

JUN 1-1921

8585

131

1. NAME BIRKLAND, Walter B.

DATE Oct. 7, 1921.

SERIAL No. 142950

RANK

Pvt. 1/c.

ORGANIZATION

Batt. F, 149th F.A.

& DIVISION

GRAVE LOCATION Argonne Amer. Romagne-sous-Montfaucon #1232 Sect. 82

CTY. NAME

183

NUMBER

183

Sect. 82

4

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

2. ORIGINAL BATTLE AREA GRAVE LOCATION Isolated Very,

Meuse

C-225

GRAVE

COMMUNE

DEPT.

COORDINATES Verdun 35 SE. 274.3 N 307.5 E

CONCENTRATED TO 6/13/19

183

Sec 82

4

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

Meuse Argonne Cemetery

1232

CEMETERY

CTY. NUMBER

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

Tag on peg over body, 1/c Pvt. chevrons on sleeve.

DATE OF DEATH Oct. 11, 1918

data form f-1.

SUBSEQUENT REBURIALS

STATE FROM WHICH HE CAME

800

CEMETERY

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS AWARDED

wk

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

CEMETERY

M. B. BIRDSEYE

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

SIGNATURE, AREA SUPERVISOR

M. B. Birdseye

3. FINAL GRAVE LOCATION Oct. 7, 1921.

.25

31

E

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

BLOCK PLOT

Robert C. Davis

Major General

Commander-in-Chief

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

AUDITED BY
1924-1928

W. C. B.

JUN 8 1921
WORLD WAR DIV.
2 APR 2 1928

CEMETERY

18

JUN 10 1921

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Birkland 142950 Walter B

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

Cpl P.C. Bat 7. 149 P.A.

(Rank.) (Organization.)

DATE OF BURIAL Oct 12 - 1918.

PLACE OF BURIAL

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

Grave enclosed.

10 GR.S.

GRAVE NUMBER

HOW MARKED: Name Peg? Cross? ✓

Headboard? Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body? No - medical record.

Was one fastened to name peg or
stake used as a grave marker? 410.

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

Land, f Walter B. - Pvt. 142950
Home: 9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

P
shel
Oct.
woun
admin
a Me
with
this

a fragment from an enemy
llois, France, about 6 P.M.
rough his side and stomach,
in an hour. First aid was
to a dressing station where
in the best possible care, but
the next day by members of
large.

REPORTED BY:

John Cullen Chaplin 14986

(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer.)

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

Johnston, Paul E - 1st Sgt. 142909
Co. F, 149th P.A.
Milton, Ill.

By Informant

Emergency Address:
W. S. Birkland,
9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

Co. F, 149th F. A.
42nd Div.

Birkland, / Walter B. - Pvt. 142950
Home: 9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

Pvt. Walter B. Birkland was struck by a fragment from an enemy shell, at the battery position near Nantillois, France, about 6 P.M. Oct. 11th, 1918. The fragment passed through his side and stomach, wounding him so severely that he died within an hour. First aid was administered at once and he was then taken to a dressing station where a Medicak Officer of this regiment gave him the best possible care, but without results. This soldier was buried the next day by members of this battery, with Chaplain McCallum in charge.

Informant: Johnston, Paul E - 1st Sgt. 142909
Co. F, 149th F.A.
Home: Milton, Ill.

Signed: By Informant

Emergency Address:
W. S. Birkland,
9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

Date June 26th, 1919.REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL.

Remains of:

Name BIRKLAND, Walter B.Number: 142950Rank: Pvt 1/cOrganization: Co F. 149 F.A.Disinterment and Reburial made by Group UnitDisinterred (Date) From: (Give complete location)13th June 1919.Grave ISOLATED VERY MEUSEMap 35 SE B 307.5 N 274.5Reburied (Date) in: (Give complete location)13th June 1919.Grave #183, Sec. 82, Plot 4.1232ARGONNE AMERICAN CEM. NO. 1232ROMAGNE MEUSE

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

Burial good Buried in uniform Body badly decomposedWas one identification tag found upon the body? NO

What other means of identification were found upon the body?

Hospital slip12041CONFIRMED No. D.....

Note:

If upon disinterment, effects are found upon the bodies, they will be promptly sent to the Effects Depot direct, as is required by G. O. 170, C. 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. HughesHO'KR. H. ROSENTHAL2nd Lieut. Q.M.C.S.C.O. GroupUnit

CODE SLIP

HEADING	SUB-HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE
NAME	Birkland Bir	3	298
Walter B	CEMETERY 1232	1	1
BURIED	GRAVE 25	2	25
	ROW 31	2	31
	BLOCK E.	1	5
STATE	Ill	2	13
RANK	Port. 1c	1	2
DIVISION	42	2	42
ORGANIZATION	149	3	149
ARM	7a	1	3
MARTIAL	No	1	2
NAME	Birkland	3	298
Mrs. N. S.	STATE Ill	2	13
RESIDENCE	COUNTY Cook	2	16
9220 Pleasant Ave	CITY Chicago	3	028
RELATION	Mother	1	1
OTHER		1	
ELIGIBILITY	yes	1	1
NATIVITY		1	
RACE		1	
ENGLISH		1	
ATTENDANT		1	
HEALTH	Bad	1	2
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF	MO.	1	
TRIP	YR.	1	
ACCEPTANCE 29/514/PJ.	No age	1	62

AUDITED
DEC 14 1981
(P.M.)

