

JUN 1 - 1921

8585

131

DATE Oct. 7, 1921.

1. NAME BIRKLAND, Walter B.

SERIAL No. 142950

RANK Pvt. 1/cl.

ORGANIZATION

Batt. F, 149th F.A.

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

CTY. NAME

NUMBER

183

Sect.82

4

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

2. ORIGINAL BATTLE AREA GRAVE LOCATION Isolated Very,

Meuse

GRAVE

COMMUNE

DEPT.

COORDINATES VVerdun 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 Ill

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

CEMETERY

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS AWARDED

wk

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

CEMETERY

SIGNATURE, AREA SUPERVISOR M. B. Birdseye

M. B. BIRDSEYE

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

3. FINAL GRAVE LOCATION Oct. 7, 1921.

25

31

E

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

BLOCK

PLOT

Robert C. Davis

Major General

Montfaucon (Meuse).

CEMETERY

AUDITED BY 22242473

US 4-6-28

JUN 9 AGO

2 APR 2 1928

JUN 10 1928

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Birkland 142950 Walter B

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

Pvt. Bar 7. 149th

(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.

Sketch enclosed.

10/12/18

GRAVE NUMBER

HOW MARKED: Name Peg? ☒ Cross? ☒

Headboard? ☒ Bottle? ☒

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body? *Yes - medical linen card*

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:

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

a fragment from an enemy
Illinois, 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:

Adm Callum Chaplain 149th

(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 Medical 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

Unit

Disinterred (Date)

From: (Give complete location)

13th June 1919.Grave ISOLATED VERY NEUSEMap 35 SE E 307.5 N 274.5

Reburied (Date)

in: (Give complete location)

13th June 1919.Grave #183, Sec. 82, Plot 4.ARGONNE AMERICAN CTY No. 1232ROMAGNE NEUSE

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 slip12041

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. O. 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. O. M. D. S.C.O. GroupUnit

CODE SLIP

HEADING	SUB-HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE
NAME <i>Birkland</i>	<i>Bir</i>	3	2 9 8
<i>Walter B</i>	CEMETERY <i>1232</i>	1	1
BURIED	GRAVE <i>25</i>	2	25
	ROW <i>31</i>	2	31
	BLOCK <i>E</i>	1	5
STATE	<i>Ill</i>	2	13
RANK	<i>Priv 1c</i>	1	2
DIVISION	<i>42</i>	2	42
ORGANIZATION	<i>149</i>	3	149
ARM	<i>FA</i>	1	3
MARTIAL	<i>No</i>	1	2
NAME <i>Birkland</i>	<i>Bir</i>	3	2 9 8
<i>Mrs. N S.</i>	STATE <i>Ill</i>	2	13
RESIDENCE	COUNTY <i>Cook</i>	2	16
<i>9220 Pleasant Ave</i>	CITY <i>Chicago</i>	3	028
RELATION	<i>Mother</i>	1	1
OTHER		1	
ELIGIBILITY	<i>yes</i>	1	1
NATIVITY		1	
RACE		1	
ENGLISH		1	
ATTENDANT		1	
HEALTH	<i>Bad</i>	1	2
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF	MO.	1	
TRIP	YR.	1	
ACCEPTANCE	<i>No age</i>	1	
29/514/PJ.			

AUDITED
DEC 14 1981
(Signature)

2
62

(Signature)

IMMEDIATE ACTION

IN REPLY
REFER TO

QM 293 A-M

WAR DEPARTMENT

Birkland, Walter B. (MA)

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,

Very truly yours,

My health will not permit taking this trip.

[Signature]
CHAS. W. DIETZ,
Captain, Q. M. Corps,
Assistant.



IMMEDIATE ACTION

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Sept. 6, 1932.

