

AIR FORCES

Escape & Evasion Society



REMEMBER THE ALAMO

BUT DON'T FORGET THE

AFEES ANNUAL MEETING

SAN ANTONIO TEXAS MAY 24-28 1987

MARRIOTT RIVERWALK HOTEL

Dites, une fois...

Albert Guérisse : l'espion qui venait de chez nous



Albert Guériese a aujourd'hui 71

Hush, the walls have ears! Who does not know this celebrated slogan which imposed the law of silence during the war. Albert Guerisse, alias Pat O'Leary or Adolphe Cartier, had lived up to the letter of this regulation of gold. Because this Brussels military doctor, born at Molenbeek of Ardennes parents, and living today at Ixelles, became a spy of her majesty the Queen of England.

His life has resembled a Roman adventure with one significant difference, his adventures were not imaginary. Thanks to him, hundreds of Allied Aviators, Shot down over France were able to escape during the second World War.

It all started at the end of the 16 day war the 28th of May 1940. The 1st Lancers encamped at Spa, to which Albert Guerisse was attached, was anilated at Passendale and forced to lay down their arms. But this 29 year old military doctor decided, with some others, that he was not built to be a prisoner. He was going to continue the war, his war.

By an incredible detour via London and Brest he reached Gibralter. He knew a French officer in command of the ship Rhin' whose prew was divided between followers of Petain and Pro resistants. One night Guerisse, while on guard duty, acting with the Commander succeeded in subduing a mutiny of the Patain followers. The Rhin from that time on flew the British flag and became a CU ship (a sort of apy boat) destined for the secret war. Albert Guerisse had made the great leap, he had become a spy of her Majesty.

PAT O'LEARY, EVADER

Promoted to captain of a British frigate and effectively with the secret service he abandoned his Belgian identity to become Patrick O'Leary. Under the guise of a French Canadian born in Quebec, he justified his bad English. Until March 1941 he attended espionage school. He was introduced to the sea profession during the course of missions of convoying merchant ships. Then came the great mission, ultra secret, which he conducted in the gulf of Lyon. It was to pick up some Polish Officers.

But there was a storm at sea and the expedition ran aground. Pat O'Leary was arrested and sent to an intermement camp under guard near Marseille. Like the other British Officers he was a prisoner on parol (under promise that he would not escape). This gave him certain freedoms. However after some weeks he advised the commander of the fort "I retract my parol" In short he very simply expressed his intention to escape.

As a result he constantly had a guard at his heels. It didn't matter, he staged an improbable escape. He would stir up a massive excape of all of the prisoners during which O"Leary would escape from the opposite side. D day arrived and the miracle was underway. But scarcely had he gone outside of the walls when an armed guard sew him and followed him racing through the streets. Exhausted, Pat dove into a dark building and landed on a table where he found himself face to face with a nun.

The sisters hid him in a trunk in the attic. Not for long because a systematic search had been organized. The sister superior therefore conducted our spy to an underground passage that let to a vinyard. And here is Pat, crawling among the vines, half hidden under the skirt of the sister superior, finally he reached the woods; he was saved. With his false papers he returned to Marseille and from there on called himseld Adolphe Cartier.

ADOLPHE SHOULD STAY

At that time he met an English doctor, Ian Garrow who proposed that Pat work with him to help shot down Allied aviators escape. He sent a message to London; some days later he received a response via the BBC. "Adolphe doit rester" I repeat "Adolphe doit rester". (Adolphe should stay)

And Adolphe stayed. At the end of 1941 Ian Garrow was arrested and Albert Guerisse alone directed this escape network. He organised 6 maritime operations and thus some hundreds of aviators were evacuated by sea. He discovered a traitor in his organization and he made possible the escape of Ian Garrow who had been candemned to 20 years in prison. When he made contact with one of his men in a cafe the barrel of a revelver was pointed against the nape of his neck. He was arrested as a result of being denounced.

Imprisoned after his arrest by the Gestapo he entered into that which he called "his third life". That of the concentration camps. Sent to Mauthausan, then to Natsweyler, and finally to Dachau. But his true identity was never discovered, to the Germans he was always Pat O"Leary, British.

