

S E C R E T

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

J. R. Murray T/Sgt. 32393817  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

Sept. 7, 1944  
(Date)

(Unit)

MEMBERS OF CREW

PRESENT  
OFFICIAL STATUS

PILOT  
CO-PILOT  
NAVIGATOR  
BOMBARDIER  
RADIO OPERATOR  
TOP TURRET GUNNER  
BALL TURRET GUNNER  
WAIST GUNNER  
WAIST GUNNER  
TAIL GUNNER

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

*Oct. 14, 1943; 5:15 Below Verdun*

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

*No. 3 engine ignited gas leaking from wing tank.*

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

*23,000 ft*

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

*Both waist gunners, engineer and myself*

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

*I saw eight chutes from my ship open*

Did the plane explode on striking the ground?

*I did not see it.*

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground?

*All six enlisted men*

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.

*No*

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

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

*Bombardier believed dead. Source: American flyer who came to Switzerland saw dog tags of Bomb whom French said they had buried*

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS  
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QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL  
EVADING OR ESCAPING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

J.R. Murray T/Sgt 32393817  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)  
Twenty-one (21) (No. of missions)  
547 384  
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET:

Date mission in action: 10-14-43  
Date arrived in UK: 9-6-44

MEMBERS OF CREW: (Please list names next to positions) Indicate what happened to each man and how you know.

PILOT	<sup>Donald</sup> 1st Lt. D.P. Ogilvie	P.O.W.	I.R.C.	0-662330	P/W
CO-PILOT	<sup>John</sup> 2d Lt. R.B. Kilmer	P.O.W.	I.R.C.	0671962	P/W
NAVIGATOR	<sup>Ed</sup> Lt. <del>Everett</del> & Child			0800.168 (1122)	No Information
BOMBARDIER	1st Lt. W.H. Wilson	No Information		0-2043778	MIA
RADIO OPERATOR	T/Sgt. <sup>James</sup> J.R. Murray			32393817 (1661)	Narrator
TOP TURRET GUNNER	T/Sgt. <sup>Edmund</sup> E.A. Hood	Switzerland			Personal contact 2090
BALL TURRET GUNNER	T/Sgt. J.W. McKeon			1951	" "
WALST GUNNER	S/Sgt. W.E. Martin			2213	" "
WALST GUNNER	S/Sgt. F.R. Sylvia			" 2425	" "
TAIL GUNNER	S/Sgt. L.L. Raskiewicz			" 2413	" "

Decorations: Air Medal + three clusters  
Date of Birth: Jan. 30, 1921  
Private Address: 12 Grove St. So. River, New Jersey  
Length of Service: Two years  
Job as Civilian: Office clerk  
From what field did you take off? Take off time. Grafton Underwood app. 10:30  
Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? Yes  
Were you wounded? Give details. Yes 20mm. exploding in bombay; hit in leg  
Did you pay your guides? If so, how much? No.  
Do you speak FRENCH? SPANISH? GERMAN? ITALIAN? OTHER LANGUAGE?  
Did you have identity papers? While in France Yes

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

*No*

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

*Handed operational report to Legation in Switzerland.*

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

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

*Yes. Switzerland; Oct.*

Date of arrival in Spain:

Date of arrival at Gibraltar:

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

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.

R E S T R I C T E D

~~2649~~  
1661

HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES  
MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS  
APO 650

300.4

2 Sept 1944

SUBJECT: Orders.

TO : T/Sgt James R. Murray, 32393817.

You WP by mil acft fr this Hq, o/a 3 Sept 1944 to your proper station in the UK, 384th Bomb Gp, via Hq Eighth Air Force, TDN. (Auth: USSTAF, Message, U67180).

By command of Lieutenant General EAKER:

*Ray A. Lange*  
RAY A. LANGE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Actg Asst Adj Gen.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 3 - EM con
- 1 - Hq USSTAF
- 1 - 384th Bomb Gp
- 1 - AG Files
- 1 - Orders Clk

*to Bradford*

R E S T R I C T E D

on 14 Sept 43 T/Sgt JAMES R. MURRAY — "C" 1661

(My B-17 was shot down about 35 Km south of VERDUN. I met two other members of my crew, Sgts RATKIEWICZ and McKEON at a farm in CHAUMONT, 29 Km S of VERDUN, 7 Km W of PIERREFITTE (this is not the Chaumont, but a smaller town of same name - R87). We spent the night at this farm, and the next day we went to VERDUN, where we contacted MME. POTHIER at a house called "LES ROCHELLES". We stayed 3 days, and were given identity cards here. During this time we were joined here by all the other enlisted men in my crew. Another helper in VERDUN was the priest, known to MME Pothier. McKeon, Rat--- and I went on on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day with a guide who took us to BELFORT, where we stayed with friends of MME Pothier's for one night, then were ~~sent~~<sup>taken</sup> across the border at DELLE.

On about 1 September I left

Switzerland with the help of Maquis in  
Geneva, crossing at Geneva and  
going to GEX. Maquis then took me  
to Annecy, then to Grenoble,  
where I joined US forces.

Sgt Murray

29 km S of Verdun,  
7 km West of ~~Ruon~~ Pierrefitte



B-17 Crew member shot down near Verdun. ~~From~~ Met tail gunner, S/Sgt ~~Ratkov~~ Ratkiewicz and T/Sgt McKeon at farm nearby, in Chaumont. Spent night there, left for Verdun next morning. Got in touch with

Pothier  
↑  
joined here by all other EM in crew. left them there.

Mme ~~Pothier~~ at house, called "Les Rochelles(?)". Stayed couple of days, got identity cards. Priest also helper. Thence to Nancy + to Belfort, with guide. (friend of Pothier) Stayed one night with friends of Mme Pothier. Went into Switzerland via ~~Geneva~~ <sup>DELE</sup>. Thence to Porrentruy, turned selves in to Swiss Police. Thence sent to Berne, contacted legation. Quarantined. Thence in internment camp, ~~Montreat~~ Klosters near Austrian border. Stayed about 5 mos, then moved to camp at Montreux about 1 May, stayed until end of Aug. ~~Went~~ Midway across border from Geneva to Gex, where they joined Maguis. Thence Bellegarde to Annecy, with same group Maguis. Thence to  
over

to Grenoble, where they contacted  
US Troops, 45 Div. Thence  
7th Army Hq, Thence Corsica,  
Naples, Algiers, Casablanca.  
Flew to UK from Cas. Not  
interrogated before.



# RESTRICTED

## WAR DEPARTMENT The Adjutant General's Office Washington

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

KLS/el-2B-989 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.

### 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 **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) James R. Murray  
Rank T/Sgt. A. S. N. 32391817  
Unit 384th Bump GP

Signed James R. Murray  
Dated Sept 7, 1944  
Witness W. Field in 1st Lt. Drif

AG P BR HQ SOS

122472

# RESTRICTED

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- *T/Sgt. L. R. Murray*

Unit:- *384 B.G.*

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? *Unnecessary*
- 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?
- 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?

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? *No*  
State color of stripes and letters.  
If NOT, State why not.
- b. Did you use the purse?

(over)

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

Maps. Which ones?

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

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

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps.

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*

*TWO*

b. Did you use them?

*Yes*

5. LECTURES

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

*Yes*

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?

*No*

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.,.....)