

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
SAN ANTONIO DIVISION

JOHN A. PATTERSON, et al.,	)	
	)	
Plaintiffs,	)	
	)	
v.	)	No. 5:17-CV-00467
	)	
DEFENSE POW/MIA ACCOUNTING	)	
AGENCY, et al.,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

**DECLARATION OF GREGORY L. GARDNER**

I, Gregory L. Gardner, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, declare as follows:

1. I am the Branch Chief, U.S. Army Past Conflict Repatriations Branch, Ft Knox, KY, and have served in that position since June 2010. I am responsible for the Army’s support to the Department of Defense (DoD)’s program to recover and identify unaccounted-for Service Members from past conflicts.

2. The statements contained in this declaration are based on my personal knowledge and Department of Defense records and information made available to me in my official capacity.

3. The primary roles of the Army’s Casualty and Mortuary Affairs Operations Division, Past Conflict Repatriations Branch (PCRB) are (1) to maintain liaison with families of unaccounted-for DoD personnel, (2) maintain personnel files for each unaccounted-for Service Member, (3) conduct genealogy searches and outreach to identify and locate family members for the purpose of obtaining DNA family reference samples and identifying the Primary Next of



Kin (PNOK), and (4) to manage and execute mortuary services for all identified Service Members from past conflicts. See DoD Directive 2310.07, Past Conflict Personnel Accounting Policy § 2.4 (Apr. 12, 2017); Army Regulation 638-2, Army Mortuary Affairs Program (Nov. 28, 2016).

4. Mortuary services are managed and conducted by PCRB for past conflict remains. The mortuary process for all Army remains consists of identification, preparation, and disposition of remains. Disposition of remains cannot take place until remains are identified or determined to be unidentifiable by the Armed Forces Medical Examiner (AFME) and have been prepared for interment. See DoD Instruction 5154.30, Armed Forces Medical Examiner System § 2.4 (Dec. 21, 2017); Army Regulation 638-2, Ch. 4. After the AFME makes an individual identification, final or permanent disposition, including burial or cremation, is directed by the person authorized to direct disposition (PADD). See Army Regulation 638-2 § 4-4, 4-6. The Army cannot identify the correct PADD unless the remains are identified, and therefore the PADD cannot direct the disposition of remains unless the remains are identified. See *id.* §§ 4-4, 4-9, 4-15.

5. Pursuant to these responsibilities, after the remains of Private Arthur Kelder were identified in 2015, the Army notified the PADD, Mr. Douglas Kelder, and received his agreement to accept the remains for burial. See Exhibit 1. All of the identified remains were transferred to Mr. Kelder for burial.


6. The Army is responsible for disinterment of identified servicemembers from Department of the Army cemeteries. On February 4, 2019, the PNOK for First Lieutenant Ira Cheaney formally requested disinterment of his remains at West Point on the basis of the misidentification after World War II. On March 8, 2019, disinterment of the remains identified

as 1LT Cheaney were approved. See Exhibit 2. The disinterment was conducted on April 16, 2019, and the remains have been transferred to DPAA for analysis.

\* \* \* \* \*

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 19th day of April, 2019.

  
Gregory L. Gardner  
Branch Chief, Past Conflict Repatriations  
Branch/U.S. Army Casualty and Mortuary Affairs  
Operations Division

## NOTICE OF INTENT

TO: U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND  
 Attn: Casualty and Mortuary Affairs Operations Center  
 AHRC-PDC-R  
 1600 Spearhead Division Ave., Dept #450  
 Fort Knox, KY 40122-5405

I am the person authorized to direct disposition (PADD) of the remains of Pvt. Arthur H. Kelder (WWII) (ASN 36016623). My name, address, and phone number are (type or print):

Name: Douglas A. Kelder  
 Address: N1037 Glendenning Road Shell Lake, WI 54871-7879  
 Telephone: C:715-491-3177 / H:715-468-4371

I have been advised that DPAA has identified the remains of this Service Member. I understand that if I disagree with the identification, I may request a hearing before the Armed Forces Identification Review Board (AFIRB). I further understand that in order to have a hearing, I must return this Notice of Intent to you. The Notice of Intent must be returned within 90 calendar days after the later of the date of the letter advising me of my right to such a hearing or my meeting with a representative of the Department of the Army.

I understand that I may attend the proceedings of the AFIRB with private counsel and that I am entitled to reasonable access to the information that will be presented to the AFIRB. Further, I understand that I will have the opportunity to present information to the Board that I consider relevant to the proceedings. I also understand that I can file a written objection to the AFIRB's findings so long as I notify the AFIRB president in writing objection within 30 calendar days after the AFIRB enters its recommendation.

Finally, I understand that I will not be entitled to reimbursement by the United States for any costs (including, but not limited to, travel, lodging, meals, local transportation, legal fees, transcription costs, and witness expenses) incurred by me in attending such proceedings.

Please check one of the following:

DAK I agree with the identification and accept the remains.

I request a hearing before the AFIRB.

Signature: Douglas Kelder

Printed Name: DOUGLAS KELDER

Date: 5-26-2015



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
ARMY NATIONAL MILITARY CEMETERIES  
ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22211-5003

**EXHIBIT**

**2**

SAAC-ZA

MAR 08 2019

MEMORANDUM FOR The Adjutant General, U.S. Army Human Resources Command,  
1600 Spearhead Division Avenue, Department 400, Fort Knox, KY 40122-5400

SUBJECT: Request for Exception to Policy for Disinterment at West Point Cemetery in  
Section VII, Row B, Grave 107

1. The request to disinter the remains currently identified as First Lieutenant Ira B. Cheaney, Jr., interred at West Point Cemetery in Section VII, Row B, Grave 107 is approved.
2. Interment in Army cemeteries is considered final, however, disinterment is permitted for compelling reasons. The Army's investigative materials and the analysis furnished by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency conclude that the remains interred at West Point Cemetery are not the remains of First Lieutenant Ira B. Cheaney, Jr.
3. Point of contact for this matter is Ms. Cynthia Riddle, Army National Military Cemeteries, 703-614-6219 or by email at [cynthia.a.riddle6.civ@mail.mil](mailto:cynthia.a.riddle6.civ@mail.mil).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Durham-Aguilera".

