

SECRET

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

*By
Proof
By*

E & E REPORT NO 806-307-808-809
EVASION IN FRANCE

Roderick L FRANCIS, Major, 0-438016	-	10 missions
Arthur T CAVANAUGH, Capt, 0-729604	-	9 missions
Earl E WOODARD, 1st Lt, 0-678659	-	12 missions
Monroe J HOTALING, 1st Lt, 0-563353	-	7 missions

(Name) (Rank) (AIC)

(No of Missions)

(Date)

TARGET: AIRFIELD AT NANCY

Date Missing in Action: 25 April 44

Date Arrived in UK: 28 June 1944

750 Bomb Squadron, 457 Bomb Group
(Squadron) (Group)

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

Indicate what happened to
each man
and how you know

PILOT	0-728547	Capt Edward M BENDER	P/W
CO-PILOT	0-438016	Major Roderick L FRANCIS	NARRATOR
NAVIGATOR	0-729604	Capt Arthur T CAVANAUGH	NARRATOR
	0-678659	1st Lt Earl E WOODARD	NARRATOR
BOMBARDIER	0-676250	1st Lt Edwin K FULLER	P/W
RADIO OPERATOR	37232064	T/Sgt Laymon M MAHAN	#E #810
TOP TURRET GUNNER	34441214	T/Sgt James L FREE	P/W
MID TURRET GUNNER	33236947	S/Sgt Michael WOYURKA	MIA
WAIST GUNNER	17109426	S/Sgt John P SARICO	P/W
WAIST GUNNER	0689387	2nd Lt BILL (NMI) SOULES	P/W
TAIL GUNNER	0-563353	1st Lt Monroe J HOTALING	NARRATOR

Were you wounded?

- : Major Roderick L FRANCIS, Capt Arthur T CAVANAUGH, 1st Lts Earl E WOODARD
and Monroe J HOTALING

Major FRANCIS:

We were bringing our bombs back from our target, which
~~The target was covered by clouds. We made three runs, separating from the~~
~~was obscured by cloud, when a fire of unknown origin got~~
~~wing to do so, but still could not see the target. We brought our bombs back, look~~
~~started in the right wing and spread to the bomb-bay.~~
~~ing for a secondary target. The radio operator reported that the bomb bay was on~~
~~fire. We could see no reason, neither enemy aircraft or flak. The engineer look-~~
~~ed and said that it was necessary to ~~skip~~ jettison the bombs. The radio operator~~
~~bailed out. I looked at the fire and saw that it had spread from the right wing~~
~~into the bomb bay before we detected it. Since the plane was hopelessly gone I~~
~~gave the order to bail out, and The whole crew left. The plane was on fire all over.~~
~~I went out through the bomb bay at about 21,000 feet, burning my hands. At first I~~
~~did not open my parachute because my hands were burned, then I decided to make a de-~~
~~I delayed opening my chute until I was about 1000 feet from the~~
~~layed jump and did not open until about 1000 feet. My parachute opened and in a~~
~~ground.~~
~~about three seconds I landed in the top of a tree, getting cut up in the process,~~
~~I was left swinging about 30 feet off the ground. P It took me a couple of minutes~~
~~to climb down the tree. I stopped to pick up my escape kit which had fallen out~~
~~of my jacket and started running. I ran down hill into a thickly wooded valley,~~
~~and soon came upon~~
~~About 500 yards away I came to a farmer and his wife milking cows. They grabbed~~
~~me and wanted to take off my clothes, but, since they did not offer me any ^{others} clothes,~~
~~I shook them off and continued running. After a mile I was tired and stopped in~~
~~some brush at the edge of a woods. During the several hours that I was there I~~
~~took my escape kit apart and distributed the contents, about my clothes. Within half an hour after I landed~~
~~hear the Germans hunting through the surrounding territory. They stayed about~~
~~twenty minutes.~~

About 1600 I started walking SE through the woods, came to a small road, and
~~walked along the ~~edge~~ side for about three kilometers until I came to a large pros-~~
~~perous farmhouse. S-2 had always instructed ^{us} never to go to large farmhouses, but~~
~~I was hungry and tired and did not care too much. After surveying the place for~~
~~about thirty minutes I went up to the place and found a woman washing clothes in~~
~~the yard. She stopped deliberately and walked to the house. I decided that I had~~

FLIGHT

DELAYED
JUMP

HID

APPROACHED
HELP

been a ~~damn~~ fool, jumped the fence, and ran. After about a kilometer I gave out, ^{hid} saw an abandoned hay-loft in the middle of an orchard, ~~and hid~~ ^{hide in the hay} in the hay, and decided to stay there until night-fall.

After about an hour I heard people approaching. Two Frenchmen with bicycles came to the door and asked whether I was an American. When I replied that I was they indicated that I should stay where ^{there} I was and that they would bring me food and clothes after dark. True to their word they returned and took me to the place where the woman had been washing in the yard. ^{she} She gave me a soft feather bed for the night. Early the next morning they took me to a barn, ^{where} I did not know whether there was some special danger. I spent the day there. They brought me food and even hot water for shaving. /stencil/

I was taken to a place from which my journey was arranged. Later I met Capt CAVANAUGH, Lts WOOD RD and HOTALING, and Sgt MAHAN, and traveled with them.

