

**CONFIDENTIAL**

HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS  
UNITED STATES ARMY  
OFFICE OF THE A. C. OF S., G-2

743

DATE: 15 June 1944

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, PICARD, OSCAR P., 1st Lt., AC, O-569761

hereby certify that I have known and have been associated with

ROYSTON T. COVINGTON, JR., 1st Lt., AC, O-679049

prior to his being reported missing in action over enemy territory.

The person whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon is the individual referred to above.

Royston T. Covington Jr.  
RIGHT THUMB PRINT:



Oscar P. Picard

=====  
The individual whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon has been identified to the satisfaction of this office as ROYSTON T. COVINGTON, JR., 1st Lt., AC, O-679049 (544 Bomb Squadron -384 Bomb Group) previously reported missing in action over enemy territory.

W.F. Maranda  
W.F. MARANDA, SPECIAL AGENT, C.I.C.  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

AG 383.6

Hq ETOUSA

19 October 1944

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 HENHOWER:

(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) Rayston T. Covington Jr. Signed Rayston T. Covington Jr.  
 Rank 1st Lt. A.S.N. 0-699049 Date June 12, 1944  
 Unit 384<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp. Witness H. V. M. H.

MILITARY LIAISON OFFICE  
AMERICAN CONSULATE  
GIBRALTAR

H. V. M. H.  
Colonel, G.S.C.  
U. S. Mil. Lia. Off.

SECRET

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

E & E REPORT NO 743  
EVASION IN

June 15, 1944  
(Date)

Royston T. Covington Jr. - 1st Lt. 0-679049 TARGET: Frankfurt  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

10 (No of Missions)

Date Missing in Action: Feb. 8, 1944

544 384  
(Squadron) (Group)

Date Arrived in UK: June 15, 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWLB)

Indicate what happened to  
each man  
and how you know

PILOT Lt. R. T. Covington Jr.

CO-PILOT Lt. James E. Geary

NAVIGATOR Lt. Floyd H. Ohlson

BOMBARDIER Lt. Thomas P. McGuinn

RADIO OPERATOR T/Sgt. Kenneth P. Christain ExE 422

TOP TURRET GUNNER T/Sgt. John J. Yankers PIW

ORL TURRET GUNNER S/Sgt. William W. Onstad

WING GUNNER Cpl. William C. Caine

WING GUNNER S/Sgt. Stanley C. Whitney

TAIL GUNNER S/Sgt. Alex M. Wasilewski

Were you wounded? No

Perhaps Tail Gunner

The French reported 7 men captured within 5 Hours and other turned over to the Germans by a Frenchman 2 days later for money. I saw none of them but the one that was turned in ran away from the people that helped me. - All bailed out but the Germans reported the Pilot Killed.



TOP SECRET

E & E CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Rayston T. Covington Jr. - 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. - 0-679049 June 15, 1944  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN) (Date)

384<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gr. (H), 544<sup>th</sup> Bomb Sqdn.  
(Unit)

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

Feb. 8, 1944, 1315, 5 Miles S.E. of Cherbourg (St. Thiel?)

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out.

Was it on fire, etc?

Left wing on fire, engines acting up and controls shot away (partially). #2 Engine on fire.

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

800 Feet

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

Uncertain of injuries but all alive when they bailed out.

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

All bailed out. Certain of 9.

Did the plane explode on striking the ground?

No - (Before) - Reported by French.

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground? No.

Did he receive any information from others as to whether any other members of the crew were dead or alive? If so give detailed furnished by his informant and whether the other crew members were identified by name or otherwise.

Seven reported captured within 5 Hours and one member turned over to Germans 2 days later by a Frenchman for bribe. This one member ran away from the same people that aided me. Pilot reported killed. Information by French.

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

Saw wreckage on German truck and there was very little.

If the plane crashed in water how far was the plane from land and 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?

As explained above except for the pilot's death, naturally, since I am the pilot and uncertain of the one man that was turned over to the Germans. Description was not good enough but resembled Tail Gunner.

