

FILE IDENTIFICATION TOPPER

FILE NUMBER

493 unpk Fort Buchanan KR

SUBJECT

8 November 1950

Mr. Kerscher:

Atchd 293 files for X-2 & X-3, Ft. Bushanan, P. R.,
forwarded for any action deemed necessary and return to Mail
and Records Branch.

I have annotated my records as UNIDENTIFIABLE,
6 Nov 50.


BERRENS
76128

INTRAOFFICE REFERENCE SHEET

DUE, HOUR AND DATE

1 NO.	2 FROM—	3 TO—	4 DATE	5 MESSAGE
1	Navy Liaison Section Repat Br Mem Div	Chief, Id Branch Id Section <i>THROUGH CHIEF REPAT BR. ATTN: Mr Tracy.</i>	1 Sept 1950	<p>SUBJECT: Unknowns X-2 and X-3, Fort Buchanan Cemetery, P. R.</p> <p>1. Forwarded herewith are recommendations of Unidentifiability; (Ref. Para. 2 Comment 2 of IRS from Operations Section dtd 31 Aug 50) with accompanying 293 Files for action by your Branch.</p> <p>2. Recommendations of Unidentifiability are approved by this Section.</p> <p>3. Request this Section be notified when these cases are resolved in order that adjustments may be made in statistical reports.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>my</i> MYER 73880</p> <p>3 Incls 1. Navy Liaison Folder 2. 293 File for X-2 3. 293 File for X-3</p>
2	Ops Sec Repat Br Mem Div	Id Branch Memorial Division	6 Nov 1950	<p>Inasmuch as the case reports from the field for Unknown X-2 and X-3 Fort Buchanan cannot be located, the attached statement of Unidentifiability of remains is forwarded as a basis for declaring remains of Unknown X-2 and X-3 unidentifiable by your branch.</p> <p>4 Incls 1-3. n/c Added 4. Statement of Unidentifiability of remains</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Q</i> ALLEN 56553</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>J</i> TRACY 54005</p>

Statement of Unidentifiability of Remains, Unknown X-2, X-3
Fort Buchanan Cemetery, San Juan Puerto Rico

The undersigned in October 1947 as a member of the 9106 Technical Service Unit supervised the disinterment of and assisted in the physical processing for Identification of Unknown X-2 and X-3 at Fort Buchanan Cemetery, San Juan Puerto Rico.

Case reports were prepared for each of these unknowns and contained in the case reports were signed statements by the senior embalmer, Mr. Thomas C. Lear and the Commanding Officer of the Unit, Capt. John C. Foulkes (also a licensed embalmer) certifying that each of these remains were unidentifiable.

The undersigned, who personally prepared the case reports for the two unknowns hereby certifies that at the time of processing only portions of the remains as indicated on the Reports of Interment QMC Form 1042 prepared by Lt. Ordonez, were present thus making any attempt at identification or association with other remains impossible.

It is therefore recommended that the remains of Unknown X-2 and Unknown X-3, Fort Buchanan Cemetery P. R., presently interred in Golden Gate National Cemetery, be declared unidentifiable.

John J. Tracy Jr
John J. Tracy Jr.
Clerk

Memorial Division
Formerly Admin Asst. 9106 TSU

Recommend Approval

L. W. Allen
L. W. ALLEN
Lt. Colonel, QMC
Chief, Repatriation Branch
Memorial Division

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY

INTRAOFFICE REFERENCE SHEET

DUE, HOUR AND DATE _____

1 NO.	2 FROM—	3 TO—	4 DATE	5 MESSAGE
1	Navy Liaison Section Repat Br Mem Div	Operations Section ATTN: Mr. Fisher	22 Aug 1950	<p>Attached files Unknown X-2 and Unknown X-3 Post Cemetery, Fort Buchanan, San Juan, now interred in Golden Gate National Cemetery, with related papers, are forwarded for whatever action you deem necessary in line with ^{our} conversation this date.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Moyer</i> MOYER 73880</p> <p>1 Incl Folder on X-2 and X-3</p>
2	Oper Sec Repat Br Mem Div	Navy Liaison Section Repat Br	31 Aug 50	<p>1. Reference is made to the Report of Findings contained in 2nd Ind., dated 7 November 1947, from Headquarters, Antilles Department to OQMG.</p> <p>2. After reviewing all information contained in the attached 293 files and related papers, this Office concurs in the findings stated in the above mentioned communication, dated 7 November 1947, and recommends that Unknowns X-2 and X-3, presently interred in the Golden Gate National Cemetery, be declared unidentifiable.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Elliott</i> ELLIOTT 54309</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Swain</i> Swain 54805</p> <p>3 Incls 1-Navy Liaison Folder 2-293 file (X-2) 3-293 file (X-3)</p>

COPY

HEADQUARTERS AMERICAN ZONE
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE
Brooklyn Army Base
1st Avenue & 58th Street
Brooklyn 20, New York

687 Brazil

8 May 1947

SUBJECT: Completion of Concentration Activities - Brazil

TO: The Quartermaster General
Washington 25, D. C.
ATTENTION: Chief, Memorial Division

1. Field Operations Section #2 completed mission in Brazil, 23 April 1947, and all personnel have returned to this headquarters, with the exception of those aboard FS #233.

2. The FS was loaded and departed Natal, Brazil, 14 April 1947, with two hundred eighty-six (286) remains in two hundred seventy-four (274) cases. The vessel proceeded up the Itapicuru River from Sao Luis to recover four (4) isolated remains not previously reported, returning to make stops at Barreirinhas and Belem. The FS departed Belem, Brazil, 2 May 1947 and is scheduled to arrive San Juan, Puerto Rico, 8 May 1947. (Total remains aboard, two hundred ninety-six (296) in two hundred eighty-four (284) cases)

3. Attached hereto (in duplicate) as Inclosure #1, is list of two hundred ninety-two (292) remains in two hundred eighty (280) cases aboard the FS. To date, information obtained by AGRS personnel at time of disinterment on the four (4) isolated remains has not reached this headquarters.

4. The following remains originally scheduled for reinterment were not disinterred:

- a. Brady, John P., 2nd Lt., O-733 138, buried on the Island of Bailique 01°-00'N - 49°-56'W. The gravesite can be reached only between July and September, due to high water conditions. Permission to disinter is pending and will be forwarded this headquarters when obtained by American Vice Consul, Belem, Para, Brazil.

COPY

Ltr to OCMG, Wash, D. C., file 687 Brazil, Subj. Completion of Concentration Activities - Brazil, dated 8 May 1947 (cont'd)

- b. Rowe, Gene H., Civilian, buried on the Island of Marajo, Para, 00°-28'S, 49°-20'W. The gravesite can be reached only between July and September, due to high water conditions. Permission for disinterment has been received and is on file this headquarters.

5. The following remains have been left in original graves at Alecrim Cemetery, Natal, Brazil:

- a. Browning, Thomas H., Sgt. #15089428
Next of kin has purchased grave and arranged for care and maintenance. The 293 file attached as Inclosure #2.
- b. Hare, Robert Wayne, Civilian
Next of kin (who is a missionary in Natal) has arranged for care and maintenance of the grave. The 293 file attached as Inclosure #3.
- c. Spees, Martha J., Civilian
Referred your office by TWX AGRS 207, dated 20 March 1947. Next of kin of Hare to care for grave until next of kin of Spees makes permanent arrangements. The 293 file attached as Inclosure #4.

6. The remains of Shearer, Harold K. Civilian, interred in Grave 38, British Cemetery, Bahia, were not disinterred. Attention is invited to letter dated 14 April 1947, Subject: Burial Information, file 293, Shearer, Harold Kurtz. The 293 file attached as Inclosure #5.

7. Three allied remains at Val de Cans Cemetery, Belem, were not disinterred. Allied papers were turned over to the British Consul, Belem. Release cannot be granted until the Consul has direct orders from The Imperial War Graves Commission. The remains in question are:

- a. Clarke, Philip, Sgt., Royal Air Force, Serial #1492818
- b. Colls, Peter R. P/O Royal Air Force, Serial #151418
- c. Shead, Victor R.AC-1 Royal Air Force, Serial #1267727

8. Data on four special cases was forwarded your office by Secret letter dated 30 April 1947, file 314.6, Subject: Merchant Marine Burials - Brazil. Data on two additional special cases forwarded this date by Secret letter.

Ltr to OCMG, Wash, D. C., file 687 Brasil, Subj: Completion of
Concentration Activities - Brasil, dated 8 May 1947 (cont'd)

9. The Military Attache, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil, has been advised of completion of these operations.

5 Incls:

1. List of 292 remains (in dup)
2. 293 file Thos N Browning
3. 293 file Capt Wayne Hare
4. 293 file Martha J Spees
5. 293 file Harold K Shearer

C. B. AVERA
Colonel, OMC
Commanding

INFORMATION COPY

MEMORANDUM CONCERNING AMERICAN WAR DEAD LEFT IN MARANHÃO.

On Friday March 7th, 1947 a Brazilian native by the name of Benjamin do Souza Rodrigues, whose address is Humberto dos Campos, State of Maranhão, came to my office and reported that, on reading the Sao Luis newspaper reports of the removal of the American War Dead, he resolved to come to Sao Luis to report the existence of the remains of the PBV disaster of November 1944 which are buried - were buried by him in the locality known as Ilha Grande.

Snr. Rodrigues related that he saw the PBV explode in the air and gave assistance in the search for the bodies. The remains above mentioned were buried by him and reported to the U. S. Navy Officer in Charge of Operations, Lt. Commander H. W. Spalding, who promised to have them collected and taken with other remains to the U. S. Base at Sao Luis. For some reason, however, this was not done and the remains still lie buried in the original burial ground in Ilha Grande.

Snr. Rodrigues also stated that he came to Sao Luis at the end of 1945 and contacted Mr. Clay, American Consular Agent, to whom he related his story. Since then he has waited and nothing has happened.

The remains consist of one body minus a leg, buried in one grave and a head, a jaw, some ribs and one finger, buried in another grave. Snr. Rodrigues said that the body minus the leg had been identified and the leg had been taken to Sao Luis with the identification. This, said Snr. Rodrigues, was made known to him by Lt. Com. Spalding.

Snr. Rodrigues has offered to guide any responsible person to the Ilha Grande and to give whatever help may be in his power in the removal of the remains.

s/s Thomas Moses
American Consular Clerk.

COPY

Summary of facts regarding X-2 and X-3 recovered from Ilha Grande Cemetery, Ilha Grande, Maranhao, Brazil:

On 27 November, 1944, a Navy PBY, Bureau No. 4 973 crashed in a bay near Ilha Grande, Brazil. (Lat 02° 25' South - longitude 43° 35' West). Six officers and 16 enlisted men were aboard the plane. 17 ~~of~~ remains were recovered and identified. Some of the bodies were buried by natives and exhumed by a Navy search team and removed to Sao Luis for burial in the joint Army, Navy Cemetery. Others were evidently taken direct to Sao Luis for burial. During the concentration activities in Brazil in the spring 1947, the AGRS team was informed of isolated burials at Ilha Grande. Partial remains were recovered from four graves. According to the natives these graves had been disinterred previously, but portions were left in the grave. Two of these partial remains were identified from dental records to be missing parts of the remains of Ensign Sliter and Lt. (jg) Clapp.

X-2 and X-3 could not be definitely matched with any of the other 15 remains.

The recoverable parts of X-2 consisted of two small bones and pieces of the cranium, while X-3 consisted of parts of the legs only.

The NOK of the five missing personnel have been notified that the remains were not recovered.

As it appears the small portions of X-2 and X-3 are unmatched parts of the 17 bodies recovered, it is not considered advisable to make this a group burial. This was concurred in by Col. Metz, Chief Identification Branch.

I-2 and I-3 are on board the Honda Knot, due to arrive in San Francisco about 7 April 48. Burial is to be made in Golden Gate National Cemetery.

JK Wait

DATE F/D 11 May 48

INDEX: 293 - Unk. Ft. Buchanan Xp2

~~293 - Unk Ft. Buchanan X-3~~

Tele

TO: SUPT Golden Gate N/C

FROM: OQMG

SUMMARY: REURTEL 154.

THE THREE UNKNOWN REMAINS OF WORLD WAR II DEAD SHIPPED TO U. S.
ON USAT HONDA KNOT WHICH ARRIVED ON OR ABOUT 2 APR 48 AT SEPE SHOULD
BE BURIED IN SEPARATE GRAVES.
END OQMG 286 GAGNE.

FILED: 293 - Golden Gate N/C

INDEXER: aej

REMARKS:

Sullivan

RECEIPT OF REMAINS

DISTRIBUTION CENTER

#13 SFPE OAKLAND ARMY BASE OAKLAND 14 CALIFORNIA "GRAVES"

ROUTINE 7 MAY 1948

REMAINS CONSIGNED TO:

SUPERINTENDENT
GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL CEMETERY
SAN BRUNO CALIFORNIA

REMAINS OF UNKNOWN WORLD WAR TWO DEAD X-000002 WILL BE DELIVERED TO YOU BY GOVERNMENT HEARSE AT APPROXIMATELY TEN THIRTY AM TEN MAY BY THIS DISTRIBUTION CENTER ACCOMPANIED BY MILITARY ESCORT. REQUEST YOU MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO ACCEPT REMAINS UPON DELIVERY.

