

SECRET

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

*File
Proof
JH*

E & E REPORT NO 781
INVASION IN FRANCE

(Date)

John H HENDRY, 2d Lt, O-698627

TARGET:

(Name) (Rank) (ASN)
1 (No of Missions)

Date Missing in Action: 6/6/44

14 TC Squadron, 61 TC Group

Date Arrived in UK: 21/6/44

(Squadron) (Group)

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

Indicate what happened to
each man
and how you know

PILOT	0-524956	1st Lt	William R HITZTALER	B&E #780
NAVIGATOR	0-698627	2d Lt	John H HENDRY	NARRATOR
CO-PILOT	0-701914	2d Lt	Stanley E EDWARDS ,JR	MIA
BOMBARDIER				
RADIO OPERATOR	17089122	S/Sgt	Orlo A MONTGOMERY	MIA
ENGINEER	39678075	T/Sgt	Alvin F VEZINA	MIA
TOP TURRET GUNNER				
MID TURRET GUNNER				
WAIST GUNNER				
WAIST GUNNER				
TAIL GUNNER				

Carried 19 paratroppers; one of whom was injured.
Believed to have bailed out; fate unknown.

Were you wounded?

E&E 781
Lt. Hendry

SEE E&E
780

WALKS
NW

HIDES
BY DAY

HELP

JOINED BY
ANOTHER
EVADER

When the order to bail out was given I followed the pilot and the radio operator out of the ship. I jumped at 2500 feet and pulled my rip-cord at 2000. I came down in an orchard near VALOGNES, left my chute in the tree in which it had been ~~and~~ caught, and walked NW on a main road. Twice as trucks approached I hid in a ditch beside the road. I had come down at 0320 hrs and at 0630 hrs I found a hayloft in which I hid all day. That evening I emerged from my hiding-place and approached a farmer who after looking me over for about five minutes took me to his house where he fed me and gave me a bed.

The next day I was passed on to another farmer who hid me in an abandoned German dugout. Food was brought to me three times a day, and every third day I was given a shave. On the tenth day, 17 June, Capt. Harry Downing was brought to my hiding-place; and we were kept there until 20 June, when word was brought that an American patrol was in the vicinity.

Capt. Downing and I thereupon left our dugout and walked down the middle of the road about ~~and~~ 1000 yards. There we came upon the patrol which passed us back to the American lines. We were taken to Division HQ where the G-2 interrogated us. We were then sent to 9th AF HQ and to a landing strip near Carentan, whence on 21 June we returned in a C-53 to the U.K.

Compiled by :

R H Dana

Appendix B: Interrogated at Div HQ for Military Information.

Appendix D:

1. Of the aids box contents I used the Horlicks tablets, chocolate bar, matches and chewing gum. I used the adhesive tape to hide one of the compasses in the event of capture. The food had a plastic-box taste.
2. I carried a RED purse; used the maps of France and gave the money to French helpers.
3. I had no extra evasion aids and did not carry escape photos.
4. I had been lectured at Baier Field, Ft. Wayne, Indiana and at Burkston Heath by Capt Newman, IO. I didn't think the lectures particularly valuable because ~~my~~ evasion required the use of common sense. The French should be trusted when necessary and a working knowledge of French is required.

CONFIDENTIAL

of 21 June 1945... [mirrored text]

... [mirrored text]

... [mirrored text]

... [mirrored text]

CONFIDENTIAL

Hendry

6 June

Same as Hitzgates. D-Page 3rd out. Pilot

and 1 EM out before me (radio op?) 2500 feet. 500 feet, then pulled. Landed ^{by} tree in orchard. Chute off, left in tree.

0320. About 3 miles w. of Valozres. Down car path. Main NW road. Hit ditch for trucks. (ODS, the gashit, green shirt, pistol, escape kit). N of R.R. track. 0630 small stone bldg into layoff all day. German heyle troops (50) passed for west. at dusk to Farmhouse. Men, wife, 2 children & friends

looked me over 5 mins. Fed me. Mattress & slept. man lead house took me over. Asked to wait for American. ^{into depth 19.} ^{chuck} ^{metals} ^{dunk} ^{45.} ^{Francis Simon 18 - helped} ^{looked like O. Hand} ^{3 messes & day. Share} ^{2nd of 5th} German dugout by farmer. Old AA position. 3 messes & day. Share. AA nearby P-47's landed. Until 20th here.

