

TRAVELING EXPENSES

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20 October 1947

The Director

Assistant Director for Special Operations

Travel Advances - [redacted] (Decased)

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1. In accordance with the request of 3 September 1946, originated by the Chief, Communications Division, an advance of \$200.00 was made to subject decedent in connection with his assignment to a Near East communications project. The travel funds were temporarily advanced from the Special Funds Division in anticipation of repayment to this organization after the processing of travel vouchers through the War Department by Lt. [redacted]

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2. On 20 March 1947, Lt. [redacted] was killed while acting in the discharge of his official duties. He had on his person or in his custody at the time of death an unspecified amount of cash and operational items. Upon the arrival of the investigating party at the scene of the accident, it was further determined that six operational watches, several operational fountain pens, and other miscellaneous operational items were missing. The absence of the unspecified amount of cash and the operational items has caused the Communications Division to assume that the money and items were appropriated by persons unknown, prior to the arrival of the investigating party.

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3. The absence of an appropriate method of disposing of the travel advance has occasioned a request that appropriate action be taken to clear the financial records of Lt. [redacted]

4. This office has been advised that Public Law 321, 80th Congress, 1st Session, approved 1 August 1947, authorizes the relief of accountable officers charged with responsibility on account of physical loss or deficiency of Government funds, vouchers, etc., if the head of the department or independent establishment determines -

a. That such loss or deficiency occurred while such officer or agent was acting in the discharge of his official duties, or that such loss or deficiency occurred by reason of the act or omission of a subordinate of such officer or agent; and

b. That such loss or deficiency occurred without fault or negligence on the part of such officer or agent.

This office believes that the loss of the funds and operational items [redacted] death presents a proper case for the

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application of the relief provisions of Public Law 321, subject to the required determinations by the head of the department.

5. In view of the security characteristics of this case, I recommend that it be handled in a manner similar to which like claims are processed under Public Law 321.

6. I recommend that relief be granted to Lt. [REDACTED] by clearing his financial account in the amount of \$200.00 on the following basis:

a. The loss involved occurred under conditions which authorize the relief of accountable officers of the Government under the provisions of Public Law 321, 80th Congress, approved 1 August 1947; and

b. Any opportunity of repayment to OIA, presented by processing of travel claim, as originally contemplated under paragraph 1. hereof, by legal representatives or heirs of subject decedent, will be covered by coordination with the Army Central Adjustment Bureau, which will prepare a folder to indicate a credit to the account of this Agency.

7. It is submitted that the interests of the Government are amply protected by the above.

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General Counsel: [REDACTED]

cc - Director's Files

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