Samuel G. O'Regan
SAMUEL G O'REGAN
MAJOR QMC
RB

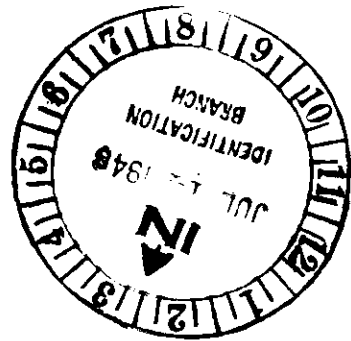
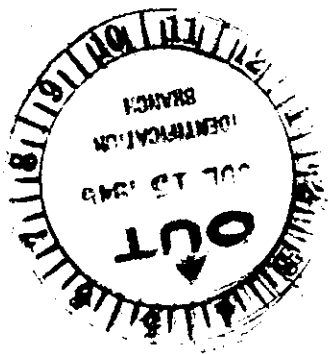
I, THE UNDERSIGNED, DO HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE REMAINS OF THE ABOVE-NAMED DECEASED

THIS 10 DAY OF May, 1948

Herbert J. [unclear]
WITNESS (ESCORT)

Robert L. Wallace
CONSIGNEE

HONDA KNOT



1

DISINTERMENT DIRECTIVE

SECTION A - NAME AND BURIAL LOCATION OF DECEASED

DIRECTIVE NUMBER 7925 00000

DATE 15 10 47 DAY MONTH YEAR

NAME UNKNOWN

SERIAL NUMBER X-000002

RANK ARM Q

DATE OF DEATH DAY MONTH YEAR

CEMETERY POST CEM FORT BUCHANAN SAN JUAN

DISPOSITION OF REMAINS 0 9121 13 CODE DIST. PT.

PLOT ROW GRAVE COUNTRY A 10 160 PUERTO RICO

CAUSE OF DEATH 6

SECTION B - CONSIGNEE AND NEXT OF KIN

NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL CEMETERY SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA (BY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER)

NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN

SECTION C - DISINTERMENT AND IDENTIFICATION

NAME UNKNOWN

SERIAL NUMBER X-000002

RANK

DATE OF DEATH

DATE DISTINTERRED 1/22/48

IDENTIFICATION TAG ON REMAINS MARKER None

ORGANIZATION UNKNOWN

RELIGION

IDENTIFICATION VERIFIED BY J. C. FOULKES, JR., CAPT NAME AND TITLE

SECTION D - PREPARATION OF REMAINS FOR SHIPMENT

NATURE OF BURIAL IN CASKET

CONDITION OF REMAINS TYPE A

OTHER MEANS OF IDENTIFICATION GRAVE MARKER & PLOT MAP

MINOR DISCREPANCIES NONE

REMAINS PREPARED AND PLACED IN CASKET DATE 1/22/48 BY J. GOLDEN

CASKET SEALED BY A. VINCEGUERRA

EMBALMER (Signature) J. GOLDEN James L. Golden

CASKET BOXED AND MARKED DATE 1/22/48 BY M. ANDREWS

SHIPPING ADDRESS VERIFIED BY T.C. MEAGHER CWO, USA.

I hereby certify that all the foregoing operations were conducted and accomplished under my immediate supervision and that the report above is correct.

M. P. SANTORO

SIGNATURE OF GRS INSPECTOR

1 Prepare Discrepancy Report QMC Form 1194a for major discrepancies.

RECORD OF CUSTODIAL TRANSFER

FROM	KIND OF CONVEYANCE	SIGNATURE OF SHIPPER	DATE	TO	NAME OF CONVOYER	SIGNATURE OF RECEIVER	DATE
PORT BUCHANAN POST CEMETERY	U.S. ARMY VEHICLE	<i>[Signature]</i> CAPT GEORGE H. WILLIAMS, JR	12 Feb 48	U.S.A.T. HONDA KNOT	CAPT J. G. FOUKES, JR.	<i>[Signature]</i> GEORGE L. BOOTH, CAPT., I.C.	11/14/48
1. SHIPPED							
FROM	U.S.A.T. HONDA KNOT	SIGNATURE OF SHIPPER	DATE	TO	NAME OF CONVOYER	SIGNATURE OF RECEIVER	DATE
	"USAT" HONDA KNOT	<i>[Signature]</i>	Apr 5 1948	HQ 323d, MASON, CALIF.		<i>[Signature]</i>	Apr 1948
2. SHIPPED							
FROM	KIND OF CONVEYANCE	SIGNATURE OF SHIPPER	DATE	TO	NAME OF CONVOYER	SIGNATURE OF RECEIVER	DATE
	SHIP	<i>[Signature]</i>	Apr 5 1948	DC-13 Oakland Army Base, SFFE		<i>[Signature]</i>	DATE 18
3. SHIPPED							
FROM	KIND OF CONVEYANCE	SIGNATURE OF SHIPPER	DATE	TO	NAME OF CONVOYER	SIGNATURE OF RECEIVER	DATE
	AD ADMINISTRATIVE (ORDER)	SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA					
4. SHIPPED							
FROM	KIND OF CONVEYANCE	SIGNATURE OF SHIPPER	DATE	TO	NAME OF CONVOYER	SIGNATURE OF RECEIVER	DATE
	UNKNOWN						
5. SHIPPED							
FROM	KIND OF CONVEYANCE	SIGNATURE OF SHIPPER	DATE	TO	NAME OF CONVOYER	SIGNATURE OF RECEIVER	DATE
	GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL CEMETERY						
6. SHIPPED							
FROM	KIND OF CONVEYANCE	SIGNATURE OF SHIPPER	DATE	TO	NAME OF CONVOYER	SIGNATURE OF RECEIVER	DATE
7. SHIPPED							
FROM	KIND OF CONVEYANCE	SIGNATURE OF SHIPPER	DATE	TO	NAME OF CONVOYER	SIGNATURE OF RECEIVER	DATE

1948

INSPECTION CHECKLIST

(FOR USE AT OVERSEAS PORT, U.S. PORT, AND DISTRIBUTION CENTER)

SPACE # 170

NAME UNKNOWN (Plot A Row 10 Grave 160)		RANK	SERIAL NUMBER X-000002
SOURCE Post Cem Fort Buchanan San Juan Puerto Rico		CONSIGNEE Golden Gate National Cemetery San Bruno, California (By Admin Order)	
SHIPPING CASE - General Appearance <i>(Check ONLY Discrepancies)</i>		CONDITION OF SHIPPING CASE <i>(Check one)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> SATISFACTORY <input type="checkbox"/> UNSATISFACTORY	
FINISH <i>(Exterior)</i>		REMARKS	
FINISH <i>(Interior)</i>			
HANDLES			
HANDLE BOLTS			
STENCILING - NAMEPLATE			
HEALTH PERMIT MARKER			
HEALTH PERMIT NUMBER			
CASSET - General Appearance <i>(Check ONLY Discrepancies)</i>		CONDITION OF CASSET <i>(Check one)</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SATISFACTORY <input type="checkbox"/> UNSATISFACTORY	
FINISH <i>(Exterior)</i>		REMARK <i>Doublet eye</i>	
HANDLES AND FASTENINGS			
STENCILING - NAMEPLATE			
CAM LOCKS <i>(Sealing) O.K. A.D.P.</i>			
ODOR OR MOISTURE <i>O.K. A.D.P.</i>			
ROUTED THROUGH			
<input type="checkbox"/> MORTUARY OPERATING ROOM		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REPAIR SHOP	
CONDITION OF REMAINS <input type="checkbox"/> SATISFACTORY <input type="checkbox"/> UNSATISFACTORY		CASSET REPAIRED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
NECESSARY DISINFECTION <i>(Explain)</i>		CASSET EXCHANGED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
		SHIPPING CASE REPAIRED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
		SHIPPING CASE EXCHANGED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
		REMARKS <i>13 April 1948</i>	
TIME <i>9⁵⁰ a.m.</i>	DATE <i>4/13/48</i>	SIGNATURE OF MORTICIAN <i>D. D. Parker</i>	SIGNATURE OF INSPECTOR <i>Leonard L. McKee</i> <i>Major T.C.</i>
REMARKS I certify that the casket and shipping case for these remains were inspected by me personally and are in perfect condition. I further certify that I personally checked the name stencil and shipping case tag against the casket tag for these remains and the name as stenciled on the shipping case and as on the shipping case tag are exactly the same as shown on the tag fastened to the casket.			
<i>Robert S. Maguire</i> <i>Capt. T.C.</i> INSPECTION OFFICER		INSPECTION OFFICER	

1st Ind (Cont'd)

QMGMN 314.6 - BRAZIL

WD, OCMG, Washington 25, D. C.

6 August 1947

ANDRADE, Arthur Pontes, 400 97 69, AMM1c, USNR
BRUNKS, Robert Fred, 810 09 32, AEM3c, USNR
DONGES, Robert George, 614 95 01, AOM3c, USNR
O'ROURKE, Vincent John, 205 44 84, Slc, USNR
SMITH, James Edward, 284036, Lt. (jg), USN

5. It is requested that this office be advised of the findings, and corrected Reports of Reinterment be submitted wherever applicable.

FOR THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL:

JAMES C. MacFARLAND
Major, QMC
Memorial Division

2 Incls:
Incl 2 w/c
Incl 1 n/c
Incl 3 n/c

cc: ComGen, CarDefCom, APO 834
CO, AGRS, American Zone

AG 293

2nd Ind.

HEADQUARTERS ANTILLES DEPARTMENT, APO 851, c/o Postmaster, Miami, Florida

TO: The Quartermaster General, Washington 25, D. C.

The following report of findings has been submitted by Captain J. G. Foulkes, Jr., Commanding Officer, 1906 TSU QMC AGRS Team:

a. The remains of Captain Sliter and the leg interred as Ensign Sliter have been reinterred together as Ensign Sliter.

b. The remains of Ralph Wallace Grace were compared with Unknown X-1, and it was found that both remains contained femur bones along with several other duplications. It was determined from information contained in the burial bottle interred with Unknown X-1 that a pair of flight boots had been located with these remains. The contents of Grace's casket contained a pair of service shoes.

