

(CLAIMS)

1965

FILE N^o. HNP 3608.

This

W. G. Linn

$$\begin{array}{r} -1396 \\ -435 \\ -1358 \end{array}$$
[illegible]



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE

SERVICE INTERNATIONAL DE RECHERCHES

3548 Arolsen - République fédérale d'Allemagne

INTERNATIONAL TRACING SERVICE

3548 Arolsen - Federal Republic of Germany

INTERNATIONALER SUCHDIENST

3548 Arolsen - Bundesrepublik Deutschland

GP/Go

Téléphone: Arolsen 434 - Télégrammes: ITS Arolsen

Arolsen, 18th April 1966

The Foreign Office
Claims Department

L O N D O N, S.W. 1
England



Our Ref. : T/D - 161 796

Your Ref. : HNP/3608
(HG.11811/28)

Re : QUIN, William George
born 8 June 1896 in Guernsey

Dear Sirs,

With reference to your letter dated 27th September 1965 and to our communication of 1st November 1965, please find enclosed a photocopy of the letter dated 12th April 1966 from the French Liaison Mission, attached to the International Tracing Service.

We hope that the information given therein will be of help to you.

Yours faithfully,

A. de Cocatrix
Deputy Director
of the I.T.S.

Enclosure : 1

AMBASSADE DE FRANCE
auprès de la République Fédérale d'Allemagne

MISSION de RECHERCHE
des VICTIMES de la GUERRE

LIAISON avec le SERVICE INTERNATIONAL de RECHERCHES

Référence à rappeler :

PF/IW No 87.502

3548 Arolsen (Waldeck), le 12 avril 1966

Monsieur P. FASSINA
Agent permanent de liaison
auprès du Service International
de Recherches à Arolsen (Waldeck)

à

Monsieur Nicolas BURCKHARDT
Directeur du Service International
de Recherches

A R O L S E N

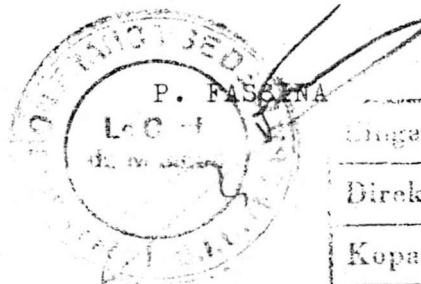
Monsieur le Directeur,

J'ai l'honneur de me référer au dernier paragraphe
de votre lettre T/D 161.796 du 1.11.1965.

Je vous prie de trouver ci-dessous un extrait de
la lettre par laquelle le Ministère des Anciens Combattants et Victimes de
Guerre à Paris m'informe le 30.3.1966, sous la référence DOC. - RG/MJ
No 1576, du résultat de ses investigations :

" J'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que Monsieur
QUIN William, né le 8 juin 1896 à Saint-Martin-Guernesey,
condamné le 24 avril 1942 à quatre ans de prison par le
Tribunal Militaire Allemand FK 515 (Saint-Helier - Iles
Anglo-Normandes), a été arrêté le 22 mai 1942, interné
le 16 juillet 1942 au Fort de Villeneuve-Saint-Georges
sous le no matricule 3.223, venant de Caen (Calvados),
transféré le 6 août 1942 à l'infirmerie de Fresnes et
déporté le 14 septembre 1942 en direction de la prison
de Rheinbach".

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Directeur, mes
salutations très respectueuses et très distinguées.



3 Exemplaires :

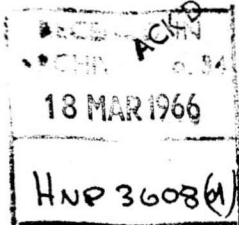
Destinataire : 1

Archives : 2

Eingang:	13.4.66
Direktion:	1115
Kopaniak:	
E. Motznik:	
G. Motznik:	
Opitz:	
Wetekam:	

2 Summerland, Collings Road,
St. Peter Port, GURNEY, G.I.
16th March 1966.

G. C. Littler Esq.,
The Foreign Office,
LONDON S.W.1.



Dear Mr. Littler,

However discouraging it had to be thank you very much for your letter of 4th March 1966. One again I shall have to trespass on the happy relationship we have enjoyed during the past year to put in another earnest plea on behalf of Mr. William G. Quin. At the start and defying the danger of repeating myself I must say that if Mr. Quin's case is to continued to be turned down permanently, then a true travesty of justice will, unwittingly, have been committed.