Capt CAVANAUGH:

I tumbled out when Major FRANCIS gave us the order to abandon the ship, ^{losing my escape kit in the process.} ~~I had~~ no recollection of opening my parachute but started floating down. I went through the cloud layer at 3000-2000 feet, saw an apple orchard, and tried to avoid it. I slammed into the last tree and was skinned and bruised a bit. I got out of my parachute, fell to the ground, and started running S into a forest. After about half a mile I ran into Sgt MAHAN. He looked at me and ran the other way. I called him back, and we agreed to hide in the bushes until nightfall and then to get out of the area.

After about an hour some French ^M children rode by on bicycles and evidently knew that we were there. We wanted to tell them to leave, fearing that they would attract attention to us. When this threat continued I started going S again. Sgt MAHAN stayed hidden and I did not know where he was. I walked until 2000, most of the ~~xx~~ time through forest or fields. I came to a farmhouse at the edge of a woods, ^{and} watched it, ~~and saw no one.~~ I went up to the place, approached a girl milking cows, told her that I was a hungry American pilot and that I wanted to sleep in the barn. She took me to the house, gave me bread and milk, and then took me to the barn. While

she was putting down a blanket for me beside some new calves, her mother came and asked whether I slept in a barn in the United States. When I said that I did not she ~~seemed a little puzzled and then~~ took me to the house and gave me a large bed to sleep in. After I had been there about ten minutes all the French children whom I had ~~fearfully~~ been trying to avoid all day long came in and shook hands with me. I tried to indicate that I wanted civilian clothes, but my friends seemed unable to understand.

WACKED

The next morning ~~I decided that these people could not help me~~ they showed ^{my position} me on a map ~~where I was~~ and warned me ^{to avoid certain} from ~~some~~ places. I was trying to get to Paris. ~~I walked SE keeping to woods and fields for some distance then~~ following a country road. I saw a town ahead and ~~having got the idea from S-2~~ lectures that towns are good places to avoid, I ducked into the forest to circle ^{it}. ~~It took me about three hours to go around.~~ I came to some men cutting wood in a clearing ^{and} in the forest, ^{of them} told them that I was an American pilot and that I was hungry and wanted civilian clothes. One ~~man~~ brought a man who could speak a little English. I told ^{him} ~~this man~~ that I was trying to get out of France. He sent ^{for} ~~a man to get~~ clothes for me, took me to an abandoned house in the woods, and told me to wait there while he found help. ~~I was given food.~~

HELPED

when I had civilian clothes, Later, I was taken ^{by} bicycle to the town which I had carefully avoided, and the rest of my journey was arranged. I learned that Major FRANCIS, LTs WOODARD and HOTALING, and Sgt MAHAN were safe in the district, and I later met them and traveled with them.

Lt WOODARD:

JOURNEY ARRANGED

HELPED

I left the plane at 22,000 feet and delayed my jump. I hit hard and it took me a few minutes to pull myself together. I put my equipment in a large hole and hid. I heard some Frenchmen. A dog came over and barked and the Frenchmen called him away. Later I walked up a lane to a house, hid in a meadow, and at dark went to the house. There the people gave me civilian clothes and then seemed to want me to leave because Germans were in the neighborhood. I gave them my calling card and they took me to another house.

I was taken to a place from which my journey was arranged. The next day I met Lt HOTALING and later we traveled with the others.

Lt HOTALING:

JOURNEY ARRANGED
BURNED
 I went out the main entrance door, the last man to leave the ship, I believe. The ship was out of control and on fire and I was burned. I pulled my rip cord early, for I had been off oxygen several minutes. When I ~~went~~ ^{came} through the undercast the ship circled me twice. / I saw that I was heading for a woods, pulled to the right, ~~hit~~ ^{was} hit in a yard, rolled over, unbuckled my chute, and ran. A Frenchman grabbed me and told me to come with him. I tore off the first aid kit of my parachute, remembering my burns, and the Frenchman took me by the arm, guided me around a barn, and pointed out a route for me. He gave me a Luger ^{Pistol} and took me ~~down a lane,~~ ^{steered 2} through a pasture, under a culvert, and into a wood. There he boosted me into a tree and indicated that he would return. ~~I climbed further up the tree, opened my first aid packet, and was sorry to find nothing for burns.~~

HELPED
SEARCH
 In ten or fifteen minutes I heard someone approach. Three Germans passed within 50 feet of me, one with a submachine gun, the other two with pistols. After a couple of hours a woman came, motioned for me to come down, and gave me a long black overcoat. She took me through the pasture to the road, ^{where we found} the Frenchman ~~spoke~~ ^{He} ~~citedly,~~ ^{He} took me to a culvert, said that the Boches ^{were} ~~was~~ coming, and directed me to kill the first while he took care of the second. Within two minutes two Germans ^("Now") came through the brush fifteen or sixteen feet away. He said, "Maintenant" and I shot the first while he fired on the second. We took the bodies to a sump hole at the end of the pasture, weighed ^{and threw} them with rocks, ^{through} them in ^{to} the pond, and left.

