

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

by
P. M. M.
by

E & E REPORT NO. 698
EVASION IN FRANCE

1 June 1944
(Date)

Severino J FERNANDEZ, S/SGT, 31110682
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET: BERLIN

19 missions
(Number of Missions)

MIA: 4 March 1944
Arrived in UK:

547 Bomb Squadron, 384 Bomb Group
(Squadron) (Group)

1 June 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

				Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT	0-748706	1st Lt	Hollie R LOVVORN	P/W	
CO-PILOT	0-665749	1st Lt	Francis J WITT, JR	E&E #647	
NAVIGATOR	0-750198	2d Lt	John KAZMERSKI	MIA	
BOMBARDIER	0-746873	1st Lt	Charles T FLEENOR	P/W	
RADIO OPERATOR	36065853	T/Sgt	James C SCHWARZ	MIA	
TOP TURRET GUNNER	20953468	T/Sgt	Gerald E WILSON	P/W	
BALL TURRET GUNNER	32382781	S/Sgt	Robert L MILLER	MIA	
WAIST GUNNER	15339125	S/Sgt	Kenneth LEACH	E&E #677	
WAIST GUNNER	31110682	S/Sgt	Severino J FERNANDEZ	NARRATOR	
TAIL GUNNER	16086702	S/Sgt	Homer W TAYLOR	MIA	

Were you wounded?

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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EVASION IN FRANCE

(Date)

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(Rank)

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547 Bomb Sq, 384 Bomb Group

(Squadron)

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TAIL GUNNER	16086702	S/Sgt	Homer W TAYLOR		MIA

Were you wounded?

~~BERLIN~~
~~BOMBED THE~~
~~RHUR VALLEY~~

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO. 698
EVASION IN

JUNE 1, 1944
(Date)

FERNANDEZ, S.J. S/SGT 31110682
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

547 384
(Squadron) (Group)

Mission No: - 19

TARGET: BERLIN

MIA: MARCH 4, 1944

Arrived in UK:

JUNE 1, 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

	Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT	LOVVORN, H.R.	
CO-PILOT	WITT, F.	
NAVIGATOR	KAZMERSKIE	
BOMBARDIER	FLEENOR, C.	
RADIO OPERATOR	SCHWAZE, J.C.	
TOP TURRET GUNNER	WILSON, G.E.	
BALL TURRET GUNNER	MILLER, R.L.	
R WAIST GUNNER	LEACH, K.	
WAIST GUNNER	MYSELF	
TAIL GUNNER	TAYLOR, H.W.	

Were you wounded?

E & E CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

Fernandez
71698

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing.

MARCH 4, 1957
NEAR ABRIEVILLE ABOUT 1 P.M.

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out.
Was it on fire, etc?

3 ENGINES OUT

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

8000 FEET

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

BOMBARDIER - INJURED

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

ALL - OUT AND OPEN

Did the plane explode on striking the ground?

DID NOT SET IT

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground?

YES WITT AND LEACH

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.

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

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.

ON LAND

What is source's opinion as to the fate of the other crew members and his reasons for his opinion?

P.W. FROM

FRENCH SOURCES said that

Except

6 had been taken P/W

already written in Brucamps
 Here is an Englishman, Frenchman, American, his sister 15 years old and elderly woman (grey haired) very angry who spoke English but no one except my farmer's brother this. She talked to me about 15 minutes

Fernandez

When I got bail out order I went out waist. I delayed jump from 8000 to 1500 feet. Landed in open field, put chute under a stump near by, took off heavy equipments, hid in bushes. I could see people away in village watching me as I ^{got out of} changed my clothes + I heard later that they had misdirected Germans later on. I hid in bush about 2 1/2 - 3 hrs while Germans searched. Then I left + took wooded path + walked E. After 1/2 km. a farmer saw me + beckoned me. I showed my phrase card. He hid me in straw pile until 7 PM. Then he took me ^{in a cart} into BRUCAMPS to his father's house, gave me clothes, + I stayed here two nights. Germans were all around. Monday morning at 5 AM the farmer took me to train + at edge of village picked up Witt, Leach, + guide.

BRUCAMPS

They are Belgians + insisted on this to other couple (50-55) son of 22 daughter of 18 or 19 - farmer

In ~~Montauban~~ Toulouse, the night before going to Montauban, stayed at a rooming house ~~in~~ on the outskirts of TOULOUSE. (family, 2 or 3 elderly ~~families~~, ladies, + a younger couple that ran the rooming house (man: tall, dark, slim, about 38 yrs stomach trouble; woman very blonde about 35)).

In Montauban I ~~stayed~~ ^{slept} at a ~~apartment - priest about~~ priest's ~~community~~ + ate at the family of the student who brought us up (Father, tall 6'1", black beard, ~~Supervisor of~~ ~~high~~ Schools: daughter with 2 children mother: teacher in business courses in school, 5'4" reddish hair, about 55 yrs old). This family seems to head organization in Montauban.

In Spain with others to Lerida, here I stayed 6 weeks, 3 weeks, after others had left. About 8 or 9 of May the civilian police took me to jail (taking everyone of military age). Next day American representative got me out. Lerida police kept dog tags. insisting Fernandez was Spanish. Fernandez saw the police taking Rutherford + 2 other Americans to Py station to take them to Miranda. He went + got the Am. rep. who kept the police from doing this.

App B

a) In the vicinity of BRUCAMPS a man who worked on concrete foundations which have been bombed. Some of them have been destroyed by bombing but the Germans put the French back to work building more of these foundations.

French are worried about the DA bombs some of which remained for a week before exploding. (5 March 1944)
Karsay

b) In Amiens the station had not been bombed but town had been hit; and the marshalling yards had been badly hit. Only main line was working. German engineers working on wreckage. Air Corps men were coming in to Amiens (whole troop train) + many more German officers than in Paris.

(6 March 1944)
Observation

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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.,.....)

OUTLINE FOR TALKS

1. Complete description of everything that happened in plane before jump.
2. Description of jump and landing.
3. Description of what you did with your equipment.
4. Tell story of experiences up to time you met the person who put you in contact with organization.

DO NOT GIVE THE NAMES OF PEOPLE WHO HELPED YOU
AT ANY TIME.
DO NOT GIVE THE NAMES OF TOWNS.
DO NOT GIVE ANY ADDRESSES.

5. How you crossed Pyrenees (General Location)
6. Your experiences in Spain.

Suggestions for others.

If there is some helpful incident that happened after you were picked up, do not mention it until it has been discussed with M. I. S. Interrogator.



RICHARD R. NELSON
Major, AC

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND F REPORT NO. 698

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.

Chocolate or Peanut Bar.

Milk (tube).

Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). *ATE SOME CROSSING MOUNTAIN*

Halazone tablets (water purifier).

Matches. *LIKED TO GO*

Adhesive tape.

Chewing gum.

Water bottle.

Compass. *TO FIND MY DIRECTION*

Sewing kit. *SEW PANTS AND OTHER ITEMS*

- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory? *NO*
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box? *DESTROYED REMAINS IN SPAIN*
- 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? *NO*

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? *YES*
State color of stripes and letters. *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?

FRANCE

Compass.

YES

File (hacksaw).

NO

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts.

How did you spend the money? R.R. TRANSPORTATION & PAID GUIDE

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps. POLICE IN SPAIN (FRENCH MAP) LOST OTHERS

Compass. POLICE IN SPAIN

File (hacksaw). LOST IT IN SPAIN

Surplus currency. CHAGE FOR SPANISH MONEY

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion?

YES ~~EVASION SHEET~~ PHRASE-CARD

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs?

If so, how many?

YES ABOUT 10

b. Did you use them?

YES TWO

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape?

State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.

YES BY EVADORS

b. Did you find the lectures of value?

YES

c. Do you have any suggestions to make which, from your experience, you feel will help other evaders and escapers?

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. *FERNANDEZ, SEVERINO T, 5/SGT, 31110682*
2. Decorations. *AIR METAL*
3. Unit or Squadron. *547*
4. Division (Army) or Group. *384*
5. Date of Birth. *DEC. 25, 1920*
6. Length of Service. *1 YEAR 10 MONTHS*
7. Private Address. *NORTH CONWAY, NEW HAMPSHIRE*
8. Job as civilian. *STUDENT*
9. From what field did you take off? *GRAFTON UNDERWOOD*
10. Take off time. *ABOUT 7:30 A.M.*
11. Date and target. *MARCH 4, 1944 - BERLIN*
12. Where did you land? *NEAR ABBEVILLE*
13. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? *YES*
14. What was your position in aircraft? *L.W.*
15. Were you wounded? *NO*
16. Did you pay your guides? If so how much? *NO*
17. Do you speak French? Spanish? *NO*
18. Did you have Identity Papers? *FRENCH CARD & DOG TAGS*
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?
*GIBRALTAR - COMMANDING OFFICER
MAY 29, 1944*
20. Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom?
TO BRITISH AT GIB. MAY 30, 1944
21. Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, where and when?
YES IN SPAIN MAY 14, 1944
22. Date of arrival in Spain. *MARCH 28, 1944*
23. Date of arrival at Gibraltar. *MAY 29, 1944*
24. Place and date of departure for U.K. By sea or air.
GIB. MAY 31, 1944 AIR
25. Place and date of arrival in U.K.
JUNE 1, 1944 BRISTOL

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) **FERNANDEZ, SEVERINO J.**
Rank **S/SGT** A. S. N. **31110682**
Unit **384 GROUP 547 SGDN.**

Signed **Severino J. Fernandez**
Dated **June 1, 1944**
Witness

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

RESTRICTED

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

MILITARY LIAISON OFFICE
AMERICAN CONSULATE
GIBRALTAR

29 May 1944

E-X-T-R-A-C-T

SPECIAL ORDERS)

NUMBER.....27)

* * * * *

4. Pursuant to authority contained in WD Cablegram, Number 45, dated 4 February 1943, the enlisted men named below, having reported at this station on 29 May 1944, are placed on temporary duty at this station. Upon completion of this temporary duty they will proceed by first available transportation to where they will report to the Commanding General U.S. Army. They will be entitled to monetary allowances in lieu of quarters and subsistence furnished, according to Executive Order No. 9386, dated 15 October 1943, for subsistence at the rate of three (\$3.00) dollars per day and for quarters at the rate of two (\$2.00) dollars per day, while traveling on official business (except by belligerent or government vessel) and while on temporary duty at this station, in accordance with existing law and regulations. TSN 91-25 P 438-02 A 212/40435.

Techn. Sgt.	JOHN R. LANDERS	51105383	351st En. Grp.
Staff Sgt.	SEVERINO J. FERNANDEZ	31110582	384th En. Grp.
Sergeant	WILSON F. JONES	35764600	390th En. Grp.
Sergeant	STANLEY A. SOKOLOWSKI	36107762	351st En. Grp.

Distribution.

Personnel concerned
File

MILITARY LIAISON OFFICE - GIBRALTAR
HORACE W. FORSTER,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Mil. Lia. Officer.

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

AG 383.6

Hq ETOUSA

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, AGC, 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) FERNANDEZ, SEVERINO J. Signed Severino J. Fernandez

Rank SGT A.S.N. 31110687

Date May 29, 1944

Unit 384 BOMB GROUP

Witness H. W. Hahn

HORACE W. FURBER,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
U. S. Mil. Lia. Off.

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY
OFFICE OF THE A. C. OF S., G-2

698

DATE: 1 June 1944

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, KENNETH LEACH, S/Sgt., AO, 15379123

hereby certify that I have known and have been associated with

SEVERINO J. FERNANDEZ, S/Sgt., AO, 31110602

prior to his being reported missing in action over enemy territory.

The person whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon is the individual referred to above.

Kenneth Leach

Severino J. Fernandez

RIGHT THUMB PRINT:



=====

The individual whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon has been identified to the satisfaction of this office as SEVERINO J. FERNANDEZ,
S/Sgt., AO, 31110602 (547 Bomb Squadron - 304 Bomb Group)
previously reported missing in action over enemy territory.

W. P. [Signature]
W. P. [Signature], SPECIAL AGENT, C.I.C.

CONFIDENTIAL

gld

Comment:

Good briefing well
learned. The delayed jump
and the quick hide-out are
two parts of the same
action. It gives the people
a chance to help before
being scared off by the
search party..

E+E 698

Sgt. Fernandez

SEE E+E RPTS
647 and 677

DELAYED
JUMP

~~WATCHED BY~~
VILLAGERS
~~WHO~~ MISDIRECT
THE GERMANS

I left the ship as soon as we got the order to bail out. I delayed my jump from 8,000 to 1500 feet and landed in an open field. ~~Before~~ ^{After} I had taken ~~off~~ my heavy clothing and ~~hid my chute~~ hidden my chute under a stump I saw people ~~at the~~ ~~edge of a village~~ watching me from higher ground on the ~~edge~~ ~~of a village not far away~~; but none of them approached me, and I ran at once to a ~~bush~~ thicket where I hid. I learned later that the people who had seen me told the Germans ~~who were~~ ~~searching for me~~ that I had gone in the ~~opposite~~ ~~direction~~ ~~to that~~ (next)

~~which I had taken.~~

HELP
FOUND

After about three hours I left my hiding-place and walked eastwards. Before I had gone half a kilometre a farmer saw me and beckoned me to him. I showed him my phrase#card, and he straightway hid me in a straw-pile and indicated that he would come for me when it was dark. At 1900 hrs he returned ~~for me~~ ~~and took me to a house~~ with a cart in which he took me covered over with hay to a house in the village. Here I lived for two days while Germans quartered in the town came and went about the house continually, even coming in once to borrow the horses for a Sunday's outing.

On Monday morning my friend put me into his cart
(next)

again and drove me down
the road. ~~We stop~~ Presently
we drew off the road and
waited. A man brought Lt.
~~Leach and~~
Witt and Sgt. Leach to us, ~~Leach~~,
and from this point my
journey was the same
as theirs.

SEE
EIE RPT
647

E+E 698

APP. B

a) In the vicinity of BRUCAMPS there are many concrete foundations (presumably ~~the~~ rocket sites) which the Allies have been bombing. Some of these have been demolished by the bombing attacks, but the Germans immediately put their conscripted French labor to work on building ^{them} ~~those~~ foundations which have been destroyed.

The DA bombs dropped in this region have caused great inconvenience. In many cases labor squads have had to make ^{lengthy} ~~long~~ detours ^(everyday) for as much as a week because of a single DA bomb which has fallen on the road leading to the installations on which they ~~are~~ are working.
(Hearsay 5 March 1944)

The other military information supplied by this informant is identical with that in E+E Rpt. ~~647~~ 647.

E+ E 698

Sgt. Fernandez

Appendix D

Original

Unit

N.A.A.F.I.

Please supply the following

Article	Quantity lbs.	Rate			
AIDS BOX :					I used the compass, the sewing kit, and the benzadine tablets, the last while crossing the mountains.

PURSE :

I had a red purse from which I used the map of France and the compass. The 2000 French francs I ~~used~~ spent for railway tickets and guides.

FURTHER AIDS
TO EVASION :

I had a phrasecard which I used to advantage.

PHOTOGRAPHS :

I had ten photographs, of which two were used for ~~the~~ identity papers.

LECTURES :

I heard swaders lecture at my base in the U.K., and ~~I~~ profited by their lectures.