

SERIAL NUMBER AND ABSENCE, GRADE, AND SERIAL NUMBER	DATE OF ENLISTMENT	No. Yrs. Ser.	Cl	ALLOWANCES			DEDUCTIONS	
				Cl	B Sub- Allow	Qtr.	Gov't Ins. Cl-5	Allowment Cl-E
OTHER COMPONENTS JUMPERS CONT'D								
PRIVATE5 OR VII								
2	Cutting, Ray H. <i>KIA</i>	37520609	7 Apr 43	22				
	Cl P doc of \$22.00 per mo fr 1 May 44 for			00	18.75		6.40	
3	indef period.							
4	Devitte, Paul J. <i>Decl</i>	36377540	28 Sept 42				6.60	35.00
	Rd fr cpl to Pvt per par 8 30/44 Hq 506th							
5	Frcht Inf dtd 17 Apr 44. Due US dif in pay be-							
	tween cpl (over 0 yrs serv) and Pvt (over 0							
6	yrs serv) fr 17 Apr 44 to 30 Apr 44 incl.							
	Error pd on prior rolls. To forf \$25.00 of his							
7	Pay per Sum cl 433 Hq 506th Frcht Inf dtd 4							
	May 44. Removed fr jump status as of 17 Apr 44.							
8	No 30 shown. Due US jump pay fr 17 Apr 44 to							
	30 Apr 44 incl. Error pd on prior rolls.							
9	Placed on jump status as of 8 May 44. No 30							
	shown.							
10				22				
11	Diener, David	36569545	10 Feb 43	00			6.50	6.98
12	Dilley, Lawrence P.	37661672	16 Feb 43		6.25		6.50	
	Due sol refund of \$12.50 cl B almt for mos							
13	of Oct/43 to Apr/44 incl. Error ded fr prior							
	rolls. (See attached notice)							
14								
15	DiProspero, Joseph C.	32769560	24 Feb 43		18.75		6.50	
16	Distagi, Nicholas A.	32823785	5 Mar 43	22				
				00	18.75		6.40	
17	Dobrich, Walter	33439756	3 Mar 43				6.40	
18	Donahue, Charles E.	13093783	3 Aug 42	22			6.60	
				00				
19	Doss, Joel H.	38446020	13 Jan 43		6.25		6.50	<i>KIA</i>
	Due US \$38.33 jump pay error overpaid on							
20	Voucher #6153 acct of W.P. MACHENBHL, Lt.col.							
	PD for Feb/44 for period fr 20 Dec 43 to 12							
21	Jan 44 incl.							
22	NOT USED							
23	NOT USED							
24	NOT USED							
25	NOT USED							
26	NOT USED							

COMPANY MORNING REPORT

END NO 2400 12 July 1944
 (DAY) (MONTH) (YEAR)

STATION Hungerford 3mi VU 7490 Cassini
 ORGANIZATION Company "A" 506th Frcht Inf

(CO. DET. ETC.) (PARENT UNIT) (BAR OR SERVICE)

SERIAL NUMBER	NAME	GRADE	CODE
39 858 341	Lim Him NMI	Pfc	Jx19
32 769 560	Di Prospero Joseph C	Pvt	A
(Hosp LD SVA) to RTD 3 July 44 reld fr atchd unassgd & assgd & id fr 10 Repl Dep APO 874 US Army			
38 446 020	Dons Joel H	Pvt	Jx19
(Hosp LD LIA) to RTD reld fr atchd unassgd & assgd & id 3 July 44 fr 10 Repl Dep APO 874 US Army			
39 250 037	Sutherland Sherman N	Sgt	Jx19
(Hosp LD SIA) to RTD 27 June 44 reld fr atchd unassgd & assgd & id fr 10 Repl Dep APO 874 US Army			
37 654 334	Young John D	Pfc	Jx19
(Hosp LD SIA) to RTD 6 July 44 reld fr atchd unassgd & assgd & id fr 10 Repl Dep APO 874 US Army			
18 117 175	Barrington Ollie E jr	Pfc	Jx19
(Hosp LD LVA) to RTD 4 July 44 reld fr atchd unassgd & assgd & id fr 10 Repl Dep APO 874 US Army			
12 087 578	Berezweig Stanley NMI	Pfc	Jx19

OFFICER STRENGTH	FLD O & CAPT		1ST LT		2D LT		WO		PLT O	
	PRES	ABST	PRES	ABST	PRES	ABST	PRES	ABST	PRES	ABST
ASCO										
ATCND UNASSGD										
ATCND FR OTHER ORGN										
TOTAL										

RESTRICTED

AVE CADET & ENL STRENGTH	AVIATION CADETS		ENLISTED MEN		
	PRESENT	ABSENT	PRESENT FOR DUTY	PRESENT NOT FOR DUTY	ABSENT
ASCO					
ATCND UNASSGD					
ATCND FR OTHER ORGN					
TOTAL					

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF RATIONS REQUIRED FOR _____ **DAY OF WEEK** _____ **NUMBER** _____
DATE _____

MESS ATTENDANCE FOR DAY OF THIS REPORT

BREAKFAST	DINNER	SUPPER	TOTAL	AVERAGE

MEN AUTHORIZED TO MESS SEPARATELY _____ **MEN ATCHD FOR RATIONS** _____

MEN ATCHD TO OTHER ORGN FOR RATIONS	NET	O & OTHERS MESSED	TOTAL

MEN PRESENT: _____ LESS _____ PLUS _____

PAGE 1 OF 20 PAGES

I CERTIFY THAT THIS MORNING REPORT IS CORRECT AND THAT RATIONS PROVIDED IN PART II REPRESENT AN ACTUAL DUESY AS REPORTED TO ME.

SIGNATURE *[Signature]*
 U.S. G.A.R. FORM NO. 1 (REV. 1, 1943) (GRADE) (BAR OR SERVICE)

WD COPY THRU HQ OR SCR

COMPANY
MORNING REPORT

ENDING
2400

1 Jan 1945

STATION Mourmelon VT 5464 Nord de Guerre

ORGANIZATION Co "A" 506th Precht Inf Inf

(CO, DET, ETC.)

(PARENT UNIT)

(ARM OR SERVICE)

SERIAL NUMBER	NAME	GRADE	CODE	
36 968 167	Knapp Thomas A	745 Pvt	M/	
36 740 772	Simioni Dino C	605 Tec 4	M/	
18 117 175	Barrington Ollie e Jr	Cpl	M/	
(604) Above 3 EM fr dy to KIA 20 Dec 44				
32 597 522	Speer Siber E	745 Pfc	M/	
6 136 169	Rohr David W	745 Pvt		
12 095 356	Hopkins Joseph R	653 Sgt		
32 347 935	Horn Charles D	745 Pvt		
32 216 963	Bielski John A	937 Pvt		
13 089 060	Fell Emanuel	764 Pvt		
Above 6 EM fr dy to KIA 21 Dec 44.				
20 225 987	Braasch Louis R	652 Pvt		
13 091 367	Boyd Henry A	653 Sgt		
39 207 357	Cressesey Robert H	060 Pvt		H/
15 324 667	Davis Frank L	604 Sgt	M/	
38 446 020	Doss Joel H	745 Pvt		
39 530 738	Harrison Floyd E	653 Sgt		
39 217 426	Johns Leland L	745 Pvt		
16 108 467	McFaul Nelson A	607 Pfc		
13 083 807	Montrella Angelo S	607 Sgt		
39 693 141	Romero Martin Z	653 Sgt		
39 921 885	Sanders George D	533 Pvt		

OFFICER STRENGTH	FLD O & CAPT		1ST LT		2D LT		WO		FLT O	
	PRES	ABS'T	PRES	ABS'T	PRES	ABS'T	PRES	ABS'T	PRES	ABS'T
ASSIGNED										
ATTACHED UNASSIGNED										
ATTACHED FR OTHER ORGN										
TOTAL										

RESTRICTED

AVN CADET & ENLISTED STRENGTH	AVIATION CADETS		ENLISTED MEN			
	PRESENT	ABSENT	PRESENT FOR DUTY	PRESENT NOT FOR DY	ABSENT	PRESENT AND ABSENT
ASSIGNED						
ATTACHED UNASSIGNED						
ATTACHED FR OTHER ORGN						
TOTAL						

R ESTIMATED NUMBER OF DAY OF WEEK NUMBER

A I RATIONS REQUIRED FOR DATE

T II MESS ATTENDANCE FOR DAY OF THIS REPORT

I BREAKFAST DINNER SUPPER TOTAL + AVERAGE

O MEN AUTHORIZED TO MESS SEPARATELY MEN ATCHD FOR RATIONS

N III MEN ATCHD TO OTHER ORGN FOR RATIONS NET O & OTHERS MESSED TOTAL

S MEN PRESENT LESS PLUS

PAGE 2 OF 5 PAGES

I CERTIFY THAT THIS MORNING REPORT IS CORRECT AND THAT THE RATION FIGURES IN PART II REPRESENT AN ACTUAL COUNT AS REPORTED TO ME:

[Signature]

