

SECRET

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
and QUESTIONNAIRE FOR I.S. 9 (WEA) PERSONNEL

SEPT. 5, 1944
(Date)

BARNEY STEMP S/SGT. 39190614
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

STRASSBOURG 16
(Target) (Number of missions)

Date Missing in Action: AUG. 9, 1944

Returned to UK: SEPT. 5, 1944

701 SQD. 445 BOMB GROUP
(Unit)

MEMBERS OF CREW: (List names by positions and indicate what happened to each one)

PILOT - W. HOWELL - BALED OUT

CO-PILOT T.A. THOMPSON - SAW HIM LAST IN THE SHIP

NAVIGATOR BALED OUT

~~NOSE GUNNER~~ BALED OUT

~~BOMBARDIER~~

RADIO OPERATOR SOURCE

TOP TURRET GUNNER D.E. GORDY - BALED OUT

~~BALL TURRET GUNNER~~

W/ST GUNNER JOHN KANYAK - BALED OUT

W/ST GUNNER VANCE T MURPHY - BALED OUT

TAIL GUNNER GEORGE M AVDEK - BALED OUT

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing. AUG. 9, 1944 TIME
AND PLACE OF CRASH UNKNOWN

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. Was it on fire, etc? GAS
POURING OUT OF THE TANKS OVER THE BOMB BAYS. HAD A FIRE
UNDER THE FLT. DECK WHICH I PUT OUT WITH THE HELP OF THE NOSE GUNNER

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? 20,000

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed? I THINK THE
PILOT WAS HIT - I HAD A SCALP WOUND

What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open? I SAW THE
NOSE GUNNERS CHUTE OPEN - I WAS NEXT TO THE LAST MAN
OUT - CO-PILOT WAS THE LAST MAN IN THE SHIP

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? DONT KNOW

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground?
NO

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. NOSE GUNNER WAS
CAPTURED AND TAKEN TO VERDUN WHERE HE ESCAPED WITH
TWO FRENCHMEN - NOT IDENTIFIED BY NAME.
(over)

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?

Were you wounded?

Were you in German hands?

Did you kill any Germans, in escaping?

Have you previously given the names of your helpers?

List any names previously omitted, showing what help was given.

What security briefing were you given?

What souvenirs do you still possess?

Home address.

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.

Pilot
Wm L Howell, 2d Lt, 0-761102

Co-pilot -

Navigator - Michael E. Mikrut, 2d Lt, 0-712459

~~Bombardier~~

Race Gunner - Dale R. Watson, Sgt, 20724803

R.O. - Narrator

TTC - Bernard E. Gordy, S/Sgt, 36479995

WG - John Kanyak, Sgt, 13060299

W.G. - Vance H. Murphy, Sgt, 6299220

T.G. - George M. Ardek, Sgt, 16088997

all that PWIB lists

S/Sgt Barney Stemp, 39190614

JFW/emc

P/W & X Det A, 5 Feb
Det, Mil P/W & X 1945
Int Sv Det, Mil
UK Base Int Sv
APO 413 APO 887
Attn:
Lt Col
Holt

1. Reference attached letter from Mr Darling, M.I.6, concerning S/Sgt Barney Stemp, 39190614.

2. Recommend forwarding through channels to be included in S/Sgt Stemp's 201 file.

3. S/Sgt Stemp was interrogated by IS9(WEA). It is not known whether he was recommended for a decoration. This airman was interrogated by Lt Robert Bacon and on the basis of the interrogation report, a copy of which we have in our files, it is not thought that he has been recommended for a decoration nor could we from that interrogation report initiate such action.

JOHN F WHITE, JR
Major, AC

Cover Sheet

Col Hlt —

1. Reference attached letter from Mr. Darby, m'6 concerning, S₁ + Barney Stemp —
2. Recommend forwarding through channels to be included in S₁ + Stemp's 201 file —
3. S₁ + Stemp was interrogated by ISG (WCA). It is not known whether he was recommended for a decoration. This airman was interrogated by Lt Robert Bacon and on the basis of the interrogation report, a copy of which we now have in our files, it is not thought that he has been recommended for a decoration nor could we from that interrogation report initiate such action.

JSW

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.

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 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) BARNEY STEMP
Rank S/SGT A. S. N. 39190614
Unit 445 BOMB GROUP

Signed Barney Stemp
Dated Sept 5, 1944
Witness _____

AG P BR HQ SOS

122472

RESTRICTED

P/W Section

Lt Col Spencer

Lt Col Simpson

Lt Col Starr

Capt White

Correspondence

P/W Records

Lt Tiffany

Lt Sarant

Paris
Stump
who is
if known, we should
do something about
this

ACTION:

Return to files

For retention

For necessary action

Draft Reply

Pass to others in Section

Recommendations

Total distribution

Major WHITE

Capt SMITH

Capt EMERSON

Lt BYRON

Lt CHERNISS

Mr. POWERS

*What is the reason for this? make
data!*

*Sorry but the Colonel has not been a citizen
This — it came thru 63 Brook*

ACTION:

Return to

For necessary action

Draft reply

Total Distribution

DISTRIBUTION:

I.S. 9 (WEA) HQ 3
P/W & X Det. MIS
G-2 Div., SHAFF
(Less App. "C" & "D")
File

LET 1005

CONFIDENTIAL

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 39190614 Rank S/Sgt
Name (BLOCK LETTERS) BARNEY STEMP
Unit 701st Bomber Sq, 445th Bomb Grp

has been fully ~~int~~ interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S.S.
(WIA) on 4 Sept 1944 and has signed a Security Certificate.

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

MIA: 9 Aug 8 AF

Robert H. Bacon
Sgt, AC.

IMPORTANT:

THIS CERTIFICATE MUST BE RETAINED AND HANDED TO (BRITISH) AN OFFICER OF M.I.9
OR (AMERICAN), AN OFFICER OF P.W. & X DET.-M.I.8. ON ARRIVAL IN U.K. OR U.S.A.

2009

He will also report to Donald Darling
at MI-9.

[Faint handwritten notes]

CONFIDENTIAL

EX E# 1505

CERTIFIED THAT:

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Robert H. Bacon
2/11, AC.

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OR (AMERICAN), AN OFFICER OF P.W. & X DET. HIS ON ARRIVAL IS U.K. OR U.S.A.

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

EVASION CAPTURED/XXXXXX FROM (Name of Country)...France.....

For all Personnel.

1. No. 39190614.... Rank... S/Sgt..... Name... Barney Stemp.....
(U.S. Army, Navy, or Air Force)
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F. No. of Missions)..... 16 Missions.....
3. Were you wounded? Give details.... Head wound from contact with flak.....
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force)..... 701 Bomb Sqn.....
5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 445 B. Grp. G. Sqn. (Fl. Gd., Bn., etc.) Radio Op.
7. Date of Birth.... 24 April 1921..... 8. Length of Service..... 2 years...
9. Peace time occupation... Truck Driver... 10. Private address... 19 Wavecrest Ave.
..... Wavecrest Apts, Venice, California.
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph?..... Dog Tags.....
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 TROOPS WHO BALE OUT.

15. Post in Crew.... Radio Operator.....
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.... Lt. William Howell - baled out.....
CO-PILOT... Lt. T.A. Thompson - in plane, unknown.....
NAVIGATOR Baled out.....
XXXXXXXXXX NOSE GUNNER - Baled out, captured and escaped at Verdun...
RADIO OPERATOR... Narrator.....
TOP TURBINE GUNNER S/Sgt. Bernard E. Gordy - Baled out.....
BALL TURBINE GUNNER Sgt. Vance T. Murphy - Baled out.....
WATCH GUNNER (R.)... Sgt. John Kanyak - Baled out.....
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.....
TAIL GUNNER..... Sgt. George M. Avdek - Baled out.....
17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure. Be24, Tibenham.....
..... 0700, 9 August 1944.....
18. Where and when did you come down? Near Clermont (Verdun) 1200, 9 Aug. 44...
19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mac west?.....
..... Gave it to the French.....
20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed?.... Don't know.....

Interview by E.S.9 (WEA)

Date... 4 September 1944.....
I grade this evasion No. 5.

Attached:

Appendix "X"
Appendix "X"
Appendix "X"

Disposal: Returned to unit.....

Robert Bacon
ROBERT BACON
2nd Lieut, AC
XXXX

Barney Stone

Mission oil refineries at Strassbourg. Accomplished. Turned off target 23,000 ft. Flak, no fighters. Jumped 19,000 ft, delayed till 3,000. Turned circle when landed. French picked me up and took me away and the Germans got there eight minutes later. Other French led them off in the opposite direction and got beaten up for it. Three day search, during which I layed out in the woods. Taken to Brabant for a week and then contacted Maquis, in the Forêt du Hesse. Helped French agent by working as a radio operator for the rest of the time.

Towards the middle of August the Germans started recruiting 15,000 forced French labor to dig in around the Verdun area. Then there was a meeting at Ve dun of seven German generals, and shortly afterwards the project was abandoned and everything was moved back towards Germany.

On the 29th of August I was told by the French agent that the Germans had disarmed the Maginot Line and taken the guns back into Germany with the object of defending the Rhine.

DISTRIBUTION:

Hq IS9(WBA).....	3
12th Army Corp.....	2 (less C)
G-2, WUSA.....	1 (less C)
G-2, TUSA.....	1 (less C)
9th AF.....	1 (less C)

APPENDIX "C" TO E. & E. REPORT No. IS9(WEA) 6/11/638

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

No. 39190614 Rank S/Sgt Name Barney Stemp
Date of Interview 4 September 1944

One day while I was with the Maquis I received a visit from a female French agent named MARIE MADELAINE, who also goes by the name of P O Z. She had heard that I was a radio operator, she had a radio with no one to work it, and she wanted me to come and work with her. However before accepting my services, she looked me over very carefully and radioed London to confirm my identity. From then on I was constantly with her, and was able to see that she was clearly the brains behind the organization. It was her job to organize the Resistance, to arrange for the dropping of arms and ammunition by parachute, and to gather information in her area. She was not particularly interested in E & Es, but if she came across one, she would usually help him out. She was at one time nearly caught in a Gestapo raid on the Maquis, but got away in time.

* * *

(Note: Sgt Stemp was referred to Donald Darling in London.)

Robert Bacon
2nd Lt., 1st
1944