

27

G.R.S. Form #114-B

To The A. G. O.

1906

JAN 7 - 1926

FULL NAME BACKSTROM, John Alfred *Selig*

RANK Mechanic SERIAL 1706161

DIVISION & ORGANIZATION *77th Div.* Company G, 307th Infantry

DATE OF DEATH *Sept. 18 '28*

STATE FROM WHICH HE CAME *New York*

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS AWARDED *none*

FINAL GRAVE LOCATION	4	14	B
	Date	Grave	Row

608
Cemetery

*C 146827*  
*mother dead*  
*+ no widow*  
 23/306/ARK

*K.M. 7/3*

2 A.G.O.  
 JAN 7 1926  
 WORLD WAR DIV.

AUDITED BY *file*  
*B.W. 6/6/24*  
*2-6-29*



Place SERVICES ET NESTLES (Ainet)  
Cty. 608.

Date 4.18.21.

# REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

1. REMAINS OF BACKSTROM, JOHN A. SERIAL NUMBER 1706161  
RANK MECH. ORGANIZATION CO.G.307TH. INF.

2. Disinterred (date): 4.18.21 From (give complete location): GR.42, SEC.C.PT.2.

By: Group RENOUARD'S Unit FIELD SECTION #7

3. Reburied (date): 4.18.21 In (give complete location): GR.42, SEC.C.PT.2.

By: Group RENOUARD'S Unit FIELD SECTION #7 Nature of reburial BURLAP & PINE BOX.

4. Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon disinterment:  
BADLY DECOMPOSED FEATURES UNRECOGNIZABLE

UNIFORM & BURLAP

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

(b) Other means of identification found upon disinterment, and general remarks:

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

(a) Height (actual measurement) IMP TO DETER

(b) Weight (estimated) DO

(c) Hair—Color LIGHT BROWN

Quantity IMP TO DETER

Characteristics DO

(d) Hair on face—Color DO

Location DO

Quantity DO

(e) Permanent marks on body (old scars, peculiarities, or missing parts) IMP TO DETER

(f) Wounds or missing parts (received at time of casualty)

Fracture right orricle by bullet.

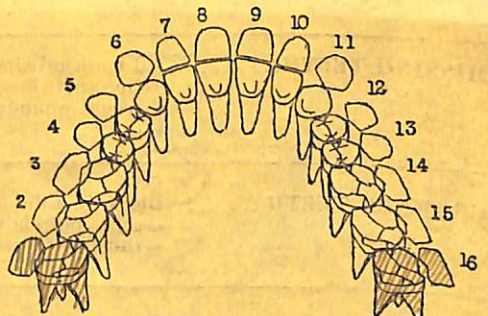
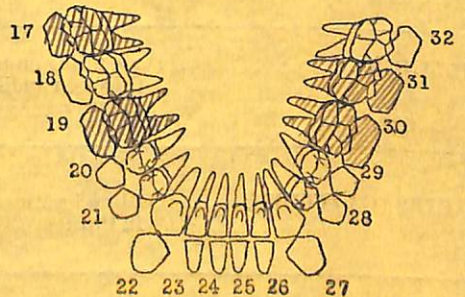


Diagram represents the mouth wide open.



1, 16, 17, 19, 30, 31, e. ext;

*Handwritten:* 10-50993

7. Disinterment supervised by E.J. RENOUEARD, Sup. Emb. Approved: A.E. DEWEY, 1st Lt. Q.M.C.  
(Title)

8. Reburial supervised by R.H.C. bfs Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Title)

Place Seringes (Aisne)

Date June 12/19

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL.

Remains of:

Name John Backtron

Number: 1706161

Rank: Pvt.

Organization:

Co.G. 307th. Inf.

Disinterment and Reburial made by Group

Unit 304

Disinterred (Date) June 3, 19 From: (Give complete location)

Grave #13 Cemetery # 872

Reburied (Date) June 3/19 in: (Give complete location)

Grave # 42 Section C. Plot. #2. Cemetery #608 Seringes et Nesles (Aisne)

Map #33 Soissons. Sd. 275.4N-195.25E

Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon disinterment:

Buried 4 feet deep - Body badly decomposed.

Was one identification tag found upon the body? Yes

What other means of identification were found upon the body? None

Note:

If upon disinterment, effects are found upon the bodies, they will be promptly sent to the Effects Depot direct, as is required by G.O. 170, G.H. 2, 1911, 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: F. Davidson

1st. Lt. Oscar W. Forsberg.

C.O. Group \_\_\_\_\_ Unit 304

CONFIRMED N° D

11737

CODE SLIP  
LOCO PARENTIS

HEADING	SUB-HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE
NAME	<i>Backstrom</i>	3	213
BURIED	CEMETERY <i>608</i>	1	2
	GRAVE <i>H</i>	2	04
	ROW <i>14</i>	2	14
	BLOCK <i>B</i>	1	2
STATE	<i>N. Y.</i>	2	37
PANK	<i>Mich.</i>	1	2
DIVISION	<i>77</i>	2	77
ORGANIZATION	<i>307</i>	3	307
ARM	<i>Inf</i>	1	1
MARTIAL	<i>no</i>	1	2
NAME	<i>Backstrom</i>	3	213
Mrs. Hannah	STATE <i>Mass</i>	2	25
RESIDENCE	COUNTY <i>Essex</i>	2	05
Mother dead	CITY <i>Spernick</i>	3	071
RELATION	<i>loco Parentis</i>	1	4
OTHER		1	
ELIGIBILITY	<i>no</i>	1	2
NATIVITY		1	
RACE		1	
ENGLISH		1	
ATTENDANT		1	
HEALTH		1	
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF TRIP	MO.	1	
	YR.	1	
ACCEPLANCE		1	

**AUDITED**  
MAY 18 1932  
L.V.F.B.

September 26, 1930.

