

To The A. G. O.

G.R.S. Form #114-B

AUG 30 1926

10940

FULL NAME ALSTON, Boaz

RANK Private

SERIAL 1878855

DIVISION & ORGANIZATION Co. F, 371st Infantry

93rd Div

DATE OF DEATH 9-28-1918

Sept. 28, 1918

STATE FROM WHICH HE CAME

So. Carolina

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS AWARDED

None

FINAL GRAVE LOCATION

11-16-1921	25	6	G
Date	Grave	Row	Block

Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery # 1232.

Cemetery

A. G. O.  
SEP 30 1926  
WORLD WAR DIV.

AUDITED BY

A. G. O.  
AUG 31 1926  
WORLD WAR DIV.

Robert C. Davis  
Major General  
The Adjutant General  
By *RCM*

CODE SLIP

HEADING	SUB-HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE
NAME	<i>Alston</i>		
	<i>Boaz</i>		
	<i>ALS</i>	3	1 0 0
BURIED	CEMETERY <i>1232</i>	1	1
	GRAVE <i>25</i>	2	25
	ROW <i>6</i>	2	06
	BLOCK <i>g</i>	1	7
STATE	<i>So. Car.</i>	2	46
RANK	<i>Pvt.</i>	1	2
DIVISION	<i>93</i>	2	93
ORGANIZATION	<i>371</i>	3	371
ARM	<i>Inf.</i>	1	1
MARTIAL	<i>no</i>	1	2
NAME		5	
RESIDENCE	STATE	2	
	COUNTY	2	
	CITY	3	
RELATION	<i>Mother</i>	1	1
OTHER		1	
ELIGIBILITY	<i>Dead since 1931</i>	1	6
NATIVITY		1	
RACE	<i>BLACK</i>	1	2
ENGLISH		1	
ATTENDANT		1	
HEALTH		1	
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF TRIP	MO.	1	
	YR.	1	
ACCEPTANCE		1	

*no Sm  
no Low*

**MAR 1 11932**  
*Audited 1.1.32*  
**MAR 1 11932**

*1932*

29/514/PJ

*ln*

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

July 15, 1932.

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M  
Alston, Boaz (MA) X

Mrs. Sophia Alston,  
R 1,  
Winnsboro, S. C.

Dear Madam:

The Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, as amended May 15, 1930, authorizes pilgrimages to the cemeteries Of Europe during the years 1930, 1931, 1932 and 1933 for the mothers and widows of deceased members of the American forces who were lost or buried at sea or whose remains are interred in Europe.

Your attention is particularly invited to the fact that this is the last opportunity you will have to make the pilgrimage under the provisions of the above mentioned Act. Unless you take advantage of this LAST chance to make a trip in 1933 you will receive no benefit from the Act. There is no provision of law which will permit the Government to make a money allowance to any mother or widow who does not choose to make the pilgrimage.

IT IS REQUESTED THAT YOU GIVE THE MATTER YOUR MOST CAREFUL CONSIDERATION BEFORE REACHING A DECISION, BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS IS THE LAST OPPORTUNITY YOU WILL HAVE TO MAKE THE TRIP AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE.

In order to assure proper and satisfactory accommodations for the mothers and widows making the journey in 1933, reservations for steamship transportation must be made by this office several months in advance. It is requested that you answer the questions below by writing "Yes" or "No" or "Undecided" in the blank space following the question. When you have answered the question, sign your name and return this sheet in the enclosed addressed envelope which requires no postage. PLEASE DO NOT DELAY, as it is essential that the information be in this office promptly.

This letter is being sent to all eligible mothers and widows who did not make the pilgrimage during the years 1930, 1931 or 1932. There is enclosed a circular of information WHICH YOU SHOULD READ VERY CAREFULLY BEFORE MAKING YOUR DECISION.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

CHAS. W. DIETZ,  
Captain, Q. M. Corps,  
Assistant.

2 Encls.

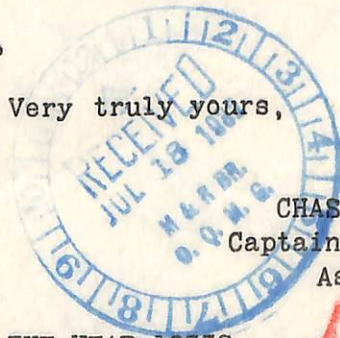
DO YOU DESIRE TO MAKE A PILGRIMAGE DURING THE YEAR 1933? \_\_\_\_\_

(Write answer here)

(Sign here) \_\_\_\_\_

*Sophia Alston is dead*

*Sophia Alston  
is dead*



WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Alston, Boaz (MA) Mx

September 30, 1931.

gb

Mrs. Sophia Alston,  
Route #1,  
Winnsboro, S. C.

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to previous correspondence relative to the pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe, authorized by the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, as amended May 15, 1930. To date information has not been received as to whether or not you desire to make a pilgrimage during the summer months of 1932, in honor of the deceased veteran named above.

In order that the records may be complete, and arrangements made accordingly, it is requested you complete the form below by writing in the space provided, your answers to the questions listed, sign your name, and return this letter in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage.

1. Do you desire to make a pilgrimage in 1932?	
2. Please state your age and condition of health:	Age: Health:
3. Do you speak English?	
4. What other language do you speak?	

Sign here

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

Encl:  
Env.

A. D. HUGHES,  
Captain, Q. M. Corps,  
Assistant.

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM-293-AM

Alston, Boaz, Pvt. (M-A) Mx

June 19, 1931.

Mrs. Sophia Alston,  
Route #1,  
Winnsboro, S. C.

Dear Madam:

Arrangements are now being made for conducting pilgrimages during the year 1932 to the cemeteries in Europe under the provisions of the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, as amended.

To assure proper and satisfactory accommodations, reservations for steamship transportation required during the summer of 1932 must be made by this office not later than August 1st of this year. It is therefore desired that you answer the question below by writing either of the words "Yes", "No", or "Undecided" in the blank space following the question.

As soon as you have answered the question, please sign your name and return this sheet in the enclosed addressed envelope which requires no postage. Do not delay, as a prompt reply is essential.

This letter is being sent to all eligible mothers and widows who did not make a pilgrimage at the expense of the Government during 1930 and are not making the journey in 1931.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

A. D. HUGHES,  
Captain, Q. M. Corps,  
Assistant.

DO YOU DESIRE TO MAKE A PILGRIMAGE DURING THE YEAR 1932? \_\_\_\_\_

Write answer here

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sign here

00474

101 JUN - 21 1931

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Alston, Boaz, ~~1933-M~~  
Evt. 1232

June 19, 1930

Mrs. Sophia Alston,  
Route #1,  
Winnsboro, S. Carolina.

*Colored*

Dear Madam:

Arrangements are now being made for conducting pilgrimages during the year 1931, to the cemeteries in Europe under the provisions of the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929.

To assure proper and satisfactory accommodations, reservations for steamship transportation required during the summer of 1931 must be made by this office not later than August 1st of this year. It is therefore desired that you answer the question below by writing the word "Yes" or "No" in the blank space following the question.

As soon as you have answered the question, please sign your name and return this sheet in the enclosed addressed envelope, which requires no postage. Do not delay, as a prompt reply is essential.

This letter is being sent to all mothers and widows who are not making the pilgrimage in 1930, regardless of whether or not they have expressed a desire to make the pilgrimage.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

*A. D. Hughes*  
A. D. HUGHES,  
Captain, Q. M. Corps,  
Assistant.

DO YOU DESIRE TO MAKE THE PILGRIMAGE DURING THE YEAR 1931?

*no*  
(Write answer here)

*Witness*

*Ernest Gladden*

*Sophia Alston*  
(Sign here)

*Winnsboro SC*

QM 293 A-C

Alston, Boaz 1232

May 2, 1930

Mrs. Sophia Alston,  
Route #1,  
Winnsboro, S. Carolina.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 14, 1930, declining the invitation to sail on the SS "American Merchant" July 12, 1930, to visit the grave of your son, the late Private Boaz Alston, under the provisions of the Act of March 2, 1929.

Your name has been placed upon the list of mothers and widows who are eligible to make the journey in 1931, and you will be communicated with when the pilgrimages are being arranged for that year.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

A. D. HUGHES,  
Captain, Q. M. Corps,  
Assistant.

CB

U. S. M. G. M. & R. DIV.

14 10 AM 5 MAY 1930

DISPATCHED

*7 Am Comm Div.*

1732 American Merchant

Alston, Boon

7-1-30



I declines by letter 4-15-30 (ans 4-30-30) the invitation extended  
(Accept or decline)

me to make a pilgrimage to Europe at the expense of the Government of the United States under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved March 2, 1929.

*unpermitted by*

Mrs. Sophia Alston  
(Name)

1931

R#1 Winnsboro, S. Car.  
(Town or City) (State)

J. M. JENNINGS,  
PRESIDENT

S. C. CATHCART,  
VICE-PREST

E. P. BLAIR,  
CASHIER

## BANK OF FAIRFIELD

WINNSBORO, S. C.

April 14th. - 1930.

*Fairfield Co*

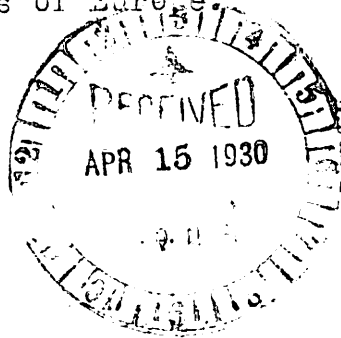
Capt. A. D. Hughes,  
U. S. Corps, Assistant,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir :--

NO 3 A-C.

Alston, Roaz <sup>1232</sup> ~~1232~~

In reply to your letter of April 10th., I beg to advise that on account of infirmities and old age it will not be possible for me to join the pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe.



Very respectfully,

Sophia Alston,  
by Geo. Alston.

*Declines Inv. American Merchant  
7-12-30 - Listed for 1931*

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to QM 293 A-C

Alston, Boaz 1232-M.

April 10, 1930

Mrs. Sophia Alston,  
Route #1,  
Dean, W. Va. S. C.

This letter, which contains general information regarding the pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe, is being sent to each mother and widow who has expressed a desire to make the pilgrimage during the calendar year 1930. The general plan for the conduct of the pilgrimage is shown in the Pilgrimage Regulations, a copy of which is enclosed herewith. In addition to the information shown in the regulations, the following explains in detail some of the most important things connected with the pilgrimage.

Formal invitations are being extended to each mother and widow who has expressed a desire to make the pilgrimage during 1930. In so far as practicable, these invitations are being extended with a view to keeping the women from each state together and the order in which the invitations to the women from the several states are issued is based on a drawing by lot which was held about one month ago. Inclosed with each invitation is a card for acknowledgment and it is quite important that you accept or decline this invitation promptly in order that the necessary railroad, steamship and hotel reservations may be arranged. The government will defray all the necessary expenses of the pilgrimage, including railroad fare, hotel accommodations, steamship fare and all other incidental expenses. It will not provide anything other than the necessary expenses so that you should bring with you such funds as you may desire to use for making small purchases and for other uses distinctly of a personal nature.

Arrangements have been made with the American Railroad Association which assures us the united support and cooperation of all of the railroads in the United States in handling the movement to and from New York City. The local ticket agent will secure your railroad and sleeper ticket and will make the necessary pullman reservations. Before your departure from your home we will mail you a check, sufficient to pay for your meals and other travelling expenses while enroute to New York. Your railroad ticket will provide for a round trip from your home to New York and upon arrival in New York the army officer in charge of the New York office will collect the return trip stub and hold it until your return to New York from Europe.

