



CIL 2015-125-I-06
Private Robert Junior CARTER
U.S. Marine Corps

Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency
Laboratory
2300 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-2300

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DEFENSE POW/MIA ACCOUNTING AGENCY

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

Ser: 119-15
16 September 2015

MEMORANDUM

From: DPAA Laboratory

To: Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps
ATTN: (b)(6)
Manpower & Reserve Affairs (MRPC)
2008 Elliot Road
Quantico, VA 22134

Subj: Identification of DPAA-CIL 2015-125-I-06

Encl: (1) Case File DPAA-CIL 2015-125-I-06, DPAA15-0017

1. Forwarded is the DPAA Laboratory case file establishing the following identification:

Private Robert Junior CARTER, 818302, U.S. Marine Corps

2. Enclosed reports and documents in the DPAA case file have been checked for accuracy and completeness and represent those documents deemed relevant and probative. One copy is for your retention and the other is for the casualty individual's family. All presentations are marked appropriately on the inside cover of the booklet. For administrative questions, please contact

(b)(6)

3. Please provide this office with disposition instructions. Point of contact for the identification process is (b)(6)

(b)(3); 10 USC § 130b, (b)(6)

Science Director
Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

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16 September 2015

The remains designated CIL 2015-125-I-06, DPAA 2015-0017 are identified as those of

Private Robert Junior CARTER; 818302; U.S. Marine Corps

Copy editing and quality assurance procedures may result in some reports post dating the identification date.

(b)(3) 10 USC § 130b, (b)(6)

Science Director
Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency



DEFENSE POW/MIA ACCOUNTING AGENCY

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

MEDICAL EXAMINER SUMMARY REPORT

DPAA Number: DPAA15-0017
Case Number: CIL 2015-125-I-06
Name: CARTER, Robert Junior
Date of Birth: 22 June 1924
Service Number: 818302
Rank/Service: Private, U.S. Marine Corps
Unit: Co. G, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Division
Location of Loss: Betio Island, Tarawa Atoll, Gilbert Islands
Date of Loss: 20 November 1943
Date of Report: 16 September 2015

BACKGROUND

Private (Pvt) Robert Junior CARTER participated in the invasion Tarawa Atoll, and was killed during the assault on Beach Red 3 sometime during the first day of the battle. Pvt CARTER and other service members were reportedly buried in the 8th Marines Cemetery #2. Eventually, the U.S. Navy designated this location as Cemetery #27 and a memorial plaque inscribed with the names of the men reportedly buried there was erected at the site. While there was a monument honoring the men originally buried in Cemetery #27, no remains were discovered at this location following the end of World War II.

On 26 June 2015, History Flight, Inc. notified the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) that they had unearthed a burial trench on Betio Island and had recovered the remains of approximately 35 U.S. Marines who had been buried in Cemetery #27. During the recovery operation, History Flight, Inc. compared the dental records of Pvt CARTER to a set of remains and suggested a match. The remains were transferred to the custody of DPAA and accessioned for analysis on 26 July 2015.

SUMMARY OF IDENTIFICATION

Dental Analysis:

The dental remains consisted of 28 teeth in complete upper and lower jaws; three teeth were lost around or after the time of death as evidenced by empty and unhealed tooth sockets. The examined remains corresponded to the antemortem evidence of Pvt Robert J. CARTER with no unexplainable discrepancies. Based upon the correlations between the antemortem and postmortem dental evidence, to include two restored teeth, 26 unrestored teeth, and one tooth missing prior to death, the dental remains are positively those of Pvt Robert Junior CARTER, 818302, U.S. Marine Corps.

Anthropology Analysis:

The examined remains consist of a partial skeleton in fair condition. The remains represent a single individual, as established by the lack of duplication of elements and by good anatomical articulations throughout the skeleton. Additionally, all skeletal elements are broadly consistent in terms of size, development, and appearance. Analyses indicate this individual was male. The age-at-death for this individual was 18 - 25 years. Traits indicative of European ancestry were observed and stature was estimated to be 64.8 – 70.8 inches. No definite evidence of trauma around the time of death was observed in the remains. At the time of his death, Pvt CARTER was a 19-year-old white male who stood 68.75 inches in height.

Chest Radiograph Comparison Analysis:

The right and left collarbones and some of the vertebrae of the upper spine are subjected to chest radiograph comparison analysis. The remains are digitally radiographed to produce postmortem radiographs. The postmortem radiographs were compared to a single antemortem chest radiograph of Pvt Robert J. CARTER. Concordances in bone shape, size and densities were observed across numerous regions with no irreconcilable differences, and therefore the remains examined are consistent with Pvt Robert Junior CARTER.

Material Evidence Analysis:

Material evidence associated with the remains was received as a unilateral turnover from History Flight, Inc. The evidentiary materials were reportedly recovered in direct association with the remains examined in this report. The material evidence includes buttons, load bearing equipment buckles, a strap tip, and a metal wire. These are consistent with items issued to, or used by U.S. Marines in the Pacific Theater during World War II.

OPINION

The results of the laboratory analyses and the totality of the circumstantial evidence establish to me the remains are those of Private Robert Junior CARTER, 818302, U.S. Marine Corps.

The date of Pvt CARTER's death was previously established by the U.S. Marine Corps as 20 November 1943, with the cause of death stated as Killed in Action (details not known) due to military action on Betio Island, Tarawa Atoll, Gilbert Islands. Based on the examination of the skeletal remains, the cause and manner of death cannot be determined to a sufficient degree of medical certainty and are best certified as "Undetermined." The date of death is consistent with all historical, circumstantial, and laboratory evidence. If additional remains of Pvt CARTER are identified, disposition of those remains will be in accordance with the wishes of the next-of-kin.

(b)(3);10 USC § 130b,(b)(6)



Science Director
Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

Enclosures (9):

1. Historical Report: JPAC Incident No. 45, Betio Island, Tarawa Atoll, Republic of Kiribati; dtd 10 August 2015.
2. Forensic Odontology Report, CIL 2015-125-I-06; DPAA Laboratory; dtd 24 August 2015.
3. Forensic Anthropology Report, CIL 2015-125-I-06; DPAA Laboratory; dtd 8 September 2015.
4. Forensic Anthropology Report Addendum, CIL 2015-125-I-06; DPAA Laboratory; dtd 28 September 2015.
5. Chest Radiograph Comparison Report: CIL 2015-125-I-06; DPAA Laboratory; dtd 12 August 2015.
6. Material Evidence Report: CIL 2015-125-I-06-A-01 through 04; DPAA Laboratory; dtd 14 August 2015.
7. Relevant Personnel Records
8. NMS-Form N, Certificate of Death; dtd APR 08 '44
9. Certificate of Death Overseas, DD2064

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**Historical Report: Ground Incident 45
Betio Island, Tarawa Atoll, Republic of Kiribati**



by

(b)(6)

**Research and Analysis Directorate
Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency
590 Moffett St, Bldg 4077
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI 96853-5530**

10 August 2015

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Historical Report: Ground Incident 45 Betio Island, Tarawa Atoll, Republic of Kiribati

Research and Analysis Directorate Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

10 August 2015

INDIVIDUAL ASSOCIATED

Name	Service Number	Rank	Posthumous Rank	Branch of Service	Date of Loss	Status
CARTER, Robert J.	818302	Pvt	Pvt	USMC	20 November 1943	KIA/BNR

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND*

Private (Pvt) Robert J. CARTER was a Marine assigned to Golf Company (G Co.), 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines (G-2/8 Marines). Private CARTER participated in the invasion of the island of Betio, Tarawa Atoll, Gilbert Islands (now the Republic of Kiribati) on 20 November 1943.

In the autumn of 1943, the U.S. Navy Pacific Fleet's Central Pacific Campaign targeted the Gilbert Islands (now known as the Republic of Kiribati). The Gilberts offered the Pacific Fleet a platform from which to launch assaults on the Marshall and Caroline Islands to advance the U.S. Navy's Central Pacific Campaign against Japan. Considered essential to that campaign was the capture of Betio Island, located within Tarawa Atoll of the Gilberts (Figure 1). Primary responsibility for the assault, code named Operation GALVANIC, fell to the Second Marine Division (2MARDIV).¹

The 2MARDIV scheduled the assault on Betio for 0830 hours on 20 November 1943. The plan partitioned the primary landing area into three areas designated (from west to east) as Beaches Red 1, 2, and 3 (Figure 2). The plan called for the Marines to capture the airfield, with minimal damage to it, while defeating the Japanese defenders. Leading the invasion was the 2nd Marine Regiment (2nd Marines) consisting of the 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marines (3/2 Marines) at Beach Red 1; 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marines (2/2 Marines) at Beach Red 2; and the attached 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines (2/8 Marines) at Beach Red 3 (Figure 2).

*The historical background and investigations sections were compiled, unless otherwise noted, from information owned and published by the Department of Defense.

¹ James R. Stockman, *The Battle for Tarawa*, (Washington, DC: USMC, 1947), 3.

<http://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/USMC/USMC-M-Tarawa/index.html>. Accessed 27 July 2015.

amphibian tractors (LVTs) to deliver Marines of both Echo (E Co.) and Fox (F Co.) Companies and one platoon of G Co. directly on to the beach. Two LVTs transporting E Co. passed through a break in the seawall and moved inland on to the Japanese airfield before stopping.³ While the first three waves assaulted in LVTs, the next waves in the assault used traditional Higgins Boats (LCVPs). Because the LCVPs were not able to cross the reef, the Marines left them on the reef and began to wade approximately 600 yards to shore through heavy Japanese fire.⁴

Although the 2/8 Marines was able to get ashore and secure a portion of the airfield, it needed more men and equipment if it was to secure the beach and hold on to its position on the airfield. That afternoon the 3/8 Marines began landing, also suffering losses. Despite the heavy losses suffered by the 2/8 and 3/8 Marines throughout that day, both units worked to consolidate that day's gains. By nightfall on the first day, the 2/8 and 3/8 Marines held a large portion of Beach Red 3 and part of the Japanese airfield.⁵ Although there would be moments of uncertainty in the coming days, the Marines were established on Betio.

Three days later, 23 November, all organized resistance ceased; the battle on Betio was over and the Japanese were virtually annihilated. By this time the number of Marine and Navy personnel reported KIA approached 1,000 men.⁶ At some point on that first day, 20 November 1943, PFC CARTER died in the line of duty.⁷

The losses by all units ashore were high. As the numbers increased in the following days, the dead were hastily gathered and moved to various unit collection points for burial. Identified remains and those of "unknowns" received temporary burials in isolated graves, in one of six larger cemeteries on the island, or via burial at sea if evacuated to a ship for medical care. For those Marines that were identifiable, burial details recorded basic information such as burial location and an individual's position within a burial trench. In the case of PFC CARTER, there is no burial location listed.⁸

³ Stockman, *Battle for Tarawa*, 16.

⁴ The amphibian tractors (LVT) were tracked vehicles that were able to both swim to shore and, because of its tracks, to crawl over reefs, sand, and ground. The Higgins Boat (LCVP) is a shallow draft boat fitted with a bow ramp to quickly unload its passengers and is able to get close to shore. The water level over the reefs at Betio that day was lower than normal, preventing the LCVPs from getting close to the beach before disembarking the Marines, forcing them to wade between 600 and 1000 yards to shore.

⁵ Stockman, *Battle for Tarawa*, 28.

