

293 HARPER, JESSE, D. S/SGT 38 692 307 INF EUROPEAN (TEX) '45

Declassified in accordance with D.O. 13526

MEMORIALIZATION OF NON-RECOVERABLE
REMAINS OF WORLD WAR II

THIS FILE HAS BEEN AUDITED FOR NON-RECOVERABILITY

NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE)

HARPER, JESSE D

RANK

SERIAL NUMBER

SSG

38692307

ARMY OF SERVICE

ARMY

DATE OF DEATH

AREA OF DEATH

13 DEC 44

GERMANY

NAME OF AUDITOR

DATE

M. COX 3 MAY 51

NAME OF REVIEWER

DATE

KINKEAD 3 MAY 51

REMARKS

NON-RECOVERABLE REMAINS REEXAMINATION RECORDS

AREA OF DEATH European, Blies River, Frauenberg, Germany		CASE NUMBER 16008
NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) 243 Harper, Jesse D.	RANK S/Sgt	SERIAL NUMBER 38 692 307
IN THE COURSE OF THIS REEXAMINATION IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF DEATH WERE SUCH THAT: (Check appropriate box)		
<input type="checkbox"/> THE REMAINS OF THE DECEDENT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN RECOVERED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> THE REMAINS OF THE DECEDENT COULD HAVE BEEN RECOVERED. HOWEVER, AFTER REVIEW OF THE FOLLOWING IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT EVIDENCE DOES NOT EXIST TO CONTRADICT A FINDING OF NON-RECOVERABILITY:		
1. 293 FILE OF DECEDENT		INITIALS OF ANALYST E.M.
2. GEOGRAPHICAL CLUE INDEX FILE OF UNKNOWNNS RECOVERED FROM APPROPRIATE AREA, COMPARED WITH DECEDENT		E.M.
3. OTHER DOCUMENTS OR SOURCES		
REMARKS		
FILED 24 APR 1951 Identification Branch		
RECOMMEND APPROVAL		APPROVED
NAME OF CASE ANALYST E. Miller	CASE REVIEWER, FINAL DETERMINATION SECTION	CHIEF, FINAL DETERMINATION SECTION M. J. Lewis
		DATE

NON-RECOVERABLE CASE
RECORD OF REVIEW AND APPROVAL

CASE NUMBER 16008 (1)
AREA OR ZONE(S) European

NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) Harper, Jesse D.
RANK S/Sgt
SERIAL NUMBER 38 692 307

THE ATTACHED PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIELD BOARD OF REVIEW HAVE BEEN REVIEWED AND THE FINDINGS OF NON-RECOVERABILITY OF THE REMAINS OF THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUAL(S) ARE APPROVED. (Corrections in name, rank, and/or serial number have been effected when appropriate.)

Individual Case

IN THE COURSE OF THIS REVIEW THE FOLLOWING SOURCES OF INFORMATION HAVE BEEN EXAMINED FOR ADDITIONAL CLUES. COPIES OF ANY DOCUMENTS BELIEVED MATERIAL TO THE CASE ARE ATTACHED FOLLOWING THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIELD BOARD OF REVIEW.

	INITIALS OF ANALYST	(CROSS OUT THOSE NOT APPLICABLE) a. REPORT OF DEATH b. FINDING OF DEATH c. STATUS REVIEW & DETERMINATION	INITIALS OF ANALYST
1. 293 FILE OF SUBJECT(S)	<i>WAK</i>	2.	<i>WAK</i>
3. A - Z FILE OF KNOWN INTERMENTS IN U.S. MILITARY CEMETERIES, ISOLATED LOCATIONS, AND SEA BURIALS	<i>WAK</i>	4. GEOGRAPHICAL CLUE INDEX FILE OF UNKNOWN RECOVERED FROM APPROPRIATE AREA	<i>WAK</i>
5. ALPHABETICAL INDEX OF "BELIEVED TO BE" AND TENTATIVELY IDENTIFIED UNKNOWN	<i>WAK</i>	6. ALPHABETICAL FILE OF FORMER UNKNOWN NOW IDENTIFIED	<i>WAK</i>
7. OTHER DOCUMENTS OR SOURCES	None		<i>WAK</i>

THE FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE BEEN FOUND TO BE SUBSTANTIALLY AS PRESENTED IN THE ATTACHED PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIELD BOARD OF REVIEW, WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:

None

NAN
File
24 APR 1951
[Signature]
Notification Branch

NAME OF CASE ANALYST *A. Kennedy*
A. Kennedy/cwt

CASE TO BE FORWARDED TO ---
FOR CONSIDERATION OF NOTIFICATION TO INTERESTED PARTIES.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL	APPROVED	DATE
CASE REVIEWER, FINAL DETERMINATION SECTION <i>W. A. Wolf</i> W. A. WOLF	CHIEF, FINAL DETERMINATION SECTION <i>Mary A. Edwards</i> MARY A. EDWARDS, 1/Lt QMC	CHIEF, IDENTIFICATION BRANCH <i>Thomas E. Cox</i> THOMAS E. COX, Capt QMC
		23 April 1951

7-11
16008

HEADQUARTERS
7887 GRAVES REGISTRATION DETACHMENT
OPERATIONS DIVISION
APO 757 (Liege) US ARMY

Proceedings of Board of Review appointed in accordance with letter AGAO-S 293.9 (27 Mar 47) D-M, War Dept, TAGO, 9 April 1947.

1. The Board convened pursuant to para 4, SO 139, Headquarters 7887 Graves Registration Detachment, APO 757, US Army, 15 November 1950, at Liege, Belgium on 5 January 1951.

