

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) Sheehan, Robert E. Signed Robert E. Sheehan
Rank F/O A.S.N. T-989 Date Jan 20, 1944
Unit 56th Fighter Group 63 Fighter Sqdn. Witness John W. Smith
Col. G.S.C.

CONFIDENTIAL

MILITARY LIAISON OFFICE
AMERICAN CONSULATE
GIBRALTAR

20 January 1944

SUBJECT: Orders.

TO : F/O ROBERT E. SHEEHAN, T-989, 56th Fighter Group.

Having reported at this station on 20 January 1944, you are placed on temporary duty this office. Upon completion of this temporary duty you will proceed by first available transportation to LONDON, ENGLAND, where you will report without delay to the Commanding General, European Theater of Operations, U.S. Army. Under authority of WD Cablegram, Number 45, 4 February 1943, in lieu of subsistence, a flat per diem of \$6.00 is authorized while traveling on official business (except by belligerent or government vessel) and while on temporary duty this station, in accordance with existing law and regulations. TDN FSA 1-5600 P 432-02 A 0425-24.



Horace W. Forster
HORACE W. FORSTER,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Mil. Lia. Officer.

Distribution.

MIS
Hq ETOUSA (A.C. of S, G-2)
Personnel concerned
File

CONFIDENTIAL

3

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 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.

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 **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) Sheehan, Robert E.

Signed Robert E. Sheehan

Rank Flight Officer A. S. N. _____

Dated Jan. 26, 1944

Unit 56th Fighter Gp. 63rd Fighter Sqdn.

Witness J. J. Johnson 1st Lt AUS

RESTRICTED

(4)

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH
MIS (X)

HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
PW and X Detachment
Military Intelligence Service

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1. Full Name, Rank and Serial No. *Sheehan, Robert Emmett F/O T-989*
2. Decorations. *Air Medal*
3. Unit or Squadron. *56 Lb Fighter Gp. 63 Fighter Sqdn.*
4. Division (Army) or Group. *56 Lb Fighter Gp.*
5. Date of Birth. *Aug. 20, 1920*
6. Length of Service. *3 yrs.*
7. Private Address. *6003-50th NE. Seattle, Washington*
8. If in A.F., on what operation were you engaged? State place, date, and time of departure. Where and when did you come down?
Were aircraft and all instruments and papers destroyed?
*Raid on Wesel. Left Hallesworth Nov. 7, 1943 approx. 10:00 hrs.
Came down between Helmond & Stiphout in Holland about noon.
Aircraft was destroyed and patriots stole all instruments before the soldiers arrived.*
9. What was your position in aircraft? *Pilot*
10. Were you wounded? *No Wrenched knee*
11. Did you pay your guides? If so how much? *No I turned in all my money
to the leader in the area I went through.*
12. Do you speak French? Spanish? *German a little*
13. Did you have Identity Papers? *Yes DOG TAGS.
Dutch, Belgian, FRENCH I/P*
14. 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? *Yes in Gibraltar by Captain Zandel British
Intelligence Jan. 22, 1944*
15. Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom? *No*
16. Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, where and when? *Yes in Madrid Spain Jan 18,
and in Gibraltar Jan 20*
17. Date of arrival in Spain. *Jan. 8, 1944*
18. Date of arrival at Gibraltar. *Jan. 20, 1944*
19. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air. *Gibraltar The night of
The 24. By air*
20. Place and date of arrival in U.K. *Jan 25, 1944 near Bristol*

(3)

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO.
EVASION IN

(Date)

Robert E. SHEEHAN, F/O, T-0003989

(Name)

(Rank)

(ASN)

56 Fighter

(Squadron)

(Group)

TARGET:

MIA: 7 November 1943

Arrived in UK:

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

PILOT

Sheehan, Robert Emmett, F/O - T 989 MIA

Official
Disposition

Narrators
Disposition

CO-PILOT

NAVIGATOR

BOMBARDIER

RADIO OPERATOR

TOP TURRET GUNNER

BALL TURRET GUNNER

WAIST GUNNER

WAIST GUNNER

TAIL GUNNER

Were you wounded?

