



IDPF

on

SSG Meadows

(34 778 467)

USA

12/63: 46-3

70A1

6418

70A1
6418
9/21; 30-1-6

NON-RECOVERABLE REMAINS REEXAMINATION OF RECORDS

AREA OF DEATH <u>Germany</u>	CASE NUMBER
---------------------------------	-------------

NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) <u>Meadows, Leroy</u>	RANK <u>S Sgt</u>	SERIAL NUMBER <u>34 778 467</u>
---	----------------------	------------------------------------

IN THE COURSE OF THIS REEXAMINATION IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF DEATH WERE SUCH THAT: (Check appropriate box)

- THE REMAINS OF THE DECEDENT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN RECOVERED
- 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
2. GEOGRAPHICAL CLUE INDEX FILE OF UNKNOWN RECOVERED FROM APPROPRIATE AREA, COMPARED WITH DECEDENT	
3. OTHER DOCUMENTS OR SOURCES	

REMARKS

X

RECOMMEND APPROVAL	APPROVED	DATE
NAME OF CASE ANALYST <u>[Signature]</u>	CASE REVIEWER, FINAL DETERMINATION SECTION <u>[Signature]</u> MARY A. EDWARDS 1st Lt., QMC	FEB 28 1951

MEMORIALIZATION OF NON-RECOVERABLE
REMAINS OF WORLD WAR II

THIS FILE HAS BEEN AUDITED FOR NON-RECOVERABILITY

NAME (Last, First, Middle)

MEADOWS, LEROY

RANK

S S G

SERIAL NUMBER

34 778 467

ARM OF SERVICE

ARMY

DATE OF DEATH

17 DEC 45

AREA OF DEATH

GERMANY

NAME OF AUDITOR

SIMMONS

DATE

8 FEB 51

NAME OF REVIEWER

JARMAN

DATE

12 FEB 51

REMARKS

QMGMF DEPT OF ARMY WASH DC ZIEG X-51428

UNCLASSIFIED

VA DISTRICT OFFICE #1
900 NORTH LOMBARDY STREET
RICHMOND VIRGINIA

P

REFERENCE S/SGT LEROY MEADOWS XC 6 038 617. ADVISE BY TELEGRAM CURRENT ADDRESS
OF WIDOW AND HERMARRITAL STATUS END ZIEG

ZIEG
Memorial Division
OQMG

EWZ

OCT 5 4 32 PM '50
D. O. M. G.
TEL. & CAB
TELETYPE UNIT

MEMORIAL DIVISION
OCT 2 15 22 PM '50
ADMINISTRATIVE



GRAVES

UNCLASSIFIED

D. A. Renner
D. A. RENNER *ml*

QMGMF 293
Meadows, Leroy 34 778 467

051430Z
Oct 50

Captain, QMG, Memorial Division

UNCLASSIFIED

ORDER UNIT OF ALEX WASH DC KING X-2123

AV DISTRICT OFFICE #1
300 NORTH LOMBARD STREET
RICHMOND VIRGINIA

9

REFERENCE 8/21/50 LETTER HEADS TO & 038 CIT. ADVISE BY TELEGRAM CURRENT ADDRESS
OF WIDOW AND HER MARITAL STATUS RE: KING

EWS

RECEIVED
Historical Division
OCT 5 1950

OCT 5 1950
3:43 PM



ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH
MEMORIAL DIVISION
OCT 5 12 55 PM '50

SHAYS

[Signature]
D. A. HENNER

Special Agent in Charge, Historical Division

OCT 21 1950

Washou, Jerry St. 118 1st

CONTROLLED CASE

NAME MEADOWS, Leroy	GRADE S/Sgt	SERIAL NO. 34 778 467
------------------------	----------------	--------------------------

DO NOT TAKE ANY ACTION ON THIS CASE OR RELEASE INFORMATION FROM THIS FILE WITHOUT THE CONCURRENCE OF:

<input type="checkbox"/> LIAISON OFFICE, MEMORIAL DIVISION	FLAGGED BY (Initials)
--	-----------------------

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IDENTIFICATION BRANCH, MEMORIAL DIVISION	FLAGGED BY (Initials) Capt Lay
--	-----------------------------------

UNKNOWN X -	NON-RECOVERABLE CASE NO. 14289	A-Z CARD FLAGGED BY	333 CARD FLAGGED BY
----------------	-----------------------------------	---------------------	---------------------

IMPORTANT

THIS FORM MUST BE MAINTAINED ON TOP OF 293 FILE AT ALL TIMES UNTIL CANCELLED BY MEMORIAL DIVISION. ONLY THE "CONGRESSIONAL TOPPER", OQMG FORM 391, MAY BE PLACED OVER THIS FORM.

Sm

QMGMF DEPT OF ARMY WASH DC ZIEG X-54428

UNCLASSIFIED

VA DISTRICT OFFICE #4
900 NORTH LOMBARDY STREET
RICHMOND VIRGINIA

P

REFERENCE S/SOT LEROY MEADOWS XC 6 038 617. ADVISE BY TELEGRAM CURRENT ADDRESS
OF WIDOW AND HER MARITAL STATUS END ZIEG

ZIEG
Memorial Division
OQMG

N
EWZ

SEP 20 4 47 PM '50
O.D.M.G.
TEL. & CAB
SECTION



MEMORIAL DIVISION
FEB 20 5 20 PM '50
ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH

GRAVES

UNCLASSIFIED

D. A. Renner
D. A. RENNER

QMGMF 293
Meadows, Leroy 34 778 467

201645Z
Sep 50

Captain, QMG, Memorial Division

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten mark]

UNCLASSIFIED

COMM. UNIT OF AMERICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY

1400 WASHINGTON AV
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10005
NEW YORK, N.Y.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DATE: SEP 20 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SEP 20 4 45 PM '50
RECEIVED
F. B. I.
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION



RECEIVED
SEP 20 2 59 PM '50
ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH
MEMORIAL DIVISION

UNCLASSIFIED

[Handwritten signature]

D. A. [Name]

Special Agent in Charge, Memorial Division

SEP 20 1950

UNCLASSIFIED

COMM. UNIT

NEW YORK, N.Y.



VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

DISTRICT OFFICE

P. O. BOX 244
Richmond 19, Virginia

YOUR FILE REFERENCE:

October 9, 1950

IN REPLY REFER TO: RV8V

XC-6 038 617
MEADOWS, Leroy

743

Memorial Division
Office of The Quartermaster General
Washington 25, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to your telegram received in this office October 8, 1950, in connection with the case of the above-named veteran.

You are informed that the records of this office reveal that the veteran's widow remarried January 13, 1946, and that her name is now Helen Meadows Stroupe. Her latest address of record is Box 323, Homestead, Florida.

Very truly yours,

P. H. Moss

P. H. MOSS
Director, Claims Service



*File
in
Director's
Office*

An inquiry by or concerning an ex-service man or woman should, if possible, give veteran's name and file number, whether C, XC, K, N, or V. If such file number is unknown, service or serial number should be given.



VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

DISTRICT OFFICE
P. O. BOX 244
Richmond 18, Virginia

YOUR FILE REFERENCE:

October 9, 1950

IN REPLY REFER TO:
RV8V

XC-6 038 617
MEADOWS, Leroy

Memorial Division
Office of The Quartermaster General
Washington 25, D. C.

Gentlemen:

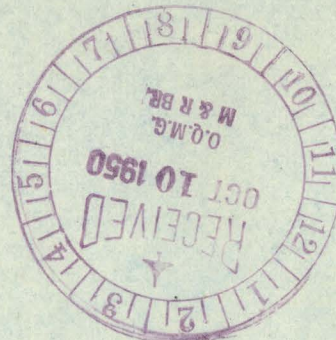
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Very truly yours,

P. H. Moss

P. H. MOSS
Director, Claims Service



An inquiry by or concerning an ex-service man or woman should, if possible, give veteran's name and file number, whether C, XC, K, N, or V. If such file number is unknown, service or social number should be given.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

QMGMF 293

Meadows, Leroy

SN 34 778 467

30 August 1950

Mrs. Helen J. Meadows
General Delivery
Gastonia, North Carolina

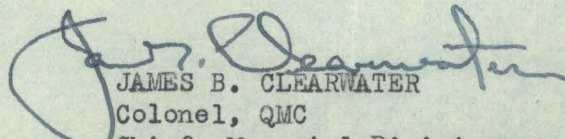
Dear Mrs. Meadows:

Several years have elapsed since the cessation of hostilities of World War II, which cost the life of your husband, the late Staff Sergeant Leroy Meadows.