QM 298 A-H

Backstrom, John Alfred Meek. 608 LP

Mrs. Hannah Backstrom,  
7 Fruit Street,  
Ipswich, Massachusetts.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of the affidavits you submitted to substantiate your claim as having stood in loco parentis to your brother, the late John Alfred Backstrom, Mechanic, in order to establish your eligibility to make a pilgrimage to his grave under the provisions of the Act of March 2, 1929.

Section 4 (a) of the Act was amended May 15, 1930, so that it reads in part as follows: "or any woman who stood in loco parentis to the deceased member of the military or naval forces for a period of not less than five years at any time prior to the soldier, sailor, or marine becoming eighteen years of age."

Inasmuch as the statement is made in the affidavits that your brother was nineteen years and two months of age at the time your status in loco parentis began, it is regretted to advise you are not eligible within the meaning of the law to make the pilgrimage to his grave at the expense of the Government.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

mef

State of Mass )  
County of Middlesex ) 88

name of deceased soldier John Alfred Racketrom  
Rank Private Organization 303 Infantry

1. The undersigned disinterested persons, not related to the applicant or to the deceased soldier, depose and say of their own personal knowledge that:

(a) Hanna Racketrom stood in loco parentis to John Alfred Racketrom (name of applicant) (deceased soldier) from June 1912 to Aug 1917.

(b) The age of the deceased soldier at the time the status in loco parentis began was 19 years, 7 months, 3 days. The age of Hanna Racketrom at the time the status in loco parentis began was 19 years, 7 months, 7 days.

(c) Hanna Racketrom during the time she stood in loco parentis to the said deceased soldier, actually provided for such soldier in the following manner and to the following extent:

Took care of him like any mother would

(d) The following additional circumstances, facts and declarations tend to show that the said applicant actually assumed the obligations which a <sup>mother</sup> father would have assumed in the matter of making provision for the support of the deceased soldier:

John Alfred Racketrom parents are both dead and Mrs Hanna Racketrom took him and did what any mother would do (see other side)

2. In making the above statements, it is understood that the term in loco parentis means that:

- (a) A person must act the part of a lawful father in performing the duty of providing for him; taking the place of a father in this particular.
- (b) To obtain the benefits of the Act of March 2, 1929, a woman must have occupied this status towards a particular deceased service man for a period of not less than 5 years at any time prior to the soldier, sailor, or marine becoming 18 years of age. Circumstances and facts should be stated in detail in order to insure intelligent decision. If additional space is required please write on the back of this sheet.

*No  
any  
we  
on*



Signed: Trif B. Bey.  
Address: 45 North Willow Malden

Signed: Miss Julia Anderson  
Address: 242 Springvale Ave

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5<sup>th</sup> day of Sept 1920.

(Seal) Charles T. Justice  
(Notary Public)

*my commission expires 10/10/21*

Alfred. Quakstrom left Sweden when he was  
nineteen years of age and Mrs. Hanna Quakstrom  
his sister took care of him until his death.  
no other brother or sisters in this country or  
brother and one sister in Sweden.

Herman Backstrom

7 Front Street  
Ypsilville Mass



State of Mass  
County of Middlesex 88

608  
Papers

Name of deceased soldier John Alfred Packard  
Rank Private Organization 303 Infantry

1. The undersigned disinterested persons, not related to the applicant or to the deceased soldier, depose and say of their own personal knowledge that:

(a) Hanna Packard stood in loco parentis to John Alfred Packard (name of applicant) (deceased soldier) from June 1912 to Aug 1917

(b) The age of the deceased soldier at the time the status in loco parentis began was 19 years, 7 months, 3 days. The age of Hanna Packard (name of applicant) at the time the status in loco parentis began was 19 years, 7 months, 9 days.

(c) Hanna Packard during the time she stood in loco parentis to the said deceased soldier, actually provided for such soldier in the following manner and to the following extent:

Took care of him like any mother would

(d) The following additional circumstances, facts and declarations tend to show that the said applicant actually assumed the obligations which a father would have assumed in the matter of making provision for the support of the deceased soldier:

John Alfred Packard parents are dead and Mrs Hanna Packard took him and did what any mother would do.  
(see other side)

2. In making the above statements, it is understood that the term in loco parentis means that:

- (a) A person must act the part of a lawful father in performing the duty of providing for him; taking the place of a father in this particular.
- (b) To obtain the benefits of the Act of March 2, 1929, a woman must have occupied this status towards a particular deceased service man for a period of not less than 5 years at any time prior to the soldier, sailor, or marine becoming 18 years of age. Circumstances and facts should be stated in detail in order to insure intelligent decision. If additional space is required please write on the back of this sheet.

