

13755

114
293

OK OCT 6 - 1926

DATE 9/22/21

1. NAME BLACKIEDGE, Walter M.

SERIAL No. 1449320

OK
35 Div

RANK Sgt.

ORGANIZATION Co. K, 137th Inf. & DIVISION

GRAVE LOCATION Argonne Amer. Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, #1232

Sect. 108

CTY. NAME

NUMBER

88

Sect. 108

2

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

2. ORIGINAL BATTLE AREA GRAVE LOCATION

Varennes

Meuse

GRAVE

COMMUNE

DEPT.

COORDINATES

Verdun 35SE 272.6N 303.5E

CONCENTRATED TO 6/22/19

88

Sec 108

2

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

Meuse Argonne

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 cross

DATE OF DEATH

Sept 28/18

STATE FROM WHICH HE CAME

Kansas

Data form 1

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS AWARDED

SUBSEQUENT REBURIALS

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

CEMETERY

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 9/22/21

7

35

Block H

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

Meuse-Argonne Amer. Cty 1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon (Meuse)

CEMETERY

Robert O. Davis,
Adjutant General,
The Adjutant General.
By *[Signature]*

OCT 7 1926

OCT 6 1926

WALTER M. BLACKIEDGE

AUDITED BY
M. M. E.
5/8/23

Wk

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Blackledge 1449320 Walter M.
(Surname.) (Number.) (First Name and Initials.)

Sergeant Geo. K. 137 Inf.
(Rank.) (Organization.)

DATE OF BURIAL *September 28, 1918*

PLACE OF BURIAL *Plot Mense, S.E. of*
(Give Cemetery, Town and Department.) Map reference must specify clearly what map is used.

Vareunes, map Vauquois
03.7-72.6 About 20 yds
E. of the river.

GRAVE NUMBER.....

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

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body?.....

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

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

REPORTED BY:
Howard S. Fox, Chaplain 137 Inf.
(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer.)

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

Co. K. 137th Inf.
35th Div.

BLACKLEDGE, Walter M. - Sgt. 1449320
Home: Omega, Kansas.

Sgt. Blackledge and Pvt. Johnson were together at 1:00 P.M. Sept. 26, 1918, when a shell exploded in frnt of Blackledge, killing him instantly. The incident occurred about 400 yards south of the town of Verennes. So far as witness knows. Sgt. Blackledge left no parting message. He is buried one kilometer east of Verennes with several other American soldiers.

Informant: Johnson, Shelby - Pvt. 1 cl. 1449465
Co. K. 137th Inf.
Home: Independence, Kansas.

Searcher: Ball, Harry M. - 1st Lt.
137th Inf.

Emergency address:
Mr. James P. Blackledge (Father)
Omega, Kansas.

K.E.

Transportation Request covering sleeping car accommodations should be drawn on CMStP&P RR.

WESTERN MILITARY BUREAU

ROUTE AND SCHEDULE

Blackledge, Walter M.
Sgt.

EUROPEAN PILGRIMAGE SAILING FROM NEW YORK CITY May 21, 1930

see telegram attached hereto

Blackledge

Fergus County, State of Montana

Name Blackridge, Mrs Zorah R

Address 820 W Corcoran St., Lewistown, Mont.

Route going: CMStP&P-Chicago, MC-Buffalo, NYC-New York.

Return: Penn-Washington, RF&P-Richmond, SAL-Jacksonville, SAL-River Junction, L&N-New Orleans, T&NO-Houston.

Note: (desires return to Houston, Texas with stopover in Jacksonville, Fla.)

		ROAD	TRAIN	TIME	DATE	
Itinerary going	Lv	Lewiston	CMStP&P	116	6:50PM	May 16
	Ar	Har lowtown	CMStP&P	116	8:55PM	May 16
	Lv	Har lowtown	CMStP&P	16	9:30PM	May 16
	Ar	Chicago	CMStP&P	16	9:30AM	May 18
	Lv	Chicago	MC	10	10:30AM	May 18
	Ar	New York	NYC	142	3:45PM	May 19
	Lv	(Grand Cent Sta.)				
	Ar					
	Lv					
	Ar					
	Lv					
	Ar					
	Lv					
	Ar					
	Lv					
Ar						

Accommodations: Coach Lewistown to Harlowtown, Standard sleeper, Harlowtown to Chicago and Chicago to New York.

Elapsed Time: 66 hours - 55 minutes. 3

Extra Fare:

D-5

Washington, D. C. May 7, 1930.

Mr. H. W. Siddall, Chairman,
Western Military Bureau,
428 New Union Station Bldg.,
516 W. Jackson Blvd.,
Chicago, Illinois.

WASHINGTON MAY TWENTY-FIRST PAGE D DASH FIVE TRANSPORTATION REQUESTS ONE MILLION
ONE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTEEN AND NINETEEN DRAWN FAVOR MRS BLACKRIDGE
PILGRIMS CORRECT NAME BLACKLEDGE PROTECT GSM 611

Dewitt
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

MMH/um

QM 293 A-C A-C
Blackledge, Walter M. - 1232

Date 1st July 1919

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL.

Remains of:

Name BLACKLEDGE Walter

Number: 14--820

Rank Unknown Organization: USA

Disinterment and Reburial made by Group Unit

Disinterred (Date)

From: (Give complete location)

23rd June 1919

Grave # 2 isolated

WARENN'S 35SE 272.6N 303.5E

Reburied (Date)

in: (Give complete location)

23rd June 1919

Grave # 88 Sec 108 Plot 2

ARGONNE AMER CTY: # 1232

ROMA GNE MEUSE

1232

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

Burial good, buried in Uniform, body decomposed.

Was one identification tag found upon the body? yes

What other means of identification were found upon the body? none

17076

Note:

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

Supervised by Lt Grant/

r/s

C.O. Group

Unit

CONFIRMED No. D.....

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

G. Sellar

Blackledge, Walter M.
MEDICAL RECORD

Ambassador

Sgt., Co K, 137 Inf.

Station: *Verdun Party D.L.*
Date: *2 June 1930*

Name *Blackledge Mrs. Cora*
Home address *Duwestown, Mont - 514 West Blvd*
Address of Nearest friend or relative *James P. Blackledge - husband*
Same address
Religion *Protest.* Age *59*

History of Present complaint :

(over)

INSTRUCTIONS. — This card will be started in all cases of Pilgrims requiring medical attention by the Medical Officer or Nurse first rendering such attention. Subsequently it will be carried by the nurse in attendance upon the group to which the Pilgrim is assigned. All Medical Officers rendering any assistance in the case will make an appropriate entry which will include date, time and signature. Upon final disposition of the case the Nurse in charge will deliver the card to the Office of the Chief Surgeon. Pilgrims sent to the American Hospital will be accompanied by this card properly completed, which will be authority for admission, in which case a duplicate card will be made and sent without delay to the Office of the Chief Surgeon.

Diagnosis and complications: (include dates) 6-2-30 (Conjunctivitis) RAB
5 June 1930 Nervous Headache

Treatment and Progress: (include dates) Boric acid douche 6-2-30 RAB
5/6/30 T triple bronch.

Disposition: (include dates) 8 June appears quite well

Remarks: 6/16/30 Dr. Chubb - Brush

BLACKLEDGE
WALTER M.

Party "D" - Itinerary - Meuse-Argonne Group

Arrived New York 8:45 pm Train 142. Station Grand Central

Liaison at Station Capt. Fink

Sailed May 21st on GEORGE WASHINGTON. Maj. F. D. Carlock in charge. General Cheatham accompanied as observer.

Arrived Cherbourg 11:30pm, May 29th.

May 30th. Debarked. Maj. Bailey, Capt. Kinsman, Lt. Freeman, 3 nurses and other personnel went out to ship on tender. Met at dock by Col. Ellis. Arrived Gare des Invalides, Paris, at 2:05pm. Met by Col. Bartlett and detail of officers, interpreters and nurses. Taken to hotel in bus.

May 31st. Morning devoted to transaction of personal business. Visited Arc de Triomphe in afternoon. Wreath laid on tomb of Unknown Soldier by Mrs. Eliza Wilson for party. Reception at Restaurant Laurent. Returned to hotel.

June 1st. Departed 7:30am for Verdun.

June 2, 3, 4 - Daily trips from Verdun to Meuse-Argonne Cemetery.

June 5th. Visited Cemetery, Gueppe and Reims.

June 6th. Visited Reims Cathedral, Chateau Thierry. Returned to Paris.

June 7th. Visited Sacre-Coeur in morning and Napoleon's Tomb in afternoon.

June 8th. Church. France morning - Notre Dame at night.

June 9th. Morning free. Afternoon - Versailles - Refreshments at Salle Cycliste.

June 10th. Left hotel between 9 and 9:30am for Invalides Railway Station in Paris where entrained for Cherbourg. Accompanied by 3 conducting officers, Capt. Kinsman, 3 nurses, 2 civilian employees. Arrived Cherbourg 6:11 pm. Boarded RESIDENT BOOSEVILT at 8:05 pm. Sailed at 8 pm. Arrived U. S. June 16th.

Mrs. Zorah Blackledge

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

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

BLACKLEDGE, WALTER M. - M.A.

Party "D"
 Number 635

REQUEST FOR PULLMAN RESERVATION

MRS. ZORAH R. BLACKLEDGE

Name of Traveler

HOUSTON

Estimate cost of through Pullman.

Home Address

TEXAS

New York, to HOUSTON

\$ 18.00 through rate

New York, to HOUSTON

Destination.

Via PENN. TO WASH. D.C...R.F.&P TO RICHMOND..S.A.L. TO JACKSONVILLE
S.A.L. TO RIVER JCT.FLA..L&N TO NEW ORLEANS..T&N.O. TO HOUSTON

JUNE 19, 1930
 Date of Departure

	Road	Tr. NO.	Date	Time	Lower or Seat	car	U.S.G. Order NO.	Est. Cost
LV	PENNA-STA.	P.R.R. #121	6/19	1010A				
* AR	RICHMOND	R.F.P. #17	" "	600P	S14	B	1070749	2.63
LV	" "	S.A.L. #107	" "	518P				
* AR	JACKSONVILLE	" "	" "	925A	b		50	7.50
LV	" "	" "	" "	945A				
* AR	NEW ORLEANS	L&N #3	" "	650A	b	con	71 -	6.38
LV	" "	T&N.O. #101	" "	1040A				
* AR	HOUSTON	" "	" "	830P	S	con	✓ -	3.75
LV								
AR								
LV								
AR								
						10713		20.26

TOTAL

Remarks:;

Escort Capt Chied

STOP OVER - RICHMOND, VA. - JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

* THRU-CARS-

Collect 2.26

going to buy ticket from Jacksonville home instead of going to Houston as originally planned.

Name BLACKLEDGE, Mrs Zorah R.,

Paris Hôtel HOTEL AMBASSADOR

BOULEVARD HAUSSMANN

Home address 820 W. Corcoran St., Lewistown, Fergus County, Montana

Party D Group I Unit §.§. WASHINGTON

Date of arrival May 30, 1930 Date of departure §§. ROOSEVELT - June 10 - 1930

Relationship Mother

Name of deceased BLACKLEDGE, Walter M.

Rank Sgt. Organization Co. K, 137th Inf.

Cemetery Meuse-Argonne

REMARKS

Desires return to Houston, Texas with stop-over at Jacksonville, Fla.



Validated
Stopover at Richmond Va
Jacksonville Fla

1-635

NAME BLACKLEDGE, MRS. ZORAH R.

S.S. ROOSEVELT JUN 19 1930

HOME HOUSTON TEXAS.
LEWISTOWN, FERGUS COUNTY, MONTANA.

R.R. Penn to Wash. D.C. -
R. F. & P. to Richmond -

STATION S. A. L. to Jacksonville,

TRAIN # S. A. L. to River Jct., Fla.
L. & N. to New Orleans

CAR # J. & N. O. to Houston

BERTH OR SEAT

TIME

DATE

~~Stopover at~~
~~Richmond~~
~~Va.~~

J. B. Blackledge
814 West Blvd.
Lewistown Mont

May 10th, 1930

Mrs. Zerah R. Blackledge
820 W. Corcoran Street
Lewistown, Montana

WAR DEPARTMENT
THE OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to- QM 293 A-M
Blackledge, Walter M. 1232 M

August 18, 1930.

SUBJECT: REFUND CHECK

TO: Finance Officer,
Transportation Accounts Branch,
Washington, D. C.

Herewith voucher for Mrs. Zerah Blackledge, 814 W. Boulevard, Lewiston, Montana, an eligible pilgrim under the Act of March 2, 1929, who sailed on the S. S. GEORGE WASHINGTON May 21, 1930. The statements contained therein are correct. Mrs. Blackledge was routed via Jacksonville, Fla, and Houston Tex., but after arrival at Jacksonville, Fla. decided to go home via Kansas City. Unused portion of ticket has been forwarded to your office for redemption. The payment of this voucher, in the difference between the railroad and pullman from New York City to Jacksonville, Florida, is recommended, and it is further requested that the check be sent to this office for transmittal to Mrs. Blackledge.