Jan 7.11 To 1000 said to West - push up bombers - take them in to T. To an
red zone - bombs late - we circle - saw B's to NW - went up - an
point in front of front of head box - just in position for making left
turn in front of head box heading W when my prop went out -
Dial show RPM from 1100 to 3300 - rising, in back & forth &
settled 1100 RPM. Try my own thing of to stop - from start
circuit button, manual - nothing work. Try ^{RPM to 0} manual - no
luck. Called up S/Ldr told him prop out - turned out of frame
turn - to W. Bring alt to 1000 - passed right in front of
B. Still trying fix prop - my caught fire. Smoke fell
away - C 25, 000 - cut switches - stop - engine died.
Tried start again - but had frozen - not start. C 16, 000
finally started again. RPM still stuck 1100. Undid
safety belt, shoulder straps. Threw glasses, O₂ mask,
maps. Still heading W - with stop turns. At 13000
in top of clouds, bailed out 4-5 sec pull up and - chute
opened, my head. Saw plane go into clouds. Broke out of
clouds at 2000'. Tried guide by hand his - heading to town -
Landed with woods between me & town - James saw me at 500'
Landed - wrenched knee. ^{so other way} Ran up - I not know in or not.
c 20 yds I pulled my AS from shoulder holster - 16 held
up head & said /holster. Helped pick up chute - with
inigation ditch 200 yds away. He took me to little woods.
I tried little 15 on his - People started up - 200 or so. Also
shaking hands. Offered Philip Morris - 2 left. I started
talking excitedly - push - point. Off - through
ditch into swamp. Covered myself with weeds.

Sup - they gave chate

C 1/2 hr. perhaps. But by 8:00. Ask what I want. I ask - if he could help me (Wing thing - all people around).

James who led first helped me grabbed me. Took c 1 1/2 to patch of 2d growth again. Put in middle. Seath jacket, ODS, Heavy W was sweated, ^{leather} jacket, heavy wool sock.

Left, indicate stg. I wet - cold - also rain. Took for way out. Took shoes off. Used sweater for underwear.

Knee started aching. At 2000 cold. 1 1/2 hot chaps, 1 belt.

Drove gas - all clothes hot shoes & underwear. Blankets ruined. Walk to house c 50 yds from where landed. Got milk. Attic.

8 Nov. Next afternoon 3 men came - 1 1/2 Van Bruggen - works at Phillips Radi, Lindover. 45-50.

B | Told us only 1/7 production from Mosquito road. Tall man, 40.

Young man, blond, heavy set, c 26, Dutch detection. C 1900 M on bicycles. Had stop - my light off. Off - home gave us.

2-300 yds policeman stopped - Dutch detection no light.

To Van B - met wife, relatives. Dutch Detection took us to. Is get for rest of night - back to Van B for day.

Told nothing - give us clothes - get many changed. Fixed up underwear. About to start when

Catholic priest came - somehow found 1 other. Asked for night - priest. Shaved ash barrels.

1 1/2 call friend in Roanoke. 1 stg night. Mar 3rd pictures I had - gave me passport - 1st & 2nd.

2 d not to get into store - with Detective. Another man there. Next morning detective
to Van B's relative's place - 2 young fellows hiding out against forced labor P.
Priest came - gave directions. Met lady in church. To close to train depot. To soldier
army with lady. Detent after but didn't talk.
to store. Met another detective who took us to Roomed - c 2030.

Met 2 Catholic fathers. To Church. Just to have noticed followed.

Stop - new person father after. To house, 1st & Am. Henri Lemans.

233 Kappellen Keyzelelane, Think we know or Big quarry.

21-23 days then. By Jan 16.