Signed: Fritz B. Bey  
Address: 40 North Miller St Malden

Signed: Miss Julia Anderson  
Address: 242 Springvale Ave

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5<sup>th</sup> day of Sept 1930.

(Seal) Charles W. Farley  
(Notary Public)  
my commission expires 10/15/30

J. Alfred Qakstrom left Sweden when he was  
winter years of age, and Mrs Hanna Qakstrom  
his sister took care of him until his death, no  
other brother or sisters in this country, no brother  
and one sister in Sweden

Hanna Backstrom

7 Fruit Street  
Spurich Mass



September 26, 1930.

QM 298 A-M

Backstrom, John Alfred Mech. 608 LP

Mrs. Hannah Backstrom,  
7 Fruit Street,  
Ipswich, Massachusetts.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of the affidavits you submitted to substantiate your claim as having stood in loco parentis to your brother, the late John Alfred Backstrom, Mechanic, in order to establish your eligibility to make a pilgrimage to his grave under the provisions of the Act of March 2, 1929.

Section 4 (a) of the Act was amended May 15, 1930, so that it reads in part as follows: "or any woman who stood in loco parentis to the deceased member of the military or naval forces for a period of not less than five years at any time prior to the soldier, sailor, or marine becoming eighteen years of age."

Inasmuch as the statement is made in the affidavits that your brother was nineteen years and two months of age at the time your status in loco parentis began, it is regretted to advise you are not eligible within the meaning of the law to make the pilgrimage to his grave at the expense of the Government.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

mef

July 17, 1930.

QM 298 A-M  
Backstrom, John Alfred 608 LP

Mrs. Hannah Backstrom,  
7 Fruit Street,  
Ipswich, Massachusetts.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your reply to the form letter forwarded you from this office in which you indicate that you stood in loco parentis to the late John Alfred Backstrom.

In order to satisfy legal requirements it will be necessary for you to furnish as proof of your relationship, in loco parentis, the affidavits of at least two persons not related to you.

In the event you consider yourself eligible under the provisions of Section 4 (a) of the Act of March 2, 1929, as amended May 15, 1930, it is requested that the enclosed form be completed and returned to this office in order that your eligibility may be determined. Under paragraphs 1 (c) and 1 (d) sufficient information should be included to permit an intelligible decision as to eligibility.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

Enclosures:  
Forms  
Envelope

mf



WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

July 3, 1930.

Backstrom, John Alfred 608 S

Mrs. Hannah Bachstrom,  
7 Fruit St.,  
Ipswich, Mass.

Dear Madam:

Your attention is invited to the enclosed copy of an Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, together with an amendment thereto, approved May 15, 1930.

This office has no record of any person entitled under the Act mentioned to make a pilgrimage to the Cemeteries in Europe as the mother or widow of the above named deceased service man. To complete the list of eligibles and to assure that, if the above named man is survived by a mother or widow entitled to make a pilgrimage she receive an invitation to do so, it is requested you answer the following questions in the space provided on this letter and return to this office in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage.

1. Is the deceased survived by a mother?

If so, give her name and address:

No.

2. Is the deceased survived by a widow who has not remarried?

If so, give her name and address:

No.

3. Is the deceased survived by any woman who stood in loco parentis to him according to the terms of Section 4 (a) of the enclosed Act as amended?

If so, give her name and address:

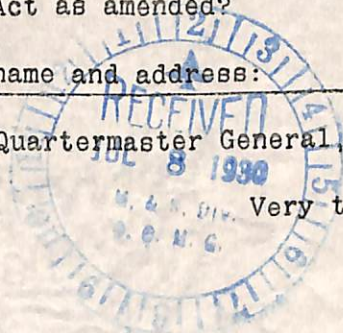
Yes. (sister),  
Hannah Backstrom  
7 Fruit Street,  
Ipswich, Mass.

For The Quartermaster General

Very truly yours,

Enclosures:  
Envelope  
Act  
Amendment

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



Noted on Card  
"hoco?"

hoco

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Backstrom, John Alfred

August 6, 1929.

Mrs. Hanna Backstrom,  
7 Fruit St.,  
Ipswich, Mass.

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 sister of the late Mechanic John Alfred Backstrom, Co. G, 307th Inf., 77th Div., N. Y., whose remains are now interred in the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery, Seringes-et-Nesles, Aisne, France.

Will you please fill in the answers to the following questions in the space provided on this letter, and return 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?

*None*

2. If so, give her complete address.

3. 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.

*Hannah Backstrom*  
*7 Fruit Street*  
*Ipswich, Mass*  
*sister of deceased*

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

2 Incls.  
Act of Congress  
Envelope

*John 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  
Backstrom, John Alfred.

June 20, 1929.

C-146,827

Miss Hanna Backstrom,  
71 Cliff St.,  
Malden, Mass.

(Sister) Mrs. Hanna Backstrom,  
7 Fruit St.,  
Ipswich, Mass.

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 sister of the late Mechanic John Alfred Backstrom Co. G, 307th Inf., 77th Div., N.Y., whose remains are now interred in the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery, Seringes-et-Nesles, Aisne, France.

