

19 October 1942

SUBJECT: Safeguarding of P/W Information.

TO : Personnel concerned.

1. It is the duty of all Americans to safeguard information which might, either directly or indirectly, be useful to the enemy.
2. It is an offense, carrying heavy penalties, to publish or to communicate to any unauthorized person any information which might be useful to the enemy.
3. 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.
4. 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:
 - (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. 4a.
e. No lectures or reports are to be given to any unit without the permission of the War or Navy Department.

By command of Lieutenant General EISENHOWER:

(signed) RALPH PULSIFER,
Colonel, AGD, Ass't. Adj. Gen.

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 American Military Attache to whom I first report, or an officer designated by the Commanding General of the Theater of Operations. I understand that disclosure to anyone else will make me liable to disciplinary action.

Name(Print) LEONARD J. FINK

Signed

Leonard J. FinkRank 2nd LT A.S.N. 0-796510

Date

Oct. 29, 1942Unit 384th Bomb Group

Witness

Gray Lewis
Major

1475

9 April 1943

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By command of Lieutenant General ANDREWS:

Ralph Pulsifer
RALPH PULSIFER,
Colonel, AGD, Adjutant General.

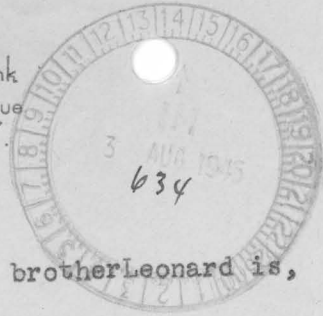
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Name (Print) LEONARD J. FINKSigned *Leonard J. Fink*Rank 2ND LT ASN 0-796510Date NOV. 4, 1943Unit 384th BOMB GROUPWitness *Richard R. Fisher*
Major, E.

Charlotte R. Fink
2117 Grand Avenue
Bronx 53, N. Y.



Dear Major White,

Knowing how lax my brother Leonard is, when it comes to writing, I want to take this opportunity in his behalf, of thanking you for writing him regarding his friend, Louise Guerin. I'm sure he is more than anxious to hear from her.

It is possible he has already written to her and you. He has heard from several other freinds by this time, who's safety he worried about. He al so sends weekly packages to them under my name.

If there is anything you would like to know, would be glad to oblige. Not knowing whom I'm writing to, there's little I can say, except, thank you again.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Fink.

Charlotte

For Lt., Leonard Jay Fink -O-976510
Officer's Mail Service, A A B Ardmore, Oklahoma

848th 180



MORRIS H. G. 18
STATION 3

Major John F. White Jr.

6801- Mis-X Det. Mil. Int. Sv.

A.P.O. 987, % P.M.-N.Y.*.N.Y.

FINK

MOST SECRET

APPENDIX "B".
M.I. 9.(b)/S/P.G. 180

The following information has been obtained from our interview with
..... (.....) who escaped
after capture by the enemy/evaded capture by the enemy after being
in enemy/enemy occupied territory.

Further circulation of this information may be made, but when doing so
it is important not to divulge any particulars of source.

Statement of information covering period from JUNE 26, 1943

The at has been enlarged to OCT. 1, 1943
1 AIRFIELD ~~AT~~ CHARTRES MADE VERY MUCH LARGER
TO ACCOMMODATE THE PLANES FROM THE BOMBED
AIR FIELDS ^{at} LE BOURGET AND ^{VILLACOUBLAY} ~~VILLACOUBLAY~~. (H.S.) (heresay)

DESSAU - ~~VERY LARGE FACTORIES (7) BUILDING~~
~~MESSERSCHMIDTS, AIRCRAFT PARTS, ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS,~~
~~LOCOMOTIVES, TRUCKS,~~
~~THOUSANDS OF FRENCH WORKERS AT DESSAU.~~ (H.S.)

There is a
LARGE AMMUNITION FACTORY AT ^{MAINTENON} ~~MATIGNAN~~ (heresay)

There ^{are} THOUSANDS OF GERMAN SOLDIERS AT CHARTRES. THEY ARE ALL VERY YOUNG.
There is also
~~ALSO~~ A TRAINING BASE FOR PILOTS AT CHARTRES (Pobs)

There are
LARGE GERMAN CAMPS AT AUNEAU, ORLEANS, ETAMPES.

