

SECRET

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

E & E REPORT NO 822
EVASION IN FRANCE

(Date)

Cletus S HARD, Sgt, 36066761

TARGET: Primary: RHEIMS
(E & E 820, authority *lll*)

(Name) (Rank) (ASN)
3 (No of Missions)

Date Missing in Action: 10 April 44

334 Bomb Squadron, 95 Bomb Group
(Squadron) (Group)

Date Arrived in UK: 4 July 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

Indicate what happened to
each man
and how you know

PILOT	0-753947	2d Lt	Ronald E THOMPSON	MIA
CO-PILOT	0-814928	2d Lt	Blaine R MANAHAN	MIA
NAVIGATOR	0-703619	2d Lt	Everett T ENSTROM	MIA
BOMBARDIER	0-756977	2d Lt	John W HEDLUND	MIA
RADIO OPERATOR	38445745	S/Sgt	Grady T JUSTICE	MIA
TOP TURRET GUNNER	16132121	S/Sgt	Clifford G GOLKE	E&E #820
MID TURRET GUNNER	32739149	Sgt	William L DEARING	MIA
WALST GUNNER	12095087	Sgt	Robert W MOEDEBECK	MIA
WALST GUNNER	31071321	S/Sgt	James E HANRAHAN	MIA
TAIL GUNNER	36066761	Sgt	Cletus S HARD	NARRATOR

are you wounded?

822

When the right wing came off I was thrown against the side of the plane, crushing my hand and breaking a couple of fingers. When ~~the~~ I got up, the waist gunners were gone. The plane was going down fast and I managed to get out quickly. Because of my broken fingers I had trouble pulling the ~~chute~~ *rip cord?*

I landed in a woods, my chute catching in a small tree. I climbed the tree to get my chute down. I heard a shot, which I later found was made by some Germans hunting squirrels in the wood, grabbed my chute and covered it and hid in a briar patch about an hour. Then I started to work my way S, ran into a Frenchman cutting wood, and, using my phrase list, told him that I was an American airman. He put a coat over me and took me to a house. While a German observation plane circled I hid behind a woodpile. The man hid me in the woods until 2000 and then brought me clothes and took me to a house.

I was taken to a place from which my journey was arranged. Later I met Sgt GOLKE (E&E 820) and traveled with him.

Compiled by

D E EMERSON
1st Lt, A
Capt, AUS¹

Approved by

W STULL HOLT
Lt Col, AC
Commanding

Appendix B

1. The following information has been obtained from a sergeant 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 10 April to 4 June 1944

- a. In late May informant saw old bi-planes apparently used as (observation planes) at an airfield near BORDEAUX.

Appendix D

1. I used the peanut bar, matches, and chewing gum. *could have used* I ~~wished that I had~~ some iodine.
2. I had a ~~Red~~ purse.
3. I had three passport-size photographs which I used.
4. I was lectured at Kearny, Nebraska in Feb 1944 and at 95 Bomb Gp. The lectures were valuable.
5. Suggestion: Stay under cover and be careful in getting in touch with help. The helpers will take care of the rest.

SEE E&E RPT
NO 820

HELPED

JOURNEY
ARRANGED

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) CLETUS S. HARD Signed Cletus S. Hard
 Rank Sgt A.S.N. 36966761 Date 7/3/44
 Unit 95th B Co Witness Horace W. Forster

MILITARY LIAISON OFFICE,
 AMERICAN CONSULATE
 GIBRALTAR
 HORACE W. FORSTER,
 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 822
EVASION LN

7/4/44
(Date)

HARD CRETUS SGT 36066761
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)
3 (No of Missions)
334th 95th
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET: SECONDARY
unknown

Date Missing in Action: April 10

Date Arrived in UK: 7/4/44

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

Indicate what happened to
each man
and how you know

PILOT R.E. THOMPSON - DEAD
CO-PILOT BLAINE MANAHAN - P.W.
NAVIGATOR T. INSTROM - DEAD
BOMBARDIER JOHN HEDLUND - P.W.
RADIO OPERATOR GRADY JUSTICE - P.W. (Information from
4 reach organization)
TOP TURRET GUNNER CLIFFORD GOLKE - RETURNED TO ENGLAND
MID TURRET GUNNER WILLIAM DEARING - P.W.
WAIST GUNNER JAMES HORNMAN - DEAD
WAIST GUNNER ROBERT MOEDBECK - DEAD
TAIL GUNNER me

Were you wounded?

