

S E C R E T

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

9/9/44
(Date)

HILLIS CHARLES C. S/SGT 39043626
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

MUNICH GERMANY 16
(Target) (Number of missions)

755 BOMB SQD. 458 BOMB GROUP
(Unit)

Date Missing in Action: 7/12/44

Returned to UK: 9/9/44

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

- PILOT CHARLES W. QUIRK P.O.W.
- CO-PILOT GEORGE A. CAMPBELL P.O.W.
- NAVIGATOR (BOMB) UNKNOWN
- BOMBARDIER Nose Gun, PERCIVAL M. GOSENEY } UNKNOWN AS TO WHEREABOUTS
BUT ALIVE
- RADIO OPERATOR GERALD K. MILLER P.O.W.
- TOP TURRET GUNNER THOMAS J. McQUEEN P.O.W.
- BALL TURRET GUNNER DONALD H. SWANSON ESCAPED FROM PRISON ENROUTE TO U.K.
- WALIST GUNNER CHARLES C. HILLIS ESCAPED " "
- WALIST GUNNER NONE
- TAIL GUNNER DONALD W. PIERCE P.O.W.

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing. 7/12/44 1230 Hours
NEAR MONS, BELGIUM

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. Was it on fire, etc?
RAN OUT OF GASOLINE & BAILED OUT PLANE CRASHED & BURNED,

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? 14,000 FEET.

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed? No

What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open? WHOLE CREW MADE SUCCESSFUL JUMP

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? NO BUT BURNT UP

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. YES ALL WERE VERIFIED AS TO SAFETY EXCEPT RADIO OP. BUT A CIVILIAN SAW RADIO HIT GROUND & BREAK HIS ANKLE & BE TAKEN PRISONER BY THE JERRIES. ALL OTHER WHERE IN TOUCH VIA PERSONAL NOTES.

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

OF PLANE & IT WAS TOTALLY WRECKED & BURNT

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? *Pilot, Co. Pilot, ENGINEER, TAIL GUNNER, P.O.W.'S SEEN BY SOURCE IN THE SAINT GILLES, PRISON BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, WERE TRANSPORTED TO GERMANY ABOUT THE 16 OR 27TH OF AUGUST. RADIO OP. BROKE LEG WHEN HE HIT GROUND & WAS TAKEN PRISONER. NOSE GUN & BOMBARDOR WERE WITH AN ORGANIZATION WHO WAS HOLDING THEM HOSTAGE FOR ARMS & AMMO FROM ALLIED ARMIES.*

Were you wounded? *NO*

Were you in German hands? *YES!*

Did you kill any Germans in escaping? *NO*

Have you previously given the names of your helpers? *YES*

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

What security briefing were you given? *SECURITY FORM.*

What souvenirs do you still possess? *NONE.*

Home address. *3818 CLARKE ST. OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA*

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

*JAMES L. MONAHAN
WILLIAM BEAR*

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

NONE KNOWN. _____

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.

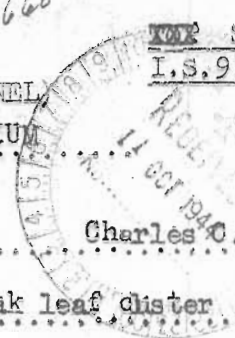
I realize that publicity concerning my experiences, by word of mouth or otherwise, will endanger the lives of many persons and therefore it is my duty to take all possible precautions to prevent it.

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

Name (Print) *Hillis, CHARLES C.*..... Signed..... *Charles C. Hillis*.....
 Rank..... *S/SGT*..... A.S.N. *39643686*..... Dated..... *9/9/44*..... Place.....
 Unit..... *755 Bomb Sq. 458 Bomb Grp.*..... Witness.....

(Applies to all BRITISH, CANADIAN, U.S. & ALLIED PERSONNEL
EVADED CAPTURED/RESCUED FROM (Name of Country) BELGIUM

For all Personnel.



- 1. No. 39043686 Rank s/Sjt Name Charles C. Hillis
(U.K. Acting, Temp. or W/S)
- 2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.: No. of missions) Aid medal, oak leaf cluster
- 3. Were you wounded? Give details. No
- 4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 755 Sqn
- 5. Div. (Army) or Gp. (Air Force) 458 Gp 6. Job. (Pl. Cmd., Rfn., etc.)
- 7. Date of Birth 22 Sep 22 8. Length of Service 17 mths
- 9. Peace time occupation 383, Clarke St. Oakland, California
- 11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photograph? Yes
- 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 Right Waist 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 C.N. Quirk P/W
- CO-PILOT G.A. Campbell "
- NAVIGATOR Whereabouts unknown, but alive.
- BOMBARDIER
- RADIO OPERATOR G.K. Miller P/W
- TOP TURRET GUNNER T.J. McQueen "
- BALL TURRET GUNNER D.H. Swanson Evaded
- WAIST GUNNER (R.) C.C. Willis "
- WAIST GUNNER (L.) None
- TAIL GUNNER D.W. Pierce P/W
- 17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure B.24 Horsham St. Faith, 12 Jul 44, 0600 hrs, Station 123.
- 18. Where and when did you come down? Mons, Belgium, 12 Jul 44
- 19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west? Chute hung up in tree. Civilians disposed of after two days.
- 20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? As far as is known

Interview by I.S.9.(WEA)
Date 9 Sep 44

- Attached:
- Appendix "B"
- Appendix "C"
- Appendix "D"

I grade this evasion No, 5

Joseph A. Birdwell

Joseph A. Birdwell, Lieut,
Major A.C.

Returned to unit
Disposal:

Distribution: I.S.9 (WEA) 2
12 Army Gp 2 (less C)
9 AF 1

APPENDIX "C" TO E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9 (WEA) 6/475/1660

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

No. 39043686 Rank S/sgt Name Charles C. Hillis

Date of Interview 9 sep 1944

Camille MOREAU 10 rue do Fripiers Mans Belgium.

Delviemaisons, Jean Chemin de Bavay, 27 Cuemes, Belgium.

Same as Lt. Smith's Report. (R-6(477))

EXEM 1862

C O N F I D E N T I A L

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. _____ Rank S/sgt.

Name (BLOCK LETTERS) CHARLES C. HILLIS

Unit 755th Bomb Sq. 458nd B. G.

has been fully/~~briefly~~ interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S. 9 (WEA)

on 9 Sept 19 44 and has signed a Security Certificate.

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

Edward P. Amick
Major
Capt a.s.

IMPORTANT:

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