It is with deep regret that your Government finds it necessary to inform you that further search and investigation have failed to reveal the whereabouts of your husband's remains. Since all efforts to recover and identify his remains have failed, it has been necessary to declare that his remains are not recoverable.

Realizing the extent of your great loss, it is with reluctance that you are sent the information that there is no grave at which to pay homage. May the knowledge of your husband's honorable service to his country be a source of sustaining comfort to you.

Sincerely yours,


JAMES B. CLEARWATER
Colonel, QMC
Chief, Memorial Division

RECEIVED
SEP 13 2 12 PM '50

RECORDS BRANCH
MEMORIAL DIVISION

Handwritten notes:
I. J. L.
10/2/50
C. J. L.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



30 August 1950

IN REPLY REFER TO
OAGMFG 298
Meadows, Leroy
SN 34 778 467

Mrs. Helen J. Meadows
General Delivery
Gastonia, North Carolina

Dear Mrs. Meadows:

Several years have elapsed since the cessation of hostilities of World War II, which cost the life of your husband, the late Staff Sergeant Leroy Meadows.

It is with deep regret that your Government finds it necessary to inform you that further search and investigation have failed to reveal the whereabouts of your husband's remains. Since all efforts to recover and identify his remains have failed, it has been necessary to declare that his remains are not recoverable.

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Sincerely yours,

James B. Clearwater
JAMES B. CLEARWATER
Colonel, GMC
Chief, Memorial Division

MEMORIAL DIVISION

SEP 13 9 15 AM '50

REPAIRS
RECORDS BRANCH

*File
100-100000-100000*

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

TO: <i>PENTAGON LIAISON SECTION, MEMORIAL DIVISION</i>		DATE 18 September 1950	
FROM (Branch and Section) Repat Br., Corres. Section	REQUESTED BY E. Puthorosky	TEL. EXT. 54428	ROOM NO. 2523-B
NAME OF DECEDENT (Last, First, Middle Initial) <i>293 /</i> Meadows, Leroy	RANK S/Sgt.	SERIAL NUMBER 34 778 467	

INFORMATION REQUIRED

Marital status and current address of widow

INFORMATION FURNISHED

647 XC - *6038-617*

___ Off - *Do #4*

*File
24
11 OCT 1950
[Signature]*

MR
PENTAGON LIAISON SECTION OFFICER (Signature) *Donald A. Rosen*
Captain GPO

QMGMF 293
Meadows, Leroy
SN 34 778 467

30 August 1950

Mrs. Helen J. Meadows
General Delivery
Gastonia, North Carolina

Dear Mrs. Meadows:

Several years have elapsed since the cessation of hostilities of World War II, which cost the life of your husband, the late Staff Sergeant Leroy Meadows.

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Realizing the extent of your great loss, it is with reluctance that you are sent the information that there is no grave at which to pay homage. May the knowledge of your husband's honorable service to his country be a source of sustaining comfort to you.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES B. CLEARWATER
Colonel, QMC
Chief, Memorial Division

JFV
LWA
LWA
(Handwritten initials)

6
AUG 31 4 45 PM '50
MAIL & RECORDS BRANCH
D.O.M.G.
cc: DPRB
Mail & Records

OUT
30 AUG 1950
FAMILY CORRES BR.
FAM. LETTERS SECT.
MEM. DIV.

QMGMF 293
Meadows, Leroy
SN 34 778 467

30 August 1950

Mr. Alfred Meadows
18 Haynes Street
Gastonia, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Meadows:

Several years have elapsed since the cessation of hostilities of World War II, which cost the life of your son, the late Staff Sergeant Leroy Meadows.

It is with deep regret that your Government finds it necessary to inform you that further search and investigation have failed to reveal the whereabouts of your son's remains. Since all efforts to recover and identify his remains have failed, it has been necessary to declare that his remains are not recoverable.

Realizing the extent of your great loss, it is with reluctance that you are sent the information that there is no grave at which to pay homage. May the knowledge of your son's honorable service to his country be a source of sustaining comfort to you.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES B. CLEARWATER
Colonel, QMC
Chief, Memorial Division

JFV

LWA

em

CORRESPONDENCE ACTION SHEET

NAME OF DECEDENT (Last, First, Middle)
 MEADOWS, LEROY

GRADE

S/Sgt

SERIAL NUMBER

34 778 467

PREVIOUS BURIAL LOCATION (Cemetery and Country)	PLOT	ROW	GRAVE
PRESENT BURIAL LOCATION (Cemetery and Country)	PLOT	ROW	GRAVE
ADDRESSEE MR. MISS HELEN J. MEADOWS MRS.	ADDRESS (Street, City, State) GENERAL DELIVERY GASTONIA, N. C.		
RELATIONSHIP widow			

PARAGRAPHS (Sequence)	ADDITIONAL DATA — MODIFICATIONS
110-A	
110-B	
110-C	
110-A	Mr. Alfred Meadows (father) 18 Haynes Street Gastonia, N. C.

ANALYST INITIALS AND DATE Henderson 8-29-50	TYPIST INITIALS	REVIEWER INITIALS AND DATE
--	-----------------	----------------------------

NON-RECOVERABLE CASE RECORD OF REVIEW AND APPROVAL	NUMBER 14,289 (1)
	AREA OR ZONE(S) EUROPEAN

NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) MEADOWS, LeRoy	RANK S/Sgt	SERIAL NUMBER 34 778 467
--	---------------	-----------------------------

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)	INITIALS OF ANALYST
1. 293 FILE OF SUBJECT(S)	R21	2. a. REPORT OF DEATH b. FINDING OF DEATH c. STATUS REVIEW & DETERMINATION	R21
3. A - Z FILE OF KNOWN INTERMENTS IN U.S. MILITARY CEMETERIES, ISOLATED LOCATIONS, AND SEA BURIALS	R21	4. GEOGRAPHICAL CLUE INDEX FILE OF UNKNOWN RECOVERED FROM APPROPRIATE AREA	R21
5. ALPHABETICAL INDEX OF "BELIEVED TO BE" AND TENTATIVELY IDENTIFIED UNKNOWN	R21	6. ALPHABETICAL FILE OF FORMER UNKNOWN NOW IDENTIFIED	R21
7. OTHER DOCUMENTS OR SOURCES			R21

German Records

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

NAME OF CASE ANALYST RUTH HUTSON/lbj	CASE TO BE FORWARDED TO <u>Repatriation Br., Correspondence Sec.</u> FOR CONSIDERATION OF NOTIFICATION TO INTERESTED PARTIES.
---	--

RECOMMEND APPROVAL		APPROVED	
CASE REVIEWER, FINAL DETERMINATION SECTION A. J. CRATEN	CHIEF, FINAL DETERMINATION SECTION ROBERT G. LAY, Capt QMC	CHIEF, IDENTIFICATION BRANCH THOMAS E. COX, Capt QMC	DATE 25/

14 Aug 50

One Case

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

14289

Proceedings of a Board of Officers appointed in accordance with letter AGO-S 293.9 (27 Mar 47), D-11, War Dept, TAGO, 9 April 1947.

The Board convened pursuant to par 2, SO # 66, Headquarters, American Graves Registration Detachment, APO 757, US Army, 14 June 1950, at Liege, Belgium on 2 - AUG 1950. The purpose of the Board was to determine the non-recoverability status of certain casualties now under jurisdiction of this command.