Slightly - Hand Smashed
and two fingers broken

E & E CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

CLAYTON S. HARD SGT. 36066761
 (Name) (Rank) (ASN)
 834th Sqdn - 95th Sp
 (Unit)

7/4/44
 (Date)

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

April 10/44 10:15 AM. near St. Vaast Les, nulls.

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

Was on fire & exploded after bailing out.

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? - 2,000 ft

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

unknown.

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

St. John Redmond - Bill Deering
 Clifford Salke and myself

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? *Before*

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground? *yes - Clifford Salke*

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.

Received information that Thompson, Gastrum, Harpahan and Mordbeck were dead and Redmond, Justice, Deering and Mordbeck are P.W.

Did source examine the wreckage of the plane? If so, what was its conditions? *no*

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 stated above

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

APPENDIX "B" TO E AND E REPORT NO. 822

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.,.....)

Saw old hi-plans - No plans - at N/P near Bordeaux.

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO. 822

No., Rank, Name:-

Sgt. Charles Hard # 36066961

Unit:-

834th Sgdn - 95th B. 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? *no*

b. If not, why?

nothing but Bandage

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.

no

Chocolate or Peanut Bar.

yes

Milk (tube).

no

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue).

no

Halazone tablets (water purifier).

no

Matches.

yes

Adhesive tape.

no

Chewing gum.

yes

Water bottle.

no

Compass.

no

Sewing kit.

no

d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?

no

e. How did you finally dispose of the box?

The French organization

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?

my kit had no iodine - suppose it was a mistake

2. PURSE

a. Did you carry a purse?

yes

State color of stripes and letters.

Red

If NOT, State why not.

b. Did you use the purse?

Very Little

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

Maps. Which ones?

Compass, *yes*

File (hacksaw). *no*

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. *French*

How did you spend the money? *all but 500 francs*

and gave to authorities at Lib.

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

*To French organization
by request
To authorities in Lib.*

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion? *no*

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? *yes*

If so, how many? *3*

b. Did you use them? *yes*

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? *yes*

State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM. *Resing, Nebraska - Feb.*

1944 - 95th St. Sp.

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?

*Stay under cover and Careful
in contacting organization. If they
will do the best*

Ward
S
S+V
S
Hit by jets - 2 eng - on Tokyo's burning - think on others
exploded - go to ward - 2 WGs seemed overcome - kicking door off
with at O₂ mask - help - at wing end of - there was no agent
other side plane - comb land - took 2 figs - when you try
you - figs go out. Plane go down further I manage get out
fast - had to walk pulling chit with both hands - figs
Landed in woods - chit cut in trunk small tree - climbed to get
chit out - had shot - later found 10 hunting squirrels in
wood - good chit - cover of - hid in birch patch chit.

Start walk way along. Ran into German cutting wood. Told
him I was an American - using plane ^{148 out, went over - back to plane} hid - G observation - plane
circle - I hid behind woodpile - shot 10 for clothes for me.
I hid in woods until 2000 - hot clothes - took mine & buried
Another neighbor's wife came - y dark took chit way to St Vaast
N of there - Maurice - wife, baby.

Next mt " move + into W's mt in car - to St Vaast where
Tall - 6' or more - glasses - c 40
Wolke was - Maurice got list crew - 4 killed in plane - P, 2 WGs,
another dead without dog tags (N seen, for Es)
Dearing & B being moved by W's to meet us - W's & Maurice
captured - latter got away.
W's escaped in 2 or 3 days.