Birkland, Walter B. (MA)

Mrs. Anne M. Birkland,
1110 Thirtieth 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,

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. 1st. (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

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. 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 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
Age 62 yrs
Condition of Health*

*be unable to make
trip - Mrs. N. S. Birkland*

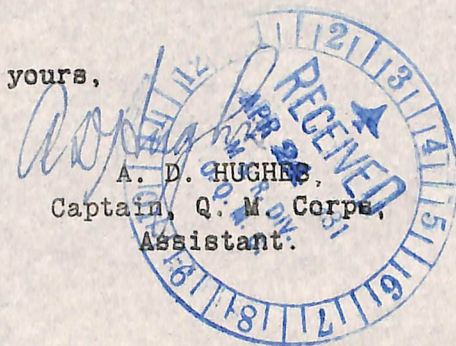
For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

Enclosures:

Envelope
Act
Amendment

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



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

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

*Mrs W S Birkland
9220 Pleasant Ave
Chicago, Ill*

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

*I do not wish 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 P.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.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Sept. 6, 1932.

Birkland, Walter B. (MA)

Mrs. Walter B. Birkland,
2840 Leaside 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,

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 B. Pvt. 1st. (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 293 A-M
Birkland, Walter B. Pvt. 1 cl (M-A) M

June 11, 1931.

REC'D JUN 11 - AM 11:30
OCS M & R BR
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. 1st. 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?

Age
Condition of Health

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

Enclosures:
Envelope
Act
Amendment

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

QM 293 A-M

October 10, 1930

Birkland, Walter B. Pvt 1 Cl 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 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, C. R. Corps,
Assistant.

Encls:
Act
Amendment
Envelope

30/150

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,

Encl.
Act
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.
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 incls.
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

Btry 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.)

(Sign here)

Norman S Birkland

9220 Pleasant Ave

(Number and street or rural route.)

Chicago

(City, town, or post office.)

Ills

(State.)

Read carefully the letter accompanying this card.

3-6713

checked 241

5-4-21

Drawn by J.L.
1232-Seq, 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, in Grave 25, Row 51, Block B, 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.



SEP 22 1923

RD
23/494/VTF

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA
File No. 36914

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

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

TYP. msg

CKR. B-7

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

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

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

III. ~~Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases~~ CKR. B-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 P.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: _____

(a) Cancellation memos referred to? Yes, P.L.

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

COUNTRY FRANCE

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

MAY 18 1921 - AP

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.
 2. No. 142950
 3. Rank Pvt. 1/cl.
 4. Org. Bat. F. 149th F.A.
 5. D.D. 10-11-18
 6. C.D. KIA

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

Discrepancy found upon disinterment

7. Grave No. 183 Sec. 82
 8. Plot 4 Row _____
 9. _____

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

18. Cemetery Argonne Amer.
 20. Dept. or County Meuse
 22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. 1232 Sect. 82

19. Commune or town Romagne-sous-Montfaucon
 21. Country France

23. Disinterred (Date) Oct. 6, 1921.
 24. Inscription on grave marker:

By H. E. Strong.

Name Walter B. Birkland
 Rank Pvt 1/cl

Serial No. - - -
 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? None30. Body prepared and placed in casket: Date Oct. 6, 1921 By H.E. Strong.31. Casket sealed by 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/cl. Organization Batt. F, 149th I.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.

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.

Convoyer W. J. Royed. Signature Shipping Officer Albert M. Jackson
(Name) 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

Convoyer Signature Shipping Officer
(Name)

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, Capt QMC

Jjt.



Place Romagne 1232.

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date Oct. 6, 1921.1. REMAINS OF BIRKLAND, Walter B SERIAL NUMBER 142950RANK Pvt. 1/c ORGANIZATION Bat. F. 149th Inf F.A.

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

Oct. 6, 1921Gr 183, Sec 82. Plot 4.By: Group 4 Unit Sec 2.

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

Oct 7th 1921 MeuseArgonne Cemetery # 1232 gr 25 block E row 31By: Group re-burial 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 doQuantity doCharacteristics do(d) Hair on face—Color doLocation doQuantity do

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

missing parts) do

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

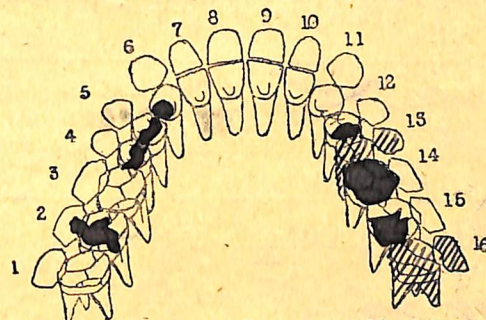
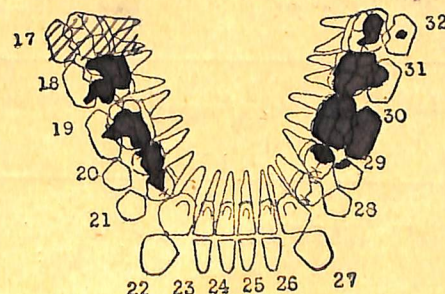
do

Diagram represents the mouth wide open.



