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NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER



1 ARCHIVES DRIVE ST LOUIS, MO 63138-1002 www.archives.gov

May 18, 2021

JOHN EAKIN 9865 TOWER VW HELOTES, TX 78023-3812

RE: Veteran's Name: M-Z IDPFS SSN/SN: Request Number: 2-24915370251

Dear Mr. Eakin:

Thank you for contacting the National Archives at St. Louis.

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated April 12, 2021 submitted to the OSD/JS FOIA Requester Service Center that was subsequently referred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) by the Department of Defense (DoD), Freedom of Information Division on April 23, 2021 for direct response to you. We assigned your request CMRS tracking number 2-24915370251. In your request, you asked for digitized copies of WWII era Individual Deceased Personnel Files (IDPF) not previously produced to you by OSD/JS, specifically IDPFs for individuals with surnames beginning with M through Z.

Unfortunately, your FOIA request was mistakenly referred to NARA. The WWII era IDPFs you requested remain in the legal custody of DoD. In its response to you, DoD referenced a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between NARA, the U.S. Army Human Resources Command (AHRC) and the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) that outlined the process by which reference requests for individual files within the M-Z portion of the IDPFs would be processed while the records were being digitized. Please note that the MOA was intended only to create a process for reference requests for individual files while digitization was ongoing. Now that that the digitization of these records is complete, NARA has withdrawn from this agreement effective May 13, 2021.

This completes the processing of your FOIA request to us.

If you are not satisfied with our action on this request, you have the right to file an administrative appeal within ninety (90) calendar days from the date of this response. If you submit your appeal in writing, please address it to the Deputy Archivist of the United States (ND), National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740. Both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." If you submit your appeal by e-mail please send it to *FOIA@nara.gov*, also addressed to the Deputy Archivist of the United States. Please be sure to explain why you believe this response does not meet the requirements of the FOIA. All correspondence should reference your case tracking number.

If you would like to discuss our response before filing an appeal to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison Bryan McGraw for assistance at:

The National Archives at St. Louis Archival Military Personnel Files and other Accessioned Military Records 1 Archives Drive, Room 340 St. Louis, MO 63138-1002 Telephone Number: 314-801-9132 E-mail address: bryan.mcgraw@nara.gov

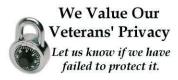
If you are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute through our FOIA Public Liaison, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), the Federal FOIA Ombudsman's office, offers mediation services to help resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies. The contact information for OGIS is noted below:

Office of Government Information Services National Archives and Records Administration 8601 Adelphi Road–OGIS College Park, MD 20740-6001 Email: ogis@nara.gov Website: ogis.archives.gov Tel: 202-741-5770 or 1-877-684-6448

Thank you for contacting the National Archives and Records Administration.

Sincerely,

THERESA FITZGERALD Director, RRPO <u>Theresa.Fitzgerald@nara.gov</u> 314-801-0951



Please complete our on-line survey. We really want to know how we did answering your request. Go to <u>www.archives.gov/veterans/survey</u> and enter your request number 2-24915370251. The survey should only take a few minutes and is used to help improve service to our customers.