IMMEDIATE ACTION

IN REPLY
REFER TO

QM 293 A-M

Birkland, Walter B. (MA)

WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE QUARtermaster GENERAL
WASHINGTON

October 12, 1932.

Mrs. N. S. Birkland,
9220 Pleasant Avenue
Chicago, Ill.

SPECIAL

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.

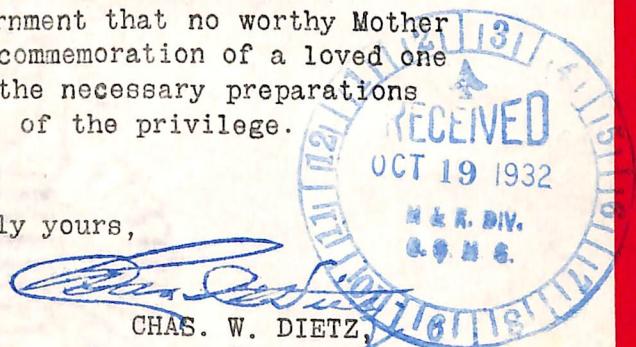
Will you please devote a few moments of your time to write either the word "YES" or "NO" in the following space NO, thus indicating whether or not you desire to make the pilgrimage during 1933 and sign your name here Mrs N S Birkland. Use the enclosed envelope, which requires no postage, and return this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

My health will not permit taking this trip. Very truly yours,

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



WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Birkland, Walter B. (MA)

Oct. 1, 1932.

Mr. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

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

Birkland Walter B (MA)

July 7 1932

Mrs Anna M Birkland
9220 Pleasant Ave
Chicago Ill

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

August 14, 1931

Birkland, Walter E. Pvt.-Iol. (MA) M

Mrs. N. B. Birkland,
9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your reply to form letter forwarded you under recent date relative to the pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe, wherein you advise that your health will not permit you to make a pilgrimage during the year 1932.

Competent personnel will be provided to care for the mothers and widows from the time of their arrival in New York until their return thereto. Medical attendants and all other necessities will be arranged for and in the event you decide to make a pilgrimage, you are assured everything possible will be done for your care and welfare. During the summers of 1930 and 1931 many mothers of advanced age and in poor health made the pilgrimage and appear to have benefited therefrom.

Your name is being placed on the list of mothers and widows who are eligible to make a pilgrimage in 1933. However, should you change your mind in view of the above, and desire to make a pilgrimage during the summer months of 1932, it is requested you advise this office in order that arrangements may be made for you.

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-M
Birkland, Walter B. Pvt. 1 cl (M-A) M

June 11, 1931.

Anna M.
Mrs. N. S. Birkland,
9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

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

*On account of poor health I will not
be able to make pilgrimage*
Anna M. Birkland
Sign here

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Birkland, Walter B. Pvt.lcl. 1232-M

April 4, 1931.

Mrs. N. S. Birkland,
9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Madam:

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 mother 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 this pilgrimage?
2. Do you desire to make the pilgrimage 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?

*On account of
poor health will
be unable to make
trip - Mrs. N. S. Birkland*

Age 62 yrs
Condition of Health

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,



Enclosures:
Envelope
Act
Amendment

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Birkland, Walter B. 1232 M

June 7, 1930

Mrs. N. S. Birkland
9220 Pleasant Avenue
Chicago, Ill.

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)

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Birkland, Walter B.
1232

September 4, 1929.

Mr. Normal S. Birkland,
9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

Died Jan 21st 1921

Dear Sir:

The records of this office do not indicate that a reply has been received to our communication dated June 29, 1929 making inquiry concerning the name and address of the mother and widow of the deceased service man above named. These addresses are desired with a view to ascertaining the number of mothers and widows who desire to make a pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe in which the remains of their sons and husbands are interred.

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

Write answers in space below

1. Is the deceased survived by a widow who has not since remarried? If so, give her complete address:

No

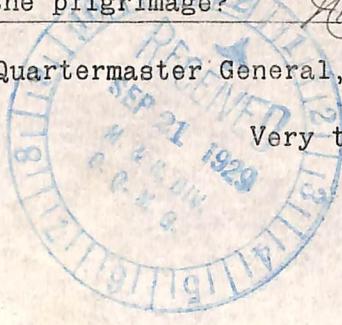
2. If he is survived by a mother, stepmother, mother thru adoption, or any other woman who stood in loco parentis to him, according to the terms of Section 4 of the enclosed Act, give her name, address, and relationship in the space opposite.