**COMPANY
MORNING REPORT**

ENDING 2400 1 Jan 1945
(DAY) (MONTH) (YEAR)

STATION Mourmelon VT 5464 Nord de Guerre

ORGANIZATION Co "A" 506th Precht Inf Inf

(CO, BTRY, ETC.) (PARENT UNIT) (ARM OR SERVICE)

SERIAL NUMBER	NAME	GRADE	CODE
18 149 246	Slaton Henry C Jr	504 Cpl	
13 098 882	Stewart William L	675 Pvt	H4
34 888 471	Summers Oscar H Jr	533 Pvt	X-76
Above 14 EM fr dy to Hosp LD SWA 19/12			
Dec 44, reld fr asgd & atchd unasgd, (battle casualties).			
15 105 084	Bahus David	604 Pvt	
32 927 500	Bednar Paul	745 Pfc	
39 469 653	Broncheau Phillip	745 Pvt	
34 823 074	Brown William T	604 Pvt	
14 071 974	Catlett Charles W	653 Pvt	
35 812 011	Curaton Malcolm E	745 Pvt	
37 356 637	Correa Justo	745 Pfc	
37 661 672	Dilley Lawrence R	745 Pvt	H4
18 121 461	Gaddy Frank A Jr	161 Tec	5 X 76
19 125 613	Gividen Joseph C	511 Tec	5
35 847 021	Hostler George A	244 Pvt	2/120
34 897 653	Kinney Baxter E	745 Pvt	
36 657 808	LaBarbera Joseph	745 Pfc	
36 660 961	LaPlante Gerald L	677 Pvt	
13 152 280	McCracken John F	675 Pfc	
39 419 976	Robinson Henry R	645 Pvt	

OFFICER STRENGTH	FLD O & CAPT		1ST LT		2D LT		WO		FLT O	
	PRES	ABS'T	PRES	ABS'T	PRES	ABS'T	PRES	ABS'T	PRES	ABS'T
ASSIGNED										
ATTACHED UNASSIGNED ATTACHED FR OTHER ORGN										
TOTAL										

RESTRICTED

AVN CADET & ENLISTED STRENGTH	AVIATION CADETS		ENLISTED MEN			
	PRESENT	ABSENT	PRESENT FOR DUTY	PRESENT NOT FOR DUTY	ABSENT	PRESENT AND ABSENT
ASSIGNED						
ATTACHED UNASSIGNED ATTACHED FR OTHER ORGN						
TOTAL						

R A T I O N S	I	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF RATIONS REQUIRED FOR	DAY OF WEEK	DATE	NUMBER
	II	MESS ATTENDANCE FOR DAY OF THIS REPORT	BREAKFAST	DINNER	SUPPER
O N S	III	MEN AUTHORIZED TO MESS SEPARATELY	MEN ATCHD FOR RATIONS	Q & OTHERS MESSED	TOTAL
		MEN ATCHD TO OTHER ORGN FOR RATIONS	NET	PLUS	

PAGE 3 OF 5 PAGES

I CERTIFY THAT THIS MORNING REPORT IS CORRECT AND THE RATION FIGURES IN PART II REPRESENT AN ACTUAL COUNT AS REPORTED TO ME.

SIGNATURE

U.S. A. G. O. FORM NO. 1
MARCH 19, 1943

[Handwritten Signature]

(GRADE) (ARM OR SERVICE)

WD COPY THRU MRU OR SCU

GERMAN RECORDS A. V. 2368/45

Transport-Pass for wounded.

Name: Joe H. D O S S, US-Army-member

Injury: wounding of center of skull. Protruding of brain

Bone-injury ? : yes.

Injection: S.E.E.II, 22 December 1944 0400 o'clock.

Other aid: protecting bandage. on 22 December 44, 0400 hs.

Next necessary aid: brain-surgically treatment.

Transferred to: Hospital N, as mentioned above.

Name of the physician: Signature: illegible Captain-Medical-Officer

Paratroop- Field-Hospital 5.

Issued: 22 December 1944, at 0400.

to

Familien- u. Vorname: Doss Joel H. U.S.A. 1

geboren am _____ in: _____ Kreis: _____

Truppenteil: _____ file in *Death*
no. *244*
Date: _____

Dienstgrad: Sold

Erkennungsmarke: 38446020 T. 43-440

Tag des Todes	Ort des Todes	Beerdigt am
<u>14. 12. 44</u>	<u>Fallschirm-Feldlaz 5</u>	<u>11. 1. 45</u>

Lage und Nr. des Grabes: Kpf. Friedh in Bittling Einzelgrab

Gemeldet durch: B.L. Ref. 1 W.G.D. Wast. Trupp. 2
D.A.W. 24 Des. 44 gem. d. Fallock. Feldlaz 5 San. 5

46201 Doss Joel H. 38446020 Sl

EL

ARMY SERVICE FORCES
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

In Reply Refer to WDYD 293

Doss, Joel H.
2 38 446 020

2 August 1946

BURIAL INFORMATION

NAME: Doss, Joel H.

