

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR COMPLETION BY R.C.A.F. RETURNED EVADERS, ESCAPEES,
OR PRISONERS OF WAR.

NOTE:

Please read the WHOLE questionnaire before starting to write your answers, and then make sure each question is answered.

Information given in this report will be passed on to the next-of-kin only at the discretion of the Casualty Branch. Nevertheless details of a very secret nature such as identity or exact location of aiders are not required, but only such general remarks which may enable the Casualty Branch to assess the probable fate of the other occupants.

In every case be careful, if the facts stated have been learnt, not by your own observation but through any other person, e.g., the enemy or inhabitants, to say so.

QUESTION 1.

Approximately where did your aircraft crash?
(Give, if possible, the location in relation to the closest large town).

Dieppe (On the beach) - 20/4/44.

QUESTION 2.

Did you bale out? **YES.**

If so state:

(a) The number and, if possible, the identity of any other occupants of the aircraft whom you know to have baled before you. Have you any evidence, direct or hearsay, of what happened to them subsequently?

| | | | | |
|-------|-------|---------------|-------|---------------|
| Bomb. | WO/2. | Wilson Clark. | RCAF. | Drowned. |
| W/Op. | F/S. | Wheelhouse C. | RAF. | Chute failed. |

Both buried at Bourg-Dun (Near Yvetot)

(b) The number and, if possible, identity of any other occupants whom you know to have still been in the aircraft when you left it. Give any details which may have a bearing on the probable fate of these men. For each of your remarks made in reply to this question, state the source of your information, i.e., that you were a eye-witness or give all known particulars of the person who gave you the information.

| | | | | |
|--------|-------|------------|-------|-----------------|
| Pilot. | WO/2. | Leonard R. | RCAF. | } Fate unknown. |
| Nav. | F/S. | Warren P. | RAF. | |
| Eng. | Sgt. | Gough F. | RAF. | |

(FOR QUESTION 3 - PLEASE TURN OVER)

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QUESTION 3.

Have you any other information touching on what happened or what probably happened to the other occupants?

F/E. Sgt. Cough's flying boat badly torn and bloody. Germans told us they were all dead.

QUESTION 4.

Have you information of any Royal Canadian Air Force or Royal Air Force personnel other than members of your own crew? The Casualty Branch is anxious to know details of any prisoners-of-war who have not come back. Please write down as many names as you can remember of those who have tried to escape or have died since the camps were evacuated, or whether shot or accidentally killed. Any information of this nature which you can supply will help us to piece together details and eventually report to the next-of-kin of those who have not come back.

Name in BLOCK CAPITALS ANDERSON Robert Allan,
Rank P/O.
Service No. J.92326.
Unit at time of capture 420 Sqn. Thelthorpe.
Date of Completion of this form 13th May 1945.

THIS QUESTIONNAIRE WHEN COMPLETED IS TO BE TURNED INTO THE RECEPTION WING ADJUTANT FOR FORWARDING TO

CANADIAN CASUALTY BRANCH,
c/o AIR MINISTRY,
73-77 OXFORD STREET,
LONDON, W.1. ENGLAND.

ABOVE PASSED TO OTTAWA 24/5/45
FOLIO NO. 84 FILE. S.5-5, VOL.2.

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OR PRISONERS OF WAR.

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In every case be careful, if the facts stated have been learnt, not by your own observation but through any other person, e.g., the enemy or inhabitants, to say so.

QUESTION 1.

Approximately where did your aircraft crash?
(Give, if possible, the location in relation to the closest large town).

Dieppe on the beach - 20th April 1944.

QUESTION 2.

Did you bale out? **YES.**

If so state:

(a) The number and, if possible, the identity of any other occupants of the aircraft whom you know to have baled before you. Have you any evidence, direct or hearsay, of what happened to them subsequently?

| | | | | |
|-------------|---------|---------------|-------|---------------|
| Bombardier. | W/O. 2. | Wilson C. | RCAF. | Drowned. |
| W/Op. | F/S. | Wheelhouse C. | RAF. | Chute failed. |

Both buried at Bourg-Dun near Yvetot.

(b) The number and, if possible, identity of any other occupants whom you know to have still been in the aircraft when you left it. Give any details which may have a bearing on the probable fate of these men. For each of your remarks made in reply to this question, state the source of your information, i.e., that you were a eye-witness or give all known particulars of the person who gave you the information.

| | | | | |
|--------|-------|------------|-------|----------|
| Pilot. | WO/2. | Leonard R. | RCAF. | Unknown. |
| Nav. | F/S. | Warren P. | RAF. | Unknown. |
| F/S. | Sgt. | Gough P. | RAF. | Unknown. |

(FOR QUESTION 3 - PLEASE TURN OVER)

QUESTION 3.

