

(Applies to all BRITISH, CANADIAN, U.S. & ALLIED PERSONNEL)

EVADED CAPTURE/ESCAPED FROM (Name of Country) France.

For All Personnel.

1. No. 35623777 Rank S/Sgt. Name McGARRY J.L.
(U.K.: Acting, Temp. or W/S)
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) Air Medal, Purple Heart.
3. Were you wounded? Give details. Burnt on wrist and badly bruised. Eyes very badly bruised.
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 701 Bomb Squadron.
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 445 Group 6. Job (Pl. Comd., Rfn., etc.) Tail Gunner
7. Date of Birth 17 Mch 24. 8. Length of Service 12 years
9. Peace time occupation Student 10. Private address 514 Grafton Ave., Dayton, Ohio, U.S.A.
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? Dogtags, Passport photos.
12. Do you speak French, or any other foreign language? No.

FOR R.A.F. ONLY.

13. No. and location of O.T.U.
14. No. and location of Conversion Unit

FOR ALL AIR FORCE PERSONNEL AND/OR AIRBORNE OR PARACHUTE TROOPSWHO BALE OUT

15. Post in Crew Tail Gunner
16. Other members of crew, and information about what has happened to them.
N.B.—Airborne and Parachute Troops: list below names and units of other occupants of plane, including R.A.F. and U.S.A.A.F.

PILOT 1 Lt. C.H. Thornton

CO-PILOT 1 Lt. B.D. MacDonald.

NAVIGATOR

BOMBARDIER

RADIO OPERATOR

TOP TURRET GUNNER Tech Sgt. E.T. Priszano

BALL TURRET GUNNER S/Sgt. H.P. Edmonds

WAIST GUNNER (R.) S/Sgt. H.H. Jones

WAIST GUNNER (L.)

TAIL GUNNER S/Sgt. J.L. McGarry.

17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure Liberator. Tibbenham. 20 June 44 0400 hrs.

18. Where and when did you come down? Neufchatel. 0730 hrs 20 Jun 44.

19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? Buried them.

20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? In a/c that exploded.

I was tail gunner on a Liberator a/c detailed to attack rocket sites in the North of France, on the morning of 20 June, 1944.

20 June We were on our bomb run when the a/c was hit by heavy flak at a height of 21,000 feet. We immediately started losing height and as I had received no orders through the intercom I came out of my rear turret. I found the waist gunner removing the window and the tail gunner opening the escape hatch.

Entangled in a/c. We were then struck by a second burst of flak and the plane went into a spin. I was thrown to the side of the plane. The a/c must have exploded as I found myself on a piece of the a/c together with another member of my crew whose parachute had failed to open as it had got entangled in the structure and was twirling above us. I got clear of this piece and succeeded in opening my chute. I must have been fairly low by then as I hit the ground very hard. I cannot state who the other member of the a/c was whose chute had failed to open.

I landed in a clearing in a wood and was stunned. I ran into the wood and coming to a road, buried my chute and mae west. Crossed the road and about a quarter of a mile further on hid in a thorn bush.

Germans search. About 1/2 an hour later 6 German soldiers walked quite close to me looking through the undergrowth. They failed to see me.

French help Later I came out and walked through the woods. In a clearing I saw 2 men and a boy working. I watched them and then called the boy over. I explained what I was and he called his father. They were not very keen to help at first so I gave the boy 100 frcs. and he went off and brought me food and civilian clothes.

Orientate myself. We discussed a possible route with the aid of my escape maps, my intention being to get to the battle front. He showed me the way NEUFCHATEL which I took. I figured I had come down somewhere in the forests North of NEUFCHATEL (Sheet 9E/1 4745) and South of LONDINIÈRES.

I walked South for some time passing what I suspect was a V4 site, though I cannot pinpoint it. This site had been heavily bombed, all the surrounding roads were blocked by craters. I saw many German soldiers in this vicinity immediately N. of NEUFCHATEL.

Injuries dressed. On the outskirts of NEUFCHATEL as it was getting dark, I approached a farmer. I declared myself, he took me in, fed me, his wife treated my burnt wrist and they put me up in the house for the night. I offered these people money, who refused it.

21 Jun. The next day they gave me sandwiches and I passed through NEUFCHATEL, where the railway seemed to be working and proceeded on to BUCHY (sheet 9E/3 396289); on the way I saw bomb damage which had recently been repaired at the crossing (381312).

More help. In the evening just before entering BUCHY I asked for shelter at another farm, disclosing myself to the owners. Here again I was fed, my wrist was dressed and I was given a night's rest.

27 Jun The next day I passed through BUCHY and continued on to ROUEN.

Interviewed by I.S.9 (WEA)

Date 21/8/44

Attached:

Appendix "B"

"C"

"D"

Disposal:

To U.K.

Major

Possible V 1
sight.

On the road I passed large trucks with motor cycle escort containing what I then took to be acrophones. I think later that these were lorries carrying flying bombs. All these trucks had an escort and moved in a Northerly direction.