COPY

c. When the remains of Alfred Lester Clapp, Jr., were compared with Unknown X-1, it was found that the bones which made up these remains compared favorably with the unknown. The attached case reports indicate the comparison. The remains of Unknown X-1 were found to be intact with the exception of the right and left Tibia, the left Fibula and the left calcaneus which were missing. The remains of Alfred Lester Clapp contained only the bones listed as missing in Unknown X-1 above. It is therefore assumed that these two burial are one in the same person, and have been reinterred under Lt. (JG) Alfred Lester Clapp.

d. Seventeen (17) remains listed in paragraph 3 were disinterred and compared with the bones which made up Unknown X-2 and X-3. The only favorable comparison reached was with the remains of Sam James Vacanti. Vacanti's remains appeared to be complete with the exception of the radius and ulna and bones of the hands. The bones of this remains were unbroken except below the pelvis region. It cannot be proven that Unknown X-3 is part of the remains of Vacanti, and it is therefore recommended that these bones remain as Unknown X-3. Unknown X-2 did not compare favorably with any of the 17 remains shown in basic communication.

3. It is not considered advisable that the remains of Unknown X-2 and Unknown X-3 be recorded as a group burial of five (5) as stated in paragraph 4, preceding 3rd Indorsement, since the remains are definitely not complete enough for even one remains.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

H. C. WIRTH
1st Lt AGD
Asst Adj Gen

A. G.
2 Incls: n/c

HEADQUARTERS AMERICAN ZONE
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE
BROOKLYN ARMY BASE
1ST AVENUE & 58TH STREET
BROOKLYN 20, NEW YORK

IN REPLY

REPLY TO: 293 (Isolated Burials)

6 June 1947

SUBJECT: Isolated Burials - Brazil

TO: The Quartermaster General
Washington 25, D. C.
ATTENTION: Chief, Memorial Division

1. Reference is made to paragraph 3, letter this headquarters, dated 8 May 1947, Subject: Completion of Concentration Activities - Brazil, file 687 Brazil (copy attached).

2. Attached hereto are four (4) burial reports covering the isolated burials recovered from Ilha Grande area, Maranhao. These remains were all victims of a PBV that crashed 27 November 1944 in the State of Maranhao, Brazil. A Naval Search and Recovery Team recovered seventeen, (17) remains from this area, which were taken to Sao Luiz, Brazil, identified and buried 11 December 1944, in the Joint Army-Navy Cemetery, Tirirical Field, Sao Luiz, Brazil.

3. Evidence found upon disinterment of Unknown X-2 and X-3, and information obtained by natives, indicates that these remains had previously been disinterred and portions (as indicated in Section 3, Form 1042) were inadvertently left in the grave.

4. The remains buried and marked as Capt. Robert Sliter are believed to be other portions of the remains interred at Sao Luiz as Ensign Robert Sliter, 347224, USN. Attention is invited to Section 3 of form 1042 inclosed. It will be noted that natives reported only a leg was taken from Maranhao to Sao Luiz for reburial. Disinterment team at Sao Luiz found only a leg in Ensign Sliter's grave. A tooth chart was obtained from the portion of remains found at Maranhao and is inclosed with burial report. From all indications, the remains in two cases shipped to San Juan, Puerto Rico are those of one and the same person.

5. From the condition of remains found in the grave of X-1, it was impossible to determine if parts had been removed to Sao Luiz with the others, but it is probable that they were. A tooth chart was obtained and is inclosed with burial report.

COPY

Ltr to OCMG, Wash, D. C., file 293 (Isolated Burials), Subject:
Isolated Burials - Brazil, dated 6 June 1947 (cont'd)

6. A fourth unknown in this area, victim of the same crash, was reported buried on Mucurandiba Island in this area. A thorough search of the area was made without success. Mr. Benjamin Rodriguez, who reported the burial, assisted in the search and is confident that remains are there. He will continue the search and report findings to this headquarters.

7. Attached hereto is Information Copy of Memorandum on file at the American Consul at Sao Luis and Belem, Brazil, regarding visit of Mr. Rodriguez on 7 March 1947, which states the only parts of remains referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 were removed.

3 Incls:

1. cy ltr dtd 8 May 47
2. 4 Burial Reports
3. Info cy memo covering
Amer War Dead left in
Maranhao

C. B. AVERA
Colonel, OMC
Commanding

COPI

1st Ind

OMGMN 314.6 - BRAZIL

WD, OOMG, Washington 25, D. C.

6 August 1947

TO: Commanding General, Antilles Department, APO 851, c/o Postmaster, Miami, Florida.