Have you any other information touching on what happened or what probably happened to the other occupants?

F/E. Sgt. Gough's flying boat was badly torn and blood covered, according to Germans, they were all killed.

QUESTION 4.

Have you information of any Royal Canadian Air Force or Royal Air Force personnel other than members of your own crew? The Casualty Branch is anxious to know details of any prisoners-of-war who have not come back. Please write down as many names as you can remember of those who have tried to escape or have died since the camps were evacuated, or whether shot or accidentally killed. Any information of this nature which you can supply will help us to piece together details and eventually report to the next-of-kin of those who have not come back.

NO

Name in
BLOCK CAPITALS BOUCIER J.H.J.P.
Rank E/O.
Service No. J.86214.
Unit at time
of capture 420 Sqdn. Tholthorpe.
Date of Completion of this form 13th May 1945.

THIS QUESTIONNAIRE WHEN COMPLETED IS TO BE TURNED INTO THE RECEPTION WING
ADJUTANT FOR FORWARDING TO

CANADIAN CASUALTY BRANCH,
c/o AIR MINISTRY,
73-77 OXFORD STREET,
LONDON, W.1. ENGLAND.

ABOVE PASSED TO OTTAWA 21-5-45
FOLIO NO. 21 FILE. 3.5-3. VOL. 2.

15

MINUTE 1.

D.P.S.

1. No.420 R.C.A.F. Squadron reported that Halifax aircraft, LW.692, with a crew of 7, failed to return from an operational attack on Lens, France. It left base at 21.13 hours on the 20th. April, 1944, after which no further news was received. (Encl. 2 and 5).
2. A telegram from the IRCC. quoting German information, states that W/O. Wilson, was killed on the 20th. April, 1944. (Encl. 7).
3. An extract from official German totenliste No.220, confirms his death on the 20th. April, 1944, and states that he was buried in the Military Cemetery, St. Riquier Les Plain, Grave No.52. St. Riquier Es Plains, is located approximately 20 miles West South-West of Dieppe, France. (Encl. 12).
4. It is accordingly submitted that the death of CAN/J86417 P/O. H.C. WILSON, be presumed, for official purposes, to have occurred on the 20th. April, 1944.
5. One R.C.A.F. member of this crew, W.O.2. R.G. Leonard, is still classified as "Missing", and the two remaining R.C.A.F. members, Sgt. J.P. Bourcier and Sgt. R.A. Anderson, are now Prisoners of War. The three remaining members of this crew were not R.C.A.F. personnel.

W77436

6/12/44

M. M. Goldberg RAC

11/12/44

M. Cameron St.
for R.C.A.F. Casualties Officer.

MINUTE 2.

Para. 4. of Minute 1. approved.

ORIGINAL ON P4/CAS/CAN.
"RETURNS": 4-17. VOL: 2. FOLIO: 22
P.O. sent to Ottawa 5 SA 16/12/44
9.12.44 M.M. Goldberg RAC

J. S. HARRIS.

Wing Commander,
for Director of Personal Services.

copy Wilson Hb.

copy to Ottawa 8/5/44

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5.

From: Officer Commanding, 420 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.
To: Air Ministry (P.4.Cas. Kingsway).
Date: 25th April, 1944.
Ref: 420S/33-20.

CIRCUMSTANTIAL REPORT
LN.692

Further to this unit's signal A.110 dated 21 April, 1944, the following information is forwarded.

| | | | | |
|-----|------------|----------|-------|-------------------|
| (a) | Pilot | R.122453 | W/O.2 | Leonard R.G.✓ |
| | Air Bomber | R.152555 | W/O.2 | ✓Wilson H.C.✓ |
| | Navigator | 658370 | F/S. | Warren A.✓ |
| | W/Operator | 1433914 | Sgt. | ✓Wheelhouse C.J.✓ |
| | Air Gunner | R.179496 | Sgt. | ✓Bourcier J.P.✓ |
| | Air Gunner | R.191468 | Sgt. | ✓Anderson R.A.✓ |
| | F/Engineer | 1652948 | Sgt. | Gough P.P.✓ |

- (b) Time of departure - 2113 hours 20th April 1944.
(c) Short description of weather met by pilots -
Thin cloud 6/10th to 8/10th Tops 5000 feet.
(d) Duty on which engaged - Bombing.
(e) Target area - Lens
(f) Number of trips the captain completed as captain -
9 1/3 Operational Trips.

Sgd: W. Warren, F/Lt.,
for Officer Commanding,
No.420 (R.C.A.F.) Squadron.