



QM 293 A-M

(Blee, Robert C.)

June 29, 1937

Miss M. Bernice Young,  
c/o J. S. Davis Travel Bureau,  
24 Boulevard des Capucines,  
Paris, France

Dear Madam:

With reference to your letter of June 24, 1937,  
the official records show that the late Pvt. 1c. Robert C. Blee  
is interred in Grave 12, Row 4, Block C, Suresnes American  
Cemetery, Suresnes (Near Paris) France.

It is suggested that you call at the office of the  
American Battle Monuments Commission, U. S. Government Building,  
2 Avenue Gabriel, Paris (8), France where detailed information  
will be furnished you as to how to reach the Cemetery and locate  
the grave.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

JOHN SIMPSON,  
Major, Q. M. Corps,  
Assistant

0335

38

62 JUN 29 PM

✓

✓

MARY BERNICE YOUNG  
112 SOUTH INGLEWOOD AVENUE  
INGLEWOOD  
CALIFORNIA

June 24, 1937

War Dept.  
Office of the Q.M.S.  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

I am writing this on the Santa Fe. I am also enroute to Europe and would like the Cemetery of my uncle, who was buried in France during the Great War. His name is

Blee, Robert C. (sur)

QM 293 A-M

I sail from Quebec July 2, via Empress of Australia. My Paris address will be

Bernice Young

24 Boulevard des Capucines

To J. S. Davis Travel Bureau.

Any information concerning  
this will be gratefully received  
Thanks.

Very truly yours,

M. Bernice Young





War Dept.  
Quartermaster General  
Washington, D.C.

Airmail

MARY BERNICE YOUNG  
112 SOUTH INGLEWOOD AVENUE  
INGLEWOOD  
CALIFORNIA

Blee

(Surname.)

Robert C

(Christian name in full.)

848, 753

~~848, 551~~

(Army serial number.)

~~Robert C~~

Hq Det 31 Engrs

(Rank and organization.)

Putch!

State your relationship to the deceased

Mother

Do you desire the remains brought to the United States?

no.

(Yes or no.)

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

(Yes or no.)

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

This letter, I am enclosing, is from

(Name of person to receive remains.)

(Express office.)

(Telegraph office.)

Roberts Aunt. Awaiting to know her

(Number and street.)

(City or town.)

(State.)

(Sign here)

Mary B Ingraham

3421 1/2 Ave. Los Angeles, Calif

(Number and street or rural route.)

(City, town, or post office.)

(State.)

Read carefully the letter accompanying this card.

do  
decide what balance

no letter incl.

FDR-

5-20-19

W. W. Brown, Jr.  
24-2-1  
2-18-21

**REVIEWED  
OSP SS.**

JMM-2-19-21

FULL NAME ... BLEE, Robert. *c*

RANK ... Pvt. *sd* SERIAL ... *848753*

DIVISION & ORGANIZATION ... Hq. Det., 31st Engrs. *not Dir*

DATE OF DEATH ... *Aug 17-1918*

STATE FROM WHICH HE CAME ... *Wash*

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS AWARDED! *✓*

FINAL GRAVE LOCATION ...

Date	<i>12</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>C</i>
Grave		Row	Block
<i>Suresnes, #34</i>			
Cemetery			

23/306/ARK

REC'D WORLD WAR DIV.  
1 AUG 29 1924

# GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Blee 848753 Robert <sup>XX</sup>  
(Surname.) (Number.) (First Name and Initials.)

Pvt. 31st Engineers  
(Rank.) (Organization.)

DATE OF BURIAL August 20, 1918

PLACE OF BURIAL Saumur Cemetery

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

Saumur, France

Dept. Maine-et-Loire

GRAVE NUMBER 4023

HOW MARKED: Name Peg? Yes Cross?

Headboard? Bottle?  
IDENTIFICATION TAGS: Cement cross and curbing being erected

Was one buried with body? Yes

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

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

REPORTED BY:

John E. Wilson  
(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer.)  
1st Lieut., N.A. Chaplain 31st Engrs  
This portion to be forwarded to Adj. Gen'l, G. H. Q., A. E. F.

REG Robert, Pvt.  
Formant gives number as 84753

five kilometers North of Saumur  
in Saumur cemetery by Chaplain

at Saumur He was rifling  
wall and died instantly. He is  
Saumur and I was present at  
SMITH Worthington, Sgt. Maj.  
about 200 yards he discovered  
Base Hosp. Co.  
Hq. Co. 31st Eng.  
Home: 701 Union Tr. St Bldg  
853 St. J. St. Tracy Smith  
Winnipeg, Canada.  
March, 2, 1919  
Reilly. Searcher.

Blee.  
By Thompson, Searcher

Maine  
John

Mrs  
HJ

Mj. Abawater, Room 318.

31 Eng. Engrs Dept.

BLEC Robert, Pvt.  
Informant gives number as 84753

Killed in motor cycle accident about five kilometers North of Saumur  
Maine et Loire, on the Tours road. Buried in Saumur cemetery by Chaplain  
John W. Wilson, of the 31st Engineers.

Pvt Blec was killed on Aug. 17th at Saumur He was riding  
a motor cycle and struck a stone wall and died instantly. He is  
buried about two miles outside of Saumur and I was present at his  
funeral. His grave is marked.

Inquirers was about 7ft. tall weight about 200 pounds He called a  
at night and had been running without lights.

Mrs Hermann Frasch,  
101 Avenue Malakoff, Paris  
Mj Abawater, Room 318.

Informant: SMITH Worthington, Sgt Maj.  
Base Hosp. Co.  
Hq Co. 31st Eng.  
855823. 701 Union St Bldg  
31st Eng. Tracy Smith  
Base #100. Winnipeg, Canada.  
Home address, Lake March, 21, 1916.  
March. 24th. 19.  
Leila. E. Reilly. Searcher.

M.J.C..

Informant gives Blec name as Blec.

B.F.

Enquirer: Mrs, Herman Frasch. 101 Malakoff Paris. Searcher  
Abawater. Room. 318.

HE. Olera Stuart, Searcher.  
Mrs Herman Frasch, 101 Av. Malakoff, Paris.  
Mj. Abawater, Room 318.

WALTER H. BRONSTEIN, SEARCHER

WALTER H. BRONSTEIN, SEARCHER  
HOME: 401 BRONSTEIN BLVD ST. LOUIS  
MO CO. ST. LOUIS  
BASE NO. 66

INFORMANT: BRONSTEIN, WALTER H.

*Searcher gives name - Blec*

31st. Eng. Hdqs. Dept. Blec. Robert. Pvt.

no. - 848753

Pvt Blec was killed on Aug. 17th at Saumur He was riding a motor cycle and struck a stone wall and died instantly. He is buried about two miles outside of Saumur and I was present at his funeral. His grave is marked.

He was about 7ft. tall weight about 200 or more he was killed at night and had been running without lights.

Informant: Haggquist, Grant. Pvt. Co. B  
855823. 31st. Engrs.

Base #100.  
Home address. Lake City Minn.  
March. 24th. 19.  
Leila. E. Reilly. Searcher.

M.J.C.. Informant  
Informant gives Blec name as Blec.

Enquirer: Mrs, Herman Frasch. 101 Av. Malakoff Paris. & Mj. Abawater. Room. 318.

4/16/19.

Mrs. Herman Frasch, 101 Av. Malakoff, Paris.  
Mj. Abawater, Room 318.

Address: Room 318.  
Enquirer: Mrs. Herman Blencoe, 101 Av. Malakoff, Paris, & M.  
Informant: Miles, G.M. Pvt. 524265.

M.I.C.

Name: E. Blencoe, Searcher.  
Address: 54th St.  
Home address: 1637 Florida St.  
Base #100.

Informant: Miles, G.M. Pvt. 524265.  
Address: 1637 Florida St., San Francisco, Cal.

He was killed on Aug. 17th at Saumur. He was riding

along the highway from Saumur to our camp at Ville Bernier when he struck a rock pile and the machine  
skidded into a wall killing him instantly. He is buried at Saumur. Scott D. McGrew  
was a personal friend and has a picture of his grave. McGrew is in the 4th Band,  
Army Service Corps, A.P.O. 718. His home address is 510 Marion Street, Denver,  
Colorado.

31 Eng. Hdqs Dept.

BLEC, Robert, Pvt.

*Lunch given 847753*

Blec is a misprint for Blen. Private Blen was a mail orderly. He was  
killed in a motor cycle accident August 17th. He was riding along the highway from  
Saumur to our camp at Ville Bernier when he struck a rock pile and the machine  
skidded into a wall killing him instantly. He is buried at Saumur. Scott D. McGrew  
was a personal friend and has a picture of his grave. McGrew is in the 4th Band,  
Army Service Corps, A.P.O. 718. His home address is 510 Marion Street, Denver,  
Colorado.

(Informant intelligent)

Informant ; Miles, G.M. Pvt. 524265.  
Hospital 69.  
Co. A. 31st Eng.  
Home : 1637 Florida St.  
San Francisco, Cal.  
4/16/19.

(Stuart)

Clara Stuart, Searcher.  
Mrs Herman Frasch, 101 Av. Malakoff, Paris.  
Mj. Abawater, Room 318.

31 Eng. Hdqs. Dept.

BLEC, Robert, Pvt.

(Informant gives Blee, No. 848753 )

Blee was killed at Saumur. He was on a motorcycle, and in dodging a French wagon, he ran into a building. Bugler Jarman blew taps over his grave and services were held by a Chaplain. Saumur is a quaint and beautiful place on the Loire River and he is buried in a very pretty spot.

Informant : Jarman, Albert, Bugler, 523196.

Embarcation Camp. I. St. Nazaire.

Co. HQ. 31st Engrs.

Home : 368 1/2 Lucas Ave.

Los Angeles, Calif.

4/26/19.

MM.

Mrs Herman Frasch, 101 Av. Malakoff, Paris.

Mj. Abawater, Room 318.

thirty years of age, 6'2" tall, weighed 195 lbs and had dark brown hair. Was very popular in the company. Had relatives in Hoboken.

Informant's name would indicate that his information was correct and reliable.

Informant: Jarman, Albert, Bugler. 523196.

85 C.H.

Co. C. 31st Engineers.

Home: 368 1/2 Lucas Ave., Los Angeles.

February 20, 1919.

Byck, Searcher.

Major Abawater, Room 318.

Mrs. Herman Frasch, 101 Av., Malakoff, Paris.

March. 26th. 19

Eleanor Vinton Jacob. Searcher.

M.J.C.

Inquirer; Mrs. Herman Frasch 101 Av. Malakoff, Paris  
Mj. Abawater Room 318



101 VA. ...

V. N. LEM PLACK ...

BERLINIA 50' JADA.  
HOME: 3008 TUSA VAE ...  
CO. C. 31st INF ...

INFORMATION: ...

LETTER ...  
INFORMATION ...  
AND ...  
BUT ...  
SOME ...  
THE ...  
BACK ...  
THE ...  
BUT ...  
IN ...

31 Engr. Hdqs. Dept.

BLEC Robert Pvt.

Master Engineer Alfred Balls was with Blee on the motorcycle when Blee ran into a wall and was killed & Balls was injured but recovered O.K. Balls is of the .g; C° 31st eng. Blee is buried at Saumur in a french cemetery with other Americans.

Informant. Kaufman Ralph.  
C° C. 31st Inf.  
Drenton Ill  
Camp N° 1

January 24th 1919

I am sure they mean Blee, ... It was near Varennes, if I remember and in the evening at about seven o'clock he and the Sergeant Major Alfred ... searched from the ... in a motor cycle. In trying to avoid a french cart ... against a stone house and was killed almost ...

L.M.d.V.

Informant: Mrs. Herman Frasch 101 Avenue Palakoff Paris  
and Mr. Abauvathier Room 318 Large has a photograph of Blee's grave. His address is: C/o Gen. Superintendent, 1400 Grand Division, Transportation Corps. A.S.C. 76?

Informant: Walter Jeffrey ...  
Co. Hdqs. 31st ...  
at present with ...  
at Large.

Hospital #216.

Home address: St Paul ...

March. 26th. 19

Eleanor Vinton Jacob. Searcher.

M.J.C.

Inquirer: Mr. Herman Frasch 101 Ave.  
Nj. Abauvathier Room 318

INDIRECTLY : HELD BY ALBANY FOR VA. ...

REGIMENTAL SO' ...  
HOME: 3008 ...

V.M. ...

... HELD BY ALBANY FOR VA. ...

E.D. ...

HOME ...  
C. C. ...

*See also ... 648713*

31st Eng. Hdqs. Dept.

Blee, Robert. Pvt.

PLSG. Robert PVT

*put and  
were hit  
by the shaft  
of the cycle  
and the  
cycle  
thrown  
over. Blee  
struck his*

I am sure they mean Blee, not Blec. It was near Varennes, if I remember and in the evening at about seven o'clock he and the Sergeant Major Alfred E Balls were coming back from the town in a motor cycle. In trying to avoid a french cart they slewed head against a stone house and was killed almost instantly and Ball was thrown quite a distance and badly bruised but he walked back. Blee is buried at the french cemetery at Saumur. Sgt. Major Wm. R. Mathewson of the Transportation Corps at Large has a photograph of Blee's grave. His address is: C/o Gen. Superintendent, 14th. Grand Division, Transportation Corps. A.P.O. 767.

Informant: Gruber Jeffrey. Sgt. I/cl.  
Co. Hdqs. 31st Engrs. formerly  
at present with Transp. Corps.  
at Large.

Hospital #216.  
Home address: St Paul Minn. 2349 Commonw  
Ave.

March. 26th. 19  
Eleanor Vinton jacob. Searcher.

M.J.C.

enquirer; re. ... 101 Ave. ...  
M.J. ... 318

*no. 912686*

W.L. Herman Blee 101 VA. Malakoff Paris.  
Mj. Abawater Room 318

Home: 3004 Grand Ave. Louisville.  
V.M. Am Disk 'Beecher'.

M.I.C.

Home address: 3004 Grand Ave. Louisville  
Informant: Charles J. ...

Blee was killed in a motor cycle accident near Saumur He was  
dodging a French car I dont think they turned out for him and he struck  
the shaft and was thrown against a wall and his skull was crushed  
Master Engineer a g balls (C/o Bank of Anchorage Anchorage Alaska  
was riding behind him and saw it happen The grave is in Saumur in a  
French cemetery where other Americans are buried The grave is marked  
with a curbing and a large stone cross the name and organization  
are cut into the stone I have a a photot of it and a picture of him in  
a group

31 Engr. Hdq. Dept.

*Searcher given 848753*

Informant: Mathewson W.R. Sgt. Maj  
Emb. Camp 1. St. Nazaire  
C° Hq. 31st Engrs.  
Home 3122 Hazcall st. Amaka Nebr.  
May 25th 1919

Leland Stanford Unit  
E.D. Woodbridge searcher

L.M.d.V. Enquirer; Mrs. Herman Frasch 101 Ave. Malakoff Paris  
Mj. Abawater Room 318

293.8 C-R #12195

(Blee, Robert C. Pvt. 1st cl.)

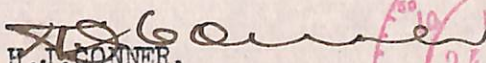
1st Ind.

War Dept., O.Q.M.G. Washington, D. C., Oct. 9, 1922--To the Chief,  
American Graves Registration Service, Q.M.C. in Europe.

1. Such disposition is authorized of the headstone referred to in basic communication as will prevent misapplication or desecration of same and a report will be submitted of the action taken.

2. Attention is invited to notation on questionnaire, wherein it is stated that the date of birth of the late Private 1st class Robert C. Blee, Headquarters Detachment, 31st Engineers is March 29th instead of the 22nd. Upon investigation it has been found that the correct date of birth is March 29th and notation of this correction should be made on your records.

By order of the Quartermaster General:

  
H. J. CONNER,  
Assistant.

1 incl.  
questionnaire.

RECORDED

3



✓ 293.6

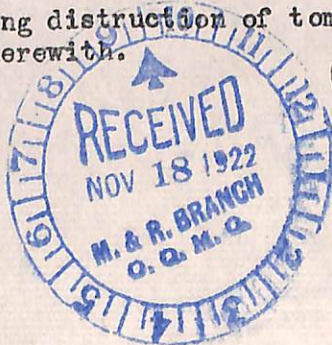
2nd Ind.

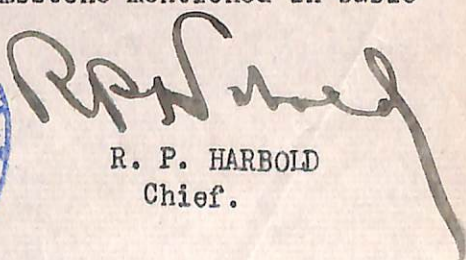
  
HW.NWA

Hqrs., American GRS., QMC., in Europe, 8 Avenue d'Iena, Paris. Nov. 2nd 1922. To: The Quartermaster General, Munitions Building, Washington, D.C.

1. Certificate covering destruction of tombstone mentioned in basic communication is forwarded herewith.

2 Encls.



  
R. P. HARBOLD  
Chief.

H E A D Q U A R T E R S  
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE. C.M.C. IN EUROPE.  
Paris, France.

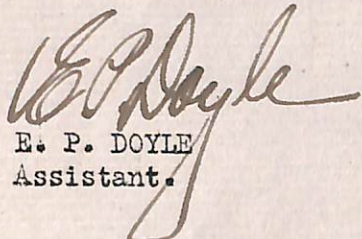
(Date) October 30, 1922.

I CERTIFY that I have this date personally witnessed the destruction  
of the headstone formerly over the grave of

BLEE, Robert, 848753, Pvt. Hq. Det. 31st Engrs.

The following discrepancies were noted: None.

Instructions of Office, Quartermaster General reference disposition  
of this monument have been complied with.

  
E. P. DOYLE  
Assistant.

12195

HEADQUARTERS  
AMERICAN GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE, Q.M.C., IN EUROPE  
8, AVENUE D'IENA  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF THE SERVICE.

H.V. NWA

PARIS, France.  
August 23rd 1922.

File No. 293.6

**SUBJECT:** Disposition of Monument.  
**TO:** The Quartermaster General, Munitions  
Building, WASHINGTON, D.C.

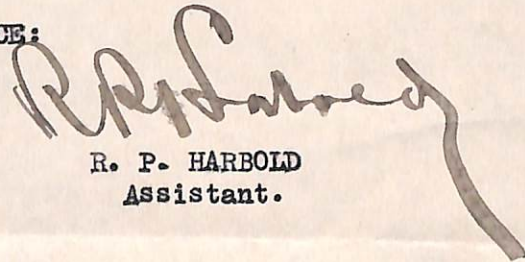
1. Forwarded herewith Form letter "A" and questionnaire concerning a monument removed from the grave of the following soldier in French Civilian Cemetery #24, SAUMUR (M-et-L), whose remains have been permanently concentrated into Grave 12, Block C, Row 4, Suresnes American Cemetery #34, SURESNES (Seine):

BLEE, Robert, 848753, Pvt.  
Hq. Det., 31st Engineers.

This monument is now held in storage at St. Ouen, Paris (Seine).

2. It is recommended that form letter "A" and questionnaire be forwarded to the Next of Kin for necessary action and this office be advised at your earliest convenience what disposition is desired of this monument.

FOR THE CHIEF OF THE SERVICE:



R. P. HARBOLD  
Assistant.

2 Encls. (in duplicate).

RECEIVED  
GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE



SEP 13 1922

QUESTIONNAIRE  
\*\*\*\*\*

Office of Cemeterial Div., O. O. M. G.  
File # 2938  
#12195

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Place) (Date)

1. It is desired that the monument formerly erected over the grave of Private ROBERT BLEE, 848753, Hqrs. Det., 31st Engineers, at French Civilian Cemetery #24, SAUMUR (M-et-L), be returned to the United States, the necessary arrangements for crating and shipment at my expense having been made with \_\_\_\_\_ Company.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Blee,  
Robert

\* \* \* \* \*  
Inglewood Calif. 114. Damascus ave. \_\_\_\_\_ Sept 25 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Place) (Date)

2. I hereby relinquish all rights and claims to the monument formerly erected over the grave of Private Robert BLEE, 848753, Hqrs. Det., 31st Engineers, at French Civilian Cemetery #24, SAUMUR (M-et-L) The United States Government, through its Graves Registration Service, is herewith authorized to make such disposition of said monument as is compatible to the best interests of the Service.

Mrs Mary B Ingraham  
(Signature)

P.S. Robert was born  
March 29<sup>th</sup> instead of the 22<sup>nd</sup>

From a. 30. — Mar. 29 - 1885



293.6

2nd Ind.

HW.NWA

Hqrs., American GRS., QMC., in Europe, 8 Avenue d'Iena, Paris. Nov. 2nd 1922. To: The Quartermaster General, Munitions Building, Washington, D.C.

1. Certificate covering distruction of tombstone mentioned in basic communication is forwarded herewith.

2 Encls.



R. P. HARBOLD  
Chief.

CODE SLIP

HEADING	SUB HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE	
NAME	Blee, Robt C	Ble	3	2 2 5
BURIED	CEMETERY	34	1	6
	GRAVE	12	2	12
	ROW	4	2	04
	BLOCK	C	1	3
STATE	Wash		2	56
RANK	Priv 1/ce.		1	2
DIVISION	Engns		2	49
ORGANIZATION	31		3	031
ARM			1	X
MARITAL	No		1	2
NAME	Mary B Young		3	1 4 7
RESIDENCE	112 Sawask Ave Inglewood, Calif.		2	04
RELATION	STATE	Calif	2	17
	COUNTY	Inglewood	2	32
	CITY		3	1
RELATION	Mother		1	
OTHER			1	
ELIGIBILITY	Dead 9/30/32		1	6
NATIVITY	W. Va		1	
RACE	W.S.M		1	
ENGLISH			1	
ATTENDANT			1	
HEALTH	Good		1	
NO. OF SONS			1	
DATE OF TRIP	NO.		1	
ACCEPTANCE	YR. Undecided		1	4
29/514/EAB			1	

Other

AUDITED  
DEC 31 1931

RS  
C

4

4

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M  
Blee, Robert C. (Sur)

November 16, 1932

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Avenue,  
Inglewood, California.

Dear Madam:

In reply to a recent questionnaire you advised that you were undecided about making a pilgrimage to the grave of your son, the late Private first-class Robert C. Blee, during the summer of 1933.

In order that the best available accommodations may be secured for the mothers and widows making the pilgrimage, it is necessary that steamship reservations be made several months in advance.

It is therefore requested that you advise at this time whether or not you believe you will be able to visit the grave of your son next summer, in order that arrangements may be made accordingly.

A self-addressed envelope which requires no postage is enclosed for your convenience in replying.

Very truly yours,



*Chas. W. Dietz*  
CHAS. W. DIETZ,  
Captain, Q. M. Corps,  
Assistant.

*Nov. 21, 1932*

Enclosure:  
Envelope.

*Dear Sir:*  
*My grandmother passed away*  
*Sept. 30 after a critical illness of four weeks*  
*due to a fall.*

*Very truly yours,*  
*Mary Bernice Young*

QM 293 A-M  
Blee, Robert C. (Sur)

August 16, 1932

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Avenue,  
Inglewood, California.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of recent date, advising that you are undecided as to whether or not you will be able to visit the grave of your son, the late Private first class Robert C. Blee, during the summer of 1933.

Accordingly, you will be communicated with at a later date relative to your desire to make the pilgrimage, and it is sincerely hoped your health will improve sufficiently to enable you to make the trip.

Properly qualified personnel will be provided to care for the comfort and needs of the mothers and widows, and doctors and nurses will be available from the time of arrival in New York City until return thereto. Arrangements have been made with the railroad companies that special attention be given pilgrims enroute to and from New York. Should you make a pilgrimage you are assured that everything possible will be done for your welfare, and that every consideration will be given your physical condition at all times.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

KK

✓

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M  
Blee, Robert C. (Sur)

July 12, 1932

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,



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

2 Encls.

DO YOU DESIRE TO MAKE A PILGRIMAGE DURING THE YEAR 1933? Undecided  
(Write answer here)

would love to go, but I am 42, in poor health.  
(Sign here) Mary B. Ingraham

letter



WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Blee, Robert C. Sur M

December 17, 1931.

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

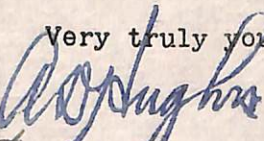
Receipt is acknowledged of your reply to form letter forwarded you under recent date relative to the pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe, wherein you advise that your health will not permit you to make a pilgrimage during the year 1932.

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,



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



*I would love to go.  
and I know everything  
would be done for my comfort  
but I'm <sup>over</sup> my 84-year,  
and think it best to stay  
at home, thanking you  
for the kindness of that for me,  
Cincerely Mary B. Ingraham*

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Blee, Robert C. Sur M

December 17, 1931.

gb

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M  
Blee, Robert C. (Sur) M

November 2, 1931.

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to previous correspondence relative to the pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe, authorized by the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, as amended May 15, 1930. In your reply to the recent inquiry as to whether or not you desired to make a pilgrimage in 1932, you advised you were undecided.

In view of the fact that steamship reservations must be made several months in advance, it is essential that this office know how many mothers and widows must be arranged for. It is possible that you may have made your decision by this time. It is therefore requested that you complete the form below by writing in the space provided, your answers to the questions listed, sign your name, and return this letter in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage. In the event you state you desire to make the journey in 1932 and circumstances prevent your making the pilgrimage, it is requested you notify this office as promptly as possible.

1. Do you desire to make a pilgrimage  
in 1932?

No. ✓

2. Please state your age and condition  
of health:

Age:

83 yrs.

Health:

not good

3. Do you speak English?

yes.

4. What other language do you speak?

No.

*Mary B. Ingraham*  
Sign here

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

*A. D. Hughes*

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

Encl:  
Env.



WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM-293-AM

Blee, Robert C. Pvt. (Sur) M

June 18, 1931

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Demask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

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

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

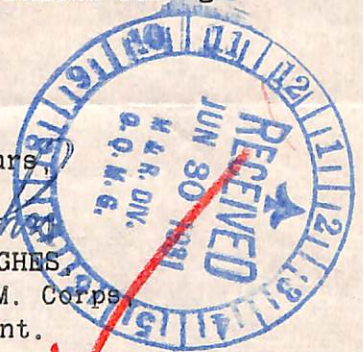
As soon as you have answered the question, please sign your name and return this sheet in the enclosed addressed envelope which requires no postage. Do not delay, as a prompt reply is essential.

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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



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

Mrs Mary B Ingraham  
Sign here

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Blee, Robert C. - 34 M

June 18, 1930

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham  
112 Damask Avenue  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

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

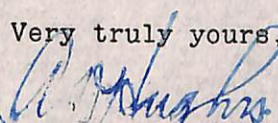
To assure proper and satisfactory accommodations, reservations for steamship transportation required during the summer of 1931 must be made by this office not later than August 1st of this year. It is therefore desired that you answer the question below by writing the word "Yes" or "No" in the blank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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

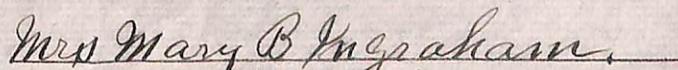
Very truly yours,

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



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

No.  
(Write answer here)

  
(Sign here)

WAR DEPARTMENT  
PILGRIMAGE, WAR MOTHERS & WIDOWS  
225 WEST 34TH ST. N.Y., N.Y., ROOM 901

=====  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham  
112 Damask Avenue  
Inglewood, Calif.

Los Angeles County

*Cancelled*

WAR DEPARTMENT  
"PILGRIMAGE, WAR MOTHERS AND WIDOWS"

----- Room 901 -----

225 WEST 34TH ST., NEW YORK, N.Y.

BLEE, ROBT. C.

SUR.

April 29th, 1930.

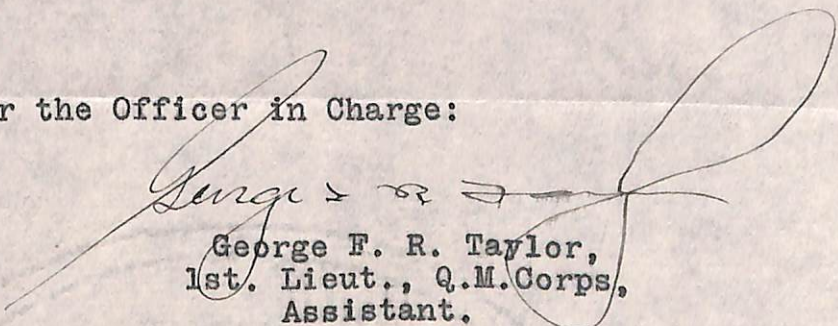
Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Avenue,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

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

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

For the Officer in Charge:

  
George F. R. Taylor,  
1st. Lieut., Q.M. Corps,  
Assistant.

Enclosures:  
2 tags.

QM 295 A-C  
Blee, Robert C. 34-K

April 19, 1930.

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Demask Avenue,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of recent date declining the invitation to sail on the SS HARDING May 14, 1930, to visit the grave of your son, the late Private First Class Robert C. Blee, under the provisions of the Act of March 2, 1929.

In this connection you are advised your name is being placed upon the list of mothers and widows eligible under the law to make the pilgrimage in 1931, and you will be communicated with when the pilgrimage is being arranged for that year.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

L E S

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Blee, Robert C.

34 M

March 21, 1930

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham  
112 Damask Ave.  
Inglewood, Calif.

*Los Angeles Co.*

*Declines inv. handling  
5-14-30  
Filed for  
1931  
Apr 8<sup>th</sup> 30*

Dear Madam:

*So Sorry. not able to go. Mary B Ingraham*

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

498 *Handing* 5/14/30  
RETURN RECEIPT 34

*Cancelled*

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

*Mary B Ingraham*  
-----  
(Signature or name of addressee.)

-----  
(Signature of addressee's agent.)

Date of delivery, *4/29/30*, 192

Form 3811

*162*  
*Butter 5/13*  
05-3116

# Post Office Department

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

REGISTERED ARTICLE

No. 9267

INSURED PARCEL

No. \_\_\_\_\_

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



POSTMARK OF DELIVERING OFFICE

AND DATE OF DELIVERY

Return to

L. M. General

(NAME OF SENDER)

Street and Number,  
or Post Office Box,

Munitions Bldg.

Post Office at

Washington

Rev. 3-24

05-6116

State DC

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

March 20, 1930.

Blee, Robert C. 34 M

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Handing  
5-14-30

Blee, Robert C

I accept <sup>declines by letter 4-17-30 ans 4-18-30</sup> 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.

1931  
Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham

(Name)

112 Damask Ave., Inglewood, California

(Town or City)

(State)

L.A. Co.

QM 293 A-C  
Blee, Robert C.

October 25, 1929.

Mrs. Mary E. Ingraham,  
112 Danask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of October 15, 1929, relative to the pilgrimage authorized by Congress in the Act of March 2, 1929.

In reply to your inquiry relative to having your daughter accompany you on this pilgrimage at your expense, you are advised that the War Department has been charged with the execution of this Act, and its efforts, therefore, must be restricted to making the arrangements necessary for the transportation, entertainment, etc. of those named as eligible under the Act. Any arrangements desired to be made for your daughter to visit the grave of your late son must be made by her personally, and without expense to the Government.

You will be advised far enough in advance of the name and sailing date of the vessel, it is believed, to permit your daughter to communicate with the steamship company relative to securing accommodations for herself.

You are assured that competent personnel will be assigned by the War Department to provide for the comfort and welfare of those making the pilgrimage.

With reference to your request for particulars about the trip, you are advised that this office is now engaged in compiling the report to Congress referred to in Section 3 of the Act. Until this report has been presented to Congress and action taken thereon, no detailed plans for the conduct of the pilgrimages can be definitely made. As soon as practicable after necessary action has been taken by Congress, plans will be perfected by The Quartermaster General, and all persons eligible under the Act to make the pilgrimage will be given detailed information in connection therewith, together with blanks upon which they may indicate their final decision as to whether or not they desire to make the pilgrimage.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

1122 Lamark ave,  
Inglewood Calif.

Oct 15 - 29

34

John L. Harris.

Dr. Sir.

I would love to take this trip.  
To see the grave of my dear son.  
Robert P Blee.

Would it be possible to take my daughter  
with me, if I would pay her expenses.  
She is 64 yrs or age and it seems so far  
for me to take the journey alone.  
as my health is good. Considering my age.

Please let me know, some of the particulars  
about the trip. I never was on the Ocean.

I remain Respt

Mary B B Ingraham.

I have a son Lieut Commande. Charles M Ingraham  
at Sandiego, Calif. He graduated from  
Anapolis, in June, 1913.

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

October 8, 1929.

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C  
Blee, Robert C. 34 M

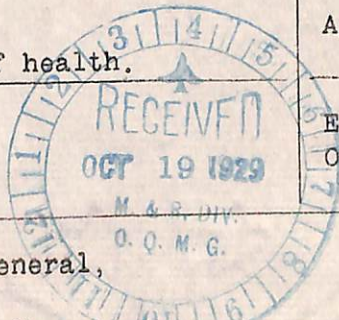
Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

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) <i>yes</i> , (No)
2. Do you desire to make the pilgrimage in the calendar year 1930?	(Yes) <i>Yes</i> , (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) <i>No</i> , (No) <i>No</i>
4. Please give your age and state of health.	Age Health (Years) <i>81</i> , (Good) <i>Good</i> , (Poor)
5. What language do you speak?	English - (Yes) <i>Yes</i> , (No) Other language (Specify language spoken)



For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.  
Act  
Envelope

Englewood Calif.

May 13 = 29.

John I Harris. Dr Sir,

In referring to my Son, Robert C. Blee,  
To my knowledge, he had no wife. <sup>pm 293 am.</sup>  
I never heard him speak of one.

With great Respect. Yours,

Mary B. Ingraham, 12 Larvack Ave  
Englewood.



WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 295 A-C

Blee, Robert C

May 4, 1929.

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
114 Danusk Avenue,  
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Madam:

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

The records of this office show that you are the mother of the late Private, first-class, Robert C. Blee, Headquarters Detachment, 51st Engineers, whose remains are now interred in the Suresnes American Cemetery, Suresnes, Seine, France.

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

In the event your son was survived by a widow who has since re-married it is 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,

5/24

2 incls.  
Act of Congress.  
Envelope.

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

LPH

QM 293 A-M  
Blee, Robert C. (Sur)

November 16, 1932

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Avenue,  
Inglewood, California.

Dear Madam:

In reply to a recent questionnaire you advised that you were undecided about making a pilgrimage to the grave of your son, the late Private first-class Robert C. Blee, during the summer of 1933.

In order that the best available accommodations may be secured for the mothers and widows making the pilgrimage, it is necessary that steamship reservations be made several months in advance.

It is therefore requested that you advise at this time whether or not you believe you will be able to visit the grave of your son next summer, in order that arrangements may be made accordingly.

A self-addressed envelope which requires no postage is enclosed for your convenience in replying.

Very truly yours,

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

Enclosure:  
Envelope.  
KG

0296

1932 NOV - 16 - PM 3:02

QMCG M&R BR

QM 293 A-M  
Blee, Robert C. (Sur)

August 16, 1932

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Avenue,  
Inglewood, California.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of recent date, advising that you are undecided as to whether or not you will be able to visit the grave of your son, the late Private first class Robert C. Blee, during the summer of 1933.

Accordingly, you will be communicated with at a later date relative to your desire to make the pilgrimage, and it is sincerely hoped your health will improve sufficiently to enable you to make the trip.

Properly qualified personnel will be provided to care for the comfort and needs of the mothers and widows, and doctors and nurses will be available from the time of arrival in New York City until return thereto. Arrangements have been made with the railroad companies that special attention be given pilgrims enroute to and from New York. Should you make a pilgrimage you are assured that everything possible will be done for your welfare, and that every consideration will be given your physical condition at all times.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

KK

0081

1932 AUG - 17

0000

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

July 12, 1932

Blee, Robert C. (Sur)

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Danask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

2 Encls.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Write answer here)

(Sign here) \_\_\_\_\_

WAR DEPARTMENT.  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Blee, Robert C. Sur M

December 17, 1931.

gb

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

0091

0091  
M. B. Ingraham  
112 Damask Ave.  
Inglewood, Calif.  
Dec 17 1931

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Blee, Robert C. (Sur) M

November 2, 1931.

gb

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to previous correspondence relative to the pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe, authorized by the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, as amended May 15, 1930. In your reply to the recent inquiry as to whether or not you desired to make a pilgrimage in 1932, you advised you were undecided.

In view of the fact that steamship reservations must be made several months in advance, it is essential that this office know how many mothers and widows must be arranged for. It is possible that you may have made your decision by this time. It is therefore requested that you complete the form below by writing in the space provided, your answers to the questions listed, sign your name, and return this letter in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage. In the event you state you desire to make the journey in 1932 and circumstances prevent your making the pilgrimage, it is requested you notify this office as promptly as possible.

1. Do you desire to make a pilgrimage in 1932?	
2. Please state your age and condition of health:	Age: Health:
3. Do you speak English?	
4. What other language do you speak?	

Sign here

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Encl:  
Env.

0644

1931 NOV 2 10 01 AM  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
WAR DEPARTMENT

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM-293-AM

Blee, Robert C. Pvt. (Sur) M

June 18, 1931

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

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

07-  
To assure proper and satisfactory accommodations, reservations for steamship transportation required during the summer of 1932 must be made by this office not later than August 1st of this year. It is therefore desired that you answer the question below by writing either of the words "Yes", "No", or "Undecided" in the blank space following the question.

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

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

Write answer here

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sign here

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Blee, Robert C. - 34 M

June 18, 1930

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham  
112 Damask Avenue  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

DO YOU DESIRE TO MAKE THE PILGRIMAGE DURING THE YEAR 1931? \_\_\_\_\_

(Write answer here)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Sign here)

to  
QM 293 A-C  
Blee, Robert C.

April 29, 1930.

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

With reference to the pilgrimage authorized by Congress in the Act approved March 2, 1929, it is requested that you return the identification badge, bearing your name, together with that of your state, which has been forwarded to you.

If and when you are scheduled to make the pilgrimage at some later date, the emblem will be returned to you.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

1 Enc.  
envelope  
~~U. S. M. G. H. & R. DIV.~~

1930 MAY 3 PM 3 50

DISPATCHED

QM 293 A-C  
Blee, Robert C.

April 29, 1930.

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Demask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

With reference to the pilgrimage authorized by Congress in the Act approved March 2, 1929, it is requested that you return the identification badge, bearing your name, together with that of your state, which has been forwarded to you.

If and when you are scheduled to make the pilgrimage at some later date, the emblem will be returned to you.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

D

1 Enc.  
Enc.

QM 293 A-C  
Blee, Robert C. 34-M

April 19, 1930.

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Demask Avenue,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of recent date declining the invitation to sail on the SS HARDING May 14, 1930, to visit the grave of your son, the late Private First Class Robert C. Blee, under the provisions of the Act of March 2, 1929.

*See letter dated*

In this connection you are advised your name is being placed upon the list of mothers and widows eligible under the law to make the pilgrimage in 1931, and you will be communicated with when the pilgrimage is being arranged for that year.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

Q. M. G. M. DIV.

1930 APR 19 AM 9 21

DISPATCHED

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Blee, Robert C.

34 M

March 21, 1930

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham  
112 Damask Ave.  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General:

Very truly yours,

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

1 Enclosure.  
Regulation.

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

March 20, 1930.

Blee, Robert C. 34 M

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

QM 293 A-C  
Blee, Robert C.

October 25, 1929.

Mrs. Mary E. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of October 15, 1929, relative to the pilgrimage authorized by Congress in the Act of March 2, 1929.

*7th Ave, Miss*

In reply to your inquiry relative to having your daughter accompany you on this pilgrimage at your expense, you are advised that the War Department has been charged with the execution of this Act, and its efforts, therefore, must be restricted to making the arrangements necessary for the transportation, entertainment, etc. of those named as eligible under the Act. Any arrangements desired to be made for your daughter to visit the grave of your late son must be made by her personally, and without expense to the Government.

You will be advised far enough in advance of the name and sailing date of the vessel, it is believed, to permit your daughter to communicate with the steamship company relative to securing accommodations for herself.

You are assured that competent personnel will be assigned by the War Department to provide for the comfort and welfare of those making the pilgrimage.

With reference to your request for particulars about the trip, you are advised that this office is now engaged in compiling the report to Congress referred to in Section 3 of the Act. Until this report has been presented to Congress and action taken thereon, no detailed plans for the conduct of the pilgrimages can be definitely made. As soon as practicable after necessary action has been taken by Congress, plans will be perfected by The Quartermaster General, and all persons eligible under the Act to make the pilgrimage will be given detailed information in connection therewith, together with blanks upon which they may indicate their final decision as to whether or not they desire to make the pilgrimage.

*M. G. W. 314*

*929 OCT 28 AM 10 43*

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 8, 1929.

Blee, Robert C. 34 M

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
112 Damask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

Encl.  
Act  
Envelope

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

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Blee, Robert C

May 4, 1929.

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham,  
114 Danask Avenue,  
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Madam:

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

The records of this office show that you are the mother of the late Private, first-class, Robert C. Blee, Headquarters Detachment, 31st Engineers, whose remains are now interred in the Suresnes American Cemetery, Suresnes, Seine, France.

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

In the event your son was survived by a widow who has since re-married it is 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,

5/24

2 incls.  
Act of Congress.  
Envelope.

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

✓  
LFH

FILE UNDER NO. 293. - Blee, Robt. C. Sept. 30, 1925.  
Pvt. 1/cl 848753 Hq. Det. 31st Engrs.

INDEX SHEET Permanently buried in France

SYNOPSIS

Letter -

From - OQM.G.,

To - H.C.Durston, The Manlius School,  
" New York.

Ref. your letter of Sept. 17, 1925, The OQM.G. advises the information as found in the records of this office, regarding above-named deceased soldier.

DOCUMENT FILED UNDER NO. 293. - Manlius School.

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.

8-6642

In reply refer to:  
293.8 C-R #12195

*File*

Oct. 9, 1922.

SUBJECT: Pvt. 1st cl. Robert C. Blee.

TO: Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham, 114 Damask Ave.,  
Inglewood, Calif.

1. Receipt is acknowledged of questionnaire executed by you under date of September 25th 1922. You are advised that such disposition will be made of the headstone formerly erected over the grave of your late son, Private 1st class Robert C. Blee, Headquarters Detachment, 31st Engineers, as will prevent misapplication or desecration of same.

2. Upon an investigation it has been found that the correct date of birth of your late son is March 29th and not March 22nd as given in letter forwarded you under date of September 15th. Notation of this correction will be made.

For the Quartermaster General:

*ED*  
E. E. DAVIS,  
Executive Assistant, G. R. S.

LN  
707

MAILED

OCT -9 1922

G. R. S.

*File*

293.8 C-R #12195

(Blee, Robert C. Pvt. 1st cl.)

1st Ind.

War Dept., O.Q.M.G. Washington, D. C., Oct. 9, 1922--To the Chief,  
American Graves Registration Service, Q.M.C. in Europe.

1. Such disposition is authorized of the headstones referred to in basic communication as will prevent misapplication or desecration of same and a report will be submitted of the action taken.

2. Attention is invited to notation on questionnaire, wherein it is stated that the date of birth of the late Private 1st class Robert C. Blee, Headquarters Detachment, 31st Engineers is March 29th instead of the 22nd. Upon investigation it has been found that the correct date of birth is March 29th and notation of this correction should be made on your records.

By order of the Quartermaster General:

1 incl.  
questionnaire.

H. J. CONNER,  
Assistant.

LN  
7C7  
*[Signature]*

MAILED

OCT -9 1922

G.R.S.

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Form Letter "A".

~~September 15~~, 1922.

Subject: Disposition of Monument.

To: Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham, 114 Demask Ave., Inglewood, Calif.

*File*

1. The remains of Private Robert BLEE, 848753, Hqrs. Det., 31st Engineers, formerly buried in Grave 4023, French Civilian Cemetery #24, SAUMUR (M-et-L) have been reburied in Grave 12, Block C, Row 4, Suresnes American Cemetery #34, SURESNES (Seine).

2. The Monument which was on this grave in French Civilian Cemetery #24, Saumur (M-et-L) is now held in storage at St. Ouen, Paris (Seine).

3. As the nearest of kin, you are requested to inform this office what disposition you desire made of this monument. A questionnaire is attached, and an addressed penalty envelope is enclosed for the prompt forwarding of your reply.

4. Description of monument:

	<u>Approximate weight.</u>	<u>Dimensions.</u>
Material: <u>Cement.</u>	234 lbs.	2'3" x 1'3" x 11"
	(140 lbs.	2'6" x 1'8" x 5"
	16 lbs.	2' x 4" x 4"
	(156 lbs. for these 2 stones in one crate)	

Inscription thereon: "Robert C. Blee  
Co. D, 21 Engrs.  
Born March 22, 1865, Died  
Aug. 17, 1918

"In the service of his country."

Practicability of monument withstanding shipment: Can be safely crated and shipped.

*should be Mch. 29  
as per agd. Am*

5. The cost of crating, handling and shipping this monument to any designated point will be at the expense of the consignee who will make all necessary arrangements with an express company or any other agency, advising such agency to call upon the American Graves Registration Service, St. Ouen, Paris (Seine) for the monument that is to be crated and shipped.

6. Should no disposition be indicated by you, it is requested that the clearance certificate on the questionnaire be duly accomplished and mailed to this office.

For the Quartermaster General:

SEP 16 1922

E. E. DAVIS, **G.R.S.**  
Executive Assistant, G.R.S.

2 encls.

*ms  
EH*

*File-OS*  
*#72195*

August 30, 1922.

293.8 G-R #12195.

*Revised Sept. 13 22*  
*Ret'd unclaimed to*  
*re-addressed to Calif*  
*"Inglwood Calif"*  
*su*

~~XXXXX~~

Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham, 114 Demask Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.

Permanent Grave Location of Private 1st class Robert C. Blee,  
Headquarter Detachment, 31st Engrs.

1. Pursuant to letter from this office dated February 16, 1922, wherein you were advised that it was impracticable to comply with your desire that the remains of your son, the late Private 1st class Robert C. Blee, Headquarter Detachment, 31st Engineers, be permanently buried in the Suresnes American cemetery, you are informed that the remains have been removed to this cemetery and permanently buried in Grave #12, Row #4, Block C. This action was made possible due to the purchase of more land and consequent enlargement of this cemetery.

2. 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, organization and date of soldier's death. The headstones will be placed at all graves in connection with the improvement work now in progress, as soon as possible and without waiting for special action or request on the part of relatives.

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

For the Quartermaster General:

MAILED

AUG 30 1922

G.R.S.

GEORGE H. PENROSE,  
Assistant.

13  
*OS*  
*WPS*

DATE May 12h 1922.

1. NAME BLEE, Robert C. SERIAL No. 848753  
 RANK Pvt. ORGANIZATION Hqrs. Det. 31st Engrs.  
 GRAVE LOCATION French Civil Cemetery 24, Saumur, (Maine et Loire), France  
CTY. NAME NUMBER

4023  
GRAVE ROW PLOT

2. ORIGINAL ~~BATTLE AREA~~ GRAVE LOCATION 4023 SAUMUR Maine-et-Loire  
GRAVE COMMUNE DEPT.

COORDINATES French Civil Cemetery #24, Saumur, Maine et Loire. No coordinates given on "Field Burial" Form from which data is taken, or on blue print of cemetery. Data take from Field Burial Form dated Jan. 28, 1919.

CONCENTRATED TO Non concentrated.  
DATE GRAVE ROW PLOT

CEMETERY CTY. NUMBER

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

**None as this is an original burial.**

SUBSEQUENT REBURIALS None.  
DATE GRAVE ROW PLOT CEMETERY

DATE GRAVE ROW PLOT CEMETERY

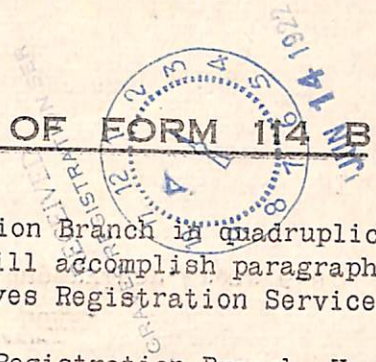
SIGNATURE, AREA SUPERVISOR *I. A. Luke*  
I. A. LUKE,  
Capt. F.A., Supervisor, Areas 6-8.

3. FINAL GRAVE LOCATION 5/12/22 12 4 C  
DATE GRAVE ROW Blocklet-

Suresnes American Cty # 34. Suresnes Seine  
CEMETERY

YG  
 AUDITED BY  
 S 2/3  
 5/19/22

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARATION OF FORM 114-B



1. Forms 114-B are to be prepared by Registration Branch in quadruplicate, three copies to be forwarded to Area Supervisor, who will accomplish paragraph 2 and return all three copies to Headquarters, American Graves Registration Service.

2. Paragraphs 1 and 3 will be accomplished by Registration Branch, Headquarters, American Graves Registration Service, Q.M.C., in Europe.

3. Paragraph 2 will be accomplished by Area Supervisor from data on file in his office.

4. If data is entered on Form 114-B from Form 1, Form I6, Form 1-A or Form 16-A, statement to this effect will be made on Form 114-B STATING WHICH G.R.S. form data is taken from. If data concerning co-ordinates is approximate and NOT accurate, statement to this effect will be made on these forms.

# REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date Oct. 26th, 1921

1. REMAINS OF BLEE, Robert C. SERIAL NUMBER 848753

RANK pvt. ORGANIZATION Hqrs. Det. 51st. Engrs.

2. Disinterred (date): Oct. 26th, 1921 From (give complete location): Gr. 4023, Cem. 24

By: Group 4 Unit Sec. 7

3. Reburied (date): May 12, 1922. In (give complete location): Grave 12, Row 4, Block C. Cty 34, Suresnes.

By: Group \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of reburial \_\_\_\_\_

4. Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon disinterment: Badly decomposed, features not recognizable. Wooden box (slate lined) and uniform.

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

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

"Engrs" insignia on collar. Body tag reads: "Robert C. Blee" rest corroded.

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

(a) Height (actual measurement) Indiscernable due to

(b) Weight (estimated) Decomposition.

(c) Hair—Color Dark brown

Quantity Full head

Characteristics Straight

(d) Hair on face—Color None

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_

(e) Permanent marks on body (old scars, peculiarities, or missing parts) Indiscernable due to decomposition.

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

Skull crushed.

F. C. Stark, checker.

7. Disinterment supervised by Frank L. Kaelin Approved: F. L. Herron

Frank L. Kaelin, Sup. Emb.

(Title)

F. L. Herron, Capt., QMC.

Approved:

(Title)

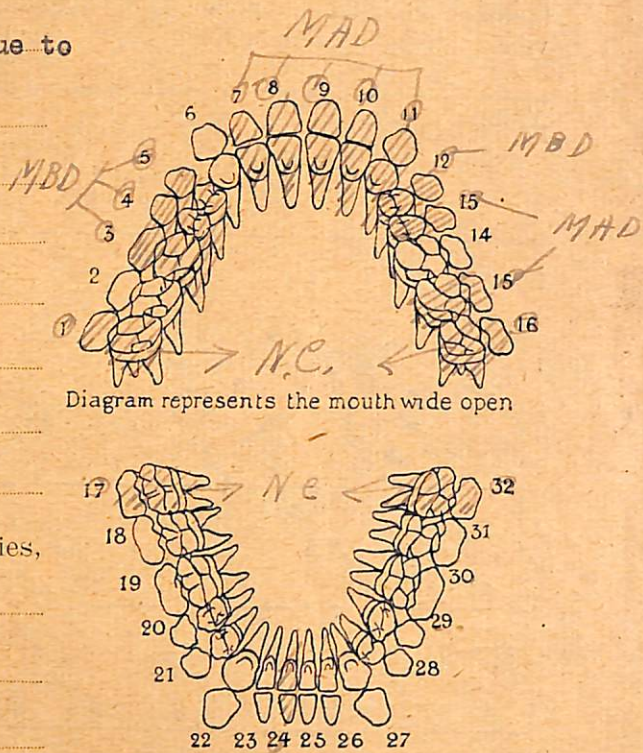
H. S. Smith, Chaplin.

8. Reburial supervised by P. G. Dwyre

P. G. DWYRE.

(Title)

H. S. Smith



60298

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

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

1. Show soldier's name, serial number, rank and organization, and by whom disinterred and reburied.
2. Give date and accurate information as to location from which the body was disinterred and the group and unit which made disinterment.
3. Give date and accurate information as to location of reburial and the group and unit which made reburial, and how reburial was made—in casket, wooden box, etc.
4. State to what degree decomposition has progressed, whether recognition is possible, and how the body was originally buried—in a casket, box, burlap, etc. This statement should be as complete as possible.

5. (a) State whether identification tags were found buried with body and on grave marker by reporting "Yes" or "No".

(b) State whether or not body appears to have been a hospital case. Were any identifying articles found in or on body or grave? List any personal effects, letters, money-order receipts, and the like found on body or in grave. Give any and all information which it is thought might be of use in identifying the body, other than that tabulated under Item No 6.

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

**MISSING TEETH**

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



**CROWNED TEETH**

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



**BRIDGE WORK**

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



**FILLINGS**

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



**CARIES (CAVITIES)**

Outline location and size of cavity, shade in thus:



**DENTURES (PLATES)**

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

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

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

To be prepared in triplicate.

DATE Oct. 26th, 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 BLEE Robert C.  
 2. No. 848753  
 3. Rank Pvt.  
 4. Org. Hqrs. Det. 31st Engrs.  
 5. D.D. August 17th  
 6. C.D. Motor-cycle accident

10. Name Robert C. Blee (Additional middle initial on body tag)  
 11. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 12. Rank \_\_\_\_\_  
 13. Org. \_\_\_\_\_  
 14. (a) D.D. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (b) D.B. \_\_\_\_\_

Discrepancy found upon disinterment

7. Grave No. 4023 Sec. \_\_\_\_\_  
 8. Plot \_\_\_\_\_ Row \_\_\_\_\_  
 9. \_\_\_\_\_

15. Grave No. \_\_\_\_\_ Sec. \_\_\_\_\_  
 16. Plot \_\_\_\_\_ Row \_\_\_\_\_  
 17. No discrep.

18. Cemetery French Civil Cemetery  
 20. Dept. or County Maine et Loire  
 22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. 24

19. Commune or town SAUMUR  
 21. Country France

23. Disinterred (Date) Oct. 26th, 1921

By Frank L. Kaelin

24. Inscription on grave marker:

Name Robert Blee  
 Rank Pvt.

Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Organization Hqrs. Det. 31st Engrs.

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

Frank L. Kaelin  
 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).

Body tag reads: "Robert C. Blee" rest corroded.

27. Condition of body Badly decomposed, features not recognizable.

28. Nature of burial Wooden box (slate line) and uniform.

29. Any discrepancy noted upon examination of body, as compared with G.R.S. records quoted above? See item 10.

30. Body prepared and placed in casket: Date Oct. 26th, 1921 By Frank L. Kaelin

31. Casket sealed by Frank L. Kaelin

Signature of Embalmer, (Supervisor) Frank L. Kaelin

SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. C-2810

32. Designation of body:

Name BLEE, Robert Serial No. 848753  
Rank Pvt. Organization Hqrs. Det. 31st Engrs.

33. Consigned to:

Name of Permanent Cemetery Suresnes American Cty. 34, France.

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) Oct. 26th, 1921 By Frank L. Kaelin

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 F. L. Herron, Capt., QMC.

36. Remarks



37. Shipped from point of Operation: (Date)

To point of Concentration Paris Morgue (Seine) (Name)

Convoyer Pierre de Montozon Signature Shipping Officer S. D. Campbell, Capt., QMC.

38. Received at ~~Railhead~~ or Point of Concentration: Date Paris Morgue, Nov. 2nd, 1921

By G.R.S. Representative Howard H.L. WARD, Major Q.M.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 (Date)

42. Grave No. Section

43. Plot Row

G.R.S. Representative

COMPILATION N/R REQUESTS

I. DATA COMPILATION

A. Location Index Card:-

(1) Name BLEE, Robert Ser. No. 848753  
 (2) Rank Pvt Organization HQ. Det. 31st Engrs TYP. JS  
 (3) Date of death 8-17-18 CKR. 7/11

B. Registration Card:- (Check Reg. Card Inf. against Loc. Ind. Inf.)

(4) Cause of death Motor Cycle Accident TYP. ESW  
 (5) Grave No. 4023 Row --- Plot --- Sect. --- CKR. 7/11

II. FILES EXAMINATION

A. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases; No card.

B. A. G. O. DISPOSITION CARD Date of receipt None

(6) Relationship Mother  
 (7) Name Mary B. Ingraham  
 (8) Address 3421 4th Ave., Los Angeles, Calif  
 (9) Desires remains brought to U. S.? No.  
 (10) Desires remains brought to U. S. and interred in National Cemetery at \_\_\_\_\_  
 (11) If brought back, what shipping instructions? \_\_\_\_\_

SEE DISPOSITION REMARKS

at 3/19/20

C. A. G. O. CORRESPONDENCE Date of communication \_\_\_\_\_

(12) Does correspondence Change or qualify request as made on A.G.O. card? If so, specify such information. No correspondence

(13) A. G. O. Files EXAMINED by ABH (Date) 3-19-20

D. (14) G. R. S Files - Correspondence. (Has reference been made to File No. Cancellation memos.?) Yes Does such correspondence, if containing request for disposition, reconcile with that of A. G. O.? bc (Specify "Yes or "No".) If "No", give date of communication, the name, address, and relationship and substance of request.

No request for disposition.  
Grave Location Blank

(15) G. R. S. Files EXAMINED by S. C. (Date) 3-20-20

Rechecked  
9 M M 3-5-21

Returned for  
12/17/21  
Concentration Disc. Div. 608

III. FINAL ACTI

A. MEMORANDUM

(16) Remo to \_\_\_\_\_

(17) Inst \_\_\_\_\_

(18) Type \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

B. G. R. S. FORM NO. 114 made (Date) 3/20/20

(19) Typed by vmd. Checked by \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) 3/20/20

C. SUSPENSION REMARKS:

Form 120 rec'd 8-12-20 Mary B Ingraham mother, nearest of kin, 114 Damask Ave., Los Angeles Calif. requests body remain in Europe where he fell. Dec 8-20-20

D. Dispatched (Date) \_\_\_\_\_ (Let. Trans. No. APR 27 1920)

Par. 2. Not to be returned, fund.

Approved by \_\_\_\_\_

(Date) \_\_\_\_\_

Let-10-4-20. Mother - Mary B - Ingraham, 114 Damask Ave, Anglenwood, Calif. Request remains be interred in the cemetery at Suresnes, Dept. of Seine - near Paris. Request hearse + stone cumber be placed on grave just as burial Engineers provided thing. MAR. 11-1-20. 11/12/20 Overseas advised that next of kin now desires body of Robert Blee buried permanently in American Cemetery # 34, Suresnes, Seine, France. Requests advice of opinion. 11/15/20 111-9.

12/10/20 Europe, by first indorsement of our letter 11/2/20, advises present plan of concentration will permit the granting of this request. 1-5-21. J.L.

Law 115 - (Continued)

Let. 7/8/22 on own let. 1/10/22 - Mother asks if it is now too late to let body lay where now buried. State she has never heard if he had been moved. Encloses letter from Aunt of the deceased. (Add. 2-16-22)

Let. 7/16/22 - Mother advised body has been exhumed for re-entration into the perm. Amer. Cty. of the Rice - Armer, that the Amer. Cty. of Successes as previously informed. When final burial has been effected, she will be advised. (Add. 2-16-22)

# GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Blee: 848753 Robert <sup>XX</sup> ~~CA~~  
 (Surname.) (Number.) (First Name and Initials.)

Pvt. 31st Engineers  
 (Rank.) (Organization.)

DATE OF BURIAL..... August 20, 1918

PLACE OF BURIAL. Saumur Cemetery

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

Saumur, France

Dept. Maine-et-Loire

GRAVE NUMBER..... 4023

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

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

IDENTIFICATION TAGS: Cement cross and curbing being erected

Was one buried with body?..... Yes

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

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

REPORTED BY:

(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer.)

1st Lieut., N.A., Chaplain 31st Engrs  
 This portion to be sent to Chief of Graves Registration Service.

27 AOU B01

G.R.S. Form No. 8; Central Records Liaison.

REGISTRATION CARDS.  
 FILE NO. 12195

12/26/18

MEMO FOR: G.R.S. representative, C.R.O.

SUBJECT: Information required for G.R.S.

I. Items checked are to be completed:

- Surname: Blee.
- Number: 848753
- First name: Robert.
- Rank: Pvt.
- Company: Hq. Det.
- Organization: 31st Eng.
- Date of death: 8/17.18
- Cause: Motor Cycle Accident.
- Place:

Location of hospital:

Number » »  
 Class » »

- Relative: Mrs Robert Blee,
- Relationship: Mother
- Address: 50th. Ave. & 52th. St.  
 New York, N.Y.
- Authority:
- Cablegram No:
- Telegram from:

dated: 10-25-18.

- Reported to Washington:
- C.C. Nos: 236

(Underscore the "official" C.C.)

Remarks:

- Notification was sent to this address and returned, advise correct address.

CHARLES C. PIERCE,  
 Lieut.-Colonel, Q.M.-C., U.S.A.

Initials of reporter:

REVIEWED  
 OSP SS.

REVIEWED  
 OSP SS.

OK  
 MC

OK  
 MC

JUL 26 1920

Form #120  
Shipping Inquiry.  
(Revised)

24--2

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY  
GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE  
WASHINGTON

Rush Answer

FROM: Chief, Graves Registration Service, Q.M.C.  
TO: Mary B. Ingraham, <sup>114 Damask Ave.</sup> ~~(3421 4th Ave.)~~ Los Angeles, Calif.  
SUBJECT: Remains of Pvt. Robert Blee.

Change in Address  
7 e/f.

The records of this office show that you have requested that his body

Not returned to U.S. I want my son to rest where he fell

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

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

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

CHARLES C. PIERCE,  
Major, U.S.A.

Noted on Form No. 115

Date 8-20-20

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

NAME OF NO. & STREET TOWN STATE

NAME OF	NO. & STREET	TOWN	STATE
Soldier's Widow	114 Damask Ave.	Los Angeles	Calif
Soldier's Children (Name oldest first)	1. 2. 3.		
Father	<u>no</u>		
Mother	<u>mother</u>		
Brothers (Name oldest first)	<u>none</u>		
Sisters (Name oldest first)	<u>1 sister married</u>	<u>Cleveland</u>	<u>Ohio</u>

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature Mary B. Ingraham

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship Mother

IMPORTANT: CAREFULLY read instructions before filling out this paper. (OVER)

Aug 12 1920  
G. H. G.



1920.

I, the undersigned, am the \_\_\_\_\_ and nearest living relative of the within  
(Relationship)  
named soldier, and desire the following disposition of his remains, viz:  
(Strike out all except the one showing the disposition desired).

1. As stated on first page of this sheet.
2. To be returned to the U.S. and shipped to \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(R.R. Station) \_\_\_\_\_  
(State)
3. To be returned to the U.S. and buried in no National Cemetery.
4. To remain in Europe, for burial in a permanent American Cemetery.

Signature Yes. Mother.

I want my son to remain where he fell

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT

1. If definite instruction as to the disposition of a body are not received from the nearest relative within 2 weeks of its arrival at New York, burial will be made without further notice in the World War Section of Arlington National Cemetery.
2. The transfer of bodies will be made ENTIRELY at Government expense.
3. This paper MUST BE SIGNED BY THE PERSON WHO IS THE NEXT of kin IN THE ORDER shown in the square on the other side of this sheet.
4. This paper must be returned showing the name and address of each of the nearest living relatives in the spaces provided therefor on the other side of this sheet.
5. If there are minor children of the deceased soldier and no widow, the LEGALLY APPOINTED GUARDIAN of the children should ascertain their wishes and act for them in this matter.
6. If YOU are not the nearest relative, please ask the nearest relative, if living near you, to fill out this paper.
7. If YOU are not the nearest living relative and do not know who or where the nearest relatives are, please fill out this paper AT ONCE and mail to this office.
8. You are requested to return this paper AT ONCE in order to avoid delay in the case of this body.
9. Use the enclosed envelope - pay no postage.

293.9 Disp. Com. #24

1st Ind.

BAF/lmp

Headquarters, American G. R. S., Q. M. C., in Europe, 8 Avenue d'Iena, Paris, France, 10th December, 1920. To: Quartermaster General, Munitions Building, WASHINGTON, D. C.

1. Reference BLEE, Robert, Private, 848753, Hq., Det., 31st Engrs., the present plan of concentration will permit the granting of this request.

5

106

Noted on Form No. 115  
Date 1-5-21. J.L.

*Edgar A. Fry*

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

Recorded, Cemeterial Div., O. O. M. G.  
File # 293.9 # 12-195

*Copy forwarded to Inquiry  
Bn. for further reply to letter, 11-20-20*

*Blee, Robert*

19395

File  
JP

November 20, 1920.

293.3 Cem. #12195 (Blee, Robert Pvt.)

From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army, (Cemeterial Division)  
To: Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham, 114 Damask Avenue, Inglewood, Calif.  
Subject: Private Robert Blee.

FILED

1. In reply to your letter of October 4, 1920, you are advised that your request that the body of your son, Private Robert Blee, Headquarters Detachment, 31st Engineers, be permanently interred in the American Cemetery at Suresnes, Department of Seine (near Paris), has been noted. This office is unable to state at the present time whether or not it will be possible to comply with this request at the time the bodies in the Cemetery at Saumur, Department of Maine-et-Loire are disinterred for burial in a permanent American Cemetery in France, but may be able to give you more definite information on this subject if you write again in a few months.

2. It is the intention to mark all the graves of American Military dead with suitable headstones and this work will be taken up as soon as a few remaining details are worked out. It is not probable, therefore, that it will be found practicable to make use of the headstone and curbing placed at the present grave of your son by his former comrades.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

C. C. PIERCE,  
Major, U. S. Army,  
Chief, Cemeterial Division,

BY:

MR

MVB

GLENN A. ROSS,  
1st Lt., Q.M.C.

BPM



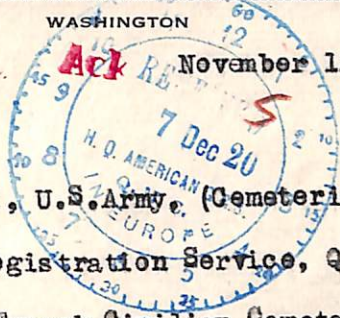
REVIEWED  
OSP SS.

MAILED  
NOV 20 1920  
G.R.S.

ADDRESS REPLY TO THE  
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
DISTRIBUTION CENTER  
MUNITIONS BUILDING

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

WASHINGTON



November 12, 1920.

RECORDED, A.G.R.S., Q.M.G., IN EUROPE  
FILE NO. 288,9 DISP. CEM. NO. 24

File No. 24 Reg. Sec., Cem. Div.

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

To: Chief, American Graves Registration Service, Q. M. G. in Europe.

Subject: Supplementary advice on French Civilian Cemetery #24, Saumur, M-et-L, France.

Reference paragraph 2, office letter of April 27th, 1920, (File No. 24 Reg. Sec., Cem. Div.), you are advised that the next of kin now desires that this body be permanently buried in American Cemetery #34, Suresnes, Seine, France. Their desires should be complied with if practical. Advise this office of your opinion.

Cable  
Ref. No.

2 BLEE, Robert, Private, 848753, Hq., Det., 31st Engrs.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

CHARLES C. PIERCE,  
Major, U. S. A.,  
Chief, Cemeterial Division.

By: *Thos. G. Hanson Jr*  
Thos. G. Hanson, Jr.,  
1st Lieut., Q.M. Corps.

CSP:SS.  
Corp. Stat. Dept.

*Copy forwarded to Shipping*  
*Rev.*

Feb. 16, 1922.

293.8 C-R #12195-(Blee, Robert C. Pvt. 1st cl.)Cty.24,Sht.2.  
The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army, (Cemeterial Division)  
Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham, 114 Damask Ave., Inglewood, Calif.

Disposition of remains.

2/16/22  
File

1. In reply to your notation of February 8th 1922 on letter from this office, you are advised that the records of this office indicate that the remains of your son, the late Private 1st class Robert C. Blee, Headquarters Detachment, 31st Engineers, have been exhumed for concentration into the permanent American Cemetery of the Oise-Aisne. This action was necessary in order that the grave of your son may be tenderly and fittingly cared for by this Government for all time.

2. In our letter to you of January 10th 1921, you were informed that the remains of your son would be permanently interred in the American Cemetery of the Suresnes. In this connection, it is stated that due to the limited number of burials in the Suresnes American Cemetery, it will be impracticable to remove the body to this cemetery as remains are being concentrated according to the geographical location of the cemetery in which they are interred in relation to the permanent American cemeteries. In accordance with this policy, the bodies from the French Civilian Cemetery at Saumur, Department of Maine-et-Loire, where the body of your son was removed, will be concentrated into the American Cemetery of the Oise-Aisne. However, it is thought that the transfer to this cemetery will be just as satisfactory as if the remains were interred in the Suresnes Cemetery, inasmuch as all permanent cemeteries are maintained in the same manner by the United States Government.

FILE

MAILED

FEB 17 1922

CEMETERIAL DIV.  
O. Q. M. G.

3. When the final burial has been effected, you will be duly advised of the new grave location of your son.

4. This office assures you that the grave of your son will be marked by a suitable headstone and will be maintained by this Government in a manner befitting the late soldier's supreme sacrifice.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

Noted on Form 113

Date 7/6/22-axl 1 incl.  
Letter Mch.13/20

CHARLES J. WYNNE,  
Captain, Q.M.C.

LN

axl

CENTRAL DIVISION  
REGISTRATION SECTION

**FILE**

April 22, 1921

MEMO FOR: Cards Department.

1. CASE OF:

Hdq. Det. 31st Engrs.  
ORGANIZATION (Old)

BLEE, 848753, Robert - Pvt.  
(Name)

Correction or additional data changes as shown below have been made on the Registration Card of the above-mentioned soldier and a corresponding change will be necessary on the Organization Card:

ORGANIZATION (New)

FILE NO.

SURNAME

SERIAL NUMBER

FIRST NAME AND INITIALS **Robert C.**

RANK **Pvt. 1/c**

DATE OF DEATH

CAUSE OF DEATH

	Date	Place	F-1A No.
Orig.			D-
1st Reb.			D-
2nd Reb.			D-
3rd Reb.			D-

(Note: In the above spaces below double line fill in ONLY the new data and data correcting previous information)

BY: MARTHA T. ALLEN

INVESTIGATION AND ADJUSTMENT  
(Department)

5 x 8 card was sent to file.

Corrections made  
on Organization  
File Card:

By *MLG*

S/1105/LGL

FROM: O.Q.M.G.  
COMMERCIAL DIVISION  
Munitions Building  
Room

PLEASE  
EXPEDITE

Adjustment Made

APR 27 1921

WAR DEPARTMENT

Office of the Quartermaster General of the Army  
Washington

FILE

G.R.S. Form 18-A-0  
Information requested of A.G.O.

Date 2/25/21.

File No. 176128  
Registration.

(SPECIAL)

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

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

Subject: Information required for G.R.S.

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

- a. Surname Blee *OK*
- b. Christian name Robert C. *OK*  
~~or (Robert Crawford)~~
- c. Serial Number 848753 *OK*  
~~or (848531)~~
- d. Organization Hq. Det., 31st Engrs. *OK*
- e. Rank Pvt. 1cl. (a.g.o.)
- f. Date of death 8/17/18. *OK*
- g. Cause of death Motorcycle accident. *OK*
- h. Authority (C.O.#)
- i. Emergency address Mr. Blee, 7304 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.
- j. Relationship Mother

BODY DESCRIPTION  
(See page #2 of the Service Record)

- a. Age of enlistment
- b. Color of eyes
- c. Color of hair
- d. Height
- e. Weight
- f. Permanent marks and physical defects at enlistment (Old fractures or breaks)

DENTAL CHARTS  
(See Physical report of examination prior to enlistment)

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

*OVERSEAS GIVES - Mrs. MARY B. INGRAHAM, Mother, 3421 - 4th Ave., Los Angeles, Cal.*

*Doually - Mr. Cal. Rev. Sec. 10-8-3.2-28-21*

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

BY:

*H. J. OCMER*  
1st. Lieut. Q.M.C.

CEMETERY NO: 24

SHEET NO: 2  
TYPED BY: I.W.

5/713/LML

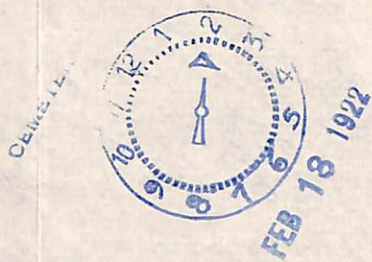
*World War Div.*

*Date: APR 27 1921*

FEB 23 1921

*28*





RECEIVED  
INQ. & COR. DEPT.

FEB 14 1922

CEMETERY IV.  
O. O. M. S.



XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

File Number 12195

TO: REGISTRATION BRANCH, G. R. S.

Date 11-12-20

FROM: INQUIRY BRANCH.

Please furnish information as checked (✓) below regarding the following soldier:

NAME: *Blee, Robert C* Serial Number

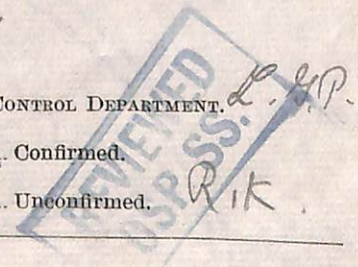
RANK: ORGANIZATION:

No.	QUESTION	REPLY
1.	Do particulars of soldiers given above agree with records?	<i>10. Blee, Robert Port. #848758</i>
2.	Date of death.	<i>Hq. Det. - 31st Engrs.</i>
3.	Cause and place of death.	<i>(2) 8-17-18</i>
4.	Number of casualty cablegram.	<i>(3) Motor Cycle accident.</i>
5.	Date buried.	<i>(4) 236</i>
6.	Grave location. (a) Complete record required. (b) Name of cemetery or commune only required. (c) Note reinterments.	<i>(5) 8-20-18</i> <i>(6) Grave No. 4023, French Civilian Cty. #24, Saumur, Maine et Loire.</i>
7.	Who reported burial?	
8.	Confirmed by G. R. S.?	
9.	Report as to grave marker.	
10.	Identification tags: (a) Buried with body? (b) Attached to grave marker?	<i>(10) a - yes b - yes</i>
11.	Complete emergency address?	<i>(11) Mrs. Robert Blee (mother) 50th Ave + 59th St., New York</i>
12.	Has been notified? (Give date.)	<i>(12) 10-26-18 12-26-18</i>
13.	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply in all cases if no information on record.)	
14.	What is the photograph number?	<i>(14) L-7915</i>
15.	Inquiry made by.	

N. B.—All proper names to be typewritten, or printed in PLAIN BLOCK LETTERS.

RELEASED BY INFORMATION CONTROL DEPARTMENT.

..... X Confirmed.  
..... Unconfirmed.



114 Damask Ave, Hollywood Calif.  
Oct 4 - 29.

Charles C. Pierce.

City 24  
Wash

Dr Sir.

Your notice received. In regard  
to my son, Robert C. Bled.

I wish his remains, to be permanently  
interred in France, in the National  
Cemetery at Suresnes, Department  
of Seine (near Paris.)

His Aunt has visited his grave,  
and said it was a days ride from  
Paris. I want him laid, where she  
can visit it, as I never expect to see it.  
Will his head stone and stone curbing  
be placed on his grave just as his  
Buddie Engineers buried him. I would  
like it to be there, just as it is now.

Recorded, Cemeterial Div., U.S. M. G.  
File # 893.8-121951



OCT 11 1929  
G. H. S.



RECEIVED

NOV 12 1929

RECEIVED  
POST OFFICE

Trusting this reaches you safely,  
I remain yours truly

Mary B Ingraham,  
his Mother.

CEMETERY DIVISION  
OVERSEAS PROJECT SECTION



Noted on Form  
7/13/11-1-20

OCT 12 1920  
RECEIVED

REVIEWED  
OSP SS.

ADDRESS REPLY TO THE  
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE AND STORAGE  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE AND STORAGE  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
WASHINGTON

September 7, 1920.

File No. 293.8-Cem. #12195 (Blee, Robert Pvt.)

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

To: Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham, 114 Damask Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.

Subject: Permanent Burial.

1. In reply to your letter of August 9, 1920, returning Form #120, requesting that the remains of your son, Private Robert Blee, be permanently interred in the French Civilian Cemetery, Saumur, Maine-et-Loire, you are advised that this cemetery will not be maintained as a permanent Field of Honor. In the event you desire the remains of your son permanently interred in France, it will be necessary to transfer his body to a permanent Field of Honor. Three have thus far been established, one at Suresnes, Department of Seine (near Paris), another at Belleau Wood, Department of Aisne, and the third at Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Department of Meuse.

2. In view of this information of which you were not previously aware, it is requested that you advise this office whether you wish the remains of your son permanently interred in France or returned to this country either for private interment or interment in a National Cemetery. Upon receipt of this advice from you, instructions will be issued that your wishes be complied with provided there is no relative whose legal right to direct disposition has priority over yours.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

CHARLES C. PIERCE,  
Major, U. S. Army,  
Chief, Cemeterial Division.

By:

*Charles J. Wynne*  
CHARLES J. WYNNE,  
Captain, Q. M. C.

REVIEWED  
OSP SS.

To: Inquiry Section.  
From: Overseas Project Sub-Section.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION on Cemetery No. (furnished by <sup>24</sup> M.B.H. (date 11-1-20)  
Data sent Overseas Body to remain overseas - Let. Trans. 4-27-20  
Operations to commence (approx.) 6-12-20  
Operations to be completed (approx.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Bodies shipped from European Port \_\_\_\_\_  
Bodies arrived at Hoboken \_\_\_\_\_

II. CASE OF Blee, Robert, Pvt. Hq. Det. 31st Engrs. Serv. # 848753  
The following information was abstracted (Date) 11-1-20 from: Form # 115-

SOURCE	CLK.	in OFFICE		Clk.	in OFFICE
A. G. O. Cards	AH	yes.	Shppg. Inquiry (sent 7-26-20)		
A.G.O. Corresp.	HBW-	no.	To <u>Mother</u>	MBH	yes.
G.R.S. Corresp. relative to disp.	MBH.	yes.	OSP S-S Corresp. (see Remarks.)		

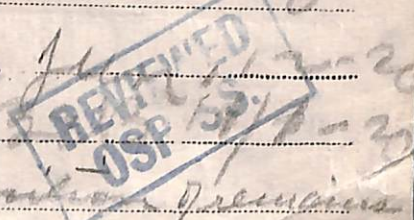
Ago Cand. DESIRES as to Disposition.

Name of Relative	RETURN			REMAIN	SPECIAL
	N. C.	Pvt.	Int.		
Widow					
Children (Name oldest first)					
Father				✓	
Mother					
Brothers					
Sisters					

MBH-11-1-20

Body to be shipped to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ was shipped (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS City - 24 Dispatched 4-27-20  
Exp. Information Commenced 10-10-20  
Let. 10-11-20. noted on form # 115-  
Letter 9-7-20 to mother relative to disposition of remains.  
Form # 120. Recd. 8-12-20. Mother - nearest of kin. Mary B. Ingraham  
114 Damrock Ave. Los Angeles Calif. request body to  
rest in peace be full. MBH - 11-1-20 over OK MBH





FILES.

September 7, 1920.

293.8-Cem. #12195 (Blee, Robert Pvt.)

From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army, (Cemeterial Division)  
To: Mrs. Mary B. Ingraham, 114 Demask Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.  
Subject: Permanent Burial.

1. In reply to your letter of August 9, 1920, returning Form #120, requesting that the remains of your son, Private Robert Blee, be permanently interred in the French Civilian Cemetery, Saumur, Maine-et-Loire, you are advised that this cemetery will not be maintained as a permanent Field of Honor. In the event you desire the remains of your son permanently interred in France, it will be necessary to transfer his body to a permanent Field of Honor. Three have thus far been established, one at Suresnes, Department of Seine (near Paris), another at Belleau Wood, Department of Aisne, and the third at Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Department of Meuse.

2. In view of this information of which you were not previously aware, it is requested that you advise this office whether you wish the remains of your son permanently interred in France or returned to this country either for private interment or interment in a National Cemetery. Upon receipt of this advice from you, instructions will be issued that your wishes be complied with provided there is no relative whose legal right to direct disposition has priority over yours.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

CHARLES C. PIERCE,  
Maj. Gen., U. S. Army,  
Chief, Cemeterial Division.

By:

CHARLES J. WYNNIE,  
Maj. Gen., U. S. Army,  
NVA Captain, G. M. C.

ISV

CR

Mail  
SEP 8 - 1920

Remailed  
SEP 23 1920

3421-474 Ave.

REVIEWED  
OSP SS.

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

Date 8/21/20

FROM: - INQUIRY BRANCH.

Please furnish information as checked (V) below regarding the following soldier:

NAME Blee, Robert

Serial Number

RANK

ORGANIZATION

NO.	QUESTION	REPLY
1.	Do particulars of soldiers given above agree with Records?	(1). Yes, (Pvt. Hdp. Det. 31st Engrs. Ser# 848753)
2.	Date of Death.	(2). 8/19/18.
3.	Cause and place of death.	(3). Motor Cycle accident.
4.	Number of Casualty Cablegram.	(4). # 236.
5.	Date buried.	(5). 8/20/18.
6.	Grave Location. (a) Complete record required (b) Name of Cemetery or Commune only required. (c) Note reinterments.	(6). Grave #4023, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fr. Civilian Cty; #24, Saumur, Maine-et-Loire.
7.	Who reported burial?	
8.	Confirmed by G.R.S.?	
9.	Report as to Grave Marker.	
10.	Identification Tags: (a) Buried with body? (b) Attached to grave marker?	(10) - a. Yes, (mother.) (10) - b. Yes.
11.	Complete Emergency Address?	(11). Mrs. Robert Blee, 50th Ave., + 59th St., New York.
12.	Has been notified? (Give date)	(12). 10/25/18. 12/26/18.
13.	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply in all cases if no information on record)	(13). L-7915
14.	What is the Photograph No.?	
15.	Inquiry made by?	

Released by Information Control Dept.  
 .....Directory  
 .....Cards 5x8  
 .....Cards 4x6

N.B. All Proper names to be typewritten, or printed in PLAIN BLOCK LETTERS.

ER  
 ER  
 REVIEWED  
 OSP SS.

12195

Dec 10, 1918.

Shea  
K of C Paris

Retel Dec 9th period Pvt Robt Blee 848753 Hq Det 51st Engrs buried  
grave number 4023 Cemetery Saumur (Maine-et-Loire).

O. B. ROGERS.

G. M. NOETZEL  
2nd Lieut., QMC.  
ACL/ WK  
10:00 AM

Copy to:  
T & C  
G R S  
Sgt Daly

Original

FIELD BUREAU

REVIEWED  
OSP SS.

To .....

# FIELD BURIALS

---

---

Q. M. Form No. ....

Report No. ....

Sheet No. ....

Commune and Department .....

Army Sector No. .... Date .....

Map Reference .....

Place of burial .....

Location of grave or Trench .....

Nature of marking employed .....

NAME	RANK	DIVISION REGIMENT COMPANY	POSITION IN TRENCH	DISPOSAL OF TAGS

# Signal Corps, United States Army. Telegram.

371

12195

Received at

1918 DEC 9 PM 12 48

B5RS 37 0B  
PARIS 9

GRAVES REGISTRATION BUREAU

AEF TOURS

PLEASE ADVISE BURIAL PLACE ROBERT BLEE THIRTY FIRST ENGINEERS AUNT OF  
DECEASED DESIRS VISIT GRAVE BEFORE GOING TO STATS NINETEENTH  
INSTANT HENCE EAGERNESS FOR INFORMATION

SHEA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS.

RECEIVED  
S.A. 9 Dec 18  
O.C.R.M.  
O.R.S.

REVIEWED  
OSP SS.

CENTRAL RECORDS OFFICE  
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT  
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES  
A.P.O. #902. FRANCE

December 5, 1918.

201.1 (K. of C.)

From: Central Records Office, A.G.D., A.E.F.  
To: The Commanding Officer, Graves Registration  
Service, A.P.O. #717.  
Subject: Inquiry re burial place of Pvt. Robert C. Blee.

It is requested that you furnish Mr C.P. Shea, Knights of Columbus, 16 Place de la Madeleine, Paris, with all available information regarding the burial place of Private Robert C. Blee, #848753, formerly on duty with Headquarters Detachment, 31st Engineers, who died as result of motor cycle accident, August 17, 1918.

EARLE BOOTHE.  
Adjutant General.

By:

*ClBean*  
Captain, A.G.D., U.S.A.

*7* K.  
JMT/as.

