2 days (John P. Law, evader, had been here). Two men, one an escaped P/W, came in the second day to interrogate us, + the next day, one of them came with material for IC which JEANOT made up. We got new clothes from Mme FOSSIER.

(had handled 17 evaders before)

told us that 4 bodies had been found in our plane.

On 29 Feb. M. FOSSIER and HENRI BILLOT

took us to Vouziers where we met Bajenski and Barstow ~~at~~ the home PAUL's father (former officer in French Army)

[He, wife, daughter + Paul]

(Truck driver who took us to Ambonay: 40 yrs old, married + children) Spoke good German; had been P/W in last war.

In Ambonay ~~one night~~ at the BILLOTs

a man named RENE (short, pleasant, about 35 yrs old; seemed to be the director in the district.)

asked for dog tags + told us where we were going.

HENRI BILLOT took Vollmuth + McNichol

to BOUZY to the house of CAMILLE LADURELLE (has wife, no children)

(21 Rue Gambetta). Champagne Co. by the same name.

Stayed here 6 weeks. Meanwhile DENISE

learned that JEANOT + PAUL had been captured

because of he was carrying arms. On 14 March

DENISE + a man, ~~nomotache~~ (spoke no English) from TREIMS

according to CAMILLE I.O.

(Barstow knew him) came with two other American aviators from Schweinfurt Oct 14 raid to interrogate us.

During stay here we visited the resistance chief in BOUZY (about 45 or 50, daughter, an old lady - kept general store in BOUZY).

Easter Saturday (8 April) we moved from CAMILLE's to EMILE TREMY (man + wife, in 40s,

girl of 18 (Jacqueline) + boy EMILE (14) + a son P/W in Germany.) Here for 3 Days. On 2nd day

two men came in to visit + the next day a

Belgian + 1 man + a third short man + RENE and (tall man, had been steward on Leviathan, had been in US quite a while)

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took us to RENE's house in Ambonnay. There met Rene's wife, children, + mother. Then drove over + picked up Bajenski + Baristow. Then dropped Rene + drove on to Reims.

At the cafe outside of Reims. The baby is an adopted child.

Here met the man with moustache from Reims.

The second doctor took us by car to another cafe outside of Reims. The ex-steward + the man with the moustache were here. The doctor then took us to RR station + bought tickets + turned us over to the hunchback.

Then in Paris we followed a man who took us by metro to his house (Charenton, an apartment on 6 or 7 floor: an engineer for Algerian Phosphate Co. had been in French Air Force; wife, two children. Couple about 35). Stayed here 2 days.

Then hunchback came + took us by metro to Dr. Gaston Bonhomme where we stayed a week. (83 Bvd. Blaugui, Paris VIII: ^{very nervous, short about 38} ^{graying hair. Intern in Secine Hospital} Hunchback + engineer both visited us here + Faculté de Médecine)

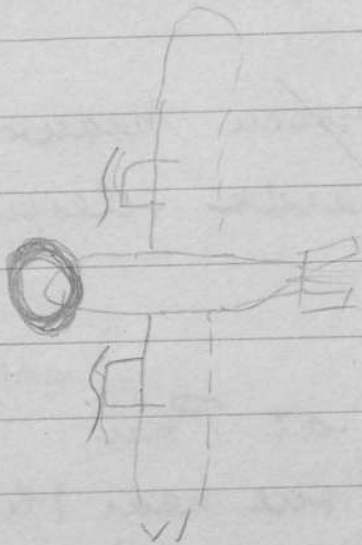
Here met a young man, PHILIPPE, who took us to home of a woman, ^{Mme} VERON (?) [husband in Poland, ran in farm] Partly red head about 45, about 3 blocks from Bonhomme's. A nurse. Here stayed about 3 weeks. About 3 days before we left Genevieve came in with a young man + took

name, rank, + number. This young man (slim, about 17, dark hair) then called for us + took us to a park where we met Genevieve + a dealer in art (an assistant of Burgundy) + our two guides (a girl of 20 + a boy same age, glasses, a little English). Burgundy's art gave us instructions + Genevieve shook hands. The two guides then took us by train to Montauban, Toulouse, PAU. At Pau a young man, blondish, spoke English, met us. He led us to ~~a mansion. Here we met~~ to Rosemarie who took us to a big house which belonged to an Englishman who was not there. The woman who was taking care of the house was an elderly woman ^{for refugees from a coastal town.} Spent night here. Next day Rosemarie came back with the young man. ~~He~~ led us out + turned us over to a girl (about 22 yrs old, dark hair, slight, no English) who took us house of a woman (65 or 70) who had her grandson (14) living with her. This girl + Rosemarie returned in afternoon + told us how to go to bus. They led us to bus + turned us over to bus conductor who told us to get off at LASSES (before NAVARENX). There a car (2 trenchmen + a Spanish republican joined us) ^{with a guide} picked us up ~~and~~ took us to ~~tail.~~ We started to walk at once. Walked that night + lay up the next day in a barn. At night fall met another guide + set out again. Later at night two new guides relieved ours. Crossed cable bridge + went up mt. to home of a Basque family. Here we stayed a night + day. Then (got new shoes)

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went a few miles to a barn where we stayed. Here
met another party. At night fell went down to new
guide's house to eat. & that night we crossed the
frontier (15 May early in morning). We walked
towards ISABA + were picked up by SP before we
reached the village before it. They took all 5 of us to
ISABA + put us in jail for the night. Next day
to Pamplona (3 weeks) Alhama (1 week)
Clark Spellman
M. A. + A. A. came to Alhama & took us to
Madrid (5 hrs). Reached Gib. 19 June left
Gib 23 June. U.K. 24.

20 kms SSE
of REIMS

a) At BOUZY a ME110 was seen with a
ring around the nose



(Obs. 15 March 44)

b) Along the line between Montauban + Toulouse
for about ten miles there is a line of
pill boxes + camouflaged block-houses.
(Obs. 10 May)

c) In the Toulouse Station a large number
number of Japanese soldiers were untraining.
They wore a uniform of ~~grey~~ grey-blue something
like German uniforms (Obs. 10 May)

- d) Many Japanese soldiers in Paris (Hearsay
May, 1944)
- e) Only one line running out of Gare
d' Austerlitz. Station itself and the
store-houses were demolished (Obs. 9 May)
- f) Junction between Meaux and Paris
marshalling yards demolished (Obs.
10 April 1944)
- g) Fighter base at Pau. ^{on road to Lourdes.} Two hangars
destroyed, but one near the road
not hit. FW 190s observed and Fiesler-
Storchs seen here (11 May 44. Hearsay
+ obs.) RN 637
- h) S. of Paris out of Austerlitz 3 Heinkel 110s
seen on air patrol. (Obs. 9 May)

CONFIDENTIAL

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

766

DATE: 25 June 1944

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, HARRY G. VAAL, 1st Lt., AC, O-753083

hereby certify that I have known and have been associated with

JOHN C. VOLLMUTH, 2nd Lt., AC, O-753086

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.

Harry G. Vaal

John C. Vollmuth

RIGHT THUMB PRINT:



=====
The individual whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon has been identified to the satisfaction of this office as JOHN C. VOLLMUTH, 2nd Lt., AC, O-753086 (748 Bomb Squadron - 457 Bomb Group) previously reported missing in action over enemy territory.

John E. Parish
JOHN E. PARISH. SPECIAL AGENT, C.I.C.

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND F 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? 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. VARIOUS TIMES

Chocolate or Peanut Bar,

EXCHANGED FOR CIGARETTES AS COURTESY MEASURE

Milk (tube).

DID NOT USE

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue).

GAVE TO NAVIGATOR FOR TRIP OVER MOUNTAINS

Halazone tablets (water purifier).

DID NOT USE

Matches.

FOR CIGARETTES

Adhesive tape.

DID NOT USE

Chewing gum.

GAVE AWAY

Water bottle.

OVER MOUNTAINS

Compass.

FOR ORIGINAL ORIENTATION

Sewing kit.

DID NOT USE

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? WATER BOTTLE TAINTS

- e. How did you finally dispose of the box? WATER BADLY

GAVE AWAY ITEMS AS SOUVENIRS

- 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?

EXCEPT FOR WATER BOTTLE, VERY SATISFACTORY

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? YES
State color of stripes and letters. DUTCH, BELGIAN, FRENCH MONEY
If NOT, State why not. Yellow
- 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? ALL EXCEPT N. AFRICA

Compass. ORIGINAL ORIENTATION

File (hacksaw). NO

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. 350 BELGIAN FRANCS
How did you spend the money? 25 DUTCH GULDEN
1000 FRENCH FRANCS

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps. 1 SOUVENIR AT BORDER

Compass. 1 SPANISH OFFICIALS CONFISCATED

LOST

File (hacksaw).

DID NOT USE

Surplus currency. TURNED IN AT GIBRALTAR

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

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? YES

If so, how many?

b. ⁵ Did you use them? YES

5. LECTURES

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

b. Did you find the lectures of value?
H57 BOMB GP. BASE BY INTELLIGENCE AND EVADERS DUR-
ING PRE-OPERATIONAL TNG.

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

REMEMBER TO GUARD SECURITY WHILE IN SPAIN

TOP SECRET

E & E CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

VOLLMUTH, J. C. 2ND LT 0-753086
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

6-24-44
(Date)

748 SQD. 457 GP.
(Unit)

#766

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

2/25/1944 - 1230 - MONT ST. MARTIN, ARDENNES, FRANCE

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

Was it on fire, etc?

NO ENGINE FEATHERED - DIPPED DURING OUT OF TOP SURFACE OF WING. NO
ENGINE REPORTED HAVING HIGH TEMP. OVER INTERPHONE, SOURCE'S
TURBINE INACTIVE.

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

6000 FT.

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

DO NOT KNOW

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

SOURCE, NAVIGATOR AND THIRD PARACHUTIST, PRESUMABLY CO-PILOT

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?

YES, NAVIGATOR

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. UNKNOWN IN PARACHUTE LOG WAS EXHIBITED BY NATIVE APPROXIMATELY 6 HOURS LATER. SUPPOSED EYEWITNESS REPORTED 4 UNIDENTIFIED BODIES FOUND IN WRECK.

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 rescued and what life rafts, wreckage, etc., remained on the surface that would have assisted other personnel to keep afloat.

CRASHED ON LAND.

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

ASSUME 3 MEN BAILED OUT SAME TIME PREVIOUSLY, POSSIBLY DUE TO
MIS TAKING PILOTS MESSAGE TO STAND BY TO BAIL OUT UPON OBSERVING
DAMAGED WING. EXCEPTION TAILGUNNER, PILOT, CO-PILOT AND SOURCE THEIR
WAS NO ANSWER TO INTERPHONE SOMETIME PREVIOUS TO SOURCE LEAVING PLANE (DUE

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. VOLLMUTH JOHN CHRISTIAN, 2ND LT 70-753036
2. Decorations. NO
3. Unit or Squadron. 748 SQD.
4. Division (Army) or Group. 457 GP.
5. Date of Birth. 9/17/19
6. Length of Service. 29 MOS.
7. Private Address. 122-06 HILLSIDE AVE, RICHMOND HILL, L.I., N.Y.
8. Job as civilian. COPY WRITER
9. From what field did you take off? GLATTON, ENGLAND, 457 GP.
10. Take off time.
11. Date and target. 2/25/44 AUGSBURG, GERMANY.
12. Where did you land? ARDENNES, FRANCE
13. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? PRESUMABLY BY EXPLOSION
14. What was your position in aircraft? BOMBARDIER
15. Were you wounded? NO
16. Did you pay your guides? If so how much? NO
17. Do you speak French? Spanish? LITTLE FRENCH
18. Did you have Identity Papers? YES (D) - (False)
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?
LT COLONEL FOASTER, GIBRALTAR
20. Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom? NU
21. Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, where and when?
ALHAMA, ALSO GIBRALTAR, 6/20/44
22. Date of arrival in Spain.
23. Date of arrival at Gibraltar. 6/19/44
24. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air. 6/23/44 - AIR -
25. Place and date of arrival in U.K. 6/24/44 - LONDON

F&E # 766

INTERROGATOR

Cheriss

~~Mr. and Mrs. T~~ Vollmuth, J.P.
(Name)

2nd Lt
(Grade)

0-753086
(ASN)

748
(Squadron)

457
(Group)

25 Feb 44
(Missing in action)

(Returned to duty)

Message to be broadcast over BEC:

BON VOYAGE FRANÇOIS ET JEAN

Language French

Time Noon Broadcast

Person requesting message M. and Mme FOSSIER, TERRON-SUR-AISNE

Date of contact with this person End of February 1944

Description of this person: About 45 or 50 years, merchant, short, mustached, graying hair

Services Rendered: Food, Shelter, Organized help.

SECRET

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

E & E REPORT NO 766
EVASION IN

6-24-1944
(Date)

VOLLMUTH, J.C. 2ND LT. 0-753086

TARGET: AUGSBURG

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

Date Missing in Action: 25 FEB 1944

748 457
(Squadron) (Group)

Date Arrived in UK: 6 JUN 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

Indicate what happened to
each man
and how you know

PILOT CHINN, J. R.

CO-PILOT COOPER, R. F.

NAVIGATOR MCNICHOL, F. J.

BOMBARDIER VOLLMUTH, J. C.

RADIO OPERATOR MULLINS, ROBERT

TOP TURRET GUNNER PERAGINE VITO

MIDDLE TURRET GUNNER ROBINSON JERIMIAN

WING GUNNER ROSS MARION

WING GUNNER SULLIVAN, WILLIAM

TAIL GUNNER ENGDAL, DILLARD

CO-PILOT WAS OBSERVED BY ME TO BE
COMING DOWN BETWEEN SEATS IMMEDIATELY
PRIOR TO MY JUMPING. OBSERVED PARACHUTE
OPEN SHORTLY AFTER MY DOWN WHICH I AS-
SUMED WAS CO-PILOT. ORGANIZATION REPORTED
FOUR CORPSES FOUND IN WRECK.

Are you wounded?

NO.

RESTRICTED

WAR DEPARTMENT The Adjutant General's Office Washington

AG 383.6 (31 Jul 48) 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.

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) JOHN C. VOLLMUTH
Rank 2ND LT A. S. N. 0-753086
Unit 248 SQD 457 GP

Signed John C. Vollmuth
Dated 6/24/44
Witness _____

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

RESTRICTED