



# Fact Sheet

## Wisconsin Air National Guard

Combat Readiness Training Center  
100 Independence Drive, Volk Field ANGB  
Camp Douglas, Wisconsin 54618-5001

Current as of 15 May 2007

### VOLK FIELD/ CAMP WILLIAMS MEMORIAL CEMETERY

#### Location

The Memorial Cemetery is located at the foot of Long Bluff immediately to the right of the Volk Field Main Gate.

#### History

Originally set aside as the burial site for Private Robert W. Williams, it was for years the resting place of only Private Williams and his father, Lieutenant Colonel Charles R. Williams. It has since acquired two other markers. The first is a memorial marker for Colonel Jack C. King and the second is the burial site of Brigadier General Hugh M. Simonson.

#### Private Robert W. Williams

Born in 1900, Robert Wells Williams was the son of Lieutenant Colonel Charles R. Williams. "Bobby" enlisted at the outbreak of World War I, and was probably the youngest person in the Wisconsin National Guard, being just old enough to enlist. He was assigned to Headquarters Company, 64th Infantry Brigade, 32nd Division (National Guard), American Expeditionary Forces. He was sick when he went aboard the transport but would not admit it. On March 11, 1918, a few days after he arrived in France, he died of diphtheria. His remains were among the first to be returned to the United States and were buried on the military reservation where he was born.

#### Lieutenant Colonel Charles R. Williams

Charles Robert Williams was born September 19, 1870, in Rio, Wisconsin. He enlisted in Company E, 4th Infantry, Wisconsin National Guard on October 24, 1888 and was commissioned five days later as 2nd Lieutenant, Infantry.

He was recalled as a Lieutenant Colonel on July 9, 1917 and began his Federal Service for World War I on July 15, 1917. Williams went overseas with the famed 32nd "Red Arrow" Division as its Quartermaster. He was appointed United States Property and Disbursing Officer for Wisconsin on September 16, 1919.

Throughout his entire military career, Lieutenant Colonel Williams was widely recognized as a superb planner and builder. He led the development of the Wisconsin Military Reservation from about 1897 to 1926, first as State Quartermaster and then as the United States Property and Disbursing Officer, and he greatly influenced the Camp's early development. He was highly acclaimed for his leadership.

Lieutenant Colonel Williams died on September 15, 1926, and is buried on the reservation next to his son. In recognition of his service, the Wisconsin State Legislature in 1927 voted to permanently name the reservation "Camp Williams."

#### Colonel Jack C. King

Colonel Jack C. King was born on January 9, 1920 and died July 24, 1974. He was the first Wisconsin Air National Guard Officer to be named United States Property & Fiscal Officer, and served in that capacity from 1972 until his death. The stone in the Volk/Camp Williams cemetery is a memorial marker; Colonel King is buried in Resurrection Cemetery in Madison, Wisconsin.

#### Brigadier General Hugh M. Simonson

Hugh M. Simonson was born April 2, 1917. He served as Adjutant General, Wisconsin from February 14, 1977 to June 30, 1979. He died October 30, 1987, and, according to the wishes expressed in his will, was buried in the Volk Field/Camp Williams cemetery.