

AG 383.6

Hq ETOUSA

9 April 1943.

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 ANDREWS:

*Ralph Pulsifer*  
R. T. S.  
RALPH PULSIFER,  
Colonel, AGD, Adjutant General.

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) KLEIN, ELLIS, J. Signed Ellis H. Klein

Rank S/Sgt ASN 11041241 Date November 6, 1943

Unit 5th Air Force 384th Gp. Witness Walter G. Smith, J. H. W. C.

(2)

SECRET - AMERICAN  
MOST SECRET - BRITISH  
MIS (X)

HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS  
PW and X Detachment  
Military Intelligence Service

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL  
EVADING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1. Full Name, Rank and Serial No. *KLEIN, ELLIS, H. SSGT - A.S.N. - 11841241*
2. Decorations. *AIR-MEDAL.*
3. Unit or Squadron. *544th Sqdn - 384th GP.*
4. Division (Army) or Group. *384th GP.*
5. Date of Birth. *July 31st - 1943.*
6. Length of Service. *22 MONTHS.*
7. Private Address. *54 POST ROAD - NEW LONDON CONNECTICUT.*
8. If in A.F., on what operation were you engaged? State place, date, and time of departure. Where and when did you come down? *Grafton Underwood*  
Were Aircraft and all instruments and papers destroyed? *SCHWEINFURT GERMANY - AUG - 17 - 1943 - 12 NOON*  
*30KM NE of GERMAINMONT* *CAME DOWN NEAR ARDENNS - FRANCE - 6:15 - P.M.*  
*INSTRUMENTS + PAPERS - DESTROYED - THINK AIRCRAFT DESTROYED.*
9. What was your position in aircraft? *- WAIST GUNNER.*
10. Were you wounded? *NO.*
11. Did you pay your guides? If so how much? *NO.*
12. Do you speak French? Spanish? *NO.*
13. Did you have Identity Papers? *YES.*
14. 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? *NO.*
15. Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom? *NO.*
16. Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, where and when? *YES. L.A.C.*
17. Date of arrival in Spain.
18. Date of arrival at Gibraltar.
19. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air.
20. Place and date of arrival in U.K. *PLACE ? NOVEMBER 8 - 43.*

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

E & E REPORT NO.  
EVASION IN FRANCE

November 8, 1943.  
(Date)

KLEIN, ELLIS H.  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

544th 384th  
(Squadron) (Group)

AGE: 21  
LENGTH OF SERVICE: 22 Mths.  
HOME ADDRESS: 54 Post Rd. New London,  
CONNECTICUT.

MIA: AUGUST-17-1943.  
Arrived in Spain: \_\_\_\_\_  
Arrived in Gibraltar: \_\_\_\_\_  
Arrived in UK: NOVEMBER 8, 1943.

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

- |                    | Official<br>Disposition | Narrators<br>Disposition |
|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| PILOT              |                         |                          |
| CO-PILOT           |                         |                          |
| NAVIGATOR          |                         |                          |
| BOMBARDIER         |                         |                          |
| RADIO OPERATOR     |                         |                          |
| TOP TURRET GUNNER  |                         |                          |
| BALL TURRET GUNNER |                         |                          |
| WAIST GUNNER       |                         |                          |
| WAIST GUNNER       |                         |                          |
| TAIL GUNNER        |                         |                          |

*see Des Rochers*

Were you wounded? NO

*T/Maddox of 94th Whaler crew OK  
M. Granden Fred Murray T/Sgt  
Safe Rheims east week  
Lt Carroll of 94th Navigator same*

Klein

SECRET  
EQUALS BRITISH

MOST SECRET

APPENDIX "B".  
MIS(X).....

The following information has been obtained from our interview with  
..... ( ..... ) who escaped  
after capture by the enemy/evaded capture by the enemy after being  
in enemy/enemy occupied territory.

Further circulation of this information may be made, but when doing so  
it is important not to divulge any particulars of source.

Statement of information covering period from .....  
to .....

OBSERVED FACTORY AT ST GERMAIN MOUNT OF CONSIDERABLE SIZE,  
NOT SURE OF WHAT IT PRODUCES. AIRFIELD, NE OF REIMS. - FEW  
PLANES.

GERMAN MORAL IS FAIR. - SOLDIERS ARE FORCED TO MARCH  
ON MARCH. VERY WELL DRESSED.

FRENCH MORAL IS VERY HIGH. - ANXIOUS FOR INVASION.

OBSERVED AIR RAID ON PARIS ON SEPT 14 - 9:45 PM - GERMANS  
SHOT PARACHUTISTS -

see Des Rochers for amplification

.....  
.....

MIS(X).

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- *S/SGT - KLEIN-ELLIS-17*

Unit:- *541st HSGDN - 384th GP*

Please answer carefully the questions below. Suggestions for improvement of escape equipment and training must 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, had you one on you? *---*
- (c) If not, why had you no aids box? *---*
- (d) If you used it, which of the following items did you use? Put a dash (-) against each item used and state briefly the circumstances, e.g., "Lying up for 2 nights," etc.