2nd 9/10 from
Catholic Church
at Roomed
Took picture for
Van B's
and his wife
and their photo.

Mrs L's mother used come over often - wife Dutch and O.
Tells from Catholic school - Glish master - bring me books -

Stahl Muns - 19 Nov down.
Chk 5/55T John P/OV Matinech
met 1 Am, 1 G, 1 NZ -
Lithuania Pilot - 1/55T

Guide c 5'8" - thin, glasses -

B Camouflaged underground air field - c 3 G 20 between
Tilburg & O - Van B Jail, large place

B To a/f c 5 km E of Roomed - permit not fit MG's
Another 8 km E from people staying with

Train with 4 guides, 5 of us to Weerd. To house. To
restaurant - played some dance music for us. Drew straws who go
flat out. John & Chuck - Sam - miss - left.

3 of us to another house - Man 38, wife, young girl 20.
Slept in 3 chairs.

Bigged - 3 of us & 2 Dutch policemen from Weert to Buhl.
To covered wagon - 95 allied airmen here though.

Man -
Lady dtr c 11, boy 18 hiding out.

Stayed at house across edge of fields - back c 0630 next morning.
Everybody in town knew that we there -

Next out bicycled to border with 2 policemen in uniform. Left
bikes - met two Belgian customs officials in uniform. Saw us overcoat.
To Hamont. Night there in beautiful house. Turned over all
money for Belgium.
Saw 100 fr in Belgium money.

Man found export straw cases for whiskey bottles.
That first place had full out of forms - as time passes - Check gets in.

Refused give up. G/S - Sgt Belgium army. Had secured from to camp.
Next afternoon Chief of that area & wife came. ^{was looking} Had over 250 men
under his - waters.

Small - wine glasses when read - straight fountain,
with them - not 3 men on bikes. Rode down highway following Maes wife.
Through Neerpelt, Ross canal, To Overpelt. To ^{Gom - dth Alta} Schreiner's
house. Stayed Maes there, I next door To the Variety - a young
str. 4 or 5 days.

1 Dec fort new start one thought - ^{Bomb} Belgians; Co-P, TG -
said fort down - 2 in Maes picked up - Other 8 coming thought.

Chief & wife visited us. 1/P from tall men c 50.

B) Chief returned us every afternoon 14/5 3 further train go
through Neerpelt - from train to Is.

B) Auto 25 train a day to. From Is go over bridge over
canal 3 G 40 - bomb bridge - take 6 mos repair.

Also mess up canal - apparently through material also a canal.

little
SE Hamont air plane engine factory.

Schreiner & purveyor man took 3 of us to train depot Overpelt.
met man who take to railway - bag set, c 50, motorcycle, cap - other
jacket. - riding breeches.

Overpelt to Antwerp - 1/2 train before To restaurant 4 1/2 Klopsdorp -
Maes Maes 21 called But he it became only Belgium & it

Met 1st man, by leather overcoat - c 6 yrs NYC

To airport met another man with tickets to Brussels - next train - Brussels
 Reminded with man to restaurant close by - Walk c 20 mi - see it. 3 men & 2
 women - young girl - c 20 - girl c 35 - attractive young.

Visited first car. To home. Young girl's father there. He lived
 with brother. Both lady live with husband yet behind.

2 RAF boys ^{on} at home with young girl - other with in home behind.

Photographers came.

Met 35 yrs looked - tall, good looking, dark, works in police
 Commissioning Office.

Louis came in - c 5'8", wears glasses, c 45 - said I going with him

not see
 then paper
 again
 To 2nd car To 8 Place Meiser - get home. On 5th floor
 with M^r Max D'Hoosche / with them. M. from
 Belgian soldier.

Met by lady - Mrs Claes. Used visit frequently. Best looks

Inquire about her son in London my place

Thinks 85 Eaton Sq - John Octave (Claes)

Tell him Mother's friend - his connection in news &

Father died c 2 yrs ago. Phys sending for Portugal
 have not been coming though regularly.

