

G.R.S. Form #114-B

CERTIFIED JEWISH BY
J. W. B.

1280

FULL NAME BALSER, Louis

RANK

Pvt.

SERIAL

1283236

DIVISION & ORGANIZATION

Co. D, 115th Inf.

DATE OF DEATH

STATE FROM WHICH HE CAME

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS AWARDED

FINAL GRAVE LOCATION

Date

Grave

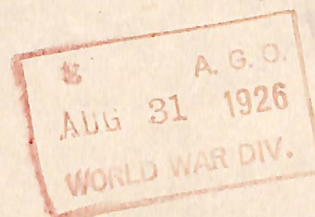
Row

Block

Romagne, Uty. 1232.

Cemetery

23/306/ARK



Robert C. Davis
Major General
The Adjutant General
By *[Signature]*

SEP 2 1926

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date February 16, 1921.

1. REMAINS OF Louis Balser Unknown U. S. Soldier, No. U. 3912, SERIAL NUMBER 1283 236RANK Pvt.ORGANIZATION Co. D, 115th Inf.

2. Disinterred (date):

February 15, 1921.

From (give complete location):

Map 35NE N281.9 E324.9, Molleville Farm, about three kilometres north of Consenvoye (Meuse).

By: Group R. Kiosterud.Unit #1 Area AGRS, QMC., in E.

3. Reburied (date):

February 16, 1921.

In (give complete location):

Grave #98, section 120, plot 2, Argonne American Cemetery #1232.

By: Group G. T. PARKER,Unit Area #1.Nature of reburial Regulation.

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

Body was buried in a trench in uniform and overcoat. Shoes about size #8.

Body badly decomposed.

5. (a) Identification tags: Buried with body? None. On grave marker? None.

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

Two collar ornaments were found, one read "USNG" the other "115 (cross rifles) D".
Nothing found by which this body could be identified.

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

(a) Height (actual measurement) Impossible to determine(b) Weight (estimated) " " "(c) Hair—Color Brown.Quantity Small.

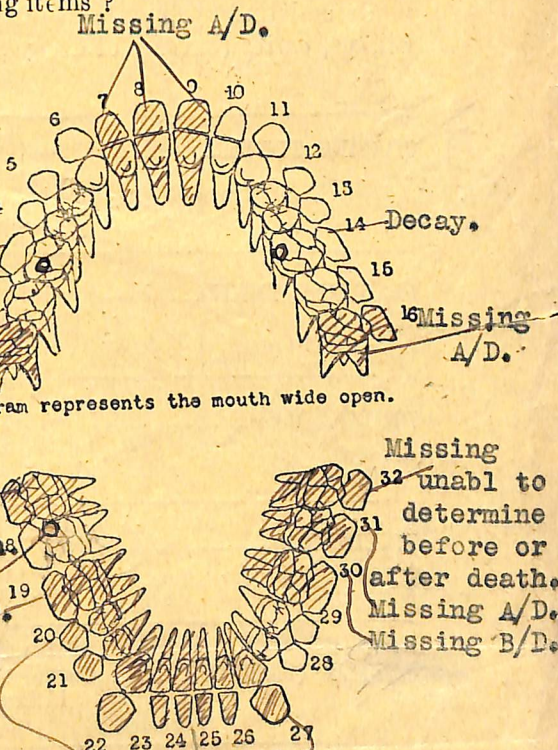
Decay.

Characteristics Straight.(d) Hair on face—Color None found.Location " "Quantity " " Missing unable to determine whether before or after death

(e) Permanent marks on body (old scars, peculiarities or cavity).

missing parts) None.

Missing B/D.



Missing A/D.

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

None.

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

7. Disinterment supervised by

R. Kiosterud
Civ. Empl., AGRS, QMC., in E.

Approved:

L. O. MATHEWS,

(Title)

Major, Q.M.C.

8. Reburial supervised by

W. E. SHIPP
Capt., Cav.

Approved:

L. O. MATHEWS,

(Title)

Major, Q.M.C.

CONFIRMED No. D 21412

CODE SLIP

HEADING	SUB-HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE
NAME <i>Balsen</i>	<i>Bal</i>	3	<i>212</i>
<i>Louis</i>	CEMETERY <i>1232</i>	1	<i>1</i>
BURIED	GRAVE <i>15</i>	2	<i>15</i>
	ROW <i>15</i>	2	<i>15</i>
	BLOCK <i>9</i>	1	<i>7</i>
STATE	<i>md</i>	2	<i>24</i>
RANK	<i>Port</i>	1	<i>2</i>
DIVISION	<i>29</i>	2	<i>29</i>
ORGANIZATION	<i>115</i>	3	<i>115</i>
ARM	<i>Inf</i>	1	<i>1</i>
MARITAL	<i>no</i>	1	<i>2</i>
NAME <i>Balsen</i>		3	<i>41</i>
<i>Ralph</i>	STATE <i>md</i>	2	<i>24</i>
RESIDENCE <i>9172 Lombard St</i>	COUNTY <i>Baltimore</i>	2	<i>04</i>
<i>Baltimore, Md</i>	CITY <i>Baltimore</i>	3	<i>002</i>
RELATION	<i>Mother</i>	1	<i>1</i>
OTHER		1	
ELIGIBILITY	<i>Dead</i>	1	<i>6</i>
NATIVITY		1	
RACE		1	
ENGLISH		1	
ATTENDANT		1	
HEALTH		1	
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF	MO.	1	
TRIP	YR.	1	
ACCEPTANCE		1	

AUDITED

MAR 31 1932

at

29/514

281

August 20th 1932.

G. M. 293 - A-M
Balsev, Louis (MA)

Captain A. D. Hughes
Quartermaster General
Quartermaster Corps
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter
of May 18th 1932, which was
mislaid and therefore just being
replied to, I beg to advise that
I did not contribute to the support

of the late Private Louis Balser,
during the time in which my
daughter Mrs. Davidson stood
in loco parentis to him -

Very truly yours,

Ralph Balser
per mto

917-E. Lombard St.

Balto, Md.

QM 293 A-M
Balser, Louis (MA)

August 24, 1932

Mrs. Minnie Balser Davidson,
917 E. Lombard Street,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Madam:

An Act of Congress approved March 2, 1929, and amended May 15, 1930, provides for pilgrimages to be made to the cemeteries of Europe by the mothers and widows of deceased members of the American forces whose remains are interred in Europe or who were lost or buried at sea.

The only provision of law under which anyone other than the mother or widow of a deceased veteran could be considered for the privilege of making this pilgrimage is contained in section 4 (a) of the Act, as amended, which reads in part "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."

It is possible that you may be eligible under this provision of the law to visit the grave of your brother, the late Private Louis Balser. It is therefore requested that the enclosed forms be completed by two persons not related to you and returned to this office, in order that your eligibility to make a pilgrimage may be determined. Under paragraphs 1 (c) and 1 (d), sufficient information should be included to permit an intelligible decision as to eligibility.

A self-addressed envelope which requires no postage is enclosed for your convenience in replying.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

Enclosure:
Act-Amend.
Aff. Forms.
Envelope. C
KK

Should
be

coded

~~but for~~

h.c. is filed with
it is filed with
no blanks
leave as is
until reply
is rec.

QM 293 A-M
Balser, Louis (MA)

May 18, 1932

Mr. Ralph Balser,
917 E. Lombard Street,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of May 12th furnishing the date of death of the mother of the late Private Louis Balser and advising that Mrs. Minnie Balser Davidson stood in loco parentis to him for a period of five years prior to his reaching the age of eighteen.

It will be appreciated if you will advise whether or not you contributed to the support of the late Private Balser during the time you claim Mrs. Davidson stood in loco parentis to him.

A self-addressed envelope which requires no postage is enclosed for your convenience in replying.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

Enclosure:
Envelope.

KK



In Reference to Q.M. 293 - A.M.
Balser. Louis (M.F.)

Backsmd
May 12 - 1932

War Department
Office of the Quartermaster General
Washington. D.C.

Gentlemen:

In reply to your letter of April 4 - 1932 - in
reference to above - wish to state that, Mrs. Minnie
Balser Davidson, older sister, was in loco parentis
to the family, including Private Louis Balser, deceased
during the 5 yrs. prior to his reaching the age of 18 years.
Her present address is 917 E. Lombard St. -
Baltimore Md.

The date of death of natural mother - Sarah
Balser, of above late Louis Balser, was. September 14 - 1905

Very truly yours.

Ralph Balser

per Bob.

917 E. Lombard St.
Balto. Md.

QM 293 A-M
Balser, Louis (MA)

April 4, 1932

Mr. Ralph Balser,
917 E. Lombard Street,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Sir:

In order that the records of this office may be complete and accurate, it is requested that you advise whether or not the late Private Louis Balser is survived by a stepmother or any woman who stood in loco parentis to him for a period of five years prior to his reaching the age of eighteen, and if so, her name and address.

It will also be appreciated if you will furnish the date of death of the natural mother of this late veteran.

A self-addressed envelope which requires no postage is enclosed for your convenience in replying. p

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

Enclosure:
Envelope.

KK 

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

July 5, 1930.

Balsor, Louis 1232 F

Mr. Ralph Balsor,
917 E. Lombard St.,
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir:

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.

(7)

Ralph Balser

917 E - Lombard St

Baltimore

md -

WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

WASHINGTON

DATE January 17, 1930

NAME	RANK	SERIAL	ORGANIZATION	DATE OF DEATH
Balser, Louis	Pvt.	1283236	Co. D, 115th Inf.	Oct. 10, 1918

STATE	Maryland	CTY. NO.	1232	GRAVE	15	ROW	15	BLOCK	G
-------	----------	----------	------	-------	----	-----	----	-------	---

	<u>Check relationship</u>	<u>Living - Deceased</u>	
		:	:
	MOTHER	:	:
		:	:
	STEPMOTHER (For the	:	:
	year prior to com-	:	:
	menement of service)	:	:
NAME		:	:
	MOTHER THRU ADOPTION	:	:
AND	(For the year prior	:	:
	to commencement of	:	:
ADDRESS	service)	:	:
		:	:
	MOTHER IN LOCO PARENTIS	:	:
	(For the year prior to	:	:
	commencement of service)	:	:
		:	:
no	WIDOW - Single man	:	:
	(Who has not remarried)	:	:
		:	:

Veterans Bureau Claim Number

C 22485-4

29/156

1/21/30

Am

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Balser, Louis

June 29, 1929.

Mr. R. Balser,
917 E. Lombard St.,
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir:

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 father of the late Private Louis Balser, 115th Inf., Co. D, whose remains are now interred in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, 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,

2 incls.
Act of Congress.
Envelope.

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

QM 293 A-M
Balser, Louis (MA)

August 24, 1932

Mrs. Minnie Balser Davidson,
917 E. Lombard Street,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Madam:

An Act of Congress approved March 2, 1929, and amended May 15, 1930, provides for pilgrimages to be made to the cemeteries of Europe by the mothers and widows of deceased members of the American forces whose remains are interred in Europe or who were lost or buried at sea.

The only provision of law under which anyone other than the mother or widow of a deceased veteran could be considered for the privilege of making this pilgrimage is contained in section 4 (a) of the Act, as amended, which reads in part "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."

It is possible that you may be eligible under this provision of the law to visit the grave of your brother, the late Private Louis Balser. It is therefore requested that the enclosed forms be completed by two persons not related to you and returned to this office, in order that your eligibility to make a pilgrimage may be determined. Under paragraphs 1 (c) and 1 (d), sufficient information should be included to permit an intelligible decision as to eligibility.

A self-addressed envelope which requires no postage is enclosed for your convenience in replying.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

Enclosure:
Act-Amend.
Aff. Forms.
Envelope.
KK

QM 293 A-M
Balser, Louis (MA)

May 18, 1932

Mr. Ralph Balser,
917 E. Lombard Street,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of May 12th furnishing the date of death of the mother of the late Private Louis Balser and advising that Mrs. Minnie Balser Davidson stood in loco parentis to him for a period of five years prior to his reaching the age of eighteen.

It will be appreciated if you will advise whether or not you contributed to the support of the late Private Balser during the time you claim Mrs. Davidson stood in loco parentis to him.

A self-addressed envelope which requires no postage is enclosed for your convenience in replying.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

Enclosure:
Envelope.

KK

QM 293 A-M
Balser, Louis (MA)

April 4, 1932

Mr. Ralph Balser,
917 E. Lombard Street,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Sir:

In order that the records of this office may be complete and accurate, it is requested that you advise whether or not the late Private Louis Balser is survived by a stepmother or any woman who stood in loco parentis to him for a period of five years prior to his reaching the age of eighteen, and if so, her name and address.

It will also be appreciated if you will furnish the date of death of the natural mother of this late veteran.

A self-addressed envelope which requires no postage is enclosed for your convenience in replying.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

Enclosure:
Envelope.

KK

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C
Balser, Louis 1232 F

July 3, 1930.

Mr. Ralph Balser,
917 E. Lombard St.,
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir:

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.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Balser, Louis
1232

September 4, 1929.

Mr. R. Balser
917 E. Lombard St.,
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir:

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

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

Balsor, Louis

June 29, 1929.

Mr. R. Balsor,
917 E. Lombard St.,
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir:

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 father of the late Private Louis Balsor, 116th Inf., Co. D, whose remains are now interred in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, 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,

2 incs.
Act of Congress.
Envelope.

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

March 6, 1928.

QM 293 AB
Balser, Louis

Mr. Bernard D. Balser,
3849 Garrison Avenue,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Sir:

With further reference to your letter of October 6, 1927, requesting that the star of David be substituted for the cross marking the grave of Private Louis Balser, Company D, 115th Infantry, in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, The Quartermaster General desires that you be informed that this change has been accomplished as reported under date of November 8, 1927, by the Chief, American Graves Registration Service, Q. M. C., in Europe.

Very truly yours,

K. J. HAMPTON,
Lt. Col., Q. M. C.,
Assistant.

Q.M.G.-M. & R. DIV.
MAR 10 1928

MN

ARMY, NAVY AND VETERANS SERVICE

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
352 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
COMMUNITY CENTER BUILDING
1529 SIXTEENTH STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 1, 1928.

Mrs. Gene Ruth,
Cemetary Division,
Munitions Bldg.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Ruth:-

Re: Louis Balser
C 224 854

The brother of the above-named deceased veteran called on me and requested that you furnish him with a letter stating that the cross has been removed from the grave in France and the Star of David substituted. This information is especially desired by the soldier's aged father, who seems to be still in doubt as to the marker.

Very truly yours,

JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

Geo. G. Cohen
Field Representative

GGC/W

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

(BALSER, Louis)

October 10, 1927.

Subject: Star of David marker.

To: The Chief, American Graves Registration Service, Q.M.C., in
Europe, 20 rue Molitor, Paris, France.

1. The Jewish Welfare Board has advised this office that the brother of Louis Balser, Private, Company D, 115th Infantry, buried in Grave 15, Row 15, Block G, Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, who recently visited this grave, states that it is marked with a cross instead of the Star of David.

2. As this soldier was of the Hebrew faith, it is requested that the Star of David marker be erected at his grave, and this office be advised accordingly.

By order of The Quartermaster General:



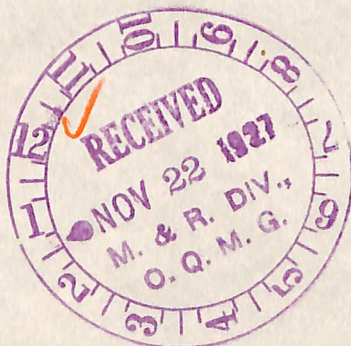
[Signature]
K. J. HAMPTON,
Lt. Colonel, Q.M.C.,
Assistant

293 Balser, Louis.

1st Ind.

Hdgrs., American G.R.S., Q.M.C., in Europe, 20, rue Molitor, Paris, France,
November 8, 1927. To: The Quartermaster General of the Army, Washington, D.C.

1. Above instructions have been complied with.



[Signature]
F.W. Van Duyne,
Colonel, Q.M.C.,
Chief.

[Handwritten]
file
11-22-27

293 Balser, Louis.

1st Ind.

Hdqs., American G.R.S., Q.M.C., in Europe, 20, rue Molitor, Paris, France,
November 8, 1927. To: The Quartermaster General of the Army, Washington, D.C.

1. Above instructions have been complied with.



F.W. Van Deyne,
Colonel, Q.M.C.,
Chief.

QM 293 A-C

(BALSER, Louis)

October 10, 1927.

Subject: Star of David marker.

To: The Chief, American Graves Registration Service, Q.M.C., in
Europe, 20 rue Molitor, Paris, France.

1. The Jewish Welfare Board has advised this office that the brother of Louis Balser, Private, Company D, 116th Infantry, buried in Grave 15, Row 15, Block G, Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, who recently visited this grave, states that it is marked with a cross instead of the Star of David.

2. As this soldier was of the Hebrew faith, it is requested that the Star of David marker be erected at his grave, and this office be advised accordingly.

By order of The Quartermaster General: :

K. J. HAMPTON,
Lt. Colonel, Q.M.C.,
Assistant

GR *[Signature]*



FOREST PARK PAINT AND HDWE. CO.

3849 GARRISON AVENUE COR. BELLE AVE.

BALTIMORE, MD.

Distributors for
HANLINE BROS.

Quartermaster General ..
Washington D.C.

Oct. 6th 1927

Dear Sir:-

My attention has been called by a friend, who visited Paris and vicinity with the American Legion - to the fact that the grave of my brother Private Louis Balser Co D - 115th Infantry - is without the Star of David such as are placed over the graves of all Jewish Boys - In fact we have a picture showing his grave with a wooden cross marker over same.

We earnestly beg of you - to have this cross removed and have a Star of David - placed over same - so as to distinguish his grave as that of a Jewish boy - who lost his life in the service of his country - "America."

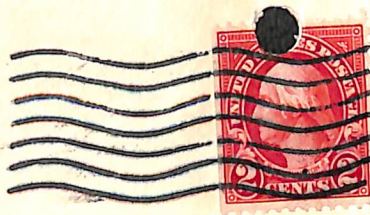
Trusting you will give this letter your prompt attention and awaiting word as to what you are doing for us in this matter.

I remain

Very truly yours,
Bernard D. Balser

Europe
addressed
10-10-27

B D Balser
FOREST PARK PAINT & HARDWARE CO.
3825 GARRISON AVE.,
COR. BELLE AVE.



The Quartermaster General
Washington D.C.

Mr Cohen called
J.W.B. 10-10-27 and
stated the brother
had visited this
grave and it was
marked with a
cross, should be
that of David

~~Spauld~~
10-10-27

To be prepared in triplicate.

DATE **April 16, 1923.**

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT, PREPARATION, SHIPMENT AND REBURIAL OF BODY

DISINTERMENT

COMPARATIVE REPORT

Records of G.R.S. Headquarters.

Discrepancy found upon exhumation of body

BALSER, Louis
 1. Name
1283236
 2. No.
Pvt.
 3. Rank
Co. D, 115th Inf.
 4. Org.
10-10-18
 5. D.D.
K/A
 6. C.D.

10. Name
 11. No.
 12. Rank
 13. Org.
 14. (a) D.D.
 (b) D.B. **no discrep**

Discrepancy found upon disinterment.

7. Grave No. **13** Sec.
XXXXBLOCK G Row **5**
 8. Plot
 9.

15. Grave No. Sec.
 16. Plot Row
 17. **no discrepancies**

18. Cemetery **Meuse-Argonne American**19. Commune or town **Romagne-sous-Montfaucon**20. Dept. or County **Meuse**21. Country **France**22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. **#1232 - Sec. 120**23. Disinterred (Date) **March 10th, 1922**By **H. H. Foster**

24. Inscription on grave marker:

Balsar, Louis
 Name
Pvt.
 Rank

1283236
 Serial No.
Co. D, 115th Inf.
 Organization
no **no**

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)

Collar ornaments read: cross rifles, 115 D, U.S. Mexican border button. Bottle record GRS plaque and forms 16-A attached thereto. Badly battered mess kit found with body.

27. Condition of body **Badly decomposed features unrecognizable.**28. Nature of burial **Metallic casket shipping case blanket & sheet.**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 **Mar. 10, 1922** By **H. H. Foster**31. Casket sealed by **H. H. Foster**

Signature of Embalmer, (Supervisor)

H. H. FOSTER,
 Sup. Emb.

SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. C-4131

32. Designation of body:

Name Louis Balser Serial No. 1283236

Rank Pvt. Organization Co. D, 115th Inf.

33. Consigned to:

Name of Permanent Cemetery Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery #1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse.

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) Mar. 10, 1922 By H.H. Foster

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 E. J. Riordan, Capt., Q.M.C..

36. Remarks _____

"I certify that the information on attached Form 114-A has been taken from Form 16-A covering this operation and the records of this office, and is correct and also that the signatures of the G.R.S. Representative, G.R.S. Inspector, Supervisor Embalmer, and Technical Assistant cannot be obtained due to the fact that they are no longer on duty at this Station.

E. P. Doyle
E. P. DOYLE,
1st Lt., Q.M.C..

By G.R.S. Representative _____

39. Shipped from Railhead or Point of Concentration: Date _____

To Permanent Cemetery _____

(Name)

Convoyer _____ Signature Shipping Officer _____

40. Received: Date _____

G.R.S. Representative _____

41. Reinterred Meuse-Argonne Cemetery #1232, Romagne/s Montfaucon (Meuse) March 11, 1922.

(Date)

42. Grave No. Fifteen (15) Section _____

43. ~~Block~~ BLOCK G Row Fifteen (15)

G.R.S. Representative I. H. JOFFEE,
1st Lt., Q.M.C..

Encl #5

SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. C-4131

32. Designation of body:

Name Louis Balser Serial No. 1283236

Rank Pvt. Organization Co. D, 115th Inf.

33. Consigned to:

Name of Permanent Cemetery Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery #1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse.

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) Mar. 10, 1922 By H.H. Foster

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 E. J. Riordan, Capt., Q.M.C..

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 Meuse-Argonne Cemetery #1232, Romagne/s Montfaucon (Meuse) March 11, 1922.

(Date)

42. Grave No. Fifteen (15) Section _____

43. ~~Plot~~ BLOCK G Row Fifteen (15)

G.R.S. Representative I. H. JOFFE,
1st Lt., QMC..

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Place

Mar 10, 1922.

Date

1283236

1. REMAINS OF BALSER, Louis.

SERIAL NUMBER

Co. D. 115th Inf.

RANK

Pvt.

ORGANIZATION

2. Disinterred (date):

Mar 10, 1922

From (give complete location):

gr 13, Block G. row 5, CTY. 1232.

By: Group

Poster.

Unit

sec 1

3. Reburied (date):

March 11, 1922

In (give complete location):

Grave 15, Block G, Row 15, Meuse-Argonne Cty. 1232

By: Group

Reburial Section

Unit

Com. #1232.

Nature of reburial

Lined casket.

"I certify that the data under item 3 is correct and that it is impracticable to secure the signature of the officer approving same under item 8, due to the fact that he is no longer on duty at this station.

E. P. DOYLE,
1st Lt., QMC.

with letter Hdgrs. Paris, mar 6, 1922. Collar ornament reads Cross files 115 D and U.S.M.G.. Mexican border button, bottle record, G.R.S. plaque and old form 16-a attached hereto. Baldy battered messkit found with body.

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

(a) Height (actual measurement)

impossible to determine.

(b) Weight (estimated)

do

(c) Hair—Color

do

Quantity

do

Characteristics

do

(d) Hair on face—Color

do

Location

do

Quantity

do

(e) Permanent marks on body (old scars, peculiarities

or missing parts)

fo

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

right humerus fractured at right shoulder, right and left scapula fractured.

six ribs missing.

7. Disinterment supervised by

H.H. Foster.

Approved:

E.J. Riordan, Capt. Q.M.C.

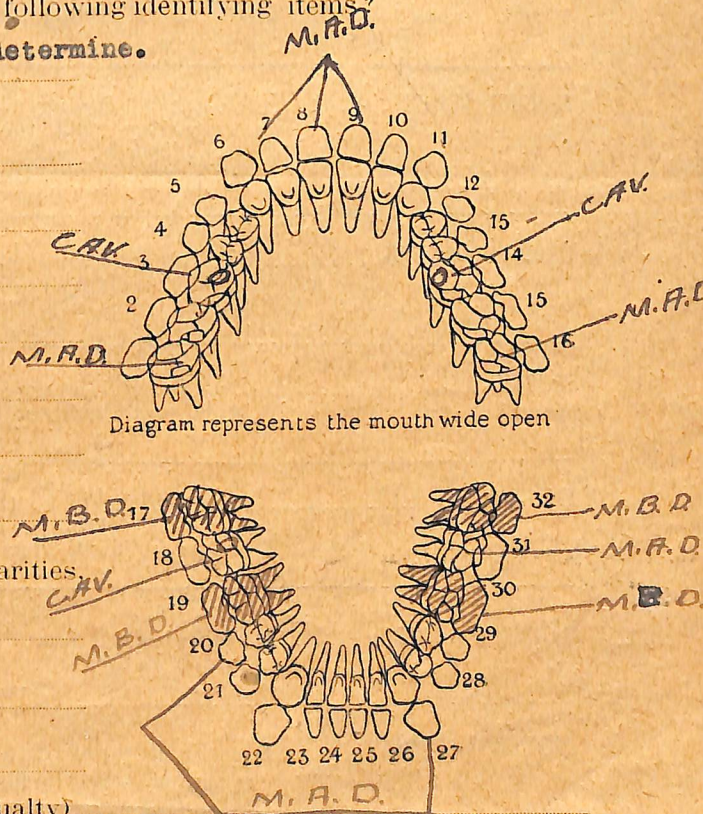
(Title)

8. Reburial supervised by

Approved:

I. H. JOFFRE,
1st Lt., QMC.

(Title)



G. R. S. Form. No. 16-A

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Place

Mar 10, 1922.

Date

1283236

1. REMAINS OF **BALSER, Louis.**

SERIAL NUMBER

Co. D. 115th Inf.

RANK

Pvt.

ORGANIZATION

2. Disinterred (date):

Mar 10, 1922

From (give complete location):

gr 13, Block G. row 5, CTY. 1232.

By: Group

Poster.

Unit

sec 1

3. Reburied (date):

March 11, 1922

In (give complete location):

Grave 15, Block G, Row 15, House-Argonne Cty. 1232

By: Group

Reburial Section

Unit

Gen. #1232.

Nature of reburial

lined casket.

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

metallic casket, shipping case, burlap. badly decomposed, features unrecognizable.

5. (a) Identification tags: Buried with body?

no

On grave marker?

no

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

Body exhumed for the purpose of changing from unknown to known soldier, in compliance with letter Hdqrs. Paris, Mar 6, 1922. Collar ornament reads Cross rifles "115 D" and U.S.M.G.. Mexican border button, bottle record, G.R.S. plaque and old form 16-a attached hereto. Baldy battered messkit found with body.

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

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

(b) Weight (estimated) do

(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)

right humerus fractured at right shoulder, right and left scapula fractured.

six ribs missing.

7. Disinterment supervised by

H.H. Foster.

Approved:

E.J. Riordan, Capt. Q.M.C.

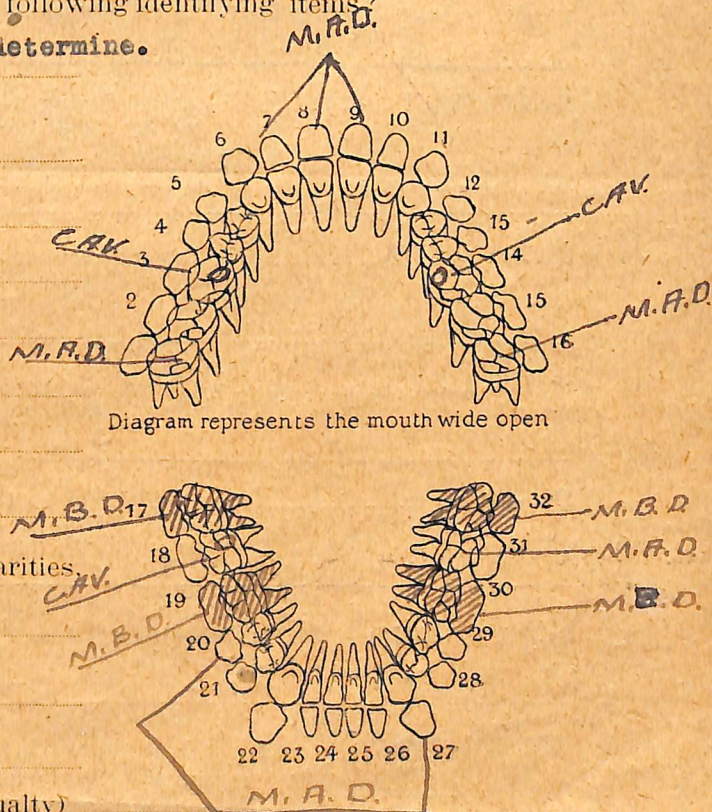
(Title)

8. Reburial supervised by

Approved:

I. H. JOFFEE,
1st Lt., Q.M.C.

(Title)



Place Romagne Cem 1232.

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date March 10, 19221. REMAINS OF BALSER, LouisSERIAL NUMBER 1283236RANK Pvt.ORGANIZATION Co. D. 115 Infantry

2. Disinterred (date) :

From (give complete location) :

March 10, 1922 Gr. 13 Block G row 5 Cem. 1232.By : Group FosterUnit Section One.

3. Reburied (date) :

In (give complete location) :

Mar. 11, 1922.1515.Nov. 15, 1922. Meuse Argonne Cemetery # 1232. Gr. 13, Bl. G, Row. 5.By : Group Reburial SUnit Lined casket.Nature of reburial

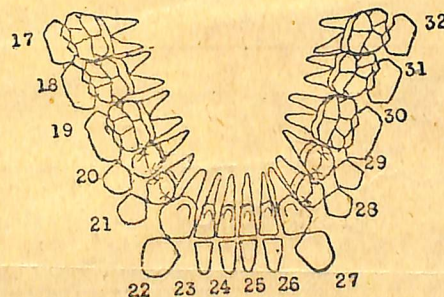
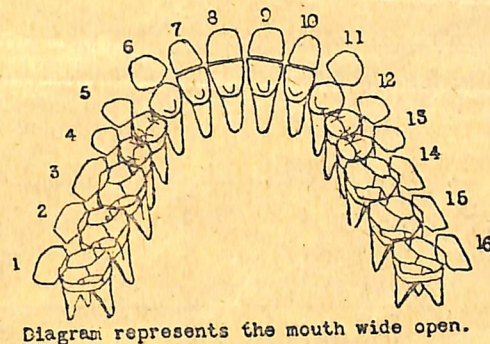
4. Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon disinterment :

Metallic casket, shipping case burlap, Body badly decomposed, Features unrecognizable.5. (a) Identification tags : Buried with body ? no On grave marker ? no

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

Body exhumed for the purpose of changing from Unknown to Known soldier in compliance with letter Hdqrs. Paris March 6, 1922. Collar ornaments read: cross rifles 115 D U.S.N.G. Mexican border button. bottle record GRS plaque and form 16-A attached thereto. Badly battered mess kit found with body.

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

(a) Height (actual measurement) Imp to det.(b) Weight (estimated) Imp to det.(c) Hair—Color doQuantity doCharacteristics do(d) Hair on face—Color doLocation doQuantity do(e) Permanent marks on body (old scars, peculiarities, or missing parts) Imp to determine.(f) Wounds or missing parts (received at time of casualty) Right humerus fractured at right shoulder, right and left scapula fractured, six ribs missing.

7. Disinterment

supervised by H. H. Foster,Approved : Sgt. W. J. Riordan,

(Title)

8. Reburial

supervised by W. B. ShieldsApproved : I. H. Joffe, 1st Lt.

(Title)

A TRUE COPY.

I. H. Joffe, 1st Lt.

Place Comagne #1232.

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date Aug. 23, 1921.1. REMAINS OF UNKNOWN U. S. SOLDIERSERIAL NUMBER #U3912

RANK

ORGANIZATION

2. Disinterred (date):

From (give complete location):

Aug. 23, 1921Gr 98 Sec 120 Plot 2.

By: Group

4

Unit

F. S. "2"

3. Reburied (date):

In (give complete location):

Hold for concentration.Nov. 15, 1921. Meuse-Argonne Cty. #1232 Gr. 13, Block G, row 5.

By: Group

Reburial 3

Unit

Nature of reburial

Unlined casket.

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

pine box and uniform, overcoat and burlap. badly decomposed,
unrecognizable.

5. (a) Identification tags: Buried with body?

no

On grave marker?

no.

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

plaque on cross reads "UNKNOWN U.S. SOLDIER, Gr 98 Sec 120" Collar
ornaments read "115/D2 and "U.S.N.C." initials on mess kit were "JTR"
Mexican campaign button, 1912, with the word "United", also Mexican
campaign bar. Shoes apparently size #96. What does examination of body show as regards the following identifying items? 1, 7, 8, 9, 16, 20, 21,22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 31(a) Height (actual measurement) impossible to determine.

(b) Weight (estimated)

do

(c) Hair—Color

do

Quantity

do

Characteristics

do

(d) Hair on face—Color

do

Location

do

Quantity

do(e) Permanent marks on body (old scars, peculiarities, or
missing parts) none visible.

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

fractured right and left scapula, left humerus fractured at shoulder4 ribs missing, one lumbar vertebra fractured, right petala missing.

7. Disinterment

supervised by

(Signed) E J RenouardE. J. Renouard.

Approved:

(Signed) A E Dewey

(Title)

A. E. DEWEY 1st Lt. Q. M. C.

8. Reburial

supervised by

(Signed) A. U. D. FAULTA. U. D. FAULT.

Approved:

(Title)

JAMES W. YOUNGER,CAPT., Q. M. C.

A TRUE COPY:

M. B. BIRDSEYE,1st Lt., Q. M. C.

(bfs)

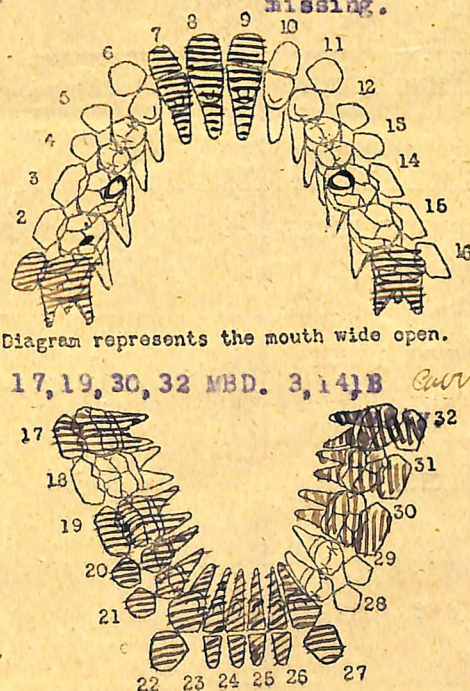


Diagram represents the mouth wide open.

17, 19, 30, 32 MBD. 3, 14, 18early

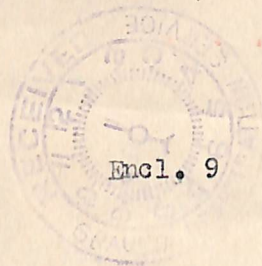
293.8 Cty 1232

5th Ind.

RHR

Hq. A.G.R.S., Q.M.C. in E., 8 ave d'Iena, Paris, May 3rd, 1923 - To:
Quartermaster General, Munitions Building, Washington, D. C.

1. Inviting attention to preceding indorsement. The remains of Pvt. Balser were shown in the records of this office as being buried in Grave 13, Block G, Row 5 due to lack of subsequent exhumation reports as attached hereto.



Encl. 9



R.P. Harbold

R.P. HARBOLD
Chief

*Subsequent reburial in Grave 15, Row 15
Block. See attached Forms 114A and 16-A -
M.J.D.*

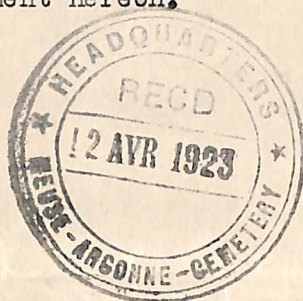
FILE

293 Balser form

293.8 City 1231
3rd Ind.

Hq. A.G.R.S., Q.M.C. in E., 8 ave d'Iena, Paris, April 10th, 1923 - To:
Commanding Officer, Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon,
Meuse.

1. For compliance with preceding indorsement and return of papers
by indorsement hereon.



R.P. Harbold
R.P. HARBOLD
Chief

3 encl.

4th Ind.

GTP

File No. 293.8-Balser, L.

Hqrs., Meuse-Argonne Cemetery, Romagne/s Montfaucon (Meuse) April 16, 1923.
To: Chief, AGRS., QMC., in E., 8 Ave d'Iena, Paris (Seine)

1. Herewith attached GRS Forms 114-A and 16-A, in duplicate, covering the disinterment of the remains of Pvt. Louis Balser, 1283236, Co. D, 115th Inf., from Grave 13, Block G, Row 5, March 10th, 1922 and reburial in Grave 15, Block G, Row 15, this cemetery, March 11th, 1923. *Per 16-A.*

2. Reference paragraph 3, second indorsement - there is no record of reburial of these remains on Oct. 4th, 1921. However, GRS Form 16-A is attached hereto, in duplicate, covering the only disinterment and reburial of this body within this cemetery other than as noted in paragraph 1---exhumation from Grave 98, Section 120, Plot 2 as Unknown U. S. Soldier, No. U-3912, August 23, 1921 and re-inhumation in Grave 13, Block G, Row 5, with same designation on November 15, 1921

6-incls-1,2,3-no change

4-Form 16-A in dup-Balser

5-Form 114-A in dup-Balser

6-Form 16-A in dup-U-3912

RECORDED

E. P. Doyle
E. P. DOYLE
Commanding.



293.8 C-R #110460

2nd Ind.

War Dept. O.C.M.G. Washington, D.C. March 15, 1923--To the Chief, American Graves Registration Service, Q.M.C. in Europe.

1. In view of the fact that there is record in this office of a reburial in Grave 13, Row 5, Block G, Cty. 1232, of Unknown U.S. Soldier U-4036 (concentrated from an isolated grave), this location cannot be released to the next of kin to Private Louis Balser, Co. D, 115th Inf., until the attached forms are properly adjusted.

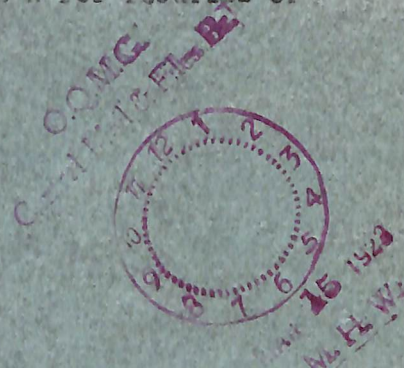
2. Form 1-A (concentration on Sec. 120) records the case of Louis Balser, concentrated Nov. 15, 1921 in Grave 13, Row 15, Block G, No 16-A has been received for this reburial.

3. It is requested that corrected forms and 16-A for reburial of Oct. 4, 1921, be furnished this office.

By order of the Quartermaster General:

H. J. CONNER,
Assistant.

3 incls.
1. c/cablegram.
2. Form 114-A
3. Form 16-A.



LN

[Handwritten signature and initials]

293.8 C-R #1232

1st Ind.

RHR

Hdqs. A.G.R.S., Q.M.C. in E., 8 ave d'Iena, Paris, February 20th, 1923 - To:
Quartermaster General, Munitions Building, WASHINGTON, D. C.

1. The correct grave location for Private Louis Balser, Co. D, 115th Inf.
is Grave 13, Block G, Row 5.



R.P. Harbold
R.P. HARBOLD
Chief

Recorded, Cemeterial Div., O. Q. M. G.
File 293.8 110460

293.8 C-R #110460

2nd Ind.

War Dept. O. Q. M. G. Washington, D.C. March 15, 1923--To the Chief, American
Graves Registration Service, Q.M.C. in Europe.

1. In view of the fact that there is record in this office of a re-
burial in Grave 13, Row 5, Block G, Cty. 1232, of Unknown U.S. Soldier
U-4036 (concentrated from an isolated grave), this location cannot be
released to the next of kin to Private Louis Balser, Co. D, 115th Inf.,
until the attached forms are properly adjusted.

2. Form 1-A (concentration on Sec. 120) records the case of Louis
Balser, concentrated Nov. 15, 1921 in Grave 13, Row 15, Block G, No 16-A
has been received for this reburial.