✓ Horlicks tablets. *- LYING UP FOR 3 NIGHTS*

✓ Chocolate. *---*

✓ Milk (tube). *---*

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue).

✓ Halazone tablets (water purifier). *---*

✓ Matches. *---*

Adhesive tape.

✓ Chewing gum. *---*

✓ Water bottle. *---*

✓ Compass. *---*

(e) Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? If so, in what respect? *NO*

(f) How did you finally dispose of the box? *BURN*

(g) 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? *PUT A PAPER WITH FRENCH PHRASES ON IT IN THE ESCAPE KIT*

2. PURSE

(a) Did you carry a purse? *Yes - BROWN*  
If so, state COLOR.  
In NOT, State why not.

(b) Did you use the purse? *Yes*

(c) If so, which of the following items in the purse did you use? Put a dash (-) against each item used and state briefly the circumstances.

Maps. Which ones? *FRENCH*

Compass. *Yes*

File (hacksaw). Yes

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. FRENCH - 2000 fr -  
How did you spend the money? FRANCHING

(d) How did you dispose of:\*

Maps. SOUVENIR

Compass. 1 FOR SOUVENIR

File (hacksaw). SOUVENIR

Surplus currency. STILL HAVE

3. AIDS TO ESCAPE - (GADGETS+)  
(+Issued separately from aids boxes and purses.)

(a) Did you carry or wear any of the following?  
If you used any of them state briefly WHEN and WHERE.

Not issued

Round compass. Yes

FROM ARDENNS TO ST GERMAIN

Stud compass. No

Swinger compass. No

Fly-button compass. No

Pencil clip compass. No

Tunic button compass. No

Pipe compass. No

Pouch No

Special flying boots (and knife). No

(b) Were they satisfactory? Yes

(c) Can you suggest any improvements, additions, or substitutions, which would improve the above equipment?

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

(a) Did you carry passport-size photographs?  
If so, how many? 3 PHOTOS

(b) Did you use them? NO - THEY WERE TOO SMALL  
State how.

5. LECTURES

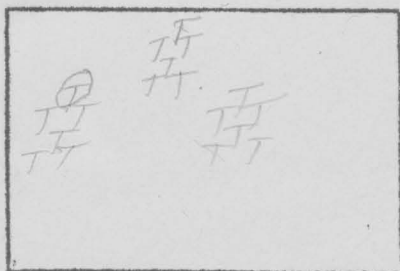
(a) Were you lectured on evasion and escape? Yes  
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM. BASE BY INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS

(b) Did you find the lectures of value? Yes

FRENCH LESSONS VERY VALUABLE

NAME KLEIN, ELLIS-H. RANK S/SGT ASN 11041241 REPORT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

SQ 544 GROUP 384 A/C NO. 147 Letter 3 Load 050048 Date AUG-17-45



Position in formation.  
Make Diagram

Observed results of Bombing: NOT OBSERVED.

Enemy Fighter Tactics:

Markings: ALL-POINTS.

Our Tactics: -NORMAL EVASIVE.

Our Fighter Support: - 10 MIN - OVER ENEMY Terr.

Flak

Time ?

Place COAST TO

TARGET Quality

HEAVY

Technical Failures

Motors:

Armor:

Armament: SHORT ROUNDS.

Miscellaneous: OXYGEN KNOCKED-OUT.

Comments and Suggestions on any of the above:

BLACKOUT - NO.

USE BAILOUT BOTTLE - NO.

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO. 192

No., Rank, Name:- John M DES ROCHERS, T/Sgt, 33248462

Unit:- 544 Bomb Squadron, 384 Bomb Group

Please answer carefully the questions below. Suggestions for improvement of escape equipment and training must 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, had you one on you?
- (c) If not, why had you no aids box?
- (d) If you used it, which of the following items did you use? Put a dash (-) against each item used and state briefly the circumstances, e.g., "Lying up for 2 nights", etc.
  - (i) Horlicks tablets. Yes
  - (ii) Chocolate Yes
  - (iii) Milk (tube). Very little
  - (iv) Benzadrine tablets (fatigue) Yes
  - (v) Halazone tablets (water purifier). Yes
  - (vi) Matches. Yes
  - (vii) Adhesive tape. No
  - (viii) Chewing gum. Yes
  - (ix) Water bottle. Yes
  - (x) Compass Yes
- (e) Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? If so, in what respect? No
- (f) How did you finally dispose of the box? Burned it
- (g) 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? Yes  
If so, state COLOR. Brown  
If NOT, state why not.
- (b) Did you use the purse? Yes
- (c) If so, which of the following items in the purse did you use? Put a dash (-) against each item used and state briefly the circumstances.
  - (i) Maps. Which ones? France
  - (ii) Compass. Yes



- (iii) File (hacksaw). Yes - as a knife
- (iv) Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. France 2000 francs  
How did you spend the money. For travel

(d) How did you dispose of:-

Maps. Souvenirs to helpers

Compass. Souvenirs to helpers

File (hacksaw). Burned

Surplus currency. Travel

3. AIDS TO ESCAPE - (GADGETS+)

(+Issued separately from aids boxes and purses.)

(a) Did you carry or wear any of the following?