Mother very anxious to see again.

Met Artie Morris 4 times.

B / Chris over to "The Old Belgium", c 1600 pamphlets floating down
 from pump old German text. People picking up.

Next night Charlie - another old soldier - speaks of it - Lyle
 included - in my for detailed & intro Nazi leaflets. Also in my for tabulating
 order of battle information.
 2 of friends picked up with pamphlets.

On 1 pamphlets had notes on "The Captain" - spent 12-13
yrs in states - want Belgians to watch out for him.
Shaved picture of ex-wife "Capt Jack" Capt Will, Williams.
Is in news - date self another ask
Not remember missing finger.
Think Glenish.

At 1st place in Brussels had filled out some forms.

In woods little E Snelligen. Is ammunition dump
St/Kris E Buzze another wood ammunition dump.

On Zeebrugge N Buzze - 200 is assault boats - been there
since they finished by

Superior depot Me - 110, 210, 169 217 also 5.88

N of Brussels

2 Pans
C. Chateau Skel from 1.88 & city -

San day - 217 find get back.

Road into Fumes to left - then power station for area.

Great big R.L. station - Mont in rock from air. - 1000 SW Calais

On road track W of Montebell - 50 tracks - get

Is camouflaged airport - area 1000 ft. Camouflaged like
small town.

6 Dec Louis come - bought Belgian 9/1. Dg before left but found
9/1. Walk and for Lilla.

c 7-5 5:30 M D & I start for station - met Louis - left D'14 -
Louis & I met little tiny girl - drift - in white rain coat.
30 is start across st. Louis leave - I follow her - gave me 500 fr. 200 fr.
met man - gave me ticket - girl left. met Ray Neale. To train.
Small 100. Off at 11:00. Short car to 1300 - 1400. 2500 fr.
also two - F/O Frank Hill, & P/O Williams, Ned. T. plan 1 hr from London

Then Dr - 7/11 is crossed border with 3/11 girl & fellow who has
 went to Dr's house, then, left with girl & man at who has been to
 with her. Neald & 9th - other church. 2 men & 1 boy.
 Walked to Dr's house next morning. Was 12-15 hrs - train to Paris - 4

Just & 3/11 girl. 2 hrs before Paris men check 9/11 - Roman - oh.
 To Paris - but Williams & Bill - finally find them again. To Metro. To
 Apt house. To room of collaborators out of town. Then met 2 men -
 by speaking in friendly face - middle age. - sandy hair.
 Older c 5'8", dark hair, nice looking.

To messengers place on bottom floor - met my nice looking lady house
 married to American man - white hair - now married to somebody
 in SA or Spolia.

Then 2 by 2 to another place Metro. At house where little by c.3.
 Met Gregory then - 5/11 is.

Next afternoon c 1600 ^{sun was} hot better & better. Gregory, 2 first
 with short - 20-23 girl [4'8" ?] Metro - to depot.
^{above} Saw 2 messengers. Girl & 2 men at York by - dark hair - man M.
 Girl & Gregory & 1 M - to restaurant. Air raid alert. Finally
 to depot. Williams & Neald pass with ^{the woman married to married} their guide. Somebody up &
 ask no question. Girl up & comes - man on.

3/11 is into compartment.

To Borden c 0600. 4/11 is together. Met ^{c 29} tall fellow little
 by - very flat footed.

C 5-6 miles S Borden on left hand side tracks got big power station
 with 4-5 bronze ballons. 3 or 4 miles beyond had R.C.
 station left - close to tracks. C 6 towers c 100 feet.

B

6 Jan. Sgt. & Col. J. equipment or flight as ^{it was} need to have as a ^{hand}.
st machine guns, rifles, side arms. Some as can be
not clear whether more that day - a just need to more.

