



WASH. 125, D

IN REPLY REFER TO

AGPS-O 201 Abbott, Robert N.  
(4 Dec 50) 3685

Mrs. Winona C. Abbott  
504 West Brighton Avenue  
Syracuse, New York

Dear Mrs. Abbott:

I regret that I must confirm my recent telegram in which you were informed that your husband, Major Robert N. Abbott, O-1285369, Infantry, has been reported missing in action in Korea since 27 November 1950.

I know that added distress is caused by failure to receive more information or details. Therefore, I wish to assure you that at any time additional information is received it will be transmitted to you without delay.

The term "missing in action" is used only to indicate that the whereabouts or status of an individual is not immediately known. It is not intended to convey the impression that the case is closed. I wish to emphasize that every effort is exerted continuously to clear up the status of our personnel. Under battle conditions this is a difficult task as you must readily realize. Experience has shown that many persons reported missing in action are subsequently reported as returned to duty or being hospitalized for injuries.

In order to relieve financial worry on the part of the dependents of military personnel being carried in a missing in action status, Congress enacted legislation which continues the pay, allowances and allotments of such persons until their status is definitely established.

Permit me to extend to you my heartfelt sympathy during this period of uncertainty.

Sincerely yours,

EDWARD F. WITSELL  
Major General, USA  
The Adjutant General of the Army

1 Inclosure  
Bulletin of Information