

SECRET

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

McKean J. W. T/SGT 31202048  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

9-12-44  
(Date)

384th GP 547 SQ.  
(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. PLANE CRASHED  
BETWEEN VILLAGE OF SOULLY & VERDUN FRANCE COMPLETELY DESTROYED

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

RIGHT WING ON FIRE

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

23,000'

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

BOMBARDIER BELIEVED KILLED IN ATTACK  
BY FW 190 FIGHTERS

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

PILOT-CO-PILOT ALL GUNNERS TOTAL 8 ALL CHUTES OPENED

Did the plane explode on striking the ground?

RIGHT WING BLEW OFF AT ABOUT 15,000' TOTAL WRECK

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

YES FIVE OTHER SQTS FRENCH INFORMED US OF PILOT & CO-PILOT

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 TOLD US TWO DEAD ONE IN CRASH AREA + ONE WITHOUT CHUTE

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

NO ONLY FROM CHUTE MANY MILES AWAY

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?

FIVE SQTS BESIDE MY SELF REACHED SWITZERLAND

RED CROSS INFORMED US ON PILOT & CO-PILOT

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

McKeon James W. TSgt 31202048  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET: Schwintzen

Date mission in action: Oct. 14, 1944

Date arrived in UK: 9/11/44

20 (No. of missions)

547 (Squadron) 384th (Group)

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

Indicate what happened to each man and how you know.

PILOT Ogilvie DON P. P.W. Stalag Luft 3 Breslaw GERMANY

CO-PILOT KILMER Bruce " " " " "

NAVIGATOR Name UNKNOWN believed dead

BOMBARDIER Wilson William H. believed dead

RADIO OPERATOR Murray James R. Evaded to Switzerland

TOP TURRET GUNNER Hood EMMETT A. " " "

BALL TURRET GUNNER McKeon James W. " " "

WAIST GUNNER Martin William " " "

WAIST GUNNER Sylvia Francis " " "

TAIL GUNNER Ratkeiwicz Louis " " "

Decorations: D.F.C. - Purple Heart - Air Medal + 3 clusters

Date of Birth: July 28, 1920

Private Address: 70 Torrey St Dorchester Mass USA

Length of Service: Two years

Job as Civilian: Stock Clerk

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

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? yes

Were you wounded? Give details. NO

Did you pay your guides? If so, how much? NO Gave it to French woman

Do you speak FRENCH? who took us through France, for relief aid  
SPANISH? GERMAN? ITALIAN? OTHER LANGUAGE?

Did you have identity papers? NO NO NO NO NO

yes

DOG TAGS IIP

(over)

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

Yes M99F hg. NAPLES G-2 Lieut. COLONEL

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, CASABLANCA by AIR - A.T.S. 9-11-44

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

Ogilvie DON P. PILOT STALAG LUFT 3

KILMER BRUCE CO-PILOT BRESLAU GERMANY

INFORMATION GAINED FROM INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

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



1957  
 T/Sgt James W McKEON, 31202048, 547/384 Bomb Gp (H), MIA 14 Oct 1943  
 Intvd 12 Sept 1944

On 14 Oct 1943 McKEON landed near CHAUMONT sur AUBE N of BAR le DUC. That night the French picked him up and took him to a house where he met MURRAY and RAT-KIEWICZ (E&E ). About 0300 the next morning they rode by bicycle with two French boys, ANDRE from VERDUN, and the other from CHAUMONT, to the home of the Comtesse POTHEIR at the Villa les Rochelles near Verdun. A night or so later the same two French boys brought in SYLVIA, HOOD, and MARTIN. Just before the first shift left Sgt MAURITHO (E&E ) and two other Americans came in. The Comtesse and Andre~~s~~ took the first three by train from VERDUN, leaving about 0300, to GRANDVILLARS, and turned them over to two guides who took them to Switzerland which they entered about 2100 on 20 or 21 Oct.

They went to PORRENTHUY, stayed a night, traveled to Bern and were questioned on Forts and B-29's by a Swiss air force officer--and also on helpers---and were turned over to the MA who gave them money and clothing. They had given the Swiss an escape story. For one Lt REXford of the MA's office they wrote out a report on their experiences. They spent about a month and a half in Bern, went to Klosters about 9 December and to Glion about the end of April.

They signed something about not leaving Switzerland and also something about paying bills before they left. McKEON was going to leave in July but had to wait until he got out of debt.

On 2 Sept he left having heard that it was easy to cross the border. The Haute Savoie had been liberated the day before he left. KEMP, HOOD, and RICHARDS were with him, but they got split up by the border guards. In France he went to THONON where he was sheltered by the FFI police. On 4 Sept he hitch hiked to Annemas where he saw the maire and met Pierre Sauvage, editeur de Telegraphe de Pas de Calais et de la Somme, Boulougne sur Mer. A ride to Annecy was arranged and from there he went to Grenoble where about 6 Sept he met the Americans. He was sent to St Raohael in a Jeep and went then to Rome, Naples, Casablanca on his way to England.