April 1945 he was freed by the Americans but his fantastic adventure did not stop there. Shortly thereafter there was the Korean War, a terrible war. The Belgian expeditionary Corps had practically no doctors therefore he did not hesitate for a moment and for 13 months he served the Commandant of Health Services in Korea and became a Major General.

Since that time Albert Guerisse has taken his retirement. He estimates that with his retirement he has had more chances than other spys to salute those who did not work in the field and were uninformed as to the results of their formidable work. He salutes also those who had risked their lives in spontaneously sheltering and tracking down British aviators.

Albert Guerisse received the title of Count after having been honored several months ago by King Baudouin. The Queen of England had not waited so long, she had made him a Chevalier seven years ago.

ALBERT GUERISSE, alias PAT O"LEARY

The story about Major General Albert Guerisse alias Pat O"Leary was translated from an article printed in "Le Soir", a Brussels newspaper, dated Oct. 8, 1986. Translation by Ralph Patton Opposite page headlines read "Once upon a time"....

Albert Guerisse: The spy who came from our house

ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL AWARDED TO HELPERS

On Monday October 27th The Ellis Island Medal of Honor was awarded to Dr Gabriel Nahas and Mirielle Rostad former members of the French and Belgian Undergrounds now living in the United States.

U.S.A. Today carried the following information about these awardees.

Mirielle Rostad, 62, Houston Minn: A neurosurgical-urology nurse, she trained as a medic with the underground in Belgium and France during World War II. After the Nazi defeat she worked for the U.S. Army in Germany. Rostad came to the USA under War Brides Act.

Gabriel Nahas, 66 New York City: professor of anesthesiology at Columbia University. Consultant to United Nations Commission on Narcotics. Got the USA's highest civilian award for role in underground during World War II.

Mme Rostad is unknown to AFEES but we would be very much interested in locating her and learning more about her underground activities and whether she helped American airmen.

Dr Nahas is well known to AFEES having attended our New York dinner for members of the Comete Line in 1974. He was one of the leaders of the Dutch Paris Network. Operating out of Toulouse France he organized escape lines over the Pyrennes Mountains.

Congratulations to these deserving recipients of the Ellis Island Medal.

COMETE ANNUAL MEETING OCT. 18 & 19

Your president received the following greeting from members of the RAFES and the Comete Line who were having their annual Memorial Weekend in Brussels. "All the members of the Comete Line send their warmest wishes to you and to all the members of the American Escape & Evasion Society.

Good luck to you all in 1987.

The card was signed by 15 members of Comete and the RAFES. This was a very warm gesture by our Belgian & English friends.

LESLIE ATKINSON

After an operation and a very slow recovery encompassing most of 1986 our good friend Leslie Atkinson now seems to be on the road to recovery. He writes like his old self and is discussing plans to come to our San Antonio meeting. We look forward to seeing Leslie and Renee in the United States. In addition to being our representative in Europe, Leslie is one of the organizers of AFEES and a bonafide Helper of U.S. Airmen. AFEES was not the same while Leslie was ill, welcome back.

RAYMOND LABROSSE

Ray LaBrosse, a good friend of AFEES since our first meeting in Buffalo in 1964, recently underwent surgery for a very serious liver ailment. He is recovering at his home in Ottawa and the prognosis is good.

ANNE BRUSSELMANS

Our dear friend Anne was stricken with a heart attack in early December and was hospitalized for over a week. She is now recovering at home. Her activities will be severly restricted for quite some time so it is doubtfull whether she will be able to join us in San Antonio.

AFEES MEMBERS MEET IN HOLLYWOOD FL.



Left to Right, back row: Louis Abbott, James Heddleson, Ruben Fier, Francis Heekin, John McKee, Merle Rainey, Clayton David, Claude Murray, Paul Kenney, Art Horning, Bob Seaman: Seated, Bette Abbott, Scotty David, Ralph Patton, Dorothy Kenney, Janet Horning.

The above group of AFEES members attended the 12th Annual Reunion of the 8th Air Force Historical Society at the Diplomat Hotel in Hollywood FL. Oct. 15th thru the 18th. A short poolside AFEES meeting was held in the afternoon of Saturday October 17th. Those present were briefed on the activities of AFEES since our Atlanta meeting and the plans for our San Antonio meeting. A good time was had by all at the best ever 8th Air Force Reunion. Unfortunately when the Davids returned home they found a first floor full of water as the result of a broken water pipe.

