DASH 9135 GRIESHEIM SLANT MAIN MAUSOLEUM COMPLETED PD REPT WILL BE MAILED SOONEST CFN SC10319 427 158 9135 06/1600Z EU 1718Z

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OFFI:

THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY

## INTRAOFFICE REFERENCE SHEET

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2	13 Uns	UHN	RS.	Mila Kresteriour and DATE/Hair X1/35					
1 NO.	FROM-	TO-	DATE	MESSAGE Y					
1	Mem Div Ident Br	Regist Br	28 Sep	SUBJECT: Unidentifishles					
	Adm Office			1. The following Unknowns have been declared Unidentifiable by the field and approved by this Office:					
		Mrs. Whitti	ng <b>ha</b> m	ACRS CRIESHEIM/MAIN WAUS., GERMANY					
				X-9135 Grave 137 X-9170 " 172					
				2. Forwarded for necessary amendment of records and return to Mail and Records Branch.					
	1								

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FM CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

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DASH 9135 GRIESHEIM SLANT MAIN MAUSOLEUM COMPLETED PD REPT WILL BE

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FM CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

TO DEPTAR WASHDC DA GRNC

12 June

SC10319 FOR QMG FROM USAREUR YOUR DA 427 1\$58 PD INVES CONCERNING XRAY

OUNG DEPTAR HASH DC

CINCUSANGUR HEIDLEBERG GERMANI

12 Jun 53

Unclassified

ROUTINE

DA-427158

Pass to CO 7770 USAREUR QM Hortsary Svc Det from QMCMT your MTS 293.9 GR subject Results of Investigation 13 Feb 53

Admag ours status inves X-9135 Orlesheim/Main Mens

Clements pul

Unclassified

(DA)

Clarence C Salser

# HEADQUARTERS 7770 USAFEUR QM MORTUARY SERVICE DETACHMENT APU 757 US ARMY

## CERTIFICATE OF UNIDENTIFIABILITY OF REMAINS

1. The records pertaining to Unknown X - 9135, Plot , Row Grave 137 , USMC Griesheim/Main have been reviewed in accordance

with par 159. SR 830-110-5, DA dated 3 March 1949, and it is the opinion of the Board of Review appointed by par 17, SO 149, Headquarters, Northern Area Command, dated 19 August 1953, that sufficient evidence is not available to establish the identity of the deceased concerned, and it is recommended these remains be classified as unidentifiable.

- 2. Report of reprocessing of remains was forwarded to the Office of The Guartermaster General by Transmittal Letter No. 6413 dated 6 October 1952
  - 3. Remarks.

See attached Case History

Major H. O. YOUNG, 0-319334, QMC (President)

Captain FRANCIS M. SIMON, 0-1590810, QMC

1st Lieut, JOE R. C. IDIEIL, 0-2037529, QMC

1st Lieut. SIMPON J. LARKINS, 0-130247, QMC

1st Lieut. THEODORE R. PETERSON. 0-1688748. QMC

Alent Br 28 dep 03

#### CASE HISTORY

UNKNOWN I-9135

Griesheim/Main Mausoleum

Unknown X-9135 was recovered from Grave 87, Row 7, Plot VI, British Military Section of the communal cemetery at Cherbourg, Manche, France. The grave was marked "Jones R.L. R.A.F. 22-2-44" by the British on the basis of German records and local cemetery records. According to records (German burial card) available to the Imperial War Graves Commission the remains referred to washed ashore near Omonville, Manche on 22 February 1944 and were interred in grave 87 on 24 February 1944. British Air Ministry could not identify the above name as a casualty of the Royal Air Force and therefore suspected that decedent may be American.

Remmants of clothing and equipment found with the remains indicate that the Unknown decedent was a member of U.S. Air Force. There were no teeth recovered with this remains. Skull, hands and feet are missing.

The identification of these remains as 1st Lieut Albert E. Jones, 0-802403, a crew member of B-17 a/c # 42-29877 which crashed in the English Channel, 31 December 1943, was unsuccessful. Although physical data (height, weight and age) agrees with like data for Lieut Jones, the lack of dental comparison and factual evidence surrounding the original recovery and burial precludes the positive identification of decedent.

All attempts to secure further information to substantiate the association have met with negative results.

In view of the above, the lack of sufficient identifying media and nonavailability of essential information it is concluded that Unknown X-9135 be considered Unidentifiable.

18 September 1953

CQM 293 I (18 Sep 53) 1st Ind SUBJECT: Certificate of Unidentifiability Transmittal Letter #6468

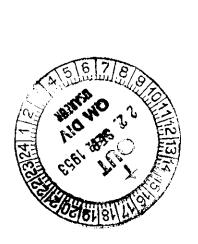
Headquarters, U. S. Army, Europe, Quartermaster Division, APO 403, c/o Postmaster, New York, New York, 18 Sep 1953

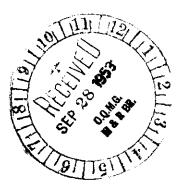
TO: The Quartermaster General, Department of the Army, Washington 25, DC

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#### HEADQUARTERS

#### 7770 USAREUR OM MORTUARY SERVICE DETACHMENT APO 757 US ARMY

MTS 293.9 GR

18 September 1953

SUBJECT: Certificate of Unidentifiability
Transmittal Letter # 6468

THRU:

Quartermaster

Headquarters, US Army, Europe

APO 403, US Army

ATTN: Field Service Branch

TO:

The Quartermaster General Washington 25, D.C.