Comment: 743:

~~Read~~ Note evader's suggestion  
in Appendix D on necessity of  
silence in Spain. New evidence  
has come in that border hotels  
and Spanish jails are hang-outs  
for German spies. For example,  
there is an American named  
William F. (Bill) O'Brien at the  
Hotel Norte in Irun who is  
~~questioning Americans~~ buys  
drinks for evaders at the hotel  
bar and <sup>pumps</sup> ~~questions~~ them about  
helpers and military matters.

SECRET - AMERICAN  
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO. 743  
EVASION IN FRANCE

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Royston T COVINGTON, JR, 1st Lt, O-679049

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

10 missions

544 Bomb Squadron, 384 Bomb Group

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET: FRANKFURT

MIA: 8 February 1944

Arrived in UK:

15 June 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

				Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT	O-679049	1st Lt	Royston T COVINGTON		NARRATOR
CO-PILOT	O-748624	2d Lt	James E GEARY		P/W
NAVIGATOR	O-683297	2d Lt	Floyd H OHLSON		P/W
BOMBARDIER	O-674786	2d Lt	Thomas P McQUINN		P/W
RADIO OPERATOR	17129189	T/Sgt	Kenneth P C CHRISTERN		E&E #472
TOP TURRET GUNNER	31135578	T/Sgt	John J YUNKER		P/W
BALL TURRET GUNNER	19145947	S/Sgt	William W ONSTAD		P/W
WAIST GUNNER	35415325	Epl	William C CAINE		P/W
WAIST GUNNER	39902707	S/Sgt	Stanley C WHITNEY		P/W
TAIL GUNNER	31148585	S/Sgt	Aleck M WASILEWSKI		P/W

Were you wounded?



SEE E&E  
472  
972

When we were returning from the target on deck after being hit by flak, Me 109's came after us near the coast and coastal batteries opened up on us. Number two engine caught on fire and the whole left wing was burning. I gained altitude and <sup>at</sup> about 950 feet ordered the ~~my~~ crew to bail out. I continued to climb to about 1200 feet, <sup>and</sup> I bailed out at 800 feet, ~~after having some trouble with the automatic pilot.~~

HELPED  
IMMEDIATELY

I came down through a tree which broke the force of my fall. I hid my parachute and mae west in some bushes and looked for cover, but the hedges and sparse trees furnished little opportunity to hide. Before I had gone very far six Frenchmen came to me and asked me whether I spoke French. ~~They satisfied themselves that I was an American.~~ The phrase list which Lt PICARD had given us at group proved extremely helpful, ~~in our interchanges.~~ ~~When~~ They satisfied themselves that I was an American, and I asked them for food, not because I was hungry but because I wanted to see whether they would help me. Two men had already gone for food and soon returned with it. The men made me stay in the field in which I had landed. They covered the muddy ground with straw, had me lie down, and covered me with more straw. Some cows in the field kept ~~covering~~ coming over and eating the straw, and my helpers were kept busy bringing over more straw to keep me covered.

HID

~~GERMAN~~  
GERMAN  
SC ARCHT

Within a couple of hours the German came, scouring the country. I could see them between the cows' legs. I think <sup>that</sup> the cows were all ~~that~~ saved me, for the Germans did not pay any attention to <sup>them</sup> ~~my vicinity.~~ I found out later that the Germans had blocked all the roads, <sup>in the Cherbourg Peninsula.</sup> ~~in the peninsula.~~

JOURNEY  
ARRANGED

At 2100 my friends brought me more food. Then I was taken to a place from which my journey was arranged.

Compiled by  
E  
D EMERSON  
1st Lt, AUS

Approved by  
W STULL HOLT  
Lt Col, AC  
Commanding

Appendix B

1. The following information has been obtained from an officer who evaded capture in enemy occupied territory.

2. Further circulation of this information may be made, but in that case it is important not to divulge any details about the source

