

AG 383.6

Hq ETOUSA

19 October 1942

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 EISENHOWER:

(signed) RALPH PULSIFER,
Colonel, AGD, Ass't. Adj. Gen.

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) CHARLES B. DOWNER Signed Charles B. Downer
Rank 2nd LT A.S.N. 0-678624 Date 2/19/44
Unit 384th GP. (BOMB.) Witness Arthur W. Smith
Col. G.S.C.

RESTRICTED

2

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;
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.

GERTIFICATE

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) CHARLES O. DOWNES Signed Charles O. Downes
 Rank 2/1st Lt A. S. N. 6628624 Dated 2/24/44
 Unit 304th Bomb Co. Witness _____

RESTRICTED

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.
CHARLES O. DOWNE - 2/11 - 0-678624
2. Decorations.
NONE
3. Unit or Squadron.
544TH SQDN. 1384TH BOMB. GP.
4. Division (Army) or Group.
USAAF - 8TH USAAF
5. Date of Birth.
CLEVELAND, OHIO
6. Length of Service.
3 YRS.
7. Private Address.
203 TREMONT AVE. BRANGE, N.J.
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? Were Aircraft and all instruments and papers destroyed?
STUTTGART RAID. DEPARTED FROM GAARTON-UNDERWOOD, 7/6/48 AT 6:00 P.M. LANDED BETWEEN PARIS + BEAUVAIS AT 11:30 P.M. YES
9. What was your position in aircraft?
NAVIGATOR
10. Were you wounded?
NOT SURE IF WOUND WAS
11. Did you pay your guides? If so how much?
NO
12. Do you speak French? Spanish?
SOME FRENCH
13. Did you have Identity Papers?
NO
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?
YES. AT MADRID TO ENGLISH INTELLIGENCE. AT GIBRALTAR ON 2/20/44
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. AT MADRID ON 2/18/44
17. Date of arrival in Spain.
1/26/44
18. Date of arrival at Gibraltar.
2/19/44
19. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air.
2/23/44 AT GIBRALTAR. BY AIR
20. Place and date of arrival in U.K.
2/24/44. AT BRISTOL

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

E & E REPORT NO.
EVASION IN FRANCE

2 / 24 / 44
(Date)

CHARLES J. DOWNE 2/Lt. 0-678624
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET: STUTTGART

544th Sqad 384th Gp.
(Squadron) (Group)

MISSIONS:

AGE: 22
LENGTH OF SERVICE: 3 years
HOME ADDRESS: 203 TREMANT AVE.
ORANGE, N.J.

MIA: 9 / 6 / 43
Arrived in Spain: 1 / 26 / 44
Arrived in Gibraltar: 1 / 17 / 44
Arrived in UK: 1 / 24 / 44

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

	Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT <u>2/Lt. L.H. AURMUTH</u> -	LAST SEEN IN WOODS WHERE	
CO-PILOT <u>2/Lt. J. McMATH</u> -	LANDED BETWEEN BEAUVAIS + PARIS	
NAVIGATOR <u>2/Lt. C.O. DOWNE</u> -	"	
BOMBARDIER <u>2/Lt. J.C. JENSEN</u> -	LAST SEEN IN WOODS WHERE	
RADIO OPERATOR <u>Sgt. L. WEATHERFORD</u> -	LANDED.	"
TOP TURRET GUNNER <u>T/Sgt. ROBERT K. PRICE</u> -	"	"
BALL TURRET GUNNER <u>S/Sgt. JAMES WALKER</u> -	"	"
WAIST GUNNER <u>S/Sgt. CHARLES FISHER</u> -	"	"
WAIST GUNNER <u>S/Sgt. JOSEPH SMITH</u> -	"	"
TAIL GUNNER <u>S/Sgt. CARL BACHMANN</u> -	LAST SEEN IN LIVRY-	

AG REPORT: KNOWN INFO: All of crew known to have landed safely and uninjured. GARGAN, NEAR PARIS. IN SAFE HANDS

Were you wounded?