If you used any of them, state briefly WHEN and WHERE

(i) Round compass.

(ii) Stud compass.

(iii) Swinger compass.

(iv) Fly-button compass.

(v) Pencil clip compass.

(vi) Tunic button compass.

(vii) Pipe compass.

(viii) Pouch

(ix) Special flying boots (and knife).

(b) Were they satisfactory?

(c) Can you suggest any improvements, additions, or substitutions which would improve the above equipment?

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

(a) Did you carry passport-size photographs? Yes - but not large enough  
If so, how many?

(b) Did you use them? No  
State how.

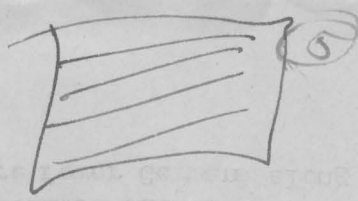
5. LECTURES

(a) Were you lectured on evasion and escape? Yes  
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.  
At our base by Intelligence Officers - S-2

(b) Did you find the lectures of value? Yes - what to do on landing and when in hiding.

Phrase sheets put out by group were very useful.

*Stencil made & checked*



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

7 December 1943

E & E REPORTS NOS. 192 & 193  
EVASION IN FRANCE

John M DES ROCHERS; T/Sgt, 33248462  
544 Bomb Squadron, 384 Bomb Group

MIA: 17 August 1943

Arrived in UK:

8 November 1943

AGE: 22 years  
LENGTH OF SERVICE: 1 6/12 years  
HOME ADDRESS: 1330 Washington Street  
HUNTINGDON, Pennsylvania

Ellis H KLEIN, S/Sgt, 11041241  
544 Bomb Squadron, 384 Bomb Group

AGE: 21 years  
LENGTH OF SERVICE: 1 10/12 years  
HOME ADDRESS: 54 Post Road  
NEW LONDON, Connecticut

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

|                    |          |        |                    |                    |
|--------------------|----------|--------|--------------------|--------------------|
| PILOT              | 0-515816 | 1st Lt | Clayton R WILSON   | MIA                |
| CO-PILOT           | 0-673704 | 2d Lt  | Dewey C BROWN, JR  | E&E REPORT 165&166 |
| NAVIGATOR          | 0-797250 | 2d Lt  | Fred E BLOESCH     | MIA                |
| BOMBARDIER         | 0-735213 | 2d Lt  | Herman D STEVENS   | MIA                |
| RADIO OPERATOR     | 33248462 | T/Sgt  | John M DES ROCHERS | NARRATOR           |
| TOP TURRET GUNNER  | 39174786 | T/Sgt  | Vern P LONG        | E&E REPORT 165&166 |
| BALL TURRET GUNNER | 6121691  | S/Sgt  | George J KENDALL   | MIA                |
| WAIST GUNNER       | 11041241 | S/Sgt  | Ellis H KLEIN      | NARRATOR           |
| WAIST GUNNER       | 17024507 | S/Sgt  | Eugene W PENNICK   | MIA                |
| TAIL GUNNER        | 35336384 | S/Sgt  | Jack M HOOK        | MIA                |

17 August 1943

Before we crashlanded (See: E&E Reports 165 & 166) the pilot said that as soon as the plane came to a stop we were to get out and run. The bombardier and navigator were to stay behind and destroy the aircraft. Before landing every one had put on G.I. shoes. We (DES ROCHERS and KLEIN) ran toward a strip of wood which was north of the plane because we thought the Germans expected us to run south. The navigator had told us we were about 50 miles north of PARIS.

CRASHLAND IN FRANCE

*would*

*n*

*u*

It was about a quarter of a mile to the strip of wood which ran east-west. We took enough time to get out of our heated suits and put our summer flying clothes on again. Starting out after this we changed our direction to the east but 600 yards further on the wood ended in heavy brush and beyond that open fields. Because we had seen a German camp from the air and knew it to be in the vicinity we did not think it wise to go into the open. It was probably a half-hour from the time we left the plane until we crawled into this thick underbrush.

HEAR NOISE OF SEARCH

An hour later we heard the first signs of search - a lot of yelling and shouting. All the searching seemed to be located across a wide gully from us in another section of wood. At any rate we never saw the Germans though we heard them for at least an hour until it began to get dark.

We stayed in the underbrush until 2230 hours, lying very quietly though we got out our Aids Boxes and looked at the maps and compasses. We ate nothing ~~all~~ this night.

While there ~~it~~ had been daylight ~~we~~ we studied the landscape around us and planned to go south. From our hiding place we could see about a mile across the fields to another wood.

Leaving the underbrush we started crawling through the fields but later walked because the moon was rising and we wanted to get under cover before it was too bright. Every shadow we saw, we were sure, was a German. From the direction of the German army camp flares were being fired in the air and each time one burst we hit the ground. Crossing a road we almost ran into a parked car and while skirting it we heard voices. It couldn't have taken us more than thirty minutes to cross the fields but it seemed hours.