1944

Statement of information covering the period from 8 February to 17 May

- a. Informant was told in February that within 25-30 km of CHERBOURG there were three circular gun positions ~~around~~ which no Frenchmen were allowed to approach. Three Germans were said to be kept at these positions. When the Germans were changed every three months they were brought out under heavy guard and returned to Germany. A thick cement wall surrounded ~~the~~ <sup>each</sup> installation. The woods were supposed to be cleared around the installations, but the installations were supposed to be well camouflaged.
- b. Informant was told that there ~~is~~ <sup>was</sup> a huge ammunition dump/N of VALOGNES to the N of the main road from CHERBOURG, ~~about~~ in the vicinity of St JOSEPH.
- c. On the N side of the road between CHERBOURG and VALOGNES informant saw many anti-tank guns about 100 or 200 feet off the highway. The guns seemed to point to ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> coast, and informant could not tell whether or not they rotated.
- d. Informant was not that near les PLEUX are some large towers (four, so it was said) with wires. This installation was rumored to be a German secret weapon to knock out airplane engines or radios.
- e. Frenchman on the coast between CHERBOURG and BARNEVILLE had been evacuated.
- f. Benzine was reported to be stored in fields S of the station in MONTEBOURG.
- g. Informant was told that in the Arsenal at CHERBOURG there was an underground ~~place~~ <sup>shelter</sup> for storing PT boats. Six was supposed to be there in February. Crews for 20 more PT boats were also supposed to be in the city ~~without boats~~. The Germans were supposed to be constructing more of these shelters.
- h. In the Arsenal was said to be an important plant for distilling water for submarines.. W of this distilling plant is the powerhouse for the Arsenal.
- i. N of ~~St LO~~ <sup>St LO</sup> the telephone building in St LO there was said to be an important German communications center, an underground installation with thick reinforced concrete.
- j. Informant was told that many German generals lived in a chateau W of St Lo so informant was told
- k. About 25-30 km SW of St LO was a very large electric plant which was said to furnish most of the power for the region.
- l. COUTANCES was said to be very heavily fortified and full of German soldiers.
- m. Gestapo headquarters in St LO were said to be located at a building in the eastern suburbs in a large house on the right hand side of the road out of town
- n. In TOULOUSE in middle May informant saw a number of Germans in khaki uniforms with red arm bands bearing a swastika.



## Appendix D

*aids box*

1. I used all the contents of my purse. The cover was useful as a cup during the Pyrenees crossing. The peanut bar <sup>was</sup> too dry, and the waterbottle <sup>was</sup> no use at all, because the water continually spilled. ~~There should be a new water bag and more chewing gum.~~

2. I had a ~~Red~~ purse.

3. I had an extra compass and a phrase list.

3A. I had six passport-size photographs, two of which I used on identity papers.

4. I was lectured many times by various people at 384 Bomb Gp. The lectures were very good.

5. Suggestion: ~~Destroy~~ all escape aids before entering Spain and answer no questions which the Spanish ask you.

Pierre  
Hugon  
Paris

Rownie SWAYNE esq. Tillington Court. Herefort.  
John Yeo esq. Belvedere Lodge. Swanage. Dorset.  
Mrs Whitehead, Stormer Hill. Tottington, near Bury. Lancashire.  
Mrs Tyssen-Gée, Fairways, Colley Manor, Reigate Heath. Surrey.  
Mrs Sterndale-Bennette, The Cottage, Uppingham. Rutland.  
Mrs Miller, 23 Brompton square, London S.W. 3.  
Mrs King, Glenfinnart, Flower Lane, Mill Hill, N.W. 7.  
Mrs Farnfield, Emscote Lawn, Warwick.  
Dennis Oswald esq. Caerlaverock House, Uppingham, Rutland.  
Ralph Griffith, The Old House, Great Barton, Bury-St Edmunds.  
Miss Violette Campbell, Palmyra house, 5 Aigburth Vale. Liverpool  
Hector Davies esq. 4 Swan Walk, or 1 Tedworth square, 17  
London S.W.3.  
Louis Wreford-Brown, Bartlemas Farm House, Oxford.  
Edwin B. Calvert esq. Cheltenham College, Gloucestershire.  
John Hardie Esq. The Central Hotel. Uppingham, Rutland.

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.,.....)

1st Co, Spring from a jellie with heavy tank - 50 3 gun positions with -  
25-30 tons Cherbourg - circular - no air within 3 miles -  
300 this constant changed every 3 mths - heavily guarded - thick  
cement wall around place - no idea what used to be  
Works cleared out around - well camouflaged.

Very nice dunes - N Valognes - main road - c 5-1 Josephs - in a  
very large woods. all left with road.

Along road Cherbourg - Valognes - anti-tank guns - with in  
100-200' - highway - in hills - road - in ground.  
Toed part toward west - not known whether not at.  
6 miles N junction - Valognes - near Beaumont - earth where high  
ranging guns & big missile unit.

By NW by D/F - but no plans.  
Also the large gun installation - look like circle -  
counts 5-6 - suggested throw gas bombs.

Near Les Pieux large towers with wires - rumors  
that a secret weapon to be used at night - ~~was~~ rumors

[at Cherbourg on radio went intercept & P]

People down to Barentzville evacuated from coast:

5<sup>th</sup> Station Montebourg - benzene in fields.  
L7 MI' - In Arsenal at C - place underground to store PT  
boats - 6 tons when I - cross for 20 min - but no boats  
Constructing new plans - new fuel cement.

Starting put PT boats = N of Port - & along coast to W.

In Arsenal a plant for distilled water for subs. (N/A)

Just W procedure for arsenal.

2nd S+L. a telephone Bldg - N of it a communication center for either  
for & being - underground - thick reinforced cement -  
W of town a earth where my to ground line - W of station -  
by stream - a straight line for to any.  
Sh - 25-30 km by electric plant - supply area.



Cantonment very heavily fortified - full of soldiers.  
Sitting on E suburbs large house at back side of road out  
I saw my 20mm stuff on large bldgs.

In France most black uniforms - red arm band - with sword kn

Stephens <sup>paralyzed</sup> in 570 - both Leicester -

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:-- 0-679049-1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Royston T. Covington Jr.

Unit:-- 384<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp. (H), 544<sup>th</sup> Bomb Sqdn.

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".

Crossing the Pyrenees For All items.

Horlicks tablets.

Yes - Good

Chocolate or Peanut Bar. - Peanut Bar (Too dry)

Milk (tube). None

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). One tablet taken and it was of no use.

Halazone tablets (water purifier). No

Matches. Yes - Smoking

Adhesive tape. Yes - Blisters

Chewing gum. Yes - Very good for combating thirst

Water bottle. Yes - But it is of no use at all. The water was continually spilling

Compass. No - Had a guide.

Sewing kit. Yes - For Clothes.

d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? Yes - Halazone Tablets

e. How did you finally dispose of the box? The cover to the Kit was used as cups and lost in the mountains.

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?

A new water bag, more chewing gum.

2. PURSE

a. Did you carry a purse? Yes.  
State color of stripes and letters. Mark II - Red.  
If NOT, State why not.

b. Did you use the purse? No.

Halazone tablet (water purifier) (over)



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

Maps. Which ones?

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.

How did you spend the money?

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps. Taken by Spanish.

Compass. Left at Gib.

File (hacksaw). Hidden in mountains.

Surplus currency. All currency taken by French.

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

1 Extra compass and a French, Spanish, German and Dutch phrase sheet, and photos.

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs?

If so, how many? Yes - 6.

b. Did you use them? Yes - 2.

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape?

State WHERE, WHEN and by WHO.

Many times by various people at 384 Bomb Co

b. Did you find the lectures of value?

Yes - Very Good

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

Yes - destroy all escape aids before entering Spain and answer no questions by the Spanish.



Cornington Returning from T - on deck - been hit by flak - No 2 thru in rail -  
 no way give maximum performance.  
 Hit went at Cherbourg on deck - off the 109's after us -  
 Too close to arsenal - few bursts of flak - most of 20MM  
 No 2 cut in fire - whole left in fire - over 1 P position  
 fire. Sail alt - adv crew bailed out - 900-950' - could  
 check out if things look bad - Phil Christian bailed  
 out - c 1200' - I out c 800' - trouble with auto pilot.  
 All 18 men out. I must have lost to leave. Delayed  
 in cockpit adjusting auto P - Out more to leave  
 now - both legs out - saw B - y in P less than  
 had put chit on backboard. I wanted until I had  
 it turned around & ready go - shook heads.

Left at 800'. No man knew who we were - I figure  
 called ground - felt jerk - through tree -  
 1310 -  
 1 mid chit, M W in back - hedges around, few trees - little  
 cover. Started for plane to hide - before 50 yds to Frey -  
 ash white with fire - Only little.

They satisfied I am - used Lt Picard's phos. but  
 looked for food - to see if they had. I went for food other  
 6 had in for me. But food - made in it, in  
 field & pulled in - but straw - by us - covered with  
 straw - Cons keep coming out; - but no.