3. It is requested that corrected forms and 16-A for reburial of
Oct. 4, 1921, be furnished this office.

By order of the Quartermaster General:

H.J. Conner
H.J. CONNER,
Assistant.

- 3 incls.
1. c/cablegram.
2. Form 114-A
3. Form 16-A.

RECORDED



Balser Louis

In reply refer to:
293.8 C-R #110460

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

Feb. 2, 1923.

SUBJECT: Discrepancies.

TO: Chief, American Graves Registration Service, Q.M.C.
in Europe..

1. Form 16-A dated March 10, 1922 gives the grave location of Private Louis Balser, #1283236, Co.D, 115th Inf. as Grave 13, Block G, Row 5, Cty.1232, while Cable 1009 dated Dec. 21st 1922 gives reburial in Grave 15, Block G, Row 15, Cty.1232.

2. Information is requested as to the correct grave location for Private Balser. The body is not to be returned to this country. Cable Reference Number assigned to case is #24.

By order of the Quartermaster General:

H. J. Corner
H. J. CORNER,
Assistant.



RECORDED, A.G.R.S., Q.M.C., IN EUROPE
FILE NO. 293.8
Cty 1232

CABLEGRAM.

ENH

RADIO

Received at the War Dept.

Washington, Dec. 22, 1922.

From: Mott, Paris.

9:55 A.M.

31 OC To The Adjutant General.

Number 1009 Dec. 21st.

For Quartermaster General. Reference Adjutant General's
1361 paragraph 1. 1232 Louis Balser 24 Grave 15, Block G, Row 15. Harbold.

Mott.

Copies to Graves Registration Service, Information
and Guidance.

QMG x

(copy)

Encl #1

Form 16-a Par. 2 and Form 114A- Par. 7
do not agree on Disinterment both of March 10-22

~~Form 16-a~~ Forms 16-a Par. 3, Form 114-a- Par 42 and 43
And Form 1-a. bears recording this concentration
each bear record a different concentration

To be prepared in triplicate.

DATE April 16, 1923.

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 <u>BALSER, Louis</u>	10. Name _____
2. No. <u>1283236</u>	11. No. _____
3. Rank <u>Pvt.</u>	12. Rank _____
4. Org. <u>Co. D, 115th Inf.</u>	13. Org. _____
5. D.D. <u>10-10-18</u>	14. (a) D.D. _____
6. C.D. <u>K/A</u>	(b) D.B. <u>no discrep</u>

Discrepancy found upon disinterment	
7. Grave No. <u>13</u> Sec. _____	15. Grave No. _____ Sec. _____
8. Plot <u>BLOCK G</u> Row <u>5</u>	16. Plot _____ Row _____
9. _____	17. <u>no discrepancies</u>
18. Cemetery <u>Meuse-Argonne American</u>	19. Commune or town <u>Romagne-sous-Montfaucon</u>
20. Dept. or County <u>Meuse</u>	21. Country <u>France</u>
22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. <u>#1232 - Sec.120</u>	
23. Disinterred (Date) <u>March 10th, 1922</u>	By <u>H. H. Foster</u>
24. Inscription on grave marker:	
Name <u>Balser, Louis</u>	Serial No. <u>1283236</u>
Rank <u>Pvt.</u>	Organization <u>Co. D, 115th Inf.</u>
25. Was identification disc found on grave marker? <u>no</u>	On body? <u>no</u>

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).
Collar ornaments read: cross rifles, 115 D, USNG Mexican Border button. Bottle record GRS plaque and forms 16-A attached thereto. Badly battered mess kit found with body.

27. Condition of body Badly decomposed features unrecognizable.

28. Nature of burial Metallic casket shipping case blanket & sheet.

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 Mar. 10, 1922 By H.H. Foster

31. Casket sealed by H. H. Foster
 Signature of Embalmer, (Supervisor)

H.H. FOSTER,
Sup. Emb.

Jewish
 AUDITED BY
 M. J. D. 5/25/23

SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. C-4131

32. Designation of body:

Name Louis Balser Serial No. 1295236

Rank Pvt. Organization Co. D, 115th Inf.

33. Consigned to:

Name of Permanent Cemetery Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery #1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse.

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) Mar. 10, 1922 By H.H. Foster

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 E. J. Riordan, Capt., Q.M.C.

36. Remarks

"I certify that the information on attached Form 114-A has been taken from Form 16-A covering this operation and the records of this office, and is correct and also that the signatures of the G.R.S. Representative, G.R.S. Inspector, Supervisor Embalmer, and Technical Assistant cannot be obtained due to the fact that they are no longer on duty at this Station.

E. P. Doyle
E. P. DOYLE,
1st Lt., QMC.

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 Meuse-Argonne Cemetery #1232, Romagne/s. Montfaucon (Meuse) March 11, 1922.
(Date)

42. Grave No. Fifteen (15) Section

43. Plot BLOCK G Row Fifteen (15)

G.R.S. Representative I. H. JOFFE,
1st Lt., QMC.

SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. C-4131

32. Designation of body:

Name Louis Balser Serial No. 1293236

Rank Pvt. Organization Co. D, 115th Inf.

33. Consigned to:

Name of Permanent Cemetery Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery #1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse.

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) Mar. 10, 1922 By H.H. Foster

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 E. J. Riorden, Capt., Q.M.C.

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 Meuse-Argonne Cemetery #1232, Romagne/s. Montfaucon (Meuse) March 11, 1922.
(Date)

42. Grave No. fifteen (15) Section

43. Plot BLOCK G Row Fifteen (15)

G.R.S. Representative I. H. JOPPE,
1st Lt., QMC.

Place Comigne #1232.

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date Aug. 23, 1921.1. REMAINS OF Balsar, Louis
UNKNOWN U. S. SOLDIERSERIAL NUMBER #03912RANK Pvt.ORGANIZATION 115th Inf. Co. D.

2. Disinterred (date) :

From (give complete location) :

Aug. 23, 1921Gr 98 Sec 120 Plot 2.

By : Group

4

Unit

F.S. #2

3. Reburied (date) :

In (give complete location) :

Nov. 15, 1921.Hold for concentration.Meuse-Argonne Cty. #1232Gr. 13, Block C, row 5.

By : Group

Reburial S

Unit

Nature of reburial

Unlined casket.

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

pine box and uniform, overcoat and burlap. badly decomposed,unrecognizable.5. (a) Identification tags : Buried with body ? no On grave marker ? no

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

plaque on cross reads "UNKNOWN U.S. SOLDIER, Gr 98 Sec 120" Collar ornaments read "115/D2 and "U.S.N.G." initials on mess kit were "JTR" Mexican campaign button, 1912, with the word "United", also Mexican campaign bar. Shoes apparently size #9

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

(a) Height (actual measurement) impossible to determine.(b) Weight (estimated) do(c) Hair—Color doQuantity doCharacteristics do(d) Hair on face—Color doLocation doQuantity do(e) Permanent marks on body (old scars, peculiarities, or missing parts) none visible.

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

fractured right and left scapula, left humerus fractured at shoulder4 ribs missing, one lumbar vertebra fractured, right petala missing.

7. Disinterment

supervised by (Signed) E. J. RenouardE. J. Renouard.Approved : (Signed) A. E. Dewey(Title) A. E. DEWEY 1st Lt. Q.M.C.

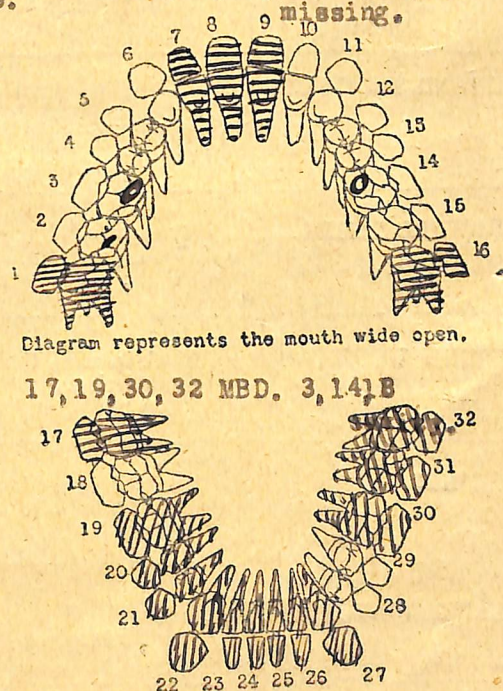
8. Reburial

supervised by A. U. DufaultA. U. DUFALT.Approved : James W. Younger(Title) JAMES W. YOUNGER,
CAPT., Q.M.C.

A TRUE COPY:

M. B. BIRDSEYE,1st Lt., Q.M.C.

(bfs)



REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Place

Date Mar 10, 1922.

1. REMAINS OF BALSER, Louis. SERIAL NUMBER 1283236
 RANK Pvt. ORGANIZATION Co. D. 115th Inf.

2. Disinterred (date): Mar 10, 1922 From (give complete location):
gr 13, Block G. row 5, CTY. 1232.

"I certify that the data under item 3 is correct and that it is impracticable to secure the signature of the officer approving same under item 8, due to the fact that he is no longer on duty at this station.

E. P. Doyle
 E. P. DOYLE,
 1st Lt., QMC..

metallic casket, shipping case, burlap. badly damaged.

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

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

Body exhumed for the purpose of changing from Unknown to known soldier, in compliance with letter Hdqrs. Paris, Mar 6, 1922. Collar ornament reads Cross rifles "115 D" and U.S.N.G.. Mexican border button, bottle record, G.R.S. plaque and old form 16-a attached hereto. Baldy battered messkit found with body.

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

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

(b) Weight (estimated) do

(c) Hair—Color do

Quantity do

Characteristics do

(d) Hair on face—Color do

Location do

Quantity do

(e) Permanent marks on body (old scars, peculiarities,

or missing parts) do

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

right humerus fractured at right shoulder, right and left scapula fractured.

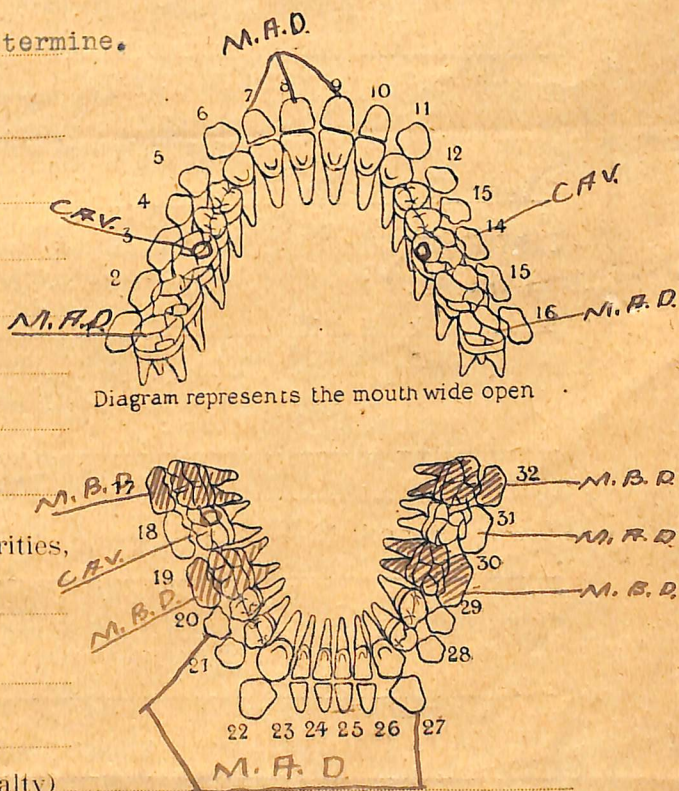
six ribs missing.

7. Disinterment supervised by *H. H. Foster.*
 H. H. Foster.

Approved: *E. J. Riordan*
 E. J. Riordan, Capt. Q.M.C.
 (Title)

8. Re-burial supervised by *W. B. Smith*
 W. B. Smith.

Approved: *I. H. Joffe*
 I. H. JOFFE,
 1st Lt., QMC.,
 (Title)



REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Place

Date Mar 10, 1922.

1. REMAINS OF BALSER, Louis. SERIAL NUMBER 1283236
 RANK Pvt. ORGANIZATION Co. D. 115th Inf.
2. Disinterred (date): Mar 10, 1922 From (give complete location): gr 13, Block G. row 5, CTY. 1232.
 By: Group Foster. Unit sec 1
3. Reburied (date): March 11, 1922 In (give complete location): Grave 15, Block G, Row 15, Meuse-Argonne Cty. 1232
 By: Group Reburial Section Unit Cem. #1232. Nature of reburial Lined casket.
4. Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon disinterment:
metallic casket, shipping case, burlap. badly decomposed, features unrecognizable.
5. (a) Identification tags: Buried with body? no On grave marker? no

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

Body exhumed for the purpose of changing from Unknown to known soldier, in compliance with letter Hdqrs. Paris, Mar 6, 1922. Collar ornament reads Cross rifles "115 D" and U.S.N.G.. Mexican border button, bottle record, G.R.S. plaque and old form 16-a attached hereto. Baldy battered messkit found with body.

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

(a) Height (actual measurement) impossible to determine.(b) Weight (estimated) do(c) Hair—Color doQuantity doCharacteristics do(d) Hair on face—Color doLocation doQuantity do(e) Permanent marks on body (old scars, peculiarities, or missing parts) do

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

right humerus fractured at right shoulder, right and left scapula fractured.six ribs missing.7. Disinterment supervised by H. H. Foster.

H. H. Foster.

Approved:

E. J. Riordan, Capt. Q.M.C.

(Title)

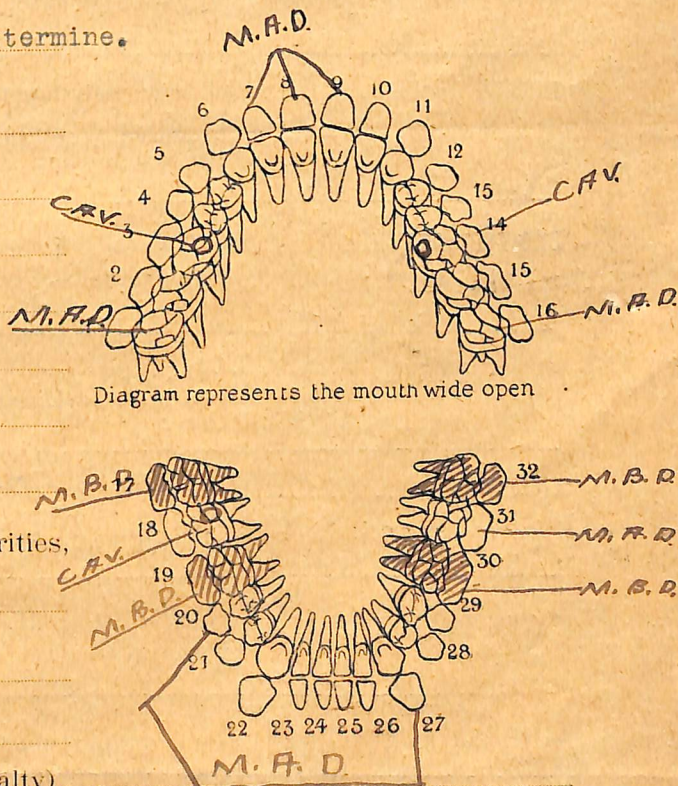
8. Re-burial supervised by W. B. Smith.

Approved:

I. H. Joffe.

1st Lt., QMC.

(Title)



COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

File#110460

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

(a) Name BALSER, Louis Ser. No. 1283236
 (b) Rank Pvt. Organization Co. D, 115th Inf. TYP. meh
 (c) Date of death 10/10/18 (d) Cause of death 21/10 CKR. 1/2
2004/3/22

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

(a) Grave No. 98 Row --- Plot 2 Sec. 120 TYP. meh
 (b) Emerg. Address Mr. R. Balser (father) 917 E. Lombard St., Balto., Md.

III. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases --- CKR. 1/2

IV. A. G. O. DISPOSITION CARD:

Date of receipt no card in file

(a) Name --- (b) Relationship ---
 (c) Address ---
 (d) Remains to be brought to U. S.? ---
 (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. ---

Examiner's Initials --- Date ---, 192

V. A. G. O. CORRESPONDENCE shows communication from

---, dated ---
 confirming request in Par. IV., item ---, above, or requesting that ---

Examiner's Initials --- Date ---, 192

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

Bernard D. Balser (brother)
3101 West North Ave., Balto., Ind. 1/17/22 & 1/23/22
gives description of disease

(a) Cancellation memos referred to? ---

Examiner's Initials meh Date 2/14/22, 192

COUNTRY FRANCE

CEMETERY No. 1232 Sec. 120 SHEET No. 24

VII. G. R. S. Form No. 114 made _____, 192

Typed by _____, Checked by _____, 192

VIII. FINAL ACTION:

Following advice forwarded to Europe by { cable on _____, 192
letter on _____, 192

6/16/21 Letter of Transmittal -Europe advised that Gr.98,Plot 2, Sec.120 contains the body of an UNKNOWN SOLDIER. 1/21/22 Audit Dept. amended records to show that Gr.98,Plot 2,Sec.120 contains the body of Louis Balser. 2/11/22 F-115 covering UNKNOWN SOLDIER was cancelled and filed. meh 2/11/22 *DOB 2/13/22.*

IX.

REMARKS

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

File #110460

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

(a) Name BALSER, Louis Ser. No. 1283236
(b) Rank Pvt. Organization Co. D, 115th Inf. TYP. meh
(c) Date of death 10/1/48 (d) Cause of death X-1A 411 31 30

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

(a) Grave No. 98 Row 98-103 Plot 2 Sec. 120 TYP. moh

(b) Emerg. Address Mr. R. Balser (father) 917 E. Lombard St., Balto., Md.

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

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

6/16/21 Letter of Transmittal -Europe advised that Gr.98,Plot 2, Sec.120 contains the body of an UNKNOWN SOLDIER. 1/21/22 Audit Dept. amended records to show that Gr.98,Plot 2,Sec.120 contains the body of Louis Balser. 2/11/22 F-115 covering UNKNOWN SOLDIER was cancelled and filed. meh 2/11/22

V. Following advice forwarded to Europe by { cable on _____, 192
letter of transmittal on _____, 192

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

VII. SUPPLEMENTARY REQUESTS.

[illegible]

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

COUNTRY

CEMETERY No. _____ SHEET No. _____

G. R. S. Form 115-A
August, 1920

3-8020

FRANCE

1232 Sec. 120

24

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

File #-----

(a) Name UNKNOWN U.S. SOLDIER U-3920 Ser. No. -
 (b) Rank - Organization -
 (c) Date of death - (d) Cause of death -

TYP. DMA

CKR. 30

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

(a) Grave No. 88 Row - Plot 2 Sec. 120 TYP. DMA

(b) Emerg. Address -

III. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases / CKR. 30

IV. A. G. O. DISPOSITION CARD:

Date of receipt -----

(a) Name ----- (b) Relationship -----

(c) Address -----

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

(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. -----

Examiner's Initials ----- Date -----, 192

V. A. G. O. CORRESPONDENCE shows communication from -----

-----, dated -----

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

Examiner's Initials ----- Date -----, 192

VI. G. R. S. FILES, CORRESPONDENCE—shows as follows: -----

(a) Cancellation memos referred to? -----

Examiner's Initials ----- Date -----, 192

COUNTRY

FRANCE

CEMETERY No. 1232-Sec. 120

SHEET No. 15

15

VII. G. R. S. Form No. 114 made _____, 192

Typed by _____, Checked by _____, _____, 192

VIII. FINAL ACTION:

Following advice forwarded to Europe by { cable on -----, 192
letter on -----, 192

letter on ----- JUN 16 1921 -----, 192

Dec 20

Par 4. Unknown Dead LPW

IX.

REMARKS

WRITE NOTHING BELOW THIS LINE.

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

File #-----

(a) Name UNKNOWN U.S. SOLDIER U-3920 Ser. No. -----
 (b) Rank ----- Organization -----
 (c) Date of death ----- (d) Cause of death -----

TYEMA

3

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

(a) Grave No. 88 Row ----- Plot 2 Sec. 120 TYP. DMA
 (b) Emerg. Address -----

III. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases CKR. 3

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 JUN 16 1921, 192

Sec 120
Par 4. Unknown Dead LPU

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

CEMETERY No. -----

SHEET No. -----

G. R. S. Form 115-A
 August, 1920

3-8020

FRANCE

1232- Sec. 120

15

Col. Davis,

On authority of Cable 1009-
an incorrect location was
given out on this case.