My having disputed the previous decision of your department re. Mr. Quin will, I sincerely hope, not be taken as any reflection whatsoever on whoever might have undertaken it with such thoroughness. But the fact must be admitted in Mr. Quin's case that he has innocently proved to be his own worst enemy. You see, he did NOT give you all the facts when he staked his claim and what he said was, I'm afraid poorly presented. His damning statement "we were treated reasonably well", was, I think, put into a wrong context for he did in fact suffer all the iniquities inflicted by the Nazis: including starvation, malnutrition and occasional beatings with shovels, and particularly was he a victim of the latter as he was the solitary Englishman in a horde of foreign labourers.

Where the hard part comes in for Quin is the fact that he suffered for a longer period, than, say, one of his compatriots, Mr. Tom Gaudion * who has received full compensation, despite his ending his time in an internment camp. Quin did all his time in prisons and the camp at a place in the mountains he cannot name but near a village.

Last night (Tuesday 15th March) I spent three hours at the Quin's home quizzing both Mr. and Mrs. Quin in an endeavour to get right to the inside of his case. After this conversation I must say that I think it would be best if Quin's past submission be entirely discounted. He grossly understated his case in the mistaken belief ("I committed these crimes for which I have paid in full by my imprisonment by the Nazis. I can hardly expect to be compensated for this.") He did not know that you were not interested in his original sin, but what brutalities and ill-treatment was inflicted on him by the Germans. Rather unwillingly he allied himself with his police colleagues in their abortive appeal to the Privy Council, No. 10 of 1952 and paid his share of the costs in hiring English Council from Liverpool, Silverman and Livermore. But in this, too, he had little belief for he has this complex of having committed this crime, having paid for it, and that simply being that.

When he submitted his appeal to the Foreign Office he had no guidance from any of his more successful colleagues. He, in fact, very rarely sees any of them as he lives in what is termed a country parish, St. Martin's and rarely goes into Town, St. Peter Port. Looking at the copy of the case he sent to you, I found him unbelievably guilty of understating his plea in the mistaken belief about his past crime and the unlikelihood of getting compensation for it.

I fully appreciate the work which must have gone into tracing him from prison to prison, but what happened in the interim was, apparently not discovered and his age and lack of memory now seem to help little.

But having spoken to him I must ask you to consider what I term new evidence in his case; facts which he knew of when he claimed, but failed to put forward.

(continued....

X only time he paid 7 for insurance
Noted. He was not at all

For instance:

He was forced to work on some electrical connections which had something to do with German ammunition or explosives.

He was transported from prison to prison in cattle trucks so crowded with other prisoners that they couldn't sit down and all had to stand for the journeys, in traditional Nazi style.

He was Force-Marched by the Germans when the Allies advanced and were threatening to over-run them. Those who were so weak and under-nourished that they fell by the wayside were just left.

While working on the tunnelling into the mountain-side they worked from 6 in the morning until darkness and the tunnels were being hewn out of the rock so that the Nazis could use them either as stores for arms and ammunitions or as a hide-out from the Allies.

On three occasions he escaped from the working party and walked through a forest to the un-named village (where the German family whose photograph is enclosed, lived) and begged and cadged morsels of bread from them. Had he been caught by the guards there would have been trouble in plenty for him and the German or Austrian family. They gave him morsels of bread and risked being shot for doing so. They wrote to him after the war sending him first a Christmas card and then a letter. He thanked them for what they had tried to do for him but, in the present light, he foolishly destroyed the card and letters when clearing out a bureau drawer. So, bang went his evidence which would have established where he was in camp other than the very vague near Innsbruck.