KAREN DURHAM-AGUILERA  
Executive Director



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND  
1600 SPEARHEAD DIVISION AVENUE, DEPARTMENT 400  
FORT KNOX, KY 40122-5400

AHRC-PDZ-A

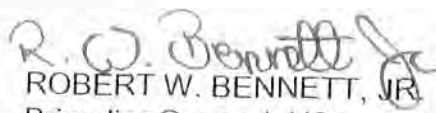
MEMORANDUM FOR Executive Director, Army National Military Cemeteries (SAAC),  
1 Memorial Drive, Arlington, VA 22211-0001

SUBJECT: Concurrence to Disinter Grave Number 107, Row B, Section VII at West  
Point Post Cemetery

1. Request your approval to disinter the remains currently identified as First Lieutenant (1LT) Ira B. Cheaney, Jr., in Grave Number 107, Row B, Section VII at West Point Post Cemetery.
2. The enclosed correspondence provides the declassified investigation conducted by the Army in 1950 (Enclosure 1) along with Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency's (DPAA) draft analysis (Enclosure 2). Both investigations concluded that the remains buried at West Point are not 1LT Cheaney. In addition, the Family of 1LT Cheaney concurs with the disinterment (Enclosure 3) and Past Conflict Repatriations Branch (PCRB) has validated the PNOK (Enclosure 4).
3. Casualty and Mortuary Affairs Operations Division (CMAOD) will coordinate the disinterment with the cemetery, provide funding for disinterment, and coordinate the transportation of remains to DPAA.
4. Once DPAA confirms identity and CMAOD has been notified, they will verify the Primary Next-of-Kin and the Person Authorized to Direct Disposition and conduct notification to the Family at the appropriate time. If the remains cannot be identified, CMAOD will coordinate with your office for interment of the remains as unknown in an appropriate U.S. National Cemetery.
5. The point of contact for this action is Mr. Greg Gardner, Chief, Past Conflict Repatriations Branch, 502-613-8259 or by email at [gregory.l.gardner10.civ@mail.mil](mailto:gregory.l.gardner10.civ@mail.mil).

4 Encls

1. Army Investigation 1950
2. DPAA Draft Memorandum 2018
3. Cheaney Family Statement
4. PCRB PNOK Validation

  
ROBERT W. BENNETT, JR.  
Brigadier General, USA  
The Adjutant General

CF.

Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency


**DEFENSE POW/MIA ACCOUNTING AGENCY**

 2300 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-2300

**DRAFT**

6 August 2018

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD**

From: Gregory Kupsky, Historian, Asia-Pacific Operations, DPAA; Andrea Palmiotto, Anthropologist; Calvin Y. Shiroma, Odontologist, DPAA Laboratory.  
 To: Science Director; Asia-Pacific Director, DPAA

Subj: ASSOCIATION OF REMAINS BURIED AS FIRST LIEUTENANT IRA CHEANEY TO 28 WAR II CASUALTIES

**I. Executive Summary**

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) has analyzed historical documents related to the recovery and identification of First Lieutenant (1st Lt) Ira B. Cheaney and is considering the possibility that a misidentification occurred in 1948. The recovery location of the remains (hereafter, "West Point remains") does not match 1st Lt Cheaney's time and circumstances of loss. Furthermore, in a classified IDPF for 1st Lt Cheaney, the Office of the Quartermaster General (OQMG) acknowledges a misidentification but declines to overturn the identification in the absence of other remains being identified as 1st Lt Cheaney.

The West Point remains were recovered from Abucay churchyard, an area associated with 43 losses including 1st Lt Alexander Nininger, the Army's first Congressional Medal of Honor recipient in World War II. First Lieutenant Cheaney is added to this list due to his historical association with the remains, although the circumstances surrounding his loss are inconsistent with the recovery of the remains. Therefore, 44 candidates are included for analysis. No candidates can be excluded based on anthropological factors, while 16 candidates can be excluded based on dental factors. These analyses result in 28 candidates remaining for association with the unknown remains, including 1st Lt Cheaney, and ranked based on historic factors (Table 1). In addition to a standard re-analysis of the remains, DNA analysis is a potential line of evidence for identification. Therefore, it is recommended that the West Point remains be exhumed from Section VII, Site 107, of the U.S. Military Academy Post Cemetery (the headstone of which continues to bear the name of 1st Lt Cheaney), for transport to the DPAA Laboratory for forensic analysis and comparison with the associated casualties.

**Table 1. Final list of U.S. casualties associated with the West Point remains and summary of available records, and potential analytical options.**

Rank	Name	Historical	Anthropological	Dental	Chest X-Ray <sup>a</sup>	FRS on File
1	Maynard, David	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
1	Nininger, Alexander R., Jr.	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes
1	Poblador, Sergio M.	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested

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**Table 1. Final list of U.S. casualties associated with the West Point remains and summary of available records, and potential analytical options.**

Rank	Name	Historical	Anthropo-logical	Dental	Chest X-Ray <sup>a</sup>	FRS on File
2	Boco, Gerardo	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Borromeo, Petronilo B.	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Cabugos, Urbano	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Catalan, Vicente C.	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Cheaney, Ira B.	No	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Dayrit, Jose	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	De La Cruz, Marcelo	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Englis, Escolastico	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A	Not requested
2	Evite, Benedicto	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Lucas, Mariano	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Miana, Hilario M.	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Miguel, Marcelino	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Mina, Doroteo	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Morada, Francisco	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Nabor, Cipriano	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Ormelon, Eduardo	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Paez, Josef	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Poblete, Isidro	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A	Not requested
2	Quijano, Arsenio C.	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Raton, Francisco	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Rojas, Leandro A.	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Romano, Juan	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Tan, Fernando	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Tejero, Francisco	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested
2	Zambrano, Felix	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Not requested

Green shade = line of testing has evidence to support possible association, yellow shade = line of testing may become possible and/or may be probative.

\*Although copies of chest radiographs are sometimes included in personnel records, these findings have been rare in World War II casualties and none are available for the individuals listed above.

## 2. Initial Recovery and Assessment

On 4 January 1948, Ira Cheaney, Sr., wrote to then-Congressman Richard Nixon regarding his son, Ira, Jr., 57th Infantry Regiment (Philippine Scouts), missing in the Philippines. Mr. Cheaney reported meeting his son's former commander, Colonel George Clarke. According to Mr. Cheaney, "he did a lot of talking but I have never been able to decide how much of what he said could be depended on." Colonel Clarke had told Mr. Cheaney that his son "was buried in the Church Yard at Abucai [sic] 'twelve steps right from the south center door.'" Mr. Cheaney



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asked Congressman Nixon to find "any information as to his life and movements" and "the place and circumstances of his death."

Receiving a subsequent inquiry from Congressman Nixon's office, the Office of the Quartermaster General forwarded the reported burial location to the American Graves Registration Service (AGRS) in Manila on 28 January 1948 (Figure 1) and directed an investigation.

Declassified in accordance with E.O. 13526

**SECRET**

**PRIORITY CLEAR**

3-152

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2009

FROM:

TO :

DATE:

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22 JAN 48 0800/1

MEM DAY FOR CONGRESS IN WASH DC  
(COMBAT)

OO WASHINGTON

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REF -25228

OO/AGRS

WASHINGTON DIST

SECTION: AGRS

F I L E

REURAD WEL 37007 CONGRESSMAN INQUIRY FIRST IS IRA B  
CHEANEY JR. 031904 INF KILLED IN ACTION 30 JANUARY 1948 VALIENT ANATA  
(NEAR ARICAY) BORNEO PHILIPPINE ISLANDS. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM  
BLANK OF KIN DISCLOSED THAT SON-OF-IN-LAW COMMANDING OFFICER COL  
GORDON G. BLANK STATED THAT INCIDENT WAS KILLED BY REBELLION GUN FIRE AND WERE  
IN BURIED AT ADDRESS 22 STOPS TO RIGHT OF BOUT CENTER DOWN PR SURVIVAL BOOK  
OF ST. CHURCH. SEARCH AND ON ANY OTHER INFORMATION.