GRADE: Pvt.

2 38 446 020

DATE OF DEATH: 24 December 1944

The following information has been received in this office, and is forwarded for aid in recovering this deceased.

PLACE OF DEATH: Paratroop Field Hospital #5.

PLACE OF BURIAL: Military Cemetery, Single Grave Number 5, at Bitburg, Germany.

Above information has been obtained from: Captured German Records.

314.6 Graves Reg (European)

Transmittal Ltr No. 34/E dtd 2 August 1946

Incl 39

Formblatt 5 a

K. S. V. (H), II. Teil

(Bei V. u. G. die Staatsangehörigkeit angeben)

Familien- u. Vorname:

Joel H. Doss

geb. am

in:

Kreis:

unbekannt

(OVER)

Truppenteil:

Beschriftung der Erkennungsmarke:

unbekannt

38446020 T 43-44/0

Dienstgrad:

Lfd. Nr. des Laz.-Krankenbuches

unbekannt

2103

Name des Lazarets:

Erkrankungstag,
Art der Krankheit
oder Verwundung:

Zugang:

Abgang:

woher:

wie, wohin:

22. 12. 44

Kopfverl.
Ding gew.
vgl.

H. V. D.

g...
Feldlazarett
27. 12. 44
27. 12. 44

am:

am:

27. 12. 44

27. 12. 44

Feldlazarett 5

38446020
Joel H. Doss
38446020

Bei Verbündeten und Gefangenen
sowie verstorbenen deutschen Wehrmachtangehörigen:

Anschrift der zu benachrichtigenden Angehörigen:

unbekannt

Bei Verstorbenen:

genaue Bezeichnung
der Grablage:

*Einzelgrab Nr. 5 auf
dem krieg. Friedhof
in Bitterburg.*

*Seigl. grave 5 -
Mil. Cem. in
Bitterburg, Germany*

*F. S.
Stabsarzt u. Chefarzt*

Name: Doss, Joel H.

Staatsangehörigkeit: U.S.A.

Nr. der Liste: 38 44 60 20

Gefangenen-Nr.:

Seite der Liste:

Name:

Doss

Beruf:

Vornamen:

Joel H.

Religion:

Dienstgrad:

Sold

Geburtstag u. Geburtsort:

Truppenteil:

Vorname des Vaters:

Komp. usw.

Matr. Nr.

A.S.N. 38446020 J. 43-440

Familiennamen der Mutter:

Ort und Tag der Gefangennahme oder Internierung:

Name u. Anschrift der zu benachrichtigenden Person:

Verwundungen, Verletzungen oder Tod:

wann und von wo zugegangen:

Aufenthalt u. Veränderungen:

24. 12. 44 Fallschirm-Feldlazarett 5 buried in military cemetery in Bitburg single grave
Grablege: Kap. Friedhof in Bitburg Einzelgrab
German

V 8

* Doss Joel H. 38446020 MIA 19 Dec 44 ETO



APPROVED JUL 6 1945

File 8-2-46
MPT
Smith

you. d. Fallchimus - Field Hospital 5 in Ref - Eitz. ab.
W. Hen. Ref to
Für Sammlung

Source of information: -

Report from - Paratroop -

Field Hospital 5 -
above Ref. II -

abgel. A. - 777/45

abgelg. A.V. 6368/45

Toteul 75

lfd Nr 39

Dead List 75/39

Identification tag at Assembly Station.

Army Casualty Report 777/45 -

Army Casualty Report 2368/45 -

Appears on Dead List 75/39.

