

E&E 311 - James G. Bormuth
(Also see E&E 310)

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

E & E REPORT NO. 311
EVASION IN FRANCE

Jan. 6. 1944
(Date)

James G. BORMUTH, 2d Lt. 0476542
(Name) (Rank) (ASN)

TARGET: PARIS

350 100
(Squadron) (Group)

AGE: 25
LENGTH OF SERVICE: 3 YRS.
HOME ADDRESS: 661 GURMAN AVE.
BALTIMORE MARYLAND

MIA: 15 September 1943
Arrived in Spain: DEC. 11. 1943
Arrived in Gibraltar: DEC. 31 1943
Arrived in UK: Jan. 4 1944

MEMBERS OF CREW: (This information checked with FWIB)

				Official Disposition E&E #260	Narrators Disposition
PILOT	0-795862	2d Lt	Arthur M VETTER		
CO-PILOT	0-741943	2d Lt	Donald Glenn SMITH	MIA	
NAVIGATOR	0-734944	2d Lt	Wendell L McCONNAHA	MIA	
BOMBARDIER	0476542	2d Lt	James G BORMUTH	NARRATOR	
RADIO OPERATOR	33237317	T/Sgt	John M WAGNER	E&E #254	
TOP TURRET GUNNER	35333680	T/Sgt	Orval L PARSONS	MIA	wounded
BALL TURRET GUNNER	31172594	S/Sgt	Edward W FONTAINE	E&E #275	
WAIST GUNNER	32560807	S/Sgt	Edward M DALY	MIA	
WAIST GUNNER	16073581	S/Sgt	Robert C TRIGG	MIA	
TAIL GUNNER	37461810	S/Sgt	Warren G LUSH	MARRATOR	

Were you wounded? - No.

Lt. McConaha who was staying at the same place and traveling with me was lost in mountains. It is believed that he fell down the mountain at night.

Lt BORMUTH:

SEE E&E
254, 260, 275

I was bombardier in the plane of which the flight is described in E&E 254, 260, 275.

LANDED INTO
IMMEDIATE
HELP

At the order to bail out I jumped from the bomb bay. My parachute opened easily, and I landed in a bean patch. A French woman hid my parachute, led me to a woods, and indicated that no Germans would be around until the next morning. It was then about 1900. She brought me some bread and wine. A little while later a Frenchman led me to another woods where I spent two nights and two days, still wearing ~~the~~ my flying clothes. My reception committee brought me food and cigarettes.

JOURNEY
ARRANGED

From this place I was taken to a town from which my journey was arranged. I traveled at times with Lt VETTER and with Sgts LUSH and WAGNER.

Sgt LUSH:

ALSO LANDED
IN TO IMMEDIATE
HELP

Since the interphone ^{had been shot up} was out, I did not know that the order to bail out had been given, and ^{I could not hear} the alarm bell. I turned around and happened to see the radio operator hesitating whether to ~~to~~ ^{so I decided to leave too,} jump. I jumped from the tail escape hatch. I hit all right. About 30 French people surrounded me and took my parachute and map west. I was led to an old farm house where I was given civilian clothes. About 2100 I was taken to the place where my pilot and radio operator were, and I slept in a shelter for storing straw. The next day we were told that the Germans were looking for us, and we were hid in some woods.

JOURNEY
ARRANGED

The following night we were taken to a place from which our journeys were arranged. I traveled part of the time with Lt BORMUTH.

compiled by:

D E EMERSON
1st Lt, AUS

Approved by:

W. A. HOLT
W STULL HOLT
Lt Col, AC
Commanding

Appendices A-E

1. The following information has been obtained in an interview with an officer and a sergeant who evaded capture by the enemy after being in enemy occupied territory.

2. Further circulation of this information may be made, but in that case it is important not to divulge any details about the source.

Statement of information covering the period from 15 September 1943 to 11 December 1943.

in early October

a. Frenchmen told informant that a German gasoline dump is located near St JUST -en-CHAUSEE. Informant thinks the location is a woods northeast of the town.

in early October

b. Frenchmen told informant that an airfield near CREIL had been bombed only once a long time ago.

c. Frenchmen told informant in early October that the German Luftwaffe unit at BEAUVAIS at the time of the recent bombing moved to CREIL.

d. Informant was told by some Frenchmen that about 300 or 400 German anti-aircraft troops were around St JUST-en-CHAUSEE in late September.

e. Informant was also told that about 400 Germans were around CLERMONT. From his own observations he concluded that most of them were from machine-gun units.

f. Informant saw in the Paris Metro in November a great many German soldiers over 40 and about 16-17.

g. Informant was told by some of his French helpers in Paris in November that German women were manning anti-aircraft guns around Paris.

h.