⁶ Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) Tarawa Fact Sheet (updated January 2014). <http://www.dpaa.mil/Resources/FactSheets.aspx>. Accessed 29 July 2015. This fact sheet places the final number of U.S. Marines and Sailors KIA at 1,049.

⁷ DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET RECOVERED OR IDENTIFIED, OQMG FORM 371 (23 SEP 46), for CARTER, Robert J., dated MAR 24 1948. Individual Deceased Personnel File (IDPF) for CARTER, Robert J., Pvt, 818302; Records of the Quartermaster General, Record Group 92; Washington National Records Center (WNRC), Suitland, MD.

⁸ CARTER, Robert J., 818302, Casualty Cards, Historical Reference Branch, Marine Corps History Division, Quantico, VA. It is also reported that Pvt CARTER had a Memorial Grave in Cemetery 33.

On 24 November, little more than 24 hours after the battle, the majority of the 2MARDIV began the move to Hawaii to begin training for future operations.⁹ Left behind were the division's dead, to be cared for by chaplains and personnel from other units sent to garrison the island. Anyone who could help to identify the dead, and their burial locations, was gone.

As the war progressed, the island of Betio physically changed to meet the needs of the advance in the Central Pacific and burials took on a secondary importance. Trained graves registration personnel were lacking and record keeping was incomplete, causing inconsistencies in the well-intentioned efforts to memorialize and honor the dead on the island. One of the known burial locations was the 8th Marines Cemetery #2 (8th Mar#2). The US Navy later renamed 8th Mar#2 as Cemetery 27 after an inventory of all burial and cemetery locations.¹⁰

At the end of the war the United States began the task of returning its war dead from all theaters of war. In the Pacific, the task to recover the dead from Betio Island and the Tarawa Atoll fell to a detachment of men from the 604th Quartermaster Graves Registration Company (604th QM GR Co.).¹¹ On 4 March 1946 the men arrived at Betio and began recovery operations that lasted until late May.

Through bad record keeping, massive reconstruction on the island, and poor memories, almost half of the known casualties on the island were never found. The following excerpt from Steere and Boardman's *Final Disposition of World War II Dead, 1945-1951* illustrates this problem:

Several factors added to the difficulties of locating and identifying the Tarawa Dead. In some cases, the Marines had constructed a monument directly above a body or group of remains. In other instances, no remains could be located beneath monuments. *Again, some memorial graves bore crosses with names but contained no deceased. Sometimes, later investigations located these individuals in cemeteries on the opposite side of the island (italics added).*¹²

Although the number of dead expected to be found was slightly more than 1,100, only 532 sets of remains, from 41 separate burial sites, were found (Figure 3).¹³ While there was a monument honoring the men originally buried in Cemetery 27, no remains were found there.¹⁴

⁹ Stockman, *The Battle for Tarawa*, 65.

¹⁰ William L. Niven, *Tarawa's Gravediggers* (Self-Published, 2007), 113. This location was also known as Central Division Cemetery Three, Division Cemetery Three, Cemetery Three and several other location names.

¹¹ Edward Steere and Thayer Boardman, *Final Disposition Of WWII Dead, 1945-1951*, (Washington, DC: Historical Branch, Office of the Quartermaster General, 1957), 398.

¹² *Ibid.*, 400-401.

¹³ This number includes servicemen killed on the island after the battle.

¹⁴ 1st Lt Eisensmith, Memorandum to Chief, Memorial Branch, Quartermaster Section, Army Forces, Middle Pacific, 3 July 1946, General Correspondence, Miscellaneous File, Record Group 92, Records of the Quartermaster General, NARA, College Park, MD.

All of the American remains found on Tarawa were moved to a central cemetery named Lone Palm Cemetery for later return to Hawaii.

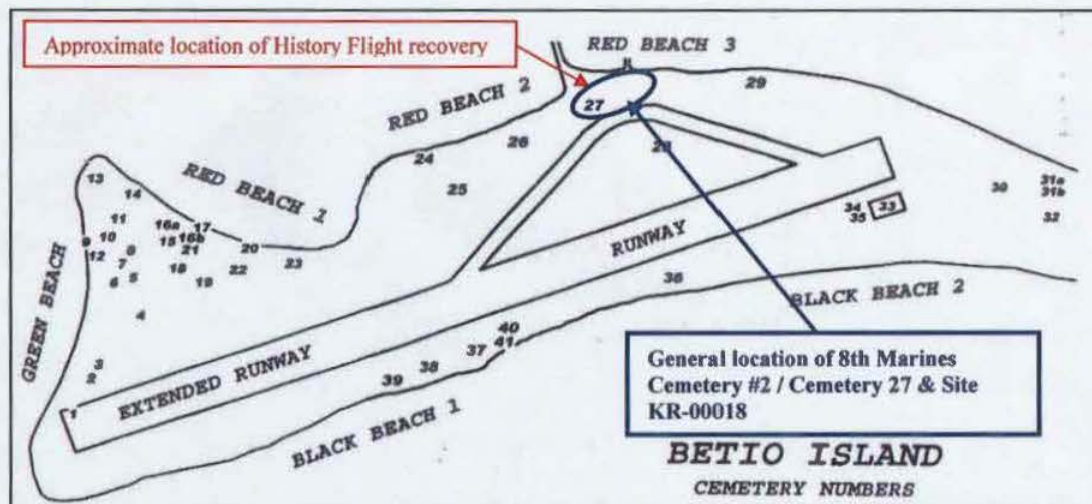


Figure 3. Map of reported burial areas on Betio Island.¹⁵

In 1947 the 604th QM GR Co. returned to Betio Island and removed all the remains from Lone Palm Cemetery for repatriation. The recovered remains were sent to the Schofield Barracks Central Identification Laboratory (CIL), Schofield Barracks, Territory of Hawaii, for further identification.¹⁶ While at the Schofield Barracks CIL, exhaustive efforts to identify all of the remains continued, resulting in many more individuals being identified. None of the identified remains were associated with those Marines reported to be buried in Cemetery 27.

By 1949, all of the Betio Island remains not sent back to the continental U.S., including the "unknowns," were reinterred in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Honolulu, Territory of Hawaii. Concurrently, Boards of Review met to review the cases of those missing throughout the Pacific. A Board of Review determined on 10 February 1949 that PFC Robert J. CARTER was killed in action at Tarawa, that no burial details were given, and that his remains were not recovered. The Board of Review therefore "resolved that subject decedent be declared non-recoverable."¹⁷

¹⁵ Location of Graves on Betio Island-Tarawa Atoll, Record Group 80: General Records of the Department of the Navy, 1798-1947, National Archives, College Park, MD.

¹⁶ Niven, *Tarawa's Gravediggers*, 22.

¹⁷ HEADQUARTERS, AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE (PACIFIC ZONE), BOARD PROCEEDINGS NUMBER 1363 FOR: Case No. 6-189 CARTER, Robert Junior, dated 10 February 1949. IDPF for CARTER.

INVESTIGATIONS

After WWII, the island of Betio began a return to peacetime development to accommodate a growing population. From the post war period to the present it was not uncommon for local residents and construction crews to unearth human remains while digging on the island. Remains were usually relocated and reburied, turned over to the local police, or given to a non-governmental organization (NGO) or other entity for storage.¹⁸

Between 18 and 21 June 2002, a Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii (CILHI) investigator conducted an investigation on Betio Island and received the unilateral turnover of human remains believed to be those of an American.¹⁹ Only a general vicinity for the location of the remains was identified, and that location was in the area believed to contain Cemetery 27. In 2011 the remains were identified as those of Private (Pvt) Herman Sturmer.²⁰ Using this information, the NGO History Flight, Inc. (HF) located witnesses who knew the precise location where the remains of Pvt Sturmer had been recovered. This area then became the target of more intensive investigation.

On 26 June 2015, (b)(6) of HF notified the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) that his group had unearthed a burial trench on Betio Island. Mr. Noah reported that HF recovered the remains of approximately 35 U.S. Marines that had been buried in 8th Marines Cemetery #2 / Cemetery 27. The recovery area corresponds to the historical location of the 8th Marines Cemetery #2 / Cemetery 27 and lies within Site KR-00018, an area visited by JPAC and HF during joint investigations in October 2011 and October 2012 (Figure 3).²¹

In July 2015, HF turned over custody of the remains from Site KR-00018 to a DPAA representative who escorted the remains back to Hawaii. On 27 July the DPAA Laboratory accessioned the HF remains as CIL 2015-125-I-01 through I-35 for testing and identification. The Laboratory accessioned remains HF 2015-012 as CIL 2015-125-I-06.

¹⁹ Christopher Monahan, Memorandum for the Record (MFR), RE: *Transport of Skeletal Remains to the United States of a possible US Service member Killed in Action During World War II*, dated 1 July 2002. CIL Accession 2002-077. Ground Incident 45 Electronic Case Files; Kiribati. DPAA Records/Archives, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. On 1 October 2003, CILHI and the organization Joint Task Force-Full Accounting merged to form the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC). In January 2015, JPAC, the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO), and the Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory (LSEL) merged to form the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency.

²⁰ Christopher McDermott, J2 REPORT: *JPAC Incident 45, Ground Loss, Betio (Tarawa), Republic of Kiribati, 20 November 1943*. 21 March 2011. Ground Incident 45 Electronic Case Files; Kiribati. DPAA Records/Archives, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

²¹ Unpublished Additional Information Report (AIR), SUBJ: Additional Information Report JPAC 0045, Site KR-00018, Cemetery 27, Betio Island, Tarawa Atoll, Kiribati, Providing Additional Data, Status, and Recommendations for the Site, 1 December 2011 draft. Ground Incident 45 Electronic Case Files; Kiribati. DPAA Records/Archives, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. William R. Belcher, *JPAC Chain of Custody Form, P2T Accession, CIL 2012-153*, dated 15 Nov 12. Ground Incident 45 Electronic Case Files; Kiribati. DPAA Records/Archives, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

ANALYTICAL SUMMARY

In 1946, the 604th QM GR Co. recovered 532 sets of remains of the more than 1,100 U.S. servicemen who died during the battle on Betio Island. These remains were moved to the Lone Palm Cemetery on Betio Island awaiting movement to the U.S. In 1947, the same unit disinterred the recovered remains and transferred them to the Schofield Barracks CIL for identification. No remains for Pvt CARTER were identified and his remains were declared "non-recoverable" on 10 February 1949. In May-June 2015, a History Flight team recovered 35 sets of remains from an area that correlates with the historical location of the 8th Marines Cemetery #2 / Cemetery 27. While there is no record that places Pvt CARTER in Cemetery 27, records do indicate a number of "unknown" burials in that cemetery. It is therefore feasible that the remains recovered as HF 2015-012 and accessioned as CIL 2015-125-I-06 can be associated with Pvt Robert J. CARTER.

(b)(6)

Historian,
R&A Directorate, DPAA

(b)(3); 10 USC § 130b; (b)(6)

Deputy Chief, R&A Directorate,
DPAA

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Primary Sources:

Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) Tarawa Fact Sheet (updated January 2014).
<http://www.dpaa.mil/Resources/FactSheets.aspx>. Accessed 29 July 2015.

Eisensmith, I., First Lt. (Commander of 604th Graves Registration Company), Memorandum, "Report on Tarawa Operation," to Chief, Memorial Branch, Quartermaster Section, Army Forces, Middle Pacific, 3 July 1946, General Correspondence, Miscellaneous File, Record Group 92, National Archives II, College Park, MD.

General Records of the Department of the Navy, 1787-1947, Records Group 80; National Archives at College Park, College Park, MD.