Correspondence attached
shows correct location.

Do you wish to handle
the case?


3-14-93

File: 293.8 C-A
110460

March 14, 1923.

Mr. B.D. Balser,
3101 West North Ave.,
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir:

With further reference to your letter of December 12, 1922, in regard to the grave location of the late Louis Balser, Pvt. Co. D, 115th Infantry, the Quartermaster General regrets to advise the grave location furnished you under date of December 26, 1922, was wrong due to a clerical error in the Paris office. The correct, final grave location of your brother is Grave No. 13, Row 5, Block G, Meuse-Argonne American cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, (Meuse) France. It is, therefore, requested that the advice of December 26, 1923, be destroyed and the enclosed permanent grave location notice be retained in lieu thereof.

Very truly yours,

1 inc.
Notification letter.

H.J. Conner
Assistant.

MN

O.C.M.C.
Central Mail & Files Bx.



MAR 15 1923

In reply refer to:
293.8 C-R 110460

March 14, 1923.

Mr. B.D. Balser,
c/o Walbrook Hardware & Supply Co.,
3101 W. North Ave., Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir:

The Quartermaster General desires that you be informed that the permanent grave of Pvt. Louis Balser, Co. D, 115th Infantry, is No. 13, Row 5, Block G, Meuse Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon (Meuse) France.

This is one of the permanent American military cemeteries to be maintained by this Government in Europe. Each grave will be marked by a headstone of white marble, of suitable design, with name, rank, organization, date of soldier's death and State from which he came. The 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.

In effecting removal, the utmost care and reverence were exacted and more than willingly accorded by those performing this sacred duty. The grave of the deceased will be perpetually maintained by this Government in a manner befitting the last resting place of our heroes.

Cen.

Very truly yours,

H. J. Conner,
Assistant.

22/1423/ARK



MAR 15 1923

C.B.

1st Ind.

RMR

Hdgrs. A.G.R.S., Q.M.C. in 1st, 8 ave d'Iena, Paris, February 10th, 1923 - To:
Quartermaster General, Munitions Building, WASHINGTON, D. C.

1. The correct grave location for Private Louis Balser, Co. D, 115th Inf.
is Grave 13, Block G, Row 5.



R. P. HARBOLD
Chief

Conc. of Louis Baker.

Statements on 16-a, Par. 2 nd Form 114-A, Par. 7
do not agree though both record disinterment
of same date 3/10/22.

Form 1-a recording concentration of this case,
Form 16-a, Par. 3, and Form 114-A Par. 42 nd 43
all differ as to concentrations.

It seems necessary that Europe's attention
be called to these discrepancies and requested
made for new forms on this case,
M. J. D.

Case of Pvt. Louis Balser
Co. D - 115th Inf.

Attached is letter from this office dated 2/2/23 answered by 1st Ind from Europe 2/20/23. In view of the fact that there is record in this office of a reburial in Grave 13, Row 5, Block G of Unknown U. S. Soldier, U-4036 (concentrated from an isolated grave) this location cannot be given out for Balser until the attached records are properly adjusted.

Form 1-A (Concentrations on Sec. 120) records the case of Louis Balser, ^{conc. #115/21} in Grave 13, Row 15, Block G. No 16-A has been received for this reburial.

Request corrected forms and 16-A for reburial of 11/4/21

Recommend that all the attached papers be returned to Europe and letter embodying the above information be sent.

M. J. D.

In reply refer to:
Cable No. 1110160

Feb. 2, 1923.

SUBJECT: Discrepancies.

TO: Chief, American Graves Registration Service, C.M.C.
in Europe.

1. Form 16-A dated March 10, 1922 gives the grave location of Private Louis Balser, #1233236, Co. D, 115th Inf. as Grave 13, Block C, Row 5, Cty. 1232, while Cable 1008 dated Dec. 21st 1922 gives reburial in Grave 15, Block C, Row 15, Cty. 1232.

2. Information is requested as to the correct grave location for Private Balser. The body is not to be returned to this country. Cable Reference Number assigned to case is #24.

By order of the Quartermaster General:

H. J. CONNER,
Assistant.

LN

MAILED

FEB 3 1923

G.R.S.

SUSPENDED FOR Mich 15

In reply refer to:
293.8 C-R #110460

Jan. 8, 1923.

Sol Levinson & Bro.,
Undertakers, 1127 E. Baltimore, St.,
Baltimore, Md.

Gentlemen:

The Quartermaster General desires you to be advised, in reply to your letter of January 4th 1923, written in behalf of Mr. Ben Balser, Brother of the late Private Louis Balser, Co. D, 115th Inf., that the Secretary of War has decided, owing to the nearing completion of the work of returning our soldier dead, no original requests relative to the return of a body would be considered after April 1st 1923; therefore, it will be seen that the request just received cannot be accepted.

It is regretted it is now too late to effect the return of these remains; however, it is desired that you assure the relatives of the deceased, that they will have no cause to regret the grave of this heroic soldier remaining under his Country's care. In the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery at Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Department of Meuse, France, he will rest with thousands of his comrades, forever under the flag in defense of which he gave his young life.

Very truly yours,

MAILED

JAN 8 1923

G.R.S.

H. J. CONNER,
Assistant.

LN
11/11

*In Reply refer to
293, 8. E. R. # 110460*

Baltimore, Md.

January 4, 1923.

Mr. H.J. Conner,
Office of the
Quartermaster General,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:-

I have this day received instructions from
Mr. Ben Balser concerning Private Louis Balser, Company D,
115th Infantry, whose burial ground is as follows:

Grave 15, Row 15, Block G. Meuse-Argonne
American Cemetery at Romagne-sous-Mountfaucon, Department
of Meuse, France.

Mr. Ben Balser, who is a brother of the deceased
Private, desires to have the body of the deceased soldier,
sent to this country for burial in Baltimore City, and has
asked me to take up this matter with you for the purpose
of expediting same.

Will you therefore, kindly advise me at your
earliest convenience, how soon arrangements can be possibly
made for the shipment of this deceased soldier to Baltimore,
Maryland, at the expense of the United States Government.

Awaiting your prompt reply, I am

Yours very truly,

SL:S.



JOL *Linson & Bro*
Undertakers
1127 E. Baltimore St.
Balto. Md

Recorded, Cemeterial Div., O. Q. M. G.
File # 293.8 110460

Balser,
Louis

In reply refer to:

293.8 C-R

#110460

Dec. 26, 1922.

Mr. R. Balser,
917 E. Lombard St.,
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir:

The Quartermaster General desires that you be informed that the permanent grave of Private Louis Balser, Company D, 115th

Infantry is, Grave 15, Row 15, Block C, Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery at Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Department of Meuse, France.

This is one of the permanent American military cemeteries to be maintained by this Government in Europe. Each grave will be marked by a headstone of white marble, of suitable design, with name, rank, organization, date of soldier's death and State from which he came. The 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.

In effecting removal, the utmost care and reverence were exacted and more than willingly accorded by those performing this sacred duty. The grave of the deceased will be perpetually maintained by this Government in a manner befitting the last resting place of our heroes.

Very truly yours,

MAILED

DEC 26 1922

H. J. CONNER,
Assistant.

22/1281/ARK

G.R.S.

LN
707

In reply refer to:
293.8 C-R

#110460

Dec. 26, 1922.

Mr. B. D. Balser,
c/o Walbrook Hardware & Supply Co.,
3101 W. North Ave.,
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir: The Quartermaster General desires that you be informed that

the permanent grave of Private Louis Balser, Company D, 115th Infantry is, Grave 15, Row 15, Block G, Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery at Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Department of Meuse, France. This is one of the permanent American military cemeteries

to be maintained by this Government in Europe. Each grave will be marked by a headstone of white marble, of suitable design, with name, rank, organization, date of soldier's death and State from which he came. The 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.

In effecting removal, the utmost care and reverence were exacted and more than willingly accorded by those performing this sacred duty. The grave of the deceased will be perpetually maintained by this Government in a manner befitting the last resting place of our heroes.

MAILED

Very truly yours,

DEC 26 1922

G.R.S.

H. J. CONNER,
Assistant.

22/1281/ARK

LN
7c74

THE SECRETARY OF WAR
DIRECTS ANSWERS TO THIS
CABLE AS FOLLOWS:

ADVISE WITHIN 12 HOURS
if answer is unnecessary.

If answer is NOT SENT
WITHIN 7 DAYS, REASON
MUST BE STATED.

ROBERT C. DAVIS,
The Adjutant General.

EHH

CABLEGRAM.

RADIO

Received at the War Department

Washington, December 22, 1922.

9:55 A. M.

From Mott, Paris.

31 OC

To The Adjutant General.

Copies furnished as noted:

Number 1009 December 21st

For Quartermaster General. Reference
Adjutant General's 1361 paragraph 1. 1232
Louis Balser 24 Grave 15 Block G Row 15. Harbold.
Mott.

Copies to Graves Registration Service, Information
and Guidance.

Telegraph
Branch



QMG X

20 22 1922

X INDICATES CABLE ROUTED FOR ACTION; √ FOR INFORMATION.

WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

C-R-1016

WASHINGTON, D. C.

W. H. HART

Quartermaster General.

December 19, 1922.

TO:

Military Attache

Ambassy, Paris.

For Rethers: Check records report correct grave location

1283236

1232 Louis Balser 24. / Reports received inconsistent. Expedite.

H.J. CONNER,
1st Lieut. Q.M.C. In charge Adm. Div.

LN

*Sent as
Cable 1361 Par. 1*

copy for Mrs. Dacey.

Mr Scott

Walbrook Hardware & Supply Co.

Paints, Oils, Glass
and Varnishes

Auto Accessories
Household Goods

Hardware, Tools,
Cutlery

3101 WEST NORTH AVENUE
Cor. Rosedale

Baltimore, Md., December 12, 1922.

Adjutant General's Office,
War Department,
Washington, D.C.

Re; Louis Balser
Serial # 1283236.

Gentlemen;

For our information, will you kindly write us as to the whereabouts and location of my brother's grave(Louis Balser, Prvt. Co D, 115th Infantry), who was killed in France on October 10th, 1918.

Awaiting an early reply,

I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Louis Balser

7 Received A. G. O. DEC 13 1922



Central Conference of American Rabbis
Independent Order Brith Abraham
Jewish Publication Society of America
Agudath Ha-Rabbonim

Council of Jewish Women
Independent Order Bnai Brith
Jewish Chikara Society
Brith Abraham

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

United Synagogue of America
National Federation of Temple Sisterhood
New York Board of Jewish Ministers
Union of American Hebrew Congregations

Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations
Independent Order Brith Shalom
Women's League of the United Synagogue
of America

JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
NATIONAL OFFICE
352 FOURTH AVE.
NEW YORK CITY



ARMY AND NAVY SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Cyrus Adler, Chairman, Army and Navy Committee

Madison Square 6415

March 31, 1922.

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E. Chas. Sydney, Director,
Army and Navy Service Dept.

Office of the Quartermaster General
War Department, Cemeterial Division
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

Re: Louis Balser

Our representative in Washington, Mr. George G. Cohen, has forwarded to this office the letter from the Adjutant General of the Army dated March 21, 1922, wherein it is stated that Private Louis Balser, #1,238,235, Co. D, 115th Inf., who was previously reported as having absented himself from his Company October 6, 1918, and who was dropped as a deserter Nov. 6, 1918, is now declared as having been killed in action Oct. 10, 1918, and that the record in so far as it shows that he was absent without leave is erroneous.

On behalf of the family, we wish to express our deep appreciation for the untiring efforts afforded by both Colonel Davis and Mrs. Norman, which resulted in the location of the body and its final identification. We know that the parents are most deeply appreciative of the sympathetic service that has been rendered by the Cemeterial Division in relieving their distress over the uncertain fate of their son.

This Board, which is fully mindful of the many difficulties involved in the final identification, wishes also to take this occasion to express its appreciation of the very helpful interest that the Division has taken in the matter.

Respectfully yours,
JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

P. Barnett
Personal Welfare Division

FILE

Recorded, Cemeterial Div., O. O. M. G.
File # 293.8 #110460

Balser, Louis

Central Conference of American Rabbis
Independent Order B'nai B'rith
Jewish Publication Society of America
Agudath Ha-Rabbonim

Council of Jewish Women
B'nai B'rith
Jewish Club of America
Jewish Home Society
Jewish Home Society

Union of American Hebrew Congregations
National Federation of Jewish Students
New York Board of Jewish Ministers
Union of American Hebrew Congregations

Union of American Hebrew Congregations
Independent Order B'nai B'rith
Women's League of the United Synagogue
of America

JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

NATIONAL OFFICE
352 FOURTH AVE.
NEW YORK CITY



ARMY AND NAVY SERVICE DEPARTMENT
Cyrus Adler, Chairman, Army and Navy Committee

Madison Square 6415

March 31, 1922.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Irving Lehman, President
Felix M. Warburg, Vice-President
Jacob M. Loeb, Vice-President
Jacob K. Newman, Vice-President
M. C. Shoss, Vice-President
Edward S. Steinman, Treasurer
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Alfred M. Cohen
Abel Davis
Carl Dreyfus
Abram I. Elkus
David A. Ellis
Harry Fischel
William Fischman
Walter Freund
Felix Fuld
I. Edwin Gottwaser
Samuel Greenbaum
Mrs. Jerome J. Hanauser
Maurice H. Harris
Charles Hartman
Isaac Haxler
Louis L. Kirshtein
Mrs. Hyman N. Levy
M. S. Margolies
Louis Marshall
Leon J. Overmayer
William Rosenau
Morris Rottenberg
Mortimer L. Schiff
Bernard Seidel
Mrs. Israel Unterberg
Israel Unterberg
Max H. Wainer
Benjamin S. Washer
A. Leo Weil
Jacob L. Wiseman
Morris Wolf

Office of the Quartermaster General
War Department, Cemeterial Division
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

Re: Louis Balser

Our representative in Washington, Mr. George G. Cohen, has forwarded to this office the letter from the Adjutant General of the Army dated March 21, 1922, wherein it is stated that Private Louis Balser, #1,238,235, Co. D, 115th Inf., who was previously reported as having absented himself from his Company October 6, 1918, and who was dropped as a deserter Nov. 6, 1918, is now declared as having been killed in action Oct. 10, 1918, and that the record in so far as it shows that he was absent without leave is erroneous.

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This Board, which is fully mindful of the many difficulties involved in the final identification, wishes also to take this occasion to express its appreciation of the very helpful interest that the Division has taken in the matter.

Respectfully yours,
JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

Personal Welfare Division

Harry L. Gluckman, Executive Director
E. Chas. Sydney, Director
Army and Navy Service Dept.

BALSER, Louis, Am.#1232

2nd Ind.

70
rfj

Supervisor, Area No.1, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, (Meuse) 14 Mar. 1922
To: Chief, AGRS., QMC. in Europe, 8, Avenue d'Iena, Paris.

1. Returned. Instructions contained in par.2, preceding indorsement, have been complied with.



Glenn A. Ross
GLENN A. ROSS,
Capt., Q.M.C.

Recorded, Cemeterial Div., O. O. M. G.
File # 2938 # 110460

293. Balser, Louis

3rd Ind.

M nwa. ✓

Hqrs., American G. R. S., Q. M. C., in Europe, 8, Avenue d'Iena, Paris. March 20, 1922. To: The Quartermaster General, Munitions Building, Washington, D.C.

1. Returned, inviting attention to preceding indorsement.

W. G. Ball

W. G. BALL,
Lt.Col.Q.M.C.
Acting Chief.

Balser, Louis

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

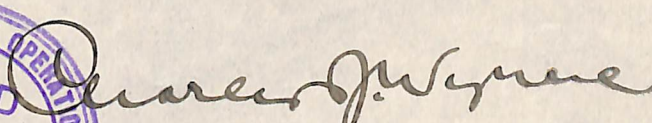
January 20, 1922.

File: 293.8-G-R. #110460-BALSER, Louis.
From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army (Cemeterial Division).
To: The Chief, American G.R.S., Q.M.C. in E., 8 Avenue d'Iena, Paris.
Subject: Case of Louis Balser, #1283236, Pvt. Co.D, 115th Infantry.

4-3912

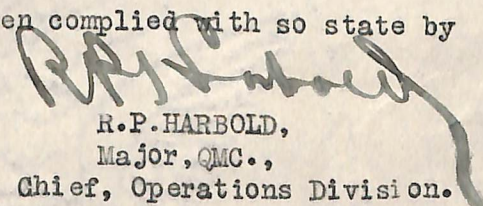
1. With further reference to the case of the above mentioned soldier, you are advised that it is the decision of this office that the body contained in Grave #98, Section 120, Plot 2, Meuse-Argonne Cemetery #1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon (Meuse) is that of Pvt. Louis Balser, #1283236, Pvt. Co. D, 115th Infantry, and the records of your office and the inscription on the marker erected over this grave should be adjusted accordingly.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:


CHARLES J. WYNNE,
Captain, Q. M. Corps.

293. Balser, Louis. 1st Ind. *WV/nwa*
Hqrs., American GRS., QMC., in E., Operations Division, 8 Avenue d'Iena, Paris.
March 6, 1922. To: Supervisor, Area #1, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon (Meuse).

1. Forwarded directing attention to basic communication.
2. You will correct the records of your Headquarters in accordance therewith.
3. When these instructions have been complied with so state by indorsement hereon.


R.P. HARBOLD,
Major, QMC.,
Chief, Operations Division.

WAR DEPARTMENT

EB 1-214

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

IN REPLY
REFER TO A.G.201 Balser, Louis
(3-21-22)WW

WASHINGTON

March 21, 1922.

SUBJECT: Notification of death.

TO: The Quartermaster General of the Army,

Washington, D.C.

1. Upon investigation, it has been ascertained by the War Department that Private Louis Balser, #1283236, Company D, 115th Infantry, who was previously reported as having been dropped as a deserter November 6, 1918, was killed in action October 10, 1918, and that so much of the records as shows that he was absent without leave or in desertion, is erroneous. A notation to that effect has been placed upon the official records.

2. It appears from the records that the deceased enlisted May 28, 1915 for Company L, 4th Infantry, Maryland National Guard, and designated his father, Mr. R. Balser, 917 E. Lombard Street, Baltimore, Md., as the person to be notified in case of emergency.

By order of the Secretary of War:

J. E. Brown
Adjutant General.

Recorded, Cemetery Div., D. O. S. 110920
File #293.8

Balser, Louis

(COPY)

FB 1-214

A.G.201 Balser, Louis
(3-21-22)WW

WAR DEPARTMENT March 21, 1922.

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Notification of death.

WASHINGTON.

The Quartermaster General of the Army,

Washington, D.C.

1. Upon investigation, it has been ascertained by the War Department that Private Louis Balser, #1263236, Company D, 115th Infantry, who was previously reported as having been dropped as a deserter November 6, 1918, was killed in action October 10, 1918, and that so much of the records as shows that he was absent without leave or in desertion, is erroneous. A notation to that effect has been placed upon the official records.

2. It appears from the records that the deceased enlisted May 28, 1915 for Company L, 4th Infantry, Maryland, National Guard, and designated his father, Mr. R. Balser, 917 E. Lombard Street, Baltimore, Md., as the person to be notified in case of emergency.

By order of the Secretary of War:

I. ERWIN.

Adjutant General.



File Number 110460

TO: REGISTRATION BRANCH, G. R. S.

Date 4/3/22

FROM: INQUIRY BRANCH.

Please furnish information as checked (✓) below regarding the following soldier:

NAME: Balser, Louis

Serial Number 1233236

RANK: Pvt.

ORGANIZATION:

Co. D, 115th Infantry

No.	QUESTION	REPLY
1.	Do particulars of soldiers given above agree with records?	1. Yes.
2.	Date of death.	2. 10/10/18.
3.	Cause and place of death.	3. K/A.
4.	Number of casualty cablegram.	4. AG 201.
5.	Date buried.	5. No record.
6.	Grave location. (a) Complete record required. (b) Name of cemetery or commune only required. (c) Note reinterments.	6. Molleville Farm, about 3 kilometres north of Consenvoye (Meuse), Map 35NE: E324.9; N281.9.
7.	Who reported burial?	
8.	Confirmed by G. R. S.?	
9.	Report as to grave marker.	9. Cross.
10.	Identification tags: (a) Buried with body? (b) Attached to grave marker?	10. (a) No. (b) No.
11.	Complete emergency address?	11. Mr. R. Balser (Father) 917 E. Lombard St., Baltimore, Md.
12.	Has been notified? (Give date.)	12. No.
13.	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply in all cases if no information on record.)	14. No record.
14.	What is the photograph number? ECC	
15.	Inquiry made by.	