In compliance with letter, your Office, QMGMT 293, GRS European, Subject: Final Resolution of Unknown Deceased, dated 29 July 1948, forwarded herewith are two (2) Certificates of Unidentifiability pertaining to the following remains:

Unknown No	Cemetery	Grave
X-9135	Griesheim/Main Mausoleum	137
<b>X-</b> 9170	Griesheim/Main Mausoleum	172

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

2 Incls

1 Cert of Unident

w/case history

X-9135

2 Cert of Unident

w/case history

X-9170

FRANCIS M. SIMON

Captain

120 WX-9176

OWC

Chief Graves Reg Br

## CASE RESUME - UNKNOWN X-9135 GRIESHEIM/MAIN

- 1. A resume of investigations and researches conducted by this headquarters concerning status of casualty 1st Lt Albert E Jones, 0-802403, crew member aboard aircraft B-17, AAF Serial #42-29877, disclosed the following pertinent information:
- a. Aircraft #42-29877 was shot down when over the English Channel near Guernsey Island. The enemy rescued two crew members from the crash area (2nd It Kenneth I Vaughn and 2nd It Charles A Bronako) also recovering the remains of S/Sgt William J Brennan, Sgt Michael T Morey, now interred in permanent overseas cemeteries.
- b. Extensive investigations conducted on Island of Guernsey and French coastal towns for remains of 1st Lt Albert E Jones, 2nd It Alfred L Dearborn, Sgt David H Van Dyke, Sgt Casimir Pavlic and Sgt Raymond F Bittner remaining crew members proved negative, and subsequently approved non-recoverable by the Office of the Quartermaster General.
- c. German records also indicate that remains of Sgt Carl Q Bekken were washed ashore on 26 February 1944 and buried on the Island of Guernsey. These remains were at a later date located and eventually returned to the US.

Case of 1st Lt Albert E Jones 0-802403 was reopened upon receipt of letter from the British Imperial War Graves Commission dated 9 April 1952, informing this headquarters that records in their possession indicate that remains of an R.L. Jones, RAF, were interred at the Cherbourg Communal Cemetery, France. The Air Ministry could not trace such a casualty in the Royal Air Force and suspected that the deceased in question could be an American airman.

2. The Imperial War Graves Commission further states that German records give the initials as A.L. and indicate 22/2/44 as the date the remains were washed ashore near Omonville, France. Arrangements were made with the Imperial War Graves Commission for a joint disinterment on the 14 August 1952 in an effort to substantiate or disprove that remains were those of an American airman. Upon disinterment a headless remains were found with remnants of the following clothing: US Airforce coveralls, gabardine type; sweater, wool CD, Airforce type; one pair of socks, wool CD with leather garters and elastic bands; one 3 blade pocket knife marked "Imperial", "Made in Providence, R.I."

On basis of above findings and grave side processing, it was concluded by the identification technician of this headquarters that remains interred in Grave 87, Row 7, Flot VI, Cherbourg Communal Cemetery were those of an American airman, and subsequently evacuated to Griesheim/Main Mausoleum for further processing.

#### (Case Resume cont'd)

- 3. Laboratory examination disclosed excellent association between physical characteristics of remains and information on OQMG Form 371 for 1st Lt Albert E Jones. Subject deceased was lost 31 December 1943 over the English Charmel in B-17 #42-29877 which crashed in the sea; grave marker indicates a date of death as 22 February 1944 which is in agreement with the two months interval between date of crash and date he was washed ashore. Information available to the British War Graves from German records give the initials as A.L. of remains interred in Grave 87, Row 7, Plot VI. Cherbourg Communal Cemetery.
- 4. A reinvestigation was conducted in January 1953 in an effort to obtain additional information concerning date and place of original burial, also basis for inscription on cross and what identifying media was recovered at time of original burial.
- a. On the basis of German records available to the Imperial War Graves Commission, the remains listed as A.L. Jones washed ashore on the coast near Omonville/Manche, France, on 22 February 1944. Investigation conducted at Omonville-la-Rouge indicates the shoreline of the area was place off limits to the civilian population and nothing was known to either the Town Officials or the population regarding the recovery of the remains in question.
- b. In that the German records state remains of A.L. Jones washed ashore on 22 February 1944 and the Cemetery Register of the Cherbourg Community Cemetery indicates interment of an R.L. Jones on 22 February 1944 it is to be concluded that Grave 87, Row 7, Plot VI, of the above mentioned Cemetery was the only and original place of interment.
- c. All efforts to ascertain exact marking on original cross erected at time of interment proved negative, but assumed on basis of Cemetery Register to have read the same as replacing cross which was erected by the British 48th Graves Concentration Unit after the cessation of hostilities.
- d. Efforts to obtain additional information regarding the recovery and interment of subject deceased from former members of the German Armed Forces, Chaplains Wurzwallner and Ahlbory, proved negative. Results of interrogation of the above mentioned are attached.
- e. In that the recovery and interment of subject deceased was conducted by the German Occupying Forces nothing is known to the persons interrogated if personal effects were found at the time of recovery or the basis for the inscription which appeared on the grave marker.

HEADQUARTERS
7770 USAREUR QM MORTUARY SERVICE DETACHMENT
APO 757 US ARMY

20 January 1953

#### NARRATIVE OF INVESTIGATION

In compliance with ID # 1027, this headquarters, dated 5 December 1952, an investigation was conducted at Cherbourg and vicinity, in effort to obtain additional information to further substantiate the identification of unknown X=9135 Griesheim/Main Mauso eum as Lt. Albert F. JONES, 0-802304.

In view of information available to the British from German records, listing JONES, R.L. washed ashore on the coast near Omonville/Manche. France on 22 February 1944, the undersigned proceeded to Omonville and vicinity, and with the help of Chief of Gendarmerie Giard, conducted a thorough investigation in the county of Beaumont/Manche. During above investigation, the undersigned interviewed a great number of farmers, fishermen, and officials of the communities of Omonville-la-Rogue, Digulville, Omonville-la-Petite, Saint Germain-des-Veaux, Auderville, Johourg and Reaumont, all communities situated along the sea where remains of X-9135 were supposedly washed ashore. All possible leads were followed but proved negative, records of town Halls were searched to no avail. Attention is invited to Exhibit "A" statement from chief of Gendarmerie Giard describing course of investigation. During interview of above persons, it was learned that in 1944, the beach was heavily mined, and "off limits" to the civilian population due to a radar station situated at "Le Hable" port of Omonville. It was also learned that if remains were discovered, they would be found by the Germans who patrolled the beach constantly, and would be evacuated by the German troops to an unknown place without notifying the civilian population or authorities.