REPLACE  
FIELDS IN  
CROSS FIELDS IN  
MOONLIGHT

18 August 1943

The wood we entered was thick with very heavy underbrush. We forced our way in a few feet and crawled into a briar patch which turned out the next morning to be loaded with ripe blackberries. We were too near a large clearing for our liking so we went on through the wood to the western edge. Farmers were working and talking in the fields, and for a time we stayed in too far to see them but later crawled to the edge hoping that one of them would pass close enough for us to speak.

At noon a young boy passed, and we whistled. He looked around but did not stop. However, an hour later he returned in a cart with an old man. They passed very close to us. We called out, "Americans" to the old man who looked puzzled and frightened. He tossed a package of food into the wood and drove off. From his gestures we thought he might return, because he had nodded when we motioned to show we were thirsty and needed clothing. We went back into the wood and stayed until late afternoon. The old man who had given us food was working in the field, and there were other people near us. We came into the open about the time we thought he would stop working, still keeping close to the wood; but he motioned us with scared gestures to go back. The old man went off soon after that but did not return again. At 2030 hours we started along the edge of the wood toward a village about a mile and a half away. At the first farmhouse we crawled under a fence to get to the house and must have been heard because a woman ran out the side door. We called out, "Madame!" "Madame!" and then in French, "Can you help us?" We got the phrase from our French phrase-sheets. A dog started barking, and there was a great deal of commotion. The woman stopped running when we yelled at her and came back to us. She motioned us inside and poured out a glass of wine. By using our phrase sheet we explained without difficulty who we were and that we needed help. We got out our maps, and the woman showed us that we were 50 kilometers north of REIMS. We were given food and clothes, but when we asked if we could sleep in the barn, she said we would have to go away. We learned that two members of our crew had been fed here the night before and had walked on. After we spent an hour with the lady she pointed out that our best direction was to walk southwest because there were fewer Germans along that route.

GIVEN FOOD  
BY SCARED  
FRENCHMAN

e  
o

GIVEN CIVILIAN  
CLOTHING

Although we had <sup>civilian</sup> clothes, we continued to walk in the fields, keeping in shadows when we could. By midnight we had reached a wood and decided to hide until dawn because we were afraid of running into people in the dark. In spite of the field mice we slept until 0500 hours and then had a ground fog to walk in. We still thought it best to stay in the fields, and after walking about five kilometers we came to a valley with an approachable-looking farmhouse on the opposite side. While we were watching the house from a side lane, we heard someone coming and ducked into the bushes. When we saw it was a lone man we came out of hiding and with our phrase-sheets asked directions <sup>(to)</sup> him. He pointed south and walked away without offering any further help.

ASK MAN FOR  
DIRECTIONS

(40)

We went on to the farmhouse and crawled into some bushes where we could watch it for a while before approaching. Unknown to us a man had seen us, and he came up the hill to our bushes. We saw him looking around to see where we had hidden, so we whistled at him. We handed him our phrase sheets and asked about the Germans and the best direction to walk. He pointed to the top of the hill and motioned us to walk in that direction. From his motions we understood that we were to walk slowly and someone would overtake us. He started to the farmhouse, and we walked away as he told us. Then there was a sharp whistle, and looking around we saw him making frantic gestures for us to run. We ducked into the bushes beside us. The Frenchman sneaked around in back of us and nodded to us to stay hidden. He pointed to his farm and said, "Germans." About fifteen minutes later a man came up the hill and was joined by our friend. They walked over to us, and the new man became very excited when he heard who we were. We had to go through the usual kissing party, and then we sat in the bushes while the new man told us what we were to do. He wanted us to follow the other man to another hiding place and wait for him to bring food. While waiting we dried our clothes, which had ~~been~~ <sup>were</sup> wet with dew, in the sun. The man brought food at noon and in the evening. With him in the evening was an old man who told us we were to go with him.

JUST MISS GERMAN  
SEARCH

(W)

(X)

FALSE HOPES  
AROUSSED ABOUT  
AID

We walked with this old man to a village and were told that if we were stopped we were to pass as his two sons. How we were to do this - we don't know. The old man took us to the railroad tracks in the village and pointed down them toward REIMS. We didn't get the idea at first because we had expected more help but he gave us a paper with five names and an address to go to in another town. At this address we were to point to one of the names and say that this person had sent us. The old man watched us out of sight and we walked down the tracks as directed. REIMS, we thought, was perhaps not so far away.

SCARED BY DOGS

About five kilometers down the tracks we took a benzadrine tablet to offset our fatigue and soon after that came to a solitary house. Because we were too tired to go further, we started for the house, but as we got near several dogs started barking, a light was turned out, and the front door opened. In the dusk we couldn't see who it was so we went on and slept along the tracks by a fence.

GAIN CONFIDENCE  
IN CLOTHES

The next morning we got into a wood but kept within sight of the railroad. We needed water and filled our water bottles at a field water-trough using the halazone tablets to purify the water. We picked some apples in an orchard soon after finding the water. When the wood ended we got back on the railway tracks. There was a village ahead of us which we tried to go around, but instead, walked into the middle of the village before we knew it. We discovered here that our clothes attracted no attention, if we walked boldly without staring at people.