There ^{are} ~~are~~ large factories ^{in Dessau} employing thousands
of French workers ~~at Dessau~~. ~~There are several~~
~~buildings~~ They produce messerschmidts, aircraft
parts, anti-aircraft guns, locomotives and
trucks (heresay)

M.I. 9.
/42.

Lieut.-Colonel, G.S.

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH
MIS(X)

HQ, ETOUSA

OFFICE OF AC OF S, G-2

MIS DETACHMENT

180

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

1. Full Name, Rank and Serial No. *LEONARD J. FINK 2nd LT. 8-796510*
2. Decorations. *NONE*
3. Unit or Squadron. *384th Bomb Group 546th Sq.*
4. Division (Army) or Group. *384th Group*
5. Date of Birth. *March 6, 1922*
6. Length of Service. *1 1/2 yrs.*
7. Private Address. *115 W 197 ST BRONX, NEW YORK*
8. If in A.F., on what operation were you engaged? State place, date, and time of departure. Where and when did you come down?
Were Aircraft and all instruments and papers destroyed? *YES*
GRAFTON UNDERWOOD JUNE 26, 1943 1700 hrs.
RAID ON VILLACOUBLE AIRPORT
BETWEEN VERSAILLES AND RAMBOUILLET 1845 hrs.
9. If in AF, give names of other members of crew and what happened to them.
10. Give details and full story of your trip on attached sheets.
11. Did you pay your guides? If so how much?
NO
12. Do you speak French? Spanish?
FRENCH
13. Did you have Identity Papers?
YES
14. 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 experience? Where and when?
BRITISH INTELLIGENCE IN GIBRALTER
15. Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom?
NO
16. Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, where and when?
YES BARCELONA, MADRID, & GIBRALTER
17. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air.
AIR NOV 3, 1943
18. Place and date of arrival in U.K.
PORT MAWCAN NOV 3, 1943

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

E & E REPORT NO. 180
EVASION IN FRANCE

Nov. 4, 1943
(Date)

LEONARD J. FINK 2nd LT 0-796510
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

546 384
(Squadron) (Group)

AGE: 21
LENGTH OF SERVICE: 1 1/2 yrs.
HOME ADDRESS: 115 W 197 ST.
BRONX, NEW YORK

→ 26 June
MIA: OCT. 21, 1943
Arrived in Spain: OCT. 29, 1943
Arrived in Gibraltar: NOV. 3, 1943
Arrived in UK: _____

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

	Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT 0-520047 2nd Lt Joseph (Mum 9) Rozio	54	Ret 8 duty
CO-PILOT 0-672784 2nd Lt George W. Evans	55	Ret 1 duty
NAVIGATOR 0-796510 2nd Lt Leonard J. Fink		Marrator
BOMBARDIER 0-734426 2nd Lt Sidney (Mum 9) Casden	MIA	
RADIO OPERATOR 20820476 S/Sgt Lester (Mum 9) Brown	52	Ret 8 duty
TOP TURRET GUNNER 16054934 S/Sgt Edward Westerson	MIA	
BALL TURRET GUNNER 34290923 S/Sgt John H. Houghton	53	Ret 8 duty
WAIST GUNNER 12034633 S/Sgt Anthony F. Cucinotta	71	Ret 8 duty
WAIST GUNNER 32278859 S/Sgt John H. Kuberski	56	Ret 8 duty
TAIL GUNNER 15110791 S/Sgt Lee (Mum 9) Lewis	P/W	

Were you wounded? NO.

S E C R E T

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO. 180.

No., Rank, Name:-

0-796510 2nd LT. LEONARD J. FINK

Unit:-

384th Bomb Sq.

Please answer carefully the questions below. Suggestions for improvement of escape equipment and training must 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? *NO*
- (b) If not, had you one on you? *NO*
- (c) If not, why had you no aids box? *LOST IN DESCENT +*
- (d) If you used it, which of the following items did you use?
Put a dash (-) against each item used and state briefly the circumstances, e.g., "Lying up for 2 nights", etc.
- (i) Horlicks tablets.
- (ii) Chocolate
- (iii) Milk (tube).
- (iv) Benzadrine tablets (fatigue)
- (v) Halazone tablets (water purifier).
- (vi) Matches.
- (vii) Adhesive tape.
- (viii) Chewing gum.
- (ix) Water bottle.
- (x) Compass
- (e) Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?
If so, in what respect?
- (f) How did you finally dispose of the 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 the size of it cannot be larger?