**SECRET**

**PRIORITY CLEAR**

**FIG 1 OF 1 PAGE**

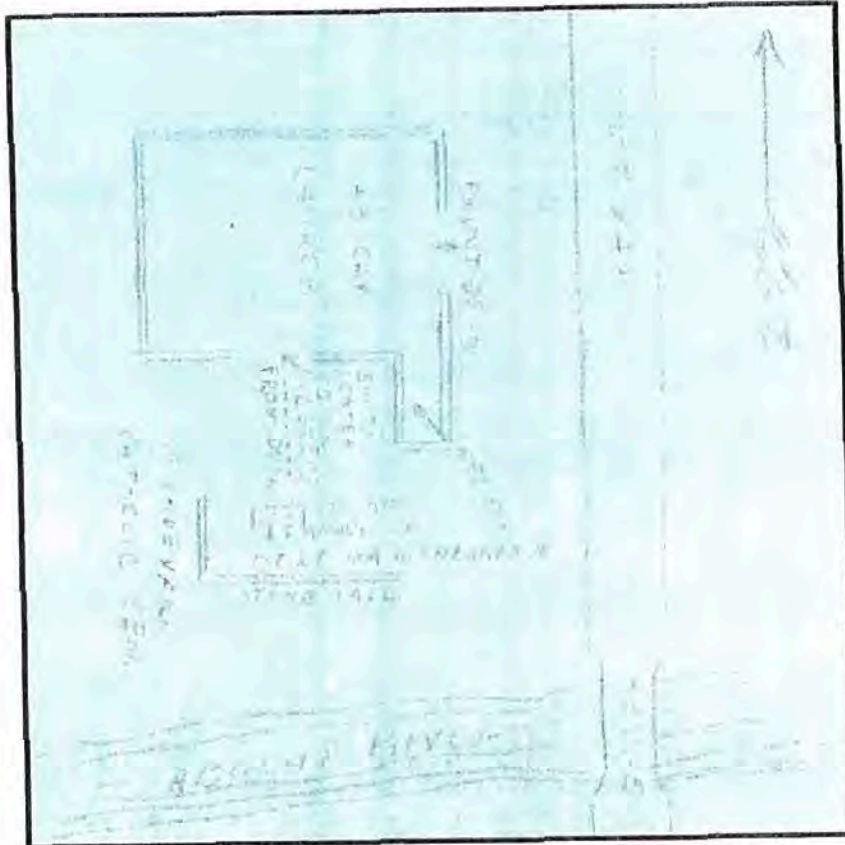
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**Figure 1. Telegram received by the AGRS reporting the Congressional inquiry and purported burial location of 1st Lt Cheaney, from IDPF for Cheaney.**

On 3 February 1948, an AGRS team visited the Abucay churchyard. The team proceeded twelve steps out from the south center door and began digging test pits (Figure 2). The third pit contained remains at a depth of four feet, and as the team expanded the excavation eastward, "all skeletal remains were recovered." While the team found no identifying media, their recovery report named the remains as 1st Lt Ira Cheaney.<sup>2</sup>



**Figure 2. Sketch map of Abucay churchyard from IDPF for Cheaney, indicating the West Point remains' recovery location south of the church door and within the stone wall.**

### 3. Disinterment and Reprocessing

The remains arrived at Manila Mausoleum on 10 February 1948. The Report of Interment again labeled the remains as 1st Lt Cheaney. The report states that no identifying media was recovered, but that the identification was based on the 28 January 1948 radiogram from OQMG. An Identification Data sheet generated at the time states that the AGRS was unable to determine estimated weight, height, or race of the recovered remains.<sup>3</sup>

An identification checklist generated on 22 April 1948 lists as "favorable" the date and place of loss, noting that "Lt. Cheaney was in the [Abucay] vicinity prior to his date of death." The

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checklist states that the dental comparison was positive, and that "no other casualties listed in records this office as having been killed or recovered from the vicinity where the remains were found [sic]."<sup>4</sup> This last point was erroneous, as will be shown below.

On 3 May 1948, the Memorial Division, Quartermaster Corps, notified 1st Lt Cheaney's father that 1st Lt Cheaney had been identified. Per the request of the father, the remains were delivered to the U.S. Military Academy Post Cemetery, West Point, New York.<sup>5</sup>

#### 4. Historical Investigations and Name Associations

In October 1950, the Memorial Division conducted an investigation of the recovery efforts in Abucay due to an ongoing inability to identify others killed in the area.

On 20 November 1950, the Identification Branch (IB), Memorial Division, provided the Chief of the Memorial Division with its findings. Citing interviews with six witnesses, the IB concluded that "the remains presently interred in U.S. Military Academy Post Cemetery, West Point, New York, as 1/LT Ira B. Cheaney, Jr., O-23965, are not those of Lt Cheaney."

The investigation provided the following time line. Colonel Clarke, who provided the family with purported burial information, was relieved from command on 13 January 1942, over two weeks before 1st Lt Cheaney's death. On 20 January, 1st Lt Cheaney's company withdrew from Abucay to engage a Japanese landing at Quinauan Point, approximately 18 miles southwest of Abucay. American forces lost control of Abucay on 25-26 January, and on 30 January 1st Lt Cheaney died on western Bataan. His immediate superior, Capt Eugene Anthony, reported finding his body on 7-8 February. A 2d Lt Fred Koenig stated that he oversaw the burial of 1st Lt Cheaney in one of the Mariveles temporary cemeteries.

The investigation concluded that Col Clarke's erroneous statement caused the misidentification of the West Point remains as 1st Lt Cheaney. Because Col Clark also provided erroneous burial location data for 1st Lt Alexander Nininger, 1st Lt David Maynard, 1st Lt John Compton, 1st Lt Arthur Green, and 1st Lt Kenneth Wilson—all from the 57th Infantry Regiment—the IB recommended a reassessment of those cases (see section 6, below).

The IB stated that the only unknown from Mariveles that might be compared to 1st Lt Cheaney would be X-151 Manila #2. The IB recommended that, if X-151 could be identified as 1st Lt Cheaney, an official should visit his father "to acquaint him with the facts in the case and to secure his permission to exchange the remains for those now interred at West Point as Lt Cheaney." The West Point remains would then be compared against 1st Lt Maynard and 1st Lt Nininger. If, however, X-151 could not be identified as 1st Lt Cheaney, no further action would be taken.<sup>6</sup>

Theodore McCown, Associate Professor of Anthropology, conducted a comparison of X-151 to 1st Lt Cheaney. In his 12 February 1951 examination, Professor McCown was unable to estimate age or height because of the deterioration of the remains, and damage to the mandible prevented analysis of dentition. Based on the condition of X-151, he stated it was "not possible to associate X-151 certainly with the data available for Cheaney."<sup>7</sup>

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### 5. Final Decision

With the failure to identify X-151 as 1st Lt Cheaney, the IB asked that X-151 be returned to Manila for burial as an unknown, and that findings of non-recoverability be approved for the other officers potentially buried in the Abucay churchyard.<sup>8</sup> The remains buried at Section VII, Site 107, U.S. Military Academy Post Cemetery, continued to bear the name of 1st Lt Cheaney, despite the findings of the IB in November 1950 (Figure 3).