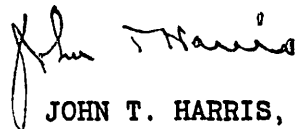
Will you please advise this office whether or not he is survived by a mother or widow who is entitled under the provisions of the above quoted Act, to make the pilgrimage, and if so, will you please furnish the full names and addresses of the mother and widow in order that action may be taken to extend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

Your attention is particularly invited to Section 4 of the enclosed Act, which defines the terms "mother" and "widow". If the relative is a stepmother, mother through adoption, or any woman who stood in loco parentis to the decedent, a statement as to her relationship is requested. If he was survived by a widow who has since remarried it is also 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,

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

2 incls.  
Act of Congress.  
Envelope.

September 26, 1930.

QH 293 A-M

Backstrom, John Alfred Mech. 606 LP

Mrs. Hannah Backstrom,  
7 Fruit Street,  
Ipswich, Massachusetts.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of the affidavits you submitted to substantiate your claim as having stood in loco parentis to your brother, the late John Alfred Backstrom, Mechanic, in order to establish your eligibility to make a pilgrimage to his grave under the provisions of the Act of March 2, 1929.

Section 4 (a) of the Act was amended May 18, 1930, so that it reads in part as follows: "or any woman who stood in loco parentis to the deceased member of the military or naval forces for a period of not less than five years at any time prior to the soldier, sailor, or marine becoming eighteen years of age."

Inasmuch as the statement is made in the affidavits that your brother was nineteen years and two months of age at the time your status in loco parentis began, it is regretted to advise you are not eligible within the meaning of the law to make the pilgrimage to his grave at the expense of the Government.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

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

1930 SEP 27 PM 7 10

DISPATCHED

July 17, 1930.

QM 293 A-M  
Backstrom, John Alfred 608 LP

Mrs. Hannah Backstrom,  
7 Fruit Street,  
Ipswich, Massachusetts.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your reply to the form letter forwarded you from this office in which you indicate that you stood in loco parentis to the late John Alfred Backstrom.

In order to satisfy legal requirements it will be necessary for you to furnish as proof of your relationship, in loco parentis, the affidavits of at least two persons not related to you.

In the event you consider yourself eligible under the provisions of Section 4 (a) of the Act of March 2, 1929, as amended May 15, 1930, it is requested that the enclosed form be completed and returned to this office in order that your eligibility may be determined. Under paragraphs 1 (c) and 1 (d) sufficient information should be included to permit an intelligible decision as to eligibility.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

Enclosures:  
Forms  
Envelope

mf

J. M. G. 3 DIV.

1930 JUL 17 PM 7 51

DISPATCH

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

July 3, 1930.

Backstrom, John Alfred 608 S

Mrs. Hannah Backstrom,  
7 Fruit St.,  
Ipswich, Mass.

Dear Madam:

Your attention is invited to the enclosed copy of an Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, together with an amendment thereto, approved May 15, 1930.

This office has no record of any person entitled under the Act mentioned to make a pilgrimage to the cemeteries in Europe as the mother or widow of the above named deceased service man. To complete the list of eligibles and to assure that, if the above named man is survived by a mother or widow entitled to make a pilgrimage she receive an invitation to do so, it is requested you answer the following questions in the space provided on this letter and return to this office in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage.

1. Is the deceased survived by a mother?

If so, give her name and address:

2. Is the deceased survived by a widow who has not remarried?

If so, give her name and address:

3. Is the deceased survived by any woman who stood in loco parentis to him according to the terms of Section 4 (a) of the enclosed Act as amended?

If so, give her name and address:

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

Enclosures:  
Envelope  
Act  
Amendment

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

Backstrom  
(Surname.)

John A.  
(Christian name in full.)

1,706,161  
(Army serial number)

Mech

Co G 307 Inf

(Rank and organization.)

X

State your relationship to the deceased

Sister

Do you desire the remains brought to the United States?

no

(Yes or no.)

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

Hanna Backstrom

(Number and street or rural route.)

71 Cliff St Maplewood Boston Mass

(City, town, or post office.)

(State.)

Read carefully the letter accompanying this card.

Drawn by PF

608-105

12-10

REVIEWED  
OSP SS.

OK 12-11-2

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

**Backstrom, John Alfred**

August 6, 1929.

**Mrs. Hanna Backstrom,  
7 Fruit St.,  
Ipswich, Mass.**

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 **sister of the late Mechanic John Alfred Backstrom, Co. G, 307th Inf., 77th Div., N. Y., whose remains are now interred in the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery, Seringes-et-Nesles, Aisne, France.**

Will you please fill in the answers to the following questions in the space provided on this letter, and return 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?
2. If so, give her complete address.
3. 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.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

2 Incls.  
Act of Congress  
Envelope

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

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C  
Backstrom, John Alfred.

June 20 1929.

Miss Hanna Backstrom,  
71 Cliff St.,  
Malden, Mass.

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 **sister of the late Mechanic John Alfred Backstrom Co. G, 307th Inf., 77th Div., N.Y., whose remains are now interred in the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery, Seringes-et-Mesles, Aisne, France.**

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

Your attention is particularly invited to Section 4 of the enclosed Act, which defines the terms "mother" and "widow". If the relative is a stepmother, mother through adoption, or any woman who stood in loco parentis to the decedent, a statement as to her relationship is requested. If he was survived by a widow who has since remarried it is also 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,

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

2 incls.  
Act of Congress.  
Envelope.