Sat 17th P-47 Pilot down, joined me Capt Harry Dunning. Amer patrol reported 20th. Walked down road toward patrol about 1000. Over as approached house. Asked for CP. Came to M. 8 & back to D Div Hq. Frenchmen left us. I independently G-2. In sleep to Corps. Fed. night. TO 5th AF Hq. to land near Carentan, C-53. 2nd. Landed at Henden, V.K.

mit Imp

88 gun battery, P-47's (500 feet)
also as regular artillery. H

Hendry
#78P

for 20's & 40's.

more AA at Satterst ⊕

Father at battery where mines (from 6 miles in Germany) killed Germans for weapons (1st para. friend).

many girls in court married German soldiers ⊕

5 Paratroopers many killed in region →

helped. know Col. Jack of airborne infantry ⊕

SECRET

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

E & E REPORT NO 781
EVASION IN France

6/29/44
(Date)

JOHN H. HENDRY 2nd LT. O-698627

(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

(No of Missions)

TARGET:

Date Missing in Action: 6/6/44

Date Arrived in UK: 6/21/44

14 T.C. 61 T.C.

(Squadron) (Group)

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

Indicate what happened to each man and how you know

PILOT WILLIAM R. HITZTALER ^{1st LT.} - ARR. U.K. 6/21/44

CO-PILOT STANLEY E. EDWARDS, 2nd LT. - BELIEVED CAPTURED BY GERMANS. ^{& saw him}
Information obtained from Frenchman who helped me - bail out.

NAVIGATOR Self. Bailed out and evaded capture.

FORWARDIER None

RADIO OPERATOR OTHEL MONTGOMERY S/SGT. - UNCERTAIN.*

TOP TURRET GUNNER None

MID TURRET GUNNER None

WAIST GUNNER None

Injured paratrooper - Observed him going after a chute as I bailed out. Fate unknown.

TAIL GUNNER None

ENGINEER - ALVIN A. VEZINA ^{T/SGT.} - UNCERTAIN.*

* One hit in plane by flack, believed badly injured or killed in plane. Other observed to have bailed out, and captured with Co pilot.

you wounded?

Slight scratch on fourth finger, right hand. Cause unknown.

TOP SECRET

E & E CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

JOHN H. HENDRY 2nd LT. 0-698627

6/29/44

(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

(Date)

14th TCS, 61 TCG 9th AF

781

(Unit)

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing. 6/6/44, 0315,

NW of Valognes

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. Left engine burning

Was it on fire, etc?

Right engine unknown. Many flak holes in plane. Tail section shot up.

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? 2500' (approx)

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

enlisted member of crew killed.

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

Navigator and one enlisted member of crew. All chutes evidently opened.
 ~~Infantry Paratrooper - unknown~~

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? Unknown

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 detailed furnished by his informant and whether the other crew members were identified by name or otherwise. Received information from Frenchman: Two aviators captured by Germans at same time of my landing (0315-6/6/44) Believed to be other crew members. No identification or proof.

Did source examine the wreckage of the plane? If so, what was its conditions? No.

If the plane crashed in water how far was the plane from land and 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? Pilot safe

Copilot captured - } Frenchman told me. Saw both
One enlisted member of crew captured } bail out.
Other enlisted man believed killed. Saw him hit by flak
Paratrooper - unknown

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO.

No., Rank, Name:-

Unit:-

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. } *in dugout between meals*
- ✓ Chocolate or Peanut Bar. }
- Milk (tube). *none included in kit.*
- Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). *did not use*
- Halazone tablets (water purifier). *did not use*
- ✓ Matches. *yes - to light cigarettes*
- ✓ Adhesive tape. *no yes - to tape compass to foot in event of capture*
and possible escape
- ✓ Chewing gum. *yes*
- Water bottle. *no*
- Compass. *no taped to foot*
- Sewing kit. *no*

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? *no except articles of food which had taste of plastic bag in them. Very unpalatable.*
- e. How/did you finally dispose of the box? *Remains in my possession*

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?
if possible, protect foodstuffs from odor of bag, or use different type bag.

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? *yes*
State color of stripes and letters. *Black or brown 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? *Yes - Elogues area, when Frenchmen showed me my location and progress of American army*
Compass. *No*

File (hacksaw). *No*

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. *Yes. French - 2000 francs*
How did you spend the money? *Gave it to Frenchmen who aided me.*

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps. } *In my possession.*
Compass. }
File (hacksaw). }
Surplus currency. *None*

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

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? *No*
If so, how many? _____

b. Did you use them? _____

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape? *Yes. Baer Fld., Ft. Wayne Ind. State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM and at Buxton Heath by Capt Newman (Intelligence Off.)*

b. Did you find the lectures of value? *No, because everything was using Common Sense.*

c. Do you have any suggestions to make which, from your experience, you feel will help other evaders and escapers? *Trust the Frenchmen if necessary. Working knowledge of French language is very helpful.*

~~typed~~

LT. HENDRY.

