SECRET - GERTCIN MOST SECRET - BRITISH MIS (X)

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

# QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PRSONNEL EVADING FROM ENEMY COCUPTED COUNTRIES

	EVADING FROM ENEMY COOUPLED COUNTILLED
1.	Full Name, Rank, and Sorial No. HARRY E. Bisher 15 17. 0730348
2.	Decorations. an medal + 1 oak has cluster
3.	Unit or Squadron, 55 FFR. Sq. 20 FFR. Gp
24.0	Division (Army) or Group. 84 AIR FORCE
5.	Date of Birth. Ganuary 18 7, 1922
6.	Length of Service. 2 years 5 months
7.	Private Address. 10412 Sufferer ave allugion, California
3.	Job as civilian. Truck driver
9.	From what field did you take off? Thettering, England;
70	Water off time 1/10 ampacy
11.	Date and target. March 4, 1944 Berlin, Germany.
12:	Where did you I ma? Mear St. Leger, Belgum
13.	Ten all secret papers and equipment destroyed? The
14.	That was your position in aircraft? Pelot
15.	Were you wounded? Wo.
16.	Did you pay your guides? If so how much? Hes, 900 frames.
17.	No you speak French? Spanish? 70
10.	Did you have Identity Papers? Yes - Trench and & Belgum Card
19.	Have you been questioned before to-day on your escape or evasion? If so, where and by when? Have you given anyone a written report on your experiences. There and when Mibraltan June 134 1944
20.	Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom? 270
21.	Did you sign a security certificate varning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, where and when? July allan June 124 1944
22.	Date of arrival in Spain. May 15, 1944.
23.	Date of arrival at Gibraltar. Jame 12, 1944
24.	Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air. By air from march 4, 1944. Mittering England
25.	
	Bristol, England. June 15, 1944

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#### 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.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

- Information about your escape or your evasion from capture would be useful to the enemy and a danger to your friends. It is therefore SEGRET.
- 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.

You must be particularly on your guard with persons representing the press.

You must give no account of your experiences in books, newspapers, periodicals or in broadcasts or in lectures.

You must give no information to anyone, irrespective of nationality, in letters or in conversation, except as specifically directed in Par. 4. 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.

**GERTIFIGATE** 

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 SEGRET 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.

TARRY E. Bisher T. AS.N. 0730348 FR. Gp. 554 FTR. Sq.

Dated Witness 4

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

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## APPENDIX "D" TO E IND 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, AM batteries, radar installations, troop movements, results of allied bembing, location of enemy factories and armunition dumps, enemy and civilian morale, etc., etc.,...)

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#### SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.	
No., Rank, Name: - 0-730348 15 LT HARRY E. Bisher. Unit: - 20 Ftr Gp. 554 Fighter SqdW.	2-1
Unit: 204 Fte. Gp. 554 Fighter. Sadi	exign.
Suggestions for improvement of escape equipment and training come large those who make use of them. Your report and comments will help others to excapture or to escape.	070 77000
1. LIDS BOX	
a. Did you use your aids box? No!	purposent
b. If not, why? try the inderground who picked	I me up.
b. If not, why? has furnished with necessary to the processory of the processory of the processory of the processory of the circumstances in right you used e for example, "While hiding in woods for two nights".	ach item,
Horlicks tablets.	
Chocolate or Peanut Bar.	*
Milk (tube).	
Benzadrine tablets (fatigue).	
Halazone tablets (water purifier).	
Matches.	
Adhesive tape.	
Chewing gum.	
Water bottle.	
Compass.	
Sowing kit.	
d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?	and 1
e. How did you finally dispose of the box? Adder by made	1
f. Can you suggest any way in which the contents of the aids box migh	t be changed to

#### 2. PURSE

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

b. Did you use the purse? Yes

(over)

make it of greater use, bearing in mind that the size of it cannot be larger?

