J E D B U R G H T E A M A U G U S T U S

Major J. BONSALI (Indiana) Am
Capt DELVICHE (Herault) Fr
W/T Op.Sergt Roger COTE (Arisona) Am

Date	History of Organization
1 9 4 4 Aug 16	Parachuted The Team AUGUSTUS was dropped 1.5 klm wide of the reception committee's lights on the ground "FABLE" north-east of COLOMFAY (Aisne). The drop was not without certain risks as there were German troops in the vicinity and patrols of Georgians roamed the country. But the Regional Chief for Air Operations, "GRAMME" (Pierre Marie DESHAYES) and his assistant MOINE (Jean VIMONT-VICARY, alias DEBOYER) whose HQ were at NOUVION, 35 klm from the dropping ground, had taken all necessary precautions. The Chief of the reception committee "RAYMOND" had placed men at all road intersections as guides and to warn in case of danger. The reception committee had at its disposal two Citroens and a 1,500 kgr Renault light truck. Apart from the wide dispersal of the bodies and of one container which was found next day 15 klm away near GUISE, all went well. The Team's mission was to assist in the organization of the FFI, provide additional means of delivering stores and ensuring W/T link with LONDON and other FFI groups. They were also to make contact with CARDIOLI (Jean Pierre Noel CABOUAT).
Aug 17	After passing the night at NOUVION, the DMR, GISSOIDE, decided to send the Team to the CAUDRY region. They consequently left in the afternoon in the light truck and installed themselves in the farm of M.H. Michel CORNAILLE. M. FONTAINE (François Edouard Jean DELIMAL, alias FARADAY, GOUVERNEUR) assured the liaison between them, the DMR, GISSOIDE and GRAMME (Pierre Marie).
Aug 19	In the morning a conference of the following resistance leaders took place at the farm Petit Tournai owned by M. BRICOUT in the BAUREVOIR Commune; GRAMME, the Regional Head of BOA, MOINE, his assistant, BASTIEN FFI, RENAULT DDM in AISNE, FONTAINE and SEIGNEUR (A.A.P. DODART), the operator in Region A5. The conference decided to send the Team to the SOISSONS region, where the Germans were building their defence line. The main reason for this move was to get the Team into position to ask LONDON for arms drops, so urgently needed by the resistance in that sector.
Aug 21	The AUGUSTUS Team, accompanied by SEIGNEUR, FONTAINE and BASTIEN left CAUDRY at 11.30 a.m., by lorry, in which their W/T material, arms, as well as 600,000 Francs were hidden. After a series of very narrow escapes from Gestapo check points (near PINON a Panther tank barred the road) they reached BRAINE at 14.30 hrs where Mme COSTEAUX put them up in her house. At 8.00 p.m. they continued by lorry arriving at M. MATHIEU's house at RUGNY about 21.00 hrs. Here the W/T transmitter was installed, but the receiving set was found to be unserviceable. SEIGNEUR decided to have another set brought from nearby the next day. Important wireless reports were sent twice daily to LONDON from here about the enemy's activities, on the German defences built near MARGIVAL and on the German convoy routes and troop trains. But above all urgent requests for arms parachute drops were repeated. The HQ of SEIGNEUR being installed in the house of Mme MOLITOR at ARCY-Ste-RESTITUE, liaison between this Command Post and the AUGUSTUS Team was assured twice daily by Mlle Giselle MOTSCH. Whereas Major BONSALI and W/T operator COTE hardly ever left M. MATHIEU's house, Capt DELVICHE accompanied by SEIGNEUR toured the countryside giving lectures on the role and duties of the FFI.
Aug 22	At the farm d'ARTOIS, owned by M. GEBERT in the BOUVARDOS region, SEIGNEUR assembled yet another conference at which all the Chiefs of Sectors in the CHATEAU THIERRY region took part.
Aug 23	The Team received at RUGNY the Departmental FFI Chief and the FFI Chiefs from SOISSONS to discuss measures to be taken in view of the approaching guerilla period.
Aug 26	Capt DELVICHE sent Jean PLANTIER to REIMS to contact "OSCAR" to discuss the plan "TORTUE", but he returned without having found him.
Aug 28	The Team was overtaken by the advancing Americans at VAUX.
Aug 29	The Team members were taken in a Jeep to SOISSONS to meet the American Divisional General, with whom they discussed their further activities.
Aug 30	The Allies having reached LAON the Team proceeded there by Jeep and advanced as far as BESNY-LOIZY, a few kilometres north of LAON where they asked M. MAGNEZ for a carriage to pass through the lines at night with their W/T set. Capt DELVICHE who knew the region, undertook to guide the Team through the lines in a captured German horse carriage to FROIDMONT, where they were to be housed, by M. MAGNEZ's brother-in-law. But none of them arrived at their destination. As was later discovered, the Team ran into three German tanks on a road intersection near BARENTON-sur-SERRE. When the wireless material and arms they carried were discovered, the Germans shot them on the spot. They were buried in the little graveyard at BARENTON-sur-SERRE (Aisne).

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NOTE: (1) As there were no survivors of the AUGUSTUS Jedburgh Team, the above chronologic reconstruction is based on accounts rendered after the war by members of the resistance who worked with the Team.

(2) It has not been possible to ascertain the real names of all the leaders who are quoted by their pseudonyms.

(3) Possibly the notes sent by M. VASSELLE (Somme) to the Comité d'Histoire de la 2e Guerre Mondiale about the Jedburgh Team AUGUSTUS might contain the real names of the resistance leaders, as well as other details of which no record exists in LONDON.