C Report

I landed about 3 miles west of VALOGNES at 0320, 6 June, 1944. That night I approached a farmer, who fed me and gave me a bed. The next day I was passed to another farmer, dark, 45, chubby with a mustache, with a wife and a daughter, 19. They hid me in a german dugout nearby, an old AA position. This was about 2 miles E of SOTTEVAST. Francois Durien, 18, also helped. I was given three meals a day and a shave every third day. On the 17th P-47 Pilot CAPT HARVEY DOWNING joined me. On the 20th an American patrol was reported. The Capt. and I walked down the middle of the road about 1000 and were passed back to American lines. An M-8 took us back to ^{7th} Division HQ, where the G-2 interrogated us. We went to 9th A.F. HQ. and to a landing strip near CAREWITAN, where we took off on June 21st in a C-53 for Henden in the U.S.

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.,.....)

No airfields observed. No troop concentrations in immediate vicinity. Many AA batteries around. Frenchmen said dive bombing very effective, heavy bombing or high alt. bombing not. Dive bombing not too effective on AA batteries due to camouflage. Civilian morale high when Germans were retreating. People seemed strongly Anti-German and Pro-Allied. Enemy morale unknown.

✓ One farmer (near SOTTEUAST) out cutting phone wires. Numerous Germans killed for their weapons by Frenchmen.

French report many girls on coast are married to Germans, which makes them less cordial to Allies.

5 Paratroopers reported shooting up German positions in ~~SOTTEUAST~~ YVETOT area about June 12-18th.

E&E 781
Lt Hendry
App D

- Aid s Box: I used the Horlicks tablets, chocolate bar, matches, adhesive tape, and chewing gum. The compass I taped to my foot in order that I might retain it in case of capture. The articles of food had acquired a very bad taste from the plastic box.
- Purse: I had a red purse . I used the map of France and gave the 2000 French francs to my helpers.
- Photographs: I did not carry photographs.
- Lectures: I heard lectures on evasion given at Baer Field, Ft. Wayne, Ind., and at Burkston Heath by Capt. Newman, the I.O. I had little opportunity to put into practice the lessons of these lectures.

Lt HENDRY

For an account of trouble with our plane, see Lt HITZTALER's report (E&E #780). When he gave the bale-out order I went out at 2500 feet, 0320 hours, 6 June 1944. The pilot and radio operator went out before me. I pulled the chute at 2000 feet and landed in an orchard about 3 miles west of VALOGNES. My chute remained stuck in a tree. I walked NW on a main road, hitting the ditch twice as trucks came by. About 0630 hours I found a store building and hid in the hayloft all day. About 50 Germans passed on bicycles. That night I approached a farmer. He looked me over for about five minutes, and finally decided to help me. From then on my journey was arranged.

Compiled by:

R H DANA

R.H.
(Dana)

LT. HENDRY

A report

For an account of trouble with an plane, see
LT. HITZTALER'S report. When he gave the bale out
order I went out at 2500 feet, 0320, 6 June,
1944. The pilot and radio operator went out before me.
I pulled the chute at 2000 feet and landed in an orchard
about 3 miles west of VALOGNES. My chute remained
stuck in a tree. I walked NW on a main road, hitting
the ditch twice as trucks came by. About 0630 I found
a stone building and hid in the hayloft all day. About 50
Germans passed on bicycles. That night I approached a
farmer. He pulled me over for about five minutes, and finally
decided to help me. From then on my journey was
arranged.

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.

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) JOHN H. HENDRY

Signed John H. Hendry

Rank 2nd LT. A. S. N. 0-698627

Dated 6/29/44

Unit 14th TCS, 61st TCG APO 133 90 PMNY

Witness R. H. Dine, 2nd LT, CAC.

AG P BR HQ SOS 2-44/2M/22472

RESTRICTED

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH
MIS (X)

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

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1. Full Name, Rank, and Serial No. *JOHN HERBERT HENDRY, 2nd LT. O-648627*
2. Decorations. *NONE*
3. Unit or Squadron. *14 TCS,*
4. Division (Army) or Group. *61 Troop Carrier Group*
5. Date of Birth. *12/23/21*
6. Length of Service. *2 yrs. 3 mos.*
7. Private Address. *150-29 115 AVE. Jamaica 4, R.I., U.S.*
8. Job as civilian. *None Student*
9. From what field did you take off? *Barkston Heath*
10. Take off time. *2350 - 6/5/44*
11. Date and target. *6/6/44 - drop paratroopers near St. Mer-Eglise*
12. Where did you land? *N.W. of Valognes by parachute*
13. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? *yes*
14. What was your position in aircraft? *Navigator*
15. Were you wounded? *No*
16. Did you pay your guides? If so how much? *Yes 2000 Francs*
17. Do you speak French? Spanish? *French - poorly*
18. Did you have Identity Papers? *No.*
19. 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. Intelligence Off at CP, 7th Div., Corps, Unknown Wing, 91st AF in France
20. Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom? *Squadron Intelligence Sq. Int. Off.*
21. Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, where and when? *No.*
22. Date of arrival in Spain. _____
23. Date of arrival at Gibraltar. _____
24. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air. *France (I believe it was Carantun) 6/21/44 by Air.*
25. Place and date of arrival in U.K. *Hendon Field London, 6/21/44*