Mother

3. If survived by a widow or mother does she desire to make the pilgrimage?

*Mrs H S Birkland
9220 Pleasant Ave
Chicago, Ill
I do not wish to make
the pilgrimage*

For The Quartermaster General,



Very truly yours,

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

2 Incls.
Act of Congress
Envelope

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

(Birkland, Walter B.)

June 29 1929.

Mr. Normal S. Birkland,
9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:

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

The records of this office show that you are the father of the late Private 1st class Walter B. Birkland, Bat. F, 149th F.A. whose remains are now interred in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon Meuse, France.

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

2 incls.

Act of Congress.
Envelope.

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

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Sept. 6, 1932.

Birkland, Walter B. (MA)

Mr. Walter B. Birkland,
1207 West 111th Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

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,

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

Encl:

Env.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Birkland Walter B (MA)

July 7 1932

Mrs Anna M Birkland
9220 Pleasant Ave
Chicago Ill

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

August 14, 1931

Birkland, Walter B. Pvt. 1cl. (MA) M

Mrs. M. S. Birkland,
9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your reply to form letter forwarded you under recent date relative to the pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe, wherein you advise that your health will not permit you to make a pilgrimage during the year 1932.

Competent personnel will be provided to care for the mothers and widows from the time of their arrival in New York until their return thereto. Medical attendants and all other necessities will be arranged for and in the event you decide to make a pilgrimage, you are assured everything possible will be done for your care and welfare. During the summers of 1930 and 1931 many mothers of advanced age and in poor health made the pilgrimage and appear to have benefited therefrom.

Your name is being placed on the list of mothers and widows who are eligible to make a pilgrimage in 1933. However, should you change your mind in view of the above, and desire to make a pilgrimage during the summer months of 1932, it is requested you advise this office in order that arrangements may be made for you.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

0641

IN REPLY REFER TO OM 203 A-M
Birkland, Walter B. Pvt. 1 cl (M-A) M

June 11, 1931.

11-11-AM
Mrs. H. S. Birkland,
9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

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,
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

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Birkland, Walter B. Pvt. 1cl. 1232-M

April 4, 1931.

Mrs. N. S. Birkland,
9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Madam:

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 ^{of} 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 the} ~~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.

Enclosures:
Envelope
Act
Amendment

20
APR 4 1931
DISPATCHED

QM 293 A-M

October 10, 1930

Birkland, Walter B. Pvt 1 C1 1232 M

Mrs. N. S. Birkland
9220 Pleasant Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

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 ~~widow~~ 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.

Encls:
Act
Amendment
Envelope

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Birkland, Walter B. 1232 M

June 7, 1930

Mrs. W. S. Birkland
9220 Pleasant Avenue
Chicago, Ill.

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)

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

October 7, 1929.

Birkland, Walter B. 1232 M

Mrs. N. S. Birkland,
9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.
Act
Envelope

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Birkland, Walter B.
1232

September 4, 1929.

Mr. Normal S. Birkland,
9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:

The records of this office do not indicate that a reply has been received to our communication dated June 29, 1929 making inquiry concerning the name and address of the mother and widow of the deceased service man above named. These addresses are desired with a view to ascertaining the number of mothers and widows who desire to make a pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe in which the remains of their sons and husbands are interred.

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

Write answers in space below

1. Is the deceased survived by a widow who has not since remarried? If so, give her complete address:

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

3. If survived by a widow or mother does she desire to make the pilgrimage?

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

2 Incls.
Act of Congress
Envelope

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

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

(Birkland, Walter B.)

June 29 1929.

Mr. Normal S. Birkland,
9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:

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

The records of this office show that you are the father of the late Private 1st class Walter B. Birkland, Bat. F, 149th F.A. whose remains are now interred in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon Meuse, France.

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

2 incs.

Act of Congress.
Envelope.

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

Birkland

(Surname.)

Walter B

(Christian name in full.)

142,950

(Army serial number.)

Pvt. 1st Cl.

Army F. 149th F. A.

(Rank and organization.)

State your relationship to the deceased.

Father

Do you desire the remains brought to the United States?

No
(Yes or no.)

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

{ (Yes or no.)

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

(Name of person to receive remain's.)

(Express office.)

(Telegraph office.)

(Number and street.)

(City or town.)

(State.)

Norman S. Birkland
(Sign here)

9220

Pleasant

Chicago

Ills

(Number and street or rural route.)

(City, town, or post office.)

(State.)

Read carefully the letter accompanying this card.

3-6713

chicked 201

5-3-21

Drawn by J.L.
1232-Seg. 82-13
5-3-21

In reply refer to:

QM - 293 C-R

September 22, 1923.

