



INDIVIDUAL DECEASED PERSONAL FILE

BEST COPY POSSIBLE
POOR QUALITY ORIGINAL

ARMY SERVICE FORCES
ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU

ORDER FOR SHIPMENT

Mr. John F. Cunningham

SHIP TO:
Green Acre Road

Effects of
t. Ralph J. Cunningham

Westwood, Massachusetts

11049221
ASN

111002 D
Case No.

Wt.

JRM:HA:df
DATE 24 March 1945

Marrell
FOR: Effects Quartermaster

REMARKS:

___ Inclose Bureau Check
___ Acct. No. ___
___ Amount ___
___ Inclose "Valuables" item
___ Ship "Valuables" item(s)

___ Remove G.I.
___ Note discrepancy in ___
___ Films removed
___ Diary removed
___ Laundry removed

ROUTING:

- Accounting Branch
1. Warehouse Division
2. Files Branch, Adm. Div.

REMARKS:

1 pkg
Franked

Est. Exp. Chgs. _____

Est. Frt. Chgs. _____

No. of packages 1

APR 4 1945

MAR 27 1945

PAJ
Shipping Clerk



ARMY SERVICE FORCES
KANSAS CITY QUARTERMASTER DEPOT

801 HARDESTY AVENUE
KANSAS CITY 1, MISSOURI

CHG:JS:cms

July 2, 1945

MM/002

IN REPLY REFER TO _____

Dear Mr. Cunningham:

The Army Effects Bureau has received some additional property of your brother, Private Ralph J. Cunningham.

These effects are being forwarded to you in one carton.

If, for some reason, the property has not reached you at the expiration of thirty days from the date of this letter, please notify me so tracer can be instituted.

The action of this Bureau in transmitting personal effects does not, of itself, vest title in the recipient. Such property is forwarded for distribution according to the laws of the state of decedent's legal residence.

Yours very truly,

HARRY NIEMIEC
2nd Lt. C.M.C.
Chief, Correspondence Branch

69

10 June 1945

SUBJECT: Report of transactions in disposing of the effects of

Ralph J. Cunningham, 11049224 late Private
(Name of deceased) (Army Serial Number)

Private, Corps of Engineers who died
(Grade) (Organization, Army or Service)

on the 6th day of June, 1944, at European Area.

TO : The Adjutant General, War Department, Washington 25, D. C.

1. Complying with A.W. 112, a Summary Court-Martial, convened at Kansas City, Mo. pursuant to S.C., 228 Hq., KCQM Depot, dated 25 September 1943, for the purpose of disposing of the effects of the above-named soldier, or person subject to military law, reports that:

a. No legal representative or widow of decedent being present at decedent's camp or quarters, effects of decedent were forwarded to this Summary Court-Martial.

b. Local debtors owed decedent's estate \$ None, of which the sum of \$ None was collected. (If nothing was found due or collected state "None", otherwise attach itemized statement of sums owing and collected.) (Incl. None.)

c. Decedent owed undisputed local creditors the sum of \$ None which has been paid by the Summary Court Martial from funds of decedent. (See inclosed receipt None, Incl. None.)

d. Disposition of decedent's effects (less money paid creditors, if any) has been made by the Summary Court-Martial by transmittal through the Quartermaster Corps, at Government expense to person found entitled (See Summary Court-Martial FINDING below)

FINDING

Before a Summary Court-Martial which convened at Kansas City, Missouri, on 21 March 1945, pursuant to Special Orders 228, Headquarters KCQM Depot, dated 25 September 1943, the application or affidavit of Annie McGillicuddy for the effects of the above-named deceased soldier, or person subject to military law, now in the possession of the United States, with other relevant evidence, was duly considered;

Whereupon, this Summary Court-Martial finds that, under the provisions of A.W. 112, John F. Cunningham of Green Acre Road, Westwood, State of Massachusetts, is the brother of the above-named decedent and appears to be entitled to receive his or her effects.

Whereupon, this Summary Court-Martial finds that, under the provisions of A.W. 112, John F. Cunningham of Green Acre Road, Westwood, State of Massachusetts, is the brother of the above-named decedent and appears to be entitled to receive his or her effects.

(Signature of Summary Court Officer)

EFFECTS OF <i>Ralph A. Cunningham</i>		RANK <i>Plt. 2</i>	
A.S.N. <i>11049224</i>		ORGANIZATION <i>90th Div.</i>	
PACKAGE DESCRIPTION			
CLOTHING		PERSONAL ITEMS	
BELT		BRACELET, IDENTIFICATION	
BELT, MONEY (NO MONEY)		BRUSHES	
CLOTH, WASH		CAMERAS	<i>1</i>
COATS		GLASSES	
FOOTWEAR, PR.		KNIVES	
GLOVES, PR.		LIGHTERS	
HANDKERCHIEFS	<i>X</i>	MISC. INSIGNIA	
HEADWEAR		MISC. ITEMS	
JACKETS		PEN, FOUNTAIN	
OVERCOATS		PENCIL, MECHANICAL	
SCARFS		PIPES	
SHIRTS		RELIGIOUS ARTICLES	
SOCKS, PR.		RIBBONS, DECORATION	
TIES		RINGS	
TOWELS		TOBACCO	
TROUSERS, PR.		TOILET ARTICLES	
TRUNKS, PR.		WATCH	
UNDERWEAR		WINGS	<i>X</i>
		CONTAINERS	
		BAGS, CLOTH	
		BAGS, TRAVEL	
		BILLFOLD (NO MONEY)	
		CASE, _____	
		FOOTLOCKER	
		KIT, SEWING	
		KIT, TOILET	
		KIT, WRITING	
		PAPERS AND MISC.	
		BOOKS	
		BOOKS, ADDRESS	
		BOOKS, NOTE	
		BOOKS, PILOT LOG	
		DIARY (REMOVED FOR DURATION)	
		FILMS	
		LETTERS	
		PAPERS, PERSONAL	
		PHOTOS <i>✓</i>	
		SHOE SHINE ARTICLES	
		SHORT SNORTER	
		SOUVENIRS	
		SOUVENIR MONEY	
		STATIONERY	
		TESTAMENTS	
		U.S. MONEY (AMOUNT)	

REMARKS: *Given from 22. tag.*
Annie M. C. Gillicuddy
4 Paine St.
Hinchrop, Mass.

ATTACHMENTS:

FORM #54

FORM #100

2 inventories
1 En. Label

Ruth E. Costello (sister)
33 Green acre Road.
Westwood Mass.

SPACE

STORED BY

WEIGHT

GI REMOVED

SHORTAGE ON
REVERSE

IDENT. TAGS
REMOVED

DIARY
REMOVED

DATE SHIPPED

LOCKED
STORAGE

AL

FEB 13 1945

2135

11/11

NAME RALPH J. CUNNINGHAM
A.S.N. 11049924 RANK PVT.

TABLE NO. 7608
INV. DATE Aug 45
ORIG. NO. OF PKGS. 1
BOX NO. 1
SHEET 1 OF 1 SHEETS
ORGANIZATION 2 B 307
A/B Engr. Bn.

Belt		TOWELS & WASHCLOTHS	<u>2</u>	WINGS	
BELT, MONEY (NO MONEY)	<u>X</u>	CLOTHING		BAGS, CLOTH OR TRAVEL	
Cloth, Wash		BRACELET IDENT.		BILLFOLD, (NO MONEY)	
Coats		Brushes		Case	
Footwear, Pr.		CAMERAS		Footlocker	
Gloves, Pr.		Glasses	<u>1</u>	KIT, SEW. KIT, OR WRITING	
Handkerchiefs		Knives	<u>X</u>	BOOKS	
Headwear		Lighters		Books, Address	
Jackets	<u>X</u>	MTSU. <u>Indy</u>		Books, Pilot Log	
Overcoats		Pen, Fountain		DIARY (REMOVED FOR DUP)	
Scarfs		Pencil, Mechanical		FILMS	
Shirts		Pipes		Letters	
Socks, Pr.	<u>X</u>	RELIGIOUS ARTICLES		Papers, Personal	
Ties	<u>X</u>	RIBBONS, DECORATION		Photos	
Towels		Rings		Shoe Shine Articles	
Trousers, Pr.		Tobacco		SHORT SHORTER	
Trunks, Pr.		Toilet Articles		SOUVENIRS	
Underwear		WATCH		SOUVENIR MONEY	
				Stationery	
			<u>X</u>	TESTAMENTS	
				U.S. MONEY (AMOUNT)	

REMARKS Aunt
Annex 1712 Lane St
4 Lane Street
Wentworth, Mass.

