

Refer to:

QMGM 293

~~Perri, Ferdinand F.~~

~~Ponce, Alfonso~~

712 West Pierce Street

Kirkville, Mo.

2 May, 1949

[Handwritten signature]
lt. 4/26/49

Lt. Col. Metz, QMC Memorial Division
Office of the Quartermaster General
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Colonel Metz:

I received your letter of 26 April, 1949, concerning the remains of the late Pvts. Perri and Ponce and was very glad to learn that my story had been substantiated and that the search would be continued. I want to thank you personally for including the addresses of the next-of-kin, since I know that most relatives of men killed in action would like to know the details. I have written to both widows and explained that I was present and that death came instantaneously and painlessly. I also explained how I got their addresses and that I would give them all details if they so desired, at the same time making it clear that I was only hoping to ease their minds--too many war widows have been victimized by people who offered spurious information for a sum of money. I have been interested in this matter and its solution primarily through a sense of duty and also because of the fact that if the mortar round that killed these men had fallen 25 feet shorter it would be me buried by that road in France.

If I may be of any further assistance in this matter please let me know. And, if it is not too much trouble I would like to ask if you would notify me when and if the remains are found, since I would like to see the end of this matter. Thanking you for your co-operation, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

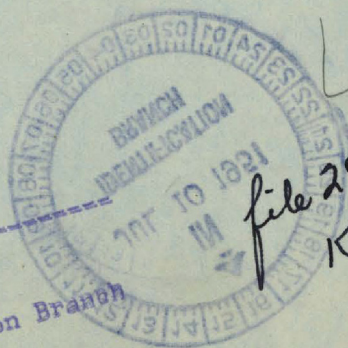
John L. Magruder, Jr.

File

MAY 18 1949

G. W. ROGERS
Capt., QMC

Identification Branch



NAN
file 293 Perri, Ferdinand F.
K. Hoppel
Id Sect
6 May 49