RECEIVED  
JUN 20 1929  
629

✓  
OK

QM 293 A-C

BACKSTROM, John A. - Mechanic

October 30, 1925

Miss Hanna Backstrom,  
71 Cliff St.,  
Malden, Mass.

Dear Madam:

The Quartermaster General desires to invite your attention to the inclosed card which gives the permanent cemetery location of the soldier's grave in which you are interested.

This American military cemetery is one of those to be maintained by the United States for all time in Europe. Each grave will be marked by a headstone of white marble, of dignified design, with the name, rank, division, organization, date of soldier's death and State from which he came. Headstones will be placed at all graves in connection with the improvement work now in progress, as soon as possible and without waiting for special action or request on the part of relatives.

Please be assured that in effecting removal of the dead, the utmost reverential care was exercised and more than willingly accorded by those who performed this sacred duty. For the future, these graves will be perpetually maintained by the Government in a manner befitting the last resting place of our heroes.

Very truly yours,

L.W. REDINGTON,  
Major, Q.M.C.,  
Assistant.

1-Incl.  
Record card.



RD

SAB

To be prepared in triplicate.

DATE February 12, 1928

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 <sup>RO</sup> BACKSTORM, John A. *of Fred. N.Y.* 10. Name
- 2. No. 1706161 11. No.
- 3. Rank Mechanic 12. Rank
- 4. Org. Co. G, 307th Inf. *77th Div* 13. Org.
- 5. D.D. September 18, 1918 14. (a) D.D.
- 6. C.D. Wounds. (b) D.B.

Discrepancy found upon disinterment

- 7. Grave No. 4 Sec. 15. Grave No. Sec.
- 8. Plot Block B Row 14 16. Plot Row
- 9. 17.
- 18. Cemetery Oise-Aisne 19. Commune or town Seringes-et-Nesles
- 20. Dept. or County Aisne 21. Country France
- 22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. 608
- 23. Disinterred (Date) February 12, 1928 By L. Gordon
- 24. Inscription on grave marker:  
Name BACKSTORM, John A. Serial No. 1706161  
Rank Mechanic Organization Co. G, 307th Inf.
- 25. Was identification disc found on grave marker? On body?

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).
- 27. Condition of body
- 28. Nature of burial Pine box and burlap
- 29. Any discrepancy noted upon examination of body, as compared with G.R.S. records quoted above?
- 30. Body prepared and placed in casket: Date February 12, 1928 L. Gordon
- 31. Casket sealed by L. Gordon

Signature of Embalmer, (Supervisor)

*L. Gordon*  
L. Gordon.

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

32. Designation of body:

Name BACKSTORM, John A. Serial No. 1706161

Rank Mechanic Organization Co. G, 307th Inf.

33. Consigned to:

Name of Permanent Cemetery Oise-Aisne, Seringes-et-Nesles, Aisne

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) February 12, 1928 By Charles E. Spahn

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

Signature of G.R.S. Inspector Charles E. Spahn  
Charles E. Spahn

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

37. Shipped from point of Operation: (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

To point of Concentration \_\_\_\_\_

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

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 February 12, 1928, Oise-Aisne American Cty.

(Date)

42. Grave No. 4 Section \_\_\_\_\_

43. Plot Block B Row 14

G.R.S. Representative William E. Moore  
William E. Moore, Superintendent.

Place Oise-Aisne Cty. 608

# REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date February 12, 1928

1. REMAINS OF BACKSTORN, John A.

SERIAL NUMBER 1706161

RANK Mech

ORGANIZATION

Co. G, 307th Inf.

2. Disinterred (date): February 12, 1928 From (give complete location):

Grave 4, Block B, Row 14

By: Group Cty. Unit

3. Reburied (date): February 12, 1928 In (give complete location):

Grave 4, Block B, Row 14

By: Group Cty. Unit

Nature of Reburial

Metallic casket

4. Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon disinterment:

Pine box and burlap.

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

(b) Other means of identification found upon disinterment, and general remarks:

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

(a) Height (actual measurement)

(b) Weight (estimated)

(c) Hair—Color

Quantity

Characteristics

(d) Hair on face—Color

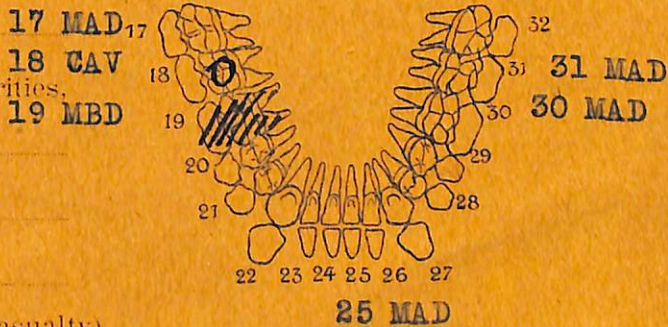
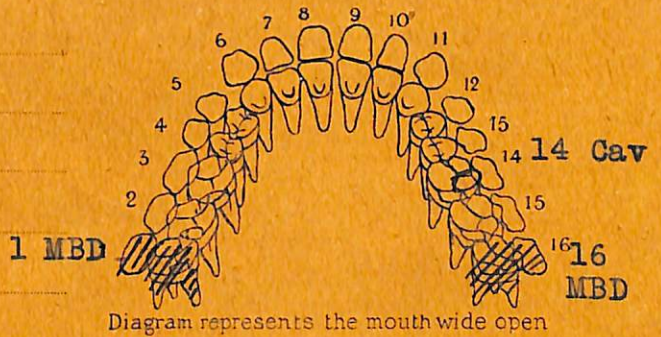
Location

Quantity

(e) Permanent marks on body (old scars, peculiarities, or missing parts)

(f) Wounds or missing parts (received at time of casualty)

Head fractured over right ear.



