

E&E 2218 - Hubert E. Trent

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

E & E REPORT NO. 2218  
EVASION IN

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

MIA: 4 October 1943

Arrived in UK: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Number of Missions)

350 Bomb Squadron, 100 Bomb Group A/C #30-604  
(Squadron) (Group)

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)				Official	Narrators	
				Disposition	P/W	Disposition
PILOT	0-729854	Capt	Harold B HELSTROM			
CO-PILOT	T-60807	F/O	Hubert E TRENT			IMPRINTED 12218
NAVIGATOR	0-731274	1st Lt	Harold H CUTTICE		P/W	
BOMBARDIER	0-729559	1st Lt	Hilbert W PHILLIPEE		P/W	
RADIO OPERATOR	16044018	T/Sgt	Robert C GILES			E&E #594 R+D
TOP TURRET GUNNER	13083478	S/Sgt	Joseph (NMI) SHANDOR			E&E #592 R+D
BALL TURRET GUNNER	37193193	T/Sgt	Carroll F HAARUP			E&E #592 R+D
WAIST GUNNER	19083107	S/Sgt	William D EDWARDS			<del>IMPRINTED</del> P/W
WAIST GUNNER	33267030	S/Sgt	Thomas F MEZYNSKI			E&E #326 R+D
TAIL GUNNER	19021292	S/Sgt	Charles E CRIPPEN			MIA

Were you wounded?

*Check P/W file  
KIA + suspended*

# RESTRICTED

## WAR DEPARTMENT The Adjutant General's Office Washington

AG 883.6 (31 Jul 43) OB-S-B-M

KLS/el-2B-889 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 883.6 (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:

/s/ 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) HUBERT E. TRENT  
Rank F/O A. S. N. T 60807  
Unit 350 TH S Q. 100 TH BOMB GR

Signed Hubert E. Trent  
Dated 20 Sept 44  
Witness Major General Capt W. R.

# RESTRICTED

AG P BR HQ SOS /22472

SECRET

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

REPORT FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

H. E. TREAT F/O T-60807  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

Sept. 19, 1944  
(Date)

100th B. G. 350th Sp.  
(Unit)

MEMBERS OF CREW

PRESENT  
OFFICIAL STATUS

PILOT  
CO-PILOT  
NAVIGATOR  
BOMBARDIER  
RADIO OPERATOR  
TOP TURRET GUNNER  
BALL TURRET GUNNER  
WAIIST GUNNER  
WAIIST GUNNER  
TAIL GUNNER

Date, time and approximate location of plane crash or landing. Oct. 4, 1943 - 1440  
10 MI. W of Caen, France

Nature and extent of damage to plane when source bailed out. Was it on fire, etc? NO

At approximately what altitude did source bail out? NO

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

What members of the crew bailed out? Did their parachutes open? NO

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?

YES, ALL ALIVE AND UNHURT

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.

1 M/Lt. H. W. PHILLIPPE RPT. POW AMERICAN LEG. SWITZERLAND.

S/SGT. CRIPPEAU EDWARDS RPT. POW French resistance

Did source examine the wreckage of the plane? If so, what was its condition?

DESTROYED BY FIRE - (TOLD BY FRENCH RESISTANCE)

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?

ALREADY GIVEN.

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

HUBERT E. TRENT F/O T-60807  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

22 (No. of missions)

15th (Squadron) 100th (Group)

TARGET: Hannau  
Date mission in action: OCT. 4, 1943

Date arrived in UK: SEPT. 17, 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW:	(Please list names next to positions)	Indicate what happened to each man and how you know.
PILOT	HELSTROM, HAROLD B. <u>POW</u>	AMERICAN LEGATION, SWITZERLAND
CO-PILOT	TRENT, HUBERT E.	ARRIVED IN U.K. FROM SWITZERLAND
NAVIGATOR	CURTICE, H. H. <u>POW</u>	AMERICAN LEGATION, SWISS.
BOMBARDIER	PHILIPPE, H. W. <u>POW</u>	" " " "
RADIO OPERATOR	HAARUP, C. F. <del>POW</del>	U.K.
TOP TURRET GUNNER	GILES, R. C. <del>POW</del>	U.K.
BALL TURRET GUNNER	EDWARDS, WILLIAM	POW reported by French resistance
WAIST GUNNER (RIGHT)	MEZYNSKI, T. F. <del>POW</del>	U.K.
WAIST GUNNER	SHANDOR, JOSEPH <u>U.K.</u>	<del>POW reported by French resistance</del>
TAIL GUNNER	CRIPPEN, C. C. <u>POW</u>	French resistance

Decorations: AIR MEDAL W/ 3 OAK LEAF CLUSTERS

Date of Birth: DEC. 30, 1921

Private Address: 200 1/2 N. FOUNTAIN AVE. SPRINGFIELD, OHIO

Length of Service: 4 YRS. 1 MONTH

Job as Civilian: STUDENT

From what field did you take off? Take off time. AAF 139 about 6 a.m.

Were all secret papers and equipment destroyed? YES

Were you wounded? Give details. NO

Did you pay your guides? If so, how much? NO

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

Did you have identity papers? YES. (made by French patriots)

(over)

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

SWITZERLAND  
AMERICAN LEGATION  
AMERICAN AUTHORITIES  
ANNECY, FRANCE  
ABOVE MENTIONED

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

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

ABOVE MENTIONED.

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.

ANNECY, FRANCE, SEPT. 19,  
1944 BY AIR

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

S/SGT. EDWARDS, WILLIAM  
CRIPPEN, C. C.

