

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
and QUESTIONNAIRE FOR I.S. 9 (W.L.) PERSONNEL

Sept 15, 1944
(Date)

KLEINMAN, T.H. 2ND LT O-795261
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

FRANKFORT 11
(Target) (Number of missions)

349TH Sq. - 100TH GR
(Unit)

Date Missing in Action: FEB. 4, 1944

Returned to UK: SEPT 14, 1944

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

PILOT - 1ST LT J. H. BROWN 0743172 RET. TO U.K. RTD
CO-PILOT 2ND LT A. F. FITZPATRICK 0754155 P/W
NAVIGATOR Navigator
BOMBARDIER 2ND LT L. W. CLEMENTS 0735272 P/W
RADIO OPERATOR George E. Zoonney, Jr. S/Sgt. 16065537 P/W
TOP TURRET GUNNER UNKNOWN P/W
Lela D. Florida S/Sgt. 38279635 P/W
MID TURRET GUNNER S/Sgt. G. F. KEON 32472465 P/W
WING GUNNER William S. Kemp S/Sgt. 34409090
WING GUNNER Walter J. Ganderup S/Sgt. 32555990
TAIL GUNNER Richard G. TANGRADI DEAD
S/Sgt 13125061 P/W

2/4/44 - 13:30 - CASTERLEE, BELGIUM
Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing.

#1 SHOT UP - 1340 and MACH. DIFF.
Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. Was it on fire, etc?

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? 9,000 ft.

Were any of the crew injured or killed before the plane crashed? yes - Bomb. NAY

TAIL GUNNER

What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open? ALL SAVE TAIL GUNNER. - AS FAR AS I KNOW ALL PARA. OPENED

Did the plane explode on striking the ground? No

Did source see any other members of the crew dead or alive after reaching the ground? No

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.

YES - T. H. K. TOLD TNA - TAIL GUNNER WAS FOUND 10.

- 2 -

Did source examine the wreckage of the plane? If so, what was its condition?
LANDED 150 YDS AWAY FROM PLANE. - IT WAS ON FIRE

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.

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

OR SO I WAS TOLD BY LOCAL ORG. - HOWEVER
I HAVE SEEN MY PILOT. NOW IN U.K.

Were you wounded? YES.

Were you in German hands? YES.

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.

What security briefing were you given? HOLD YOUR TONGUE. NOTHING
TO BE SAID EXCEPT TO AUTHORIZED PERSONS

What souvenirs do you still possess? NONE

Home address. 1390 ALDER ST. EUGENE, OREGON

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

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

TOP SECRETTOP SECRETQuestionnaire for Service
PersonnelReport No. **2/438/952**

1. No., Rank and full name: **0.795261 2/Lt. KLEINMAN THEODORE H.**
2. Decorations **A.M.**
3. Squadron **349 (B) Sq.**
4. Command **100 Gp - 8 A.F.**
5. Date of Birth **26 Jul 19.**
6. Date of Enlistment **16 Mar 42.**
7. Peacetime Profession **Traffic clerk**
8. Private Address **1390 Alder St., EUGENE, OREGON, USA**
9. Which type of aircraft were you flying **FORTRESS B. 17F**
10. Left from **THEOPPE ABBOTS** on **4 Feb 44** at **0730** hrs
11. Baled out (or crashed) at **CASTELLER** at **1330** hrs
12. How did you dispose of your parachute, harness and mae west?
..... Hid them in the ground and covered them with branches.
.....
13. Describe briefly on the attached sheet your journey from the time of being cut until you rejoined the Allied Forces. Give details of your route (with dates) and state whether you were in the hands of an organization or a Resistance Group. If captured, give details (place and date of capture and place, date and method of escape). If you were accompanied at any stage of your journey, give the names of your companions and state what became of them.
14. At the end of your account give names and addresses of those who helped you, with appropriate details of their help and the nature of the summary of what they did for you.
 Write out this information in the following manner:

11 - 16 Jun 44

Pierre FRANCE
 60 rue de la Guillot,
 Suippes (Marne)
 France.

Food and shelter
 Contact with Resistance
 Group.