IT IS WITH SADNESS THAT WE REPORT THE DEATH OF TWO HELPERS IN 1986

MADAME LEBERVET of St Quay Portriux Brittany France.

Mme LeBervet was a member of Reseau Shelburne who sheltered and fed a number of American airmen during the early part of 1944. A number of our members will remember Mme LeBervet and her daughter Marcelle and granddaughter Christelle from the 1976 visit to the U.S.A. of the Shelburne group. News of the death of Mme LeBervet was sent to us by her daughter who advised us that her mother passed away peacefully on Tuesday September 16th.

MARIETTE HENDRICKS of Belgium and the Comete Line

Mariette Hendricks was a member of the Comete group in attendance at our annual meeting in Atlanta, she was also present when we dedicated our AFEES plaque at the Air Museum in Dayton Ohio in 1981. She was one of our Comete hosts when we visited Brussels in 1983. The details of her death are not known to us at this time but she was not well during the Comete tour of the U.S.A. in May 1986. We will miss her at future AFEES and RAFES meetings.

AFEES MEMBERS ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE R.A.FE.S. (CANADIAN BRANCH)



25 Mmmbers of the AFEES attended the 22nd Annual General Meeting of the Royal Air Forces Escaping Society (Canadian Branch) held at L'Hotel in Toronto Ont. Canada on September 25-27, 1986. The following AFEES members attended:

Milt & Ada Goldfeder
Jacques & Joan Keshishian
Bill & Mildred Lincoln
David & Doris Shoss
Dick & Margaret Smith
Ralph & Bette Patton
Heyward Spinks

Howard & Jeanette Harris
Bob & Betty Laux
Bill & Lilly Miller
Bill & Kate Spinning
Gil & Frances Millar
Clayton & Scotty David
Phil Fink

The Canadians did a great job of entertaining their Helper guests who were flown to Canada by the RCAF. (see pictures on the following pages).

AFEES members participated in the Friday evening reception, they were guests at the Saturday morning Annual Business Meeting and they left their fair share of Yankee dollars at the Canadian Auction held on Saturday afternoon. The Saturday evening banquet was dedicated to their Helper guests, the program was well planned and well carried out. Next years meeting will be held in Ottawa, Canada's capitol, if you have never been there this might be a good excuse to visit one of North America's beautiful cities.



JOE OGILVIE, RAFES with HELPER MARGUERITE NOETINGER and DAUGHTER THERESE from FRANCE



DAVID & DORA SHOSS, SCOTTY & CLAYTON DAVID



YOKE FOLMER DUTCH HELPER



JOE FRY, RAFES with HELP from DENMARK



BOB LAUX, BILL SPINNING, H



PEGGY AND ROSS WEINS RAFES



ERS MR & MRS KRUGERMIERER



OWARD HARRIS, DAVID SHOSS dian business meeting



AUCTIONEER & ASSISTANT



FREDDIE & MIET CEYSSENS, BELGIAN HELPERS OF JACK GOUINLOCK



DON MCCLARTY, RAFES, HEYWARD SPINKS & RALPH PATTON AFEES, STEPH BJARNESON RAFES



JOHN TRULL RAFES, HOWARD HARRIS AFEES, PHIL FINK AFEES



"CAMERA UNDER THE BOOT"

A book published in French in 1963 by PRESSES DE LA CITE, PARIS.

The author ALBERT MAHUZIER was a member of the Burgundy Network



AT THE HEIGHT OF THE OCCUPATION THESE
3 ALLIED AIRMEN TAKE A STROLL IN PARIS

Recently a relative of the author of Camera Under The Boot wrote to the 8th Air Force News trying to locate the 3 airmen pictured above. AFESS was able to identify James Stewart as an RAF airman from Scotland, and the Pilote Americain de Minneapolis as S/Sgt Robert Peterson. At the present time we have not been able to locate any of the men but Scotty David has the ball; if they are locatable she will find them.