Henni
Viets - shelter us from to c May 18-19.
Cook at Italian family.
Then moved to St Jean d'Cro - mt, with cold mounds of work
Barbieri (Barber?)

Roland - took N, SN - gave ALC story
Berette Jacques(?) - mt July at St Vaast
Then moved c 26 by Berette & Roland to Chantilly

Three met 4 - Payne & Colburn & 2 Poles & fellow from Paris of
(Patrick - c 5'8" dark hair, eyes, av build, 30-35)
& a girl - real blond - 25-30.

12 yrs, Colburn & I with men. T. Paris. Payne & I go to Paris
to men, woman, girl c 19 - to 4th floor apt.

Patrick comes - check for clothes.

Fri - 26 - 30 - Two there Colburn over at before left.

Then lady, I know girl take 3) us to station - then Patrick
away for girl - follow girl (blond, 27, low legged,
c 5'5).

To Budeaux girl met us - at car - to Chief of Police -
Wellman - 2 dep - here - son c 25 then beats.

D's M. Payne, Colburn, I the.

An hour at leaving that day - L attached to RAF.

2 fellows pick us up with

New 6) us & 5 min - Name, Eng, Australia, & with RAF in
& in condition.

Trouble with just - Payne don't just. I speak and let.

next
an. c 10 min to here to eat
Left Colburn & 2) us at bar on 1st side.

Old woman c 75 - say total is over - L think on grounds is
good & they not look for us.

Crossed border c 2000 - c 2200 to Panchas - back to ground
frontier at place - not 1) festival.
Is not better

Left next area - to ref - police met us.

To hotel where 8 Jan you as an m.

Panglona, Misada (Paladio & Biggin) for delay total way
& covered. Alben 25, Madrid, Sid.

2.

See Howell ab about route.

As at Ind - (but seem to be Cyst 2.)

Grat St Len describe what road like PO - seems get hi

RESTRICTED

WAR DEPARTMENT The Adjutant General's Office Washington

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

KLS/el-2B-989 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) HARD, CLETUS S. Signed Cletus S. Hard
Rank Sgt A. S. N. 36066961 Dated 7/4/44
Unit 334th Sqdn 95th Sp. Witness J. Emerson Capt ARS

AG P BR HQ S05 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. *Sgt Clitus Hard - 36066961*
2. Decorations.
3. Unit or Squadron. *334th*
4. Division (Army) or Group. *95th*
5. Date of Birth. *May 16 - 1921*
6. Length of Service. *Japan 10 mo.*
7. Private Address. *Grand Chain, Illinois*
8. Job as civilian. *Salesman (oil company)*
9. From what field did you take off? *Station 119*
10. Take off time. *5:30 AM (about)*
11. Date and target. *April 10 - Gunners were not briefed on target*
12. Where did you land? *near St. Vaast Les Mello - France*
13. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? *yes - by explosion*
14. What was your position in aircraft? *tail gunner*
15. Were you wounded? *Slightly*
16. Did you pay your guides? If so how much? *no*
17. Do you speak French? Spanish? *no*
18. Did you have Identity Papers? *French Identity Papers (I.I.P.)*
19. 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?
By British authorities in Sicily
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? *yes - Sicily*
22. Date of arrival in Spain. *June - 4*
23. Date of arrival at Gibraltar. *July - 3*
24. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air. *Gib - July 3/44*
25. Place and date of arrival in U.K. *July 4 - By air - Bristol, England*

CONFIDENTIAL

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

822
DATE: 4 July 1944

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, CLIFFORD G. GOLKE, S/Sgt., AC, 16132121

HEREBY CERTIFY that I have known and have been associated with

CLETUS S. HARD, Sgt., AC, 36066761

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.

Cletus S. Hard

Clifford G. Golke

RIGHT THUMB PRINT:



The individual whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon has been identified to the satisfaction of this office as CLETUS S. HARD,

Sgt., AC, 36066761 (334 Bomb Squadron - 95 Bomb Group)

previously reported missing in action over enemy territory.

J. F. Carroll
J. F. CARROLL, SPECIAL AGENT, C.I.C.

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