

9027-277

FULL NAME BEST, Henry A

RANK Pvt SERIAL 195599 2912399

DIVISION & ORGANIZATION Co. B, 58th Inf. 4th Div.

DATE OF DEATH 9-30-18 (?)

STATE FROM WHICH HE CAME Mississippi

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS none

FINAL GRAVE LOCATION 1-130-30 27 42 E Block Date Grave Row

Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery #1232 Cemetery



293

138-3
1-11-30

CODE SLIP

No green carbon.
Recent recoveries
2-15-30 ✓

HEADING	SUB-HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE
NAME	Best		
	BES	3	259
BURIED	Henry A		
	CEMETERY 1232	1	1
	GRAVE 27	2	27
	ROW 42	2	42
	BLOCK E	1	5
STATE	Mississippi	2	28
RANK	Pvt	1	2
DIVISION	4	2	04
ORGANIZATION	58	3	058
ARM	Inf	1	1
MARITAL	No	1	2
NAME	Best		
	BES	3	259
RESIDENCE	Arthur (Bro.) Woodruff Miss		
	STATE	2	28
	COUNTY	2	29
	CITY	3	29x
RELATION	Mother	1	1
OTHER	Father died 1921	1	3
ELIGIBILITY	Dead (1926)	1	6
NATIVITY	no loc no SM	1	
RACE		1	
ENGLISH		1	
ATTENDANT		1	
HEALTH			
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF	MO.	1	
. TRIP	YR.	1	
ACCEPTANCE		1	
29/514/			

AUDITED

APR 11 1932

RB

Em

RAD

ma
Best, Henry A.

Pvt. Co. B, 58th Inf.

Miss.

XC-220146
4-12-5

Date of mother's death?

1-26-26

~~Widow?~~

Single

~~SM?~~

~~Loco?~~

father died

2-18-21

Seebqde

adm - brother - Arthur Best

Woodville
Miss.

QM 293 A-M
Best, Henry A. Pvt 1232-B

December 12, 1930.

Mr. Arthur Best,
Woodville, Mississippi.

Dear Sir:

In order that the records of this office may be complete and correct, it is requested that you advise whether or not the late Private Henry A. Best is survived by a widow, and if so, her name and address.

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.
Env.
HC

ETA

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Best, Henry A. - 1232 B

July 7, 1930

Wf. Arthur Best
Woodville, Mississippi

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.

QM 293 A-C
Best, Henry A.

February 15, 1930

Mr. Arthur Best,
Woodville, Miss.

Dear Sir:

With reference to office letter of January 6, 1930, advising you of the recovery of the remains of your brother, the late Private Henry A. Best, Co. B, 58th Infantry, you are advised that his remains have been permanently interred in Grave 27, Row 42, Block B, of the Meuse Argonne American Cemetery, in France.

Your attention is invited to the enclosed copy of the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, authorizing pilgrimages to the cemeteries of Europe by the mothers and widows of deceased members of the American forces whose remains are interred in such cemeteries.

It is requested that you advise this office as to whether the late Private Best is survived by a mother or widow in order that she may be communicated with relative to the pilgrimage.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.
Act
bb

QM 293 A-M
Best, Henry A. Pvt 1232-B

December 12, 1930.

Mr. Arthur Best,
Woodville, Mississippi.

Dear Sir:

In order that the records of this office may be complete and correct, it is requested that you advise whether or not the late Private Henry A. Best is survived by a widow, and if so, her name and address.

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.
Env.
KG

PM 2

20 DEC 13

DISPATCH

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Best, Henry A. - 1232 B

July 7, 1930

Mr. Arthur Best
Woodville, Mississippi

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.

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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.

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE, ~~Q.M.C.~~ IN EUROPE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF THE SERVICE
20 RUE MOLITOR

IN REPLYING
PLEASE ADDRESS
CHIEF, AMERICAN GRAVES
REGISTRATION SERVICE.

FILE NO. 293 Best, Henry A.
X-293 Griego, Cosme.
X-461 Directories.

SCB/scb.
PARIS FRANCE
March 17, 1930.

Subject: Organization Directories.

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

1. With reference to letter your office of February 15, 1930 (QM 293 A-C Best, Henry A. X-Griego, Cosme.), you are advised the names referred to therein have been added to Cemetery Organization Directories and Combined Directories.



Richard T. Ellis

RICHARD T. ELLIS,
Colonel, Quartermaster Corps,
United States Army,
Chief.

[Handwritten signature]
329-30

=====

293 Best, Henry A.
X-293 Griego, Cosma.
X-461 Directories.

SCB/sob.

March 17, 1950.

Subject: Organization Directories.

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

1. With reference to letter your office of February 15, 1950 (QM 293 A-C Best, Henry A. X-Griego, Cosma.), you are advised the names referred to therein have been added to Cemetery Organization Directories and Combined Directories.



RICHARD T. ELLIS,
Colonel, Quartermaster Corps,
United States Army,
Chief.

QM 293 A-C
Best, Henry A.
X-Griego, Cosme

February 15, 1930

SUBJECT: Headstone Listings.

TO: Chief, American Graves Registration Service in Europe,
20 Rue Molitor, Paris, France.

1. Referring to your indorsement of February 1, 1930, the following data is submitted for the recent interments in the Meuse Argonne American Cemetery:

Block E, Row 42, Grave 27, Henry A. Best - Pvt. - 58 Inf. -
4 Div. - Mississippi - Sept. 30, 1918;

Block E, Row 44, Grave 15, Cosme Griego - Pvt. - 58 Inf. -
4 Div. - New Mexico - Oct. 7, 1918.

2. The same information should be added to the Cemetery Organization Directories and Combined Directories with the addition of "Co.B" in each case.

3. Advise this office of action when completed.

For The Quartermaster General:

LDL
bb

RECEIVED

28 FEB, 1930

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

293.6 M.A. Cty., Bl. E. 1st Ind. et/et
March 11, 1930. To: The Quartermaster General of the Army, Washington,
D.C. U.S.A.

Receipt acknowledged. The necessary instructions have been issued for the engraving of headstones and erection of same over the graves listed above.

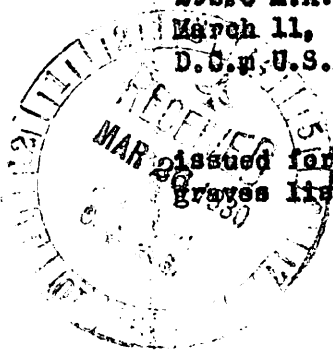


Richard T. Ellis
Richard T. Ellis,
Colonel, Quartermaster Corps,
United States Army,
Chief.

293.6 M.A. Cty., Bl. E. 1st Ind. st/st
March 11, 1930. To: The Quartermaster General of the Army, Washington,
D.C., U.S.A.

Receipt acknowledged. The necessary instructions have been
issued for the engraving of headstones and erection of same over the
graves listed above.

Richard T. Ellis,
Colonel, Quartermaster Corps,
United States Army.



B
✓x293 CM 293 A-C
Best, Henry A.
X-Griego, Cosme

February 15, 1930

SUBJECT: Headstone Listings.

TO: Chief, American Graves Registration Service in Europe,
20 Rue Molitor, Paris, France.

