

9847

FULL NAME BETHEA, Willie

RANK Pvt. 1st cl. SERIAL 4234451

DIVISION & ORGANIZATION Co. B, 344th Lab. Bn. (Dmc)

DATE OF DEATH Feb 9, 1919

STATE FROM WHICH HE CAME N. Carl

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS AWARDED. none

FINAL GRAVE LOCATION.....	11	21	F
	Date	Grave	Row
			Block
		Meuse-Argonne, #1232	
		Cemetery	

293

Rec'd World War Div.

5 APR 4 1928

Km 913

23/306/ARK

WR 4-12-28

A. G. O.
AUG 11 1926
WORLD WAR DIV.

CODE SLIP

HEADING	SUB-HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE
NAME	Bethea	3	25 ¹² / ₀
BURIED	CEMETERY	1	1
	GRAVE	2	11
	ROW	2	21
	BLOCK	1	6
STATE	N. Car.	2	38
RANK	PA 1cl	1	2
DIVISION	QMC	2	57
ORGANIZATION	344	3	344
ARM	Laborer	1	1
MARITAL		1	
NAME	no record	3	
RESIDENCE	STATE	2	
	COUNTY	2	
	CITY	3	
RELATION		1	
OTHER		1	
ELIGIBILITY		1	
NATIVITY		1	
RACE	BLACK	1	2
ENGLISH		1	
ATTENDANT		1	
HEALTH		1	
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF	MO.	1	
TRIP	YR.	1	
ACCEPTANCE		1	

of any relatives

Audited
 MAR 15 1932
 VD

Law

29/514
 ACCEPTANCE

C 156 959 Bethea. Willie (1232)

Mother

Widow

} no record 3/11/32

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

C 156969

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Bethea, Willie

June 29 , 1929.

A
Mr. T. B. Mc Gehee,
c/o J. R. Boyce,
Reidsville, N.C.

(Friend) T. A. Mc Gehee
Reidsville, N.C.
no other address
(cannot locate relatives)

Dear Sir:

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

The records of this office show that you are the friend of the late Private Willie Bethea, Co.B, 344th Labor Bn. whose remains are now interred in the Meuse Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, France.

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

2 incls.
Act of Congress.
Envelope.

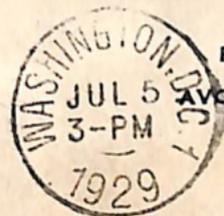
John T. Harris
JOHN T. HARRIS,
Major, Q. M. Corps,
Assistant.

WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



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

ADDRESS	_____
YOUR MAIL	_____
STREET AND	_____
NUMBER	_____

**REASON FOR
NON-DELIVERY
CITY/STATE**

RETURN TO

UNKNOWN

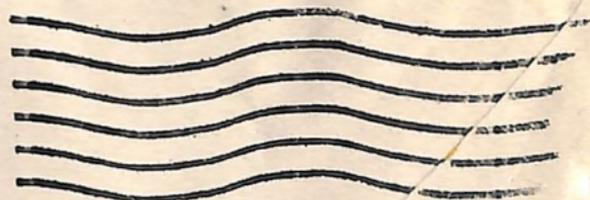
BETTER ADDRESS

NO ADDRESS

RETIRED



REIDSVILLE
JUL 16
5 PM
1929
N.C.



JUL 6

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Bethes, Willie

June 29 , 1929.

Mr. T. B. Mc Gehee,
c/o J. R. Boyce,
Reidsville, N.C.

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Very truly yours,

2 incls.
Act of Congress.
Envelope.

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

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Bethoa, Willie

June 29 , 1929.

Mr. T. B. Mc Gehee,
c/o J. R. Boyce,
Reidsville, N.C.

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For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

2 incls.
Act of Congress.
Envelope.

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

82

In reply refer to:
293.8 C-R 94784

February 3, 1923.

Mr. T. B. McGehee,
c/o J. R. Joyce,
Reidsville, N. C.

Dear Sir:

The Quartermaster General desires that you be informed that the permanent grave of the late Private Willie Bethea, Company B, 344th Labor Battalion, is Grave 11, Row 21, Block F, Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Department of Meuse, France.

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

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

MAILED

Very truly yours,

FEB 3 1923

H. J. Conner,
Assistant.

G.R.S.

rk
e

DATE Oct. 22nd, 1921

1. NAME BETHEA, Willie SERIAL No. 4234451

RANK Pvt. ORGANIZATION Co. B, 344th Lab. Bn.

GRAVE LOCATION Fr. & Amer. Military Cty. Froidos, Meuse, #290

CTY. NAME

NUMBER

319

34

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

2. ORIGINAL BATTLE AREA GRAVE LOCATION Not known

GRAVE

COMMUNE

DEPT.

COORDINATES Nothing of record

CONCENTRATED TO Not known

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

CEMETERY

CTY. NUMBER

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

SUBSEQUENT REBURIALS Nothing of record

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

CEMETERY

wk

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

CEMETERY

SIGNATURE, AREA SUPERVISOR *Wm M. Cline* **Wm M. CLINE**

Captain Q.M.C.

rhj

3. FINAL GRAVE LOCATION Oct. 22nd, 1921 11 21 Bl. F.

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

AUDITED BY
M. J. D. 12/29/22

Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery #1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, (Meuse).

CEMETERY

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

1. REMAINS OF Betha Willie SERIAL NUMBER 234451

RANK AVC ORGANIZATION Co B. 344th Lab Bn

2. Disinterred (date): 9.29.21 From (give complete location): Grave 919 Row 24 Cem. 290

By: Group 4 Unit Unit Section 3

3. Reburied (date): Oct 22nd 1921 In (give complete location): MeuseArgonne Cemetery # 1232 Gr 11 block F row 21

By: Group re-burial S Unit _____ Nature of reburial unlined casket

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

Blanket & wrap

Body Badly Decomposed recognition impossible

5. (a) Identification tags: Buried with body? Yes On grave marker? Yes.

(b) Other means of identification found upon disinterment, and general remarks: No effects.

Tags both read Willie Betha 4234551 USA.

6. What does examination of body show as regards the following identifying items? 1.16 being. 8 grinding surface worn

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

(b) Weight (estimated) Impossible to determine.

(c) Hair—Color Black.

Quantity Very little

Characteristics Kinky.

(d) Hair on face—Color None visible

Location None visible

Quantity None visible.

(e) Permanent marks on body (old scars, peculiarities, or missing parts) Impossible to determine.

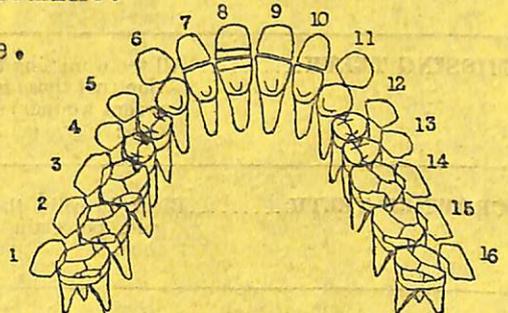
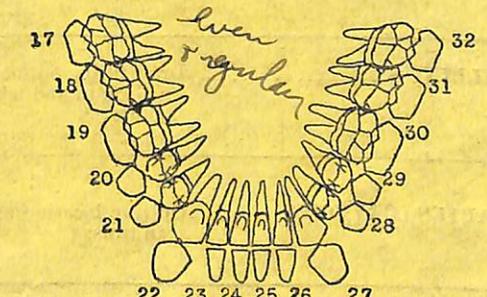


Diagram represents the mouth wide open.



17.32. not cut.

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

Impossible to determine.

7. Disinterment supervised by W. J. Logan Approved: J. S. Robinson
(Title) 1st Lt C.A.C.

8. Reburial supervised by A. U. Dufault Approved: James W. Younger
(Title) Capt QMC

To be prepared in triplicate.

