

G.R.S. Form #114 B

MAY 14 1921

DATE Oct. 19th 1921.

1. NAME BENSON, Leo A. SERIAL No.

RANK 2nd Lt. ORGANIZATION Co. F, 320th Inf. & DIVISION

GRAVE LOCATION Argonne Amer. Romagne /s/ Montfaucon 1232 sec 81

CTY. NAME

NUMBER

138

sec 81

3

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

2. ORIGINAL BATTLE AREA GRAVE LOCATION Les I sletter ( Meuse ).

GRAVE

COMMUNE

DEPT.

COORDINATES 35-S .E . 260.88-N. 300.55-E.

CONCENTRATED TO 6.2.19. 138. 81. 3.

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

Meuse Argonne Cemetery

1232.

CEMETERY

CTY. NUMBER

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

~~Tag on body and on cross.~~

DATE OF DEATH

*Ill, Nov. 2, 1918.*

STATE FROM WHICH HE CAME

*Ill.*

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS AWARDED *none*

Data form 1. SUBSEQUENT REBURIALS

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

CEMETERY

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

CEMETERY

SIGNATURE, AREA SUPERVISOR

*M. B. Birdseye*

Received  
MAY 20 20  
SER BRANCH  
G. M. C.

B. BIRDSEYE

1st Lt., M. Corps, U.S. Army

3. FINAL GRAVE LOCATION Oct. 19th 1921.

34

32

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

Block

Meuse-Argonne Amer. Cty 1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse.

CEMETERY

RECEIVED  
MAY 18 1921  
U.S. ARMY

AUDITED BY  
MAY 16 1920  
WAR DIV.  
*B.W.*

*Km 8/3*

# GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

*Benson*

*Leo A.*

(Surname).

(Number).

(First Name and Initials).

*2 Lt. Hq. TR. 320 Inf.*

(Rank).

(Organization).

PLACE OF DEATH:

*E. H. #14*

CAUSE OF DEATH:

DATE OF BURIAL:

*Nov. 2 - 1918*

PLACE OF DEATH:

*Les Islettes*

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

*American Cemetery  
Section L Plot. 2*

GRAVE NUMBER:

*104*

HOW MARKED: Name Peg?

*yes*

Cross?

Headboard?

Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body?

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

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

NEAREST RELATIVE:

ADDRESS:

RELATIONSHIP:

REPORTED BY:

*Chas. L. Nourse Chaplain*

(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer).

Benson, Leo A.  
2nd Lieut.

WESTERN MILITARY BUREAU

ROUTE AND SCHEDULE

EUROPEAN PILGRIMAGE SAILING FROM NEW YORK CITY May 28, 1930

Los Angeles County, State of California

Name Benson, Mrs Mary

Address 4456 Lockwood St., Apt 404, c/o C L Rogan, Los Angeles, Calif.

Route going: So Pac Santa Rosa, CRI&P Chicago, NYC New York

Return: Same route

		ROAD	TRAIN	TIME	DATE	
Itinerary going	✓Lv	Los Angeles	SoPac	4	6:00PM	May 22
	✓Ar	Chicago	CRI&P	"	9:15AM	" 25
	✓Lv	Chicago	NYC	10	10:35AM	" "
	✓Ar	New York	"	142	3:45PM	" 26
		Lv (Gr Central Sta)				
		Ar				
		Lv				
		Ar				
		Lv				
		Ar				
		Lv				
		Ar				
		Lv				
		Ar				
		Lv				
		Ar				

Accommodations: Standard sleeper Los Angeles to Chicago and Chicago to New York.

Elapsed Time: 90 hrs:45 min. 4

E-2

Extra Fare:

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Remains of:

Name: BENSON, Leo. A.

Number 210353

Rank: Unkn

Organization

Hq. Co. 2nd Div.

Disinterment and Reburial made by Group:

Unit

Disinterred (Date)

From (Give complete location)

6 2nd June 1919.

Grave #105, A.E.F. CEMETERY

LES ISLETTES MEUSE

Map 35 SE 300.55 E 260.88 N.

Reburied (Date)

To: (Give complete location)

2nd June 1919.

Grave #138, Sdc. 81 Plot 3.

1232

ARGONNE AMERICAN CEMETERY No. 1232

ROMAGNE MEUSE

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

Burial good Buried in blanket Body in fair condition

Was one identification tag found upon the body? Yes

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

10984

Note:

If upon disinterment, effects are found on bodies, they will be promptly sent to the Effects Dept direct as is required by G.O. 170, G.H. 2, 1913., after being carefully examined for clues of identity in doubtful cases, notation whereof will be made and reported to Chief, Graves Registration Service.

Supervised by: Lt. Shelton

H.O'K

R. H. ROSENTHAL

2nd Lieut. O.M.C.U.S.A

G.O. Group

Unit

Party E  
Nurse M. Malinine

# MEDICAL RECORD

Benson, Leo A.

2 Lt, Co F, 320 Inf.

Station: Paris

Date: June 5<sup>th</sup> 1930

Name Benson Mrs Mary

Home address 4456, hockwood st. Apt. 404 C/o C. L. Bogan, Los Angeles, California.

Address of Nearest friend or relative Daughter Mrs. C. L. Bogan (same address)

Religion Cath.

Age 57

History of Present complaint: Sore spine - rubbed i Baume Bengue.

Old injury to Dorsal Spine 1925

**INSTRUCTIONS.** — This card will be started in all cases of Pilgrims requiring medical attention by the Medical Officer or Nurse first rendering such attention. Subsequently it will be carried by the nurse in attendance upon the group to which the Pilgrim is assigned. All Medical Officers rendering any assistance in the case will make an appropriate entry which will include date, time and signature. Upon final disposition of the case the Nurse in charge will deliver the card to the Office of the Chief Surgeon. Pilgrims sent to the American Hospital will be accompanied by this card properly completed, which will be authority for admission, in which case a duplicate card will be made and sent without delay to the Office of the Chief Surgeon.

(over)

Diagnosis and complications : *(include dates)*

Treatment and Progress : *(include dates)*

Disposition : *(include dates)*

Remarks : 6/19/30 To Cherbourg.

1 UNK

BENSON LEAH

Party "E" - Itinerary - Meuse-Argonne Group

Sailed May 28, 1930 on SS ROOSEVELT. Maj. K. M. Halpine in charge.

Arrived Cherbourg 4 a.m. June 5th. Met by Maj. Dailey, Capt. Uchs, Capt. Dalton, Capt. Mallett, Lt. Freeman, Capt. Kinderman, MC, five nurses and 3 civilian employees. Train left at 8.21 am for Paris. Arrived Gare des Invalides at 2.10 pm. Met by Col. Ellis and members of his staff and a detail of officers, interpreters and nurses. Escorted to hotel. Remainder of day devoted to rest.

June 6th. Morning devoted to personal business; exchange of money, preparation of laundry, etc. Left hotel at 3 pm for Arc de Triomphe. Wreath placed on Tomb of Unknown Soldier by Mrs. R. M. Tiger, who was selected by party for this duty. Tea and reception at Restaurant Laurent after ceremony. Returned to hotel. Evening free.

June 7th. Shopping or resting in morning. Sightseeing in afternoon and evening.

June 8th. Those who desired attended Divine Services. Sightseeing in afternoon. Evening devoted to preparation for trip to cemetery next day.

June 9th. 7.15 am-Depart for Ambassador. 7.30 am.-Depart Montairail, Chalons s/e, Marne, St. Nenehould, Verdun.

June 10th, Visited Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery daily. Returned 11, 12, 13. to Verdun each evening.

June 14th. Visited Cemetery, Suippes and Reims.

June 15th. Visited Reims Cathedral. Lunch at Reims. Chateau Thierry. Returned to Paris.

June 16th. Visited Fontainebleau.

June 17th. Morning free. Versailles in afternoon.

June 18th. Notre Dame - Napoleon's Tomb. Prepared for return trip.

June 19th. Left hotel between 9 and 9.30 am for Invalides Railway Station. Train left at 10.30 pm. Accompanied by 5 officers, 6 nurses, 1 doctor and 2 civilian employees. Arrived Cherbourg 4.10pm. Left dock 5.11 pm. Sailed at 6.45pm on SS AMERICAN. Capt. Ross in charge. Arrived Hoboken 1.00pm. June 28th.