I was wounded by fragments of a 20 mm shell in the right forearm just before bailing out. I pulled a delayed jump from 9,000 ft. I opened the parachute at about 1,000 feet and was 5 or 6 minutes descending. I walked 6 kms from CASTRELEE and made contact with an organisation at 1515 hrs same day.

I was taken to TOURNOUT the same night and stayed with Mme F. VERSTRAETEN, 80 QUAKKEL STRAAT, TOURNOUT until 27 Mar 44. I was taken to BRUSSELS and stayed at 164 Rue D'ANDERLECHT, BRUSSELS. I was then taken to another place, MAX VARLES, 73 RUE VAN MEYKEL, MOLAEBECK, BRUSSELS. I left BRUSSELS 1 May 44.

I stayed at the following addresses in LEUZE -
EDGARD DELBELQ, 53 CHAUSSEE DE PEREWELZ, LEUZE.
ANDRE MORTIER, 137 RUE DE LONDE, LEUZE.

I left LEUZE 16 Jun 44 to work a wireless set at BASECLES. I stayed with CARLOS BERNARD, 73 RUE DE BLATON, BASECLES. I acted as telegraphist and liaison officer with Belgian army. Capt BARBAIX, who was killed later on 3 Sep 44. In this position I acted as disseminator of intelligence and contact between the organisation known as W.O. Leader's name was ACHILLE BATISTE of BASECLES - other address unknown. I prepared explosives for sabotage on Rly line between BLATON and ~~BASECLES~~ BASECLES.

I left under supposedly definite orders to come out 25 Aug 44, arriving in BRUSSELS same day at 16 Rue de Foret, IXMELLES, BRUSSELS. This turned out to be a trap of counter espionage unit of the Gestapo. I was taken to Gestapo HQ when we were supposedly en route to SWITZERLAND. Then to ST GILES PRISON, BRUSSELS on 30 Aug 44. I came with N.R. BEAMISH and an Australian - both of RAF.

I left BRUSSELS on prison train bound for GERMANY on 1 Sep 44. I returned to BRUSSELS on 3 Sep 44 and left BRUSSELS again on the same day. Wagon derailed in Marshalling yards at SCHAURBECH - North of BRUSSELS. Boches uncoupled the wagon and took off. We did the same shortly afterwards. (43 Allied airmen).

Tail gunner (name unknown) - believed killed.

2d Lt Theodore H KLEINMAN, 0795261, MIA 349/100 Bomb Gp (H), MIA 4 Feb 1944
Intrvd 15 Sept 44

KLEINMAN, N of Lt J W. BROWN's crew, landed NW of KASTERLEE, S of TURNHOUT, on 4 Feb 1944. Within two hours Belgians hid him until that night and he went then to a house in TURNHOUT where he stayed from 4 Feb until 27 March with FRANK VERSTRAATAN, 80 Quakkelstraat. He met the family of JOSEF van TONGERLOO. JACQUES from Turnhout (35, tall, bald headed) took casualty information and was taken to prison about two days later.

The TG was said to have been taken to a hospital badly wounded and to have died two hours after arrival.

In March KLEINMAN went by tram to ~~Antwerp~~ ANTWERP with Mme VERSTRAATAN and the brother in law of the man who was sent after JACQUES, an intelligence service man presumably. Some civilian German stopped him in Antwerp. They went on to BRUSSELS where KLEINMAN passed through a number of hands and still with Mme went to 358 or 388 Rue de Jette, Jette St Pierre. Both the addresses are stores and the latter is a radio repair shop. At a cafe on this same street KLEINMAN met the chief, tall, gray haired, distinguished looking, about 50. He stayed at the above addresses three days and then one day at the house of the chief. A Front Independence courier, and old chap who had served in the last war, took him around. He rendezvoused at a cafe near the Gare du Midi with a gendarme or inspector, picked up M JANSSENS, and went to 164 Rue d'Anderlecht, M EDMUND de BRUYN. After a week there he went to another place for the night, in the St Juste section N of the Gare du Nord. He was, it seemed, to go to Liege and then to Spain. He seemed to be staying at a rooming house with VICTOR who was on 7 April, the next day, taken on a minor charge. VICTOR was short, stocky, sandy haired, blue eyes, 45²/₅₀, and much decorated in the last war. A local agent, ROLAND, who seems to be an SOE man, was a friend of his. VICTOR's wife knew where KLEINMAN was and feared that the Germans might come after him. Then occurred a somewhat confusing incident. KLEINMAN's VICTOR's wife went to a cafe for a contact and seemed to stumble into it apparently because a M VICTOR from another organization was captured and

