

D-1432

LIST OF PAPERS

File under No. 293

#2781586

Billings, Ernest D

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 3-6788

SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
	ARCHIVES AND CLAIMS BRANCH WASHINGTON Q. M. DEPOT <i>7th Inger, Va</i>	<i>3/19/34</i>	<i>Mrs Hunt</i>	

far

CODE SLIP

✓

HEADING	SUB-HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE
NAME	<i>Billings</i>	3	<i>292</i>
	<i>B L L</i>		
Ernest O	CEMETERY	1	<i>1</i>
BURIED	GRAVE	2	<i>10</i>
	<i>10</i>		
	ROW	2	<i>28</i>
	<i>28</i>		
	BLOCK	1	<i>6</i>
	<i>7</i>		
STATE	<i>Calif</i>	2	<i>04</i>
RANK	<i>Pvt.</i>	1	<i>2</i>
DIVISION	<i>91</i>	2	<i>91</i>
ORGANIZATION	<i>363</i>	3	<i>363</i>
ARM	<i>Inf</i>	1	<i>1</i>
MARTIAL	<i>yes</i>	1	<i>1</i>
NAME	<i>Billings</i>	3	<i>292</i>
	<i>B L L</i>		
Mr. Rose	STATE	2	<i>04</i>
	<i>Calif</i>		
RESIDENCE	COUNTY	2	<i>01</i>
	<i>Alameda</i>		
<i>1603 - 23rd Ave</i>	CITY	3	<i>049</i>
	<i>Oakland</i>		
RELATION	<i>Widow</i>	1	<i>5</i>
<i>of Ada Wilson</i>			
OTHER		1	
ELIGIBILITY	<i>yes</i>	1	<i>1</i>
NATIVITY		1	
RACE		1	
ENGLISH	<i>yes</i>	1	<i>1</i>
ATTENDANT		1	
HEALTH	<i>Good</i>	1	<i>1</i>
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF TRIP	MO.	1	
	YR.	1	<i>4</i>
	<i>1933</i>		
ACCEPTANCE	<i>yes</i>	1	<i>1</i>
	<i>Age</i>		

35
Checked
 OCT 13 1931
MB

Q1 293 A-1 Billings, Ernest O. 2nd Ind.
War Department, WAGO, Washington, March 21, 1934. - To The Adjutant
General.

1. The records of this office show Mrs. Rose Billings made the pilgrimage to cemeteries in Europe in June, 1933, as the widow of the late Ernest O. Billings.
2. The marriage certificate of the above is not of record in this office, the name and address of the widow having been obtained from the records of the Veterans Administration.
3. There is nothing of record in this office which would indicate that Rose Billings is not the legal widow of the late Ernest O. Billings.

For the Acting The Quartermaster General:

JAS. H. LAURACH,
Lt. Colonel, Q. M. Corps,
Assistant.

Incls.
No chg.

0238

MAR - 21 - 1934
DCMG M&R

AG 201 Billings, Ernest O.
(3-14-34) WW

1st Ind.

MB:iss 1-208

War Department, A. G. O., March 17, 1934. - To The Quartermaster General,
United States Army.

It is desired that this office be advised as to whether or not Mrs. Rose Billings made the pilgrimage to France in 1933 as the widow of Ernest O. Billings, Army serial number 2,781,586, and if so whether there is anything on file in The Quartermaster General's Office showing that she was legally married to this former soldier; whether she re-married after his death and whether Ada Bi Wilson made any statement relative to Mrs. Billings, which under the law should have been made only by a non-relative.

By order of the Secretary of War:

Chas. C. Quigley

Adjutant General.

3 Inclosures.
Copy of letter.
Photostatic copy of application.
Photostatic copy of affidavit.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

March 14, 1934.

In reply refer to
130-Rose Billings.

The Secretary of State presents his compliments to the Honorable the Secretary of War and encloses for his information and for such action as may be deemed appropriate a copy of a letter which this Department has received from Arthur H. Greenwade, 1890 Seventh Street, Oakland, California, together with a photostatic copy of the application upon which special pilgrimage passport No. 5743 was issued on February 14, 1933, to Rose Billings and a photostatic copy of the affidavit of Ada B. Wilson, which accompanied the application upon which a passport was issued.

Oakland, Calif.
March 2nd, 1932

Dept. of State
Division of Passports
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs;

This is to inform your Division of a gross fraud perpetrated nearly a year ago in the procurement of a passport through the San Francisco office of a passport to be used in making a War Widow's Pilgrimage to France by a Mrs. Rosa Billings then a resident of 1603 23rd Ave., Oakland, Calif., and now residing in Gold Hill, Oregon.

In making application for the passport her sister Mrs. Ada Alton (now using her former name of Ada Wilson) signed the voucher as one who had known the applicant three years and did this with full knowledge of the penalty for one who signs for a relative and I believe she signed my name also and at any rate if she signed any name but Ada Alton it was a forgery and if a forgery was not committed at least a perjury was also. I believe careful investigation will disclose that Rose Billings was never legally married to E. O. Billings for once I heard Rose tell Ada that she broke the law when she accepted the very first allotment check (the pension for the death of E. O. Billings) and that every time she received one she expected an officer to take her by the arm before she could get out of the post office.

You can determine by the War Department Pension Bureau records that most of her checks have been sent to General Delivery instead of to a street address that that was the reason for this.

I should have and would have notified you of this long ago, but tried to get other information before and that concerns a statement made by Rose that she was legally married some years ago to a Robert Byrne. This marriage, according to her statement was performed at Tia Juana, Mexico, some ten or twelve years ago.

So if you will have a Department of Justice agent call upon me I shall be glad to give him even more evidence that I have given at this time. Also Ada Alton, alias Ada Wilson, is now an employee of Postal Telegraph and Cable Company in San Francisco and is employed at 22 Battery St., that city.

Hoping you give this your earnest and earliest scrutiny and investigation, I am very truly yours,

Arthur H. Greenwade,
1890 Seventh St.,
Oakland, Calif.

QM 293 A-M
Billings, Ernest O. (MA)

September 14, 1933.

Mrs. Rose Billings,
1603 23rd Avenue,
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Mrs. Billings:

I am in receipt of the letter of July 2nd wherein you and the other mothers and widows who sailed on the S. S. Washington, June 7th, express your appreciation for the pilgrimage you made to the cemeteries of Europe.

It is gratifying to know that your trip was entirely satisfactory, and that the officers of the Army and the nurses 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 effort that those making the journey might have a comfortable and pleasant trip. I feel, however, that the task was materially lightened by the wonderful spirit of cooperation and consideration shown by the mothers and widows.

With sincere appreciation of your complimentary remarks regarding the conduct of the pilgrimage, I am

Very truly yours,

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

RES

RTE

0060

1933 SEP - 16 - AM 9:28

QCMG M & R BR

RM

Party B

M. A. Cmty

Nurse I. M. Murie RN

MEDICAL RECORD

Station : Lutetia, Paris.

Date : June 14, 1953

Name Billings, Mrs. Rose

Home address I603 - 23rd Ave., Oakland, c/o Ada Wilson, Alameda County, CALIFORNIA.

Address of Nearest friend or relative Brother: John F. Lewis, Gold Hill, Oregon

Religion Prot.

Age 35 39

History of Present complaint :

Sever menstrual pains. June 19/20. Headache.

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)

Dysmenorrhea. WCM

Treatment and Progress : (include dates)

Aspirin prn.

Disposition : (include dates) June 29. To Le Havre. Fitts.

Remarks :

Condition good. WCM

M. A.

MEDICAL RECORD

Party: B-2

WASHINGTON
S. S. HARDING

Eastbound
Westbound

Name Billings, Mrs. Rose

Home Address C/O Ada Wilson, 1603 - 23rd Ave., Oakland, California

Name and address of nearest relative or friend Mr. John Frederick Lewis (Brother)

Gold Hill, Oregon

Religion

Age 35-W

History of present complaint: June 6, 1933 States that menstrual periods has a very severe backache requested a bottle of citro carbonate to take along with her.
J.H.A. M.C.

(OVER)

INSTRUCTIONS: This card will be prepared for each Pilgrim treated on ship, east or west bound. Cards to be included in report of Liaison Officer upon return to New York.

Diagnosis and complications: (include dates)

6/10/ Myagia of back

Treatment and Progress: (include dates)

6/10 Aspirin & Pyramidon Grs. v q 3hr

INCONTINECE- Mist seditive Alkilân - Juuly 1st Aspirin 5 grs. Sodi Bier. 10.

July 8, 1933: This Pilgrim is on the go all of the tiem, requested a bottle of Citro-carbonate because of backsche. Same secured and given to Pilgrim.

Major JH Ashcraft N.C.

Disposition: (include dates)

Remarks:

6/13/33. Improved.

E.H. Bruihan

PARTY

EASTBOUND
STATE

GROUP

B-2

M A

35-W

CALIFORNIA

c/o Ada Wilson

Mrs. Billings, Rose

Address 1603 - 23rd Ave.

Oakland

(Name of Pilgrim)

(Street & No.)

(City or Town)

California

Alameda

(State)

(County)

Mr. John Frederick Lewis - Brother

Address (Street & No.)

Gold Hill

(Name of Nearest Kin)

(City or Town)

Oregon

(State)

(County)

ARRIVAL NEW YORK

VIA. R.R. N.Y.C. Train No. 8 Date 6-5-33

Hotel McAlpin Room No. 675

Roomed with Mrs. Julia Straven

DEPARTURE NEW YORK

Date 6-7-33 Vessel Washington Cabin No. B-48-3

In Cabin with Mrs. Catherine Wedlake B-48-1

(Over Westbound)

WESTBOUND

ARRIVAL NEW YORK

Date **July 7, 1933** Vessel **President Harding** Cabin No. **B-24-2**
In Cabin with **Mrs. Lucretia C. Waltman B-24-A**
Hotel **Mc Alpin** Room No. **735**
Roomed with **Mrs. Julia Straven**

DEPARTURE NEW YORK

VIA. R.R. **NYC** Train No. **19** Space **L 5** Car No. **230** Date **7/8/33**

REMARKS

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

Eastbound)

WAR DEPARTMENT

Penalty for private use to avoid
payment of postage, \$300.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



PILGRIMAGE, WAR MOTHERS AND WIDOWS

225 WEST 34TH STREET,

NEW YORK, N. Y.

NAME MRS. ROSE BILLINGS 2225 B
ADDRESS c/o Ada Wilson, ~~1603~~ - 23rd Ave., Oakland, Cal.

DATE July 12, 1933.

TO: Officer-In-Charge,
PILGRIMAGE, WAR MOTHERS AND WIDOWS

Wed 5:09 P.M.

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

Sincerely,

(Signed)

Mrs. Rose Billings

Party B

Nurse I. M. Murie

MEDICAL RECORD

H. A. Cmty

Station Hotel Lutelia, Paris.

Date: June 14th - 1933.

Name Billings, Mrs. Rose

Home address 1603 - 23rd Ave., Oakland c/o Ada Wilson, Alameda County
CALIFORNIA.

Address of Nearest friend or relative W. John. J. Lewis - Brother.

Gold Hill. Oregon.

Religion Protestant.

Age 35 39

History of Present complaint: Severe menstrual pains.
June 19th Headache.
June 20th Backache.

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) ^{6/5/33} Dysmenorrhea. ₂₁₀₀

Treatment and Progress : (include dates) June 19th Aspirin gr 7 1/2 June 20th - Trip Burn (1)
June 20th Aspirin gr 7 1/2 June 22nd Aspirin gr 7 1/2
June 23rd Aspirin gr 7 1/2 June 24th Aspirin gr 7 1/2

Disposition : (include dates) June 29. To Lettawee. Falls.

Remarks 6/27/33. Condition good. WCM.