Mrs. Mary Benson



VALIDATE

1122-2950

093

NAME BENSON, MRS. MARY

S.S. AMERICA JUN 27 1930

HOME LOS ANGELES, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CAL.

R.R. nyc to chi. C.R.P. to Santa Rosa

STATION So. Pac to dest

TRAIN #

CAR #

BERTH OR SEAT

TIME

DATE Oct 31 1930

Mrs C. L. Ragan  
4456 Lockwood Ave  
Los Angeles  
Calif

NAME

*Mrs. Mary Benson*

ADDRESS

~~4456 Lockwood St Los Angeles~~  
~~711 Madison~~

DATE

*Oct. 14 - 1930 Calif.*

TO:

Officer-In-Charge,

PILGRIMAGE, WAR MOTHERS AND WIDOWS

I beg to inform you that I have returned to my home safely and in good health.

Sincerely,

(Signed)

*Mrs. Mary Benson*

WAR DEPARTMENT

*Mrs Mary Benson*

*Ft Madison Iowa*

*Gen Det*

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



Penalty for private use to  
payment of postage, \$3

**PILGRIMAGE, WAR MOTHERS AND WIDOWS**

**225 WEST 34TH STREET,**

**NEW YORK, N. Y.**

Name..... BENSON, Mrs. Mary,

Paris Hôtel..... HOTEL AMBASSADOR - Blvd. Haussmann

Home address..... 4460 Quitman St., Denver, Denver County, Colorado

Party..... E..... Group..... I..... Unit S/S ROOSEVELT

Date of arrival..... JUNE 5. 1930..... Date of departure..... JUNE 19. 1930 S/S AMERICA

Relationship..... Mother.

Name of deceased..... BENSON, Leo A.,

Rank..... 2d Lt. .... Organization..... Co. F, 320th Inf., 80th Div.

Cemetery..... Meuse-Argonne.

REMARKS



GFRH\*BF

File 201 - Benson, Mrs. Mary A.

January 30, 1931.

SUBJECT: Unused Per Diem Allowance.

TO: The Finance Officer, U. S. Army,  
Washington, D. C.

1. There is transmitted herewith postal money order #538111 of Mrs. Mary A. Benson, a member of Party "E", in the amount of twenty-seven dollars and fifty cents (\$27.50).

2. Mrs. Benson was paid \$40.00 on voucher #4902, accounts of Major W. D. Dabney, Finance Department, May 28, 1930, for her per diem allowance from New York City to Los Angeles, California. After leaving New York, she decided to remain with relatives in Chicago and has returned this amount to this office, as being unused.

For The Officer In Charge:

GEORGE F. R. TAYLOR,  
1st Lieut. Q.M.C. (DOL)

1 Incl:

P.O. Money Order #538111 - \$27.50

519 Transportation.

October 22, 1930.

Subject: Unused Transportation.

To: Finance Officer, U.S. Army, Munitions Bldg., Washington, D.C.

1. Enclosed herewith is pullman ticket number 531 covering lower berth from Chicago, Ill. to Los Angeles, Cal. in favor of Mrs. Mary Benson, Los Angeles, Cal., Gold Star Mother on Party "E".

2. Mrs. Benson has returned this ticket to this office from Chicago stating she does not desire to use same due to the fact that she will remain in Chicago, Ill..

3. At the time of leaving New York Mrs. Benson did not ask for a stopover in Chicago, and therefore Transportation Request WQ-1,021,175 was issued to cover a lower berth from New York to Los Angeles, Cal.. The New York Central Railroad accepted this Transportation Request and issued ticket form 100-1 #8061, office 7-1-G, to cover travel New York to Los Angeles, Cal.. It is evident that the unused portion of the original ticket was exchanged in Chicago for the ticket which is enclosed herewith.

For the Officer in Charge.

GEORGE F. R. TAYLOR,  
1st Lieut. Q.M.C. (DOL)  
Assistant.

Encl.  
Ticket

Mrs. Mary Benson  
to Angeles  
Calif.

E 850

Mrs. Benson did not ask  
for a stop over in Chicago.  
T, R # WJ-1021,175 was issued to cover  
my to Los Angeles, value 32.63. original  
ticket form 100-1 # 8061 - office 7-1-6 (issued by  
New York Center)  
was exchanged in Chicago, for ticket form 300 =  
# 531 office 25-125 and reads, Chicago to  
Los Angeles, (no reservation made)

File 519 Transportation

October 22, 1930

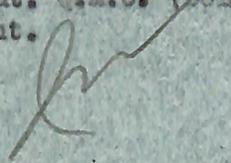
Subject: Unused Transportation.

To: The Quartermaster General, Washington, D.C.

1. Enclosed herewith is Southern Pacific Company ticket number 2537 issued to Mrs. Mary Benson, Los Angeles, Cal., Pilgrim on Party "E". This ticket has been returned to this office by Mrs. Benson from Chicago, Ill. with the advice that she will remain in Chicago and not use transportation from that point to her home.

For the Officer in Charge.

GEORGE F. R. TAYLOR,  
1st Lieut. Q.M.C. (DOL)  
Assistant.



ny to wash - day coach -	
wash to chi - wy - 1023448 -	8.25
chi to St L - day coach -	
St L to new orlean, wy - 1023449	7.88
new orlean to Ivaute wy - 1023450	3.75

Through rate

19.88
<u>18.00</u>
1.88

reported with collection on part "m"

advised by the Penn R. R.

there is no through rate

in effect from St Louis to Ivaute Tex.

via new orlean. The cost would therefore

be, the combined rates, of 7.88 and 3.75

or a total of 11.63 in the place of

9.75 which would leave a collection

of 1.88

Pro. Chic. & MO. Solac Sect

Oct 11 - 1938

2011 [unclear]

The  
New Western Pil-Dept

Am enclosing unused part  
of my ticket. Pullman have  
decided not to go back to  
Los Angeles Cal. I also have  
some expense money to return  
let me know how it will be  
I got off at Chicago. Ad me  
Gen Delivery here

Respy

Mrs Mary Benson



GPRT\*BF

File 201 - Benson, Mrs. Mary

October 16, 1930.

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
General Delivery,  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Madam:

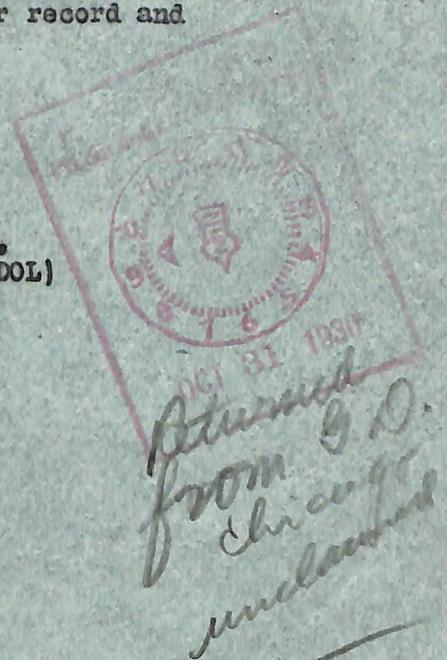
Your letter of October 14th enclosing unused railroad tickets received this date.

Regarding the return of expense money, the amount allowed for travel between New York and Chicago was \$12.50. This amount as you may understand, was based on a period of travel for one and one-quarter days at \$10.00 per day. The amount you received for your return travel to Los Angeles was \$40.00, based on four days travel at \$10.00 per day. The amount that should be returned is the difference between the Chicago amount and the Los Angeles amount which is \$27.50.

In returning this amount, please use money order and make it payable to The Finance Officer, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C., and return the money order to this office for record and transmittal to the proper office.

Very truly yours,

GEORGE F. R. TAYLOR,  
1st Lieut. Q.M.C. (DOL)



201 - Benson, Mary

"E"

Mrs. Mary Benson

Sept. 11, 1930.

Dear Madam:

In order to complete our records, we are sending you another card which is to be signed by you and returned to this office.

You no doubt have overlooked to do so with the card which you received in New York City on your way home.

For The Officer in Charge:

GEORGE F. R. TAYLOR,  
1st. Lt. Q.M.C.(DOL).

Fit Medicin  
Jan 26 - Jones

The War Dept.