For the Quartermaster General.

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

Encl
Voucher

For the Quartermaster General

ORIG TO:
CC TO:

201 Blackledge, Mrs. Zerah

1st Ind.

~~P&B~~WFC-FLB.

The Finance Office, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C., August 21, 1930 -
To: The Quartermaster, U.S. Army, Room 901 Pennsylvania Building,
225 West 32nd Street, New York, N.Y.

1. In connection with payment of the voucher mentioned in basic communication, it is requested that this office be advised the number of the transportation request issued to Mrs. Blackledge for Pullman from New York on the west-bound trip.

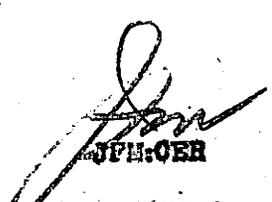
2. The voucher has been withdrawn and is being held in this office.

For and in the absence of The Finance Officer:

J.B. HARPER,
Major, Finance Department,
Executive Officer.

552.01

2nd. Ind.


JFM:GER

Lieut. George F. R. Taylor, c/o Pilgrimage Port of Embarkation, 225 West 34th Street, New York, N. Y., August 25, 1939. To: The Finance Officer, United States Army, Washington, D. C.

1. Transportation request WQ-1,020,749 was issued to cover pullman from New York to Richmond and transportation request WQ-1,020,750 was issued to cover pullman from Richmond, Va., to Jacksonville, Fla.

2. Mrs. Blackledge advised that it would not be necessary to furnish transportation as she would pay her own way from Jacksonville to Houston.

For the Officer in Charge:

GEORGE F. R. TAYLOR
1st Lieut. G. M. C. (DOL)
Assistant

JFM:GER

File-201

July 7, 1930.

201 Blackledge, Mrs. J. R.

Mr. Jas. P. Blackledge,
814 W. Boulevard,
Lewistown, Montana.

Dear Sir:

In reference to your letter of June 26, 1930, in connection with mail received at this Office for Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge, you are informed that mail received was either forwarded to the addressee, in care of Pilgrimage, Paris Office, or held until the pilgrim returned to the United States or returned to the sender.

The transmitting in connection with forwarding mail or holding same is covered by the time elapsed to the departure of the pilgrim from the United States to her re-embarkment at Paris en route home.

This Office sincerely hopes that all mail has been forwarded to Mrs. Blackledge.

Very truly yours,

¹¹⁴²
GEORGE F. R. TAYLOR,
1st. Lieut., Q.M.C. (DOL)
Assistant.

B
Party D
Zorah R. Blackledge

Lewistown Montana,
June 26 1930

War Department Quartermaster Officer,
In Charge of War Mothers Pilgrimage.
New York City. N.Y.

Dear Sir,-

I have a letter of June 3, from R.E. Shannon, Capt. Q.M.C. Washington D.C. informing me that he had referred my letter of May 22 1930, concerning return routing of Mrs Zorah R. Blackledge, to you. I have recieved no information from you as to any action taken, and have a wire from Mrs Blackledge this morning, saying she has not recieved letters sent to her in New York, care of you. If you have such letters will you kindly return them to Mrs Blackledge at Lewistown Montana. She will be traveling until she reaches home, and not likely to be able to reach her until then. If letters have not been delivered to you, will you kindly instruct P.O to return them. They were addressed about as follows,

Mrs Zorah R. Blackledge,
Care Officer in charge,
War Mothers Pilgrimage,
3rd Group, New York, N.Y.

She was with the third group sailing on the George Washington, and returning on the President Roosevelt. As I had no letter from you regarding the rerouting and extra expense of same, I sent her, by Air Mail, care your office, letter containing her Govt. Insurance check, that she might arrange her own routing, and she did not get the letter, so I am sending her money to get home from here. Capt Shannon wrote me that you would advise me concerning extra cost of return to Kansas City instead of Houston Texas, but not recieving such advise, I sent check to her.

Very Respectfully,

Mrs Blackledge stopped
at Hotel McAlpin on
return trip.

Jas P Blackledge

Jas. P. Blackledge,
814 W. Boulevard,
Lewistown, Montana.

QM 293 A-C
Blackledge, Walter M.-1232.

Quartermaster General Office,
reference.

201 Blackledge Mrs Z. R.

Any mail received for this Party was sent to France if time permitted, otherwise held for return of pilgrim home. Mail also was sent home.

F.V.

Pilgrims, War Mothers & Widows
Room 301, 225 W. 54th St.,
New York City, N.Y.

Mr. James L. Blackledge,
Seminole Inn,
Lake Wales, Florida

A. E. WILLIAMS,
Colonel, Q.M. Corps.

June 19, 1930

LEAVING NEW YORK THIS TEN A.M. IN RICHMOND VIRGINIA TILL FRIDAY SIX P.M.
JACKSONVILLE SATURDAY MORNING

MOTHER

201
Blackledge, Mrs. P

D

COPY

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

June 18, 1930

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

VIA WESTERN UNION

Mr. Jas. P. Blackledge,
Lewistown, Montana.

ARRIVED SAFELY ON ROOSEVELT JUNE EIGHTEENTH AT THE MCALPIN

MOTHER

Above message sent for Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge, Party "D", from Hotel McAlpin.

WAR DEPARTMENT
THE OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

519
523
597

201
Blackledge, Mrs J R

In reply refer to-QM 293 A-C
Blackledge, Walter M. 1232

June 3, 1930

SUBJECT: Change of Return Route.

TO: Col. A. E. Williams, Officer in Charge,
Pilgrimage Port of Embarkation, 901 Pennsylvania Bldg.,
225 West 34th Street, New York City, N. Y.

1. Mrs. Zora R. Blackledge, Page Dp5, SS GEORGE WASHINGTON, May 21, 1930, is routed on her return to Houston, Texas via Jacksonville, Florida. This office is now in receipt of a letter from her husband stating that their son who was at Houston has now moved to Kansas City and that Mrs. Blackledge desires to return to the latter point instead of Houston.

2. A copy of a letter from Mr. Blackledge is enclosed and it is requested that you advise him direct as to the additional amount required due this change.

Encl.
Copy of lt. 5-22-30

ORIG TO:
CC TO:

42-28

For the Quartermaster General

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

- - Copy - -

Lewist on, Mont ana

May 22, 1930

Quartermaster General, U. S. A.
Washington, D. C.

Officer in Charge of Transportation
World War Mothers Pilgrimage.

Dear Sir:-

Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge, Mother of Sergt. Walter M. Blackledge,
Co. K 137th Inf. QM 293 A-C, (this is only reference I have as
Mrs. Blackledge has all letters from Q.M. Dep. with her except the
original notification of June 29, 1929)

Upon her request, you very kindly changed her routing home ^{Via}
Jacksonville, Florida and Houston, Texas. I have just received a
letter from our son at Houston, that he is leaving there next week
He will very likely be in Kansas City in June when Mrs. Blackledge
returns, so that there will be no one to visit in Houston. She will
still want to go to Florida to visit our son there.

Could you change routing from Jacksonville to Kansas City, instead of
of Houston. Routing from Jacksonville is, S.A.L. Jacksonville to
River Junction. L & N. River Junction to New Orleans, T. & N.O. New
Orleans to Houston. I will send a draft for any excess charges need
ed there to make the change, as Houston is a strange city and we know
no one there after our son leaves.

Mrs. Blackledge sailed on the George Washington, May 21st. and I
suppose her return transportation is in hands of QM officers in
New York, but I thought I should write to QM General's Office
We will appreciate very much your assistance in this matter.

Very Cordially
(signed) Jas. P. Blackledge

814 W. Boulevard
Lewist own, Mont ana

CODE SLIP

HEADING	SUB-HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE
NAME <i>Blackledge,</i>	<i>B L A</i>	3	<i>2 2 1</i>
<i>Walter M.</i>	CEMETERY <i>12 3 2</i>	1	<i>1</i>
BURIED	GRAVE <i>7</i>	2	<i>0 7</i>
	ROW <i>3 5</i>	2	<i>3 5</i>
	BLOCK <i>4</i>	1	<i>8</i>
STATE	<i>Kansas</i>	2	<i>1 8</i>
RANK	<i>Sgt.</i>	1	<i>2</i>
DIVISION	<i>3 5</i>	2	<i>3 5</i>
ORGANIZATION	<i>1 3 7</i>	3	<i>1 3 7</i>
ARM	<i>Inf.</i>	1	<i>1</i>
MARTIAL	<i>no</i>	1	<i>2</i>
NAME <i>Blackledge,</i>	<i>B L A</i>	5	<i>2 2 1</i>
<i>Mrs. Zorah R.</i>	STATE <i>Mont.</i>	2	<i>3 1</i>
RESIDENCE	COUNTY <i>Fergus</i>	2	<i>1 4</i>
	CITY <i>Reidstown</i>	3	<i>0 1 2</i>
RELATION	<i>Mother</i>	1	<i>1</i>
OTHER	<i>Father</i>	1	<i>1</i>
ELIGIBILITY	<i>yes</i>	1	<i>1</i>
NATIVITY		1	
RACE		1	
ENGLISH	<i>yes</i>	1	<i>1</i>
ATTENDANT		1	
HEALTH	<i>Good</i>	1	<i>1</i>
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF	MO.	1	
TRIP	YR.	1	
ACCEPTANCE	<i>yes</i>	1	
<i>29/514/PJ</i>	<i>Age</i>		

May 21 1930

Walter

*55 Anublet
OCT 10 1931
MB*

QM 293 A-M
Blackledge, Walter H. 1232 H

September 10, 1930

Mrs. Zorah Blackledge,
Lawistown, Montana.

Dear Madam:

Supplementing previous correspondence in connection with your pilgrimage to the American Cemeteries sailing on the S. S. GEORGE WASHINGTON, May 21, 1930, there is enclosed a check on the Treasurer of the United States in the amount of \$54.93 to cover reimbursement for the amount the Government would have paid for your transportation.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.
Check.

1b

QM 293 A-M
Blackledge, Walter M. Sgt. 1232 M

August 20, 1920.

Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge,
620 W. Corcoran Street,
Lowistown, Montana.

Dear Madam:

I am pleased to acknowledge receipt of the testimonial which you and the other mothers and widows from Montana who sailed on the SS George Washington, May 21st, to visit the graves of their sons and husbands in Europe, were so kind as to send me.

It is gratifying to know that your trip was entirely satisfactory and that the officers of the Army, the doctors and the nurses rendered such courteous and efficient service. The Quartermaster Corps is proud of the honor bestowed upon it by being charged with the conduct of these pilgrimages and has expended every effort that those making the journey might have a pleasant and comfortable trip. I feel, however, that the task has been materially lightened by the wonderful spirit of cooperation and consideration shown by the mothers and widows.

I am particularly pleased to know that the trip has instilled in you a feeling of peace and satisfaction through the manner in which the graves of our hero dead are maintained in Europe and that you derived a great comfort from the visit to the grave of your son.

With sincere appreciation of the sentiments expressed by you, I am

Sincerely yours,

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

RES
JTH
WRG

mef

ETK

QM 293 A-M
Blackledge, Walter M. 1232 M

August 18, 1930

SUBJECT: Refund Check.

TO: Finance Officer,
Transportation Accounts Branch,
Washington, D. C.

Herewith voucher for Mrs. Zerah Blackledge, 814 W. Boulevard, Lewiston, Montana, an eligible pilgrim under the Act of March 3, 1929, who sailed on the S.S. GEORGE WASHINGTON May 21, 1930. The statements contained therein are correct. Mrs. Blackledge was routed via Jacksonville, Fla. and Houston, Tex., but after arrival at Jacksonville decided to go home via Kansas City. Unused portion of ticket has been forwarded to your office for redemption. The payment of this voucher, in the difference between the railroad and pullman from New York City to Jacksonville, Florida, is recommended, and it is further requested that the check be sent to this office for transmittal to Mrs. Blackledge.

For The Quartermaster General,

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

Encl.
Voucher.

QM 293 A-M
Blackledge, Walter M. 1232 M

August 6, 1930.

SUBJECT: Refund on Transportation

TO: Finance Officer,
Transportation Accounts Branch,
Washington, D. C.

1. There is enclosed herewith coupon covering transportation of Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge from Jacksonville, Florida to Houston, Texas. Mrs. Blackledge was a pilgrim, sailing on the S. S. George Washington May 21, 1930. She asked to have her ticket changed in New York City to read via Jacksonville, Fla. and Kansas City, Mo. to Lewistown, Montana and desired to pay the difference, but this was not done and she paid her own way from Jacksonville. Claim for refund of the difference in fares between New York - Jacksonville, Fla. and New York - Lewistown, Mont. will be submitted later.

2. The attached coupon was issued on transportation request No. WQ 1,001,418.

For The Quartermaster General,

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

Enclosure:
Ticket

RMS:cc

QM 293 A-M
Blackledge, Walter M. - 1232 M

August 6, 1930.

Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge,
Lewistown, Montana.

Dear Madam:

This office is in receipt of a letter in your behalf, dated July 29, 1930, from Mr. James P. Blackledge, and there is enclosed a War Department voucher which should be signed by you on the front and back of the first page at the two places marked "x" in pencil. After this has been signed, it should be sworn to before a Notary Public or other official authorized to administer oath and returned to this office. When it is received, the matter will be taken up with the Finance Officer with the view to having refund made to you of the difference between the fare to Jacksonville and the fare to Lewistown.

This office regrets that you have experienced any difficulty in adjusting your ticket in New York City.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Enclosure:
Voucher

RES:eo

Lewistown Montana,
July 29 1930.

QM 293 A+C
Blackledge, Walter M.-1232,

Capt. P.

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

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

Dear Sir,-

May 22, 1930 I wrote the Department regarding changing return routing of Mrs Zorah R. Blackledge, Gold Star Pilgrimage, from, Houston Texas, To, Kansas City, Mo. Have letter signed by Captain Shannon, stating that the matter had been referred to Officer in charge of the Pilgrimage at New York, dated June 3, 1930.

I recieved no advise from Officer in charge at New York, and when Mrs Blackledge arrived in New York, Officer stated that he could do nothing about changing routing, and advised that she pay her fare from Jacksonville to Kansas City, and send in unused portion of ticket to Department for refund. She also tried at Jacksonville, and was advised by Agent to buy ticket and send in unused ticket for refund. I am enclosing ticket, and receipt for ticket from Jacksonville to Kansas City. While she was entitled to Pullman from Jacksonville, to Houston, no ticket was given her so I cannot send that. I hope that you will be able to get some refund for her.

Very Truly Yours,

Jas P. Blackledge

For, Mrs Zorah R. Blackledge,
Lewistown, Montana.

Jas P. Blackledge,
814 W. Boulevard,
Lewistown, Montana.



NAME B Buckledge, Mrs Zarah R

ADDRESS 820 W. Carver St. Lewistown, Montana

DATE July 25-1930

TO:

OFFICER-IN-CHARGE,
PILGRIMAGE, WAR MOTHERS AND WIDOWS

I BEG TO INFORM YOU THAT I HAVE RETURNED
TO MY HOME SAFELY AND IN GOOD HEALTH.

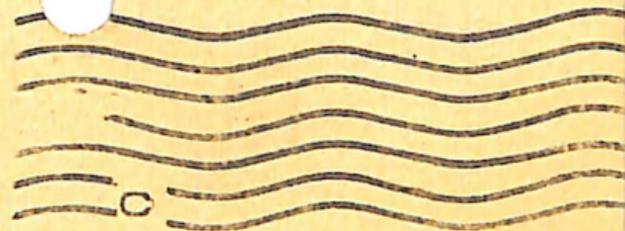
SINCERELY,

(SIGNED) Mrs Zarah R Buckledge

WAR DEPARTMENT

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



PILGRIMAGE, WAR MOTHERS AND WIDOWS

225 WEST 34TH STREET,

NEW YORK, N. Y.

STATE

MONTANA

BLACKLEDGE, Walter M.

Mother

820 W. Corcoran St.,
Lewistown,

NAME Blackledge, Mrs. Zorah R.

HOME ADDRESS Fergus County.....

NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEAREST KIN Mr. J. B. Blackledge 814 W. Blvd.

Lewiston, Mont.

ARRIVAL IN NEW YORK

DATE 5/19 HOTEL Roosevelt ROOM NO. 434

DEPARTURE NEW YORK

DATE May 21st, 1930 VESSEL S/S "WASHINGTON" CABIN NO. 303A

DESTINATION CHERBOURG, FRANCE CEMETERY MEUSE-ARGONNE

MEDICAL RECORD

Party "D" Miss Se lar

Station: _____

Date: Verdun June 2,

1930

Name BLOCKLEDGE Mrs. Lorah^Z

Home address 814 West Blvd. Lewistown, Montana

Address of Nearest friend or relative James P. Blockledge (Husband)
S.A.

Religion Prot. Age 59

History of Present complaint :

INSTRUCTIONS. — This card will be started in all cases of Pilgrims requiring medical attention by the Medical Officer or Nurse first rendering such attention. Subsequently it will be carried by the nurse in attendance upon the group to which the Pilgrim is assigned. All Medical Officers rendering any assistance in the case will make an appropriate entry which will include date, time and signature. Upon final disposition of the case the Nurse in charge will deliver the card to the Office of the Chief Surgeon. Pilgrims sent to the American Hospital will be accompanied by this card properly completed, which will be authority for admission, in which case a duplicate card will be made and sent without delay to the Office of the Chief Surgeon.

(over)

Diagnosis and complications: (*include dates*)

June 2, 1930 Conjunctivitis acute cause undet.

June 5, 1930 Headche

Treatment and Progress: (*include dates*)

June 2, 1930 Boric acid douche to both eyes

June 6, 1930 Triple bromides.

Disposition: (*include dates*)

June 8, 1930 Appears quite well.

Remarks:

June 10, 1930 To Cherbourg. Beach

RETURN NEW YORK

DATE JUN 18 1928

820 W. Corcoran St.
Lewistown, Mont.
Pergus Co.

NAME

Blackledge, Mrs. Zora B.

ADDRESS

RETURN ON S. S.

S/S ROOSEVELT

HOTEL

MCALPIN

ROOM NO.

1893

DEPARTURE NEW YORK

DATE

6/19

ROAD

Prun

TRAIN

121

CAR

BERTH or SEAT

114

REMARKS

Richmond, Va.
Jacksonville, Fla.

563

1232

RETURN RECEIPT

Washington 5/21/30

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

Miss Grace P. Blackledge

(Signature or name of addressee.)

(Signature of addressee's agent.)

Date of delivery,

May 18th, 192³

Post Office Department

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

REGISTERED ARTICLE

No. _____

INSURED PARCEL

No. _____

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

POSTMARK OF DELIVERING
OFFICE

AND DATE OF DELIVERY

Q. M. GENERAL

Return to _____

Street and Number, }
or Post Office Box, } _____

MUNITIONS BUILDING

Post Office at _____

Rev. 3-24

o 5-6116

State _____

563-C Washington 5/21/30

RETURN RECEIPT

1232

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

Wm. J. ...

(Signature or name of addressee.)

(Signature of addressee's agent.)

Date of delivery, 5-9, 1930

Form 3811

16-0110

Post Office Department

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

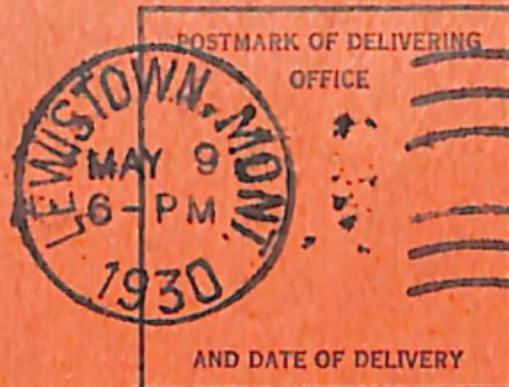
REGISTERED ARTICLE

No. 927002

INSURED PARCEL

No. _____

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



Return to _____

Q. M. GENERAL.

(NAME OF SENDER)

*Street and Number, }
or Post Office Box, }* _____

MUNITIONS BUILDING

Post Office at _____

Washington, D. C.

Rev. 3-24

05-6116

State _____

OM 293 A-C
Blackledge, Walter M. - 1932.

June 3, 1930.

Mr. James P. Blackledge,
814 W. Boulevard,
Lewistown, Montana.

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of
May 23, 1930, requesting that Mrs. Zerah R. Blackledge
be routed to Kansas City instead of Houston on her
return trip from the semestries of Europe, sailing on
the SS GEORGE WASHINGTON, May 21, 1930.

In connection therewith, you are advised that
the matter has been referred to the Officer in Charge
of the Pilgrimage at New York City. He will advise you
concerning the extra cost of the routing to Kansas City.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

R. E. SHANNON,
Captain, 3. M. Corps,
Assistant.

13

QM 293 A-C
Blackledge, Walter M. 1932.

June 3, 1930.

SUBJECT: Change of Return Route.

TO: Col. A. E. Williams, Officer in Charge,
Pilgrimage Port of Embarkation, 901 Pennsylvania Bldg.,
225 West 34th Street, New York City, N. Y.

1. Mrs. Zera R. Blackledge, Page D-3, SS GEORGE WASHINGTON, May 21, 1930, is routed on her return to Houston, Texas via Jacksonville, Florida. This office is now in receipt of a letter from her husband stating that their son who was at Houston has now moved to Kansas City and that Mrs. Blackledge desires to return to the latter point instead of Houston.

2. A copy of Mr. Blackledge's letter is enclosed and it is requested that you advise him direct as to the additional amount required due to this change.

For The Quartermaster General:

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

HES/nn
Encl.

Copy of Lt. 5-22-30.

13

Lewistown Montana,
May 22 1930.

*Tergue Co.
Wash. May 21st*

Quartermaster General U.S.A.
Washington, D.C.

Officer in charge of Transportation
World War Mothers Pilgrimage.

Dear Sir,-

Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge, Mother of Sergt. Walter M. Blackledge, 1232
Co. K 137th. Inf. QM 293 A-C, (this is only reference I have
as Mrs Blackledge has all letters from Q.M. Dep. with her
except the original notification of June 29 1929)

Upon her request, you very kindly changed her routing home
Via Jacksonville Fla. and Houston Texas. I have just recieved
a letter from our son at Houston, that he is leaving there
next week. He will very likely be in Kansas in June when
Mrs Blackledge returns, so that there will be no one at
Houston to visit. She will still want to go to Folrida to
visit our son there.

Could you change routing from Jacksonville to Kansas City,
instead of Houston. Routing from Jacksonville is, S.A.L.
Jacksonville to River Junction, L. & N. River Junction to
New Orleans, T. & N.O. New Orleans to Houston. I will send
Drft. for any excess charges needed to make the change, as
Houston is a strange city, and we know no one there after
our son leaves.

Mrs Blackledge sailed on th George Washington, ~~May 21st~~
I suppose her return transportation is in hands of Q.M.
Officers in New York, but I thought that I should write
to Q.M. Generals Office. We will appreciate very much your
assistance in this matter.

Very Cordially,



Jas. P. Blackledge

Jas. P. Blackledge,
814 W. Boulevard,
Lewistown, Montana.

May 7, 1930.

Blackledge, Walter M. - 1232

Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge,
820 W. Caravan Street,
Lewistown, Montana.

Dear Madam:

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

Lv. Lewistown	CLST&P	Train #116	8:30 PM	May 16
Ar. Harlowton	"	116	8:55 PM	May 16
Lv. Harlowton	"	18	9:30 PM	May 16
Ar. Chicago	"	16	9:30 AM	May 18
Lv. Chicago	MC	16	10:30 AM	May 18
Ar. New York	NYC	142	3:45 PM	May 19

(Grand Cent Sta)

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours

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

30/1015/

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Blackledge, Walter M. 1232-K

May 5, 1930

Mrs. Zorah R. Bladledge,
820 W. Corcoran St.,
Lewistown, Montana

Dear Madam:

There is enclosed herewith Check No. 313011 in the amount of \$ 30,000 pay for your meals and incidental expenses from your home to New York on the pilgrimage authorized by the Act of March 2, 1929.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES MUST THIS CHECK BE CASHED AND USED FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN THAT SPECIFIED.

If for any reason, you are not able to sail on the date mentioned in your invitation, the check must be returned to this office immediately.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

1 Incl.
Check No.

OX 298 A-C

Blackledge, Walter H. - 1232

April 16, 1930.

Mrs. Zarah R. Blackledge,
814 West Boulevard,
Lowtown, Montana.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 1, 1930 concerning your acceptance of the invitation to make the pilgrimage on the S.S. WASHINGTON May 21, 1930.

Notation has been made of your desire to stop over at Jacksonville, Florida for ten days before traveling to Houston, Texas, the fare from Houston, Texas to Lowtown, Montana to be paid by you. In issuing transportation, arrangements will be made whereby you may make this stop-over.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

/s/

814 West Boulevard

Lewistown, Montana

Fergus Co

April 1 1930

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

R.E. Shannon,
Capt. Q.M.C. Asst.

Dear Sir,-

Confirming wire of today, in answer to your letter of March 28.

Please routereturn from New York, Via. Jacksonville Fla. with ten days stop over, thence to Houston Texas, instead of return to Lewistown Montana. I to take care of expenses from Houston Texas to Lewistown Montana. Also to pay additional Pullman fare of \$3.00 at New York.

Thanking you for courtesies extended,
Very Cordially,

Mrs Zorah R Blackledge

Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge,
814 W. Boulevard,
Lewistown, Montana.

Fergus Co



Ref.-QM 293 A-C DIV.
Blackledge, Walter M.

1232

1232

*When scheduled?
East*

Stop over noted

*Accepted
Washington
May 21st*

My Jan 10.88
Jan Novem 10.13

21.01

My Novem 18.00

3.01

Jan Lake Sales 7.50

475 115
325 365
150 750

Signal Corps, United States Army

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

Received at

LEASED WIRE

3-9312

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1929

20W HM 18 GOVT COUNT DASH COLLECT

LEWISTOWN MONT 924AM APRIL 1 1930

R E SHANNON

*1232
Washington
6-21-30*

CAPT QR MASTER CORPS QUARTERMASTER GENERALS OFFICE WASHN DC

REFERENCE QM 293 A-C BLACKLEDGE WALTER M ROUTE RETURN JACKSONVILLE

FLORIDA HOUSTON TEXAS

MRS ZORAH R BLACKLEDGE

820 W. Concoran St.

Lewiston, Montana

12NOON

son: Walter M. Blackledge

Put on card and list 106

*Return tpm to Houston Tex with
stop on at Jacksonville Fla*

W.E.S

Signal Corps, United States Army

Received at

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

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO

LEASED WIRE

3-0312

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1929

24 W BR 40 COLLECT GOVT

LEWISTOWN MONT 1003A MARCH 28 1930

DEWITT
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON DC

SIX ONE GSM LETTER ASKED IF COULD RECEIVE CASH IN LIEU OF TRANSPORTATION
NEWYORK TO LEWISTOWN WISHED TO USE CAR HOUSTON TO LEWISTOWN YOUR WIRE
DO NOT ANSWER QUESTION AT ALL CANNOT SEND AMOUNT ASKED
FOR FOR RR FARE

MRS ZORAH R BLACKLEDGE

1236P

293

Blackledge - Walter
M.

Copy 3-29-30



*File
114
JTB*

Q1 293 A-G
Blackledge, Walter H.

March 28, 1930.

Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge,
314 West Boulevard,
Lawistown, Montana.

Dear Madam:

Reference exchange of telegrams, it is regretted to advise you that this office could not legally pay you the cash in lieu of transportation from New York to Lawistown.

It is possible, however, to issue you return transportation, including pullman, from New York to Houston, Texas, in lieu of transportation to Lawistown. Your Houston ticket can be routed so that you could stop over at Jacksonville for ten days. At Jacksonville you could buy a round-trip ticket to Lake Wales, Florida, for approximately \$14.50, and the round-trip pullman fare between these points is \$7.50. If this is done it would also be necessary for you to pay, when obtaining your transportation at New York, the amount of \$5.00, to cover the additional Pullman fare from New York to Houston, via Jacksonville.

If you do not care to pay this additional amount for the side trip to Lake Wales, then this office can route you direct to Houston via either St. Louis or New Orleans, as you may desire. Under this plan there would be no collection whatever from you, but you would have to pay all of your expenses from Houston to Lawistown. Of course if you do not desire either of the above options, you may have transportation issued you to Lawistown via direct route.

As transportation arrangements for the boat on which you will sail will be made within a few days, please wire this

office just what your desire is in this connection.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

RES:MB

NIGHT LETTER

Washington, D. C., March 25, 1930.

MRS. ZORAH R. BLACKLEDGE,
814 WEST BOULEVARD,
LEWISTOWN, MONTANA.

ADDITIONAL RAILROAD COST FOR RETURN TRANSPORTATION NEW YORK TO LEWISTOWN VIA LAKE
WALES FLORIDA HOUSTON TEXAS AND MANHATTAN KANSAS NINETY DOLLARS WHICH MUST BE PAID BY
YOU IF YOU DESIRE THIS ROUTING. MAIL TO QUARTERMASTER GENERAL AT ONCE MONEY ORDER
FAVOR FINANCE OFFICER WASHINGTON D C THIS AMOUNT. WILL ALSO BE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT
FOR PULLMAN TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS WHICH YOU WILL HAVE TO PAY BEFORE LEAVING NEW YORK.
CAN ROUTE YOU THROUGH KANSAS CITY WITH STOP-OVER TEN DAYS AND THERE YOU CAN BUY ROUND
TRIP TICKET KANSAS CITY-MANHATTAN FOR EIGHT SIXTY. ADDITIONAL PULLMAN TO BE PAID
NEW YORK ONE DOLLAR SEVENTY-FIVE. ADVISE BY WIRE COLLECT. 61 GCM
QM 293 A-C Blackledge, Walter M.

DEWITT
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

RES/mm

RES
JTH
WRG

Washington, D. C., March 25, 1930.

MRS. ZORAH R. BLACKLEDGE,
814 WEST BOULEVARD,
LEWISTOWN, MONTANA.

ADDITIONAL RAILROAD COST FOR RETURN TRANSPORTATION NEW YORK TO LEWISTOWN VIA LAKE WALES FLORIDA HOUSTON TEXAS AND MANHATTAN KANSAS NINETY DOLLARS WHICH MUST BE PAID BY YOU IF YOU DESIRE THIS ROUTING. MAIL TO QUARTERMASTER GENERAL AT ONCE MONEY ORDER FAVOR FINANCE OFFICER WASHINGTON D C THIS AMOUNT. WILL ALSO BE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT FOR PULLMAN TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS WHICH YOU WILL HAVE TO PAY BEFORE LEAVING NEW YORK. CAN ROUTE YOU THROUGH KANSAS CITY WITH STOP-OVER TEN DAYS AND THERE YOU CAN BUY ROUND TRIP TICKET KANSAS CITY-MANHATTAN FOR EIGHT SIXTY. ADDITIONAL PULLMAN TO BE PAID NEW YORK ONE DOLLAR SEVENTY-FIVE. ADVISE BY WIRE COLLECT. 61 GSM

QM 293 A-C Blackledge, Walter M.

DeWITT
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

RES/mm

QM 293 A-C
Blackledge, Walter M.

March 25, 1930.

Mrs. Zerah R. Blackledge,
814 West Boulevard,
Lewistown, Montana.

My dear Madam:

Confirming telegram of this date, the excess cost of transportation from New York City to Lewistown, via Lake Wales, Florida, Houston, Texas and Manhattan, Kansas, would be ninety dollars, and as any excess must be paid by the passenger, it will be necessary for you to remit this amount to this office by money order payable to the Finance Officer, Washington, D. C. There will also be an excess amount of approximately \$8.25 for Pullman, which you would have to pay before leaving New York City.

Return transportation can be issued you via Kansas City without additional cost except an amount of \$1.75 for Pullman, which you would pay before leaving New York. On this routing you can stop over at Kansas City for ten days, purchase a round trip ticket in Kansas City to Manhattan, returning to Kansas City before the expiration of your ten days.

If you have not already done so, please wire this office just what you desire to do.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

RMS/jm

My Jack
Joe SA
SA Dennis

10.88

12.5

12.75

36.38

19.8

16.50

8.50

25.00

Wright
My

N.Y. to Lake Wales Fla	43.82
Lake Wales to Houston Tex	49.08
Houston to Manhattan N.Y.	27.72
Manhattan to Lewiston Mead	47.79
	<hr/>
	168.41

N.Y. to Lewiston Mead

80.55

Dif

87.86

Signal Corps, United States Army

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

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.

3-9311

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1929

7 W BR 22 COLLECT GOVT NIGHT

LEWISTOWN MONT MARCH 23 1930

DEWITT QM GENERAL
WASHINGTON DC

G S M FIVE FIVE RE EUROPEAN PILGRIMAGE WISH TO VISIT
LAKEWALES FLORIDA HOUSTON TEXAS MANHATTAN KANSAS ON RETURN FROM
NEWYORK

MRS SARAH R BLACKLEDGE

293-Blackledge - Walker, Jr.

Record Attached



30

PRIORITY

Washington, D. C. March 22, 1930.

Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge,
814 West Boulevard,
Lewistown, Montana.

RE INQUIRIES CONCERNING EUROPEAN PILGRIMAGE STOPOVERS CAN BE ARRANGED ENROUTE
NEW YORK TO HOME ADVISE BY WIRE COLLECT POINTS YOU DESIRE TO STOPOVER GSM 55

DeWITT
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

QM 293 A-C
Blackledge, Walter M.

VB:MB



res
RES
JTH
WRG



X

PRIORITY

Washington, D. C. March 22, 1930.

Mrs. Zerah R. Blackledge,
814 West Boulevard,
Lewistown, Montana.

RE INQUIRIES CONCERNING EUROPEAN PILGRIMAGE STOPOVERS CAN BE ARRANGED ENROUTE
NEW YORK TO HOME ADVISE BY WIRE COLLECT POINTS YOU DESIRE TO STOPOVER GSM 55

DeWITT
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

QM 293 A-C
Blackledge, Walter M.

VB:SB

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

March 19, 1930.

Blackledge, Walter M. 1232 M

Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge,
820 W. Corcoran St.,
Lewistown, Mont.

Dear Madam:

The following instructions prepared by the Secretary of State contain the necessary instructions to be followed by you in obtaining the passport or travel document to be utilized in connection with your pilgrimage to the cemeteries in Europe. Please read the directions carefully and call in person upon the nearest Passport Agent or clerk of a Federal or State court having jurisdiction to naturalize aliens. Passport Agencies are located in Boston, Chicago, New Orleans, New York City, San Francisco and Seattle. In large cities there are usually two or more courts and at each county-seat a state court authorized to accept these passport applications.

When you make this call be sure to take with you the four photographs called for in the instructions together with your invitation as a means of identification. You should take with you to the passport office at this time a friend who is an American citizen and who has known you for several years. The passport Agent or clerk of the court will mail your application to the Secretary of State in Washington, D. C., who will issue the passports and travel documents and will deliver them to The Quartermaster General to be held by him until your arrival in New York.

The instructions prepared by the Secretary of State are as follows:

"A mother or widow who owes allegiance to the United States must apply to the Department of State for a Special Pilgrimage Passport through a Passport Agent or through a clerk of a Federal court or State court having jurisdiction to naturalize aliens and on the form prescribed by that Department. When making application, she should be accompanied by a credible witness who is an American citizen and who has known her for a period of two years or more. With her application she should submit four photographs on a light background and on thin paper not more than 3x3 inches in size not less than 2½x2½ inches in size and such documentary

evidence of her American citizenship as she may have in her possession. In the absence of evidence of citizenship, her application should be witnessed by a credible person residing in the same community who is an American citizen, has known her for a long period of time and is able to swear to the best of his or her knowledge and belief that she is a citizen of the United States.

"A mother or widow who does not owe allegiance to the United States must apply to the Department of State for a Pilgrimage Travel Document through a clerk of a Federal court or a State court having jurisdiction to naturalize aliens or through a Passport Agent upon the form of application prescribed for that purpose, entitled APPLICATION FOR A PILGRIMAGE TRAVEL DOCUMENT, issued under the Act of March 2, 1929, submitting therewith four photographs on a light background and on thin paper not more than 3 x 3 inches in size and not less than 2½ x 2½ inches in size. When making application she should be accompanied by a credible witness who has known her for a period of two years or more.

"The Act of March 2, 1929, provides that no fee shall be charged for the execution of an application for a passport or travel document or for the issue of a passport or travel document to a mother or widow making a pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe in which deceased soldiers, sailors, and marines of the American forces are now interred.

"Special Pilgrimage Passports and Pilgrimage Travel Documents when issued by the Department of State will be forwarded to the War Department.

"Applicants resident in Boston, Chicago, New Orleans, New York City, San Francisco and Seattle should execute applications at the Passport Agencies in those cities."

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

1232

Washington
5-21-30

Blackledge, Walter
M

I Accept the invitation extended
(Accept or decline)
me to make a pilgrimage to Europe at the expense of the
Government of the United States under the provisions of
the Act of Congress approved March 2, 1929.

Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge
(Name)

820 W. Corcoran St., Lewistown, Fergus Co., Mont.
(Town or City) (State)

Desires

*Return to Houston Texas with stopover
Jacksonville Fla*

814 West Boulevard
Lewistown, Montana

March 17 1930.

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

I have accepted the invitation of the Government of the United States, to make a pilgrimage to visit the grave of my son, Sergt. Walter Blackledge, Co K 137 Inf. Leaving New York on the Steamship Washington, on May 21, 1930.

I have one son now in Florida, and one in Houston Texas, My mother and sisters live in Kansas. I would like to visit them on my return from France. Would it be possible to have the Government give me the money for my return from New York, instead of tickets, and let me use it for the trip to Florida and Texas instead of coming directly home from New York. Of course I making up all that trip cost over what the cost directly home would cost the Government. If this is possible I would certainly appreciate the courtesy. If not would it be possible to get time on my return ticket to make the Florida trip from New York.

Very Sincerely,

Mrs Zorah R Blackledge

Mrs Zorah R. Blackledge,
Lewistown, Montana.



*Accepted
Washington
May 21*

61 9.2 m.

814 West Boulevard
Lewistown, Montana

March 17 1930.

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

I have accepted the invitation of the Government of the United States, to make a pilgrimage to visit the grave of my son, Sergt. Walter Blackledge, Co K 137 Inf. Leaving New York on the Steamship Washington, on May 21, 1930.

I have one son now in Florida, and one in Houston Texas, My mother and sisters live in Kansas. I would like to visit them on my return from France. Would it be possible to have the Government give me the money for my return from New York, instead of tickets, and let me use it for the trip to Florida and Texas instead of coming directly home from New York. Of course I making up all that trip cost over what the cost directly home would cost the Government. If this is possible I would certainly appreciate the courtesy. If not would it be possible to get time on my return ticket to make the Florida trip from New York.

Very Sincerely,

Mrs Zorah R Blackledge

Mrs Zorah R. Blackledge,
Lewistown, Montana.



*Accepted
Washington
May 21*

61 9.2 m.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

October 7, 1929.

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Blackledge, Walter M. 1232 M

Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge,
820 Corcoran St.,
Lewistown, Montana.

Dear Madam:

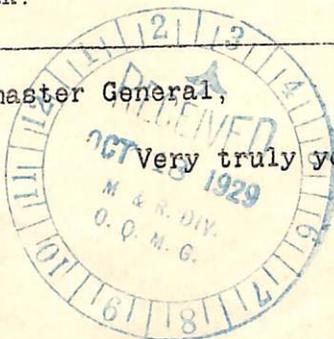
The Act of Congress which provides for pilgrimages to cemeteries in Europe by mothers and widows of members of the military or naval forces of the United States who died in the military or naval service at any time between April 5, 1917 and July 1, 1921, and whose remains are now interred in such cemeteries, 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) Yes, (No)
2. Do you desire to make the pilgrimage in the calendar year 1930?	(Yes) 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) No
4. Please give your age and state of health.	Age 58 Health good (Years) (Good) (Poor)
5. What language do you speak?	English - (Yes) yes (No) Other language None (Specify language spoken)

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,



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

Encl.
Act
Envelope

*Solved
Mar 21, 1930*

Lewistown, Montana.

July 15 1929.

Subject, - Mothers Pilgrimages,
Ref. - QM 293 A*
Blackledge, Walter M.

To, - Quartermaster General,
Washington D.C.
Cemeterial Division.

John T. Harris
Major, Q.M. Corps,

Dear Sir, -

In reply to your letter of June 29 1929, forwarded from Manhattan, Kansas. - Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge, 820 W. Corcoran, St. Lewistown, Montana. is surviving mother of Sergt. Walter M. Blackledge, Co. K 137th. Inf. He was unmarried.

Will it be possible for fathers to arrange to accompany mothers on these pilgrimages either as paying passengers, or under ~~the~~ paragraph (d) Sec. 2. "Personnel selected to accompany and/or arrange for the pilgrimages".

Some time after Walters death, I recieved a letter stating that as soon as possible Photographs of graves of soldiers would be sent to families, and asking that requests for such photographs be not made, as they would be sent as rapidly as possible. No such Photograph has ever been recieved.

Very truly yours,



Jas. P. Blackledge,
820 W. Corcoran, St.,
Lewistown, Montana.

1232
6-29-29

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

June 29 1929.

Blackledge, Walter M.

**Mr. J. P. Blackledge,
918 Osage St.,
Manhattan, Kans.**

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 **Sergeant Walter M. Blackledge, Co. K. 137th Inf., whose remains are now interred in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, France.**

Will you please advise this office whether or not he is survived by a mother 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.

QM 293 A-M
Blackledge, Walter M. Sgt. 1232 M

August 20, 1930.

Mrs. Zerah R. Blackledge,
820 W. Corcoran Street,
Lewistown, Montana.

Dear Madam:

I am pleased to acknowledge receipt of the testimonial which you and the other mothers and widows from Montana who sailed on the SS George Washington, May 31st, to visit the graves of their sons and husbands in Europe, were so kind as to send me.

It is gratifying to know that your trip was entirely satisfactory and that the officers of the Army, the doctors and the nurses rendered such courteous and efficient service. The Quartermaster Corps is proud of the honor bestowed upon it by being charged with the conduct of these pilgrimages and has expended every effort that those making the journey might have a pleasant and comfortable trip. I feel, however, that the task has been materially lightened by the wonderful spirit of cooperation and consideration shown by the mothers and widows.

I am particularly pleased to know that the trip has instilled in you a feeling of peace and satisfaction through the manner in which the graves of our hero dead are maintained in Europe and that you derived a great comfort from the visit to the grave of your son.

With sincere appreciation of the sentiments expressed by you, I am

Sincerely yours,

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

RES
JTH
WRG

X 330.13 PILGRIMAGE, GOLD STAR

M. G. M. R. DIN.

1930 AUG 21 PM 3 52
mef

DISPATCHED

Q1 293 A-4
Blackledge, Walter M. 1232 M

August 18, 1930

SUBJECT: Refund Check.

TO: Finance Officer,
Transportation Accounts Branch,
Washington, D. C.

Herewith voucher for Mrs. Zorah Blackledge, 814 W. Boulevard, Lewiston, Montana, an eligible pilgrim under the Act of March 2, 1929, who sailed on the S.S. GEORGE WASHINGTON May 21, 1930. The statements contained therein are correct. Mrs. Blackledge was routed via Jacksonville, Fla. and Houston, Tex., but after arrival at Jacksonville decided to go home via Kansas City. Unused portion of ticket has been forwarded to your office for redemption. The payment of this voucher, in the difference between the railroad and pullman from New York City to Jacksonville, Florida, is recommended, and it is further requested that the check be sent to this office for transmittal to Mrs. Blackledge.

For The Quartermaster General,

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

15
Encl. Voucher.
DISPATCHED
1930 AUG 22 PM 12
Q.M. CORPS
F. DIV.

Aug. 11/30

INDEX SHEET

SYNOPSIS

Letter -
From - Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge,
Lewiston, Montana.
To - The QMGO.,

Is enclosing voucher signed and attested as per let. from The QMGO, of Aug. 6th, in claim for difference in travel in Gold Star Mothers Pilgrimage. Thanks the QMGO for all courtesies & kindness extended by the officers etc. of the different departments of the Govt., in the pilgrimage given .

DOCUMENT FILED UNDER NO. 330.13 - Pilgrimage, Gold Star

jsw

INSTRUCTIONS.—Under "Synopsis" make brief entry showing date of communication and from whom received and synopsis sufficient to identify the papers. When these index sheets become numerous under a subject they will be entered on the consolidated index sheet and then destroyed.

3-6642

FILE UNDER NO. 293. - Blackledge, Walter M. - 1232 M. Aug. 11/30

INDEX SHEET

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DOCUMENT FILED UNDER NO. 530.13 - Pilgrimage, Gold Star

jsw

INSTRUCTIONS.—Under "Synopsis" make brief entry showing date of communication and from whom received and synopsis sufficient to identify the papers. When these index sheets become numerous under a subject they will be entered on the consolidated index sheet and then destroyed.

3-6642

QM 293 A-M
Blackledge, Walter M. 1232 M

August 6, 1930.

SUBJECT: Refund on Transportation

TO: Finance Officer,
Transportation Accounts Branch,
Washington, D. C.

1. There is enclosed herewith coupon covering transportation of Mrs. Zerah R. Blackledge from Jacksonville, Florida to Houston, Texas. Mrs. Blackledge was a pilgrim, sailing on the S. S. George Washington May 21, 1930. She asked to have her ticket changed in New York City to read via Jacksonville, Fla. and Kansas City, Mo. to Lewistown, Montana and desired to pay the difference, but this was not done and she paid her own way from Jacksonville. Claim for refund of the difference in fares between New York - Jacksonville, Fla. and New York - Lewistown, Mont. will be submitted later.

2. The attached check was issued on transportation request No. WQ 1,001,418.

For The Quartermaster General,

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

Enclosure:
Ticket

RHS:cc

111.
AUG 6 PM 4 30

DISPATCHED

QM 293 A-M
Blackledge, Walter M. - 1232 M

August 6, 1930.

Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge,
Lewistown, Montana.

Dear Madam:

This office is in receipt of a letter in your behalf, dated July 29, 1930, from Mr. James P. Blackledge, and there is enclosed a War Department voucher which should be signed by you on the front and back of the first page at the two places marked "x" in pencil. After this has been signed, it should be sworn to before a Notary Public or other official authorized to administer oath and returned to this office. When it is received, the matter will be taken up with the Finance Officer with the view to having refund made to you of the difference between the fare to Jacksonville and the fare to Lewistown.

This office regrets that you have experienced any difficulty in adjusting your ticket in New York City.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Enclosure:
Voucher

HES:cc

RECEIVED
DIV.
AM 9 15

QM 293 A-K

June 26, 1930.

Blackledge Walter M. 1232 M

Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge,
820 W. Corcoran Street,
Lewistown, Montana.

Dear Madam:

I am pleased to acknowledge receipt of the letter of June 16, which you and the other mothers and widows of Group "D" of the Gold Star Pilgrimage were so kind to send me regarding your journey.

It is gratifying to know that your trip was entirely satisfactory and that the officers of the Army, nurses and other employees of the War Department as well as the personnel of the railroads, steamship lines and hotel rendered such courteous and efficient service. The Quartermaster Corps is proud of the honor bestowed upon it by being charged with the conduct of these pilgrimages and has expended every energy that those making the pilgrimage might have a comfortable and pleasant journey. It is a pleasure to receive such complimentary remarks as those contained in your letter, but I feel that the task has been materially lightened by the wonderful spirit of cooperation and consideration shown by the mothers and widows who are making the pilgrimage.

I can assure you that the cemeteries in Europe will always be maintained in the same fine condition in which you found them, since it always has been and will be the constant effort of the Quartermaster Corps to make these cemeteries fitting resting places for the heroes who are buried there.

With sincere appreciation of the sentiments which you expressed, I am

Sincerely yours,

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

330.13 PILGRIMAGE, GOLD STAR.

M. G. M. & R. DIV.

1930 JUN 28 PM 1 07

DISPATCHED

ADH
JTH
WRG
JED

PH

QM 293 A-0
Blackledge, Walter M. - 1232.

June 3, 1930.

Mr. James P. Blackledge,
814 W. Boulevard,
Lewistown, Montana.

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of
May 22, 1930, requesting that Mrs. Zerah R. Blackledge
be routed to Kansas City instead of Houston on her
return trip from the cemeteries of Europe, sailing on
the SS GEORGE WASHINGTON, May 21, 1930.

In connection therewith, you are advised that
the matter has been referred to the Officer in Charge
of the Pilgrimage at New York City. He will advise you
concerning the extra cost of the routing to Kansas City.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

R. B. SHANNON,
Captain, U. S. Army,
Assistant.

1930 JUN 4 PM 12 50

QM 293 A-C
Blackledge, Walter M. 1232.

June 3, 1930.

SUBJECT: Change of Return Route.

TO: Col. A. E. Williams, Officer in Charge,
Pilgrimage Port of Embarkation, 901 Pennsylvania Bldg.,
225 West 34th Street, New York City, N. Y.

1. Mrs. Zora R. Blackledge, Page D-5, SS GEORGE WASHINGTON, May 21, 1930, is routed on her return to Houston, Texas via Jacksonville, Florida. This office is now in receipt of a letter from her husband stating that their son who was at Houston has now moved to Kansas City and that Mrs. Blackledge desires to return to the latter point instead of Houston.

2. A copy of Mr. Blackledge's letter is enclosed and it is requested that you advise him direct as to the additional amount required due to this change.

For The Quartermaster General:

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

HES/ma
Encl.

Copy of Lt. 5-22-30.

Q. M. C. & R. DIV.

JUN 4 AM 10 25

May 13, 1930, Washington, D. C.

ledge
MRS ZORA R BLACKRIDGE
820 W CORCORAN STREET
LEWISTON MONTANA

IDENTIFICATION BADGE TO BE WORN ON PILGRIMAGE WILL BE DELIVERED TO
YOU BY RAILROAD REPRESENTATIVE AT CHICAGO.

DEWITT
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL 452 GSM

~~452 GSM~~

Q M 293 A-C

Blackledge, Walter M 1232



Blackledge, Walter M. - 1232

May 7, 1930.

Mrs. Zerah R. Blackledge,
820 W. Corcoran Street,
Lewistown, Montana.

Dear Madam:

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

Lv. Lewiston	GMStP&P	Train #116	6:50 PM	May 16
Ar. Harlowton	"	116	8:55 PM	May 16
Lv. Harlowton	"	16	9:30 PM	May 16
Ar. Chicago	"	16	9:30 AM	May 18
Lv. Chicago	MC	16	10:30 AM	May 18
Ar. New York	NYC	142	3:45 PM	May 19

(Grand Cent Sta)

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours

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

30/1015/

M.G. 3 DIV.
1930 MAY 8 PM 1 09
DISPATCHED

QM 293 A-C
Blackledge, Walter M. - 1232

May 7, 1930.

Mr. H. W. Siddall, Chairman,
Western Military Bureau,
428 New Union Station Bldg.,
516 W. Jackson Blvd.,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Siddall:

Enclosed herewith is a copy by mail
confirming telegraphic advice of this date.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

✓ Encl.
Copy telegram 5-7-30

MEM/ma

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

O. O. M. G. M. & R. DIV. ✓

1930 MAY 8 AM 11 08

DISPATCHED

QM 293 A-C

July 30th, 1929

12.32
6-89-29

Mr. James P. Blackledge,
820 W. Corcoran Street,
Lewistown,
Montana.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of July 15th, 1929, it is regretted to advise you that it will not be possible for fathers to accompany the mothers on the pilgrimages to Europe, under the provisions of the Act of March 2nd, 1929.

The personnel referred to in Section 2(d) of the Act will be assigned by the War Department from its regular personnel to care for the comfort and needs of the mothers and widows on the journey.

With reference to your request for a photograph of the grave of your son, please be advised that this office has no appropriation available for photographing graves in the American cemeteries in Europe.

However, when the American Red Cross completed their work of photographing graves of deceased members of the American forces buried in France they left some photographing supplies in the office of the Chief, American Graves Registration Service, Quartermaster Corps in Europe. If these supplies are still available, it may be possible to obtain the photograph of Sergeant Blackledge's grave. Accordingly, the Chief of the Service in France has this date been requested to have a photograph made of the grave of Sergeant Blackledge. If received, it will be transmitted to you.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

DM

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

AMH/GE

Washington, D. C. May 7, 1930.

Mr. H. W. Siddall, Chairman,
Western Military Bureau,
423 New Union Station Bldg.,
516 W. Jackson Blvd.,
Chicago, Illinois.

WASHINGTON MAY TWENTY-FIRST PAGE D DASEI FIVE TRANSPORTATION REQUESTS ONE MILLION
ONE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTEEN AND NINETEEN DRAWN FAVOR MRS BLACKRIDGE
FILGRINE CORRECT NAME BLACKLEDGE PROTECT OSM 611

DEWITT
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

MEM/ma

RES

JTH

QM 293 A-C

Blackledge, Walter M. P 1232



QM 293 A-C
Blackledge, Walter M.

March 28, 1930.

Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge,
814 West Boulevard,
Lewistown, Montana.

Dear Madam:

Reference exchange of telegrams, it is regretted to advise you that this office could not legally pay you the cash in lieu of transportation from New York to Lewistown.

It is possible, however, to issue you return transportation, including Pullman, from New York to Houston, Texas, in lieu of transportation to Lewistown. Your Houston ticket can be routed so that you could stop over at Jacksonville for ten days. At Jacksonville you could buy a round-trip ticket to Lake Wales, Florida, for approximately \$14.50, and the round-trip Pullman fare between these points is \$7.50. If this is done it would also be necessary for you to pay, when obtaining your transportation at New York, the amount of \$3.00, to cover the additional Pullman fare from New York to Houston, via Jacksonville.

If you do not care to pay this additional amount for the side trip to Lake Wales, then this office can route you direct to Houston via either St. Louis or New Orleans, as you may desire. Under this plan there would be no collection whatever from you, but you would have to pay all of your expenses from Houston to Lewistown. Of course if you do not desire either of the above options, you may have transportation issued you to Lewistown via direct route.

As transportation arrangements for the boat on which you will sail will be made within a few days, please wire this

- 2 -

office just what your desire is in this connection.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

RES:MR

*Sent by Air Mail
3/2/20
ES*

QM 293 A-C
Blackledge, Walter M.

March 28, 1930.

Mr. James P. Blackledge,
814 West Boulevard,
Lowistown, Montana.

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the request contained in your letter of July 15, 1929, for a photograph of your son's grave in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery in France, please find enclosed herewith two prints of a photograph which has been taken recently.

For your further information your son's remains are permanently interred in Grave 7, Row 35, Block H, of the above named cemetery.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

2 Encl.
Photost

VHB/ms

O. R. M. G. M. & R. DIV.

1930 MAR 29 50

AM 9 40

DISPATCHED

X

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C
BLACKLEDGE, Walter M.

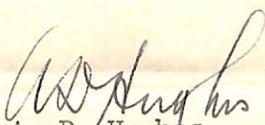
July 30th, 1929

SUBJECT: Photograph of Grave of Walter M. Blackledge

TO: The Chief, American Graves Registration Service,
Q. M. C., in Europe, 20 Rue Molitor, Paris,
France.

1. If practicable it is requested that a photograph be taken of the grave of the late Sergeant Walter M. Blackledge, Company "K", 137th Infantry, in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, France, and that two prints thereof be furnished this office.

For The Quartermaster General.


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



293. Blackledge, Walter M. 1st Ind. et/et
March 6, 1930. To: The Quartermaster General of the Army, Washington, D.C.

In compliance with the above instructions, a photograph has been taken of the grave of the late Sergeant Walter M. Blackledge, 137th Inf., 35th Div., and two prints are forwarded herewith.

2 Encls.
Photographs.



Richard T. Ellis,
Colonel, Quartermaster Corps,
United States Army,
Chief.

QM 293 A-C
Blackledge, Walter M.

March 25, 1930.

Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge,
814 West Boulevard,
Lewistown, Montana.

My dear Madam:

Confirming telegram of this date, the excess cost of transportation from New York City to Lewistown, via Lake Wales, Florida, Houston, Texas and Manhattan, Kansas, would be ninety dollars, and as any excess must be paid by the passenger, it will be necessary for you to remit this amount to this office by money order payable to the Finance Officer, Washington, D. C. There will also be an excess amount of approximately \$25.5 for Pullman, which you would have to pay before leaving New York City.

Return transportation can be issued you via Kansas City without additional cost except an amount of \$1.75 for Pullman, which you would pay before leaving New York. On this routing you can stop over at Kansas City for ten days, purchase a round trip ticket in Kansas City to Manhattan, returning to Kansas City before the expiration of your ten days. The cost will be \$8.60.

If you have not already done so, please wire this office just what you desire to do.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

RES/mm

*Handled
3/25/30
EAS*

QM 293 A-M
Blackledge, Walter M. 1232 M

September 10, 1930

Mrs. Zerah Blackledge,
Lawistown, Montana.

Dear Madam:

Supplementing previous correspondence in connection with your pilgrimage to the American Cemeteries sailing on the S. S. GEORGE WASHINGTON, May 21, 1930, there is enclosed a check on the Treasurer of the United States in the amount of \$54.92 to cover reimbursement for the amount the Government would have paid for your transportation.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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



NIGHT LETTER

Washington, D. C., March 25, 1930.

MRS. ZORAH R. BLACKLEDGE,
814 WEST BOULEVARD,
LEWISTOWN, MONTANA.

ADDITIONAL RAILROAD COST FOR RETURN TRANSPORTATION NEW YORK TO LEWISTOWN VIA LAKE
WALB Florida HOUSTON TEXAS AND MANHATTAN KANSAS NINETY DOLLARS WHICH MUST BE PAID BY
YOU IF YOU DESIRE THIS ROUTING. MAIL TO QUARTERMASTER GENERAL AT ONCE MONEY ORDER
FAVOR FINANCE OFFICER WASHINGTON D C THIS AMOUNT. WILL ALSO BE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT
FOR PULLMAN TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS WHICH YOU WILL HAVE TO PAY BEFORE LEAVING NEW YORK.
CAN ROUTE YOU THROUGH KANSAS CITY WITH STOP-OVER TEN DAYS AND THERE YOU CAN BUY ROUND
TRIP TICKET KANSAS CITY-MANHATTAN FOR EIGHT SIXTY. ADDITIONAL PULIMAN TO BE PAID
NEW YORK ONE DOLLAR SEVENTY-FIVE. ADVISE BY WIRE COLLECT. 61 GSM
QM 295 A-C Blackledge, Walter M.

DeWITT
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

RES/mm

RES
JTH
WRG



NIGHT LETTER

Washington, D. C., March 25, 1930.

MRS. ZORAH E. BLACKLEDGE,
814 WEST BOULEVARD,
LEWISTOWN, MONTANA.

ADDITIONAL RAILROAD COST FOR RETURN TRANSPORTATION NEW YORK TO LEWISTOWN VIA LAKE WALES FLORIDA HOUSTON TEXAS AND MANHATTAN KANSAS NINETY DOLLARS WHICH MUST BE PAID BY YOU IF YOU DESIRE THIS ROUTING. MAIL TO QUARTERMASTER GENERAL AT ONCE MONEY ORDER FAVOR FINANCE OFFICER WASHINGTON D C THIS AMOUNT. WILL ALSO BE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT FOR PULLMAN TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS WHICH YOU WILL HAVE TO PAY BEFORE LEAVING NEW YORK. CAN ROUTE YOU THROUGH KANSAS CITY WITH STOP-OVER TEN DAYS AND THERE YOU CAN BUY ROUND TRIP TICKET KANSAS CITY-MANHATTAN FOR EIGHT SIXTY. ADDITIONAL PULLMAN TO BE PAID NEW YORK ONE DOLLAR SEVENTY-FIVE. ADVISE BY WIRE COLLECT. G1 GCM
QM 203 A-C Blackledge, Walter M.

DOWITT
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

RES

JTH

WRG

RES/mm



ORIGINAL PAPER FILED

CROSS INDEX

O. Q. M. G.

Washington, D. C., March 25, 1930.

MRS. ZORAH R. BLACKLEDGE,
814 WEST BOULEVARD,
LEWISTOWN, MONTANA.

ADDITIONAL RAILROAD COST FOR RETURN TRANSPORTATION NEW YORK TO LEWISTOWN VIA LAKE WALES FLORIDA HOUSTON TEXAS AND MANHATTAN KANSAS NINETY DOLLARS WHICH MUST BE PAID BY YOU IF YOU DESIRE THIS ROUTING. MAIL TO QUARTERMASTER GENERAL AT ONCE MONEY ORDER FAVOR FINANCE OFFICER WASHINGTON D C THIS AMOUNT. WILL ALSO BE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT FOR PULLMAN TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS WHICH YOU WILL HAVE TO PAY BEFORE LEAVING NEW YORK. CAN ROUTE YOU THROUGH KANSAS CITY WITH STOP-OVER TEN DAYS AND THERE YOU CAN BUY ROUND TRIP TICKET KANSAS CITY-MANHATTAN FOR EIGHT SIXTY. ADDITIONAL PULLMAN TO BE PAID NEW YORK ONE DOLLAR SEVENTY-FIVE. ADVISE BY WIRE COLLECT. OI GEN
QM 293 A-C Blackledge, Walter M.

LOWITT
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

RES/imm

ORIGINAL PAPER FILED

CROSS INDEX

O. Q. M. G.

Washington, D. C., March 25, 1930.

MRS. ZORAH R. BLACKLEDGE,
814 WEST BOULEVARD,
LEWISTOWN, MONTANA.

ADDITIONAL RAILROAD COST FOR RETURN TRANSPORTATION NEW YORK TO LEWISTOWN VIA LAKE WALES FLORIDA HOUSTON TEXAS AND MANHATTAN KANSAS NINETY DOLLARS WHICH MUST BE PAID BY YOU IF YOU DESIRE THIS ROUTING. MAIL TO QUARTERMASTER GENERAL AT ONCE MONEY ORDER FAVOR FINANCE OFFICER WASHINGTON D C THIS AMOUNT. WILL ALSO BE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT FOR PULLMAN TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS WHICH YOU WILL HAVE TO PAY BEFORE LEAVING NEW YORK. CAN ROUTE YOU THROUGH KANSAS CITY WITH STOP-OVER TEN DAYS AND THERE YOU CAN BUY ROUND TRIP TICKET KANSAS CITY-MANHATTAN FOR EIGHT SIXTY. ADDITIONAL PULLMAN TO BE PAID NEW YORK ONE DOLLAR SEVENTY-FIVE. ADVISE BY WIRE COLLECT. 01 GSN
QM 295 A-C Blackledge, Walter H.

DeWITT
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

RES/nm

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Blackledge, Walter H. 1232-M

March 21, 1930

**Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge,
820 W. Gorgoun St.,
Lewistown, Montana.**

Dear Madam:

This letter, which contains general information regarding the pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe, is being sent to each mother and widow who has expressed a desire to make the pilgrimage during the calendar year 1930. The general plan for the conduct of the pilgrimage is shown in the Pilgrimage Regulations, a copy of which is enclosed herewith. In addition to the information shown in the regulations, the following explains in detail some of the most important things connected with the pilgrimage.

Formal invitations are being extended to each mother and widow who has expressed a desire to make the pilgrimage during 1930. In so far as practicable, these invitations are being extended with a view to keeping the women from each state together and the order in which the invitations to the women from the several states are issued is based on a drawing by lot which was held about one month ago. Inclosed with each invitation is a card for acknowledgment and it is quite important that you accept or decline this invitation promptly in order that the necessary railroad, steamship and hotel reservations may be arranged. The government will defray all the necessary expenses of the pilgrimage, including railroad fare, hotel accommodations, steamship fare and all other incidental expenses. It will not provide anything other than the necessary expenses so that you should bring with you such funds as you may desire to use for making small purchases and for other uses distinctly of a personal nature.

Arrangements have been made with the American Railroad Association which assures us the united support and cooperation of all of the railroads in the United States in handling the movement to and from New York City. The local ticket agent will secure your railroad and sleeper ticket and will make the necessary pullman reservations. Before your departure from your home we will mail you a check, sufficient to pay for your meals and other travelling expenses while enroute to New York. Your railroad ticket will provide for a round trip from your home to New York and upon arrival in New York the army officer in charge of the New York office will collect the return trip stub and hold it until your return to New York from Europe.

Upon arrival in New York, you will be met by an army officer

and escorted to a first class hotel where reservations have been made. The duration of your stay in New York will be from 24 to 48 hours. At the proper time, you will be escorted to the steamship upon which passage has been engaged for Europe. All of the women making this trip will be provided with cabin class accommodations aboard steamers which means that from two to four will be quartered in the same stateroom. If you have any friend that you would like to be quartered with we will endeavor to arrange it if you will communicate with this office.

The ocean voyage will last about 8 days and when the ship docks at Cherbourg, France, each party will be met by officers especially detailed for the purpose and taken in a special train to Paris where first class hotel accommodations have been reserved. The first day in Paris will be a day of rest. On the 2d day, the women of each party will place a wreath on the tomb of the French unknown soldier. In the afternoon there will be a reception in which the French war mothers, government officials, and prominent civilians will participate. The following morning the groups going to the different cemeteries will leave Paris, travelling in motor busses, and proceed to the cemeteries where they will remain for about 7 days. Twenty-five women will be assigned to each bus and an army officer will have charge of the bus. The itineraries to and from the cemeteries and the daily itineraries while at the cemeteries have been varied so as to take in points of historical interest as well as some parts of the battlefields where American troops were engaged. Upon return to Paris, each party will remain for about 5 days and during this time an opportunity will be given to see the points of historical interest in Paris and vicinity. The entire duration of your stay in Europe will be 14 days, and the itineraries have been so arranged that each day will be provided for. Except in case of illness or other unavoidable cause it will not be possible for any woman making the pilgrimage to remain in Europe for a longer period than 14 days nor to leave the party with which she is travelling unless she is prepared to pay all of her expenses after leaving the party since the Act of Congress authorizing the pilgrimage specifically states that the government shall not pay the expenses of any woman who willfully leaves her party.

Upon return to the United States each ship will be met in New York City by army officers who will escort the mothers and widows to the trains which will take them home. Before leaving New York each woman will be provided with her return railroad ticket, a sleeping car ticket and funds to cover the cost of meals and other travelling expenses.

Army officers are being used as guides and escorts throughout this entire movement and care has been taken to select officers who will see that proper care is taken of the women who are entrusted to their charge. Arrangements have been made for taking care of women who may be taken sick during the pilgrimage and also to care for the remains of any who may die and provision has been made for returning the remains of any who may die to their homes. It is essential that each woman making the pilgrimage furnish The Quartermaster General with an emergency address of some relative or friend to be notified in the event of an emergency. Medical care will be provided by civilian agencies. If such care is needed in New York City it will be furnished by the hotel physicians or

by local hospitals. Aboard ship, medical care will be provided by the ship's doctors and in Paris arrangements have been made with the American Hospital for the hospitalization and treatment of any women who may need it. In addition to this, six doctors of the regular army will be on duty throughout the pilgrimage.

Baggage will be limited to not to exceed two pieces of hand baggage and the articles taken should be such as will be required for a trip of about one month. Laundry service can be obtained in New York and Paris. Since the climate of Europe is much colder than that of the United States, each woman should provide herself with sufficient warm clothing to stand the motor bus trip and the visit to the cemeteries.

Since it is necessary for this office to make all reservations for your accommodations throughout this pilgrimage, it will be greatly appreciated if you will make prompt reply to any communications received from this office.

For The Quartermaster General:

Very truly yours,

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

1 Enclosure.
Regulation.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C
Blackledge, Walter M. 1232 N

March 19, 1930.

Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge,
820 W. Corcoran St.,
Lewistown, Mont.

Dear Madam:

The following instructions prepared by the Secretary of State contain the necessary instructions to be followed by you in obtaining the passport or travel document to be utilized in connection with your pilgrimage to the cemeteries in Europe. Please read the directions carefully and call in person upon the nearest Passport Agent or clerk of a Federal or State court having jurisdiction to naturalize aliens. Passport Agencies are located in Boston, Chicago, New Orleans, New York City, San Francisco and Seattle. In large cities there are usually two or more courts and at each county-seat a state court authorized to accept these passport applications.

When you make this call be sure to take with you the four photographs called for in the instructions together with your invitation as a means of identification. You should take with you to the passport office at this time a friend who is an American citizen and who has known you for several years. The passport Agent or clerk of the court will mail your application to the Secretary of State in Washington, D. C., who will issue the passports and travel documents and will deliver them to The Quartermaster General to be held by him until your arrival in New York.

The instructions prepared by the Secretary of State are as follows:

"A mother or widow who owes allegiance to the United States must apply to the Department of State for a Special Pilgrimage Passport through a Passport Agent or through a clerk of a Federal court or State court having jurisdiction to naturalize aliens and on the form prescribed by that Department. When making application, she should be accompanied by a credible witness who is an American citizen and who has known her for a period of two years or more. With her application she should submit four photographs on a light background and on thin paper not more than 3x3 inches in size not less than 2½x2½ inches in size and such documentary

evidence of her American citizenship as she may have in her possession. In the absence of evidence of citizenship, her application should be witnessed by a credible person residing in the same community who is an American citizen, has known her for a long period of time and is able to swear to the best of his or her knowledge and belief that she is a citizen of the United States.

"A mother or widow who does not owe allegiance to the United States must apply to the Department of State for a Pilgrimage Travel Document through a clerk of a Federal court or a State court having jurisdiction to naturalize aliens or through a Passport Agent upon the form of application prescribed for that purpose, entitled APPLICATION FOR A PILGRIMAGE TRAVEL DOCUMENT, issued under the Act of March 2, 1929, submitting therewith four photographs on a light background and on thin paper not more than 3 x 3 inches in size and not less than 2½ x 2½ inches in size. When making application she should be accompanied by a credible witness who has known her for a period of two years or more.

"The Act of March 2, 1929, provides that no fee shall be charged for the execution of an application for a passport or travel document or for the issue of a passport or travel document to a mother or widow making a pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe in which deceased soldiers, sailors, and marines of the American forces are now interred.

"Special Pilgrimage Passports and Pilgrimage Travel Documents when issued by the Department of State will be forwarded to the War Department.

"Applicants resident in Boston, Chicago, New Orleans, New York City, San Francisco and Seattle should execute applications at the Passport Agencies in those cities."

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

October 7, 1929.

Blackledge, Walter M. 1232 M

**Mrs. Zorah R. Blackledge,
820 Corcoran St.,
Lewistown, Montana.**

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.

OH 293 A-C
BLACKLEDGE, Walter M.

July 30th, 1929

SUBJECT: Photograph of Grave of Walter M. Blackledge

TO: The Chief, American Graves Registration Service,
Q. M. C., in Europe, 20 Rue Molitor, Paris,
France.

1. If practicable it is requested that a photograph be taken of the grave of the late Sergeant Walter M. Blackledge, Company "K", 137th Infantry, in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, France, and that two prints thereof be furnished this office.

For The Quartermaster General.

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



ESM/OS

U.S. M. G. M. C. DIV.

1929 JUL 31 PM 1 09

DISPATCHED

QM 293 A-C

July 30th, 1929

Mr. James P. Blackledge,
820 W. Corcoran Street,
Lewistown,
Montana.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of July 15th, 1929, it is regretted to advise you that it will not be possible for fathers to accompany the mothers on the pilgrimages to Europe, under the provisions of the Act of March 2nd, 1929.

The personnel referred to in Section 2(d) of the Act will be assigned by the War Department from its regular personnel to care for the comfort and needs of the mothers and widows on the journey.

With reference to your request for a photograph of the grave of your son, please be advised that this office has no appropriation available for photographing graves in the American cemeteries in Europe.

However, when the American Red Cross completed their work of photographing graves of deceased members of the American forces buried in France they left some photographing supplies in the office of the Chief, American Graves Registration Service, Quartermaster Corps in Europe. If these supplies are still available, it may be possible to obtain the photograph of Sergeant Blackledge's grave. Accordingly, the Chief of the Service in France has this date been requested to have a photograph made of the grave of Sergeant Blackledge. If received, it will be transmitted to you.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

U.S. M. G. M. Q. M.

1929 JUL 30 PM 15 1929

D.S. DISPATCH

231/28

77 See Case 1111

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Blackledge, Walter M.

June 28, 1929.

**Mr. J. P. Blackledge,
915 Osage St.,
Manhattan, Kans.**

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 **Sergeant Walter M. Blackledge, Co. E, 187th Inf., whose remains are now interred in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, France.**

Will you please advise this office whether or not he is survived by a mother 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.

Blackledge

Walter McKinley

Dup
1,449,320

(Surname.)

Sgt.

(Christian name in full.)

Co K 137 Inf

(Army serial number)

(Rank and organization.)

State your relationship to the deceased

Father

Do you desire the remains brought to the United States?

Yes

(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:

1st Blackledge, Manhattan Mo. U.S.

(Name of person to receive remains)

(Express office.)

(Telegraph office.)

913 Osage, Manhattan Kansas

(Number and street.)

(City or town.)

(State.)

(Sign here)

1st Blackledge

913 Osage, Manhattan Kans

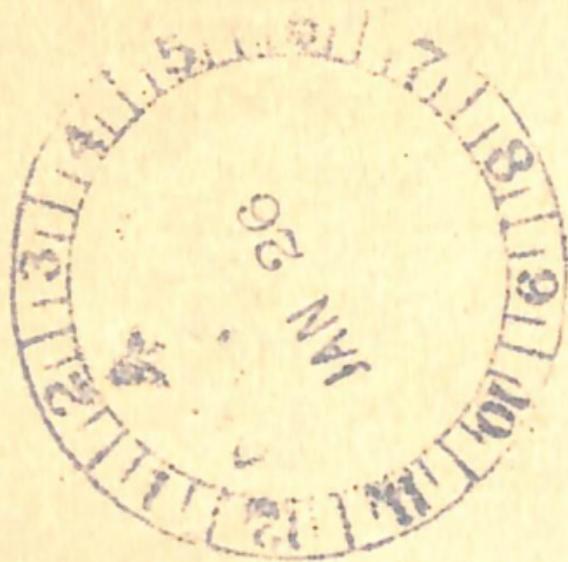
(Number and street or rural route.)

(City, town, or post office.)

(State.)

Read carefully the letter accompanying this card.

1232



5-19-21

checked MW

ms 5-17-21
102-202 108-20

November 3, 1923.

Mr. J.P. Blackledge,
913 Osage St.,
Manhattan, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

The Quartermaster General desires you to be informed that the permanent grave of **Sergeant Walter M. Blackledge, Company K, 137th Infantry, is Grave 7, Row 35, Block H, Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon (Meuse), France.**

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

You are assured in effecting removal of the remains, the utmost care and reverence were exercised and more than willingly accorded by those who performed this sacred duty. The grave of the deceased will be perpetually maintained by this Government in a manner befitting the last resting place of our heroes.

Very truly yours,

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

W. J. FOSTER
Assistant.

RD



NOV 23 1923

1111

File 1099/m
68

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

File # 84555



I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

(a) Name BLACKLEDGE, Walter. M. Ser. No. 1449320
(b) Rank Sgt. Organization Co. K. 137th Inf.
(c) Date of death 9-28-18 (d) Cause of death k/a
TYP. hmp
CKR. B. J.

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

(a) Grave No. 88 Row ---- Plot 2 Sec. 108 TYP. hmp
(b) Emerg. Address J. P. Blackledge(father) Onaga, Kans.

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

IV. A. G. O. DISPOSITION CARD:

Date of receipt 1-26

(a) Name Jas. P. Blackledge (b) Relationship Father
(c) Address 913 Osage, Manhattan, Kans.
(d) Remains to be brought to U. S.? Yes
(e) To be interred in National Cemetery in U. S. at

(f) Shipping instructions upon arrival of body in U. S. Jas. P. Blackledge
913 Osage, Manhattan, Kans.
(Exp. Manhattan, Kans. U. S. Del.)

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

Examiner's Initials me Date 5-17-21, 192

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

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

Examiner's Initials Date, 192

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

4-11-20 Mrs. 3rd R. Blackledge
(mother) 913 Osage, Manhattan, Ka. Cancels
request on card, now desires body to remain
permanently in France
(a) Cancellation memos referred to?

Examiner's Initials me Date 5-17-21, 192

COUNTRY FRANCE CEMETERY No. 1232 Sec. 108 SHEET No. 20

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

Typed by _____, Checked by _____, 192

VIII. FINAL ACTION:

Following advice forwarded to Europe by { cable on _____, 192
letter on MAY 31 1921, 192

Sec. 108

Par. #2, Not To Be Returned (ZLS)

IX.

REMARKS

To be prepared in triplicate.

DATE Sept. 20, 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 BLACKLEDGE, Walter M. 10. Name _____
- 2. No. 1449320 11. No. _____
- 3. Rank Sgt. 12. Rank _____
- 4. Org. Co. K, 137th Inf. 13. Org. _____
- 5. D.D. 9/28/18 14. (a) D.D. _____
- 6. C.D. KIA (b) D.B. _____

Discrepancy found upon disinterment

- 7. Grave No. 88 Sec. 108 15. Grave No. _____ Sec. _____
- 8. Plot 2 Row _____ 16. Plot _____ Row _____
- 9. _____ 17. No discrepancy.

- 18. Cemetery Argonne Amer. 19. Commune or town Romagne-sous-Montfaucon
- 20. Dept. or County Meuse 21. Country France
- 22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. 1232 Sect. 108
- 23. Disinterred (Date) Sept. 20, 1921. By C. V. Russell.

- 24. Inscription on grave marker:
 Name Blackledge, Walter M. Serial No. 1449320
 Rank Sgt. Organization Co. K, 137th Inf.

- 25. Was identification disc found on grave marker? Yes On body? No
 Signature C. V. Russell
 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).
None.
- 27. Condition of body Badly decomposed; features not recognizable.
- 28. Nature of burial Pine box and U.S. uniform.
- 29. Any discrepancy noted upon examination of body, as compared with G.R.S. records quoted above? None.
- 30. Body prepared and placed in casket: Date Sept. 20, 1921. By C.V. Russell.
- 31. Casket sealed by C. V. Russell.

AUDITED BY

Signature of Embalmer, (Supervisor)

C. V. Russell



SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. C-7163

32. Designation of body:
Name BLACKEDGE, Walter H. Serial No. 1449320
Rank Sgt. Organization Co. K, 137th Inf.

33. Consigned to:
Name of Permanent Cemetery Argonne Amer. Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, #1232
34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) Sept. 20, 1921. By C. V. Russell.

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 [Signature]
S. D. Archer, 1st Lt., G.M.C.

36. Remarks _____

37. Shipped from point of Operation: (Date) Sept. 20, 1921.
To point of Concentration Morgue, Romagne-sous- Montfaucon (Meuse).
Convoyer _____ (Name) _____
Signature Shipping Officer J. Gerald Cole

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

39. Shipped from Railhead or Point of Concentration: Date _____
To Permanent Cemetery _____
Convoyer _____ (Name) _____
Signature Shipping Officer _____

40. Received: Date _____
G.R.S. Representative _____

41. Reinterred Meuse Argonne Cemetery # 1232 Sept. 22nd 1921.

42. Grave No. 7 (Date) _____ Section xxxx

43. Plot BLOCK H Row XXXX 35

G.R.S. Representative [Signature]
J. W. Younger, Capt G.M.C.
Jt.

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date sept. 20, 1921.

1. REMAINS OF BLACKLEDGE, WALTER M. SERIAL NUMBER 1449320

RANK Sgt. ORGANIZATION Co., K., 137th Inf.

2. Disinterred (date): Sept. 20, 1921. From (give complete location):

Gr. 88 Sec 109 Pt 2, Meuse-Argonne Cem., #1232.

By: Group Russell Unit Sec. 1

3. Reburied (date): Sept. 22nd 1921. In (give complete location):

Meuse-Argonne Cemetery # 1232. Gr. 7, Block H, Row 35

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

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

Pine box, and U.S. uniform. Body decomposed skeketon disarticulated.

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

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

None

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

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

(b) Weight (estimated) Impossible to determine.

(c) Hair—Color None visible

Quantity undeterminable

Characteristics undeterminable

(d) Hair on face—Color none

Location None

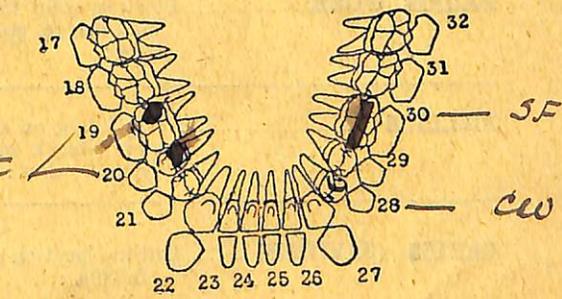
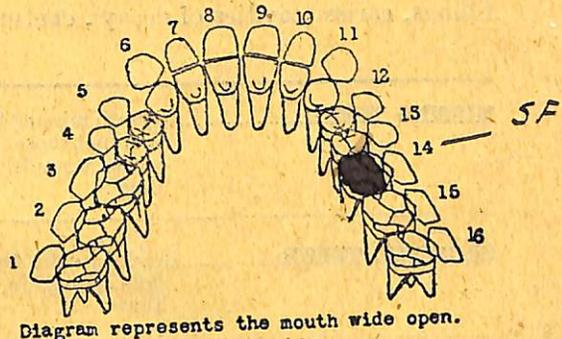
Quantity None

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

missing parts) Impossible to determine

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

Impossible to determine.



7. Disinterment supervised by C. V. Russell Approved: S. D. Archer

C. V. Russell S. E. (Title) S. D. Archer 1st. Lt. QMC

8. Reburial supervised by Approved:

(Title)

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

File # 84555

(a) Name	BLACKLEDGE, Walter. M.	Ser. No.	1449320	}	TYP.
(b) Rank	Sgt.	Organization	Co. K. 137th Inf.		hmp
(c) Date of death	9-28-18	(d) Cause of death	K/a		B. J.

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

(a) Grave No.	88	Row	-----	Plot	2	Sec	108	TYP.	hmp
(b) Emerg. Address	J. P. Blackledge (father) Omega, Kans.								

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

Dec. 10 8 { letter of transmittal on MAY 31 1921, 192

Par. #2, Not To Be Returned (*Eel*)

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. _____

84555 30479
GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Blackledge 1449320 Walter M.
(Surname.) (Number.) (First Name and Initials.)

Sergeant Co. K. 137 Inf.
(Rank.) (Organization.)

DATE OF BURIAL. *September 28, 1918.*

PLACE OF BURIAL. *Dept. Meuse, S.E. of*
(Give Cemetery, Town and Department.) Map reference must specify clearly what map is used.

Varennes, map Vauquois (Verdun 5)
03.7-72.6 About 200 yds.
E. of the river.

GRAVE NUMBER.....

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

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

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body?.....

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

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

(MEUSE)

~~COURT~~ VARENNES-EN-ARGONNE

*(C-156) SHIP { 35 S.E. COURT { E-303.7 }
N-272.0 }*

REPORTED BY:

Howard S. Fox, Chaplain, 137 Inf.
(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer.)

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

156-737

156-737

84555

1. G. S. Form 1. Hq. G. File

2. Soldier's No. 1449320

3. Blockledge Walter
Surname (in block letters) First Name and Initials

4. Private - -
Rank Company Regt. or Corps

5. - -
Date of Death Cause, if known

6. - Isolated
Date of Burial Cemetery

7. Varennes 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 mark and description.

$\frac{1}{4}$ K S of Varennes. 20 M E of
Aire River.

12. 35 SE. 272.8 N. 303.8 E.
Map reference, if interment is outside of cemetery

Varennes (Meuse)

13. **156** SHT. **35 S. E.** **(F 303.8 N 272.8)**
Give name of Chaplain or Burial Officer

1513 Signed Pvt. George L. Forrest

Sketch #32 Group... 5... Unit. 306 G. R. S.

G.R.S. #106
DISPOSITION OF BODY

War Department
Office of the Quartermaster General,
Graves Registration Service
Washington, D.C.
April 24.1920

For information of:

- (a) The Adjutant General of the Army
- (b) G.R.S., Paris, France.
- ~~(c) Office Files.~~
- (d) Photographic Section.

Case of:

Sgt. Walter M. Blackledge
Co. K. 137th Inf.,

Grave Location:

Reburied in Argonne American Cty
Romange-sous-Montfaucon -Meuse.
Grave # 88 Sect.108.Plot 2.

Request for action checked below:

- (a) Return of Body to the U.S.
- ~~(b) Permanent Burial in France.~~
- ~~(c) Cancellation of former requests.~~
- (d) Change of address.
- (e) Photograph of grave.

has been made by:

Mrs. Zora R. Blackledge.
913 Osage
Manhattan, Kansas

By authority of the Quartermaster General

RS
EWC.

CHARLES C. PIERCE,
Colonel, Q.M.G., U.S.A.
Chief, Graves Registration Service.
NS-2992/L

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

April 11, 1921

File No.

From: Chief,

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

Subject: Acknowledgment of Correspondence.

846-0-0-

FILE

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

~~Letter~~)

dated: March 26, 1921

1st Indorsement)

File No. 293.8 Cem.Div. -#84555 (Blackledge, Walter M.)

Subject: Change of Inscription on Grave Marker

Name: Sgt. Walter M. Blackledge

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

DMK.

1st Ind.

File No. 293.8 Cem. Div. - #84555 - (BLACKLEDGE, Walter M.)
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 #88, Section #108, Plot #2, Argonne American Cemetery, #1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse to be :

Sergeant Walter M. BLACKLEDGE, #1449320,
Company K, 137th Infantry,
Date of Death9/28/18

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. N. GREWLEY,
Captain, Q.M.C.,
Executive Officer,
Cemeterial Division.

FVW

MAILED
MAR 28 1921
G.R.S.

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

February 21, 1921

FROM: Chief.

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

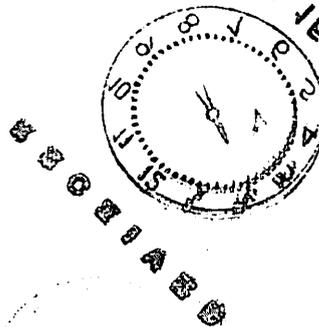
SUBJECT: Additional Information.

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

BLACKLEDGE, Walter H., Sgt., Co. K., 137th Inf.
Grave 88, Section 108, Plot 2.

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

HW/ehw.



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

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
CEMETERIAL DIVISION
WASHINGTON

April 24, 1920

No: 84555 (Sergeant Walter M. Blackledge)
From: The Quartermaster General U.S. Army (Cemeterial Division)
To: Mrs. Zora R. Blackledge, 913 Osage Manhattan Kansas.,
Subject: Grave location: Request for permanent burial in France:

1. In reply to your inquiry of April 11th., 1920., we beg to say that the records of the Cemeterial Division contain the following information as to grave location of Sergeant Walter M. Blackledge, Company K. 137th, Infantry, Reburied in Argonne American Cemetery Romagne-sous-Montfaucon Department of Meuse., Grave # 88 Section 108, Plot 2.

2. The grave has been registered and suitably marked for present purposes, pending the adoption of a more permanent monument by the National Fine Arts Commission which now has the matter under consideration.

3. Your instruction for the permanent burial of your son in France has been noted and your former request has been cancelled. The necessary instruction will be forwarded to the Chief, American Graves Registration Service Q.M.C. in Europe.,

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

CHARLES G. PIERCE
Colonel U.S. Army,
Chief, Cemeterial Division,

By:
CHARLES J. WYNNE
Captain Q.M.C.

APR 25 1920

APR 25 1920

EWG

Form #113

84555

#84555

April 11-1920

War Department.

Office of Quartermaster General
Graves Registration Service.
Washington, D.C.

Received by Inq. Dept.
APR 21 1920

W

Sgt. Walter M Blackledge #1449320
Company K. 137 Infantry

Dear Sirs, not long ago we sent a card asking that our son be sent home. We have thought the matter over carefully and now feel it is best for his body to lie in France as we know how unsatisfactory it will be to us all. we know that it is only the body that is there and while we loved his dear body it can never be the same to us and we feel his presence daily in our hearts. I do not know if this is the proper place to write or not but I have noticed in the papers some have been sent home. You will please make the

Change is it is not too late. I think
- it would be better if all the boys were
left there as the Cemetery are well
Cared for and it caused a great
Headache to have all this removal
as well as an immense amount
of work and expense. He fell in
Oregon Sept 28. 1918.

Mrs. J. R. Blackledge
Manhattan
913 Osage. Kas