

S E C R E T

2455

NAME: Hewes, Harry E., Jr.
RANK: 2nd Lieutenant, AC
ORGN: 669th Bomb Squadron, 416th Bomb Group
ASN : O-669722

EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE: Mrs. Beveles L. Hewes (Wife),
1116 East Strong Street,
Pensecola, Florida.

DATE MISSING IN ACTION: 27 May 1944.

DATE RETURNED TO THE UK: 2 Sep 1944.

STORY:

On the afternoon of 27 May 1944 I was briefed for a mission to Marshling Yards at Amiens, France. We took off and everything went according to schedule. As we were on the bomb run my plan was struck by a direct hit from a 88 mm and set fire to the cockpit and destroyed the nose of the plane. My left leg was broken when hit by flak. I dropped my bombs, pulled out of formation, then gave instructions to my crew to bail out at an altitude of 12,000 feet, which they did. I then bailed out myself. When I was approximately 2000 feet from the ground some German soldiers on the ground started shooting at me but did not hit me. I landed in the middle of Amiens at 2030. The Germans picked me up and took me to the Hospital Amiens. After I got there I noticed that the raid was still going on. I waited about 1½ hours before I got on the operating table. The wound in my leg was suture shut, without any anesthetic or narcotics being given. Three days later they amputated my left leg using spinal anesthesia. Conditions at the hospital in general were very filthy. Medical care was fair. They changed my dressings about once a week. The nursing care was very poor. The last I saw of the members of the crew was when I was on the ground. I saw one of them go by in another car and I recognized him as Staff Sergeant Boyer but did not see the other fellow. I feel quite positive that Boyer was not injured and taken directly to a prison camp. I was at Amiens from 27th of May to the 14th of July 1944 and then was moved to Paris to the Hospital Beaujon, Clichy, Paris. The meals at this hospital were soup or bread. In Paris I received American Red Cross Packages. The conditions in the Paris hospital were much cleaner. I was in this hospital from the 14th of July until the 18th of August 1944. At that date the Germans left Paris. The first German plan was to leave all the allied patients there plus one German doctor, one German nurse and two ward boys. The following day it was changed and they planned to take everybody that they possibly could take. The FFI came in and threatened to destroy vehicles so the Germans moved on without taking the allied patients. The French took over the next day. That afternoon the Germans came back and we got word that they were coming. Everyone the FFI could move were put in civilian clothes and moved to civilian homes and other French hospitals. I was moved to a French Hospital at Rouget. The treatment was excellent and the food was good. We remained there until the 28th of August 1944 then we went back to the Beaujon Hospital. From the Beaujon Hospital we went to the United Kingdom on the following day.

Names of the FFI who helped me in Paris were:

(over)
S E C R E T

Melle Clotilde Tasseurd,
85 Boulevard Victor Hugo,
Clichy, Seine.

D. Dreiss
63 Bd de Lorraine,
Clichy (Seine)

(This person kept me informed of movements and brought books).

Mme Simone Bedu,
115 Rue Klock,
Seine, Clichy
(This person took care of me day and night)

Docteur Andre Metais,
15 Rue Martissot,
Clichy, Pereire 05-17,
Sur- Rendez-vous.
(Doctor who gave me medical care)

The following are a list of the members of the crew:

S/Sgt Harold Boyer
S/Sgt Joseph Kasper

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

HARRY E. HEWES JR. 2ND LT. O-669722
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

11 SEPT. 1944
(Date)

669TH BOMB SQD. (L)
(Unit)

416 BOMB GP. (L)

MEMBERS OF CREW

PRESENT
OFFICIAL STATUS

PILOT H.E. HEWES JR. 2ND LT. AL
CO-PILOT
NAVIGATOR
BOMBARDIER
RADIO OPERATOR
TOP TURRET GUNNER JOSEPH KASPER S/SGT
~~TOP TURRET~~ GUNNER HAROLD BOYER S/SGT
WAIST GUNNER
WAIST GUNNER
TAIL GUNNER

DETH OF PATIENTS
4107 USA HOSP. PLANT
WARD 20-F APO-511

SERIAL NOS NOT KNOWN

6944924
- 20506057-1465

See crew of 1465

Date, time and approximate location of DIRECT HIT IN NOSE BY 88 MM. AA.
plane crash or landing.

MAY 27, 1944 AMIENS, FRANCE. 2030 D'LOK

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. Was it on fire, etc?
NOSE HALF BLOWN OFF, NOSE + COCKPIT ON FIRE

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? 12000 FEET.

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

PILOT (MYSELF) HAD ^{LEFT} LEG BROKEN 6" ABOVE ANKLE BY FLAK, + BURNS ON FACE, HANDS, LEGS.

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

ALL MEMBERS WERE OBSERVED GOING DOWN WITH PARACHUTES OPEN
TWO (2) GUNNERS + PILOT (MYSELF)

Did the plane explode on striking the ground?

PLANE EXPLODED ABOUT HALFWAY TO THE GROUND

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground?

ONE (1) OF MY GUNNERS ALIVE + UNHURT.

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.

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

NO.

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.

DID NOT CRASH ON WATER.

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

MY OPINION (FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH) IS THAT MY (2) TWO GUNNERS ARE UNHURT + IN A PRISON CAMP IN GERMANY

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 supercedes 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) HARRY E. HEWES JR.

Signed SO. H. E. Hewes Jr.

Rank 2ND LT. A. S. N. O-669722

Dated 11 SEPT. 1944

Unit 669th Bomb Sq. 4th Bomb Gr.

Witness Paul M. Claman Maj MAC.

AG P BR HQ SOS

122472

RESTRICTED