

SECRET

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

3 June 1944

E & E REPORT NO. 653
EVASION IN FRANCE

Edward M DALY, S/Sgt, 32560807
(4 Missions)
351 Bomb Squadron, 100 Bomb Group

TARGET: PARIS

MIA: 16 September 1943
Arrived in UK:
21 May 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with FWIB)

PILOT	0-795862	2d Lt	Arthur M VETTER	E&E RPT 260
CO-PILOT	0-741943	2d Lt	Donald Glenn SMITH	P/W
NAVIGATOR	0-734944	2d Lt	Wendell L McCONNAHA	MIA
BOMBARDIER	0-676542	2d Lt	James G BORMUTH	E&E RPT 311
RADIO OPERATOR	33237317	T/Sgt	John W WAGNER	E&E RPT 254
TOP TURRET GUNNER	35333680	T/Sgt	Orval L PARSONS	P/W
BALL TURRET GUNNER	31172594	S/Sgt	Edward W FONTAINE	E&E RPT 275
WAIST GUNNER	32560807	S/Sgt	Edward M DALY	NARRATOR
WAIST GUNNER	16073581	S/Sgt	Robert C TRIGG	E&E RPT 654
TAIL GUNNER	37461810	S/Sgt	Warren G LUSH	E&E RPT 310

CREW
CHANGE TO
G/I SHOES
G.I. SHIRT
G.I. SHIRT

Just before target, ~~the ship was~~ ^{we got were hit by flak} ~~solid with flak and I could hear it hitting~~
~~all over.~~ We dropped our bombs with the formation and were hit again, ~~and the~~
~~intercom went out.~~ Fighters came in to attack and the alarm rang a few
minutes later. By the time it sounded we all had our chutes on and had
changed into G.I. shoes, ~~we were sure we were going down.~~ Sgt TRIGG kicked
out the hatch and I jumped at 10,000 feet, pulling the ripcord as soon as I
was clear of the ship. An enemy fighter circled me all the way down.

~~SAVED AREA~~
~~IMMEDIATELY~~
GET AWAY

I landed in an open field with no one around. I got out of my harness
and ran over to a tree to which I clung until the fighter finally left.
Then I threw my chute and mas west under some hay and set off across the
fields. ~~It was already getting dark.~~ I walked for almost eight hours ^{any}
~~Sometimes, I heard people whistling or passing by and I lay down and they~~
~~never seemed to suspect my presence.~~ Once I fell flat between two rows
of vegetables, and ~~while~~ ^{but} a man stood beside me for some time he gave no
indication of having seen me. ~~When I came to a brook I filled my water bottle~~
~~and took some benzadrine, which helped me feel better almost immediately.~~

~~HELPED BY~~
~~BENZADRINE~~

HIDES IN
LOFT

Finally I came to a group of houses and ~~went over to the church to ask~~
~~for shelter of the priest.~~ The church was locked and deserted. I hid in the
shrubbery and rested until it started to rain. Then I noticed that there was
a storage loft on top of one of the houses, on the other side of the road.
I climbed over the fence and up into the loft where I spent the night and
the whole of the next day. Toward 1900 hours I let myself down through
a trap door and found myself in a hallway.

FOOD AND
CLOTHING

JOURNEY
ARRANGED

I knocked on the door, which started a great deal of confusion, as no one was found at the outside door, and no one was, of course, expected to start their knocking from the inside. Finally I pushed the door open. A woman who was cooking, was considerably startled, and we just stood staring at one another for some time. I showed her my cigarettes and dog tags, but she continued to look dazed, although she motioned me into the kitchen. Then and she fed me some hot soup and raw eggs. When she turned on the radio, her husband, who had already gone to bed, got up and came in to look me over. Suddenly he shook hands and went to get me civilian clothes. When he came back he told me not to worry, everything would be all right. The next day some one came for me and the rest of my journey was arranged.