1. The remains minus a leg, believed to be those of Captain Robert SLITER, recovered from Ilha Grande Area, Maranhao, Brazil, have been identified, from comparison of dental records, by the Dental Professional Division, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Navy Department, as those of Ensign Robert SLITER, 347224, USNR. Death occurred on 27 November 1944. Next of kin is the wife, Shirlee Sliter, 1000 Carolyn Avenue, San Jose, California. His expressed religious preference is Protestant. It is requested that the leg recovered from Ensign Sliter's grave at Sao Luiz (Grave 32) be interred with the above remains.

2. The dental chart for the remains, Unknown X-1, is similar to the dental records of Lt. (jg) Alfred Lester CLAPP, Jr., 278648, USNR and Lt. (jg) Ralph Wallace GRACE, 329556, USN, who were interred in Graves 20 and 8 respectively at Sao Luiz. Positive identification cannot be established. It is requested that the remains of Lt.(jg) Alfred Lester CLAPP, Jr., and Lt.(jg) Ralph Wallace GRACE be examined to determine if the bones found with Unknown X-1 could be part of one of these remains. If so, it is further requested that the remains, Unknown X-1, be reinterred with those from which they are missing.

3. The partial remains of Unknown X-2 and X-3 cannot be individually identified. It is requested that the graves of the following personnel be disinterred to determine if these can be matched with missing parts:

BAILEY, James Scobie, Jr., 761 64 46, AMM3c, USNR
BRYAN, Raymond Charles, 296 17 91, ARM3c, USN
CLAPP, Alfred Lester, Jr., 278648, Lt.(jg), USNR
COOK, Thomas David, Jr., 359 99 50, ACRM, USN
COTE, Raymond Amie, 300 99 72, Pr2c, USN
GILE, Winston Liscomb, 201 53 14, AR1c, USN
GRACE, Ralph Wallace, 329556, Lt.(jg), USN
HENSHON, William Francis, 607 69 30, ARM3c, USNR
KEEGAN, John Francis, 403 75 34, AMM1c, USN
LEWIS, John Kenneth, 400 90 19, AMM2c, USNR
MEYER, Virgil Lewis, 329 25 67, ARM2c, USN
REYNOLDS, Harold Daniel, 252670, Lt.(jg), USNR
ROGERS, Vincel George, 664 08 70, ARMLc, USNR
SEPTOR, Kenneth William, 258 29 98, AMM1c, USN
SLITER, Robert (NMI), 347224, Ensign, USNR
VACANTI, Sam James, 316 41 34, ACRM, USN
WILLIAMS, William Jackson, Jr., 352161, Ensign, USN

4. If Unknown X-2 and X-3 cannot be identified as missing parts of the above remains, it is requested that they be recorded as a group burial consisting of the following:

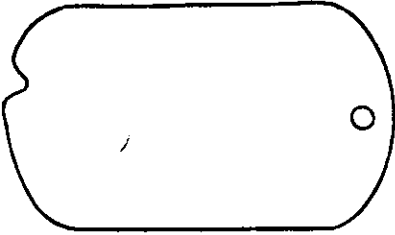
COPY

RESTRICTED

WD QMC FORM 1042
(Rev. 1 Apr. 1945)
(Supersedes GRS Form 1)

REPORT OF INTERMENT
(AR 30-1810 and AR 30-1815)

DATE OF REPORT

<p><i>Imprint Identification Tag If Possible. DO NOT TYPE</i></p> 	Section 1.—IDENTIFICATION.		
	NAME (Last, first, middle initial)		SERIAL No.
	UNKNOWN X-2		Unknown
	GRADE	ORGANIZATION	BRANCH OF SERVICE
Unknown	Unknown	Assumed to be USN	
RACE	RELIGION	IF OTHER THAN U. S. DEAD, GIVE NAME OF COUNTRY	
White	Unknown		

PLACE OF DEATH	CAUSE OF DEATH	DATE OF DEATH
Ilha Grande, Maranhao, Brazil	Plane Crash, PBY, Catalina *	Unknown *

EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE (Name, relationship, and address)

IDENTIFICATION TAGS FOUND ON BODY (1, 2, or none)	IF NO TAGS FOUND ON BODY, DESCRIBE MEANS OF IDENTIFICATION (If unidentified, fill in section 3 on reverse)
WERE SUBSTITUTE TAGS PROVIDED?(Yes or no)	See Section 3

LIST PERSONAL EFFECTS FOUND ON BODY AND DISPOSITION OF SAME

* Date of crash reported by natives as 27 November 1944
Date of death assumed to be 27 November 1944

Section 2.—BURIAL. *If other than in established cemetery, furnish sketch and map coordinates on reverse.*

