

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.,.....)

SECRET

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

DONALD O. SMITH 2ND LT 0-813075
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

SEPT. 30, 1944
(Date)

384 GRP 545 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.

APR 13 1500 BETWEEN LAROCHE and MARCHE
IN BELGIUM

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

ALL ELECTRICITY OUT NO SUPERCHARGERS NO GAS

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

10,000
Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed?

YES 1SGT JAMES BROWN KILLED

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

ALL EXCEPT PILOT AND BROWN YES (POSSIBLE
EXCEPTION OF DUNNING

Did the plane explode on striking the ground?

YES

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

YES RADIO OPERATOR - WEISECKEL ON REACHING
SWITZERLAND

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.

YES PILOT SWANSON WAS REPORTED DEAD BY
UNDERGROUND. THEY SAID DOG TAGS WERE EXAMINED

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.

NO

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

ALL CREW MEMBERS ACCOUNTED FOR EXCEPT BOMBARDIER

2331
2d Lt Donald O SMITH
O-813075
545 Sqdn, 384 B Gp

30 Sept 44

On 13 April, I bailed out over BELGIUM and landed near SAMREE (Approx 4 mis NE of LAROCHE). I hid for two hours, then approached a young Belgian who brought a member of an underground organization to see me.

I was taken to the home of the local priest and then to a cabin in the woods. Here I found three Americans and four or five Belgian partizans. I was given civilian clothing and remained there three days.

→ Insert

At the end of that time, we started off in pairs. I went with a B-17 radio operator whose first name was THEODORE. We walked to ST HUBERT (14 mis SW of LAROCHE), and slept in a barn there overnight. Then we walked to BERTRIX (about 13 mis SW of ST HUBERT). THEODORE decided to return to SAMREE that afternoon, *so I went on alone.*

On 21 April, ~~I~~ made contact with another organization. ~~We~~ went to the home of the Phillips Radio dealer, and from there to the home of his parents at STE/CECILE. We were moved to a village about three kilos east, and remained there for three days. Then from ST MEDARD we went to a cave near HERBEUMONT. Here I met two other Americans, Sgt ROSKI and Lt KOWSINGER.

I was taken ~~and~~ to ORGEO where ~~we~~ stayed with the ex-burgomaster for about ten days. He seemed to be very prominent in the organization.

Then I went to SUGNY where I stayed in a cavern first, then with Mme DURY. The organization chief here was named GILLETTE. We then went to MOUZAIVE where we spent five days with a young lady and her mother. They owned a tobacco farm.

From there, we returned to SUGNY where we remained for four days. We then stayed ~~with~~ on a farm with a man who said he was from ANVERS.

Fighting started up in this section, so we decided to go on to Switzerland. GILLETTE took us to SEDAN in France. There we stayed three days with a schoolteacher. Then we were brought to NANCY and taken on the train to the station before MONTBELIARD. We walked to BLAMONT and went to the home of a retired protestant pastor.

~~I was~~ *(30 May)*
~~we were~~ put in touch with a young man and the next day/he guided ~~us~~ to within a kilometer of the frontier. ~~I~~ walked across the frontier to DAMVANT, and turned myself in to the Swiss police.

I was kept at PORRENTUUY for four days, then sent to BAD-LUSTORF for the remaining 17 days of quarantine. On 25 June, I was sent to GLION and I remained there until about 15 Sept, when about 40 of us were put on a train and taken to the border to be released. There American trucks met us and took us to ANNECY. I was flown to the UK from ANNECY on 29 Sept.

HIGLENN

The White Army leader told me that our pilot, LT HERBERT T SWANSON, was killed when he attempted a crash landing near SAMREE. He claimed that he had examined the dog tags. The top turret gunner, Sgt JAMES YOUNG was killed by enemy action before we left the plane.

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

TARGET: SCHWEINFURT

SMITH DONALD O. SNR 0418075
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

Date mission in action: APR 13, 44

3 (No. of missions)

Date arrived in UK: MAR 25

Sept 29, 44

545 384
(Squadron) (Group)

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

Indicate what
happened to each man
and how you know.