1. Referring to your indorsement of February 1, 1930, the following data is submitted for the recent interments in the Meuse Argonne American Cemetery:

Block B, Row 42, Grave 27, Henry A. Best - Pvt. - 58 Inf. -
4 Div. - Mississippi - Sept. 30, 1918;

Block B, Row 44, Grave 15, Cosme Griego - Pvt. - 58 Inf. -
4 Div. - New Mexico - Oct. 7, 1918.

2. The same information should be added to the Cemetery Organization Directories and Combined Directories with the addition of "Co.B" in each case.

3. Advise this office of action when completed.

For The Quartermaster General:

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

O.C.M.C.M. & R.DIV
M
17
17
17

QM 293 A-C
Best, Henry A.

February 15, 1930

Mr. Arthur Best,
Woodville, Miss.

Dear Sir:

With reference to office letter of January 6, 1930, advising you of the recovery of the remains of your brother, the late Private Henry A. Best, Co. B, 58th Infantry, you are advised that his remains have been permanently interred in Grave 27, Row 42, Block E, of the Meuse Argonne American Cemetery, in France.

Your attention is invited to the enclosed copy of the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, authorizing pilgrimages to the cemeteries of Europe by the mothers and widows of deceased members of the American forces whose remains are interred in such cemeteries.

It is requested that you advise this office as to whether the late Private Best is survived by a mother or widow in order that she may be communicated with relative to the pilgrimage.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.
Act

O.C.M.C.
RECEIVED
MAR 3 03


QM 293 A-C (Best, Henry A.) (Griego, Cosme) 1st Ind.
To: The Chief, American Graves Registration Service, 20 rue Molitor,
Paris, France.

1. You are advised of the confirmation of identification in the cases of the late Private Henry A. Best, 2915399, and Private Cosme Griego, 1636214, both of Company B, 58th Infantry, 4th Division. The remains of both of these soldiers are to be interred in Europe.

2. It is requested that this office be advised of the location of the graves as soon as interment has been accomplished.

For The Quartermaster General:

Incls. withdrawn.


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



293 Best, Henry A.
X-293 Griego, Cosme.

2nd Ind.

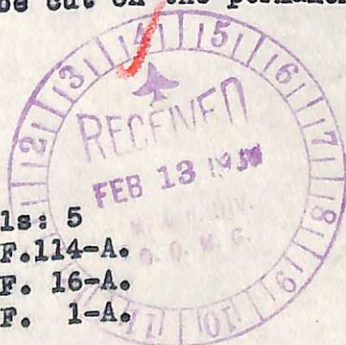
SOB/ach.

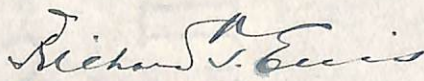
February 1, 1930. To: The Quartermaster General of the Army, Washington, D.C.

1. With G.R.S. Forms 114-A, 16-A and 1-A covering permanent concentration of the remains of the late Pvt. Henry A. Best, Co. B, 58th Inf., into Grave 27, Block E, Row 42, and the remains of the late Pvt. Cosme Griego, Co. B, 58th Inf., into Grave 15, Block E, Row 44, Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery. Burial of Pvt. Henry A. Best was made in the grave which was made vacant with the removal of the remains of the late Mech. Carl Christman, Co. K, 355th Infantry, for shipment to the United States.

2. It is requested that complete data with regard to inscription to be cut on the permanent markers be furnished this office.

Incls: 5
2, F. 114-A.
2, F. 16-A.
1, F. 1-A.




RICHARD T. ELLIS,
Colonel, Quartermaster Corps,
United States Army,
Chief.

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE, Q.M.C. IN EUROPE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF THE SERVICE
20 RUE MOLITOR

IN REPLYING
PLEASE ADDRESS
CHIEF, AMERICAN GRAVES
REGISTRATION SERVICE.

LB/LB

FILE NO. 293 Best, Henry A.
x- Griego, Cosme.

PARIS FRANCE
September 25, 1929.

Subject: Recovery of Remains.

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

1. Inclosed are G.R.S. Forms 16-A covering the recovery of the remains of Private Henry A. Best, #2915399, and Private Cosme Griego, #1636214, both of Company B, 58th Infantry, recently recovered by the Research Personnel of this office.

2. These remains were found buried together in a shell hole, body of Private Griego under that of Private Best, just south of the wagon road which runs north east and south west in the Bois de Brioules, about four hundred meters from the Brioules-Nantillois road, Commune of Brioules-sur-Meuse, Meuse, map reference Verdun-A, 1/20.000, E-313.06, N-282.68.

3. Grave was marked with a cross with two A.G.R.S. plaques thereon, one reading "Henry Best, 2915399, U.S.A. No tag", the other: "Cosme -----, No tag. USA. 1636214" .

4. Positive identification was established by above mentioned AGRS plaques and tags found on bodies. One tag was found on body of Private Best, marked as follows: "Henry Best, 2915---", the other tag, also on body, was inscribed "-en-- Bes-, 29-----". Tag on remains of Private Griego was badly corroded and undecipherable, another tag, found on top of ground near the shell hole, was stamped with name and serial number of Private Griego.

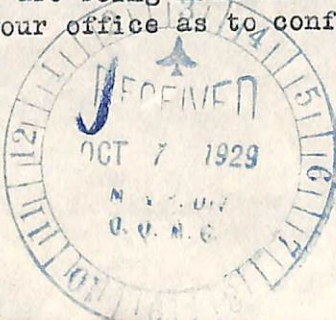
5. The following named personal effects, found with the remains, are inclosed herewith:

Pvt. Best:- 1 silver piece, 2 francs, French.
1 " " 1 " "
3 " " 0.50 "
one silver crucifix.

Pvt. Griego:- one copper piece, one cent, USA.

6. These remains are being held in the Meuse-Argonne mortuary pending receipt of advice from your office as to confirmation of identification and disposition.

Incls: 4
2 F.16-A
2 env. (P.E.)



Richard T. Ellis
Richard T. Ellis,
Colonel, Q.M.C.,
Chief,

To be prepared in triplicate.

DATE January 30, 1930.

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT, PREPARATION, SHIPMENT AND REBURIAL OF BODY

DISINTERMENT

COMPARATIVE REPORT

Records of G.R.S. Headquarters. Discrepancy found upon exhumation of body

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Name <u>BEST, Henry A.</u> | 10. Name _____ |
| 2. No. <u>2915399</u> | 11. No. _____ |
| 3. Rank <u>Private</u> | 12. Rank _____ |
| 4. Org. <u>Co. B, 58th Infantry</u> | 13. Org. _____ |
| 5. D.D. <u>Sept. 30, 1918</u> | 14. (a) D.D. _____ |
| 6. C.D. <u>KIA</u> | (b) D.B. <u>No discrepancies.</u> |

Recovered Sept. 11, 1929, from isolated shell hole,
Bois de Brioules, Cme. Brioules-sur-Meuse, Discrepancy found upon disinterment
Map. Verdun-A 1/20.000, E-315.06. N-282.68.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 7. Grave No. _____ Sec. _____ | 15. Grave No. _____ Sec. _____ |
| 8. Plot _____ Row _____ | 16. Plot _____ Row _____ |
| 9. _____ | 17. <u>No discrepancies.</u> |

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 18. Cemetery _____ | 19. Commune or town _____ |
| 20. Dept. or County _____ | 21. Country _____ |
| 22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. _____ | |

