

POST-GREECE

Sergeant Matthew Frederick Braby, 211 Squadron, RAF

Relevant parts of his post-liberation PoW questionnaire are shown overleaf, but significant, interesting, essential and frequently hard-to-read details are highlighted here. The original layout, (mis)spelling and punctuation is preserved as far as is reasonable.

Liberated PoW Questionnaire (from National Archives, Kew)

Sent directly to Stalag 344 at Lamsdorf, where Registered as PoW 7369.

No: *1261839* Rank: *Sergeant* Surname: *Braby*
Christian Names: *Matthew Frederick*
Ship: *RAF*
Unit: *211 Sqd MEF*
Division: *MEF*
Date of Birth: *26 - 1 - 04*
Date of Enlistment: *-*
Civilian Profession: *Engineer*
Civilian Qualifications:
Private Address: *511, Great West Road,
Hounslow, Middx.*
Place & Date of Original Capture: *Greese (sic), 29 - 4 - 41*
Wounded when Captured? *-*
Main Camps in which Imprisoned:
344 Ex 8B *Lamsdorf* *Sep 41* *Jan 45*

Working Camps: Possibly ArbeitsKommando (A/K) 449 (see ref to 'A/C 449' under "Sabotage")

Serious Illnesses: *-*

Medical Attention: *-*

Note:

Escape Attempts: Sergeant Braby escaped in Sep 1942 for 2 months, but was forced to give himself up due to cold & hunger (see Page 2 of 2 of his PoW Questionnaire below).

Sabotage: Also in Sep 1942 he was involved in sabotage whilst on (presumably the same) work party – or was 'A/C 449' an aircraft I/D?



Main entrance to Stalag VIII B / 344 Lamsdorf

Should be ~~included~~ in interview *1/11/2004*
 free for 2 months from any *1/11*
 sabotage in Poland *6 R/W*
 return according to my needs.
 PART I
 GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE FOR BRITISH/AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR.

TOP SECRET
 M.I.9/Gen/
 MIS-X

1. No. 1961859 RANK Sgt SURNAME BRABY
 CHRISTIAN NAMES MATTHEW FRED CRICK
 DECORATIONS _____

2. SHIP (R.N., U.S.N. or MERCHANT NAVY) _____
 UNIT (ARMY) _____
 SQUADRON (R.A.F. or A.A.F.) 211 Sqr MEF
 3. DIVISION (ARMY), COMMAND (R.A.F. or A.A.F.) M.E.F.

4. DATE OF BIRTH 26.1.04
 5. DATE OF ENLISTMENT _____

6. CIVILIAN TRADE OR PROFESSION ENGINEER.
 (OR EXAMINATIONS PASSED WHILE P/W) _____

7. PRIVATE ADDRESS 511 GREAT WEST RD
HOUNSLOW MIDDLESEX

8. PLACE AND DATE OF ORIGINAL CAPTURE GREECE 29.4.41

9. WERE YOU WOUNDED WHEN CAPTURED? _____

10. MAIN CAMPS OR HOSPITALS IN WHICH IMPRISONED.

Camp No.	Location	From	To
<u>311 608A</u>	<u>Lamfalva</u>	<u>24.11</u>	<u>Jan 45</u>

11. WERE YOU IN A WORKING CAMP?

Location	From	To	Nature of Work
 			

12. DID YOU SUFFER FROM ANY SERIOUS ILLNESSES WHILE A P/W?

Nature of Illness	Cause	Duration
 		

13. DID YOU RECEIVE ADEQUATE MEDICAL TREATMENT? _____

Sergeant Matthew Braby's PoW Questionnaire, Page 1 of 2

GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE. PART II. TOP SECRET.

TOP SECRET

M.I.9/Gen/

MIS-X

1. No. 1261839 RANK Sr SURNAME BRABY
CHRISTIAN NAMES MATTHEW FREDERICKS

2. LECTURES before Capture:

(a) Were you lectured in your unit on how to behave in the event of capture?
(State where, when and by whom).

~~Yes~~
No.

(b) Were you lectured on escape and evasion? (State where, when and by whom).

No

3. INTERROGATION after capture:

Were you specially interrogated by the enemy? (State where, when and methods employed by enemy).

YES DUBAC. SEPT 41. Normal

4. ESCAPES attempted:

Did you make any attempted or partly successful escapes? (Give details of each attempt separately, stating where, when, method employed, names of your companions, where and when recaptured and by whom. Were you physically fit? What happened to your companions?)

Broke away from working party Sept 22. handker. make
way. Lib. was free for about 2 months. eventually
found out by enemy police owing to call and hunger.
later took to hospital.

5. SABOTAGE:

Did you do any sabotage or destruction of enemy factory plant, war material, communications, etc., when employed on working parties or during escape? (Give details, places and dates.)

YES. A/C 449 Sept 41. Prepared
delaying fumace to prevent work on the
production.

6. COLLABORATION with enemy:

Do you know of any British or American personnel who collaborated with the enemy or in any way helped the enemy against other Allied Prisoners of War? (Give details, names of person(s) concerned, camp(s), dates and nature of collaboration or help given to enemy).

7. WAR CRIMES:

If you have any information or evidence of bad treatment by the enemy to yourself or to others, or knowledge of any enemy violation of Geneva Convention you should ask for a copy of "Form Q" on which to make your statement.

(Note: Form Q is a separate form inviting information on "War Crimes" and describes the kinds of offences coming under this title.)

Sergeant Matthew Braby's PoW Questionnaire, Page 2 of 2