ATTACHMENTS ☒ FORM #54 ☐ FORM #100

C.A.T. 1712

WAREHOUSE SPACE

STORED BY 1712

WEIGHT	G.I. REMOVED
	SHORTAGE ON REVERSE
	IDENT. TAGS REMOVED
	DIARY REMOVED
DATE SHIPPED	LOCKED

ARMY SERVICE FORCES
ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU

ORDER FOR SHIPMENT

SHIP TO:

Effects **Pvt. Ralph J. Cunningham**
Name

ASN **11049224**

Case No. **144,002 D**

Wt.

DATE **June 27, 1945**

Sumpter:--ww

Mr. John F. Cunningham

Green Acre Road

Westwood, Massachusetts

H. L. Linn
FOR: Effects Quartermaster

REMARKS:

☐ Inclose Bureau Check
☐ Acct. No. _____
☐ Amount _____
☐ Inclose "Valuables" item
☐ Ship "Valuables" item(s)

☐ Remove G.I.
☐ Note discrepancy in _____
☐ Films removed
☐ Diary removed
☐ Laundry removed

ROUTING:

☐ Accounting Branch
☒ 1 Warehouse Division
☒ 2 Files Branch, Adm. Div.

FRANKED

REMARKS:

Franked **JUL 6 1945**
Est. Exp. Chgs. _____
Est. Frt. Chg. _____
No. of package _____

WAR DEPARTMENT
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

—BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT

144002

NAME CUNNINGHAM RALPH J	SERIAL NUMBER 11049224	GRADE PVT	ARM OR SERVICE CE	REPORTING THEATRE ETO
PLACE OF CASUALTY FRANCE	DATE OF CASUALTY DAY: 06 MONTH: JUN YEAR: 44	FLYING OR JUMPING STAT J	TYPE OF CASUALTY MIA	
		SHIPMENT NUMBER 104		

NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE

THE INDIVIDUAL NAMED ABOVE DESIGNATED THE FOLLOWING PERSON AS THE ONE TO BE NOTIFIED IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, AND THE OFFICIAL TELEGRAPHIC AND LETTER NOTIFICATIONS WILL BE SENT TO THIS PERSON. THE RELATIONSHIP, IF ANY, IS SHOWN BELOW. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THIS PERSON IS NOT NECESSARILY THE NEXT-OF-KIN OR RELATIVE DESIGNATED TO BE PAID SIX MONTHS' PAY GRATUITY IN CASE OF DEATH

MR.-MRS.-MISS	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL	LAST NAME	RELATIONSHIP
	MRS ANNIE		MCGILLICUDDY	AUNT
NO. AND NAME OF STREET		CITY	COUNTY	STATE
4 PAINE STREET		WINTHROP		MASSACHUSETTS

REMARKS:

☐

CORRECTED COPY

27 June 1944 FMO

ACTION BY PROCESSING AND VERIFICATION SECTION: REPORT VERIFIED _____ FORM 43 _____ AG 201 REQ _____				
CASUALTY BRANCH FILE ATTACHED _____ OR CHARGED TO _____ DATE _____				
PREVIOUSLY REPORTED NO _____ YES _____ (AS INDICATED BELOW):				
FILE NO.	MESSAGE NO.	TYPE	DATE AND AREA	E. A. NOTIFIED
REPORT NOT VERIFIED _____ NO FORM 43 _____ NO CAS. BR. FILE _____ CHECKED BY <u><i>See notif</i></u> REVIEWED BY <u><i>See</i></u>				

THIS SPACE FOR USE OF MACHINE RECORDS BRANCH, A.G.O.

ACCT. AREA			CASUALTY STATUS			ORIGINAL CAS. DATE			MESSAGE NO.			LATEST CAS. DATE			REFERENCE AREA			CREW POS.			RESIDENCE			COMP			RACE		
DAY	MO.	YR.	DAY	MO.	YR.	DAY	MO.	YR.	DAY	MO.	YR.	DAY	MO.	YR.	DAY	MO.	YR.	DAY	MO.	YR.	STATE	COUNTY							
34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59				

DISTRIBUTION *A 45*

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- ☐ BUREAU OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
- ☐ CASUALTY PAY RECORDS BR., O.F.D.
- ☐ CHIEF OF ARM OR SERV. CONCERNED
- ☐ CHIEF OF STAFF
- ☐ CHRONOLOGICAL UNIT, CAS. BR.
- ☐ CHIEF, P.O.W. BR., M.I.S., W.D.G.S.

- ☐ CHIEF, WAR BOND DIVISION
- ☐ CHIEF, WAR BOND OFFICE
- ☐ C.G., ARMY GROUND FORCES
- ☐ C.G. SERVICE COMMAND
- ☐ DIR. OF SPECIAL SERVICES DIV.
- ☐ DIRECTOR, W.A.C.
- ☐ ENLISTED BRANCH, A.G.O.
- ☐ FINANCE OFFICER, U. S. ARMY, WASH., D.C.
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- ☐ U. S. EMPLOYEE'S COMPENS. COMM.
- ☐ WAR SHIPPING ADMINISTRATION
- ☐ WILLS UNIT, CASUALTY BRANCH

REPORT OF BURIAL

TM 10-630 AND AR 30-1815

28 August 1944

Date

CUNNINGHAM,

RALPH

J.

UNKNOWN

11049224

J.V.

Last Name

First

Initial

Rank

Serial No.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

UNKNOWN

3A7 91B E

UNKNOWN

82 ARBN DIV.

Unit

ST. SAVEUR LE VICOMTE

CO B

UNKNOWN

Organization

UNKNOWN

KIA 82 ALA DIV

Place of Death

1600 28 August 1944

Date of Death

STE. M. E. # 2

Cause of Death

STE. MERE EGLISE, FRANCE

Time and Date of Burial

127

7

Name of Cemetery

W

Name or Coordinates of Location

CROSS

Grave Number

Row Number

Plot Number

Type of Marker

Disposition of Identification Tags: Buried with body Yes ☒ No ☐ Attached to Marker Yes ☒ No ☐

If No Identification Tags

How were remains identified?

REBURIAL

What means of identification were buried with the body?

1 Tag

IDENTIFIED TAG ST. SAVOIR LE VICOMTE

To determine Right or Left use Deceased's Right and Left.

Who is buried on:

EDMONDSON

20417075

UNKNOWN

UNKNOWN

128

Deceased's Right:

Name

Serial No.

Rank

Organization

Grave No.

KREISIE

13090866

UNKNOWN

UNKNOWN

126

Deceased's Left:

Name

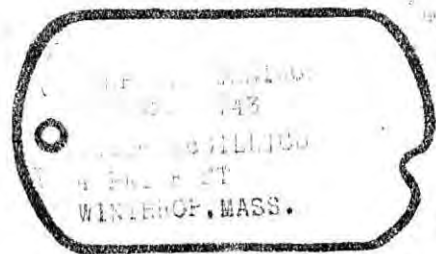
Serial No.

Rank

Organization

Grave No.

Signature or Name, Rank and if possible Organization of person furnishing above Data when other than officer reporting burial.



If print of identification tag is not affixed fill in below:

Emergency Addressee Annie McGillicuddy

Name

4 Paine St., Winthrop, Mass.

Address

Religion Catholic

List only Personal Effects Found on Body and disposition of same:

REBURIAL

NONE

Previously buried in isolated grave
located at

Signature of Officer or other person reporting burial

LTC M. DUFFY 1st Lt., QMC

Graves Registration Officer

Verified by G.R.S. Officer

QMGTC 293
Cunningham Ralph

19 August 1946

Mrs. Ruth Costello
US Naval Academy
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mrs. Costello:

The War Department is most desirous that you be furnished information regarding the burial location of your brother, the late Private Ralph J. Cunningham, A.S.N. 11 049 224.

The records of this office disclose that his remains are interred in the United States Military Cemetery Ste. Mere Eglise #2, plot W, row 7, grave 127. You may be assured that the identification and interment have been accomplished with fitting dignity and solemnity.

This cemetery is located twenty miles southeast of Cherbourg, France, and is under the constant care and supervision of United States military personnel.

The War Department has now been authorized to comply, at Government expense, with the feasible wishes of the next of kin regarding final interment, here or abroad, of the remains of your loved one. At a later date, this office will, without any action on your part, provide the next of kin with full information and solicit his detailed desires.

Please accept my sincere sympathy in your great loss.

Sincerely yours,

T. B. LARKIN
Major General
The Quartermaster General

EWZ 8

REPLICATION RECORDS BRANCH

7 Nov. 1946 -
D. TE

ONE CUNNINGHAM, RALPH J. PVT.

SERIAL NO 11 049 224

ON ETRY ST. MERE EGLISE[#] 2, FRANCE

FLOT *w*

RO. 7

SEIVE 127

LETTER FIELD

Correct Records to Read

DATE OF DEATH JUNE 1944

Rank—

V. SIMPSON

SPECIAL CHECKER

26 Nov 46
V. Daugherty
N. P. T.

CLASS II — Continued

[illegible]

I **certify** that the foregoing inventory comprises all the effects of the deceased whose name appears on the first page hereof, and that the effects were delivered to.....

(Give name and degree of relationship ; if legal representative

or beneficiary named by the deceased, so state)

*the effects of class I have been forwarded to The Adjutant General and those of class II have been sold.

A. T. ZANDVOR, ONC, USA,
307 A/E Engr En. Pers. Adi

APC 469, NY (1) NY
(Station)

14 July, 1944
(Date)

*Strike out words not applicable.

4 MAY 43



Handwritten signature/initials in the top right corner.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

19 August 1946

Mrs. Ruth Costello
US Naval Academy
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Mrs. Costello:

The War Department is most desirous that you be furnished information regarding the burial location of your brother, the late Private Ralph J. Cunningham, A.S.N. 11 049 224.

The records of this office disclose that his remains are interred in the United States Military Cemetery Ste. Mere Eglise #2, plot W, row 7, grave 127. You may be assured that the identification and interment have been accomplished with fitting dignity and solemnity.

This cemetery is located twenty miles southeast of Cherbourg, France, and is under the constant care and supervision of United States military personnel.

The War Department has now been authorized to comply, at Government expense, with the feasible wishes of the next of kin regarding final interment, here or abroad, of the remains of your loved one. At a later date, this office will, without any action on your part, provide the next of kin with full information and solicit his detailed desires.

Please accept my sincere sympathy in your great loss.

Sincerely yours,

Handwritten signature of T. E. Larkin.

T. E. LARKIN
Major General
The Quartermaster General

42

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

In Reply Refer To
QMGYG 293
Cunningham, Ralph J.
SN 11 049 224

26 August 1946
XC - 5774, 72

SUBJECT: Address of Legal Next of Kin of Deceased Veteran

TO : Veterans Administration
New York Branch, Central Office
2 Park Avenue
New York, New York
Attn: Chief, Insurance Division

1. Records on file in this office indicate that Mrs. Ruth Costello, sister residing at United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, is the legal next of kin of:

NAME: Cunningham, Ralph J.

SERIAL NO: 11 049 224

RANK: Private

2. It is requested that this office be furnished, by notation below, the latest address and relationship of the legal next of kin of the deceased veteran mentioned above.

FOR THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL:

Martin G. Riley
MARTIN G. RILEY
Major, QMC
Assistant

10-2-46

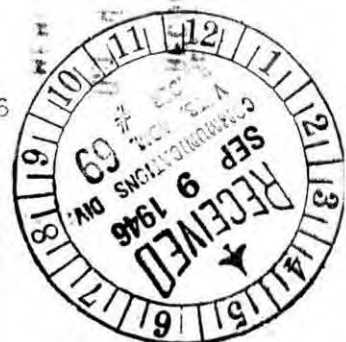
NAME:
Mrs. Ruth E. Costello

RELATIONSHIP:
Sister

ADDRESS:
(Street,
32 Greenacre Road

(City) (State)
Westwood, Massachusetts

R. J. Einton
R. J. EINTON,
Director,
Dependents and Beneficiaries
Claims Service



NAME Cunningham, Ralph J.

ASN 11 049 224 (Pvt.)

Form 333

Changes made in information B/D
are from sources listed below:

1. Ltr OQMG dtd 26 Aug 46 to VA.

2. _____

3. _____

Officer's Initials *RLC*

FROM: RELATIONSHIP Sister

NAME: Mrs. Ruth Costello

STREET: United States Naval Academy

CITY & STATE: Annapolis, Md.

TO: RELATIONSHIP Same.

NAME: Same.

STREET: 32 Greenacre Road

CITY & STATE: Westwood, Mass.

NAT

File ✓ 100 1-2

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

In Reply Refer To
QMGMR 314.6
Graves Registration
(European) *W S M*

26 November 1946

SUBJECT: Burial Records *cm*

TO : **Commanding Officer**
American Graves Registration Command
European Theater Area
AFG 887, c/o Postmaster
New York, New York

1. Request the burial reports and grave markers for the following decedents be changed to read as underscored:

Cemetery: **United States Military Cemetery Ste. Mere Agline #2, France**

NAME	RANK/ GRADE	SERIAL NO.	DATE OF DEATH	PLOT	ROW	GRAVE	ORGANIZATION
Charneski, Joseph J	<u>S/1st</u>	33 145 183	-	J	5	85	
293 Cunningham Ralph J	<u>1st</u>	11 049 224	-	6	7	127	

2. The records of this office have been reverified with the records of The Adjutant General, War Department, and have been found to be correct as indicated above.

FOR THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL:

Martin G. Riley
MARTIN G. RILEY
Major, QMC
Assistant
VD

mmb

12 December 1946

Mrs. Ruth E. Costello
32 Greenacre Road
Westwood, Massachusetts

Dear Mrs. Costello:

The War Department is most desirous that you be furnished information regarding the burial location of your brother, the late Private Ralph J. Cunningham, A.S.N. 11 049 224.

29 3 The records of this office disclose that his remains are interred in the U. S. Military Cemetery Ste. Mere Eglise #2, plot W, row 7, grave 127. You may be assured that the identification and interment have been accomplished with fitting dignity and solemnity.

This cemetery is located twenty miles southeast of Cherbourg, France, and is under the constant care and supervision of United States military personnel.

The War Department has now been authorized to comply, at Government expense, with the feasible wishes of the next of kin regarding final interment, here or abroad, of the remains of your loved one. At a later date, this office will, without any action on your part, provide all legal next of kin with full information and solicit their detailed desires.

Please accept my sincere sympathy in your great loss.

Sincerely yours,

T. B. LARKIN
Major General
The Quartermaster General

lh

424

Pvt. Ralph J. Cunningham, 11 049 224
Plot W, Row 7, Grave 127,
United States Military Cemetery
Ste Mere Eglise #2, France

24 September 1947

Mrs. Ruth E. Costello
32 Greenacre Road
Westwood, Massachusetts

Dear Mrs. Costello:

The people of the United States, through the Congress have authorized the disinterment and final burial of the heroic dead of World War II. The Quartermaster General of the Army has been entrusted with this sacred responsibility to the honored dead. The records of the War Department indicate that you may be the nearest relative of the above-named deceased, who gave his life in the service of his country.

The enclosed pamphlets, "Disposition of World War II Armed Forces Dead," and "American Cemeteries," explain the disposition, options and services made available to you by your Government. If you are the next of kin according to the line of kinship as set forth in the enclosed pamphlet, "Disposition of World War II Armed Forces Dead," you are invited to express your wishes as to the disposition of the remains of the deceased by completing Part I of the enclosed form "Request for Disposition of Remains." Should you desire to relinquish your rights to the next in line of kinship, please complete Part II of the enclosed form. If you are not the next of kin, please complete Part III of the enclosed form.

If you should elect Option 2, it is advised that no funeral arrangements or other personal arrangements be made until you are further notified by this office.

Will you please complete the enclosed form, "Request for Disposition of Remains" and mail in the enclosed self-addressed envelope, which requires no postage, within 30 days after its receipt by you? Its prompt return will avoid unnecessary delays.

Sincerely,

Incls.

THOMAS B. LARKIN
Major General
The Quartermaster General

vb

40-2007-21-48

Pvt Ralph J. Cunningham, 11 049 224
Plot W, Row 7, Grave 127,
United States Military Cemetery
Ste. Mere Eglise #2, France

5 December 1947

Mr. John F. Cunningham
1381 High Street
Westwood, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Cunningham:

The people of the United States, through the Congress have authorized the disinterment and final burial of the heroic dead of World War II. The Quartermaster General of the Army has been entrusted with this sacred responsibility to the honored dead. The records of the War Department indicate that you may be the nearest relative of the above-named deceased, who gave his life in the service of his country.

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Sincerely,

THOMAS B. LANKIN
Major General
The Quartermaster General

Incls.

PART I (Continued)

If on Page 1 of this form you have selected Option Number 2 or 3, or Option Number 4 with your own funeral ceremonies desired at a location other than the selected national cemetery, complete one of these sections.

I, AS THE NEXT OF KIN, DO FURTHER DECLARE THAT I DESIRE THE REMAINS TO BE SENT TO THE FOLLOWING PERSON WHO HAS AGREED TO RECEIVE THEM:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME		MIDDLE INITIAL
NUMBER AND STREET	CITY OR TOWN	COUNTY OR PROVINCE	STATE OR TERRITORY OF U. S. A., OR COUNTRY
EXPRESS OFFICE (Nearest railroad passenger station)	TELEGRAPH ADDRESS		TELEPHONE No.