REMARKS



Name BILLINGS, Mrs. Rose

Paris Hôtel HOTEL LUTÉZIA
..... BOULEVARD RASPAIL

Home address c/o Ada Wilson, 1603-23rd Ave., Oakland, Alameda Co., Calif.

Party B Group Unit

Date of arrival 6/14/33. ~~SS.~~ WASHINGTON Date of departure 6/29/33. ~~SS.~~HARDINE

Relationship Widow , age 35

Name of deceased BILLINGS, Ernest O.,

Rank Pvt. Organization Co. K, 363rd Inf.

Cemetery MEUSE ARGONNE 10 F 28

4783

Hotel McAlpin

34th St & Broadway, New York City.

Hotel McAlpin

July 7th & 8th 33

July 8	229854	Mrs Wedlake	GSM.	1.75
		" "		
		Cod Liver Oil		89
8	229860	Mrs Rose Billings.	GSM	1.00
8	229855	Mrs Lillian Greenfield	GSM	1.00

4.64

it being of emergency cases requiring immediate attention and the supplies not being available from Medical Supply Dept. as ordered by War Department, Pilgrimage regulations.

Hotel McAlpin. per Thad W. Linck.
Ass't Treas.

4.64

James H. Ashcraft.
Major Medical Corps.

7/18/33
New York City.

F. H. Pope.
Colonel Q.M. Corps.

DAILY REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER
PILGRIMAGE, WAR MOTHERS AND WIDOWS-1933

9.00 A.M. DATE ... June 6, 1933

ROOM NO. ... 675

PARTY ... "B" Eastbound ...

NAME ... Billings, Mrs. Rose, (Age - 35 - W) ...

Weight - 220 lbs.

ADDRESS ... 1603-23rd Ave.

... Oakland, California

HOTEL ... McAlpin

DIAGNOSIS ... Backache

DISPOSITION

REMARKS: This Pilgrim's back was very painful at time of periods.
Has found that a few doses of Citrocarbonate relieves the pain.
A bottle of Citro-carbonate was purchased and given to her.

CIVILIAN DOCTOR IN CHARGE OF CASE

MEDICAL OFFICER

J. H. Ashcraft
JAMES H. ASHCRAFT
MAJOR, MEDICAL CORPS, U.S.A.
MEDICAL SUPERVISOR

F. H. P.
JUN 41 1933

*Asq-tord*NIGHT LETTER

July 7, 1933

Miss Ada B. Wilson
Care of Postal Telegraph Co
Service Dept.
23 Battery St
San Francisco, Calif.

MRS. ROSE BILLINS WILL ARRIVE IN OAKLAND VIA SANTA FE RAILROAD
TRAIN NUMBER ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ THREE AT FIVE TWO TUESDAY AFTERNOON
JULY ELEVENTH.

COLONEL POPE

THE PULLMAN COMPANY

OFFICE 42-19

FORM 1000-3

PASSENGER'S CHECK. To identify accommodations purchased. The amount charged is The Pullman Company's rate and a surcharge of 50% of that amount required by and collected as agent for the Railroad Company, as shown on the ticket.

From _____

To _____

Accommodations _____ Car _____

Line No. _____ Via _____ R. R. _____

3851

2 3
Persons

Property taken into car will be entirely at owner's risk.

Rose Bellings

A.T. & S.F. RY.
COAST LINES

MAY

25

1933

NOT TO BE USED BEFORE
MAY 1 1933

1933

PARTY . B..... FILE NO.

NAME Billings, Mrs. Rose
c/o Ada Wilson
1603 - 23rd Ave., Oakland, Cal.

ROUTE OF TICKET

N.Y.C. to Chicago
 A T S F to Albuquerque
 A T S F to Oakland Cal
 to
 to
 to
 to
 to

Expiration date Oct 31-33

The following stop overs are requested.

New York City
Chicago, Ill.

WTR

(Signature of Pilgrim)

IN CABIN WITH

~~Mrs. Lucretia Waltman - B-92-1~~

~~Group MA~~

~~Mrs. Lillie Combs - 74-3 - Group M. A.~~

~~Mrs. Catherine Hedlake - B-48-1~~

**WAR DEPARTMENT
PILGRIMAGE WAR MOTHERS AND WIDOWS**

225 West 34th. St. New York, N. Y.

Party **B**

Number **139**

REQUEST FOR PULLMAN RESERVATIONS.

BILLINGS MRS ROSE

Name of Pilgrim

Actual cost of
Through Pullman at the
Lower Berth Rate.

C/o ADA WILSON.. 1603. 23rd AVE

City Home Address County

OAKLAND CALIFORNIA

State

New York, to **OAKLAND**

Destination of Ticket **OAKLAND CALIF**

\$.....

via **NYC TO CHICAGO A.T.& S.F. to ALBUQUEHQUE A.T.& S.F. to OAKLAND**

OCT 31, 1933

Date of Departure

Expiration Date of Ticket

	Road	Tr. No.	Date	Time	Lower Seat or Coach	Car	U.S.G. Order No.	Actual Cost
Lv. New York	NYC	#19	7/8	7:45 PM	5	230		
Ar. Chicago			7/9	3:15 PM	Lower		1.028.996	9.00
Lv. "	SFE	#3	7/9	9:15 PM	7			
Ar. Oakland			7/11	5:02 PM	Lower	33	1.028.995	23.63
Lv.								
Ar.								
Lv.								
Ar.								
Lv.								
Ar.								
Lv.								
Ar.								
Lv.								
Ar.								
Lv.								
Ar.								
Excess Fare New York, to.							Cost \$	Total

Stop Over ~~NEW YORK CITY AND CHICAGO ILL~~

Through Rate

Excess

Billings, Emma & Co

EXCERPT FROM NARRATIVE REPORT - WEST PARTY "B"

The following named pilgrims were treated at the hotel under the direction of the Medical Supervisor for the ailments as indicated:

Mrs. Lillian B. Greenfield - Insanity, Maniac, Depressive, Stage of Remission. (Special Nurse, Elizabeth R. Sands, who accompanied Mrs. Greenfield on her pilgrimage, accompanied her to her home in Syracuse, New York, on July 8, 1935.)

Mrs. Annis Moore - Psychosis, Senile, Paranoid Type (Mrs. Moore was under the care of a special nurse, Mary A. Mackay, during her entire pilgrimage. On July 8th, she was released to her attendant, Mrs. Cora C. Irvine, who accompanied her to her home in Everett, Washington.)

Mrs. Mary Thompson - Diabetes, Mellitus. (Mrs. Thompson was in the hospital in France for one month for Appendicitis, acute, when this case of Diabetes was discovered. Stated that she had Diabetes for two years. Mrs. Thompson was accompanied to her home in Cincinnati, Ohio, by a special nurse, Mary A. Mackay, on July 8th, 1935.)

Mrs. Catherine Wedlake - Colitis, Chronic, Mucous. (This pilgrim's physical condition upon her return from Europe necessitated rest and quiet until July 10th, when she was considered able to travel. Miss Edna M. Walberg was assigned to accompany her as a special nurse to Kimball, Nebraska, where she had previously arranged for a stopover with friends. Before her departure from the hotel, it was understood that her son would meet her at Kimball, Nebraska.)

Mrs. Rose Billings - Backache

Mrs. Anna M. Gilbertson - Indigestion

EXCERPT FROM LIAISON REPORT * WEST PARTY "B"

July 2nd. - Mrs. Billings checked by doctor for kidney condition.

Billings, Ernest O. (ind)

NARRATIVE - EAST

- Akers, Mrs. Lizzie N. - Arthritis, chronic, right hip, leg and foot
- Bays, Mrs. Mary R. - Hemoplegia, right; Hypertension
- ✓ Billings, Mrs. Rose - Backache
- Butler, Mrs. Anna - Hemoplegia, left
- Chandler, Mrs. Nellie W. Myocarditis, chronic
- Cross, Mrs. Mary G. - Hemicrania, left
- Long, Mrs. Edith C. - Fall
(Fell in dining room of hotel on June 6th. Was not injured)

1951-0
MILITARY SERVICE

arrived at Le Mans at 8:30 AM on the 1st morning in charge of
Capt. J. J. G. G., Lieut. J. J. G. G., and other officers.
The party met at the dock by Lieut. J. J. G. G. and other
officers.

Left Le Mans Station at 9:15 AM and arrived at the Gare
des Invalides at 12:30 PM. Disembarked and spent the night at the
Hotel Lutetia.

Monday, June 10, during the morning, conference was held with
the commanding officers. After lunch at the hotel, the pilgrim
visited Napoleon's Tomb.

Tuesday, June 11, the morning was spent shopping. After lunch at the
hotel, the pilgrim visited Versailles.

Wednesday, June 12, the morning was spent shopping. After lunch at the hotel
the pilgrim attended the ceremony at the Arc de Triomphe, and later
had tea at the Restaurant Daumesnil.

Thursday, June 13, left Paris at 8:00 AM, visited Meaux, had lunch at
Chelles, and stopped at Verden for the night.

Friday, June 14, left Verden, had lunch at the cemetery, visited
Southampton, and returned to Verden for the night.

Saturday, June 15, left Verden, visit of French of Soyons, lunch
at cemetery. Visited Verden in the afternoon and back to Verden
for the night.

Sunday, June 16, left Verden, visited St. Denis, Cemetery,
lunch at Verden, visit of Verden. Spent night at Verden.

Monday, June 17, left Verden, visited Cemetery. Home from
Verden, had lunch at Verden, spent night at Verden.

Tuesday, June 18, left Verden, visited Cemetery, lunch at
Cemetery. Visited Cemetery, and spent night in Verden.

Wednesday, June 19, morning was free, lunch at the hotel. In the
afternoon visited St. Denis en Laye.

Thursday, June 20, morning at church, lunch at hotel. At 9:30 PM.
went on night sightseeing trip.

1953 (cont.)

Tuesday, June 24, visited Centre Court, lunch at table, visited
Lafayette Cemetery.

Wednesday, June 25, visited the Louvre, lunch at the hotel, and
visited Saint Sulpice.

Thursday, June 26, visited Clugny, lunch at hotel. The afternoon
was free.

Friday, June 27, a period for the Davis from the Gare des Invalides
returned on the 10:30 train.

MRS. ROSE BILLINGS

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

May 17, 1933

Billings, Ernest O. MA

Mrs. Rose Billings,
1603 23rd Ave., c/o Ada Wilson,
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Madam:

Arrangements have been completed for your transportation to New York City on your pilgrimage to the American Cemeteries in Europe. One week before your departure the railroad ticket agent, of the first road shown below, will deliver your railroad and pullman ticket to you. Your route to New York will be as follows:

Lv. Oakland	AT&SF	Train No. 22	8:45 AM	June 1
Ar. Chicago	"	4	9:30 AM	June 4
Lv. Chicago	MC	8	11:00 AM	June 4
Ar. New York	NYC	"	9:00 AM	June 5

(Grand Cent. Sta.)

Accommodations: Standard sleeper from Oakland, Calif. to Chicago, Ill. and Chicago, Ill. to New York.

All railroad employees have been instructed by their officials to see that you are shown every courtesy and given assistance, particularly at points where it is necessary to change cars.

Should you not receive your ticket six days before the date shown for your departure please take up at once with the ticket agent and if he does not have your ticket, telegraph this office, collect, to that effect.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Billings, Ernest O.

Revised 4/27/33

Pvt.