If so, which of the following items in the purse did you use? Maps. Which ones? No Compass. No File (hacksex). No Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. Yes French How did you spend the roney? for trail fare d. How did you dispose of :-I hidden by menter of underground. Compass. File (hacksaw). Surplus currency. Spanist authorities took it from 3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion? To PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? Hes. b. Did you use them? yes, LECTURES Were you lectured on evasion and escape? State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOLL In England by my Oquadron intelligence officer b. Did you find the lectures of value? Types definitely !!! c. Do you have any suggestions to make which, from your experionce, you feel will help other evadors and escapers? Do what the underground tells you to do no natter four silly it sound, Told to to so us and - not cross that domain me - they say dr-Be sure & tell Speralus-one rtakerd tellerader town intro & token to prism, Told 90% Jeagle in form- of 11557. Belginis mora frankly even that for

which we were excertin

After the bombers had to abort we went on almost to Berlin before turning back. My left engine went out. Both my compasses were not working, and another plans led me. I managed to keep above the clouds for some time, but when my remaining engine started to cause trouble I lost altitude and flew through the clouds as best as I could. I broke through the clouds and saw the coast, called for a fix, and learned that I had along way to go. decided to go down the coast to the Straits of Dover and try to make it across or to ditch there. After about five minutes At 6000 feet, my other engine started to go out. /while I was getting ready to leave, I saw an FW coming after me. I banked, but a cannon shell exploded in the cockpit. I rolled over and bailed out, waiting until 2000 feet before I pulled the rip=cord.

I saw quite a few people walking along the roads or bicycling, but none of ther payed any attention to me. I did not see any Germans and I knew that I was not of my harness some five need and and I knew that I was not of my harness some five need to any dermans and I knew that I was not of my harness some five people gathered around me and asked whether I was American. When I had assued them that I was American they said that they would try and help me, admonishing me to do exactly as they said, for a lot of Germans were around.

> While I was there a man who had seen me come down rushed up, breathless from his two mile dash, and declared that he was a good Belgian patriot who would help me. Several minutes later he took me to a house where I was given civilian clother but and we rushed away on a bicyle before I could dress in my new habit. later we stopped and I changed clothes. I was taken to a place where some people seemed to be waiting for me although I had been down for only ten minutes and the

There were a number of little piles of straw in the field and they hid me in one.

there did not seem to haven been any opportunity for communication. These people

washed er my face, Then we jumped on bicycles again and I was taken to a place At the place to which I was first taken I was from which my journey was arranged, Aquestioned very carefully to make certain of that I was an American aviator. My helpers did not seem to be rea convinced until I showed them the Approved by three escape compas-Compiled by ses which they asked to see. They seemed to know that we were is-DE EMERSON sued an extra compass besides the one we study like in the purse 1st Lt, AUS and aids box. I was glad that I had tool, AC thought of car rying my extra compass that day. Commanding

CUGHT

- 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.

Statement of information covering the period from 4 March to 15 May 1944

- a. From the presence of low-flying A/C---FW's and Me 109's---informant dod/
- b. Informant was told that deep under the post office at COURTRAI the Germans have one of their largest telephone exchanges in occupied territory.
- c. In an English bombing raid on COURTRAI railway yards were well hit, although some civilians were killed, so informant was told. Some 15-20 locomotives were blown up.
- d. At TURNAI in the middle of March the Germans were building a lot of tank traps and barbed wire entanglements.
- e. Traveling from LILLE to PARIS in early May informant saw a good deal of bomb damage along the railway tracks. He thought that the job on the AMIENS yards was the best bombing that he had ever seen. CREIL yards also had been well hit, but one formation of bombers seemed to have dropped to far to one side, for about 60 bombs had fallen in an open field. Otherwise the target was well hit. Some houses 100 yards from the tracks had not been hit. The yards near the are du Nord in Paris had also been well hit. Similar when going from Paris MONT UBAN railway yards which had been bombed had been well hit.
- f. Informant was told that the Germans have ammunition dumps in the forest about 500 miles SW of MONTAUBAN, possibly in the vicinity of MONTECH.
- g. On the W side of the railway tracks at CREIL just to the S of the railway yards informant noticed concrete 'caves' in the side of the hill. The installation seemed to be an ammunition dump. There were many guards around it. (Cf Appendix B, EEE 210-211, et al.)