N. B.—All proper names to be typewritten, or printed in PLAIN BLOCK LETTERS.

RELEASED BY INFORMATION CONTROL DEPARTMENT.

.....X..... Confirmed.

Inv. & Adj. Dept., Unconfirmed.

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE, Q.M.C., IN EUROPE
8. AVENUE D'IEANA, PARIS

File No.

March 2nd, 1922

From: Chief,

To: Quartermaster General, U.S. Army (Cemeterial Division).

Subject: Acknowledgment of Correspondence.

Receipt this date is acknowledged of the following
correspondence from your office:

Letter)

dated: January 20, 1922.

Indorsement)

File No. 293.8 C.R.# 110460- Balser ,Louis.

Subject: Case of Louis Balser # 1283236, Pvt.Co.D. 115th Inf.,

Name: Louis Balser, Pvt.

SL

H. F. BETHERS,
Colonel, Q.M.C.

2nd Ind.

File 293.8-C-R. #110460-BALSER, Louis.

From: Office, Quartermaster General, (Cemeterial Div.) March 13, 1922 -
To: The Adjutant General of the Army, Washington, D.C.

1. Returned with the information that after further consideration of the facts in this particular case, this office still adheres to its decision that the body contained in Grave #98, Section 120, Plot 2, American Cemetery of the Meuse-Argonne #1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, is that of Private Louis Baiser, #1293236, Company D, 115th Infantry.

H. L. ROGERS,
Quartermaster General.

By:

Charles J. Wynne,
Captain, C. H. Corps.

MAILED

MAR 16 1922

CEMETERIAL DIV.
O. O. M. G.

(C O P Y)

A.G. 201 Balser, Louis (1-28-22)WW

1st Ind.

WH*hrs 1-214

War Department, The Adjutant General's Office, Washington, March 7, 1922.
To The Quartermaster General of the Army, (Cemeterial Division), Washington, D.C.

1. The records of this office show that Louis Balser, #1283236, Private, Company D, 115th Infantry was dropped from the records of his company as absent without leave from October 16, 1918.

2. With reference to the statement in this communication relative to the information set forth in the third indorsement from this office dated November 28, 1919, it appears that the Graves Registration Service misinterpreted this indorsement, as the information set forth therein is not contained in the official record but was information furnished in a sworn statement, during the course of the investigation in this case,

3. In view of these facts, information is desired as to whether or not the Graves Registration Service adheres to the decision contained in the first paragraph of this communication, that the body buried is that of Private Louis Balser, #1283236, Co. D, 115th Inf.

By order of the Secretary of War.
(Signed) I Irvin.

Adjutant General

February 16, 1922.

FROM: The Quartermaster General, U.S.A.
TO: Mr. George G. Cohen, J.W.B., #403 11th St NW, Washington.
SUBJECT: Identification of remains of Louis D. Balser.

FILE

1. With reference to your personal inquiry, you are advised that the decision of this office in the case of Private Louis Balser was based on the following:

That the body of Private Louis Balser #1283236, Co. D, 115th Inf., was originally buried in isolated grave at Molleville Farm, about three kilometres north of Consenvoye, Meuse, 35 N.E., N-281.9, E-324.9, and was disinterred and reburied in grave 98, Section 120, plot 2, Argonne-American Cemetery, #1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, (Meuse), based on the following facts:

Report on Louis Balser

3d indorsement from A.G.O., dated Nov. 27, 1919 states the body of this soldier was found by the salvaging detail in the woods on the left of Death Valley, near Brabant Rd., and Straye Rd., and that soldier was buried at Molleville Farm having been identified by mail addressed to Pvt. Dick Balser, Co. D, 115th Inf.

Information received from A.G.O., to the effect that Dick Balser and Louis Balser are identical; "Dick" having been a nickname.

Brother of Pvt. Louis Balser states this soldier entered the National Guard in 1915. A.G.O. records show he was a member of Co. D, 115th Inf.

Report on unknown identified as
LOUIS BALSER.

Unknown soldier identified as Louis Balser was originally buried at Molleville Farm

One collar ornament marked U.S.N.G., and another marked 115 (cross rifles) D, were found on body of unknown.

BODY DESCRIPTION

A.G.O. report

Height - Enl. pap. 5' 7", S.R. 5' 6"
Form 10 65"

Weight - 133 lbs
Hair - Brown

Report upon disinterment

Brown hair. Shoes about size #8

Report from brother
Straight light brown hair.
Weight - 135lbs
Shoes about size 9, width B

Dental Chart

A.G.O. report.

Report on disinterment.

Missing teeth:

U.R. #1	Teeth missing before death	Teeth missing <u>after death.</u>
		#1, 7 & 8 #3 decayed
U.L. #16		#16 & 9 #14 decayed
L.R. #18	#17 missing, unable to de- termine before or after death. #19	#18 cavity #20, 21, 22, 23 & 24.
L.L. #31	#30. #32 missing, unable to determine before or after death.	#25, 26, 27, & 31.

Too much credence cannot be given to statement from Europe that teeth Nos. 1, 16 and 31 were missing after death inasmuch as it is very difficult to determine whether teeth are missing before or after death.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

GEORGE H. PENROSE
Colonel, Q.M.C.,
Chief, Cemeterial Division.

MM

Handwritten signature

MAILED

FEB 16 1922

CEMETERIAL DIV
O.Q. M. G.

January 20, 1922.

File: 293.8-C-R. #110460-BALSER, Louis.
From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army (Cemeterial Division).
To: The Chief, American G.R.S., C.M.C. in E., 8 Avenue d'Iena, Paris.
Subject: Case of Louis Balser, #1293236, Pvt. Co.D, 115th Infantry.

1. With further reference to the case of the above mentioned soldier, you are advised that it is the decision of this office that the body contained in Grave #98, Section 120, Plot 2, Meuse-Argonne Cemetery #1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon (Meuse) is that of Pvt. Louis Balser, #1293236, Pvt. Co. D, 115th Infantry, and the records of your office and the inscription on the marker erected over this grave should be adjusted accordingly.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

CHARLES J. WYNN,
Captain, Q. M. Corps.

MAILED

FEB 13 1922

CEMETERIAL DIV.
O. Q. M. G.

January 28, 1922.

FILE

File No. 293.8 C-R -- #110460 (Balsor, Louis).

From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army (Cometorial Division).

To: The Adjutant General of the Army, 6th & B Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Subject: Case of Private Louis Balsor, #1283236, Company D, 115th Infantry.

1. With reference to your letter of the 7th instant, you are advised that it is the decision of this office that the body of Private Louis Balsor #1283256, Company D, 115th Infantry was originally buried in Isolated Grave at Molleville Farm, about three kilometres north of Consenvoye, Meuse, 35 N.E. N-281.9, E-324.9, and was disinterred and reburied in Grave 98, Section 120, Plot 2, Argonne American Cemetery #1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse; our decision being based on the following facts:

REPORT ON LOUIS BALSOR

3d indorsement from your office dated November 27, 1919 states that the body of this soldier was found by the salvaging detail in the woods on the left of Death Valley, near Brabant road and Etzaye road, and that soldier was buried at Molleville Farm, having been identified by mail addressed to Private Dick Balsor, Company D, 115th Infantry.

Information received from your office is to the effect that Dick Balsor and Louis Balsor are identical; "Dick" having been a nick-name.

Brother of Private Louis Balsor states this soldier entered the National Guard in 1916. Your records show he was a member of Company D, 115th Infantry

REPORT ON UNKNOWN IDENTIFIED AS LOUIS BALSOR.

Unknown soldier identified as Louis Balsor was originally buried at Molleville Farm.

One collar ornament marked "U.S.N.G." and another marked "115 (cross rifles)" were found on the body of Unknown.

Louis Balser cont'd.

REPORT ON LOUIS BALSER

REPORT ON UNKNOWN IDENTIFIED AS
LOUIS BALSER.

BODY DESCRIPTION

A.G.O. Report

Height -- Enl. pap. 5' 7", O.R. 5' 6"
Form 10 -- 65"

Weight -- 135 lbs.

Hair -- Brown

Report from brother

Straight light brown hair.

Weight -- 135 lbs.

Shoes about size 9, width B.

Report upon disinterment.

Brown Hair. Shoes about
Size #8

DENTAL CHART

A.G.O. Report

Report on Disinterment

Missing Teeth

Teeth missing before death

Teeth missing
after death.

U. R. #1

#1, 7 & 8.
#3 decayed

U. L. #16

#16 & 9
#14 decayed

L. R. #18

#17 missing, unable to de-
termine before or after
death. #19.

#18 cavity
#20, 21, 22,
23, & 24

L. L. #31

#30. #32 missing, unable
to determine before or
after death.

#25, 26, 27,
& 31.

Too much credence cannot be given to statement from Europe that teeth Nos. 1, 16, and 31 were missing after death inasmuch as it is very difficult to determine whether teeth are missing before or after death.

2. It is requested that this office be furnished information relative to your decision regarding the status of Private Louis Balser.

H. L. ROGERS,
Quartermaster General.

By:

CHARLES J. WYNN,
Captain, Q.M.G.

CH
FWW

SUSPENDED FOR

2/21/22

MAILED

JAN 30 1922

CEMETERIAL DIV.
O. Q. M. G.

Baltimore, Md. January 23, 1922.

Cemeterial Branch, Q. M. C.
War Department,
Washington, D. C.

Re: Louis Balser.

Gentlemen:

With further reference to the description of my brother,
the late Louis Balser, Pvt. Co. D. 115th Inf., I will say that he *had*
straight light brown hair, light beard on face had not attained full
growth; his weight was 135 pounds. He entered the National Guards
in 1915, and was attached to the L company, 4th Maryland State Guards,
when transferred to the national Army. He was called "Dick" by his
close friends.

Yours very truly,

Bernard D. Balser

3101 West North Ave.,

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

January 20, 1922.

File: 293.8-C-R. #110460-BALSER, Louis.
From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army.
To: The Adjutant General, U. S. Army, 6th & B Sts. N.W.,
Washington, D.C.
Subject: Case of Pvt. Louis Balser, #1283236, Co.D, 115th Inf.

1. With further reference to the case of the above mentioned soldier, and in reply to your communication of the 7th inst., you are advised that the records of this office now show the body contained in Grave #98, Section 120, Plot 2, Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery #1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, to be that of Pvt. Louis Balser, #1283236, Co. D, 115th Infantry, and the records of our operatives in Europe and the inscription on the marker erected over this soldier's grave have been adjusted accordingly.

2. Identification of the remains of Pvt. Balser has been established to the satisfaction of this office, in view of the reconciliation of the condition of the teeth of this soldier, and the proximity of the place of original burial, and place from which body later identified was originally concentrated, and the fact that the name "Dick" was found on letters on the body, it having been established that "Dick" was a nick-name used by Balser's friends when addressing him.

H. L. ROGERS,
Quartermaster General.

By:



CHARLES J. WINNE,
Captain, Q. M. Corps.

January 20, 1922.

File: 293.8-U-R. #110460-BALSER, Louis.
From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army.
To: The Adjutant General, U. S. Army, 6th & B Sts. N.W.,
Washington, D.C.
Subject: Case of Pvt. Louis Balser, #1283236, Co.D, 115th Inf.

1. With further reference to the case of the above mentioned soldier, and in reply to your communication of the 7th inst., you are advised that the records of this office now show the body contained in grave #98, Section 120, Plot 2, Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery #1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, to be that of Pvt. Louis Balser, #1283236, Co. D, 115th Infantry, and the records of our operatives in Europe and the inscription on the marker erected over this soldier's grave have been adjusted accordingly.

2. Identification of the remains of Pvt. Balser has been established to the satisfaction of this office, in view of the reconciliation of the condition of the teeth of this soldier, and the proximity of the place of original burial, and place from which body later identified was originally concentrated, and the fact that the name "Dick" was found on letters on the body, it having been established that "Dick" was a nick-name used by Balser's friends when addressing him.

H. L. ROGERS,
Quartermaster General.

By:

CHARLES J. WYOME,
Captain, Q. M. Corps.

171

170

January 19, 1922.

Memorandum for: Major Davis.

Case of: Balser, 1283236, Louis Balser
Pvt., Co. D, 115th Infantry.

The records of this office have been adjusted to show the body of this man to be buried in Grave 98, Section 120, Plot 2, Argonne American Cemetery #1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse. This Grave was exhumed on February 15, 1921 from location on Molleville Farm, Map 35NE: N281.9; E324.9, in the Commune of Consenvoye, Meuse, about 3 Kilometres northeast of the town of Consenvoye. This co-ordination is near the road leading from Etraye on the North through Molleville Farm and the Bois de Consenvoye to Brabant, and is almost identical with the location given by Evers as the place where he found the body of Balser, and the letters.

The Form 16-A for the body shows the collar buttons of Company D, 115th Infantry; a burial in Uniform and Overcoat, shoes about size 8, hair brown, and dental information that checks with that of Balser.

Balser was a rather small man, weight 133 lbs. height 5'6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", hence shoes might be size 8. (Men all state that they wore shorter shoes in the Army, because all the Army shoes were so broad). (See opinion with note on reverse side).

Recommend a letter to France, and an answer to A.G.O. query of January 7, 1922.

These have not been written from this unit, thinking you would prefer reading this memo first—

H. M. Yarbrough
H. M. Yarbrough,
Investigator.

OPINION

1/18 1922

CASE OF Balser, 1283236, Louis, Pvt., Co. D, 115th Inf.

GRAVE Grave 98, Sec. 120, Plot 2, Cty. 1232.

DECISION That body is that of Balser.

DENTAL CHART

Date of Enlistment		Report on Disinterment			
A.G.O.	Emergency Address	Dental Work		Miss A.D.	
Missing	Dental Work	Dental Work	Missing B.D.	Dental Work	Miss A.D.
U.R. #1					#1, 7 & 8
					#3 decayed
U.L. #16					#16 & 9
					#14 decayed
L.R. #18					#18 Cavity.
					#20, 21, 22,
L.L. #31					23 & 24
					#25, 26, 27
					& 31

Above discrepancies can be accounted for as follows:

BODY DESCRIPTION

A.G.O. Report	E/A Report	Report on Disinterment
* Height		Impossible to determine
Weight 133 lbs.		" " "
Hair Brown		Brown
Fractures None		None

* Enl. Paper 5'7", S.R. 5'6", Form 10-65".

IDENTIFICATION TAGS

Found on Body

No

Found on Cross

No

OTHER IDENTIFYING MARKS

Found on Body

Two collar ornaments were found, one read "USNG" the other "115 (cross rifles) D". Nothing found by which this body could be identified. Body badly decomposed, buried in a trench in uniform and overcoat. Shoes about size 8.

ORIGINAL BURIAL DATA

Body in this Grave concentrated from Molleville Farm, abt. 3 kilos. N. of Consenvoye, Meuse, 35N41 N281.9; E324.9. This man reported buried originally. No burial previously reported.

Organizations of other men buried around original location

OVER

H. M. Yarbrough

Investigator

Concur:

APPROVED:

WAR DEPARTMENT

FIRST DISTRICT OFFICE, CONSTRUCTION SERVICE

QUARTERMASTER CORPS

WASHINGTON, D. C.

No.

From:

To:

Subject:

The discrepancy as to teeth missing before and after death seems to be accounted for by the inability of the examiner of the body to tell whether some of teeth were missing before or after death. Balser was a small man, note weight and size of shoe.

The locations of body found and burial of Balser are of such close coordination as to be almost identical.

The name of "Dick" as found on letters is a nickname used by Balser's friends for him.

The A.G.O. holds two affidavits and copies of the letter found and statement from Miss Lurie, who received letters, contending Dick and Louis Balser are same. Letters addressed to Dick Balser were delivered to Louis Balser. No other Balser.

Misc.
Balser

16th January, 1922.

Mr. Bernard D. Balser,
3101 West North Ave.,
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of the 12th January, 1922,
The Adjutant General directs me to inform you that the
records in this Office pertaining to your brother Louis
Balser give the following information at the time of his
enlistment, 28th May, 1915:

Color of hair-----	brown
Color of eyes-----	hazel
Complexion-----	light
Height-----	5Ft. 6in
Age upon date of enlistment--	18 years
Occupation at time of enlistment-----	salesman

The records here do not show the size shoes worn by
him nor have we a dental chart pertaining to this soldier;
records pertaining to size of shoes and dental charts are
not furnished for the files of this Office.

Very respectfully,

J. M. Griffith,
Chief Clerk.

Walbrook Hardware & Supply Co.

Paints, Oils, Glass
and Varnishes

Auto Accessories
Household Goods

Hardware, Tools,
Cutlery

3101 WEST NORTH AVENUE
Cor. Rosedale

Baltimore, Md., January 17, 1922.

Mr. Cohen,

Hebrew Young Men's Asso.

Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir;

Since our conversation on the phone, I have endeavored to get the information you requested of me regarding my brother.

I wrote to the Adjutant General's office of Maryland, to furnish me the desired information, and enclosed, you will find copy of letter, I received from them.

As for the shoes, my brother wore, I think it was about size 9, B width, in civilian shoes, and no doubt the army shoes he wore was much wider.

As for the teeth, the dentist told me he did not have a chart of his teeth, but I am under the impression that there were several teeth missing.

I trust this is the information you desire. Kindly let me know what definite information, you have regarding my brother,

I remain, anxiously awaiting

Bernard O. Balser

WAR DEPARTMENT BB 1-214
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICEIN REPLY
REFER TO A.G.201 Balser, Louis (1-7-22)WW WASHINGTON

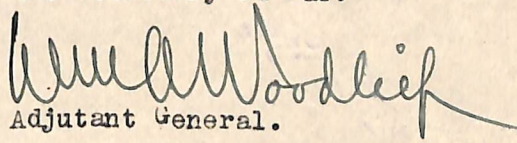
January 7, 1922.

SUBJECT: Burial.

To: The Quartermaster General of the Army,
Washington, D.C.

1. This office has been advised by Mr. George G. Cohen, of the Jewish Welfare Board, Washington, D.C., that a body has been discovered in the vicinity of the place where Louis Balser #1283236, Company D, 115th Infantry, is alleged to have died, which is believed to be the body of that soldier.
2. The records of this office show that this soldier became absent without authority October 16, 1918, and was dropped as a deserter November 6, 1918.
3. Inclosed herewith is G.R.S. Form #8-W-A in the case of Louis Balser. It is requested that this office be furnished a report setting forth whether or not the body discovered by the Graves Registration Service is that of Louis Balser, Company D, 115th Infantry.

By order of the Secretary of War:


Adjutant General.

1 Inclosure.

RECEIVED
Adjutant General's Office
File # 293.8

Balser, Louis

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

Date January 7, 1922

File No. Registration.

From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army (Cemeterial Division).

To: The Adjutant General of the Army, Sixth and B Streets NW., Washington, D. C.

Subject: Information required for G. R. S.

1. It is requested that the items checked below be completed. Request confirmation of all information shown.

a. Surname. Balser, f. Date of ²death. Desertion, 1 October 9, 1918
b. Christian name. Louis g. Cause of death.
c. Serial number. #1283236 h. Authority (C. C. No.)
d. Organization. Company D, 115th Inf. i. Emergency address. Mr. R. Balser.
917 E. Lombard Street, Baltimore, Md.
e. Rank. Private. j. Relationship. father

BODY DESCRIPTION.

(See page 2 of the Service Record.)

a. Age at enlistment. 19 years
b. Color of eyes. Blue
c. Color of hair. Brown
d. Height. 5 feet 6 inches
e. Weight. 133 lbs.
f. Permanent marks and physical defects at enlistment. (Old fractures or breaks.) none shown.

DENTAL CHARTS.

(See physical report of examination prior to enlistment.)

a. Strike out teeth missing:
2 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 2
Upper right Upper left.
8 2 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
Lower right. Lower left.

H. L. ROGERS,
Quartermaster General, U. S. A.,

By

H. J. CONNER,
Captain, Q. M. C.

A.G.201 Balser, Louis (1-7-22)WW

January 7, 1922.

