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#### SECRET - AMERICAN MOST SECRET - DRITISH

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

OK- 24 guly 44- Ilke

## E & E REPORT NO. 769-770 -771 EVASION IN FRANCE

Eugene M HOAG, 2d Lt, 0-682183 - 9 missions Robert BEHRENS, T/Sgt, 36435582 - 12 missions Anthony B McKEON, S/Sgt, 33580391 - 11 missions (Name) (Rank) (ASN)

754 Bomb Squadron, 488 Bomb Group
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET: MANHIEM

MIA: 25 April 1944

Arrived in UK:

24 June 1944

(Date)

MEMBERS OF CREW: (I	nis informat	non chec	ked with PWIB)	Official	Narrators
PILOT	0-742065	lst Lt	John H COMBS, JR	Disposition	Disposition <b>MIA</b>
CO-PILOT	0-810224	2d Lt	Charles W ROOF	-	IN NEUTRAL COUNTRY
NAVIGATOR	0-682183	2d Lt	Eugene M HOAG		<b>K</b> ARRAT OR
BOMBARDIER	0-688166	2d Lt	Charles G BIEBER		MIA
RADIO OPERATOR	36435582	T/Sgt	Robert O BEHRENS		NARRATOR
TOP TURRET GUNNER	33580391	S/Sgt	Anthony B McKEON		NARRATOR
BALL TURRET GUNNER	37314739	S/Sgt	Clayton L MILLER		MIA
WAIST GUNNER	32557920	S/Sgt	Harry L TAMBOER		MKA
WAIST GUNNER	18119298	T/Sgt	Joe WAGNER		MIA
TAIL GUNNER	32745523	S/Sgt	Richard O McCARTH	Y	MIA

#### LT HOAG:

When I heard the alarm bell I opened the nose turret, put on my chute and went out the nose wheel door at 6000 feet with the bombardier (BIEBER) behind me ready to jump. I delayed my jump to avoid the aircraft which was in a flat spin spin andpulled the ripcord around 500 feet. It opened around 250 feet and in a burning matter of seconds I was on the ground, not more than 30 feet from our grashed plane.

I had left the plane without shoes so immediately I put on my GI shoes which were attached to the chute harness. Over 70 Frenchmen had arrived at the scene and were there when I threw the chute, mae west and flying equipment on idenkifyx the burning plane. They kaskxmaxxmaxkakkakkombaxsisskakkombaxsisskakkombaxskakkombaxsisskakkombaxskakkombaxsisskakkombaxskakkomb

the burning plane. Theyxkaskxmaxavarxkaxkhaxhanbardieriaxbadyxxkying
Two Frenchmen in the crowd led me inkaxkhaxanx to their home

in the small village to get civilian clothes and then we walked to a wood on the side of the town away from the plane. They hid me in the brush with instructions to wait until they came back for me. In the evening they took me back to their house for more food. A Frenchman was waiting for me when we arrived and after I had eaten we got on bicycles and I was taken to a house where my journey was arranged. Several days later I was joined by SGTS BEHRENS and MCKEON.

Sgt BEHRENS:

when I saw the copilot leaving his seat a I grabbed my chute and opened the bombbay doors. I think the top turret gumer and copilot went out around 22,000 feet but after that The plane wasin a flat spin and I couldn't jump until around 13,000 feet. I held my jump down to 8000 feet. After my chute opened I saw two chutes on the ground and one in the sire Example 2000 feet.

I landed in an open field near a wood. There were farmers all around working in the fields and when I gathered up my when the chute and ran into the wood one of them followed. He took the chute, asked me if I was an American and told me to stay there until he brought food. When he returned we walked along the

Purity S

the wood's edge, to keeping out of sight. I was hidden again in another wood and told to wait until evening. This time when my helper returned he had a man with who also brought clothing. I was given a note in English that asked me to follow this man. From there my journey was arranged. Three days later I joined Lt HOAG.

#### Sgt MCKEON:

JELM'S

I landed in a hard swing and was knocked breathless/a few secdnds. But then

I stuffed my chute under some brush and raked leaves over it. I saw two chutes landing in the distance and started in that direction but there was a wood between us. I charge changed my direction as two more came down nearer and ran into Lt ROOF who was hopping toward the wood with a broken amkle. I helped him hide his chute and then supported him enough to get into the weed and in hiding.

We made splints for his foot out of strips cut from a mae west and or dinary sticks. He had his shoes which we had taken from his chute harness before hiding it.