2. Members present:

- C. W. STEINSIEK, Capt, QMC
- LEWIS A. McAMIS, Capt, QMC
- JOHN A. BOUTIN, 2/Lt, QMC

3. PURPOSE: To review and determine, from evidence presented, the non-recoverability of the remains of the decedent in question, lost in the geographical area as described below:

a. Blies River on France - German Frontier, Frauenberg, Germany. Map Sheet K-50, Case #12329.

b. FACTS: The following deceased of the Organizations as indicated became missing in action, according to witnesses, when the boat in which they were riding sank in the Blies River. The river was about 50 yards wide and at flood stage at the time of the incident.

16008	HARPER, Jesse D.	S/Sgt	38 692 307	MIA	13 Dec 1944
	LAYTON, Frank E.	2/Lt	0 1317178	MIA	13 Dec 1944
	SIPPEL, Ollie L.	Sgt	35 796 121	MIA	13 Dec 1944

Also lost in this area on the subsequent dates as indicated were:

MELLON, Mack R.	Pfc	34 187 606	MIA	17 Dec 1944
RAMEY, Jack	Pfc	13 036 437	MIA	20 Dec 1944

4. FINDINGS:

a. Field Investigations in the appropriate area were conducted 23 June 1947, and on 25 January 1949. In addition the area has been

7-11

Non-Recoverable Board Proceedings (cont'd)

repeatedly investigated in the course of the recovery of the following Unknowns :

	<u>Cemetery</u>	<u>D/D</u>	<u>Org.</u>	<u>Isol. Bur.</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
X-3198	St Avoild	Unk	Unk	Habkirchen K-50/Q-56	found nude in Saar River in tree
X-3210	St Avoild	Unk	Inf	Saarlautern K-50/Q-28	<i>Ed. Mansfield</i>
X-3221	St Avoild	Unk	Unk	Saarlautern K-50/Q-28	<i>Ed. Checho</i>
X-3238	St Avoild	Unk	Unk	Saarlautern K-50/Q-28	<i>Ed. Ruble</i>
X-6060	Neuville	Unk	Unk	Saarlautern K-50/Q-28	BTB: Tucker, Stanley H. 38 686 819
X-7465	Neuville	BTB: Dec 44 to Mar 1945	AGF	Saarlautern K-50/Q-28	found in rubble of a house - House #2, on Muhlen Str.
X-7096	Neuville	est. 15 Dec 44	AGF	Bliesmengen K-58/Q-56	ID Tags: <i>Ed. Ramos</i> Wilson, Wayne 36 893 634
X-7098	Neuville	est. 15 Dec	AGF	Bliesmengen K-58/Q-56	<i>Bellinger</i>

b. Subject decedents could not be associated with the above cited Unknowns which have either been identified or declared Unidentifiable.


c. Reference is made to O.Q.M.G Forms 371 for subject decedents on File the Office of the Quartermaster General.

Reference is also made to: Narrative of Field Investigation dated 23 June 1947, Narrative of Report of Investigation dated 25 January 1949: Attached hereto.

7-11

Non-Recoverable Board Proceedings (Cont'd)

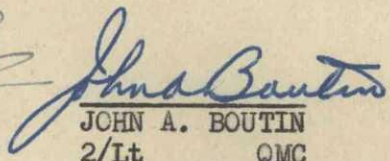
5. RECOMMENDATION: That the remains of the decedents herein considered be determined Non-Recoverable.



C. W. STEINSIEK
Capt QMC
Member



LEWIS A. McAMIS
Capt QMC
Member



JOHN A. BOUTIN
2/Lt QMC
Member

N A R R A T I V E

HP/hb.

On Investigation at Habkirchen, Germany (K-50/Q-55).
23 June 1947.

An investigation was conducted in the vicinity of Habkirchen, Ger. (K-50/Q-55), and the following information was obtained:

Upon arrival at Habkirchen I contacted the Burgermeister and learned that all American soldiers that had been killed in action there, were removed to the French side of the border.

I then proceeded to Bliesbruck/France where I contacted the Burgermeister and cemetery caretaker. They stated that all American deceased had been removed from this area to St. Avold, France.

After interviewing all farmers along the Blies River on both the French and German side I could find no trace of any American grave. I only learned that three Unknown American soldiers were buried there and have been previously disinterred and evacuated to St. Avold, France.

The following American Graves Registration Units have worked that area in 1946.

3049 QM. GR. Co.
536 QM. Gp.

CONCLUSION:

I have come to the conclusion that all American deceased have been removed from the vicinity of Habkirchen and evacuated to St. Avold, France and that Pfc. BELLINGER, HAROLD D. could very possibly be one of the Unknowns mentioned above.

/s/t/ HILDRED PEACE
Cpl 17032394

NARRATIVE REPORT OF INVESTIGATION
AT: BLIESMENGEN (K-50/Q-56)

25 January 1949

During a routine investigation in the vicinity of REINHHEIM, GERSHEIM and BLIESMENGEN we ran across 2 American type ID tags which were kept by the Burgomaster of BLIESMENGEN. According to his statement these tags were found by children playing in the cemetery of BLIESMENGEN in some of the excavated earth from graves # 58 and # 50 in Row #6 after an American disinterment team had removed the remains of Wilson, Wayne and two (2) Unknowns from these graves. Since one of these tags bears the inscription: WILSON, Wayne, i.e. the name of the deceased already identified it is very possible that one of the two (2) Unknowns recovered from this cemetery can be associated with RAMOS, Diego, the name on the second ID tag.

According to information available at this Hqs. RAMOS, Diego was in a MIS status when boat he was in, sank in the BLIES river, on the German and French border. Witnesses state that chance of survival was poor as the water was at flood stage, travelling about 15 miles an hour. The river was about 50 yards wide and these men were in the middle of the river.

Additional information i.e. the Narrative Report of Disinterment for WILSON, Wayne states that the remains and the two Unknowns recovered from the cemetery at BLIESMENGEN were found in the forest about two (2) miles from the town. The narrative report furthermore states that the above mentioned remains were found by a German, a Mr. FLIEGER, who was in charge of a German disinterring team. This Mr. FLIEGER states that he found WILSON's ID tag on one of the deceased, which he kept and handed to the American disinterment team later on. This might not exclude a mistake of having given the wrong name to a wrong deceased.

