

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

A Board of Officers appointed by Letter Orders, DAAG-ZX, dated 16 September 1976 (Tab A) convened 19 SEPTEMBER 1978, and after consideration of the factors presented, approved the Unidentifiability of Unknown X-9443 (S&R 5127), U. S. Army Memorial Affairs Activity, Europe, Frankfurt, Germany.

1. Case papers received from the US Army Memorial Affairs Activity, Europe, Frankfurt, Germany, indicate that portions of skeletal remains had been recovered from a wooded area in Belgium near Losheimer Graben which is on the German/Belgian border. The remains had been recovered by a German citizen who resides in Cologne, West Germany. No identification tags were found, however, parts of an American type mine detector with inscription "HOLT", as well as an American helmet with the number "5007" painted on the inside, were found.
2. A search team from the Frankfurt Mortuary visited Cologne in February 1978, examined the recovered portions, and determined they were insufficient for positive identification. They requested the German citizen to direct them to the recovery site, however, when heavy snow in the area forced them to turn back, the team returned to Frankfurt with the recovered remains and equipment. In April 1978, the team returned to Cologne and traveled to the recovery site. After a thorough search of the site, no additional remains or ID media were found.
3. Upon examination of the remains, designated Unknown X-9443 (S&R 5127), it was determined that these are portions of an adult male of average muscularity with an estimated height of 70.1" (left tibia). Paucity of the recovered portions preclude racial determination or more precise age estimation. The mandible and maxilla are missing and no loose teeth were found.
4. According to available Outline History of US Army Divisions, elements of the 9th Infantry Division were committed to the Losheim area. The only direct reference to Losheim appears in the Order of Battle Series of the 9th Division "... the 9th crossed the Marne 28 Aug (44), swept through Saarlautern, and in Nov and Dec held defensive positions from Monschau to Losheim."