**Figure 3. The headstone over the West Point remains.<sup>9</sup>**

### 6. Present Investigation

Research reveals several falsehoods in the 1948 identification checklist that supported the identification of the West Point remains as 1st Lt Cheaney.<sup>10</sup> While it is true that “Lt. Cheaney was in the [Abucay] vicinity prior to his date of death,” he is known to have been alive for several days after U.S. forces lost control of Abucay, and thus could not have been buried there. The checklist also states that there were “no other casualties ... killed or recovered from the vicinity where the remains were found.” As investigators at the time would have known, this statement is demonstrably untrue.

During the Japanese advance into the Bataan Peninsula, the U.S. Army Forces Far East (USAFFE) main line of resistance stretched from Mauban on the west coast to Abucay in the

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east. Within the eastern sector, the 57th Infantry Regiment was responsible for the easternmost sector, including the towns of Abucay and Mabatang (Figure 4).

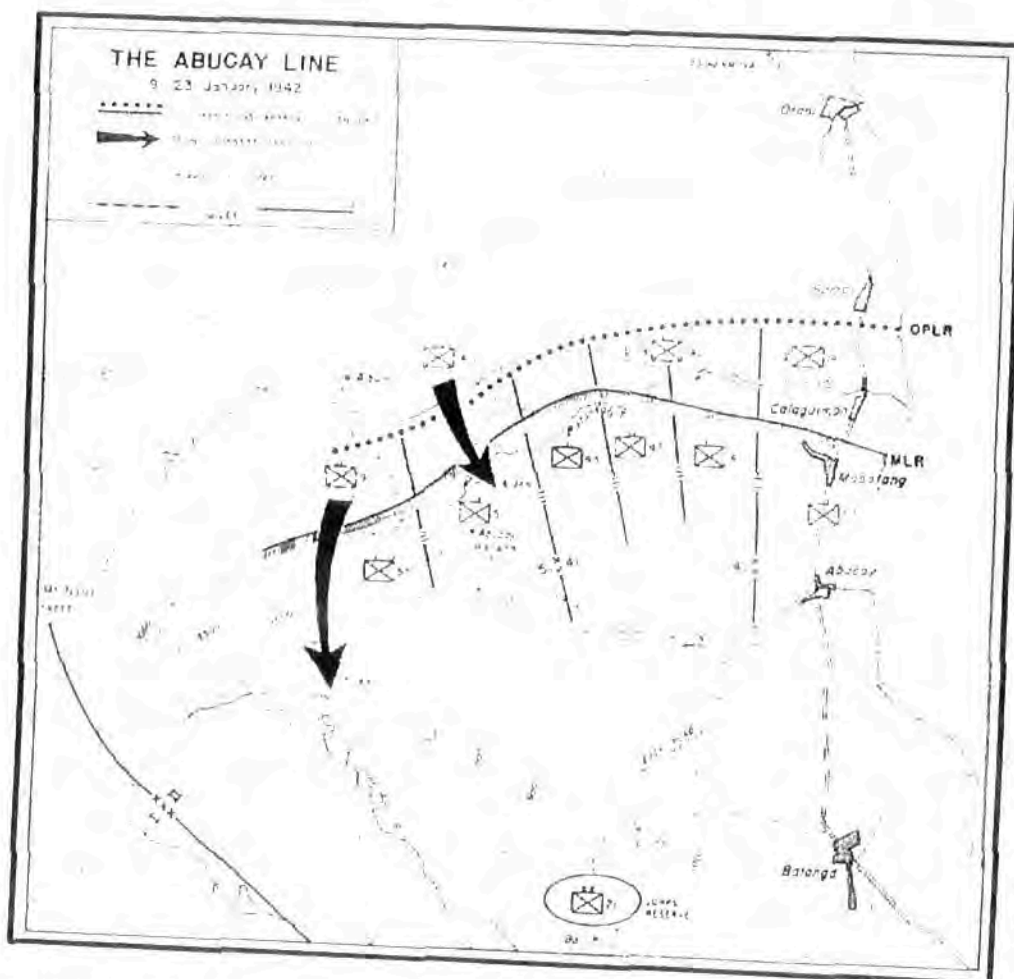


Figure 4. The Abucay Line, Map 11, Morton, *The Fall of the Philippines*.

After an intense artillery battle and engagements north of the Main Line of Resistance, the Japanese attackers made their first major advance against the line on the night of 11-12 January 1942. Launching their assault against the 3rd Battalion in the night, the Japanese faced point-blank artillery fire but were unremitting. As the 57th Regiment began to give way, its commander, Colonel George S. Clarke, committed his reserve, 2nd Battalion, finally stalling the Japanese advance. A dawn counterattack restored the 57th position. Throughout the day of 12 January, it became apparent that Japanese snipers had infiltrated the 3rd Battalion's lines, necessitating the creation of sniper hunting parties comprising riflemen and demolition engineers.<sup>11</sup>

The Japanese infiltration around Abucay on 11-12 January cost the lives of six lieutenants of the 57th Infantry: 1st Lt Alexander Nininger—who posthumously received the Medal of Honor—1st Lt Kenneth Wilson, 1st Lt David Maynard, 1st Lt Adolph Meier, 1st Lt Arthur Green, and 1st Lt John Compton. The following day, 1st Lt Ira Cheaney's leading of a sniper

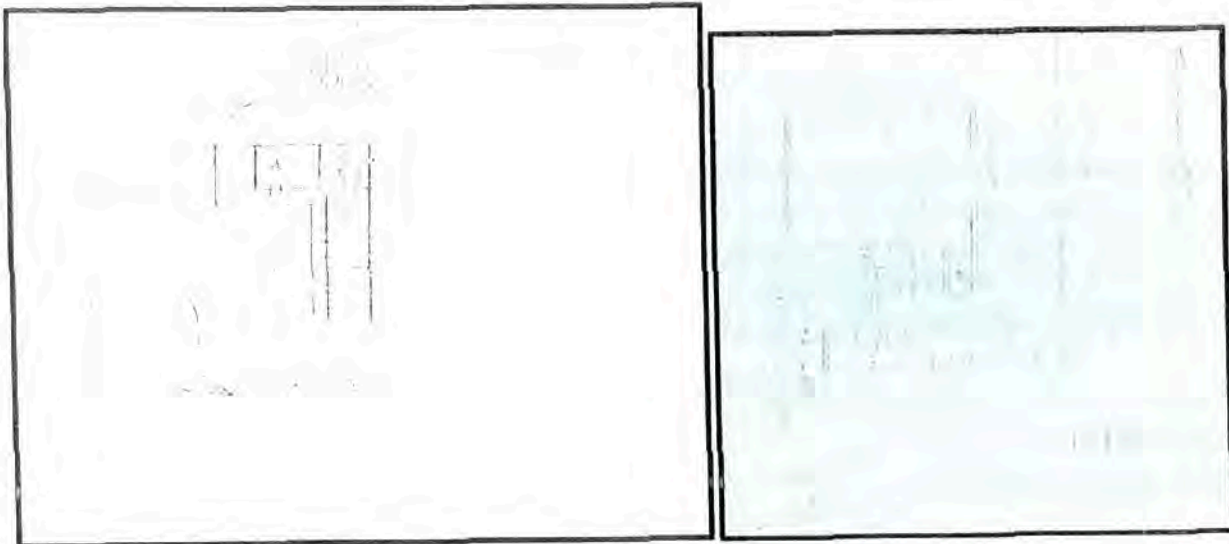
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hunting party earned him the Distinguished Service Cross.<sup>12</sup> Combat continued in the Abucay area until the USAFFE withdrawal on 24–25 January. First Lieutenant Cheaney died on 30 January in western Bataan.<sup>13</sup>