#### Appendix D

- 1. I did not use my aids box, for I received immediate help.
- 2. I carried a Red purse and used some of the money for train fare.
- 3. I carried seven passportssize photographs // / and used them on identity papers.
- 4. I was lectured one evasion and escape by a squadron intelligence officer. The lectures were definitely of value. It was most helpful that I had been told to do exactly as my helpers instructed, for a number of things they directed I thought dangerous, but I did what they said and it turned out all right.

5. Suggestions: Do what the underground tells you to do, no matter how silly it sounds.

Men should be prepared to tell to the neutral authorities in Spain a story of having escaped from Germans hands.

The Belgians seem even more friendly to American airmen than the French.

HEADQUARTERS EUROPEA. IMPATER OF OPERATIONS 2/W and X Detachment Military Intelligence Service

IVADION IN Belgum V France

HARRY E Bisher 1st 1 0-730348

(Renk) (Adk)

(No of Missions)

55# Ftr. Sadn 20# Ftr. Gp

Manager OF CREW: (This information checked with PWLR)

Bomber escort for Berlin

Date Missing in Action: March 4,1944

Date Arrived in UK: June 15, 1944

Indicate what happened to cach man and how you knew

TOP TURREST GUIDAR

WAIST GUNDER

HEMOUS ISLAW

Were you wounded?

First instance

First instance of an escape compass serving as identification aid. Note evader's advice on obeying helpers.

### TOP SECRET

# E & E CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

HARRY E. Bisher 15/11 0-730348 JUNE 15, 1944  (Name) (Rank) (ASN) (Date)  204 Ftr Gp. 554 Ftr SqdN.  (Unit)	
Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing.  March 4,1944 1500 hours. St. Leger, Belgium.  Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out.  Was it on fire, etc? Both engines dead — on fire as Res  of CANNON AND MACHINE BUN fire of FW-190.	
At approximately what altitude did scurce bail out? 6000 ff,  Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed?  No other crew members.	
What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open?  The other crew members.  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?	
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.	
Did source examine the wreckage of the plane? If so, what was its conditions? Hes, the plane was scattered in small pieces over an area of approx. 1000 og, to.  If the plane crashed in water how far was the plane from land and what means was source rescured and what life rafts, wrechage, 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?

SUBJECT: Safeguarding of P/W Information.

- : Personnel concerned. 10
- It is the duty of all Americans to safeguard information which might, either directly or indirectly, be useful to the enemy.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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. You must be particularly on your guard with persons representing the press.
- You must give no account of your experiences in books, newspapers,

periodicals or in broadcasts or in lectures.

- You must give no information to anyone, irrespective of nationality, in letters or in conversation, except as specifically directed in Par. 4a.
- 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, Assit. Adj. Gen.

#### CERTIFICATE

I have read the above and certify that I will comply with it.

I understand that any information concerning my scape 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.

her signed Name (Print Date Witness

> HORACE W. FORSTER, Colonel, G.S.C., U. S. Mil. Lia. Off.

EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS UNITED STATES ARMY

OFFICE OF THE A. C. OF S., G-2

DATE: 15 June 1944 TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: I. ORVILLE E. MINTUN, 1st Lt., AC, 0-563850 hereby certify that I have known and have been associated with HARRY E. BISHER, 1st Lt., AC, 0-730348 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. Orilly E. Minten RIGHT THUMB PRINT: The individual whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon has been identified to the satisfaction of this office as HARRY E. BISHER, 1st Lt., AC, 0-730348 (55 Fighter Squadron - 20 Fighter Group) previously reported missing in action over enemy territory.