

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. TOTAL ARMY PERSONNEL COMMAND ALEXANDRIA, VA 22331-0482

July 20, 1993



Mortuary Affairs and Casualty Support Division



Holland

Dear Mr.

This responds to your inquiry, dated June 11, 1993, concerning Second Lieutenant Richard M. Ingram, 0-745 569; Staff Sergeant Richard C. Anderson, 35 599 969; Technical Sergeant Carl A. Scott, 15 121 174; and Technician Fifth Grade Bernard Chernin, 32 543 843.

Enclosed are copies of selected documents from these soldiers' individual deceased personnel files. These are the only documents in their files that contain information relating to your request. The documents from Lieutenant Ingram's file, have information pertaining to the B-24H crash in the North Sea, on February 22, 1944, off the coast of Rotterdam, Holland. This is all the information we have pertaining to the lost aircraft.

The documents provided from Sergeant Anderson's file have information relating to the recovery and initial burial of his remains by the Germans.

We have enclosed documents from Sergeant Scott's file pertaining to his circumstances of death. However, we can not provide you with information on Sergeant Scott's military career. Individual deceased personnel files only contain information pertaining to a soldier's death. This information may be available from his Official Military Personnel File (201). This file is stored at the National Personnel Records Center, 9700 Page Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63132-5200. Unfortunately, a major fire at that center in 1973 destroyed or severely damaged a vast number of military records. However, you may write that center for any information they are able to provide.

Documents provided from Technician Chernin's file contain all the information related to the investigation conducted on him, following his death at Stalag XI-B, Falling-Bostel, Germany, on April 21, 1945. Efforts by the American Graves Registration Service to locate his remains were unsuccessful; therefore, his remains are listed as non-recoverable.

We hope this information is helpful.

Sincerely,

John F. Manning Assistant Chief

Mortuary Affairs and Casualty

Support Division

Enclosure

J.A. HEY
A.v.d. Leeuwstraat
7552 HS HENGELO (OV)
HOLLAND, TEL.074-422271

11th June 1993.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. Total Army Personnel Command
Alexandria, VA. 22331-0482
U.S.A.

Attention: Mortuary Affairs and Casualty Support Division.

Dear Mr. Manning:

First of all I would like to express my gratitude for the excellent assistance that you are extending to me when I contact you from time to time on the subject of American deceased servicemen of WWII. Your support is highly appreciated and always encourages me and my collegues of the Liberation Museum at Groesbeek to complete the documentation on the Americans who gave their lives for the cause of freedom and justice.

Today I have two questions about U.S. servicemen, both died or presumed died in the Netherlands, as well as an information about an American POW who died in a German POW-camp.

1. On 22nd February 1944 the Liberator 41-28615 of the 453rd Bomb Group (H), 733 Squadron, was shot down by German fighters, hit the sea and exploded on impact. Nine airmen (among them the Pilot 2/Lt. Richard M. INGRAM 0-745569) are commemorated on the Walls of the Missing in the U.S. Military Cemetery Netherlands at Margraten.

The Tail Gunner S/Sgt. Richard C. ANDERSON 35599969 of OHIO was killed and now has his grave in Ardennes, Plot B-27-9. The respective Missing Air Crew Report Nr. 2895 is in my file.

Unfortunately the Report does not contain any information on map reference of the crash location, nor about the place where this <u>Staff Sergeant was recovered</u>. In the Military Archives at Freiburg, Germany, I found a War Diary of the German air-base at Gilze-Rijen, Holland, and for the 22nd February 1944 there is a.o. an entry for a B-24 which crashed in wide waters somewhere south of Rotterdam, Holland. The Germans reported 'the aircraft sunk and all of the crew drowned.'

After elimination of the other aircraft losses on this day, I have come to the conclusion that this 41-28615 must have been the aircraft about which the Germans reported in the War Diary. If this is so, S/Sgt. Anderson must have washed ashore somewhere in that area. In spite of the fact that I have practically all reports for recoveries of U.S. airmen in Holland, I have never seen his name in it. This may be due to the fact that the Germans could not identify him at the time and buried him as an Unknown Airman, but was positively identified after the war by American military authorities.

Could you inform me when and where he has been recovered and where he was buried initially by the Germans?

2. During the battle of Arnhem (Operation 'Market-Garden') in Holland a special party of four men was parachuted into the Arnhem area, among them two Americans, one of which has been recorded as T/Sgt. Scott (no further details available). It is presumed that he survived the battle and later joined the 101st U.S. Airborne Division which fought south of the River Rhine. It is believed that he is the same man as the Sgt. Carl A. SCOTT 15121174 who was killed on a patrol on 2nd November 1944 near the town of Wageningen and whose grave was found near a ferry after the war. Sgt. Carl A. Scott was reinterred in Ardennes, Belgium, and lateron repatriated to the State of Ohio.

Can you distract from his personal file that he was parachuted near Arnhem as a member of the O.S.S. (Office of Strategic Services) on 17th September 1944 and later joined the 101st? This might clear up an already long pending matter.

3. During a reunion of veterans in England (2nd Battalion The Parachute Regiment, that fought at Arnhem in September 1944) I received from one of its members a document, apparently from some German file. This shows the names of 28 Allied POW's who died in Stalag XI B near Fallingbostel, Germany, and were buried in the POW cemetery near the camp.

After checking my British records I saw that most of these casualties are

After checking my British records I saw that most of these casualties are in fact British, but I could not locate the names of GONSIORWSKI (still unknown, may be Polish POW)

CHERNIN B.

KRICHNER (still no trace).

Checking the names against the 'Roster WWII U.S. War Dead' I discovered that

CHERNIN Bernard Tec/5 32543843 State of New York

is still commemorated on the Walls of the Missing in Netherlands. The Registers of the American Battle Monuments Commission prove, that he has been reported missing on 21st April 1945 and the Chernin served at the time in 9th Armored Division, 27th Infantry Bn.

The British soldier WINTER in Grave 699 died on 10th April 1945 and CURTIS on 24th April 1945 (Grave 714), so the date of death 21st April 1945 for Chernin might be quite fitting. The number 316817 behind the name is not the ASN, but - for my opinion - a POW-number.

I herewith attach a copy of the relative document. Could it be that Chernin was considered to be a East-European name and that he was a POW from one of those countries? As no other names for Americans are on the list, I think that it is quite possible that the list did never reach American HQ and that - consequently - Tec/5 Chernin remained on the missing list.

I might add, that all British personnel as listed have been identified as such by the British Grave Service; none is missing.

I apologize for the poor quality of the list and the many annotations.

I am looking forward with much interest to your comments and remain,

Sincerely yours,