Ground Incident 45. Kiribati, Electronic Case Files, DPAA Records/Archives, Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI.

Individual Deceased Personnel File for CARTER Robert J., Pvt, 818302: Records of the Office of the Quartermaster General, Record Group 92; Washington National Records Center, Suitland, MD.

Records of the Office of the Quartermaster General, Record Group 92; National Archives at College Park, College Park, MD.

Second Marine Division Special Action Report for Tarawa.
<http://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/USMC/USMC-M-Tarawa/maps/USMC-M-Tarawa-1.jpg>. Accessed 28 July 2015.

United States Marine Corps Casualty Card for CARTER, Robert Junior. Historical Reference Branch, Marine Corps History Division, Quantico, VA.

Secondary Sources:

Alexander, Joseph H. *Across the Reef: The Marine Assault of Tarawa*, (Washington, DC: Marine Corps History Center, 1993). <http://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/USMC/USMC-C-Tarawa/index.html>. Accessed 27 July 2015.

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Steere, Edward and Thayer M. Boardman. *Final Disposition of World War II Dead, 1945-1951*. Washington, DC: Historical Branch, Office of the Quartermaster General, 1957.

Stockman, James R. *The Battle for Tarawa*. USMC Historical Monograph. Historical Section, Division of Public Information, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps. Washington, DC: 1947. <http://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/USMC/USMC-M-Tarawa/index.html>. Accessed 27 July 2015.

**FORENSIC ODONTOLOGY REPORT:
CIL 2015-125-I-06**

DPAALABORATORY

24 August 2015

DENTAL REMAINS

The dental remains of CIL 2015-125-I-06 consist of a maxilla (top jaw) and a complete mandible (bottom jaw) with the following characteristics: articulated teeth #1-#16, #18-#22, and #26-#32; healed bone in the area previously occupied by tooth #17 would suggest this tooth was lost prior to death (antemortem missing); and empty and unhealed tooth sockets for teeth #23-#25 would suggest they were lost at the time of or after death (postmortem missing). Tooth #16 is impacted. Localized brown staining is present on the crowns of multiple teeth and a green discoloration is present on the roots of multiple teeth and the alveolar bone on the left side of the arches. The remains articulate dentally and are in a fair state of preservation. The remains were reconstructed and multiple teeth are held in their sockets with an unknown adhesive by a previous analyst. Photographs (Figures 1 through 4) and radiographs were taken.

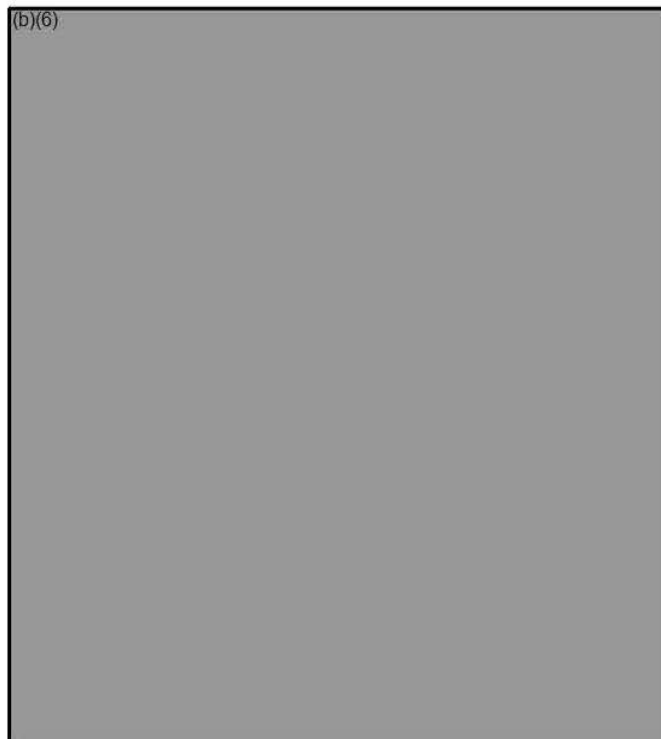


Figure 1. CIL 2015-125-I-06, anterior view of the maxilla and mandible (top to bottom, respectively).

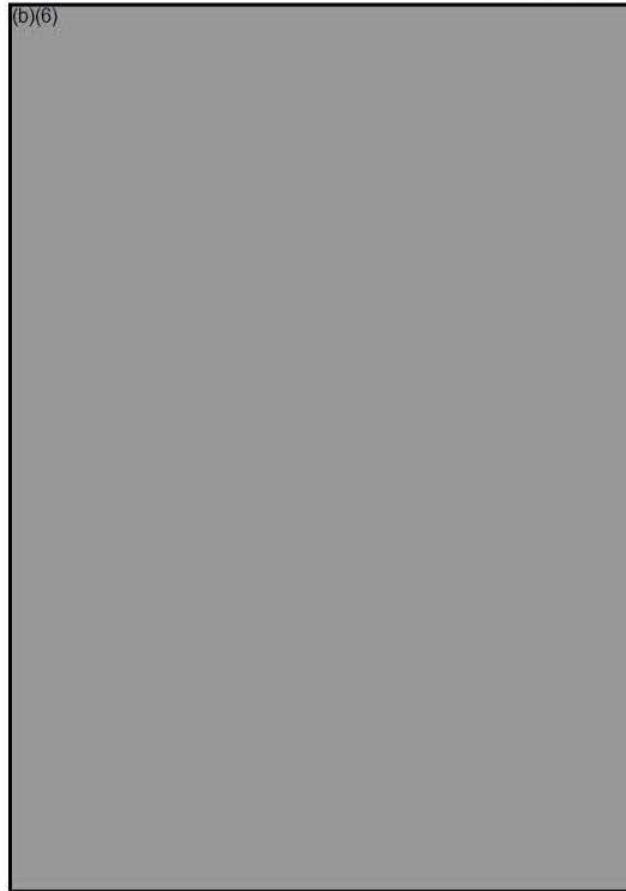


Figure 2. CIL 2015-125-I-06, occlusal view of the maxilla and mandible (top to bottom, respectively).



Figure 3. CIL 2015-125-I-06, lateral view of the right and left sides of the maxilla (left to right, respectively).



Figure 4. CIL 2015-125-I-06, lateral view of the right and left sides of the mandible (left to right, respectively).

ANTEMORTEM DENTAL INFORMATION

This incident involves a WWII loss. The available antemortem dental evidence for the associated casualty, Private (Pvt) Robert J. CARTER, consists of:

1. Form H-4 (DENTAL RECORD) labeled *CARTER, Robert J.* dated ????????, signed by a dental officer, with a treatment entry dated 2.13.43.
2. NAVMED H-4 (DENTAL RECORD) labeled *CARTER ROBERT Junior*, dated *Feb. 1, 1943*, signed by a dental officer, and with a treatment entry date of 2-13-43.
3. OQMG FORM 371 (DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET RECOVERED OR IDENTIFIED) labeled *CARTER, Robert Junior* with an undated dental chart.
4. Copy of OQMG FORM 371 (DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET RECOVERED OR IDENTIFIED) labeled *CARTER, Robert Junior* with an undated dental chart. The reverse side of this form contains a partial office stamp.
5. Second copy of OQMG FORM 371 (DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET RECOVERED OR IDENTIFIED) labeled *CARTER, Robert Junior* with an undated dental chart. The reverse side of this form is the hand-written number 42.

COMPARISON

The dental remains correspond to the antemortem evidence of Pvt CARTER with no unexplainable discrepancies (Table 1). Points of concordance include restored teeth #18 and #31; unrestored teeth #1-#15, #19-#22, #26-#30, and #32; antemortem missing tooth #17; and presence in life of teeth #1-#15 and #18-#32.

Table 1. Dental comparison table of CIL 2015-125-I-06 to Pvt CARTER.			
Tooth #	Tooth #	CIL 2015-125-I-06	Pvt CARTER
1	1	V	V
2	2	V	V
3	3	V	V
4	4	V	V
5	5	V	V
6	6	V	V
7	7	V	V
8	8	V	V
9	9	V	V
10	10	V	V
11	11	V	V
12	12	V	V
13	13	V	V
14	14	V	V
15	15	V	V
16	16	V (impacted)	X
32	17	X	X
31	18	O-S	O-S
30	19	V	V
29	20	V	V
28	21	V	V
27	22	V	V
26	23	E	V
25	24	E	V
24	25	E	V
23	26	V	V
22	27	V	V
21	28	V	V
20	29	V	V
19	30	V	V
18	31	O-S	O-S
17	32	V	V (impacted)
KEY: Navy dental numbering system circa WWII era (left); Universal numbering system (right); green shade = similar findings; yellow = explainable discrepancy; V = unrestored; O = occlusal; S = silver amalgam; X = missing antemortem; E = perimortem or postmortem missing.			

There is an explainable discrepancy in the antemortem/postmortem dental record comparison which involves the presence or absence of tooth #16 (maxillary left third molar or wisdom tooth). This tooth is charted in Pvt CARTER's dental record as missing. In contrast, this tooth is present and impacted in the dental remains (Figure 5). This difference may be explained since dental officers during the WWII era would routinely perform their examinations without the use of dental radiographs (x-rays). Radiographs would assist the dentist in locating teeth that were not clinically visible (impacted and totally covered in soft tissue). During a visual examination, the dentist would not detect an impacted tooth and would erroneously chart it as missing.

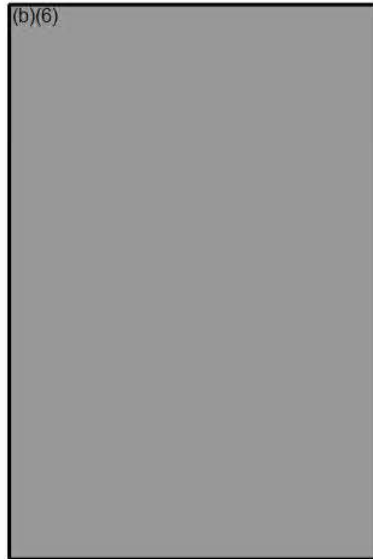


Figure 5. CIL 2015-125-I-06, lateral view of the upper left quadrant. The arrow points to the impacted tooth #16.

It is important to note that there is a charting difference in Pvt CARTER's dental record regarding teeth #16 and #32. While tooth #16 was impacted and charted as missing, tooth #32 was charted as impacted but present. This difference may be due to the ability of the dental officer to visualize tooth #32 during his examination and not visualize tooth #16.

The Centralized Accounting Repository and Information System (CARIS) computer program was used to compare the dental characteristics of the human remains to the available dental records of service members lost in the Battle of Tarawa, thereby producing a list of possible candidates. Comparison of the dental remains to the CARIS dental database resulted in Pvt CARTER and six other service members receiving the most matches.

OPINION

Based upon the correlations between the antemortem and postmortem dental evidence, to include restored teeth #18 and #31; unrestored teeth #1-#15, #19-#22, #26-#30, and #32; antemortem missing tooth #17; and presence in life of teeth #1-#15 and #18-#32, it is my opinion that the dental remains of CIL 2015-125-I-06 are possibly those of

Private Robert J. CARTER, 818302, U.S. Marine Corps

(b)(6)



Odontologist

FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY REPORT: CIL 2015-125-I-06

DPAA LABORATORY

8 September 2015

DESCRIPTION OF REMAINS

The skeletal remains designated CIL 2015-125-I-06 consist of a partial skeleton in fair condition (Figures 1 and 2). Skeletal elements present for analysis include the cranium, mandible, 28 articulating teeth (see Forensic Odontology Report: CIL 2015-125-I-06), two mallei and one incus; the hyoid; portions of the sternum; the right and left clavicles, scapulae, humeri, radii, and ulnae; all bones of the hands except the right scaphoid and capitate; and most of the vertebral column and ribs. Many of these elements are fragmentary. Additionally 111.8 g of osseous fragments and sediment is present. A right carpal was removed from the skeletal assemblage by History Flight, Inc. personnel for DNA analysis prior to the arrival of the remains at DPAA.