This case originated at: HQ, AGRC APO 58, US Army		Case No.
Report made at: 164th QM Bn. APO 403 US Army	Date when made: 28 August 47	Period for which made: 4 Aug 47 to 26 Aug 47.
Title: DOSS, Joel H. Pvt. 38446020 Co. A, 506th Para Inf 101 Arbn Division.		Character of case: DOW received in action Bitburg, Germany. (WL-1353)
Synopsis of facts:		
<p>1. In pursuing instructions, Headquarters, AGRC, an extensive "On the spot" Special Investigation was conducted at Bitburg, Matzen, Motsch and Stahl, Germany, by the undersigned in an effort to establish conclusive evidence determining the status of missing American soldiers, allegedly killed in this area by bombing attacks from 22 to 25 December 1944.</p> <p>2. Investigation led to the disinterment of four (4) mass graves, located in Bitburg and vicinity. A total of seventy-one (71) remains were examined, of these, two (2) remains proved to be American.</p> <p>3. Your attention is invited to Section I, paragraph 4, of attached narrative.</p>		
DETAILS (see next page.)		
Report made by: <i>Harold P. Boone</i> HAROLD P. BOONE US CIV SPL INV A G R C		Distribution of report: 4 - FEC 1 - File, 164th

Narrative on Investigations at Bitburg (6/L-15), GermanySECTION I

1. In compliance with the attached correspondence, an extensive "on the spot" Special Investigation was carried out in Bitburg, Germany, and surrounding villages for the possible location of American soldiers that were reported missing in this area after a bombing attack on this town by American planes the latter part of December 1944. Priests, policemen, town administration officials, cemetery caretakers, nurses, and residents of Bitburg and surrounding villages were interviewed as to their knowledge of isolated burials of American soldiers in or near Bitburg, Germany.

2. Records in the Burgermeister's office, Bitburg, were incoherent and incomprehensive. As the German military occupied Bitburg, proper records were not distributed to town officials for future use. The only records that were available are current documents that have been prepared since hostilities have ceased.

3. Fraulein GERDA DREISER, Red Cross Nurse, Bitburg, Germany, voluntarily contributed vital information concerning isolated burials and mass graves in and around Bitburg. Fraulein DREISER was nurse supervisor of the German military aid station hospital in Bitburg during the bombing attacks on 22, 23, and 24 December 1944. She recalls that during the bombing attacks, approximately twelve (12) to fifteen (15) American soldiers perished in the hospital. The exact burial place of all deceased is unknown to her, although, she does recall that six (6) American soldiers were interred in the cemetery at Motsch, Germany, approximately 2 km from Bitburg. These were disinterred by the 3046 Quartermaster Graves Registration Company, 19 February 1946.

4. Fraulein DREISER also stated that during the bombing attacks a slightly wounded American soldier by the name of "JOHNNY" climbed to the roof of the wood structure aid station to sweep the snow away which covered the hospital markings and while doing this the hospital received a direct bomb hit and the soldier was never seen again. DREISER strongly believes the soldier was blown to bits by the bomb blast. Records now in the possession of Fraulein DREISER are alleged fairly complete until the bombing attack in December 1944. These records do not show that American personnel were interred in the Bitburg Cemetery. These records do show that the small military plot in the civilian cemetery contain only graves of French prisoner of war soldiers, buried there from 1941 to 1943. Graves numbers three (3) and five (5) as stated in basic communication contain French soldiers interred the earlier part of 1941.

SECTION II

1. Records indicate that the following American military personnel have been disinterred from Bitburg Cemetery and from debris of bombed buildings.

a. Lt. Edwin L. Whitefield, disinterred May 1946, from cemetery between graves Nos. 13 and 14, French PW Plot.

b. One (1) unknown, alleged X-219, *Ident as: Spyrchal, Joseph M* Hamm, Luxembourg, disinterred the same time as Lt. Whitefield.

c. Alleged parts of three (3) remains discovered among debris from a basement of a butcher shop in Bitburg, IF-1506, disinterred 23 July 1947.

SECTION III (Mass Graves)

1. Inasmuch as records indicated that three (3) mass graves existed in the Bitburg Cemetery, the Investigator felt it highly possible that these mass graves might contain American personnel. On 13 August 1947 the graves were opened and the remains examined by the undersigned, accompanied by Dr. JACOB FAAS, MD and Doctor of Forensic Medicine, Trier, Germany. Fifty-six (56) remains were examined from the three (3) mass graves. Of these, two (2) proved to be American soldiers. The following is a description of the remains.

a. IF-1725 - Deceased identified as an American and was clad only in a white cotton, short sleeved, undershirt (T-shirt), and an Army issue O.D. shirt. The teeth were complete and well preserved with no cavities or fillings. Short black hair, 25 to 30 years of age, approximately 6 feet in height and the lower left leg was bound in a wire splint. This deceased is believed to have died of wounds in the Bitburg Military Hospital and interred by German military personnel in the mass grave.

b. IF-1726 - Deceased was fully clad in a United States Army uniform with the exception of shoes. One identification tag was found on the decedent bearing the name of VICK, JAMES W., 34007893. This remains is also believed to have come from the military hospital.

