

44E 1909
C O N F I D E N T I A L

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 0-683779 Rank 2nd Lt
Name (BLOCK LETTERS) Robert Ripps
Unit 445 Bomb Gp

has been fully/~~briefly~~ interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S. 9 (WEA)
on 10 Sept 19 44 and has signed a Security Certificate.
He ~~should~~/should not be re-interrogated.

Robert H Bacon
Major 2/Lt, Ac.

IMPORTANT:

THIS CERTIFICATE MUST BE RETAINED AND HANDED TO (BRITISH) AN OFFICER OF M.I.9
OR (AMERICAN), AN OFFICER OF P.W. & X DET.-M.I.S. ON ARRIVAL IN U.K. OR U.S.A.

1000 & 1000, 1000

1000 & 1000, 1000

1000 & 1000, 1000

If E & E is returned to the United Kingdom, he will report to 63 Brooks Street, London.

(Applies to all BRITISH, CANADIAN, U.S. & ALLIED PERSONNEL)

EVADED CAPTURED/~~ESCAPED~~ (Name of Country) Belgium

For all Personnel.



- 1. No. 0-683779 Rank 2nd Lt. Name R. RIPPS 1944
(U.K: Acting, Temp. or W/S)
- 2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) 2 missions
- 3. Were you wounded? Give details Minor wounds
- 4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 700th Bomb. Sqdn.
- 5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 445 B. Gp. 6. Job. (Pl. Cmd., Rfn., etc.) Co-Pilot
- 7. Date of Birth 28 Oct 1921 8. Length of Service 2 yrs. 6 mos.
- 9. Peace time occupation Clerk 10. Private address 523 W. Roosevelt Blvd. Philadelphia, Penna.
- 11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? Dogtags and E&E Photos
- 12. Do you speak French, or any other foreign language? French

FOR R.A.F. ONLY.

- 13. No. and location of O.T.U.
- 14. No. and location of Conversion Unit.

FOR ALL AIR FORCE PERSONNEL AND/OR AIRBORNE OR PARACHUTE TROOPS WHO BALE OUT.

- 15. Post in Crew Co-Pilot
- 16. Other members of crew, and information about what has happened to them.
N.B. - Airborne and Parachute Troops: list below names and units of other occupants of plane, including R.A.F. and U.S.A.A.F.
- PILOT 0683558 2nd Lt. Love Benjamin K. Wounded - went down with plane MIA
- CO-PILOT Narrator
- NAVIGATOR 0644894 2nd Lt. T. B. Perry MIA Believed trapped in plane
- BOMBARDIER 0682737 2nd Lt. G. H. Swanson MIA Believed trapped in plane
- RADIO OPERATOR 35669600 S/Sgt. E. Limes MIA Trapped in plane
- TOP TURRET GUNNER 12193608 S/Sgt. W. Caplane Jr. KIA Trapped in plane
- BALL TURRET GUNNER 12192833 Sgt. M. Cantor KIA Believed trapped in plane
- WAIST GUNNER (R.) 32931619 Sgt. Ellis, John R. KIA " " " "
- WAIST GUNNER (L.) 32931619 Sgt. Hynes, Edward 11115893 " " " KIA
- TAIL GUNNER 36567820 Pfc. Cottrel, Glynn C. MIA " " " "
- 17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B-24, 12 Apr 1944, 100 hrs., Tibenham, England
- 18. Where and when did you come down? Somewhere south of Liege, 12 Apr 1944
- 19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? Belgians hid them.
- 20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? Plane crashed and burned.

Interview by I.S.9. (WEA)
Date 10 Sep 1944

I grade this evasion No. 5.

Robert Bacon
ROBERT BACON
2nd Lt., AC

Attached:

- Appendix "B"
- Appendix "C"
- Appendix "D"

Disposal: Returned to unit.

Major

DISTRIBUTION:
Hq. I.S. 9 (WEA)...2
12th Army Group....2 (Less C)
9 AF1 "

APPENDIX "C" TO E. & E. REPORT No. I.S. 9(WEA)/6/110/807

If further circulation of this information is made, it is important that its source should not be divulged.

No. 0-683779 Rank 2nd Lt. Name R. RIPPS

Date of Interview 10 Sep 1944

I was helped by the following:

M. & Mme. DeKairrelle
13 Rue Du Palais de Justice
Dinant, Belgium

(Chef de la Resistance) Kept me 5 months.

Madame Simon
Ville Marguerite
Hastiere Lavaux, Belgium

Kept me two weeks.