23. Disinterred (Date) September 11, 1929 By W.B. Sheild, Superintendent.

24. Inscription on grave marker :
G.R.S. plaque.
- | | |
|------------|--------------------|
| Name _____ | Serial No. _____ |
| Rank _____ | Organization _____ |

25. Was identification disc found on grave marker? G.R.S. plaque On body? 2
W.B. Sheild, Superintendent.
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)
G.R.S. plaque marked "Henry Best, 2915399, U.S.A. No tag." One tag marked "Henry Best, 2915----." Other tag "-en-- Bes-, 29-----". Piece of shaving brush black hair, pieces of web belt and scabbard, mess pan, knife and spoon, all left with remains. One silver two franc piece, one silver one-franc piece French, and three silver fifty centime pieces
27. Condition of body French, also one silver cross, (crucifix),
Head, jaws, right scapula, and right humerus shattered. Right clavicle broken; left femur broken middle third. Ribs fractured and parts missing.
28. Nature of burial Buried 3 1/2 feet deep in O.D. Uniform. Skeleton disarticulated, flesh entirely decomposed. Shoes about 7 1/2 E.
29. Any discrepancy noted upon examination of body, as compared with G.R.S. records quoted above? No.
30. Body prepared and placed in casket : Date September 11, 1929 By W.B. Sheild
31. Casket sealed by W.B. Sheild

Signature of Embalmer, (Supervisor W.B. Sheild, Superintendent.

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date: September 11, 1929.

1. REMAINS OF BEST, Henry A. SERIAL NUMBER 2915399

RANK Pvt. ORGANIZATION Co. B. 58th Inf.

2. Disinterred (date): Sept. 11, 1929. From (give complete location): Isol. Shell Hole, Bois de Briouilles, Cmne. Briouilles-sur-Meuse, (Meuse), Map Verdun -A, 1720,000, E-313.06, N-282.68.

By: Group W. B. Sheild Unit Meuse-Argonne

3. Reburied (date): January 30, 1930. In (give complete location): Grave 27, Block E, Row 42, Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon (Meuse), France.

By: Group W.B. Sheild, GRS Emp., Unit AGRS., in Europe, Nature of reburial GRS case, casket, sheet and blanket.

4. Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon disinterment: Buried 3 1/2 feet deep in O.D. Uniform. Skeleton disarticulated, flesh entirely decomposed. Shoes about 7 1/2 E.

5. (a) Identification tags: Buried with body? 2 On grave marker? GRS plaque

(b) Other means of identification found upon disinterment, and general remarks: GRS plaque marked "Henry Best, 2915399, U.S.A. No tag." One tag marked "Henry Best, 2915399." Other tag "en-Bes., 2915399." Piece of shaving brush, black hair, pieces of web belt and scabbard, mess pan, knife and spoon, all left with remains. One silver two-franc piece, one silver one-franc piece French, and three silver fifty centime pieces French, also one silver cross (crucifix), forwarded.

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

(a) Height (actual measurement) Est. 5 feet 8 inches

(b) Weight (estimated) 155 lbs.

(c) Hair—Color Imp. to det.

Quantity do

Characteristics do

(d) Hair on face—Color do

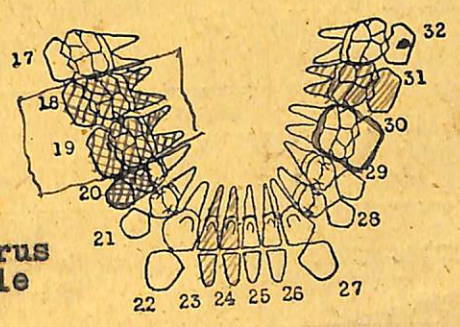
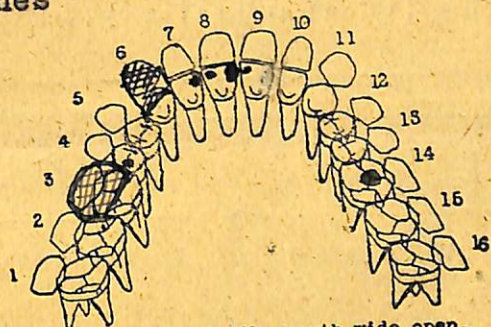
Location do

Quantity do

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

Head, jaws, right scapula, and right humerus shattered. Right clavicle broken; Left clavicle missing; right pelvic bone broken; left femur broken middle third. Ribs fractured and

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



Teeth 3, 6, 20 broken off. 18 and 19 missing with piece of jaw bone. 4, 7, 8 and 9, pin hole cavity. 23 and 24 missing after death. No. 30 rotted off at roots. No 8 G.F. Nos. 14 and 32 S.F.

7. Disinterment supervised by W. B. Sheild Superintendent.

Approved: W. B. Sheild
(Title) Superintendent.

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

Approved: _____
(Title) _____

SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. C-33394

32. Designation of body :

Name BEST, Henry A. Serial No. 2915399

Rank Private Organization Co. B, 58th Infantry

33. Consigned to :

Name of Permanent Cemetery Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery #1232.

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) January 30, 1930 By W.B. Sheild, Superintendent.

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 *W.B. Sheild*

W.B. Sheild,
Superintendent.

36. Remarks _____

37. Shipped from point of Operation : (Date) _____

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 _____ (Name) _____

Convoyer _____ Signature Shipping Officer _____

40. Received: Date _____

G.R.S. Representative _____

41. Reinterred January 30, 1930. (Date) _____

42. Grave No. Twenty-seven (27), ~~Section~~ Block E,

43. Plot _____ Row Forty-two (42),

G.R.S. Representative *W.B. Sheild*

W.B. Sheild,
Superintendent.

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA.

I. Location Index Card

(a) Name--BEST, Henry A.-----Ser.No.--2915399-----
TYP.-----
(b) Rank--Pvt.-----Organization--Co.D, 58th Inf-----
CKR-----
(c) Date of Death--9-30-18----- (d) Cause of Death--KIA-----

II. Registration Card

(a) Grave No.-----Row-----Plot-----Sec.-----Block-----
(b)-----
(b) Emerg. Address--Frank J. Best, father, Woodville, Miss.-----

III. A.G.O. DISPOSITION CARD:

(a) Name--No card in file----- (b)-----
(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 in U.S.-----

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

IV. G.R.S. Files, Correspondence--shows as follows-----

No request for disposition

Examiner's Initials-----Date-----

COUNTRY--FRANCE----- Cemetery No.--MORQUE 1252----- Sheet No. 487

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA.

I. Location Index Card

(a) Name BEST, Henry A. Ser.No. 2915399
(b) Rank Pvt. Organization Co. B, 58th Inf TYP.-----
(c) Date of Death 9-30-18 (d) Cause of Death KIA CKR.-----

II. Registration Card

(a) Grave No.-----Row-----Plot-----Sec.-----Block-----
(b) Emerg. Address Frank J. Best (father) Woodville, Miss

III. A.G.O. DISPOSITION CARD:

(a) Name No card in file (b)-----
(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 in U.S.-----
(g) Disposition instructions if not brought to U.S.-----

IV. G.R.S. Files, Correspondence-shows as follows-----

No request for disposition

Examiner's Initials-----Date-----

COUNTRY FRANCE Cemetery No. MORGUE 1232 Sheet No. 487

FILE UNDER NO.