*Both carried
in knee pocket
of trousers.*

2. PURSE

- (a) Did you carry a purse? *NO*
If so, state COLOR.
If NOT, state why not. *LOST IN DESCENT +*
- (b) Did you use the purse?
- (c) If so, which of the following items in the purse did you use?
Put a dash (-) against each item used and state briefly the circumstances.
- (i) Maps. Which ones?
- (ii) Compass.

- (iii) File (hacksaw).
- (iv) Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.
How did you spend the money.

(d) How did you dispose of:-

Maps.

Compass.

File (hacksaw).

Surplus currency.

3. AIDS TO ESCAPE - (GADGETS+)

(*Issued separately from aids boxes and purses.)

(a) Did you carry or wear any of the following?
If you used any of them, state briefly WHEN and WHERE

- (i) Round compass.
- (ii) Stud compass.
- (iii) Swinger compass.
- (iv) Fly-button compass.
- (v) Pencil clip compass.
- (vi) Tunic button compass.
- (vii) Pipe compass.
- (viii) Pouch
- (ix) Special flying boots (and knife).

(b) Were they satisfactory?

(c) Can you suggest any improvements, additions, or substitutions which would improve the above equipment?

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

(a) Did you carry passport-size photographs? **NO**
If so, how many?

(b) Did you use them?
State how.

5. LECTURES

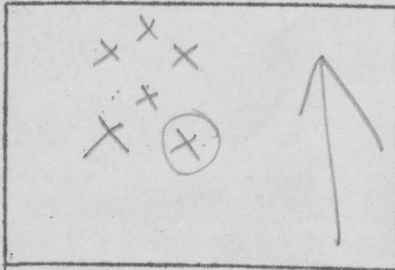
(a) Were you lectured on evasion and escape? **YES**
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.

KEARNEY, NEBRASKA MAY, 1943

(b) Did you find the lectures of value? **NO**

NAME LEONARD J. FINK RANK 2nd LT. ASN 0-796570 REPORT NO. 180

SQ 546 GROUP 384 A/C NO. _____ Letter _____ Load _____ Date 4-11-43



Position in formation.
Make Diagram

Observed results of Bombing:

JUMPED BETWEEN I.P. AND TARGET

Enemy Fighter Tactics:

Markings:

attacks
tail from right

Our Tactics:

Our Fighter Support:

none

Flak

Time

Place

Quality

LIGHT

Technical Failures

Motors:

Armor:

Armament:

Miscellaneous:

Number one engine cooling lit

Comments and Suggestions on any of the above:

Did you black-out - no

" use bale-out bottle - no

LT. FINK.

No escort. Fighters attacked us few near night before target. I did not see them. I saw no engine coming. hit. Barbarian started putting on his chute & motivated for me to put on mine. I had a seat chute & could not move around very well with chute on so delayed putting mine on. I tried Bail out on chute but no parachute & started out more escape hatch. I had trouble got stuck but 3rd time I tried I got through. I had see Barbarian go out. I delayed from 20000 to 5000. I did not see chutes or plane on my down. I lit on top of a tree in a forest. The forest of Rambouillet. I slid down on side tree & hit ground hard on back. I took of chute flying jacket, Mac West Lovells & stuffed them under a bush. Walked due South. I had my own compass. After 1 hr I lay down in wheat field saw a boy on bike I stopped him & made him understand American parachute. He asked for my gun I had none but did give him my large knife, he took me to his house & his father became very excited said German looking for parachutes a gendarme came & said German searching in all directions he suggested I give myself up I told him I would go back to forest. I did not do this but went back to wheat field & slept & stayed until about 12 P.M. heard him this time German very close but did not see me. at 12 went to barn & stayed in hay until 5 A.M. then started to get light and I saw German signs all over inside of barn so I left headed South walked about 15 miles to edge of Rambouillet. met 2 men & women on bikes. Man asked me something in French I did not understand so he asked me if American or English I said American so he put me on one of the bikes & took me to his house fed me slept there that night. He tried to find Eng. Next A.M. wakes me & said I had to leave German searching houses. He bid me in a shock in woods where I spent day. He sent a friend to Paris to see if could contact Eng. He came 10 P.M. with food & I left going South. I stopped about 12 lay down by hay stack 5 A.M. started on and walked for 3 days got food from people in fields who took me to their houses. I slept in woods & hay stacks.