TRICKS
MORE TRICKS
 He ^{then} took me to the farmhouse and put me in the hayloft. After about 20 minutes the woman took me to the house, ~~took my clothes off,~~ and gave me civilian clothes and ~~then~~ food. I lay down on a couch and went to sleep. Before long the woman woke me and took me back to the barn. I heard a motorcycle drive into the yard and some ^{speaking} one ~~spoke~~ German. The German ~~seemed to go into the house;~~ then he came to the barn with two Frenchmen. One of the Frenchmen motioned to me in the hayloft and I thought he wanted me to throttle the German. I jumped trying to grab the German. Instead I

hit him with my feet, breaking his neck so I found out later. I was taken back to the house and the Frenchman disposed of the motorcycle.

JOURNEY
ARRANGED

That evening I was taken to a place from which my journey was arranged. The next day I met Lt WOODARD and later we traveled with the others.

Compiled by

D E EMERSON
Capt, AUS

Approved by

W STULL HOLT
Lt Col, AG
Commanding

Appendix B

1. The following information has been obtained from four officers who evaded capture in enemy occupied territory
2. Further circulation of this information may be made, but in that case it is important not to divulge any details about the source.

Statement of information covering the period from 25 April ~~1944~~ 29 May 1944

- a. On 16 or 17 May informants went through a very well bombed railway yard S of Paris (JUVISY sur ORGE). Locomotives, railway cars, and nearby roundhouses were wrecked. Some civilian houses had also been hit. Of 30 tracks only one was working.
- b. On the E side of Paris approaching the city from Normandy informant ^A saw a well bombed air port.
- c. In Paris informant A heard complaints that the RAF had missed a Paris target by about two miles, killing some 1500 Frenchmen. Some Frenchmen in TOULOUSE were bitter at the Allies for bombing of that city.
- d. Leaving TOULOUSE for St GAUDENS informant A saw two large airfields with large numbers of fighters and a few bombers.
- e. Traveling from Paris to TOULOUSE 18-19 May informant A saw two or three "choke-points" along the railway clogged with German armored equipment.
- f. Informant A saw a lot of Germans in TOULOUSE. He would estimate that there were some three to five thousand. ~~He had the impression that there were more Germans in TOULOUSE than in Paris.~~ He saw ~~a number of~~ at TOULOUSE a number of German in black uniforms with red bands on their "service caps" and with red arm bands which had a black swastika on white.
- g. Informants saw between Paris and TOULOUSE a numbr of troop trains going N.
- h. Informants saw between St GAUBERGE and Paris a train carrying French women ~~to be shipped~~ to Germany.
- i. In Normandy in the area S of LISIEUX ~~had~~ of BBC broadcasts reception around 1700 and around noon seemed good.
- j. The Germans took the wreckage of the plane by truck to ORBEC. While the wreckage was stopped on a street there some French patriots blew up the truck and

the wreckage. / Stencil /

k. Informant B saw what he thought was a butane plant to the left and right of the railway tracks ~~was he was traveling~~ between MONTAUBAN and TOULOUSE. The larger part of the plant was to the right between a canal and the railroad tracks. Barracks were over to the E. He locates the plant near St ALBAN (Hte Garonne). Other informants saw the place but can place it only between MONTAUBAN and TOULOUSE. One informant thought that it was closer to MONTAUBAN than St ALBAN.

l. W of VERSAILLES coming to Paris from St GAUBERGE in middle May informant B saw a factory or ammunition dump which had been ~~will~~ bombed.

m. Informants were told that the SW section of Le HAVRE had been mined by the Germans. All the houses had been abandoned, and windows and doors had been blocked so that no shelter could be found from the explosions. Control of the mines was vaguely located in an area to the N or NW of the mined section, which did not seem to extend much to the E of the Rue de Paris.

n. Informants were told that there is near the railway station in LISIEUX (Calvados) a bridge or culvert under which the Germans generally keep some ammunition cars. This information was given informants with the suggestion that it would indicate a good target.

~~o. Frenchmen who helped informants wondered why the Germans had not used the jet-propelled bomb against England.~~

~~o p.~~ Informant D was told that German fighter planes were at the airfield at BERNAY (Eure) up until 4 May. After that ~~date~~ only a few were there.

~~p q.~~ Informant was told that the railway yards at VERNEUIL (Eure) offered a good target for allied bombers. A ride through in middle May made him agree with this report.. He noticed that the railway yards at DREUX (Eure et Loire) also afforded a good target.

~~q r.~~ Informant D noticed a large power plant near TOULOUSE which did not seem to have been hit, although there was bombing in the area.

~~r s.~~ In the area of St EVROULT (Calvados) informant locates a German headquarters and signal center (A) and an observation tower as indicated in the attached overlay. (Cf Sheet No 183 SE, GSGS 4041).