293 Best, Henry A.

INDEX SHEET

LETTER.

SYNOPSIS

1/6/30

FROM: OQMG

TO: AG

Recovery of remains of Pvt. Griego, in grave with the late Private Best.

DOCUMENT FILED UNDER NO.

293 Griego, Cosme

dre

INSTRUCTIONS.—Under "Synopsis" make brief entry showing date of communication and from whom received and synopsis sufficient to identify the papers. When these index sheets become numerous under a subject they will be entered on the consolidated index sheet and then destroyed.

3-6642

QM 293 A-0
Best, Henry A.

January 6, 1930.

SUBJECT: Personal effects.

TO: The General Accounting Office, Claims Division, Washington, D.C.

1. Attached hereto find envelope containing personal effects which were found on the remains of the late Private Henry A. Best, 2915399, Company B, 68th Infantry, 4th Division, when recovered from a shell hole grave, just south of wagon road running north-east by south-west in Bois de Briouilles, about 400 meters from Bastillois-Briouilles road, Commune of Briouilles-sur-Meuse, Meuse, France, East 313.06, North 282.68.

2. It is requested that these effects be transmitted to the nearest of kin of the above late soldier.

For The Quartermaster General:

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

1 Incl.
Envelope of effects.

Q.M. G.O. Div.

AM 11 36

DUPLICATE

5

OH 295 A-C
Best, Henry A.

January 6, 1930

Mr. Arthur Best,
Woodville, Mississippi.

Dear Sir:

You are advised that the remains of your brother the late Private Henry A. Best, 215399, Company B, 58th Infantry, 4th Division, have been recovered from an isolated grave in the Bois de Bricailles, Commune of Bricailles-sur-Meuse, Meuse, France, and are being held in the mortuary of the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, for interment in that cemetery. You will be advised upon receipt by this office of the location of the grave in this cemetery.

The Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery is one of those in Europe to be maintained by this Government. Each grave will be marked by a white marble headstone, inscribed with the name, rank, organization, division, date of death and the state from which the soldier came.

The personal effects found on the remains of your brother have this date been forwarded to the General Accounting Office, Claims Division, Washington, D.C., for transmittal to you.

For your information you are advised that your brother's identification tags were found on the remains, and will be interred with the remains.

By The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

QM 293 A-C
Best, Henry A.

January 6, 1930.

SUBJECT: Investigation.

TO: The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.

1. You are advised that the remains of the late Private Henry A. Best, 2915899, Company B, 58th Infantry, 4th Division, killed in action September 30, 1918, have been recovered from a shell hole grave, just south of wagon road running north-east by south-west in Bois de Briouilles, about 400 meters from Hantillois-Briouilles road, Commune Briouilles-sur-Meuse, Meuse, France, East 313.06, North 282.88.

2. The personal effects found on the remains have been forwarded to the General Accounting Office, Claims Division, Washington, D. C., for transmittal to the nearest of kin of this late soldier.

For The Quartermaster General;

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

AKH

30
8 AM 11 36
DISPATCH

QM 293 A-C (Best, Henry A.) (Griego, Cosmo) 1st Ind.
To: The Chief, American Graves Registration Service, 20 rue Molitor,
Paris, France.

1. You are advised of the confirmation of identification in the cases of the late Private Henry A. Best, 2915399, and Private Cosmo Griego, 1636214, both of Company B, 58th Infantry, 4th Division. The remains of both of these soldiers are to be interred in Europe.

2. It is requested that this office be advised of the location of the graves as soon as interment has been accomplished.

For The Quartermaster General:

Incls. withdrawn.

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

adh

ERV/ms

Noted by Statistical Clerk:

Date 1-6-30 *ZD*

IV.
20 JAN 8 AM 11 36

DISPATCH

FROM: Investigation

January 4, 1930

TO: Cemetery Audit.

Cty 1252

Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery .
Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse.

Morgue.

Recovered from shell hole just south of wagon road running north-east by south west in Bois de Briculles, 400 meters from Hantilleis-Briculles road, Comm. Briculles-sur-Meuse, Meuse, East 513.06 - North 282.68

the remains of
Private Henry A. Best- 2915399-Co. B, 58th Inf., 4th Div.
Private Cosme Griego- 1636214-Co. B, 58th Inf., 4th Div.
Both bodies held in morgue Cty 1252.

No disposition card located for Pvt. Best.
Disposition card for Pvt. Griego returned
Unclaimed.

ew
E. Kensett Vail
Investigator.

LB/LB.

293 Best, Henry A.
x- Griego, Cosme.

September 25, 1929.

Subject: Recovery of Remains.

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

1. Inclosed are G.R.S. Forms 16-A covering the recovery of the remains of Private Henry A. Best, #2915399, and Private Cosme Griego, #1636214, both of Company B, 58th Infantry, recently recovered by the Research Personnel of this office.

2. These remains were found buried together in a shell hole, body of Private Griego under that of Private Best, just south of the wagon road which runs north east and south west in the Bois de Briouilles, about four hundred meters from the Briouilles-Nantillois road, Commune of Briouilles-sur-Meuse, Meuse, map reference Verdun-A, 1/20.000, E-313.06, H-292.68.

3. Grave was marked with a cross with two A.G.R.S. plaques thereon, one reading "Henry Best, 2915399, U.S.A. No tag", the other: "Cosme -----, No tag. USA. 1636214".

4. Positive identification was established by above mentioned AGRS plaques and tags found on bodies. One tag was found with body of Private Best, marked as follows: "Henry Best, 2915----", the other tag, also on body, was inscribed "-en-- Bes-, 29-----". Tag on remains of Private Griego was badly corroded and undecipherable, another tag, found on top of ground near the shell hole, was stamped with name and serial number of Private Griego.

5. The following named personal effects, found with the remains, are inclosed herewith:

Pvt. Best:- 1 silver piece, 2 francs, French.

1 " " 1 " "

3 " " 0.50 "

one silver crucifix.

Pvt. Griego:- one copper piece, one cent, USA.

6. These remains are being held in the Meuse-Argonne mortuary pending receipt of advice from your office as to confirmation of identification and disposition.

Incls: 4
2 F.16-A
2 env. (P.E.)



Richard T. Ellis,
Colonel, Q.M.C.,
Chief,

IDENTIFICATION OPINION

O P I N I O N

CASE OF BEST: HENRY A. 2915499- Pvt. Co. B, 58th Inf. KIA 9/30/1918
GRAVE Isolated shell hole, Bois de Brioules, Cmme. Brioules, Meuse E313.06
N 282.68 Remains held in morgue Cty 1232.
DECISION Remains recovered from the above isolated shell hole with the remains of
Pvt. Cosme Griego, Co. B, 58th Inf. **ARE THOSE** of the late Pvt. Henry A.
Best- 2915499- Company B, 58th Inf. 4th Div. KIA 9-30-1918

DENTAL CHARTS AND PHYSICAL DESCRIPTIONS

CAMP	LOCAL BOARD	FROM RELATIVES	OF BODY	A.D.
1-16-17-				
31-32	31	Information not requested.	Broken off 3-6-20 missing with pieces of jaw bone- 18-19 Pin hole cav. -4-7-8-9 rotted off at root 30 gld flg. 8 SF 14-32 31 marked as out but no notation showing B or A/D	23-24
HEIGHT	5ft 7 inc.		est. 5ft 8 inc	
WEIGHT	125 lbs		est 155 lbs	
HAIR	Light.		Impossible to determine.	
SHOE SIZE	7E		7 1/2 E	

REMARKS soldier not 24 when killed therefore possible that wisdom teeth not
extracted, but not erupted sufficiently to have been noted-- it will be
noted that the Local Board chart does not list these teeth as missing--

IDENTIFICATION TAGS

Found on Body

YES- 2 (1-"Henry Best, 2915499-"
(1-" en--Bes-, 2915499-"

Found on Marker

No- GRS plaque, marked Henry Best
2915499 U.S.A.

