

E&E 577 - Clyde S. Manion  
(See E&E 576)

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

E & E REPORT NO. 577  
EVASION IN FRANCE

4-20-44  
(Date)

Clyde S MANION 2d Lt 0-688710  
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

5  
(Number of Missions)

TARGET: Ludwigshaven  
MIA: 30 December 43  
Arrived in UK:

4-20-44

351 Bomb Squadron, 100 B omb Group  
(Squadron) (Group)

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with PWIB)

				Official Disposition	Narrators Disposition
PILOT	0-747348	2d Lt	Francis P SMITH, JR	✓	MIA MISSING
CO-PILOT	0-751159	2d Lt	James P LAW	✓	MIA MISSING
NAVIGATOR	0-809604	2d Lt	Saul (NMI) HERCHWOTIZ	✓	MIA FABIAN-FRANCE
BOMBARDIER	0-688710	2d Lt	Clyde S MANION		NARRATOR
RADIO OPERATOR	11129879	S/Sgt	John L SWENSON	✓	MIA TARBES FRAN
TOP TURRET GUNNER	32583144	T/Sgt	John T AMERY		E&E #469
BALL TURRET GUNNER	31198980	Sgt	Alvin C LITTLE	✓	MIA PARIS FRAN
WAIST GUNNER	36500968	Sgt	Conrad P STUMPFIG, JR		E&E #
WAIST GUNNER	16087728	Sgt	John W RUNCLE		E&E #
TAIL GUNNER	17054110	Sgt	William (NMI) WERTZ		E&E #

Were you wounded?

NO.

E&E # 577 INTERROGATOR Chernis  
 C S MANION 2d LT 0-688710  
 (Name) (Grade) (ASN)  
418 100 30 December 43 20 April 44  
 (Squadron) (Group) (Missing in action) (Returned to duty)

Message to be broadcast over BBC:

JACQUES and PETIT JACQUES ARE WELL

Language French  
 Time Evening News Program  
 Person requesting message M. HECHT in TARBES  
 Date of contact with this person FEBRUARY 1944  
 Description of this person: ~~French Staff Officer - 3 weeks~~  
 About 50 yrs old. Slightly bald, rheumatic.  
 5' 3". Restaurant owner.  
 Services Rendered: Food, Shelter, Dry Help - 3 weeks

Sgt Wentz;  
Lt Manion: took off 30 Dec from Thorne Abbott to bank  
Ludwigshafen

2 PM

Lt Manion: When bail-out order was given I finished navigation  
out the nose hatch + followed him. Sprayed  
clouds + lost nurse + escape ~~point~~. 7 minutes  
in air. A B-17 group was in the area. I  
hit the ground in a ploughed field 1 1/2 miles  
N.W. of AUTRY. Saw some one coming across  
field so I ran for woods + began to go S  
by compass. Then followed path through woods  
Saw 2 woodchoppers, approached them. They  
were enthusiastic + began to take me out of  
woods + to her me across street from  
Ry station at Autry. These people at her  
told them to turn me in to Germans at  
AUTRY as we started into town a young  
fellow stopped them + bawled them out +  
made them take me to Ry station to  
PAUL PESTATE, chief of Ry station. About  
30 people gathered round. I was given  
food + coffee + put me into a box + four

wife or mistress  
young daughter  
(Austrian)

Ry men picked up box + put it on boxcar. Train  
 took me to Challenge when George Michel  
 chief of station took box into station where I  
 was taken upstairs + fed + given clothes.  
 Then I was put into caboose of freight train +  
 taken to station of Monthois. (now 6 P.M.) Outside  
 Monthois I was taken to a house belonged  
 to JEAN, Ry man met at Autry (wife + grandparents  
 + children) stayed here a week + Monday  
 JEAN put me into a Ry uniform + rode me  
 by bike to Challenge where I met Georges  
 Michel who gave me his card of identity. Then  
 JEAN took me by bike to Ry station of  
 AUTRY (road was guarded by organ. scouts  
 on bike)

Heard at Autry that little had come down in  
 neighborhood + had already left

That night  
 I and Ry  
 chief  
 visited the  
 AVP  
 actual numbers

I was employed  
 as a  
 + was  
 by French + English  
 by school of law school  
 in 1915 or 1916

Stayed at Ry station at Autry that night. At noon  
 next day a camion with a Belgian and a young  
 Pseudoname + a girl who picked me up + took me  
 to Séchaux, stopped at bar for a drink +  
 then to MANRE to the implement dealer for  
JOHN DEERE + McCormick Reapers, name is  
Charles Bodart where I met the priest of  
 the town who told me that they had been told  
 of my coming by telegram. I was taken to the  
 priest's house where I met Swenson + Wertz  
 (I was taken out to see Compton, McChesney, +  
 Kirk + then taken back to priest's house)

Sgt. Wentz:

I did not hear bail out order but I saw chute floating by plane. I got door off + dropped + finally had to pull out the silk I hit 3 kms E of SECHAULT. Randed beside a wood + hid in wood buried chute + m.w. Started S. by compass through wood. I then saw 2 men coming over hill toward me + I called to them + tried to explain who I was. They told me to go to SECHAULT for there were no Germans here. I went to SECHAULT and entered the bar + tried to explain to the women there. There was a cross-eyed man in charge of bar who took me in to Pichelin + sent me next door to an old woman who put me to bed.

about  
3.30 PM.

