

1712

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
NINTH AIR FORCE

8571
APO 696, US Army,
6 September 1944.

SUBJECT: Orders. 25M 9

TO : 2ND LT JAMES C JOHNSTON, 0758182, AC, 367th Ftr. Gp.
39754

You will proceed on or about 7 September 1944 from Headquarters, Ninth Air Force to the United States Special Reception Center, 63 Brook Street, London, W-1, England. TDN by MT, mil acft or rail. 60-136 P 432-02 A 212/50425.

By command of Major General VANDENBERG:

V H STRAHM
Brig Gen, USA,
C of S.

OFFICIAL:

C R FIREBARI
Lt Col, A.C.,
Asst Adj Gen.

R E S T R I C T E D

Lt. Johnston.

I baled out at 25 00 ft ~~and~~ badly burned and wounded from ~~fla~~
20 MM and ~~xxx~~ landed in a birch wood just west of La Fere spraining
my ankle. I tried to get up but impossible. I layed down for about
and flak suit
half hours stripping Chute west and dingy. I then crawled away into
a thicket where put milk conc. on my burns. and finally made my
way to the end of the woods. I waited until about 8 oclock and took
off painfully toward a small town. On the approaches to this town
Quessy there was a house. I approached it following a hedgerow
behind which I took cover. I waited here hidden til a woman came
out to ~~hom~~ I made a sign. She looked up and down the road along
wich germsns were passing and when they had passed she went into
the house and sent her husband out. The husband brought me out
food and blanket and told me to remain hidden. The next morning.
they took me in the house treated my wounds and gave me civilian clothes
a girl came to me. She came back two hours latter with another
girl and a horse cart in which they hid me and took me to the
village of Faillouel the home the cheif of the local R_es. Org. *a huge man about 250*
S_{me} day Jacqueline and Jeannette Dumarquez two nurses of
Frieres - Failloef (Aisne) came in a looked after my wounds. They
then transferred me that same day to a home across the street the
home of Micheline Henot's father *not the* where I stayed about a week. .
There was considerable traffic of Germans here so the local chief
decided that I should be moved. They walked me out to Res. dump
and Hq. in the middle of the woods about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ W. where I found another
american P51 pilot Lt. Ted Skowronek 355 Ftr. Sq. two English A. men *a Lanc. pilot*
Russians and FFI. I stayed here two days and 1 night. until the
2nd S_ept. S^{at}. the Americans entered the the town H_{ing} about that
day and on 3rd S_ept. went down (I and 51 pilot and Lanc. pilot)
by car to Chauny where reported to Eng. Medics who patched me up .
and then went back to Henot's house where I stayed until the 4th

Then an ambulance was brought out to hospital and I was taken to
Evacuation hosp. nearby. Then hitchhiked into Paris. Stayed over night
and went to Le Bourget from where I was flown to A22 from where
I was flown to A2, my group. I then went to A44 where my group moved.
I got there the fifth. On the 6th flew into Laval where I got
my travel orders.

RESTRICTED

WAR DEPARTMENT
The Adjutant General's Office
Washington

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

KLS/el-2B-939 Pentagon

6 August 1943

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

By order of the Secretary of War:

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

RESTRICTED

(See Reverse Side)

RESTRICTED

1. Because disclosures of information regarding evasion from capture, escape, details of imprisonment, release from internment, and repatriation have been made, the lives and services of fellow soldiers and those who help them have been lost or endangered. All information which you possess on these subjects, including the experiences of others as well as your own, briefings and equipment for evasion and escape, and preparations and other activities in connection therewith, constitutes MILITARY INFORMATION which is classified SECRET by the War Department.

2. You will therefore disclose no information whatever, beyond the fact of your return to duty from "missing in action" or "prisoner of war" or "internment", to anyone except the following military officials:

- a. The first Military Attache to whom you report;
- b. An officer designated by the Commanding General of an overseas Theatre of Operations;
- c. The Prisoner of War Branch, MIS, Washington, D.C., the interrogating agency designated by the A/C of S, G-2, War Department General Staff;
- d. Certain other officers holding written authority from the A/C of S, G-2, WDGS, to interrogate you.

3. You will particularly guard against disclosure of SECRET information to relatives, friends, representatives of the press and radio, and military officials, except as noted in a, b, c and d above.

4. In order to protect yourself against disciplinary action, any question involving publicity must be referred BY YOU PERSONALLY to the A/C of S, G-2, WDGS, Washington, D.C.

CERTIFICATE

I certify that I have read and fully understand all of the foregoing and the Directive of the Secretary of War, 6 Aug 43 (on the reverse side), and will at ALL TIMES hereafter comply fully therewith.