The parietals and left clavicle were previously reconstructed with an unknown adhesive by History Flight, Inc., though the cranial fragments were not properly articulated. Acetone was used in an attempt to dissolve the adhesive on the parietals to facilitate reconstruction with the rest of the cranium; however, only a few fragments were able to be removed. Several large portions of the cranium were reconstructed with an acetone soluble cement during the current analysis, but prior reconstruction precludes reconstruction of the entire cranium. Cranial fragments were dry-brushed with a soft-bristle brush to remove sediment to facilitate the reconstruction.

MINIMUM NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS

One. The remains represent a single individual. All elements present are consistent in size, morphology, and taphonomic condition. No skeletal elements are duplicated, and opposing joint surfaces exhibit sound anatomical articulations.

SEX

Male. Sex was assessed using morphoscopic and metric methods. Morphological traits of the cranium are consistent with a male individual following Buikstra and Ubelaker (1994), and include a prominent glabella (Score = 4), large mastoids (Score = 4 on the left, Score = 3 on the right), and a pronounced mental eminence (Score = 5). The scores for these traits and a logistic discriminant function equation for American and English populations indicate that there is a

(b)(6)



Figure 1. CIL 2015-125-I-06, skeletal layout. Scale is in decimeters.

Figure 2. CIL 2015-125-I-06, skeletal inventory diagram. Elements in red are present. The teeth, hyoid, and ribs are not depicted.

99.9% probability that this individual is male (Walker 2008). Metric analysis of these remains supports the morphoscopic assessment of sex. The maximum diameter of the left humeral head (51 mm) falls above the sectioning point (47.5 mm) for 19th and early 20th century American males, according to Stewart (1979). Additionally, the remains are robust with large muscle attachments, which is consistent with a male individual.

AGE

18-25 years. Assessment of age-at-death for this individual is based on the development of the third molars and degree of epiphyseal fusion. Radiographic examination of teeth #1, #16, and #32 indicates complete development of the roots, which is consistent with Stage H according to Mincer and colleagues (1993). White male individuals with third molars at this stage of development are typically at least 18 years of age. This age estimate is consistent with observation of epiphyseal fusion of the medial ends of the clavicles according to McKern and Stewart (1957). The degree of fusion of the medial end of the left clavicle is consistent with

Stage 1, while the right clavicle is consistent with Stage 2. These stages of development were observed in individuals between 18 and 25 years of age in McKern and Stewart's (1957) sample of U.S. Korean War soldiers.

ANCESTRY

European. Morphoscopic methods were used to assess the ancestry of this individual. Morphological traits of the midface are most consistent with European ancestry, including a narrow nasal aperture, reduced malars, parabolic palate, and a bilateral chin form (Gill 1998; Hefner 2009). As some traits indicative of ancestry were not able to be observed due to postmortem damage to the cranium, ancestry was also assessed using characteristics of dental morphology according to Edgar (2013). This method distinguishes between African American, European American, and Hispanic populations. When differentiating Hispanic groups from European and African American groups, this individual was classified as African/European American in three out of four equations used. When further differentiating between European American and African American populations, this individual was classified as European American in seven out of nine equations used. Therefore, the observable traits of the midface and the morphology of the teeth suggest that this individual was of European ancestry.

STATURE

67.8 ± 3.0 in (64.8–70.8 in). The maximum length of the left humerus (333 mm) and the maximum length of the left ulna (261 mm) were used to calculate stature in *FORDISC 3* (Jantz and Ousley 2005). This estimate was calculated with a 95% prediction interval using the White male equation and the Trotter MStats database.

TRAUMA

No perimortem trauma was observed.

OBSERVATIONS

Overall, the remains are dry and brittle. Portions of the remains are fragmentary, including the cranium, scapulae, proximal humeri, ribs, and portions of the vertebral column. Fragmentation of the parietals was more extensive on the right side, but consistent with postmortem damage. However, reconstruction of the parietals prior to arrival at DPAA precludes a more detailed observation of fracture margins to assess the presence of possible perimortem trauma. The skeletal remains are mostly beige in color with patches of darker brown and gray. Patches of green and orange staining is also noted throughout the remains, indicative of contact with copper and ferrous metal, respectively.

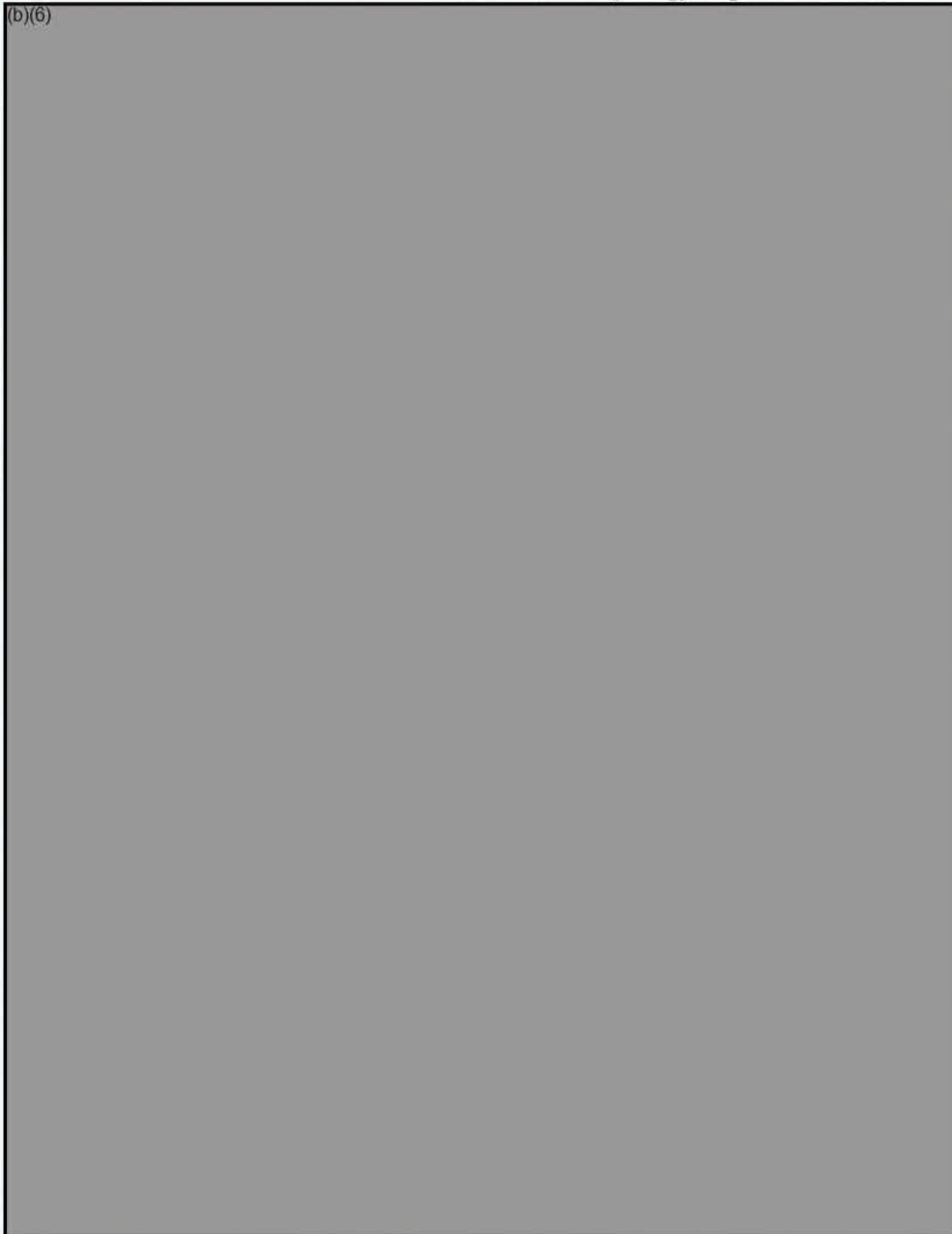


Figure 3. CIL 2015-125-I-06, enthesal changes in the humeri (red ovals). Scale is in cm.

Both humeri exhibit excavated linear lesions running parallel to the long axis of the diaphysis in the area of the attachment for the pectoralis major muscle (Figure 3). These grooves are common in children and young adults, and have been suggested to be related to physical activity (Mann and Hunt 2005). However, other factors, such as age and hormonal changes, may cause these enthesal changes (Milella *et al.* 2012; Villotte and Knüsel 2013). Additionally, the roots of teeth #1, #15, and #16 are visible within the maxillary sinus; however, it is unclear if this condition was symptomatic.

CONCLUSIONS

The remains designated CIL 2015-125-I-06 represent a male of European ancestry between the ages of 18 and 25 at the time of death. Living stature is estimated to be between 64.8 and 70.8 inches. No perimortem trauma was observed in the remains; however, prior reconstruction of the parietals by History Flight, Inc. precludes a detailed assessment of possible trauma to this area. Overall, the remains are in fair condition, with some fragmentation and green and orange staining. Enteseal changes in the humeri are present.

(b)(6)

Anthropologist

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**FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY REPORT:
CIL 2015-125-I-06**

DPAA LABORATORY

28 September 2015

ADDENDUM

Subsequent to the analysis of the skeletal remains designated CIL 2015-125-I-06, a tentative identification was obtained using dental comparison (see Forensic Odontology Report: CIL 2015-125-I-06) and chest radiographic comparison (see Chest Radiograph Comparison Report: CIL 2015-125-I-06). The following known physical characteristics for Private (Pvt) Robert Junior CARTER, 818302, U.S. Marine Corps, are presented for comparison:

	CIL 2015-125-I-06	Pvt Robert Junior CARTER
SEX:	Male	Male
AGE:	18 to 25 years	19 years, 5 months ¹
ANCESTRY:	European	White ²
STATURE:	64.8-70.8 inches	68 3/4 (68.75) inches ²
TRAUMA:	None	None ²

¹FORM H-2 (PHYSICAL EXAMINATION) labeled *CARTER, Robert Junior*, dtd *JAN 29 1943*. Age based on Date of Birth 6-22-24.

²OQMG FORM 371 (DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET RECOVERED OR IDENTIFIED) labeled *CARTER, Robert Junior*, dtd *MAR 24 1948*.

The above comparison shows that there is overall biological agreement between the skeletal remains designated CIL 2015-125-I-06 and the physical characteristics of Pvt Robert Junior CARTER.



Case Coordinator

CHEST RADIOGRAPH COMPARISON REPORT: CIL 2015-125-I-06

DPAA LABORATORY

12 August 2015

DESCRIPTION OF REMAINS

The osseous remains of CIL 2015-125-I-06 subjected to chest radiograph comparison comprise the left and right clavicles and the C3-T3 vertebrae, which are in overall good condition (Figure 1). The shaft of the left clavicle is fragmentary, and was reconstructed prior to analysis. All elements are friable and exhibit varying degrees of erosion and bone loss, which is particularly evident on the lateral ends of the clavicles and on the thoracic vertebral bodies and transverse processes.