CONCLUSION:

It is concluded by this investigation that there is a very strong possibility that one of the three (3) deceased recovered from the cemetery in BLIESMENGEN is RAMOS, Diego, especially since his ID tag was found together with the ID tag of WILSON, Wayne, a deceased already identified.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the remains of the three (3) deceased recovered from the cemetery in BLIESMENGEN i.e. WILSON, Wayne ASN 36893634 and Unknown X-7096 and X-7098 (Neuville) be reprocessed, and an effort be made to associate two (2) of them with WILSON, Wayne and RAMOS, Diego.

/s/t/ CLYDE A. FANNING
Cpl RA-18108829, Investigator

HEADQUARTERS
7887 GRAVES REGISTRATION DETACHMENT
APO 757 (LIEGE) US ARMY

15 November 1950

SPECIAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 139)

E-X-T-R-A-C-T

4. PAC, Ltr., WD-AGO-S 293.9, dtd 9 Apr 47, Subject: "Establishment of Boards of Review for Identification of Unknown Dead Overseas", and par 118 b, SR 830-110-5, DA, dtd 2 Mar 49, a Board of O's as follows is hereby apt to meet at the call of the President thereof, for the purpose of reviewing case records pertaining to the Identification of Deceased. Determination of non-recoverability of Remains and for the purpose of reviewing Major Discrepancy cases:

LT COL EDWARD D. MULVANY, O 359 598, QMC., President
MAJOR JAMES C. MacFARLAND, O 1 576 321, QMC.,
MAJOR GEORGE GUNDERMAN, Jr., O 1 289 071, INF/QMC.,
CAPT CLYDE W. STEINSIEK, O 1 040 311, QMC.,
CAPT LEWIS A. McAMIS, O 1 543 042, MSC/QMC.,
CAPT JOHN M. NEFF, O 1 055 924, QMC.,
CAPT ALLAN L. LAWSON, O 1 288 075, QMC.,
1ST LT ROBERT W. GANSEL, O 1 599 085, QMC.,
2D LT JOHN A. BOUTIN, O 947 298, QMC.,

BY ORDER OF COLONEL AMLONG:

EDWARD F. PRICE, Jr.,
CAPT., QMC,
Adjutant

OFFICIAL:

s/t/ EDWARD F. PRICE, Jr.,
CAPT., QMC
Adjutant.

A TRUE COPY:

Robert S. Lay
ROBERT S. LAY
Maj QMC

E-X-T-R-A-C-T

FLAG

WHEN FILE IS

RETURNED BRING TO FINAL

AUDIT SUPERVISOR

*Pending Board Finding
Page 465*

AGPO-CR 201 Harper, Jesse D. ²⁹³
 38,692,307 (20 Mar 50) *ZV*

ALW/gvg/10664a/3098

20 March 1950

MEMORANDUM TO: OIC, Casualty Section, PA Branch, AGO

SUBJECT: Report of Death

1. Staff Sergeant Jesse D. Harper, 38 592 307, Infantry was reported missing in action in Germany on 13 December 1944 by ETO Shipment No. 289, and was presumed dead as of 14 December 1945 by SR&D No. 3098.

2. A Missing Report of Company K, 137th Infantry, dated 20 January 1945, on file with the Casualty record of the subject enlisted man, discloses that on 13 December 1944 he was engaged in a mission of crossing the Blies River, departing from Frauenberg, France, to reach the high ground across the Blies River, and that his last known whereabouts was the "Blies River." The Report includes the following brief resume of circumstances:

"S Sgt Harper was right guide of the 2nd platoon. The boat in which he was crossing the river sank, and nothing more is known of his whereabouts."

3. A letter of inquiry from this office to the European Theater of Operations, dated 18 June 1945, was returned by the 7th Indorsement, dated 13 July 1945. The 4th Indorsement, dated at Hq 137th Infantry 7 July 1945, contains the following pertinent information:

"On morning of 13 Dec 44, the unit prepared to cross the Blies River near Eliesbruck, France at approximately 0700 in the morning to assault the enemy. From this small town, it was necessary to cross an open field of about 150-200 yds to reach the river. The river was about 30 yds in width, with the current running around 15 miles per hour. Water was at flood stage. The weather was cold, around 38°, Visibility: Foggy.

"Combat uniform worn, rifles, sidearms, etc. Raincoats were carried. It is not known whether S Sgt Harper could swim. An unidentified engineer pulled three men out of the river, one other reached the bank. Fifty yards to the front a German automatic weapon was firing. Rescue or capture by the enemy at that time is unlikely. Statements of surviving personnel not available. No systematic search was made, due to tactical situation.

FILE

MAR 23 1950

Identification Branch
O P M G

AGPO-CR 201 Harper, Jesse D.
38,692,307 (20 Mar 50)

S Sgt Harper was last seen in approximately the center of the river There is the possibility that S Sgt Harper may have swam (sic) down stream and was captured at some other point along the river. It is felt that there is a possibility of survival.

"The following is a list of other casualties reported as a result of this incident:

Hollywood, Alfred D.	32216186	S Sgt	SWA	13 Dec 44
Layton, Frank E.	01317178	2 Lt	MIA	13 Dec 44

Tec 4 Tony Cropesa, 20726758, Med Det, 137th Infantry, was involved in this incident, but has since been transferred from this organization . . ."

The 7th Indorsement includes the statement that Sgt Hollywood returned to the United States at a later date.

4. The Blies River flows in a southwesterly direction into the Saar River south of Saarbrucken, Germany.

5. A search of the Captured German records has resulted in failure to locate any record of the subject person, nor has any record of burial been found as a result of search of records in the OQMG.