Appendix D

FRANCIS 604

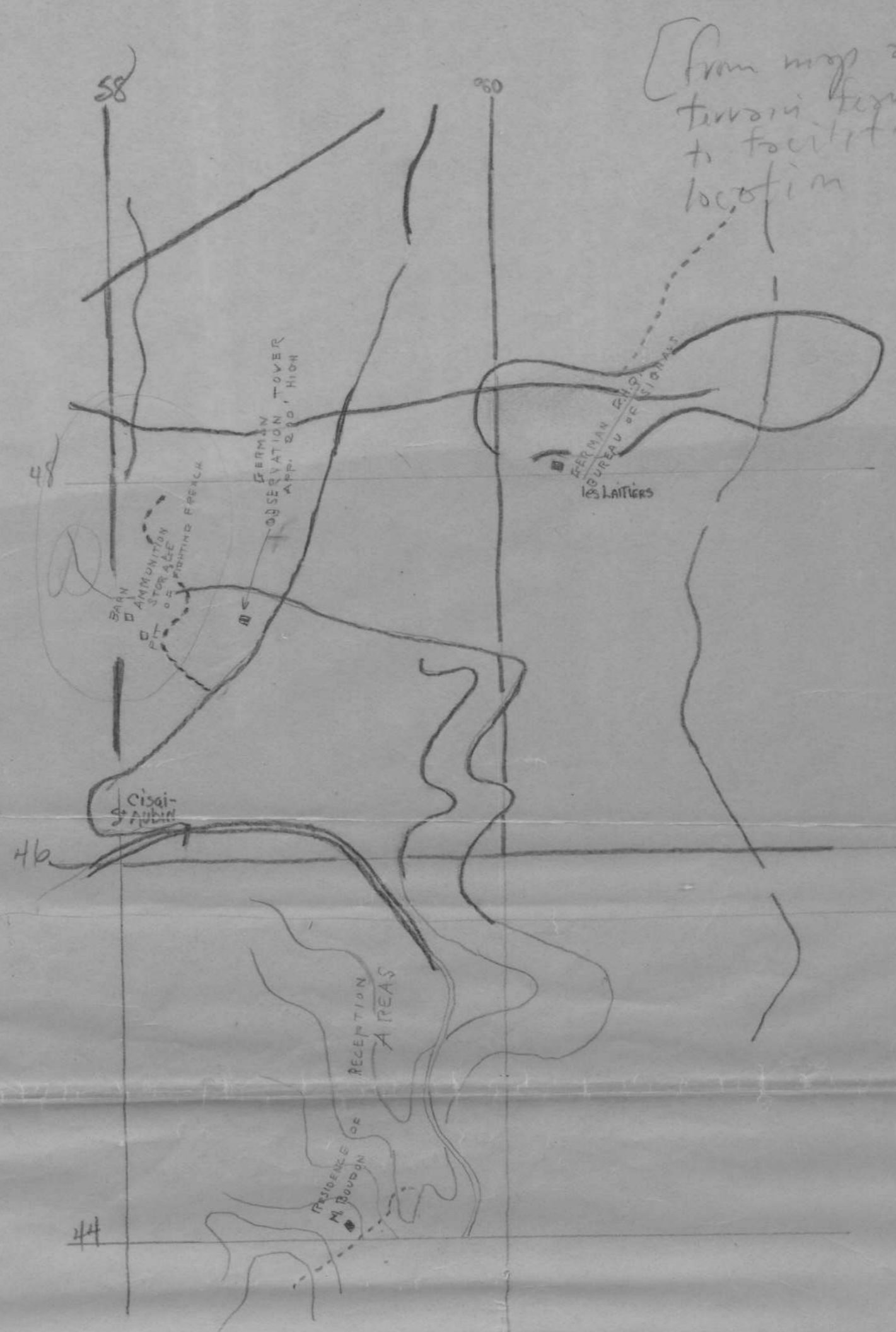
1. I used my chocolate to make chocolate milk. I also used the matches, chewing gum, water bottle, and compass.

My kit was old and the milk tube had leaked all over the kit. Men should be furnished first aid kits.

2. I had a yellow purse. I spent the money for food in Spain. ~~More useful maps should be furnished. (NB: had old type maps.)~~

3. I carried five passport-size photographs, ~~one of~~ which I used on identity papers.

4. I was lectured at Group by Major Nelson in March. The lectures were valuable. They give you some idea of what is coming. One point I learned from reading E&E reports, I believe: if the people you are with are unable to evacuate you, strike



From map add some
 terrain features
 to facilitate
 location

JED Comment on 806-9:

Note to P/W Officers: None of these four exaders admits that he was bribed on conduct in Spain. So many similar ^{complaints} ~~reports~~ have been received in the past month that they point to a serious neglect of this phase of evasion. See E & E Bulletin #14 and various E & E Reports, particularly #799 and Comment on it.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

806

DATE: 28 June 1944

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, SOLON J. BOYDSTON, JR., 1st Lt., AC, O-755166

hereby certify that I have known and have been associated with

RODERICK L. FRANCIS, Major, AC, O-438016

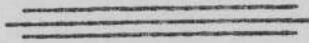
prior to his being reported missing in action over enemy territory.

The person whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon is the individual referred to above.

Roderick L. Francis

Solon J. Boydston Jr.