ANTEMORTEM (AM) RADIOGRAPHS FOR COMPARISON¹

At the request of the Case Manager (b)(6) the skeletal remains were compared to one individual, Private (Pvt) Robert Junior CARTER who was represented by one AM chest radiograph (Figure 2).

POSTMORTEM (PM) RADIOGRAPHS

The osseous remains were digitally radiographed to produce PM radiographs. These PM radiographs were used for comparison to the AM radiograph, following the protocols of Stephan *et al.* (2011). This included approximation of the osseous elements as close as possible to the position used by the U.S. military for posteroanterior chest radiographs produced before December 1944 (see War Department 1944). Figure 3b presents one of the resulting PM images.

PM to AM COMPARISON

Concordances in osteological shapes and densities were observed across numerous regions of five different osseous elements between the PM radiograph of CIL 2015-125-I-06 and Pvt Robert CARTER's AM radiograph taken in February 1943 (see Figure 3 and Table 1).

¹ The images provided in this report are copies for illustrative purposes only. They do not depict the original size or resolution of the images used for analysis. Loss of figure detail is also intrinsic to routine printing processes. To maximize image quality, this report should be viewed on-screen using the electronic file.

Chest Radiograph Comparison Report: CIL 2015-125-I-06

Proper articulations of C3 through T3 vertebrae indicate that these vertebrae are from the same individual.

Superimposition of the PM radiograph of the left and right clavicles of this accession onto Pvt CARTER's AM radiograph demonstrates close correspondence (Figure 4), including the alignment of the clavicular margins and similarities in cortical densities. Differences between the AM and PM images on the midshaft of the left clavicle and the transverse processes of the thoracic vertebrae are explainable due to damage of the remains. Minor differences in shapes and opacities between the AM and PM radiographs are unremarkable given the hard and soft tissue shielding, as well as poor overall quality of the AM radiograph.

OPINION

Based on numerous items of concordance of the left and right clavicles and the C3-T3 vertebrae with Pvt CARTER's AM chest radiograph, and no irreconcilable differences, it is my opinion that the osseous elements of CIL 2015-125-I-06 are those of Pvt Robert Junior CARTER.



Anthropologist

REFERENCES

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2011 Skeletal identification by radiographic comparison: Blind tests of a morphoscopic method using antemortem chest radiographs. *Journal of Forensic Sciences* 56: 320-332.
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Figure 1. CIL 2015-125-I-06, the osseous elements subjected to chest radiograph comparison: (a) vertebrae C3 to T3 (posterior view); (b) reconstructed left clavicle (anterior view); and (c) right clavicle (anterior view). Scales are in centimeters. Utility wax has been used to articulate the vertebrae.



Figure 2. AM radiograph of Pvt Robert CARTER. The left side of the subject is on the reader's right.

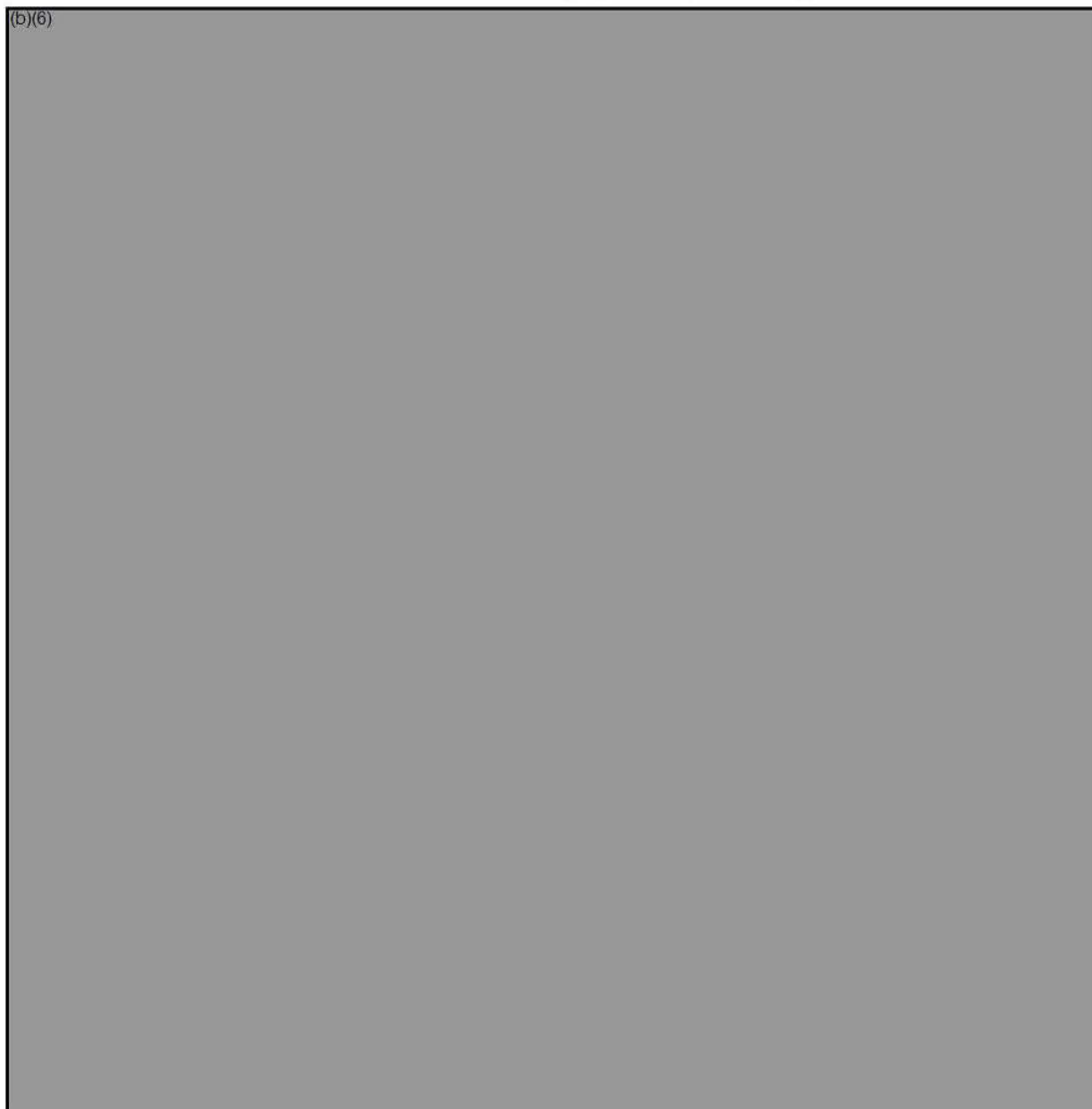


Figure 3. CIL 2015-125-I-06, juxtaposed comparison to Pvt CARTER's AM radiograph: (a) Pvt CARTER's exposure-enhanced AM radiograph; and (b) PM radiograph from CIL 2015-125-I-06. Brackets on (b) indicate areas of damage (i) and area of reconstruction (ii). For a description of the 15 items of concordance, see Table 1.

*Chest Radiograph Comparison Report: CIL 2015-125-I-06***Table 1. Items of concordance (illustrated in Figure 3) between the PM radiographs of CIL 2015-125-I-06 and the AM radiograph of Pvt CARTER.**

Arrow #	Concordance
1	Plateau at the superior margin at the lateral end of the right clavicle.
2	Consistent location and obtuse angle of the lateral point of flexion of the right clavicle.
3	Uniform radiopacity along the midshaft from superior to inferior margins of the right clavicle, with slightly higher radiopacity along the superior margin.
4	Convexity of the inferior margin of the right clavicle, medial to the midshaft.
5	Concavity and elongated, irregular area of radiolucency corresponding to the rhomboid fossa at the inferomedial end of the right clavicle.
6	Subtle undulations of the superior margin at the medial third of the right clavicle.
7	Bulbous superior sternal end of the right clavicle.
8	Slight fluting of the superior sternal end of the left clavicle.
9	Consistent broad concavity of the superior margin at the medial third of the left clavicle.
10	Convexity of the inferior margin of the left clavicle, medial to the midshaft.
11	Dense cortical bone thickness with decreased radiopacity at the superior margin along the lateral half of the left clavicle.
12	Consistent location and obtuse angle of the lateral point of flexion of the left clavicle.
13	Protrusion of the right zygapophyseal joint between C5 and C6.
14	Consistent size and obtuse angle of the right transverse process of T1 relative to the vertebral body.
15	Deep convexity of the left lateral margin of C5.

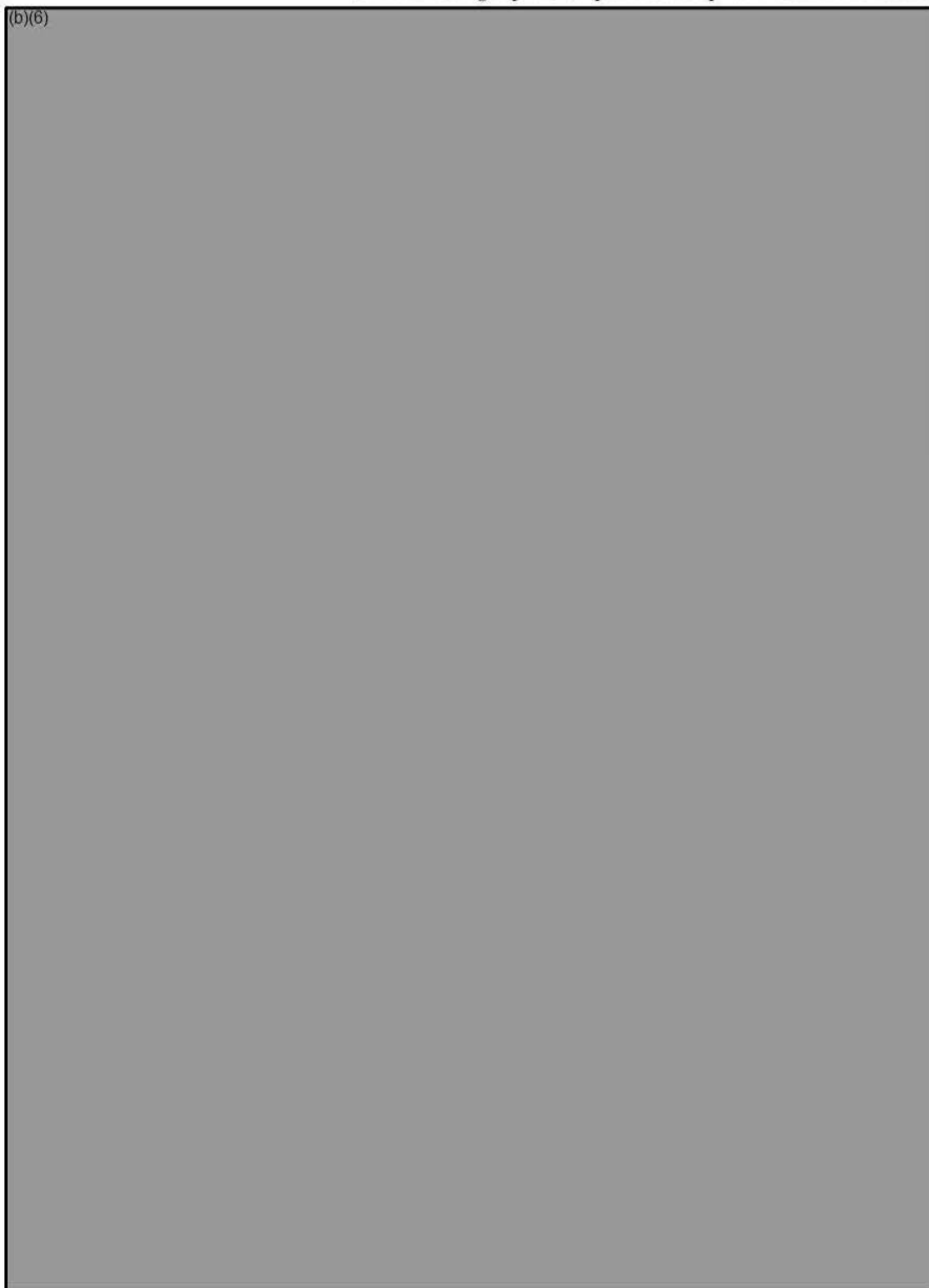


Figure 4. CIL 2015-125-I-06, PM image superimposition with Pvt CARTER's AM chest radiograph: (a) exposure-enhanced AM radiograph of Pvt CARTER; (b) superimposition of the clavicles from CIL 2015-125-I-06 over (a) at 12 % opacity; and (c) superimposition of clavicles from CIL 2015-125-I-06 over (a) at 100 % opacity, but with windows cut through the PM image to view the underlying AM image.