The Board reviewed report of investigation, statements of witnesses and other papers, contained in the files of American Graves Registration Detachment, EA, pertaining to the case of the following names casualty/casualties, the remains of which have not been recovered. The case records and other data considered, are attached.

CASE No.	NAME	GRADE	ASN
7.	MEADOWS, LeRoy (NMI)	S/Sgt.	34 778 467

FINDINGS: The Board having carefully considered the evidence before it, finds the remains of said casualty/casualties are non-recoverable.

RECOMMENDATION: That the case concerning subject casualty/casualties be forwarded to the Office of The Quartermaster General for final approval.

Edward D. Mulvanity
EDWARD D. MULVANITY, Lt Col, QMC

James C. MacFarland
JAMES C. MacFARLAND, Major, QMC

GEORGE GUNDERMAN, JR., Maj. QMC

GAYLORD E. LUTZ, 1st Lt, QMC

Raymond T. Rodriguez
RAYMOND T. RODRIGUEZ, CWO, USA

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

SPECIAL ORDER)
:
NUMBER 31)

28 March 1950

E X T R A C T

3. PAC Ltr WD AGO-S 293.9, 9 Apr 47, Subj: "Establishment of Boards of Review for Identification of Unknown Dead Overseas", and par 118 b, SR 820-110-5 DA, 3 Mar 49, a Board of O's as following is 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. MULVANITY,	QMC.,	0 359 598,	President
MAJOR JAMES C. MacFARLAND,	QMC.,	0 1 576 321	
CAPT EDWARD F. PRICE, Jr.,	QMC.,	0 1 588 236	
1ST LT GAYLORD E. LUTZ,	QMC.,	0 1 595 665	
CWO LEODORE GOUDREAU,	USA.,	W 2 113 434	

BY ORDER OF COLONEL BAliARD:

s/t/WILLIAM J. WOOD
CAPT., FA,
ADJUTANT

OFFICIAL:

s/t/ WILLIAM J. WOOD
CAPT., FA
Adjutant

A TRUE COPY:

Robert G. Lay

ROBERT G. LAY
Capt QMC

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

GRRE 293.9

SUBJECT: Non-Recoverable Remains

TO: Non-Recoverable Board, AGRC

1. It is recommended that the Board take action on the following case:

NAME: MEADOWS, LeRoy (NMI) S/Sgt 34 778 467

ORGANIZATION: Company "I", 134 Infantry Regiment

DATE OF DEATH: 16 December 1944

PLACE OF DEATH: Woods one mile north of Habkirchen,
Germany

SYNOPSIS: The above mentioned unresolved casualty became Missing In Action on 16 December 1944. Casualty Branch File (Office of the Quartermaster General) contains an undated Missing Report which reveals that subject casualty's company encountered enemy small arms fire while attempting to clear the woods north of Habkirchen, Germany. Sgt. Meadows was wounded, but as it was necessary for his company to withdraw, he was left in enemy territory. A Field Investigation was conducted in the appropriate area in June 1949 and disclosed that a total of seventeen (17) unknowns were recovered from the area on previous dates, however, these unknowns have all been identified or declared Unidentifiable. It is logical to conclude S/Sgt. LeRoy (NMI) Meadows was captured by the enemy, died while a prisoner, and his remains were disposed of by the enemy in a manner and location which precludes recovery. The fact Field Investigation was negative and attempted association with Unknowns recovered from this area proved negative would tend to substantiate this conclusion. It is, therefore, recommended this case be deemed Non-Recoverable.

GRRE 293.9

SUBJECT: Non-Recoverable Remains

Reference is made to: OQMG Form 371; Review and Determination of Status Report, dated 17 December 1946: On file in the Office of The Quartermaster General, Washington, D.C.

Reference is also made to: Report of Field Investigation, dated 17 June 1949: Attached.

2. All attached supporting documents are copied from records on file headquarters American Graves Registration Detachment.

3. Every effort has been made to correlate this case with records in this headquarters pertaining to unknown deceased interred in US Military Cemeteries and reported isolated burials. The results are negative.

4. It is recommended that the remains based upon the above information and research, be declared non-recoverable.

C. W. Steinsiek
C. W. STEINSIEK *Co*
Captain, QMG

FIRST FIELD COMMAND
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION COMMAND
EUROPEAN AREA
APO 62 U S ARMY

GRX 333.1
RRE 293.9 (IB)
AGRO Case # 9653

17 June 1949

SUBJECT: Report of Investigation of AGRC Case # 9653
Conducted at HABKIRCHEN (K-50/Q-55), Germany.

TO: Commanding Officer, First Field Command, American
Graves Registration Command, APO 62, US Army

1. AUTHORITY AND MATTERS INVESTIGATED:

1. On 13 June 1949 I was instructed to proceed to HABKIRCHEN (K-50/Q-55), Germany and vicinity for the purpose of investigating AGRC Case 9653, pertaining to S/Sgt LEROY MEADOWS, 34 778 467, as directed by basic communication, dated 27 April 1949 (See Exhibit A).

II. FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES:

2. According to the information given in the basic documents, the above named deceased was wounded and left behind by his unit on 16 December 1944 in a small wood approximately one mile of HABKIRCHEN.

3. I first went to this location and was informed that the village of HABKIRCHEN was part of the community of Bliesmengen, and that the woods to the north of HABKIRCHEN were called "Communal Woods of Bliesmengen-Bolchen".

4. I went to the Burgermeister's office in Bliesmengen and was informed of the following facts:

a. The population had been evacuated during the combat action and on its return several graves had been found in the woods, graves made by troops, though no one would state if they had been made by German or American troops.

GRX 333.1

17 June 1949

RRE 293.9 (IB)

AGRC Case # 9653

SUBJECT: Report of Investigation of AGRC Case # 9653
Conducted at HABKIRCHEN (K-50/Q-55), Germany.

b. From Notices of Disinterment, it was possible to establish that the following American deceased have been recovered from the above-mentioned communal woods:

8 Americans evacuated by the 606 GR Co. to USMC St Avold in January 46

3 Americans (2 unknowns and 1 known, WILSON WAYNE) evacuated by the 164th QM Bn in January 1948 to USMC Neuville (see certificate B-1-2).

5. I also went to the village of Bebelsheim, which is approximately 2 miles to the north of HABKIRCHEN, in order to cover the subject woods from all sides.

6. I was informed at the Burgermeister's office (Bebelsheim) that in June 1945, seven unburied American deceased were found in the Bliesmengen woods. Four of the above were picked up by an American Gasoline Detachment (probably pipeline guards) stationed in Bebelsheim. The three others were picked up by an American detachment operating from Bliesmengen. No one could state to where the said remains were evacuated, but the vicinity indicates that it was presumably USMC St Avold.

III. FINDINGS:

7. From the evidence revealed during this investigation it is established that the following designated US deceased were recovered from the Bliesmengen woods:

a. In June 1945, seven unknowns picked up by American pipe-line guards and presumably evacuated to USMC, St Avold.

b. In January 1946, eight unknowns recovered by the 606 GR Co., and evacuated to USMC, St Avold.

c. In January 1948, two unknowns recovered by the 164th QM Bn and evacuated to USMC Neuville-en-Condroz.

GRX 333.1

17 June 1949

RRE 293.9 (IB)

AGRC Case # 9653

SUBJECT: Report of Investigation of AGRC Case # 9653
Conducted at HABKIRCHEN (K-50/Q-55), Germany.IV. RECOMMENDATIONS:

8. It is recommended that the records of USMC, St Avold, France and USMC Neuville-en-Condroz, Belgium be searched for records of the above-mentioned evacuations and for a probable association with the subject deceased, S/Sgt LEROY MEADOWS.

/s/t/ GASTON WOLF
DA CIVILIAN
Investigator

LML/ear/1D667/4083

293
 AG 201 Meadows, Leroy
 (12 Apr 50) 34778467

12 April 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

SUBJECT: Review of Circumstances Surrounding the Disappearance
 of S Sgt Leroy Meadows.