In the working party he was picked out and victimised by the Wachtmeister because he was an Englishman, but towards the end this eased. Before this when the Germans thought he was not working hard enough they used to lay into him with the shovels they were all using ---and this with little mercy shown. The blows were aimed mainly at the back, seat and legs.

Somehow, because his wife was first at Biberach (the internment camp) and then at Liebernau (with their youngest child, a boy) Mr. Quin managed to get three letters through to his wife and his sufferings are reflected in the fact that after 5 years in Nazi prisons the pitch he had reached was reflected in one letter when he told his nearest and dearest, his wife "I can't go on living like this. I'd rather be dead" (or words to that effect)...the words of a desperate man at the end of his tether.

When he was liberated he hitch-hiked his way back to Cologne and then flew from Brussels as a returning British soldier, a p.-o.-w. the Army authorities having advised this be done and accordingly, as he came from the Channel Islands, categorising him as belonging to the Second Hampshire Regiment. He doesn't know exactly where he landed on the South coast but believes it might have been an aerodrome at or near Chichester. He was examined by Intelligence and also medically and with his very distended body (unaccustomed to any good food he had rather gorged himself on American food) was found to be suffering from starvation, malnutrition and water in the body from which thousands of prisoners suffered, and died.

Finally, Mr. Littler, knowing you for the kindness and understanding you have shown me, I would ask you to consider Mr. Quin's case in the light of these entirely new facts and treat him as kindly as you have his colleagues. Personal good wishes to you. I am, your sincerely

Frank W. Falla.

(Frank W. Falla.)
HNP/149.

U R G E N T .

2 Summerland, Collings Road,
St. Peter Port, GUERNSEY, G.I.
19th February 1966.

G. C. Littler Esq.,
The Foreign Office,
LONDON S.W.1.

ACK'D 2/7

21/FEB 1966

re.: William George QUIN.

HNP/3608. HNP 3608(c)

Dear Mr. Littler,

As you have been of such great help to me in the past I am writing to you, personally, in the hope that you may take up a lost cause and possibly help in what threatens to be a case of the perversion of justice.

The particular case I am here quoting ahs, up till now, been handled by Miss A. Windham of the Claims Dept. and deals mainly with her letter of 8th rebruary 1966 in which she informs Mr. Quin that, due to lack of tangible evidence his cãaim for compensation has had to be disallowed.

Quin is one of the members of the Guernsey Police Force purged by the Nazis at their trial in Guernsey in 1942 for having stolen food from German stores. For his part in the thieving Quin was sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment----only one man Jack Harper had a harsher sentence. After leaving Guernsey in company with the other ex-policemen, Quin went to prisons at Caen, Ville Neuve St. George, just outside Paris, Cologne, and finally to a prison near Innsbruck.

And now we come to the trouble in his case. The last place where he was, was a small camp of about 100 prisoners, NOT one of them English, near a villiage in the mountains. They were all put to work in tunnelling through the mountain constructing munitions' workshops for the enemy. But, and this is vital and it is a thing to which I can vouch because I tried to grill him on this, his memory has lapsed and he just cannot for the life of him remember the name of the place. He was released by American Forces but refused their offer to see him back to England. Instead, he went off on his own and managed to get a lift to Cologne in an American truck and from there went to Brussels. From there he was flown back to England by an R.A.F. Transport plane. But here again we run into trouble as he cannot remember the aerodrome on which he landed. He believes it is in Sussex or Essex. Whichever it was he was there interrogated by Security (someone must have a file on this and maybe this would contain the name of the camp where he was in Austria) and then, he thinks handed over to the Assistance Authorities who gave him money and a rail ticket to join his wife and family at Stockport, Chesire, after they had returned from internment at Biberach.

The whole trouble with Quin is that the effect of his imprisonment has obviously caused serious loss of memory, otherwise he could have helped himself and your department considerably in re-capping on his case and his suffering at the hands of the Nazis. Certain it is, he suffered as did his fellow-policemen.

While he was at this small concentration and labour camp (they had to walk a long distance each day to their work in the mountainside) he made contact with a German family in the village and they used to give him some bread and small amounts of food with which he kept alive. (ctd.)

