

SECRET

M.I.9/S/P.G. (-) 1885.

EVADED CAPTURE IN FRANCE.

The information contained in this report is to be treated as
TOP SECRET.

STATEMENT BY

J.5800 F/Lt Gerald Geoffrey RACINE, 263 Sqn, A.D.G.B.

Arrived : U.K., 16 Apr 44.

Date of Birth	: 21 May 20.	Peacetime Profession:	Commercial Artist.
R.A.F. Service	: Since 11 Nov 40.		
O.T.U.	: 51 O.T.U. (MILLFIELD).	Private Address:	Apartment 5, 5550 Isabella Ave., HAMPSTEAD, Montreal, Canada.
Conversion Unit:	No Conversion Unit.		
Post in crew	: Pilot.		

(All map references are to series FRANCE, 1:250,000).

I was pilot of a Typhoon aircraft which left PREDANNACK on 31 Mar 44 at 1900 hrs to patrol the ISLE DE GROIX (Sheet 13, G.60) area.

At about 2100 hrs, when approximately over the ILE DE BATZ (Sheet 7, R.33), I was attacked by a night fighter and, after an engagement, in which I believe I shot him down, I was compelled to bale out.

31 Mar 44
Baled out nr.
PLOUEZOCH

I came down in an open field about 3 Km North of PLOUEZOCH (R.4723). I hit the ground pretty hard and was knocked out for the moment. When I came to I found I could not walk, so crawled into a ditch. I remained in this all night. I inflated my dinghy, and with the help of it and my parachute, erected a small tent which afforded me a certain amount of protection.

1 Apr. 44.
Help at
Farm.

At about 1000 hrs (1 Apr) I buried my parachute and dinghy. I had already removed my badges, I could see a small farm about 300 yards away, and hid in a hedge and watched it till about mid-day. I saw that it appeared to be inhabited only by an old man and woman, and decided to approach them.

After some difficulty I got them to understand who I was and that I wanted to get into touch with somebody who spoke English.

/The old man

INTERVIEWED BY: I.S.9(W), 17 Apr. 44.
O.R.S., A.D.G.B., 17 Apr 44.

Distribution of this Report:

D.D.M.I. (P/W). M.I.9. I.S.9. I.S.9(W).
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M.O.1. (S.P.) (). A.I.1(a) P/W.
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APPENDIX C.

Distribution D.D.M.I. (P/W). I.S.9.
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APPENDIX D.

Distribution M.I.9(d). I.S.9.
I.S.9(W). A.L.O.,
(M.I.9). P/W & X.
Det. MIS ETOUSA.
File.

The old man, after having a good look round to see that there were no Germans in the neighbourhood, provided me with an old raincoat and a beret and took me across a road to within 200 yards of a house, where he said I would find a teacher. I knocked at the door of the house. A voice said, "Entrez", and I entered, to find a lad of about 17. The family soon collected round me and, although the mother was frightened and wanted me to go, the others insisted on keeping me, giving me food and drying my clothes.

Shelter.

I got one of the sons to pin-point my position on a map, and told them that I would like, if possible, to get a boat. Another son said he knew of a boat, and that he would get a man to come and see me next day. I was given a room and a bed for the night, but told to keep away from the windows, as there were Germans in the neighbourhood.

2 Apr. 44.

On the evening of 2 Apr a man and a woman turned up to see me. The woman gave me to understand that I was to be taken to MORLAIX within the next two or three days, and that I would be informed of the exact day. I was stripped of all my identifications.

4 Apr 44
MORLAIX

On 4 Apr at about 1300 hrs I was given a forged identity card and a box of farm produce, and taken to a deserted farm quite near. In about an hour's time the man who had come with the woman called for me in a car and took me to his house in MORLAIX (R.41). From this point my journey was arranged for me.