HAVE HAD AN OPEN WOUND ON LEG FOR SOME TIME, I DON'T KNOW WHETHER I RECEIVED IT IN ACTION OR NOT

2/Lt. HOWARD SHERMAN - LAST SEEN IN PARIS
BELIEVED SAFE
1st/Lt. ELWOOD ARP - " " "
F/O ERNEST GRUBB in bil
2/Lt. CHAUNCEY HICKS - Spain
T/ser. JAMES TRACY - Spain
2/Lt. CARL MILLER - Cal
2/Lt. JACK HORTON - mts - Pyrenees

left w/ with Bachmann: Saw John & Wayne - acres fld - behind by
June & wife - hid us in wds - got us clothes - gave them our clothes - left
headed north - creole plane & went south - slept in barn for night -
had walked thru fld & wds - started out & walked at noon - June & wife -
alone - up to it - man & wife & 2 daughters - used his school bench - asked
for food - lunch - man said stay in wds & for dinner - after dinner -
walked along road - dressed in dirty coat & worn trousers - worn red shirt
& shoes - walked several hrs - haystack - slept there - walked - reached
Seine - ground guzzlers - and bridge guarded - went to island -
rowed boat to island - house in middle - asked chap & wife &
son pod. told Amer - they gave us hats - rowed us across river -
walked again - headed south, not Paris - mid afternoon - woman's house -
woman in yard - went up to her - taken inside - food - said I'd stay that
nite in attic - next am, left at 10 am. - south along road -
followed road - (using AB opening) - used water bottles - had a salt tablet &
til evening - to house in hat in sinimieres - asked for food -
woman scared - we left - up rd a mile - another house - taken in - food -
asked if knew of help - said no - woman spoke English: Mme Thivier -
said she tutored w. Churchill's daughter - her house over nite -
she knew of man nearby - with tabs - he'd drive us down -
we stayed all day - next am (Sat) - to Montargis in main bk - this
man's uncle was chef on train - we been hidden in wds
near Montargis - boy who spoke Eng & young girl came from
Uncle to say we were gup to be flown back - a man was coming
to see us - that eve - middle aged man came to see us - said
in Org - hidden in dsld June & wife - stayed here from Sat til
Thurs - Montargis man they care of us - flying Thurs - drive
to Nequières - stay M. Demouvaux - stayed from 16 Sept to
16 Nov - in hands of Justice head of this area (dont check - dark
curly hair 28 yrs old) Georges - Albert, Georges brother-in-law
visited us - from Paris: chief of Justice - tall, thin, scar on nose, dark hair -
had wife with him; had lived in Boston 25 yrs - short red haired woman -
she said flying week we wd go to Paris & to Spain - ~~she~~ Georges said
we went up train - taken by Albert to train - met a crippled man
Mrs Nicholas - with sixth-in-law - to Paris - stayed in (Livy - Gargant)
an. his house - met Sherman Aug Hicks & Fred (Annie) -
stayed 16 Nov - 17 Dec - Tracy came - 29 airmen within blocks
in this town - Sgt Steph Koval, Lt Nathan Weltman, Wm Bennet 1/2 of RAF

Lt. Mildren, Sgt Cunningham, Lt. Bolesta, - all of Lwry Borgan in
on Org - Andre, wine merchant in town, was claimed he had been
collaborator, we had dinner at his house, wealthy - not collaborator as
far as I can see - has trade with Gerry -

Nicholas + Janine taking care of everything -
One party there Nicholas before we got there (Tracy's crew) - Nicholas
said they had gotten there (4 in party) -

17 Dec - Nicholas and all 29 fug to Paris - all to meet in front
of church - be met in truck - + go to Brittany -

16 left by truck - Grubb in party -
13 in car (Miller, Horton, Tracy, Hicks off, 2 Eng boys, Sherman
Arg, Bachmann, Sgt Miller + Sgt Schaeffer)

went to Paris then back to Lwry + excitement because
something had happened - met Grubb + Jim Timoshinski (Polish) - spit fire -