Am enclosing money order  
for \$27.50 as part of Transportation  
money. I did not use



101. Bennett  
Mrs. Mary

RLC

Pilgrimage, War Mothers & Widows  
Rm 401, 225 W. 34th St., N.Y.C.

VIA POSTAL TELEGRAPH

Mrs. D. C. Raymond  
3319 Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, Ill.

A.C. TIPTON  
MAJ. INF. (DOL)

June 2, 1930

MRS BENSON ARRIVES UNION STATION FOUR FIFTY EIGHT P M MONDAY

COLONEL WILLIAMS

The above message sent from Hotel Astor for Mrs. Mary Benson, Party E

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

*Benson Leo A*  
*Ma*

MEMORANDUM

May 7, 1930

To All Concerned:

Please make the following changes in passenger  
list for:

S. S. ROOSEVELT, May 28, 1930

Change #10

Party E

CORRECT ADDRESS - LOS ANGELES COUNTY CALIFORNIA Page E - 2

*OK corrected*

Benson, Mrs. Mary  
4456 Lockwood St., Apt. 404,  
c/o C. L. Rogan, Los Angeles

For The Quartermaster General,



R. E. SHANNON,  
Captain, Q. M. Corps,  
Assistant.

May 12th, 1930

Mrs. Mary Benson  
c/o C. L. Rogan  
4456 Lockwood St., Apt. 404  
Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear Madam:

Please advise the enclosed card to each  
piece of luggage, that to protect the safe arrival  
here in New York.

From your arrival in New York, you will  
be met at the Railroad Station by a Special Army  
Officer, in uniform, who will have in his hand  
of his coat a blue cloth with the words "Soldiers  
and Sailors of the World" written on it. He will  
take your baggage to the Hotel.

quarters east: Mrs. Elsie Costales  
west: Mrs. Alice Davis  
Mrs. La. Scott  
Mrs. P. S. Sims  
Mrs. P. C. Soder

Enclosures:  
2 tags

Arrived by 3:40 PM May 26  
Train 142 - NYCRR  
Capt Funk

CODE SLIP

HEADING	SUB-HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE
NAME	Benson, Leo A	3	234
BURIED	CEMETERY 1232	1	1
	GRAVE 34	2	34
	ROW 32	2	32
	BLOCK 1	1	4
STATE	Illinois	2	13
RANK	2nd Lieut	1	1
DIVISION	80	2	80
ORGANIZATION	320	3	320
ARM	Inf	1	1
MARTIAL	no	1	2
NAME	Benson, Mrs. Mary	3	254
RESIDENCE	STATE California	2	04
	COUNTY Los Angeles	2	19
	CITY Los Angeles	3	036
RELATION	Mother	1	1
OTHER		1	
ELIGIBILITY	yes	1	1
NATIVITY		1	
RACE		1	
ENGLISH	yes	1	1
ATTENDANT		1	
HEALTH	Good	1	1
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF TRIP	MO. YR.	1	
ACCEPTANCE	yes	1	1

May 28 1930

Sailed

Audited  
OCT 9 1931  
MWB

QM 293 A-M  
Benson, Leo A. 1232

July 30, 1930.

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
4456 Lockwood St., Apt. 404,  
c/o C. L. Hogan,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Madam:

I am pleased to acknowledge receipt of the testimonial expressing your appreciation to the United States Government, which you and the other mothers and widows returning on the S. America, were so kind as to send me regarding your pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe.

It is gratifying to know that your trip was entirely satisfactory and that the officers and other personnel connected with the pilgrimage rendered such courteous and efficient service. The Quartermaster Corps is proud of the honor bestowed upon it by being charged with the conduct of these pilgrimages and has expended every energy that those making the journey might have a comfortable and pleasant trip. I feel, however, that the task has been materially lightened by the wonderful spirit of cooperation shown by the mothers and widows who are making the pilgrimage.

I am indeed pleased to receive such complimentary remarks concerning the care and consideration shown the women making the journey by the personnel connected with the pilgrimage.

Sincerely yours,

J. L. DEWITT,  
Major General,  
The Quartermaster General.

ADH  
JTH  
WRG

RS

RETURN NEW YORK

JUN 28 1930

DATE .....

*Benson, Mrs A  
Ben*

*c/o C. L. Rogan  
4456 Lockwood St.  
Los Angeles, Cal.*

NAME *Benson, Mrs Mary*

HOME ADDRESS .....

**S/S AMERICA**

RETURN ON S. S. ....

HOTEL .....

**ASTOR**

ROOM NO. *754-6*

DEPARTURE NEW YORK

JUN 29 1930

DATE .....

ROAD *nyp* .....

TRAIN *7* .....

CAR *210* .....

BERTH or SEAT *L1* .....

REMARKS .....

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

STATE

CALIFORNIA

c/o C. L. Rogan  
 4456 Lockwood St. Apt. 404  
 Los Angeles  
 Los Angeles County

Mother Benson, Mrs. Mary  
 NAME ..... HOME ADDRESS .....

NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEAREST KIN *Mrs. C. L. Rogan* .....

*4456 Lockwood Ave  
 Los Angeles Cal*

ARRIVAL IN NEW YORK

~~MCALPIN~~

DATE *5/26/30* ..... HOTEL **COMMODORE** ..... ROOM NO. *1122-4* .....

DEPARTURE NEW YORK

DATE *May 28, 1930* ..... VESSEL *S. S. ROOSEVELT* ..... CABIN NO. *244 H* .....

DESTINATION *CHERBOURG, FRANCE* ..... CEMETERY *MEUSE-ARGONNE* .....

N. Malinine, R.N. **MEDICAL RECORD**

Party E

Station: Paris,

Date: June 5th, 1930.

Name Benson, Mrs. Mary

Home address 4456 Lockwood St., Apt 404 c/o C.L. Rogan,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Address of Nearest friend or relative Daughter, Mrs. C.L. Rogan  
same address.

Religion Catholic Age 57

History of Present complaint: Sore spine, rubbed with Baume Bengue,  
Old injury to dorsal spine, 1925

6/19/30 to Cherbourg, HWK.

(over)

**INSTRUCTIONS.** — This card will be started in all cases of Pilgrims requiring medical attention by the Medical Officer or Nurse first rendering such attention. Subsequently it will be carried by the nurse in attendance upon the group to which the Pilgrim is assigned. All Medical Officers rendering any assistance in the case will make an appropriate entry which will include date, time and signature. Upon final disposition of the case the Nurse in charge will deliver the card to the Office of the Chief Surgeon. Pilgrims sent to the American Hospital will be accompanied by this card properly completed, which will be authority for admission, in which case a duplicate card will be made and sent without delay to the Office of the Chief Surgeon.

798 Account 5/28/30 1232  
RETURN RECEIPT

*Received from the Postmaster the Registered or Insured Article, the original number of which appears on the face of this Card.*

*Mary Carson*

(Signature or name of addressee.)

**Deliver to addressee only.**

(Signature of addressee's agent.)

Date of delivery, \_\_\_\_\_

*5/20/30*  
192

Form 3811

05-6116

Post Office Department

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

REGISTERED ARTICLES

No. 927

INSURED PARCEL

No. \_\_\_\_\_



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



POSTMARK OF DELIVERING  
OFFICE

AND DATE OF DELIVERY

Q. M. GENERAL

Return to \_\_\_\_\_

MUNITIONS BUILDING

Street and Number,  
or Post Office Box, \_\_\_\_\_

WASHINGTON,

D. C.

798-6

RETURN RECEIPT

Postnet 5/28/30

1232

Received from the Postmaster the Registered or Insured Article, the original number of which appears on the face of this Card.

Mrs Mary Devison ✓

(Signature or name of addressee.)

(Signature of addressee's agent.)

Date of delivery,

5/19 30

192

Form 3811

05-6116

**Post Office Department**

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

REGISTERED ARTICLE

No. 9274

INSURED PARCEL

No. \_\_\_\_\_



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

POSTMARK OF DELIVERING  
OFFICE

AND DATE OF DELIVERY

Return to \_\_\_\_\_

**Q. M. GENERAL**

Street and Number,  
or Post Office Box, \_\_\_\_\_

(NAME OF SENDER)  
**MUNITIONS BUILDING**

**WASHINGTON,**

**D. C.**

1232 Benson Leo A

of USS.01 A-4 Pilgrimage Gold Star      3rd Ind.  
January 20, 1931  
Finance Officer, Transportation Branch, Washington, D.C.