When he returned to Guernsey, Quin wrote to these German people to thank them for all they had done for him and had a letter or two in reply.

Unhappily, he has destroyed these letters which would have established just where he was and helped fill in the blank spaces. But he retained a photograph which the mother and father of the family sent him of their son (and this is attached) on the back of which is the boy's name "Hans" and his age. But, what is perhaps more vital---and this should form the vehicle by which some checking might be done at the Innsbruck end----the name of the photographer and his address are printed. It, I know, constitutes very little to go on.

The fact, however, is that from my own personal checking and after speaking to another of the policemen concerned in the case, I am sure that Quin's failure to qualify for compensation is entirely due to lack of evidence, but, more, the lack of this stems from the fact that the man completely lacks the memory which could substantiate his case and I would be inclined to the belief that you would register his case not because of his non-existing remembrance of all he suffered, but because he did suffer.

Why should he, from the ten policemen sent to prison in Germany for their crimes, who left this island in a group, be the one man that does not benefit for his imprisonment and brutalities suffered at the hands of the Nazis. Surely, here is a man deserving not only of sympathy, but of understanding and quite as deserving as his colleagues Frederick Short, Jack Harper, Frank Tuck, etc. who I know have received £1,000 compensation for their sufferings at the hands of the Nazis in prisons and concentration camps.

It would be a serious reflection on everyone if William Quin happened to be the one man singled out NOT to benefit when he is quite as deserving as his comrades-in-crime. That Quin is suffering from loss of memory can be testified by his wife, ex-policeman Thomas GAUDION (who has qualified) and myself. If he is to be the one man not to receive compensation, then a travesty of justice will have been perpetrated, however unwittingly.

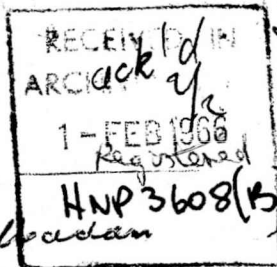
That, Mr. Littler, purely and simply, is why I cannot stand by and see this happen, without making the effort to plead William Quin's case. It is no reflection on anyone concerned (especially Miss Windham) that, because of lack of tangible evidence Quin's claim has had to be turned down. The procedure has been gone through and there is a regrettable conclusion. I will go even further than this when I say that I think Quin's lack of memory to substantiate his case would be vouched for by any doctor who if, as I have done, asked relevant questions, would be met with the same blank wall of Quin's memory failure.

I do sincerely hope that through your good offices urgent re-consideration can be given to Quin's case. I am pressing him further for any scrap of information that may come back to him and if anything tangible does turn up I shall inform you immediately.

Yours faithfully,

Frank W. Falla.

(Frank W. Falla.)
HNP/149.



30 January 1966
1. Warrana Way
St Martin
Guernsey G.I.

Dear Madam

In reply to your letter of the 30th December 1965. I have had another search & have discovered the enclosed paper from the last camp (Wish charge) which was a days march from the previous one near Imstruck. the name of which I still cannot remember. However I managed to break out of the camp on three or four occasions, went up the mountain side to a village for food, again the name I cannot remember. However on returning to Guernsey I wrote to these people to thank them for being so kind to me, they replied, sending

2

me a few photographs, one of which I enclose, the writing on the back may be of some use. As far as I can remember, I was sent to Austria from Rheinfels, I was the only English or Guernseyman there, so cannot get any help from anyone (worst luck)

I would like to add that my Wife and 2 yr. Old Son was reported, & interned at Compiegne, Biberach, & Liebenau, soon after my arrest, sorry I cannot be more helpfull

yours sincerely
W. G. E. Allen



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE

SERVICE INTERNATIONAL DE RECHERCHES

3548 Arolsen - République fédérale d'Allemagne

INTERNATIONAL TRACING SERVICE

3548 Arolsen - Federal Republic of Germany

INTERNATIONALER SUCHDIENST

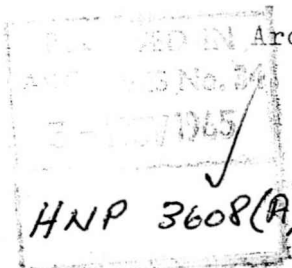
3548 Arolsen - Bundesrepublik Deutschland

