

393 PRAEGER, RALPH B. O-21,185 MAJOR CAV-PA (KAN.) 45ms

7441

]

DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

MEMORIALIZATION OF NON-RECOVERABLE  
REMAINS OF WORLD WAR II

THIS FILE HAS BEEN AUDITED FOR NON-RECOVERABILITY

NAME (Last, First, Middle)

PRAEGER, RALPH B.

RANK

MAJ.

SERIAL NUMBER

021185

ARM OF SERVICE

ARMY

DATE OF DEATH

31 DEC. 44

AREA OF DEATH

PHILIPPINE IS.

NAME OF AUDITOR

KATZ

DATE

23 APR. 52

NAME OF REVIEWER

MANSFIELD

DATE

23 APR. 52

REMARKS

(3d Ind, 27 May 50, contd)

PART II

f. Reference subpar a, above, about 15 Americans were removed with Col Moses' group. I believe Capt (rank doubtful) Herman Kluge and Pvt Herbert Krowitz and possibly Lt Frank Zaije (spelling doubtful) were in this group. I might be able to identify others if you can furnish me a list of names of persons executed in late 1943. When I was in Fort Santiago in January 1944 a fellow prisoner (name forgotten: he was a Boy Scout executive in Manila) told me that Col. G. Nakar (a Filipino) and Lt Col Hugh Straughn, USA Retd, and about 17 other Americans had been executed in a Manila cemetery in the autumn of 1943. This prisoner was not a witness of these executions.

g. Reference subpar b, above, Sgt. Robert Nank probably was with Lt Camp and Lt Fuxman. When I was returned to Bilibid PW Camp in July 1944 I learned that Camp and Fuxman had been removed from Bilibid PW Camp a few weeks after my removal in January 1944.

h. Reference subpar c, above, Capt Needham signalled to me in Bilibid Annex Military Prison in July 1944 that he had received no sentence at his trial which was held during the later part of July 1944. We prisoners assumed that when no sentence was announced that the prisoner was to be executed. I believe Pvt Edgar Stevens (spelling doubtful) was with Capt Needham at this time.

i. About June 1944 a field artillery captain, after courtmartial (no sentence announced) was removed from Bilibid Annex Military Prison. I have forgotten this officer's name. I believe Major Charles P. Samson, FA, was his battery commander prior to the war.

j. Reference subpar d, above, Staff Sgts Raymundo Camonayan and Euligio Gaduang were courtmartialled with Major Praeger and party in August 1944. These men are still alive. They informed me that Lt Furagganan was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment at Muntinlupa Penitentiary. The two sergeants state that Lt Furagganan was executed at Muntinlupa on or about 4 February 1945. The two sergeants were to have been executed the following day but the American Army forces arrived before they were killed.

3. Additional information on special prisoners held in Ward 16, Bilibid PW Camp and Bilibid Annex Military Prison can be obtained from former Ensign Richard Turk, USNR.

*Thomas S. Jones*  
 THOMAS S. JONES,  
 Major, Cavalry.

AGO

3d Ind.

Subject: Identification of World War II Deceased.

Maj Thomas S. Jones, 052403, 76th Hv Tank Bn., Fort Campbell, Ky, 27 May 50.

Thru: CG, Fort Campbell, Ky

To: The Quartermaster General,  
Department of the Army,  
Washington 25, D.C.

1. Major Ralph B. Praeger sustained an injury to one of his arms in late 1942. I do not know whether the arm was fractured. Major Praeger was treated by Dr. Ireneo Reyes, Kabugao, Apayao, Mountain Province, Philippines, who should be able to furnish exact information regarding this injury.

2. In 1945 and 1946 I furnished to the Casualty Branch, AGO, information which I possessed regarding special prisoners of the Japanese in Bilibid Prison in 1943-1944. Since then I have forgotten many names and dates. Part I below contains information which is definite--that is, which is based on my own personal knowledge and which I can recall clearly. Part II below contains information which is either hearsay or based on facts of which I had personal knowledge but which I cannot recall clearly at this time.

## PART I

a. Lt Col Martin Moses, Lt Col Arthur K. Noble, Lt Col Claude Thorp and Capt Joseph R. Barker II were removed from Bilibid PW Camp (old execution area) by the Japanese on or about 30 September 1943.

b. Lt Francis A. Camp and Lt (rank doubtful) Gordon Fuzman were in the old execution area of Bilibid PW Camp when I was removed on or about 4 January 1944.

c. I saw Capt James R. Needham in Bilibid Annex Military Prison (next door to Bilibid PW Camp) after his courtmartial during the latter part of July 1944.

d. Major Ralph B. Praeger, Lt Arthur P. Furgganan, S/Sgt Earl Brazelton, Corp Louis G. Heuser, S/Sgt Raymundo Comanayan and S/Sgt Buligio Gaduang were in Bilibid Annex Military Prison when I was transferred from there to Bilibid PW Camp (special prisoner area in Ward 16) on or about 30 July 1944.

e. During the autumn of 1944 two American mining engineers, Mark Hubbard and Henry Lindbloom (spelling both names doubtful) were removed from the special prisoner area in Ward 16, Bilibid PW Camp.



[The body of the document contains several paragraphs of text that are extremely faint and difficult to read. The text appears to be a memorandum or report, possibly detailing military operations or administrative matters. The content is largely illegible due to fading and the quality of the scan.]



ALLEJ 201-Praeger, Ralph B. (O) 1st Ind BGM/bvk  
(15 May 50)  
SUBJECT: Identification of World War II Deceased

Hq CGSC & Ft Leavenworth, Kansas, 17 May 1950

TO: Commanding General, Camp Campbell, Kentucky

Forwarded to your command as Major Thomas S. Jones, 052403, Cav, is not due to report to this station prior 27 August 1950, per Par 9, Special Orders 64, Dept of the Army, dated 3 April 1950.

FOR THE COMMANDANT:

*Bertha G. Moser*  
BERTHA G. MOSER  
Major, WAC  
Asst Adjutant General

AICJA O 201-Praeger, Ralph B. (O) 2d Ind JWE/veh  
(15 May 50)  
SUBJECT: Identification of World War II Deceased

HEADQUARTERS FORT CAMPBELL, Fort Campbell, Kentucky, 23 May 1950

THRU: Commanding Officer, 76th Heavy Tank Battalion, Fort Campbell, Kentucky

TO: Major Thomas S. Jones, 76th Heavy Tank Battalion, Fort Campbell, Kentucky

Attention is invited to basic communication for necessary action.

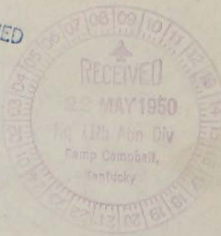
BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL MATHEWSON:

*J. W. Harper, Jr.*  
J. W. HARPER, Jr.  
1st Lt., Inf  
Actg Asst Adj Gen

*NAN  
File 18 Jan 52  
9. Reynolds  
ID*



DISPATCHED



18 AM 11:11

HEADQUARTERS  
C & GSC  
AND  
FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

[Faint, mostly illegible typed text, possibly a memorandum or report, with some words like 'SUBJECT' and 'REFERENCE' visible.]



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

IN REPLY REFER TO  
QMGMT 293  
PRAEGER, Ralph B.  
Major, 021185

15 May 1950

SUBJECT: Identification of World War II Deceased

THRU : Commandant  
CGSC  
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

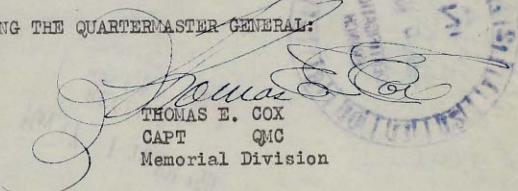
TO : Major Thomas S. Jones  
Student Detachment CGSC  
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

1. Every effort is being expended by this Office and the American Graves Registration Service overseas to recover and identify the remains of all American deceased personnel of World War II. To complete this project, burial information and identifying material for such personnel are essential.

2. At the present time, an investigation is being conducted to determine the names of all military personnel executed by the Japanese in the Chinese Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, Philippine Islands. The great difficulty of maintaining records of death and burials during the Japanese occupation of the Philippines is readily understood, and it is for this reason that such information from all sources assumes a particular importance in the recovery and identification of the remains of the men who died there.

3. A letter recently received from Mrs. Gertrude E. Praeger, mother of Major Ralph B. Praeger, states that you were the lone survivor of the Japanese trials in Bilibid Prison, Manila, and could possibly offer some information regarding an arm fracture, which Major Praeger sustained when he was a member of a guerilla unit. It is requested that you furnish any information or knowledge you may have concerning the nature and location of the fracture, and any knowledge you may have of the Japanese executions and trials, listing, to the best of your memory, names of the personnel involved, dates of death and circumstances.

FOR THE ACTING THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL:

  
THOMAS E. COX  
CAPT QMC  
Memorial Division



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

15 May 1950

MAJOR GENERAL  
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

SUBJECT: Identification of World War II Deceased

TO: Commandant  
9880  
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

FROM: Major Thomas W. Jones  
9880  
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

1. Every effort is being expended by this Office and the various Graves Registration Service overseas to recover and identify the remains of all American deceased personnel of World War II. To complete this project, burial information and identifying material for such personnel are essential.

2. At the present time, an investigation is being conducted to determine the names of all military personnel executed by the Japanese in the Philippines, Luzon, Mindanao, and other islands. The exact difficulty of maintaining records of deaths and burials during the Japanese occupation of the Philippines is readily apparent, and it is for this reason that such information from all sources remains particularly important in the recovery and identification of the remains of the men who died there.

3. A letter recently received from Major George H. ...  
... of the Japanese ...  
... information regarding an ...  
... than he was a member of a ...  
... any information or knowledge you may have ...  
... location of the ...  
... records, and any ...  
... records, dates of ...  
... names of the persons involved.



RECEIVED  
MAY 17 1 18 PM '50  
HQ. G. & G. S. ...

15 May 1950

QM FORM 638  
REV 1 APR 48

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY  
**INTRAOFFICE REFERENCE SHEET**

DUE, HOUR AND DATE \_\_\_\_\_

1 NO.	2 FROM—	3 TO—	4 DATE	5 MESSAGE
2	QM-Pent Liaison, Adm Br Men Div	Id. Sec. Id. Br., Men Div.  Sanborn	29 Mar 50	<p><i>33 Praeger, Ralph B.</i></p> <p>Reference Paragraph 1, Comment #1, inclosed herewith all information found on these men in the AGO Casualty and the DPRB 201 files.</p> <p>Reference Paragraph 2, Comment #1, it is requested that no other requests of this type be made of this section, as it is not feasible to check for such documents. If SR&amp;D Reports are present, all pertinent information would be incorporated therein.</p> <p><i>S. J.</i> SEKOWSKI X-6679</p> <p><i>S. M. D.</i> DEER X-73090</p>
<p><b>NAT</b> <b>FILE</b> <b>3/29/50</b> <i>for ha 56</i> <b>Identification Branch</b></p>				

C. G. FORM 638  
 1 SEP 1948

 OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY  
**INTRAOFFICE REFERENCE SHEET**

DUE, HOUR AND DATE \_\_\_\_\_

1 No.	2 FROM-	3 TO-	4 DATE	5 MESSAGE
1.	Id Sec Id Br Mem Div Sanborn, T 71564	QM Liaison Office Pentagon	9 March 1950	<p>1. Request S R &amp; D reports for the following:</p> <p>BARKER, Joseph R.,           0-21155            DALTO, Salvadore E.,       19 038 423            GOLDSBOROUGH, Edwin G.,   0-2031900            KLUGE, Herman C.,           0-890368            MOSES, Martin                0-16924            NACAR, Maximo                R-318 595            NAKAR, Gillermo A.,         0-888 070            NOBLE, Arthur K.,           0-17780            PRAEGER, Ralph B.,         0-21185            STRAUGHN, Hugh             0-2515            THOMAS, Roy E.,             0-424761</p> <p>2. Request copies of the following documents:</p> <p>a. Affidavit of Emmett F. Ellis (civilian), dated 14 February 1945 (file 201-Ellis, Emmett F.).</p> <p>b. Affidavit of Edda Bailey Needham, Batong Buhay, Lubuagan, Kalinga, P.I., dated 21 February 1945 (201-Needham, Edda Bailey).</p> <p>c. Affidavit of Private Raymundo Camonayon, ASN 10 305 183, PS Det. HQ, APPAC, APO 500, dated 13 March 1945 (201-Camonayon, Raymundo).</p> <p>d. Affidavit of Colonel Alejandro T. Santos, Guerrilla Army Forces, USAFFE, dated 14 September 1945 (file 777, document 20).</p> <p>e. Affidavit of Colonel P. L. Briones, Guerrilla Army Forces, USAFFE, dated 14 September 1945 (file 777, document 20).</p> <p>f. File 501-1-14, page 220, Japanese Military Prison Records.</p> <p>g. File 1000-2-8, page 1165, Japanese Military Prison Records.</p> <p>h. File 81, 21 September 1944, page 6.</p>

THIS FORM WILL REMAIN PART OF THE OFFICIAL FILE

16-49659-1 GPO

DC FORM 638  
1 SEP 1946

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY

## INTRAOFFICE REFERENCE SHEET

DUE, HOUR AND DATE \_\_\_\_\_

1 NO.	2 FROM-	3 TO-	4 DATE	5 MESSAGE
(continued)	Id Sec	QM Liaison		<p>i. Report of Frederick H. Stevens (file 201-Thorp, Claude A.).</p> <p>j. Report of John Lenehan, page 9.</p> <p>k. Report of Edward C. Keith Jr., 2 January 1945 (201-Thorp, Claude A.)</p> <p>l. Interrogation Report #360, 443rd CIC Detachment, USAFFE, dated 25 January 1945.</p> <p>m. USAFFE G-2 Report on the capture of Sgt. Everett R. Brooks, 6 938 045, turned in at Brisbane, Australia.</p> <p>n. Classified message numbers: 071114, 028024, 346086, 346086, 092032, 355104, 064045, and 053059, on file in the classified Message Unit, Mail and Message Section, Casualty Branch, AGO.</p> <p>o. Sixth Army, G-2 report, 17 February 1945 (201-Jones, Thomas A., ASN O-336942)</p> <p>p. Statement of Major Charles W. Folsom, O-338536, MC, dated 31 January 1945 (file 777, document 20).</p> <p>q. Check Sheet from AG-Casualty (Rear USAFFE) To: G-2, USAFFE, 29 March 1945 (file 201-Moses, Martin)</p> <p>r. Notes of Captain Thomas S. Jones, dated 17 February 1945 (file 201-Jones, Thomas S.).</p> <p>s. Letter GHQ, USAFFE, Luzon Guerrilla Army Forces, 10 June 1945, signed by Major Edwin P. Ramsey, Cav., Commanding, to CG XI Corps for transmittal to GHQ, AFPAC (file 777, document 20).</p> <p>3. It is requested that your action be expedited since a congressional inquiry is involved.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Sanborn, T. 71564</p>

THIS FORM WILL REMAIN PART OF THE OFFICIAL FILE

16-49650-4 GPO

FORM 638  
1946

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY  
**INTRAOFFICE REFERENCE SHEET**

DUE, HOUR AND DATE \_\_\_\_\_

1 NO.	2 FROM-	3 TO-	4 DATE	5 MESSAGE
1.	Id Sec Id Br Mem Div Sanborn, T 71564	QM Liaison Office Pentagon	16 Feb 1950	<p><i>243 Praeger, Ralph B.</i></p> <p>1. Request all available dental and physical characteristics for:</p> <p>BARKER, Joseph R., 0-21155                      DALTO, Salvadore E., 19 038 423                      GOLDSBOROUGH, Edwin G., 0-2031900  <i>Kluge</i> HERMAN, C., 0-890368                      MOSES, Martin 0-0-16924                      NAKAR, Gillermo A., 0-888070                      NOBLE, Valerio 10 303 256                      PRAEGER, Ralph B., 0-21185                      STRAUGHN, Hugh 0-2515                      THOMAS, Roy E., 0-424761</p> <p><i>NAKAR, MAXIMO R-318595</i></p> <p>Sanborn, T. 71564</p>
2	QM Pent Liais Adm Br Mem Div	Id Sec Id Br Mem Div	6 Mar 1950	<p>Completed 371 forms returned herewith.</p> <p><i>Q. J. J.</i> SEKOWSKI 6679</p> <p><i>E. J. Dyer</i> DYER 73090</p>

**NOT FILE**  
*3/8/50*  
**Sanborn, T.**  
**Identification Branch**

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY  
INTRAOFFICE REFERENCE SHEET

TO: [ ] FROM: [ ] DATE: [ ]

1. To Sec 14 Division  
 14 Div Office 18 Feb  
 War Div 18 Feb 1950  
 War Div 18 Feb 1950  
 War Div 18 Feb 1950

2. To Sec 14 Division  
 14 Div Office 18 Feb  
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10. To Sec 14 Division  
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 War Div 18 Feb 1950

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WAR  
1950  
Identification Stamp

RECEIVED  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
FEB 17 1950  
MEM. DIV. CQMG

CB

*Handwritten initials*

HEADQUARTERS  
COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF COLLEGE  
AND  
FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

BGM/bvk

In reply refer to:

ALLEJ

17 May 1950

SUBJECT: Identification of World War II Deceased

TO: The Quartermaster General  
Department of the Army  
Washington 25, D. C.

Letter, your office, above subject, file OMGMT 293, addressed through this headquarters to Major Thomas S. Jones has been forwarded to Commanding General, Camp Campbell, Kentucky as Major Jones is not due to report to this station prior 27 August 1950, per Par 9, SO 64, Dept of the Army, dtd 3 Apr 50.

FOR THE COMMANDANT:

*Bertha G. Moser*

BERTHA G. MOSER  
Major, WAC  
Asst Adjutant General

*293. Prager, Ralph B.*

*File  
Sanlisen, T  
ident 25/5/50*





QUART 293  
 FRAEGER, Ralph B.  
 Major, 021195

15 May 1950

SUBJECT: Identification of World War II Deceased

THRU : Commandant  
 CGSC  
 Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

TO : Major Thomas S. Jones  
 Student Detachment CGSC  
 Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

1. Every effort is being expended by this Office and the American Graves Registration Service overseas to recover and identify the remains of all American deceased personnel of World War II. To complete this project, burial information and identifying material for such personnel are essential.

2. At the present time, an investigation is being conducted to determine the names of all military personnel executed by the Japanese in the Chinese Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, Philippine Islands. The great difficulty of maintaining records of death and burials during the Japanese occupation of the Philippines is readily understood, and it is for this reason that such information from all sources assumes a particular importance in the recovery and identification of the remains of the men who died there.

3. A letter recently received from Mrs. Gertrude E. Fraeger, mother of Major Ralph B. Fraeger, states that you were the lone survivor of the Japanese trials in Bilibid Prison, Manila, and could possibly offer some information regarding an arm fracture, which Major Fraeger sustained when he was a member of a guerilla unit. It is requested that you furnish any information or knowledge you may have concerning the nature and location of the fracture, and any knowledge you may have of the Japanese executions and trials, listing, to the best of your memory, names of the personnel involved, dates of death and circumstances.

FOR THE ACTING THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL:

cc: Adm Section

T. Sanborn: dal  
 L. M. White: LHW

THOMAS E. COX  
 CAPT QMC  
 Memorial Division

JW

JMN

15 MAY 1950

MAJOR BRUCE  
PROGRAM, Major B.  
Major, G-2

SUBJECT: Identification of World War II Detainees

FROM : Commandant  
G-2  
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

TO : Major Truman J. Jones  
Adjutant General G-2  
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

1. Every effort is being expended by this Office and the American  
Genealogical Society to recover and identify the remains  
of all American deceased personnel of World War II. To expedite this  
project, vital information and identifying material for each personnel  
are essential.

2. At the present time, an investigation is being conducted to  
determine the names of all military personnel executed by the Japanese  
in the Chinese continent, Manila, Luzon, Mindanao Islands, the Great  
Britain, and other islands of the Philippines during the  
Japanese occupation of the Philippines in World War II, and if  
possible to identify the remains of such personnel. It is  
for this reason that your information from all sources is  
particularly important in the recovery and identification of the remains  
of the men who died there.

3. A letter recently received from Mrs. Gertrude E. Traylor,  
mother of Major Ralph H. Traylor, states that you were the last surviv-  
ing member of the company which was killed in action, and could possibly  
offer some information regarding an individual, which Major Traylor  
explained when he was a member of a company which was killed in action  
you should be able to identify or indicate the name of the person, and  
name and location of the graves, and have of your records, your records,  
names of the personnel involved, dates of the deaths, and other information.



WL  
MML

THOMAS E. JONES  
CAPT  
Special Division

cc: Adj Section  
E. Sandorich  
D. M. White

44  
QMGMT 293  
PRAEGER, Ralph B.  
Maj 021 185

2 May 1950

Mr. H. A. Praeger Sr.  
Farmer's Mutual Insurance Company  
Clafin, Kansas

Dear Mr. Praeger:

Your letter dated April 15, 1950 concerning the civilian dental records for your son, Major Ralph B. Praeger, has been received. It is unfortunate that these records are not available, however, I wish to assure you that our investigation is continuing and every effort is being expended to identify the remains of your son.

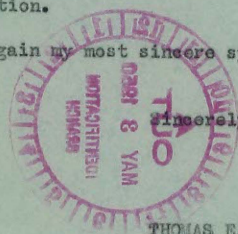
Your reference to Major Thomas S. Jones is greatly appreciated and we shall contact him immediately for any information which he may possess.

Although it is with the deepest regret that I must inform you that I am unable to furnish you and Mrs. Praeger any definite information at this time, you will be advised without delay upon the completion of our investigation.

Permit me to express again my most sincere sympathy in your great loss.

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS E. COX  
CAPT QMC  
Memorial Division



JW  
John

T. Sanborn:rvs 34  
L. A. White

667 Adm Section

MAY 11 1950  
ADM SECTION

2 May 1950

THOMAS, Ralph B.  
1st 021 152

Mr. R. A. Proctor Sr.  
Fidelity & Guaranty Insurance Company  
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Proctor:

Your letter dated April 15, 1950 concerning the civilian dental records for your son, Major Ralph B. Proctor, has been received. It is unfortunate that these records are not available, however, I wish to assure you that our investigation is continuing and every effort is being expended to identify the remains of your son.

Your reference to Major Thomas B. Jones is greatly appreciated and we shall contact him immediately for any information which he may possess.

Although it is with the deepest regret that I must inform you that I am unable to furnish you and Mrs. Proctor any definite information at this time, you will be advised without delay upon the completion of our investigation.

Permit me to express again most sincerely in your  
Great love.



THOMAS B. COX  
CAPT  
Memorial Division

14  
*[Handwritten signature]*

877 Adm Section  
L. J. White  
T. Anderson  
MAY 11 1950

H. A. PRAEGER, PRESIDENT,           , Kansas  
H. E. GAGLEMAN, Vice-Pres.,           , Bend, Kans.  
H. J. STEFFEN, Sec.-Treas., Ellinwood, Kansas  
A. F. REIE, Ass't. Sec.-Treas., Claflin, Kansas

Number of Members January 1, 1950, 2,783  
Insurance in force January 1, 1950, \$20,358,950  
Total Losses Paid from 1896 to Jan. 1, 1950, \$602,541.00

# Farmers Mutual Insurance Company

847

of Barton County, Kansas

(Fire, Lightning, Tornado and Hail Insurance)

ORGANIZED APRIL 12, 1896, BY FARMERS, FOR INSURANCE AT COST

CLAFLIN, KANSAS 4/15/50

Mr L H Metz Lt Colonel I M C.

Memorial Div.  
Washington D. C.

Dear Mr Metz: We have your letter of mch 14-50  
addressed to Mrs Veda Ames Praeger who was  
the wife of Ralph B Praeger at the time of his  
death. Mrs Veda Ames Praeger has since  
remained and her last name now is Tarr.

Mrs Veda Tarr has sent your letter to us  
asking if we could supply some information  
relative to Ralph's dental work done  
West Point. He had some dental work done  
locally, but the dentist has moved to the  
west coast, and our understanding is that  
he is not in the dental profession any more.

Major Tom Jones, located at Ft Knox who  
was the lone survivor of the Japanese trial  
of the officers in Ralph's company, could  
probably give you some information while  
fractured arm which he sustained while  
in guerrilla warfare before their capture.

This is all the information that we can  
supply. If anything further comes up, please  
advise us - his parents.

Yours truly  
H A Praeger, Sr  
&  
Gertude E Praeger

File  
Serber, T  
5/2/50  
Investigation Branch

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545

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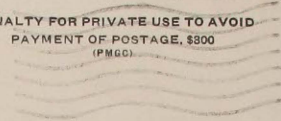
ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH  
APR 19 1 27 PM '50  
MEMORIAL DIVISION

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

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID  
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300  
(PMGC)



**Office of The Quartermaster General  
Department of the Army  
Washington 25, D. C.**

**Attn:**

**Memorial Division**  
Identification - Sanborn

*Incl 1*

QMGMT 293  
PRAEGER, Ralph B.  
Maj. O-21 185

16 March 1950

Mrs. Verda Ames Praeger

Claffing, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Praeger:

I regret the necessity of writing you with reference to your son, Major Ralph B. Praeger.

Every effort is being expended by this Office and the American Graves Registration Service to recover and identify the remains of all deceased American personnel of World War II. I feel sure that you will appreciate the tremendous complexity of this undertaking, as well as the amount of time its proper accomplishment demands. To facilitate this project, complete dental records for an individual are helpful and, in some instances essential. In view of the fact that military dental records do not always include work accomplished prior to entry into the service, it is often necessary to request this information from the family of the decedent.

Inasmuch as there is the possibility that your son may have received treatment by a civilian dentist which is not shown in his military records, it will be greatly appreciated if, in the event this is the case, you will secure from the dentist who treated him a copy of the chart usually retained by members of the dental profession showing work performed for each patient. Should no actual records be available to you, any information which you may recall concerning dental work, as well as bone fractures and breaks may prove significant.

A reply at your earliest convenience will be appreciated, since the information which you may possess may prove to be of material assistance in the identification of your son's remains.

A self-addressed envelope which requires no postage is inclosed to expedite delivery.

Please accept my sincere sympathy in the great loss you have sustained.

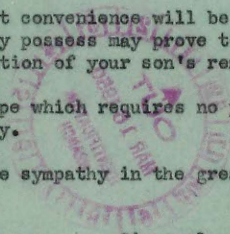
Sincerely yours,

T. H. METZ  
Lt. Colonel, QMC  
Memorial Division

*JMN*  
JMN  
TEC

1 Incl  
Envelope  
cc: Adm Section  
T. Sanborn:rvs  
L. M. White:MW  
J. Windsor

MAR 1 12 4 PM '50  
MAIL ROOM





16 March 1950

COMM. 598  
Honorable Ralph H.  
Malt, O-21 183

Mrs. Vera Mae Tucker

Olathe, Kansas

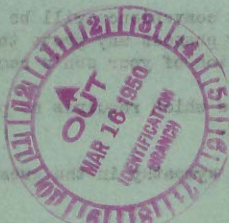
Dear Mrs. Tucker:

I regret the necessity of writing you with reference to your  
son, Ralph H. Tucker.

Every effort is being expended by this Office and the American  
Overseas Service to recover and identify the remains of  
all deceased members of World War II. I feel sure that  
you will appreciate the tremendous complexity of this undertaking,  
as well as the amount of time and proper accommodations required. In  
view of the fact that this office maintains detailed records for an individual  
and his family and, in some instances, maintains records for an individual  
and his family, it is often necessary to request  
this information from the family of the deceased.

It is our hope that your son may have received  
proper treatment by a civilian dentist which is not shown in his  
military records. It will be greatly appreciated if, in the event  
this is the case, you will secure from the dentist who treated him  
a copy of the chart usually retained by dentists at the dental practice  
number with pertinent for each patient. Should no record be  
available to you, any information which you may recall concerning  
dental work, as well as date treatment and breaks any more significant.

A reply at your earliest convenience will be appreciated, along  
with the information which you may have regarding the dental  
work. If you are unable to provide this information, please  
advise this office. Self-addressed envelopes will be provided to facilitate delivery  
of your reply to this office. If you have any questions, please  
write to this office at the address given below.



MAR 15 1950  
RECEIVED  
COMM. 598

Sincerely yours,

T. M. Malt  
Director, OMS  
Overseas Division

cc: Air Section  
T. M. Malt  
L. M. Malt  
T. Windsor

26TH CAV. REGT. (AS)

KIA-31 DEC. 44

NAME: PRAEGER, RALPH B. ASN: 0-21185 RANK: Maj

PHYSICAL AT TIME OF INDUCTION: DATE 14 JUNE 1938

RACE: WHITE

RELIGION: PROT.

BORN: 7 APR. 1914

PLACE: CLAFLIN, KANS.

WEIGHT: 184#

HEIGHT: 74 3/4"

EYES: N/S

HAIR: N/S

COMPLEXION: N/S

SHOE SIZE: N/S

NO FRACTURES SHOWN  
LEFT INJURED SCAR  
NO FORM 793.

DENTAL 16 MAY 41

	<u>Right</u>								<u>Left</u>							
Upper																
	X	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	X
Lower																
	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

Geeth: Indicate restorable carious teeth by circling; nonrestorable carious teeth by /; missing natural teeth by X.

NAT  
File  
3/29/00  
Identification Branch



**C O N F I D E N T I A L**  
**CASUALTY REPORT**  
 (BATTLE - DEATH)

GHQ AFPAC APO 500  
 AG Recovered Personnel Branch  
 Date: 25 September 1945

1. Name: PRAEGER, RALPH B. Grade: MAJOR ASN 0-21185  
 Arm or Service: CAV Organization: 26th Cav Regt (PS)  
 By Whom Employed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (For Civilian Casualties Only)

2. Type of Casualty: Killed in Action

3. Date of Casualty: 1 November 1943

4. Place of Casualty: Manila, P.I.

5. In Flying Status: Unknown

6. Entitled to Additional Pay For: Unknown

7. Emergency Addressee:

Name: MR. HERMAN A. PRAEGER Unknown Relationship: FATHER

Address: CLAFIN, KANSAS  
 (St & No or RFD) (City or Town) (State)

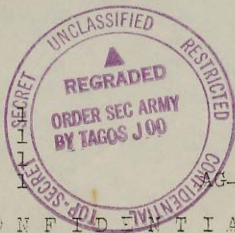
8. Source of Information: Ltr this Hq. Subj: "Review and Determination of the Status of Major Ralph B. Praeger, ASN 0-21185, 26th Cavalry Regiment (PS)", File AG 704.5 (D) (20 Sep 45) AG-KI SR & D No. 897, dated 20 September 1945.

9. Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

References: 201 - PRAEGER, RALPH B.  
SR & D #897

DISTRIBUTION:

TAG . . . . . 1  
 AFPAC (AG MRU) . . . . . 1  
 PHIBSEC Groves Reg . . . . . 1  
 File . . . . . 1  
 RUTH H. ESSARY  
 Captain WAC  
 AG-PR Form No. 37A (4-24-45)



Incl No. / C O N F I D E N T I A L

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

TO: \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name of Person: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Type of Contract: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Date of Contract: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Name of Contractor: \_\_\_\_\_

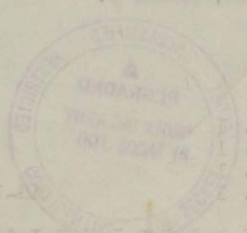
5. In What State: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Filled as Additional Job for: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Emergency Address: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Address: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_



PENTAGON LIAISON  
 MAR 29 1950  
 MEM. DIV. OCMC

JOHN H. BERRY  
 Captain  
 11-11-50 (4-2-50)

9+R

STATEMENT

21 September 1945

Lt. Col. ROBERT LINDSAY, FA, told me he saw the following named officers leave Old Bilibid Prison on or about October 1943 under extremely heavy Japanese guard, with their hands tied behind their backs, loaded into a Jap truck and taken to Fort San Tiago:

Lt. Col. CLAUDE A. THORPE, O-15101, 26th Cav.  
 Lt. Col. MARTIN MOSES, USA ( on duty with the  
 Philippine Army)

201 ~~Capt Ralph B. PRAEDER, O-21185, USA~~  
~~Capt Joseph R. BARKER, O-21155, USA~~  
 Lt. Col. \_\_\_\_\_ NOBLE, USA

It has been common knowledge that when P.O.W.'s were taken away under the above conditions they were executed.

It is believed that Major Ramsey may have additional first-hand information concerning their subsequent execution. First Lt. Hill, U.S.A. may also have additional first-hand information.

*T. J. H. Trapnell*  
 T. J. H. TRAPNELL  
 Lt. Col 26th Cav.  
 O-16782

100  
 SPECIAL AGENT  
 05100  
 100

STATEMENT

21 September 1949

It. Col. ROBERT LINDSEY, FA, told me he saw the following named officers leave Old Manila Prison on or about October 1949 under extremely heavy Japanese guard, with their hands tied behind their backs, loaded into a jeep truck and taken to Fort San Diego:

- It. Col. CLAUDE A. THORPE, G-13101, 86th Cav.
- It. Col. MARTIN ROBERT, DOW (on duty with the Philippine Army)
- Capt. MAJOR B. HANSEN, O-31187, USA
- Capt. JOSEPH M. HARRIS, O-31188, USA
- It. Col. ROBIN, USA

It has been common knowledge that when P.O.W.'s were taken away under the above conditions they were executed.

It is believed that Major Ramsey may have additional first-hand information concerning their subsequent execution. First Lt. HILL, U.S.A., may also have additional first-hand information.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
 T. E. H. TARBELL  
 Lt. Col. 86th Cav.  
 O-18782

OUT  
 PENTAGON LIAISON  
 APR 20 1950  
 MEM. DIV. 00

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC

APO 500

AG 704.5 (D) (20 Sep 45) AG-KI  
SR & D No. 897

20 September 1945

SUBJECT: Review and Determination of the Status of Major  
Ralph B. Praeger, ASN O-21185, 26th Cavalry Regiment  
(PS).

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C.  
Attention: Chief, Casualty Branch.

1. The War Department casualty listing of military personnel in the Philippine Islands on 7 December 1941 shows the following named individual as missing in action:

Praeger, Ralph B. Capt ASN O-21185 26th Cav Regt (PS).

2. The information contained in Exhibit A indicates the following grades and status of subject individual for the period shown:

a. <u>Grade</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Capt		11 Jan 43
Maj	12 Jan 43	1 Nov 43
b. <u>Status</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Beleaguered	8 Dec 41	6 May 42
MIA	7 May 42	29 Jun 43
POW	30 Jun 43	1 Nov 43

3. Subject's name does not appear on any man-draft rosters on file in this headquarters listing prisoners of war of Japan processed for shipment to prison camps outside the Philippine Islands.

4. Sufficient time has elapsed since the reoccupation of the Philippine Islands by United States forces for this individual, if living, to have returned to military control.

201-Praeger, Ralph B.



GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC

APRO 200  
30 September 1945

AG 704.5 (D) (AG-KI)  
SR & D No. 195

SUBJECT: Review and Determination of the Status of  
Major B. Presler, ASN 0-2187, 35th Cavalry Regiment  
(M).

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C.  
Attention: Chief, Casualty Branch.

1. The War Department casualty listing of military per-  
sonnel in the Philippine Islands on 7 December 1941 shows the  
following named individual as missing in action:

Presler, Major B. ASN 0-2187 - 35th Cav Regt (M).

2. The information contained in Exhibit A indicates the  
following grades and status of subject individual for the  
period shown:

a.	Grade	From	To
	Major	12 Jan 42	31 Jan 42
	1st Lt	1 Nov 41	12 Jan 42
b.	Status	From	To
	Missing	1 Nov 41	31 Jan 42
	1st Lt	1 Nov 41	31 Jan 42
	2nd Lt	1 Nov 41	31 Jan 42

3. Subject's name does not appear on any man-draft ros-  
ters on file in this headquarters listing prisoners of war of  
Japan processed for shipment to prison camps outside the Phil-  
ippine Islands.

4. Sufficient time has elapsed since the reconquest  
of the Philippine Islands by United States forces for this in-  
dividual, if living, to have returned to military control.

TUC  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MAR 29 1950  
MEM. DIV. COM.

S01-Presler, Bslph B.

Ltr GHQ, AFPAC, APO 500 to TAG, AG File 704.5 (D) (20 Sep 45)  
AG-KI, SR & D No. 897 (continued)

5. To date no documents containing information in conflict with the facts set forth in Exhibit A have been received by this headquarters.

6. The attached information is deemed sufficient to establish under Section 9, Missing Persons Act (Public Law 490, 77th Congress) as amended, a reasonable presumption that Major Ralph B. Praeger, ASN O-21185, 26th Cavalry Regiment (PS), was killed in action (summarily killed by Japanese) while in a line of duty status, on 1 November 1943 at Manila, P. I., place of burial unknown,

and it is recommended that a determination be made to that effect.

*Leland S. Hall*  
LELAND S. HALL  
Capt, Inf

Asst Chief, Determination  
Section

*Henry P. Will*  
HENRY P. WILL  
Capt, AGD

Chief, Determination  
Section

*James R. Gilbert*  
JAMES R. GILBERT  
Maj, AGD

Officer in Charge,  
Investigation and  
Review Branch

CONCURRED IN:

*Rudolph Bumgardner, Jr.*  
RUDOLPH BUMGARDNER, JR.  
Lt Col, JAGD

Legal Officer, Recovered  
Personnel Division

Ltr GHD, AFAC, APO 200 to TAG, AG File 704.2 (D) (20 Oct 45)  
AG-RI, SR & D No. 107 (continued)

To date no documents containing information in con-  
flict with the facts set forth in Exhibit A have been received  
by this headquarters.

The attached information is deemed sufficient to es-  
tablish under Section 9, Missing Persons Act (Public Law 490,  
77th Congress) as amended, a reasonable presumption that  
[Name] was killed in action (presumably killed by Japanese)  
while in a line of duty status, on 1 November 1945  
at [Location].

and it is recommended that a determination be made to that  
effect.

*[Signature]*  
[Name]  
Capt, USA  
Chief, Determination  
Section

*[Signature]*  
[Name]  
Capt, USA  
Asst Chief, Determination  
Section

*[Signature]*  
[Name]  
Major, USA  
Officer in Charge,  
Investigation and  
Review Branch

CONCURRED IN:

*[Signature]*  
[Name]  
Major, USA  
Legal Officer, Recovered  
Personnel Division

MEM. DW. COMD

AG-RI, BR & D No. 100 (continued)  
AG File 7047 (D) (20 000 43)

To date no documents containing information in con-  
flict with the facts set forth in Exhibit A have been received  
by this headquarters.

The attached information is deemed sufficient to es-  
tablish under Section 9, Missing Persons Act (Public Law 490,  
77th Congress) as amended, a reasonable presumption that  
[Name] was killed in action (officially killed by [Agency])  
while in a line of duty status, on 1 November 1943  
at [Location].

and it is recommended that a determination be made to that  
effect.

*[Signature]*  
[Name]  
Capt, USA  
Chief, Determination  
Section

*[Signature]*  
[Name]  
Capt, USA  
Asst Chief, Determination  
Section

*[Signature]*  
[Name]  
1st Lt, USA  
Officer in Charge,  
Investigation and  
Review Branch

CONCURRED IN:

*[Signature]*  
[Name]  
1st Lt, USA  
Legal Officer, Recovered  
Personnel Division

MEM. DIV. COMC

Ltr GHQ, AFPAC, APO 500 to TAG, AG File 704.5 (D) (20 Sep 45)  
AG-KI, SR & D No. 897 (continued)


A P P R O V E D

Pursuant to the authority conferred upon the Secretary of War by Section 9, Missing Persons Act (Public Law 490, 77th Congress) as amended, and by him delegated to the Commander-in-Chief, United States Army Forces, Pacific (WD ltr, 10 May 1945, Subj: Delegation of Authority Under Missing Persons Act); and pursuant to the further authorization by the Secretary of War to the said Commander-in-Chief to have such of his subordinates as he may designate to take and authenticate action under his supervision and direction (WD radio, W 81679, 13 May 1945), and authorization pursuant thereto by the said Commander-in-Chief to the Adjutant General, United States Army Forces, Pacific, to take such action as necessary to the administration of the Act and authentication (Ltr, C-in-C, AFPAC to AG, same, 28 Aug 1945, Subj: Designation Under Missing Persons Act), and on the basis of the evidence contained in the above Review and Determination of Status, it has been determined by the Commander-in-Chief, United States Army Forces, Pacific, that:

Major Ralph B. Praeger, ASN O-21185, 26th Cavalry Regiment (PS), was killed in action (summarily killed by Japanese) while in a line of duty status, on 1 November 1943 at Manila, P. I.