The undersigned proceeded then to the Cherbourg communal cemetery where X-9135 was previously interred. The chief grave digger, Mr. Couvin, was interviewed and stated that he was in charge of digging the graves. A German Adjutant in charge of the interments notified Fr. Couvin on how many graves were to be dug; after the graves were ready, Mr. Couvin and his workers had to leave and interments were made by German soldiers, the Adjutant and an Austrian chaplain by the name of Work Wallner (see Exhibit "3"). Tr. Couvin was asked whether he had seen any remains, and stated he had not, or did not know where the remains came from, with the exception of four or five that he disinterred in the middle of 19h3 from an air ield. Nr. Couvin further stated that he did not believe that remains interred at the end of 1943 and 1944 were disinterred from a previous site, that, he could even state for sure. Er. Lamperiers, who has charge of the cemetery stated that after the German soldiers had finished with interments, the Adjutant came to his office, gave him a slip of paper with the names of remains, and where interred. Mr. Lamperiere Airther stated that chaplain Wors Wallner kept

Narrative of Investigation ID # 1027, dtd 20 Jan 1953 (cont'd)

records pertaining to location where remains were found, and other pertinent data that would inform the families, chaplain Worz Wallner was taken prisoner at the liberation of Cherbourg, and Mr. Lamperiere did not know what became of the documents (fee Exhibit Web). Mr. Lamperiere and Wr. Couvin were asked who had inscribed the name of JOHNS, E.L. on the cross, and they stated that it were probably the British. Mr. Alfred Coudant, present caretaker of the British plot at the cemetery was interviewed, and gave the same information pertaining to the digging of graves and interpents as did Mr. Couvin.

In view of above information, the fact that cemetery register shows that JONES, R.L. was interred on 22 February 19hh, it was noted that register was made chronologically day after day, that date of discovery of remains of JONES, R.L. according to German records was on 22 February 19hh, it is therefore believed by the undersigned that remains of JONES, R.L. were originally interred at the Shorbourg Communal Cemetery. It is also believed that the remains were discovered by the German troops and brought to Cherbourg for interment.

It is therefore recommended, as a last lead, to locate chaplain Wors Wallner, who possibly could supply the needed information.

igt. Farian Faczynski RA-42066317 Investigator CC. Levi A. Ruybalid EA-19213387 Investigator

2 Incls:

<sup>1 -</sup> Statement Tr. Lamperiere dtd 8 Jan 53 (Exh "B")

<sup>2 -</sup> Statement Sgt Giard dtd 9 Jan 53 (Pxh \*A\*)

## Translation

Gendarmerie Nationale Beme Legion Bis Compagne de la Manche Section de Cherbourg Brigade de Beaumont-Hague Doaumont-Hague, 9 January 1953

Ferguant GIARD, undersigned Chief of Gendarmerie Brigade of Beautont-Hague (Fanche), certifies that researches conducted on B January 1953 in the communities of Omonville-la-Bogue, Digulleville, Omonville-la-Petite, Saint Germain-des-Vaux, Auderville and Jobourg (Manche) together with Sergeant Carlan Daczynski, 7770 WEARBUR QUE Mortuary Service Detachment, Frankfurt/Main, Germany, in an effort to obtain information concerning the discovery, exact status, and place of interment of an allied flier reported as being discovered on the beach of one of the above communities, apparently in February 1964, have brought no results.

At Charville-la-Rogue we contacted Mr. Cain, previous Mayor, who declared verbally that one (1) remains was discovered on the beach in 1944. This corpse could not be identified, however, according to his uniform and insignia, it was established to be a German merchant marine officer. In company of Mr. Laclere, present Mayor, we inspected the Civil Affairs Magister of the Maire, and, with the exception of the German deceased mentioned above, we were unable to locate any records concerning the discovery of a body on the beach. It the place named "Le Hable", port of Monville, we contacted Mr. Mauger, former sailor and Misherman, however, he could not furnish us any pertinent information concerning our mission.

At Digulleville we examined the Civil All airs Records portaining to deaths from 1940 to 1945, but Sailed to Sind any relevant information. We Fouques, Secretary to the Sajor, declared that he never had any knowledge of remains having been discovered on the beach of that community.

At Omonville-la-Petite we contacted Fr. Renet, Equar of that community during the German occupation, who stated that not one remains had been discovered by the civilian population during that period of time, and that not one interment was made in the community cemetery. He then specified that the beach was off limits to the civilians and when remains were found, the Germans removed them themselves to an unknown destination without informing the local subscrities. These facts were confirmed at Auderville and Johourg where our researches also failed to bring results.

In 19th several allied planes were shot down whose mission was to bomb a radar station, at Jobourg. The civilian population never could approach the rests of the planes. The bodies of the pilots, wounded or dead, were taken by the Germans and no one ever knew to where they were taken.

NOTE: I add that the records of the Brigade have been checked from 1912 to 1915 but we could not find any traces of a drowned body in the occumunities mentioned above. The Army of occupation has probably taken care of all kinds of operations, intersents and for alities without informing the civilian authorities.

Gendarmorie Seal

As results to inquireries of American soldiers in charge of information concerning the date of interment of soldiers interred in France.

I report that the american pilot Jones, R. L has been interred in the Cherbourg cometary on 22 February 1944. The digging of graves and fillings were supervised by the chief digger Mr. Couvin. The lowering of the bodies in the grave was made by German soldiers with a Chaplain and a German Adjutant who were in charge of the cemetary for their soldiers.

At the time of interment, Ar. Couvin and also his men had to leave and return when the soldiers were gone.

