

E & E CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

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

Feb. 24, '44 16:30 hrs.

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

Wing on fire

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

4000'
Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed?

Eng. chute did not open

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

All - One failed to open

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?

~~No~~ Yes 6 others alive

Did he receive any information from others as to whether any other members of the crew were dead or alive? If so give details furnished by his informant and whether the other crew members were identified by name or otherwise.

French Info. 1 dead
Others alive

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

No

If the plane crashed in water how far was the plane from land and 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 reasons for his opinion?

1 KIA, 4 PW, 4 EEE
Info. from French

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

CAUGHMAN, RICHARD B. 0-460865
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET:

Feb. 24 '44

Date mission in action:

Date arrived in UK: Sept. 4, '44

6 (No. of missions)

508th 351st Bomb.
(Squadron) (Group)

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

Indicate what happened to each man and how you know.

PILOT Caughman E & E ¹⁴⁶⁶ Info. from

CO-PILOT John V. Boehm, 2^d Lt. PW 0742835 French Resist.

NAVIGATOR John B. Avery, 1st Lt. E & E 0139008 " - 711

BOMBARDIER Richard E.S. Perkins PW 1st Lt 0667344

RADIO OPERATOR Mattila, J.C. 1st Sgt E & E 37296530 (2194)

TOP TURRET GUNNER Strassburger, Eugene C. RIA 1st Sgt, 16009040

BALL TURRET GUNNER Young, P.B. 1st Sgt E & E 19088788 - 1531

WAIST GUNNER Langer, Howard M. PW 1st Sgt - 32515125

WAIST GUNNER Eugene G. Calburn PW 1st Sgt, 34338396

TAIL GUNNER McGinty, James W. E & E 6578452 - 712

Decorations:

A. Medal

Date of Birth:

2/17/21

Private Address:

2214 Devine St. Columbia, S.C.

Length of Service:

2 yrs. 4 months

Job as Civilian:

Mech. Eng.

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

Polebrook Stat. 110

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed?

Were you wounded? Give details.

NO

Did you pay your guides? If so, how much?

2000 frs.

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

Did you have identity papers?

DSG 7865

2 IP

Yes

(over)

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

Intell. Off. Seine Base Sect. USA Major

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?

No

Date of arrival in Spain: _____

Date of arrival at Gibraltar: _____

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

Le Bourget Paris Air

3 Sept

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

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

F/Sgt Johnson - RST G.

Expect you are back yet - the bus took with my old over papers.

You lay out Paris mission

The establish again & leave - but in 2 RST ^{AW} Dredge ^{FO} McCoub. F/Sgt + Alce
Sgt + Lieber - he now

has late April

The link with Paris looks again -

But Sgt + Castro in

The bombing station

2 RST & 9 men are in

F/O Johnson & Co F/O

Capt Zengerle com.

Lt Renker & Sgt Boyer

So too many in house. I'll wait yet is to wait.

Sent Mattila, ^{F/Sgt} Johnson, & Co F/O to wait - so 10 7-5.

Can split pilot was in AJ Boyer - just before 12 dy.

The note out is more.

" Normal.

Last of June W/Cdr Donald Donaldson -

Want to go through his - but no do.

Want - big job in -

31 Day Canadian.

To 30 Corps full day.

The Beaver's accident - when construction

RST 10 took Capt Smith, 9th AF, &

Seri Base Section 10.

Out order -

Out in room with him with Capt Smith

Between Dreamaux & Billy S Amois

Out c 4000' - landed - played field - in woods with
cht - saw another cht - over - met B Perkins - hid till - walk
through woods S

Saw low fr in field - hid in woods next - but never close enough to
approach.

C dark walk in in snow - walk to lonely farmhouse - crawl in by back
of a barn.

to defecate out - see on edge, small of. - Lawrence - M.

They seemed deserted - no one answer door.

At one time saw finally to door - hid in barn when saw who was

Resistant come p day take to Billy man N who met Langer & ^{young}

A Belgian family - Rene - pick us up - later
hid in wife's ^{room} & what for taking us in.

Thelbert (son) A. J. is up to. They stay 3 days.

Then into Amois - snow gardens - hid with Robin

to Michel Dubois where a boy, McCarty & Mellett.

