

QMGMCMC 293
Hofer, Ralph K.
O-2 045 177

19 November 1951

Mrs. Jean H. Hofer Halbrook
2846 North 73rd Court
Elmwood Park 35
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Halbrook,

Reference is made to the interment of your husband, the late First Lieutenant Ralph K. Hofer, and his comrades, which was made in Grave Nos. 254, 255 and 256, Section 79, Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis, Missouri. It is regretted that because of the fact it was impossible to identify individually the remains of your husband, you were deprived of the comfort and consolation which you might have been afforded by interring his remains at home.

#1329

It is felt that you might like to have the inclosed photograph of the stone which has been placed at the grave.

You are assured that the grave will always be cared for in a manner fully commensurate with the sacrifice your husband has made for his country. Any desired information concerning the grave or the cemetery will be furnished upon request.

Sincerely yours,

1 Incl
Photograph

JAS. F. WATT
Lt. Colonel, QMC
Memorial Division

JKetner

MM
CE
TOD

NOV 19 2 59 PM '51
U.S. ARMY
MEMORIAL DIVISION

OFFICE THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY
INTRAOFFICE REFERENCE SHEET

DUE, HOUR AND DATE _____

1 NO.	2 FROM—	3 TO—	4 DATE	5 MESSAGE
1	Repat Br Mem Div	Res Sec Repat Br Attn: Mr. Dennis	31 Mar 50	<p>293 Hofer, Ralph K., O-2045177 <i>dl</i> Group Burial - Belgrade, Yugo.</p> <p>Phoned Mrs. Jean H. Halbrook, widow of the above decedent, as a result of her reply to advance telegram. Mrs. Halbrook desires that we list her husband as Halbrook instead of Hofer since Halbrook was his real name.</p> <p>I told Mrs. Halbrook that the official Army records listed him as Lt. Ralph K. Hofer and this office has no authority to change a name even though the person is deceased. I suggested that she make a formal application to TAG and inquire what proof is necessary in order to effect a change in the name of her husband. I also told her that, should TAG approve a change in the name, this office would receive notification and accordingly we would inscribe the reading of the name as instructed.</p> <p>ACTION: Send the following TWX to New York Port:</p> <p>"REURTT 3, 29 MARCH 1950, REFERENCE GROUP BURIAL 9970 GB 215 1ST LT RALPH K HOFER 02045177. NEXT OF KIN ADVISED BY TELEPHONE THAT NAME OF DECEDENT CANNOT BE CHANGED FROM HOFER TO HALBROOK. NO FURTHER ACTION NECESSARY BY YOUR OFFICE WITH NEXT OF KIN."</p>

Incl
293 file

109
VOGL
4276

FILE
Name *[Signature]*
Action *[Signature]*
Date *3 Apr 50*
Acceptance Section
Family Corres. Branch

QMGF 293
Hofer, Ralph K.
SN 02 045 177

10 March 1950

Mrs. Opal R. Hofer
1328-19th Street
Santa Monica, California

Dear Mrs. Hofer:

The Department of the Army is desirous that you be given the most recent information concerning your son, the late First Lieutenant Ralph K. Hofer.

I regret the necessity of informing you that the records of this office disclose that, although the remains of your son have been recovered, it was not possible, because of the manner in which he met his death, to identify his remains individually.

According to Army records and investigation, one P-51 type aircraft, three P-40 type aircraft and five B-24 type aircraft, were missing in action and subsequently found to have crashed within a thirty mile radius of Mostar, Yugoslavia, during the period from 6 November 1943 to 6 November 1944. The city of Mostar was occupied by the Germans, SS Troops being among those stationed there and units of the Ustachi Brigades also being active in the surrounding territory. Due to its size and strategic position along a railway line, Mostar, as well as nearby towns and villages, was the target of many Army Air Force missions during 1943 and 1944.

During recovery operations by the Search and Recovery Teams of the American Graves Registration Service in June of 1947, the caretaker at the Mostar Military Cemetery was questioned regarding burials of American personnel. According to his statement, the Germans made all burials and kept the burial records, however, he did advise our personnel that the Americans were buried in the New Military Cemetery and after that cemetery became full they were buried in the Central Military Cemetery in a common grave.

There were a total of thirty-two unaccounted for United States Army Air Force personnel killed in action or reported missing in action in the vicinity of Mostar during the aforementioned period of time. Of the remains recovered from the Military Cemeteries at Mostar by the American Graves Registration Service, nine have been individually

QMGF 293

Hofer, Ralph K.
SN 02 045 177

10 March 1950

identified, two are included in a group burial, and two have been declared unidentifiable (believed to be foreign nationals). A group identification for the balance of the remains as the only recoverable remains of the twenty-one crew members otherwise unaccounted for has been established. Your son is one of the twenty-one represented in this group.

The remains of this group of twenty-one will be brought back simultaneously for interment in the Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, 101 Memorial Drive, St. Louis 23, Missouri.

This plan for the burial of all known groups of men, for whom individual identity cannot be established, in one of our country's shrines, is based upon the provisions of Public Law 363, 79th Congress, as amended by Section 3, Public Law 368, 80th Congress. The Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery was selected as the final resting place of the group because of its geographical location which distributes, as equitably as possible, the travel burden upon all next of kin involved.

You, as well as the widow, and the next of kin of the other decedents included in this group will be informed of the date and time of the final interment sufficiently in advance to permit you and any interested persons to attend the ceremonies. In order that you may receive information concerning these final rites, it is essential, in case you change your address, that you promptly inform the Commanding General, New York Port of Embarkation, 1st Avenue and 58th Street, Brooklyn 20, New York.

Permit me to extend my deepest sympathy in the loss of your loved one and express the hope that you will receive some small measure of solace from the knowledge that he died an honored death in the service of his country.

Sincerely yours,

L. W. ALLEN
Lt. Colonel, GIC
Memorial Division



LWA

PRO: (Jenkins-5641) Draft approved by Col. Hinman 6 March 1950.

1. FILE UNDER NO.

293-

HOFFER, RALPH K. 02045177

SYNOPSIS

2. TYPE OF DOCUMENT:

IRS C#5

3. DATE: #2 3/13/50

4. FROM:

Liaison Office Mem Div

5. TO:

Mr. R Br Adm. Div.

6. SUBJECT:

Group Burial - Belgrade, Yugo.

Miscell, Robert W.
Blackshaw, Robert H.

7. DOCUMENT FILED

cr

UNDER NO.

293- Jeff. Bks. N/C (Group Burial - 9970-GB-215)

INSTRUCTIONS.—Enter after the above headings information as follows:

1. File classification under which this cross-index sheet is to be filed.
2. Appropriate term, such as: "ltr," "memo," "1st ind," etc.
3. Date of Document.
- 4 and 5. Enter either or both, as applicable.
6. Brief and comprehensive synopsis of the content or subject matter.
7. File classification under which the document is filed.

QMCMP 293
Hofer, Ralph K.
SN 02 045 177

10 March 1950

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2846 North 73rd Court
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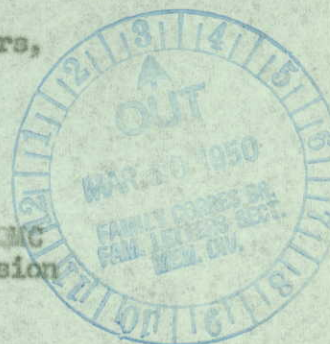
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You and the next of kin of the other decedents included in this group will be informed of the date and time of the final interment sufficiently in advance to permit you and any interested persons to attend the ceremonies. In order that you may receive information concerning these final rites, it is essential, in case you change your address, that you promptly inform the Commanding General, New York Port of Embarkation, 1st Avenue and 58th Street, Brooklyn 20, New York.

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Sincerely yours,

L. W. ALLEN
Lt. Colonel, OMC
Memorial Division



LWA

PRO: (Jenkins-5641) Draft approved by Col. Hinman 6 March 1950.

1. FILE UNDER NO. 293 - HOFER, Ralph K. O-2045177

SYNOPSIS

2. TYPE OF DOCUMENT: FORM

3. DATE: 1 Mar 50

4. FROM:

5. TO:

6. SUBJECT: No. 6 - Disint. Dir. # 9970 GB-215 covering Group or Mass Burial
from Belgrade - Yugoslavia to Jefferson Bks.
National Cemetery. Jefferson Bks., Missouri.

7. DOCUMENT FILED

UNDER NO. 293 - Jeff. Bks. N/C

(9970-B-215)

mfs

INSTRUCTIONS.—Enter after the above headings information as follows:

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- 4 and 5. Enter either or both, as applicable.
6. Brief and comprehensive synopsis of the content or subject matter.
7. File classification under which the document is filed.

293-GRS-Med.
(Board of Review)

OQMC DEPT OF ARMY WASH DC

UNCLASSIFIED

COAGRS MZ ROME ITALY

DEFERRED

WCL 29464

WCL 36909

FROM QMGT HYMSG WCL 29464 AND REF ID PROCEEDINGS 29 NOV 49

HENRY H BARKER 0795560 AND 31 OTHERS BELGRADE. ITEMS K AND L APPROVED

Cy Furnished: Adm. Sect.
Lenk/jlj
McDermott
REB

not as green

WCL 29464 IS MC OUT29464 (DATED 21 DEC 49)

081745Z

UNCLASSIFIED

GRAVES

QMGT CAPT HENRY EXT 72993
293 GRS MZ

FEB 50

D. A. REINER
CAPT. QMC. MEM. DIV.

293
Hymsg, Ralph E. 0-204577

2
QMGW DEPT OF ARMY WASH DC ARROWSMITH X-5057

Att
UNCLASSIFIED

VA DISTRICT OFFICE #7
17 NORTH DEARBORN STREET
CHICAGO ILLINOIS

PRIORITY

CHARGE GRAVES WW II

XC 3673384 PLEASE ADVISE THIS OFFICE CURRENT ADDRESS AND MARITAL
STATUS WIDOW 1ST LT RALPH K HOFER COMMA 02045177. ALSO CURRENT ADDRESS
MOTHER. REPLY BY TELEGRAM. URGENT END

CAPT VOGL
Memorial Division
OQMG

K
IA

vhp

UNCLASSIFIED

QMGW 293

Hofer, Ralph K., 0-2045177 21 Feb 50 Captain, QMC, Memorial Division

J.F. VOGL

0.0.M.G.
TELETYPE SECTION

FEB 21 3 32 PM '50

JFV

DUPLICATE

GRAVE LOCATIONS IN OVERSEAS CEMETERY FOR ALL REMAINS IN GROUP:

PLOT C, ROW 7, GRAVE 370
PLOT E, ROW 15, GRAVES 607, 611
PLOT E, ROW 16, GRAVE 614
PLOT E, ROW 20, GRAVE 670

<u>NAME</u>	<u>NEXT OF KIN</u>
BLACKSHAW, ROBERT M., 2/LT ASN 0-674026 (WHITE - PROT.)	MR. WILLIAM E. BLACKSHAW (FATHER) 530 EAST 4TH STREET CINCINNATI, OHIO ALSO NOTIFY MRS. W. E. BLACKSHAW (MOTHER) BOX 132 SARASOTA, FLORIDA
BLANKENSHIP, JOE W., 2/LT ASN 0-754873 (WHITE - NO PREF.)	MR. & MRS. GEORGE W. BLANKENSHIP (PARENTS) BONNY, KENTUCKY
COHEN, HYMAN, 2/LT ASN 0-691723 (WHITE - HEB.)	MR. & MRS. JACOB COHEN (PARENTS) 3236 TUXEDO AVENUE DETROIT, MICHIGAN
DE MILIO, LOUIS A., S/SGT ASN 36348192 (WHITE - CATH.)	MRS. JOHN DE MILIO (MOTHER) 4840 WEST RICE STREET CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
BISSELL, ROBERT W., S/SGT ASN 39325950 (WHITE - NO PREF.)	MRS. GRACE W. BISSELL (MOTHER) 2535 NORTH EMERSON PORTLAND, OREGON ALSO NOTIFY MRS. JANE B. CARSON (REMARRIED-WIDOW) ATWATER, CALIFORNIA
BRUNN, CLARENCE, S/SGT ASN 19180104 (WHITE - NO PREF.)	MRS. LOTTIE L. BRUNN (WIFE) 16139 VIA SEGUNDO SAN LORENZO, CALIFORNIA ALSO NOTIFY MRS. CECEALIA SIMMONS (MOTHER) 854 WOODWARD AVENUE BROOKLYN, NEW YORK
COWART, HUGH D., S/SGT ASN 14139839 (WHITE - NO PREF.)	MRS. SUSIE J. COWART (MOTHER) ROUTE #1 GARFIELD, GEORGIA
FOLEY, KENNETH H., T/SGT ASN 39387355 (WHITE - NO PREF.)	MRS. EDITH M. FOLEY (MOTHER) 1133 SOUTHEAST 37TH AVENUE PORTLAND, OREGON

FILE
MAR 1 1950
Judd

GROUP BURIAL NO. 9970 GB-215 TEMPORARY OVERSEAS CEMETERY:
BELGRADE, YUGOSLAVIA

U. S. NATIONAL CEMETERY:
JEFFERSON BARRACKS, MISSOURI

GRAVE LOCATIONS IN OVERSEAS CEMETERY FOR ALL REMAINS IN GROUP:

PLOT C, ROW 7, GRAVE 370
PLOT E, ROW 15, GRAVES 607, 611
PLOT E, ROW 16, GRAVE 614
PLOT E, ROW 20, GRAVE 670

<u>NAME</u>	<u>NEXT OF KIN</u>
GRYGIENC, IRWIN A., S/SGT ASN 16145692 (WHITE - CATH.)	MR. & MRS. ANTHONY V. GRYGIENC (PARENTS) 4723 SOUTH KOLIN AVENUE CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
KEITHLY, RAY C., 2/LT ASN O-693277 (WHITE - PROT.)	MR. & MRS. RAY E. KEITHLY(PARENTS) 6417 GLENROSE COURT DALLAS, TEXAS
MUSZYNSKI, ALEXANDER J., JR., 2/LT ASN O-805960 (WHITE - CATH.)	MRS. LUCY R. MUSZYNSKI (MOTHER) 33 POCASSET AVENUE PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND
PRICE, JAMES G., 2/LT ASN O-745172 (WHITE - PROT.)	MR. & MRS. JAMES F. PRICE (PARENTS) R. F. D. #2, BOX 83 BASTROP, TEXAS
RYON, DAVID O., 2/LT ASN O-797077 (WHITE-PROT.)	MRS. NORMAN E. RYON (MOTHER) 1835 UPSHUR STREET, NORTHWEST WASHINGTON, D. C.
STEAKLEY, WAYMON E., S/SGT ASN 34392392 (WHITE - PROT.)	MR. & MRS. WILEY STEAKLEY (PARENTS) 88 FIRST STREET HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA ALSO NOTIFY MRS. ROBENO C. MEDBERRY (REMARRIED-WIDOW) BOX 4892 COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS
WATERMAN, JAMES M., S/SGT ASN 11085942 (WHITE - PROT.)	MR. HAROLD F. WATERMAN (FATHER) RURAL FREE DELIVERY #3 ORLEANS, VERMONT
HOFFER, RALPH K., 1/LT ASN O-2045177 (WHITE - PROT.)	MRS. JEAN H. HOFFER (WIFE) 2846 NORTH 73RD COURT ELMWOOD PARK #35 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS ALSO NOTIFY MRS. OPAL R. HOFFER (MOTHER) 1328 19TH STREET SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA

GROUP BURIAL 9970 GB-215 TEMPORARY OVERSEAS CEMETERY:
BELGRADE, YUGOSLAVIA

U. S. NATIONAL CEMETERY:
JEFFERSON BARRACKS, MISSOURI

GRAVE LOCATIONS IN OVERSEAS CEMETERY FOR ALL REMAINS IN GROUP:

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PLOT E, ROW 15, GRAVES 607, 611
PLOT E, ROW 16, GRAVE 614
PLOT E, ROW 20, GRAVE 670

<u>NAME</u>	<u>NEXT OF KIN</u>
MANUEL, JAMES W., 2/LT ASN O-689076 (WHITE - NO RECORD)	MRS. VIOLET R. PARSONS (MOTHER) 1326 MAPLE STREET PITTSBURG, CALIFORNIA
OSBORNE, GERALD C., T/SGT ASN 38444575 (WHITE - PROT.)	MR. & MRS. CARL C. OSBORNE (PARENTS) 900 WEST 2ND STREET EL DORADO, ARKANSAS
RINNE, WAYNE, CPL ASN 39335908 (WHITE - PROT.)	MR. & MRS. JOHN S. RINNE (PARENTS) ROUTE #1, BOX 650 WARRENTON, OREGON
SATTERLEE, WARREN S., 2/LT ASN O-683784 (WHITE - PROT.)	MRS. IVA C. SATTERLEE (WIFE) 333 LEXINGTON AVENUE ONEIDA, NEW YORK ALSO NOTIFY MR. WARREN C. SATTERLEE (FATHER) 326 KINSLEY STREET SHERRILL, NEW YORK
THILO, CARL F., JR., 2/LT ASN O-689437 (WHITE - CATH.)	MR. & MRS. CARL F. THILO (PARENTS) 1714 RENTON AVENUE PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

245 Jeff. Bks. 7/C
9970-GB-215

3a 111/TS/cra/74173

1 Chief Chief
Resol Sec Oper Sec
Report Br Com Br
Mem Div Mem Div

27 Feb 50

Subject: Group Burial - USAP Com Belgrade Yugoslavia - 2 - 15 - 607 & 611, Row 16, Gr. 611; Row 20, Gr. 670, Plot C, Row 7 Gr. 370.

1. Forwarded herewith are 393 files for remains of subject group burial in which Bissell, Robert E., S/Sgt., 39325950, is the first entry.
2. Next of kin have been verified and are listed below for your information.
3. Request you designate National Cemetery for final interment.

Mrs. Jane E. Carson (Widow)
Atwater, California

Bissell, Robert E. 39325950 S/Sgt White - No Pref.
Next of Kin: Grace E. Bissell (Mother)
2535 North Madison
Portland, Oregon

Mrs. W. E. Blackshaw (Mother)
Box 132
Parasota, Florida

Blackshaw, Robert E. 06740226 2/Lt White - Protestant
Next of Kin: William E. Blackshaw (Father)
530 East Fourth Street
Cincinnati, Ohio

Blankenship, Joe W. 0754873 2/Lt White - No Pref.
Next of Kin: Mr. & Mrs. George W. Blankenship (Parents)
Perry, Kentucky

Mrs. Cecelia Simmons (Mother)
654 Woodward Avenue
Brooklyn, New York

Brunn, Clarence 19180104 S/Sgt. White - No Pref.
Next of Kin: Mrs. Lottie L. Brunn (Widow)
16139 Via Segunda
San Lorenzo, California

Cohen, Hyman 0-591723 2/Lt White - Hebrew
Next of Kin: Mr & Mrs. Jacob Cohen (Parents)
3236 Luxedo Avenue
Detroit, Michigan

Cowart, Hugh E. 14139839 S/Sgt White - No Pref.
Next of Kin: Mrs. Susie J. Cowart (Mother)
Route 21
Garfield, Georgia

X-293 Jofers, Ralph K. 0-2045177

page 1 of 2
FILE
Experience Section
Corres. Branch

34 111/TS/are/76273

Subject: Group Burial - USAF Gen Belgrade,
Tugalevis - E - R. 15- Gr. 507 & 511,
Row 16, Gr. 514; Row 20, Gr. 470, Plot C,
Row 7, Gr. 370.

De Milio, Louis A. 16348192 E/Sgt. White - Catholic
Next of kin: Mrs. John De Milio (Mother)
4840 West Rice Street
Chicago, Illinois

Foley, Kenneth H. 39387355 7/Sgt White - No Prof.
Next of kin: Mrs. Edith H. Foley (Mother)
1133 N. E. 37th Avenue
Portland 10, Oregon

Grygiene, Edwin A. 16345692 E/Sgt White - Catholic
Next of kin: Mr. & Mrs. Anthony V. Grygiene (Parents)
4733 South Robin Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Mrs. Opal H. Hofer (Mother)
1328 - 19th Street
Santa Monica, California

Hofer, Ralph A. 0-2043177 1/Lt White - Protestant
Next of kin: Mrs. Jean H. Hofer (Widow)
2846 N. 73rd Court
Winwood Park 35
Chicago, Illinois

Kelchly, Ray C. 0-493277 2/Lt White - Protestant
Next of kin: Mr & Mrs. Ray C. Kelchly (Parents)
6417 Glenrose Court
Dallas, Texas

Mammel, James W. 0-689076 2/Lt White
Next of kin: Mrs. Violet E. Parsons (Mother)
~~Box 221 1326 Maple St~~
~~Lawville, Louisiana~~ *Pittsburg, Calif.*

Mazynski, Alexander V., Jr. 0-591960 2/Lt White - Cath.
Next of kin: Mrs. May A. Mazynski (Mother)
13 Peabody Avenue
Providence, R. I.

Shorne, Gerald L. 18444575 1/Sgt White - Protestant
Next of kin: Mr. & Mrs. Earl L. Shorne (Parents)
930 West Second Street
El Dorado, Arkansas

3A 111/11/cra/76173

Subject: Group Burial - USAF Gen Belgrade,
Yugoslavia - P. M. R. 15, Gr. 607 & 611,
Row 16, Gr. 611; Row 20, Gr. 670, Plot C,
Row 7, Gr. 370.

Priest, James G. O-745172 2/Lt. White - Protestant
Next of Kin: Mr. & Mrs. James P. Priest (Parents)
R.F.D. #2, Box 83
Bustrop, Texas

Rinne, Wayne 39355906 Cpl. White - Protestant
Next of Kin: Mr. & Mrs. John S. Rinne (Parents)
Route 21, Box 650
Warrenton, Oregon

Ryan, David G. O-797077 2/Lt White - Protestant
Next of Kin: Mrs. Norman E. Ryan (Mother)
1834 Upshur Street N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Warren C. Satterlee (Father) Satterlee, Warren C. O-563784 1/Lt White - Protestant
326 Kinsey Street
Sherrill, New York
Next of Kin: Mrs. Iva C. Satterlee (Widow)
333 Lexington Avenue
Cassida, New York

Mrs. Rebecca C. Steadley (Widow) Steadley, Raymond E. 34392192 S/Sgt. White - Protestant
Box 1892
College Station, Texas
Next of Kin: Mr & Mrs. Wiley Steadley (Parents)
88 First Street
Huntsville, Alabama

Thilo, Carl F., "r. O-689437 2/Lt White - Catholic
Next of Kin: Mr. & Mrs. Carl F. Thilo (Parents)
1714 Denton Avenue
Pittsburgh 2, Pennsylvania

Waterman, James W. 11085942 S/Sgt White - Protestant
Next of Kin: Mr. Harold F. Waterman (Father)
R.F.D. #3
Orleans, Vermont

ALLEN

ARMSTRONG
3057

2	Oper Sec	Resul Sec	27	Subject: 100MS 293 Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery.
	Gen Br	Repet Br	Feb	
	Mem Div	Mem Div	1950	
		ATTN:		
		Unit #4		

With reference to preceding comment Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, 101 Memorial Drive, St. Louis 23, Missouri, has been designated for the group burial mentioned in which Messell, Robert B., S/Sgt., 39325950, is the first entry.

AM/NO
4911

MAHAN
5006

AM/led

CONFERENCE OBTAINED FROM LIAISON OFFICE

(Yugosl 10695)

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION COMMAND
EUROPEAN AREA
APO 58 U S ARMY

RRE 293.9 (IB)

16 December 1948

SUBJECT: Burial Information

TO: Commanding Officer
9107 TSU - QMC
American Graves Registration Service
Mediterranean Zone
APO 794, US ARMY

1. Attention is invited to inclosures concerning First Lieutenant Ralph K. Hofer, O-2045177.

2. Forwarded for necessary action and direct reply to OQMG, as a matter pertaining to your command.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

2 Incls:
1 - OQMG Form 371
2 - MACR # 380

E.D. MULVANITY
Lt. Col QMC
Actg Asst Adj Gen

IR 293
HOFER, Ralph K.,
O-2045177

1st Ind.

LVD/gf

HQ., 9107 TSU-QMC, AGRS/MZ, APO 794, US Army, 11 January 1949

TO: The Quartermaster General, Washington 25, D. C.
Attention: Memorial Division.

1. With reference to unrecovered casualty, 1st Lt. Ralph K. Hofer, O-2045177, reported buried near Mostar, Yugoslavia, attention is invited to Report of Board Proceedings transmitted 15 December 1948, file QMGMT 293, Price James G., O-745172 and seventeen (17) others and cable, this Headquarters, A-5085 dated 15 December 1948.

2. Request this Headquarters be advised if the following facts are considered sufficient evidence to include Lt. Hofer as part of Group referred to in above board case:

a) 1st Lt. Ralph K. Hofer, O-2045177, was reported buried near Mostar, Yugoslavia.

b) Extensive searches in the Mostar area have resulted in the recovery of a number of known and unknown American deceased. Statement received from Yugoslav authorities indicates there are no additional remains of American Deceased in the area.

c) Dental record of 1st Lt. Hofer has been compared against tooth charts for all unknown deceased recovered from Yugoslavia without effecting a positive association.

d) With special reference to the seventeen (17) collectively known and unknown deceased recovered from the Mostar area, it is considered possible that remains of Lt. Hofer are a part of the Group. Duplication of skeletal structure or lack of essential parts thereof in graves concerned preclude all possibility of effecting a positive association either as to Group or individual.

3. In the event the above factors are considered conclusive, it is recommended Report of Board Proceedings be amended to include the name of 1st Lt. Ralph K. Hofer, O-2045177.

2 Incls: n/c

WHITFIELD W. WATSON
Colonel QMC
Commanding

QMGMT 293

2nd Ind.

HOFFER, Ralph K.

1/Lt. O-2045177

SUBJECT: Burial Information

Department of the Army, OCMG, Washington 25, D. C. 7 February 1949

TO: Commanding Officer, American Graves Registration Service
Mediterranean Zone, APO 794, c/o Postmaster, New York, New York

1. Reference is made to 1st Indorsement.
2. It is not possible to ascertain whether or not 1/Lt. Ralph K. Hoffer, O-2045177, may be included in Group Burial mentioned in paragraph 1, until investigation connection with review of subject proceedings has been completed.
3. Your headquarters will be notified upon completion of review.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL LARKIN:

2 Incls:
n/c

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

FEB 8 12 00 PM '49
OCMG-M&R BR

Lenk:lrc



REB

NJS

PP WA121 V NY 2-794 TWX 3

FM CG NYPE BROOKLYN NY 291350Z

TO QMG WASHINGTON DC

GRAVES GRNC

MAR 29 10 31 AM '50

O. Q. M. G.
TEL & CAB SECTION

FROM TCNYP 24 GR PD REFERENCE GROU BURIAL 9970 GB 215 1ST LT RALPH K
HOFFER 0-2045177 NY042R NEXT OF KIN REPLIES TO ADVANCE TELEGRAM AS FOLLOWS
QUOTE QMGFM 293 HOFFER RALPH K SN 02 045 177 THIS WILL ACKNOWLEDGE
RECEIPT OF TELEGRAM OF MARCH 27 1950 REGARDING THE REMAINS OF THE LATE
FIRST LIEUTENANT RALPH K HOFFER THE NAME TO BE INSCRIBED IS THE FIRST
LIEUTENANT RALPH KIDD HALBROOK NOT HOFFER AND RELIGION BAPTIST MRS
JEAN H HOFFER HALBROOK UNQUOTE END

29/1424Z

widow

2846 West 73 Court
Elmwood Park
Chicago

35

chgd
Thomas JA
3-16-50

Rep Oper
Protestant

REPAIRING
RECORDS
FILE
MAR 29 11 20 AM '50
ACTION
DIST
Acceptance Section
Family Corres. Branch

1328-19th St
Santa Monica
Calif.

QM
PENTAGON LIAISON
MEMORIAL DIVISION

DATE

Sent
17 Feb. 50

Requested By

NAME

SECTION

ROOM NO.

TELEPHONE

J. Blatchley

Resolution

2523-B

74173

Request:

1st Lt. Ralph K. Hofer, 0-2 045177

2/73 6/19/21

*marital status (remarried name, if any) and current
address of widow. Also current address of mother.*

Information Received From:

XC - 3673384

D.O.# 7

For 293 File

*File
N.A.T.
J. Blatchley
2/24/50
Recd.*

CONTROL ST. - SECTION
REPATRIATION & WOUNDED BRANCH

Information From A-Z File

BURIAL Isolated CEMETERY

HOFFER, RALPH K
Name of Deceased

1st Lt
Rank

0-2045177
Serial No.

Kia
Cause of Death

AC
Organization

Not given
Date of Burial

Emergency Addresses:

Name Hoffer, Jean Ruth

Relationship Wife

Address 2846 N. 73rd Court, Elmwood Park 35 Chicago

Isolated Burial Yugoslavia
Cemetery Plot Row Grave

J. Taylor, Jr. - 7 Feb 47
Information Furnished by

Isolated - Yugoslavia

O E Benoit
Approved by Sub-Section Chief

Memorials Division.

J M & M F 293.

Hofer, Ralph K.

SN-02-045-177. **193**

160117. Hwy. 99.

Newhall, Calif.

Dec 9. 47.

The Quarter Master General.

Dear Sir.

I'm writing you again in regards
to my son, Ralph K Hofer.
I would like to know very much
if you have had any information
about him yet. I still believe he
is a live over there: some where
& Russia or Yuz is holding him.
was his dog tag? Ever I sent back
here, if they were. I never Rec'd them
or knew if they were or not. vice
you please write me & let me know
if they were sent back here.
or if you have any information
in any way about him that I
do not know about. please
you said in your last letter
a letter is being dispatched to the
Theater of Operations Requesting all
all information which the American
Gross Registration Service in that

area might have.

I also in your letter you stated my
inquiry concerning personal effects
will be the subject of a later
communication. I as yet I have
not rec'd any news.

Please ans'r my letter & let me
know if you have any news for
me please.

I Remain.

Mrs A J Hofer

16047 Highway 99
Newhall Calif



RECORDED
JAN 21 1968
FBI
NEW HALL
CALIF

EU 1702Z

FEB 23 12 04 PM '56

EUA073

EL. & CAP
SECTION

ECA071

ECVA26

RR UEPOG

021096

DE UECVB 7

R 231633Z

293 Hofer, Ralph K.

~~FM KETTENECKER VADO CHICAGO ILL~~

TO VOGL MEMORIAL DIV OFC QTR MASTER GEN WASHDC

VETS GRNC

293

REURTT FEB 21. RALPH K HOFER CMA XC 3 673 384. VETS UNREMARIED WIDOW
MRS JEAN HALBROOK /HOFER/ RESIDES AT 2846 NORTH 73RD COURT ELMWOOD
PARK 35 CMA CHICAGO ILL. VETS MOTHER MRS OPAL R HOFER RESIDES 1328
NINETEENTH ST SANTA MONICA CALIF

CFN 21 3 673 384 2846 73 35 1328

23/1653Z

REPAIRING
RECORDS
FEB 23 12 51 PM '56

*Blatchley
23 Feb 56
Belgrade 8/13*

Rep Res

*file
N.A.T.
Blatchley
2/24/56
Recd.*

C/B

BURIAL INFORMATION		
NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)	ASN	GRADE
GROUP BURIAL		
ORGANIZATION		DATE OF DEATH
PLACE	DATE OF BURIAL	DATE OF REBURIAL
Near Mostar, Yugoslavia		
REMARKS: Remains of Unknowns X-63, X-67, X-70, X-87, X-81008, interred in U. S. Military Cemetery, Belgrade, Yugoslavia, Plot E, Row 15, Graves 607 & 611; Row 16, Grave 614; Row 20, Grave 670; Plot C, Row 7, Grave 370; have been identified as a Group Burial - Recoverable Remains of: BISSELL, Robert W., S/Sgt., 39325950; BLACKSHAW, Robert M., 2/Lt., O-674026; BLANKENSHIP, Joe W., 2/Lt., O-754873; BRUNN, Clarence, S/Sgt., 19180104; COHEN, Hyman, 2/Lt., O-691723; COWART, Hugh D., S/Sgt., 14139839; DeMILIO, Louis A., S/Sgt., 36348192; FOLEY, Kenneth H., T/Sgt., 39387355; GRYGIENC, Irwin A., S/Sgt., 16145692; <u>HOFER, Ralph K., 1/Lt., O-2045177</u> ; KEITHLY, Ray C., 2/Lt., O-693277; MANUEL, James W., 2/Lt., O-689076; MUSZYNSKI, Alexander J., Jr., 2/Lt., O-805960; OSBORNE, Gerald C., T/Sgt., 38444575; PRICE, James G., 2/Lt., O-745172; RINNE, Wayne, Cpl., 39335908; RYON, David O., 2/Lt., O-797077; SATTERLEE, Warren S., 2/Lt., O-683784; STEAKLEY, Waymon E., S/Sgt., 34392292; THILO, Carl F., Jr., 2/Lt., O-689437; WATERMAN, James M., S/Sgt., 11085942.		

JOHN M. NEFF
 Capt. QMC
 Ident. Section

File
 8 Feb. 50
 H. Jackson

OQMG FORM 319
 7 MAY 45

25 88286

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION COMMAND
EUROPEAN AREA
APO 58 U S ARMY

RRE 293.9 (IB)

16 December 1948

SUBJECT: Burial Information

*293 Hofer, Ralph K.
A.S.N. 0-2045177*

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

293
1. Reference is made to OQMG Form 371 for First Lieutenant Ralph. K Hofer, O-2045177.

2. Area concerned - Mostar, Yugoslavia- is located outside the jurisdiction of this headquarters.

3. Case has been forwarded to Graves Registration Service, Mediterranean Zone, for necessary action.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

E. D. Mulvanity

E.D. MULVANITY
Lt. Col QMC
Actg Asst Adj Gen



*File
23-12-48
Capt Rogers
Ident Br.
Search Info Sec.*

IDENTIFICATION SECTION
MEMORIAL DIVISION

8990

IDENTIFICATION DATA

LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL <i>Hofer, Ralph K.</i>			ARMY SERIAL NUMBER <i>0-2045177</i>		GRADE <i>1st Lt.</i>
HEIGHT <i>72 in.</i>	WEIGHT <i>185</i>	COLOR EYES <i>not of Rec</i>	COLOR HAIR <i>not of Rec</i>	SHOE SIZE <i>not of Rec</i>	DATE OF DEATH <i>2 Jul-44</i>

LAST ORGANIZATION TO WHICH ATTACHED OR ASSIGNED (Give complete designation)

334th Ftr. Sq. 4th Ftr. Gp.

PLACE OF DEATH OR PLACE LAST SEEN IF MIA

KIA-over Budapest, Hungary - 2 Jul-44

LIST ALL CAMPS IN WHICH STATIONED IN U.S. PRIOR TO SERVICE OVERSEAS, WITH INCLUSIVE DATES AT EACH.

STATION	DATES
<i>not of Rec. in U.S.</i>	

FROM: WD, AGO CLINICAL RECORDS BRANCH
NO RECORDS ON FILE

FRACTURES AND/OR BREAKS	TATTOOS AND/OR BIRTH MARKS
-------------------------	----------------------------

DENTAL CHART

1 June 43

8 7 *X* 5 *X* 3 2 *X* *X* 2 3 4 5 *X* 7 8

UPPER RIGHT

UPPER LEFT

FXD. bdg. R.4.5. R & L.1.2 Serviceable

16 15 *X* 13 12 11 10 9

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

LOWER RIGHT

LOWER LEFT

X - EXTRACTED

O - CARIOUS

/ - CARIOUS NON-RESTORABLE

243 Hoper, Ralph K. (02045177)
QMDKG 116047 (27 Jan 48) 1st Ind

QMDKG 116047 (27 Jan 48)

1st Ind

MEM/BRK/mj

ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU, Kansas City Quartermaster Depot, 601 Hardesty Avenue,
Kansas City 1, Missouri, 2 February 1948

TO: The Quartermaster General, Effects Section, Field Service Division,
Washington 25, D. C.

1. Property of decedent received in this Bureau per inclosed listing was forwarded to the widow, Mrs. Jean Hofer at the address given in Par 4 of basic letter, receipt of which was acknowledged by her.
2. This Bureau has in the past conducted voluminous correspondence with the mother, Mrs. A. J. Hofer, and furnished her an itemized listing of the property sent the widow. Letters received from her are indicative that difficulty was experienced in the delivery of her mail due to her constantly changing address.
3. The reference made to a parcel forwarded by the Red Cross was occasioned by a duplication of files resulting in the shipment of a package of mail and photos received for Lt Hofer to the mother at 2705 South Santa Fe Drive, Englewood, Colorado, on 8 July 1946. Inasmuch as the letter of transmittal for this shipment was returned unclaimed, tracer action was instituted through the Post Office Department and the Red Cross which was unsuccessful in locating the parcel and is accordingly believed to have been lost in the mails.
4. Further reply has been made to Mrs. A. J. Hofer by Bureau letter, this date, a copy of which is also inclosed for the information of your office.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

7 Incls
Added 2 Incls
6. List of effects
7. Cy ltr AEB 2 Feb 48

M. E. MOHR
Major, QMC
Effects Quartermaster

2

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
 OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
 WASHINGTON

Date 27 January 1948

Telephone No. 3821

File No. QMGOD 293 Hofer, Ralph K., 1st Lt., O-2 045 177

Office of origin QMG FIELD SERVICE DEPOT OPERATIONS EFFECTS QMGOD
 (Division) (Branch) (Section) (Symbol)

Address 2nd and "T" Streets, S.W., Washington 25, D. C. Room No. "A" - 1632

To:

Commanding Officer
 Kansas City Quartermaster Depot
 601 Hardesty Avenue
 Kansas City 1, Missouri
 ATTENTION: Effects Quartermaster

PRECEDENCE

WIRE OR RADIO		ESSENTIAL MILITARY MAIL	
Urgent		Air mail	
Priority		Special delivery	
Routine		Ordinary	X
Deferred		Registered	
Week end			
Any message not X'd for precedence will be sent "Deferred."			Initial

MESSAGE:

1. There are inclosed for your information excerpts from letters dated 14 May 1947 and 9 December 1947 from Mrs. A. J. Hofer, 16047 Highway 99, Newhall, California, regarding the personal effects of her son, the late First Lieutenant Ralph K. Hofer.

2. It is requested that a thorough search be made to locate these effects, or to ascertain disposition made of them, and that Mrs. Hofer and this office be advised of the results. It is further requested that Mrs. Hofer be advised regarding the package allegedly forwarded to her by the Red Cross.

3. GRS Form No. 1 has not been submitted for subject officer.

4. Correspondence on file in this office, copies inclosed, indicate personal effects forwarded to Lt. Hofer's widow, Mrs. Jean Hofer, 2846 North 73rd Court, Elmwood Park 35, Chicago, Illinois, were not received by her.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL LARKIN:

5 Incls:

1. Ext cy ltr dtd 14 May 47
2. Ext cy ltr dtd 9 Dec 47
3. Cy QMG ltr dtd 27 Jan 48
4. Ext cy ltr dtd 26 Aug 44
w/l ind (ext)
5. Ext cy ltr dtd 27 Apr 45

Guy B. Kegley
 GUY B. KEGLEY
 Major, QMC
 Field Service Division

RECEIVED
 1000 4 3000-40

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

27 January 1948

QMGOD 293 Hofer, Ralph K., 1st Lt., O-2 045 177

3821

OQMG

FIELD SERVICE

DEPOT OPERATIONS

EFFECTS

QMGOD

2nd and "T" Streets, S.W., Washington 25, D. C.

"A" - 1632

Commanding Officer
Kansas City Quartermaster Depot
601 Hardesty Avenue
Kansas City 1, Missouri
ATTENTION: Effects Quartermaster

X

1. There are inclosed for your information excerpts from letters dated 14 May 1947 and 9 December 1947 from Mrs. A. J. Hofer, 16047 Highway 99, Newhall, California, regarding the personal effects of her son, the late First Lieutenant Ralph K. Hofer.

2. It is requested that a thorough search be made to locate these effects, or to ascertain disposition made of them, and that Mrs. Hofer and this office be advised of the results. It is further requested that Mrs. Hofer be advised regarding the package allegedly forwarded to her by the Red Cross.

3. GRS Form No. 1 has not been submitted for subject officer.

4. Correspondence on file in this office, copies inclosed, indicate personal effects forwarded to Lt. Hofer's widow, Mrs. Jean Hofer, 2846 North 73rd Court, Elmwood Park 35, Chicago, Illinois, were not received by her.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL LARKIN:

5 Incls:

1. Ext cy ltr dtd 14 May 47
2. Ext cy ltr dtd 9 Dec 47
3. Cy OQMG ltr dtd 27 Jan 48
4. Ext cy ltr dtd 26 Aug 44
w/1 ind (ext)
5. Ext cy ltr dtd 27 Apr 45

GUY B. KEGLEY
Major, QMC
Field Service Division

SMG

ELR

EXTRACT COPY

Hofer, Ralph K.
SN O-2 045-177

3033 Santa Monica Blvd.
Santa Monica, California
May 14, 1947.

QuarterMaster General
Memorial Division

I am writing this letter concerning my Son Ralph K. Hofer *****

The Red Cross wrote me that they had sent me a package that Belong to Ralph. I never did Rec'd it - they also told me to write to personal Effects Kansas City Mo. about it and they would trace it for me & I wrote them about it & I never did hear from them about it at all. They just did not an's my Letter I can't see why it wasn't Delivered to me. they have my address. Red Cross said if I did not hear from Them to write Washington D. C. this has been 4 months ago.

Yours truly,

s/ Mrs A J Hofer (Ralph Mother
3033 Santa Monica Blv'd
Santa Monica, Calif.

P.S.

I would please like an
answer to this letter.

EXTRACT COPY

Incl 1

EXTRACT COPY

QMGMF 293
Hofer, Ralph K.
SN 02-045-177

16047. Hwy. 99.
Newhall, Calif.
Dec 9. 47.

The Quarter Master General

Dear Sir:

I'm writting you again in Regards to my Son Ralph K Hofer.

also in your Letter you stated my Inquiry concerning personal Effects
will Be the subject of a Later communication & as yet I have not Rec'd
any news.

I remain,

s/ Mrs A. J. Hofer
16047 Highway 99
Newhall Calif.

EXTRACT COPY

Incl 2

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

ARMY SERVICE FORCES

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

QMGOD 293

Hofer, Ralph K.

SN O-2 045 177

27 January 1948

Mrs. A. J. Hofer
16047 Highway 99
Newhall, California

Dear Mrs. Hofer:

Your letter dated 9 December 1947 regarding your son, the late First Lieutenant Ralph K. Hofer, has been referred to this office for reply to that portion which pertains to his personal effects.

In order that a thorough search may be made to locate any effects marked as belonging to your son, a copy of your letter has been forwarded to the Army Effects Bureau for necessary action and direct reply to you. That Bureau will also furnish you all available information regarding the package allegedly forwarded to you by the Red Cross and about which you inquired in previous correspondence.

Mindful of the sentimental values involved, it is hoped you will receive a favorable report. If this office can be of further assistance to you, do not hesitate to call on us.

Sincerely yours,

GUY B. KEGLEY
Major, QMC
Field Service Division

Encl 3

EXTRACT COPY

August 26, 1944

To All The Boys in my Husband's Fighter Group

I am the wife of Lt. Ralph Kidd Hofer *****. Today, I got word that my Husband Ralph was "Killed in Action" over Hungary *****.

For the Great sacrifice He made, I'm asking for only one thing and that is, his clothes and belongings. Please, I know this is asking for a lot but it is the only remaining bit of memory I could Cherish!

Mrs. Jean Halbrook
2846 No 73rd Court
Elmwood Park 35
Chicago-Illinois
USA

His service stripes,
DFC Air Medal & Clusters
& His uniform & what ever else
you could send will be cherished
Thank you Kindly

Husband's Serial Numbers 02045177

EXTRACT COPY

Incl 4'

EXTRACT COPY

312.1

1st W/Ind

B-1-S

334th FTR SQ, 4th GP, APO 558, U. S. ARMY, 28 September 1944.

TO: Commanding General, Communications Zone, European T. of Opns, APO 871,
U. S. Army (Through Channels)
ATTENTION: AG Casualty Division.

3. His personal belongings which include all of the articles mentioned in the enclosed letter, were sent to his wife who was designated as his beneficiary, through the Effects Quartermaster, ETOUSA. Effects were forwarded from this station on 29 July 1944.

For the Squadron Commander:

DOUGLAS P. JENSEN,
Captain, Air Corps,
Executive, 334th Ftr Sq.

EXTRACT COPY

RE: Ralph K. Hofer, 1st Lt.
SN O-2 045 177

Ind # 4 2

EXTRACT COPY

April 27, 1945

J. A. Ulio
Major General
The Adjutant General

My dear Sir:

I have been waiting very patiently for the return of my dear husband's personal effects and clothing. I have been notified from my husband's Commanding Officer that all of his personal effects were forwarded to the Effects Quartermaster UK-APO for eventual disposition to me. This information was received by me on Jan. 30th 1945 and as yet, I have not heard another word from anyone, even after writing four letters to the Kansas City QM Depot.

Very respectfully,

Mrs. Jean Halbrook Hofer
2846 No. 73rd Court
Elmwood Park 35
Chicago, Illinois

EXTRACT COPY

RE: Ralph K. Hofer, 1st Lt.
SN O-2 045 177

Incl 5-

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY SERVICE FORCES

MEMO ROUTING SLIP

TO THE FOLLOWING IN ORDER INDICATED:

	NAME OR TITLE	ORGANIZATION	BUILDING AND ROOM	INITIALS
1	Dir., Memorial Division, OCMG		Room 1005, Tempo C Building	DATE
	Washington, D. C.			
2				
3				

1. For necessary action, Re: Burial ²⁹³
2. First Lieutenant Ralph K. Hofer, 02045177, was killed in action on 2 July 1944 in European Area.
3. Writer has been notified of this reference.

2 Incls.

Cpy ltr dtd 3 Sept 45

Cpy of reply dtd 17 Sept 45

FROM:	NAME	ORGANIZATION	BUILDING AND ROOM	DATE
			3633	17 Sept 45
	Casualty Branch, Composite Section # B			TELEPHONE
	Family Relations Sub-Section	RRB/frs		79990

W. D., A. G. O. Form 0115
1 October 1944This Form supersedes W. D., A. G. O. Form 0115, 23 March 1944,
which may be used until existing stocks are exhausted.



~~ARMY SERVICE FORCES~~
KANSAS CITY QUARTERMASTER DEPOT
Army Effects Bureau
601 HARDESTY AVENUE
KANSAS CITY 1, MISSOURI

IN REPLY REFER TO 116047

LIST OF PERSONAL EFFECTS OF FIRST LIEUTENANT FRANK K. HOFER, O-2045177, AIR CORPS, RECEIVED AT THE ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU AND FORWARDED TO MRS. JEAN HOFER, 2846 NORTH 73RD COURT, ELMWOOD PARK 35, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS ON 30 JULY 1945:

1 ea Air Medal with ribbons	1 ea Money belt
1 ea Distinguished Flying Cross	1 ea Rubber stamp
1 ea Ring with 5 white stones	2 ea Kits, 1 shaving and 1 sewing
2 ea Books	1 ea Pipe
1 ea German helmet	1 ea Mirror
5 ea Decoration ribbons	1 ea Lighter
17 sets Insignia	1 ea Soap dish
11 ea Pilot's wings	3 ea Dog collars
2 ea Clusters	1 ea Dog leash
1 ea Garrison cap	1 ea Cigarette case
14 ea Shirts	1 pr Leather braces
3 ea Neckties	1 ea Short snorter
1 ea Detachable collar	1 ea Battle jacket
4 ea Brushes, 1 with holder	3 ea Service blouses
13 ea Towels	2 ea Coats
7 pr Trousers	3 ea Undershirts
4 pr Shoes	2 ea Sweaters
1 pr Boots	18 pr Socks
1 ea Suitcase	12 pr Shorts
3 ea Belts	3 pr Pajamas
2 ea Wallets	18 ea Handkerchiefs

Bureau check for \$20.75 was sent to Mrs. Hofer on 4 May 1945.

Bureau check for \$978.76 was sent to Mrs. Hofer on 18 October 1945.

Incl 6



ARMY SERVICE FORCES
KANSAS CITY QUARTERMASTER DEPOT

601 HARDESTY AVENUE
KANSAS CITY 1, MISSOURI

IN REPLY REFER TO ~~116047~~

MEM/BRK/mj
2 February 1948

Mrs. A. J. Hofer
16047 Highway 99
Newhall, California

Dear Mrs. Hofer:

The Quartermaster General in Washington has forwarded a copy of your letter of 9 December 1947 to this Bureau for further reply concerning the personal effects of your son, First Lieutenant Ralph K. Hofer.

As you have been previously informed, the property received in this Bureau for your son was delivered to his widow, Mrs. Jean Hofer, of Chicago, Illinois, receipt of which was acknowledged by her. You were at that time furnished an itemized listing of the property sent your daughter-in-law.

On 8 July 1946 additional property consisting of a small amount of mail and photos belonging to your son was received at this Bureau and due to a duplication of files was sent to you at 2705 South Santa Fe Drive, Englewood, Colorado. Inasmuch as this parcel was apparently not delivered, tracer action was instituted through the Red Cross in an attempt to recover this property which is now believed to have become lost in the mails and cannot now be located.

I regret that I can be of no further service to you in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

M. E. MOHR
Major, QMC
Effects Quartermaster

Incl 7

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
XXXXXXXXXXXX

QMGOD 293
Hofer, Ralph K.
SN O-2 045 177

27 January 1948

Mrs. A. J. Hofer
16047 Highway 99
Newhall, California

Dear Mrs. Hofer:

Your letter dated 9 December 1947 regarding your son, the late First Lieutenant Ralph K. Hofer, has been referred to this office for reply to that portion which pertains to his personal effects.

In order that a thorough search may be made to locate any effects marked as belonging to your son, a copy of your letter has been forwarded to the Army Effects Bureau for necessary action and direct reply to you. That Bureau will also furnish you all available information regarding the package allegedly forwarded to you by the Red Cross and about which you inquired in previous correspondence.

Mindful of the sentimental values involved, it is hoped you will receive a favorable report. If this office can be of further assistance to you, do not hesitate to call on us.

Sincerely yours,

SMG

ELR

GUY B. KEGLEY
Major, QMC
Field Service Division

MAIL & RECORDS BRANCH
O-2 M.G.
JAN 27 4 36 PM '48

293
QUOD 293
Hofer, Ralph K.
SN 02 045 177

16 January 1948

Mrs. A. J. Hofer
16047 Highway 99
Route #1
Newhall, California

Dear Mrs. Hofer:

Your letter pertaining to the remains of your son, the late First Lieutenant Ralph K. Hofer, has come to my attention.

The German burial report received in this office through captured enemy records indicates that the remains of your son were interred near Mostar, Yugoslavia.

The American Graves Registration Service is attempting to verify this report and return your son's remains to an established United States Military Cemetery. As soon as this task is accomplished, and reported I shall inform you immediately.

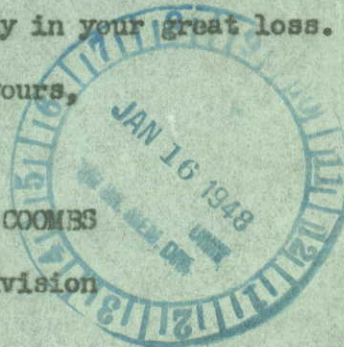
The identification tags are considered part of the uniform worn by military personnel and in case of death, one tag is buried with the remains and the other attached to the grave marker at the time of interment for future identification. It is impossible, therefore, to comply with your request to receive the tags worn by your son.

Your inquiry concerning the personal effects of your son will be the subject of a further communication.

Please be assured of my continued sympathy in your great loss.

Sincerely yours,

RICHARD B. COOMBS
Major, GIC
Memorial Division



RBC

CORRESPONDENCE ACTION SHEET

Mr. XXXXXX
 Miss. XXXXXX
 Addressee: Mrs. A.J. Hofer Mother
 State 16047 Highway 99 Relationship
 City, State XXXXXX XXXXXX Newhall, California '47
 Date letter

Cemetery
 Temporary: _____
 Permanent: _____
 Plot Row Gr Cem. Name or No. City Country

PARAGRAPHS (sequence) --- ADDITIONAL --- DATA --- MODIFICATIONS ---

165-A -----son-----
 10-D Par. #1 -----son, omit the late-----
 #2 -----son-----
 27 Par. #1 ---German-----captured enemy records-----son, omit the late, -
 166-A -----near Mostar, Yugoslavia.
 #2 -----son's -----
 AM
 6/Jan 126-A -----son, omit the late-----
 168-A -----son-----
 166-M
 Re-Write

Decedent: Hofer
 Last Ralph
 First K
 Initial K
 1st Lt.
 Rank
 O-2045177
 ASN

new
 1/1/48
 S.A.

Analyst Typist Reviewer Modifications OKed

A I R M A I L

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

In Reply Refer To
QMGM 293

293
HOFFER, RALPH K.
SN 02 045 177

26 November 1947

SUBJECT: Additional Information That May Lead to the Recovery
and Identification of Remains Not Yet Accounted For

TO: Commanding General
American Graves Registration Command
European Area
APO 58, c/o Postmaster
New York, New York

1. There is attached hereto, five copies QMGM Form 371
(covering all available information in the Office of the Quartermaster
General and is in addition to any previous information forwarded by
this office to your headquarters) for the following deceased individual:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>SERIAL NO.</u>
HOFFER, RALPH K.	1/LT.	02 045 177

2. It is requested that information on the above deceased be
furnished this office in accordance with provisions of Letter, The
Adjutant General's Office, file AGAO-S 293.9 (27 Mar 47) D-M, subject
Establishment of Boards of Review for Identification of Unknown Dead
Overseas, dated 9 April 1947.

FOR THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL:

Incl
Form 371 (5 cys)

James C. MacFarland
JAMES C. MAC FARLAND
Major, QMC
Memorial Division

A I R M A I L

GB

JS
K#

NOV 25 4 28 PM '47
RECORDS BRANCH
MEMORIAL DIVISION

293 FILE

DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET RECOVERED OR IDENTIFIED

NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)

HOFFER, RALPH K.

GRADE

1/LT.

PRESENT SERIAL
NUMBER

02 045 177

ORGANIZATION

334TH FTR SQ
4TH FTR GP

RACE

WHITE

CREED

PROTESTANT

FORMER SERIAL
NUMBER (If applicable)

DATE OF DEATH/MIA

CAUSE OF DEATH

PLACE OF DEATH OR PLACE LAST SEEN IF MIA

DATE OF FOD

KILLED IN ACTION,

EUROPEAN AREA

HEIGHT

72"

WEIGHT

185

COLOR EYES

NOT

COLOR HAIR

OF

SHOE SIZE

RECORDED

DENTAL CHART

1 JUN 43

UPPER RIGHT

8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
X X

UPPER LEFT

X 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

LOWER RIGHT

16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9
X

FXD. BDG. R-4,5 & L.12 SERVICEABLE

LOWER LEFT

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

X = Extracted

O = Carious

1 = Carious Non-Restorable

FRACTURES AND/OR BREAKS

TATTOOS AND/OR BIRTHMARK

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

AGE: 23

KILLED IN ACTION OVER BUDAPEST, HUNGARY (INFO PER GWA)

DIED NEAR MOSTAR YUGOSLAVIA

BURIED NEAR MOSTAR, YUGOSLAVIA -- CAPT'D GERMAN RECORDS

8 July 1944.

STATEMENT OF WITNESS:

On July 2, 1944 on a Ramrod to Budapest we were escorting the bombers and ran into 20 plus ME 109's about 6,000 feet above us. I last saw Lt. Hofer while we were climbing to meet them just North of the City at about 20,000 feet. It can be presumed that Lt. Hofer was lost in the subsequent engagement with these A/C.

/s/ Frank C. Jones
/t/ Frank C. Jones,
Captain, A.C.,
Flt Cmdr.

A TRUE COPY:

JOHN L. BOGGIANO,
2nd Lt., A. C.

773
NAME Hofer, Ralph K.

ASN 02 045 177 RANK 1st Lt.

150-
Isolated: Yugoslavia.

Changes made in information Forms
#333 and A-Z are from sources lis-
ted below:

No change. Widow listed as NOK.

Officer's Initials BE

Date 1 Aug. 1947

FROM: RELATIONSHIP _____

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY & STATE _____

TO: RELATIONSHIP _____

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY & STATE _____

NAT: BE

File 1 Aug. 1947

F-8

Date

12/16/47

TO: Identification Section

Case Name

Defer, Ralph K. 1/Lt 02 045 177

Request situation paragraph, and cemetery if appropriate, applicable to this case.

Bennett

German Burial Records re in file
for subject deceased.
371 has been sent to field for
verification of German Records

R Ymach
Ident. Sec.

Eft 6817

Tab A

CASE UNDER
INVESTIGATION

FORM 371 BEING PREPARED, WHICH WILL BE FORWARDED TO M & R UPON
COMPLETION.

FROM IDENTIFICATION SECTION

DATE 8 OCTOBER 1947

SIGNED _____

LT. SULLIVAN, 1st Lt., QMC

TO MAIL & RECORDS BRANCH

"A" 1314

293 Hofer, Ralph K. 02045177
-g

File
on A. 71

10/9/47

CORRESPONDENCE ACTION WORK SHEET

Send Letter to Mrs. A. G. Hofer Relationship Mother
3033 Santa Monica Boulevard
 ADDRESS Santa Monica, California

Army Serial Number 0-2 045 177 Rank 1st Lt.

OPENING PARAGRAPH: 62-1 62-2 62-3 62-4

BURIAL INFORMATION: 6 6A 7 8 9 10 10A 11 12 12A 13 13A
 14 14A 14B 15 16 17 20 21 22 22B

Temp. Cem.

Perm. Cem.

Plot	Row	Grave	Name of Cem.	City and Country
------	-----	-------	--------------	------------------

RETURN OF REMAINS: 78 79 81 82

OTHER PARAGRAPHS 23 24 26 27 28 29 30 35 36 40 41 42
 43 51 53 54 55 56 57 58 58A 60 61 63A
 63B 65 65A 65B 65C 65D 66 67 68 68A 69 70
 73 74 76 84 85

INDORSEMENTS: To AG (47 71) To Ch of Chap (48 71)
 To Other Agencies: (71)

PERSONAL EFFECTS: 50 64 sentences

SUSPEND — days

Copy of letter to AGO and Identification Section*

TEMPORARY CHANGE OF ADDRESS *

* PERMANENT CHANGE OF ADDRESS
 BUCK SLIP TO RECORDS SECTION
 COPY TO ADJUTANT GENERAL

Dates of Letters for which Copies are Necessary to AAF:

OTHER:

CLOSING PARAGRAPH: 62-5 Regret Delay *

Letter to be Dated Analyst Typist Reviewer

* Note: Circle paragraph numbers and/or starred phrases that are applicable.

NAME OF DECEASED

LAST NAME

FIRST NAME

MIDDLE INITIAL

Hofer
Ralph

File
25 June 47
J.B.

8603

In an effort to obtain further information regarding the interment of your son's remains, a letter is being dispatched to the Theater of Operations requesting all information which the American Graves Registration Service in that area might have.

You are also advised that the current political situation in Yugoslavia has retarded Graves Registration activities in that country, however, when a report of interment is received, you will be advised with a minimum of delay.

QMGMF 293
Hofer, Ralph K.
SN 02 045 177

Address Reply To
THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
Attention: Memorial Division

25 June 1947

Mrs. A. J. Hofer
3033 Santa Monica Boulevard
Santa Monica, California

Dear Mrs. Hofer:

I have received your letter of 14 May 1947 concerning your son, the late First Lieutenant Ralph K. Hofer.

I regret that there are no provisions whereby the Government may sponsor or incur the expenses for a trip overseas to visit a military cemetery. In view of the program now in effect to return the remains of these deceased persons to the United States upon the request of the next of kin, it is not believed that such pilgrimages will be sponsored. Should, however, the sponsoring of such pilgrimages be the will of the Congress, a program will, of course, be put into effect and an agency designated to carry it out.

In an effort to obtain further information regarding the interment of your son's remains, a letter is being dispatched to the Theater of Operations requesting all information which the American Graves Registration Service in that area might have.

You are also advised that the current political situation in Yugoslavia has retarded graves registration activities in that country; however, when a report of interment is received, you will be advised with a minimum of delay.

Your inquiry concerning personal effects will be the subject of a later communication.

Sincerely yours,

RICHARD B. COOMBS
Major, QMC
Memorial Division

pld



ABC

QMGMR 293
Hofer, Ralph K.
SN O-2 045 177

Address Reply To
THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
Attention: Memorial Division

18 February 1947

Mrs. A. J. Hofer
3033 Santa Monica Boulevard
Santa Monica, California

Dear Mrs. Hofer:

Your letter concerning your son, the late First Lieutenant Ralph K. Hofer, has been received in this office.

Information has been received in this office that the remains of your son were interred near Mostar, Yugoslavia. When this reported burial has been verified by the American Graves Registration Service and your son's remains have been removed to an established American Military Cemetery, you will be advised.

The War Department has now been authorized to remove, at Government expense, to the final resting place designated by the next of kin, the remains of those American citizens who died while serving overseas with our armed forces during this war.

When the necessary preliminaries have been completed, a "Letter of Inquiry -- Return of World War II Dead" will be sent to the next of kin of those American dead. The response to this letter will constitute a formal expression of the next of kin's detailed desires. Since letters to next of kin will be dispatched automatically and according to the records here, communications with this office regarding this subject will not be necessary. The necessity for complete coordination of movement in many parts of the world makes it impossible, at this time, to estimate when this letter will be mailed. Responses to these letters will be acted upon with a minimum of delay.

The Secretary of War, pursuant to the authority given him in Section 4, Public Law 383, 79th Congress, has established an order of priority among the next of kin in which their desires concerning the disposition of decedent's remains will be honored.

QMCMR 293 Hofer, Ralph K., SN O-2 045 177, 18 February 1947 (Cont'd)

Inasmuch as your son was married at the time he met his death, this office must recognize the right of his widow to direct disposition of decedent's remains unless she remarries or voluntarily waives her right to direct such disposition.

This office should be advised if the above address represents a permanent change.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES L. PRENN
Major, QMC
Memorial Division

lcb

JLP
(1)

1 1 04 PM '47

QMC
SECOND BRANCH

RECEIVED
FEB 18 1947
QMC

QMGYG 293

Hofer, Ralph K.

SN 02 045 177

27 September 1946

Address Reply To
THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
Attention: Memorial Division

Mrs. A. J. Hofer
Trees Auto Court
Vancouver, Washington

Dear Mrs. Hofer:

Your letter to The Adjutant General, concerning your son, the late First Lieutenant Ralph K. Hofer, has been referred to this office.

Units of the American Graves Registration Service are now engaged in searching operations in an endeavor to locate the remains of deceased Americans. As yet, however, no report has been received that your son's remains have been discovered.

Information being utilized by these searching units includes data gathered from captured enemy records, from reports submitted by various commanders as well as fellow soldiers, and from reports rendered after the interrogation of returned prisoners of war.

I sincerely hope that this intensive search will result in the discovery and identification of your son's remains. Please be assured that when further information is received, you will be informed with a minimum of delay.

The identification tags are considered part of the uniform worn by military personnel and in case of death, one tag is buried with the remains and the other attached to the grave marker at the time of interment for future identification.

FOR THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL:

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS F. LEWIN
Captain, QMG
Assistant

msx

TFL

71 9 27 1946
MAIL & RECORDS BRANCH
Q.M.G.
27 10 16 1946

AGPC-O 201 Hofer, Ralph K.
(23 Jul 46) 02 045 177

12 August 1946

Mrs. A. J. Hofer
Trees Auto Court
Vancouver, Washington

Dear Mrs. Hofer:

I am in receipt of your letter concerning your son, First Lieutenant Ralph K. Hofer.

Your desire for additional information of the circumstances leading to the death of Lieutenant Hofer is fully understood. A review of the records of this office indicates that Lieutenant Hofer was the pilot of a P-31 (Mustang) fighter plane which left its base in Italy on 2 July 1944 on a bomber escort mission to Budapest. The purpose of the mission was the destruction of synthetic oil tanks in that vicinity. The flight encountered enemy aircraft northeast of the target and Lieutenant Hofer was last seen climbing to enter combat with enemy aircraft which were about 6,000 feet above. He was not seen or contacted after that.

When Lieutenant Hofer did not return to base and nothing could be learned regarding his whereabouts, he was reported missing in action as of 2 July 1944. The following month a report was received from the German Government through the International Red Cross at Berne, which stated that Lieutenant Hofer had been killed in action and was buried near Mostar, Yugoslavia. Your son's name also appeared on another prisoner of war list from Budapest through the International Red Cross, as killed in action near Mostar on 2 July 1944. A review of the information available would lead to the supposition that Lieutenant Hofer was killed while in combat with the enemy aircraft he climbed to attack.

I am referring a copy of your letter to the Quartermaster General Washington 25, D. C., for information in regards to the report of burial of Lieutenant Hofer near Mostar as that official has jurisdiction over such matters.

May I extend my sympathy in the loss of your son.

Sincerely yours,

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

AG 201 Hofer, Ralph K
PC-02045177

Van Cover, Wash.
July 23, 1946

The Adjutant Generals Office
Wash. D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am writting you in regards to my son Lt. Ralph K. Hofer, it has been 2 yrs now since my son Ralph was reported shot down over Hungary July 2th 1944, and as yet I have not rec'd any information about just what happened to him only the telegram saying he was killed on that day July 2th 1944. or where he was burried or anything at all. about him to just what happend on that day mabe you can help me in some way or you have some information by now, to just what did happened to him. I would appreciate it so much if you have farther information since if the Gov't is sure that Lt. Hofer was killed on that day, July 2th 1944. There should be some record of him, or where he was burried in Hungary as yet I have not rece'd his identification tag. What I have heard from returning Service men I should had his tag by now and to know just what happened on that day. I hope that you can help me in some way. to what happened there should be some definite proof in some way by now to what happened to him.

Thanking you very kindly

I remain Mrs. A. J. Hofer
Trees Auto Ct.
Van Couver, Wash.

C
O
P
Y

*W-19-2 Carden Feb
8-20-46
Miss Key*

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

In Reply Refer to QMGY 293

Hofer, Ralph K.
O-2 045 177

29 October 1946

BURIAL INFORMATION

NAME: Hofer, Ralph K.

GRADE: 1st Lt.

A.S.N.: O-2 045 177

DATE OF DEATH: 2 July 1944.

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

PLACE OF DEATH: Near Mostar, Yugoslavia.

PLACE OF BURIAL: Near Mostar, Yugoslavia.

Above information has been obtained from: Letter of The Adjutant General.

Transmittal Ltr No. 314.6 Graves Reg (incl H S miss) 66/E, dtd 29 October 1946

Incl 18