Colonel Clarke, commander of the 57th Infantry Regiment, was relieved of command at approximately 1200 on 13 January 1942. After the war his executive officer, Col Franklin Anders, stated that Col Clarke did not attend any burials in the Abucay churchyard. However, Col Clarke wrote to several relatives of the lieutenants killed in January 1942. He told 1st Lt Nininger's family that he personally attended a "reverent and beautiful service," and that 1st Lt Nininger was buried in "grave No. 9 behind the South wall of the Abucay church," alongside the other 57th Infantry officers killed that day. Similarly, Colonel Clarke told the family of 1st Lt Maynard that his remains were in "Grave #6 behind the South Wall of the Abucay Church." Recoveries at corresponding graves south of the churchyard wall were later determined to be Philippine Scouts. Furthermore, as noted above, Col Clarke told the family of 1st Lt Cheaney that he was 12 steps to the right of the church door, despite 1st Lt Cheaney's death occurring over two weeks after Col Clark was relieved, and five days after USAFFE lost control of Abucay.<sup>14</sup>

Even after discounting Col Clarke's statements about 1st Lt Cheaney and specific grave numbers, there is considerable evidence that at least some of the 57th Infantry lieutenants killed on 11–12 January 1942 were buried in the Abucay churchyard. Lieutenant Colonel Anders, for example, discounted Col Clarke's specifics but was confident that these remains were in the churchyard interior.<sup>15</sup> Lieutenant Colonel John Raulston of the Medical Corps recalled that a chaplain, Captain Thomas Seccina, oversaw burials in "a little graveyard in the plot of ground within the five foot wall around the church," one that may have contained approximately six burials. The area described by LTC Raulston would correspond to the discovery location of the West Point remains (Figure 5).<sup>16</sup>



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**Figure 5. Sketch map of burial area described by Lt Col Raulston, from Nininger IDPF, and sketch map of recovery of West Point remains, from Cheaney IDPF.**

One of the lieutenants, 1st Lt Adolph Meier, killed on 12 January 1942, was later identified from remains recovered at Mariveles #3 Cemetery, leaving five officers potentially buried in the Abucay churchyard: 1st Alexander Nininger, 1st Lt David Maynard, 1st Lt Kenneth Wilson, 1st Lt John Compton, and 1st Lt Arthur Green (Table 2).<sup>17</sup>

Lieutenant Colonel Anders told the 1950s investigators that all five lieutenants were not buried together, despite Col Clarke's statements. He was confident only that 1st Lt Nininger and 1st Lt Maynard were buried together, and he believed that 1st Lt Wilson was "in or near the Church Yard." He was not sure whether 1st Lt Compton was buried, due to a paucity of remains, and he had no details on the burial of 1st Lt Green.<sup>18</sup>

Major Cecil Sanders of the regimental S-1 stated that 1st Lt Nininger died around 0900 and was brought to the church. He did not give a time of death for 1st Lt Maynard but agreed that he was buried in the church, as well. He recalled that 1st Lts Compton and Green died in the afternoon, with the former never recovered, and the latter "badly cut up." Major Sanders added that 1st Lt Wilson died in the afternoon while driving a jeep.<sup>19</sup> Lieutenant Colonel Garnett Francis of the regimental headquarters believed that 1st Lts Compton and Green died together in a foxhole and were never recovered.<sup>20</sup>

The sum total of this testimony leaves open the possibility that any of the five 57th Infantry lieutenants could have been buried in the Abucay churchyard, with 1st Lts Nininger and Maynard the most likely, followed by 1st Lt Wilson. This may be the reason that, in its 1950 reinvestigation, the IB recommended only that the West Point remains (if exhumed) be compared to Nininger and Maynard.

Research has revealed three other unresolved individuals specifically recorded as buried in the Abucay churchyard. Private First Class Rafael Creer died during an appendectomy on 15 December 1941, and was buried in the churchyard; Pfc Lucio Benigay is recorded as being buried in a bomb crater behind the church, and Pvt Sergio Poblador's IDPF states that he was buried in the churchyard. He is the only reported burial in the churchyard after 12 January 1942. These individuals should also be considered alongside the 57th Infantry officers (Table 2).

There are an additional 35 individuals whose units and dates of death place them in Abucay during the engagement that cost the lives of the 57th Infantry lieutenants, when burials in the churchyard are known to have taken place (Table 2). While not specifically recorded as buried in the churchyard, they cannot be excluded historically. Table 2 also includes 1st Lt Cheaney due to the historical association. Beyond this list, there is also the possibility that the remains, taken from a church cemetery, are not those of a U.S. servicemember.

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Table 2. Unresolved Casualties KIA 11-12 Jan, Potentially Buried in the Abucay Churchyard.<sup>21</sup>

Name	Service Number	Rank <sup>22</sup>	Unit	Incident Date
Cheaney, Ira B.	O-23965	1st Lt	57 Infantry Regt	30 Jan 42
Compton, John C.	O-413755	1st Lt	57 Infantry Regt	11 Jan 42
Green, Arthur	O-395411	1st Lt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Maynard, David	O-384762	1st Lt	57 Infantry Regt	11 Jan 42
Nininger, Alexander R.	O-23761	1st Lt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Wilson, Kenneth	O-398233	1st Lt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Benigay, Lucio	6610041	Pfc	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Creer, Rafael	R-328742	Pfc	HQ Philippine Div	15 Dec 1941
Poblador, Sergio	10305307	Pvt	88 Field Artillery Bn	23 Jan 42
Alimboyao, Juan	10303407	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Almayda, Rafael	6866388	Pfc	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Bade, Baldomero	R-322052	Cpl	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Balderama, Tomas	10300050	Pfc	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Boco, Gerardo	10302845	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Borromeo, Petronilo	6736636	Cpl	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Cabugos, Urbano	10302546	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Casenas, Manuel	10302850	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Catalan, Vicente	6737263	Pfc	45 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Dayrit, Jose	10305407	Pvt	23 Field Artillery Regt	10 Jan 42
Dela Cruz, Marcelo	10303408	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	11 Jan 42
Englis, Escolastico	R-3292333	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	9 Jan 42
Evite, Benedicto	10303270	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Kittelson, Arnold	6858175	Pfc	31 Infantry Regt	9 Jan 42
Lucas, Mariano	10303970	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Mabilangan, Inigo	10302944	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Matunog, Felipe	10303583	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Miana, Hilario	10300819	Pvt	45 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Miguel, Marcelino	10302958	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Mina, Doroteo	10301714	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Morada, Francisco	10302718	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Nabor, Cipriano	R-320541	Cpl	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Ornelon, Eduardo	10303091	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Pacz, Josef	6738505	Cpl	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Poblete, Isidro	10302848	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Quijano, Arsenio	10300057	Pfc	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Raton, Francisco	6866395	Cpl	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Rios, Cirilo	6738582	1 Sgt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Rojas, Leandro	6739206	Pfc	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Romano, Juan	6611760	Pfc	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Salin, Lorenzo	10302861	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	11 Jan 42
Tan, Fernando	10301202	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Tejero, Francisco	6865762	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42