135.00
~~161.70~~
32.63

WESTERN MILITARY BUREAU
ROUTE AND SCHEDULE

EUROPEAN PILGRIMAGE SAILING FROM NEW YORK CITY June 7, 1935

Alameda County, State of California

Name Billings, Mrs Rose (B-2)

Address c/o Ada Wilson 1605 - 23rd Ave. Oakland, Calif

Route going AT&SF Chicago, MC Buffalo, NYC New York

Return: Same route

Stop overs N.Y.C. & Chicago

		ROAD	TRAIN	TIME	DATE
Itinerary going	✓ Lv	Oakland	AT&SF	22	8:45 AM June 1
	✓ Ar	Chicago	"	4	9:30 AM " 4
	✓ Lv	"	MC	8	11:00 AM " "
	✓ Ar	New York	NYC	"	9:00 AM " 5
	Lv	(Grand Cent Sta)			
	Ar				
	Lv				
	Ar				
	Lv				
	Ar				
	Lv				
	Ar				
	Lv				
	Ar				
	Lv				
	Ar				

Accommodations: Standard sleeper Oakland, Calif to Chicago, Ill and Chicago, Ill to New York, N Y

Elapsed Time: 93 hrs: 15 min

Extra Fare:

KW

WESTERN MILITARY BUREAU

ROUTE AND SCHEDULE

EUROPEAN PILGRIMAGE SAILING FROM NEW YORK CITY June 7, 1933

Alameda County, State of California

Name Billings, Mrs Rose (B-2)
c/o Ada Wilson
 Address 1603 - 23rd Avenue, Oakland, California

Route going: AT&SF Chicago, Erie New York

Return: Same route

Stop overs N.Y. & Chicago.

		ROAD	TRAIN	TIME	DATE
Itinerary going	Lv	Oakland	AT&SF	22	8:45 AM June 1
	Ar	Chicago	"	4	9:30 AM " 4
	Lv	Chicago	Erie	"	11:00 AM " "
	Ar	New York	"	"	2:30 PM " 5
	Lv	(Jersey City)			
	Ar				
	Lv				
	Ar				
	Lv				
	Ar				
	Lv				
	Ar				
	Lv				
	Ar				
	Lv				
	Ar				
	Lv				
	Ar				

*See reverse
 route sheet
 attached*

Accommodations: Standard sleeper Oakland, California to Chicago, Illinois and Chicago, Illinois to New York, N Y

Elapsed Time: 98 hours 45 minutes

Extra Fare:

~~7/1/33~~

Billings, Ernest O. (MA)

Mothers' & Widows' Pilgrimage
Stopovers on return

Name: Billings, Mrs. Rose

Address: c/o Ada Wilson, 1603 23rd Ave. Oakland, Calif. Party: B - 2

Stopovers desired at: New York City & Chicago, Ill.

Rail

NYC.

Excess
None

Pullman

<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Value</u>
New York City	Chicago, Ill.	L B	9.00
Chicago, Ill.	Oakland, Calif.	L B	23.63

Total:	32.63
Thru Pullman Fare:	32.63
Excess:	None

Amounts shown as "excess" have been collected by the Quartermaster General and remitted to the Finance Officer, Washington, D.C.

PARTY "B"
May 22, 1933

Mrs. Rose Billings,
c/o Ada Wilson,
1603 - 23rd Ave.,
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Madam:

Upon your arrival in New York City you will be met at the railroad station by an Army Officer who will engage porter service to take care of your baggage and escort you to the hotel. During your sojourn here before sailing for Europe and upon your return from Europe, you will stop at the Hotel McAlpin, 34th Street and Broadway, New York City.

The two tags and four identification pasters accompanying this communication are intended to protect your baggage while in transit. One tag should be attached to the handle of each piece of your baggage and a paster placed on each end of each piece of your baggage before leaving your home. Your baggage will be safer and also more readily available to you after your arrival in New York if it is placed with you on the train.

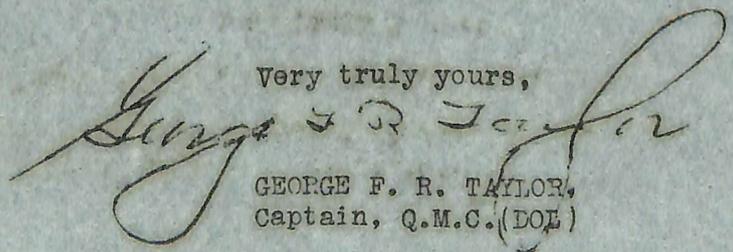
All mail intended to reach you between June 7th, 1933, the day you sail from the United States, and June 29th, 1933, the day you leave Europe, should be addressed to you in care of American Pilgrimage, 20 Rue Molitor, Paris (16), France; for example:

Mrs. Mary Smith,
c/o American Pilgrimage,
20 Rue Molitor,
Paris (16), France.

The party you are to travel with will be disbanded in New York City on the day following your return from Europe and all arrangements for your Pullman accommodations will be made with the railroads in advance by this office. This will require you to remain in New York at the hotel over night as a guest of the United States Government.

Information relative to the cemeteries in Europe is enclosed herewith.

Very truly yours,



GEORGE F. R. TAYLOR,
Captain, Q.M.C. (DOE)

- 7 Incls.:
- 2 Baggage Tags
 - 4 Baggage Pastors
 - 1 Copy Cemeterial Information

6448-c

Billie's, Ernest O

1232

RETURN RECEIPT

Wash - June 7

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

x Mrs Rose Billings
(Signature or name of addressee)

cpo Ada Wilson
(Signature of addressee's agent)

Date of delivery ³ May 19, 19 33*

Form 3811

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

e 5-6116

Post Office Department

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

REGISTERED ARTICLE

No. 9263

INSURED PARCEL

No. _____

Return to *Quartermaster General*

(NAME OF SENDER)

Street and Number,
or Post Office Box, _____

WASHINGTON,

D. C.

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

PLANNED
MAY 19 8 30 PM
1923

POSTMARK OF DELIVERING
OFFICE

AND DATE OF DELIVERY

6448

MA

RETURN RECEIPT

S. S. Washington 6-7-33

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

Deliver to addressee

X Mrs Rose Billings
(Signature or name of addressee)

(Signature of addressee's agent)

Date of delivery May 15, 1933.

Form 3811

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

c 5-6116

Post Office Department

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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

OKLAHOMA
MAY 15
8³⁰ PM
1933
CALIF.

REGISTERED ARTICLE

No. 926 614

INSURED PARCEL

No. _____

POSTMARK OF DELIVERING
OFFICE

AND DATE OF DELIVERY

Return to _____

Q. M. GENERAL

(NAME OF SENDER)

Street and Number,
or Post Office Box, _____

MUNITIONS BUILDING

WASHINGTON,

D. C.

QM 293 A-M

Billings, Ernest O. (MA)

Mrs. Rose Billings
1603-23rd Ave.,
c/o Ada Wilson,
Oakland, California

Dear Madam:

There is enclosed Check No. _____ in the
amount of \$ _____, 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, as amended.

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,

Encl:
Check No.

JAS. H. LAUBACH,
Lt. Col., Q. M. Corps,
Assistant.

QM 206 AM
Billings, Ernest O. (MA)

April 27, 1933

may
Mrs. Rose Billings,
c/o Ada Wilson,
1605 23rd Avenue,
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your telegram cancelling your previous request for stopovers and advising you desire to stop over at New York City and Chicago, Ill. on your return from a pilgrimage to the House Argonne American Cemetery in Europe, sailing from New York on the S.S. WASHINGTON, June 7, 1933.

Accordingly, arrangements have been cancelled for stopovers previously requested, and your transportation will be issued providing for stopovers at New York City and Chicago, Ill. These will involve no additional cost to you for either rail or pullman fare. However, all expenses incurred by you during your visits at New York City and Chicago must be paid from your personal funds.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

R. H. SHANNON,
Captain, QM M. Corps,
Assistant.

LM

Signal Corps, United States Army

Received at

War Department Message Center,
Room 3441, Munitions Building,
Washington, D. C.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.

3-9311

WY32 25 NM COLLECT 10 EXTRA=AK OAKLAND CALIF 26

1933 APR 27 AM 7 57

R E SHANNAN, CARE CAPT Q M CORPS=WAR DEPT=

CANCEL ORIGINAL STOPOVERS WANT FIFTEEN DAYS NEWYORK FIFTEEN
DAYS CHICAGO IF ROUTED THAT WAY=

MRS ROSE MAY BILLINGS

QM 293 AM ERNEST O BILLINGS (MA).

293-

99 GS
Billings - Ernest
ma

*Billings
E E
OK 2/2/31
10*

*accepts Wash
June 7-*



WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

April 24, 1933

Billings, Ernest O. MA W

Mrs. Rose Billings,
1603 - 25rd Ave.,
c/o Ada Wilson,
Oakland, California.

Dear Madam:

With reference to previous correspondence on this subject, you are informed that your passport has been received and will be delivered to you aboard ship.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

kw

CHAS. W. DIETZ,
~~R. E. SHANNON,~~
Captain, Q. M. Corps,
Assistant.

QM 293 AM
Billings, Ernest O. (MA)

April 24, 1933

Mrs. Rose May Billings.
c/o Ada Wilson,
1603 25rd Avenue,
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Madam:

This office has no record of receiving a reply to letter of February 28, advising relative to stopovers desired on your return from a pilgrimage to the Meuse Argonne American Cemetery in Europe, sailing from New York on the S.S. WASHINGTON, June 7, 1933.

Final arrangements for your transportation cannot be completed until you advise whether or not you desire stopovers at Philadelphia, Pa., Knoxville, Tenn., El Paso, Tex., San Diego and Los Angeles, Calif. with a routing via New Orleans, La., and it is requested that you please telegraph this office, collect, immediately upon receipt of this letter. If all of these stopovers and routing are desired, please state in your telegram when money order in the amount of nine dollars and thirty seven cents (\$9.37) will be forwarded.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

lm
mailed personally 4/24

M. P. J.

QM 293 AM
Billings, Ernest O. (MA)

February 28, 1933

Mrs. Rose May Billings,
c/o Ada Wilson,
1603 23rd Avenue,
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your reply to the form letter from this office, requesting stopovers at Philadelphia, Pa., Knoxville, Tenn., El Paso, Texas, San Diego and Los Angeles, Calif. and routing via New Orleans, on your return from a pilgrimage to the Meuse Argonne American Cemetery in Europe, sailing from New York on the S.S. WASHINGTON, June 7, 1933.

Arrangements can be made for all of the stopovers mentioned above but there will be an additional cost involved of seven dollars and eighty seven cents (\$7.87) due to a difference in pullman fare. Transportation can also be arranged for a return routing via New Orleans, with a stopover at this point if you so desire, but this will involve an excess cost of one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) in addition to the above amount, or a total of nine dollars and thirty seven cents (\$9.37), which must be paid by you. All expenses incurred by you during your stopovers must also be paid from your personal funds.

Please advise immediately whether or not you desire these stopovers and routing on your return journey. If you desire stopovers at Philadelphia, Knoxville, El Paso, San Diego and Los Angeles with a routing via New Orleans you should forward money order to this office at once in the amount of nine dollars and thirty seven cents (\$9.37), payable to the Finance Officer, U. S. Army, Washington, D.C. Should you wish to make all of the stopovers, eliminating the routing via New Orleans, your money order should be in the amount of seven dollars and eighty seven cents (\$7.87).

Your ticket will be good until October 31, 1933, therefore you may stop over as long as you desire, providing you reach home no later than midnight that date.

+

QM 293 AM
Billings, Ernest O. (MA)
February 28, 1933

The self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience in replying and does not require postage.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

1 Encl.
Envelope

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

LM

0676

1933 FEB -28- PM 4:33

QQMG M & R BR

Billings, Ernest O. (MA)

Mothers' & Widows' Pilgrimage
Stopovers on return

Name: Billings, Mrs. Rose May

Address: c/o Ada Wilson, 1603 23rd Ave. Oakland, Calif. Party: B

Stopovers desired at: New York City & Chicago, Ill.