7. Disinterment supervised by

*[Handwritten signature]*

Approved:

(Title)

8. Reburial supervised by

*[Handwritten signature]*

Approved:

(Title)

7004

File 77757

# COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

## I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

(a) Name BACKSTROM, John A <sup>(12-13)</sup> Ser. No. 1706161 } TYP. vbb  
 (b) Rank Mechanic Organization Co. G, 307th Infantry } CKR. NB  
 (c) Date of death 9-18-18 (d) Cause of death DWRIA



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

(a) Grave No. 42 Row -- Plot 2 Sec. C TYP. vbb  
 (b) Emerg. Address Miss Hanna Backstrom (sister) <sup>K (12-13)</sup> 71 Cliff Street, Maplewood, Mass.

III. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases \_\_\_\_\_ CKR. NB

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

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

(a) Name Hanna Backstrom (b) Relationship Sister  
 (c) Address 71 Cliff St. Maplewood, Boston, Mass.  
 (d) Remains to be brought to U. S.? No  
 (e) To be interred in National Cemetery in U. S. at \_\_\_\_\_  
 (f) Shipping instructions upon arrival of body in U. S. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (g) Disposition instructions if not brought to U. S. \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
 5/1/21 10:42 AM

Examiner's Initials PF Date 12-10, 1920.

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

\_\_\_\_\_, dated \_\_\_\_\_  
 confirming request in Par. IV., item \_\_\_\_\_, above, or requesting that \_\_\_\_\_  
No comm.

Examiner's Initials PF Date 12-10, 1920.

## VI. G. R. S. FILES, CORRESPONDENCE—shows as follows: Hannah Backstrom,

71 Cliff St. Malden Mass (3-14-19) Sister,  
asks for personal effects picture of grave and  
att

(a) Cancellation memos referred to? confirms request on card.  
 Examiner's Initials att Date 12-11, 1920.

COUNTRY FRANCE CEMETERY No. 608 SHEET No. 105

FORM 115 - 11 COMPLETED

CARDED

SubR-1-24-21

Rev. 5-4-21

VIE. G. R. S. Form No. 114 made \_\_\_\_\_, 1920.

Typed by \_\_\_\_\_, Checked by \_\_\_\_\_, 1920.

RECEIVED

APR 26 1921

VIII. FINAL ACTION:

Following advice forwarded to Europe by

cable on \_\_\_\_\_, 1920

letter on \_\_\_\_\_, 1920

*Ans. 2. Not to be returned (J&H 1-17-21)  
Beckstrom, John a.*

IX.

CORRECTIONS

CHANGE OF ADVICE.	ACTION TAKEN.
Desires body be _____	
Body to be shipped to _____	
<p><b>FORM 115 RETURNED BY HOBOKEN - BODY TO REMAIN IN EUROPE. 5-5-21 EP.</b></p>	

X. SUSPENSION REMARKS: *2/7/21, Form # 120, Miss Hannah Beckstrom, sister, wishes body remain in Europe. H-2/16/2/ap*

*3/19/21 WREA Miss Hanna Backstrom (sister) 71 Cliff St. Malden, Mass. H-3-31-21 BF*

*4-20-21 - Hob. advises Sister body will remain in Europe. 5-4-21 EP.*

April 20th, 1921.

File No. 293.8 Gen.Div. Cor. Br.  
(Backstrom, John A.)

Miss Hannah Backstrom,  
71 Cliff St.,  
Malden, Mass.

Dear Madam:-

Receipt of shipping inquiry dated February 7th, 1921, relative to the remains of the late John A. Backstrom, Mechanic, Serial Number 1706161, Company G, 507th Infantry, is acknowledged.

In accordance with your desire, the remains will be left in France for burial in a permanent American Cemetery. You are assured that the grave will always be maintained as a fitting memorial of the late soldier's sacrifice.

The Department wishes to convey to you renewed assurance of its sympathy in your bereavement.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

R.E. SHANNON,  
Captain, Q.M. Corps,  
Officer in Charge.

F.C. PALLAS,  
Executive Assistant.

Mailed - O.P.D. BY:

APR 25 1921

MAILED - O.P.D.

HK3/LL

4-25

Noted on Form No. 115

Date

5-4-21 E.P.



RECEIVED

C-146827  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
CEMETERIAL DIVISION  
OVERSEAS PROJECT SUB-SECTION

*Passer,  
Fush*

NAME OF DECEASED SOLDIER  
Backstrom, John A.  
CEMETERY NO.  
608-105  
DATE  
2/19/21

SERIAL NUMBER  
1706161  
ORGANIZATION  
Co. G., 307th Inf.  
Date of Death  
9-18-18

Copy forwarded to  
Adjustment Department  
Date 3/19/21 *B*

WAR RISK INSURANCE INFORMATION

NAME OF BENEFICIARY  
Miss Hanna Backstrom,  
Address  
71 Cliff St., Malden, Mass.  
Cor. Sec.