PILOT HERBERT T. SWANSON (REPORTED KILLED WHILE
CO-PILOT DONALD O. SMITH + ATTEMPTING CRASH LANDING
BY MARQUIS)
NAVIGATOR CHARLES O. WHITE REPORTED PW BY RED CROSS
BOMBARDIER AUSTIN W. DUNNING NO INFORMATION
RADIO OPERATOR CLARENCE WEISECKEL (ESCAPED TO SWITZERLAND)
TOP TURRET GUNNER JAMES YOUNG KILLED IN ACTION
BALL TURRET GUNNER WILLIAM MCINTOSH REPORTED PW BY RED CROSS
WAIST GUNNER DONALD BROWN " " " " "
WAIST GUNNER ? SACK " " " " "
TAIL GUNNER EDWARD ZABINSKI " " " " "

Decorations: NONE

Date of Birth: APR. 21, 1924

Private Address: 131 RUSSELL AVE, WATERTOWN, MASS.

Length of Service: 1 1/2 YRS.

Job as Civilian: STUDENT

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

KETTERING APPROX. 0800

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? YES

Were you wounded? Give details.

NO

Did you pay your guides? If so, how much? 3000 FR. TO CROSS SWISS FRONT.

Do you speak FRENCH? YES SPANISH? GERMAN? ITALIAN? OTHER LANGUAGE?

Did you have identity papers? YES

(over)

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

YES IN ANNECY FRANCE - SEPT. 20
IN BERN, SWITZERLAND - JUNE 22 (TO MILITARY ATTACHE)

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

YES SEE ABOVE

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

YES SEE ABOVE

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

YES IN BERN, SWITZERLAND JUNE 22

Date of arrival in Spain:

Date of arrival at Gibraltar:

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

ANNECY FRANCE SEPT 29 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.

LT. — KISINGER (LAST SEEN IN TERRITORY
WHICH HAS BEEN LIBERATED)

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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.,.....)

ALL TERRITORY I COVERED HAS ALREADY BEEN
LIBERATED. NO INFORMATION OTHERWISE.

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO.
EVASION IN

(Date)

(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

384 Bomb Group

(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET:

MIA: 13 April 1944

Arrived in UK:

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWID)

				Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT	0-813075	2d Lt	Donald O SMITH		INTERMED 2331
CO-PILOT	0-806169	2d Lt	Herbert T SWANSON		MIA ✓
NAVIGATOR	0-696183	2d Lt	Charles O WHITE		MIA P/W ✓
BOMBARDIER	0-754795	2d Lt	Austin W DUNNING		MIA ✓
RADIO OPERATOR	16156743	S/Sgt	Clarence M WIESECKEL		INTERMED 2353
TOP TURRET GUNNER	19202866	S/Sgt	James H YOUNG ✓ <i>had</i>		MIA ✓
BALL TURRET GUNNER	16148461	Sgt	Gordon W McINTOSH ✓ <i>safe?</i>		MIA ✓ P/W ✓
WAIST GUNNER	36726985	Sgt	Edward F ZABINSKI ✓ <i>safe?</i>		MIA P/W ✓
WAIST GUNNER	35516248	Sgt	Ralph W SACK		MIA ✓
TAIL GUNNER	32474846	Sgt	Donald M BROWN ✓ <i>safe?</i>		MIA P/W ✓

Were you wounded?

7 jumped; crashed at Madrin

Check files

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- LT. DONALD O. SMITH

Unit:- 384TH GROUP. 545 SP

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? YES
- 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. NOT USED

Chocolate or Peanut Bar. HAD NONE

Milk (tube). " "

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). NO NEED FOR IT

Halazone tablets (water purifier). USED A GREAT DEAL WHILE WALKING THROUGH WOODS

Matches. HAD NONE

Adhesive tape. USED FOR BLISTERS WHILE WALKING

Chewing gum. —

Water bottle. ALSO USED WHILE WALKING

Compass. OF GREAT HELP WHILE TRAVELING THROUGH WOODED COUNTRY

Sewing kit. NOT USED

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? NO
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box? GIVEN FOR SOUVENIR
- 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

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? YES
- State color of stripes and letters. RED (F)?
- If NOT, State why not.