Compiled by

Dorothy A. Smith

DOROTHY A. SMITH

Capt, WAC

Approved by

W S HOLT

Lt Col, AC

Commanding

Authority *MM 17*
By *JS* NARA Date *5/15/60*

APPENDIX "B" TO E AND E REPORT NO. 653

- a. Hearsay in September that there is a large food depot at CLERMONT (Oise). The German garrison consisted of about 200 men at that time.
- b. In January the German garrison at JOIGNY (Yonne) was 1000 strong. Most of the troops were in the artillery, and new recruits came through every two weeks. The only bridge in the town is said to be mined. German morale in this town is very low and the soldiers are continually given trouble by the local patriots.
- c. In March a good number of Italian naval personnel were observed in BORDEAUX, which is crowded with Germans. There are many collaborators in BORDEAUX, but German morale is low due to Allied bombing of ^{their} homes in Germany.
- d. Hearsay, in March that at ST MEDARD, NE BORDEAUX, there is a concentration of Luftwaffe personnel, worth bombing.
- e. Hearsay that a large German hospital is located at PESSAC ^{of} SE BORDEAUX.
- f. Hearsay in March that there is a powder factory at ST HELENE ^{Gironde} (Landes).
- g. Hearsay in March that there are two submarine bases SE BORDEAUX half way between Etang de Biscarrosse and Spain. These bases are believed to be at ST GIRON'S PLAGE and MOTIETS-PLAGE (LANDES).
- h. Hearsay in March that there are sea plane bases on the Etang de Cazaux an Etang de Biscarrosse (Landes).
- i. Hearsay that the recent bombing of the PAU airfield was very efficient.
- j. The French in HAUTE SAVOIE were particularly anxious to receive arms and ammunition by air.
- k. On 27 March during the American bombing of the airfield at MERIGNAC flak was observed bursting at BLANQUEFORT at 400 feet. One shell, which returned to earth before exploding, wrecked two powder cars. *exploded on the ground and.*

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT 653

1. AIDS BOX: I had difficulty eating the Horlicks as the paper stuck to them. I ate some of the chocolate, but was too nervous to really know what I was eating. As soon as I used the benzadrine I felt better. I used the halazone and water bottle until I got help, and chewed the gum to pass the time.
2. PURSE: I carried a red purse and gave the money to my helpers.
3. PHOTOGRAPHS: I carried no photographs. The pictures had been taken but weren't finished when I went down.
4. I was lectured on evasion at Bovingdon and at group. I found the lectures very helpful particularly in their advice to approach poor people.
5. I would further advise evaders to keep off the streets as much as possible, especially if they have no knowledge of the language.

SECRET - AMERICAN
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

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

E & E REPORT NO.
EVASION IN

MAY 21ST 1944
(Date)

EDWARD M. DALY S/SGT. 32560807
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

350TH 100TH
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET: PARIS

MIA: _____
Arrived in UK: _____
MAY 21ST 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWID)

	Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT	2nd Lt. ARTHUR M. VETTER	
CO-PILOT	" " DONALD G. SMITH	
NAVIGATOR	" " WENDALL M. MCCONNALL	
BOMBARDIER	" " JAMES G. BORMUTH	
RADIO OPERATOR	T/SGT. JOHN M. WAGNER	
TOP TURRET GUNNER	T/SGT. ORVAL L. PARSONS	
BALL TURRET GUNNER	S/SGT. EDWARD W. FONTAINE	
WAIST GUNNER	S/SGT. HOBART C. TRIGG	
WAIST GUNNER	S/SGT. EDWARD M. DALY	
TAIL GUNNER	S/SGT. WALTER LUSH	

Were you wounded?

NO

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

653

DATE: 22 May 1944

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, ERNEST J. IRWIN JR., 1st Lt., Ord., O-292374

hereby certify that I have known and have been associated with

EDWARD M. DALY, S/Sgt., AC, 32560807

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.

Edward M. Daly

RIGHT THUMB PRINT:



Ernest J. Irwin Jr.

=====

The individual whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon has been identified to the satisfaction of this office as EDWARD M. DALY,
S/Sgt., AC, 32560807 (350 Bomb Squadron - 100 Bomb Group)
previously reported missing in action over enemy territory.

W. F. MARANDA, SPECIAL AGENT, C.I.C.

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