DATE March 17, 1921.  
RELATIONSHIP  
Sister

✓

*Ja*

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY  
CEMETERIAL DIVISION  
WASHINGTON  
Hoboken, N.J.

FROM: Chief, Cemeterial Division, O. Q. M. G.

JAN 31 1921

To: Miss Hannah Backstrom, 71 Cliff St., Malden, Mass.

SUBJECT: Remains of Mechanic John A. Backstrom, Ser. No. 1706161, Co. G., 307th Inf.

The records of this office show that you have requested that the body of the above-named soldier remain in Europe.

*No change*

If these are not the correct instructions, please correct them. Make corrections on reverse side of this sheet.

The nearest next of kin may choose between, (1) return of the body to any address in the United States; (2) interment in the National Cemetery, Arlington, Va., or any other National Cemetery; or (3) body to remain in Europe.

By authority of the Quartermaster General.

CHARLES C. PIERCE,  
Lieut. Colonel, U. S. Army.

If all blank spaces below are not filled out, it will necessitate a return of this paper and a SERIOUS DELAY in the shipment of this body. State in each case WHETHER or not these relatives are STILL LIVING.

Was soldier married? No

NAME OF—	NO. AND STREET.	TOWN.	STATE.
Soldier's widow			
Soldier's children. (Name oldest first.)	1		
	2		
	3		
Father			
Mother			
Siblings. (Name oldest first.)	1		Sweden
	2		
	3		
Siblings. (Name oldest first.)	1	71 Cliff St	Mass
	2		Sweden
	3		

Signature Hannah Backstrom  
Relationship Sister

Feb 7 - 1921  
71 Cliff St, Malden Mass

Feb 7, 1921

the undersigned, am the sister and nearest living next of kin of the within-named

(Relationship.)

and desire the following disposition of his remains, viz:  
(Strike out all except the one showing the disposition desired.)

RECEIVED

APR 26 1921

1. As stated on first page of this sheet.

~~2. To be returned to the U. S. and shipped to~~

(R. R. station.)

Cemeterial Division  
Overseas Project Sub-Section  
(Name.)  
(State.)

~~3. To be returned to the U. S. and buried in~~ National Cemetery.

4. To remain in Europe, for burial in a permanent American Cemetery.

FEB 12 1921

Signature Harold Backstrom



### INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT.

1. If definite instructions for the disposition of a body are not received from the next of kin within two weeks of its arrival at New York, burial will be made without further notice in the World War Section of Arlington National Cemetery.

2. The transfer of bodies will be made ENTIRELY at Government expense.

3. This paper MUST BE SIGNED BY THE PERSON WHO IS THE NEXT of kin IN THE ORDER shown in the square on the other side of this sheet.

4. This paper must be returned showing the name and address of each of the nearest next of kin in the spaces provided therefor on the other side of this sheet.

5. If there are minor children of the deceased soldier and no widow, the LEGALLY APPOINTED GUARDIAN of the children should ascertain their wishes and act for them in this matter.

6. If YOU are not the nearest next of kin, please ask the nearest next of kin, if living near you, to fill out this paper.

7. If YOU are not the nearest living next of kin and do not know who or where the nearest relatives are, please fill out this paper AT ONCE and mail to this office.

8. You are requested to return this paper AT ONCE in order to avoid delay in the case of this body.

9. Use the inclosed envelope—pay no postage.

NOTE.—INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE DISPOSITION OF REMAINS will be issued by this office upon the properly executed authority of the legal next of kin in each case. The widow is the first person having disposition of the remains of her husband. Should there be no widow or children, the father and, in turn (upon his decease), the mother, is the proper authority. The brothers, in order of seniority, and then the sisters in order of seniority, if there are no brothers, rank next in authority to decide. Under an opinion rendered by the Judge Advocate General of the Army, if a widow has remarried she forfeits her right, and the next of kin as given above will make decision.

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

(a) Name BACKSTROM, John A <sup>(12-13)</sup> Ser. No. 1706161 } TYP VH  
 (b) Rank Mechanic Organization Co. G, 307th Infantry } MB  
 (c) Date of death 9-18-18 Cause of death DWRIA

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

(a) Grave No. 42 Row -- Plot 2 Sect. C TYP vbb  
 (b) Emerg. Address Miss Hanna Bachstrom (sister), 71 Cliff Street, Maplewood, Mass.

III. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases CKR J.M.

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

also card - Hanna Backstrom, sister  
71 Cliff St. Maplewood Boston, Mass.  
desires body to remain in Europe.  
(J&S 1-17-21)

V. Following advice forwarded to Europe by (cable on 1/15 1921 / letter of transmittal on 1/15 1921)

Par 2 Not to be returned (J&S)

VI. Form 115 forwarded to G.R.S. Hoboken, N.J. JAN 26 1921 1921

VII. SUPPLEMENTARY REQUESTS

Date of and Source	Relationship and name	Desires	Action taken

VIII. Form 115 received from G.R.S. Hoboken, N.J. 4-26- 1921

COUNTRY  
 G.R.S. FORM 115-A  
 August, 1920  
 FRANCE  
 S-666/MB

CEMETERY NO.

SHEET NO.