1. ETO Casualty Shipment No. 292 reported that S Sgt Leroy Meadows, 34778467, Infantry, Co I, 134th Infantry Regiment, was missing in action, in Germany, on 16 December 1944. It was further reported that Sergeant Meadows was entitled to additional pay for award of the Combat Infantryman Badge. Under the provisions of Section 5, Missing Persons Act, a Finding of Death was issued for Sergeant Meadows, setting the presumed date of his death as 17 December 1945 (SR&D No. 4912).
2. Missing Report submitted for Sergeant Meadows states that on 16 December 1944 he was with his company which had as its mission the clearing of a small woods about one mile north of Haberkirchen, Germany. The company encountered small arms fire in the woods. Sergeant Meadows was wounded, and when the company was forced to withdraw he was left in enemy territory. The opinion is expressed that he was a prisoner of war.
3. No report that Sergeant Meadows was a prisoner of war has been received from any source, official or unofficial. The Office of The Quartermaster General has no burial report on file for Sergeant Meadows at the present time.
4. Although Sergeant Meadows is known to have been wounded, the extent of his injuries is not known and no reasonable conclusion can be drawn regarding his probable chances of recovery and consequently the date of his death cannot be set with any degree of certainty. It is concluded, therefore, that a report of death under the provisions of Section 9 of the Missing Persons Act cannot be justified at this time.

Lulu May Lybrook
 Investigator

CONCUR:

N. B. STARR
 Captain, AGD
 Asst. OIC, Det. & Rev. Unit
 Casualty Section, P.A. Branch, AGO

FILE
 APR 14 1950
 Identification Branch

O P M G

100-100000-1000

12 April 1950

100-100000-1000
12 April 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Review of Circumstances Surrounding the Disappearance of 2nd Lt. Leroy Meadows.

IDENTIFICATION BRANCH
APR 15 4 40 PM '50
MEMORIAL DIVISION

1. ETO Casualty Shipment No. 302 reported that 2nd Lt. Leroy Meadows, Infantry, Co. I, 13th Infantry Regiment, was missing in action, in Germany, on 10 December 1944. It was further reported that 2nd Lt. Meadows was entitled to additional pay for award of the Combat Infantry Badge. Under the provisions of Section 5, Missing Persons Act, the date of death was fixed for 10 December 1944, setting the presumed date of death as 17 December 1944 (38d) No. 4011.

2. Missing Report submitted for Sergeant Meadows states that on 10 December 1944 he was with his company which was in the clearing of a small woods about one mile north of Habkirchen, Germany. The company encountered small arms fire in the woods. Sergeant Meadows was wounded, and when the company was forced to withdraw he was left in enemy territory. The opinion is expressed that he was a prisoner of war.

3. It is noted that Sergeant Meadows was a prisoner of war has been received from any source, official or unofficial. The Office of the War Relocation Authority has no burial report on file for Sergeant Meadows at the present time.

4. Although Sergeant Meadows is known to have been wounded, the extent of his injuries is not known and no reasonable conclusion can be drawn regarding his probable chances of recovery and consequently the date of his death cannot be set with any degree of certainty. It is concluded, therefore, that a report of death under the provisions of Section 5 of the Missing Persons Act cannot be justified at this time.

COMMENTS:

Lt. Col. Lyndon
Investigator

W. E. STARR
Captain, ASD
Asst. Dir., Sec. 5 Branch, ASD
Casualty Section, E.A. Branch, ASD

FILE

APR 14 1950

Identification Branch
a p m c

AIR MAIL

QMGMS 293

1st Ind

Meadows, Leroy

SN 34778467

SUBJECT: Request for Information

Dept. of the Army, OQMG, Washington 25, D. C., 4 May 1950

TO: Commanding Officer, 7887 Graves Registration Detachment,
APO 757, c/o Postmaster, New York, New York

Attached herewith is a copy of Status Review and Determination Report No. 4912 covering all available information surrounding the disappearance of S/Sgt. Leroy Meadows, SN 34778467.

FOR THE ACTING THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL:

1 Incl
Cy SR&D #4912

THOMAS E. COX
Capt., QMG
Memorial Division

KH/tcs

KH
KH

Serial 4-114-D



OUTGOING
MAY 4 7 18 AM '50
ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH
MEMORIAL
DIVISION

MAY 4 4 10 PM '50
MAIL & RECORDS BRANCH

2

AIR MAIL

AIR MAIL

1st Ind

CHIEF
HEADQUARTERS
NEW YORK

SUBJECT: Request for Information

Dept. of the Army, GPO, Washington 25, D. C., 4 May 1950

For Commanding Officer, 7087 Graves Registration Detachment,
APO 787, c/o Postmaster, New York, New York

Attached herewith is a copy of Status Review and Information
Report No. 4112 covering all available information surrounding the
disappearance of Sgt. Harry Meadows, US ARMY.

FOR THE ACTING THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL:

THOMAS E. COE
Capt., GPO
Headquarters

1 Ind
C/O HEADQUARTERS

KH/COE



MAY 4 1950
HEADQUARTERS
IDENTIFICATION BRANCH

MEMORIAL DIVISION
ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH
MAY 4 3 10 PM '50
OUTGOING

AIR MAIL

Handwritten notes and signatures on the right margin.

Handwritten initials 'KH' on the left margin.

(Germany K-50/12835)

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

GRRE 293.9 (IB)

14 April 1950

SUBJECT: Request for Information

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

¹⁷⁹³ Reference is made to OQMG Form 371 pertaining to
S/Sgt. Leroy MEADOWS, 34 778 467.

2. It is requested that all available data contained in records your office, including Status Review and Determination Report and After Action Report, be forwarded this headquarters as a possible aid in resolving this case.

3. Further action withheld pending receipt of additional information.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

JAMES C. MacFARLAND
Major OMC
Registration Division



1293 FILE

DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET RECOVERED OR IDENTIFIED

NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)

MEADOWS, LEROY

GRADE

S/SGT

PRESENT SERIAL NUMBER

34 778 487

ORGANIZATION

Co. "T", 134th Inf.

RACE

White

CREED

Baptist

FORMER SERIAL NUMBER
(If Applicable)

DATE OF DEATH/MIA

16 Dec 44

CAUSE OF DEATH

DIED

PLACE OF DEATH OR PLACE LAST SEEN IF MIA

IN VICINITY OF HABERKIRCHEN,
GERMANY

DATE OF FOD

16 Dec 45

HEIGHT

69 1/2"

WEIGHT

136

COLOR EYES

Blue

COLOR HAIR

Brown

SHOE SIZE

9 C

DENTAL CHART 9 July 43

UPPER RIGHT

X X 6 5 4 3 2 1

UPPER LEFT

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 X

LOWER RIGHT

15 15 14 13 12 11 10 9

LOWER LEFT

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

X = Extracted

O = Cavious

I = Cavious Non-Restorable

FRACTURES AND/OR BREAKS

TATTOOS AND/OR BIRTHMARK

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

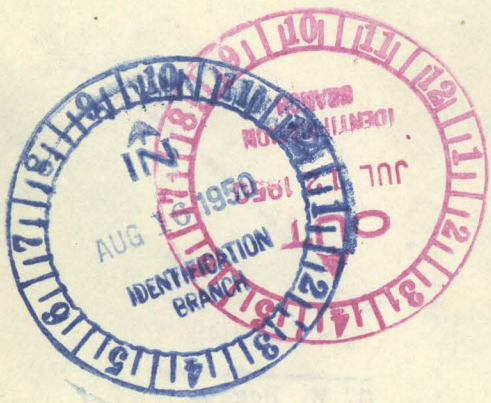
Date of births 9 May 24

file
MAR 24 1949
G. W. Rogers
Capt., QMC
Identification Branch

ETO 21 Mar 49

ON REMAINS NOT YET RECOVERED OR IDENTIFIED

LATEST SERIAL NUMBER		SERIAL NUMBER		MILITARY SERVICE NUMBER	
FORMER SERIAL NUMBER (if applicable)		NAME		RACE	
PLACE OF BIRTH OR PLACE LAST SEEN IN MILITARY SERVICE		DATE OF BIRTH		DATE OF DEATH	
HEIGHT		WEIGHT		HAIR COLOR	
EYES		COMPLEXION		HAIR COLOR	
DENTAL CHART		UPPER LEFT		LOWER LEFT	
TATTOO AND/OR MARKS		SCARS		OTHER	
PHOTOGRAPHS AND/OR X-RAYS		FINGERPRINTS		ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	