2. A mass grave at Matzen, Germany, approximately 2 km East of Bitburg, containing fifteen (15) remains was opened. The remains were identified as nationals other than Americans by the undersigned and Dr. Faas.

3. Records also indicate that six (6) remains were disinterred 19 February 1946 from Motsch Cemetery, approximately 2 km from Bitburg, by Lt. Clapp, 3046 Quartermaster Graves Registration Company.

4. Records in the possession of Fraulein DREISER indicate that approximately seventy (70) German soldiers are interred in the cemetery at STAHL, Germany, 4 km from Bitburg. These deceased are interred in separate graves marked with crosses bearing their identification.

SECTION IV (Summary of information gathered from various civilian sources)

1. Fraulein SIEVERT, ex-nurse at Bitburg, stated that she saw two or three remains fully clad in American uniforms lying in the cemetery awaiting burial. These remains were not in caskets and were from the Bitburg Military Hospital. The hospital was evacuated on 7 January 1945 to Motsch, approximately 2 km from Bitburg, Germany. She noticed these remains the same day the hospital was evacuated. Sievert did not recall an aid station or hospital located in Menningen on the Prum River, some 17 km South of Bitburg, although, it is highly possible that the German Army had a small aid station or collection point for the wounded in this vicinity operated by military personnel.

2. Records could not be found to substantiate the fact, but it was learned through conversation with local residents that an American airman was shot by a German policeman shortly after parachuting to safety.

The exact date of this atrocity could not be found nor the disposition of the remains. The remains were evacuated from the scene of the atrocity by a small cart by German military personnel. A description of the airplane could not be obtained as all civilian populace were off the streets and in shelters.

3. During the bombing attacks in December 1944, American Prisoners of War were permitted to seek cover on their own without guards. Many of these soldiers ran into basements of large buildings and were never seen again after the bombings. It is rumored that two or three buildings which were completely destroyed contain deceased American soldiers. Excavation of these buildings are under contract at present. Arrangements have been made with City Officials in Bitburg to notify Headquarters, First Field Command, AGRC, if any remains of American soldiers are found in the debris.

SECTION V (Conclusions)

1. From the facts recorded above, it is concluded:

a. That to the best of my knowledge and belief, all American deceased have been disinterred from the civilian cemetery, Bitburg, Germany. All graves questionable have been opened and examined by the undersigned and a specialist (Forensic and Anthropologist) furnished by the French Military Government, Trier, Germany.

b. That only one cemetery exists in Bitburg and not three (3) as mentioned in previous basic documents. The military cemetery referred to in basic documents consists of twenty-six (26) French Prisoners of War.

c. That the hospital in question has been dismantled and destroyed.

d. That I have personally investigated the towns of Bitburg, Matzen, Motsch and Stahl, Germany, finding the two aforementioned Americans in a mass grave of thirty-three (33) German soldiers in the Bitburg civilian cemetery.

e. May I assure you that every possible clue has been investigated by competent personnel to the fullest extent, not overlooking the least minute clue that might lead to a trace of missing American soldiers. For your interest in this investigation, the cooperation of the two aforementioned nurses, public officials, and local civilians was appreciated.

Harold P. Boone

HAROLD P. BOONE
US Civilian,
Special Investigator, AGRC

Information from the Hospital Admission Cards created 2/15/2023
 by the office of the Surgeon General, Department
 of the Army (1944-1945).
 Information for the year 1944

Service Number	38446020
Rank	Enlisted Man
Arm of Service	Infantry, Parachute Troops
Age	21
Race	White
Length of Service	1 Year(s), 6 Month(s)
Month of Admission	June
Year of Admission	1944
Last Treatment Facility	General hospital
Circumstances Surrounding Injury	Battle casualty or battle injury other than ; self-inflicted injury or injury intentionally ; inflicted by another person.
Type of Case	Injury, battle
Type of Admission	New
Type of Diagnosis	Sole diagnosis, no history of prior disease, injury; or battle casualty
Line of Duty	In line of duty
1st Diagnosis	Wound(s), Puncture
1st Anatomical Location	Foot, generally
1st Operation	
2nd Diagnosis	
2nd Anatomical Location	
2nd Operation	
3rd Diagnosis	
Causative Agent	Instrument or object, Cutting or Piercing (includes enemy)
Final Result	304th Station Hospital or 83rd Gen Hosp
Disposition	Duty
Cause of Disposition	Not death nor discharge (incl cases remaining in hosp at end of 1944)
Month of Disposition	June
Year of Disposition	1944
Total Days (non-effective)	011
Hospital Days	008
Current Days /Gen Hosp Overseas Day	011
Place of Final Cure	83rd Gen Hosp
Sample Size	Remaining 1944 case

Source: This information was obtained from the Hospital Admission Card data file (1944-1945) created by the Office of the Surgeon General Department of the Army. In 1970 the National Research Council first compiled this for statistical purposes using the EMTs (Emergency Medical Tags) and other Office of the Surgeon General Office Records during WWII.