Day - 5 J is out side of town - at in woods - guide from Bordeaux explain
big. Big game. With in 7 hours Nailed but flattened. Villain + 1 m
ahead rest of lake (min). By hand of - look & go on. 2 fellows along
in our boat. Man stop - question.

To Bayonne dark - other side of town along coast to restaurant.

About 1730 next day ^{with some good & warm} m. bikes. Met 2 guides.

1/2 hr or 45 min another guide - the north. C 1300 across
border.

1 kill from Spain - instead and go over - first 2 guides on
ahead, 2 with us. Top - see nothing. Down "1 built, 1 built"
guides said all day - look J. I not get left behind.

Path to
reach C
900 yds.

Off as fast as could. 500 yds from - could see flashes - but any
time see flash. Within 30 yds of bottom - lost bottom - to go pick &
time saw to police day coming like boat out of hell - gave a
big push. Day side passed us - but we to work.

Day taking taking & copy. I cross within 5' - with
ball & side with. Day after me. I valleys with a stick

Turn - go after 200 yds. 2 with - back in rock zone.

I m - left path - still see guides, caught you by down. Found in
Spain. Could hear to below - whistling for day. Other 2 guides
you - one grazed by bullet in head. got a head from hill. At last looking
for by guide pick up. You by & old man - they look for
other 2 - One guide by 2 Corneds, 1 man.
met with them.

5

That would let us try to help, etc.
Went to bus stop. 1000 start off - to shed. Another girl there
To family in G. To another family - 2 days, not 5.

Stayed with man who had lived in Spain - gave me 1 shoe from
Bicycle
with
blister - got very sore when sleeping. 45 km in 12 km with
these...

To place outside San Sebastian. Don is in bed now can't move
by himself. I couldn't walk - just shot, unable to walk.

To taxi. Hotel:

Sawant:

Madrid. Gibraltar.

Met Left Wilson & Dalinchi & 2 Belgian refugees - both
Robert & Jean
been condemned to death.

Interrogated by Zundel - Coleman & Williams in room
room & put them together.

Met Jack Thompson in bar as G.I. talking about
Don Egoth down in Peru. Captain Thompson & ask
him was G.I.

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

E & E REPORT NO. 721 340

EVASION IN HOLLAND, BELGIUM, and FRANCE

Jan. 26, 1944

(Date)

Sheehan, Robert E. F/O T-989
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

ESCORT TO: WESEL

63rd Fighter 56th Fighter
(Squadron) (Group)

AGE: 23

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 3 yrs.

HOME ADDRESS: 6003-50th N.E.
Seattle, Washington

7 Nov 1943
MIA: Jan. 8, 1944
Arrived in Spain: Jan. 20, 1944
Arrived in Gibraltar: Jan. 25, 1944
Arrived in UK:

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

	Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT <u>Sheehan Robert E.</u>	NARRATOR	
CO-PILOT		
NAVIGATOR		
BOMBARDIER		
RADIO OPERATOR		
TOP TURRET GUNNER		
BALL TURRET GUNNER		
WAIST GUNNER		
WAIST GUNNER		
TAIL GUNNER		

Horton Williams

Were you wounded?

No

E&E 340: F/O Robert E SHEEHAN

on 7 November 1943.

We were flying ^{to} as an escort to the bombers to ~~take them into~~ WESEL. We

reached the rendezvous, but the bombers were late. We saw them off to the north

west and went up to our position protecting the front of the lead box. Just

when we were in position, my prop^{or} went out. The dial swung back and forth/1100 to

3300 RPM and settled on 1100 RPM. I tried everything I could ~~to get~~ ^{with} the propellor,

~~to work~~ but nothing worked. I called up the squadron leader, told him that my

propellor was out, and turned out of formation. While I was losing altitude, I

passed right in front of a bomber. While I was still trying to fix the propellor,

the engine caught fire at 25,000 feet, and smoke filled the canopy. I cut the

switch; the fire went out, and the canopy cleared. I tried to start the engine

again, but it had frozen and would not start until about 16,000 feet. The RPM

still stuck at 1100. I undid my safety belt and shoulder straps and threw out my

glasses, oxygen mask, and maps. I was heading west, making sharp turns in case

a German plane was coming up behind me. About 13,000 feet I hit a trough of clouds

and bailed out. I saw the plane go into the clouds.