6. The subject enlisted man was engaged in a mission on 13 December 1944 which required him to depart from Frauenberg, France, and cross the Blies River in a boat to reach high ground. The boat capsized and he was not seen afterward. The temperature was about 38°; the time about 0700 hours; the river 30 yards wide with the water at flood stage, and the current running 15. miles per hour. Sgt. Harper was last seen in the center of the river. The enemy was firing with a German automatic weapon about 50 yards in front and the soldiers were wearing combat uniform with rifles, sidearms and carried rain coats. No trace of this soldier has been found during the more than five years which have elapsed since the date of this incident. In view of the conditions prevailing at the time, with a fog over the river, the weather, swift current and heavy equipment, it is logical to conclude that this soldier was killed, either directly by drowning or by enemy fire which rendered him unable to reach shore.

7. It is recommended, therefore, that pursuant to the provisions of

AGPO-CR 201 Harper, Jesse D.
38,692,307 (20 Mar 50)

Section 9, Missing Persons Act, the foregoing information be accepted as an official report of death, stating that the person named in paragraph one, above, was killed in action in the Blies River near Saarbrucken, Germany, on 13 December 1944. The official report of death will include the following statement:

"Finding of Death has been issued previously under Section 5, Public Law 490, 7 March 1942, as amended, showing presumed date of death as 14 December 1945. This 'Report of Death' is issued in accordance with Section 9 of said Act and its effect on prior payments and settlements is as provided in Section 9."

This memorandum will be routed to Operating Unit for notification and processing.

Station and place of death: European Area.

Alice L. Ward
Investigator

CONCUR:

T. J. COLLUM
Major, AGD
OIC, Determination & Review Unit

APPROVED. Recommended action will be taken.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

SYLVIO L. BOUSQUIN
Lt. Col., AGD
OIC, Casualty Section
Personnel Actions Branch, AGO

Copy furnished:
OQMG, Memorial Div.
AG 201 file

IDENTIFICATION SECTION
MEMORIAL DIVISION

8240

IDENTIFICATION DATA

LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL <i>Harper Jesse H.</i>			ARMY SERIAL NUMBER <i>38692307</i>		GRADE <i>S/SGT</i>
HEIGHT <i>5 FT. 7</i>	WEIGHT <i>131</i>	COLOR EYES <i>Blue</i>	COLOR HAIR <i>Brown</i>	SHOE SIZE <i>8 1/2 D</i>	DATE OF DEATH <i>14 Dec 45</i>

LAST ORGANIZATION TO WHICH ATTACHED OR ASSIGNED (Give complete designation)
Co-K-137th-Inf.

PLACE OF DEATH OR PLACE LAST SEEN IF MIA
In action - Crossing River Boat Sank - Germany.

LIST ALL CAMPS IN WHICH STATIONED IN U.S. PRIOR TO SERVICE OVERSEAS, WITH INCLUSIVE DATES AT EACH.

STATION	DATES
<i>Camp Jos. T. Robinson</i>	<i>30 - Mar - 44 - 31 Mar - 44</i>
<i>FT. George E. Meade</i>	<i>1 Aug - 44 - 16 Aug - 44</i>
<i>" " " "</i>	<i>4 SEPT. 44 - 5 SEPT. 44</i>
<i>38th Rep. dePo-</i>	<i>10 Oct - 44</i>
<i>New-York - N.Y.</i>	<i>13 - Dec - 44</i>

FROM: W.D. AGO CLINICAL RECORDS BRANCH
NO RECORDS IN FILE

FRACTURES AND/OR BREAKS	TATTOOS AND/OR BIRTH MARKS
-------------------------	----------------------------

21 Mar - 44

DENTAL CHART

8 7 6 5 4	3 X X	X X 3	4 5 6 7 8
UPPER RIGHT			UPPER LEFT
16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9			9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
LOWER RIGHT			LOWER LEFT

W.F.K. X - EXTRACTED O - CARIOUS / - CARIOUS NON-RESTORABLE

IDENTIFICATION SECTION
MEMORIAL DIVISION

IDENTIFICATION DATA

LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL		ARMY SERIAL NUMBER		GRADE
WEIGHT	HEIGHT	HAIR	EYES	COMPLEXION
LAST ORGANIZATION TO WHICH ATTACHED OR ASSIGNED (Give complete designation)				
PLACE OF BIRTH OR PLACE LAST BEEN TO				
LIST ALL CAMPS IN WHICH STATIONED WHILE ON SERVICE OVERSEAS, WITH INCLUSIVE DATES AT EACH				
STATION		DATES		
[Faint handwritten text, possibly names and dates]				
[Faint handwritten text, possibly dates]				
[Faint handwritten text, possibly dates]				
[Faint handwritten text, possibly dates]				
[Faint handwritten text, possibly dates]				
[Faint handwritten text, possibly dates]				

TATTOOS AND/OR BIRTH MARKS	EXAMINEES WHOSE BIRTH
----------------------------	-----------------------

DENTAL CHART

UPPER RIGHT
UPPER LEFT
LOWER RIGHT
LOWER LEFT

0 - CARIOUS
X - EXTRACTED

[Dental chart grid with handwritten notations]



FINAL REPORT

WAR DEPARTMENT
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

REPORT OF DEATH No. 104

DATE 28 March 1950 pmr

FULL NAME Harper, Jesse D.		ARMY SERIAL NUMBER 38 692 307	GRADE S/SGT
HOME ADDRESS Amarillo, Texas		ARM OR SERVICE INF	DATE OF BIRTH 23 Nov 1912
PLACE OF DEATH Germany	CAUSE OF DEATH Killed in Action		DATE OF DEATH 13 Dec 1944
STATION OF DECEASED European Area		DATE OF ENTRY ON CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE 21 Mar 1944	LENGTH OF SERVICE FOR PAY PURPOSES YEARS MONTHS DAYS

EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE (Name, relationship, and address)
Mrs. Ina M. Harper, wife, Route #2, Anson, Texas.

