

## Names of Helpers.

1. From 19 to 22 June 1944 party was at Laqua, Italy, said to be headquarters of the 9th Partisan Korpus, where they received excellent cooperation from Major Nigh Watson, British Intelligence.

2. From about 1 to 16 July they remained in contact with mission at Semic, Slovenia. They met Capt. Saegers (Brit.). Capt. Goodwin (U.S.) and Lt. Besickl (U.S.) at this mission. Source recommends that missions be supplied with toothbrushes, socks, cigarettes, etc., for distribution to evaders passing through.

3. On 23rd and 24th June 1944, party was at airstrip near 45o 22' N- 15o 52' E, where a 2nd Lt., name not remembered, arranged for food, sleeping accommodations, etc. They slept on ground in tent. There were no blankets.

## Appendix C

1. British Intelligence officer interviewed source on 19 June 1944 concerning enemy movement of troops and supplies in vicinity of Gorizia, Italy, 45o 57' N-13o 38' and activity at Merna A/D, S of Gorizia.

2. Merna A/D and vicinity had over 100 planes of various types on 17 June 1944 including DO 217s, ME-109, 88s, ME 210s and Storch observation planes. Two J-52s and One FW-200 Kurier were seen flying overhead.

3. Raid on Merna A/D previous to 13 June 1944 presumably destroyed about 50 a/c close to landing strip, according to local inhabitants but natives considered the raid a failure since more than this number of planes were left undamaged in dispersal areas.

## Appendix E

### Escape Kit Suggestions.

1. Source came to his group as a replacement, recalls no lecture or instructions on security, escape and evasion, before becoming operational on 1 May 1944, but subsequently did receive instruction in two lectures before date of mission on which he bailed out. Escape instruction given at briefing on morning of this mission but does not recall any reference to security.

2. Says food in kit not edible, and tasted like rubber. Wished for aspirin because he had headache for several days. Made good use of escape purse to buy food, and also made purchases of bismuth for diarrhea and quinine for fever, No atabrine tablets in his escape kit.

## **Escape Statement** **Alvin T Houpt**

By Alvin T Houpt Sgt. 826th Sq. 484th BG  
MIA 13 June 1944 Ret To Duty 31 August 1944 Missions

21

Duty On A/C Top Turret Gunner/Asst. Engineer  
Never In Enemy Hands

Took off for Munich for target on June 13th. Lost No. 4 engine going up to target. Turned back and were immediately attacked by approximately fifteen Mi09s and FW190s fighters. Believed the ship downed two enemy planes. Ship was shot up by 20 mm fire and fire was burning in bomb bay when bailout order was given. Saw six other chutes besides his own. Landed at the mouth

of a river near Leganamo, Italy. Hid chute in haystack and began running. Hid in oat field for the rest of the day and began walking toward Yugoslavia. The next morning was taken in by an Italian family, given food and clothing and started out walking again. Was finally picked up by two Italians and taken to a house where he stayed seven days resting injured leg. After seven days a car came and took him to Costion, Italy, where he was taken to a house where he met another escaping airman. (Spent a month there). Walked six days until met by Slovenian partisans. Went from command post to command post for three weeks and finally arrived at an Allied Airfield having English, American, and Yugoslavs working at the fields. Taken off ten days later by a C-47 and flown to Bari.

## Appendix B

Name of helpers. Dru Furrago, Via Manglia, Udine - June 23 - July 25.

Brought meals and food. Marie Coro, 109 Roma, Castion Stratta, Udine, Italy. Brought food every other day.

## Appendix C

Casualty information- Three crew members have already escaped and are back here (navigator, bombardier, engineer). Lt John Hassan, Lt. Walter E Chapman, and Howland. Heard from Italians that three of the crew were captured by Germans.

## Appendix E

Used money and maps, halisome tablets and compass. Escape kit came in very handy.

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## ***Enemy Tries New Tricks, Meets Defeat***

For repelling an enemy fighter formation which used a unique approach and newly installed rocket firing devises, Captain Marion Hammett a B-24 pilot with the 484th Bomb Group has been awarded the DFC.

There was little excitement before bombs away as the formation turned away from the target. Dense black smoke billowed up to 24,00 feet. Capt. Hammett noticed a formation of planes on the horizon. They were too far away to recognize, but when the P-38 escorts left the bomber and headed in their direction, Capt. Hammett alerted the group.

They were alone deep into enemy territory. Suddenly the call, "unidentified fighters high to the right," Capt. Hammett quickly recognized the aircraft as Me-109s and FW-190s.

Using a new kind of approach the enemy fighters started dropping on the formation, attacking not singly but four abreast. They were coming in all directions using new installed rocket firing devises, 20 MM cannons and 50 caliber machine guns.

The alerted gunners exchanged shot for shot. Capt. Hammett was constantly maneuvering his aircraft so as to give his gunners the best advantage. During the furious attack his crew was credited with shooting down two of the enemy planes, the total for the formation was nine. Clipped from the 15th Air Force Paper, "Sortie"