

RESEARCH PROJECT

Newton Cypull's World War Two Death Information

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OBJECTIVE

Newton Cypull was born on 4 September 1909 in Baltimore, Maryland to Frank Walter Cypull and Dora Wassler. He enlisted on 19 Aug 1943 in Baltimore, Maryland, and died while enlisted in the United States Army in the South Pacific due to a tropical disease. The purpose of this research project is to determine an exact death date and place, and his initial burial place, before his body was reinterred in the United States

RESEARCH RESULTS

According to his Draft Registration Card, Newton registered on 16 October 1940 in Baltimore, Maryland.¹ On 19 Aug 1943 in Baltimore, Maryland Newton enlisted in the U.S. Army.² According to Newton's cousin Mary Welhoelter, He served in the Pacific Theater of War.³

According to the U.S. WWII Hospital Admission Card Files, 1942 – 1954, in Aug 1944, Newton was admitted to a military hospital and diagnosed with Tsutsugamushi Fever (scrub typhus transmitted by mites). At this point in time, he had served for a period of one year. Recorded in the hospital file Newton was discharged from the U.S. Army in August 1944 when he died from the disease.⁴

On 6 September 1944, The Baltimore Sun reported the loss of Private Newton Cypull, he died on 19 August 1944 in New Guinea.⁵ The death date of Newton was further supported by information found in the Interment Control Form. It is recorded that he died on 19 August 1944 and was buried in the USAF Cemetery Finschafften #1.⁶

Some information about the USAF Cemetery Finschafften #1.

¹ Registration card, Document 1

² "World War II Army Enlistment Records" database with images Fold3 (<https://www.fold3.com//title/831/wwii-army-enlistment-records>: accessed December 13, 2020), Document 2

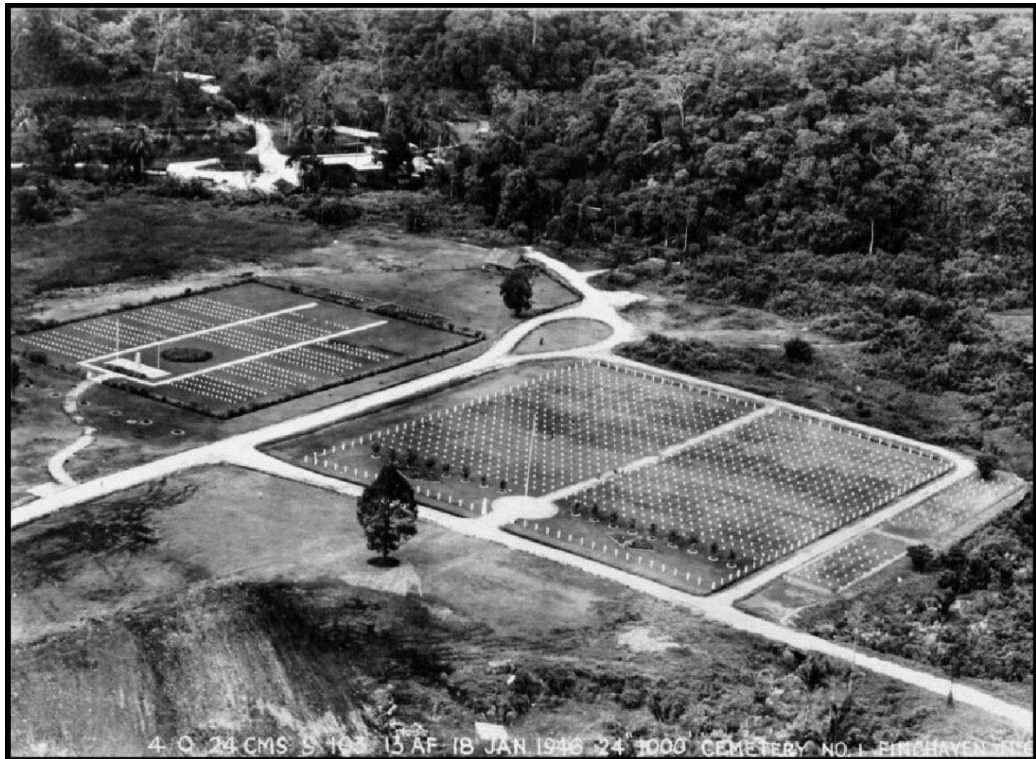
³ Personal knowledge

⁴ "U.S. WWII Hospital Admission Card Files, 1942-1954" database with images Fold3 (<https://www.fold3.com//title/1088/u-s-wwii-hospital-admission-card-files-1942-1954>: accessed December 13, 2020) Document 3

⁵ The Baltimore Sun, 6 Sep 1944 Document 4

⁶ Ancestry.com. U.S., National Cemetery Interment Control Forms, 1928-1962 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2012. Document 5

“The American Cemetery at Finschafen was located at Finschafen on the north coast of New Guinea. Also known as Finschafen War Cemetery or Finschafen Cemetery. Since the late 1940s, this cemetery was exhumed and closed. Also spelled "Finschaffen Cemetery" or "Finschhafen Cemetery". In late 1943, established by the U. S. Army as a cemetery for U. S. war dead and unidentified remains. The American Cemetery at Finschafen was comprised of five separate cemeteries: USAF Cemetery, Fischaffen #1 (Fischaffen No. 1), USAF Cemetery, Fischaffen #2 (Finschaffen No. 2), USAF Cemetery, Fischaffen #3 (Finschaffen No. 3), USAF Cemetery, Fischaffen #4 (Finschaffen No. 4), USAF Cemetery, Fischaffen #5 (Fischaffen No. 5). During late 1945, American burials elsewhere in New Guinea were consolidated to these cemeteries. After the Pacific War, all the graves were exhumed and transported to the Philippines for burial at the Manila American Cemetery. Or, shipped across the Pacific to Hawaii Memorial Cemetery (Punchbowl) or the United States for permanent burial.”⁷



In The Baltimore Sun, there was an article entitled “54 Md. War Dead Arrive By Ship” dated 14 January 1949, that stated Newton’s body was being returned to the United States to be reinterred.⁹ On 15 February 1949, The Baltimore Sun ran an article, “Reburial Thursday For Pvt. Cypull”. The article states that Newton would be buried in the Baltimore National Cemetery. There is also some conflicting information in the article, which gave his death date as 18 Aug 1944.¹⁰

Information provided by the Interment Control Form; Newton was reinterred on 17 February 1949 in the Baltimore National Cemetery. The form also provided information about the unit that Newton

⁷ *Pacific Wrecks* (<https://pacificwrecks.com> : accessed 8 January 2021), “Finschafen Cemetery.”

⁸ WFI Research Group (<https://www.wfirg.com> : accessed 8 January 2021), “Finschafen Cemetery.”

⁹ The Baltimore Sun, 14 Jan 1949 Document 6

¹⁰ The Baltimore Sun, 15 Feb 1949 Document 7

served while in the Pacific Theater, the 127th Infantry Regiment.¹¹ The U.S. Veteran's Gravesites, ca. 1775-2019 database confirms Newton's reinternment date of 17 Feb 1949, and a death date of 19 August 1944.¹²

CONCLUSION

Newton Herbert Cypull died in the South Pacific Theater of Operation during the Second World War, while serving with the 127th Infantry Regiment. Newton died in the "Line Of Duty" of a non-battle-related incident during the war in New Guinea.¹³ He died on 19 August 1944 of Tsutsugamushi Fever (scrub typhus transmitted by mites) and was buried in the USAF Cemetery Finschaffan #1. He was reinterred on 17 February 1949 in the Baltimore National Cemetery, Section D, Site 3712. The grave marker inscription reads, "PVT, 127 INF, 32 INF DIV WORLD WAR II".¹⁴



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SUGGESTED FURTHER RESEARCH

- Locate the death certificate for Newton Cypull
Phone interview with Radley, surname withheld, at the Baltimore National Cemetery, concerning obtaining a copy of Newton Herbert Cypull's death certificate. 30 Dec 2020. Newton was originally buried in the South Pacific before being reinterred in the United States. Contacted the cemetery concerning burial information, including the death certificate.

¹¹ Ancestry.com. U.S., National Cemetery Interment Control Forms, 1928-1962 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2012. Document 5

¹² The U.S. Veteran's Gravesites, ca. 1775-2019 Document 8

¹³ Find a Grave, database and images (www.findagrave.com/memorial/547888/newton-h-cypull : accessed 08 July 2021), memorial page for Pvt Newton H Cypull (4 Sep 1909–19 Aug 1944), Find a Grave Memorial ID 547888, citing Baltimore National Cemetery, Baltimore, Baltimore City, Maryland, USA ; Maintained by Russ Pickett (contributor 46575736) .

¹⁴ Find a Grave

¹⁵ Find a Grave

Talked with Radley, (staff member), who informed me that the only information that they had for the reinternments for World War II is the Record of Internment Cards (RI Card). He suggested I contact the Maryland State Archive for the death certificate. Also suggested a search [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) for the RI Card for Newton.