5th day, after passing Auneau a soldier came up behind me on a bike & asked for papers. He had on a white strip across his chest that said FELD-GENDARMERIE. He got off bike & while he was holding bike I hit him with a club I had in back of head. I rolled him in ditch & threw his bike in after him. At this I had a C.I. trousers & Kaki shirt. I had passed German before on bikes & they paid no attention to clothing. I walked on South thru fields 3 or 4 hrs then to sleep in woods. 2 A.M. I could hardly walk but went on to YMONVILLE went into town looking for bike. met a woman she spoke some English took me in & fed & bathed & put to bed. I was sick in bed a week better. For another week had to walk on crutches. In all stayed 11 weeks. She got clothing dyed O.D.'s blue. I found as her son for Phillipine. She was Madame LUNA DE SAN PEDRO. ^{M. RENE PIERROT HIS HOME HE PAID.} She got in touch with Eng group but I refused to give this just H.R. S.N. & dog tags. One night we rode bikes to sunset in field close to

Charter & I was to go on plane it did not arrive & found
it had been fixed on.

^{suburb}
Begun of left to Paris JOINVILLE with Collette
Orsini 7 Rue de Batignolle Paris 17. Met at Paris
by 4 huskies who took us to a man who took the
identity papers I had been given and stamped them
in a telephone booth. Then to Jouvillat 3 days
with Jim Hay R.A.F. in a house then to Paris. I had of
Mélanc MELLOT 113 Rue de la Harpe Paris 5. Hay stayed
left & went to FONTENAY SOUS BOIS stayed with
Theodore VANDERVOORD 167 Rue de la République. stayed
2 days then Sgt Delvento came. Stayed 3 weeks.

Main came to check papers. We were given new papers.
We left 24 of us ^{+ guides} the two LT. HARNLEY, M^e MATH
SGT DELVENTO, LT STEINMETZ + others all on same
train 3rd class split up. Papers checked no trouble
officer checking could not speak French. To Toulouse then
to Pamiers bus to Montferrier then walked where
to bus met 7 more who had been there a week. We stayed
all except French 15 stayed there 4 days. Bus to Foix
then walked several hours then 7 of us got lost. Put
out in Mercus 10 kms. S. of Foix
+ another big group 27 walked 3 days to Andorra
stayed 2 days then walked 6 days to Barcelona 5 days
to British Consul then last 2 hrs. To Moshel by car
6 of us stayed 3 days. Left by train.

E+E #180
(Lt. Leonard J. Fink)

Lt. Fink landed in RAMBOUILLET forest on 26 June 1943. After he had walked southwards for an hour he met a boy who took him home. There the boy's father said that the Germans were searching the neighborhood for Allied aviators; and, when a gendarme came in and advised Fink to surrender, he left the house and hid until the next morning. He then walked southwards for some fifteen miles. A man came across him here, took him to his house for the night and hid him in a barn the next day. Towards evening Fink left and walked for three days. Just as he passed through AUNEAU he was stopped by a German soldier who wore a band ~~said~~ saying FELD-GENDARMERIE. Fink hit the soldier with a club, rolled him into ~~sides~~ a ditch, and hurried on through fields into a wood. The next day in YMONVILLE (14 kms. SE of CHARTRES on N154) a woman who spoke some English, Mme. LUNA[#] DE[#] SAN PEDRO, took him home with her, put him to bed, and called in a doctor. ~~The house was the~~ The house was the home of M. RENE PIERROT, and he paid all ^{Fink's} ~~the~~ expenses. Mme. SAN PEDRO got in touch with the organization through the mayor of YMONVILLE; and one night Fink

(over)

was taken by bicycle to a secret airfield near CHARTRES and told that he would be flown to England; but the plane ^(which was) ~~did~~ expected did not arrive. Fink stayed in YMONVILLE eleven weeks.