XX At 7PM cross-eyed man came in + told me next morning I'd leave by car. Next afternoon a large man came in + brought me civilian clothes + that evening they took me into bar where I met Charles Bodart + wife who had come from

Sat night. MANRE to take me back by bike. I stayed at Bodart's place that night + on until Tuesday

morning (On Sunday night Bodart brought Crompton +  
 + McCleskey in to identify me + on Monday night  
 brought in Swenson, Runcel <sup>Stumpfig</sup>, Herkowitz for a visit +  
 + then Swenson stayed with me + Bodart took  
 the other 3 to another place). Tuesday morning  
 Swenson + ~~me~~ I were taken to ~~friend's~~ place +  
 that evening Marion was brought in.

On Wednesday

XXX  
 Wertz

When Rene took Wertz, Little, + Swenson to the  
 train for Paris, got them a compartment, got to Paris  
 here a baggage man hauled little down through station.  
 we waited in station until JEAN appeared with  
 Stumpfig. Went to Charline's in ESBLK Then to  
 Rene's apt where we met Marion, James Foy  
 (Canadian). Here papers made. Wertz left here  
 with PIERRE and went to station + got  
 train for TARBES (others with other guides).  
 In TOULOUSE changed trains + got off at  
 (LA MAISON just before TARBES. But here  
 Jeanne + Michelle told us to get back on.)  
 Went on to TARBES. Here JOE who had  
 brought Stumpfig down took me over here +  
 walked me around TARBES + turned me  
 over to MANUEL DANIEL (Spanish parents)  
 who took us (Swenson + me) to JULES  
 LABAT (man 7'2" architect) (boy + mother). Stayed here from Fri.  
 night until next Saturday evening when  
 DANIEL + another blonde boy (worked as Ry watchman)  
 moved us to hotel in TARBES where we stayed  
 until Wed. when DANIEL + LE MOUSSE took us to  
 LE MOUSSE'S home evening when JEAN (works in

PT + ... left by  
 ...  
 Here met  
 Charles  
 La Mousse  
 7'2" architect  
 who took us to  
 ...  
 ...

5

→ wife + small boy + girl → JEAN'S ~~and~~ <sup>wife's</sup> sister + her husband (police kept)

identity dept of police) took us to his place on edge of town where we stayed <sup>about 1 1/2</sup> weeks. On following Friday JEAN took us to a restaurant at TARBES where CASANAVE picked up Wertz, Swenson, Runcell, Stumpfig, McClesney, Compton, Herkowitz, JEAN SIMONS (B24 outfit) + CASANAVE took us to Hotel American in Bagneres where we met Marison + Foy (Canadian)

XXX Marison in Paris with Compton, McClesney et al.

Marison, Foy, and FRANCINE left Paris ~~left~~ on Friday night (missed Thursday train) + went by train to TOULOUSE + changed to train for TARBES (were supposed to meet BERNARD in La Maison; but Bernard was not there to meet them. Francine couldn't find him. They then went to Hotel Midi in La Maison (The day before there had been a round up at Hotel Midi + when Bernard learned this

Casanave had taken over from Bernard in South. Casanave apparently is not very well liked by organization.

6  
he wouldn't come). <sup>ave</sup>FRANCINE took them to TARBES where they were met by a man who took us out to some Jewish people on outskirts of TARBES + then slept at house of some Spanish people. Francine left and the young man took us next morning to CASANAVE's apt. in Tarbes. That afternoon CASANAVE took us to a restaurant <sup>H.Q. for resistance in region</sup> owned by M. Hecht <sup>leader of network; Francis Boggs.</sup> (in organization; wife + 2 daughters [Denise + REINE]). Here we stayed 3 weeks (Here we met André - [Junk in Spain now], and YVES and another PIERRE from Nice). Here British I.O. came in + interrogated them + gave them money for a vest + equipment. Here they met BABY radio operator Morgan. Then a tall Spaniard (Foy knows name) came + took ~~the~~ us by train to Bagneres + the Spaniard took us to Hotel American + next day the rest of the Americans came in.

(Swenson (13 1/2 + wide size) can't get shoes + can't come out until he gets some. Drop through Tarbes.

Mansion + West

App. B

a) At MINAUCOURT S. of Vouziers French have been chased out & German Blitzmädel & officers run by radio location station. French want them bombed. (Hearsey January 1944)

b) There is a <sup>R.R.</sup> viaduct at Moslaix <sup>(only large viaduct there)</sup> too well guarded for resistance org. to blow up. If this were bombed it would put out of commission all Rye traffic to the west. (Hearsey January and March 1944)

c) At Attigny there are 4 large tanks, one of which contains 450,000 litres of alcohol ~~was~~ distilled at sugar beet factory. (Hearsey January 1944)

d) At Vouziers the Germans have a large concentration of dummy tanks which have been bombed several times (Hearsey Jan. 44)

e) In the Ardennes section Radio Algiers came over better than London, whereas around Tarkes Algiers could not be heard so well as London.

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

DATE: 21 April 1944

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I, JOHN W. RUNCEL, Sgt., AC, 16087728

hereby certify that I have known and have been associated with

CLYDE S. MANION, 2nd Lt., AC, 0-688710

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.

Clyde S. Manion John W. Runcel

RIGHT THUMB PRINT:



=====  
The individual whose signature and right thumb print appear hereon  
has been identified to the satisfaction of this office as CLYDE S. MANION,  
2nd Lt., AC, 0-688710 (351 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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