Mrs. Mary Benson made no stopovers between her home and  
New York City, nor did she stopover on return between New York and  
Chicago.

For: The Quartermaster General.

R. B. HUGHES,  
Captain, Q.M. Corps.  
Assistant.

Incl.  
Same

MRS. MARY BENSON  
4456 LOCKWOOD STREET APT. 404,  
c/o C. L. ROGAN,  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

WASHINGTON, D. C. May 20, 1930

PASSPORT RECEIVED DELIVERED TO YOU ABOARD SHIP.

QM 814

DOWITT  
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

QM 293 A-C  
Benson, Leo A. 1232

in reply to I.M. 293.A-C  
Benson Leo W. 1232,

San Angeles  
California  
May 12-30

The War Dept

Dear Sir

in  
E-2

I have already filled out  
my papers for Passport over  
two weeks ago Dept. must  
have received them as my  
invitation was returned  
to me received it May 5--

Respy.

Mrs Mary Benson  
of L.L. Ragan  
apt 404.

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Benson, Leo A. 1232-M

May 12, 1930.

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
4456 Lockwood St., Apt. 404,  
c/o C. L. Rogan,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Madam:

There is enclosed herewith Check No. 314252 in the amount of \$40.00, to pay for your meals and incidental expenses from your home to New York on the pilgrimage authorized by the Act of March 2, 1929.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES MUST THIS CHECK BE CASHED AND USED FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN THAT SPECIFIED.

If for any reason, you are not able to sail on the date mentioned in your invitation, the check must be returned to this office immediately.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

1 Incl.  
Check No.

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

April 11, 1930.

Benson, Leo A. 1232 M

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
4456 Lockwood St.,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Madam:

The following instructions prepared by the Secretary of State contain the necessary instructions to be followed by you in obtaining the passport or travel document to be utilized in connection with your pilgrimage to the cemeteries in Europe. Please read the directions carefully and call in person upon the nearest Passport Agent or clerk of a Federal or State court having jurisdiction to naturalize aliens. Passport Agencies are located in Boston, Chicago, New Orleans, New York City, San Francisco and Seattle. In large cities there are usually two or more courts and at each county-seat a state court authorized to accept these passport applications.

When you make this call be sure to take with you the four photographs called for in the instructions together with your invitation as a means of identification. You should take with you to the passport office at this time a friend who is an American citizen and who has known you for several years. The passport Agent or clerk of the court will mail your application to the Secretary of State in Washington, D. C., who will issue the passports and travel documents and will deliver them to The Quartermaster General to be held by him until your arrival in New York.

The instructions prepared by the Secretary of State are as follows:

"A mother or widow who owes allegiance to the United States must apply to the Department of State for a Special Pilgrimage Passport through a Passport Agent or through a clerk of a Federal court or State court having jurisdiction to naturalize aliens and on the form prescribed by that Department. When making application, she should be accompanied by a credible witness who is an American citizen and who has known her for a period of two years or more. With her application she should submit four photographs on a light background and on thin paper not more than 3x3 inches in size not less than 2½x2½ inches in size and such documentary

evidence of her American citizenship as she may have in her possession. In the absence of evidence of citizenship, her application should be witnessed by a credible person residing in the same community who is an American citizen, has known her for a long period of time and is able to swear to the best of his or her knowledge and belief that she is a citizen of the United States.

"A mother or widow who does not owe allegiance to the United States must apply to the Department of State for a Pilgrimage Travel Document through a clerk of a Federal court or a State court having jurisdiction to naturalize aliens or through a Passport Agent upon the form of application prescribed for that purpose, entitled APPLICATION FOR A PILGRIMAGE TRAVEL DOCUMENT, issued under the Act of March 2, 1929, submitting therewith four photographs on a light background and on thin paper not more than 3 x 3 inches in size and not less than 2½ x 2½ inches in size. When making application she should be accompanied by a credible witness who has known her for a period of two years or more.

"The Act of March 2, 1929, provides that no fee shall be charged for the execution of an application for a passport or travel document or for the issue of a passport or travel document to a mother or widow making a pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe in which deceased soldiers, sailors, and marines of the American forces are now interred.

"Special Pilgrimage Passports and Pilgrimage Travel Documents when issued by the Department of State will be forwarded to the War Department.

"Applicants resident in Boston, Chicago, New Orleans, New York City, San Francisco and Seattle should execute applications at the Passport Agencies in those cities."

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Benson, Leo A. 1232-M

March 29, 1930

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
4456 Lockwood St.,  
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Madam:

The records of this office show that you have not accepted or declined the invitation extended you to make a pilgrimage to Europe under the provisions of the Act of March 2, 1929, sailing on the "Roosevelt" on May 28, 1930.

In order that arrangements may be completed for the pilgrimage, it is imperative that you complete the card enclosed with the invitation signifying whether or not you accept the invitation and return the same to this office.

In the event no reply is received from you before April 12, 1930, the invitation will be automatically cancelled.

Should you desire to make the pilgrimage at a later date, it is requested that you advise this office to that effect.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Mrs Van Peit —

Please have all your  
records charged to  
Cal. & then we will  
advise her —

OK. v.p. jfb

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Benson, Jac A. 1282-M

March 20, 1930.

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
4486 Lockwood St.,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General:

Very truly yours,

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

1 Enclosure.  
Regulation.

Roosevelt

5-28-30

1232

Benson, Mrs a

I Accept the invitation extended  
(Accept or decline)  
me to make a pilgrimage to Europe at the expense of the  
Government of the United States under the provisions of  
the Act of Congress approved March 2, 1929.

Mrs. Mary Benson

(Name)

4456 Lockwood St., Los Angeles, California

(Town or City)

(State)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE. 1929

Mrs Mary Benson  
4456 Lockwood St Los Angeles

ad me

Aug 3-26-30

of Mrs L. L. Rayan  
apt 404

MB

1232

Leo. W Benson

Denver

I. m 293-A-C

color-

Dear Sirs

These was a letter mailed to  
me at my daughters ad-  
at 4456 Rockwood St Los A. Calif.  
The landlord did not know of my  
coming there so it was given  
to mail man again I should have  
put apt 404 on it. Please send  
all my mail there I was delayed  
here am. leaving at once for  
L.A. Cal-

Respy

Mrs Mary Benson

QM 293 A-C  
Benson, Leo A.  
1232

March 18, 1930.

Mrs. Mary A. Benson,  
4456 Lockwood St.,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March  
5, 1930, notifying this office of your change of address.

Accordingly the records of this office have been  
corrected to show your address as indicated above. All  
further communications relative to the pilgrimage will be  
addressed to you at this address.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

bbjles

QM 293 A-C  
Benson, Leo A.  
1232

March 13, 1930.

Mrs. Mary A. Benson,  
4456 Lockwood St.,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 3, 1930, notifying this office of your change of address.

Accordingly the records of this office have been corrected to show your address as indicated above. All further communications relative to the pilgrimage will be addressed to you at this address.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

bbjles

1520 MAR 14 PM 1 02

RECEIVED



Q.M. 293. A  
Binson, Leo. W.  
1232

Denver  
Color -  
Mar 3-30

Mr. W. D. Hughes  
Captain of I. M. Corps.

0182094

Dear Sir.

Your letter of Feb 17 - received relative  
to the pilgrimages to France.

I am changing my ad - as I am  
going to Los Angeles Calif - Any  
mail you may have for me  
please send to my new address,  
which will be

4456. Lockwood St  
Los Angeles -

Old ad -  
4460 Fruitman St  
Denver  
Colorado

Respy -  
Mrs Mary W Binson

P.S. I am leaving here in about three  
weeks.

Inv. prep. } "Roosevelt"  
will be mailed } May 28th  
a few days.

QM 293

Benson, Leo A.  
1232

February 17, 1930.

Mrs. Mary A. Benson,  
4450 Quitman St.,  
Denver, Colorado.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of February 9, 1930, relative to the pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe, authorized by the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929.

For your information, your name is listed with those mothers and widows eligible to make the pilgrimage from the State of Colorado. It is noted, however, that you advise that Colorado is not your permanent residence, and it is therefore suggested that you establish residence in the State from which you desire to make the pilgrimage, and advise this office, so that the necessary arrangements may be made to include you with the mothers and widows making the journey from that State.