MATERIAL EVIDENCE REPORT: CIL 2015-125-I-06-A-01 Through 04

DPAA LABORATORY

14 August 2015

BACKGROUND

This report details material evidence received as a unilateral turnover from the third party group History Flight, Inc. The evidentiary materials were reportedly recovered by History Flight, Inc. in direct association with osseous remains labeled "HF-2015-012 Individual 6" by History Flight, Inc. during the excavation of a site believed to be Cemetery 27 on Betio Island, Tarawa Atoll, Republic of Kiribati. Cemetery 27 is the reported burial location of multiple individuals unaccounted for as a result of the 20-23 November 1943 Battle of Tarawa; this loss incident is referred to as WWII-0045-J for internal tracking purposes. The evidentiary materials were received by DPAA in July 2015 from History Flight, Inc. in the Republic of Kiribati. Subsequently, the material evidence labeled "HF-2015-012 Individual 6" was accessioned into the DPAA Laboratory in July 2015 as CIL 2015-125-I-06-A.

MATERIAL EVIDENCE

The evidence in this assemblage ranges from poor to fair condition; each item required light cleaning. Sediment found within the original field bag, as turned over by History Flight, Inc., was passed through a 1/8th inch mesh screen and checked for evidentiary materials. Subsequent to analysis, all evidence was transferred to new bags with provenience data written on the outside and a tag with matching information placed inside. Table 1 provides a summary of the material evidence associated with CIL 2015-125-I-06-A.

Table 1. Material Evidence Associated with CIL 2015-125-I-06-A.

CIL Accession Number	Provenience*	Description	n =	Figure(s)
2015-125-I-06-A-01	N100.60-102.60/E91.60-93.60 55-100 cmbs	Button, Tack and Staple, Type III	3	1, 2
2015-125-I-06-A-02	N100.60-102.60/E91.60-93.60 55-100 cmbs	M1928 Ladder buckle and strap tip	1	3

Table 1 (continued). Material Evidence Associated with CIL 2015-125-I-06-A.				
CIL Accession Number	Provenience*	Description	n=	Figure(s)
2015-125-I-06-A-03	N100.60- 102.60/E91.60-93.60 55-100 cmbs	Load bearing equipment buckles	2	4, 5
2015-125-I-06-A-04	N100.60- 102.60/E91.60-93.60 55-100 cmbs	Metal wire	1	6

*As reported by History Flight, Inc.

CIL 2015-125-I-06-A-01 Button, Tack and Staple, Type III

n = 3

CIL 2015-125-I-06-A-01 consists of three buttons, which are classified as Button Tack and Staple, Type III (U.S. Army Navy 1946; Figure 1). The embossed text is partially legible and circumnavigates the buttons and reads "U.S. MARINE CORPS" in *sans serif* typeface. Some remnants of black finish are visible on a button face. These buttons are in poor condition and are covered in red-brown corrosion product and a concreted sandy sediment. These buttons are consistent with those found on clothing of the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II (U.S. Army Navy 1946:8).

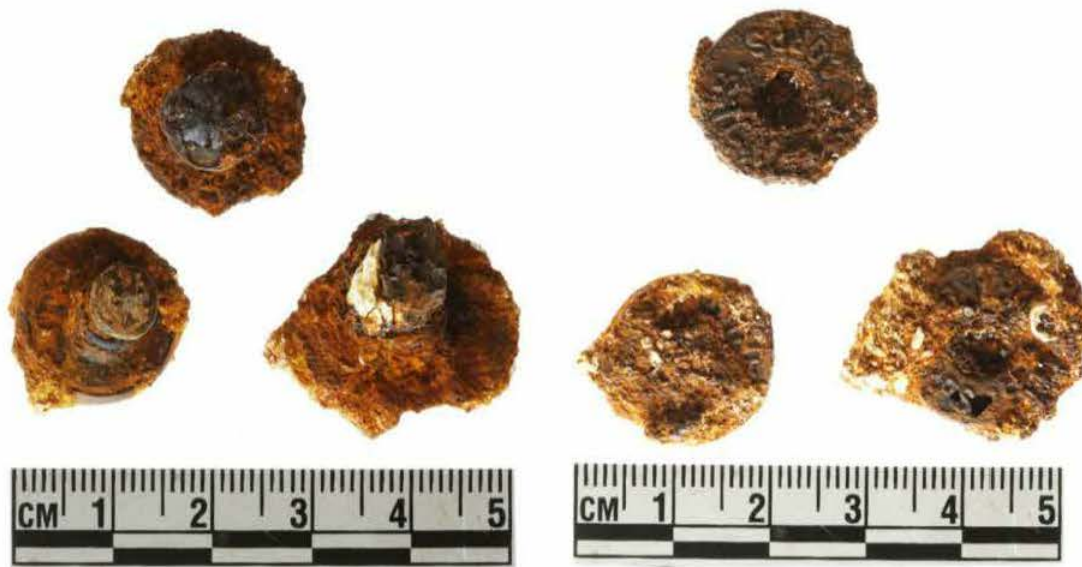


Figure 1. CIL 2015-125-I-06-A-01, back (left) and front (right) of Buttons, Tack and Staple, Type III. Scale is in cm.



Figure 2. CIL 2015-125-I-06-A-01, Close up (left, not to scale) and a graphic exemplar (right, not to scale; At the Front Shop 2015) of Buttons, Tack and Staple, Type III.

CIL 2015-125-I-06-A-02 M1928 ladder buckle and strap tip n = 1

CIL 2015-125-I-06-A-02 is a M1928 ladder buckle and strap tip (Brayley 2006:27; Figure 2). The metal buckle and strap tip are moderately covered in a green and red-brown corrosion product and some concreted sandy sediment. There is slight fissuring on the strap tip and the buckle. Both components of the item are in fair condition. The item is consistent with the buckles and strap tips used on the haversacks issued to the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II (Brayley 2006:27).



Figure 3. CIL 2015-125-I-06-A-02, Strap tip and M1928 ladder buckle. Scale is in cm.

CIL 2015-125-I-06-A-03 Load bearing equipment buckles

n = 2

CIL 2015-125-I-06-A-03 consists of two load bearing equipment buckles (Nalty and Pritchard 1999:202; Figure 3). The buckles are in poor condition and heavily covered in a red-brown corrosion product and a concreted sandy sediment. Metal loops wrap around the buckles and one buckle also has a strap tip adhered to it by corrosion product. Three slides are present in the center of the each buckle with a suspension hole completely sealed by corrosion product on one end of the frame. These buckles are consistent with the buckles on the USMC Model 1941 field transport pack (Nalty and Pritchard 1999:202).



Figure 4. CIL 2015-125-I-06-A-03, graphic exemplar of load bearing equipment buckles (Not to scale; At the Front Shop 2015).



Figure 5. CIL 2015-125-I-06-A-03, front (top) and back (bottom) of load bearing equipment buckles. Scale is in cm.

CIL 2015-125-I-06-A-04 Metal wire

n = 1

CIL 2015-125-I-06-A-04 consists of one metal wire in fair condition (Figure 4). The wire is in a loop-like shape and is covered in a green and red-brown corrosion product. It is not possible to conclusively determine the function of the wire as a load bearing equipment item, life support device component, personal item or anything else specific.



Figure 6. CIL 2015-125-I-06-A-04, Metal wire. Scale is in cm.

FINDINGS

The material evidence detailed in this report was reportedly recovered by History Flight, Inc. in direct association with the osseous remains designated CIL 2015-125-I-06 during the excavation of a site believed to be Cemetery 27, on Betio Island, Tarawa Atoll, Republic of Kiribati. The evidentiary materials are consistent with equipment issued to and used by the U.S. Marine Corps in the Pacific Theater during World War II.

The Buttons, Tack and Staple, Type III, M1928 ladder buckle and strap tip, and load bearing equipment buckles (CIL 2015-125-I-06-A-01 through A-03) are consistent with uniform and field gear components issued to U.S. Marines during WWII. The poor state of preservation of the items precludes more detailed findings and no individuating information is present.

(b)(6)



Archaeologist

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At the Front Shop

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Nalty, B. and R. Pritchard

1999 *War in the Pacific: Pearl Harbor to Tokyo Bay* Salamander Books Limited,
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U.S. Army-Navy

1946 *JAN-B-286: Joint Army-Navy Specification; Buttons, Tack and Staple.*
Washington, D.C.

Entries to cover entire period of service

(b)(6)

818302

DENTAL RECORD
(To be filled in by the dental officer)

DO NOT REMOVE FROM HEALTH RECORD

CARTER

(Surname)

ROBERT Junior

(Christian name(s))

Born: Place OKLAHOMA

Date 6-22-27

INSTRUCTIONS

See Chapter 14, Section VI, Paragraphs 2311-2319, inclusive, Manual of the Medical Department, U. S. Navy.

RECORD OF FIRST DENTAL EXAMINATION

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32

REMARKS: Lc

(b)(6)

Feb. 1, 1943

(Date and signature)

RECORD OF SUBSEQUENT DENTAL OPERATIONS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32

Entries to cover entire period of service

16-10272

293 FILE

DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET RECOVERED OR IDENTIFIED

NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)		GRADE	PRESENT SERIAL NUMBER
CARTER, Robert Junior		PVT	818302
ORGANIZATION	RACE	CREED	FORMER SERIAL NUMBER (If applicable)
Co G. 8thMar, 2nd MarDiv.	White	Protestant	
DATE OF DEATH/MIA	CAUSE OF DEATH	PLACE OF DEATH OR PLACE LAST SEEN IF MIA	
20Nov1943	Killed in Action.	Tarawa Atoll, Gilbert Islands	
DATE OF FOD			
HEIGHT	WEIGHT	COLOR EYES	COLOR HAIR
68 3/4	159	Brown	Dk. Brown

DENTAL CHART

UPPER RIGHT	UPPER LEFT
8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
LOWER RIGHT	LOWER LEFT
16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9	9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

X = Extracted ~~F~~-filling

O = Carious

1 = Carious Non-Restorable

FRACTURES AND/OR BREAKS	TATTOOS AND/OR BIRTHMARK
None	2" Scar right knee.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Private Robert J. Carter, 818302, was killed while participating in action against organized Japanese forces on Tarawa, Gilbert Islands. Body not recovered.