- b. Did you use the purse? YES

(over)

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

Maps. Which ones? FRANCE - NORTH FRANCE, BELGIUM

Compass. YES

File (hacksaw). NO

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

FRANCE - 2,000 francs

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps. SOUVENIRS - to Belgians

Compass. LOST

File (hacksaw). SOUVENIR - Belgians

Surplus currency. BROUGHT TO SWITZERLAND. Used.

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

YES

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? YES

If so, how many? 8

b. Did you use them? YES

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? YES

State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM. GRAND ISLAND, NEB - ESCAPED PRIS.
BOUINGTON, ENG. INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

384 & GRP INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

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?

UNDERGROUND

I FOUND THAT AN ORGANIZATIONS, CONTRARY TO
ADVICE FROM INTELLIGENCE, WERE OFTEN MORE
INCLINED TO HOLD EVADEES WITH THEM THAN
TO AID THEM ON THEIR WAY. THEREFORE, I DONT
THINK IT IS TOO ADVISABLE TO REMAIN WITH
ONE ORGANIZATION FOR A LONG TIME AWAITING
AID IN ESCAPING.

2331

SMITH, DONALD O. 2ND LT 0-913075 545 5A 384 GMP 8TH AF
Name Rank & Serial No. Organization & Air Force.

Shot down: APR 13 LAROCHE BELGIUM
Date & Approximate location.

Experiences after being shot down: SPENT ONE MONTH WITH
ORGANIZATIONS IN BELGIUM - THEN
TOOK OFF FOR SWITZERLAND - GOT IN
TOUCH WITH HELP AT SEDAN TO NANCY
AND WENT BY TRAIN AND FOOT TO BORDER

Status: Escapee - Evader - Internee.

Date of Escape: MAY 30, 1944

Date of Arrival at MAAF: SEPT 13, 1944

Physical Condition: GOOD

REMARKS: I FOUND SWITZERLAND OK

Home Address: 131 RUSSELL AVE, WATERTOWN, MASS.

Departed MAAF Hq.:

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) DONALD O. SMITH

Signed Donald O. Smith

Rank 2ND LT. A.S.N. 0-813075

Dated SEP 30 1944 Place LONDON

Unit 384 G.R.P. 545 SQ

Witness John J. Henry, Capt. MC

RESTRICTED

WAR DEPARTMENT
The Adjutant General's Office
Washington

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

KIS/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)

Lt. Herbert T. SWANSON - crash-landed nr.

SAMRÉE. Killed. White Army ldr said dog
tags examined. Also Sgt James YOUNG

— #

(4 mi NE of Laroche)

Apr 13 - (fighters) bailed out SAMRÉE, 2nd 2 hrs.

Approached young Belgian. He brot member of
org. to home of local priest then to a cabin
in woods - 3 Amer. + 4 or 5 Partisans. civis given.

3 days, then left in 20. Theodore, r/p in B-17. (Rtd aft
1 1/2 days) & org sd stay. Walked to St Hubert, (14 mi SW Laroche)
(13 mi SW St H) barn, to Bertrix (Theodore left) 21 Apr - contact another org

Phillips RADIO Dealer's home - to his parents home
at Ste. Cécile. Moved to village 3 kilos e. - 3 days St Médard
to cave Herbeumont - 2 Americans Sgt Roski + Lt Kowington

Back to Orgco - ex-burgomaster, prom in org. Aft 10 days

To Sugny ~~for~~ in cavern + mine dug. Chief-Gillette,

to mouz Aive & gladly + moth 5 days. She owned

Tobacco farm. To Sugny - 4 days. On farm on border

of man from ANVERS. (?) (France)

Htg. Is going to Switz. to seduce Gillette. 3d

& sch teacher. Brot to Vaux, nr to Sta bef Montbeliard

Walked to Blamont. Dorneu retired protestant pastor

Put in touch w y. man - next d guided
on hillon & frontier. Walked across to DAMVANT ^{alone}
Turned in. ~~3~~⁴ days quar. at CORRENTREY - then
17 days - BAD LOSTORT - to ELION - 25 June
there till ~~and~~ about 13 Sept.

Told not to escape. Signed paper abt June 21
Gen Legge.

Later WD order & court-martial expected

Left - abt 40 - on train to border - Americans
in trucks at border. to ARRECY. Flown on 29/7/44