

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
PERSONAL AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE, TAGCEN
MEMORIAL AFFAIRS DIVISION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20314

A Board of Officers appointed by DAAG-AMO-O Letter Orders, TC 453, dated 28 January and 13 February 1976 (Tab A) convened 17 May 1976, and after consideration of the factors presented, approved the Unidentifiability of Unknowns X-9423, X-9424, and X-9425, S&R 1093, U. S. Army Memorial Affairs Activity, Europe, Frankfurt, Germany.

1. According to case papers (Tab B), the U. S. Army Memorial Affairs Activity, Europe, Frankfurt, Germany, received a letter in May 1975 from the Mayor of the city of Simmerath, Germany stating that a shallow grave had been discovered by a German company clearing a certain section of wooded area along the German-Belgium border. The grave is located in a thickly wooded area approximately 9 kilometers northeast of Simmerath, near the very small village of Steckenborn (Tab C - Maps).

2. In June 1975, a search and recovery team was dispatched to the city of Simmerath. The office of the mayor provided a police escort to the grave site which had previously been disinterred by local police. Further examination of the grave site produced no other skeletal portions. No identification tags were found with the remains; however, the following items were recovered:

- One (1) pr brown boots, size 9E
- One (1) brown boot, size 8 1/2E
- Two (2) pr rubber boots, heavy duty, size unknown
- One (1) parachute
- Remnants of wool material

During a conversation with the police, the search team was advised that an American World War II, 4 engine bomber had crashed approximately 4 kilometers from where these remains were found. When the aircraft was removed in 1960, no remains were found. There is no record of the serial number, type of aircraft or date of crash. It was concluded that the only relationship between the three remains and the aircraft that crashed is the parachute.