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**Table 2. Unresolved Casualties KIA 11-12 Jan, Potentially Buried in the Abucay Churchyard.<sup>21</sup>**

Name	Service Number	Rank <sup>22</sup>	Unit	Incident Date
Valerio, Miguel	6866337	Pvt	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42
Zambrano, Felix	6738504	Pfc	57 Infantry Regt	12 Jan 42

7. Anthropology Summary

The files for the West Point remains are located in the IDPF for 1st Lt Cheaney and include two copies of an anthropological assessment with an associated skeletal chart, dated 10 February 1948,<sup>23</sup> as well as one undated skeletal chart.<sup>24</sup> The assessments of the West Point remains are largely consistent between assessments. The skeletal charts document an incomplete skeleton, with the following elements or portions of elements present: cranium and mandible; left and right scapulae, clavicularae, humeri, radii, ulnae, os coxae, femora, tibiae, and fibulae; most vertebrae and ribs; and several bones of both hands and the left foot (Figure 6). Extensive damage and fractures are depicted throughout the remains. The midfacial region of the cranium is missing, and no complete long bones are depicted. No antemortem fractures or pathological conditions are noted. Age, ancestry, and stature were not determined for the remains.

BLACK WITH PARTS OF BODY NOT RECOVERED



**Figure 6. West Point remains, skeletal inventory diagram.<sup>25</sup> Elements in black are absent. Potential exists for anthropological and dental analysis.**

The files for the West Point remains do not contain sufficient evidence to reevaluate age, stature, or ancestry; visual analysis of the remains is required. The available information for the West Point remains are compared to the associated candidates in Table 3. Records for 1st Lt Cheaney are included with the other candidates because, although 1st Lt Cheaney is excluded from association based on historical circumstances, the remains were previously identified as him (see above).

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Although antemortem and perimortem trauma are documented for several individuals, the corresponding elements are not present in the remains, and/or the extent of skeletal damage cannot be inferred from the available information. Based on the paucity of information associated with the West Point remains, no candidates can be excluded or ranked for association (see Table 3). In addition to standard anthropological analyses, dental comparison and DNA analysis present potential lines of evidence to assist in the identification of the remains.

**Table 3. The physical characteristics of the West Point remains compared to the top historical candidates.**

Name	Age <sup>a</sup>	Stature (inches)	Ancestry	Comments
West Point Remains	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Extensive fractures and damage throughout remains.
Alimboyao, Juan	22 yrs 0 mos	61	Filipino	None.
Almayda, Rafael	23 yrs 2 mos	65	Filipino	None.
Bade, Baldomero	44 yrs 5 mos	64	Filipino	None.
Balderama, Tomas A.	23 yrs 0 mos	60.75	Filipino	None.
Bengay, Lucio	38 yrs 10 mos	64.5	Filipino	None.
Boeo, Gerardo	25 yrs 3 mos	64.5	Filipino	None.
Borromeo, Petronilo B.	34 yrs 2 mos	62	Filipino	None.
Cabugos, Urbano	22 yrs 1 mo	63	Filipino	None.
Casenas, Manuel A.	24 yrs 1 mo	62.25	Filipino	None.
Catalan, Vicente C.	35 yrs 2 mos	71	Filipino	None.
Cheaney, Ira B.	24 yrs 11 mos	72, 73.5	European	Broken arm, n.d. <sup>26</sup>
Compton, John C.	30 yrs 3 mos	70, 70.5 <sup>b</sup>	European	None.
Creer, Rafael	45 yrs 6 mos	62.5	Filipino	None.
Dayrit, Jose	24 yrs 3 mos	62	Filipino	None.
De La Cruz, Marcelo	22 yrs 11 mos	66	Filipino	None.
Englis, Escolastico	Unknown <sup>c</sup>	Unknown <sup>c</sup>	Unknown <sup>c</sup>	None.
Evite, Benedicto	23 yrs 7 mos/ 23 yrs 10 mos <sup>d</sup>	61.75	Filipino	None.
Green, Arthur W.	26 yrs 11 mos	67.5, 68.5 <sup>b</sup>	European	Reportedly killed in foxhole by mortar shells. <sup>27</sup>
Kittelson, Arnold	32 yrs 2 mos	67	European	None.
Lucas, Mariano	25 yrs 1 mo	66	Filipino	None.
Mabilangan, Inigo B.	22 yrs 7 mos	69.3, 69.5 <sup>b</sup>	Filipino	None.
Matunog, Felipe	24 yrs 3 mos	62.5	Filipino	None.
Maynard, David	25 yrs 0 mos	69	European	Reportedly shot in the head; "anchor break"

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**Table 3. The physical characteristics of the West Point remains compared to the top historical candidates.**

Name	Age <sup>a</sup>	Stature (inches)	Ancestry	Comments
				fracture to the left ankle (tibia and fibula), n.d. <sup>28</sup>
Miana, Hilario M.	24 yrs 2 mos	63	Filipino	None.
Miguel, Marcelino	23 yrs 0 mos	64	Filipino	None.
Mina, Doroteo	22 yrs 4 mos	62.5	Filipino	None.
Morada, Francisco	24 yrs 0 mos	64.25	Filipino	None.
Nabor, Cipriano	50 yrs 10 mos	61	Filipino	None.
Niminger, Alexander R., Jr.	23 yrs 2 mos	71	European	Reportedly shot by snipers. <sup>29</sup>
Ormelon, Eduardo	22 yrs 9 mos	64.75	Filipino	None.
Pacz, Josef	34 yrs 1 mo	63.75	Filipino	None.
Poblador, Sergio M.	23 yrs 11 mos	62.5	Filipino	None.
Poblete, Isidro	Unknown <sup>c</sup>	Unknown <sup>c</sup>	Unknown <sup>c</sup>	None.
Quijano, Arsenio C.	22 yrs 9 mos	65.75	Filipino	None.
Raton, Francisco	23 yrs 11 mos	67.75	Filipino	None.
Rios, Cirilo	41 yrs 6 mos	66.75	Filipino	None.
Rojas, Leandro A.	31 yrs 10 mos	66	Filipino	None.
Romano, Juan	39 yrs 9 mos	61.5	Filipino	None.
Salin, Lorenzo	23 yrs 5 mos	64	Filipino	None.
Tan, Fernando	23 yrs 7 mos	62	Filipino	None.
Tejero, Francisco	23 yrs 3 mos	65	Filipino	None.
Valerio, Miguel M.	25 yrs 4 mos	61	Filipino	None.
Wilson, Kenneth	24 yrs 10 mos	60.5, 72.5, 73, 73.5 <sup>b,c</sup>	European	Fracture to left foot, 1938; reported gunshot wounds to waist. <sup>30</sup>
Zambrano, Felix	33 yrs 0 mos	61.75	Filipino	None.