Within 2 hrs to the - some country - was around  
 seen saw me - I saw them through legs of some  
 found out later regardless of try & run - had woods in  
 our blocked.

to Phil - SE Cherbourg

Then met I 2100 - more food.

Then met Pa with D. in Virginia - he took me in his car to his farm -  
jed spent the mt - 5'8" thin old man. 1-2 teeth missing.  
Up 0600 next am - took to woods - to stall for looking

Cognac.  
Spent day there. At 2100 to his home - said he had been there  
3 times that day looking for me. He says take to Chaboy  
by truck next day.

c 0900 to a friend of truck (Model of Ford) to Chaboy -  
stop Tourville - cafe - totally in. To cafe c 10<sup>00</sup> mile  
away from arsenal - 5 - at  
on water front.

10 Feb  
to Chaboy

After 2 days met in a man 35 plus  
3 years. He got 1st I/P -  
5'7" - thin black hair - rough  
skin, dark beard - feminine  
Been US + Eng.

Run by <sup>there</sup> Braguetil  
Son Jean - bearing Ey - 21 -  
journalist - hid in woods for 2  
See me from his work camp.

Had friend who assist get card - body reddish blond hair, sharp  
features - 5'8" - work for IS at cafe  
They introduced me to 27 in MP Chaboy - he is route to his home c 14  
for both a supper - turn into the police station.

To leave by truck for 5th Co - 6 planes shot down - 2 blocks west -  
so delg to 77. c 200 lbs - full face, had over

To  
cafe  
with 5th  
peller to  
home.  
c 11 Feb

Brof 58 Pa - taught Pa in 9 yrs before war - think from Bayeux  
Also secret of to major or lieutenant

He had food & exp.  
4 days previous he had requested major (Bayeux, res) for 60 weeks -  
3 show up.

So continuing what is Typing may.

Lady of cafe tell entrance that man - had car in cafe for many  
had 3800 \$ who left.

17 Apr M Lechevalier from S+Lo came in truck - c1300 leave  
L7 in MP had 6 more potatoes etc.  
Randy came with me to S+Lo - he came with papers for IS.

Bees + ed? captured with 5 hrs - 1 man from 1st man who help.  
That TL

Picked up my bicycle & A G soldiers -

S+Lo - Mr Lechevalier's home to eat - to Al Queguener -

c/o Preequet Autos - long chief IS for Marche - very

Thus to send thick envelope to Paris - typed on air mail paper.

Sent to G by A/C.

gave A/C story - @ 1st not believe

Then not story.

1/2 took N, R, SW description - ask you & my - 1st not give

Mr LeC took to man in area who took to Paris - man to come

from Paris to pick up - never came - didn't

Another man came to hide me in country - c 6' black hair, dark

eyes. But I safe & not sent Mr LeC got new I/P

M LeC took by train to Paris.

15 March Left S+Lo - to Contance 1st night - stay in chief road station with 3 B  
withed  
board - then.

16 Next man to Paris.

M LeC's sister met - unmarried. To home of M Pierre Hugon

Impasse Quenouille - Paris IX - Prof - spoke Eng.

Latvian - had lived by 9 yrs.

wife & M LeC's sister live there - also brother - <sup>name</sup> Jean <sup>Loren</sup> <sup>Levan</sup>

hid; from 15-31 - de puis Chelony - work - ran away 90 age



For men with some fly - whilst the Tjipoo - etc etc - got another man who sat me at us.

McLain - 22 E.

Inside but ticket of 8 am - man who sold ticket knew that some 2 on 13/5 - to leave later pm - 7 am 3 E, 2 guides spent out on plat form full of soldiers.

1 man - eye - 1 to G - you're G - in with me - to ply dead -

The first - got friends - go with - Eng part - in -

Over - spoke G - said get out go - we not do it - hand -

Tell us to get out - follow the man.

Follow home in left foot - c 5' 8" <sup>42</sup> lt build -

Cyril  
Vince

→ heavy set, bald head, thin hair, lt complexion, glasses -

Another for c late 30's - c 5' 8" - 10" - nice build,

black hair - brown rimmed glasses - spoke G - good body -

To 4th floor yet - to through entrance under jet.