she was mistaken for his wife. Thus, so it seems, she met MAX VARELY who then took over KLEINMAN and moved him to 73 Rue Van Mayal in Mullenbeek. This place seemed to be Armee Blanche. Kleinman remained until 1 May. He was told that a British major (tall, slim, well built, big bones, slightly bald) had given orders that airmen could not go out.

He went then to LIEGE in a truck with four men, one of whom was ~~ANDRE~~ ^{PERUWELZ} MORTIER, to 137 Rue de Conde. He stayed three days with Mme BRISMEE across the street and went to 53 Chaussee de Peruwelz, EDGARD DELBECQ, who seemed to be engaged in sabotage work. KLEINMAN wanted to do sabotage work also but was not permitted to; instead he had to help out as best he could. News came then that the RO of the group had been taken while engaged in sabotage work. On 16 June he was moved to BAZULQ (???) where at the pharmacy of Mile BOURDEAUX he saw the local chief, M ACHILLES BATTISTE; Mile was his courier. He stayed with CECILE BERNARD, 73 Rue de BLATON. This house was near the wireless for the group, which was located on top of a kiln in a nearby quarry. KLEINMAN offered to serve as RO and was accepted. The radio seemed to be A2G in a net which operated 0600, 1200, 1800, and 0000. After about three days of operation KLEINMAN became a little uneasy about the job for two reasons. The timing required that he go out regularly and such regularity was likely to be noticed. Furthermore the tapping of the electric line was not well done. He advised moving the set and his advice was accepted. About three days later a German patrol came to the spot where the radio had been.

KLEINMAN was told that some 11 Americans were in the vicinity but he saw none of them.

He made contact with Capt FERNAND BARBIAX, a powder merchant for the quarry, who was actually engaged in delivering military information. He seemed also to be local chief at LESSINES. M BARBIAX seemed to take a liking to KLEINMAN, so the latter declares, and came frequently to discuss his operations. KLEINMAN would remark what information he considered important and BARBIAX seemed to take his advice. For instance, BARBIAX once stated that he had details about night

fighter station; because KLEINMAN considered these important, BARBIAN saw to it that they were sent in. BARBIAN had a son who seemed to work for quite another organization. KLEINMAN did not speak of his RO operations at all boastfully and gave the impression that he would not have raised the subject at all except for the compiler's proddings. Instructions came through from some source that he should leave. He was to go to Brussels and on to Switzerland using a Belgian passport somehow secured for a Swedish alien.

An Australian, Leonard BRODY, and an RAF Irishman, N R BEAMISH, were in the section. KLEINMAN saw them later.

About 25 August he went to BRUSSELS with a man and woman from BAZEQ: NICK, dark, 35, and MICHELINE, 28-30, good figure, dark complexion, eyes, and hair. They drove in a car that might have been a Dodge and went directly to 16 Rue Forestiere, the "dog house". KLEINMAN saw a woman about 32, dark hair, and a boy about 14 who was supposed to be her son; he had dark hair and was larger of his age. There was also a boy, MONIQUE, about nine. There was a large slim German type man, 42-45, dirty blond hair, who spoke in some language with NICK, Russian possibly. There was an ugly domestique with glasses. Finally there was a short man, 50-53, glasses, iron gray hair, mustache, spoke Frech with an accent, claimed to be born in India, a chief.

At BAZEQ Mme BORDEAUX had give a story about an organization evacuating ten men at a time then at one point letting one or two men continue and turning the others over to the Germans. For some reason KLEINMAN was a bit suspicious of his company and told this story to the chief who gave the most reassuring reaction of incredulousness at such a tale.