I understand that all information concerning escape, evasion from capture, activities and equipment in connection therewith, and details of imprisonment or release from internment, is SECRET and must not be disclosed to anyone except the military officials specifically designated. I further understand that disclosure to any other person will make me liable to disciplinary action for failure to safeguard MILITARY INFORMATION.

I realize that publicity concerning my experiences, by word of mouth or otherwise, will endanger the lives of many persons and therefore it is my duty to take all possible precautions to prevent it.

I further certify that I have received a copy of the foregoing.

Name (Print) JAMES C. JOHNSTON Signed James C. Johnston
Rank 2nd LT A.S.N. D-758182 Dated Sept 9 Place
Unit 267 F.Y. 394 F.S. Witness 2nd Lt. AUS

RESTRICTED

SECRET

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

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING OR ESCAPING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

JAMES C. JOHNSTON 2nd LT 0758192
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET:

Date mission in action: 8-25-44

Date arrived in UK: 9-8-44

31 (No. of missions)

394th (Squadron) 367th (Group)

MEMBERS OF CREW: (Please list names next to positions)

Indicate what
happened to each man
and how you know.

PILOT JOHNSTON, JAMES C.

CO-PILOT

NAVIGATOR

BOMBARDIER

RADIO OPERATOR

TOP TURRET GUNNER

BELL TURRET GUNNER

WALIST GUNNER

WALIST GUNNER

TAIL GUNNER

Decorations: Air medal

Date of Birth: 3-14-20

Private Address: RT #1 Box 495 Helena, Ark.

Length of Service: 4-23-40

Job as Civilian: Student

From what field did you take off? Take off time.

A-2 France 11:30 AM

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed?

Yes
Were you wounded? Give details.

Yes - Burned both wrists, face, neck, arm, 20 m.m. holes
in left arm, shoulder, side & left leg, ankle sprained

Did you pay your guides? If so, how much?

Do you speak FRENCH?

SPANISH?

GERMAN?

ITALIAN?

OTHER LANGUAGE?

Did you have identity papers?

Dog tags

(over)

Have you been questioned before on your escape or evasion? If so, where and by whom?

NO

Have you given any one a written report on your experiences. Where and When?

NO

Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom?

367-5.2 - A-2 Sept 5-44

Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, Where and When?

NO

Date of arrival in Spain: _____

Date of arrival at Gibraltar: _____

Place and date of departure for UK. By sea or air. *Le Mans - Sept. 8*

List names of American or British personnel believed to have been arrested by Germans.

~~_____~~

List names of American or British personnel believed to be evading.

~~_____~~

SECRET

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

JOHNSTON, James C. 2nd Lt 0-758182
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

Sept. 9, '44
(Date)

367 F.Y. 394 Sqdn.
(Unit)

MEMBERS OF CREW

PRESENT
OFFICIAL STATUS

PILOT JOHNSTON, James C.
CO-PILOT
NAVIGATOR
BOMBARDIER
RADIO OPERATOR
TOP TURRET GUNNER
BALL TURRET GUNNER
WAIST GUNNER
WAIST GUNNER
TAIL GUNNER

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing. Aug. 25th at
about 12:30 Crashed near La Fere

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. Was it on fire, etc?
Left tank exploded ON FIRE

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

2500 ft

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

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

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? yes

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

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.

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

If the plane crashed in water how far was the plane from land and by what means was source rescued and what life rafts, wreckage, etc., remained on the surface that would have assisted other personnel to keep afloat.

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

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name: JOHNSTON, JAMES C. 2ND LT.Unit: 367 F.G. 394 Sqdn.

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? Yes
- b. If not, why?
- 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. 4 of themChocolate or Peanut Bar. 1/2 bar.Milk (tube). Rubbed on BurnsBenzadrine tablets (fatigue). Took ONEHalazone tablets (water purifier). Matches. Adhesive tape. Chewing gum. YesWater bottle. Compass. Sewing kit.

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? NO
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box? Threw Under bushes
- 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?

NO2. 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? Yes

(over)

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

Maps. Which ones? 0

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.

How did you spend the money?

Paid French

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps. Lost

Compass. Lost

File (hacksaw) Lost

Surplus currency. NINE

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion?

NO

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs?
If so, how many?

NO

b. Did you use them?

NO

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape?
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.

Yes 5-2 many times

b. Did you find the lectures of value?

Yes very

c. Do you have any suggestions to make which, from your experience, you feel will help other evaders and escapers?

Do what you are told by underground

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

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.,.....)

I was told that the Germans moved their A/C from Germany into France and operate off just small fields for a day or two and then return to Germany. And morale was very low.

1712

0-758182
394 / 367 F+R 25 Aug - 8 Sep

R. Sarant
2nd Lt. AUS.

Read
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