McLain near to soldier - look see tally - not know name -

skipped. Portulacini with us - the last all but 3 -

other elsewhere. Fed.

Saw wife 29-30 beautiful, other c 45

Then knapsacks & food for climb -

Showed names & addresses previous Am's - seen me G.

Was my tickets for 1700 express to Am - postage. Dub

pages.

16 say I been checked for 15 mins for previous work.

We took to 'omnibus' train - 8 guides spend out us.

Was going to Over - but Cindy bombed with train - it -

Had walk 5-6 hrs and - getting Oate - guide to ok (Montrejean

Was going to Jambou front - but became 2300 cups like photo

nt  
27 Mg in woods - & not dry.

With us for Jean L. ~~Brande~~ Le Breuche  
climber Lt for Int Serv - to make to return by path -  
climber to her door in 1972

25 Mg - hid by wood in - guide came with c & fr - walk -

for Spain.  
Wanted to take us through valley -  
On to 0300 - just by long bldg - saw  
by searchlight in road.

1 on 10 year all clari  
.. 50 escaped 95  
2 in 30's miss -  
Print in late 40's had killed  
5.  
Evening of June:

1 Mg spent for electric plant let stb.  
We cut into wide road & field -  
2 lts towards - for us - made more -  
from the mt hills - Held up by 50-60 year olds - we carry all  
their baggage.

No difficulty until it dry after started. (@ was 26)  
Bam to wait for further - discovered jet before beam - guide knew  
Jaime.

At dusk through valley & town - to mts again -  
Last day (27) - stop highest mt - saw 3 people with white shirts  
behind - dry bank.

1 Mt Sp back 1430 - taken to place a ladder when jet cliff - left.  
telling us how to get down - going back into Fr.  
Walk to hut - on 2 hrs more - slept here at 27 - next am down  
valley. Burgers, Thacker, & Jean Le Breuch left.

Left Betty behind on plane - carbons.

Les - Viella - <sup>Spanish MP's</sup> Lerida, Sort, Lerida, Albans, <sup>Madrid</sup> S. I.

LMP's asked me how in S - not in -  
Gp looks new, any at your place  
whether want go to de Ey. asked how white  
in Fr - 1 hour - Fr  
Wanted to write down more  
I was only in Fr - people  
helped. During last  
winter. Asked if 1/2 - were

4

Cresswell ask for any improvements.

~~Col Spillman ask is he~~ Col Spillman ask for military -  
except me - says "Charming"

list - questioned by CWT.



# 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;  
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) Royston T. Covington Jr.

Signed

Rank 1st Lt. A.C. A. S. N. 0-679049

Dated

Unit 384th Bomb Gp.(H), 544 Bomb Sqdn.

Witness

AG P BR HQ SCS 2-44/2M/22472

# RESTRICTED

SECRET - AMERICAN  
MOST SECRET - BRITISH  
MIS (X)

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

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL  
EVADING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1. Full Name, Rank, and Serial No.  
*Royston Truitt Covington Jr. - 1st Lt. - 0-679049*
2. Decorations.  
*Cluster to Air Medal.*
3. Unit or Squadron.  
*384th Bomb Gp (H), 544 Bomb Squadron*
4. Division (Army) or Group.  
*Army*
5. Date of Birth.  
*October 16, 1920*
6. Length of Service.  
*2 Years 2 Months.*
7. Private Address.  
*423 Drury Lane, Baltimore, Maryland.*
8. Job as civilian.  
*Mortician.*
9. From what field did you take off? *384th Bomb Group (H)*
10. Take off time. *0800*
11. Date and target. *Feb. 8th, 1944 - Frankfurt.*
12. Where did you land?  
*Near Cherbourg - (St. Thiel?)*
13. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed?  
*Yes. (Supposedly)*
14. What was your position in aircraft?  
*Pilot.*
15. Were you wounded?  
*No*
16. Did you pay your guides? If so how much?  
*No*
17. Do you speak French? Spanish?  
*French (Little), No Spanish.*
18. Did you have Identity Papers?  
*Yes - Two Sets. D86, T865*
19. Have you been questioned before to-day on your escape or evasion? If so, where and when? Have you given anyone a written report on your experiences. Where and when?  
*Gibraltar by the British, June 13, 1944. - Oral report.*
20. Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom?  
*No*
21. Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, where and when?  
*Gibraltar June 12, 1944.*
22. Date of arrival in Spain.  
*May 27, 1944.*
23. Date of arrival at Gibraltar. *June 13, 1944*
24. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air.  
*Gibraltar - June 14, 1944 - Air.*
25. Place and date of arrival in U.K.  
*Bristol - June 15, 1944*