BENEFICIARY (Name, relationship, and address)
Mrs. Ina M. Harper, wife, same as above. Ronald Del Harper, son, same as above.
Mrs. Anne E. Harper, mother; Mr. Claud Harper, father, Box 34, Tahoke, Texas

INVESTIGATION MADE		IN LINE OF DUTY		OWN MISCONDUCT		WAS DECEASED ON DUTY STATUS		AUTHORIZED ABSENCE		IN FLYING PAY STATUS		OTHER PAY STATUS (Specify below)	
YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
											<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

ADDITIONAL DATA AND/OR STATEMENT
 BATTLE NON-BATTLE

Finding of death has been issued previously under Section 5, Public Law 490, 7 March 1942, as amended, showing presumed date of death as 14 December 1945. This Report of Death is issued in accordance with Section 9 of said Act and its effect on prior payments and settlements is as provided in Section 9.

Records reveal soldier to have a daughter; Varona Beth Harper.
Soldier awarded Combat Infantryman's Badge per GO #11, 1 Nov 44, Hq. 137th Inf.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

Fidel
12 Apr 50
C. Bridges

DISTRIBUTION:
B-1

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

[Signature]

ADJUTANT GENERAL



293 FILE		DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET RECORDED OR IDENTIFIED <i>Harper</i>		
NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) <i>HARPER, JESSE D.</i>		GRADE <i>S/SGT.</i>	PRESENT SERIAL NUMBER <i>38692307</i>	
ORGANIZATION <i>Co. "K", 137 TH INF</i>		RACE <i>WHITE</i>	CREED <i>PROTEST</i>	FORMER SERIAL NUMBER (If applicable)
DATE OF DEATH/MIA <i>13-DEC-44</i>	CAUSE OF DEATH <i>F.O.D.</i>	PLACE OF DEATH OR PLACE LAST SEEN IF MIA <i>SANK WITH BOAT WHILE CROSSING THE BLIES RIVER, GERMANY.</i>		
DATE OF FOD <i>14-DEC-45</i>				
HEIGHT <i>5'7"</i>	WEIGHT <i>131 lbs</i>	COLOR EYES <i>BLUE</i>	COLOR HAIR <i>BROWN</i>	SHOE SIZE <i>8 1/2-D.</i>
DENTAL CHART <i>21-MAR-44</i>				
UPPER RIGHT		UPPER LEFT		
8 7 6 5 4 3 <i>X X</i>		<i>X X</i> 3 4 5 6 7 8		
LOWER RIGHT		LOWER LEFT		
16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9		9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16		
X = Extracted		O = Carious		1 = Carious Non-Restorable
FRACTURES AND/OR BREAKS		TATTOOS AND/OR BIRTHMARK		
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION				

FILE
JUL 1 1948
E. J. Sullivan, 1st Lt., OMC
IDENTIFICATION BRANCH

Form prescribed by
Comptroller General, U.S.
7 October 1944

WAR DEPARTMENT
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

4894

FINDING OF DEATH OF MISSING PERSON

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 5 of the Act of 7 March 1942 (Public Law 490 77th Cong.) as amended, upon direction and delegation by The Secretary of War, The Chief, Casualty Branch, The Adjutant General's Office, finds Staff Sergeant Jesse D. Harper, Army Serial Number 38,692,307, Infantry, to be dead. He was officially reported as missing in action as of the 13th day of December 1944. For the purposes stated in said Act, death is presumed to have occurred on the 14th day of December, 1945

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR

George F. Herbert

ADJUTANT GENERAL
CHIEF, CASUALTY BRANCH

293 Harper, Jesse D.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

AREA		FLYING STATUS	JUMP STATUS	LINE OF DUTY	OWN. MIS-CONDUCT	ON DUTY STATUS	ABSENCE AUTH'D
European		No	No	Yes	No	Yes	
PREVIOUS REVIEWS							
None							
DATE OF BIRTH	HOME ADDRESS	DATE OF ENTRY ON CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE		LENGTH OF SERVICE (AS OF PRESUMED DATE OF DEATH)			
23 Nov 1912	Amarillo, Texas	21 Mar 1944		YEARS	MONTH	DAYS	
				Under	three	years	

EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE		
NAME	RELATIONSHIP	ADDRESS
Mrs. Ina M. Harper	Wife	Route Two Anson, Texas

* BENEFICIARIES		
NAME	RELATIONSHIP	ADDRESS
Mrs. Ina Mae Harper	Wife	Route Two Anson, Texas
Ronald Del Harper	Son	

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	ADDRESS
Mrs. Anne Elizabeth Harper	Mother	
Mr. Claud Harper	Father	Box 34, Tahoka, Texas

REMARKS

Distribution 56

*Records reveal soldier to have a daughter: Varona Beth Harper.
Soldier awarded Combat Infantryman's Badge per GO 11, 1 Nov 44, Hq. 137th Inf.

Circumstances of disappearance: The boat in which he was crossing the Blies River sank and nothing more is known of his whereabouts.

FILE
DEC 20 1945

WD AGO FORM 0353
1 FEB 1945

THIS FORM SUPERSEDES WD AGO FORM 0353, 1 NOVEMBER 1944,
WHICH MAY BE USED UNTIL EXISTING STOCKS ARE EXHAUSTED.

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D. C.

REPORT OF PERSONNEL

Faint, illegible text in the upper section of the document, possibly containing names or identifying information.

Handwritten signature or initials in the middle section of the document.

Faint grid or table structure with multiple columns and rows, likely for recording personnel data.



DEC 20 1948
Faint stamp or mark in the bottom left corner.

251



Form prescribed by
Comptroller General, U.S.
7 October 1944

WAR DEPARTMENT
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

3 35352
4894
BT

FINDING OF DEATH OF MISSING PERSON

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 5 of the Act of 7 March 1942 (Public Law 490 77th Cong.) as amended, upon direction and delegation by The Secretary of War, The Chief, Casualty Branch, The Adjutant General's Office, finds Staff Sergeant Jesse D. Harper, Army Serial Number 38,692,307, Infantry, to be dead. He was officially reported as missing in action as of the 13th day of December 1944. For the purposes stated in said Act, death is presumed to have occurred on the 14th day of December, 1945

RB

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR
George F. Herbert
ADJUTANT GENERAL
CHIEF, CASUALTY BRANCH

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

AREA	FLYING STATUS	JUMP STATUS	LINE OF DUTY	OWN MIS-CONDUCT	ON DUTY STATUS	ABSENCE AUTH'D
European	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	
PREVIOUS REVIEWS						
None						
DATE OF BIRTH	HOME ADDRESS	DATE OF ENTRY ON CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE	LENGTH OF SERVICE (AS OF PRESUMED DATE OF DEATH)			
23 Nov 1912	Amarillo, Texas	21 Mar 1944	YEARS	MONTH	DAYS	
			Under	three	years	

EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	ADDRESS
Mrs. Ina M. Harper	Wife	Route Two Anson, Texas

* BENEFICIARIES

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	ADDRESS
Mrs. Ina Mae Harper	Wife	Route Two Anson, Texas
Ronald Del Harper	Son	
NAME	RELATIONSHIP	ADDRESS
Mrs. Anne Elizabeth Harper	Mother	Box 34, Tahoka, Texas
Mr. Claud Harper	Father	

REMARKS

Distribution 56

*Records reveal soldier to have a daughter: Varona Beth Harper.
Soldier awarded Combat Infantryman's Badge per GO 11, 1 Nov 44, Hq. 137th Inf.

Circumstances of disappearance: The boat in which he was crossing the Blies River sank and nothing more is known of his whereabouts.

WD AGO FORM 0353
1 FEB 1945

THIS FORM SUPERSEDES WD AGO FORM 0353, 1 NOVEMBER 1944.
WHICH MAY BE USED UNTIL EXISTING STOCKS ARE EXHAUSTED.

WAR DEPARTMENT
 THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
 WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

485
 335352

—BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT

NAME HARPER JESSE D			SERIAL NUMBER 38692307	GRADE S SC	ARM OR SERVICE INF	REPORTING THEATRE ETO
PLACE OF CASUALTY GERMANY 9	DATE OF CASUALTY DAY MONTH YEAR 13 DEC 44			FLYING OR JUMPING STAT V	TYPE OF CASUALTY MIA	SHIPMENT NUMBER 289

NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE

THE INDIVIDUAL NAMED ABOVE DESIGNATED THE FOLLOWING PERSON AS THE ONE TO BE NOTIFIED IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, AND THE OFFICIAL TELEGRAPHIC AND LETTER NOTIFICATIONS WILL BE SENT TO THIS PERSON. THE RELATIONSHIP, IF ANY, IS SHOWN BELOW. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THIS PERSON IS NOT NECESSARILY THE NEXT-OF-KIN OR RELATIVE DESIGNATED TO BE PAID SIX MONTHS' PAY GRATUITY IN CASE OF DEATH

MR.-MRS.-MISS—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE INITIAL—LAST NAME MRS INA M HARPER	RELATIONSHIP WIFE	DATE NOTIFIED 2 JAN 45
NO. AND NAME OF STREET—CITY—STATE ROUTE TWO ANSON TEXAS		

REMARKS: CORRECTED COPY

ACTION BY PROCESSING AND VERIFICATION SECTION: REPORT VERIFIED FORM 48 AG 201 REQ _____

CASUALTY BRANCH FILE ATTACHED _____ OR CHARGED TO _____ DATE _____

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED **NO** **YES _____** (AS INDICATED BELOW):

FILE NO.	MESSAGE NO.	TYPE	DATE AND AREA	E. A. NOTIFIED

FORWARDED TO: SPEC. IDEN. TELEGRAM WOUNDED LETTER CORRES. S. R. & D. CERTIF. M. & M. NON-DEL.

REPORT NOT VERIFIED _____ NO FORM 48 _____ NO CAS. BR. FILE CHECKED BY _____ REVIEWED BY _____

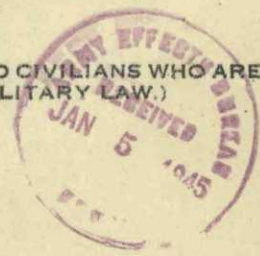
THIS SPACE FOR USE OF MACHINE RECORDS BRANCH, A.G.O.

ACCT. AREA	CASUALTY STATUS	ORIGINAL CAS. DATE			MESSAGE NO.	LATEST CAS. DATE			REFERENCE AREA	CREW POS.	RESIDENCE		COMP	RACE											
		DAY	MO.	YR.		DAY	MO.	YR.			STATE	COUNTY													
34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59

DISTRIBUTION "A" _____ COPIES
 (ALL TYPES OF CASUALTIES PERTAINING TO MILITARY PERSONNEL, EXCEPT WOUNDED.)
 COPIES FURNISHED: SEE CASUALTY BRANCH MEMORANDUM NO. 48, 1944.

DISTRIBUTION "B" _____ COPIES
 (ALL WOUNDED MILITARY PERSONNEL AND ALL TYPES OF CASUALTIES PERTAINING TO CIVILIANS WHO ARE W. D. EMPLOYEES, EMPLOYEES OF W. D. CONTRACTORS AND OTHERS SUBJECT TO MILITARY LAW.)
 COPIES FURNISHED: SEE CASUALTY BRANCH MEMORANDUM NO. 48, 1944.

W.D., A.G.O. FORM NO. 0265
 16 JUNE 1944



335352

CLR/SLB/fes
5 February 1947

Miss Clara Harper
Box 34
Tahoka, Texas

Dear Miss Harper:

This acknowledges your letter of 13 January 1947, written in connection with the personal effects belonging to your brother, Staff Sergeant Jesse D. Harper. I am returning the self-addressed envelope which you submitted to this Bureau.

The European Theater Area records now on file here do not reveal the recovery of any property which belonged to your brother.

Anticipating your disappointment, I am indeed sorry to convey this report. However, if any effects belonging to Sergeant Harper are received here at a later date, you will be notified.

Yours very truly,

1 Incl
Envelope

C. L. RUMFIELD
1st Lt, QMC
Asst Effects Quartermaster

335,352^d No

Jahoku Texas

Jan 13, 1947

Kansas City Quartermaster Depot:
 I read in the daily paper where
 the U.S. Army stores C.I.'s lost
 items my brother S/Sgt Jesse D.
Harper, A.S.N 38692307, Co K. 137 Inf.
 A.P.O. 35, New York, N.Y. was
 reported missing in action
 Dec 13, 1944, later reported killed
 on that date, all we ever knew
 was that his co was crossing the
 Blythe River into Germany. a Lt
 Travis. wrote us this, and to a
 piece was sent to the County paper
 where he went behind the lines
 one night to get help in the
 house to house battle at Freyhausen
 we just wonder if he had some

personal belongings some where over
there. He landed in France some
time in Sept 1944. we never
did hear from him very often
as he was in battle all the time.

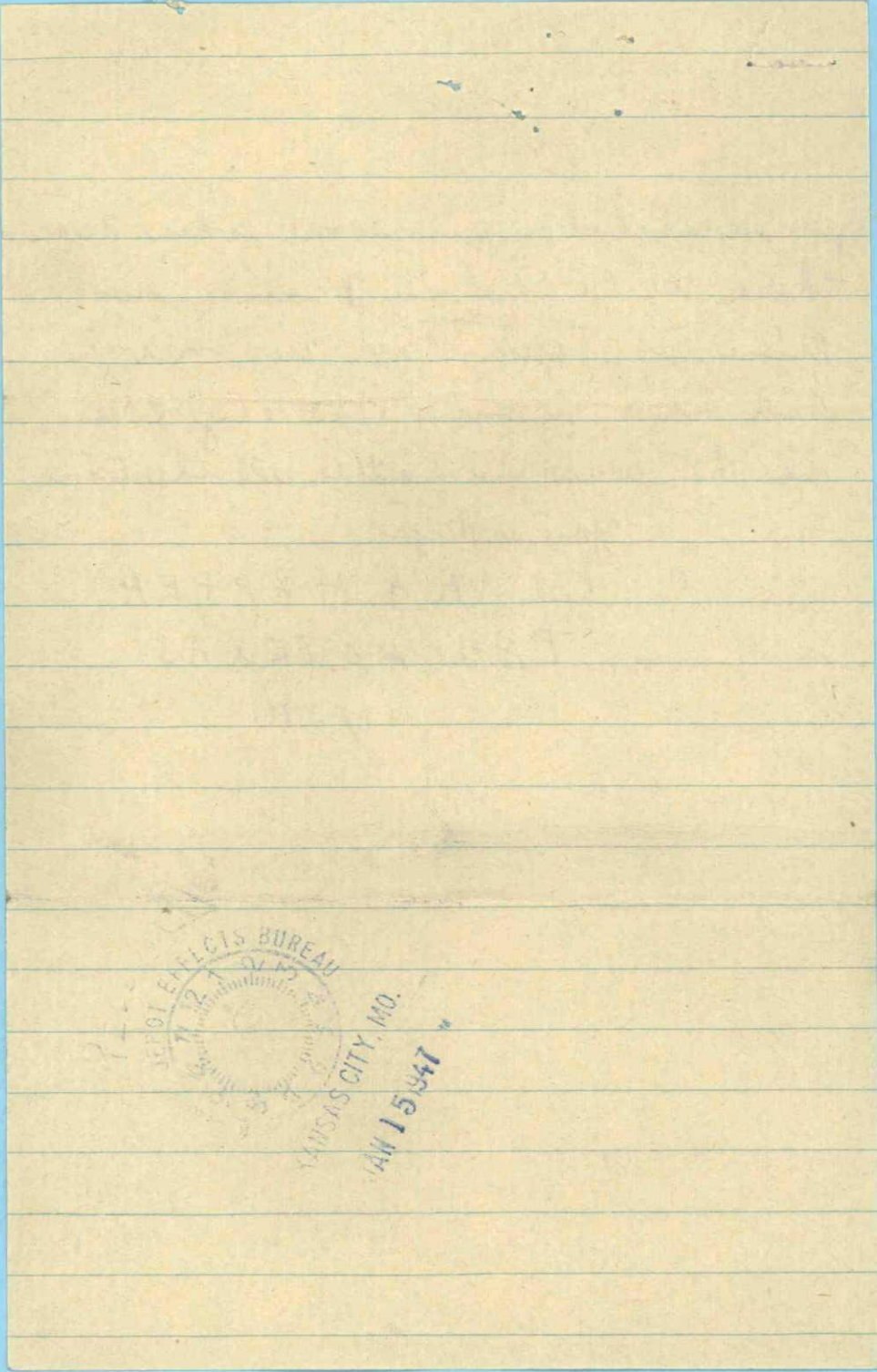
yours Resp.

CLARA HARPER

TAHOKA, TEXAS

Box 24.

No Property
1-22-47



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

KANSAS CITY, MO.
APR 15 1947

37:52
23 JAN 1947

KANSAS CITY QUARTERMASTER DEPOT
ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU

S-28 Jan 47
NW/SIB/dsf

Case No. 335352

23 January 1947

REQUEST

TO: European Theater Records Branch - Army Effects Bureau

Request examination of ETA records and report concerning missing, or allegedly missing, personal effects of:

Harper	Jesse	D.	38692307	S/Sgt.
(Last Name)	(First Name)	(MI)	(ASN)	(Rank)
Infantry		Deceased (MIA - 13 Dec 44)		
(Organization)		(Status)		

Bureau records do not indicate that any property of subject has been received here. With exception of a M.O.

Property received at AEB is listed on following overseas inventories:

Allegedly missing items, not received here, consist of:

Remarks:

Any information pertaining to personal effects.

N. WHIPPLE
Chief Clerk
Correspondence Branch

REPLY 88-2
1st/11/47

ST:vg
27 January 1947

TO: Correspondence Branch - Army Effects Bureau

Case No. 33332

- No record of any effects.
- No record of missing items.
- (*) Inventory received from:

 (Dated) _____ (Signed by) _____
 Effects shipped to: _____

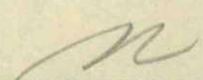
Parcel _____	Date _____	Baggage List _____	Sheet _____
Parcel _____	Date _____	Baggage List _____	Sheet _____

Funds: \$ _____ Transmitted on List F- _____ Date _____

Remarks:

ETA records reveal no additional effects.

Since the remains of this soldier have not been recovered, it can be assumed that any property on his person when reported a casualty would be considered lost, destroyed or taken by persons unknown.


 SYDNEY TINKLER

ETA Records Branch

(*) This information need not be given on inventories covering property already received at AEB.



ARMY SERVICE FORCES
KANSAS CITY QUARTERMASTER DEPOT
ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU
601 HARDESTY AVENUE
KANSAS CITY 1, MISSOURI

(S-12-14-45)
RTB:JS;hc
October 15, 1945

IN REPLY REFER TO ~~335352~~

Mrs. Jesse D. Harper
Anson, Texas

file
Per

Dear Mrs. Harper:

I am inclosing a money order made payable to you in the amount of \$50.00 belonging to your husband, Staff Sergeant Jesse D. Harper.

No other property belonging to him has been received at the Army Effects Bureau to date.

Please acknowledge receipt of the money order by signing one copy of this letter in the space provided below and returning that copy to this Bureau. For your convenience, there is inclosed an addressed envelope which needs no postage.

All War Department agencies have instructions to forward the personal effects of military personnel to this Bureau for disposition. Money orders, as a rule, are sent, by mail, in advance of other property. Any of his property received here will be forwarded promptly. Therefore, I ask that you please notify this Bureau in the event of a change in your address.

Yours very truly,

2 Incls--
Money Order
Envelope

A. G. SCHUMACHER
Captain, QMC
Asst. Chief, Adm. Division

Receipt acknowledged:

Mrs. Jesse D. Harper

(Signature of Bailee)

10/24/45

(Date)



KANSAS CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

October 13, 1945

RECEIVED
ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU
KANSAS CITY, MO.
OCT 26 1945

Faded, mostly illegible text, likely the body of a letter or report.

Faded text, possibly a signature or address line.

Faded text, possibly a signature or address line.

Faded text at the bottom of the page, possibly a footer or reference.

ARMY SERVICE FORCES
ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU

ORDER FOR SHIPMENT

SHIP TO: Mrs. Jesse D. Harper

Effects of:

Name S./Sgt. Jesse D. Harper

ASN 38692307

Case No. 335352

Wt.

DATE 15 October 1945 JS:hc

JAR
FOR: Effects Quartermaster

REMARKS:

Inclose Bureau Check
Acct. No. _____
Amount _____
 Inclose "Valuables" item
 Ship "Valuables" item(s)

Remove G.I.
 Note discrepancy in _____
 Films removed
 Diary removed
 Laundry removed

ROUTING:

1 Accounting Branch ✓
Warehouse Division
2 Files Branch, Adm. Div.

VALUABLES SHIPPED
DATE 10-15-45
BY Rel

REMARKS

Franked _____
Est. Exp. Chgs. _____
Est. Frt. Chgs. _____
No. of package _____

Shipping Clerk

ON: 219706

335,352
CA

6 July

5535 \$50.00

U.S. Postal Money Order
Office No. X8540, APO 35, N.Y.C.

Ana Mae Harper

ITEM 1 O.M.O
NUMBER 5535
ISSUED APo 35 Bu Unit N.Y.
DATE 14 Dec 1944
REMITTER S/Sgt - Jesse D. Harper
PAYEE Ana Mae Harper, Lusk, Texas
AMOUNT 50.00

MIA

S/Sgt Harper, Jesse D.

38692307

\$50.00 *257/27/45 mg*

Request acknowledgement of receipt by indorsement hereon.

Army Effects Bureau, Kansas City
Quartermaster Depot, 601 Hardesty
Avenue, Kansas City 1, Missouri

VALUABLES SHIPPED

DATE 10-15-45
BY RD

Receipt acknowledged.

JUL 27 1945
For The Effects Quartermaster:

INVENTORY @-220

jos

OK: 519708

33232
CA

6 Jul 45

5535 \$50.00
U.S. Postal Money Order
Office No. X8840, APO 35, N.Y.C.
Ans Rae Harper

ADA

ITEM 1 O.M. O.
NUMBER 5535
ISSUE NO. 90 3254
DATE 14 July 1945
REMISSOR Capt. James B. Harper
PAYEE Ans Rae Harper, Kansas, General
AMOUNT \$50.00

3882307 \$50.00
Sgt Harper, Jesse D.
Request acknowledgment of receipt by indorsement hereon.

VALUES SHIPPED
DATE 7-12-45
BY

Army Effects Bureau, Kansas City
Quartermaster General, 601 Hardesty
Avenue, Kansas City 1, Missouri
JUL 27 1945
For the Effects Quartermaster

INVENTORY 0-000