

HEADQUARTERS, 17TH INFANTRY
APO 30, c/postmaster
NEW YORK, N. Y.

8 November 1944

Mrs. Lucy American Horse
Cannon Ball
North Dakota

Dear Mrs. American Horse:

The regretful news that your son, Private First Class Mathew American Horse, ASN 3756119, was killed in action on 26 October, 1944, in Germany has already been delivered to you by the War.

My purpose in writing this letter is to express my deep sympathy for you in the loss you have suffered, and at the same time, answer some of the questions which I know are in your mind, by acquainting you with all the facts which are available at this time. I wish it were possible for me to give you all the details surrounding the death of your son, but I am sure you understand the need for censorship regulations at the present time.

Your son died in line of duty, in keeping with the highest standards and traditions of the Army and of his country which he served so nobly and well. I hope that it will alleviate your sorrow just a little when I tell you that no man could have done more to help bring an early end to this crusade for human freedom. He was a soldier and a man. Both officers and men of his unit miss him greatly, but his courageous example in making the supreme sacrifice has given all of us additional strength to complete the unfinished tasks before us.

Military services were conducted in your son's memory at his grave in Holland. Information concerning his personal effects may be obtained by writing to the Quartermaster General, ASF, Washington, D. C.

With kindest personal regards, remain,

Sincerely yours,

Walter M. Johnson
WALTER M. JOHNSON
Col., 117th Inf.,
Commanding