The next seven kilometers brought us to ST GERMAIN MONT. Just before getting into the village we passed a man sitting on the bank of the tracks and approached him with our phrase-sheet and maps. He told us we were still thirty kilometers from REIMS which was a shock because we were tired and had expected to arrive there at any moment. We received no other help from the man.

We walked on through the village and a short time later after resting by the side of a path we went up to a laborer who was passing. We told him we were American airmen and greatly in need of food. He left us for a few minutes while he went to his home for bread and cheese. He told us, in sign language, to hide and meet him at 1800 hours. He had a friend with him at that time, and from there our journey was arranged.

JOURNEY  
ARRANGED

Compiled By:

Approved By:

JFW  
JOHN F WHITE,  
Capt, AC

W.S. Holt  
W S HOLT  
Lt Col, AC  
Commanding

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

7 December 1943

APPENDIX "B" TO E & E REPORTS NOS. 192 & 193

1. The following information has been obtained from an interview with two Sergeants who evaded capture by the enemy after being in enemy-occupied territory.

*(tn)*  
2. Further circulation of this information may be made, but when doing so, information as to the source may not be divulged.

Statement of information covering period from 17 August 1943  
to 8 November 1943

- (tn)*
- a. In the center of ST GERMAINMONT there is a huge factory. There is only one German in charge here and the workers are French. (hearsay and observation) 19 August 1943
  - b. Saw a large airfield northeast of REIMS. There were very few aircraft on the field but several unusually large hangars. 23 August 1943
  - c. REIMS was occupied by large numbers of German troops during late August. (observation) Also saw many German troops in the COMPIEGNE area.
  - d. Saw a large troop train on 4 November passing north through COMPIEGNE.
  - e. Heard that saboteurs blew up a troop train in the COMPIEGNE area on 2 November.
  - f. Heard that a 14 September raid on a PARIS airfield wiped out three hangars and cratered the field.

Leaving the ~~wood~~ <sup>underbrush</sup> we started crawling through the fields but ~~gave it~~ <sup>later walked</sup> because the moon was ~~getting brighter~~ rising and we wanted to get under cover

Cross fields in moonlight

before it was too bright. Every ~~thing~~ <sup>shadow</sup> we saw, we were sure, was a German. ~~From~~ <sup>from</sup> the direction of the ~~Army~~ <sup>German army</sup> camp flares were being fired in the air and each time one burst we hit the ground. Crossing a road we almost ran into a parked car and skirting it we heard voices. It couldn't have taken us more than thirty minutes to cross the fields but it seemed hours.

18 August 1943

The wood we ~~were~~ <sup>ed</sup> entering was thick with very heavy underbrush. We forced our way in a few feet and ~~xxxx~~ <sup>to</sup> crawled in a briar patch which turned out the next morning to be ~~full~~ <sup>loaded with</sup> of ripe blackberries. We were ~~also~~ too near a large clearing for our liking so we went on through the wood to the western edge. Farmers were working and talking in the fields and for a time we stayed in too far to see them but later crawled to the edge hoping that one of them would pass close enough for us to speak ~~to him~~.

GIVEN FOOD BY SCARED FRENCHMAN

At noon a young boy passed and we whistled ~~to him~~. He looked around but did not stop. However, an hour later he returned in a cart with an old man. They passed very close to us ~~when we whistled~~. We called out, "Americans" to the old man who ~~acted~~ <sup>looked</sup> puzzled and frightened. He ~~brought~~ <sup>tossed</sup> a package of food into wood and drove off. From his gestures we thought he might return because he had nodded when we motioned to show we were thirsty and needed clothing. We went back into the wood and ~~xxxxxx~~ stayed until late afternoon. The old man who had given us food was working ~~in~~ in the field and there were other people near us. ~~xxxxxx~~ <sup>about the time we thought he would stop working,</sup> We came into the open ~~xxxxxx~~ <sup>due to</sup> still keeping near the wood, but he motioned us with ~~frantic~~ <sup>scared</sup> gestures to go back. The old man went off soon after that but did not return again. At 2030 hours we started along the

edge of the wood toward a village about a mile and a half away. At the first farmhouse we crawled under a fence to get to the house and must have been heard because a woman ran out the side door. We ~~were~~ <sup>called out</sup> calling, "Madame," "Madame!" and then ~~the French phrase~~ in French, "Can you help us?" We got the phrase from

19 August 1943

21E Reports

CRASHLAND  
IN  
FRANCE

Before we crashlanded (see: ~~Brown and Long~~) the pilot said that as soon as the plane came to a stop we were to get <sup>out</sup> and run. The bombardier and navigator were to stay behind and destroy the aircraft. Before landing every one had put on G.I. shoes. We (DeRoschens and Klein) ran toward a strip of wood which was north of the plane ~~thinking that would be the best direction at the moment~~ because we <sup>thought the Germans</sup> ~~would be~~ <sup>us</sup> expected to run south. The navigator had told us we were about 50 miles north of PARIS.