I pulled the rip cord in four or five seconds. When the chute opened, it

snapped my head. I broke out of the clouds at 2000 feet. I saw that I was head-

ing for a town, and managed to play the shroud lines and guide myself away from it.

I landed with some woods between me and the town, wrenching my knee. A farmer saw

me when I was about 500 feet, and he and another man ran toward me. I did not

know whether or not I was in Germany, so when these two men came within 20 yards of

me, I pulled my forty-five from my shoulder holster and snapped a shell in the

chamber. The men held up their hands, and the leader said "Hollander, Hollander."

When I was thus reassured, I let the two men come up. They helped me gather my

parachute, and I hid it in an irrigation ditch about 200 yards away. Then one of

the farmers took me to a little woods. I know a little German and tried it on him,

but I could not get ^{anything} from his Dutch responses to my feeble German. Soon about 200

people assembled, all shaking hands and welcoming me enthusiastically. I thought

that I should be equally sociable, so I opened a pack of Philip Morris cigarettes

FIGHTER
ESCORT

PROPELLOR
OUT

BAILED
OUT

PULLED
AS ON
STRANGER

RECEPTION

HID
and offered them around; two were left. Soon the people started talking very excitedly, and one man pushed me and pointed in one direction. I ran off and went through a ditch into a swamp. There I covered myself with reeds and hid. Meanwhile the Germans came up to the place where I had been, and the people gave them my parachute.

MISTAKE
IN ANSWERING
QUESTION
HID
AGAIN
In about half an hour some people came to the place where I was hiding. A man who spoke English asked me what I wanted. I asked him whether he could help me, and as soon as I asked him I realized that this was the wrong thing to say with all these people standing around. I should have told him that I wanted to go to England or something like that. The farmer who had first helped me grabbed me and led me some distance to a patch of second growth evergreens. There he ~~left me and~~ indicated that I should stay and left me. I was wet and cold from being in the swamp, and it was also raining. I tried to wring out some of my clothes and make myself more comfortable, but it was not easy. By this time my knee which I had wrenched in landing began to ache.

HELPED
About 2000 my helper returned and brought me a complete change of clothes. I gave him all of my things except my underwear and my GI shoes which I had been wearing when I came down. I was taken to a house scarcely 50 yards from the place where I had come down.

JOURNEY
ARRANGED
From there my journey was arranged.

rough
PYRENEES
CROSSING
We had ~~quite~~ a Pyrenees crossing. When we were just one hill from Spain, we heard a loud cry, "Halt! Halt!" The guides exclaimed, "Allemands!" and started running. I was not inclined to be left behind, so I ran with them as fast as I could. The Germans opened fire. I ducked as best I could and saw the flashes of the rifle fire. Within 30 yards of a creek at the bottom of the hill I lost my When beret. I was about to stoop and pick it up on the run, I noticed a German police dog coming up behind me at top speed. I forgot all about the beret and gave myself the biggest push I could. The dog just ~~bypassed~~ me and ran on to the creek. While the dog was busy with his own personal affairs, I crossed the creek about five feet from him and started up the opposite hill as fast as I could run. Actually it prob-

ably was not much more than a crawl. The dog started after me and came up close behind. I gave him a resounding whack with my walking stick, and he did not even bark. He just turned and went back to the French side after one of the other fellows in our party. He backed him about ^aagainst the rocks. I could hear the Germans below me, shooting and whistling for their dog. Pretty soon we met the fellow whom the dog had cornered. The dog answered the Germans' whistles, and this fellow got away as soon as the dog moved. One of the guides had been grazed on the hand and on the head by bullets. We waited for the rest of the guides to catch up with us, ~~and find us~~. One of the guides told me that my two comrades had been taken by the Germans. We felt pretty miserable about losing these fellows. Several days later, however, we met them again and found that they had managed to get over all right. ^{PP} I had to give up my ~~top~~ GI shoes and was given rope soled shoes. In them I walked 45 km in about 12 hours. After that there was not much left of my feet. My ankles were so stiff I could hardly move. In this mountain climbing the most important thing is to have a good sturdy pair of shoes, like GI's, good heavy stockings, and an extra pair of stockings.

NEED
STURDY
SHOES FOR
THE
MOUNTAINS

Compiled by

D E EMERSON
1st Lt, AUS

Approved by

W. S. HOLT
W. S. HOLT
Lt Col, AC
Commanding

Appendix B

1. The following information has been obtained from an officer who evaded capture by the enemy after being in enemy occupied territory.
2. Further circulation of this information may be made, but in that case it is important that no details be divulged about the source.

Statement of information covering the period
7 November 1943 to 8 January 1944.

- a. Informant was told in EINDOVEN in November that the Philipps Radio plant there is on only one-quarter ~~of~~ of normal production because of the Mosquito raids.
- b. Informant was told in November that there is a fairly large underground German airfield on the south side of the road between TILBURG and ~~OO OIRSC/405~~ about at MICHELIN, 11200, 000, 5 HET 1, about where 3620 crosses the road.
- c. Informant was told in November that there are German fighter fields about five ~~thirty~~ kilometers and eight kilometers east of ROERMOND; the latter field is in Germany.

d. About 1 December informant was told that every afternoon an 1415 a German furlough train from France to Germany goes through NEERPELT and spends some time in the station there.

Sheet 3, 56980-3940

e. Informant was told that about 25 trains a day to and from Germany go over a bridge over the canal at ~~just North of NEERPELT~~ (MICHELIN, 11200,000, ~~Informant's source stated that if the bridge were properly bombed it would take at least six months to repair and would effectively tie up rail traffic.~~

f. Informant was told in middle December that there is a German ammunition dump in the woods a little to the east of SNELLEGEM.

g. Informant was told in middle December that at St KRIS east of BRUGGE there is another woods with a German ammunition dump.

h. Informant was told that on the Zeebrugge north of BRUGGE about 200 German assault boats have been hid ever since the attempt to invade England.
north of BRUSSELS

i. Informant was told that there is a German repair depot for air craft.

j. Informant is told that just where the road from BRUGGE to ~~into FURNES~~ turns into the city there is a large power station.
(Dotted town)

k. Informant was told that there is a large radio location station west or south west of Calais; it can be spotted by the name spelled in stones visible from the air.

l. Informant was told that south of the railroad west of MAASTRICHT in the area of HOELBECK there is a German airport camouflaged as a small town..

m. In early January informant saw a large power station with four or five barrage balloons just to the left of the railroad tracks south of BORDEAUX on the way to DAX. Three or four miles beyond the power station, also on the left, he saw a radio location station with about six towers about 100 feet high.

n. About 6 January informant noticed along the railroad from BORDEAUX to DAX a great many flat cars of Germans and German equipment ready to move at a moment's notice.

o. Informant was told that about middle December about 2000 German troops moved from France to a camp one or two kilometers outside Overpelt.

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:- *T-989 F/O Shachan, Robert E.*

Unit:- *56th Fighter Group 63 Fighter Sqdn.*

Please answer carefully the questions below. Suggestions for improvement of escape equipment and training must 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? *Yes*
- (b) If not, had you one on you? *Yes*
- (c) If not, why had you no aids box?
- (d) If you used it, which of the following items did you use? Put a dash (-) against each item used and state briefly the circumstances, e.g., "Lying up for 2 nights," etc.

Horlicks tablets. *Ate 4 while lying out in the woods the*

Chocolate. *Gave to a farmer*

Milk (tube). *"*

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). *Had to give them up in Germany*

Halazone tablets (water purifier). *"*

Matches. *Used some*

Adhesive tape. *Yes*

Chewing gum. *Gave away*

Water bottle. *Gave to a farmer*

Compass. *Yes*

- (e) Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? *No*
If so, in what respect?

- (f) How did you finally dispose of the box? *Yes*

- (g) 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? *Yes. It would be a great help if money from Holland & Belgium could be added.*

2. PURSE

- (a) Did you carry a purse? *Yes*
If so, state COLOR. *Red*
If not, State why not.
- (b) Did you use the purse? *Yes*
- (c) If so, which of the following items in the purse did you use? Put a dash (-) against each item used and state briefly the circumstances.

Maps. Which ones? *Small scale of the lowland countries*

Compass. *Yes - Pencil clip*

File (hacksaw). *No*

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. *French 2000 francs*
How did you spend the money? *Turned it into The organization*

(d) How did you dispose of:-

Maps. *Gave up to helpers in Holland*

Compass. *"*

File (hacksaw). *"*

Surplus currency. *Gave up in Belgium*

3. AIDS TO ESCAPE - (GADGETS+)

(+Issued separately from aids boxes and purses.)

(a) Did you carry or wear any of the following?

If you used any of them state briefly WHEN and WHERE.

Round compass. *No*

Stud compass. *Didn't have one*

Swinger compass. *Gave away with this compass, but they had some trousers with the*

Fly-button compass. *pants were in cleaners*

Pencil clip compass. *Used to check against Spanish guides*

Tunic button compass. *No*

Pipe compass. *No*

Pouch *No*

Special flying boots (and knife). *No* ^{HUNTING} *knife, which is a great help.*

(b) Were they satisfactory? *Yes very good*

(c) Can you suggest any improvements, additions, or substitutions, which would improve the above equipment? *No.*

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

(a) Did you carry passport-size photographs? *Yes*

If so, how many? *3*

(b) Did you use them? *Yes on Dutch passport, but they were too small and the wrong view.*

5. LECTURES

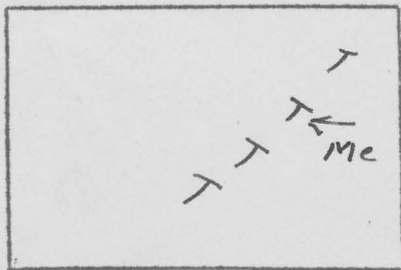
(a) Were you lectured on evasion and escape? *Yes in Florida; also at group State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM. At go by Brit O. by a British Intelligence Officer*

(b) Did you find the lectures of value?

I learned about Mixing & mingling with a crowd, not looking scared & obvious, push with the rest. I was Relieved because I knew others before me had made the journey; if they could, I knew I could. I learned that a Showdown checker & looking unconcerned. I would meet a consul with a car & soon as I got into it. I thought Not met by Consul in Spain. I would meet a Good year out here / out Spain. I Didn't. Wore GI Shoes. I got them black in Holland & here. I also cut out the Good year trade mark in the heel - a good idea.

NAME Sheehan, Robert E. RANK F/O ASN T-989 REPORT NO. 340

Dn't remember - wasn't my plane.
SQ 63 GROUP 56 A/C NO. P-47 Letter UN-I Load Date Nov. 7, 1943



Position in formation.
Make Diagram

Observed results of Bombing: No

Enemy Fighter Tactics:
Markings:

None Met no enemy fighters

Our Tactics: None

Our Fighter Support: Good - I was it

Flak

<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Quality</u>
<u>Landfall</u>	<u>Coast</u>	<u>Light and inaccurate</u>

Technical Failures

Motors: Prop. went out

Aarmor:

Armament:

Miscellaneous:

Both electrical and Manual control were gone and could get no more than 1100 RPM. out of the engine.

Comments and Suggestions on any of the above: