

FULL NAME ... BITTNER, Leo W.J. *Solo sig.* JAN 7 - 1926 1869

RANK ... Bugler ... SERIAL ... 1257743

DIVISION & ORGANIZATION ... *28th Div.* Company B, 109th Machine Gun Battalion

DATE OF DEATH ... *Aug 22 '18*

STATE FROM WHICH HE CAME ... *Pennsylvania*

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS AWARDED ... *none*

FINAL GRAVE LOCATION ... Date Grave Row Block

608 Cemetery

*C 36307
Aunt
23/306/ARK*

*K.M.
8/3.*

2 A.G.O.
JAN 7 1926
WORLD WAR DIV.

*file
2-8-29*

AUDITED BY
20K 7-24-29

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

VR

Dittner: 1257743 Lee W.J.

Bugler: 109 Machine Gun Battalion

Date of Burial: Aug. 23, 1918

Place of Burial:

American Cemetery, Coigny, Aisne, France.

GRAVE NUMBER: No. 1 in trench No. 2 from crest of hill.

HOW MARKED: Name Peg? Cross? Yes
Headboard? Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with the body?
Was one fastened to name peg or stake used as a grave marker? No

If name unknown and tags missing, etc.,

REPORTED BY:

1st Lt. San. Corps, N.A.

Registrar.

LOCO PARENTIS

HEADING	SUB-HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE
NAME	Bittner	3	2910
BURIED	CEMETERY	1	2
	GRAVE	2	14
	ROW	2	13
	BLOCK	1	2
STATE	Pa	2	44
RANK	Bugler	1	2
DIVISION	28	2	28
ORGANIZATION	109	3	109
ARM	M.S. Bn	1	2
MARTIAL	No	1	2
NAME	Miss Caroline Bittner	3	2910
RESIDENCE	STATE	2	44
	COUNTY	2	36
	CITY	3	059
RELATION	Loco Parentis	1	4
OTHER		1	
ELIGIBILITY	yes	1	
NATIVITY		1	
RACE		1	
ENGLISH	yes	1	1
ATTENDANT		1	
HEALTH	Poor	1	2
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF TRIP	MO.	1	
	YR.	1	
ACCEPTANCE	no	1	2
29/514/PJ.	Age		60.

AUDITED

MAR 24 1932
Ram

PK

CODE SLIP

HEADING	SUB-HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE
NAME <i>Bittner</i>	<i>Bit</i>	3	29 ¹² / ₀
<i>Leo. W. J.</i>	CEMETERY <i>608</i>	1	2
BURIED	GRAVE <i>14</i>	2	14
	ROW <i>13</i>	2	13
	BLOCK <i>B</i>	1	2
STATE	<i>Pa</i>	2	44
RANK	<i>Bugler</i>	1	2
DIVISION	<i>28</i>	2	28
ORGANIZATION	<i>109</i>	3	109
ARM	<i>Inf Bn</i>	1	2
MARITAL	<i>no</i>	1	2
NAME <i>Bishop</i>	<i>Bis</i>	3	29 ⁰⁹
<i>Mrs. Clara B.</i>	STATE <i>Pa</i>	2	44
RESIDENCE	COUNTY <i>Lancaster</i>	2	36
<i>34 S. Fourth St</i>	CITY <i>Columbia</i>	3	059
RELATION	<i>Mother</i>	1	1
OTHER		1	
ELIGIBILITY	<i>no</i>	1	2
NATIVITY		1	
RACE		1	
ENGLISH		1	
ATTENDANT		1	
HEALTH		1	
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF	MO.	1	
TRIP	YR.	1	
ACCEPTANCE		1	
29/514/			

*ADD say
mother died*

AUDITED

MAR 24 1932

*Mrs. Bishop
buried in
Columbia
no on this
no on this
no on this*

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

July 13, 1932

Bittner, Leo W. J. (OA)

Miss Caroline Bittner,
239 Walnut St.,
Columbia, Pa.

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.

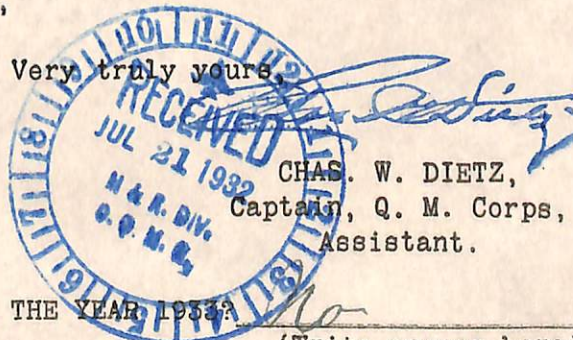
IT IS REQUESTED THAT YOU GIVE THE MATTER YOUR MOST CAREFUL CONSIDERATION BEFORE REACHING A DECISION, BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS IS THE LAST OPPORTUNITY YOU WILL HAVE TO MAKE THE TRIP AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE.

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,



2 Encls.

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

No
(Write answer here)

(Sign here)

Miss Caroline Bittner

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM-293-AM

July 24, 1931.

Bittner, Leo W. J. Bug. (O-A) LP

Miss Caroline Bittner,
~~141 S. 3rd St.~~ *239 Walnut*
Columbia, Pa. *St.*

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? No.

Write answer here

Miss Caroline Bittner
Sign here

QM 293 A-M

April 22, 1931.

Bittner, Leo W. J. (OA) LP

Miss Caroline Bittner,
239 Walnut Street,
Columbia, Pa.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of completed questionnaire sent you under date of April 7, 1931, in which you state that you do not desire to make the pilgrimage to Europe to visit the grave of your nephew, the late Bugler Leo W. J. Bittner, during 1931.

It is regretted that due to ill health you will be unable to make the pilgrimage this year. Accordingly, your name has been placed on the list of mothers and widows who are eligible to make the pilgrimage in 1932. You will be communicated with when arrangements are being made for that year. However, should you reconsider and desire to make the pilgrimage sometime during July or August of 1931, it is requested that you notify this office as early as possible in order that the necessary arrangements may be made.

If your health improves, it is believed you should feel no hesitancy in making the journey inasmuch as competent personnel has been provided to care for the mothers and widows making the pilgrimage from the time of their arrival in New York City until they return thereto, and the railroad companies have assured this office that their employees will give special care and attention to the mothers and widows in traveling to and from New York City. Medical attendants and all other necessities have been provided. A number of mothers and widows in poor health made the journey during the past summer and appear to have benefited therefrom.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

✓

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

QM 293 A-M

April 7, 1931.

IN REPLY REFER TO _____

Bittner, Leo W. J. Bugler (OA) LP

Miss Caroline Bittner,
239 Walnut Street,
Columbia, Pa.

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 ^{parentis} woman who stood in loco 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?	No.
2. Do you desire to make the pilgrimage in the calendar year 1931?	No.
3. Please give your age and state your health.	Age <i>ln</i> 60 th year. Condition of health <i>Stomach trouble</i>
4. Do you speak English?	Yes.
5. What other language do you speak?	None.

For The Quartermaster General:



Very truly yours,

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

Encls:
Act
Amendment
Envelope

30/150

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

608 file

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Bittner, Leo W. J. Bugler 608-M

April 4, 1931

Mrs. Clara B. Bishop,
34 S. Fourth St.,
Columbia, Pa.

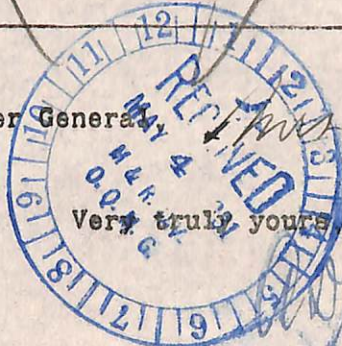
Dear Madam:

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?	Yes
2. Do you desire to make the pilgrimage in the calendar year 1931?	NO, Will try to go either 1932 or 1933, cannot afford to now.
3. Please give your age and state your health.	Age 54 Condition of Health Good
4. Do you speak English?	Yes
5. What other language do you speak?	German

For The Quartermaster General



Clara B. Bishop
A. D. HUGHES,
Captain, Q. M. Corps,
Assistant.

Enclosures:
Envelope
Act
Amendment

QM 293 A-M
Bittner, Leo W. J. Bugler (OA) LP

April 7, 1931.

Miss Caroline Bittner,
239 Walnut Street,
Columbia, Pa.

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to the pilgrimage of mothers and widows to the cemeteries of Europe, authorized by the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, as amended May 15, 1930.

Upon reconsideration of facts in your case, it has been determined that you stood in loco parentis to your nephew, the late Bugler Leo W. J. Bittner, within the meaning of the law, and you are, therefore, eligible to make a pilgrimage to his grave at the expense of the Government.

It is requested that you complete and return the enclosed questionnaire to this office in order that a record of your desires may be made. The enclosed self-addressed envelope which requires no postage is for your convenience in replying.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

Enclosure:
Ques.
Env.

mef
EP

Ag^{to}
Give Caroline
loco again

Enter her as eligible
& ask her if she wants
to go this year
N

QM 293 A-M
Bittner, Leo W. J. 608

March 12, 1931

SUBJECT: Public - No. 952 - 70th Congress.

TO: The Assistant Secretary of War.

1. In connection with the administration of Public No. 952, 70th Congress, the opinion of The Judge Advocate General is requested with respect to the person eligible to make the pilgrimage to the grave of the late Bugler Leo W. J. Bittner, Company B, 109th Machine Gun Battalion, 28th Division, in the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery in France.
2. It has been ascertained that the late Bugler Leo W. J. Bittner, who is an illegitimate son, is survived by his natural mother, Mrs. Clara B. Bishop. However, Miss Caroline Bittner, sister of Mrs. Bishop, took complete custody and control of the child almost from the moment of birth and reared, maintained and educated him. He resided with Miss Bittner at her home during the entire time until his entry into the service of the United States Army and appeared to regard her both from the standpoint of natural affection and obligation as his mother.
3. The natural mother, Mrs. Clara B. Bishop, married Warren Bishop when the boy was less than seven years of age, established a separate home, reared a family of her own, and was concerned solely in her husband and said family.
4. In view of the opinion of The Judge Advocate General dated December 5, 1929, it is believed that the natural mother, Mrs. Clara B. Bishop, is entitled to make the pilgrimage, and cannot be legally denied. However, as Miss Caroline Bittner has clearly shown that she stood in loco parentis to the deceased from the time of infancy until his entry into the service, an opinion is desired as to whether, under the terms of the Act referred to, she also may not be entitled to make the pilgrimage. In short, under such circumstances, may not both the natural mother and the woman who stood in loco parentis to the deceased

March 12, 1931

2

be permitted to make a visit to the cemetery in Europe in which are interred the remains of such deceased.

LOUIS H. BASH,
Brigadier General,
Acting The Quartermaster General.

KL

QM 293 A-M
Bittner, Leo W. J. 608

February 13, 1931

Mrs. Clara B. Bishop,
34 South Fourth Street,
Columbia, Pennsylvania.

Dear Madam:

The records of this office indicate that you are the mother of the late Leo W. J. Bittner, Bugler.

There is enclosed, herewith, a copy of an Act of Congress approved March 2, 1929, as amended May 15, 1930, which provides for pilgrimages to be made to the cemeteries of Europe by the mothers and widows of deceased members of the American forces whose remains are interred in Europe or were lost or buried at sea.

It is requested that you fill in the enclosed questionnaire and return it to this office, in order that your desires may be properly recorded, and arrangements made for you accordingly.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

*Encl.
31 Form
Act Amend*

KL

239 Walnut street,

Columbia, Pa., January 28, 1931.

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

Sirs:

In re QM 293 AM, Bittner, Leo W. J. 608 LP.

I reply to your communication of January 17th in which you request that I advise "whether or not the late Bugler Leo W. J. Bittner is survived by his natural mother or a widow".

Said Leo W. J. Bittner was not married and is not survived by a widow or children. He is, however, survived by his natural mother, Clara B. Bishop (widow of the late Warren Bishop, deceased), who resides at No. 34 South Fourth street, Columbia, Pa.

It is assumed that your records disclose that said Leo W. J. Bittner, the deceased soldier, was an illegitimate son of said Clara B. Bishop. At the time of the birth of said Leo W. J. Bittner, Mrs. Bishop, who is my sister and who was then unmarried, resided with me. I took complete custody and control of the child almost from the moment of birth and reared, maintained and educated him. He resided with me at my home during the entire time and when he arrived at the age when he was able to obtain employment he contributed to my support. His mother, having married said Warren Bishop, deceased, when the boy was less than seven years of age, established a separate home and reared a family of her own and was concerned solely in her husband and said family. The deceased soldier having been nurtured and cared for by me substantially from the time of his birth, continued to reside with me up to the time of his induction into the United States Army and regarded me, both from the standpoint of natural affection and the obligation of maintenance, as his mother.

Respectfully,

Caroline Bittner

Caroline Bittner.



QM 295 AM
Bittner, Leo W. J. 608 LP

January 17, 1951.

Miss Caroline Bittner,
230 Walnut Street,
Columbia, Penna.

Dear Madam:

In order that the records of this office may be complete and correct, it is requested that you advise whether or not the late Bugler Leo W. J. Bittner is survived by his natural mother or a widow. If so, kindly furnish their names and addresses.

For your convenience in replying, there is inclosed herewith, a self-addressed envelope which requires no postage.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

1 Incl.
Env.
MDT

QM 293 A-M
Bittner, Leo W. J. 608

September 20, 1930.

Miss Caroline Bittner,
239 Walnut Street,
Columbia, Penna.

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to your letter of July 19, 1930, relative to the pilgrimage authorized by Congress in the Act approved March 2, 1929, and amended May 15, 1930.

Notation is made of your statement that you are not in the best of health and will not undertake the trip at present. In the event that your health should so improve as to permit you to make the pilgrimage during the summer of 1931, 1932 or 1933, it is requested that you so advise this office in order that the necessary forms may be returned to you with a view to determining your eligibility under the law to visit the grave of your nephew, the late Bugler Leo W. J. Bittner, in the Oise-Aisne Cemetery, France, at the expense of the Government.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

d

Lve

Columbia Pa

July 19 1930

Card not filed
at. not. not filed
drafts

A. D. Hughes
Captain, I. M. Corps,
Assistant
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I herein enclose papers recently sent to me concerning pilgrimage to the grave of my nephew the late Leo W. J. Bittner, under the provisions of the Act of March 2, 1929.

I will not undertake the trip at present as I am not in the best of health.

Please make correction in addressing me as Mrs. Caroline Bittner, which should be Miss Caroline Bittner.

Thanking the department

File
1313
7-75

consideration. I am

Yours very truly,
Caroline Bittner
239 Walnut Street
Columbia, Penna.



State of _____)
County of _____) ss

ame of deceased soldier _____

Rank _____ Organization _____

1. The undersigned disinterested persons, not related to the applicant or to the deceased soldier, depose and say of their own personal knowledge that:

(a) _____ stood in loco parentis to _____
(name of applicant) (deceased
_____ from _____ to _____
soldier)

(b) The age of the deceased soldier at the time the status in loco parentis began was _____ years, _____ months, _____ days. The age of _____ at the time the status in loco parentis began was _____ years, _____ months, _____ days.

(c) _____ during the time she stood in loco parentis to the said deceased soldier, actually provided for such soldier in the following manner and to the following extent:

(d) The following additional circumstances, facts and declarations tend to show that the said applicant actually assumed the obligations which a father would have assumed in the matter of making provision for the support of the deceased soldier:

2. In making the above statements, it is understood that the term in loco parentis means that:

(a) A person must act the part of a lawful father in performing the duty of providing for him; taking the place of a father in this particular.

(b) To obtain the benefits of the Act of March 2, 1929, a woman must have occupied this status towards a particular deceased service man for a period of not less than 5 years at any time prior to the soldier, sailor, or marine becoming 18 years of age. Circumstances and facts should be stated in detail in order to insure intelligent decision. If additional space is required please write on the back of this sheet.

Signed: _____

Address: _____

Signed: _____

Address: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____ 19 _____

(Seal)

(Notary Public)

State of _____)
County of _____) ss

name of deceased soldier _____

Rank _____ Organization _____

1. The undersigned disinterested persons, not related to the applicant or to the deceased soldier, depose and say of their own personal knowledge that:

(a) _____ stood in loco parentis to _____
(name of applicant) (deceased
_____ from _____ to _____
soldier)

(b) The age of the deceased soldier at the time the status in loco parentis began was _____ years, _____ months, _____ days. The age of _____ at the time the status in loco parentis began was _____ years, _____ months, _____ days.
(name of applicant)

(c) _____ during the time she stood in loco parentis to the said deceased soldier, actually provided for such soldier in the following manner and to the following extent:

(d) The following additional circumstances, facts and declarations tend to show that the said applicant actually assumed the obligations which a father would have assumed in the matter of making provision for the support of the deceased soldier:

2. In making the above statements, it is understood that the term in loco parentis means that:

- (a) A person must act the part of a lawful father in performing the duty of providing for him; taking the place of a father in this particular.
- (b) To obtain the benefits of the Act of March 2, 1929, a woman must have occupied this status towards a particular deceased service man for a period of not less than 5 years at any time prior to the soldier, sailor, or marine becoming 18 years of age. Circumstances and facts should be stated in detail in order to insure intelligent decision. If additional space is required please write on the back of this sheet.

Signed: _____

Address: _____

Signed: _____

Address: _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____ 19____

(Seal)

(Notary Public)

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M
Bittner, Leo W. J. 608 LP

July 3, 1930.

Miss

~~Mrs.~~ Caroline Bittner
239 Walnut Street,
Columbia, Pennsylvania

Dear Madam:

This office is in receipt of the information that you desire to make a pilgrimage to the grave of your nephew, the late Leo W. J. Bittner, under the provisions of the Act of March 2, 1929.

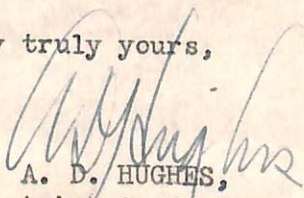
Section 4 (a) of the above Act was amended on May 15, 1930 to read in part as follows: "or any woman who stood in loco parentis to the deceased member of the military or naval forces for a period of not less than five years at any time prior to the soldier, sailor, or marine becoming eighteen years of age."

In order to satisfy the legal requirements, it will be necessary for you to furnish as proof of the relationship (in loco parentis), the affidavits of at least two persons not related to you.

In the event you believe yourself eligible under this provision of the law to make the pilgrimage, it is requested that the enclosed form be completed and returned to this office in order that your eligibility under the Act may be determined. Under Paragraphs 1 (c) and 1 (d), sufficient information should be included to permit an intelligible decision as to eligibility.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,


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

Encl.
Forms
Act-Amend.
Env.

QM 293 A-C
Bittner, Leo W. J.

October 29, 1929.

Miss

Mrs. Caroline Bittner,
141 S. 3rd St.,
Columbia, Pa.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of form letter of this office dated August 23, 1929, relative to the pilgrimage authorized by the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929.

It is assumed that you desire the privilege of making the pilgrimage to the cemeteries in Europe, under Section 4(a) of the Act referred to above. In order to satisfy the legal requirements in the case, it will be necessary for you to furnish as proof of the relationship (in loco parentis), the affidavits of at least two persons not related to you.

It is requested that the inclosed form be completed and returned to this office in order that your eligibility under the Act may be determined. Under Paragraph 1(c) and 1(d), sufficient information should be included to permit an intelligible decision as to eligibility.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

ms

Incls.
Aff.
Env.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Bittner, Leo W. J.
608

Aug. 28, 1929.

miss

Mrs. Caroline Bittner,
141 S. 3rd St.,
Columbia, Pa.

*18 1/2 yrs
encl 6-21-16*

Dear Madam:

The records of this office do not indicate that a reply has been received to our communication dated June 21, 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?

*Caroline Bittner
239 Walnut St.
Columbia Pa.
Aunt.
yes*

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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



WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C
Bittner, Leo W. J.

June 21, 1929.

Mrs. Caroline Bittner,
141 S. 3rd St.,
Columbia, Pa.

Dear Madam:

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

The records of this office show that you are the sunt of the late Bugler Leo W. J. Bittner, Co. B, 109th M.C. Bn., 28th Division whose remains are now interred in the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery, Seringes-et-Nesles, Aisne, 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,

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-M

July 13, 1932

Bittner, Leo W. J. (OA)

Miss Caroline Bittner,
239 Walnut St.,
Columbia, Pa.

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-AM

July 24, 1931.

Bittner, Leo W. J. Bug. (O-1) - LP

Miss Caroline Bittner,
141 S. 3rd St.,
Columbia, Pa.

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

QM 293 A-M

April 22, 1931.

Bittner, Leo W. J. (OA) LP

Miss Caroline Bittner,
239 Walnut Street,
Columbia, Pa.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of completed questionnaire sent you under date of April 7, 1931, in which you state that you do not desire to make the pilgrimage to Europe to visit the grave of your nephew, the late Bugler Leo W. J. Bittner, during 1931.

It is regretted that due to ill health you will be unable to make the pilgrimage this year. Accordingly, your name has been placed on the list of mothers and widows who are eligible to make the pilgrimage in 1932. You will be communicated with when arrangements are being made for that year. However, should you reconsider and desire to make the pilgrimage sometime during July or August of 1931, it is requested that you notify this office as early as possible in order that the necessary arrangements may be made.

If your health improves, it is believed you should feel no hesitancy in making the journey inasmuch as competent personnel has been provided to care for the mothers and widows making the pilgrimage from the time of their arrival in New York City until they return thereto, and the railroad companies have assured this office that their employees will give special care and attention to the mothers and widows in traveling to and from New York City. Medical attendants and all other necessities have been provided. A number of mothers and widows in poor health made the journey during the past summer and appear to have benefited therefrom.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

QM 293 A-M
Bittner, Leo W. J. Bugler (OA) LP

April 7, 1931.

Miss Caroline Bittner,
239 Walnut Street,
Columbia, Pa.

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to the pilgrimage of mothers and widows to the cemeteries of Europe, authorized by the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, as amended May 15, 1930.

Upon reconsideration of facts in your case, it has been determined that you stood in loco parentis to your nephew, the late Bugler Leo W. J. Bittner, within the meaning of the law, and you are, therefore, eligible to make a pilgrimage to his grave at the expense of the Government.

It is requested that you complete and return the enclosed questionnaire to this office in order that a record of your desires may be made. The enclosed self-addressed envelope which requires no postage is for your convenience in replying.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

Enclosure:

Ques.

Env.

mef

1 DIV.

APR 11 14

U.S. M. G. I.

1931 APR 8

INSPI/VSU/1

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Bittner, Leo W. J. Bugler 508-M

April 4, 1931

Mrs. Clara B. Bishop,
34 S. Fourth St.,
Columbia, Pa.

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 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

Comments

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Enclosures:

Envelope

Act

Amendment

U.S. M.G.M. & I. DIV.

1931 APR 3 PM 4 27

DISPATCHED

Q# 295 A-M
Bittner, Leo W. J. 608

March 12, 1931

SUBJECT: Public - No. 952 - 70th Congress.

TO: The Assistant Secretary of War.

1. In connection with the administration of Public No. 952, 70th Congress, the opinion of The Judge Advocate General is requested with respect to the person eligible to make the pilgrimage to the grave of the late Bugler Leo W. J. Bittner, Company B, 109th Machine Gun Battalion, 28th Division, in the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery in France.

2. It has been ascertained that the late Bugler Leo W. J. Bittner, who is an illegitimate son, is survived by his natural mother, Mrs. Clara B. Bishop. However, Miss Caroline Bittner, sister of Mrs. Bishop, took complete custody and control of the child almost from the moment of birth and reared, maintained and educated him. He resided with Miss Bittner at her home during the entire time until his entry into the service of the United States Army and appeared to regard her both from the standpoint of natural affection and obligation as his mother.

3. The natural mother, Mrs. Clara B. Bishop, married Warren Bishop when the boy was less than seven years of age, established a separate home, reared a family of her own, and was concerned solely in her husband and said family.

4. In view of the opinion of The Judge Advocate General dated December 5, 1929, it is believed that the natural mother, Mrs. Clara B. Bishop, is entitled to make the pilgrimage, and cannot be legally denied. However, as Miss Caroline Bittner has clearly shown that she stood in loco parentis to the deceased from the time of infancy until his entry into the service, an opinion is desired as to whether, under the terms of the Act referred to, she also may not be entitled to make the pilgrimage. In short, under such circumstances, may not both the natural mother and the woman who stood in loco parentis to the deceased

✓ X 014 J. A. G. O.

X 516 Pilgrimage G. S.

ADH
JTH
WRG
1931

QM 298 A-M
Bittner, Leo W. J. 608

March 12, 1931

2

be permitted to make a visit to the cemetery in Europe in which are interred the remains of such deceased.

L. H. BASH,
Brigadier General, Q.M.C.,
Acting The Quartermaster General.

KL

7

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1931 MAR 13 AM 9 25

O. O. M. C. M. C. M. C.

QM 293 A-M
Bittner, Leo W. J. 608

February 13, 1931

Mrs. Clara B. Bishop,
34 South Fourth Street,
Columbia, Pennsylvania.

Dear Madam:

The records of this office indicate that you are the mother of the late Leo W. J. Bittner, Bugler.

There is enclosed, herewith, a copy of an Act of Congress approved March 2, 1929, as amended May 15, 1930, which provides for pilgrimages to be made to the cemeteries of Europe by the mothers and widows of deceased members of the American forces whose remains are interred in Europe or were lost or buried at sea.

It is requested that you fill in the enclosed questionnaire and return it to this office, in order that your desires may be properly recorded, and arrangements made for you accordingly.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

O. O. M. G. M. & R. DIV.
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1931 FEB 14
KL

[Handwritten signature]

QM 293 AM
Bittner, Leo W. J. 608 LP

January 17, 1931.

Miss Caroline Bittner,
239 Walnut Street,
Columbia, Penna.

Dear Madam:

In order that the records of this office may be complete and correct, it is requested that you advise whether or not the late Bugler Leo W. J. Bittner is survived by his natural mother or a widow. If so, kindly furnish their names and addresses.

For your convenience in replying, there is inclosed herewith, a self-addressed envelope which requires no postage.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

1 Incl.
Env.
MDT

W
DISPATCHED
1931 JAN 17 9 59
NOV 1931

QM 293 A-M
Bittner, Leo W. J. 608

September 20, 1930.

Miss Caroline Bittner,
239 Walnut Street,
Columbia, Penna.

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to your letter of July 19, 1930, relative to the pilgrimage authorized by Congress in the Act approved March 2, 1929, and amended May 15, 1930.

Notation is made of your statement that you are not in the best of health and will not undertake the trip at present. In the event that your health should so improve as to permit you to make the pilgrimage during the summer of 1931, 1932 or 1933, it is requested that you so advise this office in order that the necessary forms may be returned to you with a view to determining your eligibility under the law to visit the grave of your nephew, the late Bugler Leo W. J. Bittner, in the Oise-Aisne Cemetery, France, at the expense of the Government.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

LC 01 09 23 40 37

D

QU 293 A-4

Bittner, Leo W. J. 608 LP

July 3, 1930.

Mrs. Caroline Bittner
239 Walnut Street,
Columbia, Pennsylvania

Dear Madam:

This office is in receipt of the information that you desire to make a pilgrimage to the grave of your nephew, the late Leo W. J. Bittner, under the provisions of the Act of March 2, 1929.

Section 4 (a) of the above Act was amended on May 15, 1930 to read in part as follows: "or any woman who stood in loco parentis to the deceased member of the military or naval forces for a period of not less than five years at any time prior to the soldier, sailor, or marine becoming eighteen years of age."

In order to satisfy the legal requirements, it will be necessary for you to furnish as proof of the relationship (in loco parentis), the affidavits of at least two persons not related to you.

In the event you believe yourself eligible under this provision of the law to make the pilgrimage, it is requested that the enclosed form be completed and returned to this office in order that your eligibility under the Act may be determined. Under Paragraphs 1 (c) and 1 (d), sufficient information should be included to permit an intelligible decision as to eligibility.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

DIV.

Enc.
Forms
Act-Amend.
Env.

1930 JUL 3 AM 10 46

DISPATCH

QM 293 A-C
Bittner, Leo W. J.

October 29, 1929.

Mrs. Caroline Bittner,
141 S. 3rd St.,
Columbia, Pa.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of form letter of this office dated August 28, 1929, relative to the pilgrimage authorized by the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929.

It is assumed that you desire the privilege of making the pilgrimage to the cemeteries in Europe, under Section 4(a) of the Act referred to above. In order to satisfy the legal requirements in the case, it will be necessary for you to furnish as proof of the relationship (in loco parentis), the affidavits of at least two persons not related to you.

It is requested that the inclosed form be completed and returned to this office in order that your eligibility under the Act may be determined. Under Paragraph 1(c) and 1(d), sufficient information should be included to permit an intelligible decision as to eligibility.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

I. G. & R. DIV.

PM 3 47

Incls.
Aff.
Env.

X

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Aug. 28, 1929.

Bittner, Leo W. J.
608

Mrs. Caroline Bittner,
141 S. 3rd St.,
Columbia, Pa.

Dear Madam:

The records of this office do not indicate that a reply has been received to our communication dated June 21, 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
Bittner, Leo W. J.

June 21, 1929.

Mrs. Caroline Bittner,
141 S. 3rd St.,
Columbia, Pa.

Dear Madam:

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

The records of this office show that you are the aunt of the late Bugler Leo W. J. Bittner, Co. B, 108th A.G.M., 28th Division whose remains are now interred in the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery, Springes-et-Nesles, Aisne, 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,

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

2 incls.
Act of Congress.
Envelope.

QM 293 A-C

BITTNER, Leo W.J. - Bugler

October 28, 1925

Mrs. Caroline Bittner,
141 South 3rd St.,
Columbia, Pa.

Dear Madam: The Quartermaster General desires to invite your attention to the inclosed card which gives the permanent cemetery location of the soldier's grave in which you are interested.

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

Please be assured that in effecting removal of the dead, the utmost reverential care was exercised and more than willingly accorded by those who performed this sacred duty. For the future, these graves will be perpetually maintained by the Government in a manner befitting the last resting place of our heroes.

Very truly yours,

1-Incl.
Record card.

L. W. BEDINGFIELD,
Assistant,
Major, Q.M.C.

RD
101



To be prepared in triplicate.

DATE February 14, 1928

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 BETTNER, Lee W.J. *Pa* 10. Name _____
- 2. No. 1257743 11. No. _____
- 3. Rank Bugler 12. Rank _____
- 4. Org. Co. B, 109th M.G.Bn. 28th Div 13. Org. _____
- 5. D.D. August 24²² - 25, 1918 14. (a) D.D. _____
- 6. C.D. Wounds (b) D.B. _____

Discrepancy found upon disinterment

- 7. Grave No. 14 Sec. _____ 15. Grave No. _____ Sec. _____
- 8. Plot Block B Row 13 16. Plot _____ Row _____
- 9. _____ 17. _____
- 18. Cemetery Oise-Aisne 19. Commune or town Seringes-et-Nesles
- 20. Dept. or County Aisne 21. Country France
- 22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. 608
- 23. Disinterred (Date) February 14, 1928 By L. Gordon
- 24. Inscription on grave marker:
 Name BETTNER, Lee W.J. Serial No. 1257743
 Rank Bugler Organization Co. B, 109th M.G.Bn.
- 25. Was identification disc found on grave marker? _____ On body? Yes

Signature Junior Technical Assistant

PREPARATION

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

- 27. Condition of body _____
- 28. Nature of burial Pine box and burlap
- 29. Any discrepancy noted upon examination of body, as compared with G.R.S. records quoted above? _____
- 30. Body prepared and placed in casket: Date February 14, 1928 L. Gordon
- 31. Casket sealed by L. Gordon

Signature of Embalmer, (Supervisor)

L. Gordon
L. Gordon.

SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. _____

32. Designation of body: _____

Name BETTNER, Lee W.J. Serial No. 1257743

Rank Bugler Organization Co. B, 109th M.G.Bn.

33. Consigned to: _____

Name of Permanent Cemetery Oise-Aisne, Seringes-et-Nesles, Aisne

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) February 14, 1928 By Charles E. Spahn

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 _____

Charles E. Spahn
Charles E. Spahn

36. Remarks _____

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

To point of Concentration _____ (Name)

Convoyer _____ Signature Shipping Officer _____

38. Received at Railhead or Point of Concentration: Date _____

By G.R.S. Representative _____

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

To Permanent Cemetery _____ (Name)

Convoyer _____ Signature Shipping Officer _____

40. Received: Date _____

G.R.S. Representative _____

41. Reinterred February 14, 1928, Oise-Aisne American Cty.

(Date)

42. Grave No. 14 Section _____

43. Plot Block B Row 13

G.R.S. Representative *William E. Moore*

William E. Moore, Superintendent.

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

1. REMAINS OF BETTNER, ^{Lee} Lee W. J.

SERIAL NUMBER 1257743

RANK Bugler

ORGANIZATION Co. B. 109th M.G. Bn.

2. Disinterred (date) February 14, 1928 From (give complete location):

Grave 14, Block B, Row 13

By: Group _____ Cty. _____ Unit _____

3. Reburied (date) February 14, 1928 In (give complete location):

Grave 14, Block B, Row 13

By: Group _____ Cty. _____ Unit _____ Nature of reburial Metallic casket

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

Pine box and burlap

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

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

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

(a) Height (actual measurement)

(b) Weight (estimated)

(c) Hair—Color

Quantity _____

Characteristics _____

1, 2 MBD

(d) Hair on face—Color

Location _____

Quantity _____

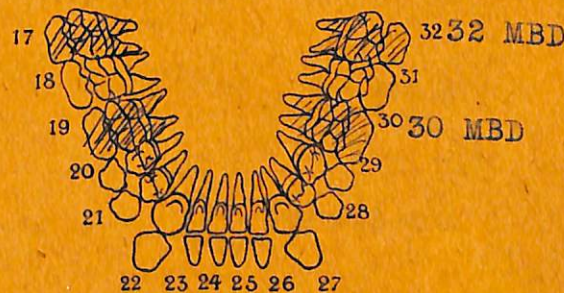
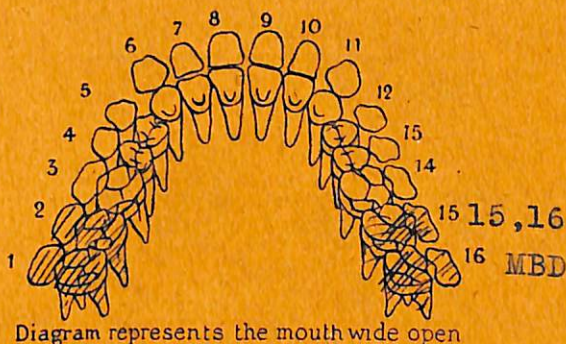
17 MBD

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

19 MBD

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

23, 24, 25 MBD



7. Disinterment supervised by [Signature]

Approved: [Signature]

(Title)

8. Reburial supervised by [Signature]

Approved: [Signature]

(Title)

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

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

1. Show soldier's name, serial number, rank and organization, and by whom disinterred and reburied.
2. Give date and accurate information as to location from which the body was disinterred and the group and unit which made disinterment.
3. Give date and accurate information as to location of reburial and the group and unit which made reburial, and how reburial was made—in casket, wooden box, etc.
4. State to what degree decomposition has progressed, whether recognition is possible, and how the body was originally buried—in a casket, box, burlap, etc. This statement should be as complete as possible.
5. (a) State whether identification tags were found buried with body and on grave marker by reporting "Yes" or "No".
(b) State whether or not body appears to have been a hospital case. Were any identifying articles found in or on body or grave? List any personal effects, letters, money-order receipts, and the like found on body or in grave. Give any and all information which it is thought might be of use in identifying the body, other than that tabulated under Item No 6.
6. Give all information as to body description and dental chart as nearly correctly as the condition of the body will allow. Items (e) and (f) under the body description are very important and should be very complete. The dental chart is also very important and should be filled in with great care. There are 32 teeth to be accounted for, as shown by the numbers on the chart. Beginning at the middle line in both upper and lower jaws, the teeth are arranged symmetrically on either side and classed as incisors (cutting teeth), cuspids or canines (tearing teeth), bicuspids (chewing teeth), and molars (principal chewing teeth). An examination should be made and findings charted to cover the following basic conditions: Lost teeth, crowned teeth, bridge work, fillings, caries (cavities of decay), dentures (plates), and any deformity of jaws found.

MISSING TEETH

All teeth missing through previous extraction (not those fractured or displaced by recent wounds) should be scratched out, thus:



CROWNED TEETH

Block in solid the crown of tooth (label gold, porcelain, or gold and porcelain), thus:



BRIDGE WORK

Block in solid the crown of tooth (label gold bridge, gold and porcelain bridge) thus:



FILLINGS

Draw filling on tooth accurately as possible (block in and label gold, silver, cement), thus:



CARIES (CAVITIES)

Outline location and size of cavity, shade in, thus:



DENTURES (PLATES)

Draw diagram of relative size and shape of plate block in teeth attached and indicate retaining clasps on natural teeth with the word "clasp"

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

6982

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

(a) Name BITTNER, Leo W. J. Ser. No. 1257743
 (b) Rank Bugler Organization Co. B, 109th M.G. Bn.
 (c) Date of death 8-15/24-18 (d) Cause of death DWRIA

TYP. vbb
 CKR. gk

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

(a) Grave No. 78 Row --- Plot 2 Sec. C TYP. vbb
 (b) Emerg. Address Mrs. Caroline Bittner (aunt) 327 Walnut St., Phila. Pa.

III. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases ---- CKR. J.

IV. A. G. O. DISPOSITION CARD:

Date of receipt ---

(a) Name Caroline Bittner (b) Relationship Aunt
 (c) Address 326 Walnut St. Columbia Penna
 (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 PT Date 12-11, 1920.

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

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

no comm.

Examiner's Initials PT Date 12-11, 1920.

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

no request for disposition

(a) Cancellation memos referred to? no

Examiner's Initials PT Date 12-13, 1920.

COUNTRY FRANCE CEMETERY No. 608 SHEET No. 251

FORM 115 - A COMPLETED
JAN 24 1921 - a.p. CARDED

*Checked
 app 12-13-20*

Rev 5-4-21 EP

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

Typed by _____, Checked by _____, RECEIVED 1920.

VIII. FINAL ACTION:

Following advice forwarded to Europe by { cable on _____, 1920
letter on Jan-15-1920

Par. 2 - Not to be returned (821-17-1)

APR 26 1921

1920al Division
Overseas Project Sub-section

IX.

CORRECTIONS

CHANGE OF ADVICE.	ACTION TAKEN.
Desires body be _____	
Body to be shipped to _____	
FORM 115 RETURNED BY HOBOKEN - BODY TO REMAIN IN EUROPE 5-5-21 EP	

X. SUSPENSION REMARKS:

2/10/21 - Form 120 - Mrs. Caroline Bittner (Aunt & Foster-Mother) 141 S Third St., Columbia, Pa. wishes body to remain in Europe - 2/17/21 mo

War Risk Beneficiary Lines - Miss Carolina Bittner (Aunt) 141 S 3rd St., Columbia, Pa. (H. 4-1-21 R.)

OK. to Caroline Bittner F.C.P. 4/2/21 H4-2-21 B.7.

4-21-21 - Hoboken advises Aunt body will remain in Europe. 5-4-21 EP

April 21st, 1921.

File No. 293.8 Cem.Div.Cor.Br.
(Bittner, Leo W.J.)

Mrs. Caroline Bittner,
141 S. Third St.,
Columbia, Pa.

Dear Madam:-

Receipt of shipping inquiry dated February 10th, 1921, relative to the remains of the late Leo W. J. Bittner, Bugler, Serial Number 1257743, Company B, 109th M.G.Bn., is acknowledged.

In accordance with your desire, the remains will be left in France for burial in a permanent American Cemetery. You are assured that the grave will always be maintained as a fitting memorial of the late soldier's sacrifice.

The Department wishes to convey to you renewed assurance of its sympathy in your bereavement.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

R.E. SHANNON,
Captain, C.M. Corps,
Officer in Charge.

BY:

F.C. PALLAS, *WPK*
Executive Assistant.

MBS/LL *NO* MAILED

APR 25 1921

COR. BR. G. R. S.

Noted on Form No. 10

5-4-21 *WPK*

Date



RECEIVED

468 30 1051

Case of Leo W. J. Bittner, 1257743
Bugler, Co. B. 109th M. G. Bn.

4/2/21

Mrs. Caroline Bittner, aunt and foster mother is also beneficiary
and emergency address. No near relatives.

What decision?

BF

*OK
J. B. Bittner
4/2/21*

92

Prange
Prange
C-36307
Prange

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

HOBOKEN, N.J.

NAME OF DECEASED SOLDIER

CITIZENSHIP NO.

Bittner, Leo W.J.

608-251

2/24/21

SERIAL NUMBER

ORGANIZATION

Date of Death.

1257743

Co. B., 109th M.G.Bn.

8-15/24-18

Copy forwarded to
Adjustment Department
Date 3/26/21 *R*

WAR RISK INSURANCE INFORMATION

DATE March 21, 1921.

NAME OF BENEFICIARY

RELATIONSHIP

Miss Carolina Bittner,

Aunt

Address

141 S. 3d St., Columbia, Pa.

Off. Sec.

noted 7/15
H. 4-1-21 R.

WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY

CEMETERIAL DIVISION

WASHINGTON

Hoboken, N. J.

FEB 1 1921

FROM: Chief, Cemeterial Division, O. Q. M. G.

To: Mrs. Caroline Bittner, 326 Walnut St., Columbia, Pa. *No change*

SUBJECT: Remains of Bugler Leo W. J. Bittner, Ser. No. 1257743, CoB, 109th M. G. Bn.

The records of this office show that you have requested that the body of the above-named soldier remain in Europe.

If these are not the correct instructions, please correct them. Make corrections on reverse side of this sheet.

The nearest next of kin may choose between, (1) return of the body to any address in the United States; (2) interment in the National Cemetery, Arlington, Va., or any other National Cemetery; or (3) body to remain in Europe.

By authority of the Quartermaster General.

CHARLES C. PIERCE,
Lieut. Colonel, U. S. Army.

If all blank spaces below are not filled out, it will necessitate a return of this paper and a SERIOUS DELAY in the shipment of this body. State in each case WHETHER or not these relatives are STILL LIVING.

Was soldier married? No.

NAME OF—	NO. AND STREET.	TOWN.	STATE.
Soldier's widow		<i>noted from 1/15</i>	<i>MD</i>
Soldier's children. (Name oldest first.)			
1			
2			
3			
Father	<u>Soldier was illegitimate child.</u>		
Mother	<u>Abandoned child in infancy to undersigned, who was foster mother of soldier.</u>		
Brothers. (Name oldest first.)			
1			
2	<u>None</u>		
3			
Sisters. (Name oldest first.)			
1			
2	<u>None</u>		
3			

Date February 10, 1921.

Signature Caroline Bittner

Address 141 S. Third Street.
Columbia, Pa.

Relationship Aunt and Foster Mother.

IMPORTANT.—CAREFULLY read instructions before filling out this paper.

Columbia, Pa., February 10, 1921.

Mother

RECEIVED

I, the undersigned, am the Aunt and Foster and nearest living next of kin of the within-named soldier, and desire the following disposition of his remains, viz: (Strike out all except the one showing the disposition desired.)

APR 26 1921

1. As stated on first page of this sheet.

2. ~~To be returned to the U. S. and shipped to~~

Cemeterial Division
Project Sub-Section
(Name.)

(R. R. station.)

(State.)

3. ~~To be returned to the U. S. and buried in~~ National Cemetery.

4. To remain in Europe, for burial in a permanent American Cemetery.

Signature

Caroline Bittner



INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT.

1. If definite instructions for the disposition of a body are not received from the next of kin within two weeks of its arrival at New York, burial will be made without further notice in the World War Section of Arlington National Cemetery.

2. The transfer of bodies will be made ENTIRELY at Government expense.

3. This paper MUST BE SIGNED BY THE PERSON WHO IS THE NEXT OF KIN IN THE ORDER shown in the square on the other side of this sheet.

4. This paper must be returned showing the name and address of each of the nearest next of kin in the spaces provided therefor on the other side of this sheet.

5. If there are minor children of the deceased soldier and no widow, the LEGALLY APPOINTED GUARDIAN of the children should ascertain their wishes and act for them in this matter.

6. If YOU are not the nearest next of kin, please ask the nearest next of kin, if living near you, to fill out this paper.

7. If YOU are not the nearest living next of kin and do not know who or where the nearest relatives are, please fill out this paper AT ONCE and mail to this office.

8. You are requested to return this paper AT ONCE in order to avoid delay in the case of this body.

9. Use the inclosed envelope—pay no postage.

NOTE.—INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE DISPOSITION OF REMAINS will be issued by this office upon the properly executed authority of the legal next of kin in each case. The widow is the first person having disposition of the remains of her husband. Should there be no widow or children, the father and, in turn (upon his decease), the mother, is the proper authority. The brothers, in order of seniority, and then the sisters in order of seniority, if there are no brothers, rank next in authority to decide. Under an opinion rendered by the Judge Advocate General of the Army, if a widow has remarried she forfeits her right, and the next of kin as given above will make decision.

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

(a) Name BITTNER, Leo W. J. Ser. No. 1257743 } TYP vbb
 (b) Rank Bugler Organization Co. B, 109th M.G. Bn. } EM
 (c) Date of death 8-15/24-18 Cause of death DWARIA

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

(a) Grave No. 78 Row ... Plot 2 Sect. C TYP vbb
 (b) Emerg. Address Mrs. Caroline Bittner (aunt) 327 Walnut St., Phila. Pa.

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

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

A.H.O. Caroline Bittner, aunt 326
Walnut St. Columbia, Penn. desire
body to remain in Europe (JENI-1221-

V. Following advice forwarded to Europe by (cable on 1/15/1921 192 (letter of transmittal on 1/15/1921 192)

Par 2 - Not to be returned (JENI)

VI. Form 115 forwarded to G.R.S. Hoboken, N.J. JAN 26 1921 192

VII. SUPPLEMENTARY REQUESTS

Date of and Source	Relationship and name	Desires	Action taken

VIII. Form 115 received from G.R.S. Hoboken, N.J. 4-26- 192 1

JAN 24 1921 - ap

WAR DEPARTMENT
Office of the Quartermaster General of the Army
Washington

G.R.S. Form 2-W-A

Information requested of A.G.O.

Date OCT 10 1923

File No. Registration.

From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army, Graves Registration Service,

To: The Adjutant General of the Army, 6th & B Sts., N.W., Washington, D.C.

Subject: Information required for G.R.S.

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

- a. Surname Bittner ^{OK} _{OK}
- b. Christian name Leo _{OK}
- c. Serial Number 1257743 _{OK}
- d. Organization B. 109 M S _{OK}
- e. Rank Boatman _{OK}
- f. ~~Date of death~~
- g. ~~Cause of death~~
- h. ~~Authority (C.O.#)~~
- i. ~~Emergency address~~
- j. ~~Relationship~~

BODY DESCRIPTION

(See page #2 of the Service Record)

- a. Age of enlistment 18 3/4 yrs.
- b. ~~Color of eyes~~
- c. Color of hair Light.
- d. Height 5 ft. 10 in.
- e. Weight 142 1/2 lbs.

f. ~~Permanent marks and physical defects at enlistment (Old fractures or breaks)~~

DENTAL CHARTS

(See Physical report of examination prior to enlistment)

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

Robert C. Davis
The Adjutant General.
per doc.

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

CEMETERY NO:

SHEET NO:
TYPED BY:

S/3319/LML



Charles J. Wynne,
Captain, Q.M.C., U.S.A.

REC'D WORLD WAR
10. 11 1923

File 10-16-23

293
Bittner
Leo, W.

Bittner, Leo W. J.

1,257,743



(Surname) Bugler (Christian name in full.) Co.B, 109th MG Bn. (Army serial number.)

(Rank and organization.)

State your relationship to the deceased. Aunt and Whole Dependant

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 remains.) (Express office.) (Telegraph office.)

(Number and street.) (City or town.) (State.)

(Sign here)

Caroline Bittner # 326 Walnut Street, Columbia Penna.

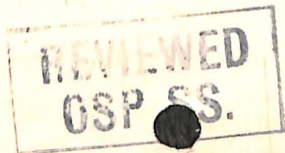
(Number and street or rural route.) (City, town, or post office.) (State.)

Read carefully the letter accompanying this card.

Reviewed by PF

608-251

12-11



APR 12-13-20

Place Seringes (Aisne)Date June 5, 19REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL.

Remains of:

Name: Leo W.S. BittnerNumber: 1257743Rank: NoneOrganization: Co. B. 109th. MG. Bn.Disinterment and Reburial made by Group 3 Unit 304Disinterred (Date) June 5, 19 From: (Give complete location)From Grave # 83 Sketch #41-Carr. Map #33 Soissons. SE. 230.65.N-185.35E#4 SerbingReburied (Date) June 5, 19 in: (Give complete location)Grave # 78 Section C. Plot #2. Fed. Cem. Seringes et Nesles (Aisne)Map # 33 Soissons. SE. 275.4N-195.25E304

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

Buried 3 feet deep--- Body badly decomposed.Was one identification tag found upon the body? No tags.yes 2/9What other means of identification were found on the body? NoneIdentified by name on cross.

Note:

If upon disinterment, effects are found upon bodies, they will be promptly sent to the Effects Depot direct, as is required by G.O. 170, G.H. 2, 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: Cpl. C.E. Wise.

1st. Lt. Wm. N. Carr.
C.O. Group 3 Unit 304

CONFIRMED No. 11860



Place BRIGNES-ET-NESTLES (Aine)
Cty. 608.

Date 4.15.21.

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

1. REMAINS OF BETTNER, LEE W.J. SERIAL NUMBER 1257743

RANK BUG. ORGANIZATION REG CO. B. 109TH. INF. M. G. BN.

2. Disinterred (date): 4.15.21. From (give complete location): GR. 78. SEC. C. PT. 2.

By: Group RENOUARD'S Unit FIELD SECTION #7

3. Reburied (date): 4.15.21. In (give complete location): GR. 78. SEC. C. PT. 2.

By: Group RENOUARD'S Unit FIELD SECTION #7 Nature of reburial PINE BOX & BURLAP.

4. Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon disinterment:
BADLY DECOMPOSED FEATURES UNRECOGNIZABLE

UNIFORM & BURLAP

5. (a) Identification tags: Buried with body? YES On grave marker? NO

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

TAG ON BODY: "LEE W. J. BITTNER - Co. B. 109TH. M. G. BN. 1257743 - Send for Priest"

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

(a) Height (actual measurement) -----

(b) Weight (estimated) -----

(c) Hair—Color -----

Quantity -----

Characteristics -----

(d) Hair on face—Color -----

Location -----

Quantity -----

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

IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE

(f) Wounds or missing parts (received at time of casualty) 29, 32, 1, 2, 15, 16, 17, 19, e. ext; 23, 24, mis. a. d.

IMP TO DETER

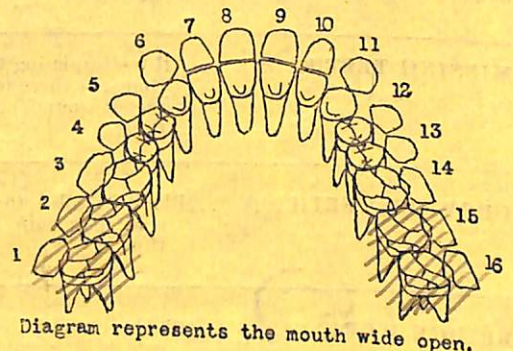
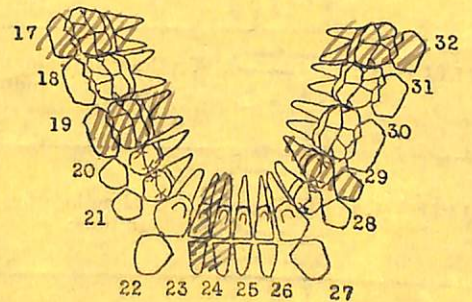


Diagram represents the mouth wide open.



7. Disinterment supervised by A. E. Dewey Approved: L. B. Massie
A. E. DEWEY, 1st Lt. Q.M.C. (Title) L. B. MASSIE, Capt. Q.M.C.

8. Reburial supervised by A. E. Dewey Approved: L. B. Massie
H.F.H. bfs A. E. DEWEY, 1st Lt. Q.M.C. (Title) L. B. MASSIE, Capt. Q.M.C.

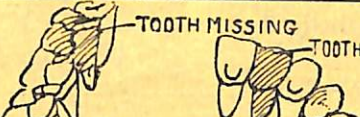
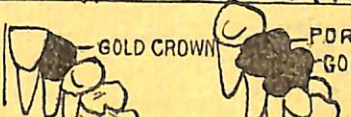

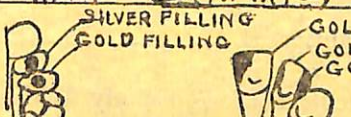

D-2994

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

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

1. Show soldier's name, serial number, rank and organization, and by whom disinterred and reburied.
2. Give date and accurate information as to location from which the body was disinterred and the group and unit which made disinterment.
3. Give date and accurate information as to location of reburial and the group and unit which made reburial, and how reburial was made—in casket, wooden box, etc.
4. State to what degree decomposition has progressed, whether recognition is possible, and how the body was originally buried—in a casket, box, burlap, etc. This statement should be as complete as possible.
5. (a) State whether identification tags were found buried with body and on grave marker by reporting "Yes" or "No."

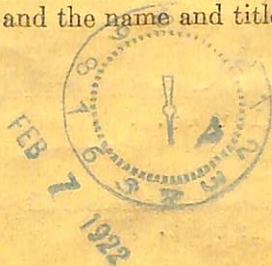
(b) State whether or not body appears to have been a hospital case. Were any identifying articles found in or on body or grave? List any personal effects, letters, money-order receipts, and the like found on body or in grave. Give any and all information which it is thought might be of use in identifying the body, other than that tabulated under Item No. 6.
6. Give all information as to body description and dental chart as nearly correctly as the condition of the body will allow. Items (e) and (f) under the body description are very important and should be very complete. The dental chart is also very important and should be filled in with great care. There are 32 teeth to be accounted for, as shown by the numbers on the chart. Beginning at the middle line in both upper and lower jaws, the teeth are arranged symmetrically on either side and classed as incisors (cutting teeth), cuspids or canines (tearing teeth), bicuspids (chewing teeth), and molars (principal chewing teeth). An examination should be made and findings charted to cover the following basic conditions: Lost teeth, crowned teeth, bridge work, fillings, caries (cavities of decay), dentures (plates), and any deformity of jaws found.

MISSING TEETHAll teeth missing through previous extraction (not those fractured or displaced by recent wounds) should be scratched out, thus:	 <p align="center">TOOTH MISSING TOOTH MISSING</p>
CROWNED TEETHBlock in solid the crown of tooth (label gold, porcelain, or gold and porcelain), thus:	 <p align="center">GOLD CROWN PORCELAIN CROWN</p>
BRIDGE WORKBlock in solid the crown of tooth (label gold bridge, gold and porcelain bridge), thus:	 <p align="center">GOLD AND PORCELAIN BRIDGE GOLD BRIDGE</p>
FILLINGSDraw filling on tooth accurately as possible (block in and label gold, silver, cement), thus:	 <p align="center">SILVER FILLING GOLD FILLING GOLD FILLING GOLD FILLING</p>
CARIES (CAVITIES)Outline location and size of cavity, shade in thus:	 <p align="center">CAVITY DECAYED DECAYED DECAYED DECAYED</p>

DENTURES (PLATES).....Draw diagram of relative size and shape of plate, block in teeth attached and indicate retaining clasps on natural teeth with the word "clasp."

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

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



14695
**GRAVE LOCATION BANK
FIELD REPORT?**

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Bittner, *1257743*, *Leo W. J.*
(Surname.) (Number.) (First Name and Initials.)

Bugler, *Unknown 109th M.G. Bn.*
(Rank.) (Organization.)

DATE OF BURIAL: *July. 22/18.*

PLACE OF BURIAL

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

Map. Soissons. S.E. No. 33

Key. ^E185.5 & ^N270.7

~~Com. c-65. Brey (aisne)~~

GRAVE NUMBER: *83*

HOW MARKED: *James* Name Peg? Cross? *yes.*

B. A. #1 Headboard? Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

JK Was one buried with body? *yes.*

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:

553

REVIEWED
CAP 83

13 OCT 1918

REPORTED BY: *William A. Grebing,*
Capt. F.A.N.G.

(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer.)

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

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK
LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

14695

Bittner 1257743 Lee W. J.

Bugler 109 Machine Gun Battalion

DATE OF BURIAL Aug. 23, 1918

PLACE OF BURIAL

American Cemetary, Coincy, Aisne, France

GRAVE NUMBER No. 1 in trench No. 2 from crest of hill.

HOW MARKED: Name Peg? Cross? Yes

Headboard? Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body? Yes

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

If name unknown and tags missing, etc.

543

REPORTED BY:

John M. S. Allison
1st Lt. San. Corps, N.A.

Registrar.

REVIEWED
OCT 28 1918

9 SEP 1918

COPY

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

Hoboken, N. J.

NAME OF DECEASED SOLDIER

CEMETERY NO.

DATE

Bittner, Leo W. J.

608 - 251

2/24/21.

SERIAL NUMBER

ORGANIZATION

1257743

Co. B, 109th M.G. Bn.

Date of Death - 8/15/24/18.

Original Forwarded
to Hoboken
Date 2/26/21 B

WAR RISK INSURANCE INFORMATION

Adjustment Made

DATE

March 21, 1921.

NAME OF BENEFICIARY

Miss Carolina Bittner

Address

141 S. 3rd St, Columbia, Pa.

RELATIONSHIP

Aunt

File No.

85 1922
14695

S/709/LML

FILE

G. R. S. Form No. 107,
Notification of Grave Location.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dec. 18, 1919.

To: Mrs. Caroline Bittner,
327 Walnut St.,
Phila, Pa.

FILES.

Case of:

Bugler Leo. W. J. Bittner, #1257743,
Company B, 109th Machine Gun Battalion.

Place of Burial: Disinterred and Reburied in
Grave #78, Section C, Plot 2,
American Cemetery #608,
Seringes-et-Nesles, Aisne.

1.- It would be likely to involve further delay if we should write personal letters in each of the many cases of notification of relatives as to the present resting places of their noble dead who glorify the nation's roll of honor.

2.- Will you therefore, please accept this letter as being the best we can do, just now? And will you also accept the sympathy of those who have been working hard for many months to render worthy service to tens of thousands of sorrowing people, in the care of their dead?

3.- Many delays in notification have resulted from our ignorance of proper addresses, shortage of clerical personnel, incomplete and imperfect information, or non-delivery and return of former letters.

4.- Thousands of bodies have been transferred to larger and better cemeteries, for reasons which were deemed imperative by the military authorities of all the Allied Nations, and the great task of improving these cemeteries is well under way. The most diligent care has been exercised to insure accuracy, and this immense project is being carried through as an unquestionable service to the friends of our dead.

5.- In serving you and others, we have been hampered by conditions and consequences of such a war as we hope may never involve our country again.

By authority of the Quartermaster General.

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

CCP/jad,

NS-3316-ad

RPS /mm



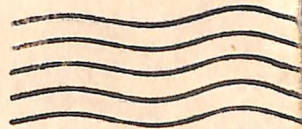
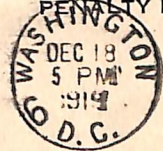
WAR DEPARTMENT

GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

*Wt at
327 Walnut
Cherry Oct*

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300



Do not use this envelope if you wish to return it to the sender.

TO RETURN TO SENDER

Mrs. Caroline Bittner,
327 Walnut St.,
Phila. Pa.

DEC 18 1919

*Phila. Pa.
NO. 5*

WAR DEPARTMENT.

GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE

American Expeditionary Forces

OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

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

Delivery delayed on account
of address.

PHILA.
NO. 4

UNCLAIMED 3

~~27 Walnut St.~~
Mrs., Caroline Bittner,

327 Walnut St.,

PHILA.,

Pa.



14695
96941

do not use this envelope or the paper within

RETURNED TO WRITER
UNCLAIMED
From
PHILADELPHIA,
PA.

MAY 26 1919

RECEIVED
U.S. POST OFFICE



at
Philadelphia
an
not

Classification _____

Adjustment _____

CEMETERY DIVISION
GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE
REGISTRATION SECTION

Date 6/29

MEMORANDUM:

To: Registration Files Sub-Section.

Subject: Adjustments made on Registration Files.

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

	CORR.	ADD. DATA		CORR.	ADD. DATA
File Number			Date of Burial		
Name			Date of Reburial		
Serial Number			Burial Information		
Rank			Nearest Relative		
Organization			Notified Nearest Relative		
Cause of Death			Blue Card thrown out		
Date of Death			White Card set up		
Casualty Cablegram Number			Confirmed D Number ✓		

O.K. Alphabetical Files H.E.S. 6-30-20

O.K. ~~Organization Files~~ _____

O.K. ~~State Files~~ _____

1 Cards attached.

Cemetery Audit Department
Investigation & Adjustment Dept.

By Oliver

REVIEWED
OSP SS.

14695

Co. B., 109th. M.G. Bn.
28th. Div.

BITTNER, Leo W.J.- Bug. I257743.
Home: Columbia, Penna.

This soldier was following Major Focs into Fismes and the road was being badly shelled. He was hit in the left side with a fragment of a shell. He was carried off to a hospital a short time after and died the next day.

Informant: Nissley, Raymond - Corp. I257817.
Co. B., 109th. M.G. Bn.
Home: R.F.D. No. 1, Comulbia, Pa.
Feb. 19, 1919.

Searcher: Chas. C. Curtis, - 2nd. Lt. U.S.A.

Emergency address;
Columbia, Penna.

SJ.

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