

•517 Parachute Combat Team•

CLARK L. ARCHER

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Director of Memorial Programs (403 A)
National Cemetery System
Washington, DC 20420

Sir,

The following quote appears in a 'veterans advisory' newsletter:

"The VA will furnish a headstone or grave marker for a veteran's unmarked grave anywhere in the world and a memorial marker to recognize veterans whose remains were not recovered....."

The purpose of this letter is to get your opinion on the merits of the GRUWELL case as being eligible for placement of a memorial marker.


You will note by review of the enclosed material that PFC Robert R. GRUWELL, ASN 39277657, 517th Parachute Infantry Regiment, was killed in action on D-Day of Operation DRAGOON (15 August 1944). His body was discovered and identified by three men of his Battalion on 17 August 1944. However, his remains were not recovered by Graves Registration Detachments. AGRC Board concluded Gruwell's remains "are non-recoverable" on 15 November 1950. This conclusion was confirmed on 3 August 1951 as Case 15517(1).

Forty-two (42) men of our combat team are interred at Rhone-American Cemetery, Draguignan, France. There are two appropriate locations for a memorial marker in remembrance of Robert Gruwell:

1. Catholic Cemetery, Montauroux, France
2. Liberation Museum, Le Muy, France

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,


Clark L. Archer,
Unit Historian

XC: LGN Richard J. Seitz (517)
Col. Robert E. McMahon (517)
Col. Milton H, Hamilton (D of A)