293 FILE <i>g w</i>		DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET RECOVERED OR IDENTIFIED			
NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) <i>243</i> MEADOWS, LEROY		GRADE S/SGT		PRESENT SERIAL NUMBER 34 778 467	
ORGANIZATION <i>Co I</i> <i>134 Inf.</i>		RACE <i>INF. White</i>	CREED <i>Baptist</i>	FORMER SERIAL NUMBER (If Applicable)	
DATE OF DEATH/MIA <i>16-DEC-44</i>	CAUSE OF DEATH <i>DED</i>	PLACE OF DEATH OR PLACE LAST SEEN IF MIA <i>NORTH OF HABERKIRCHEN-HER.</i>			
DATE OF FOD <i>17-DEC-45</i>	HEIGHT <i>69 1/2 in</i>	WEIGHT <i>136</i>	COLOR EYES <i>Blue</i>	COLOR HAIR <i>Brown</i>	SHOE SIZE <i>9 C.</i>
INDUCTION DENTAL CHART DATE <i>9 July 1943</i>					
UPPER RIGHT <i>XX</i> 6 5 4 3 2 1			UPPER LEFT 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 <i>X</i>		
LOWER RIGHT <i>XX</i> 13 14 13 12 11 10 9			LOWER LEFT 9 10 11 12 13 14 <i>XX</i>		
X = Extracted		O = Cavious		1 = Cavious Non-Restorable	
FRACTURES AND/OR BREAKS <i>None</i>			TATTOOS AND/OR BIRTHMARK <i>None</i>		
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DATE OF BIRTH: 9 May 24 <i>Killed in vicinity of</i> <i><u>Haberkirchen</u> 16. Dec 44</i>					

File
MAR 22 1949
G. W. ROGERS
Capt., QMC
Identification Branch

QMGMF 293
Meadows, Leroy
SN 34 778 467

5 September 1947

Mr. Alfred Meadows
18 Haynes Street
Gastonia, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Meadows:

Your letter pertaining to the remains of your son, the late Staff Sergeant Leroy Meadows, has been referred to this office.

With deep regret, I must inform you that as yet, no information regarding the burial of the remains of your son has been received in this office.

Units of the American Graves Registration Service are continuing their intensive search of the area in which he died. Please rest assured that when a report of the recovery and burial of his remains is received, I will inform you immediately.

I sincerely regret the delay in replying to your letter and wish to extend my deepest sympathy in the loss of your son.

Sincerely yours,

RICHARD B. COOMBS
Major, QMC
Memorial Division

RBC
RBC

SEP 5 5 15 PM '47
U.S. ARMY
MAIL & RECORDS BRANCH

SEP 5 1947
MAIL ROOM
UNIT
MEMORIAL DIV.

18969

CORRESPONDENCE ACTION SHEET

Mr.
Miss,
Addressee: ~~Mrs.~~ Alfred Meadows Father
Relationship
State 18 Haynes St.
City, State Spartanburg, North Carolina '47
Date letter
Cemetery
Temporary: _____
Permanent: _____
Plot Row Gr Cem. Name or No. City Country

PARAGRAPHS (sequence)

--- ADDITIONAL --- DATA --- MODIFICATIONS ---

165B

40c

1st para. omit "the late."

166c

Decedent:

Meadows

Henry

Initial

[Signature]

Rank

34-998-467

ASN

Handwritten notes:
New
9/11/47
D.A.

[Signature]
Analyst Typist Reviewer

Modifications

OKed

9-2-47

F-8

TO: Identification Section

Case Name Meadows, Leroy - 34 778 467

Request situation paragraph, and cemetery if appropriate, applicable to this case.

2608 - "B" Bldg - C.C.

8/21

Burial Information not of record in this section this date.

8/27/47

Yunk

Suggest this file be sent to records section for 371 after letter is dispatched to family.

Yunk

Tab A

WAR DEPARTMENT
MEMO ROUTING SLIP

1	NAME OR TITLE Dir., Memorial Division, OQMG	INITIALS	CIRCULATE
	ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION Room 2401, Tempo Building	DATE	CONCURRENCE
2	Washington, D. C.		FILE
			INFORMATION
3			NECESSARY ACTION
			NOTE AND RETURN
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE

REMARKS

1. For necessary action.
2. Staff Sergeant Leroy Meadows, 34 778 467, was initially reported missing in action 16 December 1944.

H. Meadows

2. Incls.

*WAB/rim A/2
8/14/47
EMF.*

FROM NAME OR TITLE Cas Sec, Inves & Corres S/Sect	DATE 30 Jul 47
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION Fam Rel, S/Unit, 5C 826, The Pentagon	TELEPHONE 72450

MEMO ROUTING SLIP
WAR DEPARTMENT

1	NAME OR TITLE	DR. Memorial Division, GOM
2	INITIALS	
3	DATE	
4	ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION	Room 2801, Gerson Building Washington, D. C.
5	REMARKS	
6	RECEIVED	
7	DATE AND TIME	
8	BY WHOM	
9	SIGNATURE	

1. For necessary action.
 2. Staff Sergeant Leroy Meadows, 34 778 #87,
 was initially reported missing in action in Decem-
 ber 1944.

Handwritten signature

MEMORIAL DIVISION
 AUG 5 9 13 AM '47

RECORDS BRANCH

NAME OR TITLE	Gas Sec
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION	Files & Correspondence
DATE	30 Jul 47
BY WHOM	The Postmaster

WD AGO FORM 892
1 JAN 1946

18 Haynes St.
Gastonia, N. C.
June 24, 1947

The Adjutant General's Office
War Department
Washington, D. C.

713

Re: Meadows, Leroy
ASN 34 778 467
Co. I 134th Inf.
APO 25, C/o PM, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

I am the father of the above named man who was reported missing, and later I understand he was reported hospitalized. The above is his last known address. The notices were sent about December, 1944.

I should appreciate any information you may be able to give me regarding my son.

Very truly yours,

/s/ALFRED MEADOWS
Alfred Meadows



686810C

18 Haynes St.
Gastonia, N. C.
June 24, 1947

Re: Meadows, Leroy
ASN 34 418 401
Co. I 134th Inf.
APO 25, C/O FM, N.Y.

The Adjutant General's Office
War Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am the father of the above named man who was reported missing, and later I understand he was reported hospitalized. The above is his last known address. The notices were sent about December, 1944.

I should appreciate any information you may be able to give me regarding my son.

Very truly yours,

Alfred Meadows
Alfred Meadows

100-200000



MW/rtm

AGPO-CG 201 Meadows, Leroy
(24 Jun 47) 34 778 467

30 July 1947

Mr. Alfred Meadows
18 Haynes Street
Gastonia, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Meadows:

This is in reply to your letter concerning your son, Staff Sergeant Leroy Meadows who was initially reported missing in action 16 December 1944.

Your desire for information regarding your son's status is fully understood. An examination of the records reveals that Staff Sergeant Meadows, a member of Company I, 134th Infantry, left Haberkirchen, Germany, on 16 December 1944 with his comrades for the purpose of clearing the enemy from the woods one mile north. The company encountered small arms fire when they entered the woods and your son was wounded. A short while later our troops were forced to withdraw and found it impossible to remove Sergeant Meadows. He was reported missing in action as of 16 December 1944 when nothing could be determined concerning his fate, he was continued in that status until a presumptive date of death was established as of 17 December 1945 under the provisions of Public Law 490, 77th Congress, as amended.

There is nothing on record in this office to show that the body of your son has been recovered. I am, therefore, referring your letter to The Quartermaster General, Washington 25, D. C., as that official is charged with the responsibility of conducting the activities of the American Graves Registration Service in all the areas of the world where it is believed remains of American Military personnel may be located.

