

108133



The Royal Hussars (PWO).

Lumsden Bks

British Forces Post Office 38

22, January, 1965.

Thank you so much for your letter of the 12 January which arrived today and for your very kind offer of help. I think I must first start by out-lining what I am trying to do.

For the past nine months or so, I have been trying to put together the war-time history of Fallingbistel, the Units that trained here, the POW camps Stalags XIB, 321/XID and 357 here and the fighting that took place in the area, in April 1945.

I had heard some time before, a rumour that there had been a Norwegian unit in the area, but it was not until a few months ago that I read the first accounts in an English book, "Hitlers Germanic Legions", thus causing me to seek further information.

I would welcome, therefore, any information from ex-members of the Legion, in particular;

- (a). Detailed breakdown of the units, here in Fallingbistel.
- (b). Details of their Training and, if possible, which German units supported them here.
- (c). Any information on the general area of Fallingbistel, as seen through the eyes of the Legionaires, i.e. Russian POWs, other units in the area etc.

Interestingly enough, I believe the Legions' first

casualty , a training accident , was in Fallingbostel. German records show that ;

" Legionar-Schuetze, Armund P. GAUSDAL , born 28 June 1923 in Geiranger , died 29 September 1941."

Legionar Gausdal's grave is in the Military Section of the local cemetary. This was confirmed for me by an American who has a copy of the commemorative photo-album of the Legion, printed in 1943. ( He is Richard Landwehr , Editor and Publisher of a magazine called " SIEGRUNEN " , dedicated to the Waffen-SS. His address is Box 512, Glendale, OR 97442, USA.)

Finally, you mentioned that you might be able to lend me some photos of the Legion in Fallingbostel. I would be extremely interested to see any such material and , of course , would treat any such material with the care and respect it deserves.

Again , many thanks for your help and I very much look forward to hearing from you again,