Ha/Go

Téléphone: Arolsen 434 - Télégrammes: ITS Arolsen

The Foreign Office

L O N D O N, S.W. 1
England



Arolsen, 1st November 1965

Our Ref. : TD - 161 796
Your Ref. : HNP/3608
(HG.11811/28)

Re : QUIN, William George
born 8 June 1896 in Guernsey

Dear Sirs,

With reference to your letter dated 27th September 1965, please be advised that the following information is contained in our records :

- 1) The name QUIN, William, born 8 June 1896 in Quernesey, Nationality: British, appears on a Nominal List of the "Polizeibehörde der Stadt Köln, Chef der Polizei, Kriminal-polizei", established on 9 November 1949, with the remark: "Weshalb bei der Polizeibehörde erfasst: 24.4.42 wegen schw. Diebst. i. 3 F. u. einf. Diebst. in 2 F. zu 4 Jahren Zuchthaus verurteilt. Verbleib: ab 24.9.42 Zuchthaus Rheinbach" = imprisoned on account of theft and aggravated larceny in the Prison (Zuchthaus) Rheinbach.
- 2) QUIN, William, born 8 June 1896 in Quernesey, Nationality: British, Occupation: police officer, Religion: Protestant, Wife: Wilhelmine nee Marrett, Residence: Quernesey, rue St.Martin, entered the Prison Rheinbach on 24 September 1942, coming from Fresnes, Prisoner's No. 878/42, and was transferred to Hameln on 16 September 1944.

The Index Card of the Prison Rheinbach bears the remarks:
"Vollstreckungsbehörde oder sonstige um Aufnahme ersuchende Behörde
Geschäftszeichen: Ger.d.FK.515 St.L.163/42 v. 7.6.42 Feldp.Nr.
35372, Strafentscheidung: 24.4.42, Straftat: schw. Diebstahl, Art
und soweit möglich Dauer bzw. Höchstdauer der zu vollstreckenden
Strafe, Massregel der Sicherung und Besserung oder sonstigen Frei-
heitsentziehung: 4 Jahre Zuchthaus, Anzurechnende Untersuchungs-
haft 1 Mon. u. 28 Tg., Straf- oder Verwahrungszeit: Beginn: 22.5.
1942 Ende 23.3.1946" = Court decision: 24.4.1942, Offense: theft
(aggravated larceny), Sentenced to 4 years imprisonment (Zuchthaus),
Time served with detention for investigation: 1 month and 28 days,
Term of confinement: 22.5.1942 to 23.3.1946.

Records consulted: Index Card of the Prison Rheinbach.

./.

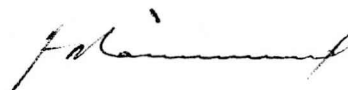
- 3) QUIN, William, born 8 June 1896 in Quernesey, Nationality: British, was in the Prison Bernau from 24th September 1942 to May 1945. "Urkunde: Pers. Akt." established on 24th September 1942 by the Prison Bernau.

Records consulted: Lists established by the Prison Bernau on 8th May 1947 and 11th November 1947.

Additional information is given on the attached certificate established by the Central Tracing Agency of the I.C.R.C., Geneva.

We are submitting a copy of this communication to the French Liaison Mission, attached to the International Tracing Service. Should any information be available in France, you will be advised accordingly.

Yours faithfully,



A. de Cocatrix
Deputy Director
of the I.T.S.

Enclosure : 1



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE

AGENCE CENTRALE DE RECHERCHES

Chèques postaux I. 5527
Téléphone 33 30 60
Télégr.: Intercroixrouge

Rappeler dans la réponse :
Serv. brit./LR/RW

GENÈVE, le 14.10.1965
7, AVENUE DE LA PAIX

INFORMATION IN POSSESSION OF THE
CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY
I.C.R.C.