McKen  
Chaumont, A - N B or 1c Du

Picked up that night - to know who met TG & RO -  
Andre kept over until 0300 - then rode bicycle

Man with  
2 other  
can hear

with 2 Fr boys - Andre <sup>for Verdun</sup> me - other from Chaumont

To <sup>Contanc</sup> Mrs Pothier - Villa les Rochelles - went there

2 dnt 2w6 & TT(1) come in - saw 2 boys but -  
3 1/2 hrs  
train from Verdun 0300 next am - with M. & Andre -  
to Grandvillars - turned over to 2 guides to Surtz

2/100 20 or 21 Oct.

When Com in told  
said need to enter  
as the way.

To Pointing - went

To Bern saw Swiss an Officer - asked about Frs - particularly  
interested in B-29. Talked c 10 mins each way.

Asked who helped in Fr:

1) id tell that escaped in Fr - jumped off to work.

Turned over to MR - given money & clothing

Wrote out report for Lt Rexford.

C Month & 1/2 in Bern - then to Klosters - 9 Dec - End April

Then to Bern

Thick coffee Co at time

Signed something not to be <sup>Switz</sup> ~~read~~ - same as RAF

Something about my bills before left.

Going to July - but had wait until get out debt.

Left 2 Sept - hitch hike S - told could get across border easily.

1 Lt. Swiss  
lib by  
refuse  
left

TT(1), Sgt Ranges, Richard's 1. Pt together - split up  
by border of S.

Across Dent Park - Mogens

Thomson - sheltered by FFI police.

A Sept hit hit to Amnemas - see Mani

Pierre Sauvage - Editor Telerays du Pas de Calais & de la  
Somme - Barlogne - San. etc

Away into money - ~~Kathy~~ Alongis & Mc Donald.

To (1) remold - out Ross - C6.

To St Raphael in Aug.

Out for NLF - to Rome - Naples - MASF by

Cassabona -

Eng - up by train this am.



RESTRICTED

1. Because disclosures of information regarding evasion from capture, escape, details of imprisonment, release from internment, and repatriation have been made, the lives and services of fellow soldiers and those who help them have been lost or endangered. All information which you possess on these subjects, including the experiences of others as well as your own, briefings and equipment for evasion and escape, and preparations and other activities in connection therewith, constitutes MILITARY INFORMATION which is classified SECRET by the War Department.

2. You will therefore disclose no information whatever, beyond the fact of your return to duty from "missing in action" or "prisoner of war" or "internment", to anyone except the following military officials:

- a. The first Military Attache to whom you report;
- b. An officer designated by the Commanding General of an overseas Theatre of Operations;
- c. The Prisoner of War Branch, MIS, Washington, D.C., the interrogating agency designated by the A/C of S, G-2, War Department General Staff;
- d. Certain other officers holding written authority from the A/C of S, G-2, WDGS, to interrogate you.

3. You will particularly guard against disclosure of SECRET information to relatives, friends, representatives of the press and radio, and military officials, except as noted in a, b, c and d above.

4. In order to protect yourself against disciplinary action, any question involving publicity must be referred BY YOU PERSONALLY to the A/C of S, G-2, WDGS, Washington, D.C.

CERTIFICATE

I certify that I have read and fully understand all of the foregoing and the Directive of the Secretary of War, 6 Aug 43 (on the reverse side), and will at ALL TIMES hereafter comply fully therewith.

I understand that all information concerning escape, evasion from capture, activities and equipment in connection therewith, and details of imprisonment or release from internment, is SECRET and must not be disclosed to anyone except the military officials specifically designated. I further understand that disclosure to any other person will make me liable to disciplinary action for failure to safeguard MILITARY INFORMATION.

I realize that publicity concerning my experiences, by word of mouth or otherwise, will endanger the lives of many persons and therefore it is my duty to take all possible precautions to prevent it.

I further certify that I have received a copy of the foregoing.

Name (Print) *McKeon, James W.*..... Signed *James W. McKeon*.....  
 Rank *T/597*..... A.S.N. *31202045*..... Dated *9/12/44*..... Place *London*.....  
 Unit *384th G.P. 547th Sg.*..... Witness *W. Keenan Capt W.*.....

**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 Forces;  
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.

**RESTRICTED**

(See Reverse Side)



APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:-

Unit:-

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? *NOT NECESSARY*
- 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? *Yes ALL OF THEM*
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box? *GAVE IT TO FRENCH*
- 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?

*NO VERY PRACTICAL*

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? *Yes*  
State color of stripes and letters. *DON'T REMEMBER*  
If NOT, State why not.
- b. Did you use the purse? *NO, GAVE IT TO FRENCH BELIEF*

(over)

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

Maps. Which ones? FRENCH

Compass,

File (hacksaw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.

How did you spend the money? NO

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

} Gave ALL TO FRENCH ORGANISATION who aided US

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 FOUR

b. Did you use them? YES

5. LECTURES

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

TIMES BY Major Dolan 384th INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

b. Did you find the lectures of value?

VERY VALUABLE

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

Yes always seek out a PRIEST OR MINISTER

SECRET - AMERICAN  
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

APPENDIX "D" 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.,.....)

Received NO INFORMATION ON  
MILITARY SUBJECTS