

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
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AEUMS-Cdr

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REPORT OF RECOVERY AND EXAMINATION OF WORLD WAR II REMAINS

CASE UNKNOWN X-9423  
UNKNOWN X-9424  
UNKNOWN X-9425  
S/R - 1093

CIRCUMSTANCES OF RECOVERY:

During the latter part of May 1975, this office received a letter from the Mayor of the City of Simmerath, Germany. The letter stated that a German company who has a contract with the Federal Republic of Germany, for the clearing of a certain section of wooded area long the German-Belgium border. This area is being cleared of all live ammunition, bombs and land mines.

During this clearing operation a very shallow grave (approximately 10-12 inches in depth) was discovered. The grave site is located in a thickly wooded area approximately 9 kilometers, northeast of Simmerath, near the very small village of Steckenborn. See attached German map.

On 2 June 1975 a search and recovery team was dispatched from the Frankfurt Mortuary to the city of Simmerath. The office of the mayor, provide the search team with a police escort to the gravesite. The grave-site had previously been disinterred by the local police. Further examination of the grave-site by the search team revealed no other skeletal portions or identification media.

The police explained to the search team that the remains were found lying side by side. It is very possible that the remains at time of death were placed upon the ground and during the next 30 years the accumulation of leaves and debris covered the remains. This could account for the very shallow grave.

During a conversation with the police, it was revealed that a American WW II type, 4 engine bomber, aircraft had crashed approximately 4 kilometers from where these remains were found. This could account for the parachute found with the remains at the grave-site. Parachute had not been deployed.

This aircraft was removed from the crash site in 1960. According to the mayor office no remains were found at the crash site, only live ammunition and bombs.