May I offer my sincere sympathy to you in the loss of your son.

Sincerely yours,

Edward F. Witsell

EDWARD F. WITSELL
Major General
The Adjutant General of the Army



100-37 501 Howards, Langh
(27 Jan 47) 34 718 404

30 July 1947

Mr. Alfred Howards
18 Bryan Street
Gastonia, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Howards:

This is in reply to your letter concerning your son, Earl Howards, who was initially reported missing in action in December 1944.

Your desire for information regarding your son's status is fully understood. An examination of the records reveals that Earl Howards, a member of Company I, 154th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division, Germany, on 16 December 1944 with the intention of the purpose of clearing the enemy from the woods one mile north. The company encountered small arms fire when they entered the woods and your son was wounded. A short while later one person was forced to withdraw and found it impossible to remove Earl Howards. He was reported missing in action as of 16 December 1944 when nothing could be determined concerning his fate, he was confirmed in that status until a presumptive date of death was established as of 17 December 1945 under the provisions of Public Law 400, 7th Congress, as amended.

There is nothing on record in this office to show that the body of your son has been recovered. I am, therefore, referring your letter to the Quartermaster General, Washington 25, D. C., as that official is charged with the responsibility of conducting the activities of the American Graves Registration Service in all the areas of the world where it is believed remains of American Military personnel may be located.

Very I offer my sincere sympathy to you in the loss of your son.

Sincerely yours,

Edward F. Wiggall

EDWARD F. WIGGALL
Major General
The Adjutant General of the Army



AG 704 - Dead (17 Dec 45)
S. R. & D. NO. 4912

17 December 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Casualty Branch

SUBJECT: Review and Determination of Status
Under the Missing Persons Act

I. - FACTS

1. The persons named below of the organizations designated were reported missing in action, not in flying pay status, in the European Area, as of 16 December 1944, by ETO shipment numbers 004, 006, 007, 008, 011, 012, 014, 035, 040, 290, 291, 292, and 293:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>GRADE</u>
a. Company B, 135th Engineer Battalion: Babiak, Peter	32,208,268	Sergeant
b. Service Battery, 589th Field Artillery Battalion: Gaudette, George E.	6,155,005	Private
c. 106th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop: Jeka, Joseph R.	36,228,705	Private First Class
d. Company C, 709th Tank Battalion: Milosh, Daniel J.	38,674,780	Private
e. Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 109th Infantry Regiment: Lombardo, Ambrose A.	32,665,294	Private First Class
293 f. Company I, 134th Infantry Regiment: Meadows, LeRoy	34,778,467	Staff Sergeant
g. Company E, 310th Infantry Regiment: Spocnimore, Ben L.	35,077,645	Private
h. Company G, 313th Infantry Regiment: Riggle, George E.	35,075,824	Private
i. Company I, 330th Infantry Regiment: McKinney, James S. DeIartini, William	34,881,522 42,053,927	Sergeant Private

FILE
JUN 17 1949
G. W. Rogers
Capt., QMC
Identification Branch

S. R. & D. No. 4912

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>GRADE</u>
j. Company A, 345th Infantry Regiment:		
Lubinger, Harry	32,965,796	Private
k. Company C, 346th Infantry Regiment:		
Brady, Thomas E.	11,133,059	Private First Class
Hollenbeck, William C.	33,775,803	Private First Class
Kalmeyer, Melvin E.	33,775,804	Private First Class
Loesch, Theodore B.	36,965,216	Private First Class
Hnatiuk, Mack	36,967,407	Private
l. Company G, 422nd Infantry Regiment:		
Schneider, Victor C.	16,157,732	Private
m. Company H, 422nd Infantry Regiment:		
Benedetto, Joe D.	36,649,165	Private First Class
Miranda, Chrispin L.	39,397,927	Private First Class
n. Anti-Tank Company, 424th Infantry Regiment:		
Anderson, Myron B.	37,663,577	Private First Class
Topolski, Edward M.	35,922,025	Private First Class
o. Cannon Company, 424th Infantry Regiment:		
Vainreb, Clarence J.	37,124,563	Private First Class
p. Company C, 424th Infantry Regiment:		
James, Royal D., Jr.	34,114,299	Staff Sergeant
Collins, Robert T.	32,916,256	Private First Class
Goble, Albert	36,579,578	Private First Class
Morris, Ivy T.	34,024,693	Private First Class
Sewards, Vernon E.	39,556,294	Private First Class
Hinton, William F.	35,629,264	Private
Hutchinson, Robert H.	31,417,414	Private
q. Company G, 424th Infantry Regiment:		
Miller, Frank L., Jr.	0306322	Captain

2. a. Sergeant Peter Babiak's Qualification Card and Service Record states that subject enlisted man became missing in action, 16 December 1944, as a result of a boat capsizing in the Saar River near Buren, Germany.

S. R. & D. No. 4912

b. A letter which is filed in Special Determination Case Number 4369 and dated 12 August 1945, was sent in by the mother of Sergeant Babiak. In this letter, she states that the letter which she inclosed was received from her son's buddy who was with him at the time he became missing in action. A photostatic copy of this inclosed letter is also filed in the Special Determination and reads, in pertinent part, as follows:

"It was on Sunday December 17th during the early hours of the morning that the sad happening took place. Our platoon was sent out on a mission which was most necessary. While performing our duties with Pete at the command things happened for the worse. We were making a river crossing at the time and the boat turned over due to the swift current. All in the boat had to shift and try to save their own individual selves. Well it was the most disasterous outcome for after they rescued about all they could they took count and found that Pete Babiak was missing. They kept searching and searching never giving up hope but when dawn came they were forced to give up the search for enemy could observe us and send shells at us. * * * They all tell me he might of floated into the enemy side or has perhaps been picked up further down."

3. Private George E. Gaudette's Casualty Branch File contains a Missing Report, dated 22 January 1945, which reveals that subject soldier became missing in action in the vicinity of Roth, Germany, following an engagement with enemy forces. All communications were lost when enemy tanks and infantry overran American positions in the area.

4. a. Private First Class Joseph R. Jeka's Casualty Branch File contains a Missing Report, dated 30 January 1945, which reveals that the unit of which Private First Class Jeka was a member was surrounded by the Germans near Grosslangenfeld, Germany. All communications with the Division Command Post were cut off an repeated efforts which were made to establish contact were unsuccessful.

b. Filed in the AG 201 File of Private First Class Jeka, is a Casualty Form No. 5, from the 106th Reconnaissance Troop which contains the names and addresses of three men who were members of the 106th Reconnaissance Troop at the time Private First Class Jeka became missing in action, and who since have returned to the United States. Letters, AGPC-S 201 Jeka, Joseph R., dated 30 October 1945, were sent to these three men: First Sergeant Gabriel Johnson, 6,281,543; Sergeant Louis Cunningham, 31,317,755; and Corporal Kenneth Smith, 36,456,709.

S. R. & D. No. 4912

(1) The reply from First Sergeant Johnson, dated 2 November 1945, reveals nothing relevant to the fate of Private First Class Jeka. First Sergeant Johnson, however, forwarded his copy of the War Department letter to Staff Sergeant James H. Smith, the platoon sergeant of Private First Class Jeka. A letter from Staff Sergeant Smith, dated 11 November 1945, reveals that Private First Class Jeka was twice wounded by shrapnel in the upper right thigh. The letter continues: "About 1900 the same evening, German medics told me that they would take him to a hospital. He was tied across the hood of one of our own jeeps, and they drove off with him. I have been unable to get any information concerning P.F.C. Jeka since then. This all took place at Grosslangdenfeld, Germany, where our unit was captured by the Germans, P.F.C. Jeka was badly wounded, and it is entirely possible that he died from his injuries."

(2) Sergeant Cunningham's reply, dated 8 November 1945, and undated reply of Corporal Smith fail to add any information not already given in the paragraph above.