Went to M Moore - wife - 2 was now in RN + RST

p who return to Dubois

Perkins & Langer to give given up street for Dubois

Resistant say man for refusal get before Perkins & Langer to
get plane - must get

On Monday 7 less Rene who had picked up car with other
with the then Durtys get wife & son.

Then Durtys to meet Dubois & moved to the 61 year.

Durtys went and he

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 supercedes 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) CAUSHMAN, RICHARD B.

Signed R. B. Caushman

Rank 1st Lt A. S. N. 0-460865

Dated Sept. 4, 1944

Unit 351 Bomb. Grp. 508 Sqd.

Witness L. J. ... Capt M

AG P BR HQ S05

122472

RESTRICTED

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND I REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:-

1/Lt. R. B. Caughman 0-460865

Unit:-

351st Bomb Grp. 508 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? *No*
- b. If not, why? *Picked up by French immediately*
- c. If you used it, state briefly the circumstances in which you used each item, for example, "While hiding in woods for two nights".
- Horlicks tablets. —
- Chocolate or Peanut Bar. —
- Milk (tube). —
- Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). —
- Halazone tablets (water purifier). —
- Matches. —
- Adhesive tape. —
- Chewing gum. —
- Water bottle. —
- Compass. —
- Sewing kit. —
- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box? *No*
- 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? *Burned*

*No*2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? *Yes*
State color of stripes and letters. *Red*
If NOT, State why not.
- b. Did you use the purse?
Used money to (over) pay French

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

Maps. Which ones? *No*

Compass. *No*

File (hacksaw). *No*

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

2000 frs.

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps. *Five*

Compass. *-*

File (hacksaw). *-*

Surplus currency. *-*

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

Extra compass

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs?
If so, how many?

Yes

3

b. Did you use them?

Yes

5. LECTURES

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

Bovington CCRC, Polebrook Intell. Off.

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?

Always make a delayed jump.

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.,.....)

None. Area has been liberated

1466
1st Lt Richard B CAUGHMAN, 0460865, 508/351 Bomb Gp (H), MIA 24 Feb 1944
Intrvd 4 Sept 44

Caughman landed between ORESMAUX and Ailly S of Amiens. He soon met his B, Perkins, and they walked through the woods together, and hid that night in a barn in Lawarde-Mauger. They were finally taken in by a Belgian family, Rene --, the wife and son of which were later supposed to have been shot for taking them in. After a few days a resistance man took them to Ailly sur N where they met Langer and Young, ¹²³¹ E&E. The four were taken to Thezy, stayed three days, and were sent into Amiens by some gendarmes, one of whom was not Robin. They went to Michel Dubois where they met ¹²⁸⁹ Avery, ⁷¹² McGinty, and ²¹⁹⁴ Matilla, E&E. They then went to M Moore who has two sons, one in the RAF, the other RN. After a week they returned to Dubois. Perkins and Langer went to a green grocer up the street from Dubois. A resistance man said that some Frenchman had squealed just before Perkins and Langer were to catch a plane and the Gestapo got them.

On Maundy Thursday Rene who had picked them up came with his daughter. While they were there the Gestapo were supposed to have picked up his wife and son. The Gestapo were then to come to Dubois, so the men moved to Mme Vignon. There they saw F/Sgt Johnson, RAF.

Joe Balfe had taken out some men from Mme Vignon, and Caughman was expecting him back, but Joe was supposed to have lost his Paris connection with the Pyrenees route. Two RAF men were brought in. Dredge and McCauly and also Sgt Lieber (E&E). Sgt ¹⁴⁶³ Castro, E&E, came in. After the bombing of the Amiens railway station two RAF and one American came in. F/O Johnson and a Canadian F/O. Capt Zengerle, Lt Renkle, and Sgt ¹⁴⁶⁵ Boyer, E&E, came in. Soon there were too many in the house even for ^Mme Vignon, and she wanted some to go the country. Mattilla, F/Sgt Johnson, and a Canadian F/O went to the country leaving just 10 evaders at the junction point. Just before D-day a Canadian Spitfire P, A J-Bryant came in. With the railways out there was then no moving. The last day of June W/Cdr Donal Donaldson came in. Caughman wanted to leave for the lines but was urged not to.

On 31 Aug the Canadians came up. After that he made his way back, eventually reached Seine Base Section Hq where G-2, like most such figures obviously completely in the picture on WEA, sent him back to England quickly.

DEE