E&E # \_\_\_\_\_

INTERROGATOR D. E. EMERSON

COVINATON  
(Name)

(Grade)

(ASN)

544  
(Squadron)

384  
(Group)

8 - Apr. 1944  
(Missing in action)

15 June 1944.  
(returned to duty)

Message to be broadcast over BBC:

CHIKAKAINE CARTIAX. TO MINOT.

Language FRENCH.

Time: 9 PM.

Person requesting message \_\_\_\_\_

Date of contact with this person \_\_\_\_\_

Description of this person:

Services rendered:



He now start work for it only - get info from agents  
M & C write letter to M Dubois - but 3 who before he  
can.

M Doyon got M Dango - very rich  
com - very nice looking c 33 - ex Air Pilot - black hair  
He took N.P.S.V - very long - return 3 days - now can.

c 23.26  
March

He say I leave by 18/C - he not know Q or L.C  
c 2 who's lady he said had contacted Mrs Françoise - but nothing  
can.

M Dubois one, take name, leave 18/C for G.  
Black hair, put on left - large nose - good looking - ex-p - 33  
Works int

Said his entire life has been wiped out - seemed c 3 who before  
to look up 15 - while not pass aviation - and info.  
c 26 April Then he say orders from G - to send in G or the Spani wait for invasion -  
He said he had 6 other sons at June 200 Km St Paris - then no room  
for in the

Early M Daniels - very short - 26 - married - no child - guide to  
Toulouse - can for son

Doyon say he had no son - got Dubois to check him - then not report  
They make him wait a bit no child. Dubois got Jean Lereu to work  
for him

23 M Daniels can for me. Doyon has home at La Varenne -  
Met at Bastille Metro - His done very short on train  
Then fresh vegetable  
M Daniels sending food for me.

To some section Paris - old break  
Cirrus - met another fellow - black hair To medical building - top  
floor - conference room - got G & Sons then (1st time since shot  
down) brown not tatted - told fellow quiet.

Capt Buzgers, girl guide - to station - crowded train -  
Very short, thin, let hair - not over 25  
So crowded all in one car - 5 Sons & Goy stand by 1 compartment.

Train leave c 1/2 late - 2:00 - had stand all night in aisle -  
Direct T. Toulouse. Most on 5/10 with 2 quirts (with by 25, dark  
in one compartment in his down around glasses - see his eye?

17 Apr M Lechevalier from Stho com in truck - 1300 leave  
L7 in MP had to run patroling cafe.  
Dandy Jan with me to Stho - to carry lot of papers for IS.

News tried to captured with Stho - / many fine 1st time who help.  
That TG

Picked up bicyclist & A G soldieris -  
Stho - M Lechevalier's home to eat - to Al Queguener -  
c/o Pucquet Autos - long chief IS for Manche - very  
Thus to send thick envelope to Paris - typed on air mail paper.  
Sent to G by A/C.  
gave A/C story - @ I not believe  
then story.

He took N, R, SW description - ask eye & eye - I not give  
M LeC took to room in area who took to Paris - man to come  
from Paris to pick up - never came - didn't  
Another man came to hide in in country - c 6' black hair, dark  
eyes. But I safe & not sent  
M LeC got new I/P

M LeC took by train to Paris.

15 March Left Stho - to Coutances lot of - stay in chief rd station with 3 B  
withed  
bonding the.

16 Next man to Paris.

M LeC's sister met - unmarried. To know J M Pierre Hugon  
Impasse Quenenerie - Paris IX - Prof - spoke Eng.  
Latinist - had lived by 9 yrs.

Wife & M LeC's sister live there - also brother - <sup>name</sup> Jean <sup>Loren</sup> <sup>to son</sup>  
lived from 15-31 - de puis Chelony - work - saw any yr ago