

PFC Hugh R. McCormick 332 99 959 was reported missing in action during World War II, on 26 February 1945, when he failed to return from a reconnaissance patrol mission while crossing the MASS (MEUSE) between BLERICK and VENLO, Holland.

The patrol boat was fired upon by German machine guns at approximately 9:30 P.M. on 26 February 1945, when it was about three-fourths across the MEUSE River and capsized. The boat hit the bridge and capsized. All of the occupants except PFC McCormick were accounted for. PFC McCormick was officially declared non-recoverable on 22 November 1950.

PFC McCormick's status remained the same until his skeletal remains were found in a partially dry bed of the MEUSE River by a Dutch female on 27 July 1969. The river bed had become partially dry as a result of lowering of the water for inspection of locks by the Netherlands Service Department for the maintenance of dikes, wads, and bridges.

A U. S. Army military team from Germany was dispatched to make the recovery. The recovered remains were taken to the U. S. Army Mortuary in Frankfurt, Germany for technical processing. After painstaking research of records and scientific processing of the remains, it was determined that this was the recoverable remains of PFC McCormick.

The determination was based on the following facts: That the remains was recovered from the general location where PFC McCormick became missing in action on 26 February 1945; Two (2) identification tags found near the remains, in the river bed bearing the name McCormick, Hugh 332 99 959, T-43-44 O, C; and Favorable comparison of dental and physical characteristics.

An Army representative visited Mr. Raymond McCormick, Brother, and next of kin, of PFC McCormick, to explain the circumstances surrounding the recovery of their loved one.

The remains of PFC McCormick will be interred in a private cemetery in New Castle, Pennsylvania.