Mr. Norman S. Birkland,
9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir: The Quartermaster General desires that you be informed that the permanent grave of

Private, First Class, Walter B. Birkland, Battery F, 149th Field Artillery, is Grave 25, Row 31, Block E, 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 headstone of white marble, of suitable design, with name, rank, division, organization, date of soldier's death and State from which he came. The headstones will be placed at all graves in connection with the improvement work now in progress, as soon as possible and without waiting for special action or request on the part of relatives.

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

Very truly yours,

H. H. CHEAL

H. J. Conner,
Assistant.



RD
23/494/17C

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA
File No. 36914

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

(a) Name <u>BIRKLAND, Walter B.</u>	Ser. No. <u>142950</u>	TYP. <u>msc</u> CKR. <u>13.7</u>
(b) Rank <u>Pvt. 1/c</u>	Organization <u>Bat. F, 149th F.A.</u>	
(c) Date of death <u>10/11/18</u>	(d) Cause of death <u>k/a</u>	

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

(a) Grave No. 183 Row -- Plot 4 Sec. 82 TYP. msc

(b) Emerg. Address Norman S. Birkland, (Father), 9220 Pleasant Ave., Chicago, Ill.

III. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases CKR. 13.7

IV. A. G. O. DISPOSITION CARD:

Date of receipt None

(a) Name Norman S. Birkland (b) Relationship Father

(c) Address 9220 Pleasant Ave., Chicago, Ill.

(d) Remains to be brought to U. S. No

(e) To be interred in National Cemetery in U. S. at _____

(f) Shipping instructions upon arrival of body in U. S. _____

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

Examiner's Initials R. L. Date 5-3-21, 1920.

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

, dated _____

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

Examiner's Initials _____ Date _____, 1920.

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

No request for disposition

(a) Cancellation memos referred to? Yes! R. L.

Examiner's Initials R. L. Date 5-3-21, 1920.

COUNTRY FRANCE

CEMETERY No. 1232, Sec. 82, SHEET No. 13

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

Typed by _____, Checked by _____, _____, 1920.

VIII. FINAL ACTION:

Following advice forwarded to Europe by { cable on _____, 1920
letter on **MAY 12 1921**, 1920

Sec 82

PARAGRAPH 2 - NOT TO BE RETURNED

(H.A.S.)

IX.

CORRECTIONS

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

X. SUSPENSION REMARKS: -

To be prepared in triplicate.

DATE Oct. 6, 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	BIRKLAND, Walter B.	10. Name	
2. No.	142950	11. No.	
3. Rank	Pvt. 1/cl.	12. Rank	
4. Org.	Bat. F. 149th F.A.	13. Org.	
5. D.D.	10-11-18	14. (a) D.D.	
6. C.D.	KIA	(b) D.B.	No discrepancies.

Discrepancy found upon disinterment

7. Grave No.	183	Sec.	82	15. Grave No.		Sec.
8. Plot	4	Row		16. Plot		Row
9.				17.	No discrepancies.	

18. Cemetery	Argonne Amer.	19. Commune or town	Romagne-sous-Montfaucon
20. Dept. or County	Meuse	21. Country	France
22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No.	1232 Sect. 82		
23. Disinterred (Date)	Oct. 6, 1921.	By	H. E. Strong.
24. Inscription on grave marker:			

Name	Walter B. Birkland	Serial No.	---
Rank	Pvt 1/cl	Organization	Bat F, 149th F.A.

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

W. D. Wilson
Signature Junior Technical Assistant
W. D. Wilson.

wk
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).

Tag on peg over body agrees with GRS records and is attached to body.
1/cl privates chevrons on sleeve.

27. Condition of body Badly decomposed; features unrecognizable.

28. Nature of burial Pine box, uniform and burlap.

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

30. Body prepared and placed in casket: Date Oct. 6, 1921 By H.E. Strong.

31. Casket sealed by H. E. Strong *H. E. Strong*

SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. C-6114

32. Designation of body:

Name BIRKLAND, Walter B. Serial No. 142950

Rank Pvt. 1/c1. Organization Batt. F, 149th F.A.

33. Consigned to:

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

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) Oct. 6, 1921. By H. E. Strong.

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

Geo. C. Bland
Signature of G.R.S. Inspector Geo. C. Bland, 1st Lieut. QMC.

36. Remarks None

37. Shipped from point of Operation: (Date) October 6th, 1921. d

To point of Concentration Morgue, Romagne.

(Name)

Convoyer W. J. Royed. Signature Shipping Officer Albert M. Jackson
Captain, C.A.C.

38. Received at Railhead or Point of Concentration: Date

By G.R.S. Representative

39. Shipped from Railhead or Point of Concentration: Date

To Permanent Cemetery

(Name)

Convoyer Signature Shipping Officer

40. Received: Date

G.R.S. Representative

41. Reinterred MeuseArgonne Cemetery # 1232 Oct 7th 1921

(Date)

42. Grave No. Gr 25 block E row 31

Section

43. Plot Row

G.R.S. Representative

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

jjt.