It was about a quarter of a mile to the strip of wood which ran east-west. We took enough time to get out of our heated suits <sup>and</sup> ~~but~~ put ~~back~~ our summer flying clothes on again. Starting out <sup>after this</sup> ~~again~~ we changed our direction to the east but <sup>further on</sup> ~~after~~ 600 yards the wood ended in heavy brush and beyond that - open fields. Because we had seen a German camp from the air and knew it to be in the vicinity we did not think it wise to go into the open. It was probably a half-hour from the time we left the plane until crawling <sup>we ed</sup> into this thick underbrush.

Hear  
Noise of  
Search

An hour later we heard the first signs of search - a lot of yelling and shouting. All the searching seemed to be <sup>located</sup> ~~across~~ a wide gully from us in another section of wood. At any rate we never saw the Germans though we heard them for at least an hour until it began to get dark.

We stayed in the underbrush until 2230 hours, lying very quietly though we got out our ~~ex~~ Aids Boxes to look at the maps and compasses. We ate nothing all this night.

While there had been daylight we studied the landscape around us and ~~we~~ planned to go south. From our hiding place we could <sup>see</sup> about a mile across the fields to another wood. ~~and we explained~~



our French phrase-sheets. A dog started barking and there was a great deal of commotion. The woman stopped running when we yelled at her and came back to us. She motioned us inside and poured <sup>out</sup> a glass of wine. By using our phrase sheet we explained without difficulty who we were and that we need help. We got out our maps and the woman showed us that we were 50 kms <sup>kilometers</sup> north of REIMS. We were given food and clothes but when we asked if we could sleep in the barn she said we would have to go away. We learned that two members of our crew had been fed here the night before and had walked on. After we spent an hour with the lady she pointed out that our best direction was to walk southwest because there were fewer Germans along that route.

Although we had clothes we continued to walk in the fields, keeping in shadows when we could. By midnight we had reached a wood and decided to hide until dawn because we were afraid of running into people in the dark. In spite of the field mice we slept until 0500 hours and then had a ground fog to walk in. We still thought it best to stay in the fields and after walking about five kilometers we came to a valley with an approachable-looking farmhouse on the opposite side. While we were watching the house from a side lane we heard someone coming and ducked into the bushes. When we saw it was a lone man we came out of hiding and with our phrase-sheets asked directions of him. He pointed south and walked away without offering any further help.

We went on to the farmhouse and crawled into some bushes where we could watch it for a while before approaching. Unknown to us a man had seen us and he came up the hill to our bushes. We saw him looking around to see where we had hidden so we whistled at him. ~~He came up.~~ We handed him our phrase sheets and asked about the Germans and the best direction to walk. He pointed to the top of the hill and motioned us to walk in that direction. From his motioned <sup>s</sup> we understood that we were to walk slowly and someone would overtake us. He started to the farmhouse and we walked away as he told us. Then there was sharp whistle

GIVEN  
CIVILIAN  
CLOTHING

ASK MAN  
FOR  
DIRECTIONS

JUST MISS  
GERMAN  
SEARCH

and looking around we saw him making frantic gestures for us to run. We ducked into the bushes beside us. The Frenchman sneaked around in back of us and nodded to us to stay hidden. He pointed to his farm and said, "Germans." About fifteen minutes later a man came up the hill and was joined by our friend. They walked over to us and the new man became very excited when he heard who we were. We had to go through the usual kissing party and then we sat in the bushes while the new man told us what we were to do. He wanted us to follow the other man to another hiding place and wait for him to bring food. While waiting we dried our clothes, ~~in the sun~~ which had gotten wet with dew, <sup>in the sun.</sup> The man brought food ~~at~~ at noon and in the evening. With him in the evening was an old man who told us we were to go with him.

FALSE HOPES  
AROUSSED  
ABOUT AID

We walked with this old man to a village and were told that if we were stopped we were to pass as his two sons. How we were to do this - we don't know. The old man took us to the railroad tracks in the village and pointed down them to <sup>ward</sup> REIMS. We didn't get the idea at first because we had expected more help but he gave us a paper with five names and an address to go to in ~~the~~ another town. At this address we were to point to one of the names and say that this person had sent us. The old man watched us out of sight and we walked down the tracks as directed. ~~We thought~~ <sup>we thought,</sup> REIMS, was perhaps not so far <sup>away.</sup> ~~as~~ we thought.

SCARED  
BY DOGS

About five kilometers down the tracks we took a benzdrine tablet and <sup>to offset our fatigue</sup> soon after that came to a solitary house. Because we were too tired to go further we started for the house but as we got near several dogs started barking, a light was turned out and the front door opened. In the dusk we couldn't see who it was ~~and~~ so we went on and slept along the tracks by a fence.

The next morning we got into a wood but kept within sight of the railroad.

We needed water and filled our water bottles ~~at~~ at a field  
water-trough using the halazone tablets to purify the water. We picked some  
apples in an orchard soon after finding the water. When the wood ended we got  
back on the tracks. There was a village ahead of us which we tried to go around  
but ~~xxxx~~ instead walked into the middle of the village before we knew it.  
~~xxxx~~ We discovered here that ~~we~~ <sup>our clothes</sup> attracted no attention  
if we walked boldly without staring at people.

gain  
confidence  
in clothes

The next seven kilometers brought us to ST GERMAINMONT. Just before getting  
into the village we passed a man sitting on the bank of the tracks and  
approached him with our phrase-sheet and maps. He told us we were still  
thirty kilometers from REIMS which was a shock because we were tired and had  
expected to arrive there at any moment. We received no other <sup>help</sup> from the man.