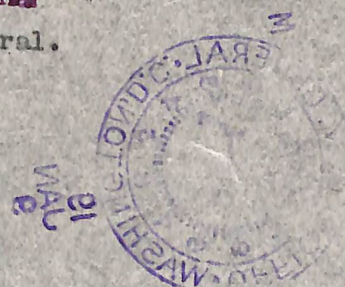
Burial.

The Quartermaster General of the Army,
Washington, D.C.

1. This office has been advised by Mr. George G. Cohen, of the Jewish Welfare Board, Washington, D.C., that a body has been discovered in the vicinity of the place where Louis Balser #1283236, Company D, 115th Infantry, is alleged to have died, which is believed to be the body of that soldier.
2. The records of this office show that this soldier became absent without authority October 15, 1918, and was dropped as a deserter November 6, 1918.
3. Inclosed herewith is G.R.S. Form #8-W-A in the case of Louis Balser. It is requested that this office be furnished a report setting forth whether or not the body discovered by the Graves Registration Service is that of Louis Balser, Company D, 115th Infantry.

By order of the Secretary of War:

Wm. A. Woodliff
Adjutant General.



110460

~~ALPHABETICAL FILE~~

WAR DEPARTMENT

Office of the Quartermaster General of the Army
Washington

G.R.S. Form 8-W-A

Information requested of A.G.O.

Date October 14-21

File No. ~~110460~~ Registration.

From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army, (Cemeterial Division)
To: The Adjutant General of the Army, 6th & B Sts., N.W., Washington, D.C.
Subject: Information required for G.R.S.

1. It is requested that the items checked below be completed. Request confirmation of all information shown.

- a. Surname Balser *OK*
- b. Christian name Louis *OK*
- c. Serial Number *1283236* 12832236
- d. Organization Co. D. 115th Inf. *OK*
- e. Rank Pvt. *OK*
- f. Date of death
- g. Cause of death
- h. Authority (C.O.#)
- i. Emergency address
- j. Relationship

BODY DESCRIPTION

(See page #2 of the Service Record)

- a. Age of enlistment
- b. Color of eyes
- c. Color of hair
- d. Height
- e. Weight
- f. Permanent marks and physical defects at enlistment (Old fractures or breaks)

DENTAL CHARTS

(See Physical report of examination prior to enlistment)

- a. Strike out teeth missing
- 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
upper right upper left
- 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
lower right lower left

G.R

CEMETERY NO:

SHEET NO:
TYPED BY:

S/3310/LML

REC'D MAIL SECTION,
W.W. DIV., A. G. O.
OCT 15 1921 3

BY:

H. L. ROGERS,
Quartermaster General, U.S.A.

H. J. Conner

H. J. CONNER,
1st. Lieut. Q.M.C.

OCT 15 1921

ADDRESS REPLY TO
DIRECTOR OF STORAGE
MUNITIONS BUILDING

WAR DEPARTMENT
PURCHASE, STORAGE, AND TRAFFIC DIVISION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE AND STORAGE
WASHINGTON

No:
From:
To:
Subject:



The records of this office show that Private Balser was dropped from his organization Nov. 8, 1918, as a deserter. An exhaustive investigation has failed to elicit sufficient information for this office to remove the charge of desertion or to declare the soldier dead per report sent to Graves Registration Bureau July 28, 1921.

Dannely - acc - OS.

Wg 8-10-15-21

10460
July 15, 1921.

Mr. Abraham Feitelberg,
Graves Registration Bureau,
Jewish Welfare Board,
149 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of July 13, 1921, you are advised that same has been referred to The Adjutant General of the Army for reply direct to you as to the service record of Private Louis Balser, Company D, 115th Infantry. Inasmuch as it is the function of that office only to release information concerning service records, circumstances and date of death.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

Very truly yours,

fkv

GEORGE H. PENROSE,
Colonel, Q. M. C.
Chief, Cemeterial Division.

jow

MAILED
JUL 16 1921

G.R.S.

FILE

G.W.

293.6 Com. File #110450
Balsor, Louis Pvt.

1st Ind.

FILE

O. Q. M. G., Cometerial Division, War Trade Building, Washington, D. C.
July 15, 1921. To: The Adjutant General of the Army, Washington, D. C.

1. Referred. Requesting reply direct to writer as to the service record of Private Louis Balsor, Company D, 116th Infantry.
2. Mr. Abraham Feitelberg, Graves Registration Bureau, Jewish Welfare Board, 149 Fifth Avenue, New York City, has been advised of this reference.
3. The records of this office show that advice has been received from your office to the effect that this soldier's service record shows under indorsement dated November 6, 1918 became absent October 9, 1918. Memo on file shows deserted October 16, 1918.
4. No grave location is registered in this office in the case of this soldier.

H. L. ROGERS,
Quartermaster General.

Rev

By:

✓
Jaw

CHARLES J. WYNNE,
Captain, Q. M. G.

MAILED

JUL 18 1921

O.R.S.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
CEMETERY DIVISION
INQUIRY SECTION.

110 460
File No.

Date 7-14-21

Time _____

TO REGISTRATION SECTION,
INVESTIGATION SUB-SECTION.

Attention of Inv & Adj

FOR VERIFICATION OF

☒ Grave location

☒ (a) original

☒ (b) reburial

☐ Serial number

☐ File number

☐ Organization

☒ Cause of death

☐ Emergency Address

☐ Identification

☐ Rank

Spelling of

☐ (a) first name

☐ (b) last name

☒ Date of

☒ (a) death

☒ (b) burial or reburial

☐ Condition of Body

☐ Burial of Body

☐ Other burials in same vicinity

REGISTRATION SECTION
INVESTIGATION SUB-SECTION

Date _____

Time _____

TO INQUIRY SECTION:

Attention of: Supervisor

☐ No action to be taken by this office.

☐ REPLY and 109-a to be returned to Inv. & Adj.

☒ REPLY and return to Inv. & Adj. for investigation.

INQUIRY ACKNOWLEDGED

forwarded for action.

Date 7-15-21

afg

Remarks:

See other side.

S-459?MB

Examiner H/S

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Central Conference of American Rabbis
Council of Y. M. H. & Kindred Association
Independent Order Brith Abraham
Jewish Publication Society of America

Agudath Ha-Rabbonim
Council of Jewish Women
Independent Order Bnai Brith
Jewish Chautauqua Society

Order Brith Abraham
United Synagogue of America
National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods
New York Board of Jewish Ministers

Union of American Hebrew Congregations
Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations
Independent Order Brith Sholem
Women's League of the United Synagogue of America

JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

National
Headquarters



149 Fifth Ave.
New York City

Phone Ashland 7770

July 12, 1921.

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Morris Wolf

ADMINISTRATION

Harry L. Glucksmann, Executive Director

Ellis Slatoff, Comptroller

Colonel Davis
Cemeterial Division
War Department
Washington, D.C.

Dear Colonel Davis:

In re: Pvt. Louis D. Balser
S-1,283,236, Co.D,
115th Infantry

Will you kindly advise us the status of the above named who has been missing since October 10, 1918. We should like to know if your Division has come to any conclusion as to whether or not this man is dead.

Thanking you for your information in this matter, we beg to remain

Very truly yours,
JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

Abraham Feitelberg
Graves Registration Bureau

110460

WISH WELFARE BOARD
149 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY



Colonel Davis
Cemeterial Division
War Department
Washington, D.C.

April 14, 1921.

FILE

293.8 Com. #110460 (Balsor, Louis, Private).

From: The Quartermaster General, U.S. Army (Comesterial Division).
To: Mr. Bernard D. Balsor, 3101 N. North Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.
Subject: Grave Location.

1. In reply to your letter of March 14, 1921, you are advised that an investigation is in progress in the case of your brother, Private Louis Balsor, Company D, 115th Infantry. As soon as definite information is obtained you will be immediately advised.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

CHARLES J. WYNN,
Captain, Q. M. C.

mlb
jo

MAILED
APR 15 1921
G.R.S.



Walbrook Hardware & Supply Co.

HARDWARE, PAINTS AND AUTOMOBILE ACCESSORIES

NORTH AVENUE AND ROSEDALE STREET

Baltimore, Md.

March 14, 1918

Graves Registration Bureau
War Department
Washington D.C.

1013

Gentlemen:-

I have written to you
several times regarding my brother
Louis Balsen - Private Co D - 115th
Infantry who was reported killed
in France sometime in October 1918,
and I would like to know if you
have any record of his body being
found, and if so where.

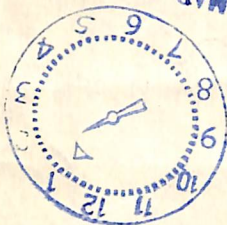
I trust you will give
this matter prompt attention and
anxiously awaiting to hear from
you. I remain

Sincerely yours,
Bernard O Balsen
3101 W North Ave
Baltimore
Md.

Letter held for 5x8 card
which cannot be located HC H 3/26/21.

Recorded, Cemetery Div., O. O. M. G.
File # 11388
110460

MAR 75 1921
G. H. S.



RECEIVED

CEMETERIAL
DIV. Q. M. G.

RECEIVED
IND. BRANCH
MAR 26 1921



CEMETERY PROJECT, 1900-1901

MAR 16

12

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

File No. 110460 Registration. Date 4/9/21
From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army (Cemeterial Division).
To: The Adjutant General of the Army, Sixth and B Streets NW., Washington, D. C.
Subject: Information required for G. R. S.

1. It is requested that the items checked below be completed. Request confirmation of all information shown.

a. Surname. Balser *OK* f. Date of death. ? *Your record says*
b. Christian name. Louis *OK* g. Cause of death. ? *deceased (true)*
c. Serial number. 1283236 *OK* h. Authority (C. C. No.)
d. Organization. Co D, 115th Inf. *OK* i. Emergency address. Mr. R. Balser, See below*
917 Lombard St., Baltimore, Md.
e. Rank. Pvt. *OK* j. Relationship. Father. *OK*

BODY DESCRIPTION.

(See page 2 of the Service Record.)

a. Age at enlistment. 19 years
b. Color of eyes. Brown *Enl. paper gives eyes brown*
c. Color of hair. Brown *Service record gives eyes blue*
d. Height. 5 ft 7 in *Enl. paper gives 5 ft 7 in Service Record*
e. Weight. 133 lbs
f. Permanent marks and physical defects at enlistment. (Old fractures or breaks.)
None noted

Yarbrough

DENTAL CHARTS. This especially.

(See physical report of examination prior to enlistment.)

a. Strike out teeth missing:
8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
Upper right. Upper left.
8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
Lower right. Lower left.

* Mr. Raphael Balser
917 Lombard St Baltimore Md

H. L. ROGERS,
Quartermaster General, U. S. A.,

H. J. Conner

H. J. CONNER,
Captain, Q. M. C.

Rec'd World War Div.
Date APR 11 1921 By

APR 11 1921

Service record shows ~~under~~ endorsement dated Nov 5, 1918.
became absent Oct 9, 1918. Memo on file shows deserted Oct 16,
1918.

COAST GUARD
H-4 COASTAL

APR 11 1921

Wg 2-8-7/10
H-4

RECEIVED
APR 12 1921

Time _____

FOR VERIFICATION OF

Spelling of

(a) first name
(b) last name

Date of

(a) death
(b) burial or reburial

Organization

Condition of Body

Cause of death

Burial of Body

Emergency Address

Other burials in same vicinity

Identification

Rank

REGISTRATION SECTION
INVESTIGATION SUB-SECTION

Date _____

TO INQUIRY SECTION:

Time _____

Attention of: Supervisor

No action to be taken by this office.

REPLY and 109-a to be returned to Inv. & Adj.

REPLY and return to Inv. & Adj. for investigation.

Remarks:

See other side.

S-459?MB

TO:- REGISTRATION BRANCH, G.R.S.

Date 4/9/21

FROM:- INQUIRY BRANCH.

Please furnish information as checked (✓) below regarding the following soldier:

NAME Balser, Louis

Serial Number

RANK Private

ORGANIZATION Co. D, 115th Infantry

NO.	QUESTION	REPLY
1.	Do particulars of soldiers given above agree with Records?	1. Yes. #1283236.
2.	Date of Death	2. No record.
3.	Cause and place of death	3. No record.
4.	Number of Casualty Cablegram	4. No record.
5.	Date buried	5. No record.
6.	Grave Location (a) Complete record required. (b) Name of Cemetery or Commune only required. (c) Note reinterments.	6. No record.
7.	Who reported burial?	
8.	Confirmed by G.R.S.?	
9.	Report as to Grave Marker	9. No record.
10.	Identification Tags: (a) Buried with body? (b) Attached to grave marker?	10. (a) No record. (b) No record.
11.	Complete Emergency Address?	11. Mr. R. Balser (Father) 917 E. Lombard St., Baltimore, Md.
12.	Has above been notified? (Give date)	12. No.
13.	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply in all cases if no ECC information on record)	14. No record.
14.	What is the Photograph No.?	
15.	Inquiry made by?	

Released by Information Control
Dept.
DirectoryX Cards 5 x 8
Cards 4 x 6N.B. All Proper names to be
typewritten, or printed in
PLAIN BLOCK LETTERS.

File 110460

Case of Louis Balser, 1283236,
Port. Co II, 115th Inf.

As this investigation is making a Special
search among the records of the Census
of Concomore with reference to locating
several men whose burials are un-
confirmed by identifying burials
recorded as Unknown, She wishes
to include this man in the general
search. Kindly return all papers to
her, when letter of March 14 is
answered. —

Kleen Yarbrough
Mar April 9-1921

COPY

293.8 Cem. Div., #110460 - BALSER, Louis.

Baltimore, Md., March 14, 1921.

Graves Registration Bureau,
War Department,
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:-

I have written to you several times regarding my brother Louis Balser - Private Co. D, 115th Infantry, who was reported killed in France sometime in October 1918, and I would like to know if you have any record of his body being found, and if so where.

I trust you will give this matter prompt attention and anxiously awaiting to hear from you,

I remain

Sincerely yours,

Bernard D. Balser,
3101 W North Avenue,
Baltimore, Md.

kms

Mr. Good -

The AGO records carry this man as "soldier" became absent 10/9/18 R of change shows soldier deserted 10/16/18". However a private report alleges that a wagoner of Supply Co. 315th Inf. found a body at the left of the Brabant and Etraye and buried it at Molleville Farm. This soldier searched the body for identification, and found upon it a bundle of mail addressed to "Dick" Balser, which mail was later returned to the parents. A grave cannot be located in this vicinity, bearing this soldier's name of identification number, but this office has located a reburial slip on unknown soldier, who was reburied from the same commune in which this Balser was alleged to have been buried - However, the reburial slip gives a very good description of the soldier, so Miss Dee requested that I ask you for a description of the attached, also dental record, in order to ascertain if the reburial of "Unknown Soldier" that we have pertains to Louis or "Dick" Balser.

10/20/18
Investigation Unit

DMABBOTT. *460*

MEMO

To: 3/20/20

In regard to the attached case the following information is submitted :

✓ This man had the following teeth missing on date of Enlistmt.
Right upper #8; Right lower #7; Left upper #8 ; Left lower #7.
He had brown hair, blue eyes, light complexion, and was 5 ft. 6 inches tall.
This man is carried as "Deserted" by the A.G.O. at present .

D.R. Good
110460

MEMORANDUM :

To: Miss. D.M.ABBOTT :

In regard to the attached case the following information is submitted :

This man had the following teeth missing on date of Enlstmt.

✓ Right upper #8; Right lower #7; Left upper #8 ; Left lower #7.

He had brown hair, blue eyes, light complexion, and was 5 ft. 6 inches tall.

This man is carried as "Deserted" by the A.G.O. at present .

D.R. Good
D.R. Good.

110460

Central Conference of American Rabbis
Council of Y. M. H. & Kindred Association
Independent Order Brith Abraham
Jewish Publication Society of America

Adath Ha-Rabbonim
Council of Jewish Women
Independent Order Bnai Brith
Jewish Chautauqua Society

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Order Brith Abraham
United Synagogue of America
National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods
New York Board of Jewish Ministers

Union of American Hebrew Congregations
Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations
Independent Order Brith Shalom
Women's League of the United Synagogue
of America

TELEPHONE ASHLAND 7770

JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

UNITED STATES  ARMY & NAVY

*Cooperating with and under the supervision of the War
Department Commission on Training Camp Activities*

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
149 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

February 15, 1921.

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Ellis Slatoff, Comptroller

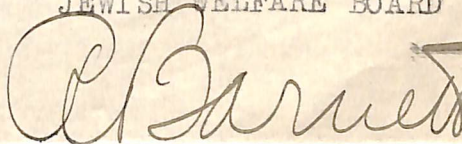
Mr. George G. Cohen
11th St. & Penn. Ave.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Cohen:

Re: Private Louis D. Balser
S-1,283,236, Co.D, 115" Inf.

Will you kindly ascertain at the
Adjutant General's Office the present status
of the case of this soldier. We write to
inquire whether the War Department is now
satisfied that this soldier is dead.

Very truly yours,
JEWISH WELFARE BOARD



Graves Registration Bureau.

*Del by mail
Cohen
file
2/15*

*Reported as deserter
Said to have been
seen going in ops. direction
Armistice day 1918*

(Balser, Louis Pvt.)-Deceased.

1st Ind.

V/hq

U.S. Army Rctg. Sta., 1345 Arch St., Phila., Pa. Feb. 8th, 1921. To: The
Quartermaster General, U.S. Army, (Cemeterial Division), Washington, D.C.
RETURNED.

1. The attached letter has been handed to me by Mr. Thomas Evers, who states that he has already answered two or more letters of this character with respect to the body of former Private Louis Balser, (1283236) Company "D", 115th Infantry, and that he cannot give any further information than he has already furnished. He states that this information is as follows: That he, Mr. Evers, was a wagoner of the 315th Supply Company; that he found the body of former Private Louis Balser on or about November 21st, 1918, on the outskirts of Etraye, near Damvillers, France; that he called a sergeant of the 312 Machine Gun Battalion who was engaged in cleaning up the battlefield and he searched the body of the said Balser and found in the pocket of the said Balser a package of mail; that the body of Balser was identified in that manner; that he, Evers, knows absolutely nothing more in the matter of this body; that he does not know where the body was buried or if it was ever buried.

2. Mr. Evers states that it is useless for the Quartermaster General to write him any further on the subject.

W. S. Valentine
W. S. VALENTINE,
COLONEL, GAV., R.O.

Recorded, Cemeterial Div., O. O. M. G.
File # 29308 #110960

Balser, Louis

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
DIRECTOR OF PURCHASES AND STORAGE
WASHINGTON

January 25, 1921.

File No. 293.8 Cem. Div. - #110460 - Registration.

From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army (Cemeterial Division)

To: Mr. Thomas Evers, 22 Clymer Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

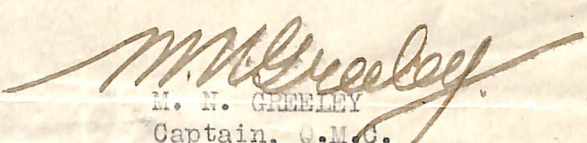
Subject: Case of Pvt. Louis Balser, 1283236, Co. D, 115th Infantry.

1. The records of this office do not indicate that a reply has been received to our communication dated October 28, 1920, requesting that you furnish this office, from your recollection or retained records, any information which may assist at this time in locating the grave of Private Balser.

2. The records further show that your attention was invited to this matter on December 8, 1920 and that reply has not been received.

3. Your prompt attention to this important matter will be greatly appreciated by this office. Please use the enclosed envelope, which requires no postage, for your reply.

By authority of the Quartermaster General.


M. N. GREELEY
Captain, Q.M.C.
Executive Officer
Cemeterial Division.

Encl. 1.
Return envelope.

U.S. Army R
Que to

FILE

January 25, 1921.

293.8 Cem. Div. - #110460 - Registration.

From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army (Cemeterial Division)
To: Mr. Thomas Evers, 22 Clymer Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
Subject: Case of Pvt. Louis Balser, 1283236, Co. D, 115th Infantry.

1. The records of this office do not indicate that a reply has been received to our communication dated October 28, 1920, requesting that you furnish this office, from your recollection or retained records, any information which may assist at this time in locating the grave of Private Balser.

2. The records further show that your attention was invited to this matter on December 8, 1920 and that reply has not been received.

3. Your prompt attention to this important matter will be greatly appreciated by this office. Please use the enclosed envelope, which requires no postage, for your reply.

By authority of the Quartermaster General.

vbb

H. N. GREELEY
Captain, A.M.C.
Executive Officer
Cemeterial Division.

FWW

Encl. 1.
Return envelope.

Inv. S.S.
Inv. & Adj.

MAILED

JAN 27 1921

G.R.S.

~~RECORDED FILE 2/25/21~~

2nd Ind.

Supervisor, A. #1, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, (Meuse) 24 December, 1920, TO
Chief, AGRS., Q.M.C., in E., 8 Avenue d'Iena, Paris.

1. Returned.

2. Further search has been instituted in the vicinity of Molville
Fram in an effort to locate the grave of Louis Balser. Two cemeteries were
located on this farm, but they had been entirely emptied of bodies. The
search was unsuccessful and it is thought by this office that it is impossible
to locate this grave unless additional information is given concerning the
grave location.

RECORDED



L. O. MATHEWS
Major, Q.M.C.

293. Balser, L.

3rd Ind.

HW/mms

Hqrs., A.G.R.S., Q.M.C. in E., 8 Ave. d'Iena, Paris, December 30, 1920.
To: Quartermaster General, Munitions Building, Washington, D.C.

1. Returned, inviting attention to preceding indorsement.

H. F. RETHERS,
Colonel, Q.M.C.

FILE

Recorded, Cemetery Division, O.O.M.G.
File # 293.8
#110460

Balser, Louis

293. Balser, L.

3rd Ind.

HW/nms

Hqrs., A.G.R.S., Q.M.C. in E., 8 Ave. d'Iena, Paris, December 30, 1920.
To: Quartermaster General, Munitions Building, Washington, D.C.

1. Returned, inviting attention to preceding indorsement.

H. F. RETHERS,
Colonel, Q.M.C.

FILES.

December 8, 1920.

293.8 Cem. Div. - 110460 (Balser, Louis)

From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army (Cemeterial Div.)
To: Mr. Thomas Evers, 22 Clymer Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
Subject: Balser #1283236, Louis, Private, Company D, 115th Inf.

1. The records of this office do not indicate that a reply has been received to our communication, dated October 28, 1920, requesting that you furnish this office from your recollection or retained records any information which may assist at this time in locating the grave of the above named soldier.

2. Your prompt attention to this important matter will be greatly appreciated. Please use the enclosed envelope which requires no postage for your reply.

By authority of the Quartermaster General.

FWW

M. N. GREELEY,
Captain, Q.M.G.,
Executive Officer,
Cemeterial Division.

DRG

Inv. S.S.
Inv. & Adj.

MAILED

DEC 9 - 1920

G.R.S.

SUSPENDED FOR

Jan 4/21

December 3, 1920.

293.8 Cem. Div. - #110460 - Registration.

From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army (Cemeterial Division)
To: Mr. Thomas Evers, 22 Clymer Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
Subject: Balser, 1283236, Louis, Private, Company D, 115th Infantry.

1. The records of this office do not indicate that a reply has been received to our communication dated October 28, 1920, requesting that you furnish this office, from your recollection or retained records, any information which may assist at this time in locating the grave of Private Balser.

2. Your prompt attention to this important matter will be greatly appreciated. Please use the enclosed envelope, which requires no postage, for your reply.

By authority of the Quartermaster General.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
M. H. GREELEY
Captain, Q. M. C.
Executive Officer
Cemeterial Division

vbb

Inv. S. S.
Inv. & Adj.

Encl.
1 penalty envelope.

DRG

SUSPENDED FOR

Jan. 4th 1921

MAILED
DEC 6 - 1920
G.R.S.

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE, Q.M.C., IN EUROPE
8, AVENUE D'ENA, PARIS

File No.

NOV 9 1920

From: Chief,

To: Quartermaster General, U.S. Army (Cemeterial Division)

Subject: Acknowledgment of Correspondence.

Receipt this date is acknowledged of the following
correspondence from your office:

Letter)

dated: Oct. 28, 1920

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~)

File No. 293. 8 Cem. 110460 Balser, Louis

Subject: Balser, 1283236, Louis, Pvt. Co. D, 115th Inf.

Name:

H. F. BETHERS,
Colonel, Q.M.C.

Recorded, Cemeterial Div. O. O. M. G.
File # 293.8 110460

Balser, Louis

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
~~DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE AND STORAGE~~
WASHINGTON

RECORDED, A.G.R.S., Q.M.C., IN EUROPE
FILE NO. 293.874 SER. L.

October 28, 1920.

File No. 293.8 Cem. 110460 Balser, Louis.

From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army.
To: Chief, American Graves Registration Service, Q.M.C.
in Europe, 8 Avenue d'Iena, Paris, France.
Subject: Balser, 1283236, Louis, Private Company D, 115th Inf.

1. With reference to previous correspondence on the subject of search for grave location of above soldier you are advised that the records of the Adjutant General's Office show that this soldier deserted October 16, 1918, and no further information as to death and grave location of this soldier has been received.

2. This matter is brought to your attention at this time requesting further search in view of the fact that the Adjutant General's Office is still carrying this soldier as a deserter, notwithstanding report of burial of this soldier in Commune of Consen-voye.

By authority of the Quartermaster General.

M. N. Greeley
M. N. GREELEY,
Captain, Q.M. Corps,
Assistant Executive,
Cemeterial Division.

293. Balser, L.

1st. Ind.

HW/nm.

Hqrs. American G.R.S., Q.M.C. in Europe, 8 Avenue d'Iena, PARIS. November 13th. 1920. - To: Supervisor, Area #1, American G.R.S. ROMAGNE-sous-MONTFAUCON.

1. Forwarded for further investigation and report by indorsement hereon when completed.

By direction :

Edgar A. Fry
EDGAR A. FRY,
Colonel, Infantry,
Chief, Operations Division.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

FILES.

October 28, 1920.

293.8 Cem. 110460 Balser, Louis

From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army.

To: Mr. Thomas Evers, 22 Clymer Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Subject: Balser, 1283236, Louis, Private, Company D, 115th Inf.

1. This office is conducting an investigation to ascertain the present grave location of the above soldier. Pvt. Balser's brother has advised War Department that you have informed him that you found the body of Pvt. Balser in the woods on the left of Death Valley near Brabant Road and Eltraye Road, also that you found on the body a bundle of mail.

2. The representatives of the Graves Registration Service in France have made five searches in the vicinity of Mollyville Farm, Commune of Consenvoye, for the grave of Balser without result.

3. Your attention is invited to this matter with the request that you furnish this office from your recollection or retained records any information which may assist at this time in locating the grave.

4. Your attention to this important matter will be much appreciated. An envelope is enclosed for your reply.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

M. N. GREELEY,
Captain, Q. M. Corps.
Assistant Executive,
Cemeterial Division. *CMR* *GMP*

ADM 89

BP

mail
OCT 28 1920

SUSPENDED FOR 12/1/20

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

FILES.

110460

293.8 Com. 110460 Balser, Louis.

October 28, 1920.

From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army.
To: Chief, American Graves Registration Service, Q.M.G.
in Europe, 8 Avenue d'Iena, Paris, France.
Subject: Balser, 1235236, Louis, Private Company D, 115th Inf.

1. With reference to previous correspondence on the subject of search for grave location of above soldier you are advised that the records of this Adjutant General's Office show that this soldier deserted October 16, 1918, and no further information as to death and grave location of this soldier has been received.

2. This matter is brought to your attention at this time requesting further search in view of the fact that the Adjutant General's Office is still carrying this soldier as a deserter, notwithstanding report of burial of this soldier in Commune of Consonvoye.

By authority of the Quartermaster General.

M. N. GREENLEY,
Captain, Q.M. Corps,
Assistant Executive,
Cometorial Division. *enif* *CMP*

ADM 35

BP

Mail
OCT 28 1920

SUSPENDED FOR

Jan 2/20

Note:
This letter sent at
request of Col. Davis.
CMP

110460- Inquiry (Dear, Louis Pvt.) 9th Ind.,

From: O. Q. M. U.S.A. (Cometorial Division) Munitions Bldg. Washington D.C.
May 28th 1920, To: The Adjutant General of the Army, War Department Wash-
ton D.C.

1. Forwarded inviting attention to the foregoing indorsements.
2. The above information pertains to your letters of April 9th 1920, and May 12th 1920 attached. Delay in reply has been due to the investigation of this case.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

CHARLES C. PIERCE,
Colonel U.S. Army,
Chief, Cometorial Division,

By:
CHARLES J. KYLE,
Captain, Q.M.C. LKB

AS

ALS

110460

✓

G. E. S. MARRAS
JUN 2 - 1920

Munitions Building

WASHINGTON

DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE & STORAGE

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE AND STORAGE
WAR DEPARTMENT

Address reply to

110460

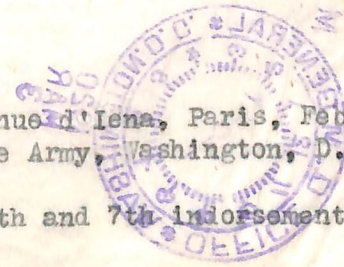


293.3 Balser Louis.

8th Ind.

Hqrs. American G.R.S., Q.M.C., in Europe, 8 Avenue d'Iena, Paris, February 17, 1920 - To: The Quartermaster General of the Army, Washington, D.C.

1. Returned, Attention invited to 5th, 6th and 7th indorsements hereon.



H. H. FULLER
Lt. Col. F.A.

For and in absence of Chief.

cam.mj

(COPY)

WAR DEPARTMENT,
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON.

AMS*EB 2-201

May 12, 1920

201(Balser, Louis)W7

To: The Quartermaster General of the Army
Washington, D.C.

Subject: Status of case of Private Louis Balser.

1. No reply has been received to the communication of April 9, 1920 from this office in which reference was made to previous letters in connection with the case of Louise Balser, #1,283,236, Company D, 115th Infantry.

2. This office will be advised of the action taken as directed in the previous communication, together with an explanation as to the cause of delay.

By order of the Secretary of War :

F. R. Brown

Adjutant General.

110460

SYNOPSIS OF COMMUNICATION RECEIVED AND INDORSED OUT.

DATED:

DATE RECEIVED IN

FROM:

TO:

5th Ind. From A. G.R.S. in Europe to Captain W.B.Brigham, Supervisor, American GRS. Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, directing a vigorous search in the vicinity outlined in the 3rd Ind. for the body of Louis Balser.

6th Ind. From Supervisor addressed in 5th Ind., to C.O., A.GRS.Europe, advising that Lieut. Godson spent two days with 3 other men in search of body of above soldier without result.

7th Ind. From AGRS Europe, to AGRS U.S.A. - Returned. Advising four previous searches had also been made in the vicinity of Molleyville Farm for this grave.

110460

AMS:EMB 2-201

A.G. 201 (Balser, Louis)WW

April 9, 1920.

Subject: Status of Private Louis Balser,

To: The Quartermaster General of the Army,
Washington, D. C.

1. On January 31st a communication was addressed to the Quartermaster General of the Army requesting information as to the action taken on a request for investigation to ascertain the burial place of Private Louis Balser, #1,283,236, Company D, 115th Infantry, who was reported as having deserted October 16, 1918. A reply was made to this letter on February 27th, in which it was stated that the Chief, American Graves Registration Service, Q.M.C. in Europe would be again called on for a report as to the result of this investigation. The desired report has not yet been received.

2. Further steps will be taken with a view to expediting this case and this office advised immediately of the action taken.

By order of the Secretary of War.

F. R. Brown.
Adjutant General.

110 460

Case of: Pvt. Louis Balser, No. 1283236, Co. D, 115th Inf.

Subject: Supposed to have been buried in vicinity of Molleville Farm by a sergeant of a salvaging company.

The AGO carries this man on there records as deserted 10/16/18 - However a letter from his parents state that they have information from a soldier whose home address is Philadelphia, that he found the body of a soldier near the left of the of the Brabant and Etraye roads and buried him in the woods in the vicinity of Molleville farm - identifying him by a pack of letters which was found on his body addressed to "Dick" Balser, and which were later returned to this man's parents. This body was supposed to have been buried with identification tag. The GRS in Europe were requested to search in Molleville farm, commune of Consenvoye, Meuse, which was done, but without success as far as locating the body of Balser was concerned.

The sketches of this cemetery were removed from the files and search made thru these records for a man who could be called Balser, but without success - the records of the other men buried in this commune (C-285) were then searched - cards, forms 1-A, location index, but they did not aid us in locating the above mentioned man. Neither was he carried on the Red Cross Field Records, which were searched,

The "Unknown" reburials were then searched, and the forms 16 on the Unknown men reburied from Commune C-285 were removed, to be thoroughly investigated (there were four of these forms 16) two of the forms contained a description of the man who was found - We then sent another 8-W to Mr. Good on 3/20/20 for physical and dental description of "Balser" - Mr. Good returned the 8-W on the 22nd, but the description compared in no way with the descriptions on the forms 16.

Another letter has been sent to Europe on Feb. 28, 1920 requesting investigation and report on this case.

D. M. ABBOTT
Investigation Unit.

Return?

*Lengthy considerations.
Might write to Wagner for info.*

293. Balser, Louis

1st Ind.

camlmj

Hqrs. American C.R.S., Q.M.C., in Europe, 8 Avenue d'Iena, Paris.
March 22, 1920 - To: The Quartermaster General of the Army, Washington, D.C.

1. Returned, with the information that original communication forwarded to this Office December 15th was returned by 8th indorsement these Headquarters February 11, 1920 inviting attention to 6th indorsement thereon, which read as follows: "Pursuant to the foregoing instructions Lieutenant Godson has spent the better part of the last two days, with three other men, in a search for the body of Pvt. Louis Balser without result. Other bodies were located in the same vicinity but not that of Balser, and I feel certain that if this body is in this vicinity it is without any indication of its location." and 7th indorsement which read in part: "Four previous searches have also been made in the vicinity of Molleyville Farm for this grave".

110460
H.F. Rethers
Colonel, Q.M.C.
Chief.

293. (Balser, Louis)

1st Ind.

camlmj

Hqrs. American C.R.S., Q.M.C., in Europe, 8 Avenue d'Iena, Paris.
March 22, 1920 - To: The Quartermaster General of the Army, Washington, D.C.

1. Returned, with the information that original communication forwarded to this Office December 15th was returned by 8th indorsement these Headquarters February 11, 1920 inviting attention to 6th indorsement thereon, which read as follows: "Pursuant to the foregoing instructions Lieutenant Godson has spent the better part of the last two days, with three other men, in a search for the body of Pvt. Louis Balser without result. Other bodies were located in the same vicinity but not that of Balser, and I feel certain that if this body is in this vicinity it is without any indication of its location." and 7th indorsement which read in part: "Four previous searches have also been made in the vicinity of Molleyville Farm for this grave".

110460
for H.F. Rethers
Colonel, Q.M.C.
Chief.

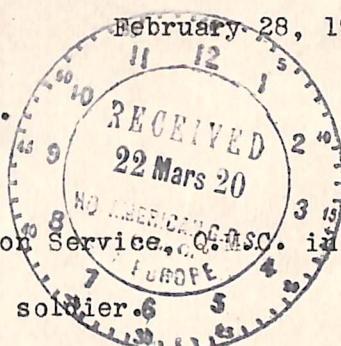
ADDRESS REPLY TO
Director of Purchase & Storage
MUNITIONS BUILDING

WAR DEPARTMENT
PURCHASE, STORAGE, AND TRAFFIC DIVISION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE AND STORAGE
WASHINGTON

110460

RECORDED, A.G.R.S., Q.M.C., IN EUROPE
FILE NO. 893 Balser, Louis Pvt.

No: 110509 (Balser, Louis Pvt.) G.R.S.
From: Cemeterial Division.
To: Chief, American Graves Registration Service, Q.M.C. in Europe.
Subject: Investigation and report on above soldier.



1. It is requested that investigation and report on the case of Private Louis Balser, be expedited.

2. Enclosed is a copy of the communication which was forwarded to your office under date of December 15, 1919.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

Charles C. Pierce
CHARLES C. PIERCE,
Colonel, U. S. Army,
Chief, Cemeterial Division.

ACS:ELB:KK
encl.
correspondence

A reply to
DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE & STORAGE
Munitions Building

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE AND STORAGE
WASHINGTON

February 28, 1920.

110509 (Balser, Louis Pvt.) G.R.S.

Cemeterial Division.

Chief, American Graves Registration Service, G.A.C. in Europe.

Investigation and report on above soldier.

1. It is requested that investigation and report on the case of Private Louis Balser, be expedited.

2. Enclosed is a copy of the communication which was forwarded to your office under date of December 15, 1919.

By authority of the Quartermaster General

CHARLES C. PIERCE,
Colonel, U. S. Army,
Chief, Cemeterial Division.

ACS:ELB:KK
encl.
correspondence

110509 (Balser, Louis, Pvt.) G.R.S. 1st. Ind.
Graves Registration Service, 18th & Virginia Ave., Washington, D.C.,
February 27, 1920, To, The Adjutant General of the Army, War Dept.

1. Returned. As directed in Paragraph (2) of third indorsement from your office under date of November 28, 1919, case was forwarded to the Chief of the American Graves Registration Service, Q.M.C. in Europe, to ascertain whether the body of this soldier had been buried as indicated, under the name of "Louis" or "Dick" Balser. This case was forwarded to France from this office on December 15, 1919 for complete investigation and report. No reply has yet been received in this office.

2. Compliance with paragraph (2) original letter, your request will be renewed and your office advised as to result of investigation, immediately upon receipt of same in this office.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

CHARLES C. PIERCE
Colonel, U. S. Army,
Chief, Graves Registration Service

BY:

Charles J. Wynne,
Captain, Q.M.C.,
Graves Registration Service

CJW/elb

C O P Y

110460
AMSEEB 2-201

201(Balser, Louis)DR

War Department, A.G.O., November 28, 1919 - To The Chief Graves Registration Service, Washington, D.C.

1. The records of this office show that Private Louis Balser, #1,283,236, Company D, 115th Infantry, was reported as having deserted October 16, 1918. Private advices alleging his death have been received and this office is now conducting an investigation in an effort to verify the allegation and remove the charge of desertion standing against the record of this soldier, if warranted by the facts of the case. This office has been informed that the body of this soldier was found by the salvaging detail in the woods on the left of Death Valley, near Brabant Road and Etraye Road. The sergeant of the detail searched the body for some means of identification and found on it a package of mail addressed to Private "Dick" Balser, Company D, 115th Infantry. It is further alleged that a grave was found with this soldier's identification tag on it in the woods of Consenvoye on Mollyville Farm.

2. It is desired that this case be called to the attention of the Headquarters of the Graves Registration Service, Paris, France, to ascertain whether the body of this soldier had been buried as indicated above under the name of Louis or "Dick" Balser.

3. It is desired that an investigation of this case be conducted as expeditiously as possible and this office advised of the information obtained as soon as it is completed.

By order of the Secretary of War:

signed F.R.BROWN.
Adjutant General.

(COPY)

110460
AMS-EB 2-201

WAR DEPARTMENT,
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

WASHINGTON. January 31, 1920

201(Balser, Louis)WW

From: The Adjutant General of the Army.
To: The Quartermaster General of the Army,
Washington, D.C.
Subject: Status of Private Louis Balser.

1. Under date of November 23, 1919, an indorsement, copy attached, was addressed to your office, requesting that the case of Private Louis Balser, #1,233,236, Company D, 115th Infantry be called to the attention of the Headquarters, Graves Registration Service, Paris, France. No reply has yet been received in this office.

2. It is desired that this request be renewed, and this office be advised of the action taken as soon as practicable.

By order of the Secretary of War:

J. Erwin.

Adjutant General.

1 Incl.

Copy
JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
UNITED STATES ARMY & NAVY.

FILES.

110460

National Headquarters.
149 Fifth Avenue, N. Y. C.
January 14th, 1920.

Mr. George G. Cohen,
Jewish Welfare Board,
11th Street & Pennsylvania Ave.,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Cohen:

Private Louis Balser of Co. D, 115 Infantry,
has been missing since October 10th, 1918.
His company went into action about October
8th, 1918 and the last seen of him was October
10th, 1918, by his platoon sergeant Joseph
Neuschaefer.

We understand that another man in the service
had come across the body of this soldier and
had turned the body over to another man.
Letters found upon the body were returned to
the family.