In reply to your inquiry as to the order in which the mothers and widows will make the journey from the States of California, Illinois and Iowa, you are advised that California is the 15th State, Illinois the 32nd State and Iowa the 7th State on the list. All the pilgrimages for the year of 1930 are to be made during the period from May 7, to August 30, 1930.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

mb

777 -

I. m. 293. A-C Denver <sup>H</sup>  
Benson. L. O. A. 1232 Colorado.  
Feb 9-30

509

Mr C. D. Hughes  
Captain U. S. Army -

32.

Dear Sir

I just read in Denver  
Post where States are  
drawn. for I old Star  
Mother's trip France. It  
only mention Nebraska first  
F. Birds second. Montana 8th  
Colorado last. I wanted to  
go from Cal - But as Rocky  
mountain States are last  
I don't know just what

to do. I want to go this summer  
I can go back to Iowa or  
Illinois if either of those  
States go first, they are  
formerly my old homes.  
I have no permanent home  
I want to establish a home  
as soon as I come back  
home. Please let me know which  
of these States go first & when.  
Cal<sup>13</sup> - Ill<sup>32</sup> - or Iowa<sup>4</sup>. So I can  
change my address in time  
to make my plans.

awaiting your reply.

Yrs. S. L.

I am yours deeply.

Mrs Mary A Benson  
4460 Tuitman St  
Denver  
Colorado

QM 293 A-C  
Benson, Leo A. 1232

January 5, 1930.

Mrs. Mary A. Benson,  
4460 Quitman St.,  
Denver, Colorado.

Dear Madam:

Acknowledging receipt of your letter of December 18, 1929, please be advised that you will be furnished transportation from Los Angeles, California to Europe and return, provided you are residing in that city at the time the transportation is arranged for and tickets sent out.

You should advise this office of your change of address, however, in order that plans may be made to include you among those mothers and widows making the pilgrimage from the State of California, as all eligibles will be sent in groups by state.

With reference to your making a stop-over while enroute in the United States, please be advised that it has been decided to grant stop-overs on the return journey only as such action can in no way interfere with the schedules which may be arranged. Therefore, if you desire a stop-over while enroute from New York City to your home, there will be no objection to same provided the expense to the United States is not increased thereby.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

VEB:LS

1234

H

Denver color  
Dec 18 1929

Mayor Gen. Cheatum

Dear Sir

I just read an article in Denver Post concerning the Gold Star Mothers trip to France next year. I am just living here temporarily I want to go to Los Angeles before I go on the trip. I would like to know if I can get a stopover privilege or will I have to go on through will we go in alphabetical order on each State send her contingent I am not planning on coming back to the West from the trip. Please give me any information you can Will I have to be here to go, or can I go on to California have my Government mail & checks sent there

Thanking you  
I am Resp'y

May A Benson  
4460 Duitman St



DEC 27 1929  
Q. M. G.

#1232

QM 293 A-C

Benson, Leo A.

November 6, 1929.

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
4460 Quitman St.,  
Denver, Colorado.

Dear Madam:

Further reference is made to letter of this office of July 30, 1929, in which you were advised that plans had not progressed far enough to give you definite information relative to the granting of a stop-over during the pilgrimage to Europe authorized by Congress in the Act of March 2, 1929.

With regard to your making an extended visit in Ireland, please be advised that it has been held that, except in unavoidable cases, there is no authority of law to extend the time specified in Section 2 (d) of the Act to cover this pilgrimage or to grant requests of individuals to leave the groups to which assigned.

Persons making the pilgrimage and desiring for other than unavoidable reasons an extension of time or variation in the itinerary, can be granted such extensions and variations, only upon the condition that all further expenses of the pilgrimage after leaving the group, including the return transportation to their homes, will be borne by the individuals concerned.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

VEB:LS

QM 295 A-C  
Benson, Leo A.

July 30, 1929.

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
4460 Quitman St.,  
Denver, Colo.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of July 9, 1929, in further reference to the Gold Star Mothers' and Widows' Pilgrimage to Europe.

With reference to your inquiry as to whether it would be necessary for you to start from Denver, Colo., or whether you could go from California if you should be visiting there at the time the pilgrimage is commenced, your attention is invited to Section 2 (g) of the enclosed Act, which reads in part as follows:

"(g) Suitable transportation, accommodations, meals, and other necessities pertaining thereto, as prescribed by the Secretary of War, shall be furnished each mother or widow included in any pilgrimage for the entire distance at sea and on land and while sojourning in Europe and while en route in the United States from home to port and from port to home."

Within a reasonable time you will be furnished the necessary blanks upon which to make formal application for the journey. Space will be provided on these blanks for you to indicate your home, and you will be furnished transportation from the place designated as your home to the port of embarkation and return.

Plans for the pilgrimage have not progressed far enough to enable this office to give you a definite answer relative to your request for a stop-over to visit friends in Ireland. However, The Quartermaster General will be as liberal in granting requests of this nature as conditions permit. Just as soon as a definite answer can be given you will be further advised.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

EMM/vp  
Enclosure:  
Act.

A. D. Hughes,  
Capt.

Name and address of Mother: Mrs Mary Benson

Name of Son and address: Leo. W Benson enlisted from Chicago Ill -

Branch of Service: Enlisted Helger troop 2<sup>nd</sup> Div - lost life 80 Div 320 Inf Co. F.  
Nov 2 - 1918

Name of Cemetery where buried:

Number of grave: 34 Row 32 B D Meuse Argonne American Cem -

~~If remains sent home date of arrival:~~

~~How long the remains were in the cemetery:~~

Do not send any mail  
to Painesville Illinois

Son was not married

2.M. 293. A-C

Denver  
Colorado  
July 9 - 29

12<sup>30</sup>  
6/29/29

The War Dept -

Dear Sir

I have received your letter  
• Pamphlet pertaining to Europe  
trip for Old Star Mothers  
your letter was mailed to Pawnee  
Ill? I have lived in Ft ~~Madison~~  
for eight years came out  
here Dec 10 - 1928. Don't  
know how long I will stay  
here I want to make the  
trip & want some more  
information concerning  
If I give my ad - here

Could I go to Cal - would I have  
to come back here or would  
I be allowed to go from where  
I would be at time set for  
leaving. Also would I be  
allowed to take a trip to  
Ireland at my own expense  
after seeing my sons grand  
in France. Thanking you for  
any information I am

Respectfully

Mrs Mary Beman  
4460, Luitman St  
Denver  
Colorado

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

October 7, 1929.

Benson, Leo A. 1232 M

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
4460 Quitman Street,  
Denver, Colo.

4456 Lockheed St  
Los Angeles  
ott. 404

*Sailed*  
MAY 28 1930

Dear Madam:

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

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

1. Do you desire to make this pilgrimage if eligible?	(Yes) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Do you desire to make the pilgrimage in the calendar year 1930?	(Yes) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. Have you at any time made a previous visit to the grave of the deceased member of the military or naval forces in whom you are interested?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (No)
4. Please give your age and state of health.	Age Health (Years) 57 (Good) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5. What language do you speak?	English - (Yes) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other language (Specify language spoken)

RECEIVED  
OCT 23 1929  
U.S. ARMY  
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.  
Act  
Envelope

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

June 29, 1929.

Benson, Leo A.

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
Pawnee, Ill.

*Present ad 4460 Leitchman St Denver Colorado*

Dear Madam:

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

The records of this office show that you are the mother of the late 2nd Lt. Leo A. Benson, Co.F. 320th Inf., 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 widow who is entitled under the provisions of the above quoted Act, to make the pilgrimage, and if so, will you please furnish her full name and address in order that action may be taken to extend an invitation to her to make the pilgrimage. Both mothers and widows are entitled to make the pilgrimage.

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

*John T. Harris*

2 incls.  
Act of Congress.  
Envelope.

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

QM 293 A-M  
Benson, Leo A. 1232

July 30, 1930.

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
4450 Lockwood St., Apt. 404,  
c/o C. L. Hogan,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Madam:

I am pleased to acknowledge receipt of the testimonial expressing your appreciation to the United States Government, which you and the other mothers and widows returning on the SS America, were so kind as to send me regarding your pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe.