Report of death will be issued in accordance therewith. Evidence of death was received 20 September 1945

For the Commander-in-Chief:

  
C. J. BAKNY, JR.  
Col., AGD  
Assistant Director,  
Recovered Personnel  
Division

Incl:

Exhibit A

LET GHD, AFPAC, APO 500 to TAG, AG File 704-2 (D) (CDD sep 48)  
AG-XI, SR & D No. 500 (continued)

A P P R O V E D

Pursuant to the authority conferred upon the Secretary of War by Section 9, Missing Persons Act (Public Law 490, 77th Congress) as amended, and by him delegated to the Commander-in-Chief, United States Army Forces, Pacific (WD Ltr, 10 May 1945, Subj: Delegation of Authority Under Missing Persons Act); and pursuant to the further authorization by the Secretary of War to the said Commander-in-Chief to have such of his subordinates as he may designate to take and authenticate action under his supervision and direction (WD Ltr, 10 May 1945, Subj: Delegation of Authority Under Missing Persons Act), and authorization pursuant thereto by the said Commander-in-Chief to the Adjutant General, United States Army Forces, Pacific, to take such action as necessary to the administration of the Act and authentication (Ltr, G-in-C, AFPAC to AG, same, 22 May 1945, Subj: Delegation Under Missing Persons Act), and on the basis of the evidence contained in the above Review and Determination of Status, it has been determined by the Commander-in-Chief, United States Army Forces, Pacific, that:

Major Keith B. Brown, US Army, 5th Cavalry (Mechanized) (M), was killed in action (presumably killed by enemy) while on duty status, on 1 November 1945 at Manila, P. I.

Report of death will be issued in accordance therewith. Evidence of death was received 20 September 1945

For the Commander-in-Chief:

*[Signature]*  
Colonel  
Adjutant General  
United States Army  
Pacific

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Ltr GHQ, AFPAC, APO 500 to TAG, AG File 704.5 (D) (20 Sep 45)  
AG-KI, SR & D No. 897

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE OF RECORD IN THIS HEADQUARTERS PERTAINING  
TO STATUS OF Major Ralph B. Praeger, ASN C-21185:

1. There are no copies of pay records on file in this headquarters which include the name of this individual. It is assumed that he was last paid in full to include 30 November 1941.

2. The records of this headquarters disclose the following additional information pertaining to subject individual:

a. Extract from Special Orders No. 11, General Headquarters Southwest Pacific Area, APO 500, dated 12 January 1943 (file 201-Praeger, Ralph B.):

X X X

"1. Announcement is made of the temp promotion of CAPT RALPH B PRAEGER O21185 Cav to the gr of Maj in the AUS with rank fr date of this Order."

b. Extract from letter GHQ, USAPFE, Luzon Guerrilla Army Forces, 10 June 1945 signed by Major Edwin P. Ramsey, Cav., Commanding, to CG, XI Corps for transmittal to GHQ, AFPAC (file 777, document 20):

X X X

"a. xxx Major Ralph B. Praeger was captured on June 1943 xxx all aforementioned officers were placed in Fort Santiago. According to the information of the undersigned gained thru intelligence operatives who were working in Fort Santiago, all of the above mentioned officers were Court Martialed and executed simultaneously along with certain other officers xxx on or about November 1, 1943.

b. As the execution was held secretly, the only information as to the place of execution and burial is rumor. However consistent rumors placed the execution as well as the burial at the Chinese Cemetery, Manila, P. I. "

c. Extract from affidavit of Emmett F. Ellis (civilian), dated 14 February 1945 (file 201-Ellis, Emmett F.):

TUC  
MORIAL MORGAN X X X

"19. xxx Maj. Praeger, also of the guerrillas, was

Exhibit A





Ltr GHQ, AFPAC, APO 500 to TAG, AG File 704.5 (D) (20 Sep 45)  
AG-KI, SR & D No. 897

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE OF RECORD IN THIS HEADQUARTERS PERTAINING  
TO STATUS OF Major Ralph B. Praeger, ASN O-21185: (con't)

captured by the Japanese and tried. It is believed he was  
executed."

3. There is only one individual listed as Praeger, Ralph  
B., in the War Department casualty listing as of 7 December 1941.

4. In the absence of a conclusive date of death it is  
presumed that subject individual was killed in action (summarily  
killed by Japanese) on 1 November 1943, the last specific date  
mentioned in the evidence on which he could reasonably be pre-  
sumed to have been alive, there being nothing in conflict there-  
with.

5. Further evidence in the files of this headquarters which  
substantiates the above, but has not been extracted because of  
its cumulative character is as follows:

a. Check Sheet from AG-Casualty (Rear USAFFE) To: G-2,  
USAFFE, 29 March 1945 (file 201-Moses, Martin).

b. File 501-1-14, page 220, Japanese Military Prison  
Records.

c. File 1000-2-8, page 1165, Japanese Military Pri-  
son Records.

d. Notes of Captain Thomas S. Jones, dated 17 February  
1945 (file 201-Jones, Thomas S.).

100-2-8  
100-2-8  
100-2-8

Exhibit A

LET HQ, AFPA, APO 900 to TAG, AG File 704.2 (D) (29 SEP 47)  
AG-KI, SR & D No.

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE OF RECORD IN THIS HEADQUARTERS PERTAINING  
TO STATUS OF MAJOR RALPH H. HANCOCK, USA (Ret.) (cont.)

captured by the Japanese and tried. It is believed he was  
executed."

3. There is only one individual listed as HANCOCK, Ralph  
H., in the War Department casualty listing as of 7 December 1941.

4. In the absence of a conclusive date of death it is  
assumed that MAJOR RALPH HANCOCK was killed in action (eventually  
killed by Japanese) on 7 November 1941, the last available date  
mentioned in the evidence on which he could reasonably be pre-  
sumed to have been alive, there being nothing in conflict there-  
with.

5. Further evidence in the files of this headquarters which  
substantiates the above, but has not been extracted because of  
its cumulative character is as follows:

a. Index sheet from 10-20-41 (less HANCOCK) for 0-2,  
USAF, 22 March 1942 (File 201-2000, HANCOCK).

b. File 201-1-54, page 250, Japanese Military History  
Records.

c. File 1000-2-8, page 1166, Japanese Military His-  
tory Records.

d. Notes of Captain Thomas G. Jones, dated 17 February  
1945 (File 201-2000, Index 2).

TUC  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MAR 29 1950  
MEM. DIV. COMG  
Exhibit A

AG 201 Praeger, Ralph B.  
FC-O 309001

12 November 1945

*Mayo*

Mrs. Verda A. Praeger

Clafin, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Praeger:

It is with profound regret that I inform you of the death of your husband, Major Ralph B. Praeger, 021185, Cavalry, (Philippine Scout), who was previously reported missing in action in the Philippine Islands from the date of the surrender of Corregidor, 7 May 1942.

An official message has now been received which states that he was killed in action on 1 November 1943 in Manila, Philippine Islands.

I realize the great suspense you have endured during this unfortunately long period and now, the finality to those hopes which you have cherished for his safety. Although little may be said or done at this time to alleviate your grief, it is my fervent hope that later the knowledge that he gave his life for his country may be of sustaining comfort to you.

I extend my profound sympathy in your bereavement.

Sincerely yours,

*Edward F. Witsell*

EDWARD F. WITSELL  
Major General  
Acting The Adjutant General of the Army

1 Inclosure  
WD Pamphlet No. 20-15



COPIES CARD SENT

*Mayo*

28

12 November 1950

12-0 100001  
12-0 100001

Mr. Frank A. Breyer  
Officer, Kansas

Dear Mr. Breyer:

It is with profound regret that I inform you of the death of your husband, Mr. Frank A. Breyer, 2818 1/2 Galloway (Whittier Road), who was previously reported missing in action in the Philippines Islands from the date of the surrender of Corregidor, 7 May 1942.

An official message has now been received which states that he was killed in action on 1 November 1942 in Manila, Philippines Islands.

I realize the great sadness you have endured during this extraordinarily long period and how the family is close to you which you have shared for his safety. Although this may be said or done at this time to alleviate your grief, it is my fervent hope that later the knowledge that he gave his life for his country may be of sustaining comfort to you.

I extend my profound sympathy in your bereavement.

*Signature*

STUART T. WHEELER  
Major General  
Acting The Adjutant General of the Army

I Enclosure  
12-0 100001



OUT  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MAR 29 1950  
MEM. DIV. COMD

8276

BASIC: Ltr fr AGO Mil Pers Div, Cas Br, Inves & Corres Sec,  
Munitions Bldg, Washington 25, D. C., dtd 3 Jan 46  
Subject: Request for Information

GSXRP 201-PRAEGER, Ralph B. 1st Ind  
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES WESTERN PACIFIC  
APO 707, 16 January 1946

TO: The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C.  
Attn: Mil Pers Div, Cas Br, Inves & Corres Sec,  
Capt. L. H. OBEAR

1. A reinvestigation in the case of Major Ralph B. Praeger reveals the following regarding date of death:

a. Extract of affidavit of Private Raysundo Camonayan, ASN 10305133, PS Det, HQ, AFPAC, APO 500 dated 13 March 1945 (201 Camonayan, Raymundo):

"I was caught with Capt. Thomas Jones on Sept. 4, 1943. We were brought to a Japanese garrison in KABUCAG and in there we saw Major Praeger with two Americans and two Filipino. xxx We were to Aparri then to TUGUEGARAO, then to Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya. From Nueva Vizcaya to Manila, Bilibid Prison. Stayed 5 months in Bilibid. From Bilibid Prison we were brought to Fort Santiago, where we stayed one month. Later we transferred to the City Jail and stayed there for about 7 months. On Aug. 19, 1944 we were court martialled by the Japanese and on the 22nd of Aug 1944 Maj Praeger and the two Staff Sergeants (American) were taken out of the City Jail. I do not know where they are now, xxxxxxxx"

b. Extract of affidavit of Edda Bailey Needham, Batong Buhay, Lubuagan, Kalinga, P. I. dated 21 February 1945 (201 Needham, Edda Bailey):

"Major Praeger was captured in Sept 1943 - and according to information executed at Fort Santiago in Dec 1944."

201 - PRAEGER, Ralph B.

TKC  
NO. 111  
029123  
1946 JAN 16

SECRET - SECURITY INFORMATION  
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SOI - BRUNGER, 2510p B.

OUT  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MAR 29 1950  
MEM. DIV. COMC

BASIC: Ltr fr AGO Mil Pers Div, Cas Br, Inves & Corres Sec,  
Munitions Bldg, Washington 25, D. C., dtd 3 Jan 46  
Subject: Request for Information

2. From the foregoing it would appear that death  
occurred subsequent to 22 August 1944 and possibly as late  
as December 1944.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

G. W. BUTLER  
Major, Inf  
Actg Ass't Adj Gen

Incl: w/d

TO: SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000) FROM: SAC, PHOENIX (100-100000) (P)  
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

Re Phoenix teletype to New York dated 1/28/50 and New York teletype to Phoenix dated 1/28/50.

Enclosed for New York are two copies of a letterhead memorandum dated 1/28/50.

Very truly yours,  
[Illegible Signature]

[Illegible]

OUT  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MAR 29 1950  
MEM. DIV. COMD



HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES WESTERN PACIFIC

PRAEGER, RALPH B.  
O-21185

APO 707  
26 November 1945

Mr. Herman A. Praeger,  
Claflin, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Praeger:

Permit me to extend to you my heartfelt sympathy for the loss of your son, Major Ralph B. Praeger, O-21185, who died in action against the enemy on the 1st of November, 1943, at Manila, Philippine Islands.

I regret to say that little is known of the actual details surrounding his death. Because of the military situation at the time, the records kept were of necessity meager. However, we do know that he was buried on Luzon, Philippine Islands.

Anything I can say is scant consolation to you in your grief. It is my fervent hope that later, the knowledge that his courage and sacrifices contributed to the final victory may be of sustaining comfort to you.

Very truly yours,

R. E. CAMBRILL  
Major, AGD  
Asst Adj Gen

201-PRAEGER, RALPH B.

RECEIVED  
NOV 28 1945  
HEADQUARTERS  
WESTERN PACIFIC  
ARMY FORCES

HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY POWERS RECOVERY OFFICE

100 107  
26 November 1950

FORWARD, LIAISON  
C-2112

Mr. William A. ...  
Officer, Kansas

Dear Mr. ...

Permit me to extend to you my heartfelt sympathy for the loss of your son, Major Ralph S. ... O-2112, who died in action against the enemy on the 1st of November, 1950, at Manila, Philippine Islands.

I regret to say that little is known of the actual details surrounding his death. Because of the military situation at the time, the records kept were of necessity meager. However, we do know that he was buried on Manila, Philippine Islands.

Anything I can say in recent conversation to you in your regard. It is my fervent hope that the knowledge that his courage and sacrifice contributed to the final victory may be of sustaining comfort to you.

Very truly yours,

R. R. ...  
Major, USA  
Head of ...

501-111-105  
WILLIAM ...

OUT  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MAR 29 1950  
MEM. DIV. COMD

2 Corr. Report  
Orig fwded 14 Nov 45

**WAR DEPARTMENT**  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.  
Special P. I. Case

*Not A.C.*

DATE 3 Apr 1946 *gs*

REPORT OF DEATH

FULL NAME Praeger, Ralph B.		ARMY SERIAL NUMBER 021185	GRADE Major
HOME ADDRESS Claflin, Kansas		ARM OR SERVICE CAV	DATE OF BIRTH 7 Apr 1914
PLACE OF DEATH Pacific Area	CAUSE OF DEATH Killed in action		DATE OF DEATH 31 Dec 1944
STATION OF DECEASED Pacific Area	DATE OF ENTRY ON CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE 14 June 1938		LENGTH OF SERVICE FOR PAY PURPOSES YEARS MONTHS DAYS

EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE (Name, relationship, and address)  
Mr. Herman A. Praeger, father, Claflin, Kansas

BENEFICIARY (Name, relationship, and address)  
Mrs. Verda Ames, Praeger, wife, same as above  
Miss Gwenneth Praeger, sister, Claflin, Kansas

INVESTIGATION MADE		IN LINE OF DUTY		OWN MISCONDUCT		WAS DECEASED ON DUTY STATUS		AUTHORIZED ABSENCE		IN FLYING PAY STATUS		OTHER PAY STATUS (Specify below)	
YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
											<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

ADDITIONAL DATA AND/OR STATEMENT  
Beneficiaries Cont'd  
Mr. Dirk Praeger, nephew, same as above

\* 2 Corr. Rpt for relationship of beneficiary. Previously reported father.  
~~Original relationship was...~~

The individual named in this report is shown by the records of the War Department to have been in a beleaguered status from 8 December 1941 to and including 6 May 1942 (Section 14, Public Law 490), and absent in a missing in action status on and subsequent to 7 May 1942 and until absence was terminated on 8 November 1945, on which date evidence considered sufficient to establish the fact of death was received by the Secretary of War from a Commander in the Pacific Area.

**CORRECTED COPY**

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR  
*Marie O. Kelly*  
ADJUTANT GENERAL

*[Faint, illegible typed text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*

RECEIVED COPY

OUT  
 PENTAGON LIAISON  
 MAR 29 1950  
 MEM. DIV. COMG

EMC/erb

AGFC-G 201 Praeger, Ralph B.  
(28 Feb 46) 021185

4 April 1946

Mrs. Verda A. Praeger  
1144 Louisiana Street  
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Praeger:

I have received your letter of 28 February 1946, in which you request that the name of your son be included in the records of your husband, Major Ralph B. Praeger, who was killed in action on 31 December 1944, in the Philippine Islands.

The name of your son, Ralph B. Praeger, Jr., is shown in your husband's records in this office and I am forwarding a copy of your communication to the Administrator of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C., and also to the Office of Special Settlement Accounts, 27 Pine Street, New York 5, New York, for appropriate attention.

You and your son have my deepest sympathy in your bereavement.

Sincerely yours,



*seni*  
EDWARD F. WITSELL  
Major General  
The Adjutant General of the Army

Casualty File Copy.

KORC-2-201 Proctor, Ralph B.  
(28 Nov 48) (02118)

4 April 1948

Mrs. Verda A. Proctor  
1144 Louisiana Street  
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Proctor:

I have received your letter of 28 February 1948, in which you request that the name of your son be included in the records of your husband, Major Ralph B. Proctor, who was killed in action on 31 December 1944, in the Philippine Islands.

The name of your son, Ralph B. Proctor, Jr., is shown in your husband's records in this office and I am forwarding a copy of your communication to the Administrator of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C., and also to the Office of Special Settlement Accounts, 27 Pine Street, New York 2, New York, for appropriate attention.

You and your son have my deepest sympathy in your bereavement.

Sincerely yours,

ERWARD F. MURPHY  
Major General  
The Adjutant General of the Army



OUT  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MAR 28 1950  
MEM. DIV. QCMO

P

BASIC: Ltr, Hqs, The Ground General School Center, Fort Riley, Kans, dated 5 December 1946, subject: Decoration for Major Ralph Praeger, O-21185.

AG 201-~~PRAEGER~~, Ralph 5th Ind.  
(5 Dec 46)AG-PA

GHQ. A. I. AG  
24 FEB 1947  
AG 201

BDC/lvc

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COMMAND, APO 500, 24 February 1947.

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

1. Attention is invited to 3d Indorsement.
2. No record can be found in General Headquarters, Far East Command, of award of the Distinguished Service Star to Major Ralph Praeger, 021185.

FOR THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:

MAILED 15 9 0 Feb 24 '47 AG:GHQ

1 Incl  
n/c

*NFF*

BEN D. CULETON,  
Lt Col., A.G.D.,  
Asst. Adj. Gen.

AG RECORDS

THE  
RECORDS SECTION  
AG 201  
MILITARY DIVISION

DAVID A. QUINN  
MAY 1950  
NO 501

RECEIVED DA

BARRETT, The Grand General School, Fort Meade, Maryland, dated 2 October 1946, subject: Investigation for Major Ralph Barrett, O-3112.

AS SOI-RECORD, again  
(2-10-46)

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, THE FIRST DEPARTMENT, AND SOI, SA, PENTAGON

FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, Washington 25, D. C.

1. Attention is invited to the following:

2. No record can be found in General Headquarters, First Department, or record of the Dispatched Service for Major Ralph Barrett, O-3112.

FOR THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:

MAILED 13 4 46 1950

EMM B. GILBERTON,  
Lt Col., A.G.S.,  
Asst. Adj. Gen.

1 copy  
VAC

OUT  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MAR 29 1950  
MEM. DIV. COMD



BASIC: Ltr fr Hq, The Ground General School Center, Ft. Riley, Kansas,  
dtd 5 Dec 46, subject: Decoration for Major Ralph Praeger, O-21185.

GSXAD 201-PRAEGER, Ralph 2d Ind.  
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES WESTERN PACIFIC, APO 707, 28 Dec 1946

TO: Chief of Staff, Philippine Army, APO 75

1 Incl: n/c

R. H. D.

BASIC: Ltr fr Hq, The Ground General School Center, Ft. Riley, Kansas,  
dated 5 December 1946, subject: "Decoration for Major Ralph  
Praeger, O-21185.

PAXCI -201-PRAEGER, R (O) 3rd Ind.  
HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE PHILIPPINES, Camp Murphy, Quezon City 3 February 1947

TO: Commanding General, PHILRYCOM, APO 707.

1. For your information, Chapter VI, "The 26th Cavalry PS" of a book  
entitled "GUERRILLA DAYS IN NORTH LUZON" published by the USAFIP, NL (Volck-  
mann's Guerrilla Forces) is hereunder quoted in full:

"CHAPTER VI

THE 26TH CAVALRY, PS

TROOP "C", 26th Cavalry (PS), commanded by Major (then Captain) Ralph  
Praeger, assisted by Lieutenants Jones and Minton, was attached to Colonel  
Horan's command in Baguio at the start of the war. Its mission was to pre-  
vent enemy movement into the mountain Province from across the Ilocos Coast  
via Highway No. 4.

When Col. Horan left Baguio, Praeger went with him as far as Pampango,  
Nueva Vizcaya, where he received permission to leave his command and proceed  
to the Cagayan Valley. Praeger was said to have had a dislike for "brass  
hats" and at this time he already was itching to be on his own.

Praeger proceeded to Aritao, Nueva Vizcaya, and thence to Tuguegarao,  
Cagayan picking a sizeable group of disbanded Philippine Army troops enroute.

At Tuguegarao he raided the newly-occupied Jap airfield in February 1942  
and destroyed a large number of planes and inflicted many casualties upon  
the enemy. Praeger must have had radio contact with Corregidor at this time  
as his Tuguegarao exploit was reported over the Allied news broadcast.

He then proceeded to Aparri. Here he duplicated his Tuguegarao exploit  
on the Jap airfield. By then Minton according to available reports, had  
deserted Praeger's command and went south to join Warner with whom he later  
surrendered.

BASIC: Ltr to HQ, The Ground General School Center, Ft. Riley, Kansas, dated 2 December 1946, subject: "Decoration for Major Ralph Praeger, O-21182."

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES WESTERN PACIFIC, APO 707, 28 Dec 1946  
2d Ind. . . . .  
PAXCI-301-PRAEGER, R (O)

TO: Chief of Staff, Philippine Army, APO 75

I Incl: n/a  
R. H. D.

BASIC: Ltr to HQ, The Ground General School Center, Ft. Riley, Kansas, dated 2 December 1946, subject: "Decoration for Major Ralph Praeger, O-21182."

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE PHILIPPINES, Camp Murphy, Quezon City, 3 February 1947  
3rd Ind. . . . .  
PAXCI-301-PRAEGER, R (O)

TO: Commanding General, PHILIPPINE ARMY, APO 707.

1. For your information, Chapter VI, "The 80th Cavalry PS" of a book entitled "GUERRILLA DAYS IN NORTH LUZON" published by the USAFIP, M (Volok-mann's Guerrilla Forces) is hereunder quoted in full:

"CHAPTER VI

THE 80TH CAVALRY, PS

TROOP "C", 80th Cavalry (PS), commanded by Major (then Captain) Ralph Praeger, assisted by Lieutenants Jones and Minton, was attached to Colonel Horn's command in Baguio at the start of the war. The mission was to prevent enemy movement into the mountains Province from across the Ilocos Coast via Highway No. 1.

When Col. Horn left Baguio, Praeger went with him as far as Pangasinan, Nueva Vizcaya, where he received permission to leave his command and proceed to the Cagayan Valley. Praeger was said to have had a dislike for "press data" and at this time he already was itching to be on his own.

Praeger proceeded to Arayat, Nueva Vizcaya, and thence to Tuguegarao, Cagayan picking a sizable group of disbanded Philippine Army troops enroute.

At Tuguegarao he raided the newly-occupied Japanese airfield in February 1942 and destroyed a large number of planes and inflicted many casualties upon the enemy. Praeger must have had radio contact with Corregidor at this time as his Tuguegarao exploit was reported over the Allied news broadcast.

He then proceeded to Aparri. Here he duplicated his Tuguegarao exploit on the day airfield. By then Minton according to available reports, had deserted Praeger's command and went south to join Warner with whom he later

NOV 2 1950  
MEM. DIV. COMS

Moving his forces to the vicinity of Tuao, Cagayan, Praeger held this area against all enemy attempts to dislodge him for several months. When his units became depleted in number due to casualties, he withdrew to Cabugao, Apayao.

During the latter part of 1942 he was forced back from Cabugao by the enemy, but when the Jap garrison was small enough for him to wipe it out, he immediately reoccupied the town.

Praeger had little, if any communication with other guerrilla units in North Luzon, and for this reason not much of his later activities were definitely known. In early 1943 emissaries from Praeger's headquarters tried to pick up Lt. Colonels Moses and Noble in Benguet to take them up north where they were to contact General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area, over the radio set that Praeger still had in operation.

But the Japs started heavy mopping up operations shortly afterwards, and Moses and Noble were captured in June of 1943. Praeger and Jones were likewise captured in August of the same year.

Following Praeger's capture, his command was pretty well dispersed and its remnants were picked up by Lt-Col. Donald Blackburn in his northward expansion into Apayao and became part of the 11th Infantry, P.A."

2. Pertinent portions of Chapter VII, "The 14th Infantry" of the same book in as far as the decoration for Major Praeger is concerned, are hereby quoted:

"Major Nakar was assigned the line from Balate Pass to Bato Ferry, the Hq and 1st Battalion under Major Enriquez from Bato Ferry to Aparri. on 13 January 1942 the 1st Battalion raided Tuguegarao in conjunction with Praeger's 26th Cavalry (PS) and a few civilian volunteers with splendid results. Not less than 100 Japs were killed and three ground planes were destroyed. The USAFFE headquarters commended and decorated all the officers and men that participated in this raid".

3. These are the only available pieces of information relative to the matter in question.

4. This headquarters is unaware of the existence of any General Orders announcing the award of Distinguished Service Star to the late Major Praeger and that of radio message #496 dated 15 November 1943 referred to in the letter of Major Edward A. Williams to Mrs. Praeger.

FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

PEDRO S. HERNANDO  
Major, AGS  
Asst. Adj. General

Moving his forces to the vicinity of Taso, Cagayan, Prager held this area against all enemy attempts to dislodge him for several months. When his unit became depleted in number due to casualties, he withdrew to Cagayan.

During the latter part of 1942 he was forced back from Cagayan by the enemy. When the Japanese was small enough for him to wipe it out, he immediately recaptured the town.

Prager had little, if any communication with other guerrilla units in North Luzon, and for this reason not much of his later activities were definitely known. In nearly 1943 emissaries from Prager's headquarters tried to pick up Lt. Colonel Moses and Noble in Benguet to take them up north where they were to contact General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area, over the radio set that Prager still had in operation.

But the Japs started heavy mopping up operations shortly afterwards, and Moses and Noble were captured in June of 1943. Prager and Jones were likewise captured in August of the same year.

Following Prager's capture, his command was pretty well dispersed and the remnants were picked up by Lt-Col. Donald Blackburn in his northward expansion into Agaña and became part of the 11th Infantry, P.A.

2. Pertinent portions of Chapter VII, "The 11th Infantry" of the same book in as far as the decoration for Major Prager is concerned, are here-by quoted:

"Major Nakar was assigned the line from Balate Pass to Bato Ferry, the 1st and 2nd Battalions under Major Enriquez from Bato Ferry to Agaña. On 13 January 1942 the 1st Battalion raided Tuguegarao in conjunction with Prager's 20th Cavalry (P) and a few civilian volunteers with splendid results. Not less than 100 Japs were killed and three ground planes were destroyed. The USARF Headquarters commended and decorated all the officers and men that participated in this raid."

3. There are the only available pieces of information relative to the matter in question.

4. This headquarters is unaware of the existence of any General Orders announcing the award of Distinguished Service Star to the late Major Prager and that of radio message WPO dated 12 November 1943 referred to in the letter of Major Edward A. Williams to Mrs. Prager.

FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

PEDRO S. HERRANDO  
Major,  
Asst. Adj. General

U.S. ARMY  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MAR 28 1950  
MEM. DIV.

BASIC: Ltr fr Hq, The Ground General School Center, Ft. Riley, Kansas,  
dated 5 December 1946, subject: "Decoration for Major Ralph  
Praeger, O-21185".

GSEXAD 201-PRAEGER, Ralph (O) 4th Ind. WPM/dv  
HEADQUARTERS, PHILIPPINES-RYUKYUS COMMAND, APO 707 15 FEB 1947

TO: Commander in Chief, Far East, APO 500.

Attention invited to paragraph 4 of preceding indorsement.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

1 Incls n/c

W. P. MOORE  
Lt Col, AGD  
Asst Adj Gen



UC  
WOSALI WOGAT/31  
0201 28 847  
NEW DIV. 500

HASIN for Lt. The Ground School Center, Ft. Riley, Kansas.  
dated 2 December 1946, subject: "Devotion for Major Ralph  
Tracy, D-21187."

W. F. MOORE  
1st Lt. (S) 1st Inf.  
HEADQUARTERS, 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION, AND 707  
15 FEB 1947

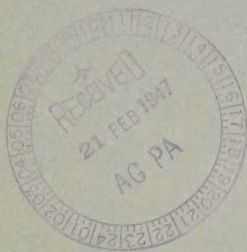
For Commander in Chief, 4th Inf., and 707.

Attention invited to paragraph 4 of preceding memorandum.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

W. F. MOORE  
1st Lt. (S)  
And 1st Gen

1 inch x 6



OUT  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MAR 29 1950  
MEM. DIV. COMD.

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

**-BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT**

AG 201	NAME PRAEGER, RALPH B ASN 021185	GRADE MAJOR <del>XXXXXX</del>	DATE CAS. REPORT RECEIVED 1946 MAR 09 09 20
NAME AND ADDRESS OF E. A.	MR HERMAN A PRAEGER CLAFLIN, KANSAS	FATHER	DATE TELEGRAM SENT

THE INDIVIDUAL NAMED BELOW DESIGNATED THE ABOVE 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.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR HAS ASKED ME TO EXPRESS HIS DEEP REGRET THAT YOUR

GRADE	NAME	SERIAL NUMBER	ARM OR SERVICE	REPORTING THEATRE	FOR STATUS	SHIPMENT NUMBER
MAJOR	PRAEGER, RALPH B.	021185	CAV		2	067067 U-1X
TYPE OF CASUALTY		PLACE OF CASUALTY	DATE OF CASUALTY			CASUALTY CODE
KILLED IN ACTION		IN PHILIPPINE ISLANDS	31	DEC	44	

#3 E-5  
Hager

REMARKS: AG 201 /28 FEB 46/  CORRECTED COPY

MEMO SR AND D SECT APPROVED ACTING CHIEF, CAS BR. SOURCE OF INFO. 1ST. IND. USAF WES PAC. 16 JAN 46 PROCESS FOR CORRECTED DATE OF DEATH. PREVIOUSLY RPTD AS 1 NOV 43 BASED ON RPT USAF PAC SPECIAL PI 221, DTD 25 SEPT 45. PLACE - MANILA. EA. MR. HERMAN A. PRAEGER, FATHER, CLAFLIN, KANSAS. NOTIFICATION WILL BE MADE BY SR AND D.

Corr.  
Noted in certification Report of death issued 18 Mar 1946 gs

ACTION BY COMPOSITE SECTION: REPORT VERIFIED	FORM 43	AG 201 REG	7 Mar 46
CASUALTY BRANCH FILE ATTACHED	OR CHARGED TO	DATE	
PREVIOUSLY REPORTED	NO	YES	(AS INDICATED BELOW):
FILE NO.	MESSAGE NO.	TYPE	DATE AND AREA
Ag 704/2 nm. 45	200001/2-0-1X	MIA	1 Jan 43 Pac
FORWARDED TO	SPEC. DEL.	C. & P.	TELEGRAM
	LETTER	CERTIF.	F. REL.
	CORRES.	REP.	NON-DEL.
REPORT NOT VERIFIED	NO FORM 43	NO CAS. BR. FILE	CHECKED BY
			Reviewed by
DISTRIBUTION "A" <input type="checkbox"/>	COPIES	DISTRIBUTION "B" <input type="checkbox"/>	COPIES
WD AGO FORM 0365	1 MAY 1945	EDITION OF 1 JAN. 1945 MAY BE USED.	

11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18  
 ▲  
 REC'D  
 MAR 28 1946  
 Organized Reserve Gr.  
 Hq. 7th SC

OUT  
 PENTAGON LIAISON  
 MAR 29 1950  
 MEM. DIV. OQMS



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

-BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT

NAME <b>Praeger, Ralph</b>		SERIAL NUMBER <b>021186</b>	GRADE <b>Capt.</b>	ARM OR SERVICE	REPORTING THEATRE
PLACE OF CASUALTY <b>SWP</b>	DATE OF CASUALTY DAY MONTH YEAR -- -- --		FLYING OR JUMPING STAT	TYPE OF CASUALTY <b>MIA*</b>	SHIPMENT NUMBER <b>319116-S-1</b>

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 <b>Mr. H. A. Praeger</b>	RELATIONSHIP <b>Father</b>	DATE NOTIFIED <b>22 Nov 44</b>
NO. AND NAME OF STREET—CITY—STATE <b>Claflin, Kans as.</b>		

REMARKS: AG 704 (14 Nov 44)  CORRECTED COPY

Memo from Mail & Msg. Section, \*notify EA that unofficial and unconfirmed rpt of falling into hands of the enemy has been rec'd; that pending confirmation rpt from Japanese Govt. the official status of MIA will not be changes.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION. PUBLICIZING THIS REPORT WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE BEST INTEREST OF THIS COUNTRY AND MIGHT JEOPARDIZE THE SAFETY OF OTHER PERSONNEL.

AG 201( )-----

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

FORWARDED TO  SPEC. IDEN.  TELEGRAM  WOUNDED  LETTER  CORRES.  S. R. & D.  CERTIF.  M. & M.  NON-DEL.

REPORT NOT VERIFIED \_\_\_\_\_ NO FORM 43 \_\_\_\_\_ NO CAS. BR. FILE \_\_\_\_\_ CHECKED BY \_\_\_\_\_ REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_

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.			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

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COPIES FURNISHED: SEE CASUALTY BRANCH MEMORANDUM NO. 48, 1944.

DISTRIBUTION "B"  \_\_\_\_\_ COPIES  
(ALL WOUNDED MILITARY PERSONNEL AND ALL TYPES OF CASUALTIES PERTAINING TO CIVILIANS WHO ARE W. D. EMPLOYEES, EMPLOYEES OF W. D. CONTRACTORS AND OTHERS SUBJECT TO MILITARY LAW.)  
COPIES FURNISHED: SEE CASUALTY BRANCH MEMORANDUM NO. 48, 1944.

RECEIVED  
27 NOV 1944  
RECORD SECTION  
OFFICE OF THE  
A. G. S.

OUT  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MAR 29 1950  
MEM. DIV. OQMO

24

WAR DEPARTMENT  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.  
—BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT

AG 201	NAME PRAEGER RALPH B ASN O 21185	GRADE MAJ SON	DATE CAS. REPORT RECEIVED NOV 8 1945
NAME AND AD. DRESS OF E. A.	HERMAN A PRAEGER CIAFLIN KANSAS		EVIDENCE OF DEATH REC'D IN W.S. TELEGRAM SENT 8 NOVEMBER 1945

THE INDIVIDUAL NAMED BELOW DESIGNATED THE ABOVE PERSON AS THE ONE TO BE NOTIFIED IN CASE OF EMERGENCY. 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.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR HAS ASKED ME TO EXPRESS HIS DEEP REGRET THAT YOUR SON

GRADE	NAME	SERIAL NUMBER	ARM OR SERVICE	REPORTING THEATRE	F OR J STATUS	SHIPMENT NUMBER
MAJ	PRAEGER RALPH B. WAS	O-21185	CAV	PAC		509001 12-U-1 X
TYPE OF CASUALTY		PLACE OF CASUALTY		DATE OF CASUALTY		CASUALTY CODE
KILLED IN ACTION		IN PHILIPPINE ISLANDS		1	NOV	43

HE WAS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING IN ACTION PERIOD I REGRET THAT UNAVOIDABLE CIRCUMSTANCES MADE NECESSARY THE UNUSUAL LAPSE OF TIME IN REPORTING YOUR SON'S DEATH TO YOU CONFIRMING LETTER FOLLOWS

EDWARD F WITSELL  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

ACTING

REMARKS: AG 704 (2 NOV 45)  CORRECTED COPY

PLACE: MANILA. EA MR HERMAN A. PRAEGER (FATHER) CIAFLIN KANSAS. SOURCE: LTR THOS HQ AG 704.5 (D) (20 SEP 45) AG-KI SR & D NO 897 DTD 20 SEPT 45. PROMOTED TO MAJ 12 JAN 43 PER SP O NO 11 GEN HQ. SWPA DTD 12 JAN 43. (26th CAV REGT /PS/)

SPECIAL PI CASE TELEGRAM AND LETTER WILL BE SENT PROJECT J

ACTION BY COMPOSITE 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
		M	7-5-42	6-2-42

FORWARDED TO:  SPEC. IDEN.  C. & F.  TELEGRAM  LETTER  CERTIF.  F. BEL.  CORRES.  REPAT.  S. R. & D.  NON-DEL.

REPORT NOT VERIFIED  NO FORM 43  NO CAS. BR. FILE  CHECKED BY *Marked 8/10/45* REVIEWED BY *W. J. ...*

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WD AGO FORM 0365 1 MAY 1945 EDITION OF 1 JAN. 1945 MAY BE USED.



OUT  
 PENTAGON LIAISON  
 MAR 29 1950  
 MEM. DIV. COMG

CASUALTY BRANCH  
STATUS REVIEW AND DETERMINATION SECTION

REVIEW AND DETERMINATION UNDER  
SECTION 5, PUBLIC LAW 490,  
7 MARCH 42  
AS AMENDED

STATUS  
OF

COLONEL GYLES MERRILL  
AND FORTY-EIGHT OTHERS  
MISSING IN PHILIPPINE ISLANDS  
SINCE 7 MAY 1942

SR+D #66

TSC  
HONOLULU  
DEPT. OF DEFENSE  
MAY 1950

COPY

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

SECRET  
TO

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

25-4-52

OUT  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MAR 28 1950  
MEM. DIV. COMD

1188

AG 704 Missing (10 June 43)

7 May 43

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Casualty Branch

SUBJECT: Determination of Status under Public Law 490,  
as amended.

## I. - FACTS

1. The following named persons have been carried on the records of this office as missing in action since 7 May 1943:

<u>Name</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Classified Message Number</u>
Anderson, Bernard L.	O-360167	Captain	071114
Arnac, Charles	13,026,989	Private	346086
Arnold, Robert H.	O-358092	Major	071114
Barker, Joseph R., II	O-21155	Captain	071114
Blackburn, Donald D.	O-367228	Captain	071114
Brasher, Alfred Y.	14,006,373	Private First Class	064045
Brazelton, Earl J., Jr.	19,048,775	Private First Class	346086
Calvert, Parker	O-20794	Captain	071114
Calyer, Peter D.	O-17116	Lieutenant Colonel	071114
Chimielewski, Edward A.	6,946,641	Private First Class	064045
Crane, George E.	O-349760	Captain	071114
Cushing, Walter M.	O-890361	Captain	071114
Darcy, William A.	16,039,346	Private	071114
Dean, Bill	6,968,450	Sergeant	064045
Fernandez, Alfred	6,517,769	Technical Sergeant	092032
Forte, Floyd F.	O-19518	Major	053059
Glew, Errol T.	11,010,492	Private	346086
Heib, Harley F.	6,825,281	Sergeant	071114
Kalakulka, Theodore	O-16841	Lieutenant Colonel	071114
Kirby, Albert R.	6,291,177	Sergeant	092032
LeElang, Thomas J.	14,014,932	Private First Class	064045
Lage, Wilbur J.	O-379113	Captain	071114
Lapham, Robert E.	O-379114	First Lieutenant	071114
Lindahl, George L.	O-353, 124	Captain	064045
Mackie, Dave V.	14,026,214	Private	346086
Maguire, William H.	O-018818	Lieutenant Colonel	071114
McIntyre, James E.	6,682,459	Master Sergeant	092032
Money, Willard L.	6,998,768	Private First Class	092032
Moses, Martin	O-16924	Lieutenant Colonel	071114
Murphy, Arthur P.	O-334755	First Lieutenant	071114

- 1 -

COPY

7 May 50

AS THE MATTER (TO THE)

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Security Branch

SUBJECT: Detention of Status under Public Law 400 as amended.