OTHER IDENTIFYING MARKS

Buried 3 ft. deep in OD Uniform

Head, jaws, right scapula, and right humerus shattered, right clavicle broken, left
clavicle missin, right pelvic bone broken, left femur broken middle third. Ribs frac-
tured and missing.

ORIGINAL BURIAL DATA

Original burial of body

Original burial of man

E. Kensett Vail
E. Kensett Vail

Investigator

Concur: _____

APPROVED: _____

Officer in Charge.

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date September 11, 1929

1. REMAINS OF BEST, Henry A. SERIAL NUMBER 2915399

RANK Pvt. ORGANIZATION Co. B. 58th Inf.

2. Disinterred (date): Sept. 11, 1929. From (give complete location): Isol. Shell Hole, Bois de Briouilles, Cmne. Briouilles-sur-Meuse, (Meuse), Map Verdun A, 1720.000, E-313.05, N-282.68.

By: Group W. B. Sheild Unit Meuse-Argonne

3. Reburied (date): _____ In (give complete location): _____

By: Group _____ Unit _____ Nature of reburial _____

4. Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon disinterment: Buried 3 1/2 feet deep in O.D. Uniform. Skeleton disarticulated, flesh entirely decomposed. Shoes about 7 1/2 E.

5. (a) Identification tags: Buried with body? 2 On grave marker? GRS plaque

(b) Other means of identification found upon disinterment, and general remarks: GRS plaque marked "Henry Best, 2915399, U.S.A. No tag." One tag marked "Henry Best, 2915399." Other tag "-en-- Bes-, 29-----". Piece of shaving brush black hair, pieces of web belt and scabbard, mess pan, knife and spoon, all left with remains. One silver two-franc piece, one silver one-franc piece French, and three silver fifty centime pieces French, also one silver cross, (crucifix), forwarded.

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

(a) Height (actual measurement) Est. 5 feet 8 inches

(b) Weight (estimated) 155 lbs.

(c) Hair—Color Imp. to det.

Quantity do

Characteristics do

(d) Hair on face—Color do

Location do

Quantity do

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

Head, jaws, right scapula, and right humerus shattered. Right clavicle broken; Left clavicle missing; right pelvic bone broken; left femur broken middle third. RIBS fractured and

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

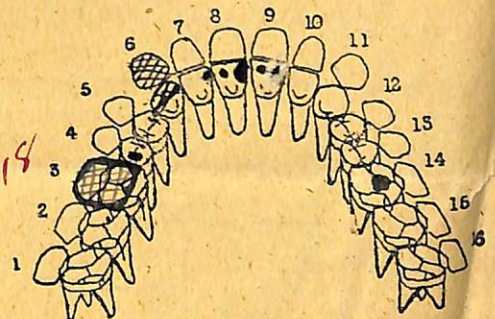
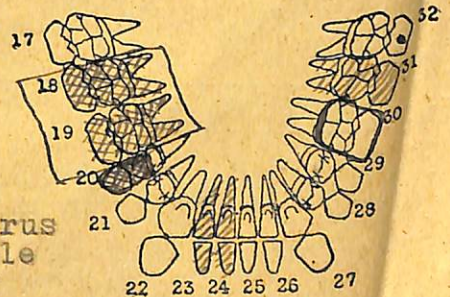


Diagram represents the mouth wide open



Teeth 3, 6, 20 broken off. 18 and 19 missing with piece of jaw bone. 4, 7, 8 and 9, pin hole cavity. 23 and 24 missing after death. No. 30 rotated off at roots, no e...

7. Disinterment supervised by W. B. Sheild Superintendent.

Approved: W. B. Sheild
(Title) Superintendent

8. Reburial supervised by _____ Approved: _____

BILLINGS and MEYERING.
Investments- Subdivison

1923 Maripos Street
Fresno, California.

C O P Y

September 8th, 1926

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

Gentlemen:

Regarding accompanying enclosure, nearest I can inform you in sequence of your inquiries;

"A" Place of Burial. Somewhere in northern part of the Bois de Sept-sarges.

"

"B" Both men appeared to have been instantly killed by same high explosive shell. All that remained of one, was portion below the belt. The other's head and part of shoulder's were gone.

"C" One of privates in my company dug the graves and they were marked with customary rifles planted at head. One identification tag and all possessions found were sent to headquarters, No landmarks that I can recall.

"D" I sent in at time, oriented map showing exact location of graves. I cannot replace it from memory.

"E" No adjoining graves. It was a front line trench position at time.

"F" No chaplain present.

"G" All that I personally remember is that both men belonged to 58th Infantry, 4th Division. I, myself, at the time was with Company E, 38th Infantry and we replaced 58th at that position. Both men had been dead several days and portions of bodies not taken away by shell were in very bad condition. If sketch I sent in with report can be located, it will show exact spot. Also think map of operations at that date, showing position of different units would show position of 38th.

"H" Henery belonged to some part of 58th, is all I remember positively. Regretting that I cannot give you more definite data.

Very truly yours.

signed Charles David Walker.

GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE.
WASHINGTON.

C O P Y

In reply quote initials

726242-W

JWR-309

December 7, 1926

Quartermaster General of the Army.
Graves Registration Section.
Washington, D.C.

Attention F.H.Pope, Col., Q.M.C.,

Sir:

The records of this office show that on November 4, 1926, you requested this office to advise whether or not any effects were turned over in the case of Cosme Griego, late Pvt. Co. B, 58th Inf., who was killed in action October 7, 1918, and the late Bert or H. Henerym former of the 58th Inf.

In the case of Cosme Griego, late Pvt, the inventory furnished this office shows no effects at date of death.

Concerning the case of Henery, there is no record of any papers having been received in this office for Bert or H. Henery.

If further information can be furnished in regard to his name and organization, further search of the records will be made in his case.

For the Comptroller General of the United States.

Respectfully

signed

George D. --- --
chief of Section.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL,
WASHINGTON.

C O P Y.

November 4, 1926

QM 293 A-C
(Griego, Cosmo, Pvt.
Co. B, 58th Inf.)

Mr. Charles David Walker,
Billings & Meyering,
1923 Maripos Street,
Fresno, Calif.

Dear Sir:

Referring to your letter of September 8, 1926, concerning the late Cosme Griego, Private, Co. B, 58th Infantry, the Quartermaster General desires that you be requested to further advise this office if you recall from what information you determined the identity of the soldier buried with Pvt. Griego, as Bart Henery.

Your cooperation in this important work is greatly appreciated by this office. For your reply please use the enclosed official envelope which requires no postage.