608

105

Sub-1-24-21

77737  
**GRAVE LOCATION REPORT**

**WORLD REPORT.**

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Backstrom, 1706161. John

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

Pvt. Co. G. 307th Inf.

(Rank.) (Organization.)

Sept. 13/18

DATE OF BURIAL

PLACE OF BURIAL

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

Map. Soissons S.E. No 133

Key. E186. & N272.1

Com. C #1 Conroy (Aisne)

GRAVE NUMBER 36

HOW MARKED: Name Peg?  Cross? yes

Bla. D.  
Sp. #1  
Headboard?  Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body? yes

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

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

REVIEWED  
SEP 31

13 OCT 1918

REPORTED BY: William A. Grebing,  
Capt. FA. N.G.

(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer.)

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

Req No. 1742

File 77757

BACKSTROM, John  
Mechanic Co G 307th Inf

Mr. Wilson:

Backstrom, John A.  
#1706161

Mechanic Co. B., 307<sup>th</sup> Inf  
Adjustment Made

E/A

DEC 15 1920

File No. ....

77757

Miss Hanna Backstrom (sister)

Adjust

77757  
12-15-20

8

T.

AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES  
HEADQUARTERS SERVICES OF SUPPLY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, A.E.F.  
GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE.

77757

May 10th, 1919 April 17th, 1919.

FROM : Chief, Graves Registration Service, American E.F.  
TO : Hannah Backstrom, 71 Cliff St., Malden Mass.  
SUBJECT : Disposition of remains of John Backstrom, Mechanic 307th. Inf. Co G.

1. Receipt is acknowledged of your letter, expressing the desire that the body of your Brother should remain in France, and you are advised that your request will be complied with.

2. Permit me to express to you my sympathy in the loss which you have sustained in the cause of our country,

CHARLES C. PIERCE  
Lieut. Colonel, Q.M.C., U.S.A.

A/G.

RECEIVED  
MAY 1919

AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES  
HEADQUARTERS SERVICES OF SUPPLY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, A.E.F.  
GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE.

77757

May 8th, 1919.

~~April 17th, 1919.~~

FROM : Chief, Graves Registration Service, American E.F.  
TO : Miss Hannah Backstrom, 71 Cliff St., Malden, MASS.  
SUBJECT : Disposition of remains of Mechanic John Backstrom, 307th  
Infantry, Co. G, American E.F.

1. Receipt is acknowledged of your letter, expressing the desire that the body of your brother should remain in France, and you are advised that your request will be complied with.
2. Permit me to express to you my sympathy in the loss which you have sustained in the cause of our country,

CHARLES C. PIERCE  
Lieut.-Colonel, Q.M.C., U.S.A.

(Enclosures - G.R.S.:)  
(10-B. .004.5)

MBD-gg.

REVIEWED  
OSP SS.

30 AVRI 1919

NAME John Backstrom

FILE NUMBER

77757

RANK Mechanic ORGANIZATION 507th Inf Co.G

NO.	QUESTION	REPLY
1.	Do particulars of soldier given above agree with records?	
2.	Date of Death	
3.	Grave Location:	
4.	Who reported burial?	
5.	Confirmed by G.R.S.?	
6.	How is grave marked?	
7.	Identification Tags:	
	(a) Buried with Body?	
	(b) Attached to grave Marker?	
8.	Emergency address:	
9.	Has above been notified? (Give Date)	

ANALYSIS OF INQUIRY

<input type="checkbox"/> Flowers, flags, etc. (Par. #5, Bul. 10-B)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Effects (G.R.S. Form Nos. 7&7-A)
<input type="checkbox"/> Monuments (Par. #6, Bul. 10-B)	<input type="checkbox"/> Accrued pay (G.R.S. Forms Nos. 19&22)
<input type="checkbox"/> Disinterments (Par. #8, Bul. 10-B)	<input type="checkbox"/> Liberty Bonds (G.R.S. Forms Nos. 21&22)
<input type="checkbox"/> Circumstances of death (G.R.S. Form No. 6)	<input type="checkbox"/> War Risk Insurance (G.R.S. Forms Nos. 20&22)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photograph requested (File OG4.5)	<input type="checkbox"/> Disposition of Remains
<input type="checkbox"/> Grave Location	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (a) Return to U.S. (Form 23)
	<input type="checkbox"/> (b) Remain in France (Form 24)
	<input type="checkbox"/> (c) Miscellaneous (Letter)

Remarks:

*cc - May 10, 1919*

*May 10, 1919*

REC-33

71 Cliff St. 27757  
Malden, Mass. U. S. A.  
March 14<sup>th</sup> 1919

Chief, Graves Registration Service  
Headquarters Service of Supply  
A. P. O. 717

American E. T. France

Please send all belonging  
wearing apparel everything  
will be very dear to me.  
I had a letter from the  
nurse who attended my  
brother

John Backstrom  
Mech. 307 Inf.  
Co. G.

REVIEWED  
OSP SS.

The nurse name  
Elizabeth Elliott Cherry

110  
Conicy France

She said everything would  
be send to me this states  
Hannah Backstrom last  
Sept. have not received  
anything up to date  
I wish very much to <sup>have</sup>  
photo of the grave number  
I have decided to have  
the body rest in the  
Cemetery with the other  
American heroes

Sincerely  
Hannah Backstrom

RECEIVED  
OF SS.