We walked on through the village and a short time later ~~while~~ <sup>after</sup> resting  
by the side of a path we went up to a laborer who was passing. We told him we  
were American airmen and greatly in need of food. He left us for a few minutes  
while he went to his home for bread and cheese. He told us, in sign language,  
to hide and meet him at 1800 hours. He had a ~~fix~~ friend with him at that  
time and from there our journey was arranged.

JOURNEY  
ARRANGED

APPENDIX B:

- a. In the center of ST GERMAINMONT there is a huge factory. There is only one German in charge here and the workers are French. 19 August 1943.  
(Hearsay and obs)
- b. Saw a large airfield northeast of REIMS. There were very few aircraft on the field but several unusually large hangars. 23 August 1943.
- c. REIMS was ~~filled with German troops~~ occupied by large numbers of German troops during late August. Obs. Also saw many German troops in the COMPIEGNE area.
- d. Saw a large troop train on 4 November passing north through COMPIEGNE.
- e. Heard that saboteurs blew up a troop train ~~on the~~ in the COMPIEGNE area on 2 November.
- f. Heard that a 14 September raid on a PARIS airfield wiped out three hangars and cratered the field.

COPIED  
23/10/43

E + E # 192-193

(Sgt. Des Rochers

+  
Sgt. Klein)

### Appendix C.

Sgts. Des Rochers and Klein were members of a crew that crash-landed some 50 kms N of Rheims on 17 August 1943. They ~~were~~ walked as far as ST. GERMAINMONT (11 kms NE of NEUFCHATEL-SUR-AISNE). On the way several Frenchmen gave them food and at one house they were given civilian clothing as well but were not allowed to stay. ~~Just S of ST GERMAINMONT~~ they declared themselves to a man on the road. This man told them to wait, disappeared, and presently sent <sup>them</sup> ~~me~~ food by a small girl and boy who hid them in a haystack and towards evening took them to a house across from a factory. The children's father came in shortly thereafter, and later in the evening a M. BORDEAUX came in and took the Americans to his house. There a French officer who had been a P/W in Germany interrogated them and examined their dog-tags. Des Rochers and Klein remained in this house three nights. On 23 August M. BORDEAUX took them by automobile to RHEIMS. There in a café two men and a girl who spoke perfect English briefed them on what ~~was going to be~~ they were to do. One of the men then took them by automobile to the HOTEL MODERNE in FISMES. Here they met a tall man

(over)

2

(6'6") ~~was told~~ and SIMONE LADRO (speaks English, works in a bank; has a sister LUCIENNE who is a dress-maker). A gendarme, MAURICE, took the Americans to the home of SIMONE and LUCIENNE that evening, took ~~their photos~~ photographs of them and brought them their papers two days later. On 29 August MAURICE took them to see Mme PERILLH, a lawyer from PARIS, who told them that they were to follow her husband to PARIS. M. PERILLH then guided them to PARIS by train, took them to an apartment off the LUXEMBOURG, and called MISS McINTOSH (50 years old, address: 17 AVE. FELIX FAURE), who took the Americans to her apartment. They stayed here for two weeks ~~and~~ and were visited by MISS WATSON of the INTERNATIONAL YOUTH HOSTEL during this time.

MISS McINTOSH failed to identify herself to the contact-man who came to see her, and so the man went away; and contact with the organization was broken. GHISLANNE GENTILE took Des Rochers and Klein to stay with her near the TROCADERO for three days. Then they returned to MISS McINTOSH's and were there for two more weeks. MISS McINTOSH got in touch with ROGER DUMAGE who came to see them and said that he would have someone take them away on 26 September; but on 25 September MARTIN, ~~appeared~~ whom M. PERILLH had sent, appeared. On 2 October Mme BASTIN ~~was~~ came from MARTIN and took Des Rochers and Klein to her home ~~at~~ north of PARIS (CHATEAU ROUGE?). ~~Martin~~ MARTIN was there with Sgt. Ralph Johnson (RAF). On ~~the~~ 7 October they were taken to BELLANCOURT and went out to an airfield, but the message failed and the expected plane did not arrive. They

(next)

stayed in a farmer's house near the village for two days and then returned to Mme. BASTIN's on 10 October. There were now eight evaders, including three Britons and Lt. Carroll (USAAF), at Mme. BASTIN's. MARTIN took them the next day to FISMES where they stayed at SIMONE LADRU's from 12 to 21 October. (They found MAURICE had been arrested by the Germans for forging identity papers.) On 21 October a cousin of SIMONE's named ~~ZOIGIN~~ ZOIGIN (?) took them to his home where they stayed until 3 November when M. GALLET, head of the FISMES organization, took them to PARIS. There they joined Sgt. Whalen and Browning with whose story that of Des Rochers and Klein is identical from this point.