It is gratifying to know that your trip was entirely satisfactory and that the officers and other personnel connected with the pilgrimage rendered such courteous and efficient service. The Quartermaster Corps is proud of the honor bestowed upon it by being charged with the conduct of these pilgrimages and has expended every energy that those making the journey might have a comfortable and pleasant trip. I feel, however, that the task has been materially lightened by the wonderful spirit of cooperation shown by the mothers and widows who are making the pilgrimage.

I am indeed pleased to receive such complimentary remarks concerning the care and consideration shown the women making the journey by the personnel connected with the pilgrimage.

Sincerely yours,

J. L. DOWITT,  
Major General,  
The Quartermaster General.

ADH  
JTH  
WRG

RS

REC-11 AM 11 05  
X 330.13 PILGRIMAGE, GOLD STAR

MRS. MARY BENSON  
4456 LOCKWOOD STREET APT. 404,  
c/o C. L. ROGAN  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

WASHINGTON, D. C. May 20, 1930

PASSPORT RECEIVED DELIVERED TO YOU ABOARD SHIP.

GSM 814

DEWITT  
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

QM 293 A-C  
Benson, Leo A. 1232



RES  
JTH

QM 293 A-0  
Benson, Leo A. 1232

May 5, 1930

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
4456 Lockwood Street, Apt. 404,  
c/o C. L. Rogan,  
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Madam:

This office has not yet received your passport for use in connection with your pilgrimage to the American Cemeteries in Europe.

It is imperative that every mother or widow making this pilgrimage, whether an American citizen or not, have a passport issued and in the hands of this office before she begins her trip.

Please comply as early as possible with the instructions shown in form letter attached, or if you have heretofore taken this action advise this office to that effect.

Should the clerk of the court not have been furnished with "Special Pilgrimage Passport" applications, please request him to take the matter up at once with the Passport Bureau, Room 170, State, War and Navy Building, Washington, D. C., and he will be furnished with these forms.

The person to whom you should apply is the Clerk of Superior Court at Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

R. E. SHANNON,  
Captain, U.S. Corps,  
Assistant.

1 Encl.  
Form Let.

30/1037/

W.G. & DIV.

PM 3 15

DISPATCH

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Benson, Leo A. 1252 M

April 11, 1930.

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
4456 Lockwood St.,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Madam:

The following instructions prepared by the Secretary of State contain the necessary instructions to be followed by you in obtaining the passport or travel document to be utilized in connection with your pilgrimage to the cemeteries in Europe. Please read the directions carefully and call in person upon the nearest Passport Agent or clerk of a Federal or State court having jurisdiction to naturalize aliens. Passport Agencies are located in Boston, Chicago, New Orleans, New York City, San Francisco and Seattle. In large cities there are usually two or more courts and at each county-seat a state court authorized to accept these passport applications.

When you make this call be sure to take with you the four photographs called for in the instructions together with your invitation as a means of identification. You should take with you to the passport office at this time a friend who is an American citizen and who has known you for several years. The passport Agent or clerk of the court will mail your application to the Secretary of State in Washington, D. C., who will issue the passports and travel documents and will deliver them to The Quartermaster General to be held by him until your arrival in New York.

The instructions prepared by the Secretary of State are as follows:

"A mother or widow who owes allegiance to the United States must apply to the Department of State for a Special Pilgrimage Passport through a Passport Agent or through a clerk of a Federal court or State court having jurisdiction to naturalize aliens and on the form prescribed by that Department. When making application, she should be accompanied by a credible witness who is an American citizen and who has known her for a period of two years or more. With her application she should submit four photographs on a light background and on thin paper not more than 3x3 inches in size not less than 2½x2½ inches in size and such documentary

evidence of her American citizenship as she may have in her possession. In the absence of evidence of citizenship, her application should be witnessed by a credible person residing in the same community who is an American citizen, has known her for a long period of time and is able to swear to the best of his or her knowledge and belief that she is a citizen of the United States.

"A mother or widow who does not owe allegiance to the United States must apply to the Department of State for a Pilgrimage Travel Document through a clerk of a Federal court or a State court having jurisdiction to naturalize aliens or through a Passport Agent upon the form of application prescribed for that purpose, entitled APPLICATION FOR A PILGRIMAGE TRAVEL DOCUMENT, issued under the Act of March 2, 1929, submitting therewith four photographs on a light background and on thin paper not more than 3 x 3 inches in size and not less than 2½ x 2½ inches in size. When making application she should be accompanied by a credible witness who has known her for a period of two years or more.

"The Act of March 2, 1929, provides that no fee shall be charged for the execution of an application for a passport or travel document or for the issue of a passport or travel document to a mother or widow making a pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe in which deceased soldiers, sailors, and marines of the American forces are now interred.

"Special Pilgrimage Passports and Pilgrimage Travel Documents when issued by the Department of State will be forwarded to the War Department.

"Applicants resident in Boston, Chicago, New Orleans, New York City, San Francisco and Seattle should execute applications at the Passport Agencies in those cities."

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

QM 293 A-C

Benson, Leo A.  
1232

February 17, 1930.

Mrs. Mary A. Benson,  
4460 Quitman St.,  
Denver, Colorado.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of February 9, 1930, relative to the pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe, authorized by the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929.

For your information, your name is listed with those mothers and widows eligible to make the pilgrimage from the State of Colorado. It is noted, however, that you advise that Colorado is not your permanent residence, and it is therefore suggested that you establish residence in the State from which you desire to make the pilgrimage, and advise this office, so that the necessary arrangements may be made to include you with the mothers and widows making the journey from that State.

In reply to your inquiry as to the order in which the mothers and widows will make the journey from the States of California, Illinois and Iowa, you are advised that California is the 13th State, Illinois the 52nd State and Iowa the 7th State on the list. All the pilgrimages for the year of 1930 are to be made during the period from May 7, to August 30, 1930.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

Q. M. G. DIV.

RECEIVED FEB 17 PM 2 25

DISPATCH

CM 293 A-C  
Benson, Leo A. 1232

January 5, 1930.

Mrs. Mary A. Benson,  
4460 Quitman St.,  
Denver, Colorado.

Dear Madam:

Acknowledging receipt of your letter of December 18, 1929, please be advised that you will be furnished transportation from Los Angeles, California to Europe and return, provided you are residing in that city at the time the transportation is arranged for and tickets sent out.

You should advise this office of your change of address, however, in order that plans may be made to include you among those mothers and widows making the pilgrimage from the State of California, as all eligibles will be sent in groups by state.

With reference to your making a stop-over while enroute in the United States, please be advised that it has been decided to grant stop-overs on the return journey only as such action can in no way interfere with the schedules which may be arranged. Therefore, if you desire a stop-over while enroute from New York City to your home, there will be no objection to same provided the expense to the United States is not increased thereby.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

DIV.  
3 06  
VHB:LS

QM 293 A-C

Benson, Leo A.

November 6, 1929.

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
4460 Quitman St.,  
Denver, Colorado.

Dear Madam:

Further reference is made to letter of this office of July 30, 1929, in which you were advised that plans had not progressed far enough to give you definite information relative to the granting of a stop-over during the pilgrimage to Europe authorized by Congress in the Act of March 2, 1929.

With regard to your making an extended visit in Ireland, please be advised that it has been held that, except in unavoidable cases, there is no authority of law to extend the time specified in Section 2 (d) of the Act to cover this pilgrimage or to grant requests of individuals to leave the groups to which assigned.

Persons making the pilgrimage and desiring for other than unavoidable reasons an extension of time or variation in the itinerary, can be granted such extensions and variations, only upon the condition that all further expenses of the pilgrimage after leaving the group, including the return transportation to their homes, will be borne by the individuals concerned.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

1 & R DIV.  
NOV 10 55  
VEB:LS

A

✓

✓

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

October 7, 1929.

Benson, Leo A. 1232 M

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
4460 Quitman Street,  
Denver, Colo.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.  
Act  
Envelope

QM 293 A-C  
Benson, Lee A.

July 30, 1929.

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
4490 Quitman St.,  
Denver, Colo.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of July 9, 1929, in further reference to the Gold Star Mothers' and Widows' Pilgrimage to Europe.

With reference to your inquiry as to whether it would be necessary for you to start from Denver, Colo., or whether you could go from California if you should be visiting there at the time the pilgrimage is commenced, your attention is invited to Section 2 (g) of the enclosed Act, which reads in part as follows:

"(g) Suitable transportation, accommodations, meals, and other necessities pertaining thereto, as prescribed by the Secretary of War, shall be furnished each mother or widow included in any pilgrimage for the entire distance at sea and on land and while sojourning in Europe and while en route in the United States from home to port and from port to home."

Within a reasonable time you will be furnished the necessary blanks upon which to make formal application for the journey. Space will be provided on these blanks for you to indicate your home, and you will be furnished transportation from the place designated as your home to the port of embarkation and return.

Plans for the pilgrimage have not progressed far enough to enable this office to give you a definite answer relative to your request for a stop-over to visit friends in Ireland. However, The Quartermaster General will be as liberal in granting requests of this nature as conditions permit. Just as soon as a definite answer can be given you will be further advised.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

Enclosure:  
Act.

A. D. Hughes,  
Capt., U.S. Corps.

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

June 29, 1929.

Benson, Leo A.

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
Pawnee, Ill.

Dear Madam:

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

The records of this office show that you are the mother of the late 2nd Lt. Leo A. Benson, Co.F. 320th Inf., 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 widow who is entitled under the provisions of the above quoted Act, to make the pilgrimage, and if so, will you please furnish her full name and address in order that action may be taken to extend an invitation to her to make the pilgrimage. Both mothers and widows are entitled to make the pilgrimage.

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

2 incls.  
Act of Congress.  
Envelope.

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

Sept. 24, 1923.

Mrs. Mary Benson,  
Pawnee,  
Ills.

Dear Madam:

The Quartermaster General desires you to be informed that the ~~grave of~~ <sup>grave of</sup> Lieutenant Lee M. Benson, Company I, 320th Infantry, ~~is located at~~ <sup>is located at</sup> 34, Row 22, Block D, 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, 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.

You are assured in effecting removal of the remains, the utmost care and reverence were exercised and more than willingly accorded by those who performed 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,

In

B. H. CHEAL,  
Assistant.

WTPK

U.S. Army  
Central Mail  
SEP 26  
R. O. C.

*Son*  
Bensen

(Surname.)

Lee A.

(Christian name in full.)

(Army serial number)

2nd. Lt.

Co. F. 320th Inf.

(Rank and organization.)

State your relationship to the deceased

*Mother*

Do you desire the remains brought to the United States?

*No.*  
(Yes or no.)

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

(Yes or no.)

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

(Name of person to receive remains.)

(Express office.)

(Telegraph office.)

(Number and street.)

(City or town.)

(State.)

(Sign here)

*Mrs Mary Bensen*

(Number and street or rural route.)

(City, town, or post office.)

(State.)

Read carefully the letter accompanying this card.

Duplicate

JUN 23 1919

E.A. Mrs. Mary Benson,  
Pawnee, Illinois.

Answer City # 586

Chickadee  
284-21-21

4-21-21

Drawn by - 637  
1232-  
see 81-18

# COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

File #53860 ✓

(a) Name BENSON, Leo A. Ser. No. -----  
 (b) Rank 2nd Lt. Organization Co. F. 320th Inf.  
 (c) Date of death 11/2/18 (d) Cause of death DWRIA

TYP. jek  
 CKR. OB

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

(a) Grave No. 138 Row --- Plot 3 Sec. 81 TYP. jek  
 (b) Emerg. Address Mrs. Mary Benson. (Mother) Pawnee, Ill.

III. ~~List of soldiers dying from contagious diseases~~ CKR. OB

IV. A. G. O. DISPOSITION CARD:

Date of receipt -----

(a) Name Mrs. Mary Benson (b) Relationship mother  
 (c) Address omitted  
 (d) Remains to be brought to U. S.? no  
 (e) To be interred in National Cemetery in U. S. at -----  
 (f) Shipping instructions upon arrival of body in U. S. -----  
 (g) Disposition instructions if not brought to U. S. -----

Examiner's Initials lBR Date 4-21-, 1920.

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

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

Examiner's Initials ----- Date -----, 1920.

VI. G. R. S. FILES, CORRESPONDENCE—shows as follows: Mrs. Mary A Benson,

mother, Pawnee, Ill. 2-24-19.  
no request for disposition

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

Examiner's Initials lBR Date 4-21-, 1920.

COUNTRY France. CEMETERY No. 1232-Sec. 81 SHEET No. 16



Duplicate

G.R.S. FORM #114-A.

STATION Romagne s/s Montfaucon

To be prepared in triplicate.

DATE Oct. 19, 1921

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 BENSON, Leo A  
 2. No. ---  
 3. Rank 2nd Lieut  
 4. Org. Co. F. 320th Inf.  
 5. D.D. 11-2-18  
 6. C.D. D.O.W.

10. Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 11. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 12. Rank \_\_\_\_\_  
 13. Org. \_\_\_\_\_  
 14. (a) D.D. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (b) D.B. \_\_\_\_\_

Discrepancy found upon disinterment

7. Grave No. 138 Sec. 81  
 8. Plot 3 Row \_\_\_\_\_  
 9. \_\_\_\_\_

15. Grave No. \_\_\_\_\_ Sec. \_\_\_\_\_  
 16. Plot \_\_\_\_\_ Row \_\_\_\_\_  
 17. No desc.

18. Cemetery Argonne American  
 20. Dept. or County Meuse

19. Commune or town ROMAGNE-sous-MONTFAUCON  
 21. Country France

22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. 1232 Sec. 81

23. Disinterred (Date) 10-19-21

By H.E. Strong

24. Inscription on grave marker:

Name Leo A. Benson  
 Rank 2nd Lieut.

Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Organization Co. F. 320th Inf.

25. Was identification disc found on grave marker? yes, On body? no

H.E. Strong  
 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).

GRs burial plaque found on body reads "Leo A. Benson Pvt."

27. Condition of body Badly decomposed features unrecognizable

28. Nature of burial Us Uniform, burlap and pine box.

29. Any discrepancy noted upon examination of body, as compared with G.R.S. records quoted above? see item 24.

30. Body prepared and placed in casket: Date 10-19-21 By H.E. Strong

31. Casket sealed by H. E. Strong

Signature of Embalmer, (Supervisor) H.E. Strong

SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. C-7882

32. Designation of body:

Name BENSON, Leo A. Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

Rank 2nd Lieut Organization Co. F. 320th Inf.

33. Consigned to:

Name of Permanent Cemetery Argonne American, ROMAGNE-sous-MONTFAUCON 1232

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) 10-19-21 By H.E. Strong

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

Geo. C. Bland, 1st Lt. QMC

36. Remarks

37. Shipped from point of Operation: (Date) 10-19-21

To point of Concentration Meuse Argonne Cem #1232

Convoyer \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Shipping Officer G.F. Spain, Capt. cjt

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 Cem. 1232, Oct. 19, 1921.

(Date)

42. Grave No. Row 32 Bl. D. Gr. 34. Section \_\_\_\_\_

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

G.R.S. Representative

James W. Younger  
JAMES W. YOUNGER  
CAPT. QMC



Place Romagne France

# REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date 10-19-21.

1. REMAINS OF BENSON, LEO A. SERIAL NUMBER .....  
RANK 2nd Lt. ORGANIZATION Co., F. 220th 320th Inf.

2. Disinterred (date): Oct. 19-21, From (give complete location):  
Gr. 138 sec 81 pt 3, Cem., #1232,  
By: Group 9 Unit Sec. 1

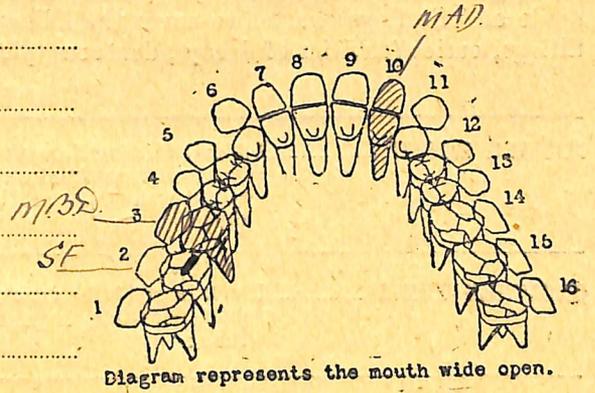
3. Reburied (date): Oct. 19, 1921. In (give complete location):  
Meuse Argonne Cem. 1232, Row 32 Bl. D. Gr. 34.  
By: Group Reburial Sec. 8 Unit ..... Nature of reburial unlined casket

4. Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon disinterment:  
box, and burlap ~~and~~ body decomposed features unrecognizable.

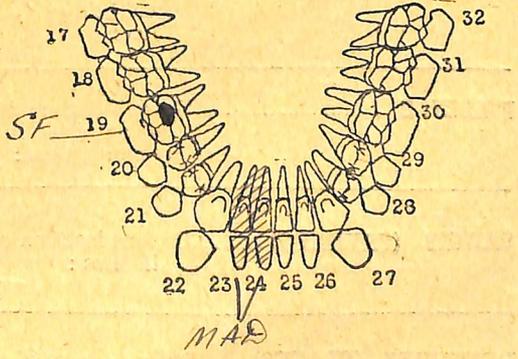
5. (a) Identification tags: Buried with body? No On grave marker? Yes  
(b) Other means of identification found upon disinterment, and general remarks:  
GRS. plaque found on body reads: "Leo A. Benson, Pvt."

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

- (a) Height (actual measurement) Imp to det.
- (b) Weight (estimated) do
- (c) Hair—Color Light brown  
Quantity plentiful  
Characteristics straight
- (d) Hair on face—Color none  
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) none visible

7. Disinterment supervised by H. E. Strong  
H. E. Strong, S. E.

Approved: Geo. C. Bland  
Geo. C. Bland 1st. Lt. QMC  
(Title)

8. Reburial supervised by W. B. Sheild  
W. B. SHEILD

Approved: James K. Younger  
JAMES K. YOUNGER  
(Title) CAPT. QMC  
eaj.

# COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

File #53880

(a) Name BENSON, Leo A. Ser. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (b) Rank 2nd Lt. Organization Co. F. 320th Inf.  
 (c) Date of death 11/2/18 (d) Cause of death DWARIA

} TYP. <sup>jek</sup>  
*CB*

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

(a) Grave No. 138 Row \_\_\_\_\_ Plot 3 Sec. 81 TYP. <sup>jek</sup>  
 (b) Emerg. Address Mrs. Mary Benson. (Mother) Pawnee, Ill.

III. ~~Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases~~ CKR. *CB*

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 5-2-, 1921  
*Section 81*  
*Ord. & Not to be returned (JEX)*

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. \_\_\_\_\_

52822  
**GRAVE LOCATION BLANK**

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Benson

Leo A

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

2 Lt

H&T.R., 320 Inf.

(Rank).

(Organization).

PLACE OF DEATH:

E. H. #14

CAUSE OF DEATH:

DATE OF BURIAL:

Nov. 2 1918 ✓

PLACE OF BURIAL:

Les Islettes

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

American Cemetery  
Section L Plot 2

GRAVE NUMBER:

104 ✓

HOW MARKED: Name Peg?

yes

Cross?

Headboard?

Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body?

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

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

NEAREST RELATIVE:

ADDRESS:

RELATIONSHIP:

REPORTED BY:

Chas L. Kowalski Chaplain  
E. H. #14

(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer).

1388°

Soldier's No. 210353 ✓

Name BENSON, LEO A. ✓

Rank 2nd Lt Co. A (Regt.) 120  
(Corps) INF

Nov. 2, 1918 ✓ WOUNDS  
Date of Death Cause

Nov. 2, 1918 ✓ AMERICAN  
Date of Burial Cemetery

LES ISLETTES MEUSE  
Town or Commune Dept.

Grave No. 104 Plot 2 Sec. 4

TAG buried with body

TAG attached to REG.

CHARLES A. HOURSE  
Chaplain - Burial Officer (which?)

GAVEN M. WILLIS EA. 14  
Signature CPL. QMC Rank

Group 4 Unit 310 G.R.S. ✓

American Expeditionary Forces  
Headquarters Services of Supply  
Office of the C.Q.M., A.E.F.  
Graves Registration Service.

FROM : The Chief, G.R.S.

To : Chaplain Charles L. Newse  
Sub-inspector, G.R.S.

SUBJECT : Information for relatives.

1. Information as to the circumstances connected with the death of

2nd Lieut. Leo. A. Benson,  
Co. F., 320th Inf.

which are not of record in this office, is desired by

Mrs. Mary A. Benson,  
Pawnee, Ill.

2. I am sure it will be your pleasure to give what comfort you can in writing directly to the above address, and I deeply regret that the desired information is not available for me to use, without the delay involved in this request for your aid.

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

Copy furnished for the information of the family of the deceased.

Benson, Pa  
2nd Lt. Co F 320 Inf

*[Large blue ink scribble]*

*[Green ink flourish]*

53880

1st. Ind.

Statistical Division, A.G.O., G.H.Q., A.E.F., June 12th, 1919: To Chief G. R. S.  
Hqrs. S.O.S.

1. No record in this office of Chaplin Charles L. Nawse.
2. Returned.

*G. H. La Mar*

53880

G. H. La Mar  
1st. F. A.  
Stat. Division.



G.R.S. Form No. 8; Central Records Division.  
 Memo For: G.R.S. representative, C.R.O.  
 SUBJECT: Information required for G.R.S.

1. Items checked are to be completed:
- ( ) Surname: **BENSON**
- ( ) Number:
- ( ) First name: **Leo A.**
- ( ) Rank: **2nd. Lieut.**
- ( ) Company: **"F"**
- ( ) Organization: **320th. Infantry**
- ( ) Date of death:
- ( ) Cause:
- ( ) Place:

Location of hospital:

Number " "

Class " "

(✓) Relative: **Mrs. Mary Benson**

(✓) Relationship: **Mother**

(✓) Address: **Pawnee. Ill.**

- ( ) Authority:
- Cablegram No:
- Telegram from:

dated:

- ( ) Reported to Washington:
- C.C. Nos:

(Underscore the "official" C.C.)

- ( ) Remarks:
- ( ) Show present status on reverse side.

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

Initials of Reporter:

American Expeditionary Forces  
Headquarters Services of Supply  
Office of the C.Q.M., A.E.F.  
Graves Registration Service.

FROM : The Chief, G.R.S.

To : Chaplain Charles J. Newse  
Sub-inspector, G.R.S.

SUBJECT : Information for relatives.

1. Information as to the circumstances connected with the death of

2nd Lieut. Leo A. Benson,  
Co. F., 320th Inf.

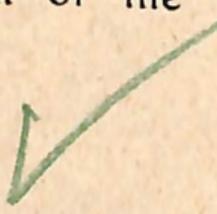
which are not of record in this office, is desired by

Mrs. Mary A. Benson,  
Pewee, Ill.

2. I am sure it will be your pleasure to give what comfort you can in writing directly to the above address, and I deeply regret that the desired information is not available for me to use, without the delay involved in this request for your aid.

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

Copy furnished for the information of the family of the deceased.



Pawnee, Wyo.  
Feb 24, 1919

The Graves Registration  
Bureau

Dear Sirs

I have been officially  
informed that my <sup>6</sup> son  
<sup>2nd</sup> Lieut Leo A. Benson  
had died of wounds  
Nov 2nd, in France  
as I am at a loss to find  
out any thing concerning  
him or his effects I  
have recd this

address & told you would supply  
me with any information. I  
would like to know when & where  
he <sup>was</sup> wounded & where he died  
& where his Body lies, also  
his personal Effects which I  
want so Badly. The last letter  
I Recd from him was dated  
Oct 29, & was repoted as died on  
Nov 2nd. he was I think in a  
rest Camp Oct 29, well & happy

Any information you find  
a Heart Broken Mother will  
be highly appreciated. he was  
all I had & my heart & soul  
was in him. Please see if I  
can his personal Effects as he  
spoke so much of having things  
he would bring home with  
him which he could not  
send so if you will Am

All these questions  
which I have asked  
I will be so glad to get  
them. it is now four  
Months since I was Notifi-  
ed I have not recd any other  
word

Sincerely yours

Mrs Mary A. Benson

his last ad. Pawnee

I'lls  
2nd Lieut Leo A. Benson

320 Reg. Inf. Company F.

Omaha, Nebraska

France