AFEES recently sent a Helper pin and a Certificate of Remembrance to Mr Mahuzier

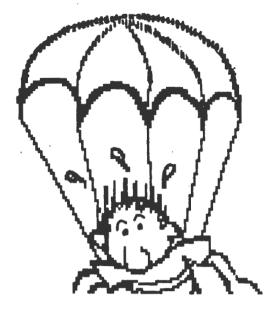


A badly wrapped package appearing to contain a roast of beef or a present of the first communion, one opening for the lens, a second for the view-finder, and a third for the shutter release, and here is the scientific instrument ready to go. Mr Gudin on the left, Mr. Mahuzier on the right start on their first clandestine picture taking tour of Paris under the occupation. The roar of the motor covered the frightful noise of this antedeluvien apparatus which could run no more than 20 seconds of film.



Sur les quais, un acrateur americain lit avec inicret l'affiche promettant la peine de mort à veny qui l'ont andé

On the riverbank an American airman reads with interest the poster promising the death penalty to those who aide him. In the original photo the name JOHN AMERY is clearly visible on the poster. John was one of the founders of AFEES



AIR FORCES ESCAPE AND EVASION SOCIETY MAY 24, 1987



SanAntonio in 87!

Computer Graphics by HARRY DOLPH



We wish we had a month to show y'all our beautiful state! Then you'd think this plant is a

rose bush too! Pretty, ain't it?
REMEMBER May 24 1987,

THOMAS S. THOMAS III TO HEAD 15th AIR FORCE SECTION OF AFEES

Tom Thomas of the 464th Bomb Group of the 15th Air Force has agreed to head up an as yet unnamed section of AFEES to work exclusively with men of the 15th Air Force who evaded capture after having been shot down over one of the Balkan countries. Since its founding in 1964 AFEES has been oriented towards recognizing our Helpers in Western Europe. This was brought about because all of our founding members had been shot down in Western Europe. In the last year we have received inquiries from a number of men who were shot down over Yugoslavia, Romania, bulgaria etc. In view of this we have asked Tom Thomas to organize a wing of AFEES that will be dedicated to recognizing the Helpers of these Balkan countries. We hope that this group will invite a Helper or two, or three, to our San Antonio reunion. Any help that our friends of the 15th Air Force can give to Tom will be greatly appreciated. Helper pins and citations of Remembrance are available for all Helpers.

Questions or HELP on this project should be addressed to:

Thomas S. Tomas III 442 Speedwell Ave., Morris Plains, N.J. 07950

THE UNSUNG HERO'S LAMENT

THEY SAT IN STATE, THE HEROS IN THE VAULTED HALLS OF FAME, IN PROUD & SCORNFUL SILENCE, FOR EACH HAD MADE HIS NAME, ON FIELDS OF STORIED BATTLE, ON MANY A BLOODY SEA, THOUGH FORGED IN FIRE, OR CARVED, IN MIRE, EACH DEED IS HISTORY.

THERE WAS LITTLE DAVY CROOKETT, AND THE MARTYR NATHAN HALE, AND THE REBEL LINE THAT FELL IN SHENANDOAH'S BLOODY VALE THERE WAS GRANT, WHO KNEW BRIEF GLORY, BUT DIED ANOTHER WAY, AND OTHERS KNOWN TO TIME ALONE, BUT EACH HAD HAD HIS DAY THERE WAS ON EACH HAUNTED VISAGE A DEEP, FORBIDDING GLOOM,

AND EACH GAZE UPON A STRANGER WHO HAD SHAMBLED IN THE ROOM, IN HIS LEFT HAND WAS A CHECK LIST, IN HIS RIGHT AN R.B.I. HIS FACE WAS WORN, HIS CLOTHES WERE TORN, HIS FLIGHT CAP WAS AWRY.

THE FIRST TO SPEAK WAS CAESAR, BY VIRTUE OF HIS AGE, AND THE FINGER THAT HE POINTED WAS TREMBLING WITH HIS RAGE, "WHAT RIGHT HAVE YE BRASH YOUNGSTER, WITH THESE GALLANT MEN OF YORE?" AND THE MAN REPLIED, THOUGH NOT WITH PRIDE, "I FLEW A B 2-4."

"IT WAS OUT ON THE PLAINS OF KANSAS, IN THE LAND THAT GOD FORGOT, WHERE THE WINTER WINDS ARE PIERCING, AND THE SUMMER SUNS ARE HOT, WE WERE YOUNG AND BRAVE AND HOPEFUL, FRESH FROM TEN DAYS LEAVES, THOUGH SOMEHOW WE KNEW, AND THE FEELING GREW, THEY WERE REALLY OUR LAST REPRIEVE

FOR THERE'S A SORT OF MANIAC MADNESS IN THE SUPERCHARGES! WHINE, AS YOU HEAR THE ICE-CUBES TINKLING IN THE TURBO BALANCE LINE, AND THE RUNWAY STRIPS ARE NARROW, BUT THE SNOWBANKS THEY WERE WIDE, WHILE THE CRASH TRUCKS SAY, IN A MOURNFUL WAY, THAT YOU'RE ON YOUR FINAL RIDE.

THE NOSE-GEAR ROCKS AND TREMBLES, FOR IT'S HELD WITH BAILING WIRE, AND THE WINGS ARE FILLED WITH THERMITE TO MAKE A HOTTER FIRE, THE CAMOUFLAGE IS PEELING OFF, IT LENDS AN ADDED LUSTER, WHILE THE PITOT HEAD IS FILLED WITH LEAD TO HELP THE LOAD ADJUSTER.

THE BOMB BAY DOORS ARE RUSTED, AND THEY CLOSE WITH A GHASTLY SHRIEK, AND THE PLEXIGLASS IS SMEARED WITH SOME FORGOTTEN OIL LEAK, THE OLEO STRUTS ARE TWISTED, THE WHEELS ARE NOT QUITE ROUND, AND THE BULK-HEADS THIN (FORD BUILDS WITH TIN) ADMIT THE SLIGHTEST SOUND.

YOU TAXI OUT ON THE RUNWAY, MID THE GROAMS OF THE TORTURED GEAR, AND YOU FEEL THE CHECK RIDERS PRACTICED TEETH, GNAWING YOUR TENDER REAR, THE CO-PILOT DOZING ON THE RIGHT, IN A LIQUOR LADEN COMA, MINGLES HIS BREATH, LIKE THE KISS OF DEATH, WITH THE PUT-PUT'S FOUL AROMA.

SO IT'S OFF IN THE OVERCAST YONDER, THOUGH NUMBER ONE IS MISSING, AND THE HYDRAULIC FLUID ESCAPING, SETS UP A GENTLE HISSING, THE COMPASS DIAL IS SPINNG IN A WAY THAT EROODS NO STOPPING, AND ROW BY ROW, THE FUSES BLOW WITH AN INTERMITTENT POPPING.

IT WAS NAMED THE" LIBERATOR" BY A LOW AND TWISTED MIND, BUT MEN WHO COME TO LIBERAL, NO FREEDOM EVER FIND; THERE IS NO HOPE, NO SUNNY RAY, TO DRY THEIR TEARS OF SORROW, FOR THOSE WHO LAND, AND STILL CAN STAND, FLY THE GODDAM THINGS TOMORROW."

THE STRANGER'S VOICE WAS SILENT, A TEAR SHONE IN HIS EYE, AND FROM ALL HIS HONORED AUDIENCE AROSE A GHASTLY SIGH, GREAT CAESAR ROSE UP TO HIM WITH PITY ON HIS FACE, AND BOWING LOW, HE TURNED TO SHOW THE STRANGER TO HIS PLACE

Courtesy Lt. K.E.Bailey,0685188-MEMBER COMBAT CREW OF the 464th BOMB GROUP,15th A/F-Italy,transcribed by Tom Thomas.same group.15th A/F-October 1986

24 November, 1986
Tulph K. Putton
Air Forces Escape & Evasion Society
720 Valleyview Rd.,
Pittsburgh, PA 15243

Dean Mr. Pattoni

You may not remember me, but three years ago I corresponded with you while trying to determine whether a California man, Bob Hannah, is a member of you group. (He is.)

I um writing again because I um undertaking initcul pluns to write either a book or magazine unticles about Hannah and I may need your help. Hunnah's B-17 was shot down and he stuyed in Holland to help the underground route Allied servicemen to freedom rather than himself return.

I eventually would like to have the chunce to intervies some members of your organization and would like to know the whereabouts of any AFEES members who live in California.

Until our next correspondence, thak you for your time on this matter.

(undially

George R. Hower (s) 300 Los Alamos Rd., 1202 Sunta Rosa, CA 95405 Home phone: 707 538 0525: work: 707 546 2020

id, note: I replied to Mr. Hower that we considered the names of our California members to be confidential but that I would put the information in our next newsletter.