DATE 9.29.21

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 BETHEA, Willie
2. No. 4234451
3. Rank Pvt. II
4. Org. Co. B, 344th Lab. Bn.
5. D.D. Feb. 9th
6. C.D. General Paressie

10. Name Willie Betha.
11. No. 4234551
12. Rank
13. Org.
14. (a) D.D.
(b) D.B.

Discrepancy found upon disinterment

7. Grave No. 319 Sec.
8. Plot Row 34
9.

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

18. Cemetery Fr. & Amer. Military

19. Commune or town Froidos

20. Dept. or County Heuse

21. Country France

22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. 290

23. Disinterred (Date) 9.29.21

By W.J. Logan

24. Inscription on grave marker:

Name Willie Betha
Rank ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Pvt

Serial No. 4234451
Organization Co B. 344th Lab Bn

25. Was identification disc found on grave marker? Yes On body? Yes.

Signature Raymond C. Philbert, 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).

Both tags read the same.

27. Condition of body Badly decomposed recognition impossible

28. Nature of burial Blanket. + cover

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

30. Body prepared and placed in casket: Date 9.29.21 By T.P. Madine.

31. Casket sealed by [Signature]

Signature of Embalmer, (Supervisor)

[Signature]

SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. C-9037

32. Designation of body:

Name BETHMAN, Willie Serial No. 4234451

R nk Pvt. Organization Co. B, 344th Lab. Bn.

33. Consigned to:

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

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) 9.29.21 By T.P. Madine.

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

Signature of G.R.S. Inspector

J.S. Robinson
J.S. Robinson.
1st Lt U.S.A.C.

36. Remarks

37. Shipped from point of Operation: (Date) 9.29.21

To point of Concentration Romagne sous Montfaucon.

Convoyer R.H. Oxonin. Signature Shipping Officer J.S. Robinson
(Name) J.S. Robinson
1st Lt U.S.A.C.

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 30 SEP 1921

G.R.S. Representative *James W. Younger*

41. Reinterred MeuseArgonne Cemetery # 1232 Oct 22nd 1921
(Date)

42. Grave No. 11 Section

43. Plot block F Row 21

G.R.S. Representative

James W. Younger
James W. Younger, Capt QMC.

jt.

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

File #94764

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

(a) Name BETHEA, Willie Ser. No. 4234451
(b) Rank Pvt. Organization Co. B, 344th Labor Bn.
(c) Date of death 2/9/19 (d) Cause of death General Paresis
TYP. EVS
CKR.

10/28/21 - Examined for concentration
190-11/1/21

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

(a) Grave No. 319 Row 34 Plot - Sec. - TYP. EVS
(b) Emerg. Address Mr. Tom Magechy, (Cousin) Box 215, Reidsville, N.C.

III. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases NO CARD CKR. acw

IV. A. G. O. DISPOSITION CARD:

no card in file. @ 1-11-21
Date of receipt

(a) Name (b) Relationship
(c) Address
(d) Remains to be brought to U. S.?
(e) To be interred in National Cemetery in U. S. at
(f) Shipping instructions upon arrival of body in U. S.
(g) Disposition instructions if not brought to U. S.

Examiner's Initials Date, 1920.

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

no correspondence, dated
confirming request in Par. IV., item, above, or requesting that

Examiner's Initials acw Date 1-11, 1920.

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

no request for disposition

(a) Cancellation memos referred to? yes none
Examiner's Initials none Date 1-12, 1920.

COUNTRY FRANCE CEMETERY No. 290 SHEET No. 28

FORM 113 - A COMPLETED

CARDED

MAR 1 1921

checked 2-24-21

VII. G. R. S. Form No. 114 made _____, 1920.

RECEIVED.

Typed by _____, Checked by _____, 1920.

JUL 6 1921

VIII. FINAL ACTION:

Following advice forwarded to Europe by

cable on _____
letter on JAN 25 1921, 1920

U.S. MARITIME DIVISION
OVERSEAS, 1920 SUB-SEC.

Par. #2, Not To Be Returned

#

IX.

CORRECTIONS

CHANGE OF ADVICE.	ACTION TAKEN.
Desires body be _____	
Body to be shipped to _____	

X. SUSPENSION REMARKS:

*B.A.H.R. T.B. McGehee (Emer. Add)
(Rel. not given) vs J.P. Joyce, Reidsville,
N.C. (2-24-21) "M"*

C156959

*Revere
msb,*

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

~~Harlow C.W.~~

NAME OF DECEASED SOLDIER

CEMETERY NO.