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. Shields

Approved:

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

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

File No. 36914

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

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

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

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

(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 { cable on _____, 192
 letter of transmittal on MAY 12 1921, 192

Sec 82

PARAGRAPH 2 - NOT TO BE RETURNED

(AAS)

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

Birkman 142150 Walker B

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

1st Lt. Bat 7. 149 80

(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.

Dutch cemetery

NAME

C-) SIIT

COORD

GRAVE NUMBER

HOW MARKED: Name Peg? Cross?

Headboard? Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body?

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

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

Com. C 225 Very (Morse)

May 35 SF

Sketch #3 E3074M. 274.3.

REPORTED BY:

Adm. Callum Chaplain 14950

(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer.)

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

10 OCT 1918

5/14
List No. _____
Daily Report No. _____

725-750

36917

1. G. I. Form No. 1. Hq. G. R. File
2. Soldier's 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
Date of Burial Cemetery
7. Cheppy Meuse
Town or Commune (in block letters) Department
8. 1
Grave No. 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
Montfaucou to Avocourt. 2 1/2 K E
of Cheppy
35 SE. 274 N. 307.5 E.
12. Map reference, if interment is outside of cemetery
CMME. Cheppy (Meuse) E. 307.5
(O-123) SHT. 35 S. E. COORD N. 274
13. Give name of Chaplain or Burial Officer
Signed Pvt. George L Forrester
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 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

COMME. Cheppy (Meuse)

(O-113) SHT 35 S. E. COORD E 307.5

R.B. Sketch
1638

N 274.2

AMERICAN



ON ACTIVE SERVICE
WITH THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

January 6 1919

E-1

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 18th,
1918.

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

the first five (142957)
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'ILENA, PARIS

April 11, 1921

File No.

From: Chief,

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

Subject: Acknowledgment of Correspondence.

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/cl 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: O. Q. M. G., Cemeterial 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/cl 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

M. R. GREENEY,
Captain, Q.M.C.,
Executive Officer,
Cemeterial Division.

FVW

CH

MAILED
MAR 26 1921

Q.R.S.

HEADQUARTERS
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 82, 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.

HW/nwa.

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



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

Birkland, Z 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 Medical 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. 15.9a

AEE

Reference:

WNO-80-B

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

December 3, 1918

File 36914

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

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

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

36914

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.G., A.E.F.

per

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

MBD-mf

File WBR

December 3, 1918

36114

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 DEPARTEMENT 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

36774

HOME COMMUNICATION SECTION,
AMERICAN RED CROSS
PARIS

REFERENCE ONE NAUGHT FOUR TWO SEVEN COMMA PRIVATE WALTER BIRKLAND ONE FOUR NINE
FIELD ARTILLERY REPORTED BURIED IN ISOLATED GRAVE COURTESY OF VERY DEPARTMENT OF
NEUSE PARTON INFORM MAJOR HUTCHES PARTON ONE DASH THREE THREE THREE DASH E PERIOD

DIX

Official

HARRISON B. DIX, Captain
American Red Cross Representative
assigned to G.I.I.G.

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

Reference one naught 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 naught dash B
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.

K/A

~~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 F.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 Logan, 149 F.A.

OFFICIALLY REPORTED AS DEAD ON A.G.O. C.C. No. 289
NOT officially reported as dead by A. G. O.

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: _____ Cmme of Very 3584: 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
Sergeant

2nd Lieut. Q. M. C.

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, designated 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.

3 encls.

WET/

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

By:

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

Reference #36914

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

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.

per

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

MBD/im.

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

File Number

From: - *ARC*Date: *1/15/19*

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 Commel 23 Commune Cheppy (Meuse) SHT 35 S.E. E. 307.5 N. 274.
7	Who reported burial	
✓ 8	Has report been confirmed by G.R.S.	(8) - YES ✓
✓ 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.