A dog found our hidning place and brought a young Frenchman, wikk to us. He wouldn't give us help but directed us to a place and left. We started there but Lt ROOF manifultiments couldn't make it, we went back into hiding. After dark I went out looking for help but could not find a house. We were near a road but rather than get lost from Lt man ROOf I waited until the next morning. I was afraid to get out on the road so I went toward the fields where we had entered the wood. Three managements and the standard and standard maniful them were plowing. They were poorly dressed, maniful and standard maniful them. They listened to my explanation about being an American airman and having an injured comrade with me and then talked it over. I hid in the brush while one went off across the fields. I had decided to trust them and waited until he came back, bringing food. This man went with me to Lt ROOF who could understand French

better than I. The man said he would come back to see us later in the day.

He brought with him more food and a new helper who stold us to stay hidden in the wood that night. During the rest of the day we were visited by many Frenchmen who had heard about us.

> The following day we had more visitors and by the end of the day they had ween out a path to our hiding place. Once when we talking to a large number xofx Exempianen crowd a Frenchman rushed up in great excitement and indicated we should hide. The crowd melted away and we crawled into the brush but nothing happened. One man told us to stay in the wood another night and we would be moved the next day. He told us that he knew Lt HOAG so we felt we had gotten in the right hands at last. Thex

Our journey was arranged when this man returned the next day to take us out of the wood. Later I joined Lt HOAG.

Spril-may

#### APPENDIX B:

French source states that 4-track railway bridge ofer road and canal at SERMAIZE les B. ( MARN E ) is mined.

French source states that fields W of ST VRAIN were being mined as possible protection to ST DIZIER.

French source noted much surveying activity in fields No N of ST VRAIN. At

first thought to be for airfield but nothing happened.

d. ST DIZIER airfield was bombed week before 25 April and during that week the Germans moved to ORCONTE, then came back to ST DIZIER. A German officers' quarters was hit during this raid. ST DIZIER was raided again around 2 May and this time it took two weeks to repair. After that night fighters were active around this field, moving in andout, between 0200 hours and 0400 hours

e. Around the 6th or 9th MAY the RAF bombed the CHAMP DE TIR DE MAILLY A la tank encampment was hit and French stated 1901 tank encampment was hit and French stated 180 tanks and 8,000,000 liters of gasohine were destroyed. Also that there were 15,000 cammalties. Many tanks had been moved out before the raid but two weeks after the raid bodies were still being found in the debris.

Exaders, when travelling from VITRY-le-FRANÇOIS to PARIS counted 9 engines destroyed in one railway yards and 13 engines in another. Marshalling yards E and S of PARIS had been badly damaged. The tops were burned from most of the cars but the undercarriages were often not know damaged.

g. Evaders noticed heavy troop movements through SERMAIZE les B. during the month of April.

Evaders saw Tiger tanks travelling through the streets of PARIS. (25 May.)

One km S of JONZEAC On W side of train tracks evaders saw excavations where caves had been dug into rock. The caves were under heavy guard and French police were stationed at the corners of a surrounding wood.

Evaders saw the iron-rod ampitheater arrangement described in appendix B, E & E Report no. 20164. They locate it as being S of LABOUNEYRE.

Evaders noticed many road blocks and tank traps on road between BORDEAUX and DAX.

Evaders saw approximately 100 He 177s land at MERIGNAC airfield on 25 May. This field, according to French, can handle on transit aircraft.

- m. French stated that two of three powder plants at MERIGNAC had been destroyed.

  Evaders did not know whether by air raid or sabotage.
- n. Between ANGOULEME and BORDEAUX evaders counted 8 or 9 power houses for the electric rail lines. -Most of the power houses looked new.

# Appendix D: 769

XX Lt Hoag:

- l. I used all the contents of my aids box at different stages of my trip. Most of it I saved for the mountains because I hadn't needed it earlier. The adhesive tape prevented my dogtags from rattling.
- 2. I had a RED purse and used the money for guides and food.
- 3. I had no extra evasion aids.
- 3. I carried 6 passport photos and used one for an identity card.
- 4. I had evasion lectures in the States and at Group and found them valuable.

Sgt Behrens;

- 1. I saved most of the contents of my aids box to use when crossing the PYRENES.

  2. I had a RED purse. The mossy, 1200 francs, was used to pay guides. The
- 1%. I carried an extra compass.

surplus was handed in at CIB.

- 3.4. I used one of the six escape photos I had with me.
- 4 %. I was lectured periodically at HORSHAM ST FAITH en evasion by IOs. In my case the lectures were not needed.

Sgt MCKEON:

- 1. I used the chocolate bar, milk tube, halazone tablets and water bottle while hiding in the woods. I save the benzadrine and Horlicks tablets for the PYRENES. The water bottle was not very satisfactory.
- 2. I carried a RED purse. I spent the money for food and guides and used the maps of France whenki during my first few days in France.
- 73. I had two extra compasses.
- The lectures I had on evasion in the States and at Group were very valuable.

  I suggest to evaders that they carry all the escape equipment possible and that

during missions they try always to know where they are in case they are shot down.

Har Bill rang - april more that - unclint - went out hose whichdoor - Roubede behind redytige and allowoff - of in flat spir- y dlyd jung - to and of plld wond sor - and 250 when spend & hit in few sees - about from a/c - between town, aund broad - off that Ho on went there-Was northols on who left of - threw chut on buring the of the effect lot of h (75) came - Who met Biebeis body - went into town - thro you logs took me - to the his home - clother - to was Ny Town - 2 mile July 1/2 - hid there til night - mel gendames in the thon while I'm uniform not bothered - in evening teach of her - food - cycle - my gen annette Collet them to be Blusson - olyd 2 days Brutes & Mauria Collet, brother, bis 4 dead from crew and he Burse he gave me Rieba, miller to m'cathy named to Harry Forh of My fewer Welday Dr fritash from Sermain are twisid - of & Sur - of buther-in law of Jean Vidal to St VRAIN - Styd nite that day cycled to ST JRAIN - Jean Vidal with 55t Between to 55t Krither & 55t. Downiel & 55t Morris (downon saw day) -2 Duys or Conque Waguer arrived with Retireus W. Vitrey- Le-Francis - blance In Pais flood Blande with Kucher - ophe lettle English - Patrick med us & save me shoes - organize at apt of clother hunchlacks lady - had daughter - in Paris 5 hrs - that note thain to Boscheaming to station with blande of at train boy, 28, 510, 155, l. brown hair - fair complesion, Clean out, shim led - to Nantes & changed hairs then to 15 ordeant - not mit - tok state to LUVOR cafe - COUDERC runs it - pehed up in can byman thed like Pela LORRE - went to Merignae (marchine) styd with M. TestAs, butcher

and had two mests with Puryboulat - styd 3 days t miles -whiley builded mirrord - then is Dock by care - met Capley & all testas & same from there

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.
- 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.
- Information about your escape or your evasion from capture would be useful to the enemy and a danger to your friends. It is transfore SECRET.
- 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.

- you must be particularly on your guard with persons representing the press.
- 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. Gon.

#### 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 <u>SECRET</u> and must not be disclosed to anyone other than the American ilitary 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 disciplarary action.

Name (Print) Eugene M. Hoaq Signed Cugene Maloay
Rank 2 41 6.8. N. 0-682183 Date 6/19/14
Unit 458 Boan 6 62 754 59. Witness Witness W. FORSTER,

Colonel, G.S.C., U. S. Mil. Lia. Off.

#### SECRET

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

> E & E KEPORT NO EVASION IN

> > June 24, 1944

Hoag Engine 2 nd/, 0-182163
(Name) 9 (No of Missions) (ASN)

TARGET: Manhiem Date Missing in Action: April 25,199

Date Arrived in OK: June 24,1944

Indicate what happened to

458 (Group)

SEMBERS OF CHEW: (This information checked with PWIB)

each man and how you know Men buried near

PILOT Combs POW CULPILOT ROOF Spain NAVIGATOR HODG

Le Buisson France

BUMBARUIER Bieber Killed Shoot Didnot fully open RADIO OFFINITOR BEArens UK

TOP TURRET GUINER Mckeon UK

DILL TURKET GUNNER Miller Killed in plane

WAIST WINNER Wagner Toulouse WALLE WINER Tambeor Killed in Plan

Tall GONNER Mc Cartly Killed Chute dought on wing

Were you wounded?

# TOP SECRET

#### E & E CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

June 24, 1944

#169

(Unit)

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing. Hou is Betweentown of Ponting France and Sanal to South

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. Flor der Contras Was it on fire, otc? Domiseed Both Fins Stat Nofite

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? 6,000

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed? Posibily Tail Gunner 13 wired

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

Rid, Contact Sam bardies Shoule ballot have time to epon?

I waistquares Sam bardies Shoule ballot have time to epon? Did the plane explode on striking the ground? No Bombs with the Did source sec any other members of the crew dead or alive ofter reaching the ground? Bom barbier Dead, Makean Roof, Schoons, wagner 14 France

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. Volant Med 4 Deed by home Breber, Tambour Maca, thy, Miller

Did source examine the wreckage of the plane? If so, what was its conditions? Completely Demolished and bunlary bombs west off later

If the plane crashed in water how far was the plane from land and what means was source resoured and what life rafts, wrechage, etc., remained on the surface that would have assisted other personnel to keep afloat.

What is source's opinion as to the fate of the other crew members and his reason for his opinion? 4 De a 8 Burled hear Le Buisson Pilot Captured Told by Undergiound

#### SECRET

#### APPENDIX "D" TO E MAD E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:-

Unit:-

Jours

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

#### 1. AIDS DOX

- -a. Did you use your aids box? Y S
- 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. Cressing Mount en's

Chocolate or Posnut Bor. 10055 1119 Mountains

Milk (tube). prossing M+1

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). Pressing M4.

Halazone tablets (water purifier). No

Matches. Spein

Adhesive tape. Stop Dog Tows from Motte ling

Chowing gum. Chossing Mts

Water bottle. Chessing M +5

Compass. Massing Mits

Scring kit, sining aloffs Through out.

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?
- 6. How did you finally dispose of the box?  $B_{\nu,j,\sigma}J$  it is well that  $A_{\nu,j,\sigma}J$
- 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?

  Replace Checlete bar with Harlieks Tablets.

#### 2. PURSE

a. Did you carry a purse? 15.
State color of stripes and letters.
If NOT, State why not.

b. Did you use the purse?

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

Maps. Which ones? War and the following items in the purse did you use?

Compass. Green

File (hecksew). No

Poreign currency. State countries and amounts.

How did you spend the money? 200 fronks for golde \$00 fronks

Didnot

d. How did you dispose of :-

Mons.

Compass.

· File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion? No

# 4. PASSPORT SZE PHOTOGICPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? ye 5

b. Did you use them? Yus for I dentity Card

## 5. LECTURES

a. Were you loctured on evasion and ascope? Yes 27, mes in The State there, when and by WHOLL 57 of s

b. Did you find the lectures of value?

c. Do you have any suggestions to make which, from your experience; you feel will help other evadors and a scapers?

SECRET - MERCICAN MOST SECRET - BRITISH MTS (X)

HE DOWNTERS EUTOPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS F/W and X Detachment Military Intelligence Service.

OUESTIONWAIRE FOR SERVICE PRSOMNET EVALUE FROM FROM FIRM OCCUPIED CONVERTES

- Full Name, Rank, and Serial No. Eugene M. Hosa
- 2. Decorations.
- Unit or Squaren. 754 3.
- Division (Army) or Group. 458
- Date of Dirth. 1/25/44 5.
- Length of Service. 27 May + 43 6.
- Private Address. Springport Michigan 7.
- Job as civilian. Sales man
- From what field did you take off? Station 125 9.
- Take off time. 260at 0630 10.
- Date and target. April 25,1944 Menhiem 11.
- Where did you land? Pantico trace 12.
- Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? Yes 13.
- What was your position in aircraft? Navig afor 14.
- Were you wounded? 15.
- Did you pay your guides? If so how much? 1000 firents 16.
- Do you speak French? Spanish? N. 6 17.
- Did you have Identity Papers? Dog Tog's, French once 10.
- Have you been questioned before to-day on your escape or evasion? If so, where and 19. by when? Have you given anyons a written report on your experiences. Where and when?
- Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to what? 20.
- Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or 21. evasion? If so, whore and then? Soain fibre / tor
- Vine 20,104 Date of arrival in Spain. Vere 7, 1974 22.
- Date of arrival at Gibraltar, June 19 10 44 23.
- 24. Place and date of Reporture for U.K. By sea or air. 8, First con Gibbout at June 23,1944
  - Place and date of arrival in U.K. Handry For Base Linder, de

CONFIDENTIAL

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

769

DATE: 25 June 1944
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:
I, ROBERT H. HINCKLEY, JR., Capt., AC, 0-24889
hereby certify that I have known and have been associated with
EUGENE M. HOAG, 2nd Lt., AC, 0-682183
missing in action over enemy territory. (32)
The person whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon is the individual
referred to above.  Nobert D. June ble
RIGHT THUMB PRINT:
The individual whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon
has been identified to the satisfaction of this office as EUGENE M. HOAG,
2nd Lt., AC, 0-682183 (754 Bomb Squadron - 458 Bamb Group)
previously reported / Accidentation action over enemy territory. (1811)
JOHN E. PARISH SHECIAL AGENT, C.I.C.

# 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 883.6 (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 fro	m capture	would be useful	to the	enemy	and	a danger	to your	friends.	It is therefore
SEGRET.											

- 2. σ 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.
  - You must give no account of your experiences in books, newspapers, periodicals or in broadcasts or in lectures.
  - You must give no information to anyone, irrespective of nationality, in letters or in conversation, except as specifically directed in Par. 4.
     No lectures or reports are to be given to any unit without the permission of A. C. of S., G-2, W. D., or corresponding organization in the

theater.

*GERTIFIGATE* 

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

I understand that any information concerning my escape or evasion from capture is SEGRET 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) Eugene M	H009
Rank 2 no L+ A.C.	A.S. N. 0 . 6 82/83
Unit 458 B. G 754	Sq.

	Lug	a	m	Hou	
Signed .			111111		£
	00	74	194	40	
Dated -	xune				
//			AZ PORTO		

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