

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

E & E REPORT NO. 556
EVASION IN FRANCE

17 April 44
(Date)

Richard J FAULKNER, SGT, 12214475
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

1 mission

(Number of Missions)

TARGET: Augsburg

MIA: 18 March 44
Arrived in UK:

16 April 44

350 Bomb Squadron, 100 Bomb Group
(Squadron) (Group)

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

				Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT	0-593304	2d Lt	Paul A MARTIN	MIA	
CO-PILOT	0-795361	2d Lt	Thomas CRYAN	MIA	
NAVIGATOR	0-809515	2d Lt	Tom F HUGHES	MIA	
BOMBERDIER	0-688553	2d Lt	Albert A RACZ	MIA	
RADIO OPERATOR	13167691	S/Sgt	Russell E LONGDON	MIA	
TOP TURRET GUNNER	36620984	S/Sgt	Levi O TONN	MIA	
BALL TURRET GUNNER	12214475	Sgt	Richard J FAULKNER	NARRATOR	
WAIST GUNNER	37462927	Sgt	Veryl A LUND	MIA	
WAIST GUNNER	18124028	Sgt	Lennie J ALBIN	MIA	
TAIL GUNNER	16110646	Sgt	John E HOWLEY	MIA	

Were you wounded?

E&E : Sgt Richard J FAULKNER

CRASHED INTO ANOTHER PLANE

Just after we crossed the coast of France on our way to AUGSBURG flak ~~started in the distance and~~ closed in on us, breaking our formation. When we were pulling back into position a ship came down on us. I felt the impact. The next thing I knew I was on my head in the ball turret. I reached up, unfastened the safety belt, pushed back the door, and tried to stand but ~~but~~ could not in the strong wind. I hooked on my ~~chest-type~~ parachute and managed to crawl over the side. I passed the stabilizer and opened my parachute. The next thing I knew ~~I lay~~ ^{was lying} on the ground, covered by my parachute. ~~My chin was bruised as if my parachute had hit it in opening.~~ At first I could not stand up. I seemed to have wrenched my knee.

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With considerable difficulty I picked up my parachute ~~and~~ went to the nearby woods where I hid my parachute, ~~my~~ vest, and flying gloves. After I had walked about 100 yards I met a man, woman, girl, and boy, and dropped to the ground. I called to them that I was an American. When they pointed in one direction I started to go that way. ~~I found an old type oxygen mask and a couple of bomb craters. At the edge of the woods I saw a piece of a stabilizer. A fuselage seemed to be in another woods.~~ I heard voices and retraced my steps, hiding ^{exhausted} in ~~exc~~ ~~hastion~~ about 50 yards from the place where I had hid my parachute.

HEALED

When
After some minutes a Frenchman passed. I yelled to him he realized who I was, led me to an orchard, and had me hide while he brought another Frenchman. They took me to a hiding place in the middle of a field, gave me civilian clothes, and took me to a farmhouse. When the Germans came to check identity papers in the neighborhood the next day, I was taken to the field, ~~and then to~~ ~~I was taken to a place from which my journey was arranged.~~

JOURNEY

Compiled by

D E EMERSON
1st Lt, AUS

Approved by

W STULL HOLT
Lt Col, AC
Commanding

Appendix B

1. The following information has been obtained from a sergeant who evaded capture in enemy occupied territory.
2. Further circulation of this information maybe made but in that case it is important not to divulge any details about the source
Statement of information covering the period from 18 March to 15 April 1944
 - a. Informant was told that a large ^Mobile German unit was stationed at SOISSONS.
 - b. Informant was told that quite a few Germans were living in churches, especially at ROUEN.
 - c. Informant was told and observed that the soldiers in small towns in Normandy were either very young or very old.
 - d. Informant was told that there are three lines of fortifications running from the swamps near BORDEAUX to the ~~area of~~ SOISSONS in an arc around PARIS. Between ~~the back of~~ this line and PARIS were no fortifications. Between PARIS and Germany were supposed to be good ~~fortifications~~ defences.
 - e. Informant noticed trenches ⁱⁿ and pill boxes in some of the small towns in Normandy. _(Seine Infe.)
 - f. In BULLY, at the end of March or early in April informant noticed quite a few Germans, armed with rifles, in brown uniforms with red arm bands bearing Swastikas.

Appendix D

1. 2. I lost my ~~my~~ aids box and purse when I bailed out. The pocket in which I carried them was ripped off.
3. I had not been at my group long enough to have received passport size photographs.
4. I had been lectured on evasion and escape at Grand Island, Nebraska by a navigator, and in England by Hemel-Hempstead in February by a ~~escaped~~ pilot, who had evaded.
5. Men should be sure to carry passport-size photographs for identity papers. They should also be sure to keep their dog tags.