Steal bike.

About 10 kls outside of ROUEN I found a bicycle by the roadside which I took. On descending the cobbled hill into ROUEN the solid rubber tyres came off and I left the bike in a side street and went on to the centre of the town, which had been heavily bombed. The place was full of German soldiers. I did not dare to cross the SEINE, the remaining bridges being guarded.

I left the town making for DUCLAIR (sheet 8E/6 0421) which I reached that evening. As I was entering the town I stopped at a farm and asked for help. Two boys were brought in who questioned me and asked me to identify myself. They appeared satisfied and from this point my journey was arranged.

Flash. Buried at BLANGY cemetery (sheet 8F/1 581985) Fighter Pilot crashed on 6 Jun 44. No identification carried. A/C No. L.M. 133. Suspected to be member of R.A.F. French stated 2 stripes worn on epaulette, therefore F/Lt. rank.

APPENDIX "B" TO E. & E. REPORT No. IS9WEA/1/34/832

List of all military information which you observed or were told while evading. Give fullest possible details. (Airfields, troop encampments, coastal and interior defences, A.A. batteries, radar installations, troop movements, results of Allied bombing, location of enemy factories and ammunition dumps, enemy and civilian morale, etc., etc.).

No. 35623777 Rank S/Sgt. Name McGARRY J.L.

Date of interview 22 Aug 44.

N.B.—It is of the utmost importance that when giving information on the above subjects you state clearly:—

- (1) Date, time and place where you obtained the information.
- (2) Was it the result of personal observation or a report by someone else?
- (3) If not from personal observation who was the source (i.e., waiter, farm labourer, hearsay, cafe rumour, etc.), and how accurate do you estimate the source to be?

M.R. F 50,000

Suspected V 1 Transport.

BUCHY (sheet 9 E/3 396289) and ROUEN. 22 Jun 44.

Several large trucks (covered) seen proceeding N. Shape discernable similar to rear of a/c protruded from truck. Always escorted by motor cycles. French civilians stated these were flying bombs.

Possible V 1 site.

5/7 Kls. N. of NEUFCHATEL what appeared to be large air raid shelter seen. Area had been recently very heavily bombed. German soldier seen taking water down tunnel entrance. Actual structure appeared undamaged.

Bombing.

ROUEN 22 Jun 44.

Two bridges over Seine serviceable, 1 Railway and 1 Pedestrian and motor traffic bridge.

City bombed by American heavies between 1700 - 1800 hrs. 1 a/c seen to be hit, 4 chutes seen in air. French civilians stated later 3 occupants taken P/W and 1 escaped.

Evaluation of informant's credibility.

Key.

I.—Reliable.

~~II.—Credible.~~

~~III.—Questionable.~~

~~IV.—Undetermined.~~

Personal observation.

Personal observation.

Personal observation

Personal observation.

With the exception of items.....above, information herein has been given verbally by E. & E. to.....

APPENDIX "C" TO E. & E. REPORT No.

If further circulation of this information is made, it is important that its source should not be divulged.

No. 35623777 Rank S/Sjt Name McGarry, J.

Date of Interview 23.8.44.

M.R. F.50,000 Shts. 8 E/6, 8 F/3, 7 F/4.

22 June These two boys took me to a warehouse in Duclair (Sh.8 E/6 0421) where I met Stephen Evenson a Norwegian, whose father owned a factory. I gathered he was an important member of the organisation in Duclair. I was put up in his house and as he seemed worried about the state of my wrist, he obtained dressings for it from the French Red Cross. My eyes now were also giving trouble and he brought me eye lotions. I stayed with these people for a week.

29 June They had then made arrangements for me to move to Yainville (004179) where I was to be taken across the Seine. At Yainville I was supplied w/- workman's card to get across the river. This I did in company with two members of the organisation. I was then taken to Hauville (956120) where I was taken by the school teacher. I don't know his name but he was tall, about 26 years old, and fair. That evening I was taken to a nearby farmers. I was put up in the house. Meets F/Lt Logan The following day F/Lt Logan (E and E Report 1/8) was brought in. He had recently bled out as his head wounds had not yet been treated. From this point my journey coincides with his story until the 17th Aug when we split up to cross the lines.

17 Aug On the 17 Aug ~~AM~~ at approx 1030 hrs, F/O McDonald and myself left Cheffreville (Sh. 8 F/3)(547752) and headed west towards the French. In company with Maj McLeod had given us information as to the best area to make for. McDonald We crossed the river La Touques. I walked about 100 yds ahead of McDonald we met a lot of German troops in this area, but they never bothered us. We reached the rly north of Livarot(Sh. 7 F/4 459769) and crossed the river by means of a tree that had fallen across it. Approaching Castillon 426760 German troops were retreating in small groups. I was in front when passing a group of German soldiers I was stopped by Germans asked the way. I pretended I was dumb and pointed in the direction. The Cpl pulled a French map out of my pocket and started hollering that it was an English map. I took out my French identity card and that shut him up. I offered him the map in dumb show, but he refused Lose McDonald. I and then I shook hands with him and we parted. At this point I lost McDonald. He had seen me stopped by the Germans and must have got alarmed and struck out on his own. I spent about an hour looking for him and failed to locate him. I went to a farm in the area N of Livarot where I remained till over run by the British troops two days later. All this area was spasmodically shelled during these two days, Livarot being the main target. The German troops used this farm all the time coming in to ask for milk. They seemed exhausted and demoralised. They took me for a boy working on the farm. On the 19th Aug - 7 Armoured Div came into the area and I was picked up. I gave this farmer a 1,000 frs for what he had done for me. I was then taken to Div H.Q.

APPENDIX "D" TO E. & E. REPORT No. IS9WEA/1/34/832

No. 35623777 Rank S/Sgt. Name McGARRY J.L.

Unit 701 Bomb Sqn 445 Bomb Group.

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 or escape capture.

1. AIDS BOXES.

- (a) Did you use your aids box ? Yes
- (b) If not, why not ? -
- (c) If you used it, state briefly when and where Immediately after landing.
- (d) What did you use ? Compass and food.
- (e) Did any of the items prove unsatisfactory ? -
- (f) How did you finally dispose of the box ? Emptied box into my pocket and buried box.
- (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 it cannot be larger ?
The map would be more useful if secondary roads were shown. Main roads
being guarded, are useless in many cases.

2. PURSE.

- (a) Did you carry a purse ? Yes If not, why not ? -
State colour of purse Red.
- (b) Did you use it ? Yes
- (c) If so which of the items in it were used ? Maps ? Yes
Compass ? Yes File ? No
Foreign currency Yes State countries and amounts used ? 2,000 French Francs.
What was it spent for ? Helpers.
- (d) How did you dispose of : Maps Given as souvenirs Buried.
Compass Given away. Surplus currency None.

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

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS.

Did you carry any passport size photographs ? If so, how many ? Yes 9 copies.
Did you use them ? Yes

5. LECTURES.

- (a) Were you lectured on evasion and escape ? State where, when, and by whom if possible ? Yes
U.S.A. and in England.
- (b) Did you find the lectures of value Yes
- (c) Do you have any suggestions based on your experience which will help other evaders and escapers ? -

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) McGARRY, JOHN L.

Signed John L. McGarry

Rank S/SGT A. S. N. 35623777

Dated _____

Unit 701ST BOMB SQD - 445TH BOMB GP.

Witness _____

RESTRICTED

AG P BR HQ SOS

122472

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)

Mc GARRY, J.L. S/SGT. 35623777
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

701ST BOMB SQD. 445TH BOMB
(Squadron) (Group)

29 Missions

TARGET: *V-1 site N. France*

MIA: *June 20, 1944*

Arrived in UK:

23-8-44

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

PILOT *Thornton, C.H., 1st Lt.*

CO-PILOT *Macdonald, B.D.*

NAVIGATOR

OBSEVIER

RADIO OPERATOR *Brotherton, R.* *S/SGT*

TOP TURRET GUNNER *Prisinzano, E.T.* *T/SGT*

BASE TURRET GUNNER *Edmonds, H.P.* *S/SGT.*

W/ST GUNNER *JONES, H.M.* *S/SGT.*

A/ST GUNNER

TAIL GUNNER

Official
Disposition

Narrators
Disposition

*Some got out of
aircraft before explosion
but don't no who or
how many.*

Were you wounded?

Yes, bruised eyes and face and burn on left wrist.

CONFIDENTIAL.

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 35623777 Rank S/SGT 1944

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) Mc GARRY, JOHN L

Unit 701ST BOMB SQD - 445TH BOMB GP

has been fully/~~briefly~~/interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S.9 (WEA) on 23 - 8 1944

and has signed a Security Certificate.

He ~~should~~/should not/be re-interrogated.

Ans. J. L. Mc Garry. S/Har

*MIA 8 June
20 June
23 Aug*

for Major. *ES.*

IMPORTANT.

THIS CERTIFICATE MUST BE RETAINED AND HANDED TO (BRITISH)
AN OFFICER OF M.I.9 OR (AMERICAN), AN OFFICER OF PW. & X. DET.
M.I.S. ON ARRIVAL IN U.K. OR U.S.A.

CONFIDENTIAL.

1124



CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 35623777 Rank STAFF SGT.

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) McGARRY, JOHN L.

Unit 701ST/BOMB SQD 445TH/BOMB GP.

has been fully/~~briefly~~/interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S.9(WEA) on 23-8 1944

and has signed a Security Certificate.

awfuland s/ter

He ~~should~~/should not/be re-interrogated.

1/2 Major.
ES.

IMPORTANT.

THIS CERTIFICATE MUST BE RETAINED AND HANDED TO (BRITISH)
AN OFFICER OF M.I.9 OR (AMERICAN), AN OFFICER OF PW. & X. DET.
M.I.S. ON ARRIVAL IN U.K. OR U.S.A.