Then COLLETTE ORSINI (7 RUE DES BATIGNOLLES, PARIS XVII) took him to PARIS where four ~~men~~ brawny men met them and took them to another man who stamped Fink's identity papers in a telephone booth. COLLETTE took him on to JOINVILLE where he stayed for three days in a house with Tim Hay (R.A.F.). Hay and Fink were then removed to the home of Mme. MELOT in Paris. There Hay remained, while Fink went on to FONTENAY-SOUS-BOIS to the home of Mme. Vander VANDERVOORD (167 RUE DE LA REPUBLIQUE) where he stayed three weeks. On his second day here Sgt. Delvento was brought in. MARIE checked their papers, and then they were taken in a party of 24 (including Harnley, McMath, Steinmetz) by train to PAMIER via TOULOUSE and then by bus to MONTFERRIER (4 kms SW of LAVELANET). They walked for two hours and reached a barn where they found a party of seven who had been waiting a week. Fifteen, i.e. all except the French, remained in the barn for four days and then took a bus to FOIX. Walking out of FOIX Fink and six of the party got lost and hid in a pig-pen in MERCUS (10 kms S. of FOIX) for three days. A guide ~~from with another group~~ then found them and led them in a group of 27 to Andorra which they reached after walking three days. They rested in Andorra for two days and then walked five days to BARCELONA. There they went to the British consul who sent them to MADRID by automobile. After three days in MADRID Fink and five others were taken to Gibraltar by train.

JUNE 26TH 1943

We left GRAFTON UNDERWOOD at 1700 hours 26 June 1943 to bomb VILLACOUBLAY airport. On this mission we had no fighter escort.

ENEMY ATTACK

As we approached the target, enemy fighters attacked us from the right rear. I did not see them but I did see our No 1 engine cowling hit. Our bombardier started putting on his chute and motioned me to put on mine. I had a seat-type chute and could not move around very well with it on, so delayed for awhile. I heard the command to bale out over the intercom and so I put on my chute and started out the nose escape hatch. I had a great deal of trouble getting out as I got stuck in the hatch twice, but the third time I tried I got through. I had seen the bombardier bale out before I left.

BAILED OUT.

I jumped from about 21,000 feet and delayed opening my chute until about 5,000 feet. After the chute opened I did not see any other chutes in the air, nor did I see the plane on the way down.

I lit in the top of a tree in Rambouillet Forest. I slid down one side of the tree and hit the ground very hard on my heels. Immediately I took off my chute, flying jacket, mae west and coveralls, and stuffed them all under some bushes. I then started walking due south, using a large compass I had in my pocket.

After about an hour I laid down in a wheat field to rest, and while there saw a boy on a bicycle. I stopped him and finally made him understand that I was an American parachutist. He asked me for my gun. I did not have one but I did give him a large knife. He then took me to his

- 1 -

home and when his father found I was there he became very excited and said the Germans were looking for parachutists in that vicinity. About this time a gendarme came and said the Germans were searching in all directions and suggested that I give myself up. I told him No and that I would go back to the forest. I was afraid that he might give me away, so I did not go back to the forest but went back to the wheat field, slept for awhile and stayed there until about 2400 hours. While there I heard the Germans searching very close but they did not see me.

About 2400 hours I got up and went to a barn, crawled into some hay and slept until 0500 hours. It started to get light and seeing German signs all over the inside of the barn, I left and headed south, walking about 15 miles to the edge of Rambouillet Forest. Here I met a man and a woman on bicycles. The man asked me something in French which I did not understand. He then asked me if I were American or English and I said American. He put me on one of the bicycles and took me to his house. I was fed and allowed to sleep that night. Here the rest of my journey was arranged.

A. R. Nelson

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

14 November 1943

APPENDIX "B" TO E & E REPORT NO. 180

1. The following information has been obtained after an interview with an officer who evaded capture by the enemy after being in enemy-occupied territory.

2. Further circulation of this information may be made, but when doing so, no information as to the source may be divulged.

Statement of information covering period from 26 June 1943
to 1 October 1943

- a. The airfield at CHARTRES has been enlarged to accommodate the planes from the bombed airfields at LE BOURGET and VILLACOUBLAY. (hearsay)
- b. There is a large ammunition factory at MAINTENON. (hearsay)
- c. There are thousands of German soldiers at CHARTRES. They are all very young. There is also a training base for pilots at CHARTRES. (personal observation)
- d. There are large German camps at AUNEAU, ORLEANS and ETAMPES.
- e. There are seven large factories in DESSAU employing thousands of French workers. They produce Messerschmidts, aircraft parts, anti-aircraft guns, locomotives and trucks. (hearsay)