RIGHT THUMB PRINT:



The individual whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon has been identified to the satisfaction of this office as RODERICK L. FRANCIS, Major, AC, O-438016 (750 Bomb Squadron - 457 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. *Roderick L. Francis, Major, 0438016*
2. Decorations. *Air Medal + cluster*
3. Unit or Squadron. *750th Bomb Sq.*
4. Division (Army) or Group. *457 Bomb Grp*
5. Date of Birth. *Dec 5, 1918*
6. Length of Service. *5 1/2 years*
7. Private Address. *Route 1, Terry, Miss.*
8. Job as civilian. *Civil Engineering*
9. From what field did you take off? *Glatton, England*
10. Take off time. *0600*
11. Date and target. *April 25, 1944 Nancy, France*
12. Where did you land? *4 Kilometers from Le Sap France*
13. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? *yes*
14. What was your position in aircraft? *Air Commander*
15. Were you wounded? *slight wounds from chute + Burns*
16. Did you pay your guides? If so how much? *No*
17. Do you speak French? Spanish? *No*
18. Did you have Identity Papers? *yes DOB TAGS. 2 Fr Med I/P*
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?
Gibraltar, Military Attache
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 Alhama, Spain*
22. Date of arrival in Spain. *May 29, 1944*
23. Date of arrival at Gibraltar. *June 25, 1944*
24. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air. *June 27, 1944*
25. Place and date of arrival in U.K.
June 28, 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.
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) Roderick L. Francis

Signed Roderick L. Francis

Rank W. Capt A. S. N. 0438016

Dated June 29, 1943

Unit 250th Bobsy 457 Blang

Witness H. J. Emerson 10267825

RESTRICTED

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

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO. 806

No., Rank, Name:- *Roderick L. Francis, Major AC 0438016*
Unit:- *750th 457 Bomb Group*

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. *NO*

Chocolate or Peanut Bar. *made chocolate milk*

Milk (tube). *NO*

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). *NO*

Halazone tablets (water purifier). *NO*

Matches. *yes*

Adhesive tape. *NO*

Chewing gum. *yes*

Water bottle. *yes, First hours on ground*

Compass. *yes, First day*

Sewing kit. *NO*

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? *Kit was old and milk tube had leaked all over kit*
e. How did you finally dispose of the box? *Given to Underground*
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?

*For use in France kits should have First Aid and Large
w more useful maps. Food is unnecessary in France*

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? *yes*
State color of stripes and letters. *Yellow German, Holland, and French money*
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? *both*

Compass. *yes*

File (hacksaw). *no*

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

*Holland 25 Guilders
Belgium
France 1000fr*

d. How did you dispose of:-
for Food in Spain

Maps. *Given to French*

Compass. *||*

File (hacksaw). *||*

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? *yes, 5*

b. Did you use them? *yes*

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape?
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM. *yes*
*Mrs Nelson, 457th Bus
Corp, Station 130, March, 1944*

b. Did you find the lectures of value? *yes - Had some idea of what coming*

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

*Wish had up information what to expect in Spain
longer in Spain
than in France*
**More information on the Frontier and
on Spain and its problems**

*contacted people immediately instead
Told to be careful - sign notes for 4-5 hrs -
30 mins seen enough for now
One point to make in result of same (from Reading Club)
Mustn't waste time hiding - find the people to help - must stay
plus when can't help again*

Mrs off 6600 - T Nmy airport - in high position
 may, A/C ready for. T covered by clouds - some - any
 for my to do so - more see no but lands better looking
 for see T 1153 RO report B/B on fire - No G/B/C
 a flash or any noise that see. By look - my many
 sales (B) - RO bail out - I look fire see for it
 in great with B/B before detected - see A/C
 by land eye - gave O bail out - whole
 was go - A/C on fire all over. Out through
 (BB) - low bank - 21,000' - not go out because
 bank low - the deck delayed jump - not give
 until 1000' - 3 sec - 2.9 in try

156
 V, min fair

157
 Avering
 (dub)

Near tree see off - at bank head. - later f
 ident by bank park.
 I long way. 30 off gl.
 EK fell out electric yacht
 Next go to bank's down line - c 2 1/2 runs
 P. they EK man - down hill to thick woods
 valley.

158
 144
 the 144

500 yds for hit - fanner with nothing was -
 quite in - in that we had to get both off - hit
 out of my way and slide off - run - c mile -
 gain off at bank edge woods 1170 - 1600
 then. Took EK quest - I had nearby place -
 and walk - for out of line (the c 3000 ft
 level - stage c 20 min).

1600 - walk through woods SE - to find me through

Put in with
piles - with
all

Walk along with a 3 km - to big purpura
junction - 5-2 total not go - 2 big bird not
can make a 30 mins study - not play
woman work in yd - she stopped deliberately
walk to the - I think her down foot -
you - you - name - a kiss give it - Saw
glanced by left middle eye not
by in by - don't stay not but full.

The head people approach - 2 brown or black
to don - they ask them - Yes - 5 ph notes -
they tell in city - big food & clothes after dark
Bid - took food to place where woman wash in
yd - put bed with soft feather bed.

47.70
11P - 1st for
Mar 5th 1968

Woke 0430 - get in bath - last hour in days now
all day the - but food - hot water slugs.
1600. Look to have - follow the eye little by by
take to other Avenue by like?

