



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY MEMORIAL AFFAIRS ACTIVITY, EUROPE
APO NEW YORK 09757

14 JUN 1979

AERAF-Mort.

SUBJECT: Recovery of World War II Remains (SER #5134)

Thursday 7 June 1979

0830 hours, 7 June 79, Mr. Rogers and team of 4 men departed Frankfurt Mortuary for Bitburg AB, and surrounding area. Arrived at Bitburg AB and was met by Capt. Carter of Services Division. Capt. Carter briefed the team on what had already been recovered from the sites. Mr. Rogers and Capt. Carter departed for the base hospital to view the skeletal remains already recovered. Capt. Carter and Mr. Rogers returned to Services Division and team departed for Wollendorf, FRG which was the closet town to the recovery sites. The team checked into the hotel in Wollendorf and changed into fatigues and both the Air Force and Army teams departed for the first site. Both teams then proceeded to dig and sift through the site, only a few miscellaneous items such as, American and foreign made coins, buttons, parts of a poncho, and a few minor skeletal portions. Also uncovered was 1 hand-grenade, Air Force EOD personnel was notified of the hand-grenade. After awhile the Air Force team departed saying they would return the next day to show the Army team the second site. After working for awhile longer the German who found the remains arrived at the site, and departed saying he would return the next day with his metal detector. At 1630 hours work stopped and team returned to the hotel.

Friday 8 June 1979

The team departed for the first site at 0900 hours, worked for about one hour and then Mr. Rogers had SP4 Napoleon drive him back to the hotel to call the AB and find out what was taking them so long to get out to the site. SP4 Napoleon and Mr. Rogers returned to the first site and had the team gather up all the digging equipment and wait for the Air Force team to arrive on the scene. At 1145 hours the Air Force team arrived and showed the Army team the second site. After which both teams departed for lunch. After lunch both teams returned to to second site and commenced digging and sifting the area. Teams found numerous items including- personal equipment such as remains of a poncho, chewing tabacco case, bandage, ammunition, magazine, Hand-grenade, EOD people again contacted. After digging and sifting thoroughly the entire area the teams stopped work at 1530 hours and the Army team returned to the hotel.

William D. Booth
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