

Springdale, Arkansas
November 14, 1967

Oberst Knoche
8783 Hammelburg, Ufr.
Kampftruppenschule I
Germany

My Dear Colonel:

My friend and I arrived home safely, after a very pleasant visit to your country, and are very appreciative of the hospitality shown us during our recent visit to the Village of Hammelburg, and the Hammelburg Lager. Colonel DeSanto and I in particular, enjoyed our visit to the camp area where we were housed as Prisoners-Of-War.

Since I returned to the States, I have received two (2) letters from Colonel DeSanto in which he passed along information that you had given him regarding the disappearance of the box of jewels that we were looking for during our visit.

In his letter he stated that he was being transferred to Korea and that if I desired further information he suggested that I contact you.

I have never received any information concerning the man that found the box who is now living in Chicago, Illinois.

I was wondering if you had received any more information from Meister Beckisch concerning his friend in Chicago?

It was a pleasure meeting you, and the members of your staff, with best personal regards, I remain,

Sincerely,

Robert F. Thompson
Post Office Box 494
Springdale, Arkansas

RTT/pm

cc: George Christopher, Route 4, Box 268, Hot Springs, Arkansas.
Lt. Col. Jack Armstrong, Office of the Army Attache, The
American Embassy, Box 355 APO, New York 09080.

Springdale, Arkansas
November 8, 1967

Mr. Helmut Wegner
Civilian Detachment
Hammellburg Lager
Hammellburg, West Germany

Dear Sir:

We arrived home safely after having had a very pleasant visit in Germany. We arrived in New York several hours later than we had anticipated, but I went ahead and called your Uncle in New York even though it was late at night. He was very glad to hear from us and invited us out to his house, but due to the late hour we had to decline his very generous invitation.

As you may have already heard several days after our arrival back in the State of Arkansas, we had a letter from our American Colonel friend at the American Embassy in Bonn. In this letter he stated that he had received information from Oberst Knoke that a man working for the Americans in 1945, found this box of diamonds that we spend so much time looking for last August. The man that found the box of diamonds in 1945 has since immigrated to the U.S. and his last known address was somewhere in Chicago, Illinois. There is a man presently living in the town of Hammellburg that knows the man's name and address that now lives in Chicago, Illinois. He did contact the man in Illinois and told him that there were some Americans came back to Hammellburg and were looking for the box of diamonds that they buried in 1945. As of this date we have heard nothing further from the American Embassy or from the man in Chicago, Illinois.

I am enclosing a copy of the letter we received from the American Embassy which will give you a few more details and also the man's name and address that presently lives in Hammellburg and knows the name and whereabouts of the man in Chicago. I thought perhaps you might contact this man in Hammellburg and see if he would give you the name and address of the man in Chicago and I could contact him directly. You can assure the man in Hammellburg that we bear no ill feelings against the man in Chicago, but that after traveling so far and spending so much time we would like to see this undertaking to a conclusion.

Both Mr. Christopher and myself were very grateful for the cooperation that we received from both yourself and the officers at the Hammellburg Lager. We both enjoyed our visit very much, and wished we could have stayed longer.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Thompson
Box 454, Springdale, Arkansas

RZ/pn cc: George Christopher, Route 4, Box 268, Hot Springs, Arkansas
Lt. Col. Jack Armstrong, Office of the Army Attache, The American Embassy,
Box 355 APO, New York 09680