Very truly yours,

Encl.
envelope.

signed F.H. POPE,
Colonel, Q.M.C.,
Assistant

Gentlemen: I found identification tags of both men one was buried in torso from force of H.E. shell, and other was a few feet away hanging on a bush together with fragments of clothings etc. These were regulation army tags and no doubt exists in my mind that they were the property of the tow men above mentioned. Regretting that I haven't copies of my old maps and reports so that I could give correct detailed information .

Very truly yours,

signed- Chas. D. Walker.

War Department
Office of The Quartermaster General
Washington, D.C.

C O P Y

August 27, 1926

QM 293 A-C
(Griego, Cosmo
Pvt. Co. B, 58 Inf.)

Mr. Charles David Walker,
430 North Calaveras Street,
Fresno, Calif.

Dear Sir:

The Quartermaster General desires you to be informed that an investigation is being conducted with a view towards locating the grave of the soldier named above. Pvt. Griego and Bert Henery were both reported buried by you October 23, 1918.

To assist in the matter, this office will appreciate your furnishing as much of the following information as possible;

- (a) Place of burial.
- (b) Nature of wounds.
- (c) Kind of grave; land marks.
- (d) A sketch, showing the burial place.
- (e) Names of those soldiers buried in adjoining graves.
- (f) Name of Chaplain conducting the burial.
- (g) Any other data which you think might assist in the identification.
- (h) Organization to which Henery belonged.

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

Very truly yours,

2 Encl.
c/ report
envelopé.

signed F H. POPE
Colonel, Q.M.G.,
Assistant.

QM 293 A-C
Best, Henry A.

1st Ind.

War Dept. OQMG, Washington, March 14, 1927. To The Chief, American Graves
Registration Service, Q.M.C. in Europe.

1. It is the opinion of this office that the grave location
blank showing name of Bert Henery pertains to the burial of Private Henry A.
Best, whose body has not been located.

2. The records of this office show Private Eliseo Griego, 1636217,
Company B, 58th Infantry, killed in action September 30, 1918, body returned
to the U.S. and Private Cosme Griego, 1636214, Company B, 58th Infantry, killed
in action October 7th 1918, body unlocated.

3. Enclosed are forms 8 W-A giving body descriptions and dental
charts of unlocated cases in question.

By order of the Quartermaster General:

2 Incls.
Formd 8 W-A



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

x 293 Griego, Cosme

510
Lund

293 Best, Henry A.
X-293 Griego, Eliseo.
X-293 Unknowns.

February 18, 1927.

Subject: Investigation.

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

1. Reference letters your office of May 29 and Dec. 1, 1926, (File QM 293 A-C Griego, Cosme, Pvt.), the Unlocated list does not carry "Pvt. Cosme Griego and Bert Henery" but shows a Best, Henry A., 2915399, Pvt., Co. B, 58th Inf., reported WIA and MIA 9/30/18, presumed dead.

2. Form 1 shows Griego, Eliseo, 1636217, Grave 116, BAO Sept-sarges, (Meuse), and Form 1-A with name Griesgo, no rank or organization stated in either case. A C.R.O. card on file, originally typed Griego, Cosme, 1636214, Pvt., Co. B, 58th Inf., MIA Oct. 7, 1918, shows changes in ink making Christian name to read Eliseo, serial number 1636217, KIA 9/30/18, and body so designated shipped U.S.

3. Information is requested whether the records for Co. B, 58th Inf., bear in addition to Cosme Griego, the names Eliseo Griego and Eliseo Grieso or Griesco.

4. Lt. G.D. Walker, 58th Inf., reports burials made Oct. 23, 1918, of Pvt. Cosme Griego, 1636214, and Pvt. Bert Henery, both of 5th Div., Coords. 43.2-3.1 Map Dun-sur-Meuse. The Unknown Directory Cty. 1232 lists Unknowns from BAO Sepsarges, Coords. N-513.15 N-280.9

U-3536	Grave 56	(Head present, parts body missing)
U-3538	" 13	(Feet missing)
U-3545	" 37	(Skull, jaws, right scapula, clavicle and arm missing)
U-4063	" 14	- originally reported as Briganski, John J., Co. L, 39th Inf., who later was identified in Grave 12, name Briganski, John, previously carried as U-3542.

Lt. Walker says with respect of Pvts. Griego and Henery "All that remained of one was portion below the belt. The other's head and part of shoulder were gone", but whose body had head missing is not stated. Form 16-A for Pvt.

293 Best, Henry A.
X-293 Griego, Eliseo.
X-295 Unknowns.

Letter to QMG. dated Feb. 18, 1927 continued.

Eliseo Griego shows "Jaws intact, no tooth chart taken", and "Impossible to determine" missing parts.

5. No dental information is of record here for Pvts. Cosme Griego and Bert Henery (Henry A. Best?).



F. W. Van Dugno,
Colonel, C. M. Corps,
Chief.

MAR-5 1927



WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

Date 7/21/26

no dup in files

SUBJECT: Information required for Cemeterial Division.

TO: The Adjutant General of the Army, World War Division, Washington, D.C.

1. It is requested that the items checked below be completed:

- a. Surname Best ✓
- b. Christian name Henry A ✓
- c. Serial number 2915-399 ✓
- d. Organization Co B - 58 Div ✓
- e. Rank Priv ✓
- f. Emergency Address _____
- g. Date of death 9/30/18 ✓
- h. Authority _____
- i. Cause of death KA ✓
- j. Place of death Not of record
- k. Place of burial Not of record
- l. Date of discharge _____

*18-9-30
95-5-27
29 4-3*

BODY DESCRIPTION

- a. Date of enlistment May 15, 1918
- b. Age at enlistment May 27, 1895
- c. Color of hair Light
- d. Height 5 feet - 7 inches
- e. Weight* 125 pounds
- f. Fractures or breaks None noted.

✓ shoe size # 7E.

DENTAL CHARTS

At Camp

By Local Board

7 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
 Upper right Upper left

7 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6
 Lower right Lower left

8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 Upper right Upper left

8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 8
 Lower right Lower left

Robert C. Davis,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

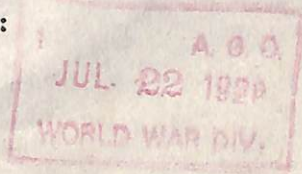
By - C.E.C. - 8/3

25/446/EYS

JUL 26 1926



For The Quartermaster General:



File 7/26/26

10562

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

15
5/1/20

Best
Henry LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF *Henry A. Best*
(Surname) (Number) (First Name and Initials)

Pvt *5th Division*
(Rank) (Organization)

PLACE OF DEATH:

CAUSE OF DEATH: *Killed in action*

DATE OF BURIAL: *Oct 23, 1918*

PLACE OF BURIAL: *Map. Sun-sun-mense*
43.2 - 3.1

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

GRAVE NUMBER:

HOW MARKED: Name Peg? Cross?

Headboard?

Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS: *missing*

Was one buried with body? *no*

Was one fastened to name peg or stake used as a grave marker? *no*

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

Buried by Lt. E. S. Walker 38 Inf and reported to me by him. Oct 24 1918
NEAREST RELATIVE:

ADDRESS: **CMME.**

RELATIONSHIP: **SIT.** **COORD**

REPORTED BY: *J. J. Ganey Chaplain 38 Inf*
(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer)

H
G.H.Q., American E.F.
Adjutant General's Office.

FROM : Adjutant General.
TO : J. J. Ganey.
Chaplain 36th Infantry.
SUBJECT : Burial report.

I. Your report of the burial of
Henery, Bert.

Pvt. 5th Division.
requires completion or correction as follows :

You have failed to state

- (a) Disposition of both tags.
- (b) Grave marking.
- (c) Map reference. 1/50000
- (d) Commune in which grave is located.
- (e) Department in which grave is located.
- (f) Soldier's number.
- (g) You have not sent a reliable sketch of the place of burial, as required by G.O. 30. G.H Q , 1918.

Designate organization in full.

1/24/19-2
An immediate completion of your report on reverse side hereof, will be sent to the Chief, Graves Registration Service, A.P.O. 717.

By Command of General Pershing :

ROBERT C. DAVIS,
Adjutant General.

105 22

G. H. Q., American E. F.
Adjutant General's Office.

FROM : Adjutant General.
To : J. J. Ganey,
Chaplain 38th Infantry.
SUBJECT : Burial report.

I. Your report of the burial of
Henry, Bert.
Pvt. 5th Division.
requires completion or correction as follows :

You have failed to state

- (a) Disposition of both tags. NO tags(missing)
- (b) Grave marking.
- (c) Map reference. 1/50000
- (d) Commune in which grave is located.
- (e) Department in which grave is located.
- (f) Soldier's number. tags missing
- (g) You have not sent a reliable sketch of the place of burial, as required by G.O. 30. G.H Q , 1918.

Designate organization in full.

An immediate completion of your report on reverse side hereof, will be sent to the Chief, Graves Registration Service, A.P.O. 717.

By Command of General Pershing :

ROBERT C. DAVIS,
Adjutant General.

Private Pert Henery (no tag)

and
Private Cosmo Griego (1636214)

were buried by Lt Walker Co. E
38th Inf at a point described
by the co-ordinates 43.2- 3.1
Duns- sur -^meuse Map.

This information and only this
was given to me by the above
named officer and I have simply
transmitted to you the information
given.

There was nothing on Pvt. Henery to
indicate his organization. Lt.
Walker stated that he thought that
he was a member of the 5th Division.

J. J. Ganey
J. J. Ganey
267 Plymouth Ave.,
Rochester N.Y.

Cross Reference made.
HSP



105022

G.H.Q., American E.F.
Adjutant General's Office.

FROM : Adjutant General.

To :

SUBJECT : Burial report.

I. Your report of the burial of

requires completion or correction as follows :

You have failed to state

- (a) Disposition of both tags.
- (b) Grave marking.
- (c) Map reference. 1150000
- (d) Commune in which grave is located.
- (e) Department in which grave is located.
- (f) Soldier's number.
- (g) You have not sent a reliable sketch of the place of burial, as required by G.O. 30, G.H.Q., 1918.

Full designation of organization

An immediate completion of your report on reverse side hereof, will be sent to the Chief, Graves Registration Service, A.P.O. 717.

By Command of General Pershing :

ROBERT C. DAVIS,
Adjutant General.

Private and Bert Henery (no tag)

Private and

Cosmo Griego (1636214)

105622

were buried by Lt. Walker Co. E 38th Inf. at a point described by the coordinates 43.2- 3.1 Duns-sur-Meuse Map.

This information and only this was given to me by the above named officer and I have simply transmitted to you the information given.

There was nothing on Pvt. Henery to indicate his organization. Lt. Walker stated that he thought that he was a member of the 5th Division.

(signed) J.J. GANEY
267 Plymouth Ave.,
Rochester, N.Y.

*Cross reference made for
file release of Bert Henery.
Asw*

FILE UNDER NO.

Best, Henry A.
~~293 Henry, Bert~~

INDEX SHEET

Letter

5/29/26.

SYNOPSIS

From OQMG

To AGO.

Req. latest address of C.D. Walker, formerly 2nd Lt.
28th Inf. and Constantine Odessens, Pvt. Co B, 58th Inf.

Req. inf. on file re Bert Henry, thought to be in the
5th Div. and reported buried with Cosme Griego.

DOCUMENT FILED UNDER NO. 293 Griego, Cosme,

111

INSTRUCTIONS.—Under "Synopsis" make brief entry showing date of communication and from whom received and synopsis sufficient to identify the papers. When these index sheets become numerous under a subject they will be entered on the consolidated index sheet and then destroyed.

3-6042

Investigation Section. Audit Dept.
/24/20

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

FILE

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

Subject: Information required for G.R.S.

1. Items checked are to be completed:

✓ Surname: Best
✓ Number: 2915399
✓ First name: Henry A.
✓ Rank: Private
✓ Company: B.
✓ Organization: 58 Inf.
✓ Date of death: Sept 30 1918.
✓ Cause: Killed in action.
Place:

Location of hospital:

Number " "
Class " "

✓ Emergency address Frank F. Best
Woodville, Miss.
✓ Relationship: (father)

Authority:
✓ Cablegram No: CC # 583810 # 104 - (over)
Telegram from:

dated:

Reported to Washington:
C.C.Nos.

(Underscore the "official" C.C.)
Remarks:

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

NS-3404/MB

Rec'd World War Div.

Date: 2/27/20

Skyrick 2/26/20

shows, previously reported
wounded and missing
in action now presumed
to be dead 9/30/18-

The Adjutant General
has determined that
soldier was killed in
action Sept 30/18-

Classification _____
 Adjustment _____

CEMETERY DIVISION
 GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE
 REGISTRATION SECTION

Date 6/9/20

MEMORANDUM:

To: Registration Files Sub-Section.
 Subject: Adjustments made on Registration Files.

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

	CORR.	ADD. DATA		CORR.	ADD. DATA
File Number			Date of Burial		
Name			Date of Reburial		
Serial Number			Burial Information		
Rank			Nearest Relative		
Organization			Notified Nearest Relative		
Cause of Death			<i>white</i> White Card thrown out	4X6	0 0
Date of Death			White Card set up		
Casualty Cablegram Number					
<i>66.70.</i>					
<i>4X6</i>		✓			

O.K. Alphabetical Files NE 76-19-20
 O.K. Organization Files _____
 O.K. State Files _____

Cemetery Audit Department
 Investigation & Adjustment Dept.
 By V. B. Osborn

2 Cards attached.

293 - Dept. Memory B.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE
WASHINGTON

109420

November 19, 1919.

Mrs. Frank Best,
Woodville, Miss.

1.- In reply to your inquiry, you are advised that the grave of:

Pvt. Henry A. Best,
Co. B, 88th Infantry,

has not yet been registered in this office, but investigations are being made, the result of which will be communicated to you as soon as possible.

2.- Please do not be discouraged by the failure, thus far, to secure the information you desire. Each day witnesses the perfecting of records in cases not heretofore reported, and we have hope of sending you comforting assurances in due time.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

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

CCP/jad

NS-3405-mr.

/lm

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

Date 11/18/19

FROM:- INQUIRY BRANCH.

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

NAME *Best Henry a*

Serial Number

RANK *Pvt.*

ORGANIZATION

Co B 58 Inf

NO.	QUESTION	REPLY
1.	Do particulars of soldiers given above agree with Records?	1. #2915399
2.	Date of Death.	2. 9/30/18
3.	Cause and place of death.	3. KIA (officially presumed)
4.	Number of Casualty VCablegram.	
5.	Date buried.	
6.	Grave Location. (a) Complete record required. (b) Name of Cemetery or Commune only required. (c) Note reinterments.	6. No record
7.	Who reported burial?	
8.	Confirmed by G.R.S.?	
9.	Report as to Grave Marker.	
10.	Identification Tags: (a) Buried with body? (b) Attached to grave marker?	
11.	Complete Emergency Address?	11. Frank F Best (father) Woodville Miss
12.	Has above been notified? (Give date)	
13.	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply in all cases if no information on record)	
14.	What is the Photograph No.?	
15.	Inquiry made by?	

Released by Information Control

Dept. Directory

Cards 5 x 8

X Cards 4 x 6

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

Emp 432
8 3 1

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

11-11-19

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

Subject: Information required for G.R.S.

1. Items checked are to be completed:

- ✓ Surname: Best
- ✓ Number: 2915399
- ✓ First name: Henry A.
- ✓ Rank: Pvt.
- ✓ Company: Co. B. *CO C 304 INF (53)*
- ✓ Organization: 58th Inf.
- ✓ Date of death: *SEPT 30/18*
- ✓ Cause: KIA (*officially presumed*)
- Place:

Location of hospital:

Number " "

Class " "

✓ Emergency address

FRANK F. BEST.

✓ Relationship:

WOODYKLE, MISS.

FATHER

Authority:

✓ Cablegram No: *AGG 201*

Telegram from: *aug 13/19*

dated:

Reported to Washington:

C.C. Nos.

(Underscore the "official" C.C.)

Remarks:

Case See 11-14-19

Wife

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

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

Date 11/10/19

FROM: - INQUIRY BRANCH.

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

NAME Best, Henry A.

Serial Number

RANK Private.

ORGANIZATION

Co B. 58 Inf

NO.	QUESTION	REPLY
1.	Do particulars of soldiers given above agree with Records?	Serial 2915399
2.	Date of Death.	
3.	Cause and place of death.	
4.	Number of Casualty VCablegram.	
5.	Date buried.	
6.	Grave Location. (a) Complete record required. (b) Name of Cemetery or Commune only required. (c) Note reinterments.	
7.	Who reported burial?	
8.	Confirmed by G.R.S.?	
9.	Report as to Grave Marker.	
10.	Identification Tags: (a) Buried with body? (b) Attached to grave marker?	
11.	Complete Emergency Address?	
12.	Has above been notified? (Give date)	
13.	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply in all cases if no information on record)	
14.	What is the Photograph No.?	
15.	Inquiry made by? Form No. 8. 2 sent 11/11/19.	

Correspondence

Released by Information Control
Dept.
Directory
Cards 5 x 8
Cards 4 x 6

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

NS-2886/ch

AG 201 (Best, Henry A.) DR
War Department, A.G.O., November 6th, 1919. To: Chief, Graves Registration Service, Washington, D.C.

1st Ind.

MM
2-201

1. For reply direct to writer regarding the place of burial in the case of Private Henry A. Best, Company B, 58th Infantry.

2. Other inquiries contained in letter have been answered, and writer advised of reference made concerning location of grave.

By order of the Secretary of War.

~~P. O. Harris~~

The Adjutant General.

Per *asB*.

Synopsis made.

Woodville, Miss.,
Aug. 2, 1919.

The Adjutant General,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Your telegram of July 9, came to hand in regard to Private Henry A. Best, CO "B" 58th Infantry 4th Division and was later followed by a letter which said that the war department presumed that he died the same day that he was wounded, by him being missing so long. The thing that I would like to know is whether the war department gives up hopes when a report like this is made. I thought that he might possibly be shell shocked and he might have lost his Identification tag and might be in some hospital in this country. I have heard of so many cases that was reported dead and later it was found out to be a mistake. ~~Although he has not written to us~~ Any information that could be secured would certainly be appreciated. Even if I knew what battle he died in and where he was buried. As things stand now I know nothing whatever about him. The mystery that is in my mind is that he was reported ~~wounded~~ wounded degree undetermined the first time and know one knows anything about him. I would like to know how he was reported that way and know one knows what became of him. A answer to this letter will be very much appreciated by me.

I remain,

Yours respectfully,

Mrs Frank Best

124 Received A. G. O. AUG 6 1919

Rec'd Oba. Div.

OCT 20 1919

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

FILE NUMBER

109490

FROM:-

DATE:

9/6/19

Please furnish information as indicated below regarding the following soldier:

NAME

BEST, HENRY, "A"

NUMBER

2915399

RANK

ORGANIZATION

CO B 58 inf

NO.	QUESTION	REPLY
1.	Do particulars of soldier given above agree with Records?	
2.	Date of Death.	
3.	Cause and place of death.	
4.	Number of Casualty Cablegram	
5.	Date buried.	
6.	Grave Location. (a) Complete record required. (b) Name of Cemetery or Commune only required.	
7.	Who reported burial.	
8.	Has report been confirmed by G.R.S.	
9.	Report as to Grave Marker.	
10.	Report as to Identification Tags.	
11.	Who is nearest relative?	
12.	Has M/R been notified? (Give Date)	
13.	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply in all cases if no information on record)	
14.	What is the Photograph No. ?	
	N.B. All Proper names to be printed in PLAIN BLOCK LETTERS.	

NO CD 4-11-19

NO. CD 4/6/19 RPB

RPB

201. Best, Henry A.
(S.F.G.21.19)

1st Ind.

B 1091120
AS/lr

Central Records Office, A.G.D., A.P.O. 902, May 28th 1919 - Chief, Graves
Registration Service, A.G.D. #717 for any information relative to
Henry A. Best #2915399.

This soldier, formerly of Company B, 58th Infantry, was reported wounded
in action on September 30th, 1918.

H. M. NALLY,
Adjutant General.

2nd Ind.

ACL/IBH.

Chief, Graves Registration Service, Hq. S.O.S., A.E.F., June 17, 1919.
To: Central Records Office, A.G.D. A.P.O. 902. A.E.F.

Returned. There is no burial information on record in
this office regarding Henry A. Best #2915399, Co. "B", 58th Infantry

CHARLES C. PIERCE.
Colonel, Q.M.C., U.S.A.
Chief, G.R.S.

File

Let's move given

File This Under # 111012

MEMORANDUM TO FILES DEPARTMENT

--REGISTRATION BRANCH--

TRANSFER ALL PAPERS

FROM:

File # 111012 ✓ (Cancelled) *Best, Henry. A.*

TO:

File # 109420 ✓ *Best, Henry. A.*

By: *V. B. Coburn*

Section

Dept.

Date *6/9/20.*

O. K. NUMERICAL - FILE - INDEX _____

Papers Transferred By: *ERW. 8/3/20*

COPY.

AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY.

11, Rue Scribe,

Paris. May 17, 1919.

From: Hallie B. Porter
(formerly A.R.C. Searcher)

To: Central Records Office.

Subject: Henry A. Best. #2,915,399 Co.B. 58th Inf.

The family of above soldier can find no trace of him. All that can be found is that he was wounded on September 30th. Will you kindly see if you have him in the Graves Registration Bureau, and send information to his Mother?

Mrs Josephine Best,

Woodville, Mississippi.

Thanking you in advance, I am,

Very sincerely,

(signed) Hallie B. Porter.