Concentration.

G. R. S. Form. No. 16-A

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Place Romagne 1232.

Date Oct. 6, 1921.

1. REMAINS OF BIRKLAND, Walter B. SERIAL NUMBER 142950

RANK Pvt. 1/c ORGANIZATION Bat. F. 149th Inf F.A.

2. Disinterred (date): From (give complete location):

Oct. 6, 1921 Gr 183, Sec 82, Plot 4.

By : Group 4 Unit Sec 2.

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

Oct. 7th 1921 Meuse Argonne Cemetery # 1232 gr. 25 block E. row 31

By : Group reburial S. Unit Nature of reburial unlined casket

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

wooden box and burlap and uniform, badly decomposed, features not recognizable.

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

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

Tag on peg over body agrees with G.R.S. records and is attached to body. 1/c pvt. chevrons on sleeve. 2, 5, 6, 12, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 29, 31 H.F.

6. What does examination of body show as regards the following identifying items 13, 16, 17, MBD. 15, 19, 32 S.F. 30 G.C. 1

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

(b) Weight (estimated) do

(c) Hair—Color do

Quantity do

Characteristics do

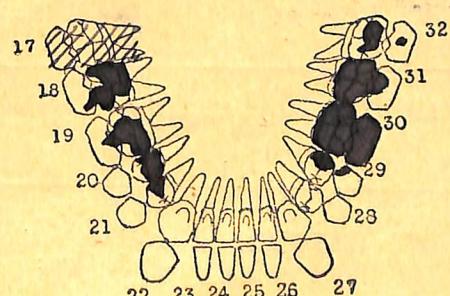
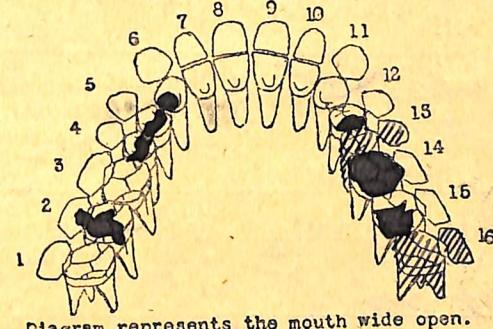
(d) Hair on face—Color do

Location do

Quantity do

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

missing parts) do



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

do

7. Disinterment supervised by

H. E. Strong

H. E. Strong.

Approved Geo. C. Bland 1st Lt. Q.M.C.
(Title)

8. Reburial supervised by

W. B. Sheilds

Approved James W. Younger, Capt Q.M.C.
(Title)

jjt

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA
File No. 36914

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

(a) Name	BIRKLAND, Walter B.	Ser. No.	142950	TYP. msc <i>B. J.</i>
(b) Rank	Pvt. 1/c	Organization	Bat. F, 149th F.A.	
(c) Date of death	10/11/18	(d) Cause of death	k/a	

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

(a) Grave No.	183	Row	--	Plot	4	Sec.	82	TYP. msc
---------------	-----	-----	----	------	---	------	----	----------

(b) Emerg. Address	Norman S. Birkland, (Father), 9220 Pleasant Ave., Chicago, Ill.
--------------------	--

III. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases CKR. *B. J.*

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

V. Following advice forwarded to Europe by 192
Sec 82 cable on _____
letter of transmittal on **MAY 12 1921** 192

PARAGRAPH 2 - NOT TO BE RETURNED (GAS)

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

VII. SUPPLEMENTARY REQUESTS.

Date of and source.	Relationship and name.	Desires.	Action taken.
---------------------	------------------------	----------	---------------

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

COUNTRY **CEMETERY No.** **SHEET No.**

G. R. S. Form 115-A
August, 1920

3-8020

FRANCE

1232, Sec. 82.

13

MAY 18 1921 - aP.

36914

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

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

(Rank.)

(Organization.)

DATE OF BURIAL

Oct 12 - 1918

PLACE OF BURIAL

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



CMME.

C- (SIIT.)

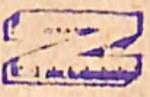
COORD



GRAVE NUMBER

HOW MARKED: Name Peg? Cross?

Headboard?

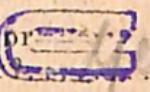
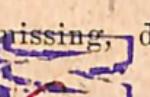
Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:



Was one buried with body?

Medical Officer Card

Was one fastened to name peg or
stake used as a grave marker?If name unknown and tags missing, description and marks
should be given here:

Com. C 225 Very (Muse)

Rgt

Map 35 SE

26 OCT 1918

Rk Sketch #3

REPORTED BY:

(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer.)

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

Flight No. 725-750
Daily Report No. 725-750

36914

1. G. I. Form No. 1. Hq. G. R. File

2. Soldier's No. 142950

3. Birkland Walter B.
Surname, (in block letters) First Name and Initials

4. Private 1st. C. Bat. F. 149 F.A.
Rank Company Regt. or Corps

5. — Date of Death Cause, if known

6. — Isolated Cemetery

7. Cheppy Meuse
Town or Commune (in block letters) Department

8. 1 Plot No. or Letter

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

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

11. If name unknown and tags missing, give marks and description.
30 M W of road leading from
Montfaucon to Avocourt. 2½ K E
of Cheppy
35 SE. 274 N. 307.5 E.

12. Map reference, if interment is outside of cemetery
CMME. Cheppy (Meuse) 1E 307.5
(O-123) SH. 35 S.E. COORW 1N 274

13. Give name of Chaplain or Burial Officer
Signed Pvt. George L. Forrest

RBSK
1587 Sketch #43 Group 5 Unit 306 G. R. S.

Sketch 39.

36914

Isolated Burial

Soldier's No. 142950

Soldier's Name - Birkland Walter B

Rank, Private 1st Cl - Batt F. 149 F. A.

Date of Death, Oct 15, 18

Date of Burial, Oct 15, 18

Cause of Death, Killed in Action

Isolated Grave -

Grave isolated and located about 6 kilos
fr Montfaucon S.W. fr Montfaucon on Cheppy
Road and about 1/4 kilo fr Road and on
Avocourt road, ~~the West~~ of the road after
leaving Cheppy ~~very~~ Road and going toward
Avocourt, about 5 M. fr Road. 274 N by 307 E
Map Verdun S. E. 35

Signed. Pvt Jay Bell, Group 1, GRS 306

CMME. CHEPPY (MEUSE)

(0-123) SHT 35 S.E. COORD { E 307.5

R.B. Standard

1638

/{ N 274.2

AMERICAN

YMCA

ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

January 6 1919.

E-1

15/19

Commanding Officer,
Grave Registration Bureau,
A.P.O. 717, France.

Sir:

It would please me greatly
if you could furnish me with
the information regarding
the location of the grave of
Private Walter B. Birkland,
"F" Battery, 149th Field Artillery,
67th F.A. Brigade, 42nd Division.
He was killed in action or
died of wounds on either
September or October 14th,
1918.

His serial number as I
remember it was #142950.
I am not absolutely certain
of the last number but

the first five (14295?)
are correct.

I am ignorant of the
policy of your service about
giving such indiscriminate
information but I assure
you that, being a lifelong
friend of the deceased, I
seek this information for
the purpose of performing
my duty as a friend and
incidentally of doing a little
service to his family.

If you can comply with
this request a letter addressed
as follows will reach me:

Corporal Frank J. Hartigan,
School of Instruction,
A.P.O. 704, France.

Sincerely

Frank Hartigan

HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE, Q.M.C., IN EUROPE
8, AVENUE D'IENA, PARIS

April 11, 1921

File No.

From: Chief,

To: Quartermaster General, U.S. Army (Cemeterial Division).

Subject: Acknowledgment of Correspondence.

36914 FILE

Receipt this date is acknowledged of the following correspondence from your office:

Letter)

dated: March 26, 1921

1st Indorsement)

File No. 293.8 Cem. Div. -#36914 (Birkland, Walter B.)

Subject: Change of Inscription on Grave Marker

Name: Pvt.1/c1 Walter B. Birkland

H. F. RETHERS,
Colonel, Q.M.C.

DMK.

36914

1st Ind.

File No. 293.8 Cem. Div. - #36914 - (BIRKLAND, Walter B.)

From: Q. M. C., Cemetery Division, March 26, 1921 - To: Chief, American Graves Registration Service, Q.M.C. in Europe #8 Avenue d'Iena, Paris, France.

1. Returned. The records of this office show the correct particulars regarding the soldier whose body is contained in Grave #183, Section #82, Plot #4, Argonne American Cemetery #1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse to be :

Private 1/c1 Walter B. BIRKLAND, #142950,
Battery F, 149th Field Artillery,
Date of Death10/11/18

FILE

and the records of your office should be adjusted accordingly.

2. It is requested that the inscription on the marker erected over this soldier's grave be corrected and photograph taken showing correct inscription.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

Inv. SS
Inv & Adj

BG

H. N. GREELEY,
Captain, Q.M.C., FVW
Executive Officer,
Cemetery Division.

CH

MAILED
MAR 26 1921

Q.R.S.

H E A D Q U A R T E R S
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE, Q.M.C., IN EUROPE
8 Avenue d'Iena, Paris.

February 21, 1921.

FROM: Chief.

TO: Quartermaster General, Munitions Building, WASHINGTON, D.C.

SUBJECT: Additional Information.

1. There is listed below a grave in Cemetery 1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon (Meuse) on which complete information as to Serial Number is not available in these Headquarters:

BIRKLAND, Walter B. Pvt. 1/c. Bat. F., 149th F.A.
Grave 183, Section 62, Plot 4.

2. It is requested that these Headquarters be furnished with such additional information as may be on record in your office on this case in order that our records and the inscription on the cross may be corrected.

MW/mwa.

H. F. RETHERS
Colonel, Q.M.C.



✓

36914
Co. F, 149th F. A.
42nd Div.

Birkland, # Walter B. - Pvt. 142950
Home: 9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

Pvt. Walter B. Birkland was struck by a fragment from an enemy shell, at the battery position near Nantillois, France, about 6 P.M. Oct. 11th, 1918. The fragment passed through his side and stomach, wounding him so severely that he died within an hour. First aid was administered at once and he was then taken to a dressing station where a Medicall Officer of this regiment gave him the best possible care, but without results. This soldier was buried the next day by members of this battery, with Chaplain McCallum in charge.

Informant: Johnston, Paul E - 1st Sgt. 142909
Co. F, 149th F.A.
Home: Milton, Ill.

Signed: By Informant

Emergency Address:
Walter S. Birkland,
9220 Pleasant Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

Official Report 377-9. 1C.9a

AEE

Reference:
ENQ-80-B

Hdqrs. Graves Registration Service,
Quartermaster Corps,
American Expeditionary Forces,

File 36914

36914
December 3, 1918

FROM: Chief, Graves Registration Service, A.E.F.

TO: Home Communication Section, A.R.C.

SUBJECT: Pvt. Walter Birkland, 149 F.A.

Reference 10427 d/29th ult.: I enclose confirmation copy of a telegram which was despatched to you today. I wired as it appeared that Major Hutchins urgently desired the information. Will you please note that the report of burial in the Commune of Very, Department of the Meuse was received from Chaplain McCallum, 149th Field Artillery, but has not as yet been confirmed by officers of this service. The grave is marked by the usual cross.

By direction

CHARLES C. PIERCE,
Lieut.-Colonel, Q.M.C., A.E.F.

per

MAURICE B. DIX,
Captain, American Red Cross
Representative assigned to
Graves Registration Service

MBD-mf

File 36914
MBD-mf

December 3, 1918

38914

HOME COMMUNICATION SECTION,
AMERICAN RED CROSS
PARIS

REFERENCE ONE NAUGHT FOUR TWO SEVEN COMMA PRIVATE WALTER BIRCLAND ONE FOUR NINE
FIELD ARTILLERY REPORTED BURIED IN ISOLATED GRAVE COMMUNE OF VERY DEPARTMENT OF
MEUSE PERIOD INFORM MAJOR HUTCHINS PERIOD ENQ DASH EIGHT NAUGHT DASH B PERIOD

DIX

Official

MAURICE B. DIX, Captain
American Red Cross Representative
assigned to G.R.S.

December 3, 1918

36114

HOME COMMUNICATION SECTION,
AMERICAN RED CROSS
PARIS

REFERENCE ONE BAGUET FOUR TWO SEVEN COMMA PRIVATE RALPH BIRKLAND ONE FOUR NINE
FIELD ARTILLERY REPORTED SIGHTED IN ISOLATED SMALL GROUPS OF VERY DISPERSED OF
MEDIUM POSITION INFORM MAJOR HUTCHINS PERIOD ONE D434 112111 MEDIUM BASIS B PERIOD

DIK

Official

MATTHEW B. DIK, Captain
American Red Cross Representative
assigned to G.M.S.

Wire

Home Communication Section, A.R.C., Paris

Reference one waught four two seven comma
Private WALTER BIRKLAND one four
nine Field Artillery reported buried in
isolated grave commune of VERY department
of MEUSE period inform Major HUTCHINS
period ENQ dash eight waught dash 3
period

DIX.

Ref. 10427

AMERICAN RED CROSS

INTER-OFFICE LETTER

From Home Communication Section.

Date Nov. 29, 1918.

To M.B.Dix, Graves Registration Bureau, APO 717.

Subject Pvt. Walter Birkland, ~~Gunner~~, 149th Field Artillery.

KIA

~~Nov. 10. 1918~~

~~Oct. 11. 1918~~

We have a very special inquiry, asking for the location of the grave of this man from R. G. Hutchins Jr., Director of Home and Hospital Service, Headquarters.

We would be grateful if you would give this information to Capt. Hutchins direct.

g. m.

Home Communication Section
Bureau of Home and Hospital Service.

EM-AJ.

Enc / 80 / B

December 3, 1918.

Date 191...

MEMORANDUM FROM : Information Section, REGISTRATION BRANCH, G.R.S. Hdqrs.
Headquarters S.O.S., A.P.O. 717, American E.F.

TO: _____
In reply to: _____ Telegram dated: _____
Letter dated: _____
Memorandum dated: 12-3-18
Verbal Inquiry made: _____
CASE OF: BIRKLAND, 142950 Walter B. Rank: Pvt Legion: 149 F.A.

OFFICIALLY REPORTED AS DEAD ON A.G.O. C.C. No: 142950 289

NOT officially reported as dead by A.G.O. No: _____

Date of death: 10-11-18 191. Cause: K/A

Buried: 10-12-18 in (CTY. No: _____) Zone of Advance: Interior
(CMME No: 225....)

Grave No: 55B: E307.4: N274.3. (Meuse)

Identification Tags: Affixed to Gr.Mkr: Yes Buried with Body: Yes

Grave Marker: NP Yes CROSS Yes HD BD BTTL Yes

Nearest Relative: _____

Notified nearest relative of location of grave: ✓

Remarks: _____

NOT CONFIRMED

D. R. Eielis 2nd Lieut. Q. M. C.
Sergeant

Reported by Chaplain Mc CALLUM
149. F. A.

AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES
 HEADQUARTERS SERVICES OF SUPPLY
 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, A.E.F.
 GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE

France, , 1918

FROM : The Chief, Graves Registration Service, Hdqrs. S.O.S., A.E.F.

TO : Chaplain
 (Sub-Inspector, Graves Registration Service).

SUBJECT: Information, G.R.S.

1. Paragraph 7 (k) G.O. 30, G.H.Q., A.E.F., 1918, designates all Chaplains in the American Expeditionary Forces as "Sub-Inspectors" of the Graves Registration Service. It is necessary for the maintenance of records in this office that all Chaplains be familiar with the method of procedure to be observed in reporting the death and burial of members of the A.E.F. Enclosed, you will find copy of G.R.S. Bulletin No. 8, 1918, and sheets of Decisions and Specifications, which will furnish you with the necessary information for the proper performance of your duties in this connection.

2. We are also this date sending you one hundred Grave Location Blanks, which are to be submitted in duplicate in the case of each burial.

3. For your further information, you are advised that this office has nothing to do with actual burials. This is a Service for the identification, registration and marking of graves, and for the acquisition, maintenance and control of cemeteries. Quartermasters are ordinarily responsible for arrangements for burials, but Chaplains are now also charged with specific duties in connection with the same. The operation of the two classes of officers in these matters will doubtless be coordinated within the regiment or separate command, in the absence of orders from higher authority.

4. Without your cooperation, it will be impossible for this office to maintain an accurate roster of Chaplains. You are requested to acknowledge the receipt of this letter; at the same time, forwarding your full name, rank and denomination, if you have not already done so, and any other information that will enable us to complete our files.

5. It is also desired, in the interest of good service, that you notify this office, whenever possible, in case of your transfer to any other regiment or organization, so that our card index may be reliable, and important information, instructions, &c., may reach you in the shortest possible time.

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

3 encls.

WET/

By:

H. J. CONNER
 2nd Lieut. Q. M. C. N. A.
 Assistant.

American Expeditionary Forces
Headquarters Service of Supplies
Office of the Chief Quartermaster - American E.F.
Graves Registration Service
France

36914
January 22, 1919.

FROM: Chief, Graves Registration Service, American E. F.
TO: Corporal Frank J. Hartigan, School of Instruction, APO #704, France.
SUBJECT: Private Walter B. Birkland, Batt. F., 149th F.A., 67th F.A. Brigade.

In reply to your letter of January 6th, 1919, in respect
of place of burial of the above mentioned soldier, the records of this
office show that Private Birkland's body was interred in Isolated Grave
#1, in the COMMUNE CHEPPY, in the DEPARTMENT of the MEUSE.

By direction

CHARLES C. PIERCE,
Lieut.-Colonel, Q.M.C., A.E.F.

MAURICE B. DIX,
Captain, American Red Cross,
Representative assigned to
Graves Registration Service.

MBD/im.

File A
por

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

File Number

From: - A.R.S.

Date: 15/19

Please furnish information as indicated below regarding the following soldier:

NAME BIRKLAND, WALTER B. NUMBER 142950 (?)
RANK PVT. ORGANIZATION BATT. F, 149. F.A., 67 F.A. BRIGADE

No.	Question	Reply
1	Do particulars of soldier given above agree with Records?	(1) Birkland Walter B. #142950 Pvt. 1/c Bat. F. 149th F.A.
2	Date of Death	(2) 10-11/18
3	Cause and place of death	(3) Killed in action
4	Number of Casualty Cablegram	(4) C.C. #289
5	Date buried	(5) (Isolated)
6	Grave Location (a) Complete record required (b) Name of Cemetery or Commune only required	(6) No. 1 Cmme 123 Cmme Cheppy (Meuse) SHT 35 S.E. E. 307.5 N. 274.
7	Who reported burial	(8) - YES, ✓
8	Has report been confirmed by G.R.S.	
9	Report as to Grave Marker	(9) 0
10	Report as to Identification Tags	(10) 0
11	Who is nearest relative?	
12	Has N/R been notified? (Give date)	(12) Jan. 17, 1919
13	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply on all cases if no information on record)	
14	What is Photograph No?	

IN REPLY, all PROPER names to be printed in PLAIN BLOCK LETTERS.