

CHAPTER 3

MAINTENANCE OF IDENTIFICATION DATA

3-1. Basic Recorded Data

Basic recorded data are contained in the following file and reports:

a. DA Form 201 (Military Personnel Records Jacket, US Army).

- (1) Organization to which assigned.
- (2) Date, place, and location of casualty.
- (3) Medical, physical, dental, and fingerprint records.
- (4) Pertinent data relative to the possible recovery location of the casualty.

b. Command Reports.

(1) Graves registration service records, accomplished during the initial phase of identification, contain complete information on the recovery, evacuation, and initial processing of remains for identification by memorial activities personnel.

(2) Central identification laboratory retards contain complete information on identifying media found on remains and effects as a result of final identification processing by technical personnel.

3-2. Establishment of Case Files

a. Casualty Personal History File (726-04). The casualty personal history file originates with the receipt of basic data indicating the status of an individual killed in action, missing in action, presumed dead, or prisoner of war. A file is established for each person by name, grade, and social security number. It contains case papers received or extracted from the 201 file relating to the decedent's organization; the date, place, and location where the casualty was reported killed or missing; statements of eyewitnesses; and other information pertinent to the deceased, including medical, dental, and fingerprint records and physical characteristics.

b. Remains Case File (726-04). The remains case file is initiated upon the receipt of each recovered remains. The file designation is the same as the name or X-number assigned the remains. Case papers contain cumulative information resulting from field investigations during the recovery, evacuation, interment/disinterment phase, and from processing of the remains at a CIL. Also, all additional information that the identification specialist assembled as he investigated the remains should be included.

3-3. Casualty Records

Upon receipt of a DD Form 1300 (Report of Casualty), the 201 file for each decedent is requested from his parent unit. Medical, dental, and physical data extracted from the file for each casualty are entered on DD Form 898 (Record Data (Deceased and Missing personnel)). Recorded information includes name, grade, social security number, organization, date, place and location of casualty (by country and map sheet), statements of witnesses, physical characteristics, dental data, and fingerprint records pertinent to the deceased. As new information is received, a revised DD Form 898 is prepared. The completed form is attached to the case file.

3-4. Assignment of Cases

A person who routinely identifies deceased personnel can be used to best advantage if he is assigned only those cases which originate from certain geographical areas. Such recurring assignments familiarize him with combat operations and casualties sustained in, or remains recovered from, the area involved.