Had go then - is dated of - Chateau. I take
to man, wife, etc. Man is not one look help in -
(Siendeau) I stay with these people -
I can't say been enough for conversation - well
kept & say - no progress.

Could see these people could be help in - want stay
for - in -
A th do not that man very tall to comrade to bear
Sun am. Sat by show up - John Valley, 67 River
St, Collyer, Cumberland

Said soldier abandoned Dunkirk - been for some
time - said being get out by rail 3 weeks
2nd man go with the man - faster - other connects
3rd man come - harbor master Le Havre (Valiance?)
The man in the boat only for - to get me via
I decide go with 1st man - go by rail sea - we to go
by plane in 3 days - from Fontainebleau forest
edge.

Sun had - Maurice - high 18 - come - Mon had to
St Denis for out - Man, wife, children 355 will be
de Jan.

Maurice fallen like being Raft 45 at wait
put in back truck - road Isaac
Luceur 'Legrande' (?) wealthy farmer -
black market in suit.

7) - (38 Sgt Mahan)

Capt. who says of children - travelled it - no really thin
young girl - start float down - about 2-3000?
I know - look for dead glass - nobody in night
Crest on glass melted - 4th to be by avoid - she
was - clear out but the wind had - by that time
resist had a humid - start get out start - field
to get - start

Run 5 to front - c 1/2 mile out Sgt Mahan - he
look in - I call back. We again high - look
at out - then get out again. Chr some feet high by house
then - we wait till this hour.

WEEK in
N.W. 5
+ Curant
N.W. 5
N.W. 5
N.W. 5

to S - Maden stayed hidden - I not know when
he was
Went next 7 pm until 2000 - mostly forest, some
fields

To farmhouse at edge woods - watch - no one - up to get
18 milk cows - told he I am pilot - they not sleep
- low, 10, 15, 20 get 5 all the. To house - hand
+ milk - in disjunct. Did take me to house.
Butt ble but by new colors when Mark if I sleep
in Cam US - No - Then to house to big bed.
C10 no one but I have duty also duty by - study
books 10y - didn't sleep better
by next am didn't they not lily let feed - but not
12/15/85

I started - they show as my when I was - was
I was trying to get to Paris.
Going SE along by hedges woods & fields - at end
follow country road E - to St Evrard - N/D de Bois
Paris 5 - I got - also towns not good place go
Died there - but 3 hrs to forest below - to clean
when was getting wood - told them I am pilot they
want better - Or get Lucien - kid - 16 spoke
but 5. Tell they get at 10 - 4 recently engaged
as - I cent me get better
Took to abandoned house - woods - till wait - I find
lily - had in friends Paris where some got at 6
I got bar mine mine - go till he get Paris the same
address friend. Dupont

Older 2 fellows saw just your friend - ^{one} Georges Dupont
next day Lucien my wait till Pridy - his wife
can see Paris - take me back to friend who lily.

leave & beyond but find - maybe less all
around big change -

Pr - Louis's wife came to the little church
arrangement - the book next week get

Mon - Did not go to St. Ruffin very early from
Subsided - but have been - I have seen 2 comrades
in line for E. sent by St. Ruffin

It took me through forest - part of with some pros -
pious forms - old man, woman - young girl
wife - 22-23

M. Bernoult of St. Croix com - out for
days - said to take to find

Rod is like into St. Croix @ avoided

Mon - to Legendre's place on main road between St. C
& Isard

I had seen St. C - the way of St. C & has been
for years.

Woodard of Italy; Mahan caught out in district -
over later. Then from

W. that Legendre had by - turned to work for Rogers
Boudou - records. Chief Resistant for Am.
12 animals

Do. get is all by the way in district even work for
him - white kind in v.

Louis Legendre - put is at in 1/2 hours on land with
Mauril Laurant - old road c 69-70

Moved Mags to big house - next with proctor.
Took casualty data for Paris (Boudon)

3 wabs - at 16 May - with these people.

Tried going several ways - on way of Calais boat
Just before need leave somebody new.

Detainees had been by at Boudon's house. We found

self all tangled up with receipts for

Boudon gave us some dropped clothes.

Saw receipt - & wireless set

(Read some long cables)
Each given MG - 40 had
agencies - had a
clear -

So long with satellite in thick
at night attention

2 objects because we not to get
P/W - flight of mission
OK with them. Took back clear MG.

Mme Nouvelle from Echauffour come - she Boudon's
agent to go to Paris with our information.

Very pretty important at staying in long - felt was - 8
time.

Discovered she not herself knows anything in Paris Intelligence -

Had 2 girl friends in Paris who did have connections
He couldn't handle - didn't want to tell us.

We decide not get action for this project - decide
in various - next couple days.

15 May had our BSC into story quickly for cover.

Magnusson, Seydoux get us not topic - say leave if
not take Mac - but he finally agree that us.

and finally admit no connection

Boudon was then find it just his agent - to admit
do nothing - wait for answer - don't say anything
Sutton

Considered staying because of locality + Bourdon's Bourdon's
connections

The thought too many people know us at Legendre's - and
more suggest getting up. They agree.

Hotelier + Mahon - to Monet (P) who has
Francis + I to Avonnes - old man that we had left
said too dangerous for us to stay - 12-14. So he went
looking for other hiding

Mayr + his son Valley - tell him we still live
also ask if harbor master around.

Back to Gen - Woodward, Francis, I - talk with
Valley come - said not sure what do

Legendre's given all his names I/P - was in 1/2 photos
Bourdon got in Paris

Say contact his chief - see what do - took a picture French +
casualty data.

On road to meet a friend whom Mayr had met
Bernard. Newville, S + Boniface du Martin
near Orbec

drove with truck through area - knew Mayr at
Avonnes - he was going to take Mayr
& Valley came in friend's truck - knew could get out -
that probably by 10/11 - left from Toulouse

Went to Monet, got other two - then to S + Boniface - tried
harbor master to over seas.

Through road which was through to camp.

On my couch I have with some wine

Harbor master come (Bernard the one whom harbor master had
for Meyer)

Told me from Toulouse by A/C

Harbor master works. Dumfries - Laurant - L agent for
Ame - by ship. interests - C. Hare.

Bernard took us to look over store in some other town.

(N-D de Courson)

went get chef - M. Stalhand - with good S -
both to understand Jean.

To get portrait - C's superior can for Paris -
on motorcycle - 5'10" - rather stocky - black pagoda
hair, look used, rather well dressed

M. Buffet from Pignone -

Agree to Paris with us to meet Paris
chef.

Truck - owned by plump - not prof - with 2 eggs
for Paris - to Paris - not current fig. and - slightly
yesteryear - in 50's small fellow with beard full etc.

9 of them to meet - 3 on to Paris.

In Montparnasse - finally to get - 15 - plus - Rue de
Sures - a good friend of Buffet - but not too

knowing but is in

Told head chef in town - can that you -

Fraser - said his real name.

has chef told - On this understanding told - the it name

July - Ramon

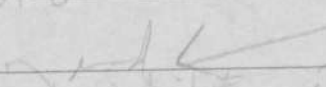
Very hot day - almost pretty - dark way here

~~Hand~~ eyes - 5" 11" - c25.

with his a fellow call cage no hair - short - road
Jan - c 16th - 28. Can with chief's left so.

Norm
1761

Told her for Toulouse that a rest night
with the doctoring to handle - next to hold for
left Paris This 18 My Toulouse 19 My.
Fed at apt

B. left & added to Toulouse with us. They explain
them  but they have more to write.
New guide ^{in quiet} in Toulouse city station.

B. left took Mg. Cyt, Hotel; her cage & trees -
a the guide by Mahon & Woodward.

Magn's 10 st with puffet.

Other took is quite far out in Toulouse - 2 st the

children took - by denis on to 6th.

Woman c 30 - husband killed 10 days before when

} allied place - strike train - in entrance work -
expecting last days of day.

Kids coming in puffet.

While down out of white animal.

Next day father took to Beauvais's apt - 2-3 floor.

Magn & B. taking apt at at this place - woman
the apt - 50 - small, grey haired - walk c 10 miles

for

20 24 hrs the 12 other Ben
16 hrs

Sachin 158 W

20 for St Andrews - with guide - lead Greaves.
Hotel on first through city - 1 man took down.
2 guide (beautiful) lead through city & zig zags.
St Andrews Prisoner meeting - took to abandoned
house - showed us room with was cats. for it
Sag not even border for work.

16 in our party
Mound is to house near Bahita - all live in room.

No food except c 52 lbs bread.
Escortages - Pyrenees guide - from Br St pit it
quite athletic - shun to guide note

Until 26 they

Sley & local in

Start lead down to body - into Mayon's

Sat in line through without incident - met
RDF P/O, some 2 d hrs. Australia in.

Myr Mayon's head - second - w after dark - met in road -
3 d time through car fangs - 1 man stay across
road with hands up. P/O & other - put with
Stingers - about stay - the P/O about as we
start get - up road. Off - ran out back
not from what do - middle aimed - just go car
shooting.

Wade in woods for a bad time - back
through by - of others.

Following out to Mguni base in trenchment.

2 days then - eating matter - @ bar day for 12
days - sad day for (P)

Finally start 0500 in am - a 4 mile to our guide -
base in front of mt. refugees - 27 in whole party.

Did all day - put - & night day - to 1900.

Search for food for young.

Refugees gave out to eat - no carry baggage -
710 at 2000 - food.

Our mt. warts - guide tells us on next mt to Spini -
that he is ready to go in a day.

After guide left those who could walk feet separate
from those who were in horses - but tried to go.

It takes a while to try address - then to enter into

To Com - (see below story thru)

Def, Villa, 6 days, Lenda, Alhama, 8
Mgundi, B.I.

about road - about 1/2 mile out every

asked for St Barbara,

with a good view - Bar - Tulu -

at night the 5000 feet up

Mr Cresswell ask some questions about route -

Anderson question May 1 & Capt
Cypriani / Albert & Willis

Swalt Livonot
Livonot clean met with Munich bus -
for Paris trip

APPENDIX "B" TO E AND E REPORT NO. 806

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.,.....)

Major Francis

Saw (b) red yards S of Paris (Swissy) 1 of 30 trucks
quitting - 96-77 MG - locomotives & road train seen
westward.

Toulon - something (3/4 mile) by blowing up.

In E side Paris approaching from Normandy an airport
well bombed.

Complaints about RAF missing T by 7 miles - Paris - killing
some 1500 in area.

In Toulon people better at address for bombing of Toulon.

Saw 2 airports with concrete tracks (both in it had
and going out) mostly for fuel tankers.

2-3 deep pits filled with barbed wire stuff for

lot of it in Toulon (2-5000) seen more than in Paris

Black troops - lot with red head covering and
red arm band with black symbols on white

Saw no large trains in N.

White train but no women to be stopped to S -
S4 55 & 10 cars

1700 seen fairly clear for radar & navigational conditions
break and in for news

Is being plan remains on track at Orbec -
while others the same route at other tracks &
at Orbec.

TOP SECRET

E & E CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Roderick L. Francis Major 0438016
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

June 28, 1944
(Date)

750 B.S. 457 Bombing
(Unit)

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

April 25, 1944. 1133AM AKM LeSap, France

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

Was it on fire, etc?

Ship on fire from wings back to tail

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

21000

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

NO

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

All of crew bailed out.

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?

yes

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, I met 4 crew members who were identified to me by description

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

yes. burned completely

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.

no

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

5 Crew members escaped. other 6 were not contacted on ground. Believe they are prisoners.

SECRET

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

E & E REPORT NO 806
EVASION IN

June 28, 1944
(Date)

Roderick L. Francis, Major AC
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)
10 (No of Missions)
750 457
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET: Nancy, France
Date Missing in Action: April 25, 1944
Date Arrived in UK: June 28, 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWLB)

Indicate what happened to each man and how you know

PILOT	Capt Edward Bender	?
CO-PILOT	Major Roderick L. Francis	Escaped
NAVIGATOR	Capt A.T. Cavanaugh	Escaped
BOMBARDIER	Lt Earl Woodard	Escaped
	Lt Fuller	?
RADIO OPERATOR	T/Sgt Mahan	Escaped
TOP TURRET GUNNER	T/Sgt Free	?
MIDDLE TURRET GUNNER	S/Sgt Wycorka	?
WAIST GUNNER	S/Sgt Serico	?
WAIST GUNNER	?	?
TAIL GUNNER	Lt Hotaling	Escaped

Were you wounded?

cuts about face and neck, hands burned, broken knuckle on right hand.

AG 383.6

Hq ETOUSA

19 October 1944

SUBJECT: Safeguarding of P/W Information.

TO : Personnel concerned.

1. It is the duty of all Americans to safeguard information which might, either directly or indirectly, be useful to the enemy.
2. It is an offense, carrying heavy penalties, to publish or to communicate to any unauthorized person any information which might be useful to the enemy.
3. 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.
4. 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:
 - (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. 4a.
e. No lectures or reports are to be given to any unit without the permission of the War or Navy Department.

By command of Lieutenant General EISENHOWER:

(signed) RALPH PULSIFER,
Colonel, AGD, Asst. Adj. Gen.

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 American Military Attache to whom I first report, or an officer designated by the Commanding General of the Theater of Operations. I understand that disclosure to anyone else will make me liable to disciplinary action.

Name (Print) Roderick L. Francis Signed Roderick L. Francis
Rank Major A.S.N. O-438016 Date June 26, 1944
Unit 457 B Corp Witness H. W. Forster

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

out on your own.

5. Suggestions: I think that you should not waste too much time hiding from the French. A great many Frenchmen seem willing to help. If they are unable to pass you on do not stay with them too long.

~~Notes/should~~ Airmen should be told more information about the French-Spanish frontier and about Spain and its problems. We had no information on what to ~~do/it~~ ~~expect~~ expect and some of us thought that we should evade to Madrid.

CAVANAUGH 807

1. I lost my aids box, purse, and pictures in parachuting.
2. I was lectured by group intelligence and found the lectures very ^{useful} worthwhile.
3. Suggestions: Warn airmen ~~about~~ what to expect in Spain. Money is of no value in France. Frenchmen won't let you spend it. Should you have to provide your own money there is not enough in the kit for many days.

WOODARD 808

1. I used the chocolate bar, halazone tablets, matches, adhesive tape, chewing gum, water bottle, and sewing kit.
2. I carried a yellow purse. I spent the French money ⁱⁿ just inside Spain. The maps were very inadequate. (NB: Had old maps).
3. I carried five passport-size photographs and used them on identity papers.
4. I was lectured at base by a sergeant who had escaped from Germany. The lectures were valuable.
5. Suggestions: ~~More detailed maps should be furnished. Very few towns and villages were listed on my maps. My kit may have been obsolete at the time. (IT was.~~
 - a If an evader can speak good French I would suggest that he make his own way on bicycle if he finds that the French people sheltering him can not evacuate him.
 - b Men should be told what to do in Spain.

HOTALING 809

1. I lost my aids box in parachuting.
2. I had a ~~red~~ purse.
3. I had three passport size photographs and used them on identity papers.
4. I was lectured at Glatton, by ~~Lts Wortmann and Battle~~. The lectures were valuable.