Prepared from Official Records of the
Dept. of the Navy.

(b)(6)

Navy Liaison Officer

File
MAR 24 1948
NAT

(b)(6)

FILE

DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET RECOVERED OR IDENTIFIED

NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)		GRADE	PRESENT SERIAL NUMBER
CARTER, Robert Junior		PVT	818302
ORGANIZATION	RACE	CREED	FORMER SERIAL NUMBER (If applicable)
Co G. 8thMar, 2nd MarDiv.	White	Protestant	
DATE OF DEATH/MIA	CAUSE OF DEATH		PLACE OF DEATH OR PLACE LAST SEEN IF MIA
20Nov1943	Killed in Action.		Tarawa Atoll, Gilbert Islands
DATE OF FOD			
HEIGHT	WEIGHT	COLOR EYES	COLOR HAIR
68 3/4	159	Brown	Dk. Brown

DENTAL CHART

UPPER RIGHT	UPPER LEFT
8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 X
LOWER RIGHT	LOWER LEFT
16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9	9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 F X

X = Extracted F = filling

O = Carious

I = Carious Non-Restorable

FRACTURES AND/OR BREAKS	TATTOOS AND/OR BIRTHMARK
None	2" Scar eight knee.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Private Robert J. Carter, 818302, was killed while participating in action against organized Japanese forces on Tarawa, Gilbert Islands. Body not recovered.

Prepared from Official Records of the
Dept. of the Navy.

(b)(6)

Navy Liaison Officer

293 FILE

DATA ON REMAINS NOT YET RECOVERED OR IDENTIFIED

NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)

GRADE

PRESENT SERIAL
NUMBER**CARTER, Robert Junior****PVT****818302**

ORGANIZATION

RACE

CREED

FORMER SERIAL
NUMBER (If applicable)**Co G. 8thMar, 2nd MarDiv.****White****Protestant**

DATE OF DEATH/MIA

CAUSE OF DEATH

PLACE OF DEATH OR PLACE LAST SEEN IF MIA

20Nov1943

DATE OF FOD

Killed in Action.**Tarawa Atoll, Gilbert Islands**

HEIGHT

WEIGHT

COLOR EYES

COLOR HAIR

SHOE SIZE

68 3/4**159****Brown****Dk. Brown**

DENTAL CHART

UPPER RIGHT

UPPER LEFT

8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 X

LOWER RIGHT

LOWER LEFT

1 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 F X

X = Extracted F = filling

O = Carious

1 = Carious Non-Restorable

FRACTURES AND/OR BREAKS

TATTOOS AND/OR BIRTHMARK

None**2" Scar right knee.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Private Robert J. Carter, 818302, was killed while participating in action against organized Japanese forces on Tarawa, Gilbert Islands. Body not recovered.

**Prepared from Official Records of the
Dept. of the Navy.**

(b)(6)

Navy Liaison Officer

FILE
NAVY SECTION

(b)(6)

APPROVED NON-RECOVERABLE

AUG 28 1950

Form H-2
(1940)

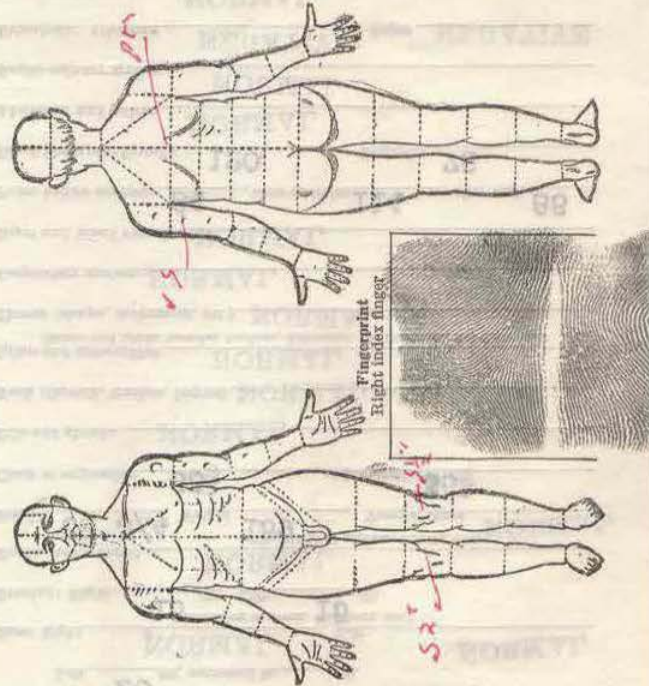
PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

To be completely made up by medical officer at time of enlistment, extension of enlistment, reenlistment, enrollment, appointment, commission, or promotion.

CARTER **818302**
(Surname) (Social number)
Robert **Junior**
(Christian name(s))
Enlisted } **INDUCTED** Date **JAN 29 1943**
Appointed } **PRIVATE**
Promoted }
Rank }
Rate } Previous service **None.**
OKLAHOMA U.S.N. **6-22-24** U.S.A.
Born: Place Date
Nationality **WHITE-UB.** Religion **Prot.**
(Denomination)
Next of kin or friend **Fa-Robert S. Carter Rte.**
3 Corvallis, Oregon.
Complexion **Ruddy** Hair **Dk. Bro** General appearance **NORMAL**
Head and face **NORMAL**
Eyes **NORMAL Bro-4**
(Color, condition of lids, anatomical or other defect)
Vision: Right **20** /20, corrected to /20. Color perception **NORMAL**
20
Left /20, corrected to /20.
Ears: Right **NORMAL** Left **NORMAL**
(Condition of drum, discharge, etc.)
Hearing: Right **15** /15. Left **15** /15.
Mouth, nose, throat **NORMAL**
(Condition of septum, tonsils, etc.)
Height **68 3/4** Weight **159** Temperature **NORMAL**
Chest at expiration **33 1/2** at inspiration **36 1/2**
Skin and glands **NORMAL**
Neck (thyroid, trachea, larynx) **NORMAL**
Spine and extremities **NORMAL**
(Bones and joints, muscles, tendons, deformity, old fractures, flat foot, etc.)
Thorax (shape, movement, etc.) **NORMAL**
Respiratory system **NORMAL**
Heart and blood vessels **NORMAL**
Pulse before exercise **84** after exercise **114** after rest **86**
Blood pressure: Systolic **120** Diastolic **78**
Abdomen and pelvis **NORMAL**
Genito-urinary system **NORMAL**
Urinalysis: Albumen **NEGATIVE** Sugar **NEGATIVE**
Nervous system **NORMAL**
(Any evidence of disease, mental defects, etc., reflexes)

MARKS, SCARS, ETC.

Enter original findings in red ink, those acquired subsequently in black ink, with date.



Date and nature of any waiver, and defects not noted above
(Underheight, underweight, defective vision, etc.)
NONE

USMC RECRUITING STATION JAN 29 1943
Place Date

I certify that the above is a true and correct statement of the physical examination.
(b)(6)

(Signature) _____ Examiner.

TERMINATION OF HEALTH RECORD

Place _____

Date _____

Termination by reason of _____
(Promotion, resignation, expiration of enlistment, physical disability, etc.)

All physical defects, however slight _____

(Signature) _____

GPO 16-0017

Senior Medical Examiner.



Carter, Robert Junior 818302

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE
(PACIFIC ZONE)
APO 958

BOARD PROCEEDINGS)

NUMBER 420)

PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF REVIEW

1. The Board of Review convened on 12 November 1948 pursuant to Par 2a, Special Orders 97, Headquarters, American Graves Registration Service, Pacific Zone, APO 958, dated 24 September 1948.

2. Summary

a. Personnel Involved:

See Exhibit 1

b. Unknowns Involved:

See Exhibit 2

c. Exhibit 1 is a roster of all personnel reported to have been killed or missing in action from 20 to 26 November 1943, inclusive, in the battle for possession of Tarawa Atoll, Gilbert Islands, plus the names of John Owen Morris and Edward W. Dungan, Jr., who were killed on 16 December 1943, and 12 January 1944 respectively. While the information recorded on OQMG Forms 371 indicates, in some cases, "Body not recovered", in the great majority of cases it is stated that the remains are reported to have been buried in one of the 43 battlefield burial sites or uncounted isolated graves which were established during or immediately after the battle. Also, in some cases, no statement is made as to the recovery or disposition of the remains. When all of the original burial sites on Tarawa Atoll were disinterred in 1946 and re-interred in Lone Palm Cemetery, Betio Island, Tarawa Atoll, the remains of the individuals listed in Exhibit 1 could not be identified. A description of conditions in which the numerous burial sites were found is presented in Exhibit 3 (Report, Hq., Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, dated 3 Oct 46, Subj: Investigation of Graves of Deceased Marine Corps Personnel on TARAUA Atoll).

d. The Unknowns listed on Exhibit 2, "Unidentified Tarawa Remains (Lone Palm Cemetery)" are all of the remains, not yet identified, which were recovered during the concentration of American remains on Tarawa Atoll to Lone Palm Cemetery. With the exceptions of John Owen Morris, and Edward W. Dungan, Jr., the remains of all personnel who met their deaths on Tarawa Atoll subsequent to 26 November 1943 have been recovered and identified. Therefore it can be concluded that the Unknowns listed in Exhibit 2 are the remains of only those who met death between 20 November 1943 and 26 November 1943, plus Morris and Dungan.

Incl 1⁶⁰

~~RESTRICTED~~

Bd Proceedings 420, Hq, AGRS-PAZ, APO 958 (Contd)

c. During December 1946 and January 1947 all remains in Lone Palm Cemetery were disinterred and moved to Hawaii.

f. In 1948 all unidentified remains from Lone Palm Cemetery were examined at the Central-Identification Laboratory and QMC Forms 1044 were prepared. A comparison of this data with the physical characteristics of those known to be missing in action at Tarawa revealed that individual identifications of the remains cannot be made. All of the remains are skeletal, most are in a fragmented and eroded condition, and identifying dental and physical characteristics are meager or of such a general nature that they could be compared favorably with many of the missing.

g. Two identification tags inscribed "Brown, V.M. 331647" were found with the remains of Unknown X-278. However, ASF OQMG letter, file QMGYG Subj: Identification of Unknown Remains, dated 15 July 1946, states that V. M. Brown is "alive and well".

3. Findings

a. After due and careful consideration of all available information, the Board unanimously finds:

(1) That the time and circumstances of the deaths of the individuals listed on Exhibit 1 indicate conclusively that the unidentified remains listed on Exhibit 2 are in fact the only recoverable remains of those individuals, and that individual identification is not possible due to the circumstances of death and battlefield burial, the lack of accurate records regarding the original burials, the lapse of time, and the present condition of the remains.

(2) That the unknown remains listed on Exhibit 2 comprise a group burial, each of which is identified as one of the individuals listed on Exhibit 1.

6 Exhibits

- 1 - Lone Palm Cemetery - Group Burial
- 2 - Unidentified Tarawa Remains (Lone Palm Cemetery)
- 3 - Copy of ltr fr FMFPAC, dtd 3 Oct 46, Subj: "Investigation of Graves of Deceased Marine Corps Personnel on TARAWA Atoll".
- 4 - QMC Forms 1042 for each of the Unknowns listed in Exhibit 2 (in dup)
- 5 - QMC Forms 1044 for each of the Unknowns listed in Exhibit 2.