At the time of the liberation of Cherbourg by the american army, the chaplain Wors Wallner No. 91.727, Lodge, Woor, Camp No. 17 Sheffied, 10 Yookskins was taken prisonner and transferred to the United States. This soldier had in his possession all information that would help to inform the families, but we mover were able to find out to whom those documents concerning the interment of soldiers have been given to.

The ma es of the soldiers interred were furnished to us by the Adjutant in charge of the interments.

Chief Grave Digger

a/ Lamperiere

a/ Couvin

Translated by: Daczynski

ID # 1051 - Case # Manche 7326

## HEAD UARTERS 7770 USAREUR MORTUARY SERVICE DETACHMENT APO 757 US ARMY

18 March 1953

#### NARRATIVE OF INVESTIGATION

#### I. AUTHORITY AND MATTERS INVESTIGATED:

Pursuant to instructions set forth in ID # 1051, this headquarters, dated 3 March 1953, an investigation was conducted at Graz (0-48), Austria, in effort to obtain further information to substantiate the identification of unknown X-9135 Griesheim/Main Mausoleum as Lt. Albert E. Jones, 0-802304.

#### II. FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES:

Unknown X-9135 was recovered from the Cherbourg Old Communal Cemetery, France, and tentatively identified as Lt. Albert E. Jones due to the excellent association of remains and Oca form 371 for Lt. Jones and other favorable information, attention is invited to Narrative of Investigation dated 20 January 1953. Information was received from Cherbourg that German Army Chaplain J. Wurzwallner, presently living in Graz, Austria was present at the interments of allied fliers, and kept record of information pertaining to names of remains and where they were found.

#### III. FINDINGS:

Chaplain Wurzwallner was contacted on 4 March 1953, and the following information was received: Wurzwallner was chaplain for the whole Normandy Peninsula from 1 December 1941 till the liberation of Cherbourg by allied troops; he was present at the interment of allied fliers and German soldiers. When chaplain Wurzwallner was absent, a German protestant minister by the name of Alwin Ahlbory, presently living in Duesseldorf, Kopernikusstrasse 9, took his place.

When interments were made, chaplain Wurzwallner was called by a Staff Sergeant from the Cherbourg Kommandatur, and was given time and place of interments. When the chaplain arrived at the cemetery, the grave was already dug by French grave diggers, prior to interment, the French workers were told to leave and return when the ceremony was finished. After the interments, the chaplain went to the Kommandatur with a staff sergeant where he was given the names of the deceased and whatever information he could obtain from the Sergeant or the clerks.

Chaplain Wurzwallner produced a calendar book for 1944 where he had entered each day's activity. Upon inspection of the book it was noted that the chaplain had made interments on the 20th and then again on the 24th February 1944; on that day, it was noted that 2 British fliers were interred in Grave 88 and 89. On the 21st/22nd February 1944, chaplain Wurzwallner

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(Narrative of Investigation, ID # 1051, dtd 18 Mar 1953, cont'd)

was a guest at the Admiral's house and made no interments, a notation was also entered that during that period of time, protestant minister Alwin Ahlbory was on leave.

Chaplain Wurzwallner stated that all remains interred in his presence in 1944 were in a casket, X-9135 disinterred by identification specialist of this headquarters from grave 87 was found wither casket. No information was found in calendar pertaining to remains now designated X-9135 or a R.L. Jones' name inscribed on cross of grave 87, the chaplain also could not give any information pertaining to subject decedent.

Chaplain Wurzwallner further stated that the Staff Sergeant gave the names of remains interred to the French caretaker, and inscriptions on crosses were made by the French cemetery grave diggers supposedly on the basis of the names given to them by the sergeant. Official burial records and disposition of private property was made by the Staff Sergeant of the Kommandatur, however, the chaplain could not recall his name. Wurzwallner stated that protestant minister Ahlbory also kept a calendar book with his daily activities, however, it was doubtful wether he had any information pertaining to X-9135 as he was on leave at that time.

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS:

Interview of German chaplain J. Wurzwallner proved to be negative as he was guest of the Port admiral of Cherbourg on the day X-9135 was interred. It is very doubtful the protestant minister alwin ahlbory would have any information pertaining to subject decedent as he was on leave; only information which he could possibly have would be the name of the Kommandatur Staff Sergeant who maintained the records and disposed of personal property of decedents.

#### V. RECOMMENDATIONS:

In view of above information, it is recommended that protestant minister ahlbory be contacted in effort to obtain the name of the Kommandatur Staff Sergeant who could possibly furnish further information.

Manay Languchi Sgt. Mahilan Daszynski HA-42066317 Investigator

#### TRANSLATION

Upon inquiry, the following information is submitted by me to the American Graves Registration Command, due to the fact that my husband is presently absent on a trip abroad.

No documents or data resp. with regard to interments in Cherbourg are in the possesion of my husband.

A check revealed that my husband was on leave in Jermany at the date of the burial of the U.S. deceased concerned on 22 February 1944.

A further check with my husband upon a previous inquiry by phone, revealed he has no knowledge of the name nor address of the Kommandantur Sergeant responsible for matters concerning burials.

I am sorry that I am not able to be of any further assistance.

/s/ Elisabeth Ahlbory

Paltor Almin Ahlbory

Dülleldorf, den 14. IV. 53.

Auf Anfrage wird der amerikamischen Kriegsgräberkommission rklärt, da mein Mann z. It. auf Reisen ist, dass sich keinerlei Unterlagen über Beisetzungen in Cherbourgh in seinem Besitz befinden. Is hat sich auch heraus gestellt, dass sich mein Mann um die leit der Reisetzung 22. II. 1944, des betreffenden Amerikaners z. Zt. auf Urlaub in Deutschland befand.

Auch ist nach Rücksprach mit meinem Mann weder der Name noch die Adresse des Kommandanturfeldwebels bekannt, derin den Angelegenheiten der Beisetzungen zuständig waren.

Es tut mir leid, Ihnen nicht weiter helfenzu können.