Rail

		Excess	None
<u>Pullman</u>			
<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Value</u>
New York City	Chicago, Ill.	L B	9.00
Chicago, Ill.	Oakland, Calif.	L B	23.63

Total: 32.63
 Thru Pullman Fare: 32.63

Excess: None

Amounts shown as "excess" have been collected by the Quartermaster General and remitted to the Finance Officer, Washington, D.C.

IF YOU DESIRE TO STOP OVER ON YOUR RETURN FROM EUROPE PLEASE READ CAREFULLY THE PARAGRAPH, "STOPOVERS IN THE UNITED STATES", ON PAGE 3 OF THE ENCLOSED LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS, FILL IN THE FORM BELOW AND RETURN IT TO THIS OFFICE.

Billings, Ernest O. (MA)
Billings, Mrs. Rose,
1603 23rd St.
Oakland, Alameda Co. California.
Washington June 7th

Quartermaster General,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

On my return from the pilgrimage to American Cemeteries in Europe, I desire to stop over at the point, or points, listed below, for the number of days shown after the name of the town. If these stopovers will cause me any expense I am to be advised of the amount and may then withdraw this request if I so desire.

Cities where I desire to stopover:

No. of days

Philadelphia Penn

10 days

Knoxville Tenn

30 days

Would it be possible for me to return home via New Orleans from Knoxville Tenn.

El Paso Texas

2 days

San Diego Calif

2 days

Long Beach Calif

2 days

Final limit Oct. 31st



Very truly yours,

Mrs Rose May Billings
(Your name)

Cp 4141 Wilson 1603-23rd Oakland Calif
(Your address)

PLEASE FILL IN THE INFORMATION CALLED FOR BELOW,
AND MAIL THIS LETTER PROMPTLY IN THE ENCLOSED
ENVELOPE WHICH REQUIRES NO POSTAGE.

Quartermaster General,
Washington, D. C.

Billings, Ernest O. (MA)
Billings, Mrs. Rose,
1603 23rd St.
Oakland, Alameda Co. California.
Washington June 7th

Sir:

In the blank space below you will find the name,
address, and relationship to me, of the person in the United
States whom I desire to be notified in case I become
seriously ill or other emergency arises while I am making
the pilgrimage to Europe authorized by the Act of Congress
approved March 2, 1929.

Mr. John Fredrick Lewis
Name

Gold Hill Oregon
Address

Brother
Relationship

Very truly yours,

Mrs Rose May Billings
Your name

Cp Ada Wilson 1603-23rd. Oakland Calif.
Your address



QM 293 A-M
Billings, Ernest O. (MA)

February 13, 1933

Mrs. Rose May Billings,
c/o Ada Wilson, 1603 23rd Ave.,
Oakland, California.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of February 3rd advising that the photograph of the grave of your husband, the late Private Ernest O. Billings, and the card showing his place of burial were destroyed by fire.

Accordingly, there is enclosed herewith another card showing the exact location of his grave. However, it is not necessary that you take this card when you make the pilgrimage, sailing June 7th on the WASHINGTON, as the officer of the Army in charge of your group will personally direct you to the last resting place of your husband. Your photograph will be taken beside the grave, and you will be presented with one before you leave Europe.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

0439

KK

1933 FEB - 13 - PM 2:30
CQMG M & R BR

Oakland Calif.

Feb. 3- 1933

Whom it may concern, Q.M. 293 A-M.

Quartermaster General,

Please be advised that the number of my husband's grave also the pictures of the same were destroyed by fire and at the present time I haven't any means of locating the grave,

Would you be kind enough to furnish me through your department the above information, as I feel that it will be beneficial to me on my pilgrimage to France in June 1933.

Thanking you for the above and the many favors of the past

I remain your very truly

Mrs Rose May Billings
C/o Ada Wilson 1603-23rd

Oakland Calif



Ames O. B. B. B.
Accept 7/31/33
June 7, 1933

~~George~~ Washington

6/7/33

MA ✓

Pvt. Ernest O. Billings

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 pro-
visions of the Act of Congress approved March 2, 1929.

Mrs. Rose Billings

(Name)

1603-23006

~~2701 26th Ave.~~, % Ada Wilson, Oakland, California

(Town or City)

Alameda County (State)

IMMEDIATE ACTION

IN REPLY
REFER TO

QM 293 A-M

WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

Billings, Ernest O. (MA)

November 30, 1932.

Mrs. Rose Billings,
~~PO Box 949,~~
Oakland, California.

*2701-26 Ave
c/o Ada Wilson*

1603-23rd Ave

(per acc. card)

Dear Madam:

Your Government has provided an opportunity for all Mothers and Widows of deceased members of the American Forces who were lost, buried at sea, or whose remains are now interred in Europe, to make a pilgrimage to the cemeteries in Europe. This was done in the hope that all who may make the pilgrimage will derive a measure of comfort and solace from the visit.

You are numbered among those who are privileged to make this pilgrimage.

During July and September of this year, inquiries were addressed to you as to whether or not you desire to make the pilgrimage to Europe. To these inquiries no reply has been received from you.

You probably do not realize how important it is that a reply be received from you. If we do not receive replies, it becomes very difficult to make the necessary and proper arrangements for those who are to make the trip, as everything must be arranged in advance. Consequently, it is just as important for the Government to know the names of those who do not desire to take advantage of its offer as it is to know the names of those who do.

Will you please devote a few moments of your time to write either the word "YES" or "NO" in the following space yes, thus indicating whether or not you desire to make the pilgrimage during 1933 and sign your name here Rose Mrs. Billings. Use the enclosed envelope, which requires no postage, and return this sheet.

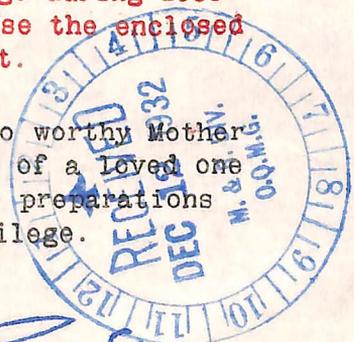
This reply will assure your Government that no worthy Mother or Widow has failed to receive its offer in commemoration of a loved one departed, and will greatly assist in making the necessary preparations for those of them who wish to take advantage of the privilege.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,



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



IMMEDIATE ACTION

IMMEDIATE ACTION

IN REPLY
REFER TO

QM 293 A-M
Billings Ernest O MA

WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

October 13, 1932

Mrs. Rose Billings,
PO Box ~~948~~,
Oakland, Cal.

SPECIAL

Re Mailed 11-30-32

Dear Madam:

Your Government has provided an opportunity for all Mothers and Widows of deceased members of the American Forces who were lost, buried at sea, or whose remains are now interred in Europe, to make a pilgrimage to the cemeteries in Europe. This was done in the hope that all who may make the pilgrimage will derive a measure of comfort and solace from the visit.

You are numbered among those who are privileged to make this pilgrimage.

During July and September of this year, inquiries were addressed to you as to whether or not you desire to make the pilgrimage to Europe. To these inquiries no reply has been received from you.

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Will you please devote a few moments of your time to write either the word "YES" or "NO" in the following space _____, thus indicating whether or not you desire to make the pilgrimage during 1933 and sign your name here _____. Use the enclosed envelope, which requires no postage, and return this sheet.

This reply will assure your Government that no worthy Mother or Widow has failed to receive its offer in commemoration of a loved one departed, and will greatly assist in making the necessary preparations for those of them who wish to take advantage of the privilege.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,



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

IMMEDIATE ACTION

XC 73 757 Billings, Ernest O.

2535-41 st

Mother - Edith May Billings - ~~429 W. S.~~ Woodland

ad changed 4-30-32)

Sacramento^t Cal.

Widow - Rose May Billings

~~mail ret. from Bank of Italy, San Pedro, Cal.~~

P.O. Box 949 - mail it. 10/13

Oakland

Cal.

75820

(30) ad of

11-11-32

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Billings, Ernest O.

MA

September 8, 1932

Mrs. Rosa Billings
P. O. Box 949
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to the questionnaire recently forwarded you, making inquiry as to whether you desire to make a pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe during the summer of 1933, and inviting attention to the fact that 1933 is the LAST YEAR for which the pilgrimages are authorized. To date no reply has been received.

In order that your desires may be of record, and arrangements made accordingly, it is requested you complete the form below by writing in the space provided, your answers to the questions listed, sign your name and return this letter in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage.

1. Do you desire to make a pilgrimage in 1933? (Answer "Yes" or "No")	
2. Please state your age and condition of health:	Age: Health:
3. Do you speak English?	
4. What other language do you speak?	

Sign here

NOTE CAREFULLY, THIS IS THE LAST CHANCE WHICH YOU WILL HAVE TO MAKE THE PILGRIMAGE, AND THERE IS NO PROVISION OF LAW FOR A MONEY ALLOWANCE INSTEAD.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

Encl:
Env.

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

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Billings, Ernest O. (MA)

August 9, 1932.

Mrs. Rose May Billings,
PO Box 949
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Madam:

The Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, as amended May 15, 1930, authorizes pilgrimages to the cemeteries of Europe during the years 1930, 1931, 1932 and 1933 for the mothers and widows of deceased members of the American forces who were lost or buried at sea or whose remains are interred in Europe.

Your attention is particularly invited to the fact that this is the last opportunity you will have to make the pilgrimage under the provisions of the above mentioned Act. Unless you take advantage of this LAST chance to make a trip in 1933 you will receive no benefit from the Act. There is no provision of law which will permit the Government to make a money allowance to any mother or widow who does not choose to make the pilgrimage.

IT IS REQUESTED THAT YOU GIVE THE MATTER YOUR MOST CAREFUL CONSIDERATION BEFORE REACHING A DECISION, BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS IS THE LAST OPPORTUNITY YOU WILL HAVE TO MAKE THE TRIP AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE.

In order to assure proper and satisfactory accommodations for the mothers and widows making the journey in 1933, reservations for steamship transportation must be made by this office several months in advance. It is requested that you answer the questions below by writing "Yes" or "No" or "Undecided" in the blank space following the question. When you have answered the question, sign your name and return this sheet in the enclosed addressed envelope which requires no postage. PLEASE DO NOT DELAY, as it is essential that the information be in this office promptly.

This letter is being sent to all eligible mothers and widows who did not make the pilgrimage during the years 1930, 1931 or 1932. There is enclosed a circular of information WHICH YOU SHOULD READ VERY CAREFULLY BEFORE MAKING YOUR DECISION.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

2 Encls.

DO YOU DESIRE TO MAKE A PILGRIMAGE DURING THE YEAR 1933?

(Write answer here)

(Sign here) _____

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Billings, Ernest O. (MA)-

July 12, 1932.

Mrs. Rose Billings,
c/o Bank of Italy,
San Pedro, Calif.

Dear Madam:

The Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, as amended May 15, 1930, authorizes pilgrimages to the cemeteries of Europe during the years 1930, 1931, 1932 and 1933 for the mothers and widows of deceased members of the American forces who were lost or buried at sea or whose remains are interred in Europe.

Your attention is particularly invited to the fact that this is the last opportunity you will have to make the pilgrimage under the provisions of the above mentioned Act. Unless you take advantage of this LAST chance to make a trip in 1933 you will receive no benefit from the Act. There is no provision of law which will permit the Government to make a money allowance to any mother or widow who does not choose to make the pilgrimage.

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This letter is being sent to all eligible mothers and widows who did not make the pilgrimage during the years 1930, 1931 or 1932. There is enclosed a circular of information WHICH YOU SHOULD READ VERY CAREFULLY BEFORE MAKING YOUR DECISION.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,



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

2 Encls.

DO YOU DESIRE TO MAKE A PILGRIMAGE DURING THE YEAR 1933? _____

(Write answer here)

(Sign here) _____

QM 293 A-M
Billings, Ernest O. (MA)

February 13, 1938

Mrs. Rose May Billings,
c/o Ada Wilson, 1603 23rd Ave.,
Oakland, California.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of February 3rd advising that the photograph of the grave of your husband, the late Private Ernest O. Billings, and the card showing his place of burial were destroyed by fire.

Accordingly, there is enclosed herewith another card showing the exact location of his grave. However, it is not necessary that you take this card when you make the pilgrimage, sailing June 7th on the WASHINGTON, as the officer of the Army in charge of your group will personally direct you to the last resting place of your husband. Your photograph will be taken beside the grave, and you will be presented with one before you leave Europe.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

KK

10

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM-293-AM
Billings, Ernest O. Pvt. (M-A) W

January 19, 1932.

Mrs. Rose May billings,
c/o Bank of Italy,
San Pedro, California.

Dear Madam:

Arrangements are now being made for conducting pilgrimages during the year 1932 to the cemeteries in Europe under the provisions of the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, as amended.

To assure proper and satisfactory accommodations, reservations for steamship transportation required during the summer of 1932 must be made by this office several months in advance. It is therefore desired that you answer the question below by writing either of the words "Yes", "No", or "Undecided" in the blank space following the question.

As soon as you have answered the question, please sign your name and return this sheet in the enclosed addressed envelope which requires no postage. Do not delay, as a prompt reply is essential.

This letter is being sent to all eligible mothers and widows who did not make a pilgrimage at the expense of the Government during 1930 or 1931.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

DO YOU DESIRE TO MAKE A PILGRIMAGE DURING THE YEAR 1932?

LMS

Write answer here

Encl:
Env.

Sign here

Billings, Ernest O. 123
Pvt., Co. K, 363rd Inf. XC-73,757

vd

Mother Edith May Billings

Widow

429 West St.

Loco

Woodland - Cal.

Step-M

Widow

Rose May Billings
% Bank of Italy
San Pedro - Cal

Leak 113

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM-293-AM

Billings, Ernest O. (M-A) *AW* Oct. 12, 1931

Pvt. Co. K, 363rd Inf - 73757

Mrs Rose May Billings,
c/o Bank of Italy, 1 Powell St.,
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Madam:

Arrangements are now being made for conducting pilgrimages during the year 1932 to the cemeteries in Europe under the provisions of the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, as amended.

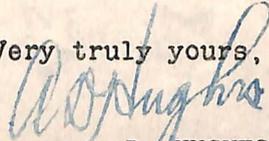
To assure proper and satisfactory accommodations, reservations for steamship transportation required during the summer of 1932 must be made by this office several months in advance. It is therefore desired that you answer the question below by writing either of the words "Yes", "No", or "Undecided" in the blank space following the question.

As soon as you have answered the question, please sign your name and return this sheet in the enclosed addressed envelope which requires no postage. Do not delay, as a prompt reply is essential.

This letter is being sent to all eligible mothers and widows who did not make a pilgrimage at the expense of the Government during 1930 or 1931.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,



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

DO YOU DESIRE TO MAKE A PILGRIMAGE DURING THE YEAR 1932? _____
Write answer here

Encl:
Env.

Sign here

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

DATE Sept. 12, 1931

NAME	RANK	SERIAL	ORGANIZATION	DATE OF DEATH
Billings, Ernest O.	Pvt.	2781586	Co. K, 363rd Inf.	9-29-18

STATE	CTY. NO.	GRAVE	ROW	BLOCK
Calif.	1232	10	28	F

	<u>Check relationship</u>	<u>Living - Deceased</u>		
		Living	Deceased	
	MOTHER	✓		
	STEPMOTHER (For the year prior to commencement of service)			
NAME	MOTHER THRU ADOPTION			
AND	(For the year prior to commencement of service)			m
ADDRESS				Mrs Edith M. Billings
	MOTHER IN LOCO PARENTIS			
	(For the year prior to commencement of service)			429 West St
				Woodland
	WIDOW	✓		
	(Who has not remarried)			
	→ Mrs - Rose May Billings Calif. % Bank of Italy, 1 Powell St., San Francisco, Calif.			

Veterans Bureau Claim Number 29/156

LC 73, 757

9-16714 A

Calif.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

Card pulled

IN REPLY REFER TO QM-293-AM

Billings, Ernest O. Pvt. (MA) W-

Pvt., Co. K, 363rd Inf.

Calif
July 9, 1931.
279 1586
9-29-18
10-28-7

Mrs. Rose Billings,
c/o Collection Dept., Bank of Italy,
Market, Eddy & Powell Sts.,
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Madam:

Arrangements are now being made for conducting pilgrimages during the year 1932 to the cemeteries in Europe under the provisions of the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, as amended.

To assure proper and satisfactory accommodations, reservations for steamship transportation required during the summer of 1932 must be made by this office not later than August 1st of this year. It is therefore desired that you answer the question below by writing either of the words "Yes", "No", or "Undecided" in the blank space following the question.

As soon as you have answered the question, please sign your name and return this sheet in the enclosed addressed envelope which requires no postage. Do not delay, as a prompt reply is essential.

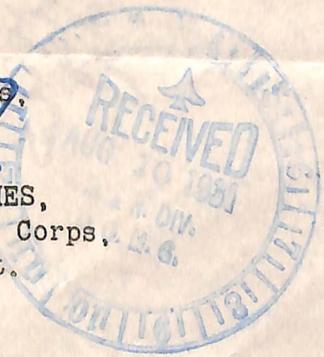
This letter is being sent to all eligible mothers and widows who did not make a pilgrimage at the expense of the Government during 1930 and are not making the journey in 1931.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

A. D. Hughes

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



DO YOU DESIRE TO MAKE A PILGRIMAGE DURING THE YEAR 1932? _____

Write answer here

Sign here

WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

WASHINGTON D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



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



Not in directory
Unclaimed



General Delivery Eureka - California

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Billings, Ernest O. Pvt. 1232-W

April 4, 1931.

Mrs. Rose Billings,
Bank of Italy,
c/o Collection Dept.,
Dear Madam:
Market, Eddy & Powell Sts.,
San Francisco, Calif.

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.

The records of this office show that you are the widow of the deceased veteran named above and in order that plans may be completed for conducting the pilgrimages, it is requested you answer the following questions by filling out the blanks left therefor and return the letter to this office in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage.

1. Do you desire to make the pilgrimages?
2. Do you desire to make the pilgrimages in the calendar year 1931?
3. Please give your age and state your health.
4. Do you speak English?
5. What other language do you speak?

Age
Condition of Health
Conc.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

Enclosures:

Envelope
Act
Amendment

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

RECEIVED DIV.
APR 4 26
1931
DISPATCHED

QM 293 A-M

Billings, Ernest O. Pvt 1232 W

October 10, 1930

Mrs. Rose Billings
c/o Collection Dept.
Bank of Italy
Market, Eddy & Powell Streets
San Francisco, California.
Dear Madam:

A reply has not been received to office letter of recent date relative to the pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe, authorized by the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, as amended May 15, 1930.

The records of this office show that you are the of the deceased veteran named above and in order that plans may be completed for conducting the pilgrimages in 1931, it is requested you answer the following questions by filling out the blanks left therefor and return the letter to this office in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage.

1. Do you desire to make this pilgrimage?	
2. Do you desire to make the pilgrimage in the calendar year 1931?	
3. Please give your age and state your health.	Age Condition of health
4. Do you speak English?	
5. What other language do you speak?	

For The Quartermaster General:

Very truly yours,

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

Encis:
Act
Amendment
Envelope

30/150

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Billings, Ernest O. 1232 W

June 19, 1930

Mrs. Rose Billings
c/o Collection Dept, Bank of Italy
Market, Eddy & Powell Sts.
San Francisco, California.

Dear Madam:

Arrangements are now being made for conducting pilgrimages during the year 1931, to the cemeteries in Europe under the provisions of the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929.

To assure proper and satisfactory accommodations, reservations for steamship transportation required during the summer of 1931 must be made by this office not later than August 1st of this year. It is therefore desired that you answer the question below by writing the word "Yes" or "No" in the blank space following the question.

As soon as you have answered the question, please sign your name and return this sheet in the enclosed addressed envelope, which requires no postage. Do not delay, as a prompt reply is essential.

This letter is being sent to all mothers and widows who are not making the pilgrimage in 1930, regardless of whether or not they have expressed a desire to make the pilgrimage.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

DO YOU DESIRE TO MAKE THE PILGRIMAGE DURING THE YEAR 1931? _____

(Write answer here)

(Sign here)

Signal Corps, United States Army

1732 ✓

Received at War Department Message Center,
Room 3441, Munitions Building,
Washington, D. C.

RADIOGRAM

3-9313

16 WVC GL SVC

QM

WAR

YR SEVENTY NINE FOURTEENTH MRS ROSE BILLINGS CARE COLLECTION DEPT
BANK OF ITALY SIGNED DEWITT UNDLD LAST ADDRESS GIVEN ~~ADDRESS~~ GENL DELIVERY
CENTRAL WASHN WE FORWARDE

WVY. DATE

APR 15TH 433PM

QM 293 A-C Billings, Ernest, O.

293

Billings - Ernest O.

Record Attached



402

1732
Night Letter
Washington, D. C. April 14, 1930

MRS. ROSE BILLINGS,
c/o COLLECTION DEPARTMENT,
BANK OF ITALY,
MARKET, EDDY & POWELL STS.,
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

REPLY TO INVITATION MAILED YOU TO SAIL JUNE FOURTH NOT RECEIVED STOP
DO YOU ACCEPT OR DECLINE WIRE ANSWER 172GSM

DeWITT ADH
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL JTH

QM 293 A-C Billings, Ernest O.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Billings, Ernest O. 1232-W

April 5, 1930

Mrs. Rose Billings,
c/o-Collection Dept., Bank of
Italy,
Market, Eddy & Powell Sts.,
San Francisco, Calif.

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 "America" on June 4, 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 19, 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.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Billings, Ernest O. 1232-W

March 20, 1930

Mrs. Rose Billings,
c/o Collection Dept.,
Bank of Italy,
Market, Eddy & Powell Sts.,
San Francisco, 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.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

October 7, 1929.

Billings, Ernest O. 1232 W

Mrs. Rose Billings,
c/o Collection Dept., Bank of Italy,
Market Eddy, Powell Sts., San Francisco, Cal.

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.

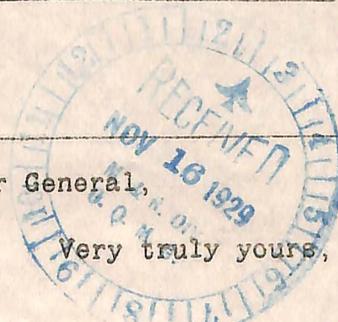
1. Do you desire to make this pilgrimage if eligible?	(Yes) <u>Yes</u> (No)
2. Do you desire to make the pilgrimage in the calendar year 1930?	(Yes) <u>Yes</u> (No)
3. Have you at any time made a previous visit to the grave of the deceased member of the military or naval forces in whom you are interested?	(Yes) (No) <u>No</u>
4. Please give your age and state of health.	Age Health (Years) <u>35</u> (Good) <u>Good</u> (Poor)
5. What language do you speak?	English - (Yes) <u>Yes</u> (No) Other language <u>no</u> (Specify language spoken)

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.
Act
Envelope



QM 293 A-C
Billings, Ernest O.

August 14, 1929.

Mrs. Rose Billings,
Bank of Italy,
c/o Collection Dept.,
Market Eddy Powell Sts.,
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of July 19,
in which you advise the address of your husband's mother.

As plans for the pilgrimage have not yet been completed, it is not possible to advise you whether or not it can be arranged for you to make the pilgrimage with your mother-in-law. A note has been made of your desire, however, and if possible, arrangements will be made whereby you and Mrs. Billings, Sr., can make the pilgrimage together.