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

T/SGT. GILES, R. C.

T/SGT. HAARUP, G. F.

S/SGT. MEZYNSKI, T. F.

SECRET

APPENDIX "D" TO E AND E REPORT NO. 1

No., Rank, Name:- *TYO. TRENT, HUBERT E.*

Unit:- *100TH B. G. 350TH SQ.*

Suggestions for improvement of escape equipment and training come largely from those who make use of them. Your report and comments will help others to evade capture or to escape.

1. AIDS BOX

- a. Did you use your aids box? *YES,*
- b. If not, why?
- c. If you used it, state briefly the circumstances in which you used each item, for example, "While hiding in woods for two nights".
- Horlicks tablets. *FOR FOOD DURING 3 DAYS.*
- Chocolate or ~~Peanut Bar~~ *Same as above*
- Milk (tube). *Not used.*
- Benzadrine tablets (fatigue). *used.*
- Halazone tablets (water purifier). *used.*
- Matches. *Not used*
- Adhesive tape. *not used*
- Chewing gum. *used*
- Water bottle. *used*
- Compass. *used*
- Sewing kit. *used*
- d. Did any of the above items prove unsatisfactory?
- e. How did you finally dispose of the box? *hid in hay stacks*
- f. Can you suggest any way in which the contents of the aids box might be changed to make it of greater use, bearing in mind that the size of it cannot be larger?

*NO.*

2. PURSE

- a. Did you carry a purse? *YES.*  
State color of stripes and letters. *brown pocket*  
If NOT, State why not.
- b. Did you use the purse? *yes*

(over)

c. If so, which of the following items in the purse did you use?

Maps. Which ones? *silk handkerchief - France*

Compass, *Yes*

File (hacksaw). *No*

Foreign currency. State countries and amounts. *France, 2,000 francs*

How did you spend the money? *railroad fare - food.*

d. How did you dispose of:-

Maps. *gone to resistance*

Compass. *" " "*

File (hacksaw). *" " "*

Surplus currency. *gone to resistance*

3. Were you issued any extra compasses or further aids to evasion? *No*

4. PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPHS

a. Did you carry passport-size photographs? *NO*  
If so, how many?

b. Did you use them? *HAD THEM MADE IN FRANCE FOR FORCED IDENTITY CARD.*

5. LECTURES

a. Were you lectured on evasion and escape?  
State WHERE, WHEN and by WHOM.

*AAF 139 SEPT. 1943 S-2 and escapees*

b. Did you find the lectures of value? *yes*

c. Do you have any suggestions to make which, from your experience, you feel will help other evaders and escapees? *HAVE SELF-CONFIDENCE.*

SECRET - AMERICAN  
MOST SECRET - BRITISH

APPENDIX "D" 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.,.....)

IMPOSSIBLE TO GET MILITARY INFORMATION,  
ENEMY MORALE GOOD.  
CIVILIAN MORALE GOOD - VERY MUCH PRO-ALLIED.

TOP SECRET

HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS  
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Military Intelligence Service

APPENDIX C, TECH. SHEET

1. Did you jump or crash land? **CRASH LANDED.**
2. What was the town or village nearest to which you jumped or crash landed? **CAEN**
3. How long was it before you got help? **ABOUT 3 DAYS.**
4. List the people who helped you and the location (city, town, or village) in which you were with them, including addresses where possible. After the name or description of each person with whom you stayed give the approximate dates between which you were with him.

(1st) Farmer at St. Remy, Colvados, France, who later (3 days) brought (2nd) Raymond Pierre from Clecy, Colvados, France. Seemed to be important resistance worker who took care of us himself then sent us to his friends. After about 2 months in Colvados was taken from Caen by Capt. Lille? spelling?? to Swiss frontier. He turned us over to French secret army.

Some of best help given by a priest. Sebille ?? Sp??  
from Coude sur Noireau, Colvados.

5. List other American and British evaders whom you saw during your evasion and state where you saw them.

PHILLIPPE, H. W. made escape from A/L with me.

2ND LT. WILLINGHAM, CLARENCE	(8th AF)	CAEN, FRANCE,
S/SGT. EDWARDS, WILLIAM	(8th AF)	" "
FLT. SGT. SIMPSON, LESLIE	RAAF	" "
" " WALKER, PETER	RAF	" "
S/SGT. SHANDOR, JOSEPH	8th AF	near Bourg, France
" " CRIPPEN, C. C.	8th AF	" " "
" " KING, DELTON	8th AF	near LYON, FRANCE
" " LOWTHER, JOHN	8th AF	" " "

2218

(350TH SQDN.)

TRENT, HUBERT ERNEST T-60807 100TH BOMB GR 8th A.F.  
Name Rank & Serial No. Organization & Air Force.

Shot down: OCT. 4, 1943 ABOUT 12 KM. WEST OF CAEN, FRANCE  
Date & Approximate Location.

Experiences after being shot down: SPENT 4 1/2 MONTHS IN FRANCE  
TRYING TO GET TO SPAIN. AFTER MANY UNSUCCESSFUL  
ATTEMPTS FINALLY ESCAPED INTO SWITZERLAND.

Status: Escaped - ~~Evader~~ - Internee.

Date of Escape: FEBRUARY 22, 1943

Date of Arrival at MAAF: ANNECY SEPT. 13, 1944

Physical Condition: GOOD.

REMARKS: Well taken care of by French patriots  
and afterwards very well cared for  
in Switzerland.

Home Address: 200 1/2 NORTH FOUNTAIN AVE. SPRINGFIELD, OHIO

Departed MAAF Hq.: