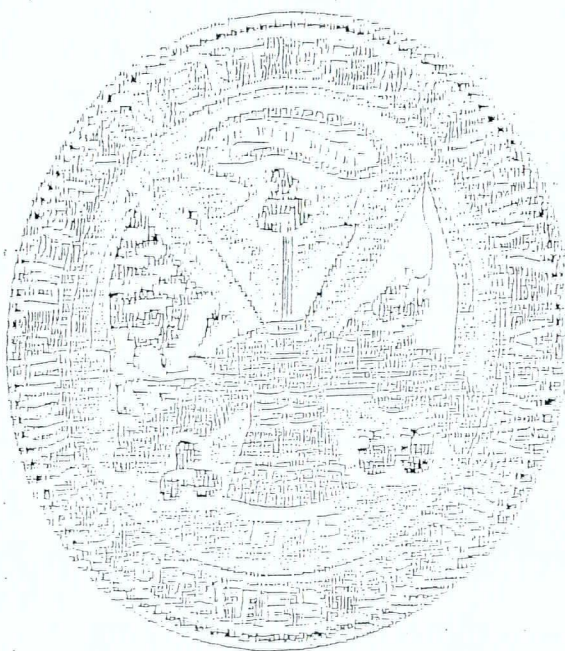


TSgt Max R. White  
392 BG, 579th BS

downed 10/8/43 over North Sea (?)



INDIVIDUAL DECEASED  
PERSONAL FILE

BEST COPY POSSIBLE  
FOR QUALITY ORG.

White

412

# NON-RECOVERABLE REMAINS REEXAMINATION OF RECORDS

Area of Death <b>European, North Sea, Vic of Bremen, Germany</b>		Case Number <b>14951</b>
Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) <b>29 Willhite, Max R.</b>	Rank <b>T/Sgt</b>	Serial Number <b>37 214 580</b>
<p>In the course of this reexamination it has been determined that the circumstances of death were such that: (Check appropriate box)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The remains of the decedent could not have been recovered</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The remains of the decedent could have been recovered. However, after review of the following it has been determined that evidence does not exist to contradict a finding of non-recoverability:</p>		
1. 295 File of Decedent		INITIALS OF ANALYST <b>E.M.</b>
2. Geographical clue index file of unknowns recovered from appropriate area, compared with decedent		<b>E.M.</b>
3. Other documents or sources		
Remarks:		
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>NAN</b> <b>File</b> <b>JAN 12 1951</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Identification Branch</b></p>		
RECOMMEND APPROVAL		APPROVED
Name of Case Analyst <b>E. Miller</b>	Case Reviewer, Final Determination Section	Chief, Final Determination Section <b>C. Peterson</b>
		Date

MEMORIALIZATION OF NON-RECOVERABLE  
REMAINS OF WORLD WAR II

THIS FILE HAS BEEN AUDITED FOR NON-RECOVERABILITY

NAME (Last, First, Middle)

WILWHITE, MAX R.

RANK

T. SG

SERIAL NUMBER

37214580

ARM OF SERVICE

A AF

DATE OF DEATH

9 OCT '44

AREA OF DEATH

\* Germany  
53° 25' N - 09° 08' E

NAME OF AUDITOR

MAPLES

DATE

16 MAY '51

NAME OF REVIEWER

RAGSDALE

DATE

18 MAY '51

REMARKS

\*Above Decedent and nine (9) others were killed when their plane was shot down during a Bombing Mission over Germany. Missing in Action Date ~~70~~ October 1943. For purposes of Memorialization the Area of Death is Germany. Code - 72.

1944



CONTROLLED CASE			
NAME <b>WILLHITE, Max R.</b>		GRADE <b>T/Sgt</b>	SERIAL NO. <b>37 214 580</b>
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) <b>Lay</b>	
UNKNOWN <b>X -</b>	NON-RECOVERABLE CASE NO. <b>14951</b>	A-Z CARD FLAGGED BY	333 CARD FLAGGED BY
<p style="text-align: center;"><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>			



# NON-RECOVERABLE CASE RECORD OF REVIEW AND APPROVAL

CASE NUMBER 14951 10)

AREA OR ZONE(S)  
European

NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)  
Willhite, Max R.

RANK  
T/Sgt

SERIAL NUMBER  
37 214 580

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.)

The above decedent and nine (9) others

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.

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

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

NAN  
File

2 1951

*Myrtle*  
Branch

NAME OF CASE ANALYST  
Vincent A. Thomas/cwt

CASE TO BE FORWARDED TO  
FOR CONSIDERATION OF NOTIFICATION TO INTERESTED PARTIES.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL	APPROVED	DATE
CASE REVIEWER, FINAL DETERMINATION SECTION W. A. WOLF	CHIEF, FINAL DETERMINATION SECTION C. C. WASSON, Capt QMC	CHIEF, IDENTIFICATION BRANCH THOMAS E. COX, Capt QMC

HEADQUARTERS  
7887 GRAVES REGISTRATION DETACHMENT  
OPERATIONS DIVISION  
APO 757 (Liege) US ARMY

Proceedings of a Board of Officers appointed in accordance with letter AGAO-S 293.9 (27 Mar 47) D-M, War Dept, TAGO, 9 April 1947.

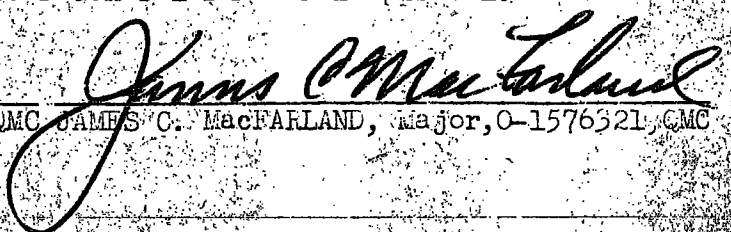
The Board convened pursuant to par 2, SO 133, headquarters, 7887 Graves Registration Detachment, APO 757, US Army, 20 October 1950, at Liege, Belgium on 2 - NOV 1950. The purpose of the Board was to determine the non-recoverability status of certain casualties now under jurisdiction of this command.

The Board reviewed report of investigation, statements of witness and other papers, contained in the files of 7887 Graves Registration Detachment, EA, pertaining to the case of the following named casualty/casualties, the remains of which have not been recovered. The case records and other data considered, are attached.

<u>CASE #</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>ASN</u>
	CLIFFORD, William W.	1st Lt.	0 678 174
	McLEMORE, Paul L.	2nd Lt.	0 801 187
	SCHROEDER, Harold R.	2nd Lt.	0 677 891
	WHITMAN, Joseph C.	2nd Lt.	0 735 007
	ZSCHIECHE, Charles E.	T/Sgt.	38 134 584
	WILLHITE, Max R.	T/Sgt.	37 214 580
	TYNES, David D. Jr.	T/Sgt.	15 086 916
	TWITTEN, Ernest A.	S/Sgt.	37 301 968
	STEVENS, Hirschall M.	S/Sgt.	35 423 747
	CAVEIL, Dominick F.	S/Sgt.	32 433 382

FINDINGS: The Board having carefully considered the evidence before it, finds the remains of said casualty/casualties are non-recoverable.

RECOMMENDATION: That the case concerning subject casualty/casualties be forwarded to the Office of The Quartermaster General for final approval.

EDWARD D. MULVANY, Lt. Col. O-359598, QMC  JAMES C. MacFARLAND, Major, O-1576321, QMC

GEORGE GUNDERMAN, JR. Major, O-1289071, QMC CLYDE W. STEINSIEK, Capt. O-1040311, QMC

 LEWIS A. McAMIS, Capt. O-1543042, MSC/QMC  ALLAN L. LAWSON, 1/Lt, O-1288075, QMC

JOHN A. BOUTIN, 2/Lt O-947298, QMC ROBERT W. GANSEL, 1/Lt, O-1599085, QMC

HEADQUARTERS  
7887 GRAVES REGISTRATION DETACHMENT  
OPERATIONS DIVISION  
APO 757 (Liege) US ARMY

GROP 293.9

SUBJECT: Non-Recoverable

TO: Non-Recoverable Board, AGRC

1. It is recommended that the Board take action on the following cases:

NAMES:	CLIFFORD, William W.	1/Lt	0-678174
	MC LEMORE, Paul L.	2/Lt	0-601187
	SCHROEDER, Harold R.	2/Lt	0-677891
	WHITMAN, Joseph C.	2/Lt	0-735007
	ZSCHIECHE, Charles E.	T/Sgt	38134584
	WILLHITE, Max R.	T/Sgt	37214580
	TYNES, David D. Jr.	T/Sgt	15086916
	WETEN, Ernest A.	S/Sgt	37301968
	STEVENS, Hirschall M.	S/Sgt	35423717
	CAVELL, Dominick F.	S/Sgt	32433382

ORGANIZATION: 579th Bomb Sq., 392 Bomb Group

DATE OF DEATH: (S/Sgt Cavell) - Undetermined  
Balance of Crew - 8 October 1943

PLACE OF DEATH: (S/Sgt Cavell) - Undetermined  
Balance of Crew - North Sea, Vicinity Bremen,  
Germany

SYNOPSIS: The above named casualties are reported on OCMG Forms 371 as missing in action over Vegesack, Germany, on the date cited above. A Missing Air Crew Report indicates that subject casualties comprised the entire crew of aircraft B-24H, #42-7470, which failed to return from a bombing mission to Vegesack. A notation made part of subject report indicates the aircraft was seen to explode as the result of enemy gunfire.

A memorandum for Record, dated 6 April 1949, reveals that subject aircraft was one (1) of three (3) B-24 type bombers lost from a force of fifty-five (55) which bombed Vegesack on 8 October 1943, in conjunction with

GROP 293.9

SUBJECT: Non-Recoverable

the bombing of Bremen, Germany, with a force of three hundred forty-four (344) B-17's. Further, of three hundred and five (305) airmen lost on these raids; all have been accounted for except the ten (10) concerned herein.

Dulag records, according to the above Memorandum, reports the crashes of two (2) B-24 type aircraft on the date cited; both within a 30-40 mile radius of Bremen, Germany. There was no identifiable report for the third aircraft unless consideration be given that reported in Dulag records as shot down off the coast of Holland. The paragraph in the Memorandum concerning this record is quoted in full, as follows: "Only one German reference (KU 210) is found of a bomber downed that day, 'fate of crew unknown'. This stated that an American Fortress (German records often failed to distinguish properly between our B-17 and B-24 types) was shot down off the coast of Holland at 1633 hours. With regards to the possibility that the above Dulag reference does concern the aircraft in question, the Memorandum concludes: "The Bremen-Vegesack area was highly developed, well populated, and vitally important to the enemy's war effort. Surrounding waters were under his control and undoubtedly well patrolled by surface craft as well as planes. That any Allied aircraft could fall in this area during a period of good visibility without being sighted and reported to the High Command seems highly improbable. Since all other aircraft lost over the target (Bremen-Vegesack) on 8 October 1943 have been accounted for, it seems most likely, if not indisputable, that the "Fortress" reported in German Record "KU 210" as having been shot down off the coast of Holland, 'fate of crew unknown' was manned by the personnel named in paragraph 1, above (the ten crew members concerned)."

Lt. William P. Nicholson, an eyewitness to the incident whose name appears on the reverse side of the MACR, furnishes additional information which indicates that the aircraft piloted by Lt. Buschman was seen to explode rather than the aircraft concerned herein. Pertinent parts of his replies to letters of inquiry are extracted from the Memorandum, as follows: "\*\*\*\*he last saw the plane, 30 miles north north-east of Vegesack, it was going down in a left bank, No. 4 engine out and trailing smoke. He was unable to contact the pilot by radio, but is sure that neither himself nor Lt. Slowik, his navigator, saw the craft explode\*\*\*\*. With regard to the other plane lost from his Group, that piloted by Buschman, he stated that his gunners, and those of other returning planes, reported it had been hit after leaving the German coast on the way back and exploded in mid-air as it turned toward shore."

Whereas findings thus far presented imply that the entire crew perished when their aircraft crashed at an undetermined location in the North Sea, a telegram and a letter received from unknown sources by the brother of one (1) crew member, S/Sgt Dominick F. Cavell, indicates that S/Sgt Cavell was not



GROP 293.9

SUBJECT: Non-Recoverable

killed in the aircraft crash. The brother, Mr. Frank P. Cavell, writes in regards to the telegram received in November 1943, "The telegram simply stated that my brother, S/Sgt D. F. Cavell, was a prisoner in enemy hands. It was signed 'Isreal'. Mr. Cavell also furnished a photostatic copy of the letter, dated 18 February 1944, which reads: "Your son F. Cavell is safe, in good place, in good health, and in good care. On his first opportunity he will communicate with you. Love to all also to Miss Robert. Keep this secret from suspicious people, He is not a prisoner of Germany."

A Field Investigation conducted at Vegesack on 4 September 1947 revealed that no aircraft crashed in the area of Vegesack or in communal areas under its jurisdiction. Officials had no knowledge of the casualty, S/Sgt Cavell.

All attempts by this Headquarters to associate subject casualty with remains of unknown deceased proved negative.

From facts herein presented and in the absence of any factual evidence as to the survival of subject casualties after the incident, other than that on record for S/Sgt Cavell, it is concluded that:

a. Nine (9) of the above named crew members were killed or died from exposure when their aircraft crashed into the North Sea at an undetermined location and their remains have never washed ashore, precluding their recovery.

b. S/Sgt Cavell survived the crash, was captured, rescued by the "underground" resistance movement and later met his death in an unknown manner which precludes attempts toward investigation and recovery of his remains.

Reference is made to: OCLG Forms 371; MACR #879; Memorandum For Record dated 6 April 1949; On file in the Office of the Quartermaster General.

Reference is also made to: Narrative Report of Field Investigation, dated 4 September 1947; Attached.

2. All attached supporting documents are copied from records on file this headquarters.

3. It is recommended that the remains, based upon the above information and research, be declared non-recoverable.

C. W. Steinsiek  
C. W. STEINSIEK  
Captain QMC

HEADQUARTERS  
466TH QUARTERMASTER BATTALION  
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION COMMAND  
APO 171, U.S. ARMY

4 September 1947

NARRATIVE REPORT

On 27 August 1947 I was dispatched by this Headquarters to Vegesack, Germany (L-54/R-50) to investigate AGRC case # 8800 pertaining to S/Sgt Dominick F. Cavel and nine (9) crew members of same aircraft still in a casualty status. According to basic document the a/c # 42-7470 of which S/Sgt Cavel was a crew member failed to return from a bombing mission over Vegesack on 8 October 1943. Operational Instructions #48 state that plane was last sighted in the vicinity of Bremervoerde, Germany.

1. I first went to Vegesack and questioned the local officials. They stated (see incl. #1 and 2) that in the communities of Vegesack, and nearby localities of Schönebeck, Aumund and Grohn only one (1) grave of David Turpin 35210467 is known. His name does not correspond with names mentioned in inclosed MACR # 879. The case of Turpin is being investigated separately.

2. I then went to Bremervoerde, where plane was reported to have been last sighted. I questioned the local officials and I was informed (see incl. #3) that no plane crashed in that locality in October 1943.

3. I have also checked records and found (see incl. #4) that no casualties of the whole area correspond by name or date of death with deceased in question.

CONCLUSION:

Investigation in the area of Vegesack where a B-24H # 42-7470 had a bombing mission as well as the area of Bremervoerde, in the vicinity of which a/c was last sighted fail to reveal a casualty corresponding with S/Sgt Dominick F. Cavel.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that case be considered negative.

- /s/t/ B. Fink - WDC  
Investigator
4. Incls:  
1. Statement; Town Secretary Vegesack  
2. Statement; Town Secretary Vegesack  
3. Statement; Landkreis, Bremervoerde  
4. List of casualties, Bremervoerde

20 October 1950

SPECIAL ORDERS )

NUMBER 133 )

E-X-T-R-A-C-T

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2. PAC, Ltr WD-AGO-S 293.9, dtd 9 Apr 47, Subj: "Establishment of Boards of Review for Identification of Unknown Dead Overseas," and par 118 b, SR 830-110-5, DA, 3 Mar 49, a Board of O's as follows is hereby apt to meet at the call of the President thereof, for the purpose of reviewing case records pertaining to the Identification of Deceased, Determination of non-recoverability of Remains and for the purpose of reviewing Major Discrepancy cases:

LT COL EDWARD D. MULVANY, O 359 598, QMC., President  
MAJOR JAMES C. MacFARLAND, O 1 576 321, QMC.,  
MAJOR GEORGE GUNDERMAN, Jr., O 1 289 071, INF/QMC.,  
CAPT CLYDE W. STEINSIEK, O 1 040 311, QMC.,  
CAPT LEWIS A. McAMIS, O 1 543 042 MSC/QMC.,  
1ST LT ALLEN L. LAWSON, O 1 288 075, QMC.,  
1ST LT ROBERT W. GANSEL, O 1 599 085, QMC.,  
2D LT JOHN A. BOUTIN, O 947 298, QMC.,

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\*\*

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BY ORDER OF COLONEL AMLONG:

EDWARD F. PRICE, Jr.,  
CAPT., QMC,  
Adjutant.

OFFICIAL:

s/ Edward F. Price, Jr.,  
t/ EDWARD F. PRICE, Jr.,  
CAPT., QMC,  
Adjutant.

A TRUE COPY:

ROBERT G. LAY  
Maj QMC



6 April 1949

AG 704 (6 Apr 49)

## MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Review of Circumstances Surrounding the Disappearance of  
Personnel Presumed Dead

1. The following members of the 392nd Bombardment Group, Air Corps, were reported missing in action over Vegasack, Germany, on 8 October 1943, while in flying pay status:

1st Lt	Clifford, William W.	0678174
2nd Lt	McLemore, Paul L.	0801187
2nd Lt	Schroeder, Harold P.	0677891
2nd Lt	Whitnah, Joseph C.	0735007
T Sgt	Tynos, David D., Jr.	15086916
T Sgt	Willhite, Max R.	37214580
T Sgt	Zschiesche, Charles E.	38134584
S Sgt	Cavell, Dominick F.	32433382
S Sgt	Stevens, Hirschall M.	35423747
S Sgt	Tweten, Ernest A.	37301968

2. Following their continued absence for a year, the above named personnel, with the exception of Sergeant Cavell (See par 3 c, below) were presumed dead on 9 October 1944 (SR&D No. 1418, dated 9 Oct 44, File AG 704 - Dead), in accordance with the provisions of Section 5 of the Missing Persons Act, as amended. A Finding of Death was issued on 14 August 1945 in the case of Sergeant Cavell (SR&D No. 1418-A), who had been continued in a missing in action status on 9 October 1944.

3. The following information was presented in the determination referred to above:

a. Missing Air Crew Report No. 879, dated 10 October 1943, now filed in the Memorial Division, OCMG, shows that the ten officers and enlisted men named above constituted the entire crew aboard a B-24H type aircraft, No. 42-7470, the "Exterminator", lost on a bombing mission over Vegasack, Germany, on 8 October 1943, due to enemy aircraft action. Their crew positions, in the order in which they are named above, were listed as: pilot, navigator, co-pilot, bombardier, engineer, radio operator, assistant radio operator-gunner, assistant engineer, armor-gunner, and gunner. The plane was reported to have exploded approximately 25 miles north-northeast of Bremen (53° 25' N, 09° 08' E), at 1628 hours. No parachutes were sighted. The weather was reported "Good, 8-10 visibility".

File

APR 15 1949

G. W. ROGERS

Capt., OMC

Action Branch

b. Copies of letters from the Air Adjutant General to families of the missing crew, dated 8 May 1944 and filed in subjects' AG 201 files, stated that their bomber apparently had sustained damage from attacks by enemy fighters, but made no further reference to the fate of the plane.

c. Official War Department records for 8 October 1943 showed that 344 B-17's with fighter escort attacked Bremen in 3 waves, losing 27 bombers and 3 P-47's as the result of intense antiaircraft fire and attacks of 300 enemy aircraft. Vegasack was bombed by a force of 55 B-24's an hour later, with a loss of three bombers.

d. Casualty records showed that within a five-month period following the raids, from six to ten members of every plane crew lost had been reported recovered by the German Government as prisoners or deceased - with the exception of subject crew, on whom no official report has yet been received. Of those reported, only one, a Lieutenant Neil P. Murphy, crew member of a B-17, was reported "washed ashore".

e. Information was received from a brother of Sergeant Cavell, indicating that he possibly was alive and receiving aid from the "underground" resistance movement which existed in both France and The Netherlands. Mr. Frank P. Cavell, 32-15 204th Street, Bayside, Long Island, wrote as follows to the Commanding General, Army Air Forces on 24 September 1944:

"We received a telegram in November, 1943 and a letter in February 1944. Both these messages were from unknown sources.

"The telegram simply stated that my brother Staff Sergeant D.F. Cavell, 'was a prisoner in enemies hands.' It was signed 'Isreal'.

The letter, photostatic copy of which is now in subject's AG 201 file, carrying only a typewritten signature, "W. Stark", and a Trenton, New Jersey, postmark dated 18 February 1944, reads as follows:

"Your Son F. Cavell is safe, in good place, in good health, and in good care. On his first opportunity he will communicate with you. Love to all also to Miss Robert. Keep this secret from suspicious people. He is not a prisoner of Germany."

4. The following additional information has been obtained in connection with the present review of this case:

a. 27 B-17 crew members on whom it was necessary to issue findings of death on 9 October 1944 (SR&D No. 1418), have since been accounted for by official reports of burial or other information establishing definitely the date, place and cause of death for each. Of the 305 airmen lost in the raids 8 October 1943, only the 10 named in paragraph 1 above remain unaccounted for.

b. Translations of captured German documents now on file in this office, including records of Allied plane crashes and personnel recovered from them, contain reports, identifiable by plane crew members named therein, showing the actual locations at which most of our missing aircraft crashed on 8 October 1943. In examining these records, and comparing them with our own reports concerning the loss of the three B-24's, it is noted that:

(1.) One B-24, piloted by Lieutenant Michael J. Fuerst, (MACR 2444) was reported to have lost an engine over the target, and to have turned first left under the formation on the way to the north German coast. Then it returned to the right side, but was attacked by JU 88's (enemy fighters). Some of the crew were seen to bail out, as the plane, on fire, dropped out of sight over the coast. German reports show that its crew members were picked up on the north coast, near the mouth of the Weser, some 45 miles north of Bremen.

(2.) The other two, both from the 392nd Bombardment Group, were reported lost northeast of Bremen (as also were several B-17's that day). On one, that manned by the crew with which this review is concerned, there is no identifiable report from the enemy. The other, piloted by Lieutenant John G. Buschman (MACR No. 880), was last sighted, smoke coming out of tail, 12 miles northeast of Bremen at 1620 hours, being abandoned by the crew via parachute. However, statements from repatriated crew members indicate they did not know, but thought they came down 30-30 miles southwest of Bremen, whereas official German reports (KU 245) show that they landed approximately the same distance southeast of Bremen, at 1400 hours.



(3.) Only one German reference (KU 210) is found to a bomber downed that day, "fate of crew unknown". This stated that an American Fortress (German records often failed to distinguish properly between our B-17 and B-24 types) was shot down off the coast of Holland at 1633 hours.

c. Two eye-witnesses to the loss of subject crew and their plane were named in MACR No. 879. One, Lieutenant John E. Slowik, was killed in action on another raid on 18 March 1944. The other, Lieutenant William P. Nicholson, in answering a letter of inquiry from this office dated 24 November 1948, stated (in his letter of 4 Feb 49) that:

According to his own log book, the action occurred between 1400 and 1500 hours, and that when he last saw the plane, 30 miles north-northeast of Vegasack, it was going down in a left bank, No. 4 engine out and trailing smoke. He was unable to contact the pilot by radio, but is sure that neither himself nor Lt Slowik, his navigator, saw the craft explode, as he remembers talking over the mission very carefully afterwards. Entries in his log book, he states, show that they felt sure the missing crew was either in a prison camp that night, or wandering around somewhere in Germany, uncaptured. The writer himself was leading the squadron, and was unable to see the missing plane until it fell out of its normal position, slightly to the rear and below his own ship.

With regard to the other plane lost from his Group, that piloted by Lt. Buschman, he stated that his gunners, and those of other returning planes, reported it had been hit after leaving the German coast on the way back and exploded in mid-air as it turned toward shore.

The flight approached the target from the northwest, at 22,000 feet, but did not get lined up on the first bomb run, and circled for a second run, then turned left and back over the North Sea, toward Heligoland, at a lower altitude.

d. A memorandum received from the Memorial Division, OQMG, (Mr. Long), dated 2 September 1948, states that there is no burial or other information of record in that office that can be associated with this case.

5. The Bremen-Vegasack area was highly developed, well populated, and vitally important to the enemy's war effort. Surrounding waters were under his control and undoubtedly well patrolled by surface craft as well as planes. That any Allied aircraft could fall in this area during a period of good visibility without being sighted and reported to the High Command seems highly improbable. Since all other aircraft lost over that target on 8 October 1943 have been accounted for, it seems most likely, if not indisputable, that the "Fortress" reported in German Record "KU 210" par 4b (3.), above, as having been shot down off the coast of Holland, "fate of crew unknown", was that manned by the personnel named in paragraph 1, above. However, reports purportedly forwarded by members of the resistance movement known to have existed in enemy occupied countries, indicates that Sergeant Cavell - and thus possibly others of the same crew as well - had been able to abandon the aircraft and obtain aid and refuge for a time, at least. Accordingly, it is not believed that evidence on hand in the Department of the Army at this time is sufficient to justify the issuance of reports of death for subject personnel, under the provisions of Section 9 of the Missing Persons Act.

*Oliver W. Gaylord*  
OLIVER W. GAYLORD  
Investigator

CONCUR:

*T. J. Collum*  
T. J. COLLUM  
Major, AGD  
CIC, Determination Unit  
Casualty Section  
Personnel Actions Branch, AGO

Copy Furnished: Central Files.  
AG 201 and OQMG 293 file of each individual named  
in par 1.

Source material obtained as a result of this investigation  
is filed in the AG 201 file of Lieutenant William W. Clifford,  
0678174, unless otherwise indicated.

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

QMGYG 293 WILLHITE, MAX R. (Name)

T/SGT. (Rank)

37214580 (Serial No.)

M.A.C.R. Information Filed Under:

NAME: **CAVELL, DOMINICK F.**

RANK: **S/SGT.**

SERIAL NO: **32 433 302**



IDENTIFICATION SECTION  
MEMORIAL DIVISION

IDENTIFICATION DATA

LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL <i>W. H. Smith</i>			ARMY SERIAL NUMBER <i>3424551</i>		GRADE <i>T/5st</i>
HEIGHT <i>5'10"</i>	WEIGHT <i>137</i>	COLOR EYES <i>Brown</i>	COLOR HAIR <i>Brown</i>	SHOE SIZE <i>8D</i>	DATE OF DEATH <i>9 Oct 44</i>

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

*579th Bomb SG 392nd Bomb GP*

PLACE OF DEATH OR PLACE LAST SEEN IF MIA

*Lost in Bombing mission over Viersack Germany*

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

STATION	DATES
<i>Jefferson Barracks Mo</i>	<i>Aug 42</i>
<i>Sioux Falls S.D.</i>	<i>Sept 42</i>
<i>Kingman Ariz</i>	<i>Feb 43</i>
<i>SPC Utah</i>	<i>Mar 43</i>
<i>Train Mountain Okla</i>	<i>April 43</i>
<i>Lawrenceville Ga</i>	<i>May 43</i>

FROM: HQ AGO CLINICAL RECORDS DIVISION  
NO RECORDS ON FILE

FRACTURES AND/OR BREAKS <i>NONE</i>	TATTOOS AND/OR BIRTH MARKS <i>NONE</i>
--	---

*1 Dental Exam Station*

DENTAL CHART *30 July 42*

8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1	2	3	4	X	6	7	8
UPPER RIGHT								UPPER LEFT							
X	15	X	13	12	11	10	9	9	10	11	12	13	X	15	16
LOWER RIGHT								LOWER LEFT							

X - EXTRACTED      O - CARIOUS      / - CARIOUS NON-RESTORABLE

FLYING PERSONNEL DENTAL IDENTIFICATION FORM  
Office of the Dental Surgeon

118

Station

Willhite Max R

Sgt

37214580

Name

579th Sq 392nd BG

Rank

23

1 2/12

ASN

9-30-43

Organization

Age

Service

Date

Radio Optr

Aeronautical Rating

Right								Left							
8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
X	A		A	A								X	A	A	X
X	A	X	A											A	
16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

CLASS IV

OCCUSION N CALCULUS S PERIODONTOCLASIA \_\_\_\_\_ FOCI SUSPECTED \_\_\_\_\_  
ANOMALIES, OTHER CONDITIONS, REMARKS:

OUTLINE CARIES ON DIAGRAM OF TEETH

CHART FILLINGS ON TEETH, INITIAL THE TYPE IN SPACE ABOVE AND BELOW

AS G-gold, A-amalgam, S-synthetic, O-oxyphosphate

CHART ALL SUBSEQUENT FILLINGS

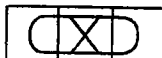
NONRESTORABLE CARIQUUS TEETH BY /

MISSING NATURAL TEETH BY X

TEETH REPLACED BY DENTURE



TEETH REPLACED BY FIXED BRIDGE



APPROVED

Capt. E. F. Riha  
Station Dental Surgeon

Examining Dental Officer

293 FILE

## DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET RECOVERED OR IDENTIFIED

NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)

GRADE

PRESENT SERIAL  
NUMBER

Willhite, Max R.

Tec. Sgt.

37 214 580

ORGANIZATION

579 Bomb Sq.  
392 Bomb Gp.

RACE

CREED

FORMER SERIAL  
NUMBER (If applicable)

White

DATE OF DEATH/MIA

9 Oct. 44

CAUSE OF DEATH

P.D.D.

PLACE OF DEATH OR PLACE LAST SEEN IF MIA

Over  
Vegesack, Germany.

HEIGHT

5' 10"

WEIGHT

139

COLOR EYES

Brown

COLOR HAIR

Brown

SHOE SIZE

8 D

## Class 4 DENTAL CHART 30 Sept. 43

UPPER RIGHT

X A A A  
8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

UPPER LEFT

X A A X  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

LOWER RIGHT

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

LOWER LEFT

A  
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

FILE

JUL 27 1948

E. J. Sullivan, 1st Lt., QMC  
CERTIFICATION OFFICER

FRAGILE - HANDLE WITH CARE

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

—BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT

NAME			SERIAL NUMBER		GRADE	ARM OR SERVICE	REPORTING THEATRE
WILLHITE MAX R.			37214580		T/SGT	AC	
PLACE OF CASUALTY		DATE OF CASUALTY		FLYING OR JUMPING STAT	TYPE OF CASUALTY	SHIPMENT NUMBER	
--		DAY	MONTH	YEAR	L	*	293066-C-1X
		**	**	**			

NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE

THE INDIVIDUAL NAMED ABOVE DESIGNATED THE FOLLOWING PERSON AS THE ONE TO BE NOTIFIED IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, AND THE OFFICIAL TELEGRAPHIC AND LETTER NOTIFICATIONS WILL BE SENT TO THIS PERSON. THE RELATIONSHIP, IF ANY, IS SHOWN BELOW. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THIS PERSON IS NOT NECESSARILY THE NEXT-OF-KIN OR RELATIVE DESIGNATED TO BE PAID SIX MONTHS' PAY GRATUITY IN CASE OF DEATH		
MR.-MRS.-MISS—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE INITIAL—LAST NAME	RELATIONSHIP	DATE NOTIFIED
Mr. Ralph O. Willhite	Father	
NO. AND NAME OF STREET—CITY—STATE		
Box 97, Route 1, Fredonia, Kansas		

REMARKS: AG 201 (9 Oct 44 ) ☐ CORRECTED COPY

Memo Chief Cas. Br. \*FINDING ~~DE~~ OF DEATH OF MISSING PERSON was made in the case of this individual under provisions of Public Law 490 7 March 1942, as amended. \*\*PRESUMED DATE OF DEATH: 9 October 1944. In line of duty. Not due to own misconduct. On duty status. Station of deceased: European Area.

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 <input type="checkbox"/> SPEC. IDEN. <input type="checkbox"/> TELEGRAM <input type="checkbox"/> WOUNDED <input type="checkbox"/> LETTER <input type="checkbox"/> CORRES. <input type="checkbox"/> S. R. & D. <input type="checkbox"/> CERTIF. <input type="checkbox"/> M. & M. <input type="checkbox"/> 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.

FORM 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	

DISTRIBUTION "A" ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ COPIES  
(ALL TYPES OF CASUALTIES PERTAINING TO MILITARY PERSONNEL, EXCEPT WOUNDED.)  
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.

*Handwritten signature and initials*

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

**FINDING OF DEATH OF MISSING PERSON**

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 5 of the Act of 7 March 1942 (Public Law 490 77th Cong.) as amended, upon direction and delegation by The Secretary of War, The Chief, Casualty Branch, The Adjutant General's Office, finds Technical Sergeant Max R. Willhite, Army Serial Number 37,214,580, Air Corps, *193* to be dead. He was officially reported as missing in action as of the 8th day of October 1943. For the purposes stated in said Act, death is presumed to have occurred on the 9th day of October, 1944.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR

George F. Herbert

ADJUTANT GENERAL  
CHIEF, CASUALTY BRANCH

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

AREA European Area		FLYING STATUS Yes	JUMP STATUS	LINE OF DUTY Yes	OWN MIS-CONDUCT No	ON DUTY STATUS Yes	ABSENCE AUTH'D
PREVIOUS REVIEWS							
DATE OF BIRTH 28 Nov 1919	HOME ADDRESS Fredonia, Kansas	DATE OF ENTRY ON CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE 30 Jul 1942		LENGTH OF SERVICE (AS OF PRESUMED DATE OF DEATH) YEARS MONTH DAYS 2 2 10			

EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE

NAME Mr. Ralph O. Willhite	RELATIONSHIP Father	ADDRESS Box 97, Route #1, Fredonia, Kansas
-------------------------------	------------------------	--

BENEFICIARIES

NAME Mrs. Alta Willhite	RELATIONSHIP Mother	ADDRESS Box 97, R. F. D. No. 1 Fredonia, Kansas
NAME Mr. Ralph O. Willhite	RELATIONSHIP Father	ADDRESS Box 97, R. F. D. No. 1 Fredonia, Kansas

REMARKS

Distribution ---

NAT  
FILE  
RECORDS ANNOTATED  
DATE *24 MAR 49*  
NAME *W. R. R. R.*  
R & R BR.



AMOUNT OF CHECK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISCREPANCY IN	INCLOSE VALUA	RECIPIENT FROM
	NAME	SHIP VALUABLES	CASUALTY REPORT
ACCOUNT NUMBER	SERIAL NUMBER	VALUABLES SHIPPED BY (clerk)	INVENTORY
	RANK		FORM 20
<p>Mr. Ralph O. Willhite</p> <p>Route # 1, Box 97</p> <p>Fredonia, Kansas</p> <p><u>T/Sgt Max R. Willhite</u></p> <p>37 214 580</p> <p>800,757 A</p>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LETTER
			NO. & TYPE OF CONTAINER
			2 ENVELOPE
			CARTONS
			PACKAGE
			FOOT LOCKER
			SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
			REMOVE GI
			SHIP BLOODSTAINED
			SHIP DAMAGED
REMOVE BL'DSTAINED			
REMOVE DAMAGED			
FILMS REMOVED			
DIARY REMOVED			
CIR/DS/ns	SUMMARY COURT DATA		DATE ACTION TAKEN
DATE OF FINDING	APPLICANT		8-19-46
<p>REMARKS</p> <p>1 Enw. inv - 7-12-46</p> <p>" " " " 18 "</p>			MAIL REVIEWER (initials)
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			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHIPPED
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ROUTING			
1 ACCOUNTING BRANCH			
2 WAREHOUSE			
2 FILE			
ORDER FOR ACTION			

EFF OM FORM 14  
10 OCT 1945

ATTACHMENTS				STATUS	
INBOUND INVENTORY		EFFECTS INVENTORY		DECEASED	
G. R. OR SUB GR LABEL		ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU		MISSING	
WILL OR POWER OF ATTY.				P. O. W.	
TALLY IN FORM 43				ABANDONED	
				UNKNOWN	
BAGS, CLOTH OR TRAVEL	BELT	OVERCOATS	Flight records		
BELT, MONEY (NO MONEY)	BOOKS, ADDRESS	PAPERS, PERSONAL			
BILFOLD (NO MONEY)	BOOKS, PILOT LOG	PENCIL, MECHANICAL			
BOOKS	BRUSHES	PEN, FOUNTAIN			
BRACELET, IDENT.	CASE	PHOTOS			
CAMERAS	CLOTH, WASH	PIPES			
CLOTHING	COATS	RINGS			
MISC. ARTICLES	FOOTLOCKER	SCARFS			
RELIGIOUS ARTICLES	FOOTWEAR, PR.	SHIRTS			
RIBBONS, DECORATION	GLASSES	SOCKS, PR.			
SHORT SNORTER	GLOVES, PR.	STATIONERY			
SOUVENIR MONEY	HANDKERCHIEFS	TIES			
SOUVENIRS	HEADWEAR	TOBACCO			
TESTAMENTS	JACKETS	TOILET ARTICLES			
TOWELS & WASHCLOTHS	KITS	TOWELS			
U. S. MONEY (AMOUNT)	KNIVES	TROUSERS, PR.			
WATCH	LETTERS	TRUNKS, PR.			
WINGS	LIGHTERS	UNDERWEAR			
CONTAINERS ADDRESSED TO		INFORMATION			
none		none			
NAME AND STATUS VARIATIONS		CROSS REFERENCE			
CHECK	REC'D BY	NUMBER	BUREAU CHECK		
MONEY ORDER			TRANSMIT ORIGINAL		
BOND		SYMBOL	ORIG. REG. MAIL		
TRAV. CHECK			TO G. A. O.		
FOREIGN CURRENCY		AMOUNT	MUTILATED		
U. S. CURRENCY			TO ISSUING AGENCY		
DATE					
BANK OR PLACE OF ISSUE					
PAYEE					
REMITTER OR DRAWER					
TALLY NO. 10147					
ORIG. NO. OF PKGS.		EXAMINING DATE 18-June-46		BOX NO.	
NAME MAX RALPH WILLHITE		A. S. N. 372145804		SHEET OF SHEETS	
ORGANIZATION 392nd Bomb. Sq., 579th B.Sq.		RANK T/SGT		CASE NO. 800757	
WAREHOUSE SPACE 128		EXAMINED BY Jordan		DIARY REMOVED	
		PACKED BY		PHOTO FILM REMOVED	
				MOTION PICTURE FILM REMOVED	

ATTACHMENTS		EFFECTS INVENTORY		ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU	
INBOUND INVENTORY					
G. R. OR SUB GR LABEL					
WILL OR POWER OF ATTY.					
TALLY IN FORM 43					
		800 757		ABANDONED UNKNOWN	
BAGS, CLOTH OR TRAVEL	BELT	OVERCOATS	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Flight records</span> </div>		
BELT, MONEY (NO MONEY)	BOOKS, ADDRESS	PAPERS, PERSONAL			
BILLFOLD (NO MONEY)	BOOKS, PILOT LOG	PENCIL, MECHANICAL			
BOOKS	BRUSHES	PEN, FOUNTAIN			
BRACELET, IDENT.	CASE	PHOTOS			
CAMERAS	CLOTH, WASH	PIPES			
CLOTHING	COATS	RINGS			
MISC. ARTICLES	FOOTLOCKER	SCARFS			
RELIGIOUS ARTICLES	FOOTWEAR, PR.	SHIRTS			
RIBBONS, DECORATION	GLASSES	SOCKS, PR.			
SHORT SNORTER	GLOVES, PR.	STATIONERY			
SOUVENIR MONEY	HANDKERCHIEFS	TIES			
SOUVENIRS	HEADWEAR	TOBACCO			
TESTAMENTS	JACKETS	TOILET ARTICLES			
TOWELS & WASHCLOTHS	KITS	TOWELS			
U. S. MONEY (AMOUNT)	KNIVES	TROUSERS, PR.			
WATCH	LETTERS	TRUNKS, PR.			
WINGS	LIGHTERS	UNDERWEAR			
CONTAINERS ADDRESSED TO		INFORMATION			
none		<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Father</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Ralph Willhite</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Rt #1, Box 97</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Fredonia, Kans.</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>Fredonia, Kans.</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>illegible</span> </div>			
NAME AND STATUS VARIATIONS		CROSS REFERENCE			
CHECK	REC'D BY	NUMBER	BUREAU CHECK		
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BOND			ORIG. REG. MAIL		
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WILLHITE, MAX RALPH			T/SGT 4580			
DAY	PALLET	BOX	TALLY			TYPE PKG.
			516			F.R.

WILLHITE, MAX R.			T/SGT 4580			
DAY	PALLET	BOX	TALLY			TYPE PKG.
			10147			ENV

800,757

CIR/DS/ns  
19 August 1946

Mr. Ralph O. Willhite  
Route # 1, Box 97  
Fredonia, Kansas

Dear Mr. Willhite:

Thank you for the information recently furnished the Army Effects Bureau regarding personal effects belonging to your son, Technical Sergeant Max R. Willhite.

This property, consisting of two flight records, is being forwarded to you. If delivery has not been made within thirty days from this date, this Bureau should be informed to enable tracer action.

Very truly yours,

C. L. RUDFIELD  
2nd Lt, QMC  
Asst. Effects Quartermaster



4

KANSAS CITY QUARTERMASTER DEPOT  
601 Hardesty Avenue  
Kansas City 1, Missouri

S-6 Sep 46  
CLR/DS/ch  
7 August 1946

In Reply Refer To: 800757

Mr. Ralph O. Willhite  
Route # 1, Box 97  
Fredonia, Kansas

Dear Mr. Willhite:

The Army Effects Bureau has received some personal property belonging to your son, Technical Sergeant Max R. Willhite, which he lost or was obliged to abandon during a change of station.

Please confirm your address, and shipment will be made to you promptly at Government expense.

You are assured that this letter is not a casualty message. Its sole purpose is to expedite shipment and delivery of the property now in our custody.

Your reply may be made at the foot of this letter, if desired, and mailed in the inclosed self-addressed envelope which needs no postage.

Yours very truly,

*file*  
C. L. RUMFIELD  
C. L. RUMFIELD  
2nd Lt, QMC  
Asst. Effects Quartermaster

1 Incl. —  
Envelope

*The above address is correct*  
*Ralph O. Willhite*

KANSAS CITY QUARTERMASTER DEPOT  
ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU  
601 Hardesty Avenue  
Kansas City 1, Missouri

800757  
(S-10 Aug 46)  
PUM:AP:ls  
10 July 1946

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

Please complete and return to the Effects Quartermaster, Army Effects Bureau, Kansas City Quartermaster Depot, Kansas City 1, Missouri.

Note:

If the ASN shown below is not assigned to the soldier named, or similarly named, it is requested this Bureau be furnished the desired information relating only to this soldier, with proper correction made of his ASN.

1. Last Name Willhite (See note above)	2. First Name Max	3. Middle Initial Ralph	4. Serial Number 37214580 (See note above)	5. Grade T/Sgt.
6. Casualty Status  <input type="checkbox"/> DECEASED <input type="checkbox"/> PRISONER OF WAR <input type="checkbox"/> MISSING <input type="checkbox"/> INTERNEE <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN: PLEASE FURNISH		7. Organization and APO Address  392nd Bomb. Gp., 579th B. Sq.		
8. Name of Beneficiary Mrs Alta Willhite		9. Relationship Mother	10. Address Same as 16	
11. Alternate Beneficiary Same as 14		12. Relationship	13. Address	
14. Emergency Addressee Mr. Ralph O. Willhite		15. Relationship Father	16. Address Box 97 Route #1 Fredonia, Kansas	
17. Bailee n		18. Relationship	19. Address	
ACTION TAKEN				
CASUALTY BRANCH <input type="checkbox"/> WD AGO form 43 attached <input type="checkbox"/> Name and address of ea transcribed from visi-record card No record in casualty branch. Transferred to <input type="checkbox"/> ENLISTED BRANCH <input type="checkbox"/> OFFICERS' BRANCH	ENLISTED BRANCH <input type="checkbox"/> WD AGO form 43 attached <input type="checkbox"/> Name and address of ea transcribed from visi-record card No record in enlisted branch. Transferred to DEMOBILIZED PERSONNEL BR.	OFFICERS' BRANCH <input type="checkbox"/> WD AGO form 43 attached <input type="checkbox"/> Name and address of ea transcribed from visi-record card No record in officers branch. Transferred to DEMOBILIZED PERSONNEL BR.	DEMOBILIZED PERSONNEL BR. <input type="checkbox"/> WD AGO form 43 attached <input type="checkbox"/> Name and address of ea transcribed from visi-record card No record in DEMOBILIZED PERSONNEL BR.	

EFF QM FORM 20  
5 FEB 1946

JUL 24 1946

EDWARD F. WITSELL  
Major General  
The Adjutant General  
By: *[Signature]*

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

**BATTLE CASUALTY REPORT**

95-952  
78 11/1

NAME <b>WILLHITE, MAX R.</b>	SERIAL NUMBER <b>37214580</b>	GRADE <b>T/SGT</b>	ARM OR SERVICE <b>AC</b>	REPORTING THEATRE
PLACE OF CASUALTY	DATE OF CASUALTY DAY MONTH YEAR		FLYING OR JUMPING STAT	TYPE OF CASUALTY
	**	**	**	L
				SHIPMENT NUMBER <b>293066-C-1X</b>

NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE

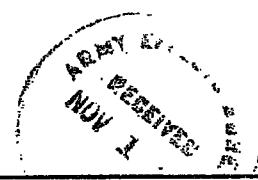
THE INDIVIDUAL NAMED ABOVE DESIGNATED THE FOLLOWING PERSON AS THE ONE TO BE NOTIFIED IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, AND THE OFFICIAL TELEGRAPHIC AND LETTER NOTIFICATIONS WILL BE SENT TO THIS PERSON. THE RELATIONSHIP, IF ANY, IS SHOWN BELOW. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THIS PERSON IS NOT NECESSARILY THE NEXT-OF-KIN 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. Ralph O. Willhite</b>	RELATIONSHIP <b>Father</b>	DATE NOTIFIED
NO. AND NAME OF STREET—CITY—STATE <b>Box 97, Route #1, Fredonia, Kansas</b>		

REMARKS: **AG 201 (9 Oct. 44)**

☐ CORRECTED COPY

**Memo Chief Cas. Br. \*FINDING OF DEATH OF MISSING PERSON was made in the case of this individual under provisions of 78 Public Law 490 7 March 1942, as amended. \*\*PRESUMED DATE OF DEATH: 9 October 1944. In line of duty. Not due to own misconduct. On duty status. Station of deceased: European Area**



ACTION BY PROCESSING AND VERIFICATION SECTION: REPORT VERIFIED										FORM 43										AG 201 REC																																																																															
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.										NOE-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.

THIS SPACE FOR USE OF MACHINE READER ONLY																												
ACCT. AREA		CASUALTY STATUS			ORIGINAL CAS. DATE			MESSAGE NO.			LATEST CAS. DATE			REFERENCE AREA		CREW PGS.		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			

DISTRIBUTION "A" ☐ **45** COPIES

(ALL TYPES OF CASUALTIES PERTAINING TO MILITARY PERSONNEL, EXCEPT WOUNDED.)  
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.

800,757

CIR/MS/ns  
19 August 1946

Mr. Ralph O. Willhite/  
Route # 1, Box 97  
Fredonia, Kansas

Dear Mr. Willhite:

Thank you for the information recently furnished the Army Effects Bureau regarding personal effects belonging to your son, Technical Sergeant Max R. Willhite.

This property, consisting of two flight records, is being forwarded to you. If delivery has not been made within thirty days from this date, this Bureau should be informed to enable tracer action.

Very truly yours,

C. L. RUMFIELD  
2nd Lt, QMC  
Asst. Effects Quartermaster

# TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

201 WILLHITE, MAX R  
ASN 37 214 880

16 OCT 43

WPIPC-2

220045-10 (17) 19 OCT 1943

Date

MR RALPH O WILLHITE

BOX 97 ROUTE NUMBER ONE

PRISONIA, KANSAS

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

TECHNICAL SERGEANT MAX R WILLHITE

HAS BEEN REPORTED MISSING IN ACTION IN EUROPEAN AREA SINCE EIGHT OCTOBER IF

FURTHER DETAILS OF HIS INFORMATION ARE RECEIVED YOU WILL BE PROMPTLY

PERIOD LETTER FOLLOWS

BATTLE

ULIO

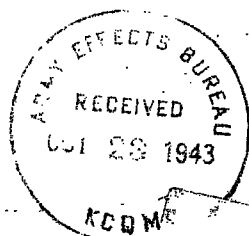
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

OFFICIAL:

ADJUTANT GENERAL

A. E. B.  
Copy for Death Group, Record Sect.  
Records Attached

(date)





ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU  
KANSAS CITY QUARTERMASTER DEPOT  
601 Hardesty Avenue  
Kansas City 1, Missouri

JRM:SP:mm  
AEB 25 July 44  
CASE NO. 95952  
(S-25 Sep 44)

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

Please complete and return to the Effects Quartermaster, Army Effects Bureau, Kansas City Quartermaster Depot, Kansas City, Missouri.

(\*\*) Willhite, Max R. 37214580 T/Sgt.  
(Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Initial) (Serial No.) (Grade)

1. ~~Organization and APO Number~~ Missing in action since 8 October 1943

2. Name, Relationship and Address of:

- a. Beneficiary: MRS. ALTA WILLHITE (MOTHER)  
RFD #1 Box 97 FREDONIA, KANSAS
- b. Alternate Beneficiary:  
MR. RALPH O. WILLHITE (FATHER) SAME ADDRESS
- c. Nearest Relative:  
FATHER
- d. Emergency Addressee:  
FATHER
- e. Bailee shown on W.D., A.G.O. Form 43:  
FATHER

(\*) If the above ASN is not assigned to the soldier named, it is requested that the AEB be advised the name, rank and present mailing address of the soldier to whom this ASN is assigned, together with the information requested in paragraph 2 above.

(\*\*) In the event the above ASN is not assigned to this soldier, it is further requested that this Bureau be furnished available information regarding this soldier of record in your office.

RET:ml

Eff QM Form 20 (Rev. 10/12/43)

Case Br Rm very

File  
36



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

(S-11-12-44)

JRM:VM:hjb

October 12, 1944

IN REPLY REFER TO 95952-Mc

Mr. Ralph O. Willhite  
Fredonia, Kansas

Dear Mr. Willhite;

Thank you for the information furnished the Army Effects Bureau to enable disposition of personal effects belonging to your son, T/Sgt. Max R. Willhite.

I am inclosing a check for \$31.67, representing the amount of currency received at the Army Effects Bureau with your son's belongings. The remainder of the property, contained in one carton, is being forwarded and should reach you in the near future.

My action in transmitting this property does not, of itself, vest title in you. The property is forwarded in order that you may act as gratuitous bailee in caring for it, pending the return of the owner. In the event he later is reported a casualty, and I sincerely hope he never is, it will be necessary that the property be turned over to the person or persons legally entitled to receive it.

When you have received the property, I shall appreciate it if you will sign one copy of this letter in the space provided and return it to this Bureau.

For your convenience, there is inclosed an addressed envelope which needs no postage.

Yours very truly,

*file  
OK*

2 Incls.--  
Check  
Envelope

R. E. SIMON  
1st Lt. Q.M.C.  
Assistant

Receipt acknowledged

Ralph O. Willhite  
Signature of Bailee

Oct 18, 1944  
Date

REQUEST FOR INCLOSURES

Case No. 95952-M

12 October 1944 hjb

TO:

       Locked Storage for:

  X   Accounting Unit for Check:

Account No. 30317 Amount \$ 31.67 *Jim*

Account No.        Amount \$       

TOTAL \$       

Payable to:

Mr. Ralph O. Willhite

Fredonia, Kansas

Correspondent *Jim*

Check No. 28386

Initials ES

30317

95952

OCTOBER 14

14

RALPH O. WILLHITE

31.67

THIRTY-ONE AND 67/100

MAJOR Q.M.C.  
Asst.

*10-13-44*

EFFECTS QUARTERMASTER, ETOUSA  
SUMMARY COURT  
DEPOT G-14  
APO 507

List No. 131

Control No. 7162

United States Army

95952  
19 July 1944  
*File ch*

SUBJECT: Closing Statement, Account of:

WILLHITE, Max R.

T/Sgt.

37214580

(Name)

(Rank)

(ASN)

TO: Effects QM, Kansas City QM Depot, 601 Hardesty Ave.,  
Kansas City, Missouri.

1. Submitted herewith is complete file of subject person;

(a) Status MIA 8 Oct. 43

(b) Beneficiary Mr. Ralph O. Willhite (Father), RR #1, Box 97,  
Fredonia, Kansas.

2. Personal effects were shipped 9 June 44.

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Incl #	Date Rec'd	RECEIPTS	Amount
		Details	
1	25 Nov. 43	Ltr Transmittal	\$31.67

Total to be accounted for (Included in check  
for above numbered list)  
Balance at this Office

4. Remarks: None

\$31.67

None

*APC #30317*  
JUL 27 1944

*ck#28386 sw.*

5. Account is now closed at this office.

6. Request acknowledgment of receipt by indorsement on the  
reverse side hereof.

**INVENTORY**

EARL F. SECHREST  
Lt. Col. QMC,  
Effects QM, Etousa

2 Incls. Incl 1 to 2 Complete file of subject person.

JUL 29 1944

511-640

Sheet 1 of 1 Sheets  
Box No. \_\_\_\_\_

ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU

INVENTORY

Deceased \_\_\_\_\_  
Missing x  
P.O.W. \_\_\_\_\_  
Abandoned no

SHOWN ON TALLY-IN AS Sgt. M. R. Willheit ORIGINAL NO. OF PKGS. 1

TALLY-IN NO. 48-20 INVENTORY DATE 9/15/44 CASE NO. 95952

EFFECTS OF MAX RALPH WILLHITE RANK T/Sgt.

A.S.N. 37214530 ORG. 579th Bomb Sq. 392nd Bomb Grp.

PACKAGE DESCRIPTION: <u>#1 Carton</u>	
ARTICLE DESCRIPTION	
1 Billfold w/personal cards and snapshots - no money	1 Lot Underwear
1 New Testament	1 Lot Stationery & Air Mail Stamped Envelopes
1 Pr. Wings	Personal Letters & Snapshots
3 Ribbons	1 Lot Handkerchiefs
1 Fountain Pen	1 Lot Misc. Toilet Articles
1 Sack w/misc. articles	1 Lot Socks
2 Books & 1 Booklet	2 Pr. Oxfords
2 Flashlights	3 Ties
2 Decks Playing Cards	Towels & Wash Cloths
2 Address Books	
1 Lot Insignia	
1 Belt	
2 Brushes	
3 Sewing Kits	
1 Whisk Broom	
1 Carton Cigarettes	
1 Electric Razor (Schick)	

REMARKS: Father - RALPH O. WILLHITE  
R #1, Box 97  
FREDONIA, KANSAS

ATTACHMENTS:  
Form #54

Sister - Mrs. C. R. High  
301 No. Gladstone  
Kansas City, Mo.

\*Talley-In and Form #54 show name as "Willheit";  
Effects show it as "Willhite".

C.A.T. - Ralph O. Willheit  
R. R. No. 1, Box 97  
Fredonia, Kansas

STORAGE SAFE STORAGE

~~NO~~ CORRESPONDENCE

SHORTAGE ON REVERSE

G. I. ON REVERSE

WEIGHT

SHIPPED  
OCT 17 1944

44



G.I. Removed

SHORTAGE:

1 Basic Field Manual  
FM 24-10

Money Order - \$31.67

I certify the above-named items  
were not contained in the  
package when checked by me.

Christman  
Inventory Clerk

He  
Inventory Clerk  
Supervising Officer

### CLASS II—Continued

NUMBER	
1 ✓	Book
1 ✓	Carton Cigarettes
1 ✓	Bundle Magazine Articles
2 ✓	Pair Shoes
BENEFICIARY:	Ralph O. Wilkett Box 97 Fredonia Kansas
MONEY ORDER VALUED AT \$ 31.67 BEING FORWARDED BY	Special Separate Cover
AMOUNT	\$ 31.67
NOTES	\$

I certify that the foregoing inventory comprises all the effects of the deceased whose name appears on the first page hereof, and that the effects were delivered to effect Quartermaster, US Army, Depot 0-14, (Old Camp) Intercontinental War College, War 1950, Advanced Air Depot, HQ 12 AF 635 or beneficiary named by the deceased, (so state)

XXXXXXXXXX has been forwarded to the  
XXXXXXXXXX and will be kept on file.

*Arthur B. Hubbs*  
ARTHUR B. HUBBS  
 Capt. Air Corps, Executive

RAF. Sta 118, APO 635 2 PR-NY., NY.

25 October 1943

Strike out words not applicable.

Hq SOS. 10-4

# INVENTORY OF EFFECTS

(See AR 600-100)

Willhelt Max R. 372145  
(Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Army serial num.)

1st Lt T/Sgt 579th Bomb Sq 392 Bomb G  
(Grade) (Organization or arm or service)

Missing  
Missing on the 8 day of October, 1943

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

NUMBER	ARTICLES	PACKAGE NUMBER
1 ✓	Fountain Pen	
1 ✓	Gunnery Wings	
3 ✓	Service Ribbons	
1 ✓	Air Mail Stamps	
1 ✓	Wallet with Misc Ident Cards	
1 ✓	Razor Electric	
1 ✓	Diary	
1 ✓	Bible Pocket size	
2 ✓	Letters	

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

## CLASS II—Other effects

NUMBER	ARTICLES
1 ✓	Pad writer Paper and Air Mail Envelopes
1 ✓	Mirror
3 ✓	Brushes
2 ✓	Sewing Kits
2 ✓	Flashlights
1 ✓	Belt
1 ✓	Bag Misc Toilet articles
2 ✓	Towels
5 ✓	Handkerchiefs

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

95-952

IMMEDIATE ACTION

Fedonia Kans

11-3-44

Army Effects Bureau

Kansas City Quartermaster's Depot

Kansas City Missouri

Dear Sir:

I am replying to your letter of Sept 30 in  
regard to the personal property of my  
son Max R. Willhite

1 Max was not married

2 His mother is alive and is living here  
on the farm. Mother's name is Alta

3 I think Max would want my wife and I  
to have the care of his personal effects.

4 Yes.

5 Yes.

6  
f-ek

yours truly

Ralph O. Willhite

(S-10-30-44)

JRM:VM:hc

September 30, 1944

#95952 Mo

Mr. Ralph O. Willhite  
RFD #1 Box 97  
Fredonia, Kansas

Dear Mr. Willhite:

Technical Sergeant Max R. Willhite.

another

her

242

O. M. DARNALL  
Administrative Assistant  
Army Effects Bureau

579th Bombardment Squadron (H) AAF  
Office to the Commanding Officer,  
AAF Station 112, APO 634.

22nd November. 1943

SUBJECT: Effects of Personnel Missing in Action.

TO. Effects Quartermaster, ETOUSA, APO 887, U.S. Army.

1. Transmitted herewith WDAGO Forms No. 54 in triplicate and U.S. Postal Money Orders, amounts as listed, of the following Officers and Enlisted Men, this organization, who were reported missing in action 8th October 1943.

NAME	RANK	ASN	USPMO #	AMOUNT.
Clifford William W.	1st Lt.	O-678174	4044	\$ 90.08
McLemore Paul L.	2nd Lt.	O-801187	3797	\$100.00
			3798	.59
Schroeder Harold R.	2nd Lt.	O-677891	3794	\$ 85.11
Whitnah Joseph G.	2nd Lt.	O-725007	4017	\$ 74.56
Tynes David D.	T/Sgt	15086916	4049	\$ 47.42
7/62 Willhite Max R.	T/Sgt	37214580	4052	\$ 31.67
Zschiesche Charles	T/Sgt	38134584	4053	\$ 30.15
Cavell Dominick F.	S/Sgt	13036151	4057	.24
Stevens Hirshall M.	S/Sgt	35423747	4056	\$ 5.09
Tweten Ernest A.	S/Sgt	37301968	4045	\$ 87.11

2. Personal effects were shipped by rail transport on 22nd November 1943 none of the above names Officers and Enlisted Men were known to have had an account with any bank in the United Kingdom.

3. Request that receipt be acknowledged by indorsement hereon.

For the Commanding Officer.

PETER A ZAHN.  
1st Lt. Air Corps.  
Adjutant,

Incl 1