Hicks with - went to M. Mourrot - most ferret -
3 miles away - Andre Mourrot friend of Nicholas + in Org -

Ernie + John said they had gone to Paris were in charge
guy in front of church - why for us - Then Gestapo came
out of church + all evaders taken - Ernie + John

one only 2 who escaped - they met Janine in auto car -
Think Nicholas told Miller traitor was -

Nich used us once at Audre on Sunday after Friday night prison -
he taken on Tues with wife, father-in-law - had that Nicholas
was still alive 18-19 January -

We stayed in Audre a month - Bizet came to see us -
in Dutch Org - woman came (yug woman) - they were going to get us out
of there - 16 Jan she th Grubb + self to Paris - in apt - yug man

thick Miller + Horton - yug woman 24-25 - large - Dutch Jewess -
went to leave for Toulouse - Miller + 2 to station with her - Grubb + Horton

with yug man - guide: a Dutchman there - followed him - Toulouse -
two yug men: Pierre + ~~some~~ Miroant: to cafe - to apt - Miller Horton + Grubb -

met 2 Dutch boys: Robert Van Exeter + Rudolph - met Cassidy + Husong
with 2 Dutch - left for small town - stayed 2 days in deserted house
with Pierre + Miroant + Miller + Horton stayed in Toulouse -
Two days in hse - The started to village a frontier -

to another town - small village - along frontier - as ^{it} was stated for us -
walked all night - 26th crossed frontier at LES - stay night - customs
officials took care of us - interrogated - told them had escaped from prison -
took from us all money etc - Franco - Espagnole hotel - stay
all night - in Sp. custody - called Barcelona (Am Consulate) -
Told us we had to stay in Sp. custody - to ^{week} Viella - week - met by
Lt Lockwood - Lt Ruff - Sgt Knapp - Sgt Berthold - Sgt Jazmann
Sgt Martin - Sgt Scott - all of us to ^{overnight} Sorte - met Barcelona
rep (Sgt) - following day to ^{several days} Lerida - Sgt Jazman & Scott - had
pictures - I kept my I.C. til Col Huzjen - Alhama - overnight -
Col. Huzjen - Madrid - arr. Feb 19th Feb -
Patrol point - wife of warden of jail at LES - all info to Jerry -
French boy in hospital Viella told us this -

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.,.....)

1. Heavy shipping supplies in Red Cross vehicles - around Montargis -
2. Saw trucks moving west thru Paris with full fld equipment - January -
3. A navigator ~~got~~ had map of Renault works - said it was all right - this 8 or 9 Dec -
4. @ Montargis - two reg. of transports -
5. 5000 ^{infantry} troops in Montargis - large buses in Meviers - command center here - anti/a/c unit in Gondreville (14 or 15 men)

hm

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO. 411
EVASION IN FRANCE

25 Feb 44
(Date)

C
Charles DOWNE, 2d Lt 0-678624
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)
544 Bomb Sq, 384 Bomb Group
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET: STUTTGART

MIA: 6 September 1943
Arrived in UK:
24 February 1944

No. of missions were not being done at this time's interrogation
MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWLB)

				Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT	0-524542	2d Lt	Lester H AUFMUTH	MIA	
CO-PILOT	0-680668	2d Lt	James G McMATH	E&E #183	
NAVIGATOR	0-678624	2d Lt	Charles C DOWNE	NARRATOR	
BOMBARDIER	0-671365	2d Lt	James C JENSEN, JR	MIA	
RADIO OPERATOR	34337979	S/Sgt	Louie F WEATHERFORD	E&E #251	
TOP TURRET GUNNER	15111188	T/Sgt	Robert K PRICE	MIA	
BALL TURRET GUNNER	18160097	S/Sgt	James L WAGNER	E&E #141	
WAIST GUNNER	32462898	S/Sgt	Carl D BACHMAN		MIA IN NEUTRAL COUNTRY
WAIST GUNNER	14052781	S/Sgt	Joseph H SMITH	MIA	
TAIL GUNNER	13041301	S/Sgt	Charles A FISHER	E&E #140	

~~AG REPORT: KNOWN INFO: All crew landed safely.~~

Were you wounded?

which ~~were~~ ^{were} needed and ~~had not been able to get~~ ^{unobtainable} from our first helpers. After our lunch the Frenchman rowed us on across the

ADVISED TO AVOID PARIS

river, and pointed out the best southerly direction for us to ~~go~~ ^{travel}. He advised us not to go to PARIS and ~~his route was to~~ ^{marked a route in our maps}

~~that~~ ^{led} us ~~around~~ ^{west} of the city.