CASEY, BOWER (?), and SMITH were at the "dog house" when KLEINMAN arrived. They left on 26 Aug. On 30 Aug KLEINMAN and, apparently, BRODY and BEAMISH got into a car with a well dressed, good looking, fair haired young man about 33. They drove to a house which seemed to be on the Ave Louise opposite a park. The car dove to the back of the house while two men from the street jumped on to the running board: one a tall dirty blond with hair combed straight back, blue green

eyes set close together, a gray suit, later claimed to be a sergeant flier in the Luftwaffe, called generally CHARLIE, spoke French and English; the other small, hair not too curly, slim, white complexion, Semitic nose, blue eyes, spoke little English. These two men gave instructions to go around to the front of the house to enter. Inside two men were in another room. They went to a sitting room opening on a garden and left the door open. They gave the evaders tissue forms to fill out with casualty information. When CHARLIE saw KLEINMAN's sheet he remarked that J W BROWN (The P) had been through here in June. They then asked for photos and because BRODY had none he went out to get them. KLEINMAN went also. They got into a Ford V-8 with a driver apparently short with reddish brown hair. CHARLIE rode on the outside, which seemed to the passengers rather curious. They went straight down the Ave Louise at the most a ride of three to five minutes to Luftwaffe hq ~~at~~ which Germans were going in and out. The evaders were told to come in. KLEINMAN realized at last exactly what the situation was but he decided to play the game. They entered the building and went to the top floor to a major and a captain. A couple of men in civilian clothes were also there. They went to an office with an oldish gray haired chap who wore glasses. They were searched and put in a general waiting room where KLEINMAN saw ~~MARCEL~~ Van BUGGER-HOUT, 226 Boulevard Emile/ Bockstaet, Laeken, Brussels, whom he saw later at the Hotel Metropole. This man had been tortured. In the room also were SINGLETON, LEVEY (BAE 1347 and 1348), a Canadian named LEON, and two or three other evaders.

by CHARLIE

After an hour and a half KLEINMAN was interrogated, the first of his three. He was told that he must tell his complete story, that he was considered a spy and would be treated and punished as such unless he could prove that he was not in sabotage work. To give such proof he naturally had to declare all the places at which he had been. KLEINMAN mentioned TURNHOUT, LIEGE, BRUSSELS, but refused to give the names of any of the people with whom he had been. The interrogator reiterated then that he must have been doing sabotage or espionage. The interrogator, who said that he had been in South America before the war, saw that he was

making no headway, declared that he could not afford to waste time, and requested him to send BEAMISH in. KLEINMAN went back to the waiting room. He saw there a man whom he had earlier seen upstairs and suspected that this man was just sitting in as a stool pigeon. Soon MARCEL came down stairs, nearly fainting. KLEINMAN soon discovered that a number of Belgians in the waiting room had been part of the line on which Lts BROWN and GROSVENOR (E&E 1881) had been. These people seem to him to be talking too much of their own activities, so he tried to pass the word around not to talk so much, trying to indicate that there were special listeners in the room. KLEINMAN was taken by truck to St Giles where he was put in the regular cells. For the first 27 hours he received no food.

He was never reinterrogated. In prison he saw MAX VOLLEY.

KLEINMAN was part of the group of airmen who were left behind in the baggage car. He left with BROWN, BEAMISH, GROSVENOR, SWENSON, and HOLLIS, and one other. GROSVENOR was then in extremely bad mental condition and wanted to commit suicide. It seemed that when the Germans had him in the St Giles dark cells they used phonograph recordings in an effort to break him down, apparently suggesting his guilt.

After his escape from German control KLEINMAN saw M de MEERSMAN whom he had met a BAVE across the street from the fish market. He also went to see deBUY the brother of Mme BERNARD, ALBERT deVIELDER, and MARCEL, at 43 Rue Rossini, and -lecht.

He learned that BARBIAX had been executed by a firing squad at LESSINES. It seemed that he was picked up for firing on a German convoy. Sgt Henry YOUNG (E&E ?) whom he saw later at the Hotel Metropole had been in the vicinity at the time. While Capt BARBIAX had been in prison at LESSINES being held as a reserve officer she had been kicked in the kidneys by Captapo when she refused to answer their questions. She died about six months later.

After KLEINMAN had been interrogated in Brussels he went with a Belgian air officer to the 2dog house".

DEE