OR I, AS THE NEXT OF KIN, DO FURTHER DECLARE THAT I DESIRE THE REMAINS TO BE SENT TO THE FOLLOWING FUNERAL DIRECTOR WHO HAS AGREED TO RECEIVE THEM:

FULL NAME OF FUNERAL DIRECTOR			
NUMBER AND STREET	CITY OR TOWN	COUNTY OR PROVINCE	STATE OR TERRITORY OF U. S. A., OR COUNTRY
EXPRESS OFFICE (Nearest railroad passenger station)	TELEGRAPH ADDRESS		TELEPHONE No.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON NEXT IN LINE OF KINSHIP AFTER ME, AS SET FORTH IN THE PAMPHLET, "DISPOSITION OF WORLD WAR II ARMED FORCES DEAD," IS:

LAST NAME CUNNINGHAM	FIRST NAME JOHN	MIDDLE INITIAL F.	RELATIONSHIP TO DECEASED BROTHER
NUMBER AND STREET 1381 HIGH STREET	CITY OR TOWN WESTWOOD	COUNTY OR PROVINCE	STATE OR TERRITORY OF U. S. A., OR COUNTRY MASSACHUSETTS

REMARKS OR ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS (For additional space use page 4.)*

I WAS NAMED NEXT OF KIN BY MY DECEASED BROTHER, RALPH J. CUNNINGHAM, EXECUTRIX OF HIS ESTATE, AND BENEFICIARY OF HIS INSURANCE. I HAVE GIVEN MY PREFERENCE AS OPTION 1. HOWEVER

AS EXPLAINED IN THE PAMPHLET, "DISPOSITION OF WORLD WAR II ARMED FORCES DEAD," I AM THE NEXT OF KIN AND THE INDIVIDUAL AUTHORIZED TO DIRECT THE DISPOSITION OF THE SAID REMAINS. (PAGE 4)

I, the undersigned, DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR (OR AFFIRM) that the statements made by me in the foregoing document are full and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Ruth E. Costello (SIGNATURE OF NEXT OF KIN)
RUTH E. COSTELLO (NAME PRINTED OR TYPED)
338 NORTH LOCUST ST. (STREET AND NUMBER)
OXFORD OHIO (CITY AND STATE)

Subscribed and duly sworn to before me according to law by the above-named applicant this 3rd day of November, 1947, at city (or town) of Springfield, county of Butler, and State (or Territory or District) of Ohio.

*NOTE.—Page 4 is part of the notarial attestation.

ADDITIONAL REMARKS AND INSTRUCTIONS

All remarks and information entered here will be considered as part of the Notarial Attestation.

I HAVE ANOTHER BROTHER LIVING, WHO ACCORDING TO YOUR
PAMPHLET WILL BE ^{Also} THE NEXT OF KIN. I HAVE
LISTED HIS ADDRESS.

QUEST FOR DISPOSITION OF REMAINS

GRADE OF DECEASED, NAME, ARMY SERIAL NUMBER AND REPORTED PLACE OF BURIAL

DATE:

Pvt. Ralph J. Cunningham, 11 049 224
 Plot W, Row 7, Grave 127,
 United States Military Cemetery
 Ste Mere Eglise #2, France

24 September 1947

A		C	
B		D	

DO NOT WRITE ABOVE THIS LINE

NOTE.—The next of kin should familiarize himself with the contents of the pamphlet, "Disposition of World War II Armed Forces Dead," before filling out this form. When the proper part of this form is filled out and properly signed by the next of kin, it should be returned to the OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL, MEMORIAL DIVISION, WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON 25, D. C., in the self-addressed postage-free envelope provided for this purpose.
 If you are the next of kin or authorized representative of next of kin and desire to direct the disposition of the remains, please fill in PART I of this form.

PART I

I, RUTH E. CUNNINGHAM

(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE NAME OF NEXT OF KIN)

(Please indicate relationship to the deceased by placing an "X" in the proper box.)

- ☐ WIDOW ☐ WIDOWER ☐ SON OVER 21 YEARS OLD ☐ DAUGHTER OVER 21 YEARS OLD
- ☐ FATHER ☐ MOTHER ☐ BROTHER OVER 21 YEARS OLD ☒ SISTER OVER 21 YEARS OLD
- ☐ RELATIONSHIP OTHER THAN ABOVE (Specify) _____

HAVING FAMILIARIZED MYSELF WITH THE OPTIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO ME WITH RESPECT TO THE FINAL RESTING PLACE OF THE DECEASED DESIGNATED ABOVE, NOW DO DECLARE THAT IT IS MY DESIRE THAT THE REMAINS: (Please place an "X" in the box opposite the option you have selected.)

- ☒ 1. BE INTERRED IN A PERMANENT AMERICAN MILITARY CEMETERY OVERSEAS.
- ☐ 2. BE RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES OR ANY POSSESSION OR TERRITORY THEREOF FOR INTERMENT BY NEXT OF KIN IN A PRIVATE CEMETERY

(NAME AND LOCATION OF CEMETERY)

- ☐ 3. BE RETURNED TO _____ THE HOMELAND OF THE DECEASED OR NEXT OF KIN, FOR INTERMENT BY NEXT OF KIN IN A PRIVATE CEMETERY LOCATED AT _____
- (FOREIGN COUNTRY) (LOCATION OF CEMETERY SELECTED)

- ☐ 4. BE RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES FOR FINAL INTERMENT IN A NATIONAL CEMETERY LOCATED AT _____
- (LOCATION OF NATIONAL CEMETERY SELECTED)
- (Please indicate if your own religious services at a location other than the selected national cemetery are desired by placing an "X" in the proper box)
- ☐ YES ☐ NO

THE NAME OF THE DECEASED, THE SERIAL NUMBER AND GRADE ARE CORRECT EXCEPT FOR THE FOLLOWING CHANGES: (If no corrections are necessary, indicate this fact by inserting the word "NONE" in the space below.)

NONE

FILE
11 DEC 1947

Rem - L.O.I. SENT 5 DEC 1947 To Southern fgt

INVENTORY OF EFFECTS

(See AR 600 550)

Cunningham, Ralph J 11049224
 (Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Army serial number)
 late a 1st Lt. Co "H" 307 1/2 Engr Bn
 (Grade) (Organization or arm or service)
 missing in action
 who died on the 24th day of June, 1944

CLASS I—Saber, insignia, decorations, medals, campaign badges, watches, manuscripts, and other articles valuable chiefly as keepsakes.

NUMBER	ARTICLES	Package NUMBER
1	Fountain Pen ✓	
1	Combs ✓	
1	Tooth Brush ✓	
1	Patches ✓	
1	Flight Wings ✓	
1	Bridge, (teeth) ✓	
1	Service Ribbons ✓	
1	Razors ✓	
1	Pr. Glasses ✓	
1	Glass case ✓	
1	Bible ✓	
1	Missal ✓	

*To be filled out only in case of shipment to The Adjutant General

CLASS II—Other effects

NUMBER	ARTICLES
	none

W. D., A.G.O. Form No 54
 July 1, 1933

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN ADDRESS

QAMG FORM 381
 11 MAR 47

NAME OF DECEASED RALPH J. CUNNINGHAM	RANK 1st Lt.	SERIAL NUMBER 11049224
NAME OF NEXT OF KIN RALPH J. COSTELLO	RELATIONSHIP SISTER	
OLD ADDRESS 32 GREENACRE ROAD WESTWOOD, MASS.		
NEW ADDRESS 338 NORTH LOCUST ST. OXFORD, OHIO		
REMARKS NAT. M2147 File		

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-51032-1

19
 Ralph J Cunningham
 11049224
 1 Billfold
 Photos

PART I (Continued)

If on Page 1 of this form you have selected Option Number 2 or 3, or Option Number 4 with your own funeral ceremonies desired at a location other than the selected national cemetery, complete one of these sections.

I, AS THE NEXT OF KIN, DO FURTHER DECLARE THAT I DESIRE THE REMAINS TO BE SENT TO THE FOLLOWING PERSON WHO HAS AGREED TO RECEIVE THEM:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME		MIDDLE INITIAL
NUMBER AND STREET	CITY OR TOWN	COUNTY OR PROVINCE	STATE OR TERRITORY OF U. S. A., OR COUNTRY
EXPRESS OFFICE (<i>Nearest railroad passenger station</i>)	TELEGRAPH ADDRESS		TELEPHONE No.