Within a reasonable time prior to the beginning of the pilgrimage, (May 1930), blanks will be furnished you and Mrs. Billings, Sr. upon which to make formal application for the journey. Space will be provided thereon for you to indicate the time you desire to go.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

W M E R DIV.
SO:LS
1929 AUG 16 AM 10 53

Subscribed

SM



Sacramento Calif
July 19, 1929

The Quartermaster General

Dear Sir.

12th 6/29/29

In reply to your letter regarding
trip to France G. M. 293-A-C

Please be advised, I
appreciate your kindness in
affording me the opportunity of

making this trip -

In regards to my husband
mother her address is Mrs Edith

Billing 429, West, St, Woodland
Calif -

Could it be arranged

that we could make the trip
together. I thank you.

Sincerely -

~~Letter~~ add. Mrs Rose Billing
me at
Bank of Italy -
Cp collection Dept -
Market eddy Powell - Sts -
San Francisco Calif

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C
Billings, Ernest O.

June 29, 1929.

Mrs. Rose Billings,
Gold Hill,
Oregon.

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 widow of the late Pvt. Ernest O. Billings, Co. K, 363d 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 mother 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.

Your attention is particularly invited to Section 4 of the enclosed Act, which defines the terms "mother" and "widow". If the relationship is that of a stepmother, mother through adoption or a woman who stood in loco parentis to the decedent, a statement as to her relationship is requested. In case you have remarried it is also requested that a statement to that effect be made.

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

2 incls.
Act of Congress.
Envelope.

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

CODE SLIP

✓

HEADING	SUB-HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE	
NAME	Billings	B L L	3	292
	Ernest O.			
BURIED	CEMETERY	1232	1	1
	GRAVE	10	2	10
	ROW	28	4	28
	BLOCK	4	1	6
STATE	Calif		2	04
RANK	Pvt.		1	2
DIVISION	91		2	91
ORGANIZATION	363		3	363
ARM	Inf.		1	1
MARTIAL	yes		1	1
NAME	Billings	B L L	3	292
	Mr. Edith			
RESIDENCE	STATE	Calif.	2	04
	COUNTY	yolo	2	57
	CITY	Woodland	3	107
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.		1	
	YR.		1	
ACCEPTANCE	yes		1	
	Age			

Handwritten: 1930

Large handwritten: Billings

Handwritten: 62 Audited OCT 13 1931 MMB

QM 293 A-M
Billings, Ernest O. 1232

July 15, 1930.

Mrs. Edith Billings,
429 West Street,
Woodland, Calif.

Dear Madam:

I am pleased to acknowledge receipt of the testimonial which you and the other mothers and widows returning on the SS President Harding 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 of the Army and the nurses 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 of 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

LEB

DISPATCHED
1930 JUL 15 AM 11 13

DIV.

X 330.13 PILGRIMAGE, GOLD STAR

NAME Billings, Mrs. Edith F

ADDRESS 429 West St. Woodland, Cal. Yola Co.

DATE 7-9-1930

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 Edith Billings.

WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300.



PILGRIMAGE, WAR MOTHERS AND WIDOWS

225 WEST 34TH STREET,

NEW YORK, N. Y.

STATE

Billings, Ernest C.

CALIFORNIA.

Mother:

429 West St.,

Woodland, Yolo County,

NAME Billings, Mrs. Edith HOME ADDRESS

NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEAREST KIN Mr. F.R. Stoddard Rt. # 1 Box 73
Woodland, Cali.ARRIVAL IN NEW YORKDATE 6/2 HOTEL *Gov. Clinton* ROOM NO. 1920DEPARTURE NEW YORK

DATE June 4th, 1930 VESSEL "AMERICA" CABIN NO. 267C

DESTINATION Cherbourg, France CEMETERY Meuse-Argonne

RETURN NEW YORK

JUL 5 1930
DATE

Mother
NAME .. Billings, Mrs. Faith HOME ADDRESS Woodland, Calif.
429 West St.

RETURN ON S/S HARDING HOTEL PENNSYLVANIA ROOM NO. 1134

DEPARTURE NEW YORK

DATE 7/6

ROAD Penn TRAIN 9 CAR 226 BERTH or SEAT L12

REMARKS
.....
.....
.....

REMARKS



ITINERARY OF MEUSE-ARGONNE GROUP

PARTY "F"

Billings, Ernest O

Left New York June 4, 1930 on the SS AMERICA in charge of Captain Merrill Ross. Arrived Cherbourg about 4 a.m. June 15th. A special tender for the use of the pilgrims arrived alongside the ship at 5:25 a.m. The following personnel met the boat: Captains J.M. Reynolds, H. W. Kinderman, H. L. Earnest, T.H. Stark, Major G.F.M. Dailey, Lt. E.B. Freeman, Miss Rulon, 7 nurses and 2 civilian employees. Train left at 8:48 p. m. and arrived at 2.25 p.m. at the Gare des Invalides. Met by Col. Ellis and others and conducted to hotel.

June 14th - A.M. free: conference with conducting officer-explanation of points of general information. Departed 3 p.m. for Arc de Triomphe Ceremony followed by tea and reception at Restaurant Laurent. Dinner at hotel. Night sightseeing trip. June 15th - A. M. free or church. Sightseeing trip to Sacre Coeur in p.m.

June 16th - Departed at 7:15 p.m. for cemetery via Montmirail, Chalons, St. Menchould and arrived Verdun 6:15 p.m. Stopped at Hotel Neuvel or Vauban Hotel.

June 17th- 18th-19th-20th - Visited cemetery daily, also sightseeing trips in vicinity.

June 21st - Departed Verdun at 9:15 a.m. for last visit to cemetery and for return to Paris via Suippes and Reims - stopped at Reims overnight at Hotel Bristol Crystal.

June 22nd - Visited Reims and cathedral and left at 1:30 p.m. via Champfleury, Ay, Epernaix, Dormans, Chateau Thierry. Arrived Paris 6:45 p.m.

June 23rd - Visited Fontainebleau

June 24th - A. m. free and visited Napoleon's Tomb in p.m.

June 25th - Visited Notre Dame in a.m. and Versailles, Belle Cycliste - Suresnes in p.m.

June 26th - Visited Louvre in a.m. and had p.m. free

June 27th - Left Gare des Invalides at 10:30 a.m. in charge of the following: Captains Mitchell, Haley, Dalton, Lieuts. Gregory, Moroney, Binns, Capt. Kinderman, 4 nurses and 2 civilian employees. Arrived Cherbourg at 4:12 p.m. and sailed at 6:03 on the President Harding. Captain A. J. Funk as Liaison Officer.

Mrs. Edith Billings

WAR DEPARTMENT
 "PILGRIMAGE WAR MOTHERS AND WIDOWS"
 -- ROOM 901 --

225 West 34th St., New York, N. Y.

BILLINGS, ERNEST O. M.A.

PARTY "F"
 NUMBER 945

REQUEST FOR PULLMAN RESERVATION

MRS. EDITH BILLINGS
 Name of Traveler

Actual cost of through Pullman,
 New York, to WOODLAND, CALIF.

WOODLAND, YOLO COUNTY,
 Home Address

\$ 32.63

CALIF.

New York, to WOODLAND, CALIF.
 Destination

Via PENN. TO CHICAGO - CM & ST.P TO COUNCIL BLUFFS - U P TO OGDEN - S P TO DEST.

JULY 5, 1930
 Date of Departure

	Road	Train Number	Date	Time	Lower or Seat	Car	U.S.G. Order No.	Actual Cost
LV	PENNS. STA.	P.R.R. #9	7-6	6:20P				
*AR	CHICAGO	" "	7-7	9:10P	L12	m6		9.00
LV	" "	CHICAGO 19	" "	11:30P				
*AR	SACRAMENTO	S.P.	7-10	2:00P	L2	m9		23.63
LV	" "	" " H.S. 114	" "	7:10P			100-1021-1105	
AR	WOODLAND	" "	" "	5:00P				
LV								
AR								
LV								
AR								
LV								
AR								

TOTAL

Remarks: VALIDATE *Left Hotel Pennsylvania at 5:30 P.M.*

W-THRU CAR *escorted by Capt. Ross. - 2 pieces of baggage.*

Mrs. Edith Billings

Arrived June 2, 1930 on Pennsylvania RR, train #34 at 3:35 P.M.
Met by 1st Lt. John M. England and taken to Hotel Gov. Clinton. + quartered with
Mrs. N. Van Lew - 2 days.

On return trip from Pilgrimage stayed at Hotel Pennsylvania
and quartered with Mrs. Nellie Grubb - 1 day

Val.

945

// NAME BILLINGS, MRS. EDITH
 S.S. HARDING JUL 4 1930
 HOME Woodland, Calif. - Yolo Co.
 R.R. *Permit to chi -*
cm + st p to Council Bluffs.
 STATION *U.P. to Ogden*
SP to dett.
 TRAIN #
 CAR #
 BERTH OR SEAT
 TIME
 DATE *oct 31 - 30*

FVR

Pilgrimage, War Mothers & Widows,
R. 901, 225 W. 34th St.,
New York City, N.Y.

VIA WESTERN UNION

A. C. TIPTON,
Major, Inf. (DOL)

Mrs. F. R. Stoddard,
Woodland,
California.

July 5, 1930

YOUR MOTHER ARRIVES WOODLAND THURSDAY JULY TENTH AT EIGHT P M

COLONEL WILLIAMS

Mrs. Edith Billings, Party "F", Hotel Pennsylvania.

May 17th, 1930.

Mrs. Edith Billings,
429 West Street,
Woodland, Calif.

Dear Madam:

Please attach the enclosed tags to each piece of baggage, thus to protect the safe arrival of same in New York.

Upon your arrival in this City, you will be met at the Railroad Station by a United States Army Officer, in uniform, who will wear on the left sleeve of his coat a blue cloth band, bearing a Gold Star and the word "Expatriate". This officer will escort you and your baggage to our Hotel in New York City.

For the Officer in Charge:

George F. B. Taylor
1st. Lieut., G. M. Service
Assistant.

Enclosed
2 tags

COPY

GOLD STAR MOTHERS

Pilgrimage sailing from New York City, June 4, 1930

Consolidated Schedules

SCHEDULE NO. 8

<u>State</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>		
California	Yolo	Billings, Mrs. Edith	Woodland		
Lv Woodland		10:42 AM	So Pac	Train No. 47	May 29
Ar Davis		11:30 AM	"	20	" "
Lv Davis		2:07 PM	"	"	" "
Ar Sacramento		2:35 PM	"	"	" "
Lv Sacramento		2:45 PM	"	"	" "
Ar Ogden		12:25 PM	"	"	" 30
Lv Ogden		2:05 PM	Un Pac	"	" "
Ar Omaha		5:40 PM	"	"	" 31
Lv Omaha		6:20 PM	CMS tP&P	"	" "
Ar Chicago		7:40 AM	"	"	June 1
Lv Chicago		10:45 AM	Penma	34	" "
Ar New York		3:35 PM	"	"	" 2
(Penn Station)					

WESTERN MILITARY BUREAU

ROUTE AND SCHEDULE

Billings, Ernest O.
Pvt.

EUROPEAN PILGRIMAGE SAILING FROM NEW YORK CITY June 4, 1930

Yolo County, State of California

Name Billings, Mrs Edith

Address 429 West Street, Woodland, California (F-4)

Route going: Sou Pac Ogden, Un Pac Omaha, CMStP&P Chicago, Penna New York

Return: Same route

		ROAD	TRAIN	TIME	DATE
Itinerary going	✓Lv Woodland	So Pac	47	10:42 AM	May 29
	✓Ar Davis	"	"	11:30 AM	" "
	✓Lv "	"	20	*2:07 PM	" "
	Ar Ogden	"	"	12:25 PM	" 30
	Lv "	Un Pac	"	2:05 PM	" "
	Ar Omaha	"	"	5:40 PM	" 31
	Lv "	C&NW	"	6:20 PM	" "
	✓Ar Chicago	"	"	7:40 AM	June 1
	✓Lv "	Penna	34	10:45 AM	" "
	✓Ar New York	"	"	3:35 PM	" 2
	Lv (Penna Sta)				
	Ar				
	Lv				
	Ar				
	Lv				
Ar *- Special stop					
Lv					
Ar					
Lv					
Ar					

Accommodations: Coach Woodland to Davis, standard sleeper Davis to Chicago and Chicago to New York

Elapsed Time: 97 hours 53 minutes *4/4*

Extra Fare:

Billings, Ernest O. 1232 N

May 20, 1930

Mrs. Edith Billings
429 West Street
Woodland, California

Dear Madam:

Arrangements have been completed for your transportation to New York City on your pilgrimage to the American Cemeteries in Europe. One week before your departure the railroad ticket agent, of the first road shown below, will deliver your railroad and pullman ticket to you. Your route to New York will be as follows:

Lv. Woodland	So Pac	No. 47	10:42 AM	May 29
Ar. Davis	" "	" "	11:30 AM	29
Lv. Davis	" "	" 20	2:07 PM	29
			(Special Stop)	
Ar. Chicago	GNW	" "	7:40 AM	June 1
Lv. Chicago	Penna	" 34	10:45 AM	1
Ar. New York	" "	" "	3:35 PM	2
	(Penna Sta)			

All railroad employees have been instructed by their officials to see that you are shown every courtesy and given assistance, particularly at points where it is necessary to change cars.

Should you not receive your ticket six days before the date shown for your departure please take up at once with the ticket agent and if he does not have your ticket, telegraph this office, collect, to that effect.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

9 56-c

America 6/4/30
RETURN RECEIPT

1232

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

Mrs. Edith Bellings

(Signature or name of addressee.)

(Signature of addressee's agent.)

MAY 24 1930

Date of delivery, _____, 192

Post Office Department

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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

REGISTERED ARTICLE

No. 926190

INSURED PARCEL

No. _____



Return to Q. M. GENERAL

(NAME OF SENDER)

Street and Number,
or Post Office Box,

MUNITIONS BUILDING

WASHINGTON,

D. C.

956

RECEIPT
America 6/4/30 232

Received from the Post Office for the Registered or Insured Article, the original number of which appears on the back of this Card.

with Billings
Signature or name of addressee.)

Signature of addressee's agent.)

Date of delivery, 5, 1920

Form 3811

© 2-6116

Post Office Department

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

REGISTERED ARTICLE

No.

92764

INSURED PARCEL

No.

Return to

Q. M. WATSON

Street and Number,
or Post Office Box,

SENDER

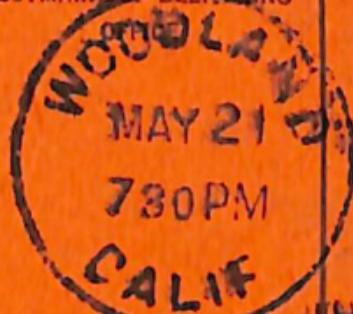
WATSONS BUILDING

WASHINGTON,

D. C.

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

POSTMARK OF DELIVERING



AND DATE OF DELIVERY

1930

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

May 21, 1930.

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Billings, Ernest O. -1232 M

Mrs. Edith Billings,
429 West Street,
Woodland, California.

Dear Madam:

There is enclosed herewith Check No. 316508 in the amount of \$ 42.50 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 7, 1930.

Billings, Ernest O. 1232

Mrs. Edith Billings,
429 West St.,
Woodland, 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

Billings, Ernest O. 1232-M

March 20, 1930

Mrs. Edith Billings,
429 West Street,
Woodland, 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.

America

6-4-30

1232

Billings, Ernest ©

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. Edith Billings

(Name)

429 West St., Woodland, Yolo Co., California

(Town or City)

(State)

1232
WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C
Billings, Ernest O.

October 28, 1929.

Mrs. Edith Billings,
429 West Street,
Woodland, Calif.

Dear Madam:

It is noted on the questionnaire of October 7, 1929, which you returned in connection with the pilgrimage authorized by Congress in the Act of March 2, 1929, that you have already visited the grave of your son, the late Private Ernest O. Billings, Company K, 363rd Infantry, whose remains are interred in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, France.

Section 2 (b) of the Act states that no mother or widow who has previous to the pilgrimage visited the cemeteries in Europe is entitled to make this pilgrimage. It has been held that the obvious purpose of this Section is to exclude those who have previously visited these cemeteries, regardless of the condition of the cemetery at the time of the visit or the fact that the body was not buried in its permanent location at that time. It is therefore regretted to have to advise that as you have made a previous visit to the grave of your son, you are not entitled under the law to make this pilgrimage.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

Woodland, Nov 5th 1929.

If I answered that I have visited the grave of my son I made a mistake for I have never visited his grave.

Very truly yours,

Mrs Edith Billings.



WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

October 7, 1929.

Billings, Ernest O. 1232 M

Mrs. Edith Billings,
429 West Street,
Woodland, California.

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 <u>62</u> Health (Years) (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
JOHN T. HARRIS,
Major, Q. M. Corps,
Assistant.

Encl.
Act
Envelope

FULL NAME BILLINGS, Ernest O. ✓

RANK Pvt. ✓ SERIAL 2781586 ✓

DIVISION & ORGANIZATION Co. K, 363rd Inf. ✓

DATE OF DEATH 9-29-18 ✓
DIV-91

STATE FROM WHICH HE CAME *California* ✓

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS AWARDED. *none* ✓

FINAL GRAVE LOCATION. 10-20-21 10 28 F
Date Grave Row Block

Robert C. Davis,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.
By *RVC*

1232 - Meuse-Argonne
Cemetery

AUG 16 1926

Rec'd World War Div.]
3 APR 4 1928
23/306/ARK

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

*AD C
4-11-28*

October 18, 1923.

Mrs. Rose Billings,
Gold Hill,
Ore.

Dear Madam:

The Quartermaster General desires you to be informed that the permanent grave of Private Ernest O. Billings, Company E, 363rd Infantry, is Grave 10, Row 28, Block F, 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,

O.Q.M.G.
Central Mail & Files Bld



R. L. FOSTER
Assistant.

RD

~~RD~~

OCT 18 1923
H.A.

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

File 30457

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

(a) Name BILLINGS, Ernest O. Ser. No. 2781586
(b) Rank Pvt. Organization Co. K, 363rd Inf.
(c) Date of death 9-29-18 (d) Cause of death k/a
TYP. b
CKR. 30

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

(a) Grave No. 120 Row - Plot 3 Sec. 102 TYP. b
(b) Emerg. Address Mrs. Rose Billings (wife) Gold Hill, Ore.

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

IV. A. G. O. DISPOSITION CARD: no card in file - BBR - 5-23-21 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, 192

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

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

Examiner's Initials Date, 192

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

no request for disposition

(a) Cancellation memos referred to?

Examiner's Initials BBR Date 5-23-1921

COUNTRY FRANCE CEMETERY No. 1232-Sec. 102 SHEET No. 13

JUN 11 1921

H-5

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

Typed by _____, Checked by _____, 192

VIII. FINAL ACTION:

Following advice forwarded to Europe by { cable on _____, 192
letter on JUN 6 1921, 192

Section 102

Par. 2 Not To Be Returned (JEN)

IX.

REMARKS

Area with horizontal dashed lines for writing remarks.

WRITE NOTHING BELOW THIS LINE.

To be prepared in triplicate.

Romagne s/s Montfaucon

DATE

Sept. 10. 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 Billings, Ernest O
2. No. 2781586
3. Rank Pvt.
4. Org. Co. K 363rd Inf.
5. D.D. 9-29-18
6. C.D. KIA

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

Discrepancy found upon disinterment

7. Grave No. 120 Sec. 102
8. Plot 3 Row
9.

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

18. Cemetery Argonne Amer.

19. Commune or town no discrep. Romagne-sous-Montfaucon
21. Country France

20. Dept. or County Meuse

22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. 1232 - Sec. 102

23. Disinterred (Date) Sept. 10. 1921

By H.H. Foster

24. Inscription on grave marker:

Name Billings, Ernest O.
Rank Pvt.

Serial No. 2781586
Organization Co. K. 363rd. Inf.

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

Signature Junior Technical Assistant

PREPARATION

26. What other means of identification were on body? (If no disc or other means of identification on body, give description of body in detail).

27. Condition of body "Co. K. 363rd. Inf." Collar ornament on uniform.

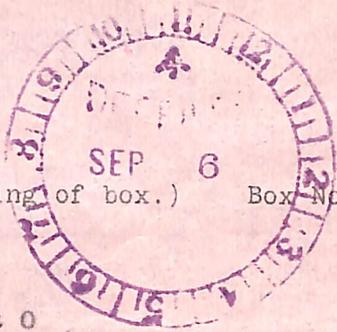
28. Nature of burial Badly decomposed, Unrecognizable.

29. Any discrepancy noted upon examination of body, as compared with G.R.S. records quoted above? Pine box, uniform & burlap.

30. Body prepared and placed in casket: Date Sept. 10. 1921 By H.H. Foster

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

AUDITED BY 12/5/40



SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. G-5600

32. Designation of body:

Name Billings, Ernest O Serial No. 2781586

Rank Pvt. Organization Co. K 363rd Inf

33. Consigned to:

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

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) Sept. 10. 1921 By H.H. Foster

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

Signature of G.R.S. Inspector R.C. Worthington

36. Remarks H.H. Foster / R.C. Worthington. 1st. Lt.

37. Shipped from point of Operation: (Date) Sept. 10. 1921

To point of Concentration Morgue Cem. #1232. (Name)

Convoyer _____ Signature Shipping Officer J. Gerald Cole

38. Received at Railhead or Point of Concentration: Date _____ J. GERALD COLE
By G.R.S. Representative _____ Captain, G.A.C.

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

To Permanent Cemetery _____ (Name)

Convoyer _____ Signature Shipping Officer _____

40. Received: Date Sept 10, 1921

G.R.S. Representative Alfred J. M... Morgue Supt

41. Reinterred Meuse Argonne Cemetery # 1232 Oct 20th 1921
(Date)

42. Grave No. 10 Section _____

43. ~~Plot~~ block F Row 28

G.R.S. Representative James W. Younger
James W. Younger, Capt QMC
jt.

Place Romagne Sous Montfaucon

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date Sept, 10, 1921.

1. REMAINS OF BILLINGS, ERNEST O. SERIAL NUMBER 2781586

RANK Pvt. ORGANIZATION Co., K. 363 rd. Inf.

2. Disinterred (date): Sept. 10, 1921. From (give complete location):
Gr. 120 Sec. 102, pt 3, Meuse-Argonne Cem., #1232.

By: Group Foster Unit Sec. 1

3. Reburied (date): Oct. 20th 1921 In (give complete location):
Meuse Argonne Cemetery # 1232 gr 10 block F row 28

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:

vine box, U. S. uniform and burles and blanket.
Decomposed features unrecognizable.

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

Tag on body reads: "Ernest Owe - - - - 781586."

(b) Other means of identification found upon disinterment, and general remarks:
Co., K. 363rd Inf. Collar ornament on uniform.

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

(a) Height (actual measurement) 5 ft. 9 in.

(b) Weight (estimated) 160 lbs.