<sup>a</sup> Age based on incident date.<sup>b</sup> Multiple statures listed in the Individual Deceased Personnel File (IDPF).<sup>c</sup> Information or IDPF not available.<sup>d</sup> Two different birthdates listed in IDPF.<sup>e</sup> One document reports a stature of 5'1/2". This value is likely a typo as all other documents in the IDPF report significantly taller statures.8. Odontology Summary

Undated QMC FORM 1044a (TOOTH CHART) labeled *CHEANEY, Ira B.* was used to develop the postmortem profile.<sup>31</sup> The remains were compared to the available dental records for all but two service members on the casualty list (Table 4). Dental records were not present in the personnel files of Pvt Englis and Pvt Poblete. Unexplainable restorative and/or extraction

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pattern discrepancies are present in the comparisons for Pvt Alimboyao (extraction), Pfc Almayda (extraction), Cpl Bade (extraction), Pfc Balderama (both), Pfc Benigay (extraction), Pvt Casenas (extraction), 1st Lt Compton (restorative), Pfc Creer (extraction), 1st Lt Green (extraction), Pfc Kittelson (extraction), Pvt Mabilangan (extraction), Pvt Matunog (both), 1 Sgt Rios (extraction), Pvt Salin (extraction), Pvt Valerio (both), and 1st Lt Wilson (restorative). The charted dental remains correspond to the dental evidence of the remaining casualties with no unexplainable discrepancies.

There are two types of explainable discrepancies present in the antemortem/postmortem dental record comparisons. The first type of explainable discrepancy involves the presence or absence of teeth #1, #16, #17, and #32 (upper right and left, and lower left and right third molars or wisdom teeth, respectively). All are present in the remains but in contrast one or more are documented as missing in the dental evidence for Pvt Boco (tooth #1), Cpl Borromeo (teeth #1, #17, and #32), 1st Lt Cheaney (all), Pvt De La Cruz (teeth #1 and #16), Pvt Evite (tooth #32), Pvt Lucas (tooth #32), 1st Lt Maynard (teeth #1 and #32), Pvt Miguel (tooth #32), Pvt Mina (all), Cpl Nabor (teeth #1, #17, and #32), 1st Lt Nininger (all), Pfc Quijano (teeth #1, #16, and #32), Pfc Romano (tooth #1), and Pvt Tan (teeth #17 and #32). These differences may be explained since dental officers during the WWII era routinely performed their examinations without radiographs (x-rays). Radiographs allow the examining dentist the ability to observe unerupted (i.e., covered in soft tissue) third molars. During a visual examination, the dental officer would not detect the unerupted teeth and would incorrectly chart them as missing.

The second type of explainable discrepancy involves the molar pattern noted in the lower left and right posterior quadrants. The dental remains are charted with the presence of teeth #17-#19 and #30-#32 (lower left third, second, and first molars, and lower right first, second, and third molars, respectively). In contrast, the dental profiles for Pvt Boco (lower right), Pfc Catalan (lower right), Pvt Miana (lower left), and Pvt Ormelon (lower left) chart the presence of two molars and absence of one molar in either the left or right quadrants. These differences are explainable since all three types of molars (first, second, and third molars) have a similar coronal morphology and are easily mistaken for the other. In each case, the eruption of a mis-identified third molar would result in the presence of three unrestored molars (a pattern similar to what is charted in the remains) and would assist in explaining this discrepancy.

In summary, the dental profiles for all but two potential candidates were compared to the postmortem charting of the West Point dental remains. Of these service members, Pvt Boco, Cpl Borromeo, Pvt Cabugos, Pfc Catalan, 1st Lt Cheaney, Pvt Dayrit, Pvt De La Cruz, Pvt Evite, Pvt Lucas, 1st Lt Maynard, Pvt Miana, Pvt Miguel, Pvt Mina, Pvt Morada, Cpl Nabor, 1st Lt Nininger, Pvt Ormelon, Cpl Pacz, Pvt Poblador, Pfc Quijano, Cpl Raton, Pfc Rojas, Pfc Romano, Pvt Tan, Pvt Tejero, and Pfc Zambrano are possible candidates for association with the dental remains. Dental profiles for Pvt Englis and Pvt Poblete were not compared to the remains due to the lack of antemortem dental evidence for both service members.

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Table 4. Comparison of the West Point dental remains to the casualty list.

Tooth #	Dental remains	Alimbovao	Almayda	Bade	Balderama	Benigay	Boco	Borromeo	Cabugos	Casenas
1	V	X	V	V	V	X	X	X	V	X
2	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
3	V	V	X	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
4	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
5	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
6	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
7	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
8	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
9	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
10	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
11	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
12	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
13	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
14	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
15	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
16	V	X	X	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
17	V	X	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
18	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
19	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
20	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
21	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
22	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
23	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
24	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
25	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
26	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
27	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
28	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
29	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
30	V	V	V	Restored	Restored	V	V	V	V	V
31	V	V	V	X, points	Restored	V	V	V	V	V
32	V	X	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V

Key: green shade = concordance; yellow shade = explainable discrepancy; red = unexplainable discrepancy; V = unrestored; X = antemortem missing.

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Table 4. Comparison of the West Point dental remains to the casualty list.

Tooth #	Dental remains	Catalan	Cheaney	Compton	Creer	Dayrit	De La Cruz	Englis	Exite	Green
1	V	V	X	O-S	V	V	X		V	X
2	V	V	V	DO-S	X	V	V		V	V
3	V	V	V	MO-S	V	V	V		V	V
4	V	V	V	O-S	V	V	V		V	X
5	V	V	V	DO-S	V	V	V		V	V
6	V	V	V	O-S	V	V	V		V	V
7	V	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V
8	V	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V
9	V	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V
10	V	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V
11	V	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V
12	V	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V
13	V	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V
14	V	V	V	O-S	V	V	V		V	V
15	V	V	V	MO-S	V	V	V		V	V
16	V	V	V	O-S	V	V	V		V	V
17	V	V	X	O-S	X	V	X		V	X
18	V	V	X	O-S	V	V	V		V	V
19	V	V	V	O-S	X	V	V		V	V
20	V	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V
21	V	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V
22	V	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V
23	V	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V
24	V	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V
25	V	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V
26	V	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V
27	V	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V
28	V	V	V	O-S	V	V	V		V	V
29	V	V	V	O-S	V	V	V		V	V
30	V	X	V	DO-S, I-S	V	V	V		V	V
31	V	V	V	O-S, I-S	X	V	V		V	V
32	V	V	X	O-S	X	V	V		X	X

Key: green shade = concordance; yellow shade = explainable discrepancy; red = unexplainable discrepancy; V = unrestored; X = antemortem missing; M = mesial; O = occlusal; D = distal; F = facial; S = silver amalgam restoration; / = no information.