~~RESTRICTED~~

Bd Proceedings 420, Hq, AGRS-PAZ, APO 958 (Contd)

6 - OQMG Forms 371 for all persons listed in Exhibit 1 with the exception of the following for whom 371's are not available, and for whom NAVMED H-4's are furnished in lieu of 371's:

Burch, Harold R.
Burke, John T.
Burill, Russell W.
Burrows, Merrill G.
Busse, George S.
Byrd, Faris G.
Cronkhite, Harry

Fitzpatrick, John D.
Holm, John W.
Hudson, Ralph L.
Hullinger, William V.
Marsh, Everett N.
Osborn, Lynn H.

(b)(6)

President

Member

Member

(b)(6)

Member

Recorder

~~RESTRICTED~~

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE
(PACIFIC ZONE)
APO 958

Special Orders)

13 December 1948

Number 122)

1. The Board of Review aptd per par 2 SO 97 this Hq dtd 24 Sep 48 is dissolved.

2. Pursuant to auth contained in ltr TAGO file AGAO 293.9 (27 Mar 47) D-M subj "Establishment of Boards of Review for Identification of Unknown Dead Overseas" dtd 9 Apr 47 a Board of Review is aptd to meet at this sta at the call of the senior member thereof for the purpose of:

a. Reviewing and acting upon all cases pertaining to the identity of unknown remains referred to the Board by Zone Hq AGRS.

b. Reviewing and determining, in all cases, from evidence presented, the non-recoverability of remains referred to the Board by Zone Hq AGRS.

Detail for the Board

(b)(6)

BY ORDER OF

(b)(6)

OFFICIAL:

(b)(6)

Adjutant

/s/

(b)(6)

Adjutant

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

DISTRIBUTION:

"A"

(b)(6)

Exhibit 1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE
(PACIFIC ZONE)
APO 958

7162

BOARD PROCEEDINGS)

NUMBER 1363)

PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF REVIEW

1. The Board of Review convened 10 February 1949 pursuant to Par 2b, SO #122, Hq AGRS-PAZ, APO 958, dated 13 December 1948.

2. Summary

a. Personnel Involved: (Case No. 6-189)

CARTER, Robert Junior Pvt 818302 USMC

b. Private Carter, member of the Eighth Marines, Second Marine Division, was killed while participating in action against organized forces on Tarawa Atoll, Gilbert Islands on 20 November 1943. His body was not recovered. No additional information is available on this case.

c. All of the original burial sites on Tarawa Atoll were disinterred in 1946 and concentrated in the Lone Palm Cemetery, Betio Island, Tarawa, at which time the remains of subject decedent could not be identified. In 1948 all unidentified remains from the Lone Palm Cemetery were examined at the CIL. Dental and physical characteristics of the above-named individual were compared with all unknowns from Tarawa with negative results.

d. Subsequent investigation of this case was made by the 604th Quartermaster Graves Registration Company during the period 1 February to 4 February 1948, with negative results.

e. Form 371 for the above-named individual was forwarded to The Quartermaster General on 7 December 1948.

3. Findings

After careful consideration of all the facts involved, the Board unanimously resolved that subject decedent be declared non-recoverable.

1 Exhibit

SO #122, AGRS-PAZ, 13 Dec 48

(b)(6)

President

Member

Recorder

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Incl 164'

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

Non-Recoverable Case - Record of Review and Approval

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SERIAL NO.</u>	<u>RANK OR RATE</u>	<u>BRANCH OF SERVICE</u>
-------------	-------------------	---------------------	--------------------------

CARTER, Robert Junior 818302

Pvt

USMC

The attached proceedings of the Field Board of Review have been reviewed and the findings of non-recoverability of the remains of the above individual is approved. In the course of this review, the following sources of information have been examined for additional clues. Copies of any documents believed mentioned material to the case are attached following the proceedings of the Field Board of Review.

1. 293 File of subject deceased
2. A-Z File of known interments in US Military Cemeteries, isolated locations, and sea burials.
3. USN, USMC, or USCG Hq (if applicable)
4. Casualty Report (or statement in lieu thereof)
5. OQMG Form 371 (if applicable)
6. Other sources of information listed below

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

Upon completion of administrative action by Final Determination Section, Identification Branch, Memorial Division, case is to be forwarded to _____ for further action.

Recommend Approval:

(b)(6)

Unit Supervisor

Approved:

Date:

(b)(6)

Navy Liaison Officer
Memorial Division

NOV 2 - 1949

(b)(6)

Identification Branch

R:AA

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

From: Bureau of Medicine & Surgery, Navy Department, Washington, D.C.To: Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Navy Department, Washington, D.C.

(See Circular Letter R-6, Appendix D, Manual of the Medical Department, for instructions)

1. Name CARTER, Robert Junior Rank or rate Pvt, USMC
2. Born: Place Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Date 22 June, 1924
3. Nationality White-U.S. Religion Protestant
(White—U. S., Colored, Samoan, etc.) (Denomination)
4. Eyes Brown Hair Dk. Brown Complexion Ruddy Height 68 3/4 Weight 159
5. Marks, scars, etc. (noted in health record)

FINGERPRINT

State which finger
(Right index preferred)

6. Relation, name and address of next of kin or friend

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

7. Original admission: Place
- Co "G", 2nd Bn, 8th Mar, 2nd Mar Div, FMF
- Date
- 20 November, 1943
-
- (Ship or station to which attached when first admitted to sick list)

8. Died: Place
- Pacific Area
- Date
- 11-20-1943
- Hour

9. Cause of death { Principal
- KILLED IN ACTION, DETAILS NOT KNOWN
- Key Letter
- "K"
-
- Contributory

10. Death
- IS NOT
- the result of own misconduct and
- IS
- in the line of duty.
-
- (Is or is not) (Is or is not)

11. Disposition of remains
- Not recovered.



12. Summary of facts relative to the death: The deceased was previously reported as MISSING IN ACTION. Subsequent information received by the Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps indicates that death did in fact occur on 20 November, 1943.

(b)(6)

CERTIFICATION OF DEATH (OVERSEAS) Acte de décès (D Outre-Mer)					
NAME OF DECEASED (Last, First, Middle) Nom du decede (Nom et prenom)		GRADE Grade	BRANCH OF SERVICE Arme	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER Numero de l'Assurance Sociale	
CARTER, Robert Junior		Private/E-2	U.S. Marine Corps	818302	
ORGANIZATION Organisation (SPONSOR)		NATION (e.g. United States) Pays	DATE OF BIRTH Date de naissance	SEX Sexe	
Co. G, 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Division		United States	22 June 1924	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MALE Masculin	<input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE Feminin
RACE Race		MARITAL STATUS Etat Civil		RELIGION Culte	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAUCASOID Caucasique	<input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE Calibataire	<input type="checkbox"/> DIVORCED Divorce	<input type="checkbox"/> PROTESTANT Protestant	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (Specify) Autre (Specifiez) NOT SPECIFIED	
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGROID Negroide	<input type="checkbox"/> MARRIED Marie		<input type="checkbox"/> CATHOLIC Catholique		
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (Specify) Autre (Specifiez)	<input type="checkbox"/> WIDOWED Veuf	<input type="checkbox"/> SEPARATED Separe	<input type="checkbox"/> JEWISH juif		
NAME OF NEXT OF KIN Nom du plus proche parent		RELATIONSHIP TO DECEASED Parente du decede avec le susdit			
STREET ADDRESS Domicile a (Rue)		CITY OR TOWN AND STATE (Include ZIP Code) Ville (Code postal compris)			
MEDICAL STATEMENT Declaration medicale					
CAUSE OF DEATH (Enter only one cause per line) Cause du decede (N'indiquer qu'une cause par ligne)				INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH Intervalle entre l'attaque et le decede	
DISEASE OR CONDITION LEADING TO DEATH Maladie ou condition directement responsable de la mort 1		UNDETERMINED			
ANTECEDENT CAUSES Symptomes precursurs de la mort	MORBID CONDITION, IF ANY, LEADING TO PRIMARY CAUSE Condition mordide, s'il y a lieu. Menant a la cause primaire				
	UNDERLYING CAUSE, IF ANY, GIVING RISE TO PRIMARY CAUSE Raison fondamentale, s'il y a lieu. Ayant suscite la cause primaire				
OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS Autres conditions significatives					
MODE OF DEATH Condition de decede	AUTOPSY PERFORMED Autopsie effectuee <input type="checkbox"/> YES Oui <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO Non		CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING DEATH DUE TO EXTERNAL CAUSES Circonstances de la mort suscitees par des causes exterieures		
<input type="checkbox"/> NATURAL Mort naturelle	MAJOR FINDINGS OF AUTOPSY Conclusions principales de l'autopsie		MODE OF DEATH: UNDETERMINED KILLED IN ACTION		
<input type="checkbox"/> ACCIDENT Mort accidentelle					
<input type="checkbox"/> SUICIDE Suicide	NAME OF PATHOLOGIST Nom du pathologiste (b)(3);10 USC § 130b,(b)(6) Medical Examiner				
<input type="checkbox"/> HOMICIDE Homicide	SIGNATURE (b)(3);10 USC § 130b,(b)(6)	DATE Date 16SEP2015	AVIATION ACCIDENT Accident a Avion <input type="checkbox"/> YES Oui <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO Non		
DATE OF DEATH (Hour, day, month, year) Date de decede (l'heure, le mois, l'annee)		PLACE OF DEATH Lieu de decede			
20 November 1943		Betio Island, Tarawa Atoll, Gilbert Islands (Kiribati)			
I HAVE VIEWED THE REMAINS OF THE DECEASED AND DEATH OCCURRED AT THE TIME INDICATED AND FROM THE CAUSE AS STATED ABOVE. J' examine les restes mortels du de fuit et conclus que le decede est survenu a l'heure indiquee et a la suite des causes enumeeres ci-dessus.					
NAME OF MEDICAL OFFICER Nom du medecin militaire ou du medecin sanitaire (b)(3);10 USC § 130b,(b)(6)		TITLE OR DEGREE Titre ou diplome MD, DPAA Medical Examiner			
GRADE Grade CAPT/O-6	INSTALLATION OR ADDRESS Installation ou adresse Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, 310 Worchester Ave, Bldg 45, JBPHH, HI 96853-5530				
DATE Date 16 SEP 2015	SIGNATURE Sig (b)(3);10 USC § 130b,(b)(6)				
1 State disease, injury or complication which caused death, but not mode of dying such as heart failure, ect. 2 State condition contributing to the death, but not related to the disease or condition causing death. 1 Preciser la nature de la maladie, de la blessure ou de la complication qui a contribue a la mort, mais non la maniere de mourir, telle qu'un arrei du coeur, ect. 2 Preciser la condition qui a contribue a la mort, mais n'ayant aucun rapport avec la maladie ou a la condition qui a provoque la mort.					

DD FORM 2064

1 APR 77

S/N 0102-LF-002-0640

DISPOSITION OF REMAINS			
NAME OF MORTICIAN PREPARING REMAINS	GRADE	LICENSE NUMBER AND STATE	OTHER
INSTALLATION OR ADDRESS	DATE	SIGNATURE	
NAME OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY	LOCATION OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY		
TYPE OF DISPOSITION		DATE OF DISPOSITION	
REGISTRATION OF VITAL STATISTICS			
REGISTRATION (Town and Country)	DATE REGISTERED	FILE NAME	
		STATE	OTHER
NAME OF FUNERAL DIRECTOR	ADDRESS		
SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUAL			