

# HIDALGO BOY IS SHOT CLEANING GERMAN PISTOL

## Clint Groves Killed Instantly Says Letter From His Captain

*July 5, 1945*

Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Groves of Hidalgo have received a letter from Capt. Harry M. Connet, who was in command of the company in which their son Delbert, was serving when he lost his life in Germany on April 24.

In his letter Capt. Sonnet told of how Delbert was shot through the heart when a captured German pistol he and a friend were cleaning was accidentally discharged.

The letter from Capt. Sonnet to Mr. and Mrs. Groves follows:

"My Dear Mr. and Mrs. Groves:"

"I am sorry, indeed to have lost your son, Delbert, as a member of this company. He was truly a fine soldier, willing and trustworthy. During the more than two years I have known him, he indicated remarkable qualities. Delbert was well liked by his officers and the men of the company.

"On the evening of 24 April, 1945, your son and a friend were cleaning a captured pistol. The pistol was accidentally discharged. The bullet hit your son in the heart, killing him immediately. I can assure you that he suffered no pain.

"I wish to extend to you my deepest sympathy. As his company commander, it is a great personal loss. Delbert has been given a dignified burial in our American cemetery.

Harry M. Sonnet,  
Capt. Q M C, Commanding