(c) Hair—Color None

Quantity None

Characteristics None

(d) Hair on face—Color None

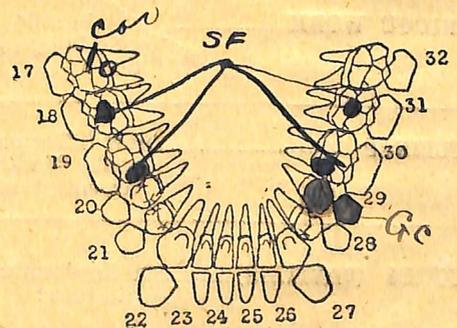
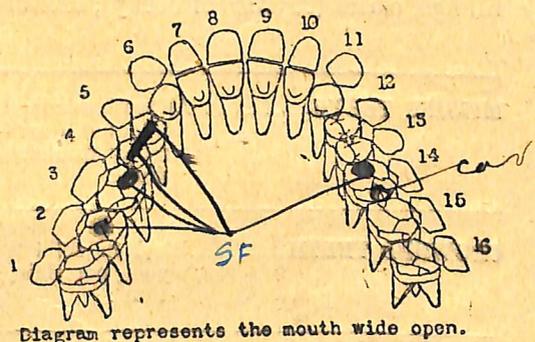
Location None

Quantity None

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

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

None



7. Disinterment supervised by A. N. Foster

Approved: W. M. Worthington
R. (Title) Worthington, 1st Lt.

8. Reburial supervised by A. U. Dufault

Approved: James W. Younger
(Title) James W. Younger, Capt QMC.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PROPER COMPLETION OF G. R. S. FORM NO. 16-A

Enter information, as noted below, on reverse side of sheet in the *corresponding numbered space*. This form is supplemental to and is to be forwarded with G. R. S. Form 1-a, reporting reburial locations. To be used in answer to Question 26, Form 114, in case no means of identification on body.

1. Show soldier's name, serial number, rank and organization, and by whom disinterred and reburied.
2. Give date and accurate information as to location from which the body was disinterred and the group and unit which made disinterment.
3. Give date and accurate information as to location of reburial and the group and unit which made reburial, and how reburial was made—in casket, wooden box, etc.
4. State to what degree decomposition has progressed, whether recognition is possible, and how the body was originally buried—in a casket, box, burlap, etc. This statement should be as complete as possible.
5. (a) State whether identification tags were found buried with body and on grave marker by reporting "Yes" or "No".
 (b) State whether or not body appears to have been a hospital case. Were any identifying articles found in or on body or grave? List any personal effects, letters, money-order receipts, and the like found on body or in grave. Give any and all information which it is thought might be of use in identifying the body, other than that tabulated under Item No. 6.

6. Give all information as to body description and dental chart as nearly correctly as the condition of the body will allow. Items (e) and (f) under the body description are very important and should be very complete. The dental chart is also very important and should be filled in with great care. There are 32 teeth to be accounted for, as shown by the numbers on the chart. Beginning at the middle line in both upper and lower jaws, the teeth are arranged symmetrically on either side and classed as incisors (cutting teeth), cuspids or canines (tearing teeth), bicuspids (chewing teeth), and molars (principal chewing teeth). An examination should be made and findings charted to cover the following basic conditions: Lost teeth, crowned teeth, bridge work, fillings, caries (cavities of decay), dentures (plates), and any deformity of jaws found.

<p>MISSING TEETH.....All teeth missing through previous extraction (not those fractured or displaced by recent wounds) should be scratched out, thus :</p>	
<p>CROWNED TEETH.....Block in solid the crown of tooth (label gold, porcelain, or gold and porcelain), thus :</p>	
<p>BRIDGE WORK.....Block in solid the crown of tooth (label gold bridge, gold and porcelain bridge), thus :</p>	
<p>FILLINGS.....Draw filling on tooth accurately as possible (block in and label gold, silver, cement), thus :</p>	
<p>CARIES (CAVITIES).....Outline location and size of cavity, shade in thus :</p>	
<p>DENTURES (PLATES).....Draw diagram of relative size and shape of plate, block in teeth attached and indicate retaining clasps on natural teeth with the word "clasp."</p>	

7. Show name of person supervising the disinterment and the name and title of the person approving same.

8. Show name of person supervising the reburial and the name and title of the person approving same.



COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

File 30457

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

(a) Name BILLINGS, Ernest O. Ser. No. 2781586
(b) Rank Pvt. Organization Co. K, 363rd Inf.
(c) Date of death 9-29-18 (d) Cause of death k/a
TYP. b

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

(a) Grave No. 120 Row - Plot 3 Sec. 102 TYP. b
(b) Emerg. Address Mrs. Rose Billings (wife) Gold Hill, Ore.

III. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases / / / CKR. (signature)

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

V. Following advice forwarded to Europe by { cable on ..., 192
letter of transmittal on JUN 6 1921, 192
Par. 2 Not To Be Returned (GEN)

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

VII. SUPPLEMENTARY REQUESTS.

Table with 4 columns: 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.

5558
3
91st Division

Billings, Ernest O. - Pvt 2781586
Home : Goldhill, Ore.

The Informant is an eye witness .His statement is as follows:
I personally saw Pvt Ernest O.Billings killed in action by concus-
sion from high explosive shell .He died instantly and did not suffer .I
do not know the location of his grave .He was killed in trench in woods
about one-half kilometer north-west of Exmoreux Farm, near Eclisfontaine,
France, on Sept.29th 1918, about 4.30 p .m.

Pvt Billings' Christian name is Ernest .

There is no other man by the same name as casualty in this
company .

In my opinion, the statement of Sgt Carol Walker is to be relied
upon .

Informant : Walker, Carol - Sgt.2264876
Co K 363rd Inf.
Home : Healdsburg, Calif.
Searcher : R.W.Wheeler, Capt.363rd Inf.

A/A/

RECEIVED
RED CROSS (PARIS)

30457

G.R.S. American.. No, 2781586.

Name...BILLINGS...ERNEST...O.....

Rank..

Date of Death.....

Date of Burial.....

Town...GESNES...Dept... ARDENNES..

Grave No..2. Isolated.....

Cemetery...American.....

Tag on Marker?...Yes.....

Sketch No..167..McClure.....

Map..35 S.E. 280.4 N X 304.8 E.
2 kilo. S.W. Gesnes,
1 Kilo.S.E.Gesnes-Exermont road.
300 M.S.E. Tirencot Fme. 10 M.N.of forest

2009

0-209387.35 N.E. 000RU
Evermont Ardenness
1E 304.65
1N 280.3

PBsk
2062

Rvt. Eddie Allen.

Group..3.. Unit 306.

30457

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Billings 2781586 Earnest O.

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

K. 363 Inf.

(Rank). (Organization).

PLACE OF DEATH:

CAUSE OF DEATH:

DATE OF BURIAL:

PLACE OF BURIAL: Near Tronsol Farm

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

1/2 KM.S.E.Tronsol Farm

GRAVE NUMBER:

HOW MARKED: Name Peg? Cross? Yes

Headboard? Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body?

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

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

NEAREST RELATIVE:

ADDRESS:

RELATIONSHIP:

VIEWED BY

REPORTED BY:

C.A. Rexroad Divisional Burial Office
(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer).

30457
GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Billings (2787586) **Ernest Owen**
(Surname). (Number). (First Name and Initials).

Private

(Rank).

Unknown

(Organization).

PLACE OF DEATH: **Near Eclisfontaine**
Dept. of Meuse.

CAUSE OF DEATH: **Killed in action.**

DATE OF BURIAL: **October 20 1918.**

PLACE OF BURIAL: **Near Eclisfontaine**
Dept of Meuse.

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

CMME. Epinonville (Meuse)

(208) SIT 35th COORD E-306

M. 279

GRAVE NUMBER: **approximate**

HOW MARKED: Name Peg? Cross? **Yes**

Headboard? Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS: **Yes**

Was one buried with body? **Yes**

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

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

NEAREST RELATIVE:

ADDRESS:

RELATIONSHIP:

REPORTED BY:

Chaplain Henry A. Norman

(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer).

Chaplain 59th Art CAC.



Communal List No. 708-875
Daily Report No. _____

Date June 26th 1919.

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL:

Remains of:

Name BILLINGS, Ernest O.

Number: 2781586

Rank Unkn organization: Unkn

Disinterment and Reburial made by Group: _____ Unit: _____

Disinterred (Date) _____ From: (Give complete location) _____

11th June 1919. Grave ISOLATED EXERLONT ARDENNES

Map 35 NE E 303. N 280.

Reburied (Date) _____ in: (Give complete location) _____

11th June 1919. Grave #120, Sec. 102, plot 3.

ARGONNE AMERICAN CEMETERY No. 1232

ROMAGNE MEUSE

1232

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

Burial good Buried in uniform Body badly decomposed

Was one identification tag found upon the body? No

What other means of identification were found upon the body?

Collar ornaments Co K, 363 Inf.

12074

Note:

CONFIRMED No. D

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

Supervised by Lt. Wilson

R. H. ROSENTHAL

H.O'K

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

C.O.Group _____ Unit _____

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Billings (2787586) Ernest Owen
(Surname) (Number) (First Name and Initials)

Private Unknown
(Rank) (Organization)

PLACE OF DEATH: Near Eclisfontaine
Dept of Meuse

CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in action

DATE OF BURIAL: October 20 1918

PLACE OF BURIAL: Near Eclisfontaine
Dept of Meuse

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

GRAVE NUMBER:

HOW MARKED: Name Peg? Cross? Yes

Headboard? Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body? Yes

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

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

NEAREST RELATIVE:

ADDRESS:

RELATIONSHIP:

REPORTED BY:

Chaplain Henry A. Norman
(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer)
59th Art. CAC.

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

A. Rexroad Divisional Burial Officer
(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer)

This portion to be forwarded to Central Records Office, A. G. O., A. E. F.

INGS, Ernest O. - Bvt 2781586
Home: Goldhill, Ore.

ness. His statement is as follows:
Billings killed in action by concus-
sion instantly and did not suffer. I
He was killed in trench in woods
at Exmoreux Farm, near Eclisfontaine,
France.

is Ernest.
same name as casualty in this

of Sgt Carol Walker is to be relied

Carol - Sgt. 2264876
K 363rd Inf.
g, Calif.

er, Capt. 363rd Inf.

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

?

Billings / 2781586 Earnest O.

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

K. 363 Inf.

(Rank). (Organization)

PLACE OF DEATH:

CAUSE OF DEATH:

DATE OF BURIAL:

PLACE OF BURIAL: .. Near Tronsol Farm

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

1/2 KM.S.E.Tronsol Farm

GRAVE NUMBER:

HOW MARKED: Name Peg?.....Cross? Yes

Headboard?..... Bottle?.....

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body?.....

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

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

NEAREST RELATIVE:

ADDRESS:

RELATIONSHIP:

VIEWED BY
REPORTED BY:

A. Roxroad Divisional Burial Office
(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer).

This portion to be forwarded to Central Records Office, A. G. O., A. E. F.

INGO, Ernest O. - Dvt 2781586
Home : Goldhill, Ore.

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llings killed in action by concus-
instantly and did not suffer .I
He was killed in trench in woods
Exmoreux Farm, near Helisfontaine,
m.
is Ernest .
same name as casualty in this

of Sgt Carol Walker is to be relied

rol - Sgt.2264876
K 363rd Inf.
g, Calif.

er, Capt.363rd Inf.

Co K 363rd Inf.
91st Division

BILLINGS, Ernest O. - Pvt 2781586
Home : Goldhill, Ore.

The Informant is an eye witness .His statement is as follows:
I personally saw Pvt Ernest O. Billings killed in action by concus-
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do not know the location of his grave .He was killed in trench in woods
about one-half kilometer north-west of Exmoreux Farm, near Helisfontaine,
France, on Sept. 29th 1918, about 4.30 p .m.

Pvt Billings' Christian name is Ernest .

There is no other man by the same name as casualty in this
company .

In my opinion, the statement of Sgt Carol Walker is to be relied
upon .

Informant : Walker, Carol - Sgt. 2264876

Co K 363rd Inf.

Home : Healdsburg, Calif.

Searcher : R.W. Wheeler, Capt. 363rd Inf.

A/A/