

SECRET

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

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SERVICE PERSONNEL
EVADING OR ESCAPING FROM ENEMY OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

SHOSS, DAVID (NM) 2ND LT 0-684493
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

20 (No. of missions)

418th 100th (H)
(Squadron) (Group)

TARGET:Date mission in action: JUNE 24, 1944Date arrived in UK: AUG 27, 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (Please list names next to positions)

Indicate what happened to each man and how you know.

PILOT ROTH, G.L. 1ST LT.
CO-PILOT LE BARON W.F. 1ST LT.
NAVIGATOR SHOSS DAVID 2ND LT.
BOMBARDIER TORGER, SCHULTZ 5/SGT.
RADIO OPERATOR YATES W. T/1ST
TOP TURRET GUNNER REYNOLDS T/SGT
BALL TURRET GUNNER ?
L. WAIST GUNNER ?
R. WAIST GUNNER CARLSON 5/SGT.
TAIL GUNNER RULONG 5/SGT.

SAW 3 OTHER
PARACHUTES
(UNIDENTIFIED)

Decorations: AIR MEDAL

Date of Birth: DEC. 25, 1913

Private Address: 2627 OAKDALE ST. HOUSTON TEXAS

Length of Service: 3 YRS. 6 MONTHS

Job as Civilian: PROPRIETOR FURNITURE BUSINESS

From what field did you take off? Take off time,

390th BOMB GP. 0700 (APPROX)

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed?

NO

Were you wounded? Give details.

YES FLAK WOUND IN RIGHT HAND

Did you pay your guides? If so, how much?

NO

Do you speak FRENCH? SPANISH? GERMAN? ITALIAN? OTHER LANGUAGE?

Did you have identity papers?

NO

DIS TR(2) 3 1/12

(over)

Have you been questioned before on your escape or evasion? If so, where and by whom?

YES - CHIEF OF FFI OF NEUBOURG DISTRICT

Have you given any one a written report on your experiences. Where and When?

NO

Did you report on your operations? If so, where and to whom?

NO

Did you sign a security certificate warning you against talking about your escape or evasion? If so, Where and When?

NO

Date of arrival in Spain: _____

Date of arrival at Gibraltar: _____

Place and date of departure for UK. By sea or air.

AIR FRANCE LAVAL — 8/27/44
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.

BILL THOMPSON (NAVIGATOR) - HALIFAX - RAE

2d Lt David SHOSS, 0684993, 418/100 Bomb Gp (H), MIA 24 June 1944
Intrvd 28 Aug 44

Shoss landed about 6 km SW of Rouen after a good delayed jump. He was fired at, apparently by the two young Germans who quickly picked him up. They pushed him around a bit, having designs on his parachute and flying boots. They took him to a sort of weapons carrier while he jangled his dog tags, pointing out who he was. After arguing a bit about who was going to guard, the smaller guard climbed into the back of the truck and sat with his rifle on his knees. When Shoss had a chance he struck the guard with a foot stool, got him the second time, and lost his head, striking him about 20 times. He jumped out of the truck and apparently the driver did not realize what had been going on. He hid in the woods for about 24 hours, getting food and drink from a boy and man who soon warned him to be moving.

He walked and approached a house where the man doubted or feared him. He later learned that the Germans had out many searching parties for the man with the bandaged head, to be shot on sight. Shoss talked a boy into giving food and civilian clothes, but he was warned that it was too dangerous in the area. A cure directed him to a cure to the S. ^{at Neubourg} He walked toward and around Elbœuf, approached a large family at Vraiville, but found them afraid. He approached a house at Surtainville and a woman took him by wagon almost to Neubourg. There he went into a large hotel looking for a room, so he says, and found the place full of Germans. A German who discovered that he spoke English thoughtfully sent him to another hotel, Hotel de France. There he was refused until the proprietors, M and Mme Mardagent and daughter Micheline, learned that he was an American. Shoss had the woman go to see the cure about whom he had been told, but it turned out that the cure had been picked up several weeks before for helping allied aviators. The family then began to get uneasy about their guest and wanted him to leave, but he talked them into keeping them. Three men who at first he thought were Germans questioned him closely. They seemed to be the chef of Neubourg, a former soldier, and a store man. They de-

decided that he was all right and had a big party. The chef was husky, blond, tall, responsible to Robert Conche or Couche who had helped a Sgt Nolan, EAE?

Shoss was taken to Les Authieux and turned over to a forger, Rene Dedit, his wife, and his son Jean, with whom he satyed six weeks. He met a sgt to the chef, M maire, it seems, of Grosley named Emile Cornu. M Cadie owned the farm which he was shaying and was sheltering a Mustang P named Vogel, EAE. Bill Thompson, a Halifax H, joined Shoss. A Marauder P named Richey and Laux, EAE, were at a farm about six miles away. Some 18 allied air-men were in the section. Shoss had a few evenings of diversion setting fire to German convoys as the guards slept.

On 25 Aug he hit the American lines near Berville, running into units of 28 Div. He escorted Dedit over to 82, 28 Div, checked through CIC, and got to a P/W cage at Clayville. A capt there put him on the highway, and he hitch-hiked to XIX Corps. He got to Ninth Air Force and so quickly back to England.

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RESTRICTED

WAR DEPARTMENT The Adjutant General's Office Washington

AG 388.6 (31 Jul 43) OB-S-B-M

KLS/el-2B-929 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 supersedes 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:

1st 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) DAVID SHOSS
Rank 2ND LT. A. S. N. 0-684993
Unit 100th BG 418th SQN.

Signed David Shoss
Dated AUG 28, 1944
Witness 5th Lt. Capt. [Signature]

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

WHEN I PARACHUTED I WAS SHOT
AT BY TWO GERMAN PRIVATES AND
WAS CAPTURED, WHILE EN ROUTE TO
ROUEN VIA 3/4 TON WEAPONS CARRIER
I WAS FORCED TO KILL ONE GUARD
AND MADE MY ESCAPE BY JUMPING
OFF THE TRUCK, TIME IN ENEMY
HANDS ABOUT 30 MINUTES.

WALKED ABOUT 60 KILOMETERS
BEFORE CONTACT WAS MADE WITH
UNDERGROUND. WHILE WITH UNDERGROUND
I WORKED WITH THEM BY BURNING
GERMAN LORRIES AT NIGHT - SENT
3 PIGEON CARRIERS WITH TARGET
LOCATION

APPENDIX "B" 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.,.....)

MINED FOREST AND BOOBY TRAPS PLACED
IN FOREST SOUTH OF ROUEN

FLAK GUNS (4) AT ELBEUF (RADAR)

OBSERVED 2 PANZER SS DIVISIONS

RETREATING THROUGH VILLAGE OF

BARKAY -

AMMUNITION DUMP AT BERNAY (FOREST)

SPOKE WITH SS OFFICERS

MORALE EXCEEDINGLY LOW. ONE

SAID THAT HE WOULD BE A
PRISONER SOON AND WAS GLAD
OF THE FACT.

CIVILIAN MORALE EXCELLENT