DATE

Bethea, Willie, Pvt.

290 - 28

1/13/21.

SERIAL NUMBER

ORGANIZATION

4234451

Co. B, 344th Lab. Bn.

Date of death - 2/9/19.

WAR RISK INSURANCE INFORMATION

DATE _____

NAME OF BENEFICIARY

RELATIONSHIP

J. B. McGehee

Emer. Ad.

Address

1/0 J. R. Joyce, Reidsville, N. C.

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

File #94764

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

(a) Name BETHRA, Willie Ser. No. 4234451 TYP. EVS
 (b) Rank Pvt. Organization Co. B, 344th Labor Bn.
 (c) Date of death 2/9/19 Cause of death General Paresis *ACU*

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

(a) Grave No. 319 Row 34 Plot - Sect. - TYP. EVS
 (b) Emerg. Address Mr. Tom Magee^e, (Cousin) Box 215, Reidsville, N.C.
ok - add - (2-24-21) "M"

III. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases. NO CARD CKR *ACU*

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

a.g.o. - No card in file
a.g.o. - No corr.
G.R.S. Cor - No request for disposition 3/21/21

V. Following advice forwarded to Europe by - (cable on 192)
 (letter of transmittal on JAN 25 192)

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

VI. Form 115 forwarded to G.R.S. Hoboken, N.J. MAR 7 - 1921 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. 7-6- 1921

MAR 1 1921 *AL*

94764

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

BETHA 4234451 willie
(Surname). (Number). (First Name and Initials).

Pvt. Co. B. 34-6th Labor Bn.
(Rank). (Organization).

PLACE OF DEATH:

CAUSE OF DEATH:

DATE OF BURIAL:

PLACE OF BURIAL:

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

FILE.

GRAVE NUMBER:

HOW MARKED: Name Peg? 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:

(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer).

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

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

BETHEA 4234451 Willie
(Surname) (Number) (First Name and Initials)

Private Co. B. 344th. Labor Bn.
(Rank) (Organization)

PLACE OF DEATH:

CAUSE OF DEATH:

DATE OF BURIAL:

PLACE OF BURIAL:

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

430
GRAVE NUMBER:

HOW MARKED: Name Peg?..... 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:

(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer).

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

D-156 (Betha, 4234451 Willie) 1st Ind.

W/

C.O. 344th Labor Battalion, A.S.P.C.#2, A.P.O. 713-A, AEF., 28 March, 1919

To: A.G.O., G.H.Q., A.E.F.

[Handwritten signature]

1. Returned

2. This soldier transferred to Hospital at Gorieux (Meuse) 3 February, 1919. Dropped from rolls this organization 12 March, 1919, and service record and accompanying documents forwarded to Central Records Office on that date.

William A. Sumpf
(William A. Sumpf)
Captain, Q.M.C.

Received
A.G.O.
1 - APR 1918
G.H.Q. A.E.F.
[Handwritten signature]

[Green checkmark]

WAR DEPARTMENT
Office of the Quartermaster General of the Army
Washington

G.R.S. Form 8-W-A-0
Information requested of A.G.O. Date 2/18/21.

File No. Requisition.

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

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

- a. Surname **Bethea** *OK*
- b. Christian name **Willie** *OK*
- c. Serial Number **4234451** *OK*
- d. Organization **Co. B, 344th Lab. Bn.**
- e. Rank **Pvt.** *OK*
- f. Date of death **2/9/19.** *OK*
- g. Cause of death **General Paresis.** *OK*
- h. Authority (C.O.#)
- i. Emergency address **Tom Mageehey**
- j. Relationship **Reidville, N. Car.**

M
BODY DESCRIPTION
(See page #2 of the Service Record)

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

Cousin
DENTAL CHARTS
(See Physical report of examination prior to enlistment)

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

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

C.W. *Donnelly M7*
CEMETERY NO: 290 *at Dec 12-21-21*

SHEET NO: 28
TYPED BY: I.W.

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

S/713/IML

Rec'd S & S Div., A.G.O.

FEB 21 1921