OR
I, AS THE NEXT OF KIN, DO FURTHER DECLARE THAT I DESIRE THE REMAINS TO BE SENT TO THE FOLLOWING FUNERAL DIRECTOR WHO HAS AGREED TO RECEIVE THEM:

FULL NAME OF FUNERAL DIRECTOR			
NUMBER AND STREET	CITY OR TOWN	COUNTY OR PROVINCE	STATE OR TERRITORY OF U. S. A., OR COUNTRY
EXPRESS OFFICE (<i>Nearest railroad passenger station</i>)	TELEGRAPH ADDRESS		TELEPHONE No.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON NEXT IN LINE OF KINSHIP AFTER ME, AS SET FORTH IN THE PAMPHLET, "DISPOSITION OF WORLD WAR II ARMED FORCES DEAD," IS:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL	RELATIONSHIP TO DECEASED
NUMBER AND STREET	CITY OR TOWN	COUNTY OR PROVINCE	STATE OR TERRITORY OF U. S. A., OR COUNTRY

REMARKS OR ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS (*For additional space use page 4.**)

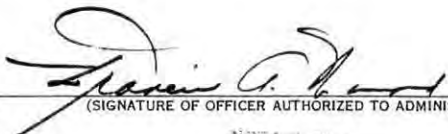
AS EXPLAINED IN THE PAMPHLET, "DISPOSITION OF WORLD WAR II ARMED FORCES DEAD," I AM THE NEXT OF KIN AND THE INDIVIDUAL AUTHORIZED TO DIRECT THE DISPOSITION OF THE SAID REMAINS.

I, the undersigned, DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR (OR AFFIRM) that the statements made by me in the foregoing document are full and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

 (SIGNATURE OF NEXT OF KIN) John F. CUNNINGHAM (NAME PRINTED OR TYPED)	1381 High ST. (STREET AND NUMBER) WESTWOOD MASS (CITY AND STATE)
--	---

Subscribed and duly sworn to before me according to law by the above-named applicant this 10th day of March, 1948, at city (or town) of Braintree, county of Suffolk, and State (or Territory or District) of Massachusetts

*NOTE.—Page 4 is part of the notarial attestation.


 (SIGNATURE OF OFFICER AUTHORIZED TO ADMINISTER OATHS)

 (OFFICIAL TITLE)

REQUEST FOR DISPOSITION OF REMAINS *L 3/16*

GRADE OF DECEASED, NAME, ARMY SERIAL NUMBER AND REPORTED PLACE OF BURIAL

DATE:

Pvt Ralph J. Cunningham, 11 049 224
 Plot W, Row 7, Grave 127,
 United States Military Cemetery
 Ste. Mere Eglise #2, France

5 December 1947

A		C	
B		D	

DO NOT WRITE ABOVE THIS LINE

NOTE.—The next of kin should familiarize himself with the contents of the pamphlet, "Disposition of World War II Armed Forces Dead," before filling out this form. When the proper part of this form is filled out and properly signed by the next of kin, it should be returned to the OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL, MEMORIAL DIVISION, WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON 25, D. C., in the self-addressed postage-free envelope provided for this purpose.
 If you are the next of kin or authorized representative of next of kin and desire to direct the disposition of the remains, please fill in PART I of this form.

PART I

I, John F. CUNNINGHAM
 (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE NAME OF NEXT OF KIN)

(Please indicate relationship to the deceased by placing an "X" in the proper box.)

- ☐ WIDOW ☐ WIDOWER ☐ SON OVER 21 YEARS OLD ☐ DAUGHTER OVER 21 YEARS OLD
☐ FATHER ☐ MOTHER ☒ BROTHER OVER 21 YEARS OLD ☐ SISTER OVER 21 YEARS OLD
☐ RELATIONSHIP OTHER THAN ABOVE (Specify) _____

HAVING FAMILIARIZED MYSELF WITH THE OPTIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO ME WITH RESPECT TO THE FINAL RESTING PLACE OF THE DECEASED DESIGNATED ABOVE, NOW DO DECLARE THAT IT IS MY DESIRE THAT THE REMAINS: (Please place an "X" in the box opposite the option you have selected.)

- ☒ 1. BE INTERRED IN A PERMANENT AMERICAN MILITARY CEMETERY OVERSEAS. *11 049 224*
☐ 2. BE RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES OR ANY POSSESSION OR TERRITORY THEREOF FOR INTERMENT BY NEXT OF KIN IN A PRIVATE CEMETERY

(NAME AND LOCATION OF CEMETERY)

- ☐ 3. BE RETURNED TO _____, THE HOMELAND OF THE DECEASED OR NEXT OF KIN, FOR INTERMENT BY NEXT OF KIN IN A PRIVATE CEMETERY LOCATED AT _____
 (FOREIGN COUNTRY) (LOCATION OF CEMETERY SELECTED)

- ☐ 4. BE RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES FOR FINAL INTERMENT IN A NATIONAL CEMETERY LOCATED AT _____
 (LOCATION OF NATIONAL CEMETERY SELECTED)

(Please indicate if your own religious services at a location other than the selected national cemetery are desired by placing an "X" in the proper box)

☐ YES ☐ NO

THE NAME OF THE DECEASED, THE SERIAL NUMBER AND GRADE ARE CORRECT EXCEPT FOR THE FOLLOWING CHANGES: (If no corrections are necessary, indicate this fact by inserting the word "NONE" in the space below.)

None

*Coded & placed in row
 14 June 48*

6 June 1949

Pvt. Ralph J. Cunningham, ASN 11 049 224
Plot D, Row 25, Grave 44
Headstone: Cross
St. Laurent (France) U. S. Military Cemetery

Mr. John F. Cunningham
1381 High Street
Westwood, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Cunningham:

This is to inform you that the remains of your loved one have been permanently interred, as recorded above, side by side with comrades who also gave their lives for their country. Customary military funeral services were conducted over the grave at the time of burial.

After the Department of the Army has completed all final interments, the cemetery will be transferred, as authorized by the Congress, to the care and supervision of the American Battle Monuments Commission. The Commission also will have the responsibility for permanent construction and beautification of the cemetery, including erection of the permanent headstone. The headstone will be inscribed with the name exactly as recorded above, the rank or rating where appropriate, organization, State, and date of death. Any inquiries relative to the type of headstone or the spelling of the name to be inscribed thereon, should be addressed to the American Battle Monuments Commission, Washington 25, D. C. Your letter should include the full name, rank, serial number, grave location, and name of the cemetery.

While interments are in progress, the cemetery will not be open to visitors. You may rest assured that this final interment was conducted with fitting dignity and solemnity and that the grave-site will be carefully and conscientiously maintained in perpetuity by the United States Government.

Sincerely yours,

H. FELDMAN
Major General
The Quartermaster General

JUN 27 12 57 PM '49
CCMC M&R BR

JAB

1

Interred 5 Apr 1949
D-25-44 USMC. St Laurent
C.H. HIEMSTRA
1/Lt Inf. Interring Officer

DISINTERMENT DIRECTIVE

SECTION A — NAME AND BURIAL LOCATION OF DECEASED		DIRECTIVE NUMBER 3586 00894		DATE 15 06 48 DAY MONTH YEAR	
NAME CUNNINGHAM RALPH J		SERIAL NUMBER 11049224	RANK PVT	ARM 1	DATE OF DEATH DAY MONTH YEAR
CEMETERY ST MERE EGLISE NO 2-- CARENTAN					DISPOSITION OF REMAINS 1 3505 80 CODE DIST. PT.
PLOT W	ROW 7	GRAVE 127	COUNTRY FRANCE		CAUSE OF DEATH 2

SECTION B — CONSIGNEE AND NEXT OF KIN

NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE ST. LAURENT, FRANCE	NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN JOHN F. CUNNINGHAM (BROTHER) 1381 HIGH STREET WESTWOOD, MASSACHUSETTS
--	--

SECTION C — DISINTERMENT AND IDENTIFICATION

Flag sent 5 April 1949

NAME CUNNINGHAM, Ralph J.	SERIAL NUMBER 11049224	RANK Pvt	DATE OF DEATH	DATE DISTINTERRED 30 Apr 48
IDENTIFICATION TAG ON ☐ REMAINS ☒ MARKER	ORGANIZATION USAGF	RELIGION Cath	IDENTIFICATION VERIFIED BY J. M. PEACOCK, Embalmer NAME AND TITLE	

SECTION D — PREPARATION OF REMAINS FOR SHIPMENT

NATURE OF BURIAL OD Uniform	CONDITION OF REMAINS Advanced decomposition. Fractured skull, right ulna and radius.
--------------------------------	--

OTHER MEANS OF IDENTIFICATION

None

MINOR DISCREPANCIES

None

REMAINS PREPARED AND PLACED IN ~~CASKET~~ Transfer Case

DATE 3 May 48 BY J. M. PEACOCK

CASKET SEALED BY EMBALMER (Signature)

CASKET BOXED AND MARKED

DATE 14 Jul 48 BY J. A. SOLIS

SHIPPING ADDRESS VERIFIED BY All markings, tags and plates verified by:
R. B. HOWARD, 1/Lt., Inf.

