

E. & E. REPORT No. I.S.9(WEA)6/321



(Applies to all BRITISH, CANADIAN, U.S. & ALLIED PERSONNEL)

EVASION CAPTURED/~~RECOVERED~~ FROM (Name of Country) Holland

For all Personnel:

1. No. 0-809589 Rank Capt. Name HENRY G. GRIFFIS
(U.S.A. Acting, Temp. or W/S) 31-missions
2. Decorations: (U.S.A.A.F.; No. of missions) Air medal 4 clusters, DFC cluster
3. Were you wounded? Give details. No
4. Ship (Navy), Unit (Army), Sqn. (Air Force) 100th B. Gr. 418 Sq.
5. Div. (Army) or Gr. (Air Force) 8th AF Job. (Pl. Cmd., Bfm., etc.) Navigator
7. Date of Birth 26 Aug 1924 Length of Service 2 years
9. Pre-war occupation Student 10. Private address 508 W. Jefferson St. Dallas, Texas
11. Did you carry any form of identification, or photographs? dogtags
12. Do you speak French, or any other foreign language? No

FOR R.A.M. ONLY

13. No. and location of O.T.U.
14. No. and location of Conversion Unit.

FOR ALL AIR FORCE PERSONNEL, AIR OR AIRBORNE OR PARACHUTE TROOPS WHO BALE OUT.

15. Post in Crew Navigator
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 Capt. F.C. Kingannon; crash landed safely
- CO-PILOT Major Maggi G. Fuller; believed safe
- NAVIGATOR Narrator and 1st Lt. I. H. Abramowitz; believed safe
- BOMBARDIER Capt. R.E. Vance & 1st Lt. Bonitz; both believed safe
- RADIO OPERATOR T/Sgt G.L. Edge; All below believed to have landed safely.
- TOP TURRET GUNNER T/Sgt D.D. Deason
- BALL TURRET GUNNER None
- W/ST GUNNER (R.) S/Sgt D.H. Cargile
- W/ST GUNNER (L.) S/Sgt G.E. Snyder
- TAIL GUNNER 1st Lt. B.C. Farnham & S/Sgt R.D. Chavez

17. Type of aircraft, place, date, time of departure. P-17 departed Thorge-Abbott Fld. 29 July 44 0700 hrs.
18. Where and when did you come down? Dropped on ground near plane.
19. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mas vest? Destroyed equipment of
20. Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? Destroyed equipment after plane was crash landed; plane strafed by P-51s.

Interview by I.S.9.(WEA)

Date 11 Sept. 44

Attached:

- Appendix ~~XXX~~
- Appendix ~~XXX~~
- Appendix ~~XXX~~

I grade this evasion No. 4

Irwin H. Luiten
IRWIN H. LUITEN

Disposal: Returned to HQ

Maj, Inf.

Major

DISTRIBUTION:

- Hq. I.S.9(WEA).....2
- 12 Army Group.....2 (Less C)
- 9th AF.....1

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) HENRY C. GRIFFIS Signed Henry C. Griffis
 Rank CAPT A.S.N. D-807589 Dated SEPT 11 1949 Place LONDON
 Unit 100th AB Witness.....

RESTRICTED

SECRET

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

SEPT. 16, 1944
(Date)

GRIFFIS, H.C. CAPT. D-809589
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

MERSEBURG 31
(Target) (Number of missions)

Date Missing in Action: JULY 20, 1944

Returned to UK: SEPT. 16, 1944

418th Sq. 100th Bp
(Unit)

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

PILOT F. C. HINCANNON, Capt., MIA
 CO-PILOT M.C. FULLER, MAJ., MIA
 NAVIGATOR H.C. GRIFFIS, Capt. RETURNED to U. H.
 BOMBARDIER R.E. NANCE, Capt. " " " "
 RADIO OPERATOR D.L. EDGE, MIA
 TOP TURRET GUNNER DEASON MIA
 NAVIGATOR LH. ABRAMOWITZ, 1st Lt. Returned to U. H.
 W.1ST GUNNER D.M. CARGIE, Returned to U. H.
 W.2ST GUNNER SNIDER MIA
 TAIL GUNNER B.L. FARNUM, 1st Lt. MIA
 NAV. BONITZ, 1st Lt. Returned to U. H.

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing. JULY 20, 1100 AM
EINDHOVEN, HOLLAND

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

At approximately what altitude did source bail out?

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed?
CRASH LANDING
NO

What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open?
NONE

Did the plane explode on striking the ground?

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground?
NO
ALL ALIVE.

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.
NONE

(over)

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 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.

NO

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

OTHER MEMBERS ALIVE

Were you wounded? NO

Were you in German hands? NO

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.

NONE

What security briefing were you given?

S-2 IN PARIS

What souvenirs do you still possess? NONE

Home address. 504 W. JEFFERSON ST.

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

NONE

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

Remains of crew not returned to
W. H.;

BYEA 2001

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

CERTIFIED THAT:

No. 0-809589 Rank CAPT
Name (BLOCK LETTERS) HENRY C. GRIFFIS
Unit 100th Bomb Grp, 418 Sqdn 8th Air Force
has been fully/~~partly~~ interrogated by an Intelligence Officer of I.S. 9 (WEA)
on 10 Sep 19 44 and has signed a Security Certificate.
He ~~should~~/should not be re-interrogated.

Irwin H. Lutter
Major, *Inf*

IMPORTANT:

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

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

2001

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