1909

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) Ripps, R. Signed R. Ripps

Rank 2nd Lt A.S.N. 0-683779 Dated Sept 11, 1944 Place

Unit 445th B.C. 700th Sq. Witness

RESTRICTED

WAR DEPARTMENT
The Adjutant General's Office
Washington

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

KLS/el-2B-939 Pentagon

6 August 1943

SUBJECT: Amended Instructions Concerning Publicity in Connection with Escaped Prisoners of War, to Include Evaders of Capture in Enemy or Enemy-Occupied Territory and Internees in Neutral Countries.

TO: The Commanding Generals,
Army Ground Forces;
Army Air Forces;
The Commander-in-Chief, Southwest Pacific Area;
The Commanding Generals,
Theaters of Operations;
Defense Commands;
Departments;
Base Commands;
The Commanding Officers,
Base Commands;
Director, Bureau of Public Relations.

1. Publication or communication to any unauthorized persons of experiences of escape or evasion from enemy-occupied territory, internment in a neutral country, or release from internment not only FURNISHES USEFUL INFORMATION TO THE ENEMY but also JEOPARDIZES FUTURE ESCAPES, EVASIONS AND RELEASES.

2. Personnel will not, unless authorized by the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department General Staff, publish in any form whatever or communicate either directly, or indirectly, to the press, radio or an unauthorized person any account of escape or evasion of capture from enemy or enemy-occupied territory, or internment in a neutral country either before or after repatriation. They will be held strictly responsible for all statements contained in communications to friends which may subsequently be published in the press or otherwise.

3. Evaders, escapees, or internees shall not be interrogated on the circumstances of their experiences in escape, evasion or internment except by the agency designated by the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department General Staff, or the corresponding organization in overseas theaters of operations. In allied or neutral countries, American Military Attaches are authorized to interrogate on escape, evasion and internment matters.

4. Should the services of escaped prisoners of war, evaders, or internees be deemed necessary for lecturing and briefing, such services will be under the direct supervision of the agency designated by the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department General Staff, or the corresponding organization in overseas theaters of operations.

5. Commanding Officers will be responsible for instructing all evaders, escapees, and internees in the provisions of this directive which supersedes letter, AG 383.6 (5 Nov 42) OB-S-B-M, 7 November 1942, subject: Instructions concerning Publicity in Connection with Escaped Prisoners of War and other previous instructions on this subject.

By order of the Secretary of War:

/s/ J.A. ULIO
J.A. ULIO
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

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(See Reverse Side)

SECRET

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
and QUESTIONNAIRE FOR I.S.9(W.L.) PERSONNEL

Sept 11, 1944
(Date)

Ripps R 2nd Lt 0-693779
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

Zwickau 2
(Target) (Number of missions)

445th BG 700th Sq
(Unit)

Date Missing in Action: April 12, 1944

Returned to UK: Sept 10, 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (List names by positions and indicate what happened to each one)

PILOT LOVE Stayed in plane & killed

CO-PILOT _____

NAVIGATOR PERRY, T.B. Don't know

BOMBARDIER SWANSON, G.H. " "

RADIO OPERATOR HINES, E.W. Stayed in plane & was killed

TOP TURRET GUNNER CAPKANE, L. " "

BALL TURRET GUNNER }
WAIST GUNNER } CANTOR, M
WAIST GUNNER } ELLIS
TAIL GUNNER } GOTTREL
HYNES } Don't know

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

APRIL 12 1944 - SOUTH OF LIEGE - 1330
Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. Was it on fire, etc?

about 30 fragmentation bombs hit on left wing - trail of plane & passage to nose all on fire

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

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

Believe pilot was hit when bombs hit on wing

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

? Saw no one else

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?

No

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.

No

(over)

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

around it. What was left Small pieces scattered for many yards all
If the plane crashed in water how far was the plane from land and by what means was source rescued and what life rafts, wreckage, etc., remained on the surface that would have assisted other personnel to keep afloat.

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

*Pilot, Engineer, Radio Operator definitely did not get out
Not possible to survive explosion of four
NAVY Bombardier believes did not get out because of nose being on
All men in rear no walking but believe back was well hit by
fragments of the bombs hitting on wing*

Were you wounded?

Not seriously

Were you in German hands?

No

Did you kill any Germans in escaping?

No

Have you previously given the names of your helpers?

Yes

List any names previously omitted, showing what help was given.

What security briefing were you given?

Same as this almost

What souvenirs do you still possess?

German belt + medal + a few german stamps

Home address.

523 W. ROOSEVELT BLVD PHILA, PA

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.