

DATE

1. NAME BENDER, Ralph SERIAL No. 2104471

RANK Pvt. ORGANIZATION Co.K 18th Inf.

1st. & DIVISION

GRAVE LOCATION St. Mihiel Amer. Cty. Thiaucourt, M&M 1233
CTY. NAME NUMBER

176 Sec. 20 4
GRAVE ROW PLOT

2. ORIGINAL BATTLE AREA GRAVE LOCATION 2 American Cty, Saizerais,
GRAVE COMMUNE DEPT M-et-m

Cty 447

COORDINATES

CONCENTRATED TO 6/19/19 176 Sec. 20 4
DATE GRAVE ROW PLOT

St. Mihiel 1233
CEMETERY CTY. NUMBER

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

Tag on cross.

DATE OF DEATH Aug. 17, '18

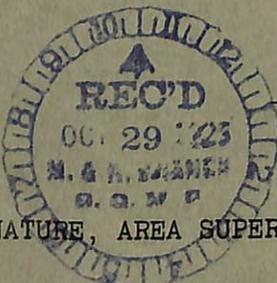
STATE FROM WHICH HE CAME Ohio.

Data P-1
mr

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS AWARDED Cited in G.O.

1st. Div. dated Jan. 1, '20

SUBSEQUENT REBURIALS
DATE GRAVE ROW PLOT CEMETERY



DATE GRAVE ROW PLOT CEMETERY

SIGNATURE, AREA SUPERVISOR L. H. JOSEPH, 1st Lieut., GMC

3. FINAL GRAVE LOCATION Aug. 16, 1922 20 14 Block B
DATE GRAVE ROW PLOT

St. Mihiel American No. 1233, Thiaucourt
CEMETERY

AUDITED BY 4
OCT 28 1925
WORLD WAR DIV.

15 Received A. G. O. OCT 27 1925 8-3
K.M.

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK.

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

BENDER 2104471 RALPH
(Surname.) (Number.) (First Name and Initials.)

PRIVATE Co K 18 INFANTRY
(Rank.) (Organization.)

DATE OF BURIAL AUGUST 18, 1918

PLACE OF BURIAL SAIZ ERAIS

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

American Military Cemetery
just outside Saizgrais
on road to Marbache

GRAVE NUMBER 2

HOW MARKED: Name Peg? Yes Cross? Yes

Headboard? Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body? Yes

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

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

REPORTED BY:

Chaplain King 18 Infantry
(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer.)

This portion to be forwarded to Adj. Gen'l., G. H. Q., A. E. F.

Co.K, 18 th Inf.
1 st Div.

BENDER, Ralph - Pvt. 2104471

I saw Pvt. Bender, on August 25th, 1918, about 20 minutes after he was killed at the Saizerais sector. He was struck by a piece of high explosive shell, the piece penetrating his brain. A first aid man told me he walked in the dugout, with his gas mask on. He laid down and said he was gassed. When the first aid man reached him, he was dead. They carried him to the rear, but do not know where he was buried.

Informant: Ward, Leslie H - Cpl. 2314218
Co.K, 18 th Inf.

Home

Signed : Geo A. Longstreth - Capt.
18 th Inf.

M.S.

Date 25th June 1919REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL.

Remains of:

Name BENDER.Ralph.Number: 2104471.Rank Pvt

Organization:

Co K. 18th Infantry.

Disinterment and Reburial made by Group

Unit

Disinterred (Date)

From: (Give complete location)

18th June 1919.Grave No 2.B.A.C.SAIZERAIS M. et M.52 SE E 376.2. N.222.8.

Reburied (Date)

in: (Give complete location)

18th June 1919.Grave No 176. Sec 20. Plot 4.ST MIHIEL AMERICAN CEMETERY. # 1233.THIANCOURT M. et M.1233

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

Burial good buried in uniform.Was one identification tag found upon the body? No.What other means of identification were found upon the body? None.**CONFIRMED** No 711907

Note:

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

Supervised by Capt Maurx.DRS.R. H. ROSENTHALC.O. Group 2nd Lieut. O.M.C.U.S.A

Unit

Place Thiaucourt M & M

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date April 20, 1921

1. REMAINS OF BENDER, RALPH. SERIAL NUMBER 2104471

RANK Pvt. ORGANIZATION Co.K. 18th. Inf.

2. Disinterred (date) : April 20, 1921. Amer. Cty. No. 1233, Grave 176. Sec. 20, P-4
From (give complete location) :

By : Group 3 Unit 2 Field Section No. 10

3. Reburied (date) : April 20, 1921. Amer. Cty. No. 1233, Grave 176. Sec. 20, P-4
In (give complete location) :

By : Group 3 Unit 2 Nature of reburial Box-burlap
Bottle record placed with body.

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

Box. U. S. Uniform

Body badly decomposed. Features unrecognizable.

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

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

Collar ornament-"Co.K. Inf." No effects found. Metal plaque on wooden cross nailed to top of burial box reads: "Ralph Bender-Pvt. Co.K. 18th. Inf U.S.A. Died Aug. 17, -18

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

(a) Height (actual measurement) Imp. to determine. See Par. 4 Nos. 4, 8, 9, 10-MAD Nos. 14, 15-MBD

(b) Weight (estimated) Imp. to determine. See Par. 4

(c) Hair—Color Imp. to determine, See Par. 4

Quantity Imp. to determine, See Par. 4

Characteristics Imp. to determine. See Par. 4

(d) Hair on face—Color Imp. to determine. None visible No. 19-MBD No. 30-cavity

Location Imp. to determine, None visible

Quantity None visible

(e) Permanent marks on body (old scars, peculiarities, or missing parts) None visible . See Par. 4

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

None visible. See Par. 4

7. Disinterment supervised by

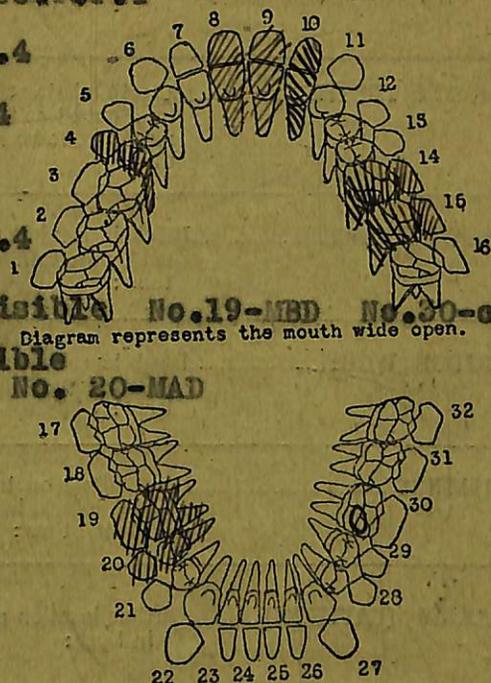
T.P. Madine, Sup. Emb.

Approved : O.E. bound
C. S. Coand, 1st. Lt. OMC
(Title)

8. Reburial supervised by

T.P. Madine, Sup. Emb.

Approved : O.E. bound
C. S. Coand, 1st. Lt. OMC
(Title)



CODE SLIP

| HEADING | SUB-HEADING | NO. OF COLS | CODE |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------------|
| NAME | Bender | 3 | 25 ⁰ 4 |
| | Ralph | | |
| BURIED | CEMETERY 1233 | 1 | 3 |
| | GRAVE 20 | 2 | 20 |
| | ROW 14 | 2 | 14 |
| | BLOCK 13 | 1 | 2 |
| STATE | Ohio | 2 | 41 |
| RANK | Pvt | 1 | 2 |
| DIVISION | 1 | 2 | 01 |
| ORGANIZATION | 18 | 3 | 018 |
| ARM | Inf | 1 | 1 |
| MARITAL | Father | 1 | 2 |
| | No | | |
| NAME | Bender John | 3 | 25 ⁰ 4 |
| RESIDENCE | STATE Ohio | 2 | 41 |
| | COUNTY Hamilton | 2 | 17 |
| | CITY Tiro | 3 | |
| RELATION | Mother | 1 | 1 |
| OTHER | Father | 1 | |
| ELIGIBILITY | plead | 1 | 6 |
| NATIVITY | | 1 | |
| RACE | | 1 | |
| ENGLISH | | 1 | |
| ATTENDANT | | 1 | |
| HEALTH | | 1 | |
| NO. OF SONS | | 1 | |
| DATE OF | MO. | 1 | |
| . TRIP | YR. | 1 | |
| ACCEPTANCE | | 1 | |
| | 29/514/ | | |

AUDITED

APR 1 1932

AL

919

9910

QM 293 A-M
Bender, Ralph (St.M)

June 10, 1931

Honorable Grant E. Mouser, Jr.,
Representative in Congress,
Marion, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Mouser:

Your letter of June 4, 1931, addressed to The Adjutant General, relative to the desire of the sister of the late Private Ralph Bender to make a pilgrimage to his grave, has been referred to this office for reply.

The Act of Congress approved March 2, 1929, as 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 who were lost or buried at sea or whose remains are interred in Europe. The only provision of law under which anyone other than the mother or widow 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 as follows: "or any woman who stood in loco parentis to the deceased member of the military or naval forces for a period of not less than five years at any time prior to the soldier, sailor or marine becoming eighteen years of age".

It has been held that a woman must have provided for a veteran as a lawful father would have, namely, providing food, shelter, clothing, guidance, counsel, etc., in order to be eligible to make a pilgrimage under this provision of the law. The records show that the parents of the late Private Bender were living at the time of his enlistment, and it is evident that his sister could not have stood in loco parentis to him within the meaning of the law. It is, therefore, regretted to advise that there is no provision of law which would permit the sister of the late Private Bender to make a pilgrimage to his grave at the expense of the Government.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

HL

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C
Bender, Ralph 1233 F

July 7, 1930

7

Mr. John Bender
Tiro, Ohio

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:

the deceased mother is dead

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

If so, give her name and address:

no - he hasent any wife

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:

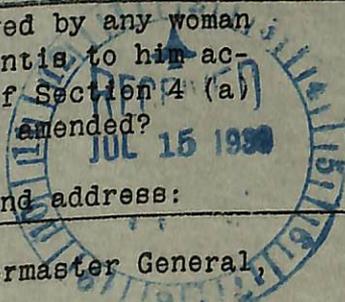
no

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

Enclosures:
Envelope
Act
Amendment

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



WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

DATE February 8, 1930

| NAME | RANK | SERIAL | ORGANIZATION | DATE OF DEATH |
|--------------|------|---------|---------------|---------------|
| Bender Ralph | Pvt | 2104471 | Co K 18th Inf | Aug 17 1918 |

| STATE | Ohio | CTY. NO. | 1233 | GRAVE | 20 | ROW | 14 | BLOCK | B |
|-------|------|----------|------|-------|----|-----|----|-------|---|
|-------|------|----------|------|-------|----|-----|----|-------|---|

| | <u>Check relationship</u> | <u>Living - Deceased</u> | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| | | : | : |
| MOTHER | : | : | : |
| STEPMOTHER (For the year prior to commencement of service) | : | : | : |
| NAME | : | : | : |
| AND | : | : | : |
| ADDRESS | : | : | : |
| MOTHER THRU ADOPTION (For the year prior to commencement of service) | : | : | : |
| MOTHER IN LOCO PARENTIS (For the year prior to commencement of service) | : | : | : |
| WIDOW (Who has not remarried) | : | : | : |
| <i>Single man</i> | : | : | : |

C 33174

(7)
John Bender
Twis
Ohio

Veterans Bureau Claim Number 29/156

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Bender, Ralph

Sept. 30, 1929.

Mr. John Bender,
Tiro, Ohio.

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 Pvt. Ralph Bender, Co. K, 18th Inf., whose remains are now interred in the St. Mihiel American Cemetery, Thiaucourt, Meurthe-et-Moselle, France.

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

Write answers in space below:

1. Is the deceased survived by a widow who has not since remarried?
2. If so, give her complete address.
3. If he is survived by a mother, stepmother, mother thru adoption, or any other woman who stood in loco parentis to him, according to the terms of Section 4 of the enclosed Act, give her name, address, and relationship in the space opposite.
4. 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

August 28, 1929.

Bender, Ralph
1233

Mr. John Bender,
Firo,
Ohio.

Dear Sir:

The records of this office do not indicate that a reply has been received to our communication dated May 27, 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:

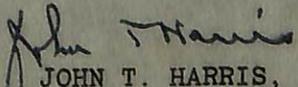
2. If he is survived by a mother, stepmother, mother thru adoption, or any other woman who stood in loco parentis to him, according to the terms of Section 4 of the enclosed Act, give her name, address, and relationship in the space opposite.

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

C-33174

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C (71)

May 27, 1929.

Bender, Ralph

*Mr. John Bender
Tiro.
Ohio*

*No bonus application
JSL
9-23-29*

Mr. John Bender,
Tiro,
Ohio.

Dear Sir:

Only add.

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 Ralph Bender, Co. K, 18th Inf., whose remains are now interred in the St. Mihiel American Cemetery, Thiaucourt, Meurthe-et-Moselle, France.

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

2 incls.
Act of Congress.
Envelope.

B

QM 293 A-M
Bender, Ralph (St.M)

June 10, 1931

Honorable Grant E. Mouser, Jr.,
Representative in Congress,
Marion, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Mouser:

Your letter of June 4, 1931, addressed to The Adjutant General, relative to the desire of the sister of the late Private Ralph Bender to make a pilgrimage to his grave, has been referred to this office for reply.

The Act of Congress approved March 2, 1929, as 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 who were lost or buried at sea or whose remains are interred in Europe. The only provision of law under which anyone other than the mother or widow 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 as follows: "or any woman who stood in loco parentis to the deceased member of the military or naval forces for a period of not less than five years at any time prior to the soldier, sailor or marine becoming eighteen years of age".

It has been held that a woman must have provided for a veteran as a lawful father would have, namely, providing food, shelter, clothing, guidance, counsel, etc., in order to be eligible to make a pilgrimage under this provision of the law. The records show that the parents of the late Private Bender were living at the time of his enlistment, and it is evident that his sister could not have stood in loco parentis to him within the meaning of the law. It is, therefore, regretted to advise that there is no provision of law which would permit the sister of the late Private Bender to make a pilgrimage to his grave at the expense of the Government.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

John T. Harris
ADH

0657

EL JUN - 10 - PM 2: 11

1931

CO. Q. M. G. M & R BR

5846

AG 516 (6-4-31)
Miscl.

1st Ind.

SRS

War Department, A.G.O., June 6, 1931 - To The Quartermaster General.

1. Attention is invited to the inclosed copy of letter addressed to Honorable Grant E. Mouser, Jr., M.C.

By order of the Secretary of War:

J. M. Matt

Adjutant General.

1 incl (added).



293 - Bender
X 615 - Rigninange, Gold Star
X 207 Mouser, Grant E. (inc.)
Carp

AG 516 (6-4-31)
Misc.

CHB

June 6, 1931.

Honorable Grant E. Mouser, Jr.,
Representative in Congress,
Marion, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Mouser:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of the 4th instant in which you inquire as to whether the sister of Ralph Bender, deceased, whose remains are buried in France, can obtain permission to visit the grave under legislation providing for the sending of Gold Star Mothers to France, in place of the mother, who is dead.

Your communication has been transmitted to The Quartermaster General, to whose office the subject pertains, and from whom you will no doubt receive a further reply at an early date.

Very respectfully,

Major General,
The Adjutant General.

Incl. 1.

GRANT E. MOUSER, JR.
8TH DISTRICT OHIO

MEMBER
COMMITTEE ON PENSIONS
PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS
CENSUS

SECRETARIES:
MRS. LEAH WOODS MILLER
RAWSON, OHIO
J. W. MASTERS
MOUNT GILEAD, OHIO

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Marion, Ohio,
June 4, 1931.

Major General C.H. Bridges,
The Adjutant General of the Army,
Washington, D.C.

My dear General Bridges:-

I would like to receive information as to whether it will be possible to grant the sister of a World War veteran, who lost his life overseas and is now buried in France, permission to visit the grave of her brother under legislation providing for the sending of Gold Star mothers to France, in the event the mother is dead.

The facts are these: Private Ralph Bender of the First Division was killed in action in France in the month of August, 1918. His body was not returned to this country, and his mother died during the war, just before he was sent overseas. His sister would like to be given the opportunity of visiting his grave. I shall appreciate very much your advising me in the premises at an early date.

With kind regards and best wishes, I am

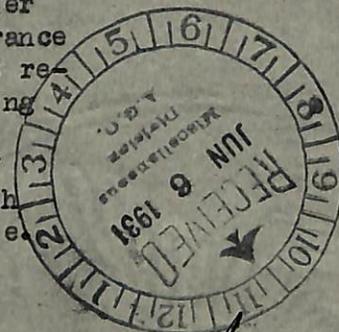
Sincerely,

Grant E. Mouser Jr

§ Received A. G. O, JUN 6 1931

CEM/FH

10



24. 516
(6-4-31)

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Bender, Ralph 1233 F

July 7, 1930

Mr. John Bender
Tiro, Ohio

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

Bender, Ralph

Sept. 30, 1929.

Mr. John Bender,
Tiro, Ohio.

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 Pvt. Ralph Bender, Co. K, 18th Inf., whose remains are now interred in the St. Mihiel American Cemetery, Thiaucourt, Meurthe-et-Moselle, France.

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

Write answers in space below:

1. Is the deceased survived by a widow who has not since remarried?
2. If so, give her complete address.
3. If he is survived by a mother, stepmother, mother thru adoption, or any other woman who stood in loco parentis to him, according to the terms of Section 4 of the enclosed Act, give her name, address, and relationship in the space opposite.
4. Does she desire to make the pilgrimage?

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

2 Incls.
Act of Congress
Envelope

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

August 28, 1929.

Bender, Ralph
1233

Mr. John Bender,
Piro,
Ohio.

Dear Sir:

The records of this office do not indicate that a reply has been received to our communication dated May 27, 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

May 27 1929.

Bender, Ralph

Mr. John Bender,
Eiro,
Ohio.

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 Ralph Bender, Co. K, 18th Inf., whose remains are now interred in the St. Mihiel American Cemetery, Thiaucourt, Meurthe-et-Moselle, France.

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

2 incla.
Act of Congress.
Envelope.

QM 293 A-C

BENDER, Ralph Pvt.

March 1, 1924

Mr. John Bender,
Tiro,
Ohio.

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

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

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

Very truly yours,

1-Incl.
Record card.

Assistant.

O. Q. M. G.
R. L. FOSTER
CENTRAL MAIL ROOM

MFK
FOZ



MAR 1 1924
B. O. C.

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

File #10270

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

(a) Name BENDER, Ralph Ser. No. 2104471
(b) Rank Pvt. Organization Co. K. 18th Inf.
(c) Date of death 8/17/18 (d) Cause of death k/a

TYP. evs
CKR. K

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

(a) Grave No. 176 Row - Plot 4 Sec. 20 TYP. evs
(b) Emerg. Address John Bender (Father) Tiro, Ohio.

III. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases _____ CKR. K

IV. A. G. O. DISPOSITION CARD:

no card a file bGR - 1-31-21
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 _____, 1920.

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

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

no correspondence

Examiner's Initials bGR Date 1-31-, 1920.

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

No request for disposition

(a) Cancellation memos referred to? _____

Examiner's Initials at Date 2-1-, 1920.

COUNTRY FRANCE CEMETERY No. 1233 SHEET No. 221

MB FEB 23 1921

CARDED

To be prepared in triplicate.

DATE Aug. 16, 1922

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 BENDER, Ralph

10. Name

2. No. 2104471

11. No.

3. Rank Pvt.

12. Rank

4. Org. Co.K 18th Inf.

13. Org.

5. D.D. 8-17-28

14. (a) D.D.

6. C.D. K.I.A.

(b) D.B. None

Discrepancy found upon disinterment.

7. Grave No. 176 Sec. 20

15. Grave No. Sec.

8. Plot 4 Row

16. Plot Row

9.

17. None

18. Cemetery St. Mihiel Amer.

19. Commune or town Thiaucourt

20. Dept. or County M&M

21. Country France

22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. 1233

23. Disinterred (Date) Aug. 16, 1922

By A.W. Taggart

24. Inscription on grave marker:

Name BENDER, Ralph

Serial No. 2104471

Rank Pvt.

Organization Co.K. 18th Inf.

25. Was identification disc found on grave marker? No On body? No

Signature W.N. Tucker
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).

G.R.S. plaque on body agrees with 114-A

27. Condition of body Badly decomposed, features unrecognizable.

28. Nature of burial Wooden box and uniform

29. Any discrepancy noted upon examination of body, as compared with G.R.S. records quoted above? None

30. Body prepared and placed in casket: Date Aug. 16, 1922 By A.W. Taggart

31. Casket sealed by A.W. Taggart

Signature of Embalmer, (Supervisor)

A.W. Taggart

AUDITED BY
8ab
10/18/23

SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. C - 129777 29377

32. Designation of body:

Name Ralph BENDER Serial No. 2104471

Rank Pvt. Organization Co.K 18th Inf.

33. Consigned to:

Name of Permanent Cemetery St.Mihiel Amer.Cty. Thiaucourt, M&M 1233

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) Aug.16, 1922 By A.W.Taggart

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 J.J.Powers, 1st Lt., Q.M.C.

36. Remarks _____

None

37. Shipped from point of Operation: (Date) Aug.16, 1922

To point of Concentration _____

(Name)

Convoyer _____ 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 St.Mihiel Amer.1233, Thiaucourt, France.

(Name)

Convoyer _____ Signature Shipping Officer _____

J.J.Powers, 1st Lt., Q.M.C.

40. Received: Date _____

G.R.S. Representative _____

41. Reinterred August 16th 1922.

(Date)

42. Grave No. 20 Section _____

43. ~~XXXX~~ Block B Row 14

G.R.S. Representative A.E. DEWEY, 1st Lt. SAC.

Place Thiaucourt France

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date August 16, 1922.

1. REMAINS OF BENDER, Ralph SERIAL NUMBER 2104481
RANK Pvt ORGANIZATION Co K 18th Inf

2. Disinterred (date): August 16, 1922 From (give complete location): Gr. 176 Sec 20 Pl 4 Cemetery 1233
By: Group 2 Unit 1

3. Reburied (date): August 16th 1922. In (give complete location): Grave 20, row 14, Block B, Cem. 1233.
By: Group Reburial Unit Casket & Shipping Case. Nature of Reburial

4. Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon disinterment:
Wooden box and uniform, 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:
GRS plaque on body agrees with 114-A

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

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

(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

missing before death 19

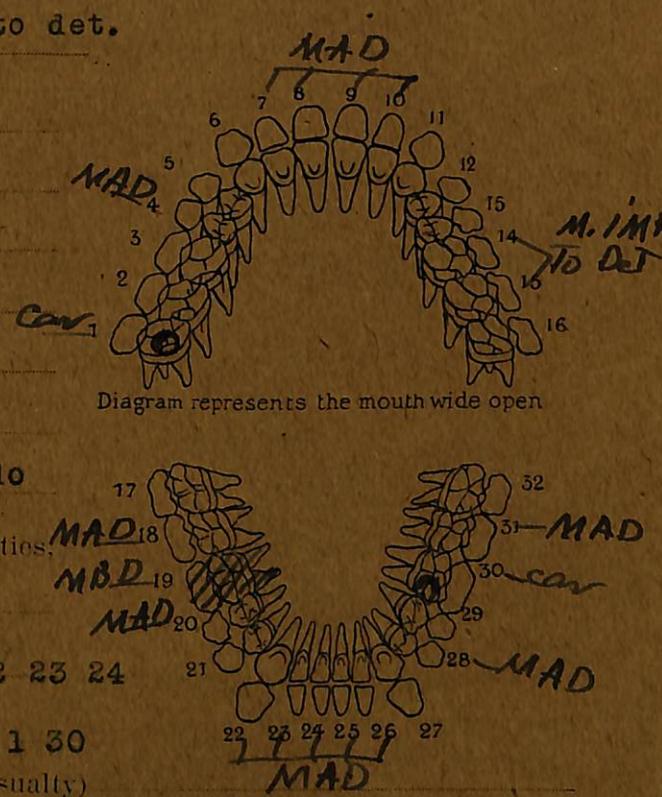
missing after death 4 7 8 9 10 18 20 22 23 24

25 26 28 31

missing imp to determine 14 15 cavity 1 30

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

none visible



WNT

7. Disinterment supervised by A. W. Taggart
A. W. Taggart

Approved: [Signature]
[Signature] Powers
(Title) 1st Lieut QMC

8. Reburial supervised by H.L. KRAMER,

Approved: [Signature]
A.E. DEWEY, 1st Lt., QMC.
(Title)

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA **File #10270**

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD: **BEN DEE, Ralph**

2104471

evs

(a) Name **Pvt.** **Co. K, 18th Inf.**.....

TYP. *K*.....

(b) Rank **8/17/18** Organization **k/s**.....
Cause of

(c) Date of death.....death

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

evs

(a) Grave No. **John Bender (Father) Tiro, Ohio**..... TP.....

(b) Emerg. Address.....

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

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.....**FEB 18 1921**.....

Par. #2, Not To Be Returned *HA*.....

VI. Form 115 forwarded to G.R.S. Hoboken, N.J.....**MAR 1- 1921**.....192.....

VII. SUPPLEMENTARY REQUESTS

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

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

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

COUNTRY
G.R.S. FORM 115-A
August **1920**

CEMETERY NO.
1233

SHEET NO.
221

S/666/LML

PRIORITY 104
FEB 23 1921

1. G. Form No. 1.

Hq. G.R.S. 10770

2. Soldier's No. 210471

3. **Bender** **Ralph**

Surname First Name and Initials

4. **Pvt.** **K.** **18 Inf.**

Rank Company Regt. or Corps

5. **Aug. 17, 1918**

Date of Death Cause, if known

6. **Aug. 18, 1918.** **Saizerais**

Date of Burial Cemetery

7. **Saizerais** **M et M.**

Town or Commune Department

8. **2**

Grave No. Plot No. or Letter

9. Name Peg? Cross? Headboard? Bottle?
Check Method of Marking

10. Buried with Body? Attached to Grave Marker?
Identification Tags

11. If name unknown and tags missing, give marks and description.

COPY

12. -----
Map Reference, if interment is outside of cemetery

13. -----
Give name of Chaplain or Burial Officer

Signed -----

Group **Hqrs** Unit **301.** G.R.S.

24 SEP 1918

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK.

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

BENDER 2104471 RALPH
(Surname.) (Number.) (First Name and Initials.)

PRIVATE C K 18 INFANTRY
(Rank.) (Organization.)

DATE OF BURIAL AUGUST 18, 1918

PLACE OF BURIAL SAIZERAIS

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

American Military Cemetery
just outside town of Saizerais
on road to Marbache

GRAVE NUMBER 2

HOW MARKED: Name Peg? Cross?

Headboard? Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body? Yes

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

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

REPORTED BY:

Chaplain King 18 Inf 5
(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer.)

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

27 AUG 1918

Name **Alph Bender** 2104471

Rank **Pvt.** Co. **K.** {Corps Regt.} **18 Inf.**

Date of Death **Aug. 17, 1918.**

Place

Cause

Date of Burial **Aug. 18, 1918.**

Grave No. **2**

Cemetery **Saizerais**

Identified by { Tag Papers Clothing } **Tag.**

List of Effects

Field Record Made by **Adv. Gr. No. 1, G.R.S. Unit 301.**

Company....., Graves Registration Service

For additional data use reverse side

3 SEP 1918

WAR DEPARTMENT.

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE \$300

OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

10270

FILE

Bender, Ralph,
#2104471

WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY

CEMETERIAL DIVISION

WASHINGTON

NR
 1233-221 of 1/1/21

1233-221 of 1/1/21

APR 9 1921

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

To: Mr John Bender, Tiro, Ohio.

SUBJECT: Remains of Pvt. Ralph Bender, Ser. No. 2104471 Co. K, 16th Inf.

The records of this office show that ~~you have requested that the body of the above named~~ **no request has been made for the disposition of his remains.**

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

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

By authority of the Quartermaster General.

GEORGE H. PENROSE,
 Colonel, Q. M. G.

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

Was soldier married? -----

| NAME OF— | NO. AND STREET. | TOWN. | STATE. |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------|--------|
| Soldier's widow ----- | | | |
| Soldier's children. (Name oldest first.) | 1 ----- | | |
| | 2 ----- | | |
| | 3 ----- | | |
| Father ----- | | | |
| Mother ----- | | | |
| Brothers. (Name oldest first.) | 1 ----- | | |
| | 2 ----- | | |
| | 3 ----- | | |
| Sisters. (Name oldest first.) | 1 ----- | | |
| | 2 ----- | | |
| | 3 ----- | | |

Date -----

Signature -----

Address -----

Relationship -----

IMPORTANT.—CAREFULLY read instructions before filling out this paper.