Information from the Hospital Admission Cards created 2/15/2023
 by the office of the Surgeon General, Department
 of the Army (1944-1945).
 Information for the year 1944

Service Number	38446020
Rank	Enlisted Man
Arm of Service	Infantry, General or Unspecified
Age	22
Race	Unknown
Length of Service	
Month of Admission	December
Year of Admission	1944
Last Treatment Facility	Not in a medical installation prior to death
Circumstances Surrounding Injury	Injuries intentionally inflicted by another person ; (except Military Enemy or Guard, Sentry, MP, etc.)
Type of Case	Casualty, battle
Type of Admission	New
Type of Diagnosis	Sole diagnosis, no history of prior disease, injury; or battle casualty
Line of Duty	In line of duty
1st Diagnosis	Wound(s), character not stated (includes Wound(s), multiple, Not Elsewhere Classified: Wound(s) unqualified) with no nerve or artery involvement
1st Anatomical Location	Unknown, code not applicable
1st Operation	
2nd Diagnosis	
2nd Anatomical Location	
2nd Operation	
3rd Diagnosis	
Causative Agent	None or Unknown
Final Result	
Disposition	
Cause of Disposition	First diagnosis field
Month of Disposition	December
Year of Disposition	1944
Total Days (non-effective)	
Hospital Days	
Current Days /Gen Hosp Overseas Day	
Place of Final Cure	
Sample Size	Remaining 1944 case

Source: This information was obtained from the Hospital Admission Card data file (1944-1945) created by the Office of the Surgeon General Department of the Army. In 1970 the National Research Council first compiled this for statistical purposes using the EMTs (Emergency Medical Tags) and other Office of the Surgeon General Office Records during WWII.

The Bulge: Cold, fog, death

The honorable discharge papers tell the story briefly, bureaucratically: "Wounds received in action: 16 January 1945 European Theater." Steve Polander, infantry corporal, returned home with the Purple Heart, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with two Bronze Stars, Distinguished Unit Badge, Combat Infantryman Badge, World War II Victory Medal — and an injury that will remind him of war for the rest of his life.

I have a lot to say to you which I have never revealed. In my frustration and bitterness in the past years I have kept to myself up until now. It's things sometimes you would rather forget, but you can't.

I lost my right leg somewhat above the knee in the Battle of the Bulge. My crotch was torn out on the same leg and my so-called good leg is getting worse over the past 40 years and I am not able to get around too well. Plus, I have head pressure that no one seems to have the answer for.

I will take you to the village of Noville, Belgium, step by step, what my eyes see and my ears hear.

I am with my famed 101st Airborne Division Company A 506 Parachute Infantry Regiment, more fortunate, you could say, than my friends and fellow countrymen. I have survived the cold, foggy, bloody mess before I myself am wounded a few weeks later.

My division has just returned from a hard-fought bloody battle in Holland for only a short rest when word comes down that we have to go back to the front because of the breakthrough. Field Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt's powerful army has bulldozed its way through some American infantry divisions, tank and other units.

The onslaught of the German Army is stopped with heavy losses, but we hold the line.

At 2 p.m. this afternoon, my company is attached to a unit of about 400 men or so as we approach the small village of Noville in double column along the main highway.

Word comes down to halt as the front column reaches the base of the hill. An explosion takes place at the front of the column. Someone has stepped on a mine.

The road moves up the village hill with houses on both sides and a large red barn at the top on the left side.

Everyone knows something is up. A man about half way up the hill dressed in civilian clothes is seen by all as he walks from the left side of a house to the right side looking down on us. He enters the house as we move in, then all hell breaks loose.

Long-range heavy artillery starts pouring in with precision accuracy. They rake the village hill for about 14 continual hours and, hidden on the fringes, German Tiger tanks pour in 88 timer shells in between the heavy artillery.

I find myself lying against a thick concrete wall enclosing a grave yard. A shell explodes on top of it and the concussion knocks me senseless. When I come to, I don't know where I am. I stumble and stagger to get to the top of the hill. I find myself next entering a



'At point blank range, three times they tear into each other. The Sherman starts smoking, flaming and then explodes. It seems like seconds later the Tiger does likewise.'