5. The Casualty Branch File of Private Daniel J. Miloch contains a Missing Report, dated 28 December 1944, which reveals that subject enlisted man was performing his duties as Bow Gunner in a tank during action against the enemy at Kesternich, Germany, 16 December 1944, when the tank was hit by a high velocity shell and caught fire. Private Miloch was not seen evacuating the tank.

a. Headquarters, 709th Tank Battalion sent a fourth indorsement to letter AGPC-S 201 Miloch, Daniel J. (25 Apr 45), 36,674,780. This indorsement, dated 14 May 1945 states that the tank was hit in an area which was re-taken by the enemy. The 709th Tank Battalion was moved from the vicinity of Kesternich while the Germans were still in possession of the town, therefore, a thorough search could not be made. The 78th Infantry Division eventually captured the area but disposition of the tank was not known. Of the four other men who occupied the tank, two were killed in action; one was seriously wounded in action; and one, Staff Sergeant Ralph W. Andrus, 37,010,862, was returned to the United States.

b. Letter, AGPC-S 201 Miloch, Daniel J. (7 Nov 45), was sent to Staff Sergeant Andrus requesting that all information he possessed concerning the fate of Private Miloch be forwarded to the War Department. Staff Sergeant Andrus in letter, dated 16 November 1945, revealed no definite knowledge of the fate of Private Miloch but stated:

"I think myself that he is dead as the shell that hit the tank just about where he sits but this is just my opinion."

S. R. & D. No. 4912

6. Private First Class Ambrose A. Lombardo's Casualty Branch File contains a Missing Report, dated 12 January 1945, which reveals that subject person was a member of an Anti-Tank squad which departed Bastendorf, Luxembourg on 15 December 1944, and which on 16 December 1944, had dug in at Walsdorf, Luxembourg. On the day in question, the enemy surrounded the town and all communication was severed. The last report received from Private First Class Lombardo was at 0900 hours, 16 December 1944.

7. The Casualty Branch File of Staff Sergeant Leroy Meadows contains an undated Missing Report which reveals that subject man's company encountered small arms fire while attempting to clear the woods north of Haberkirchen, Germany. Staff Sergeant Meadows was wounded, but, as it was necessary for his company to withdraw, he was left in enemy territory.

8. Private Ben L. Spoonemore's Casualty Branch File contains a Missing Report, dated 20 December 1944, which reveals that Private Spoonemore was a member of the Second Battalion of the 310th Infantry Regiment which was cut off by the enemy at Kesternich, Germany, 16 December 1944. When the Battalion had withdrawn and reorganized, this soldier could not be found. All Casualty reports and Graves Registration Service reports were carefully scrutinized but no further information concerning the fate of Private Spoonemore could be located.

9. The Casualty Branch File of Private George E. Riggle contains a Missing Report, dated 13 February 1945, which reveals that subject soldier was reported missing in action, 16 December 1944, after action near Lauterbourg, France. No further circumstances surrounding his disappearance are known.

10. a. The Casualty Branch Files of Sergeant James S. McKinney and Private William De Martini each contain a Missing Report, dated 29 December 1944, which reveals that subject enlisted men's platoon departed Grobhau, Germany, 16 December 1944, on a mission to fill a gap between two companies west of Straub, Germany. The platoon was surrounded by enemy machine guns and was forced to withdraw. A check was made of the platoon and these two men were found to be missing. Later, the area was searched, but no trace of the subject persons could be found.

b. The AG 201 File of Private DeMartini contains a letter, dated 7 November 1945, from Staff Sergeant Walter J. Shareika, 32,195,950, who states that he was with Private DeMartini in the Hurtgen Forest. He further states that, in his estimation, Private DeMartini was hit and presumably fell during the combat fire.

11. a. The Casualty Branch File of Private Harry Lubinger, contains

S. R. & D. No. 4912

a Missing Report, dated 17 December 1944, which reveals that Private Lubinger was sent out on a mission with a squad to contact the 3rd Battalion of the 345th Infantry Regiment near Rimling, France. The Squad was fired upon by machine guns and enemy artillery. When the squad returned to its company after completing its mission, subject enlisted man was found to be missing. He was last seen by his squad leader at approximately 1430 hours, 16 December 1944. No circumstances surrounding his disappearance were known and no search was conducted due to the fact that orders were given for his company to move out of the vicinity and time did not permit a search.

b. The AG 201 File of Private Lubinger contains a First Indorsement to letters of inquiry from S. Lubinger, dated 27 January 1945, and 1 February 1945. This Indorsement, dated 27 February 1945, states, in pertinent part, as follows:

"Enlisted man was firing on an enemy machine gun with his squad which was acting as connecting file. The Company had taken their objective Hill 304, near Rimling, France. The squad was ordered to withdraw, which they did by aid of smoke shells. Soldier was not seen after the lay of smoke."

12. Letter from the War Department, AGPC-S 704 (5 Oct 45), Subject: Information Concerning Missing Military Personnel, contains a First Indorsement, dated 10 October 1945, from Headquarters, 87th Infantry Division (Inactive), Fort Benning, Georgia, which states:

"A thorough search of all casualty records of the Division has been made and the following facts have been revealed regarding the status of Pfc Thomas E. Brady, Pfc William C. Hollenbeck and Pfc Melvin E. Kalmeyer.

"On the 16th of December 1944, Company C. 346th Infantry Regiment was ordered to make an attack two miles west of Rimling, France with the objective of the Company to advance beyond enemy positions. After the action was over, the above men were discovered to be missing and an investigation was made. No eyewitnesses were found. Repeated investigations were made concerning these men. No further information was discovered that would change their status."

S. R. & D. No. 4912

13. Missing Reports, dated 5 January 1945, in the Casualty Branch Files of Private First Class Theodore B. Loesch and Private Mack Hnatiuk reveal that these two soldiers became missing in action under the same circumstances as given in paragraph 12, part I, above.

14. a. Missing Report, dated 29 January 1945 and filed in the Casualty Branch File of Private Victor C. Schneider, reveals that this enlisted man disappeared, 16 December 1944, during a German attack near Schlausenbach, Germany.

b. Prisoner of War List US/3045 received 9 April 1945 from the German Government, through the International Red Cross, reported that according to unofficial information, Private Schneider was "killed on transport from Gerolstein". AG 704 Dead (17 July 45), Report of Death on Private First Class Hillary W. Machado, 39,048,096, states: The "transport from Gerolstein" incident * * * has been determined by this office to have occurred on 24 December 1944, at which time a group of American prisoners in box cars were killed by strafing from Allied planes."

c. Letter, AGPC-S 704 (11 Aug 45), were sent to several soldiers who were known to have been involved in the "incident" referred to in paragraph 14 b, above. Although no pertinent information concerning Private Schneider was received in the replies to these letters, Private First Class Gilbert B. Zbasnik, 17,140,725, in letter dated 22 August 1945, reveals the following information concerning the "incident":

"After marching from the St. With area to Gerolstein, we, approximately 3000, were divided into groups of about 300 to be shipped out of Gerolstein in boxcars. Our group, I believe, was the last to leave. We boarded the cars and after a long wait we started on our way. We got about ten or fifteen kilometers out of Gerolstein when we stopped because of a bombed out track up ahead. The guards kept us locked in the boxcars so we had no chance of getting out. Most of the men were strangers to me. * * * I am almost positive there were two planes that strafed us because they came right after another, too quick, I believe for one plane to run around and go back. * * * I counted seven bodies myself but some of the fellows said they counted as high as nine or ten dead. I have no accurate knowledge of any of the other men who were killed. They were complete strangers to me."

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15. a. The Casualty Branch Files of Privates First Class Joe D. Benedetto and Chrispin L. Miranda, and the AG 201 File of Private First Class Miranda each contain a Missing Report, dated 29 January 1945, which states:

"On 10 December 1944, the regiment moved up to defensive positions on the battle line around Schlausenbach, Germany.

