

HEADQUARTERS
461ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) ARMY AIR FORCES
Office of the Combat Intelligence Officer

APO 520, c/o Postmaster
New York, N. Y.
15 May 1945

SUBJECT: Escape Statement

TO: Commanding General, Fifteenth Air Force, APO 520, c/o PM, NY, NY
Attention: AC of S, A-2

THROUGH: Commanding General, 49th Bombardment Wing (H), APO 520, c/o PM,
NY, NY.

1. Forms for escape statements have been filled out by and are included for forwarding as follows:

- a. S/Sgt. Roy G. Meyers, 16083741
- b. Sgt. Donald E. Miller, 33619715

2. The above named personnel were members of crews missing in action from this Group on 26 March 1945. The pilot on the crew of which S/Sgt. Meyers was a member was 2nd Lt. Randall L. Webb, 0-771851. The pilot on the crew of which Sgt. Miller was a member was 2nd Lt. Lloyd R. Heinze, 0-718632. Escape statements concerning the other members of these crews have been made under dates of 30 April 1945 and 1 May 1945. Reference is invited to these statements.

3. Source No. 1 - S/Sgt. Roy G. Meyers, 16083741

Source No. 1 was one of the seventeen men hospitalized at Bucharest, Roumania as stated in paragraph 3 of part 3 of the escape statement by Lt. Webb and his crew dated 30 April 1945. Source No. 1 was hospitalized due to a bleeding nose and ears caused by sinus trouble. All but five of the men hospitalized upon arrival in Bucharest, Roumania left for Odessa five days after the original group had left. The five men, including Source No. 1, were released from the hospital and billeted at the Hotel Stanescu, where they stayed for approximately two weeks receiving daily medical care. During this time, Major Matroni, the medical officer, tried to get the Russians to fly the men from Bucharest to Italy but met with no success.

After the two weeks at Bucharest, the Russians flew the men to an airfield at Odessa where they stayed about an hour then took off for an airfield in the vicinity of Kiev. Upon arriving at the Kiev airfield, the five men joined a large group of American flying personnel. This latter group numbered approximately 85 men. After staying four days there, the entire group boarded trucks and were taken to Kiev, where they were placed on a train and began a three day train ride to Odessa. Arriving in Odessa during the late afternoon of May 2, the party spent the night in a school building and were taken to the docks the following morning.

The party left on a English transport on 3 May 1945 and on 7 May, the transport arrived at Naples, Italy. The entire group was sent to the 19th Replacement Depot and then on 12 May Source No. 1 was transported to Headquarters of the Fifteenth Air Force. On 13 May, Source No. 1 was returned to the 461st Bombardment Group.

Source No. 2 - Sgt. Donald E. Miller, 33619715

Source No. 2 was one of the seventeen men hospitalized at Bucharest, Roumania as stated in paragraph 3 of part 3 of the escape statement by Lt. Heinze and his crew dated 1 May 1945. Source No. 2 was hospitalized with a temperature of 104.6 and was delirious for several days. He was treated with penicillin.

Source No. 2 confirms Source No. 1's statements as to the events of the trip after leaving Bucharest.

Source No. 2 reports that Flight Officer Harold B. Roup Jr. mentioned in paragraph 4 of part 3 of the escape statement by Lt. Heinze and his crew as having been left at the south railroad station at Ploesti, Roumania was returned to the hospital at Bucharest, Roumania and operated on for appendicitis. When Source No. 2 left Bucharest, Flight Officer Harold B. Roup Jr. was still hospitalized.

4. Source No. 1 and Source No. 2 were never in enemy hands at any time.

5. Although the members of the party were not considered prisoners, at no time were they permitted freedom. They were constantly under armed guard.

HARRY J. OGLESBY,
Captain, Air Corps,
Combat Intelligence Officer.

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Date _____

ESCAPE STATEMENT

NAME Miller Donald E RANK Sgt ASN 33619815
(Last) (First) (Initial)
GROUP 461 SQUADRON 764
DATE BORN Dec. 2 1924 DATE ENLISTED March 15 1943
HOME ADDRESS 304 Main St, Emmaus, PA
PEACETIME PROFESSION Student
MIA DATE March 26 RTD May 13 MISSIONS 18
DUTY Cameraman

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ESCAPE STATEMENT

NAME Meyers Roy G RANK S/Sgt ASN 33619815
(Last) (First) (Initial)

GROUP 461 SQUADRON 766

DATE BORN Feb. 14 1922 DATE ENLISTED Aug 11 1942

HOME ADDRESS 2967 Monterey Ave. Detroit, Mich.

PEACETIME PROFESSION Dental Tech

MIA DATE March 26 RTD May 13 MISSIONS 29

DUTY R.O.