About mid~~day~~ ^{spoke to a} afternoon we stopped again when passing a woman working alone in her front yard. She took us ~~inside~~ as soon as I stated we were Americans, ~~and told us that~~ She could not give us much help but ^{said} we could stay for dinner and sleep in ~~the~~ ^{her} attic that night.

No help during THIRD DAY

~~THE next morning~~ ^{the next day} We slept late, and started out about mid-morning. FOR lunch ~~this day~~ we ate some of the tablets from our Aids Box. WE still were using the Aids BOXes sparingly ~~and~~ ^{and} we didn't want to approach people for help until ~~the~~ ^{necessary.} situation was just right. It was almost dusk before we entered a small village to ~~ask~~ ^{ask} for food, and at the first house the woman we ~~asked~~ ^{approached} was too frightened ~~so we left her~~ ^{to help.} almost immediately.

FOURTH DAY - SOJOURN ARRANGED

About a mile further along the road we tried another woman and found that she could speak ENGLISH. WE asked her if she knew of ~~anyone~~ anyone who could help get us out of FRANCE. WE spent a night in this house and waited for a man ^{after} to ~~come see us~~ ^{visit} the next day. After his arrival, and we had been carefully questioned to establish our identity, our journey was arranged, ~~from there~~ ^{my companion}. Later I was separated from ~~my~~ the crew member who was travelling with me and I have not seen him since.

Compiled by
Cope with

APPENDIX B:

a. French stated that in the area of MONTARGIS the Germans are transporting war materials in Red Cross vehicles. *September 1943*

b. In January evader saw German troops with full field equipment travelling west through PARIS.

c. ~~In flight in the vicinity of MONTARGIS~~ Evader saw many twin-engine and transport ships. *Mid-September, 1943.*
flying in the vicinity of MONTARGIS;

d. Evader was told that there were 5000 German infantry troops in MONTARGIS, that there was a large communications center at ~~MENIERES~~ MIGNIERES and an anti-aircraft unit of 15 men in GONDREVILLE. *mid-September 1943.*

10 Kms

GONDREVILLE (Loiret) Northwest of Montargis
MIGNIERES (LOIRET) 3 Kms South west of GONDREVILLE.

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND F REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:-

Unit:-

Downe

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.

ON MARCH FOR 4 DAY

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?

NO

2. PURSE

a. Did you carry a purse?
State color of stripes and letters.

Yes - 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?

Compass. **YES**

File (hacksaw). **YES**

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.

How did you spend the money?

+ CIGARETTES

2000 Francs
~~FOR FRENCH. FOR CLOTHES~~
~~1000 francs for clothes~~

d. How did you dispose of :-

Maps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency:

LEFT FOR SOUVENIRS

GAVE TO GUIDES;

~~Pierre / Minax~~
~~Jeques, he is~~
~~Haloungore us~~
~~1000 francs - gave~~
~~back to Pierre~~

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 (not like French - image too small)

b. Did you use them?

NO

5. LECTURES

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

YES. AT BOVINGDON AND BASE
~~AT GRANTON UNDERHOOD.~~

b. Did you find the lectures of value?

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

YES. NOT TRAVEL IN FRANCE BY DAY because of curfew.

② Walk through fields & hedges; ~~XXXXXX~~ secondary roads safer than highways.

③ STAY away from large towns
~~WE WERE NOT TRAVEL BY NIGHT; because of curfew we walked in daytime~~