E: 13. OKT. 1965	
In alt.	Todeserkl.
Aufenth.	Ste-beurk.
Dok.-Ausz.	Suchantr.
Krankenh.	Fotokopie
Beschäft.- Nachweis	Spezial- Anfrage
DP-Dok.-Auszug	

HNP/3608

QUIN William

British civilian internee (policeman)

Coming from the Channel Isles

10.7.42 Entered "Centre Pénitencière de Villeneuve-St Georges

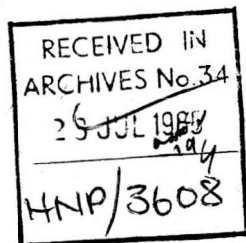
7.8.42 Transferred Germany

Ed. L. Jaquet

International Committee of the Red Cross
CENTRAL TRACING AGENCY
— GENEVA —

HNP/

FORM A for use by
surviving victims of
Nazi persecution



APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AS A BRITISH VICTIM OF NAZI PERSECUTION

- N.B.—1. Before completing this form it is important to read carefully the attached Notes for Guidance and then to answer all questions fully.
2. Please attach all documentary evidence to the form. All documents sent will be returned.
3. All applications must be received before the 31st of July, 1965.
4. Acceptance of an application for registration does not constitute a right to participate in the distribution.

SECTION ONE—IDENTITY

Surname QUIN.

Other names WILLIAM, GEORGE.

Address 1. BRACENH WAY.
ST. MARTINS, GUERNSEY C.I.

SECTION TWO—NATIONALITY

1. How did you acquire British nationality?
(Please write YES opposite the method that applies and delete the others)
- (a) By birth? YES (If so, please attach birth certificate)
- (b) ~~By marriage?~~ (If so, please attach marriage certificate and birth or naturalisation certificate of husband)
- (c) By ~~naturalisation?~~ (If so, please attach certificate)
- (d) By ~~some other~~ method? (If so, please give full details)

2. If you are not British by birth what was your previous nationality?
- Do you still retain that nationality?
- If not, when and how did you lose it?
- (Please attach all documentary evidence)

3. If you are a dual-national—

(a) Where were you ordinarily resident on the 9th of June, 1964?.....

(Please attach all available evidence, e.g., receipts for rent or rates, &c.)

(b) Have you been in Crown Service under Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom?
(If so, please give full details and dates)

(c) Are you the holder of a British passport? (If so, please give number and full details)

SECTION THREE—PERSECUTION

1. Please give, on a separate sheet, the following details of your imprisonment:

- (a) Name of camp or other place of detention, its situation, its general conditions and régime;
- (b) Dates of imprisonment and of release; prison number; reasons for imprisonment and circumstances in which it arose;
- (c) If you are suffering permanent disability as a result of treatment received during your imprisonment please give full details of its nature and cause;
- (d) Any other information you consider useful and relevant.
(Please attach all documentary evidence)

2. Have you at any time received any payment in respect of this persecution?.....
(If YES please give full details)

I HEREBY DECLARE that all the above statements are to the best of my knowledge and recollection true in all particulars.

Signature..... *W. G. Quinn*

Date..... *2nd July 1965*

1. Daccaena Way
Old Mill Road
St Martin's
Guernsey, C.I.

Sir. I wish other Guernsey Policemen
was arrested by the Germans, for
stealing food stuff from German
Stores. In March 1942 after detention
in Guernsey, was sent to Caen Prison
after a few weeks was sent to
Germany & sent to Bologne, where
we worked in a Prison Factory
on Munitions, was treated reasonably
well there. Was afterwards sent
to different German Prisons, the
names of which I cannot remember.
Was finally sent to a Camp just
outside of Innsbruck in Austria,
where we were making work-shops
under the Mountain, which I believe
was near the Brenner Pass?, mostly

night work, which was very
hard food was very scarce.

I was very badly treated there
by the Guernsey also German Officers
once it was known that I was
British. Was released in May
1945, was flown back to England
& entered hospital in Sussex.

From there, was sent to ~~Stockport~~
Stockport, where I had Medical
Treatment before arriving to
Guernsey. Am enclosing British
Certificate & Army Discharge Papers.

Yours sincerely

W. G. Quinn.