"On 16 December 1944, the German attack began and on that date all communication with the regiment was lost. Available evidence indicates that the regiment was surrounded by German units."

b. Private First Class John D. Wilson, 16,175,262, on a Casualty Interrogation Form which is filed in the AG 201 file of Private First Class Benedetto reveals that the death of Benedetto occurred about 24 December 1944, east of the Ardennes Forest, and was due to the fact that Allied planes strafed the boxcar in which Private First Class Benedetto was locked as a prisoner. Although Private First Class Wilson was not an eyewitness to subject enlisted man's death, he stated that he heard that Private First Class Benedetto died after he was removed to a German hospital.

c. Letter from Private First Class Lawrence W. Post, 26,810,792, dated 25 July 1945 and filed in the AG 201 File of Private First Class Benedetto, reveals that the last time he saw subject enlisted man, Private First Class Benedetto was still alive and on his way to a hospital.

d. The following information concerning the fate of Private First Class Benedetto is contained in a letter, dated 21 September 1945, which is filed in the AG 201 File of Private First Class Benedetto and which was sent to the War Department by Second Lieutenant Lewis H. Walker:

"I do know that he was wounded severely in the left leg during an artillery barrage on 19 December 44 near Schonberg Belgium for I saw him late in a German hospital on 22 December 1944. Later on 7 January 1945 at Stalag LV B, Mühlberg, Germany, members of my Company informed me that he had been seriously wounded again in the same left leg while the train in which they were enclosed was strafed by Allied planes. He was reportedly in the hospital at the Stalag at that time. I was not allowed by the Germans to visit him."

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e. A letter, dated 1 December 1945, was received in the War Department from First Lieutenant Lewis H. Walker, O-1051429. This letter which is filed in the AG 201 File of Private First Class Miranda reads, in pertinent part, as follows:

"Subject soldier was mortar crewman in Company H, 422d Infantry, 106th Inf. Div., 1st Army. He was seriously wounded in the back during the Ardennes Battle near Schonberg, Belgium, 19 December 1944. I was his Section Leader. The last I saw him was in our 331st Med. Bn. Aid Hospital in Schonberg on 23 Dec 44. I know he was evacuated in the same German hospital convoy with me 23 Dec 44 to a regular general hospital at Gerolstein, Germany. On Christmas Eve I witnessed that hospital being bombed disastrously when Allied Fleets smashed the Gerolstein railhead immediately adjacent to the hospital. * * * I have just received a communication from another mortarman of my section who states he was in the hospital when bombed but escaped injury being in the basement. He was pressed into service evacuating all the other casualties and is sure PFC Miranda was not among those saved."

16. The Casualty Branch Files of Privates Class Myron B. Anderson, and Edward M. Topolski reveal that subject enlisted men were engaged, on 16 December 1944, in defensive action near Winterspelt, Germany when the Allied positions were overrun by the enemy. No further information concerning their whereabouts is known.

17. The AG 201 and the Casualty Branch File of Private First Class Clarence J. Vainreb contains a Missing Report, dated 19 January 1945, which reveals that this enlisted man was with his section in dugouts 500 yards north of Eichelshied, Germany, fighting to hold off a German attack. The German attack started about 0700 hours on 16 December 1944. The Allied positions were overrun and it was believed that subject person did not get a chance to leave his position.

18. The Casualty Branch Files of Staff Sergeant Royal D. James, Jr., Privates First Class Robert T. Collins, Albert Goble, Ivy T. Morris, Vernon E. Sowards, Privates William F. Hinton and Robert H. Hutchinson, each contains a Missing Report, dated 20 January 1945, which reveals that these men were members of Company C, 424th Infantry which, on 16 December 1944,

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was counterattacking near Winterspelt, Germany. After undergoing an intense mortar and artillery barrage, Company C was attacked by German Infantry. The company fell back so rapidly, it was impossible to evacuate all wounded. When the company reorganized, these enlisted men were missing and there has not been any record of their having been seen since.

19. The Casualty Branch File and the AG 201 File of Captain Frank L. Miller, Junior, both contain a Missing Report, dated 19 January 1945, which reveals that Captain Miller was wounded in action near Winterspelt, Germany. He was treated by aidmen and when last seen was starting back to an aid station. Nothing further concerning his disappearance is known.

20. An examination of the files of these persons in Casualty Branch, Officers' Branch, and Enlisted Branch, AGO, and the index in Prisoner of War Information Bureau, PMGO, does not reveal any further information relevant to this review.

II. - CONCLUSIONS

1. Subject personnel listed in paragraph 1, Part I, were reported missing in action 16 December 1944, Captain Miller, Staff Sergeants James and Meadows, Sergeants Babiak and McKinney, Privates First Class Anderson, Benedetto, Collins, Goble, Jeka, Miranda, Morris, Sowards, Topolski, and Vainreb, and Privates DeMartini, Gaudette, Hinton, Hutchinson, Miloch, and Spoonmore all became missing in action in Germany. Of these men, Captain Miller, Staff Sergeant Meadows and Privates First Class Benedetto and Jeka were known to have been wounded. Private First Class Miranda was also known to have been wounded in the back and to have been evacuated to a German general hospital near Gerolstein, Germany. Reports indicated that this general hospital was bombed disastrously when Allied planes bombed a railhead in the vicinity of the hospital.

2. Private First Class Lombardo became missing in action in Luxembourg.

3. Privates First Class Brady, Hollenbeck, Kalmeyer, and Loesch, and Privates Hnatiuk, Lubinger, and Riggle became missing in action in France.

4. Private Schneider was unofficially reported killed in action near Gerolstein, Germany when a group of American prisoners in boxcars were strafed by Allied planes.

5. In view of the foregoing facts and circumstances, together with the fact that no report has been received in the War Department during the twelve months which have elapsed since the inception of the subject persons' missing in action status indication that they are alive, it is concluded that they may not "reasonably be presumed to be living" within the meaning of Section 5 of the Missing Persons Act.

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III. - RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that findings of death be made under the provisions of Section 5 of the Missing Persons Act, in the cases of the persons named in paragraph 1, part I, above, and that these findings show the presumed date of death, in each case, to be 17 December 1945.

Investigator

Captain, AGD

CONCURRED IN:

APPROVED:

DANIEL P. POTEET
Colonel, AGD
Officer in Charge
Status Review and
Determination Section

GEORGE F HERBERT
Colonel, AGD
Chief, Casualty Branch

Sergeant Peter Babiak, 32,208,268,
Infantry, and twenty-eight others.

S. R. & D. M. 1949

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Approved:

Investigator:

APPROVED:

CONCURRED IN:

GEORGE F. HUNTER
Colonel, USA
Chief, Casualty Branch

DANIEL P. POWELL
Colonel, AGC
Officer in Charge
Status Review and
Determination Section



Sergeant Fred E. Baker, 35,000,000
Inventory, and twenty-eight others.

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

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

4912

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 Leroy Meadows, Army Serial Number 34,778,467, Infantry, to be dead. He was officially reported as missing in action as of the 16th day of December 1944. For the purposes stated in said Act, death is presumed to have occurred on the 17th day of December, 1945.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR

George F. Hebert
ADJUTANT GENERAL
CHIEF, CASUALTY BRANCH

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

AREA	LYING 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)			
9 May 1924	Gastonia, North Carolina	30 Jul 1943	YEARS	MONTH	DAYS	
			Under	three	years	

EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	ADDRESS
Mrs. Helen J. Meadows	Wife	General Delivery Gastonia, North Carolina

* BENEFICIARIES

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	ADDRESS
Mrs. Helen Juanita Meadows	Wife	General Delivery
Ronnie Lee Meadows	Son	Gastonia, North Carolina
Minnie Ikey Meadows	Mother	18 Haynes Street Gastonia, North Carolina

REMARKS

*Soldier designated as second alternate beneficiary: Alfred Meadows, (Father), Distribution 56
18 Haynes Avenue
Gastonia, North Carolina

Soldier awarded Combat Infantryman's Badge per S. O. #103, 23 Jul 44, Hq. 134th Inf.

Circumstances of disappearance: Soldier was wounded north of Haberkirchen, Germany and left in enemy territory when his company was forced to withdraw.

28 DEC 1945
[Signature]

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.