A relative of the soldier met a clerk of
Company D, at Classification Camp, Le Mans,
France some time in June 1919, and the clerk
stated that the body was buried on the Molleyville
Farm in the Forest of Conseroy.

Mr. Bernard D. Balser, 131 Jackson Place,
Baltimore, Maryland, brother of this soldier,
advises us that he has presented these facts
to the War Department, and has received a
reply to the affect that the soldier was mis-
sing and dropped from the rolls as a deserter
November 6th, 1918.

Will you kindly investigate this case and
advise us.

Very truly yours,
JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
(signed) R. Barnew
Graves Registration Bureau.

A true copy.

110460
FILES.
JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
UNITED STATES ARMY & NAVY.

National Headquarters.
149 Fifth Avenue, N. Y. C.
January 14th, 1920.

Mr. George G. Cohen,
Jewish Welfare Board,
11th Street & Pennsylvania Ave.,
Washington, D. C.

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to the War Department, and has received a
reply to the effect that the soldier was mis-
sing and dropped from the rolls as a deserter
November 6th, 1918.

Will you kindly investigate this case and
advise us.

Very truly yours,
JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
(signed) R. Barnew
Graves Registration Bureau.

A true copy.

201

G.R.S., 295.3

Balsor, Louis

4th Ind.

110509
110460
OMI/bet

From: Graves Registration Service, Washington, D.C. To: Director of
Mortuary Operations in Europe, 12 Rue Boissy d'Anglas, Paris, France.
Dec. 15, 1919.

1. For complete investigation and report to this office by
indorsement hereon.

By authority of the Quartermaster General, Director of
Purchase and Storage.

CaR

CHARLES C. PIERCE,
Chief, Graves Registration Service.

Charles C. Pierce
12/15/19

By authority of the Quartermaster General, Director of
Purchase & Storage:

Charles C. Pierce,
Colonel, Q.M.C.,
Chief, Graves Registration Service

BY:

Charles J. Wynne,
Captain, Q.M.C.,
Graves Registration Service

201 (Balser, Louis)DR 3rd. Ind.
War Department, A.G.O., November 28, 1919. - To the Chief, Graves
Registration Service, Washington, D.C.

1. The records of this office show that Private Louis Balser, #1283236, Co. D. 115th Inf, was reported as having deserted October 16, 1918. Private advices alleging his death have been received and this office is now conducting an investigation in an effort to verify the allegation and remove the charge of desertion standing against the record of this soldier, if warranted by the facts in the case. This office has been informed that the body of this soldier was found by the salvaging detail the woods on the left of Death Valley, near Brabant Road and Etraye Road. The sergeant of the detail searched the body for some means of identification and found on it a package of mail addressed to Private "Dick" Balser, Co. D. 115th Inf. It is further alleged that a grave was found with this soldier's identification tag on it in the woods of Consenvoye on Mollyville Farm.

2. It is desired that this case be called to the attention of the Hdqrs. of the Graves Registration Service, France, to ascertain whether the body of this soldier has been buried as indicated above under the name of Louis or "Dick" Balser.

3. It is desired that an investigation of this case be conducted as expeditiously as possible and this office advised of the information obtained as soon as it is completed.

By order of the Secretary of War:

F.R.Brown,
Adjutant General

201 G.R.S. 293.3 4th Ind.
(Balser, Louis)
From Graves Registration Service, Washington, D.C. To: Director of
Mortuary Operations in Europe, 12 Rue Boissy d'Anglas, Paris, France.
Dec. 15, 1919.

1. For complete investigation and report to this office by
indorsement hereon.

By authority of the Quartermaster General, Director
of Purchase and Storage:

Charles C. Pierce
Chief, Graves Registration service.

201(Balser, Louis)DR

War Department, A.G.O., November 23, 1919. - To The Chief, Graves
Registration Service, Washington, D.C.

1. The records of this office show that Private Louis Balser, #1,283,236, C company D, 115th Infantry, was reported as having deserted October 16, 1918. Private advices alleging his death have been received and this office is now conducting an investigation in an effort to verify the allegation and remove the charge of desertion standing against the record of this soldier, if warranted by the facts in the case. This office has been informed that the body of this soldier was found by the salvaging detail in the woods on the left of Death Valley, near Brabant Road and Etraye Road. The sergeant of the detail searched the body for some means of identification and found on it a package of mail addressed to Private "Dick" Balser, Company D, 115th Infantry. It is further alleged that a grave was found with this soldier's identification tag on it in the woods of Conservoye on Mollyville Farm.

2. It is desired that this case be called to the attention of the Headquarters of the Graves Registration Service, Paris, France, to ascertain whether the body of this soldier had been buried as indicated above under the name of Louis or "Dick" Balser.

3. It is desired that an investigation of this case be conducted as expeditiously as possible and this office advised of the information obtained as soon as it is completed.

By order of the Secretary of War:

F.R. BROWN.

Adjutant General.

110460

1st Ind.

AMS-BB 3-201

201(Balser, Louis)HR

War Department, D.C.O., October 28, 1919. - To The Chief, Graves Registration Service, Washington, D.C.

For report relative to the date and place of burial, and if reburied, the date of the original burial of Private Louis Balser, #1,283,286 Company D, 115th Infantry, and any other information which your records afford from which this office may ascertain the date of death.

By order of the Secretary of War,

F. R. Brown.

Adjutant General,

2nd Ind.

/nm

201
G.R.S., 293.3
Balser, Louis,

Graves Registration Service, Office of the Quartermaster General, 18th St. & Virginia Ave., Washington, D. C., November 19, 1919. To Adjutant General's Office, War Department, Washington, D. C.

1. The records of this office fail to show any grave location registered in the case of Pvt. Louis Balser, Co. D, 115th Infantry.

By authority of the Quartermaster General, Director of Purchase and Storage:

CHARLES C. PIERCE,
Colonel, Q.M.C.,
Chief, Graves Registration Service.

BY:

CHARLES J. WYNNIE,
Captain, Q.M.C.,
Graves Registration Service.

110460

House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C., Oct. 24, 1919.

201 (Balser, Louis)C.D.

The Adjutant General,
Wash. D.C.

Dear Sir:-

Referring to the case of Pvt. Louis Balser, Co. D, 115th Infantry, I beg to advise you that his brother called at my Baltimore office the other day and said that Thomas Evers, Wagoner, Supply Co., 315th Inf. now residing at No. 22 Clymer St., Phila. Pa., made a statement to the effect that he found the body of Pvt. Balser in the woods on the left of Death Valley, near Brabant Road and Etraye Road, and also that he found on his body a bundle of mail which he delivered to a Sergeant of the 312th Machine Gun Bn., whose name he does not know.

I thought this information might assist you in your investigation to determine the fate of Balser.

I am also informed that the Hdqrs. Clerk, Co. D. 115th Inf. made a statement to the effect that he saw the record that Balser was buried at Molleyville Farm, in the forest of Conservey.

Sincerely yours,

Charles P. Coady.

201 (Balser, Louis)DR 1st. Ind.
War Dept., A.G.O., Oct. 28, 1919 - To The Chief, Graves Registration Service, Washington, D.C.

For report relative to the date and place of burial, and if reburied, the date of the original burial of Pvt. Louis Balser, #1283236, Co. D. 115th Inf., and any other information which your records afford from which this office may ascertain the date of death.

By order of the Secretary of War.

F.R.Brown.
Adjutant General.

201 2nd. Ind.
GRS, 293.3 (Balser, Louis)
Graves Registration Service, Office of the Quartermaster General, 18th & Virginia Ave., Washington, D. C., November 19, 1919. To Adjutant General's Office, War Department, Washington, D.C.

1. The records of this office fail to show any grave location registered in the case of Pvt. Louis Balser, Co. D. 115th Inf.

110460

House of Representatives

Wash. D. C., Oct. 24, 1919.

201 (Balser, Louis) CD

The Adjutant General,
Wash. D. C.

Dear Sir:

Referring to the case of Pvt. Louis Balser, Co. D, 115th Infantry, I beg to advise you that his brother called at my Baltimore office the other day and said that Thomas Evers, Wagoner, Supply Co., 315th Inf., now residing at No. 22 Clymer St., Phila. Pa., made a statement to the effect that he found the body of Pvt. Balser in the woods on the left of Death Valley, near Brabant Road and Etraye Road, and also that he found on his body a bundle of mail which he delivered to a Sergeant of the 312th Machine Gun Bn., whose name he does not know.

I thought this information might assist you in your investigation to determine the fate of Balser.

I am also informed that the Hdqrs. clerk, Co. D, 115th Inf. made a statement to the effect that he saw the record that Balser was buried at Molleyville Farm, in the forest of Conservey.

Sincerely Yours.

Chas. P. Coady.

Investigation Unit, Audit Dept.

G.R.S Form No. 8-W; Central Records
Liaison.

3/20/20

DMA

Memo For: G.R.S. representative, C.R.O.

Subject: Information required for G.R.S.

1. Items checked are to be completed:

- ✓ Surname: **BALSER,**
- ✓ Number: **1283236**
- ✓ First name: **Louis**
- ✓ Rank: **Pvt.**
- ✓ Company: **D**
- ✓ Organization: **115th Inf.**
- ✓ Date of death:
- ✓ Cause:
- Place: *Deserted Oct 16/18*

Location of hospital:

Number " "

Class " "

✓ Emergency address

✓ Relationship:

Authority:

✓ Cablegram No: *Vide 118201*

Telegram from:

dated:

Reported to Washington;

C.C.Nos.

(Underscore the "official" C.C.)

Remarks:

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

NS-3404/MB

110460

Investigation Unit Audit Detp

G.R.S. Form #8-W; A.G.O. Liaison.

Date 4/14/20

Memo. For: G.R.S. Representative, A.G.O.

Subject: Information required for G.R.S.

1. Items checked are to be completed.

✓ Surname Balser, ✓
✓ Number 1283236 ✓
✓ First name Louis ✓
✓ Rank Pvt. ✓
✓ Company D. ✓
✓ Organization 115 Inf. ✓
✓ Date of death no rec.
✓ Cause bur
✓ Emergency address. R. Balser.
917-E Lombard St.
Baltimore, Md.
✓ Relationship. Father.
✓ Authority (C.C.#) Donnelly & Co.
Ent. Pers. Sec.
US - 4/16/20

Note: If this man is not dead show present status, and in case of discharge, show date and place. If case is under investigation, make notation to that effect.

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

Chief, Graves Registration Service.
NS-7133-NJH.

No burial record.

Latest reports shows
dropped as deserter Oct 16/18.

G.R.S Form No. 8-W; Central Records
Liaison.

1/22/20

Memo For: G.R.S. representative, C.R.O.

Subject: Information required for G.R.S.

1. Items checked are to be completed:

✓ Surname:	Balser ✓
✓ Number:	1283, 236
✓ First name:	Louis
✓ Rank:	Pvt ✓
✓ Company:	D ✓
✓ Organization:	115th Inf. ✓
✓ Date of death:	
✓ Cause:	Deserted (over)
Place:	

Location of hospital:

Number " "

Class " "

✓ Emergency address

✓ Relationship:

Authority:

✓ Cablegram No:

Telegram from:

dated:

Reported to Washington:

C.C.Nos.

(Underscore the "official" C.C.)

Remarks:

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

No record of death
of Louis [unclear]
Co D 115, Inf 9
1283, 236, or similar
names.

Latest report as
shown on L.R. Nov 5, 1918.
"Sol. became absent
Oct 9, 1918."

E/A. Mr. R. Balcer, Father
917 E. Lombard St
Baltimore Md

R. of Change shows Sol.
dis. Oct 16, 1918. Port Co D 115
Heilbrunn

W8-317e

1-26-20.

Verified Hood

Classification

Adjustment

CEMETERIAL DIVISION
GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE
REGISTRATION SECTIONDate April 10, 1920

MEMORANDUM:

To: Registration Files Sub-Section.

Subject: Adjustments made on Registration Files.

1. Changes as checked have been made in the Registration Files which will necessitate a corresponding change in the Classification Files.

		ADD. CORR. DATA			ADD. CORR. DATA
File Number <u>5x8 cancelled</u>			Date of Burial		
Name			Date of Reburial		
Serial Number			Burial Information		
Rank			Nearest Relative		
Organization			Notified Nearest Relative		
Cause of Death			<u>5x8</u> Blue Card thrown out	0	0
Date of Death			White Card set up		
Casualty Cablegram Number					

O.K. Alphabetical Files _____

O.K. ~~Organization~~ Files _____O.K. ~~State~~ Files _____
☒ Cemetery Audit Department
☒ Investigation & Adjustment Dept.
By A.F. Wilson2 Cards attached.

✓ Louis Bales, Co D - 115th Inf. (A.G.O.)
1283236

✓ Joseph M. Campodonico Co C - 479 Inf.
2263643

110460

(Hold)

✓ Patrick Francis Maguire 308 Inf. Co B
1707842

✓ Frank Lawson, Co F, 366 Inf. (phone 4 cases)
2649136

Balser Louis

WAR DEPARTMENT
GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE & STORAGE
WASHINGTON

*110460
Phone
all*

ANALYSIS OF INQUIRY

____ Circumstances of Death
(Par. #2, Bul. 10-C-W)

____ Liberty Bonds
(G.R.S. Form 111)

____ Flowers, Flags, etc.
(Par. #6, Bul. 10-C-W)

____ War Risk Insurance
(G.R.S. Form 111)

____ Monument
(Par. #8, Bul. 10-C-W)

____ Photographs
(Par. #11, Bul. 10-C-W)

____ Discrepancies in Inscription
(Par. #9, Bul. 10-C-W)

Permanent Burial In

____ (a) France (G.R.S. Form 106)

____ Personal Effects
(G.R.S. Form 111)

____ (b) Other Countries

____ Accrued Pay
(G.R.S. Form 111)

Return of Bodies From

____ (a) France (G.R.S. Form 106)
(Par. #12, Bul. 10-C-W)

____ Maintenance
(Par. #7, Bul. 10-C-W)

____ (b) Other countries

Remarks; _____

NOTE: In addition to information furnished on Nos. 1, 6, 11, and 12, G.R.S. Form 101-A (Information Blank), supply data on the following:

Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15.

Analysis Clerk.

Date 5-17-20

TO:- REGISTRATION BRANCH, G.R.S.

FROM:- INQUIRY BRANCH.

Please furnish information as checked (✓) below regarding the following soldier:

NAME *Balser, Louis*

Serial Number 1,283,236

RANK *Priv.*ORGANIZATION *C. & D 115th Inf.*

NO.	QUESTION	REPLY
1.	Do particulars of soldiers given above agree with Records?	(1) Yes
2.	Date of Death	(2) No record
3.	Cause and place of death	(3) Latest report as shown on S. R. 11-5-18 soldier became absent
4.	Number of Casualty Cablegram	10-9-18 R of Change shows soldier deserted
5.	Date buried	10-16-18
6.	Grave Location (a) Complete record required. (b) Name of Cemetery or Commune only required. (c) Note reinterments.	(4) Not given 6
7.	Who reported burial?	(5) " "
8.	Confirmed by G.R.S.?	(6) " "
9.	Report as to Grave Marker	
10.	Identification Tags: (a) Buried with body? (b) Attached to grave marker?	(10) (a) Not given (b) " " (attached)
11.	Complete Emergency Address?	(11) Mrs. R. Balser 917 E Lombard St Baltimore, Md.
12.	Has above been notified? (Give date)	(12) not given
13.	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply in all cases if no information on record)	(14) Not given
14.	What is the Photograph No.?	
15.	Inquiry made by?	

N.B. All Proper names to be typewritten, or printed in PLAIN BLOCK LETTERS.

Released by Information Control Dept.
Directory *no record*
Cards 5 x 8 "
Cards 4 x 6 "

MRS no 70m16
not in Romagn

TO: - REGISTRATION BRANCH, G.R.S.

Date 3-20

FROM: - INQUIRY BRANCH.

Please furnish information as checked (✓) below regarding the following soldier:

NAME *Baker, Louis*

Serial Number 1283 236

RANK *Pvt*

ORGANIZATION

Co. D - 115th Inf

NO.	QUESTION	REPLY
1.	Do particulars of soldiers given above agree with Records?	<i>Oyes - lacks serial #</i>
2.	Date of Death.	<i>② none</i>
3.	Cause and place of death.	<i>③ "Buried, D+C to be determined"</i>
4.	Number of Casualty VCablegram.	<i>④ no record</i>
5.	Date buried.	<i>⑤ " "</i>
6.	Grave Location. (a) Complete record required. (b) Name of Cemetery or Commune only required. (c) Note reinterments.	<i>⑥ Mollayville Farm, Conseroye C 285 (Conseroye)</i>
7.	Who reported burial?	<i>no further record</i>
8.	Confirmed by G.R.S.?	
9.	Report as to Grave Marker.	
10.	Identification Tags: (a) Buried with body? (b) Attached to grave marker?	<i>⑩ none</i>
11.	Complete Emergency Address?	<i>⑪ " "</i>
12.	Has above been notified? (Give date)	<i>⑫ " "</i>
13.	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply in all cases if no information on record)	
14.	What is the Photograph No.?	
15.	Inquiry made by?	

Released by Information Control

Dept.

Directory *no use*Cards 5 x 8 *blue*

Cards 4 x 6

*no GLB**" form 16**Not in Roumagne du G.*

N.B. All Proper names to be typewritten, or printed in PLAIN BLOCK LETTERS.

TO:- REGISTRATION BRANCH, G.R.S.

Date 1/27/20

FROM:- INQUIRY BRANCH.

FILES

Please furnish information as checked (✓) below regarding the following soldier:

NAME **BALSER, Louis**

Serial Number

RANK **Pvt.**ORGANIZATION **Co.D, 115th Inf.**

NO.	QUESTION	REPLY
1.	Do particulars of soldiers given above agree with Records?	No. #1283236
2.	Date of Death	No record of death: Latest report as shown on S. R. 11/5/18 "Soldier became absent 10/9/18" R. of change shows soldier deserted 10/16/18)
3.	Cause and place of death	
4.	Number of Casualty Cablegram	
5.	Date buried	
6.	Grave Location • (a) Complete record required, (b) Name of Cemetery or Commune only required. (c) Note reinterments.	
7.	Who reported burial?	
8.	Confirmed by G.R.S.?	
9.	Report as to Grave Marker	
10.	Identification Tags: (a) Buried with body? (b) Attached to grave marker?	
11.	Complete Emergency Address?	11. Mr. R. Balser (father) 917 E. Lombard St., Baltimore, Md.
12.	Has above been notified? (Give date)	
13.	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply in all cases if no information on record)	
14.	What is the Photograph No.?	
15.	Inquiry made by?	

N.B. All Proper names to be typewritten, or printed in PLAIN BLOCK LETTERS.

Released by Information Control Dept.

Directory

Cards 5 x 8

~~XX~~ Cards 4 x 6

DMA

FILES. 20
Date 7-2-20

TO:- REGISTRATION BRANCH, G.R.S.

FROM: INQUIRY BRANCH.

Please furnish information as checked (✓) below regarding the following soldier:

NAME *Balser, Louis*

Serial Number

RANK *Pvt.*

ORGANIZATION

Co. 10. 115th Inf.

NO.	QUESTION	REPLY
1.	Do particulars of soldiers given above agree with Records?	(1) <i>No record</i>
2.	Date of Death.	(2) <i>No record</i>
3.	Cause and place of death	(3) <i>No record</i>
4.	Number of Casualty Cablegram	(4) <i>No record</i>
5.	Date buried	(5) <i>No record</i>
6.	Grave Location. (a) Complete record required. (b) Name of Cemetery or Commune only required. (c) Note reinterments.	(6) <i>No record</i>
7.	Who reported burial?	
8.	Confirmed by G.R.S.?	
9.	Report as to Grave Marker.	
10.	Identification Tags: (a) Buried with body? (b) Attached to grave marker?	(10) <i>No record</i>
11.	Complete Emergency Address?	(11) <i>No record</i>
12.	Has above been notified? (Give date)	(12) <i>No record</i>
13.	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply in all cases if no information on record)	(13) <i>No record</i>
14.	What is the Photograph No.?	
15.	Inquiry made by?	

Don't 11 sent 1/2 2/20

N.B. All Proper names to be typewritten, or printed in PLAIN BLOCK LETTERS.

Released by Information Control Dept.

Directory — *No record*Cards 5 x 8 — *No record*Cards 4 x 6 — *No record*

*No Form 1 &
No G. L. 13.*