Elinabel thereny

#### RESUME OF CIRCUMSTANCES OF PLANE CRASH AND DEATHS OF CREM

- B-17 aircraft #42-29877 crashed and sank in the English Channel off the Island of Guernesey 31 December 1943 while returning from a mission to Cognac, France. Of the ten (10) members of the crew, only two (2) survived; i.e., 2/Lt. Kenneth L. Vaughn, 0684796, co-pilot, and 2/Lt. Charles A. Bronako, 0744239, bombardier. 2/Lt. Vaughn gave the place of crash as approximately fifteen (15) miles NE of Guernesey and fifteen (15) miles NW of the Cherbourg Peninsula while 2/Lt. Bronako fixed the place of crash as approximately twelve miles M of Guernesey. Nine of the crew who survived the immediate crash abandoned the plane and boarded life rafts, and at 0400 hours 1 January 1944 eight of them reached some rocks off the coast of Guernesey. The tide subsequently washed them off the rocks at 0700 hours. The two survivors were captured by members of a German coastal unit. Information regarding individual members of the crew is taken from survivors' statements and from German records.
- JONES, ALBERT E., 2/Lt., 0802403 (Pilot) DESJECT CASE: Was last seen in the water near the rocks. He struck his head when the plane ditched and was supposed to have frozen to death while in water as "he was pretty far gone when washed off rock".
- DFARBORN, ALFRED L., 2/Lt., 0750181 (Navigator): Froze to death at 2000 2200 hours 31 December 1943 and was pushed overboard to make room for the rest in the dinghy.
- VAN DYKE, DAVID H., S/Sgt., 33303843 (TTCnr): Died of exposure in 2/Lt Vaughn's dinghy and was laid out on rocks at 0400 hours 1 January 1944. Body washed off rocks by tide with rest of the crew.
- BREWHAN, WILLIAM J., S/Sgt., 31243407 (Rad Opr): Was last seen in the water near the rocks after he had been washed off at 0700 hours 1 January 1944. German records show that his body washed ashore on the northern coast of Guernesey at 0930 hours 2 January 1944. His remains have been recovered and identified.
- PAVLIC, Casimir, S/Sgt., 38194801 (IMGnr): Washed off the rocks at 0700 hours.
- MOREY, MICHAEL T., Sgt., 13114877 (RUGnr): Washed off the rocks at 0700 hours. German guards told 2/Lt. Vaughn that his body washed ashore at 1600 hours 1 January 1944. (Lt. Vaughn saw his identification picture.) German records show that his body washed ashore on the northern coast of Guernesey at 1030 hours 2 January 1944. His remains have been recovered and identified.
- BEKKEN, CARL Q., Sgt., 16156902 (BIGnr): Was last seen in the water near the rocks after he had been washed off at 0650 hours 1 January 1944. "Took off life vest to use as pillow while on rocks off Guernesey Island and was washed off rocks before we were and could not survive due to exposure, weakened condition and no life vest." German records show that his body washed ashore on the northwestern coast of Guernesey at 1800 hours 26 February 1944. His remains have been recovered and identified.
- BITTHER, MAYMOND F., Sgt., 13132091 (TGnr): Went down with the plane, Was wounded in abdomen and chest by 20 mm. shells and never regained consciousness. When the crew abandoned the plane, he was left in the radio room as the plane sank almost immediately.

<u>lante de la companya del companya del companya de la companya de </u>		DATE					
TELEPHONE INFORMATION	RECORD	9 July 195 <b>3</b>					
TELEPHONE NUMBER AND BRANCH CALLED Hydrographic Off	NAME OF PERSON PLACING CALL						
Off. Chief Naval Opns., USN, Code 153, Ext. 469	V. Lee						
CASE UNDER INVESTIGATION (% or Case Number)	CEMETERY						
X-9135	Criesheim/Main Mausoleu						
information required Could the body of a man wh	o was washed off the rocks	into the English					
Channel near the northern coast of the Isl	and of Guernesey at 0700 ho	urs 1 January 1944					
have been washed ashore on the beach in th	PERSON GIVING INFORMATION	nce 22 Feb 1944;					
9 July 1953	Mr. P. M. D	unlap					
INFORMATION RECEIVED							
NOTE: Two (2) identified members of the c	rew washed ashore on the no	rthern coast of					
the Island of Guernesey the morning	of the 2ni of January acco	rdin <sub>e</sub> to German					
records; however, one (1) of the tw	c (2) survivors stated it w	as about 1600					
hours 1 January 1944. The only oth	hours I January 1944. The only other member of the crew whose remains were re-						
covered washed ashore on the Island	of Guernesev 26 February 1	944.					
		0 1 1 4					
REPLY: Members of the staff of the Hydrogr	aphic Office concluded that	the body washed					
ashore near Omonville, France, 22 F	ebruary 1944 could have bee	n that of the man					
	washed off the rocks near the northern coast of the Island of Guernesey						
l January 1944 from the fact that t	here is a net flow towards	the North Sea of					
2 - 3 miles per day. He could have							
rotary tidal current around the Isl	•						
him approximately sixty (60) days t	o Legen OmonATITE. THIS 68	timate, of course.					
would be affected by the winds prevailing at the time.							
The fact that the third deceased di	d not wash ashore on the Is	land of Guernesey					
until 26 February 1944 is explained		_					
have circled the Island several time	es before finally drifting	ashore.					
OMONVILLE, FRANCE, IS APPROXIMATELY	THILTY-TWO (32) HILES DIRE	CTLY NORTHEAST					
OF THE ISLAND OF GUERNESEY.							

CQM 293 I (13 Feb 53) lst Ind SUBJECT: Results of Investigation

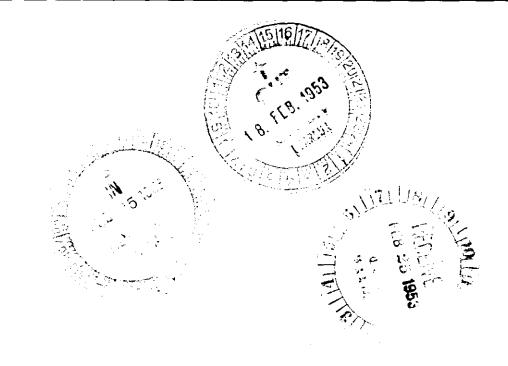
Headquarters, U. S. Army, Europe, Quartermaster Division, APO 403, c/o Postmaster, New York, New York, 17 Feb 53

TO: The Quartermaster General, Department of the Army, Washington 25, DC

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CQM 298 I (13 Feb 58) lat Ind SUBJECT: Results of Investigation

Headquarters, U. S. Army, Europe, Quartermaster Division, APO 405, q/e Postmaster, New York, New York, 17 Feb 58

TO: The Quartermaster General, Department of the Army, Washington 25, DC

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Maur X-9195

HEADQUARTERS
7770 USAREUR QM MORTUARY SERVICE DETACHMENT
APO 757

MTS 293.9 GR

13 February 1953

SUBJECT: Results of Investigation

THRU: Chief, Quartermaster Division, USAREUR
APO 403, US Army
ATTN: Field Service Branch

TO:

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

1. Reference is made to Unknown X-9135, Griesheim/Main Mausoleum identified (tentatively) as 1st Lieut Albert E. JONES, 0-802304, and letter, Office of the Quartermaster General, subject Identification of World War II Deceased, dated 18 November 1952.

- 2. Recent field investigation conducted in the area of Cherbourg, France, failed to reveal any positive information to substantiate the identification.
- 3. Attention is invited to the recommendation of the investigators as set forth in attached Narrative of Investigation, dated 20 January 1953.
- 4. Action has been initiated by this headquarters to locate the former German Army chaplain.
- 5. A complete case resume will be forwarded your Office upon completion of further investigation.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

US DAC

Graves Reg Br

MALTON MEXE

1 Incl: Narr of Invest dtd 20 Jan'53



HEADQUARTERS
7770 USAREUR QM MORTUARY SERVICE DETACHMENT
APO 757 US ARMY

20 January 1953

#### NARRATIVE OF INVESTIGATION

In compliance with ID # 1027, this headquarters, dated 5 December 1952, an investigation was conducted at Cherbourg and vicinity, in effort to obtain additional information to further substantiate the identification of unknown X-9135 Griesheim/Main Mausoleum as Lt. Albert E. JONES, 0-802304.

In view of information available to the British from German records. listing JONES, R.L. washed ashore on the coast near Omonville/Manche. France on 22 February 1944, the undersigned proceeded to Omonville and vicinity, and with the help of Chief of Gendarmerie Giard, conducted a thorough investigation in the county of Beaumont/Manche. During above investigation, the undersigned interviewed a great number of farmers. fishermen, and officials of the communities of Omonville-la-Rogue, Digulville, Omonville-la-Petite, Saint Germain-des-Veaux, Auderville, Jobourg and Beaumont, all communities situated along the sea where remains of X-9135 were supposedly washed ashore. All possible leads were followed but proved negative, records of town Halls were searched to no avail. Attention is invited to Exhibit "A" statement from chief of Gendarmerie Giard describing course of investigation. During interview of above persons. it was learned that in 1944, the beach was heavily mined, and "off limits" to the civilian population due to a radar station situated at "Le Hable" port of Omonville. It was also learned that if remains were discovered, they would be found by the Germans who patrolled the beach constantly, and would be evacuated by the German troops to an unknown place without notifying the civilian population or authorities.

The undersigned proceeded then to the Cherbourg communal cemetery where X-9135 was previously interred. The chief grave digger, Mr. Couvin, was interviewed and stated that he was in charge of digging the graves. A German Adjutant in charge of the interments notified Mr. Couvin on how many graves were to be dug: after the graves were ready. Mr. Couvin and his workers had to leave and interments were made by German soldiers, the Adjutant and an Austrian chaplain by the name of Worz Wallner (see Exhibit \*B\*). Mr. Couvin was asked whether he had seen any remains, and stated he had not, or did not know where the remains came from, with the exception of four or five that he disinterred in the middle of 1943 from an airfield. Mr. Couvin further stated that he did not believe that remains interred at the end of 1943 and 1944 were disinterred from a previous site, that, he could even state for sure. Mr. Lamperiere, who has charge of the cemetery stated that after the German soldiers had finished with interments, the Adjutant came to his office, gave him a slip of paper with the names of remains, and where interred. Mr. Lamperiere further stated that chaplain Worz Wallner kept

Narrative of Investigation ID # 1027, dtd 20 Jan 1953 (cont'd)

records pertaining to location where remains were found, and other pertinent data that would inform the families, chaplain Worz Wallner was taken prisoner at the liberation of Cherbourg, and Mr. Lamperiere did not know what became of the documents (See Exhibit "B"). Mr. Lamperiere and Mr. Couvin were asked who had inscribed the name of JONES, R.L. on the cross, and they stated that it were probably the British. Mr. Alfred Coudant, present caretaker of the British plot at the cemetery was interviewed, and gave the same information pertaining to the digging of graves and interments as did Mr. Couvin.

In view of above information, the fact that cemetery register shows that JONES, R.L. was interred on 22 February 1944, it was noted that register was made chronologically day after day, that date of discovery of remains of JONES, R.L. according to German records was on 22 February 1944, it is therefore believed by the undersigned that remains of JONES, R.L. were originally interred at the Cherbourg Communal Cemetery. It is also believed that the remains were discovered by the German troops and brought to Cherbourg for interment.

It is therefore recommended, as a last lead, to locate chaplain Worz Wallner, who possibly could supply the needed information.

Sgt. Marian Daczynski
RA-12066317

RA-42066317 Investigator Jevi A. Rughafid Sfc. Levi A. Rughafid

RA-19213387 Investigator

2 Incls:

<sup>1 -</sup> Statement Mr. Lemperiere dtd 8 Jan 53 (Exh "B")

<sup>2 -</sup> Statement Sgt Giard dtd 9 Jan 53 (Exh "A")

### Translation

Gendarmerie Nationale 3eme Legion Bis Compagne de la Manche Section de Cherbourg Brigade de Beaumont-Hague Beaumont-Hague, 9 January 1953

Sergeant GIARD, undersigned Chief of Gendarmerie Brigade of Beaumont-Hague (Manche), certifies that researches conducted on 8 January 1953 in the communities of Omonville-la-Rogue, Digulleville, Omonville-la-Petite, Saint Germain-des-Vaux, Auderville and Jobourg (Manche) together with Sergeant Marian Daczynski, 7770 USAREUR QM Mortuary Service Detachment, Frankfurt/Main, Germany, in an effort to obtain information concerning the discovery, exact status, and place of interment of an allied flier reported as being discovered on the beach of one of the above communities, apparently in February 19hh, have brought no results.

At Omonville-la-Rogue we contacted Mr. Gain, previous Mayor, who declared verbally that one (1) remains was discovered on the beach in 1944. This corpse could not be identified, however, according to his uniform and insignia, it was established to be a German merchant marine officer. In company of Mr. Leclerc, present Mayor, we inspected the Civil Affairs Register of the Maire, and, with the exception of the German deceased mentioned above, we were unable to locate any records concerning the discovery of a body on the beach. At the place named "Le Hable", port of Omonville, we contacted Mr. Mauger, former sailor and fisherman, however, he could not furnish us any pertinent information concerning our mission.

At Digulleville we examined the Civil Affairs Records pertaining to deaths from 1940 to 1945, but failed to find any relevant information. Mr. Fouques, Secretary to the Mayor, declared that he never had any knowledge of remains having been discovered on the beach of that community.

At Omonville-la-Petite we contacted Mr. Renet, May or of that community during the German occupation, who stated that not one remains had been discovered by the civilian population during that period of time, and that not one interment was made in the community cemetery. He then specified that the beach was off limits to the civilians and when remains were found, the Germans removed them themselves to an unknown destination without informing the local authorities. These facts were confirmed at Auderville and Jobourg where our researches also failed to bring results.

In 19th several allied planes were shot down whose mission was to bomb a radar station, at Jobourg. The civilian population never could approach the rests of the planes. The bodies of the pilots, wounded or dead, were taken by the Germans and no one ever knew to where they were taken.

NOTE: I add that the records of the Brigade have been checked from 1942 to 1945 but we could not find any traces of a drowned body in the communities mentioned above. The Army of occupation has probably taken care of all kinds of operations, interments, and formalities without informing the civilian authorities.

Gendarmerie Seal /s/ illegible

Translated by: Marian Daczynski Gendarmeria Nationale

Jeno-Légien Bis.

Gempégnie de la Lanche.

Section de Cherbourg.

Brigade de REAUNCOT-HAGUE

Le Maréchal-des-Logis-Chef GIARD, Commandant la brigade de Gendarmerie de Beaumont-Hague (Lanche) soussigné, certifie que les recherches effectuées, le 8 Janvier 1953, en compagnie du Sergent MARIAN DACZYNSKI, 7770 USAREUR MORT. Svc. Det, FRANKFURT-MAIN (ALLEMAGNE, dans les communes de Omonville-la-Regue, Digulleville, Omonville-la-Petite, Saint-Germain-des-Vaux, Auderville et Jobourg (Manche) en vue de recueillir des renseignements, sur la découverte, l'état-civil exact et le lieu d'inhumation, d'un Officier aviateur Allié, signalé comme ayant été découvert sur la plage de l'une des communes precitées, vraisemblablement en Février 1944, sent restées sans résultat.

A Omonville-la-Rogue, nous avons vu Mr. GAIN, ancien Maire, qui nous a déclaré verbalement qu'un cadavre avait bien été découvert sur la plage en 1944, Ce corps n'avait pu être identifié, mais en raison de sa tenue et de ses insignes il avait été reconnu pour un Officier de la Marine Marchande Allemande. En compagnie de Mr. LECLERC, Maire actuel, nous avons compulsé les registres de l'état-civil de la Mairie, mais à l'exception de l'Allemand désigné ci-dessus, nous n'avons relevé aucun acte signé ci-dessus, nous n'avons relevé aucun acte plage. Au lieu dit "Le Hable", port d'Omonville, nous avons vu Mr. MAUGER, ancien marin et pêcheur, mais ce dernier n'a pu nous fournir aucun renseignement utile, concernant nos recherches.

A Digulleville, nous avens compulsé les actes de l'état-civil concernant les déces des années 1940 A à 1945, mais n'y avens trouve aucun renseignement qui puisse faveriser nos recherches. Mr. FOUQUES, secretaire de Mairie, nous a déclaré qu'il n'avait jamais eu connaissance de la découverte d'un cadavre, sur la plage de la commune.

A Omenville-la-Fetite, neus avens vu Mr. REMET, Laire de cette commune, seus l'occupation Allemande, qui neus a déclaré qu'aucun cerps n'avait été découvert par la population civile au cours de cette période et qu'aucune inhumation n'avait eu lieu dans le cimetière communal. Par contre, il neus a précisé que la plage était interdite aux civils, et lorsque des corps y étaient découverts, les Allemands procédaient eux-mêmes à l'enlévement pour une destination inconnue, sans prévenir les autorités locales. Ces fints faits neus ent été confirmés à Auderville et à Jobourg, cû nes recherches sont restées sans résultat.

En 1944, plusieurs aviateurs Alliés sont tembés sur Jehourg en venant bombardé un poste de radar.

La population civile n'a jamais pu approcher auprès des restes des appareils. Le corps des pilote blessés ou morts étaient emportés par les Allemands et personne n'a jamais pu savoir où ils étaient déposés.



NOTA: J'ajoute que les archives de la brigade consultées de 1942 à 100 ne nous ont pas permis découvrir trace de découverte d'un noyé dans les communes désignées ci-contre. L'armée d'occupation a sans doute procédé aux diverses opérations, ex inhumation et formalités sans en aviser les autorités civiles.

As results to inquireries of American soldiers in charge of information concerning the date of interment of soldiers interred in France.

I report that the american pilot Jones, R. L has been interred in the Cherbourg cemetary on 22 February 1944. The digging of graves and fillings were supervised by the chief digger Mr. Couvin. The lowering of the bodies in the grave was made by German soldiers with a Chaplain and a Cerman Adjutant who were in charge of the cemetary for their soldiers.

At the time of interment, Mr. Couvin and also his men had to leave and return when the soldiers were gone.

At the time of the liberation of Cherbourg by the american army, the chaplain Wcrz Wallner No. 91.727, Lodge, Moor, Camp No. 17 Sheffied, 10 Yockskine was taken prisonner and transferred to the United States. This soldier had in his possession all information that would help to inform the families, but we mever were able to find out to whom those documents concerning the interment of soldiers have been given to.

The majes of the soldiers interred were furnished to us by the Adjutant in charge of the interments.

Chief Grave Digger

s/ Lamperiere

s/ Couvin

Translated by: Daczynski

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(NOTE: Pocket knife is being forwarded to Army Effects Depot)

Technician : W. A. Neep

Anthroclogist : E. Breitinger

# HEADQUARTERS 7770 USAREUR QM MORTUARY SERVICE DETACHMENT APO 757 US ARMY

27 August 1952

#### IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY REPORT

INVESTIGATION DIRECTIVE : 979
PROCESSING DIRECTIVE : 178
SEARCH AND RECOVERY CASE : 712

- 1. Search and Recovery Case # 712 pertains to one (1) remains recently recovered from the British Military Section of the Cherbourg Communal Cemetery at Cherbourg, France. The grave-marker was inscribed with "R.L. JONES -22.2.44". A joint disinterment was carried out by representatives of the Imperial War Graves Commission and American Graves Registration Service. Previous information received from the Imperial War Graves Commission indicated that this deceased could not be associated with any known British casualty. Graveside examination disclosed US Air Force clothing and physical characteristics which compared very favorably with 1/Lt Albert E. JONES, 0-802 403 an unrecovered casualty from B-17 A/C #42-29877 which crashed in the English Channel on 31 December 1943. It is believed that the body of 1/Lt Albert E. JONES was washed ashore and recovered on 22nd February 1944 which accounts for the date inscribed on the grave marker. The seeming discrepancy in the first and second initials may be accounted for by the finding of ID tags which could have had the name of next-of-kin and were interpreted as being the name of the deceased.
- 2. Pending official approval of identification this case has been assigned a temporary Unknown "X" number as follows:

SR #712 is now designated UNKNOWN X-9135 Griesheim/Main Mausoleum Grave 137

3. <u>Laboratory examination discloses excellent association between the physical characteristics of this remains and the information available on OQMG Form 371 for 1/Lt Albert E. Jones. Association is as follows:</u>

	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	HAIR
X-9135 (Remains)	26-27  Yrs	5' - 11 1/8"	160-180 Lbs	None found
1/Lt JONES(Fm 371)	26 Yrs	5' - 11"	163 Lbs	Brown

There were no teeth recovered with this remains. Skull, hands and feet are missing. There is no evidence of healed fractures in any of the portions which are present.

 $\mu_\bullet$  CAUSE OF DEATH: There is no evidence of skeletal injury by which the cause of death might be determined.

US DAC GS-7 Lab. Identification Techn.

E. BREITINGER

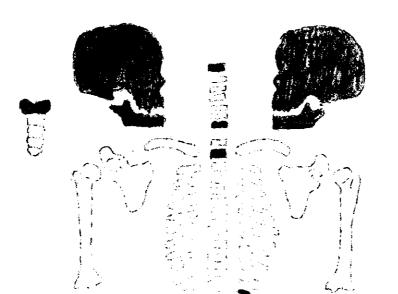
Professor, Institute of Anthropology

University of Frankfurt Frankfurt/Main, Germany

( BLACK CUT PARTS OF BODY SC! FEESENT )

5R-7/2

X-9135 Griesheim/M Grave 137



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BIO. 498 26-27 ESC. 1810ER 5' 11/8

COLLER FLET None Found

IL IN STRIKES None

Found

Mass Small Amount

BUNKEL No

EST. WEIGHT 160-180

SIGNATURE OV. a. 1/2 DATE 27 August 195

## HEADQUARTERS 7770 USAREUR QM MORTUARY SERVICE DETACHMENT APO 757 US ARMY

21 August 1952

#### REPORT OF DISINTERMENT

Pursuant to orders issued, the undersigned proceeded to CHERBOURG, France to conduct joint exhumation of grave 87, row 7, plot VI, British Military Section, Cherbourg Communal Cemetery, CHERBOURG, France.

Joint disinterment was requested to determine if deceased interred as "JONES R.L. 22.2.44" could be associated with 1st Lt. ALBERT E. JONES, 0-802403, pilot of B-17 aircraft # 42-29877 which reportedly crashed in the English Channel on 31 August 1943.

In the presence of Mr. J. NASH, Imperial War Graves Commission, ARRAS, France and the undersigned, grave was opened on 14 August 1952 and remains were processed at grave site. Examination revealed remains to be of male, approximately 24-26 years of age, measurement proved height to be 5'lo 3/4", public hair determined as dark brown, no head, hands or feet present. Skeletal chart attached as Exhibit "A".

Remnants of clothing present included interlining of electrical heating flying suit (USAAF type), gabardine coveralls, wool underdrawers and a Boy Scout type pen knife, no other personal effects found.

On basis of grave side processing, it was concluded that remains interred in grave 87, row 7, plot VI are those of an American airman. Informal release was obtained from Mr. J. NASH, representative of the Imperial War Graves Commission to remove remains.

Remains were evacuated under SR # 712.

US DAC

Investigator

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