I hereby certify that all the foregoing operations were conducted and accomplished under my immediate supervision and that the report above is correct. /except casketing

I certify that the entries on this form are true copies of the original report. R. B. HOWARD, 1/Lt., Inf.

SIGNATURE OF GRS INSPECTOR

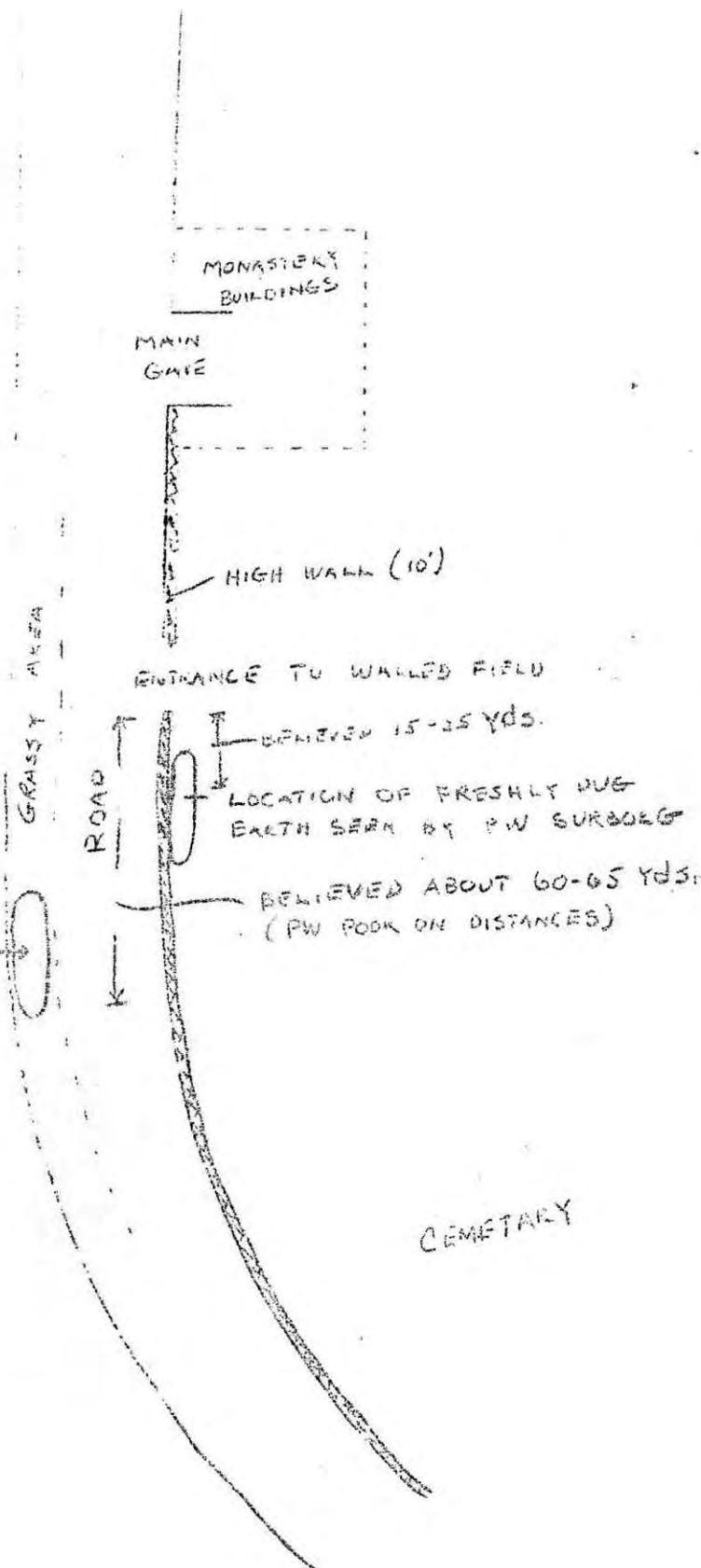
1 Prepare Discrepancy Report QMC Form 1194a for major discrepancies.

of the persons whose names are typed hereon.

1316

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LOCATION OF GRAVES ACCORDING TO H. PROESSER.



ROUGH SKETCH FROM DESCRIPTION BY PWS OF MONASTERY AT ST SAUVIER, NORMANDY, SHOWING POSSIBLE GRAVE LOCATION

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

FOR GENERAL USE BY ANY U.S. INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

From Director, Intelligence Division Hq. 1st Service Command Date 2 January 1948
AGENCY OR OFFICER STATIONSource POWs Heinrich PLOESSER and Karl SURBORG, POW Camp, Fort Devens, Massachusetts Eval. See belowArea Reported On NORMANDY (FRANCE) Subject BURIAL PLACE OF THREE EXECUTED AMERICAN PARATROOPERS

Reference

(DIRECTIVE, CORRESPONDENCE, PREVIOUS REPORT, ETC., IF APPLICABLE.)

SUMMARY: ENTER CAREFUL SUMMARY OF REPORT, CONTAINING SUBSTANCE CONCISELY STATED. ANSWER QUESTIONS WHERE, WHEN, WHAT, HOW, HOW MANY, AND GIVE DATE OF EVENT. IN A FINAL ONE SENTENCE PARAGRAPH GIVE SIGNIFICANCE. BEGIN TEXT ON PAGE 2.

SUMMARY: Heinrich PLOESSER, SNVG-128041, and Karl SURBORG, SNVG-128098, German PWs, Fort Devens, Massachusetts, prior to capture were members of the Bakery Company of the 703rd German Infantry Division. These PWs, interviewed among other prisoners gave the following information, dated 6-9 June 1944:

During the first few days of the Allied invasion of Normandy, the Bakery Company of the 703rd German Infantry Division was stationed in the Monastery at St. Salvator, Normandy. On or about 7 June 1944 three captured American Paratroopers were taken from a barn where they were confined, marched out through the main Monastery gate down the road, then shot. (Evaluation: C-2). According to PW PLOESSER, who admitted helping to bury the Americans, the bodies were placed in a shallow grave in a grassy plot adjacent to the right hand side of the road as indicated on accompanying sketch. (Note: PW PLOESSER is a suspected principal or accessory in a War Crimes case now in preparation; his reliability is questionable. (Evaluation: F-0) PW SURBORG upon returning from guard duty in the area at a time placed as after the burial noticed freshly-dug earth in an enclosure not far from the spot where the shooting is believed to have taken place. (See sketch). (Note: PW SURBORG did not know whether or not the Americans were buried in the spot where he observed the freshly-dug earth; there is no apparent reason to question his reliability. (Evaluation: C-3)

(Report forwarded for possible interest to Adjutant General's Office, or Graves Registration. There is no reason to doubt that three American Paratrooper were shot. It is believed that accompanying sketch may give a clue to the location of the burial place.)

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

S. D. Brown

S. D. BROWN

Colonel, G. S. C.,

Director, Intelligence Division

1 Incl: Sketch of Grave locations

Interview conducted and report prepared by Edward T. Howard and John Cronin.

Distribution by Originator: CG, ASF. AFM: Director of Intelligence (Orig. disto) neg

MIS Serial No. 228874MIS Distribution CPM 1

*M11 2

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- T R A N S L A T I O N -

Saint Sauveur le Vicomte, 14 November 1946

The Mayor of Saint Sauveur le Vicomte certifies that the burial of four American paratroopers took place at the Cemetery of our locality on 7 June 1944. This burial was made through Mr. Gauthier and himself.

About four or five months after this burial, American Graves Registration came and exhumed the bodies of these soldiers and very likely took them to Ste Mere Eglise U.S. Military Cemetery.

There is no more neither in the Cemetery nor on the territory of the Commune, bodies of American soldiers.

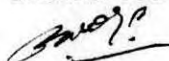
He declares that no documents were given to the Mairie when the bodies were removed

The Mayor

(s t a m p)

Signature

Translated by:


L.J. CARVOT

(Letter 6.)

N A R R A T I V E

15 November 1946

This special investigation was to locate the isolated graves of three American paratroopers reportedly buried near the monastery at St. Sauveur (Manche), and to determine their identity if possible.

Six possible "St. Sauveurs" in the department of Manche were listed as towns to investigate. A thorough check of St. Sauveur de Chaulieu (A8/T62) proved that this could not be the right town (letters 1 to 3).

A visit to St. Sauveur le Vicomte revealed that this was undoubtedly the right one. The one Monastery (Abbey) there was as indicated on the map accompanying this case. Parachutists did land there on the evening of 6 June 1944, and early morning of the 7th, which was not true of the other St. Sauveurs.

A questioning of the inhabitants of the area revealed that three American soldiers were at one time buried in a shallow grave at the side of this road, but that they were removed shortly afterwards by the French Red Cross, and reburied in St. Sauveur cemetery. It was assumed that these parachutists were killed in combat, and not killed as prisoners.

In order to obtain factual evidence this investigator contacted Mr. Lucien GAUTHE, garage owner, and former head of the French Red Cross in the city of St. Sauveur le Vicomte. He was very familiar with the case, and stated that he supervised the exhumation of these three bodies from their shallow graves, and the re-interment in the city cemetery. He had taken careful note of their names, and serial numbers, and stated too, that each one was identified in the cemetery by his respective identification tag. (ltr. 4). Mr. GAUTHE gave this investigator, as evidence, a copy of the records of his organization made at the time of the first exhumation and re-burial. He further stated that the paratroopers were killed in combat.

A check with the Mayor of St. Sauveur le Vicomte substantiated the account given by Mr. GAUTHE, (ltr. 6) and stated further that there are no bodies of American soldiers buried in his commune today.

The fourth soldier buried by Mr. GAUTHE on 8 June 1944, Pfc. Roy K. KREISER, was killed in the city, at some distance from the three in question.

In as much as these three soldiers are now in an American cemetery this case should be considered closed.

AUGUST A. ABLEY JR.
US WD Civ. D-434693
Investigator

- T R A N S L A T I O N -

Air Raid
Civil Service
of St. Sauveur le Vicomte

American paratroopers killed on 7 June 44 and buried in
St. Sauveur le Vicomte Cemetery:

J.L. CONNELLY JR.
31219377
T/4 3.44.P

RALPH J. CURNINGHAM
11.049224
PVT.

CHARLIE K. EDMONDSON
20.417.075
T/4 2.43 O

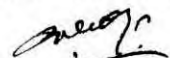
The wallets found on these soldiers were deposited at house
of the Mairie's secretary on Saturday 10 June about 18 hours, but
at about 2100 hours a bombardment totally destroyed her house,
which leaves a small chance of finding these documents.

However each soldier was buried with his Identification Tag.

The Head of the Air Raid
Civil Service of Saint
Sauveur le Vicomte

Signed: L. GAUTHIER

Translated by:


M.J. CHEVET

- T R A N S L I T I O N -

Saint Sauveur le Vicomte, 15 Nov. 1946

I, the undersigned, Gauthier Lucien, Head of the Air Raid Civil Service of Saint Sauveur le Vicomte declare that I recognized on a plan that was shown to me, the place where on 7 June 44 were buried, the following three American Paratroopers:

✓ J.L. CONNELLY JR.
31219377
T/4 3.44.E

RALPH J. GUNNINGHAM
11.049224
PVT.

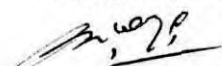
CHARLIE K. EDMONDSON
20.417.075
T/4 2.43 O

These soldiers were buried by me in the Cemetery of St. Sauveur le Vicomte on 8 June 44 at 10 p.m. I can certify that these soldiers were killed by surprise but while fighting. Since then the bodies have been removed to an American Cemetery. I am giving a list of the four (4) soldiers which was established at the time of these events.

The Head of the Air Raid
Civil Service of St. Sauveur
le Vicomte.

Signature. .

Translated by:


M.J. CHERVET

SUPPLEMENTARY

INVESTIGATION OF REMAINS

CUNNINGHAM RALPH J. 12049224

(Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Name) (Initial)

1st Lt. Pvt. 90th Div.

(Rank) (Grade or rank or service)

Who died on the Unk. day of July 1944

Billfold

Photos

Serial No. 12049224 Name: RALPH J. CUNNINGHAM
Grade: 1st Lt. Rank: PVT
Organization: 90th Div.
Address: 12049224
Nearest Relative: 12049224
Address: 12049224
Killed in Action: 12049224
Date: 12049224 Died of Disease: 12049224
Battle Area: 12049224 Hospital Information: 12049224
Place of Burial: 12049224
Point of Coordination: 12049224
Description of Body: 12049224
Members Missing: 12049224
Signed: 12049224

NAME CUNNINGHAM, RALPH J. PVT 9224

EF. QM Form 48

BAY	PALLET	BOX	TALLY
62	40	18	7609
TYPE OF PKG.	WHSE. SPACE	INVENTORIED	
CTN			

I certify that the effects of Class II and Class III have been delivered to the
XX
XX

F. A. GREULICH

Capt., QMC

Blosville Cemetery
22 July 1944

- T R A N S L A T I O N -

Saint Sauveur de Chaulieu, 24 November 1946.

I, the undersigned, LAVALLEE Louise, school teacher and Town Mayor's secretary, declare that to my knowledge, there exists in the Commune no graves of American soldiers.

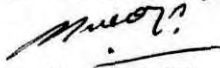
The school children and the population of the Commune have never spoken of the existence of graves of American paratroopers.

As for the American soldiers killed during the battle, they were removed on the following days by American trucks.

Besides there is no monastery in the area.

Signed: LAVALLEE L.

Translated by:


M.J. CHERVET

(Letter 1.)

- T R A N S L A T I O N -

STATEMENT

Saint Sauveur de Chaulieu, 24 October 1946

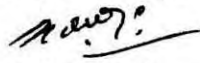
I, Albert LEMONNIER, declare that I am Mayor of the Commune of Saint Sauveur de Chaulieu since May 1945.

I have never had any knowledge of graves of American paratroopers in my Commune and the population have never spoken of the existence of any American graves. Further there has never been a monastery in the Commune of Saint Sauveur de Chaulieu. In my opinion the bodies of the paratroopers must be in one of the other Communes also called St. Sauveur.

Signed: LEMONNIER

(s t a m p)

Translated by:


M.J. CHERVET

(Letter 2.)

- T R A N S L A T I O N -

I, Jean LETONDU, Priest undersigned, declare that I have never heard say by any one of my parishioners of St. Sauveur de Chaulieu, questioned many times on the subject, that any graves of American soldiers existed on the territory of the Parish of St. Sauveur during the campaign of France.

Further more I have never known of this particular detail of three paratroopers killed in a village called St. Sauveur being buried in St. Sauveur de Chaulieu, in as much as these three (3) paratroopers were buried near a monastery and that my Parish has no monastery.

I certify all this from reports given by my parishioners, having been myself from June 1940 until May 1945 a prisoner in Germany.

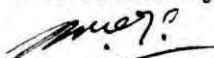
I wish to point out however that I am administrator of St. Sauveur de Chaulieu and that many previous investigations were made by myself, on the request of my ecclesiastical superiors.

Saint Martin de Chaulieu, 24 October 1946

Signed: LETONDU

Priest of St. Martin de Chaulieu
Administrator of St. Sauveur

Translated by:



M.J. CHERVET

Note : Supplemental information, the cemetery records at this Headquarters were checked and the following information obtained:

Connelly, John J.L. Jr., 31219377, Pvt., Airborne

Ste Mere Eglise #2

Date of death: 6 June 1944 Plot W Row 7 Grave 125

Place of death: St. Sauveur le Vicomte, 28 August 1944

Date of reburial: 28 August 1944

Cunningham, Ralph J., 11049224

Ste Mere Eglise #2

Plot W Row 7 Grave 127

No Date of death

Place of death: St. Sauveur le Vicomte

Date of burial: 28 August 1944

Edmondson, Charlie K. Jr., 20417075

Ste Mere Eglise #2

Plot W Row 7 Grave 128

No Date of death

Place of death: St. Sauveur le Vicomte

Date of burial: 28 August 1944

Kreiser, Roy K., 13090866, Pvt.

Ste Mere Eglise #2

Plot W Row 7 Grave 126

Date of death: 6 June 1944

Place of death: St. Sauveur le Vicomte

Date of burial: 28 August 1944

9 Oct 1946

Commanding Officer, Second Zone, American Graves
Registration Command, APO 847, US Army.

Three (3) Unknowns
(T-7954 thru T-7956)
Paratroopers

St Sauveur,
France

Three paratroopers were captured on 7 June
1944, marched down the road from the Monastery at St Sauveur,
Department of Manche and shot. Bodies were buried in a shallow
grave in a grassy plot adjacent to the right hand side of the
road. (see inclosed sketch)

Investigation is to be conducted to locate
this isolated grave. Remains will be disinterred, identity es-
tablished and reburial accomplished in an established US Military
Cemetery in conformance with existing procedure.

The above Unknowns are buried in St Mere Eglise #2 as:

CONNELLY, John J. Jr.	W-7-125
CUNNINGHAM, Ralph J.	W-7-127
EDMONDSON, Charlie K. Jr.	W-7-128

PHONE:
A-C 3900
Ext 194

DISTRIBUTION:

1 copy - TR File

WALTER E. MOULDER

Major Infantry

Actg A of A 1 Gen

BH
BED
WBM

Date: 15 November 1946SURFACE INVESTIGATION

Section "B" (Investigator)

August A. ARLEY Jr. US 1D Civ D-454693
 (Name) (Rank) (ASN)

Investigation was initiated by questioning of:

Name: Lucien GASTHE Address: Saint Sauveur Le VicomteName: Albert LEMMEL, Mayor Address: " " " "

Name: _____ Address: _____

From these people the following was learned:

Three American paratroopers were killed during the early morning of 7 June 1944, and buried at place indicated in correspondence, by German soldiers. These three bodies were removed the following day by the St Sauveur le Vicomte Red Cross, their identity carefully noted, and reburied in the city cemetery. A few months later an American Graves Unit disinterred these three bodies for reburial in an American Military Cemetery.

Following this a search of the ground revealed:

The map of the locality coincided in every respect with the Monastery and surroundings in St. Sauveur le Vicomte. Parachutists did land in the vicinity, and three were buried at the place indicated.

(If body located, complete and attach AGRC Form # 10).

My conclusion is that this body cannot be recovered in this area because:

There is no doubt that the three soldiers buried here are now removed, and buried in an American cemetery.

AUGUST A. ARLEY JR.
 (Signature)
US 1D Civ Enpl
 (rank)
529 TC Truck Bn, AGHC
 (organization)

Inclosures:

Date: 9 Oct 1946

SUBJECT: Investigation of Isolated Burial.

To : Commanding Officer, Second Zone, American Graves
Registration Command, APO 887, US Army.

Request that necessary action be taken on isolated burial case
below:

CASE RECORD AND INVESTIGATION

Section "A" (Registration Division, Hq. AGRC)

Name Three (3) Unknowns Rank ASN

(T-7954 thru T-7956)

Organization Paratroopers

Present AG Status _____

Area of Disappearance St Sauveur, France Coordinates _____

Circumstances as known:

Three paratroopers were captured on 7 June 1944, marched down the road from the Monastery at St Sauveur, Department of Manche and shot. Bodies were buried in a shallow grave in a grassy plot adjacent to the right hand side of the road. (see inclosed sketch)

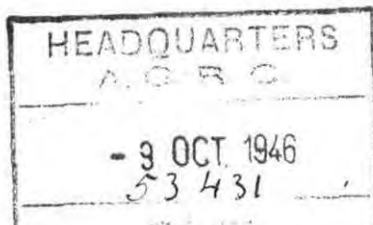
Persons to be interrogated:

Information desired:

Investigation is to be conducted to locate this isolated grave. Remains will be disinterred, identity established and reburial accomplished in an established US Military Cemetery in conformance with existing procedure.

Crew Members:

PHONE:
ARC 3900
Ext 194



Walter B. Morrow
WALTER B. MORROW
(sig.)
Major Infantry
(rank)

GRAVEL 293.9

1st Ind.

JRH/si

HEADQUARTERS, SECOND ZONE, AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION COMMAND
EUROPEAN THEATER AREA, APO 887, U. S. ARMY. 10 December 1946.

TO: Commanding Officer, American Graves Registration Command,
APO 887, U. S. Army.

1. An investigation at Saint Sauveur le Vicomte revealed that parachutists landed there on 6 June 1944 and that three American soldiers were buried in a shallow grave at the side of the road near an abbey, as indicated on map furnished with basic communication. These remains were later removed to the St. Sauveur Cemetery and were recovered, identified, unit and reburied at Ste Mere Eglise U. S. Military Cemetery No. 2 as the following known individuals:

Connelly, John J.L. Jr., 31219377, Pvt
Plot W Row 7 Grave 125

Cunningham, Ralph J., 11049224,
Plot W Row 7 Grave 127

Edmondson, Charlie K., Jr., 20417075,
Plot W Row 7 Grave 128

2. Inasmuch as the information for the above three individuals corresponds with the facts given on Unknown T-7954 thru T-7956, it is evident that the remains of these paratroopers have been recovered and therefore this case will be closed at this headquarters.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

James F. Wilson
JAMES F. WILSON
Major, Infantry
Asst. Adjutant

9 Incls.

1-2. n/c

3. Narrative Report, 15 Nov. 46

4. Statement, Letendu, 24 Oct. 46

5. Statement, Lemonnier, 24 Oct. 46

6. Statement, Lavallee, 24 Oct. 46

7. Statement, Gauthier, 15 Nov. 46

8. Extract of records of Mr. Gauthier

9. Statement, Mayor of St. Sauveur

14 Nov. 46.



1860



ARMY SERVICE FORCES
KANSAS CITY QUARTERMASTER DEPOT
601 HARDESTY AVENUE
KANSAS CITY 1, MISSOURI

144,002

IN REPLY REFER TO _____

(S-4-7-45)

JPM:HA:hlh

March 7, 1945

Mrs. Annie McGillicuddy ✓
4 Paine Street ✓
Winthrop, Massachusetts ✓

Dear Mrs. McGillicuddy: ✓

The Army Effects Bureau has received from overseas some property of your nephew, Private Ralph J. Cunningham. ✓

To enable this Bureau to make proper disposition of these effects, it is necessary that we have certain information regarding his family. If he was married, please advise the name and address of his widow. If his parents are living, we would also like to know their names and addresses. Please furnish the names, addresses and ages of Private Cunningham's brothers and sisters.

In the event your nephew left a Will which has been probated, please send the original or a certified copy of the Letters Testamentary. Any papers forwarded will be returned to you as soon as possible.

For your convenience, a return envelope which needs no postage is inclosed.

Yours very truly,

F. A. ECKHARDT
Captain, Q.M.C.
Assistant

1 Incl--Envelope

per

4 Daine L.

Winthrop Mar. 13.

144602

My dear Capt. Edward,

In reply to your letter would say that my nephew Ralph J. Cunningham left no widow Both his parents are dead His brother is John F. Cunningham 31^{yr} 3^{mo} of Greendale Rd. Westwood His sisters are Alison C. Hess, 33 yrs of Hotel Carteret, New York Y. Ruth Cunningham Costello of 27 Greendale Rd., Westwood, 29 yrs. He left his sister Ruth, executrix She has been in Philadelphia for the past four months and has not been able to get to the Probate Ct. in Boston. She will have the will probated as soon as possible

He sent me three copies of the will one of which I am enclosing. Respectfully yours
Annie F. M. Goldsmith



ARMY SERVICE FORCES
KANSAS CITY QUARTERMASTER DEPOT
601 HARDESTY AVENUE
KANSAS CITY 1, MISSOURI

144002

IN REPLY REFER TO _____

JRM:HA:df
March 24, 1945

Mr. John F. Cunningham
Green Acre Road
Westwood, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Cunningham:

The Army Effects Bureau has received from overseas some property of your brother, Private Ralph J. Cunningham.

This property, consisting of a few small items, is being sent you. If, for some reason, it has not been received at the expiration of thirty days from this date, please notify me so that tracer may be instituted.

I regret the circumstances prompting this letter, and wish to express my sympathy in the loss of your brother.

Yours very truly,

HARRY NIEMIEC
2nd Lt. Q.M.C.
Chief, Correspondence Branch

144 12

Date 12 July 1944

SUBJECT: Personal effects of soldier missing in action _____.

TO : Effects Quartermaster, ETOUSA, APO 871, U. S. Army.

THRU : Commanding General, 82d Airborne Division, APO 469, U. S. Army.

1. Name. Ralph J. Cunningham
2. Grade or rank. Pvt.
3. Army Serial Number. 11049224
4. Organization. Co B 307 A/B Engr Bn
5. Status. (~~KIA~~, MIA, ~~MISSING~~)
6. Date of casualty. 6 June 44
7. Date and disposition of effects. 12 July 44. Effects QM 82d A/B Div
8. Bank in United Kingdom in which ^{missing}~~deceased~~ had an account. None
9. Names of Debtors and Creditors. None
10. Name and address of next of kin. Annie Mc Gillicuddy - Aunt
4 Paine Street
Winthrop, Mass.



For the Commanding Officer:

A. T. Zbinden
A. T. ZBINDEN,
CWO., USA., 307 A/B Engr Bn.,
Personnel Adjutant.

1 Incls:

WD AGO Form 54 (trip only)

1014 002

R E S T R I C T E D

201 - Cunningham, Ralph J(Enl)1st Ind.

ENL/wjm

HEADQUARTERS 82D AIRBORNE DIVISION, APO 469, U. S. Army, 19 July 1944

TO: Effects Quartermaster, ETOUSA, APO 871, U. S. Army.

1 Incl(x) n/c



G. B. B.
G. B. B.

R E S T R I C T E D