STEVE POLANDER, BERWICK, WHO WAS WOUNDED DURING THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE, IN UNIFORM (LEFT), AND TODAY.

small chicken coop that seemed to be attached to the barn. Inside sits a young man, on what looked like a block of wood, his back to me. His skull on the upper right side has been totally torn off by a huge chunk of shrapnel. His brains are showing and a medic kneels dabbing his skull. The village is on fire and we are continually being pinned down, all, that is, except the barn with cows and horses that lie within, dead and bleeding from shrapnel.

I finally reach an area near the top where I dig in about a foot and a half deep, about 40 yards straight up from the barn. As darkness begins setting in, I lay flat on my stomach and an 88 timer explodes above me. I feel my head hitting the bottom of my hole. A piece of shrapnel about the size of a quarter tears into the upper backside of my steel helmet, tears up the liner in a circular motion and drops out. It cuts a path in my hair no more than a quarter of an inch from my skull.

Just before daybreak, the shelling stops and down in the deep valley north of the village can be heard the rumble of German tanks coming up to clean up what's left of us. An order is passed along to group, and at least 10 men are picked for night patrol. The men leave towards the east, straight out from where I am dug in. No more than five minutes go by when fierce gunfire erupts a short distance away. Word comes back from the few men above that all were ambushed and killed.

As we wait for the tanks approaching the top of the hill to the north in this cold foggy morning of deadly silence, the fog

Please see BULGE page 32



Bulge

Continued from page 31

seems to settle the thickest in the valley. As I look about I see at least 50 tanks and half-tracks with flames flickering and shells exploding within. A nauseating smell of barbecued bodies drifts through the foggy breeze. About 80 yards away I can see the tanks approach the top of the hill with a grinding, squeaking halt.

At the lower part of the hill where the tanks stopped, some men are dug in. I do not know how many. The hatch on one of the tanks opens and we are cursed at, but rifle fire soon makes him drop the hatch.

The first tank slowly enters the position of the men at the lower end. Death-struggle screams can be heard. The men move around the tank as the tank turns, firing blindly. With a few bazooka shots the tank is stopped and some rifle fire is then heard.

The second tank then starts to make its entry. With no resistance, it starts to

make its move toward me and the red barn. Helpless, we watch, so as not to give our position away. The tank continues to move slowly toward the front side of the barn at an angle from me. The Sherman tank starts up and moves to the corner of the barn. As it locks the left track, it moves forward a few yards, stops and faces the German tank about 30 yards away. At point blank range they tear into the hull of each other. On this snow-covered ground the American tank skids back a few feet on each impact. Three times they tear into each other. The Sherman starts smoking, flaming and then explodes. It seems like seconds later the Tiger does likewise. Neither hatch opens as we lay ready. The third tank then backs off the hill.

Little did he know there were but a few of us left. The clear signal is given. As we walk down towards the barn, there are about 10 of us, one in total shock walking like a zombie.

We board the only other tank we had up there. It takes us back down the hill where we came from, but in less than a

quarter of mile we learn from those whom I assume were left from my regiment that we are in a trap and there is nowhere to go; the wounded and some vehicles sit helpless. Bitter, tired and frustrated, we stand there as a few mortars overshoot us. Rifle fire starts coming off the hill above us, ricocheting all around.

We quickly regroup, about 40 able-bodied men in all, and head straight up the hill, where German infantry is dug in beyond a strip of wooded area, not too deep. As we approach the top we are met by a hail of machine gun and rifle fire. We move among the tall timber and some men drop. We make a second lunge with fierce small arms firing, and more men drop as I see tracers fly by me. At close range now, only about 20 yards now, we make the final dash and more men drop. Many Germans lay slumped dead against their foxhole.

In 15 to 20 minutes, the bloody ordeal is over. We have punched a hole in the line at this point. We lost about 15 dead and about 10 wounded, some seriously. I

would guess the Germans have lost twice that many dead and 20 surrendered. I know that amount because I was in charge until I was relieved.

A week or so passes with little resistance now, at least for us, with now about 30 men. As we move in a line towards the Rhine, darkness sets in and we decide to dig in.

I remember removing my pack, putting my rifle down and holding my trench shovel. I start setting myself down, as my right leg touches the snowy area, under it is a personal mine. It tears out the upper inner side of my leg.

Fortunately for me, because of the unstoppable bleeding, a Jeep is nearby. It races down through the valley below. In the open towards the field hospital, artillery spots the jeep and about a half dozen shells hitting rock the jeep. I lay nearly unconscious, not caring whether I live or die.

(The jeep made it through the artillery gauntlet and delivered Polander to a field hospital, where medics stopped the bleeding but could not save his leg. He was 23.)