S E C R E T

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO. 193

No., Rank, Name:- Ellis H KLEIN, S/Sgt, 11041241

Unit:- 544 Bomb Squadron, 384 Bomb Group

Please answer carefully the questions below. Suggestions for improvement of escape equipment and training must 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, had you one on you?
- (c) If not, why had you no aids box?
- (d) If you used it, which of the following items did you use? Put a dash (-) against each item used and state briefly the circumstances, e.g., "Lying up for 2 nights", etc.
  - (i) Horlicks tablets. Yes
  - (ii) Chocolate Yes
  - (iii) Milk (tube). Yes
  - (iv) Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). Yes
  - (v) Halazone tablets (water purifier). Yes
  - (vi) Matches. Yes
  - (vii) Adhesive tape. Yes
  - (viii) Chewing gum. Yes
  - (ix) Water bottle. Yes
  - (x) Compass Yes
- (e) Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? If so, in what respect? No
- (f) How did you finally dispose of the box? Burned it
- (g) 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? Put a paper with French phrases on it in the escape kit

2. PURSE

- (a) Did you carry a purse? Yes  
If so, state COLOR. Brown  
If NOT, state why not.
- (b) Did you use the purse? Yes
- (c) If so, which of the following items in the purse did you use? Put a dash (-) against each item used and state briefly the circumstances.
  - (i) Maps. Which ones? French
  - (ii) Compass. Yes



- (iii) File (hacksaw). Yes
- (iv) Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. French francs 2000  
How did you spend the money. Used while traveling

(d) How did you dispose of:-

Maps. Souvenir for helpers

Compass. " " "

File (hacksaw). Souvenirs

Surplus currency. Still have

3. AIDS TO ESCAPE - (GADGETS+)

(+Issued separately from aids boxes and purses.) NOT ISSUED

(a) Did you carry or wear any of the following?

If you used any of them, state briefly WHEN and WHERE

- (i) Round compass.
- (ii) Stud compass.
- (iii) Swinger compass.
- (iv) Fly-button compass.
- (v) Pencil clip compass.
- (vi) Tunic button compass.
- (vii) Pipe compass.
- (viii) Pouch
- (ix) Special flying boots (and knife).

(b) Were they satisfactory?

(c) Can you suggest any improvements, additions, or substitutions which would improve the above equipment?

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

(a) Did you carry passport-size photographs? Yes  
If so, how many? Three

(b) Did you use them? Too small  
State how.

5. LECTURES

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

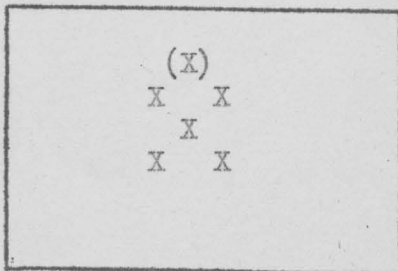
At Base by Intelligence Officers

(b) Did you find the lectures of value? Yes

French lessons very valuable.

APPENDIX "E" TO E & E REPORT NO. 192

NAME John M DES ROCHERS RANK T/Sgt ASN 33248462 REPORT NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
 SQ 546 GROUP 384 A/C NO. \_\_\_\_\_ Letter \_\_\_\_\_ Load 10-500 lbs Date 17 Aug 1943



Position in formation.  
 Make Diagram

Observed results of Bombing:

Not observed

Enemy Fighter Tactics: Attacked all points  
Markings:

Our Tactics: Normal evasive action

Our Fighter Support: 10 minute support over enemy territory

Flak

| <u>Time</u> | <u>Place</u>                  | <u>Quality</u> |
|-------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
|             | Over coast on way into target | Heavy          |

Technical Failures

Motors:

Armor:

Armament: Short rounds (faulty)

Miscellaneous: Oxygen knocked out by flak

Comments and Suggestions on any of the above:

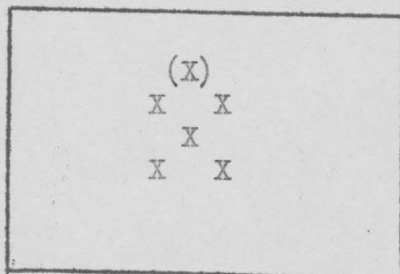
DID YOU FLACK OUT? No

DID YOU USE BALE-OUT BOTTLE? No

APPENDIX "E" TO E & E REPORT NO 193

NAME Ellis H KLEIN RANK S/Sgt ASN 11041241 REPORT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

SQ 544 GROUP 384 A/C NO. 147 Letter \_\_\_\_\_ Load 10-500 lbs Date 17 Aug 1943



Position in formation.  
Make Diagram

Observed results of Bombing: Not observed

Enemy Fighter Tactics:

Markings: All points

Our Tactics: Normal evasive action

Our Fighter Support: 10 minutes over enemy territory

Flak

Time

Place  
Coast to  
Target

Quality

Heave

Technical Failures

Motors:

Armor:

Armament: Short rounds

Miscellaneous: Oxygen knocked out

Comments and Suggestions on any of the above:

DID YOU BLACK OUT? no

DID YOU USE BALE OUT BOTTLE? No