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Table 4. Comparison of the West Point dental remains to the casualty list.

Tooth #	Dental remains	Kittelson	Lucas	Mabianzan	Matunog	Maynard	Miana	Miguel	Mina	Morada
1	V	V	V	V	V	X	V	V	X	V
2	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
3	V	X	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
4	V	V	V	X	V	V	V	V	V	V
5	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
6	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
7	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
8	V	V	V	Restored	Restored	V	V	V	V	V
9	V	V	V	X, possible	Restored	V	V	V	V	V
10	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
11	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
12	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
13	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
14	V	X	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
15	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
16	V	X	V	V	V	V	V	V	X	V
17	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	X	V
18	V	X	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
19	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
20	V	V	V	V	V	V	X	V	V	V
21	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
22	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
23	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
24	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
25	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
26	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
27	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
28	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
29	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
30	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
31	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
32	V	V	X	V	V	X	V	X	X	V

Key: green shade = concordance; yellow shade = explainable discrepancy; red = unexplainable discrepancy; V = unrestored; X = antemortem missing.

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Table 4. Comparison of the West Point dental remains to the casualty list.

Tooth #	Dental remains	Nabor	Nininger	Ormelon	Paez	Poblador	Poblete	Quijano	Raton	Rios
1	V	X	X	V	V	V		X	V	X
2	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
3	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
4	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
5	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
6	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
7	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
8	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
9	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
10	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
11	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
12	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
13	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
14	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
15	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
16	V	V	X	V	V	V		X	V	X
17	V	X	X	V	V	V		V	V	X
18	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
19	V	V	V	X	V	V		V	V	V
20	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
21	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
22	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
23	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
24	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
25	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
26	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
27	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
28	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
29	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
30	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V
31	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	X
32	V	X	X	V	V	V		X	V	X

Key: green shade = concordance; yellow shade = explainable discrepancy; red = unexplainable discrepancy; V = unrestored; X = antemortem missing; / = no information.

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**Table 4. Comparison of the West Point dental remains to the casualty list.**

Tooth #	Dental remains	Rojas	Romano	Salin	Tan	Tejero	Valerio	Wilson	Zambrano
1	V	V	X	V	V	V	X	V	V
2	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	O-S	V
3	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	DO-S	V
4	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
5	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	DO-S	V
6	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
7	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
8	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
9	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
10	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
11	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
12	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
13	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
14	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
15	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	O-S	V
16	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	O-S	V
17	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
18	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
19	V	V	V	V	V	V	Restored	O-S	V
20	V	V	V	V	V	V	Restored	DO-S	V
21	V	V	V	V	V	V	Restored	V	V
22	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
23	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
24	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
25	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
26	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
27	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
28	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
29	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	DO-S	V
30	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	DO-S	V
31	V	V	V	V	V	V	X	MOD-S	V
32	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	O-S	V
					X		X	X	V

**Key:** green shade = concordance; yellow shade = explainable discrepancy; red = unexplainable discrepancy;  
 V = unrestored; X = antemortem missing; M = mesial; O = occlusal; D = distal; S = silver amalgam restoration.

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Subj: Association of Remains Buried as First Lieutenant Ira Cheaney

9. Summary

The DPAA has analyzed historical documents related to the recovery and identification of 1st Lt Ira B. Cheaney and is considering the possibility that a misidentification occurred in 1948. The recovery location of the remains (hereafter, "West Point remains") does not match 1st Lt Cheaney's time and circumstances of loss. Furthermore, in a classified IDPF for 1st Lt Cheaney, the Office of the Quartermaster General (OQMG) acknowledges a misidentification but declines to overturn the identification in the absence of other remains being identified as 1st Lt Cheaney.

The West Point remains were recovered from Abucay churchyard, an area associated with 43 losses. First Lieutenant Cheaney is added to this list because of his historical association with the remains, but the circumstances of his loss are inconsistent with the recovery of the remains. Therefore, 44 candidates are included for analysis. No candidates can be excluded based on anthropological factors, while 16 candidates can be excluded based on dental factors. These analyses result in 28 candidates remaining for association with the unknown remains, including 1st Lt Cheaney, and ranked based on historic factors (see Table 1). In addition to a standard re-analysis of the remains, DNA analysis is a potential line of evidence for identification. Therefore, it is recommended that the West Point remains be exhumed from Section VII, Site 107, of the U.S. Military Academy Post Cemetery (the headstone of which continues to bear the name of 1st Lt Cheaney), for transport to the DPAA Laboratory for forensic analysis and comparison with the associated casualties.

\_\_\_\_\_  
GREGORY J. KUPSKY, PhD  
Historian, DPAA

\_\_\_\_\_  
ANDREA PALMIOTTO, PhD  
Anthropologist

\_\_\_\_\_  
CALVIN Y. SHIROMA, DMD  
Odontologist

Science Director Decision:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approved

Regional Director Decision:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approved

Frank H. Cheaney, Jr.

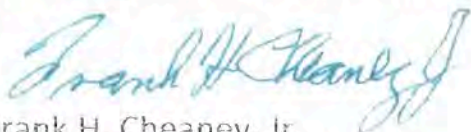
February 4, 2019

STATEMENT

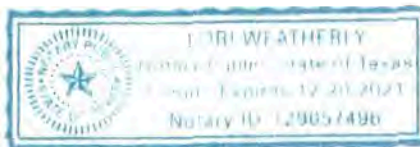
Casualty and Mortuary Affairs Operations Division  
US Army Human Resources Command  
(Regarding the Erroneous Burial of 1LT Ira B. Cheaney, Jr. at the USMA)

I am the son of Frank H. Cheaney, who was the half brother of Ira B. Cheaney and uncle of 1LT Ira B. Cheaney, Jr. I am a first cousin of 1LT Cheaney and am not personally aware of any other living close relatives.

Based on my understanding that there is conclusive proof in the hands of the Army and others that the remains of my cousin, 1LT Cheaney, cannot possibly be buried in grave number 107, Row B, Section VII at the Post Cemetery at West Point, New York, due to the location of his death and battlefield burial, I concur in the disinterment of the remains in that grave in order for the DPAA to attempt positive identification. My interest in this matter is to be cooperative with the Army in providing surviving family members of the person whose remains were erroneously identified as those of 1LT Cheaney with knowledge of the ultimate burial site of their loved one, if that is possible. I also hope that this action may eventually result in information concerning the actual burial site of 1LT Cheaney.



Frank H. Cheaney, Jr.  
Colonel, US Army, Retired



State of Texas

County of Bexar

This instrument was acknowledged before me this 4 day of February 2019,  
by Frank H. Cheaney, Jr.

Lori Weatherly - notary public Lori Weatherly - notary public state of Texas