Translation of a latter, written in French, duted 20 October 1986.

Ma President, Dear Friend:

I am sending you a short note following a letter received from a childhood friend. Ame Jeannette Pannes formerly Mills J. Guaguan, now living at 53 Alud. Jaan Jaures 78400 Chatou.

This woman would like to obtain, if possible, the centificate of: The Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society in recognition of services rendered to two American fliers during the second World War.

In January 1943 Mme Pennes, not yet 17 years of uye, lived in the town of Paule: young and orphaned, the sheltered for a period of time two American airmen whose airplane crashed in the region. She procured civilian clothes for them thus helping them to get lack to England.

In 1946 Mme Pennes had received a certificate of recognition from the American military authorities for having aided two of their mam. She has mislaid this diplome.

We hope you are all in good health and remember with fond reccollection our leautiful and moving ceremony at Kergrist Moelou.

Sincere friendship from both of us.

(s) M et Mme LeGoff, Albert Boung de Puule 22340 Mael Canhaix France

Ed note: A certificate & Helper pin were sent to Nme Pennes and an enthusiastic new member was located

70: Rulph K. Putton Pres. AFEES

Deur Mr. President:

Thunk you very much for your letter and for the certificate of your Society. I was very touched and so ylud to receive this honorary citation of remembrance from the Air Forces Escape & Evasion Society.

With Kind Regards,
Yours Sincerely

(faire Ruscart (s) 1180 Brussels Belgium

Ed. note: The certificate & Helper Pin were sent at the request of member Louis Albott.

November 25, 1980

Rulph K. Putton AFEES

Deur Mr. Putton:

Thunk you for your nice letter of Nov. 15th in which you discuss Mudume Gubriel and wishing to present her with a certificate and pin.

General Yeager asked me to write you and telf you that it has been since 1968 or 1969 when we fart say her and she was 90 or so years old at the time. (That was when the picture in the book was taken.) We are sorry but we don't have her address or an address for any of her family. We assume she has since pussed away.

We are sorry we are unable to help you out and sure wish we could come up with an address of her fumily, at least. We both wish you lack and thank you again for writing.

Sincenely.

Glennis Yeuyen (s)

Ed. note: After reading YEAYER I wrote to the General suggesting that AILES would like to present a Helper Rin and a certificate to Mme gubriel who helped him to evade capture in Irance in 1944.

Plouha, 14 Nov. 1986

Deur Ralph:

On May 29, 1943 an American Flying Fortress crashed in the sea near Saint Quay Portrieux. The crew was able to parachute and for the most part they were received by the French resistance of Plourhun and Saint Quay and the group of our friend Ray LaBrosse.

Recently divers have recovered one of the props and two of the motors, these have been given to the Mayor of Plourhan. With the concurrance of the Federation and the local resistance he has decided to erect a monument in the community using the prop and the reconditioned motors to pay hommage to the American Aviators and the Frenchiesistance. In the presence, if possible, of you and the living aviators and French, American And Canadian authorities.

The inauguration of this memorial will be held on May 31st 1987 at Plourhan (neur Plouha). Of course dear Rulph, we hope that one time again you will be with for the inauguration.

yves LePicurd :

AIR FORCES ESCAPE AND EVASION SOCIETY

IN MEMORY OF



U.S. AIR CREW MEMBERS WHO EVADED OR ESCAPED FROM ENEMY CAPTURE DURING WORLD WAR II. ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO DIED IN THE ATTEMPT.

TRIBUTE IS PAID TO THE RESISTANCE FORCES WHO CAME TO THE AID OF DOWNED AIR CREW MEMBERS. WE SHALL NEVER FORGET THE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN WHO PAID WITH THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR HEROIC ACTIONS.

AFEES PLAQUE FOR AIR FORCE ACADEMY

The copy has been approved and authorization has been granted for manufacturing of the AFEES plaque that will be mounted on the USAF Academy Cemetary Memorial Wall. The actual mounting of the plaque will probably take place within the next two months but the dedication will be delayed until later in the year or until 1988.

Thanks to David O'Boyle and a hand-full of Colorado members this project was carried out without a hitch. We can all be proud that AFEES is represented at the Air Force Academy.

FROM

AIR FORCES ESCAPE & EVASION SOCIETY P.O. BOX 844 BEAUFORT, S.C. 29901