Upon arrival in New York, you will be met by an army officer.

30/994/

and escorted to a first class hotel where reservations have been made. The duration of your stay in New York will be from 24 to 48 hours. At the proper time, you will be escorted to the steamship upon which passage has been engaged for Europe. All of the women making this trip will be provided with cabin class accommodations aboard steamers which means that from two to four will be quartered in the same stateroom. If you have any friend that you would like to be quartered with we will endeavor to arrange it if you will communicate with this office.

The ocean voyage will last about 8 days and when the ship docks at Cherbourg, France, each party will be met by officers especially detailed for the purpose and taken in a special train to Paris where first class hotel accommodations have been reserved. The first day in Paris will be a day of rest. On the 2d day, the women of each party will place a wreath on the tomb of the French unknown soldier. In the afternoon there will be a reception in which the French war mothers, government officials, and prominent civilians will participate. The following morning the groups going to the different cemeteries will leave Paris, travelling in motor busses, and proceed to the cemeteries where they will remain for about 7 days. Twenty-five women will be assigned to each bus and an army officer will have charge of the bus. The itineraries to and from the cemeteries and the daily itineraries while at the cemeteries have been varied so as to take in points of historical interest as well as some parts of the battlefields where American troops were engaged. Upon return to Paris, each party will remain for about 5 days and during this time an opportunity will be given to see the points of historical interest in Paris and vicinity. The entire duration of your stay in Europe will be 14 days, and the itineraries have been so arranged that each day will be provided for. Except in case of illness or other unavoidable cause it will not be possible for any woman making the pilgrimage to remain in Europe for a longer period than 14 days nor to leave the party with which she is travelling unless she is prepared to pay all of her expenses after leaving the party since the Act of Congress authorizing the pilgrimage specifically states that the government shall not pay the expenses of any woman who willfully leaves her party.

Upon return to the United States each ship will be met in New York City by army officers who will escort the mothers and widows to the trains which will take them home. Before leaving New York each woman will be provided with her return railroad ticket, a sleeping car ticket, and funds to cover the cost of meals and other travelling expenses.

Army officers are being used as guides and escorts throughout this entire movement and care has been taken to select officers who will see that proper care is taken of the women who are entrusted to their charge. Arrangements have been made for taking care of women who may be taken sick during the pilgrimage and also to care for the remains of any who may die and provision has been made for returning the remains of any who may die to their homes. It is essential that each woman making the pilgrimage furnish The Quartermaster General with an emergency address of some relative or friend to be notified in the event of an emergency. Medical care will be provided by civilian agencies. If such care is needed in New York City it will be furnished by the hotel physicians or

by local hospitals. Aboard ship, medical care will be provided by the ship's doctors and in Paris arrangements have been made with the American Hospital for the hospitalization and treatment of any women who may need it. In addition to this, six doctors of the regular army will be on duty throughout the pilgrimage.

Baggage will be limited to not to exceed two pieces of hand baggage and the articles taken should be such as will be required for a trip of about one month. Laundry service can be obtained in New York and Paris. Since the climate of Europe is much colder than that of the United States, each woman should provide herself with sufficient warm clothing to stand the motor bus trip and the visit to the cemeteries.

Since it is necessary for this office to make all reservations for your accommodations throughout this pilgrimage, it will be greatly appreciated if you will make prompt reply to any communications received from this office.

For The Quartermaster General:

Very truly yours,

A. D. HUGHES,  
Captain, Q. M. Corps,  
Assistant.

1 Enclosure.  
Regulation.

**WAR DEPARTMENT**  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

October 7, 1929.

Alston, Boaz 1232 M

Mrs. Sophia Alston,  
Route #1,  
Wimmsboro, South Carolina.

Dear Madam:

The Act of Congress which provides for pilgrimages to cemeteries in Europe by mothers and widows of members of the military or naval forces of the United States who died in the military or naval service at any time between April 5, 1917 and July 1, 1921, and whose remains are now interred in such cemeteries, all necessary expenses of which pilgrimages are to be paid by the United States Government, requires that the Secretary of War make an investigation and submit the results of such investigation in a report to Congress not later than December 15, 1929. The purpose of the investigation is to determine the total number of mothers and widows entitled to make the pilgrimages, the number of such mothers and widows who desire to make the pilgrimages, the number who desire to make the pilgrimages during the calendar year 1930 and the probable cost of the pilgrimages to be made.

In order that the report referred to may be made and plans completed for conducting the pilgrimages, it is requested that you answer the following questions by filling out the blanks left therefor and return the letter to this office by return mail in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage.

1. Do you desire to make this pilgrimage if eligible?	(Yes)	(No)
2. Do you desire to make the pilgrimage in the calendar year 1930?	(Yes)	(No)
3. Have you at any time made a previous visit to the grave of the deceased member of the military or naval forces in whom you are interested?	(Yes)	(No)
4. Please give your age and state of health.	Age (Years)	Health (Good) (Poor)
5. What language do you speak?	English - (Yes) (No) Other language (Specify language spoken)	

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

Encl.  
Act  
Envelope

JOHN T. HARRIS,  
Major, Q. M. Corps,  
Assistant.

QM 295 A-C  
Alston, Boss

September 16, 1929.

Mrs. Sophia Alston,  
Route #1,  
Windsboro, S. C.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of September 10, 1929, relative to the pilgrimage of the Gold Star Mothers and Widows to Europe.

You are advised that there is no provision contained in the Act of March 2, 1929, which provides that a mother or widow making the pilgrimage may be accompanied by a member of her family. The War Department has been charged with the execution of this Act and its efforts therefore must be restricted to making the arrangements necessary for the transportation, entertainment, etc. of those named as eligible under the Act.

Any arrangements which are desired to be made by relatives or friends of such eligibles to visit the Cemeteries in Europe must be made by them personally. The limited accommodations available in the small towns in the neighborhood of the Cemeteries in Europe, and the fact that it is contemplated that the War Department will utilize these accommodations to the limit for those mothers and widows eligible under the above mentioned Act, make it necessary for those ineligible under the Act to make their own arrangements.

Within a reasonable time prior to the beginning of the pilgrimage (May 1930) blanks will be forwarded to you upon which to make formal application for the journey. Space will be provided thereon for you to indicate the time you desire to go.

You are assured that competent personnel will be assigned by the War Department to provide for the needs and comfort of those making the pilgrimage. You will in all probability make the acquaintance of other Gold Star mothers in your group and thus find

*Ans Com Miss*

congenial companionship on the journey.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

A. D. HUGHES,  
Captain, Q. M. Corps,  
Assistant.

sc/p

U. S. M. G. M. & R. DIV.

1929 SEP 18 AM 11 20

DISPAT B

# KETCHIN MERCANTILE CO.

Lumber, Building Material and Hardware  
WE SPECIALIZE ON ROOFING

Winnsboro, S. C., Sept 10<sup>th</sup> 1929

## ESTIMATE

We agree to furnish only items Listed below, and  
the Price is conditioned on buying the complete list.

War Department  
Quarter Master General  
Washington DC

Gentlemen-

Refer to QM 293 A C - Alston Boaz

Referring to your letter of Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> I am  
enclosing answers to your questions

I would like very much to go but  
my health is such that I doubt my  
ability to go alone.

Won't you be kind enough to inform  
me whether or not any arrangements  
could be made for me to have a number  
of my family go with me - and if  
so about what would it cost. Thanks

Yours Very Truly  
(Mrs) Sophia Alston  
Boaz

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C  
Alston, Boaz

September 3, 1929.

Mrs. Sophia Alston,  
Route #1,  
Winnsboro, S. C.

Dear Madam:

The records of this office do not indicate that a reply has been received to our communication dated June 29, 1929 making inquiry concerning the name and address of the mother and widow of the deceased service man above named. These addresses are desired with a view to ascertaining the number of mothers and widows who desire to make a pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe in which the remains of their sons and husbands are interred.

Will you please fill in the answers to the following questions in the space provided on this letter, and return the letter to this office in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage?

Write answers in space below

1. Is the deceased survived by a widow who has not since remarried? If so, give her complete address:

He was never married

2. If he is survived by a mother, stepmother, mother thru adoption, or any other woman who stood in loco parentis to him, according to the terms of Section 4 of the enclosed Act, give her name, address, and relationship in the space opposite.

Sophia Alston, his own

Mother - survives. Address

Winnsboro, S.C. Route 1.

3. If survived by a widow or mother does she desire to make the pilgrimage?

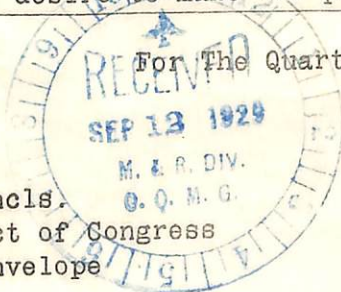
yes.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

*Sophia Alston*  
Pm K.

2 Incls.  
Act of Congress  
Envelope



*J. T. Harris*  
JOHN T. HARRIS,  
Major, Q. M. Corps,  
Assistant.

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C  
Alston, Boaz

June 29, 1929.

Mrs. Sophia Alston,  
Route #1,  
Winnaboro, S. Carolina.

Dear Madam:

Your attention is invited to the enclosed copy of an Act of Congress approved March 2, 1929, entitled an Act "To enable the mothers and widows of the deceased soldiers, sailors and marines of the American forces now interred in the cemeteries of Europe to make a pilgrimage to these cemeteries".

The records of this office show that you are the mother of the late Pvt. Boaz Alston, Co. F, 371st Inf., whose remains are now interred in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Remagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, France.

Will you please advise this office whether or not he is survived by a widow who is entitled under the provisions of the above quoted Act, to make the pilgrimage, and if so, will you please furnish her full name and address in order that action may be taken to extend an invitation to her to make the pilgrimage. Both mothers and widows are entitled to make the pilgrimage.

In the event your son was survived by a widow who has since re-married it is requested that a statement to that effect be made.

For your reply, you may use the enclosed envelope which requires no postage.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

2 incls.  
Act of Congress.  
Envelope.

JOHN T. HARRIS,  
Major, Q. M. Corps,  
Assistant.

QM 293 A-C

Alston, Boaz

April 30, 1924.

SUBJECT: Identification and disposition.

TO: Chief, AGRS, QMC., in Europe.

1. Unknown U. S. Soldier, U-3586, reburied from Grave 155, Section 89, Plot 3, Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, to Grave 25, Row 6, Block G, same cemetery, has been identified as the late Private Boaz Alston, 1878855, Company F, 371st Infantry.

2. The body is to remain buried in France.

By order of The Quartermaster General:

Noted by Statistical Clerk.

Date 4/20/24 *W*

O. Q. M. G.  
CENTRAL MAIL ROOM.  
R. P. HAROLD,  
Assistant.



MAY 1 1924

LN *lu*  
CS *ep*  
GR *SP*  
WPR *mm*  
EED *cc*

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE  
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY  
REQUIREMENTS DIVISION  
WASHINGTON

4/12/24

REFERRED TO: Major Harbold

BY: L Nicholson

REMARKS New identification  
Case of Pvt. Boaz Alston.

AGO Disposition Card - Father requested that the body be returned for burial in a National Cemetery. There is no other correspondence on file from him.

Jan. 12/24, this office wrote to him of the identification and requested advice whether he still desired the body returned.

To date no reply has been rec'd.  
Body has been concentrated.

DECISION IS REQUESTED

1. WHETHER BODY WILL REMAIN ✓  
2. ~~OR RETURN FOR BURIAL IN A NATIONAL CEMETERY~~

*RAL*

Body to remain in  
awake

QM 293 A-C

Alston, Boaz.

January 12, 1924.

Mr. George Alston,  
Route 1,  
Rockton, South Carolina.

*(re-addressed to Winneton, S.C. 1/17/24)*

Dear Sir:

The Quartermaster General is pleased to inform you that the investigation which has been conducted with a view towards locating the grave containing the remains of your son, the late Private Boaz Alston, Company F, 371st Infantry, has been successfully concluded. The body has been identified in Grave 25, Row 6, Block G, Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, France.

There is on file your request for return of the remains to this country for final burial. As some time has elapsed since you made the request, this letter is to inquire whether it is still your desire that this action be taken. If you still wish the return of the body, it will be brought back on the first available Shipping Board vessel sailing from a channel port. This may not be within the next two or three months.

The body may, if you now direct, rest permanently in Grave 25, Row 6, Block G, Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, where you are assured perpetual care of the grave by this Government, and it will be marked with an appropriate headstone.

Please understand, it is not the policy of the Department to attempt to influence relatives as to the disposition of their dead, but to endeavor to carry out their wishes so far as is humanly possible. On the other hand the Department is honored when relatives entrust the remains to its care and intends to administer that trust in a manner befitting the service the soldier rendered his country and humanity. If agreeable to you, this office will be glad to receive your permission for burial of the body of your son among his comrades, and where his grave will be tenderly cared for by a grateful Nation.

As action is suspended pending your decision, it is requested that you kindly reply as soon as possible; using the inclosed envelope, which requires no postage.

Very truly yours,

R. L. POSTER,  
Assistant.

1 incl.  
envelope.

*Sup. cash made to 3/30/24*

*File 3/25/24*

JAN 12 1924  
R.O.C.  
1124  
LN  
WPR  
EED

WAR DEPARTMENT

OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY

WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE MAIL TO AVOID  
PAYMENT OF REGISTER OR INSURE VALUABLE MAIL \$300.



REGISTER  
OR  
INSURE  
VALUABLE MAIL

*182*  
No Such Post Office in State Name

Mr. George Alston

Route 1

Rockton, S. C.



Jan. 2 1924.

Miss Nicholson

Case Boaz Alston

1. Communicate with relatives and determine if it is still their desire that body be shipped to National Cemetery in this country for burial or if they are willing to leave in a P.A.C.

2. Notify Europe of identification U 3586 in grave 155 section 89 pl 3 concentrated to 25-6-G

C.S.

DATE Nov. 16, 1921.

1. NAME *Boaz Alston* UNKNOWN AMERICAN # U 3586 SERIAL No. *1878855*

RANK *Pvt* ORGANIZATION *A 371*

GRAVE LOCATION Argonne American ROMAGNE-sous MONTFAUCON (Meuse) 1232-Sec. 89  
CTY. NAME NUMBER

*155* GRAVE *89* ~~ROW~~ *3* PLOT  
*Sec.*

2. ORIGINAL BATTLE AREA GRAVE LOCATION Fontaine en Dormois, Marne  
GRAVE COMMUNE DEPT.

COORDINATES Verdun 35 SW 275.5 N 280.5 E

CONCENTRATED TO 5/29/19 155 Sec 89 3  
DATE GRAVE ROW PLOT

Meuse Argonne Cemetery 1232  
CEMETERY CTY. NUMBER

Data concerning any identification found on remains when concentrated, such as collar insignias, letters, broken bones, missing parts, etc.

Body of negro, No effects.

data F-1 & 16 A

SUBSEQUENT REBURIALS  
DATE GRAVE ROW PLOT CEMETERY

DATE GRAVE ROW PLOT CEMETERY

SIGNATURE, AREA SUPERVISOR *M. B. Birdseye* M. B. BIRDSEYE  
1st Lt., Q.M. Corps, U.S. Army

3. FINAL GRAVE LOCATION 11/16/21 25 6 Block G  
DATE GRAVE ROW PLOT

Meuse-Argonne Amer. Cty. #1232 Romagne-sous-Montfaucou, Meuse.  
CEMETERY

AUDITED BY  
89B 1/26/23  
89B 1/07/24  
je

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL.

Remains of:

Number:

Name: Boaz Alston  
~~UNKNOWN AMERICAN SOLDIER~~

~~UNKN~~

Rank: UNKN Pvt

Organization:

~~UNKN~~

Disinterment and Reburial made by Group

Unit

Disinterred (Date)

From: (Give complete location)

10th May 1919

Grave 7 Fontaine en Durmois Marne

35SW 275.5N 280.5E

Reburied (Date)

in: (Give complete location)

10th May 1919

Grave 155 Sec 89 Plot

Argonne American Cty 1232

Romagne-Meuse.

Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon disinterment:  
Burial good. Buried in uniform. Badly decomposed.

Was one identification tag found upon the body?

No

What other means of identification were found on the body?

Body too badly mutilated for description. No effects. Lt Caswell

Note:

If upon disinterment, effects are found upon bodies, they will be promptly sent to the Effects Depot direct as is required by G.O. 170, G.H. 2, 1918., after being carefully examined for clues to identity in doubtful cases, notation whereof will be made and reported to Chief, Graves Registration Service.

Supervised by: Lt Caswell

BM

C.O. Group

Unit

Use 8/19/19



Direct and effort is made to get Dr. John F. McDougall  
and co address. It will be found from 117  
St. Louis, Mo. 1232. No  
Dr. Charles. Decision by Dr. Charles  
St. Louis

# REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date May 14, 1921.

1. REMAINS OF *Boaz Alston* ~~Unknown U. S. Soldier, No. U. 3586.~~ SERIAL NUMBER None. *1878845*  
 RANK None. *Ser* ORGANIZATION None. *2371 by*

2. Disinterred (date): May 12, 1921. From (give complete location):  
Grave #155, section 89, plot 3,  
Argonne American Cemetery #1232.

By: Group G. T. Parker, Unit Cem. 1232, Area #1.

3. Reburied (date): May 12, 1921. In (give complete location):  
Grave #155, section 89, plot 3,  
Argonne American Cemetery #1232.

By: Group G. T. Parker, Unit Cem. 1232, Area #1 Nature of reburial Regulation

4. Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon disinterment: A regulation grave marker marked this grave and read Unknown U. S. Soldier, No. U. 3586, Gr. 155, sec. 89, plot 3, Cem. 1232. Body was buried in a pine box, no uniform, Body badly decomposed.

5. (a) Identification tags: Buried with body? No. On grave marker? No.

(b) Other means of identification found upon disinterment, and general remarks: A GRS tag found read UNKNOWN AMERICAN. One American Cockade with a GRS tag attached which read -----22 AMERICAN INCONNU MORT AU CHAMP D'HONNEUR, found with body. This is the body of a negro.

6. What does examination of body show as regards the following identifying items?

(a) Height (actual measurement) Impossible to determine.

(b) Weight (estimated) Impossible to determine.

(c) Hair—Color Black.

Quantity Small.

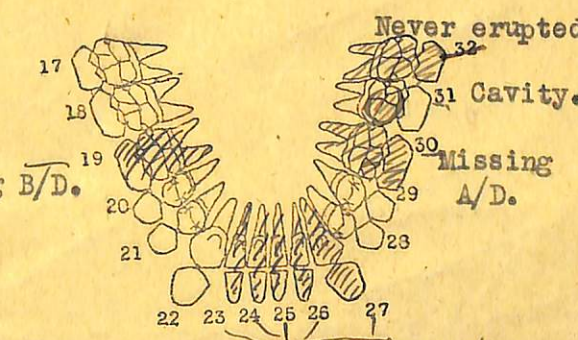
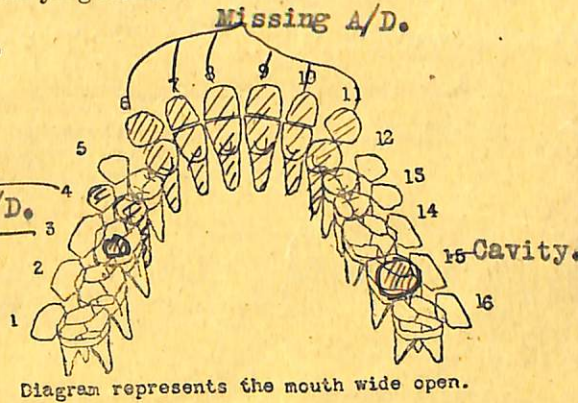
Characteristics Kinky (Negro)

(d) Hair on face—Color None.

Location None.

Quantity None.

(e) Permanent marks on body (old scars, peculiarities, or missing parts) None.



(f) Wounds or missing parts (received at time of casualty) Left radius fractured. Right and left femurs fractured. Lower parts missing. Lower legs missing. Right and left ossinominata fractured. Right humerus fractured.

Body examined by Major H. C. Bierbower, M. C.

7. Disinterment supervised by H. C. BIERBOWER, Major, M. C. Approved: L. O. MATHEWS, Major, Q.M.C.

8. Reburial supervised by H. C. BIERBOWER, Major, M. C. Approved: L. O. MATHEWS, Major, Q.M.C.

Place Romagne (Meuse)

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date Aug. 18, 1921.

1. REMAINS OF *Boaz Alston* ~~UNKNOWN U S SOLDIER~~ SERIAL NUMBER U-3586-18788 JV

RANK *Pat* ORGANIZATION *7 371 Inf*

2. Disinterred (date) : Aug. 18, 1921, Gr. # 155 Sec. 89 Pt. 3.  
From (give complete location) :

By : Group 5 Unit Sec. 1.

3. Reburied (date) : Held in Morgue pending concentration.  
In (give complete location) : Meuse Argonne Argonne Cty 1232 Nov 16 1921 Gr. 25 Bl. G. Row 6

By : Group Reburial S. Unit  Nature of reburial lined Casket

4. Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon disinterment :  
Pine box wrapped in burlap See par 6 sub par "e" Body entirely decomposed and bones shattered.

5. (a) Identification tags : Buried with body ? no On grave marker ? no

(b) Other means of identification found upon disinterment, and general remarks :  
G. R. S. plaque with Unidentified inscribed thereon.

6. What does examination of body show as regards the following identifying items ?

(a) Height (actual measurement) Imp to determine.

(b) Weight (estimated) Imp to estimate.

(c) Hair—Color none

Quantity none cavity

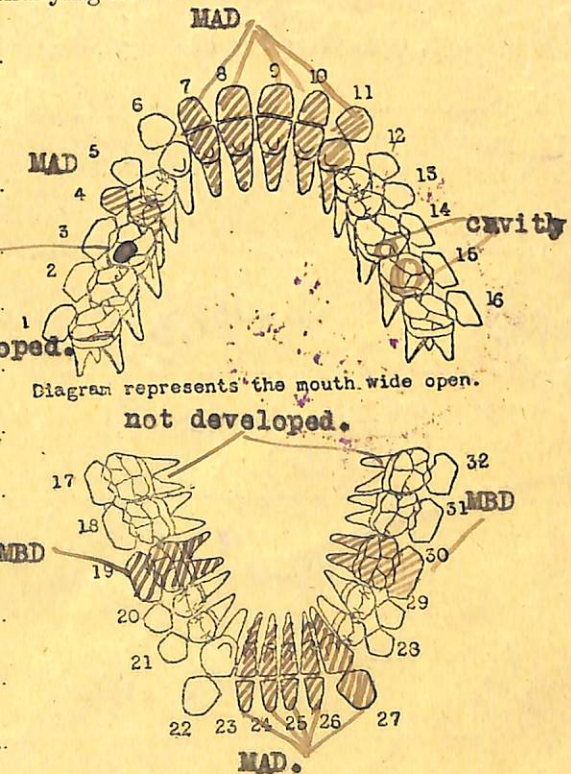
Characteristics none

(d) Hair on face—Color none

Location none

Quantity none

(e) Permanent marks on body (old scars, peculiarities, missing parts) Imp to determine.



(f) Wounds or missing parts (received at time of casualty) Left upper arm missing Both legs missing below upper third of femurs. Left hip bone shattered. skull cracked.

D-30859

7. Disinterment supervised by (Sgd) Elza Holmes. Sup Enb. Approved (Sgd) S. D. Archer.  
(Title) 1st. Lt. QMC. Inspector.

8. Reburial supervised by (sgd) A. U. Dufant Approved : M. B. Birdseye  
A TRUE COPY (Title) James W. Younger Capt

M. B. Birdseye, 1st. Lt. QMC. Jt. Q.M.C?

August 18, 1921.

To be prepared in triplicate.

DATE

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT, PREPARATION, SHIPMENT AND REBURIAL OF BODY

DISINTERMENT

COMPARATIVE REPORT

Records of G.R.S. Headquarters.

Discrepancy found upon exhumation of body

1. Name ~~UNKNOWN AMERICAN # U. 3586~~ *Boaz Alston*

2. No. *1878855*

3. Rank *Pvt.*

4. Org. *C. P. 371 Inf.*

5. D.D. *9-28-18*

6. C.D. *11/4*

10. Name

11. No.

12. Rank

13. Org.

14. (a) D.D.

(b) D.B.

Discrepancy found upon disinterment

7. Grave No. *155* Sec. *89*

8. Plot *3* Row

9.

15. Grave No. Sec.

16. Plot Row

17.

18. Cemetery *Argonne American*

20. Dept. or County *Meuse*

22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. *# 1232---Sec. # 89*

19. Commune or town *ROMAGNE-sous-MONTFAUCON*

21. Country *France*

23. Disinterred (Date) *August 18, 1921*

By *Lisa Holmes*

24. Inscription on grave marker:  
*UNKNOWN U. S. SOLDIER*

Name

Rank

Serial No. *U-3586*

Organization

25. Was identification disc found on grave marker?

By *no* On body? *no*

Signature Junior Technical Assistant

PREPARATION

26. What other means of identification were on body? (If no disc or other means of identification on body, give description of body in detail).

*U.S. Plaque with "unidentified" inscribed thereon.*

27. Condition of body

*entirely decomposed; and bones shattered.*

*Pin box, wrapped in burlap.*

28. Nature of burial

*# U. 3586 UNKNOWN AMERICAN*

29. Any discrepancy noted upon examination of body, as compared with G.R.S. records quoted above?

*None*

30. Body prepared and placed in casket: Date

*Aug. 18, 1921*

*Lisa Holmes*

31. Casket sealed by

Signature of Embalmer, (Supervisor)

*Lisa Holmes*

Jo.

*5423  
11/5/24*

SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. \_\_\_\_\_

32. Designation of body:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Organization \_\_\_\_\_

33. Consigned to:

Name of Permanent Cemetery \_\_\_\_\_

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) August 18, 1921 By Alma Holmes

35. I hereby certify that all the foregoing operations were conducted and accomplished under my immediate supervision and that the report above is correct.

J. Gerald Cole  
Signature of G.R.S. Inspector  
*for and in absence of*  
S.D. Archer, 1st Lt. MC

36. Remarks \_\_\_\_\_



37. Shipped from point of Operation: (Date) August 18, 1921.

To point of Concentration Morges, Meuse-Argonne Cemetery.

Convoyer \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) J. Gerald Cole  
Signature Shipping Officer  
J. GERALD COLE  
Captain, C.A.C.

38. Received at Railhead or Point of Concentration: Date \_\_\_\_\_

By G.R.S. Representative \_\_\_\_\_

39. Shipped from Railhead or Point of Concentration: Date \_\_\_\_\_

To Permanent Cemetery \_\_\_\_\_

Convoyer \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Shipping Officer

40. Received: Date \_\_\_\_\_

G.R.S. Representative \_\_\_\_\_

41. Reinterred Nov. 16, 1921 Meuse-Argonne Cty. #1232.

(Date) \_\_\_\_\_

42. Grave No. 25 Section \_\_\_\_\_

xxx Block G Row 6

43. Plot \_\_\_\_\_

G.R.S. Representative James W. Younger, Capt., U.S.C.

# COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

**I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:**

File # -

(a) Name Alston, Boaz ~~UNKNOWN AMERICAN SOLDIER~~ Ser. No. 1878855 } TYP. DMA

(b) Rank Prvt. Organization C 2 3rd Inf. } CKR. B. J.

(c) Date of death 9/28/18 (d) Cause of death M/G

**II. REGISTRATION CARD.—(Check Reg., Card Inf. against Loc., Ind., Inf.):**

(a) Grave No. 155 Row - Plot 3 Sec. 89 TYP. DMA  
*Convent. Ho. 25, Block 4, Row 6, 1232.*

(b) Emerg. Address -

**III. Files of soldiers/dying from contagious diseases/** CKR. B. J.

**IV. A. G. O. DISPOSITION CARD:**

Date of receipt \_\_\_\_\_

(a) Name George + Sophie Alston (b) Relationship Father + Mother

(c) Address Rockton S.C. P.O. # 1.

(d) Remains to be brought to U. S.? Yes

(e) To be interred in National Cemetery in U. S. at Yes

(f) Shipping instructions upon arrival of body in U. S. None given

(g) Disposition instructions if not brought to U. S. \_\_\_\_\_

Examiner's Initials \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_, 1920.

**V. A. G. O. CORRESPONDENCE** shows communication from \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, dated \_\_\_\_\_

confirming request in Par. IV., item \_\_\_\_\_, above, or requesting that \_\_\_\_\_

Examiner's Initials \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_, 1920.

**VI. G. R. S. FILES, CORRESPONDENCE**—shows as follows: None

(a) Cancellation memos referred to? \_\_\_\_\_

Examiner's Initials \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_, 1920.

COUNTRY FRANCE CEMETERY No. 1232-sec. 89 SHEET No. 153

*W.P. 4-22-21*

*Check  
4-16-21 Z.K.*



# COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

**I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:**

File #-

(a) Name Alston, Bob ~~UNKNOWN AMERICAN SOLDIER~~ Ser. No. 1 828 855 } TYP. DMA  
 (b) Rank Pvt. Organization Co G. 371 Inf }  
 (c) Date of death 9/28/18 (d) Cause of death 171a } 13. J.

**II. REGISTRATION CARD.—(Check Reg., Card Inf. against Loc., Ind., Inf.):**

(a) Grave No. 155 Row     Plot 3 Sec. 89 TYP. DMA  
 (b) Emerg. Address    

III. ~~Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases~~ CKR. 13. J

**IV. Information on which advice to Europe in letter of transmittal was based:**

.....  
 .....  
 .....

V. Following advice forwarded to Europe by { cable on    , 192  
 { letter of transmittal on 4-19-, 1921

Section 89  
Par. 3 - Unknown dead (J & H)

VI. Form 115 forwarded to G. R. S., Hoboken, N. J.,    , 192

**VII. SUPPLEMENTARY REQUESTS.**

Date of and source.	Relationship and name.	Desires.	Action taken.

VIII. Form 115 received from G. R. S., Hoboken, N. J.    , 192

COUNTRY FRANCE CEMETERY No.     SHEET No.    

*JP* 4-22-21



Disposition

Alston, Boaz

1,873,855

(Surname.)

(Christian name in full.)

(Army serial number.)

Pvt

Co F 371 Inf.

(Rank and organization.)

State your relationship to the deceased

*Father & mother*

Do you desire the remains brought to the United States?

*Yes*

(Yes or no.)

If remains are brought to the United States, do you wish them interred in a national cemetery?

*National Cemetery*

(Yes or no.)

If you desire the remains interred at the home of the deceased, give full information below as to where they should be sent:

(Name of person to receive remains.)

(Express office.)

(Telegraph office.)

(Number and street.)

(City or town.)

(State.)

(Sign here)

*George Alston & Sophie Alston  
Rockton, Mo*

(Number and street or rural route.)

(City, town, or post office.)

(State.)

Read carefully the letter accompanying this card. no. 1-3-6713

no city no  
file 6600-

~~line~~ 68-289-7-2 |

OPINION

Dec 5 1928

CASE OF Boaz Alton 1878855 7 371 Inf

GRAVE 155-89-3 City 1237 25-6-9

U 3586

DECISION

DENTAL CHART

Date of Enlistment		Report on Disinterment			
A.G.O.		Emergency Address		Miss A.D.	
Missing	Dental Work	Dental Work	Missing B.D.	Dental Work	Miss A.D.
U.R.				2 Oct	4
U.L.					6-7-8-9-10-11
L.R.				15 Oct	
19			19		
L.L.				31 Oct	73 24
30			30		75 26
			32 Nov		77

Above discrepancies can be accounted for as follows:

BODY DESCRIPTION

A.G.O. Report	E/A Report	Report on Disinterment
Height:		
Weight		
Hair		
Fractures		

IDENTIFICATION TAGS

Found on Body

Found on Cross

OTHER IDENTIFYING MARKS

Found on Body

ORIGINAL BURIAL DATA

Body in this Grave concentrated from Fontaine  
 This man reported buried originally  
 Organizations of other men buried around original location 369 & 371

W. Scott  
Investigator

Concur:

APPROVED:

65002

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

ALSTON 1878855 Boaz

(Surname). (Number). (First Name and Initials).

Pvt. Co. F. 371st Inf.

(Rank). (Organization).

PLACE OF DEATH: .....

CAUSE OF DEATH: .....

DATE OF BURIAL: .....

PLACE OF BURIAL: .....

(Give Cemetery, Town and Department). Map references must specify clearly what map is used.

GRAVE NUMBER: .....

HOW MARKED: Name Peg?.....Cross?.....

Headboard?..... Bottle?.....

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body?.....

Was one fastened to name peg or stake used as a grave marker?.....

If name unknown and tags missing, description and marks should be given here?

NEAREST RELATIVE: .....

ADDRESS: .....

RELATIONSHIP: .....

REPORTED BY: .....

(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer).

This portion to be sent to Chief of Graves Registration Service.

G.R.S. FORM NO. 12.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES  
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

FROM : ADJUTANT GENERAL.

TO : C.O., Co. F, 371st Infantry

SUBJECT : Information for Burial Register.

1. You are directed to transmit without delay to the Chief, Graves Registration Service, the information indicated on enclosed Grave Location Blank as necessary for the completion of official records.

By Command of General Duvall:

Robert G. Davis  
Adjutant General.

Note:

In case this item is checked, you will note hereon:

Nearest relative of deceased:

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

R

R