I. - NAME

1. The following names persons have been carried on the records of this office as being in action since 7 May 1950:

Classification	Rank	Serial	Name
CONFIDENTIAL	Colonel	0-10000	Anderson, Bernard H.
CONFIDENTIAL	Private	12,000,000	Armed, Charles
CONFIDENTIAL	Major	0-30000	Arnold, Robert H.
CONFIDENTIAL	Captain	0-10000	Barker, Joseph A. II
CONFIDENTIAL	Captain	0-20000	Beckham, Donald D.
CONFIDENTIAL	Private First Class	12,000,000	Becker, Alfred T.
CONFIDENTIAL	Private First Class	12,000,000	Brockton, Carl J. Jr.
CONFIDENTIAL	Captain	0-10000	Butler, Robert
CONFIDENTIAL	Lieutenant Colonel	0-10000	Butler, Robert D.
CONFIDENTIAL	Private First Class	12,000,000	Christiansen, Edward A.
CONFIDENTIAL	Captain	0-20000	Dunn, George E.
CONFIDENTIAL	Captain	0-30000	Goodman, Walter H.
CONFIDENTIAL	Private	12,000,000	Harvey, William A.
CONFIDENTIAL	Sergeant	8,000,000	Hess, Bill
CONFIDENTIAL	Technical Sergeant	8,000,000	Johnson, Edward
CONFIDENTIAL	Major	0-10000	Jordan, Robert T.
CONFIDENTIAL	Private	12,000,000	Law, Joseph T.
CONFIDENTIAL	Sergeant	8,000,000	Leis, Joseph T.
CONFIDENTIAL	Lieutenant Colonel	0-10000	Malina, Gordon
CONFIDENTIAL	Sergeant	8,000,000	Miller, Albert E.
CONFIDENTIAL	Private First Class	12,000,000	Molano, James J.
CONFIDENTIAL	Captain	0-20000	Moore, William A.
CONFIDENTIAL	Private First Class	12,000,000	Nelson, Robert H.
CONFIDENTIAL	Captain	0-20000	Nichols, George H.
CONFIDENTIAL	Private	12,000,000	Nichols, Dave V.
CONFIDENTIAL	Lieutenant Colonel	0-10000	North, William H.
CONFIDENTIAL	Master Sergeant	8,000,000	Palmer, James H.
CONFIDENTIAL	Private First Class	12,000,000	Parry, William H.
CONFIDENTIAL	Lieutenant Colonel	0-10000	Reese, Robert
CONFIDENTIAL	First Lieutenant	0-20000	Reese, Robert T.

OUT  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MAR 29 1950  
MEM. DIV. CQMO

- 1 -  
L.S.L.



7 May 53

AD JOE MESSER (10 June 53)

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Security Branch

SUBJECT: Detention of Status under Public Law 400 as amended.

I. - 1950

I. The following names persons have been carried on the records of this office as being in action since 7 May 1953:

Serial	Rank	Name	Serial	Rank	Name
01114	Private	Wright, William	01114	Private	Wright, William
01115	Private	Wright, William	01115	Private	Wright, William
01116	Private	Wright, William	01116	Private	Wright, William
01117	Private	Wright, William	01117	Private	Wright, William
01118	Private	Wright, William	01118	Private	Wright, William
01119	Private	Wright, William	01119	Private	Wright, William
01120	Private	Wright, William	01120	Private	Wright, William
01121	Private	Wright, William	01121	Private	Wright, William
01122	Private	Wright, William	01122	Private	Wright, William
01123	Private	Wright, William	01123	Private	Wright, William
01124	Private	Wright, William	01124	Private	Wright, William
01125	Private	Wright, William	01125	Private	Wright, William
01126	Private	Wright, William	01126	Private	Wright, William
01127	Private	Wright, William	01127	Private	Wright, William
01128	Private	Wright, William	01128	Private	Wright, William
01129	Private	Wright, William	01129	Private	Wright, William
01130	Private	Wright, William	01130	Private	Wright, William
01131	Private	Wright, William	01131	Private	Wright, William
01132	Private	Wright, William	01132	Private	Wright, William
01133	Private	Wright, William	01133	Private	Wright, William
01134	Private	Wright, William	01134	Private	Wright, William
01135	Private	Wright, William	01135	Private	Wright, William
01136	Private	Wright, William	01136	Private	Wright, William
01137	Private	Wright, William	01137	Private	Wright, William
01138	Private	Wright, William	01138	Private	Wright, William
01139	Private	Wright, William	01139	Private	Wright, William
01140	Private	Wright, William	01140	Private	Wright, William
01141	Private	Wright, William	01141	Private	Wright, William
01142	Private	Wright, William	01142	Private	Wright, William
01143	Private	Wright, William	01143	Private	Wright, William
01144	Private	Wright, William	01144	Private	Wright, William
01145	Private	Wright, William	01145	Private	Wright, William
01146	Private	Wright, William	01146	Private	Wright, William
01147	Private	Wright, William	01147	Private	Wright, William
01148	Private	Wright, William	01148	Private	Wright, William
01149	Private	Wright, William	01149	Private	Wright, William
01150	Private	Wright, William	01150	Private	Wright, William

OUT  
 PENTAGON LIAISON  
 MAR 29 1950  
 MEM. DIV. OQMO

- 1 -  
 X.X.X.

AG 704 MISSING (10 June 43)

<u>Name</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Classified Message Number</u>
Merrill, Cyles	O-7402	Colonel	071114
Naylor, Chabres L.	O-392851	Second Lieutenant	071114
Newman, Shelby F.	O-361381	Captain	071114
Noble, Arthur K.	O-17780	Lieutenant Colonel	071114
Peryan, William G.	O-890375	Captain	028024
Pettitt, Bert E.	O-419373	Second Lieutenant	071114
Pinnell, George W.	O-289400	Captain	071114
Praeager, Ralph B.	O-21185	Captain	349086
Ramsay, Edwin P.	O-368746	First Lieutenant	071114
Schragel, Edward J.	33,084,581	Private	071114
Spies, George J.	O-360987	Captain	071114
Strickland, Albert E.	14,006,490	Private First Class	071114
Taulbee, Miles A.	6,871,460	First Sergeant	071114
Thorp, Claude A.	O-15101	Lieutenant Colonel	355104
Vesey, Robert Hale	O-12217	Lieutenant Colonel	071114
Volckmann, Russell W.	O-19537	Major	071114
Wightman, Darrell M.	6,931,160	Corporal	071114
Wilson, Roy W.	6,454,520	Master Sergeant	064045
Brooks, William H.	19,048,351	Sergeant	355104 (1)

2. The classified message number, set opposite each name above, is the number of a message on file in the Classified Message Unit, Mail and Message Section, Casualty Branch, A.G.O., concerning the person named. (2)

3. That each of these persons was serving in the Philippine Islands before the fall of Corregidor may be readily ascertained by reference to their individual AG and Casualty Branch 201 files. (3)

4. The classified messages bear dates ranging from December 1942 to April 1943 and, in each instance, are shown to have been received from high-ranking Army officers in key positions. In no case, however, does the message come directly from the Philippine Islands and each message shows that the contents are based upon radio communications or other secret means used to obtain information concerning personnel in the Philippines.

5. The gist of these messages is that after the fall of Corregidor most of the persons named were known to be alive and not in the hands of the enemy; that some had been reported as having died (no dates or definite time given); and that still others had been reported as killed, either on dates not shown or subsequent to 7 May 1942.

2

COPY

SECRET (S)

Message Number	Origin	Time	Destination
000001	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000002	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000003	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000004	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000005	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000006	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000007	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000008	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000009	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000010	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000011	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000012	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000013	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000014	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000015	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000016	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000017	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000018	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000019	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000020	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000021	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000022	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000023	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000024	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000025	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000026	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000027	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000028	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000029	Manila	0100Z	Washington
000030	Manila	0100Z	Washington

1. The classified message number, set against each row above, is the number of a message on file in the Classified Message Unit, and Message Section, Central Postal Directory, A.C.P., concerning the present message.

2. The date of these messages was varying in the Philippine Islands before the date of departure and is readily ascertainable by reference to their individual file and Central Postal Directory files.

3. The classified message date ranges from December 1949 to April 1950 and, in each instance, are shown to have been received from high-ranking top officials in the Philippines. In no case, however, does the message date directly from the Philippine Islands and each instance shows that the messages are dated from other countries or other areas where need to obtain information concerning personnel in the Philippines.

4. The list of these messages is that after the fall of Government and of the various news items to be given and not in the form of the report that news had been received as having been in files or being given; and that other news items reported as being either in files or news or otherwise in 1950.

SECRET

OUT  
 PENTAGON LIAISON  
 MAR 29 1950  
 MEM. DIV. COMD

## 4 MISSING (10 June 1943)

6. These messages disclose, both by obvious errors and by comments, that the information was collected and transmitted under difficulties that did not permit checking or rechecking for accuracy and that, in some cases, the reports were based upon statements of natives to Army officers.

7. For the purposes of this review and determination it is believed that assertions contained in these messages, while of benefit in fixing a continued missing status, cannot be accepted as establishing necessary facts in any given case sufficient to defeat a continued missing finding; and must, in any event, be treated as hearsay and evaluated accordingly.

8. The records disclose no official report showing any person named in this list as being dead, prisoner of war, or interned in a neutral country.

9. It will be observed, in referring to the messages, that the grades there shown do not, in all cases, correspond with the grades as herein listed. In each such case the grades listed herein are believed to be correct, as determined from the messages and the individual AG and Casualty Branch 201 files, with two exceptions only.

One exception is that Charles Arnao, herein listed as a private, has been determined to be one and the same person as Charles Sarnao, who was appointed a Second Lieutenant, Army of the United States, 27 Jan 43, and assigned ASN O-388466 and carried on the records of the Officers Branch under the name of Charles Sarnao. The other is that Harley F. Keib, herein listed as a sergeant, probably is a First Lieutenant, according to a secret message, the number and reference of which is noted in his ~~SECRET~~ AG 201 file. (4)

10. Visi-card reports from the Casualty Branch records, checked this date, show these persons as missing in action since 7 May 1942.

11. Aside from the references set forth in this statement of facts, the AG 201 files and the Casualty Branch 201 files of these persons contain no information of value in the review and determination of their status.

12. The Machine Records Branch, AGO; the Memorial Branch, Office Quartermaster General; the Prisoner of War Bureau, Provost Marshal General's Office; the Officers Branch, AGO; and the Enlisted Branch, AGO, were requested to report any information available in their offices pertaining to these persons, since they were reported missing in action. Individual reports from these agencies indicate that they have no further information.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

1. The records of the various offices, both by physical means and by computer, that the information was collected and transmitted under this title, in that the records were found upon statements of subject to Army officials.

2. For the purpose of this review and determination it is believed that information contained in these records, files or reports in listing a continuing listing system, cannot be accepted as a continuing listing system in any form whatsoever to obtain a continuing listing system and that, in any event, to transfer or destroy and destroyed accordingly.

3. The records of the various offices, both by physical means and by computer, in this file are being held, without of any or interest in a national security.

4. It will be observed, in referring to the records, that the records were shown to me, in all cases, in connection with the records as listed. It is noted that the records listed herein are believed to be correct, as determined from the records and the individual and generally shown in this file, with the exception of:

One exception is that certain records, herein listed as a private, has been determined to be one and the same person as Charles G. Gandy, who was assigned a Social Security Number of 100-100000000. On 12/14/50, the subject was assigned a Social Security Number of 100-100000000. The records of the various offices under the name of Charles G. Gandy, are listed in this file. This listing is a duplicate of the records of the various offices, according to a review of the records and references of which is noted in the MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR.

5. The records of the various offices, both by physical means and by computer, are being held, without of any or interest in a national security.

6. It is noted that the records of the various offices, both by physical means and by computer, are being held, without of any or interest in a national security.

7. The records of the various offices, both by physical means and by computer, are being held, without of any or interest in a national security.

Y.S.P.

OUT  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MAR 29 1950  
MEM. DIV. 0000

AG 704 MISSING (10 June 43)

7 May 43

## II. - CONCLUSIONS

That the official records disclose no facts sufficient, in the case of any person listed herein, to justify a change of the status of missing in action since 7 May 43 as originally determined, under the provisions of Public Law 490, as amended.

UNIT  
MORALE DIVISION  
OFFICE OF THE  
ADJUTANT GENERAL

4  
COPY

7 MAY 50

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM - 11

That the attached memorandum contains a report of the activities of the Communist Party, U.S.A., in the area of the Washington, D.C., area, during the period from 1945 to 1949. It is requested that you review this report and advise the Director of the results of your review.

OUT  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MAR 29 1950  
MEM. DIV. COMMO

1388

AG 704 MISSING (10 June 43)

7 May 43

## III. - RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that findings of continued missing in action be made in the case of the persons named in paragraph I, Part I, hereof, under the provisions of Section 5, Public Law 490, 7 March 42, as amended.

LEWIS A HASTY,  
Captain, A. G. D.,  
Status Review and Determination Section.

CONCURRED IN:

DANIEL P. POTRETT,  
Lieutenant Colonel, A. G. D.,  
Officer in Charge,  
Status Review and Determination Section.

APPROVED:

C. A. EASTEBROOK,  
Colonel, A. G. D.,  
Chief, Casualty Branch.

5

COPY



7 May 50

AD TO MEMPHIS (10-400-10)

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that findings of continued misdeeds in action be made in the case of the persons named in paragraph I, Part I, below, under the provisions of Section 8, Title 48, U.S.C., 1949, as amended.

LEWIS A. HARTY,  
Captain, A. O. U.S.,  
Special Agent and Investigation Section.

COMPLETED BY:

WALTER T. ROBERTS,  
Lieutenant Colonel, A. O. U.S.,  
Officer in Charge,  
Special Agent and Investigation Section.

APPROVED:

S. A. [Name]  
Colonel, A. O. U.S.,  
Chief, Security Branch.

1342

OUT -  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MAR 29 1950  
MEM. DIV. OCMG

## R E F E R E N C E S

1. Visi-cards - Records Section, Casualty Branch.
2. Classified message numbers: 071114, 028024, 346086, 092032, 355104, 064045, 053059, on file in the Classified Message Unit, Mail and Message Section, Casualty Branch, A.G.O. The office of Colonel J. K. Evans, War Department Military Intelligence Section, Pentagon Building, Washington, D. C., should be contacted for later or more detailed information.
3. AG and Casualty Branch 201 files.
4. Reference AG 201 Arnao, Charles, secret file and AG 201 Charles Sarnao, confidential file.

REC'D  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
WAR DEPT  
MIL DIV

COPY



293 FILE		<b>DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET RECOVERED OR IDENTIFIED</b>			
NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) ✓ <i>Fraeger, Ralph E.,</i>		GRADE ✓ <i>Major</i>		PRESENT SERIAL NUMBER <i>0-21185</i>	
ORGANIZATION ✓ <i>Troop @ 26<sup>th</sup> Cav. W</i>		RACE ✓ <i>W</i>		CREED ✓ <i>not of Record</i>	
DATE OF DEATH/MIA ✓ <i>* 31 Dec 44</i>		CAUSE OF DEATH ✓ <i>KIA</i>		PLACE OF DEATH OR PLACE LAST SEEN IF MIA ✓ <i>Pacific Area</i>	
DATE OF FOD		HEIGHT ✓ <i>79 1/2</i>		WEIGHT ✓ <i>181 1/2</i>	
COLOR EYES ✓ <i>Not of Record</i>		COLOR HAIR ✓ <i>Not of Record</i>		SHOE SIZE ✓ <i>Not of Record</i>	
DENTAL CHART DATE <i>14 June '38</i>					
UPPER RIGHT ✓ <i>X</i> 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1			UPPER LEFT ✓ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 <i>X</i>		
LOWER RIGHT ✓ <i>X</i> 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9			LOWER LEFT ✓ 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 <i>X</i>		
X = Extracted		O = Carious		I = Carious Non-Restorable	
FRACTURES AND/OR BREAKS ✓ <i>None Shown</i>			TATTOOS AND/OR BIRTHMARK ✓ <i>None Shown</i>		
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION <i>* Reported to have been killed in action, Nov. 1st 43</i> <i>No 79s available.</i>					
<p><b>NAT FILE</b>  <i>3/8/50</i>  <i>Lambert</i>  <b>Identification Branch</b></p>					

DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET IDENTIFIED OR IDENTIFIED

NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)		GRADE		BRANCH (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine, Coast Guard)	
ORGANIZATION		REG	COMP	FORMER SERIAL NUMBER (if applicable)	
DATE OF BIRTH		CAUSE OF DEATH		PLACE OF DEATH OR PLACE LAST SEEN (if any)	
DATE OF TOE		WEIGHT		HEIGHT	
COLOR OF EYES		COLOR OF HAIR		SHOE SIZE	
DENTAL CHART					
UPPER RIGHT			UPPER LEFT		
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20			1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20		
LOWER RIGHT			LOWER LEFT		
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20			1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20		
FRACTURES AND/OR BREAKS		T-Teeth		L-Other (See notes)	
TATTOOS AND/OR BIRTHMARKS		ADDITIONAL INFORMATION			

1136  
 1136  
 Identification Group



DATE FORWARDED TO FBI

FORM 100 11 571

<b>NON-RECOVERABLE CASE RECORD OF REVIEW AND APPROVAL</b>		CASE NUMBER <b>11537 (1)</b>
		AREA OR ZONE(S) <b>PHILCOM</b>

NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) <b>PRAEGER, RALPH B.</b>	RANK <b>MAJOR</b>	SERIAL NUMBER <b>0-21185</b>
--	----------------------	---------------------------------

THE ATTACHED PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIELD BOARD OF REVIEW HAVE BEEN REVIEWED AND THE FINDINGS OF NON-RECOVERABILITY OF THE REMAINS OF THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUAL(S) ARE APPROVED. (Corrections in name, rank, and/or serial number have been effected when appropriate.)

INDIVIDUAL CASE

IN THE COURSE OF THIS REVIEW THE FOLLOWING SOURCES OF INFORMATION HAVE BEEN EXAMINED FOR ADDITIONAL CLUES. COPIES OF ANY DOCUMENTS BELIEVED MATERIAL TO THE CASE ARE ATTACHED FOLLOWING THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIELD BOARD OF REVIEW.

1. 293 FILE OF SUBJECT(S)	INITIALS OF ANALYST	(CROSS OUT THOSE NOT APPLICABLE)	INITIALS OF ANALYST
	<i>amc</i>	2. a. REPORT OF DEATH b. FINDING OF DEATH c. STATUS REVIEW & DETERMINATION	<i>amc</i>
3. A - Z FILE OF KNOWN INTERMENTS IN U.S. MILITARY CEMETERIES, ISOLATED LOCATIONS, AND SEA BURIALS	<i>amc</i>	4. GEOGRAPHICAL CLUE INDEX FILE OF UNKNOWN RECOVERED FROM APPROPRIATE AREA	<i>amc</i>
5. ALPHABETICAL INDEX OF "BELIEVED TO BE" AND TENTATIVELY IDENTIFIED UNKNOWN	<i>amc</i>	6. ALPHABETICAL FILE OF FORMER UNKNOWN NOW IDENTIFIED	<i>amc</i>
7. OTHER DOCUMENTS OR SOURCES			

THE FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE BEEN FOUND TO BE SUBSTANTIALLY AS PRESENTED IN THE ATTACHED PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIELD BOARD OF REVIEW, WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:

NONE

FILE  
 DEC 12 1949  
*Christy*

NAME OF CASE ANALYST <b>A. CARLTON/mec</b>	CASE TO BE FORWARDED TO - - - - FOR CONSIDERATION OF NOTIFICATION TO INTERESTED PARTIES.
---	---

CASE REVIEWER <b>V. A. Thomas</b> B. HALE	RECOMMEND APPROVAL CHIEF, FINAL DETERMINATION SECTION <b>W. R. Deweese, 1st Lt QMC</b>	APPROVED CHIEF, IDENTIFICATION BRANCH <b>G. W. Rogers, Capt QMC</b>	DATE <b>6 Dec 49</b>
---	--	---	-------------------------

Form with faint text and grid lines, possibly a document or report. The text is mostly illegible due to fading and bleed-through. There are two punch holes at the top of the page.



11537

HEADQUARTERS  
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE  
PHILCOM ZONE

OCT 5 1949

APO 900  
15 September 1949

CASE HISTORY FOR REMAINS CONSIDERED NON-RECOVERABLE

✓ PRAEGER, Ralph B.  
Maj. O-21 185

BASIS FOR DECLARING REMAINS NON-RECOVERABLE

1. According to available information on the attached extract copy of AG RD Archives Reference File No. 999-5-13-3, Maj. Ralph B. Praeger, O-21 185, was taken from the Military Prison Camp, Bilibid, Manila, Philippine Islands on 5 Jan 44, destination unknown.
2. All available information pertaining to the case is attached as substantiating information.
3. The final area search of the City of Manila, Philippine Islands, was completed with negative results relative to the recovery of the remains of Major Praeger. Identification data for all applicable unknowns recovered from this area has been checked against those of the subject casualty with negative results.
4. No record of burial is on file for subject officer.
5. Findings and recommendations are based on all presently available information.
6. It is recommended that the remains of the subject officer be considered non-recoverable, and that all records pertaining to search and recovery of his remains be closed.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL: 15 September 1949

*Wilbur G. Hobbs*  
WILBUR G. HOBBS  
1st Lt. Inf  
O-887 555  
Member

*John Szypula*  
JOHN SZYPULA  
1st Lt. Inf  
O-1 307 091  
Member

*Harold B. McNemar*  
HAROLD B. McNEMAR  
Capt. QMC  
O-507 074  
Member

*Incl 3*



HEADQUARTERS  
 AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE  
 PHILCOM ZONE

GRPZ

APO 900  
 13 July 1949.

SPECIAL ORDER  
 NUMBER 82

## 1. EXTRACT

2. In accordance with ltr Hqs OTAG file AGAO-S 293.9 (27 Mar 47) D-M, Subject "Establishment of Boards of Review for Identification of Unknown Dead Overseas", CINCPAC radio CX59238 dtd 18 March 48 and par 59 h, TM 10-281, the following Officers, 8131st Sv Unit AGRS-PZ, APO 900, are aptd as Board of Officers for the purpose of reviewing and acting upon all cases referred to the Board pertaining to identity of unknown remains, finalizing disinterment discrepancy reports, and to review and determine in all cases, from evidence presented, the non-recoverability of remains referred to the Board within the PHILCOM Zone, AGRS:

MEMBERS OF BOARD

Major	Eles L. Tyler	O-324330	Inf
Major	Glenn A. Lee	O-23792	Cav
Capt	Harold B. McNemar	O-507074	QMC
1st Lt.	Wilbur G. Hobbs	O-887555	Inf
1st Lt.	John Shypula	O-1307091	Inf

BY ORDER OF MAJOR TYLER:

OFFICIAL:

JOHN SHYPULA  
 1st Lt., Inf  
 Adjutant

*John Shypula*  
 JOHN SHYPULA  
 1st Lt., Inf  
 Adjutant

DISTRIBUTION

"A"



File: 999-5-13-3

Title: Roster, alphabetically, listing Army and Navy Personnel and Disposition.

Origin: Cabanatuan POW Camp

Dates: 1942-43-45 Classification:

Authenticity: Original roster, unsigned

Source: Unknown

*	*	*	*	*
PREGER, Ralph		Maj	26th Cav	Taken fr Mil Prison, Bilibid 1/5/44 - destination unknown
*	*	*	*	*

CERTIFIED: A True Extracted Copy

*Wilbur G. Hobbs*  
 WILBUR G. HOBBS  
 1st Lt., Inf

AFFIDAVIT

5 March 1946

I, Ignaci@ Santos, of age, married, and a resident of Manila, employed as caretaker of the Chinese Cemetery, Manila, Philippines, hereby deposes and say:

That I remained on duty as caretaker during the Japanese occupation;

That I witnessed executions in the premissis of the Chinese Cemetery as I usually contrived to be working nearby whenever the Japanese brought persons to be executed;

That the reason I did the foregoing was because I wanted to observe what was happening and to recognize any of the persons to be executed;

That one day in the latter part of October 1943, at about noontime; I was working near the Matandang Sora road about 200 meter from the gate to the cemetery, a Japanese truck drove in with about eight or nine prisoners composed of both Americans and Filipinos. The heads of the men were covered with a "bayong" (native bags of woven palm leaves.) I followed and when the truck stopped I hid behind a monument about 70 yards away. The prisoners were lined up and the bayons removed, and I was able to recognize a strong resemblance of one of the prisoners to Col. Straughn, of whom I read in a Japanese pictorial magazine carrying the colonel's picture. He was wearing an old army campaign hat. A Japanese officer with an arm band, read something to them, after which the bags were again put on the heads of the prisoners. The man who looked like Col. Straughn did not want to be covered. There were about five Americans in the group. They were taken to the side of a big open grave and then six Japanese soldiers shot them. Those that showed some life remaining were beheaded. The bodies were then rudely kicked into the grave after which the opening was covered with soil;

That I clearly remember the foregoing as it was the only party where there were Americans included;

Further affiant sayeth not.

/s/ Ignacio Santos  
/t/ IGNACIO SANTOS

SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF:

/s/ C. F. Brian \_\_\_\_\_

/s/ E. Farkas \_\_\_\_\_

A TRUE COPY:  
*William H. Pinnell*  
WILLIAM H. PINNELL  
WOJG USA

CASUALTY REPORT  
(BATTLE- DEATH)HQS, PHILRYCOM, APO 707  
AG-Recovered Personnel Division  
Date: 25 September 1945

1. Name: PRAEGER, Ralph B. Grade: Major ASN: O-21185  
 Arm or Service: CAV Organization: 26th Cav Regt (PS)  
 By Whom Employed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (For Civilian Casualties Only)

2. Type of Casualty: Killed in Action

3. Date of Casualty: 1 November 1943 ✓

4. Place of Casualty: Manila, P.I.

5. In Flying Status: Unknown

6. Entitled to Additional Pay For: Unknown

7. Emergency Addressee:  
 Name: Unknown Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (St & No or RFD) (City or Town) (State)

8. Source of Information: Ltr this Hq. subj: "Review & Determination of the status of Major Ralph B. Praeger, ASN O-21185, 26th Cav Regt (PS), "File AG 704.5 (D) (20 sept 45) AG-KI SR & D No. 897, dated 20 September 1945.

9. Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

References: 201 - PRAEGER, Ralph B.  
 SR & D 897

## DISTRIBUTION:

TAG.....1  
 Memorial Br, PHILRYCOM....1  
 File.....1

GSXRP Form No. 37A (4-24-45)

Incl No. \_\_\_\_\_

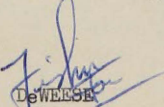



C O P Y

DDMG FORM 638  
REV 1 APR 48

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY

**INTRAOFFICE REFERENCE SHEET**

DUE, HOUR AND DATE \_\_\_\_\_

1 NO.	2 FROM—	3 TO—	4 DATE	5 MESSAGE
1	Final Deter Sec Id Br Mem Div	Pentagon Liaison  ATTN: Major Sekowski	10 Oct 1949	<p>RE: Case No. 11537</p> <p>1. It is requested this office be furnished SR&amp;D report and all other information on Maj. Ralph B. BRAEGER, ASN 021185, member of 26 Cav. Regt. (PS) killed in action 31 Dec 1944 at Manila, P.I.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">               DEWESE              73472         </p> <p style="text-align: center;">               CARLTON              75926         </p>
2	QM-Pant Liaison Adm. Br. Mem Div	Final Deter Sec Id Br Mem Div	18 Nov 1949	<p>Inclosed herewith is all the available information obtained from DFRB 201-File pertaining to the death of the above Officer.</p> <p>There is no information available in AGF Historical files, Operations Reports.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">               SEKOWSKI              6679         </p> <p style="text-align: center;">               DYER              73090         </p>

RECEIVED  
 PENTAGON LIAISON  
 OCT 1 1949  
 M.T. DIV. DDMG

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

DATE: 10/1/49

SUBJECT: [Illegible]

[The body of the memorandum contains several paragraphs of text that are extremely faint and illegible due to fading and bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text appears to be a standard memorandum format with a header, a subject line, and several paragraphs of body text.]

**RECEIVED**  
**PENTAGON LIAISON**  
**OCT 1 1 1949**  
**MEM. DIV. OQMG**

NAME: PRABGER, Ralph P. ASN: 0-21185 RANK: Maj.

PHYSICAL ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXX~~ \_\_\_\_\_

RACE: WHITE

RELIGION: Not shown

BORN: 7 April 1914

PLACE: Claflin, Kansas

WEIGHT: 181 #

HEIGHT: 74½ "

EYES: Not shown

HAIR: Not shown

COMPLEXION: Not shown

SHOE SIZE: Not shown

DENTAL

Right

Left

Upper

X 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 X

Lower

16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

Teeth: Indicate restorable carious teeth by circling; nonrestorable carious teeth by /; missing natural teeth by X.

NO  
REPLACEMENTS  
FOR THIS



MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

ON  
CENTRAL LIAISON  
OFFICE

WAR DEPARTMENT  
 THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
 WASHINGTON 25, D. C.  
 -BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT

AG 201	NAME <b>PRAEGER, RALPH B</b> <b>ASN 021185</b>	GRADE <b>MAJOR</b> <b>XXXXXXXX</b>	DATE CAS. REPORT RECEIVED
NAME AND ADDRESS OF E. A.	<b>MR HERMAN A PRAEGER</b> <b>CLAFLIN, KANSAS</b>		DATE TELEGRAM SENT

THE INDIVIDUAL NAMED BELOW DESIGNATED THE ABOVE 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.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR HAS ASKED ME TO EXPRESS HIS DEEP REGRET THAT YOUR

GRADE	NAME	SERIAL NUMBER	ARM OR SERVICE	REPORTING THEATRE	F OR J STATUS	SHIPMENT NUMBER
<b>MAJOR</b>	<b>PRAEGER, RALPH B.</b>	<b>021185</b>	<b>CAV</b>	<b>Z</b>	<b>U-1X</b>	<b>067067</b>
TYPE OF CASUALTY	PLACE OF CASUALTY	DATE OF CASUALTY			CASUALTY CODE	
<b>KILLED IN ACTION</b>	<b>IN PHILIPPINE ISLANDS</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>DEC</b>	<b>44</b>		

OFFICIAL: **J. A. ULIO**  
 ADJUTANT GENERAL THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE ARMY

REMARKS: **AG 201 /28 FEB 46/**  CORRECTED COPY

MEMO SR AND D SECT APPROVED ACTING CHIEF, CAS BR. SOURCE OF INFO. 1ST. IND. USAF WES PAC. 16 JAN 46 PROCESS FOR CORRECTED DATE OF DEATH. PREVIOUSLY RPTD AS 1 NOV 43 BASED ON RPT USAF PAC SPECIAL PI 221, DTD 25 SEPT 45. PLACE - MANILA. EA. MR. HERMAN A. PRAEGER, FATHER, CLAFLIN, KANSAS. NOTIFICATION WILL BE MADE BY SR AND D.

Corr.  
 Noted in certification Report of death issued 18 Mar 1946 gs

ACTION BY COMPOSITE 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 \_\_\_\_\_

FORWARDED TO:  SPEC. IDEN.  C. & P.  TELEGRAM  LETTER  CERTIF.  F. REL.  CORRES.  REPAT.  S. R. & D.  NON-DEL.  
 REPORT NOT VERIFIED \_\_\_\_\_ NO FORM 43 \_\_\_\_\_ NO CAS. BR. FILE \_\_\_\_\_ CHECKED BY \_\_\_\_\_ REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_

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 WD AGO FORM 0365 1 MAY 1945 EDITION OF 1 JAN. 1945 MAY BE USED. **AGO 201 FILE CC**

WAR DEPARTMENT  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
WASHINGTON 25 D. C.  
—BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT

AS 201	NAME AND ADDRESS OF E. A.	NAME AND ADDRESS OF E. A.	DATE CASUALTY REPORT RECEIVED

THE SECRETARY OF WAR HAS ASKED ME TO EXPRESS HIS DEEP REGRET THAT YOUR

GRADE	NAME	SERVICE NUMBER	ARM OR SERVICE	REGIMENT OR BATTAL	COMPONENT
MAJOR	WALTER, HAROLD D.	081103	USA	101st	101st Airborne Division
TYPE OF CASUALTY	PLACE OF CASUALTY	DATE OF CASUALTY	CASUALTY CODE		
KILLED IN ACTION	IN PHILIPPINE ISLANDS	21 DEC 44	01		

OFFICIAL: \_\_\_\_\_ ADJUTANT GENERAL: \_\_\_\_\_ THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE ARMY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 L. A. ULIO  
 REMARKS: NO 501 (OR FEB 50)  CORRECTED COPY  
 MEMO OR AND D BEST APPROVED ACTION UNIT, AND BUL SOURCE OF INFO, EST. IND. DATE FEB 50. IN JAN 50 PROCEED FOR CORRECTED DATE OF DEATH. PREVIOUSLY INFO AS Y NOV 44 BASED ON RPT USAR PAC SMOGAL P1 221, DTG 25 SEPT 44. PLACE - MANILA. SA. MR. HERMAN A. PRAGER, FARMER, CLARKE, KANSAS. NOTIFICATION WILL BE MADE BY SA AND D.

Filed in composite report of date issued 15 Mar 1946 by \_\_\_\_\_

ACTION BY COMPOSITE SECTION	REPORT VERIFIED	DATE
CASUALTY STATUS FILE ATTACHED	OR CHECKED TO	DATE
PREVIOUSLY REPORTED	NO	YES
FILE NO.	REPORT NO.	DATE AND AREA

NO  
 PENTAGON LIBRARY  
 MED. DIV.

2-Corr. Report  
Orig fwded 14 Nov 45

**WAR DEPARTMENT**  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.  
Special P. I. Case

DATE 3 Apr 1946 gs

REPORT OF DEATH

FULL NAME Praeger, Ralph B.		ARMY SERIAL NUMBER 021185	GRADE Major
HOME ADDRESS Claflin, Kansas.		ARM OR SERVICE CAV	DATE OF BIRTH 7 Apr 1914
PLACE OF DEATH Pacific Area	CAUSE OF DEATH Killed in action		DATE OF DEATH 31 Dec 1944
STATION OF DECEASED Pacific Area	DATE OF ENTRY ON CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE 14 June 1938		LENGTH OF SERVICE FOR PAY PURPOSES YEARS MONTHS DAYS

EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE (Name, relationship, and address)

Mr. Herman A. Praeger, father, Claflin, Kansas

BENEFICIARY (Name, relationship, and address)

Mrs. Verda Ames, Praeger, \*wife, same as above  
Miss Gwenneth Praeger, sister, Claflin, Kansas

INVESTIGATION MADE		IN LINE OF DUTY		OWN MISCONDUCT		WAS DECEASED ON DUTY STATUS		AUTHORIZED ABSENCE		IN FLYING PAY STATUS		OTHER PAY STATUS (Specify below)	
YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
											<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

ADDITIONAL DATA AND/OR STATEMENT

Beneficiaries Cont'd  
Mr. Dirk Praeger, \*nephew, same as above

\* 2-Corr. Rpt for relationship of beneficiary. Previously reported father.  
~~Original in Bureau~~

The individual named in this report is shown by the records of the War Department to have been in a beleaguered status from 8 December 1941 to and including 6 May 1942 (Section 14, Public Law 490), and absent in a missing in action status on and subsequent to 7 May 1942 and until absence was terminated on 8 November 1945, on which date evidence considered sufficient to establish the fact of death was received by the Secretary of War from a Commander in the Pacific Area.

**CORRECTED COPY**

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR

*Marie O'Neil*  
ADJUTANT GENERAL

*[Faint, illegible typed text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*

CORRECTED COPY

001  
 PENTAGON LIAISON  
 MEA. DIV.

Corp. Rpt. of death f  
date of death  
Orig. fwded 14 Nov 45

**WAR DEPARTMENT**  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.  
Special P. I. Case

DATE 18 Mar 1946 gs

REPORT OF DEATH

FULL NAME Praeger, Ralph B.		ARMY SERIAL NUMBER 021185	GRADE Major
HOME ADDRESS Claflin, Kansas		ARM OR SERVICE CAV	DATE OF BIRTH 7 Apr 1914
PLACE OF DEATH Pacific Area	CAUSE OF DEATH Killed in action		DATE OF DEATH * 31 Dec 1944
STATION OF DECEASED Pacific Area	DATE OF ENTRY ON CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE 14 June 1938	LENGTH OF SERVICE FOR PAY PURPOSES YEARS MONTHS DAYS	

EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE (Name, relationship, and address)

Mr. Herman A. Praeger, father, Claflin, Kansas

BENEFICIARY (Name, relationship, and address)

Mrs. Verda Ames Praeger, father, same as above  
Miss Gwenneth Praeger, sister, same as above \*

INVESTIGATION MADE		IN LINE OF DUTY		OWN MISCONDUCT		WAS DECEASED ON DUTY STATUS		AUTHORIZED ABSENCE		IN FLYING PAY STATUS		OTHER PAY STATUS (Specify below)	
YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
											X		

ADDITIONAL DATA AND/OR STATEMENT

BATTLE  NON-BATTLE

Beneficiary cont'd  
\*Mr Dirk Praeger, nephew, same as above

The individual named in this report is shown by the records of the War Department to have been in a beleaguered status from 8 December 1941 to and including 6 May 1942 (Section 14, Public Law 490) and absent in a missing in action status on and subsequent to 7 May 1942 and until absence was terminated on 8 November 1945, on which date evidence considered sufficient to establish the fact of death was received by the Secretary of War from a Commander in the Pacific Area.

**CORRECTED COPY**

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR

*Erington L. George*

ADJUTANT GENERAL

*[Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*

CORRECTED COPY

*[Handwritten signature]*

OM  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MED. DIV.

C  
O  
P  
YAGPC-G 201 Praeger, Ralph B.  
(28 Feb 46) 021185

4 April 1946

Mrs. Verda A. Praeger  
1144 Louisiana Street  
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Mrs. Praeger:

I have received your letter of 28 February 1946, in which you request that the name of your son be included in the records of your husband, Major Ralph B. Praeger, who was killed in action on 31 December 1944, in the Philippine Islands.

The name of your son, Ralph B. Praeger, Jr., is shown in your husband's records in this office and I am forwarding a copy of your communication to the Administrator of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C., and also to the Office of Special Settlement Accounts, 27 Pine Street, New York 5, New York, for appropriate attention.

You and your son have my deepest sympathy in your bereavement.

Sincerely yours,

EDWARD F. WITSELL  
Major General  
The Adjutant General of the ArmyNO  
SOCIAL SECURITY  
NO JUNE



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(1000 1000)

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I have received your letter of 28 February 1964, in which you  
request that the name of your son be included in the records of your  
unit, Major John B. Weaver, who was killed in action on 28  
December 1951, in the Vietnam theater.

The name of your son, John B. Weaver, Jr., is shown in your  
unit's records in this office and I am forwarding a copy of your  
correspondence to the Adjutant General's Office, Vietnam  
Department, Washington, D. C., and also to the Office of Casual  
Records and Statistics, Department of Defense, for their  
correspondence.

I am sure you will be pleased to hear of this.

Sincerely yours,

WALTER S. STUBBS  
Adjutant General  
The Adjutant General of the Army

OM  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MED. DIV.

COPY

AGPC-G 201 Praeger, Ralph B.  
(28 Feb 46) 021185

4 April 1946

Major Ralph B. Praeger, 021185

Administrator of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Administration  
Washington, D. C.

1. Forwarded for appropriate attention.
2. Major Ralph B. Praeger, 021185, was killed in action on 31 December 1944, in the Philippine Islands.

EDWARD F. WITSELL  
Major General  
The Adjutant General

2 Inclosures

NO  
SOCIAL C. DATA'S  
VHJ ALM

1970

AD65-8-201 (201-8-201)  
(201-8-201)

AD-1 Class 1

Major John B. ...

Administrator of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Administration  
Washington, D.C.

is forwarded for appropriate attention.

Major John B. ... was killed in action on ...  
November 1964, in the Philippines Islands.

Richard P. ...  
Major General  
The Adjutant General

Enclosure

100  
MENTAL LIAISON  
M.L. DIV.

AGPCLS 201 Praeger, Ralph B.  
(7 Mar 46) 021185

7 March 1946

Mrs. Verda A/Praeger,  
Ciaflin, Kansas.

Dear Mrs. Praeger:

Since my letter of 5 January 1946 an investigation has been made to verify the report which you received from Major Thomas S. Jones, concerning the date of your husband's death.

A report has now been received that Major Praeger was removed from the City Jail, Manila, P. I. on 22 August 1944 and according to information was executed at Fort Santiago in December 1944. Inasmuch as the exact date is unknown, 31 December 1944, has been accepted as the latest date on which death could have occurred, and official reports will now be issued by the War Department which will indicate that your husband's date of death was 31 December 1944. The issuance of this official report will not effect any payment or settlement of your husband's account as settlement has been made based on the date of receipt of evidence in the War Department of the previous report of death on 8 December 1945.

Sincerely yours,

EDWARD F. WITSELL  
Major General  
The Adjutant General of the Army.

NO  
KODAK SAFETY FILM  
NO. 100

3000 1000

1000 1000

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Please refer to my letter of 2 January 1954 in which I advised you that I had been unable to verify the report which you received from your informant, Jones, concerning the date of your husband's death.

A report has now been received that your husband was reported to have been killed in action on 12 August 1944 and secondarily on 10 September 1944 at Fort Benning in Georgia, 1944. The information was received from Fort Benning in December 1944. However, as the exact date is not known, it is possible that he was reported to have been killed in action on a date other than that reported. Official reports will be issued by the War Department which will indicate that your husband's date of death was 12 December 1944. The issuance of this official report will not affect my report or statement of your husband's account as written and made based on the date of receipt of evidence in the War Department of the previous report of death on 8 December 1944.

Sincerely yours,

Major General  
The Adjutant General of the Army

500  
PENTAGON LIBRARY  
MIL. DIV.

COPY

BASIC: Ltr fr AGO Mil Pers Div, Cas Br, Inves & Corres Sec,  
Munitions Bldg, Washington 25, D. C., dtd 3 Jan 46  
Subject: Request for Information

GSXRP 201-PRAEGER, Ralph B. 1st Ind  
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES WESTERN PACIFIC  
APO 707, 16 January 1946.

TO: The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C.  
ATTN: Mil Pers Div, Cas Br, Inves & Corres Sec,  
Capt. L. H. OBEAR

1. A reinvestigation in the case of Major Ralph B. Praeger reveals the following regarding date of death:

a. Extract of affidavit of Private Raymundo Camonayan, ASN 10305183, PS Det, HQ, AFPAC, APO 500 dated 13 March 1945 (201 Camonayan, Raymundo):

"I was caught with Capt. Thomas Jones on Sept. 4, 1943. We were brought to a Japanese garrison in KABUGAO and in there we saw Major Praeger with two Americans and two Filipino. xxx We were to Aparri then to Tuguegarao, then to Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya. From Nueva Vizcaya to Manila, Bilibid Prison. Stayed 5 months in Bilibid. From Bilibid Prison we were brought to Fort Santiago, where we stayed one month. Later we transferred to the City Jail and stayed there for about 7 months. On Aug. 19, 1944 we were court martialed by the Japanese and on the 22nd of Aug. 1944 Maj. Praeger and the two Staff Sergeants (American) were taken out of the City Jail. I do not know where they are now. xxxxxxxxxx"

b. Extract of affidavit of Edda Bailey Needham, Batong Buhay, Lubuagan, Kalinga, P. I. dated 21 February 1945 (201 Needham, Edda Bailey):

"Major Praeger was captured in Sept. 1943 - and according to information executed at Fort Santiago in Dec. 1944."

NO SOCIAL CREDIT  
NO A.M.



75 Grove Avenue  
Albany, New York  
28 November 1945

(For Mrs. Ralph B. Praeger  
Wife Major Ralph B. Praeger, 021185, Cavalry  
Clapham, Kansas.)

My dear Verda,

I must apologize for not having written to you before this concerning Ralph, but since I did not know what ultimately happened to him, I thought it might only add to your worries to write to you before the full facts had been ascertained. However, now that most of the prisoners have been recovered, I feel that further waiting on my part would be wrong.

I served under Ralph in C Troop throughout the war, and was with him in prison camp until 30 July 1944. The only definite information after that date which I have about Ralph I received a short time ago from Staff Sgt. Raymundo Camonayan, one of our Scouts, whose present address in Company "B", PS Detachment, GHQ, AFPAC, APO 500, c/o P.M. San Francisco. Sgt. Camonayan was courtmartialled with Ralph - his letter said: "We were brought to Fort McKinley (the date is about 18 Aug. 1944) where we were tried under Japs. Court Martial. After reading our accusation, they returned us back in City Jail without knowing our sentence. Four days later Major Praeger was brought out from the cell, since that time and until now I didn't heard anything about him." Sgt. Camonayan states that the day on which he last saw Ralph was 22 August 1944.

When the war broke out, the regiment moved from Stotsenburg up to Rosales in Pampasinan. There, on 19 December, C Troop was sent, dismounted, to Bontoc to drive back enemy units which had been reported moving into the Mountain Province. A short time after our arrival there, the Japanese landed in force at Lingayen and we were ordered to rejoin the regiment in the lowlands. However, before we were able to do this, the enemy had landed in great force and cut all the roads leading to the lowlands. We therefore decided to make a last ditch stand at Baguio, but on the evening of 24 December we received an order from General MacArthur to withdraw and attempt to rejoin the main Army via the Cagayan valley. My opinion of Ralph was already extremely high - during air raids he was very cool and full of good humor - and did a superb job in organizing the defenses at Baguio, and was bitterly disappointed when we had to leave the city to the Japs.

We spent 6 days crossing the mile-high mountains to the Cagayan Valley, but when we arrived there we learned that the main North Luzon Force had fallen back in Pampanga, with the whole



Japanese Army between us. Ralph was very anxious for a fight, so we decided to move north in the Cagayan Valley and attack the enemy air base at Tuuegarao. This was done on the night of 12-13 January, 1942. Under Ralph's leadership we killed about 200 Japs. While executing a withdrawal under heavy machine-gun fire, Ralph saved my life several times. He was the coolest man under fire I have ever known. For this action he was cited by the Commanding General, General MacArthur, for the Distinguished Service Cross. I am enclosing a copy of the radiogram on this.

During the latter part of January Ralph got sick and was sick until about the first week in February. He had the hives a number of times during this period. After he was better we transferred to the Mountain Province, where we obtained a radio and set up an intelligence net, and engaged in minor clashes with the enemy. As our ammunition was very short, we could not make another raid on the scale of the first again. However, up until the time Corregidor fell the enemy in our vicinity was practically trapped in the two bases at Apari and Tuguegarao, and because of our patrols did not venture outside these places, and had to depend on airplanes for supplies.

Ralph's principal amusement during this time was playing checkers. He was always in wonderful spirits, and kept up everyone else's by betting that the Americans would take Berlin by July 4, 1942. With such a leader, not even the most pessimistic could be downcast long. This wonderful quality of Ralph's of always looking on the good side of things remained with him right to the very last day I was with him. I war - especially as it was in the Philippines - it was a God-send to have such a leader.

When Corregidor fell Ralph said, "Well, we will take a good rest this summer; then we will go to work." The Japs during the next months made a few half-hearted air attacks on our outposts, but nothing serious until the end of August when they carried out a lengthy air raid on our headquarters. Ralph was not impressed by the technique of the enemy; he said the air cadets at Randolph field were better flyers than the Japs. Ralph spent much less time in a fox-hole during these raids than was healthy; he was so interested because of his own Air Corps experience in the design of the Jap planes that he would risk being hit by the bombs to get a good look at them.

During July the official American representative called upon Ralph to surrender himself and his command. After examining the orders, and finding them addressed to someone else, Ralph felt it was his duty and his right to keep fighting. He therefore declined to surrender.

In August the enemy decided to destroy us, and sent out about 500 men against us from four directions. Ralph decided to attack these forces one by one, counting on surprise to make up for our numerical inferiority. The first attack was made against the enemy in position on a hill encircled by a river, and during the crossing part of Ralph's little force was capsized due to the swift current and enemy machine gun fire. The remainder were shelled for several

hours by enemy mortars and not having anything but rifles and pistols, and very little ammunition, it was not possible to drive the enemy from his prepared positions on the hill. This action was fought at Piat, Cagayan. Ralph decided to withdraw, reorganize and try again. During the withdrawal our rearguard inflicted an estimated 35 casualties on the enemy.

Meanwhile, as soon as the enemy became disengaged, their four columns all fell back on their bases, and they did not renew their ground operations against us until December 1942.

Meanwhile, we had acquired a radio engineer who thought he could rebuild our radio so that it could reach the states. Under Ralph's supervision, this was done and San Francisco was contacted on 20 October 1942. At this time we were the only radio operating on Luzon, a former set having been tracked down and captured in September.

After this contact was made our work was restricted to intelligence, and we were ordered to cease offensive action against the enemy. This was sound policy under the circumstances.

In November Ralph fell from a wooden bridge into a ravine and injured his arm. Due to lack of medicine it became infected and although it healed after some months, I think that it weakened him considerably. During this time Ralph received expert medical care from Dr. Ireneo Reyes, Kabugao, Apayao, Mt. Province (where we had our headquarters). However, Dr. Reyes had practically no medicine. During this time the bravery with which Ralph endured the pain which kept him awake night after night was an inspiration to everyone, and made us all love him more than ever.

In December 1942 we lost the town in which our headquarters was located, and thereafter until our capture the enemy were upon us all the time.

Ralph devoted all his energies to keeping communication open with the States, and Australia, and attempting to obtain the necessary intelligence. During the subsequent 6 or 8 months he literally wore himself out with work. I was separated from him during most of this period on a different assignment, and when I came to report to him early in July 1943, not having seen him since February, it was quite obvious that his health was much poorer than it had been in 1942. Ralph did not take my remonstrances very seriously but did promise to get more sleep and sun, and to eat better. I left him at the end of July and it did seem that he had made some improvement during the month. I now think that he was suffering from a mild case of beri-beri although I did not recognize it at the time.

In July 1943 General MacArthur sent a message to C Troop saying that it had covered its guidon with glory, and commenting Ralph for outstanding qualities of leadership. In August Ralph was again awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism

in action during the period 9 April 1942 to the date of the award. It was surely well earned and it greatly pleased everyone who was serving with Ralph that his efforts in keeping his little command together and continuing to render service to his country had received the recognition which these efforts richly deserved.

On 30 August 1943, just before dark, the enemy, having determined the location of the radio by a direction locator, encircled the radio shack and captured Ralph and some other men.

I was also captured a few days later, and was brought in to Kabugao, Apayo with the others.

Our treatment at this time was very considerate. The Japanese officer who made the capture said to Ralph, "This is a very brave thing you have done for your country."

In a few days we were transferred to Bilibid P.O.W. camp in Manila, with the status of special prisoners: that is, we were not regarded as prisoners of war. However, the high command had directed that we were to be treated as officers and gentlemen because we had treated some former Japanese prisoners of ours well, and liberated them when we were no longer able to treat them in accordance with the Geneva Convention.

However, it later began to appear that the provisions of this order would be applied to Ralph only, and finally, after three weeks they were suspended to the extent that he was suspended by the wrists for 60 hours in an effort to extract information from him concerning our activities. Fortunately, no permanent harm resulted, and after three or four days Ralph recovered from this experience. This was the only time during his imprisonment that he was maltreated so far as actual physical force is concerned.

Ralph continued in great good humor during all this time. He never seemed worried about the future at all. He joked with everyone - when one of the Jap investigators, a former diplomatic courier, complained that he was prevented from using certain areas on an American ship while traveling first class, Ralph said, "Well, why didn't you travel second-class then?" His constant good spirits puzzled the Japs.

While we were in Bilibid we were segregated from the other prisoners, but fed the same as they were. We got almost enough to eat up until December 1st, and then we got plenty of rice, as the other prisoners had Red Cross packages from the States.

Unfortunately, we were transferred to Fort Santiago and to the jurisdiction of the military police on 4 January 1944, where charges were prepared against us, which were required to acknowledge. Here we were kept in cells under difficult conditions, and our ration was very small.

During January 1944 Ralph got dengue fever. This is the only time since February 1942 that he was sick, his army injury excepted.

On 2 February 1944 we were transferred to a prison for guerrillas and similar offenders, annexed to the Bilibid P.O.W. Camp. Here the charges were read. They included:

- Operating a radio transmitter
- Espionage
- Maintaining an enemy government
- Printing enemy currency
- Resisting the Japanese Army
- Disseminating Allied war news and propaganda
- Other similar offense.

They added up about 15 charges against Ralph and 12 or 13 against the rest of us.

Conditions in this jail were similar to those in Santiago. We were required to sit with our legs crossed in Japanese fashion from 6 AM to 9:30 PM, when we were permitted to lie down. We were not allowed to talk. It was difficult to sleep nights as the lights were left on in our cell and we did not have any protection against the mosquitoes. These are things I would prefer not to tell you, Verda, but I am going so that you may have the whole truth, and will not worry or imagine worse things.

Throughout this difficult time Ralph retained his confidence in the future, although most of the rest of us expected to be executed. Fortunately, we did not have any more investigations in this place.

The months dragged on, and everyone else who had been there prior to us had been courtmartialled, and many of those who came after us. I can only account for this long delay in our case on the grounds that the Japanese, in view of the fact that we had treated their prisoners well, and that we had maintained a strong and orderly government for a year after Bataan fell, were undecided whether to treat us as criminals or not.

By July I had gotten quite sick and after some days of not eating, during which time Ralph watched over me like a father, he convinced the Japanese that I would be dead in a short time if I did not get medical treatment, so finally on 30 July 1944 I was transferred to the Bilibid P.O.W. Camp Hospital, where I remained until I was liberated.

Ralph carried me out in his arms to car, and when I tried to thank him he said, "don't talk, Good-bye." That is the last time I saw him, and Sgt. Camonayan's letter is the only word I have had of him since that time.

Everyone knew him loved him, Verda. He was so brave, and so generous, and considerate of the people who worked under him. At a time when it seemed that everything our country stood for in the Philippines was being destroyed Ralph never gave an inch. His character was shaped by something much more than West Point; something that must lie generations back in his forebears. It was clean and honest as the Kansas soil.

Colonel Egeberg, General MacArthur's aide, wrote to me just before the surrender ceremony in Tokyo Bay - "At the surrender ceremony there will be more than one mind thinking of the part .....your gallant associates played in making it possible."

This has been a very hard letter to write, Verda. Probably there are many questions on things I've neglected. Ralph often talked about being back in Kansas with you and the baby, and he told me about his mother and father and family.

If there is anything that I can do for you please let me know.

Sincerely,

/S/ TOM JONES

C O P Y

NO  
SOCIAL SECURITY  
NO JAMES

Colonel Robert, General MacArthur's aide, wrote to me first before the summer recess in Tokyo Bay. At the summer recess, he was with me and was thinking of the fact that your assistant was in the field in the field.

This has been a very hard letter to write, probably there are any questions on things I've mentioned. I've often talked about being back in contact with you and the baby, and he told me about his mother and father and family.

If there is anything that I can do for you please let me know.

Sincerely,

W. W. Rorer

1 4 0 0

ON  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MAIL DIV.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC

AG 704.5 (D) (20 Sep 45) AG-KI  
S. R. & D. No. 897

APO 500  
20 September 1945

SUBJECT: Review and Determination of the Status of Major  
(Ralph B. Praeger, ASN 0-21185, 26th Cavalry Regiment  
(PS)).

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C.  
Attention: Chief, Casualty Branch

1. The War Department casualty listing of military personnel in the Philippine Islands on 7 December 1941 shows the following named individual as missing in action:

Praeger, Ralph B. Capt ASN 0-21185 26th Cav Regt (PS).

2. The information contained in Exhibit A indicates the following grades and status of subject individual for the period shown:

a. <u>Grade</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Capt		11 Jan 43
Maj	12 Jan 43	1 Nov 43
b. <u>Status</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Beleaguered	8 Dec 41	6 May 42
MIA	7 May 42	29 Jun 43
POW	30 Jun 43	1 Nov 43

3. Subject's name does not appear on any man-draft rosters on file in this headquarters listing prisoners of war of Japan processed for shipment to prison camps outside the Philippine Islands.

4. Sufficient time has elapsed since the reoccupation of the Philippine Islands by the United States Forces for this individual, if living, to have returned to military control.

Ltr GHQ, AFPAC, APO 500 to TAG, AG File 704.5 (D) (20 Sep 45)  
 AG-KI, S. R. & D. No. 897 (Continued)

5. To date no documents containing information in conflict with the facts set forth in Exhibit A have been received by this headquarters.

6. The attached information is deemed sufficient to establish under Section 9, Missing Persons Act (Public Law 490, 77th Congress) as amended, a reasonable presumption that Major Ralph B. Praeger, ASN O-21185, 26th Cavalry Regiment (PS, was killed in action (summarily killed by Japanese)

while in a line of duty status, on 1 November 1943  
 at Manila, P. I., place of burial unknown,

and it is recommended that a determination be made to that effect.

LELAND S. HALL  
 Capt, Inf  
 Asst Chief, Determination  
 Section

HENRY P. WEILL  
 Capt, AGD  
 Chief, Determination  
 Section

JAMES R. GILBERT  
 Major, AGD  
 Officer in Charge,  
 Investigation and  
 Review Branch

CONCURRED IN:

RUDOLPH BUMGARDNER, JR  
 Lt Col, JAGD  
 Legal Officer, Recovered  
 Personnel Division



Ltr GHQ, AFPAC, APO 500 to TAG, AG File 704.5 (D) (20 Sep 45)  
AG-KI, SR & D No. 897 (continued)

A P P R O V E D

Pursuant to the authority conferred upon the Secretary of War by Section 9, Missing Persons Act (Public Law 490, 77th Congress) as amended, and by him delegated to the Commander-in-Chief, United States Army Forces, Pacific (WD ltr, 10 May 1945, Subj: Delegation of Authority Under Missing Persons Act); and pursuant to the further authorization by the Secretary of War to the said Commander-in-Chief to have such of his action under his supervision and direction (WD radio, W 81679, 13 May 1945), and authorization pursuant thereto by the said Commander-in-Chief to the Adjutant General, United States Army Forces, Pacific, to take such action as necessary to the administration of the Act and authentication (Ltr, C-in-C, AFPAC to AG, same, 28 Aug 1945, Subj: Designation Under Missing Persons Act), and on the basis of the evidence contained in the above Review and Determination of Status, it has been determined by the Commander-in-Chief, United States Army Forces, Pacific, that:

Major Ralph B. Praeger, ASN O-21185, 26th Cavalry Regiment (PS), was killed in action (summarily killed by Japanese) while in a line of duty status, on 1 November 1943 at Manila, P. I.

Report of death will be issued in accordance therewith. Evidence of death was received 20 September 1945

For the Commander-in-Chief:

C. J. BARRY, JR.  
Col, AGD  
Assistant Director  
Recovered Personnel  
Division

Incl:  
Exhibit A

NO  
SOCIAL SECURITY  
NO ADM

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director, FBI (100-442611)

ALBANY

On 10/15/54, the Albany office was advised by the Albany Police Department that a man who had been identified as a suspect in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., had been seen in Albany, Georgia, on 10/15/54. The man was described as being approximately 35 years of age, 5'8" tall, and weighing approximately 150 lbs. He was wearing a dark suit and a light-colored shirt. The Albany Police Department is currently conducting an investigation into this matter and has requested that the FBI be kept advised of any further information received.

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Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover  
Director

ON  
PENTAGON LIAISON  
MEM. DIV.

Ltr, GHQ, AFPAC, APO 500 to TAG, AG File 704.5 (D) (20 Ser 45)  
AG-KI, SR & D No. 897

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE OF RECORD IN THIS HEADQUARTERS PERTAINING  
TO STATUS OF Major Ralph B. Praeger, ASN O-21185,

1. There are no copies of pay records on file in this headquarters which include the name of this individual. It is assumed that he was last paid in full to include 30 November 1941.

2. The records of this headquarters disclose the following additional information pertaining to subject individual:

a. Extract from Special Orders No. 11, General Headquarters Southwest Pacific Area, APO 500, dated 12 January 1943 (file 201-Praeger, Ralph B.):

X X X

"1. Announcement is made of the tem promotion of  
CA T RALPH B. PRAEGER O21185 Cav to the gr of Maj in the AUS  
with rank fr date of this Order."

b. Extract from letter GHQ, USAFFE, Luzon Guerrilla Army Forces, 10 June 1945 signed by Major Edwin P. Ramsey, Cav., Commanding, to CG, XI Corps for transmittal to GHQ, AFPAC (file 777, document 20):

X X X

"a. xx Major Ralph B. Praeger was captured on June 1943 xxx all aforementioned officers were placed in Fort Santiago. According to the information of the undersigned gained thru intelligence operatives who were working in Fort Santiago, all of the above mentioned officers were Court Martialed and executed simultaneously along with certain other officers xxx on or about November 1, 1943.

"b. As the execution was held secretly, the only information as to the place of execution and burial is rumor. However, consistent rumors placed the execution as well as the burial at the Chinese Cemetery, Manila, P. I."

c. Extract from affidavit of Emmett F. Ellis (civilian), dated 14 February 1945 (file 201-Ellis, Emmett F.):

X X X

"19. xxx Maj. Praeger, also of the guerrillas, was

Ltr GHQ, AFPAC, APO to TAG, AG File 704.5 (D) (20 Sep 45)  
AG-KI, SR & D No. 897

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE OF RECORD IN THIS HEADQUARTERS PERTAINING  
TO STATUS OF Major Ralph B. Praeger, ASN O-21185: (con't)

captured by the Japanese and tried. It is believed he was  
executed."

3. There is only one individual listed as Praeger, Ralph  
B., in the War Department casualty listing as of 7 December 1941.

4. In the absence of a conclusive date of death it is  
presumed that subject individual was killed in action (summarily  
killed by Japanese) on 1 November 1943, the last specific date  
mentioned in the evidence on which he could reasonably be pre-  
sumed to have been alive, there being nothing in conflict there-  
with.

5. Further evidence in the files of this headquarters which  
substantiates the above, but has not been extracted because of  
its cumulative character is as follows:

a. Check Sheet from AG-Casualty (Rear USAFFE) To: G-2,  
USAFFE, 29 March 1945 (file 201-Moses, Martin).

b. File 501-1-14, page 220, Japanese Military Prison  
Records.

c. File 1000-2-8, page 1165, Japanese Military Prison  
Records.

d. Notes of Captain Thomas S. Jones, dated 17 February  
1945 (file 201-Jones, Thomas S.).

Exhibit A

- 2 -

100  
SOCIAL SECURITY  
NOV 1945

REPORT, ATLAS, AND TO THE U.S. AIR FORCE (AF) (20 Dec 52)  
AFHQ, WASHINGTON, D.C.

REPORT OF EVIDENCE OF MURDER IN THE HEADQUARTERS TERRITORY  
OF STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, W. H. HARRIS (COPIES)

conducted by the witnesses and trial. It is believed he was  
executed.

3. There is only one individual listed as prisoner, Ralph  
H., in the Department casualty listing as of December 1941.

4. In the absence of a complete date of death it is  
assumed that only one individual was killed in action (casualty  
listing by name) on 1 November 1941, the last available date  
mentioned in the evidence on which he could reasonably be as-  
sumed to have been alive, there being nothing to confirm this  
date.

5. Further evidence in the files of this headquarters which  
corroborates the above, but has not been extracted because of  
the quantitative character is as follows:

- a. Check sheet from 42nd Infantry (see exhibit) for 1-2,  
1942, 29 March 1942 (file 201-1000-1000).
- b. File 201-1000-1000, page 200, Japanese Military Prison  
records.
- c. File 1000-1000, page 100, Japanese Military Prison  
records.
- d. Notes of Captain Thomas S. Jones, dated 17 February  
1942 (file 201-1000-1000).

**ONE**  
**PENTAGON LIAISON**  
**MEAS. DIV.**

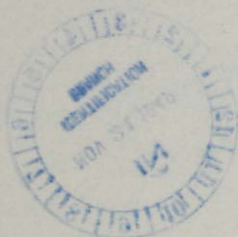
30 December 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF, CASUALTY BRANCH, AGO:

SUBJECT: Personnel in the Philippines.

A reliable source, recently returned from the Theater, states that he was informed by a source on the ground whom he considers reliable, that the latter part of August 1944 the Japanese in Manila executed 25 Americans including, Lt Col Claude A. Thorp 015101; Maj Ralph B. Praeger 021185; Lt Col Martin Moses 016924; Lt Col Arthur K. Noble 017780; and Lt Col Hugh Straughn Ret 02515, who have all been the subject of previous correspondence with your office.

J. K. EVANS,  
Colonel, General Staff Corps.



NO  
SOCIAL SECURITY  
AND RECORD

0487 8 I VON



AIRMAIL

AGRS 293 2nd. INF  
Box Y-229 P.I. (Mass. Manila)  
SUBJECT: Identification of Unknown Deceased

Dept. of the Army, AGRS, Washington 25, D. C., 13 April 1949

TO: Commanding General, Philippine Command, APO 707, c/o Postmaster,  
San Francisco, California, ATTN: AGRS, Manila Zone

Inclosed herewith are AGRS Form 371 for Herman C. Kluge, O-398363,  
Martin Moses, O16921, Maximo Becar, P-310775, Guillermo A. Lohar, O-00070,  
Ralph E. Praeger, O21155 and Claude A. Thorp, O15101.

*243*  
FOR THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL:

- 6 incs
- Incl 1-2 AGRS Form 371 (in dup)
- Incl 3 AGRS Form 371 (in dup)  
w/attachment
- Incl 4-5 info on AGRS Form 371
- Incl 6 info on AGRS Form 371  
w/acc rec stand

T. H. HUNT  
Lt. Colonel, AGS  
Memorial Division



2  
AIRMAIL

*Y 293 Praeger, Ralph E. O-21185*



*Handwritten notes on the left margin, including the number '1' and several lines of illegible cursive text.*

*Faint, mostly illegible typed text in the upper middle section of the page.*

*Faint, mostly illegible typed text in the lower middle section of the page.*



293 FILE		DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET RECOVERED OR IDENTIFIED		
NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)		GRADE	PRESENT SERIAL NUMBER	
Praeger, Ralph B.		Major	O 21 185	
ORGANIZATION	RACE	CREED	FORMER SERIAL NUMBER (If Applicable)	
Troop "C" 26 Cav	W	N/S		
DATE OF DEATH/MIA	CAUSE OF DEATH	PLACE OF DEATH OR PLACE LAST SEEN IF MIA		
31 Dec 44	KIA	Manila, P. I.		
DATE OF FOD				
HEIGHT	WEIGHT	COLOR EYES	COLOR HAIR	SHOE SIZE
74 3/4"	184	N/S	N/S	N/S
DENTAL CHART				
UPPER RIGHT		UPPER LEFT		
X 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1		1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 X		
LOWER RIGHT		LOWER LEFT		
16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9		9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16		
X = Extracted                      O = Cavious                      I = Cavious Non-Restorable				
FRACTURES AND/OR BREAKS		TATTOOS AND/OR BIRTHMARK		
None		None		
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION				
D/B 7 April 44.				
File APR 19 1949 G. W. ROGERS Capt., QMC Identification Branch <i>Philson</i>				

293 FILE		<b>DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET RECOVERED OR IDENTIFIED</b>			
NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) <u>Fraeger, Ralph B.</u>		GRADE <u>Maj.</u>	PRESENT SERIAL NUMBER <u>0-21185</u>		
ORGANIZATION <u>Troop C. 26 Cav (PS)</u> <u>CAV P.S.</u>		RACE <u>white</u>	CREED <u>not of record</u>	FORMER SERIAL NUMBER (If applicable)	
DATE OF DEATH/MIA	CAUSE OF DEATH <u>K-1-A</u>		PLACE OF DEATH OR PLACE LAST SEEN IF MIA <u>Manila Philippines</u>		
DATE OF FOD	HEIGHT <u>74 3/4</u>	WEIGHT <u>184</u>	COLOR EYES <u>not of record</u>	COLOR HAIR <u>record</u>	SHOE SIZE
<b>DENTAL CHART</b> <b>DATE</b> <u>14 June 38</u>					
UPPER RIGHT <u>X</u> 7 6 5 4 3 2 1			UPPER LEFT 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 <u>X</u>		
LOWER RIGHT 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9			LOWER LEFT 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16		
X = Extracted		O = Carious		1 = Carious Non-Restorable	
FRACTURES AND/OR BREAKS <u>none</u>			TATTOOS AND/OR BIRTHMARK <u>none</u>		
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION					



**FILE**  
OCT 4 1948  
E. J. Sullivan, Col LL, USA  
VICINIA-DOCTRINE DIVISION

DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET RECORDED OR IDENTIFIED

NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)		GRADE		PRESENT SERIAL NUMBER	
Brewer, Ralph P.		M/1		C-2332	
ORGANIZATION		RACE		FORMER SERIAL NUMBER (if applicable)	
GVA					
DATE OF DEATH		CAUSE OF DEATH		PLACE OF DEATH OR PLACE LAST SEEN IF MIA	
DATE OF FOD		WEIGHT		COLOR OF EYES	
HEIGHT		COLOR OF HAIR		SHOE SIZE	
DENTAL CHART DATE					
UPPER RIGHT			UPPER LEFT		
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12			1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12		
LOWER RIGHT			LOWER LEFT		
16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1			16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1		
X - Crown		D - Crown		I - Crown No. Indent	
FRACTURES AND/OR BREAKS		TATTOOS AND/OR BIRTHMARKS			
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION					



2 Corr. Report  
Orig fwded 14 Nov 45

**WAR DEPARTMENT**  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.  
Special P. I. Case

DATE 3 Apr 1946 gs

REPORT OF DEATH

FULL NAME Praeger, Ralph B.		ARMY SERIAL NUMBER 021185		GRADE Major	
HOME ADDRESS Claflin, Kansas		ARM OR SERVICE CAV		DATE OF BIRTH 7 Apr 1914	
PLACE OF DEATH Pacific Area		CAUSE OF DEATH Killed in action		DATE OF DEATH 31 Dec 1944	
STATION OF DECEASED Pacific Area		DATE OF ENTRY ON CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE 14 June 1938		LENGTH OF SERVICE FOR PAY PURPOSES YEARS MONTHS DAYS	
EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE (Name, relationship, and address) Mr. Herman A. Praeger, father, Claflin, Kansas					
BENEFICIARY (Name, relationship, and address) Mrs. Verda Ames, Praeger, *wife, same as above Miss Gwenneth Praeger, sister, Claflin, Kansas					
INVESTIGATION MADE		IN LINE OF DUTY		OWN MISCONDUCT	
YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
WAS DECEASED ON DUTY STATUS		AUTHORIZED ABSENCE		IN FLYING PAY STATUS	
YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
OTHER PAY STATUS (Specify below)					
YES NO					
ADDITIONAL DATA AND/OR STATEMENT					
Beneficiaries Cont'd Mr. Dirk Praeger, *nephew, same as above  * 26 Corr. Rpt for relationship of beneficiary. Previously reported father. <del>Original in Bureau</del> The individual named in this report is shown by the records of the War Department to have been in a beleaguered status from 8 December 1941 to and including 6 May 1942 (Section 14, Public Law 490), and absent in a missing in action status on and subsequent to 7 May 1942 and until absence was terminated on 8 November 1945, on which date evidence considered sufficient to establish the fact of death was received by the Secretary of War from a Commander in the Pacific Area.					
<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; letter-spacing: 0.5em;">CORRECTED COPY</div> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;">                     ✓                      file                      4-26-46                      m m                 </div>					
BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR  <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">Marie O'Brien</div> ADJUTANT GENERAL					

*[Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*



Corr. Rpt. of death  
 date of death  
 Orig. fwded 14 Nov 45

**WAR DEPARTMENT**  
 THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
 WASHINGTON 25, D. C.  
 Special P. I. Case

DATE 18 Mar 1946 gs

REPORT OF DEATH

FULL NAME Praeger, Ralph B.		ARMY SERIAL NUMBER 021185	GRADE Major
HOME ADDRESS Claflin, Kansas		ARM OR SERVICE CAV	DATE OF BIRTH 7 Apr 1914
PLACE OF DEATH Pacific Area	CAUSE OF DEATH Killed in action		DATE OF DEATH *31 Dec 1944
STATION OF DECEASED Pacific Area	DATE OF ENTRY ON CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE 14 June 1938	LENGTH OF SERVICE FOR PAY PURPOSES YEARS MONTHS DAYS	

EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE (Name, relationship, and address)

Mr. Herman A. Praeger, father, Claflin, Kansas

BENEFICIARY (Name, relationship, and address)

Mrs. Verda Ames Praeger, father, same as above  
 Miss Gwenneth Praeger, sister, same as above \*

INVESTIGATION MADE		IN LINE OF DUTY		OWN MISCONDUCT		WAS DECEASED ON DUTY STATUS		AUTHORIZED ABSENCE		IN FLYING PAY STATUS		OTHER PAY STATUS (Specify below)	
YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO

ADDITIONAL DATA AND/OR STATEMENT

BATTLE  NON-BATTLE

Beneficiary cont'd  
 \*Mr Dirk Praeger, nephew, same as above

The individual named in this report is shown by the records of the War Department to have been in a beleaguered status from 8 December 1941 to and including 6 May 1942 (Section 14, Public Law 490) and absent in a missing in action status on and subsequent to 7 May 1942 and until absence was terminated on 8 November 1945, on which date evidence considered sufficient to establish the fact of death was received by the Secretary of War from a Commander in the Pacific Area.

**CORRECTED COPY**

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR

*Erington L. George*

ADJUTANT GENERAL

RECEIVED  
APR 3 1946  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

COPIES



*mes*  
 Corr. Rpt. of death  
 date of death  
 Orig. fwded 14 Nov 45

**WAR DEPARTMENT**  
 THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
 WASHINGTON 25, D. C.  
 Special P. I. Case

DATE 18 Mar 1946 *gs*

REPORT OF DEATH

FULL NAME Praeger, Ralph B.		ARMY SERIAL NUMBER 021185	GRADE Major
HOME ADDRESS Claflin, Kansas		ARM OR SERVICE CAV	DATE OF BIRTH 7 Apr 1914
PLACE OF DEATH Pacific Area	CAUSE OF DEATH Killed in action		DATE OF DEATH * 3. Dec 1944
STATION OF DECEASED Pacific Area	DATE OF ENTRY ON CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE 14 June 1938	LENGTH OF SERVICE FOR PAY PURPOSES YEARS MONTHS DAYS	

EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE (Name, relationship, and address)

Mr. Herman A. Praeger, father, Claflin, Kansas

BENEFICIARY (Name, relationship, and address)

Mrs. Verda Ames Praeger, father, same as above  
 Miss Gwenneth Praeger, sister, same as above \*

INVESTIGATION MADE		IN LINE OF DUTY		OWN MISCONDUCT		WAS DECEASED ON DUTY STATUS		AUTHORIZED ABSENCE		IN FLYING PAY STATUS		OTHER PAY STATUS (Specify below)	
YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
											X		

ADDITIONAL DATA AND/OR STATEMENT

BATTLE  NON-BATTLE

Beneficiary cont'd  
 \*Mr Dirk Praeger, nephew, same as above

The individual named in this report is shown by the records of the War Department to have been in a beleaguered status from 8 December 1941 to and including 6 May 1942 (Section 14, Public Law 490) and absent in a missing in action status on and subsequent to 7 May 1942 and until absence was terminated on 8 November 1945, on which date evidence considered sufficient to establish the fact of death was received by the Secretary of War from a Commander in the Pacific Area.

**CORRECTED COPY**

*FILE*

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR

*Ernest L. George*

ADJUTANT GENERAL

[Faint, mostly illegible typed text, possibly a memorandum or report, with some lines of text visible.]

CORRECTED COPY



## SENSITIVE SURFACE - HANDLE EDGES ONLY

## WAR DEPARTMENT

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

SPECIAL F. I. CASE

REPORT OF DEATH ISS/3709

DATE 14 November 1945

FULL NAME <b>FRAEGER, Ralph B.</b>		ARMY SERIAL NUMBER <b>021185</b>		GRADE <b>MAJOR</b>												
HOME ADDRESS <b>Claflin, Kansas</b>		ARM OR SERVICE <b>CAV</b>		DATE OF BIRTH <b>7 Apr 1914</b>												
PLACE OF DEATH <b>Pacific Area</b>		CAUSE OF DEATH <b>Killed in Action</b>		DATE OF DEATH <b>1 Nov 1945</b>												
STATION OF DECEASED <b>Pacific Area</b>		DATE OF ENTRY ON CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE <b>14 June 1943</b>		LENGTH OF SERVICE FOR PAY PURPOSES YEARS MONTHS DAYS												
EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE (Name, relationship, and address) <b>Mr. Herman A. Fraeger, father, Claflin, Kansas</b>																
BENEFICIARY (Name, relationship, and address) <b>Mrs. Varda Ames Fraeger, wife, same as above</b> <b>Miss Gwendolyn Fraeger, sister, Claflin, Kansas</b>																
INVESTIGATION MADE		IN LINE OF DUTY		OWN MISCONDUCT		WAS DECEASED ON DUTY STATUS		AUTHORIZED ABSENCE		IN FLYING PAY STATUS		OTHER PAY STATUS (Specify below)				
YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO			
												<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
ADDITIONAL DATA AND/OR STATEMENT													<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BATTLE	<input type="checkbox"/>	NON-BATTLE
Beneficiaries continued: Mr. Dirk Fraeger, nephew, same as above																
The individual named in this report is shown by the records of the War Department to have been in a beleaguered status from 8 December 1941 to and including 8 May 1942 <del>XXXXXXXXXXXXXX</del> (Section 14, Public Law 490) and absent in a missing in action status on and subsequent to 7 May 1942 and until absence was terminated on 8 November 1945, on which date evidence considered sufficient to establish the fact of death was received by the Secretary of War from a Commander in the Pacific Area.																
<p><b>FILE</b> <b>NOV 20 1945</b></p> <p>BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR <i>E. J. Stewart</i> ADJUTANT GENERAL</p>																

47  
95  
AICJA O 201-Praeger, Ralph B. (O) 4th Ind  
(15 May 50)

SHO/veh

SUBJECT: Identification of World War II Deceased

HEADQUARTERS FORT CAMPBELL, Fort Campbell, Kentucky, 31 May 1950

TO: Office of The Quartermaster General, Department of the Army, Washington  
25, D. C.

Attention is invited to 3rd indorsement.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

S. H. OWEN  
1st Lt, CAC  
Actg Asst Adj Gen



See 2nd Ind,  
dated 5/15/50 for  
file authority,  
KH

CB

CONTROLLED CASE

NAME PRAEGER, Ralph B.		GRADE MAJ	SERIAL NO. O-21185
DO NOT TAKE ANY ACTION ON THIS CASE OR RELEASE INFORMATION FROM THIS FILE WITHOUT THE CONCURRENCE OF:			
<input type="checkbox"/> LIAISON OFFICE, MEMORIAL DIVISION		FLAGGED BY (Initials)	
<input type="checkbox"/> IDENTIFICATION BRANCH, MEMORIAL DIVISION		FLAGGED BY (Initials) sd	
UNKNOWN X-228 mass. Chinese ancestry	NON-RECOVERABLE CASE NO. 9. [handwritten]	A-Z CARD FLAGGED BY [handwritten]	333 CARD FLAGGED BY [handwritten]
<p><b>IMPORTANT</b></p> <p>THIS FORM MUST BE MAINTAINED ON TOP OF 293 FILE AT ALL TIMES UNTIL CANCELLED BY MEMORIAL DIVISION. ONLY THE "CONGRESSIONAL TOPPER", OQMG FORM 391, MAY BE PLACED OVER THIS FORM.</p>			

NAT  
File

Sarban, T.  
2 Sept 50

## CONTROLLED CASE

NAME Praeger, Ralph B.		GRADE Major	SERIAL NO. O-21 185
DO NOT TAKE ANY ACTION ON THIS CASE OR RELEASE INFORMATION FROM THIS FILE WITHOUT THE CONCURRENCE OF:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LIAISON OFFICE, MEMORIAL DIVISION		FLAGGED BY (Initials)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IDENTIFICATION BRANCH, MEMORIAL DIVISION		FLAGGED BY (Initials) <del>Lt De Weese</del>	
UNKNOWN X -	NON-RECOVERABLE CASE NO. <del>11537</del>	A-2 CARD FLAGGED BY	333 CARD FLAGGED BY
IMPORTANT			
THIS FORM MUST BE MAINTAINED ON TOP OF 293 FILE AT ALL TIMES UNTIL CANCELLED BY MEMORIAL DIVISION. ONLY THE "CONGRESSIONAL TOPPER", OQMG FORM 391, MAY BE PLACED OVER THIS FORM.			

OQMG FORM 1900  
5 APR 48

48 7158

70 A 01  
7441  
9-16-80-1-1