

COMMUNITY OF VIERLINGSBEEK

VIERLINGSBEEK, 11 March 1947

The Burgomaster of the Community of Vierlingsbeek declares that there are no data at the Town Hall here concerning the place of the grave in this community of :

Cpl. JAMES J. BARRAS 38 264 750

He further declares that at least 13 destroyed tanks of American type are lying in the community of Vierlingsbeek, to which 6 other villages belong to:

The places where these 13 tanks are is as follows:

1. 2 tanks at Overloon, district Peelkant
2. 4 tanks at Vortum
3. 2 tanks in the War Museum at Overloon
4. 1 tank at the border of the Duivenbosch at Overloon
5. 1 tank at the Pritterscheweg at Overloon
6. 3 tanks Heikantveld at Overloon (of which 1 tank on the field of J. Koenen and 2 tanks on the field of M. van Mil)

With reference to No. 1: We were informed that parts of a human body are still in the tank. We supposed it was one of the crew members.

With reference to no. 2: It is very possible that there are still remains in one of the tanks. There are no remains found in the other three tanks. All four were destroyed on 3 October 1944 during the fights near Overloon.

With reference to no 5: In February 1945 the remains of one of the crew members were found and buried in the immediate vicinity. Some time later a second body was found, that also was buried near the tank. The first grave (of the first deceased) was marked with a wooden cross, of which the inscription is not known anymore at the Town Hall. The grave of the second deceased was also marked with a cross, on which the inscription: Unknown American Driver 3 011 069.

In June 1945 these bodies were disinterred by American soldiers and removed to Margraten.

With reference to No. 6: These three tanks were destroyed in the beginning of October 1944, during the Battle of Overloon. No trace of any remains of the occupants was found in these tanks.

The BURGOMASTER OF VIERLINGSBEEK
For him
/s/t/ H. van Daal
Comm. at the Secretary

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

Orlando W. Carroza
ORLAND W. CARROZA
1st Lt. Infantry

Certified True Translation

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4527 QM Service Co. (AC)