NAME, NUMBER, COORDINATES, AND LOCATION OF CEMETERY

Ilha Grande Cemetery, Ilha Grande, Maranhao, Brazil

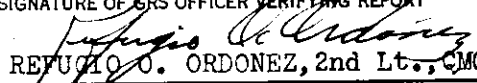
DATE OF BURIAL	HOUR	BURIED IN (Shroud, blanket, or name of other)	TYPE OF GRAVE MARKER	PLOT No.	ROW No.	GRAVE No.
			Graves not numbered			

WAS THIS A REBURIAL? (Yes or no)	IF A REBURIAL, INDICATE NAME, NUMBER, COORDINATES OF PREVIOUS CEMETERY, AND LOCATION OF GRAVE
No	

TYPE OF RELIGIOUS CEREMONY	PERSON CONDUCTING BURIAL RITES	IF IDENTIFICATION TAGS NOT USED, DESCRIBE IDENTIFICATION DATA AND CONTAINERS BURIED WITH BODY

IDENTIFICATION TAG BURIED WITH BODY (Yes or no)	IDENTIFICATION TAG ATTACHED TO MARKER (Yes or no)
No	No

BODY BURIED ON DECEASED LEFT, NAME (Last, first, middle initial)	RANK	SERIAL No.	ORGANIZATION	GRAVE No.
BODY BURIED ON DECEASED RIGHT, NAME (Last, first, middle initial)	RANK	SERIAL No.	ORGANIZATION	GRAVE No.

SIGNATURE OF PERSON PREPARING REPORT	SIGNATURE OF GRS OFFICER VERIFYING REPORT
	 RUFINO O. ORDONEZ, 2nd Lt., GMC

DISTRIBUTION OF REPORT: Signed original for U. S. and allied dead, signed original and one copy for enemy dead, to the Quartermaster General through Headquarters GRS Officer. Copies for retention in theater as prescribed by theater commander.

Section 3. UNIDENTIFIED REMAINS.

INSTRUCTIONS:

(a) Great care will be taken to record the most minute clues for the future identity of unidentified remains. Fill in anatomical characteristics below, and any other clues under "Other," such as shoe size, social security number; position of body found in airplanes, vehicles, and tanks; and serial numbers of airplanes, vehicles, and tanks.


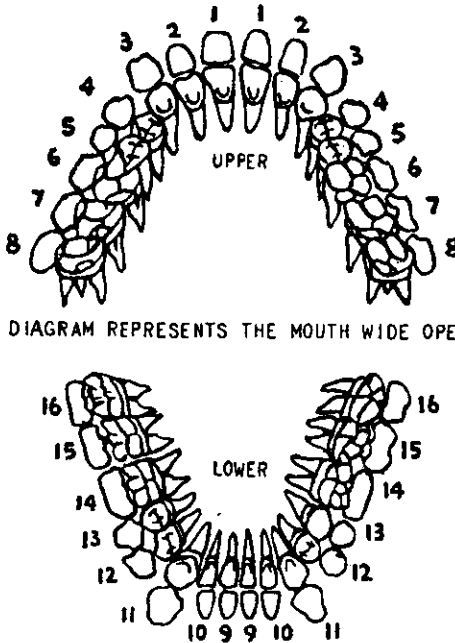




(b) A fingerprint, or prints, are the most valuable of all clues. Imprint all fingers and thumbs in the chart at left, or as many as possible. If no fingerprint or prints can be secured, the condition of each and every tooth will be indicated on the tooth chart in accordance with diagram below. Tooth chart will not be accomplished if one or more fingerprints are secured.

HEIGHT	WEIGHT	COLOR OF EYES	COLOR OF HAIR	BIRTHMARKS, SCARS, OR TATTOOS
--------	--------	---------------	---------------	-------------------------------

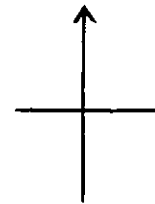
WEAPON AND SERIAL No.	LAUNDRY MARKS	WHERE BODY WAS BURIED OR FOUND
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OTHER IDENTIFICATION CLUES

Two bones and pieces of cranium in this grave. Other portions of remains taken to Sao Luiz, Brazil in 1944

FILLINGS	 <p>SILVER FILLING GOLD FILLING</p>	 <p>UPPER</p> <p>DIAGRAM REPRESENTS THE MOUTH WIDE OPEN</p> <p>LOWER</p>
CAVITIES	 <p>CAVITY DECAYED</p>	
MISSING TEETH	 <p>TOOTH MISSING</p>	
CROWNED TEETH	 <p>PORCELAIN CROWN GOLD CROWN</p>	
BRIDGE WORK	 <p>GOLD BRIDGE</p>	

FURNISH SKETCH AND MAP REFERENCE AND COORDINATES FOR BURIAL IN OTHER THAN ESTABLISHED CEMETERY



REMARKS: