

075
G.B.S. Form #114-B

To The A. G. O.

137
1748

2
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Soldier's Sig

Earnest

FEB 18 1926

FULL NAME BOURK, ~~Ernest F.~~

RANK Pvt. 1/c SERIAL 3308592 ✓

DIVISION & ORGANIZATION Co. D. 352nd Inf. ✓ 888

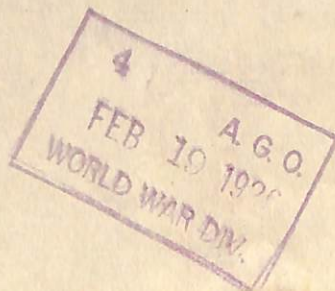
DATE OF DEATH Feb 11, 1919

STATE FROM WHICH HE CAME S. Dak

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS AWARDED: no rec

FINAL GRAVE LOCATION
Date Grave Row Block

Meuse-Argonne, #1232
Cemetery



23/306/ARK

Robert C. Davis,
Major General,
The Adjutant General,
By *lva* 2/24/26

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Bourk (3308592) Ernest
(Surname.) (Number.) (First Name and Initials.)

Private Co. "D" 352 Infantry
(Rank.) (Organization.)

DATE OF BURIAL February 12th. 1919.

PLACE OF BURIAL American E. F. cemetery #6.

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

Bazailles sur Meuse, Vosges, France.

GRAVE NUMBER 899

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

~~Headboard~~ Bottle? Yes

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

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:

E. Grandahl 2nd Lt 200713
(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer.)

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

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M
Bourk, Ernest F. (MA)

Sept. 6, 1932.

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, S. Dak.

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to the questionnaire recently forwarded you, making inquiry as to whether you desire to make a pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe during the summer of 1933, and inviting attention to the fact that 1933 is the LAST YEAR for which the pilgrimages are authorized. To date no reply has been received.

In order that your desires may be of record, and arrangements made accordingly, it is requested you complete the form below by writing in the space provided, your answers to the questions listed, sign your name and return this letter in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage.

1. Do you desire to make a pilgrimage in 1933? (Answer "Yes" or "No")	
2. Please state your age and condition of health:	Age: Health:
3. Do you speak English?	
4. What other language do you speak?	

Sign here

NOTE CAREFULLY, THIS IS THE LAST CHANCE WHICH YOU WILL HAVE TO MAKE THE PILGRIMAGE, AND THERE IS NO PROVISION OF LAW FOR A MONEY ALLOWANCE INSTEAD.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

Encl:
Env.

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

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Bourk Ernest F (MA)

July 8 1932

Mrs Martha M Bourk
Canning S Dak

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
Bourk, Ernest F. (M*A) M

September 29, 1931. AL

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, South Dakota.

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. To date information has not been received as to whether or not you desire to make a pilgrimage during the summer months of 1932, in honor of the deceased veteran named above.

In order that the records may be complete, and arrangements made accordingly, it is requested you complete the form below by writing in the space provided, your answers to the questions listed, sign your name, and return this letter in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage.

1. Do you desire to make a pilgrimage in 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,

Encl:
Env.

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

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M
Bourk, Ernest F. PFC (M-A) M

June 11, 1931.

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, S. D.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

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

Sign here

QM 293 A-M
Bourk, Ernest F. 1232 M

January 21, 1931.

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, S. Dakota.

Dear Madam:

In order that the records of this office may be complete and correct, it is requested that you advise whether or not the late Private first class Ernest F. Bourk was married and is survived by a widow. If so, please furnish her name and address.

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Encl:
Env.

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U.S. Q. M. G. R. DIV.

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QM 293 A-M
Bourk, Ernest F. 1232 M

July 11, 1930

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, South Dakota.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of recent date relative to the pilgrimage authorized by Congress in the Act approved March 2, 1929.

Your name has been placed upon the list of mothers and widows who are eligible to make the journey in 1931, and you will be communicated with when the pilgrimages are being arranged for that year.

There is no provision of the law which would permit the Government to bear any part of the expense of a relative or friend accompanying you, nor can it make any arrangements for them. This must be entirely a personal matter.

Should your daughter desire to make the journey at her own expense, however, it is suggested that she communicate with the steamship company with which reservation will be made for you when you are informed of the name of the vessel and the date on which you will sail. It is possible that she may be able to secure accommodations on the same ship and possibly at the same hotels in New York and Paris.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

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WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C
Bourk, Ernest F. - 1232 M

June 18, 1930.

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, S. Dak.

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)

QM 233 A-C
Bourk, Ernest F. - 1232 M

April 8, 1930

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, South Dakota.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your telegram of April 3.
relative to the pilgrimage authorized by Congress in the Act of
March 2, 1929.

Notation has been made that owing to poor health you
are unable to sail on the SS "Washington", May 21, 1930, in order
to visit the grave of your son, the late Private, first class,
Ernest F. Bourk, in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery in France.
However, arrangements can be made for you to make the pilgrimage
at a later date during the calendar year 1930, or at some other
time prior to October 31, 1933.

If you will advise this office the approximate date
you believe you will be able to make the pilgrimage, every effort
will be made to meet your wishes with reference to the choice of
another sailing date.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

U.S. ARMY
Q. M. G. M. & R. DIV.

1930 APR 9 PM 1 37

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Bourk OM 293 A-C
Baurk, Ernest, 1232-M

April 7, 1930.

Mrs. Martha M. Baurk,

Canning, S. D.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 2, 1930, relative to the pilgrimage authorized by Congress in the Act approved March 2, 1929.

In connection with your inquiry as to whether you could be granted a cash settlement in lieu of the pilgrimage to the grave of your son, the late Private Ernest Bourk, I regret to advise that there is no provision of law under which any mother or widow who is eligible to make the pilgrimage is entitled to receive a money allowance in lieu of the pilgrimage.

I am sorry that you are in poor health at this time, but should your health improve and you desire to make the pilgrimage you are assured that the best of medical and nursing attention will be available on the vessels of the United States Lines which will convey the pilgrims to Europe and that every provision is being made for their comfort and care abroad.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

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WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Bourk, Ernest F. 1232-M

March 24, 1930

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, South Dakota.

Dear Madam:

The records of this office show that you have not accepted or declined the invitation extended you to make a pilgrimage to Europe under the provisions of the Act of March 2, 1929, sailing on the "Washington" on May 21, 1930.

In order that arrangements may be completed for the pilgrimage, it is imperative that you complete the card enclosed with the invitation signifying whether or not you accept the invitation and return the same to this office.

In the event no reply is received from you before April 5, 1930, the invitation will be automatically cancelled.

Should you desire to make the pilgrimage at a later date, it is requested that you advise this office to that effect.

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

Bourk, Ernest F. 1232-M

March 20, 1930

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, South Dakota

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.

QM 293 A-C

Bourk, Ernest F. 1232 M

March 6, 1930.

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,

Canning, S. D.

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to office letter of August 2, 1929, relative to your desire to visit Sweden when you make the pilgrimage to the grave of your son, the late Private, First Class, Ernest F. Bourk, authorized by the Act of March 2, 1929.

It has been held that except in unavoidable cases (such as illness) there is no authority of law to extend the time specified in Section 2 (e) of the Act to cover this pilgrimage or to grant requests of individuals to leave the groups to which assigned.

Persons making the pilgrimage and desiring for other than unavoidable reasons an extension of time or variation in itinerary can be granted such extensions and variations only upon the condition that all further expenses of the pilgrimage including the return transportation to their homes will be borne by the individuals concerned.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

U.S. M. G. A. 3 DIV.

1930 MAR 7 PM 12 36

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WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

October 7, 1929.

Bourk, Ernest F. 1232 M

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk
Canning, South Dakota.

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.

#1232
6/27/29

QM 293 A-C
Bourk, Ernest F.

August 2, 1929.

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning,
South Dakota.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of July 29, 1929, relative to the Pilgrimage of the Gold Star Mothers and Widows to France.

As the Act of March 2, does not contain any provision that would permit of any member of the family other than the mother or unmarried widow making the pilgrimage, it is regretted to have to advise you that it will not be possible for your daughter to accompany you.

You may be assured that competent personnel will be assigned by the War Department to provide for the needs and comfort of those mothers and widows making the trip.

Plans for the pilgrimage have not progressed far enough to enable this office to give definite answer relative to a visit to Sweden. You may be assured, however, that The Quartermaster General will be as liberal in granting such requests as the circumstances warrant. Just as soon as a definite answer can be given, you will be further advised.

Within a reasonable time, you will be furnished blank forms upon which to make formal application for the journey. Space will be provided on these blanks for you to indicate the time during which you desire to make the trip.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

SC:LS

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

June 27, 1929.

Bourk, Ernest F.

**Mr. Louis A. Bourk,
Canning, South Dakota.**

Dear Sir:

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

The records of this office show that you are the father of the late

Private 1/cl. Ernest F. Bourk, Co. D, 352nd Inf., whose remains are now interred in the Meuse-Argonne, American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, France.

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

2 incs.
Act of Congress.
Envelope.

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

In reply refer to:
293.8 C-R

94912

Nov. 29, 1922.

Mr. Louis A. Bourk,
Canning,
S. D.

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

the late Ernest F. Bourk, Pvt. 1/c, Company D,
352nd Infantry, is Grave 28, Row 44, Block A, Meuse-Argonne American
Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Department of Meuse, France.

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

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

MAILED

Very truly yours,

DEC 2 1922

G. F. S.

H. J. CONNER,
Assistant.

22/1281/ARK

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7-27

DATE 11/30/21

1. NAME Bourk, Ernest F SERIAL No. 3308592
 RANK Pvt. 1c1 ORGANIZATION Co. D 352nd Inf.
 GRAVE LOCATION Amer. Bazoilles-sur-Meuse - Vosges 6
 CTY. NAME NUMBER
 899
 GRAVE ROW PLOT

2. ORIGINAL BATTLE AREA GRAVE LOCATION 899. Bazoilles-sur-Meuse, Vosges.
 GRAVE COMMUNE DEPT.
 COORDINATES E.346-21. N.170-12. Map: Mirecourt NW 84.

CONCENTRATED TO No record of concentration.
 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.

Nothing of record.

SUBSEQUENT REBURIALS Not of record.
 DATE GRAVE ROW PLOT CEMETERY

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

CEMETERY

SIGNATURE, AREA SUPERVISOR

Wm. H. QUARTERMAN, Capt. F.A. USA.

3. FINAL GRAVE LOCATION 11/30/21 28 44 A
 DATE GRAVE ROW PLOT
 Block

Meuse-Argonne American Ct y. Romagne-sous-Montfaucon (Meuse) 1232

CEMETERY

Bourk, Earnest F

3,308,592

(Surname.)

(Christian name in full.)

(Army serial number.)

Pvt 1/cl

Co D 352 Inf.

(Rank and organization.)

State your relationship to the deceased

Father

Do you desire the remains brought to the United States?

yes

(Yes or no.)

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

no

(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:

L. A. Bourk

Ashland Ashland

(Name of person to receive remains.)

(Express office.)

(Telegraph office.)

(Number and street.)

(City or town.)

(State.)

(Sign here)

L. A. Bourk

Ashland, Nebr.

(Number and street or rural route.)

(City, town, or post office.)

(State.)

Read carefully the letter accompanying this card.

Brown by Hb

6-88

10/12/20

10-20-20

Chickadee
A. B. H.

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date Oct. 3, 1921.

1. REMAINS OF BOURK, ERNEST F. SERIAL NUMBER 3308592
 RANK Pvt 1/c ORGANIZATION Co. D, 352nd. Inf.

2. Disinterred (date): Oct. 3, 1921. From (give complete location): Gr. No. 399
Amer. Mil. Cem. # 6. Bazoilles (Vosges)

By: Group 2. Unit Sec. No. 4.

3. Reburied (date): Nov. 30, 1921 In (give complete location): Meuse-Argonne Cty. #1232 Gr. 28, Block A, row 44.

By: Group Reburial S Unit Nature of reburial Lined casket.

4. Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon disinterment:
Buried in blanket, uniform, and in wooden box. Body badly decomposed, recognition impossible.

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

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

No effects.

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

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

(b) Weight, (estimated) Unable to determine.

(c) Hair—Color Apparently dark brown.

Quantity Unable to determine.

Characteristics None.

(d) Hair on face—Color None.

Location Unable to determine.

Quantity None.

(e) Permanent marks on body (old scars, peculiarities, or missing parts) None.

(f) Wounds or missing parts (received at time of casualty) No. 14, 19, 30, S. F. No. 16, not given. No. 31, extracted.
~~xxxxxxx~~

None discernible.

7. Disinterment supervised by

J. E. BENSON.

Approved;
 THC.

(Title)

D. E. LOWRY,
1st. Lt., Q.M.C. bjm

8. Reburial

Supervised by

A. U. DUFAYET.

Approved

(Title)

JAMES W. YOUNGER,
CAPT., Q.M.C.

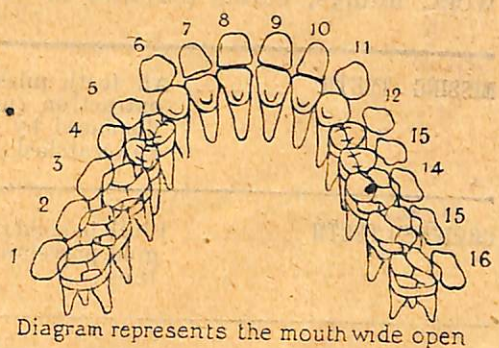
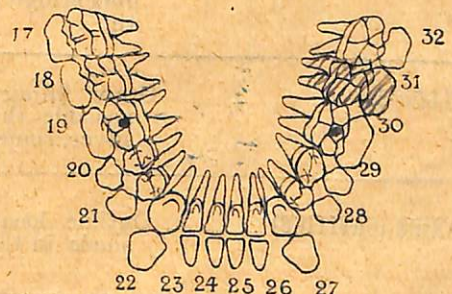


Diagram represents the mouth wide open



D-60397

To be prepared in triplicate.

DATE Oct. 3, 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 Bourk, Ernest F
 2. No. 3308592
 3. Rank Pvt. 1cl
 4. Org. Co. D 352nd Inf.
 5. D.D. 2-11-19
 6. C.D. Pneumonia

10. Name _____
 11. No. _____
 12. Rank _____
 13. Org. _____
 14. (a) D.D. _____
 (b) D.B. None.

Discrepancy found upon disinterment

7. Grave No. 899 Sec. _____
 8. Plot _____ Row _____
 9. _____

15. Grave No. _____ Sec. _____
 16. Plot _____ Row _____
 17. None.

18. Cemetery Amer.19. Commune or town Bazoilles-sur-Meuse20. Dept. or County Vosges21. Country France22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. 623. Disinterred (Date) Oct. 3, 1921.By J. E. Benson.

24. Inscription on grave marker:

Name BOURK, Ernest F.

Serial No. _____

Rank Pvt. 1c.Organization Co. D, 352nd. Inf.Gr. 899

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

Signature J. E. Benson. Junior Technical Assistant

PREPARATION

T. H. CHUNN.

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).

No effects found. Hospital record on body. Disc on cross reads (Ernest F. Bourk.
U.S.A. 3308592)

27. Condition of body Badly decomposed, recognition impossible.28. Nature of burial Buried in blanket, uniform, and in wooden box.29. Any discrepancy noted upon examination of body, as compared with G.R.S. records quoted above? No.30. Body prepared and placed in casket: Date Oct. 3, 1921. By J. E. Benson.31. Casket sealed by J. E. Benson.

Signature of Embalmer, (Supervisor)

J. E. BENSON.

SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. C-10690

32. Designation of body:

Name Bourk, Ernest F Serial No. 3308592

Rank Pvt. 1cl Organization Co.D 352nd Inf.

33. Consigned to:

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

Meuse

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) Oct. 3, 1921. By J. E. Benson.

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

D. E. LOWRY, Lt. Lt. Q.M.C. bjm

36. Remarks

37. Shipped from point of Operation: (Date) Oct. 3, 1921.

To point of Concentration Neufchateau (Vosges)

Convoyer

(Name Signature Shipping Officer

Capt. Q.M.C.

38. Received at Railhead or Point of Concentration: Date

By G.R.S. Representative

39. Shipped from Railhead or Point of Concentration: Date

To Permanent Cemetery Romagne-sous-Montfaucon (Meuse)

Convoyer

(Name Signature Shipping Officer

W. R. BUCKLEY,
Capt. Q.M.C.

40. Received: Date

G.R.S. Representative

41. Reinterred Nov. 30, 1921 Meuse-Argonne Cty. #1232.

42. Grave No. 28

(Date

Section

43. Plot Block A

Row

44

el

G.R.S. Representative

JAMES W. YOUNGER, CAPT., Q.M.C.

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

File # 94912

(a) Name BOURK, Ernest F. Ser. No. 3308592
 (b) Rank Pvt. 1/c Organization Co.D, 352nd Inf.
 (c) Date of death 2/11/19 (d) Cause of death Pneumonia.

TYP. EK

CKR.

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

(a) Grave No. 899 Row -- Plot -- Sec. -- TYP. EK
 (b) Emerg. Address Louis A. Bourk(father) Akobojo, So. Dak.

III. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases NO CARD

CKR. 11/13

IV. A. G. O. DISPOSITION CARD:

Date of receipt from

(a) Name L. A. Bourk (b) Relationship Father
 (c) Address Ashland, Nebr.
 (d) Remains to be brought to U. S.? Yes
 (e) To be interred in National Cemetery in U. S. at no
 (f) Shipping instructions upon arrival of body in U. S. L. A. Bourk,
Ashland, Nebr.
App. & Life Offices Ashland, Nebr.
 (g) Disposition instructions if not brought to U. S. —

Examiner's Initials SK Date 10/12, 1920.

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

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

no correspondence

Examiner's Initials SK Date 10/12, 1920.

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

(Father) Louis A. Bourk, Leaning, S. Dak.
(Sept 18, 1920) requesting that he wishes to have his remains
interred in the American Field of Honor at Suresnes (over)

(a) Cancellation memos referred to? yes L. A. B.

Examiner's Initials L. A. B. Date 10-20-, 1920.

COUNTRY France

CEMETERY No. 6

SHEET No. 88

G. R. S. Form No. 115
Amended April 6, 1920

3-7729

Make Form No. 114

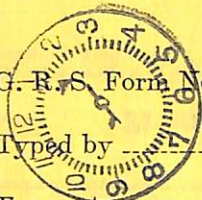
CARDED

FORM 115 - A COMPLETED

10-20-20 MB 12-16-20

11-2-21 In transit to
Newer Airplane 1237
11-21-21

CEMETERIAL DIVISION



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

Typed by _____, Checked by _____

RECEIVED.

JAN 28 1921, 1920.

VIII. FINAL ACTION:

CEMETERIAL DIVISION
OVERSEAS FUNERAL SERVICE.

Following advice forwarded to Europe by { cable on _____, 1920
letter on **NOV 17 1920**, 1920

PARAGRAPH 2 - NOT TO BE RETURNED (Z.S.)

IX.

CORRECTIONS

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

X. SUSPENSION REMARKS: *Department of Swiss, near Paris for permanent burial. Also letter from Senator S. M. Hitchcock, U. S. Senate Wash. D.C. L.C.G.*

1-14-21

Canning, S. Dak.

1-5-21 Form 120, signed by Louis A. Bourk, father and nearest relative, states body remain in Europe. H-1-21-21 PW

JAN 22 1921

**FORM 115 RETURNED BY HOBOKEN - BODY
TO REMAIN IN EUROPE.** *R*

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

See 115-
11-21-21

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

File # 94912

(a) Name BOURK, Ernest F. Ser. No. 3308592
 (b) Rank Pvt. 1/c Organization Co.D, 352nd Inf.
 (c) Date of death 2/11/19 Cause of death Pneumonia.

TYP

EX

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

(a) Grave No. 899 Row Plot Sect.

TYP

EX

(b) Emerg. Address Louis A. Bourk(father) Akobojo, So. Dak.

III. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases NO CARD

CKR

NB

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

*G.R.S. Files: Father: Louis A Bourk Canning, S. Dak. (Sept. 18-20)
 requests-sons body buried in the American Field of Honor
 at Suresnes, Dept of Seine, near Paris, for permanent burial
 (42423-20)*

V. Following advice forwarded to Europe by (cable on 192
 (Letter of transmittal on NOV 17 1920 192)

PARAGRAPH 2 - NOT TO BE RETURNED (N.S.)

VI. Form 115 forwarded to G.R.S.Hoboken, N.J. DEC. 18.1920 192

VII. SUPPLEMENTARY REQUESTS

Date of and Source	Relationship and name	Desires	Action taken

VIII. Form 115 received from G.R.S. Hoboken, N.J. JAN 28.1921 192

COUNTRY

CEMETERY NO.

SHEET NO.

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

S-666/MB

France

6

88

MB12-16-20

WAR DEPARTMENT
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
CEMETERIAL DIVISION, GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE, Q.M.C.

Jan. 25th, 1921.

File No. 293.8 Cem.Div., Cor.Branch.
(Bourk, Ernest F.)

Mr. Louis A. Bourk,
Canning, S. Dakota,

Dear Sir:-

Receipt of shipping inquiry dated January 14th, 1921, relative to the remains of your son, the late Ernest F. Bourk, Private 1/cl, Serial No. 3308592, Co. D, 352nd Infantry, is acknowledged.

You are advised that your request that the remains of your son be left in France for burial in a permanent American Cemetery will be complied with. You are assured that the grave site will always be maintained as a fitting memorial of the late soldier's sacrifice.

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

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

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

By:

JK F.C. PALLAS,
Executive Assistant.

ff/hk

B

Mailed-C.P.D.
B
JAN 27 1921

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

WASHINGTON

Hoboken, N.J.

JAN 8 1921

FROM: Chief, Graves Registration Service, Q. M. C.

To: Mr. Louis A. Bourk, Canning, S. Dak.

SUBJECT: Remains of Pvt. 1/c Ernest F. Bourk, 3308592, Co. D, 352nd Inf.

The records of this office show that you have requested that his body remain in Europe.

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.

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— <u>Was soldier married?</u>	NO. AND STREET.	TOWN.	STATE.
Soldier's widow <u>no</u>	<u>Noted on 1/15</u>		
Soldier's children. (Name oldest first.)	<u>1-21-21</u>	<u>PRK</u>	
Father <u>Louis A Bourk</u>	<u>Noted in Hoboken</u>	<u>Canning</u>	<u>Sd</u>
Mother	<u>E.P.</u>		
Brothers. (Name oldest first.)			
Sisters. (Name oldest first.)			

Date Jan 14-1921

Signature Louis A Bourk

Address Canning Sd

Relationship Father

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

Coming 1/14, 192*6*.

I, the undersigned, am the *Father* and nearest living relative of the within-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. *yes*

2. To be returned to the U. S. and shipped to *no*

(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. *yes*

Signature *Louis A. Bouch*

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT.

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

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

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

4. This paper must be returned showing the name and address of each of the nearest 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 inclosed envelope—pay no postage.

JAN 17 1926

3-7860



GRAVES REGISTRY
CORRESPONDENCE BRANCH

74912
GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Bourk (3308592) Ernest
(Surname.) (Number.) (First Name and Initials.)

Private Co. "D" 352 Infantry
(Rank.) (Organization.)

DATE OF BURIAL February 12th. 1919.

PLACE OF BURIAL American E. F. cemetery #6

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

Bazoilles sur Meuse, Vosges, France.

GRAVE NUMBER 899

HOW MARKED: ~~name peg~~ Cross? Yes

~~headstone~~ Bottle? Yes

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

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:

Grandahl 2nd Lt MC
(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer.)

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

2118

G.R.S. #106

DISPOSITION OF BODY

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

Nov. 10, 1920.

For information of:

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

Case of: Pvt. 1/cl. Ernest F. Bourk,
#3308592
Co. D, 352nd Inf.

Grave Location:

Grave #899, Amer. Cty.,
Bazoilles-sur-Meuse, Vosges.

Request for action checked below:

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

has been made by:

Mr. & Mrs. Louis A. Bourk,
Canning, So. Dak.

✓ Body to be interred in the Amer. Cty.
Suresnes, Dept. of Seine.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

CHARLES C. PIERCE,
Colonel, Q.M.C., U.S.A.,
Chief, Graves Registration Service.
6-2992/L /fkw.

94912
BOURK

(08592)

ERNEST

Surname of deceased.

Christian name.

Pvt. Co. "D", 352nd Infantry.

Rank and organization; if civilian, capacity and department in which employed.

February 11, 1919 @ 7:00 P.M.

Date of death.

Base Hospital No. 60, APO #731, A.E.F.

Place of death.

Broncho pneumonia, bilateral, type

Cause of death.

unclassified. L.D.

February 12, 1919.

Date of burial.

Grave No. 899, A.E.F. Cemetery No. 6,

No. and locality of grave, or other disposal of remains.

Bozouilles-sur-Meuse, Vosges, France.

Single

Married or single.

If married, name and address of widow.

Remarks: One identification tag buried with remains; one riveted to name peg of grave.

REPORT OF DEATH AND DISPOSAL OF REMAINS

Hospital Center, APO #731, A.E.F.
Station

January 13, 1919.
Date

The Adjutant General of the Army.

I hereby report the death of the person named
on the reverse side of this slip and the disposal
of his remains as indicated thereon.

H. L. Dale

H. L. Dale,
Lt. Col. M.C., Commanding.

(See G.O., No. 67, War Department, April 19, 1910.)

3-531



File
J.D.

Nov. 12, 1920.

293.8-Com. File #94912 (Bourk, Ernest F. Pvt.1/c)

From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army (Cemeterial Division)
To: Mr. and Mrs. Louis A. Bourk, Canning, So. Dak.
Subject: Permanent Burial in France.

FILES

1. Replying to your letter of October 23, 1920, you are advised that notation has been made of your request that the body of your son, Pvt. 1st Class Ernest F. Bourk, Company D, 352nd Infantry, remain in France, later to be interred in a permanent American Cemetery at Suresnes, Department of Seine. Your wishes will be complied with, if practicable, and provided there is no relative whose legal right to direct disposition has priority over yours. In this connection, your attention is invited to paragraph No.7 of enclosed bulletin.

2. The legal next of kin will be advised immediately by this office upon receipt of the new grave location.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

M. H. GREELEY,
JF Captain, Q. M. C.

92
JAN

ppm

MAILED
NOV 12 1920
G.R.S.



Farmers State Bank

Col

CANNING, SO. DAK.

October 23, 1920.

File No. 293.8-Cem. File #94912

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

In reply to your letter of October 11th 1920, will say it will be agreeable to me to bury my son Ernest F. Bourk in the permanent American Cemetery in France, and as Father of the body believe there is no other relative whose legal right to direct disposition has priority over my request relative to my son Ernest F. Bourk Pvt. 1st C.

If the above statement do not comply with the request of your department, kindly send me a form, and shall try

Yours very truly,

City & Audited only

MP 11-4-20

Louis a Bourk
Marshall M Bourk

Recorded, Cemeterial Div., O. O. B. B.
File # 293.8 Cem. 94912

Bourk, Ernest

Sw

REGISTRATION SECTION
GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE
CEMETERIAL DIVISION

File No. 94912
OSPSS Ref. No. 6
Follow-up No. 2118

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

I. GENERAL INFORMATION on Cemetery No. ⁶ (furnished by: RCW) (date 11-4-20)

Data sent Overseas none
Operations to commence (approx.)
Operations to be completed (approx.)
Bodies shipped from European Port
Bodies arrived at Hoboken

II. CASE OF Bourk, Ernest F. Pvt 1 class Co D. 352 Inf 3308592

The following information was abstracted (Date) 11-4-20 from: files

SOURCE	CLK.	in OFFICE		CLK.	in OFFICE
A. G. O. Cards	<u>RCW</u>	<u>yes</u>	Shppg. Inquiry (sent <u>no</u>)		
A.G.O. Corresp.			To		
G.R.S. Corresp. relative to disp.			OSP S-S Corresp. (see Remarks.)		

DESIRES as to Disposition.

Name of Relative	RETURN		REMAIN	SPECIAL
	N. C.	Pvt. Int.		
Widow				
Children (Name oldest first)				
✓ Father <u>L.A. Bourk</u>		✓		
Mother <u>Ashland</u>				
Brothers <u>Nebr.</u>				
Sisters				

Body to be shipped to L.A. Bourk, Ashland, Nebr

was shipped (Date)

REMARKS Cty 6 Audited only J.P. 11-4-20
note father spells name Ernest Bourk, a90 card gives Ernest
11-4-20
RCW

File Number 94912

TO: REGISTRATION BRANCH, G. R. S.

Date 11-8-20

FROM: INQUIRY BRANCH.

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

NAME: Bourk, Ernest F. Serial Number

RANK: Pvt 1/c ORGANIZATION:

No.	QUESTION	REPLY
1.	Do particulars of soldiers given above agree with records?	No. # 3908592, Q.D. 352nd Inf.
2.	Date of death.	(2) 2-11-19
3.	Cause and place of death.	(3) Pneumonia
4.	Number of casualty cablegram.	(4) 458
5.	Date buried.	(5) 2-12-19
6.	Grave location. (a) Complete record required. (b) Name of cemetery or commune only required. (c) Note reinterments.	(6) Grave 899, Amer. Cty. #6, Bazailles-sur-Meuse, Vosges ✓
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) 2- yes L. yes.
11.	Complete emergency address?	(11) Louis A. Bourk (father) Akobajo, S.D. Dak.
12.	Has been notified? (Give date.)	
13.	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply in all cases if no information on record.)	(12) 3-20-19
14.	What is the photograph number?	(14) D-5294
15.	Inquiry made by.	RELEASED BY INFORMATION CONTROL DEPARTMENT. <i>EdH</i>
N. B.—All proper names to be typewritten, or printed in PLAIN BLOCK LETTERS.		Confirmed. <i>X</i> Unconfirmed. <i>Rik</i>

Address reply to
DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE & STORAGE
Munitions Building

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE AND STORAGE
WASHINGTON

File JP
FILES.

Oct. 11, 1920.

293.8-Cem. File #94912 (Bourk, Ernest F. Pvt.1/c)

From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army, (Cemeterial Division)
To: Mr. Louis A. Bourk, Canning, S.D.
Subject: Permanent Burial in France.

1. Replying to your letter of September 18, 1920, you are advised that cancellation of your former request, that the body of your son, Pvt. 1st Class Ernest F. Bourk, Co. D, 352nd Infantry, be returned to you for private interment, has been made. Instructions will be issued to have the body remain in France to be ultimately buried in the permanent American Cemetery at Suresnes, near Paris, Department of Seine, provided there is no relative whose legal right to direct disposition has priority over yours.

2. You may be assured that the grave of your son will always be tenderly and fittingly cared for by our Government.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

JP M. N. GREELEY,
Captain, Q. M. C. *AEW*

GENERAL INVESTIGATION
DIVISION



OCT 12 1920
RECEIVED

mail
OCT 12 1920

Copy 6 added only

1961/20 Canning, S. Oak
75 Sept. 18, 1920.

The Quartermaster Gen. U.S. Army.
Cemeterial Division,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs: Your letter of
Sept 22nd at hand and
wish to state that we
prefer the body of
Ernest F. Bourke yet class
private 293

be interred the
American flag of
Honor at Arlington,
Department of Defense,
near Paris for
Permanent burial

in France.
Yours very truly
Louis, A. Bourke,
Canning, S. Oak.

by

Recorded, Cemeterial Div., U. S. A. G.
File # 2938-Cem 94912

Bourke, Ernest F

GENERAL DIVISION
OVERSEAS PROJECT SECTION



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

I. GENERAL INFORMATION on Cemetery No. 6 (furnished by: FS) (date 10/6/20)

Data sent Overseas none
Operations to commence (approx.) _____
Operations to be completed (approx.) _____
Bodies shipped from European Port _____
Bodies arrived at Hoboken _____ 3308592

II. CASE OF Bourk, Earnest F. Put 1 cl Co 19 352 Inf

The following information was abstracted (Date) 10/6/20 from: files

SOURCE	CLK.	in OFFICE		CLK.	in OFFICE
A. G. O. Cards	<u>FS</u>	<u>yes</u>	Shppg. Inquiry (sent _____)		
A.G.O. Corresp.			To _____		
G.R.S. Corresp. relative to disp.			OSP S-S Corresp. (see Remarks.)		

ago card

DESIRES as to Disposition.

Name of Relative	RETURN			REMAIN	SPECIAL
	N. C.	Pvt.	Int.		
Widow					
Children (Name oldest first)					
✓ Father <u>L. A. Bourk,</u>			<u>✓</u>		
Mother <u>Ashland, Nebr.</u>					
Brothers					
Sisters					

10/6 75

Body to be shipped to L. A. Bourk, ashland, Nebr.

was shipped (Date)

REMARKS aty 6 Audited only B2B10/4

OK
JD

File
M.H.
FILED
September 3, 1920.

Nos: 293.8-Cem.#94912 (Bourk, Ernest F. Pvt.1/c)
From: The Quartermaster General, U. S. Army (Cemeterial Division)
To: Mr. Louis A. Bourk, Canning, S. D.
Subject: Permanent Burial in France.

1. In reply to your letter of August 6th, 1920, cancelling your previous instructions for the return of the remains of your son, Pvt. 1st Class Ernest F. Bourk, and directing that his body be permanently interred in France, you are advised that the American Cemetery at Bazoilles, Vosges, wherein the remains of your son are interred, will not be maintained as a permanent American cemetery.

2. It is the policy of the government to concentrate the remains of our soldier dead, which are to be permanently interred in France, in American Fields 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. In the event that the remains of your son are to be buried permanently in France, it will be necessary to transfer the body to one of these cemeteries.

3. 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 an American Field of Honor in France or returned to this country, either for private burial or burial in a National Cemetery. Your previous instructions for the return of the remains of your son will remain unchanged awaiting advice from you.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

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

By:

mail
SEP 4 - 1920
JP CHARLES J. WYNNIE,
Captain, Q. M. C. *HW*

Recorded, Cemetery Div., O. M. G.
File # 293.8
94-912

Canning S.D.
Aug. 16, 1920

Chief Graves Registrations Service
Dear Sir

After thinking the matter over we have decided that we do not want our son's body Pvt. 1st. Ch. Erenest J. Bourk Co. D. 352nd. Inf. Buried American Cemetery, Bozoielles, Vosges France. brought back so there is any way to keep it where it is we would like very much to have it left there

Yours sincerely

Louis A. Bourk
Atty 6 not reported.
8-16-20
Z.K.
Canning S.D.



TO:-

REGISTRATION BRANCH, G.R.S.

Date

8-17-20.

FROM:-

INQUIRY BRANCH.

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

NAME

Bourk, Ernest F.

Serial Number

RANK

Pvt 1st Cl.

ORGANIZATION

Co. D 352nd Inf.

NO.	QUESTION	REPLY
1.	Do particulars of soldiers given above agree with Records?	1) No; Bourk, Ernest F. Serial # 3308, 592
2.	Date of Death.	2) 2-11-19
3.	Cause and place of death.	3) Pneumonia
4.	Number of Casualty Cablegram.	4) #438
5.	Date buried.	5) 2-12-19
6.	Grave Location. (a) Complete record required (b) Name of Cemetery or Commune only required. (c) Note reinterments.	6) Grave # 899 Amer. Cty. #6 of Bazilles sur Meuse, Vosges
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 (b) yes (father)
11.	Complete Emergency Address?	11) Louis A. Bourk Akobojo, South Dak.
12.	Has been notified? (Give date)	12) 3-20-19
13.	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply in all cases if no information on record)	13) D-5294
14.	What is the Photograph No.?	
15.	Inquiry made by?	

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

Released by Information Control
Dept.

Directory

Cards 5x8

Cards 4x6

BBS

To: Inquiry Section.

From: Overseas Project Sub-Section.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION on Cemetery No. 6 (furnished by: MR) (date 8/31/20)

Data sent Overseas _____

Operations to commence (approx.) _____

Operations to be completed (approx.) _____

Bodies shipped from European Port _____

Bodies arrived at Hoboken _____

II. CASE OF Bourk, Ernest H. Pvt 1/c Co D 352 Inf.

The following information was abstracted (Date 8/31/20) from: 3,308,592

SOURCE	CLK.	in OFFICE		CLK.	in OFFICE
A. G. O. Cards	<u>MR</u>	<u>yes</u>	Shppg. Inquiry (sent _____)		
A.G.O. Corresp.			To _____		
G.R.S. Corresp. relative to disp.			OSP S-S Corresp. (see Remarks.)		

DESIRES as to Disposition.

Name of Relative	RETURN		REMAIN	SPECIAL
	N. C.	Pvt. Int.		
Widow				
Children (Name oldest first)				
Father <u>L.A. Bourk</u>				
Mother <u>Ashland</u>		<u>✓</u>		
Brothers <u>Hebr.</u>				
Sisters				

Body to be shipped to L.A. Bourk, Ashland, Neb.

was shipped (Date) _____

REMARKS Cty #6 not audited. 8/20/20

CB

OK
AT

FILE

August 25, 1920.

Hon. G. M. Hitchcock,
United States Senate.

My dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of August 16, 1920, you are advised that notation has been made of the desire of Mr. Louis G. Bourk to cancel his former request that the remains of his son, Private Ernest F. Bourk, Company D, 332nd Infantry, be returned to the United States for final burial, and record has been made of his present wish that the remains of this soldier be permanently interred in France. It is requested that this be confirmed in writing by Mr. Bourk so that the proper authority for action may be on file.

It is impossible to grant Mr. Bourk's request that the body of his son remain in its present resting place inasmuch as the cemetery at Bazoilles, Department of Vosges, in which the remains of Private Bourk are interred, is a temporary American cemetery and at the time of concentration, will be abandoned. The remains of soldiers buried in this cemetery, whose relatives have requested permanent interment abroad, will be transferred to one of the three permanent American cemeteries to be established.

Very truly yours,

*Mailed
8/26
m*

DS

EW
H. L. ROGERS,
Quartermaster General.

BPM

[Handwritten signature]

Chief, Cem. Div.

To: Inquiry Section.

From: Overseas Project Sub-Section.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION on Cemetery No. (furnished by: HCH) (date 8-21)

Data sent Overseas none

Operations to commence (approx.)

Operations to be completed (approx.)

Bodies shipped from European Port

Bodies arrived at Hoboken

II. CASE OF Bowk, Ernest J. Pvt. 1st - Co. D, 352nd

The following information was abstracted (Date) 8-21 from: 3,308, 5710 Files

SOURCE	CLK.	in OFFICE		Clk.	in OFFICE
A. G. O. Cards	<u>HCH</u>	<u>yes</u>	Shppg. Inquiry (sent		
A.G.O. Corresp.			To		
G.R.S. Corresp. relative to disp.			OSP S-S Corresp. (see Remarks.)		

DESIRES as to Disposition.

Name of Relative	RETURN		REMAIN	SPECIAL
	N. C.	Pvt. Int.		
Widow				
Children (Name oldest first)				
Father <u>S. a. Bowk,</u>		<u>✓</u>		
Mother <u>ashland, neb.</u>				
Brothers				
Sisters				

Body to be shipped to S. a. Bowk - ashland - neb.

was shipped (Date)

REMARKS Chy6 audited, No further

action taken BBB 8/21-20

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

Date 8/19/20.

FROM:- INQUIRY BRANCH.

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

NAME Bourk, Frederick Ernest Serial Number ?RANK ? ORGANIZATIONCo. D, 352nd Inf.

NO.	QUESTION	REPLY
1.	Do particulars of soldiers given above agree with Records?	(1). No. (Ernest F. Bourk, Pvt 1/c, Ser # 33085-92.)
2.	Date of Death.	(2). 2/11/19.
3.	Cause and place of death.	(3). Pneumonia.
4.	Number of Casualty Cablegram.	(4). #458.
5.	Date buried.	(5). 2/12/19.
6.	Grave Location. (a) Complete record required (b) Name of Cemetery or Commune only required. (c) Note reinterments.	(6). Grave 899, ✓ Amer. Cty. # 6, Bazouilles-sur- meuse, Vosges.
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. (10) - b. Yes.
11.	Complete Emergency Address?	(11). Louis A. Bourk (Fath) Akobogo, S. Pak.
12.	Has been notified? (Give date)	(12). 3/20/19.
13.	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply in all cases if no information on record)	(14). D-5294.
14.	What is the Photograph No.?	
15.	Inquiry made by?	

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

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

ER

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS.

August 16, 1920

Graves Registration Service,

War Department,

Washington D.C.

Dear Sirs:

Mr. Louis G. Bourk, of Canning, So. Dak. filed with you some time ago a request that the body of his son, Frederick Ernest Bourk, Company D, 352d Inf., 88th Division, be returned to the United States for permanent burial. I now have word from Mr. Bourk that he wishes to withdraw the request and permit the body to remain where it now is. I will thank you to correct the records accordingly and advise me that it has been done.

Yours very truly,

Gu. Hitchcock

U.S.S.

Recorded, Commercial Div., U. S. M. G.
File # 2938 94912

Bourk, Frederick E.

8/18
Cam

RECEIVED
INC BRANCH

AUG 18 1920

GENERAL
Div. - G. H. C.



AUG 18 1920

G. H. C.

CODE SLIP

HEADING	SUB- HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE
NAME Bourke,	BOU	3	2512
Earnest F.	CEMETERY 1232	1	1
BURIED	GRAVE 28	2	28
	ROW 44	2	44
	BLOCK 9	1	1
STATE	S. D.	2	47
RANK	Pos - 100	1	2
DIVISION	88	2	88
ORGANIZATION	352	3	352
ARM	Inf	1	1
MARTIAL	No	1	2
NAME Bourke,	BOU	3	2512
Mrs. Martha M.	STATE S. D.	2	47
RESIDENCE	COUNTY Hughes	2	33
	CITY Canning	3	XXX
RELATION	Mother	1	1
OTHER	sister	1	2
ELIGIBILITY	yes	1	1
NATIVITY		1	
RACE		1	
ENGLISH	yes	1	1
ATTENDANT	yes	1	1
HEALTH	bad	1	2
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF	MO. July	1	07
TRIP	YR. 1930	1	1930
ACCEPTANCE	no	1	21

AUDITED

DEC 15 1931

IMMEDIATE ACTION

IN REPLY
REFER TO

QM 293 A-M

WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

Bourk, Ernest F. (MA)

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, S. Dak.

SPECIAL October 12, 1932.

Dear Madam:

Your Government has provided an opportunity for all Mothers and Widows of deceased members of the American Forces who were lost, buried at sea, or whose remains are now interred in Europe, to make a pilgrimage to the cemeteries in Europe. This was done in the hope that all who may make the pilgrimage will derive a measure of comfort and solace from the visit.

You are numbered among those who are privileged to make this pilgrimage.

During July and September of this year, inquiries were addressed to you as to whether or not you desire to make the pilgrimage to Europe. To these inquiries no reply has been received from you.

You probably do not realize how important it is that a reply be received from you. If we do not receive replies, it becomes very difficult to make the necessary and proper arrangements for those who are to make the trip, as everything must be arranged in advance. Consequently, it is just as important for the Government to know the names of those who do not desire to take advantage of its offer as it is to know the names of those who do.

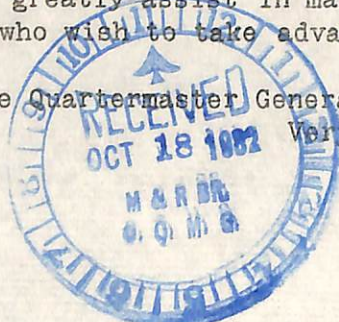
Will you please devote a few moments of your time to write either the word "YES" or "NO" in the following space no, thus indicating whether or not you desire to make the pilgrimage during 1933 and sign your name here Martha M. Bourk. Use the enclosed envelope, which requires no postage, and return this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

I am sorry but my health will not permit me to make this trip

This reply will assure your Government that no worthy Mother or Widow has failed to receive its offer in commemoration of a loved one departed, and will greatly assist in making the necessary preparations for those of them who wish to take advantage of the privilege.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours



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

IMMEDIATE ACTION

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Sept. 6, 1932.

Bourk, Ernest F. (MA)

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, S. Dak.

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to the questionnaire recently forwarded you, making inquiry as to whether you desire to make a pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe during the summer of 1933, and inviting attention to the fact that 1933 is the LAST YEAR for which the pilgrimages are authorized. To date no reply has been received.

In order that your desires may be of record, and arrangements made accordingly, it is requested you complete the form below by writing in the space provided, your answers to the questions listed, sign your name and return this letter in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage.

1. Do you desire to make a pilgrimage in 1933? (Answer "Yes" or "No")	
2. Please state your age and condition of health:	Age: Health:
3. Do you speak English?	
4. What other language do you speak?	

NOTE CAREFULLY, THIS IS THE LAST CHANCE WHICH YOU WILL HAVE TO MAKE THE PILGRIMAGE, AND THERE IS NO PROVISION OF LAW FOR A MONEY ALLOWANCE INSTEAD.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

Encl:
Env.

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

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Bourk Ernest F (NA)

July 8 1932

Mrs Martha M Bourk
Canning S Dak

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
Bourk, Ernest F. (M*A) M

September 29, 1931.

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, South Dakota.

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. To date information has not been received as to whether or not you desire to make a pilgrimage during the summer months of 1932, in honor of the deceased veteran named above.

In order that the records may be complete, and arrangements made accordingly, it is requested you complete the form below by writing in the space provided, your answers to the questions listed, sign your name, and return this letter in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage.

1. Do you desire to make a pilgrimage in 1932?	<i>No</i>
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
A. D. HUGHES,
Captain, Q. M. Corps,
Assistant.

Encl:
Env.



WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO ~~QM 295 A-M~~

Bourk, Ernest F. PFC (M-A) M

June 11, 1931.

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, S. D.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

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

Write answer here

Sign here

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M
Bourk, Ernest F. 1232 M

January 21, 1931.

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, S. Dakota.


Dear Madam:

In order that the records of this office may be complete and correct, it is requested that you advise whether or not the late Private first class Ernest F. Bourk was married and is survived by a widow. If so, please furnish her name and address.

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,



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

Encl:
Env.



Pierre, S. Dak. February 3, 1931.

Dear Sir:

No, Pvt. 1st Cl Ernest F. Bourk was never married and consequently is not survived by a widow.

I am his dependent mother and have been offered the visit to France, but for financial reasons I cannot accept the generous offer of the government.

Yours truly,

MARTHA MATHILDA BOURK

Canning, S. Dakota.

QM 295 A-M
Bourk, Ernest F. 1232 M

July 11, 1930

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, South Dakota.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of recent date relative to the pilgrimage authorized by Congress in the Act approved March 2, 1929.

Your name has been placed upon the list of mothers and widows who are eligible to make the journey in 1931, and you will be communicated with when the pilgrimages are being arranged for that year.

There is no provision of the law which would permit the Government to bear any part of the expense of a relative or friend accompanying you, nor can it make any arrangements for them. This must be entirely a personal matter.

Should your daughter desire to make the journey at her own expense, however, it is suggested that she communicate with the steamship company with which reservation will be made for you when you are informed of the name of the vessel and the date of which you will sail. It is possible that she may be able to secure accommodations on the same ship and possibly at the same hotels in New York and Paris.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

EL

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

June 18, 1930.

Bourk, Ernest F. - 1232 M

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, S. Dak.

*Notify us when
she desires to go.*

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

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

No
(Write answer here)

Mrs Martha M. Bourk
(Sign here)

(over)

Mr A D Hughes. Captain I M Corps.
Washington D C

Dear Mr Hughes,

I wish to thank you for
your kind invitation to sail to France.

I am very sorry I cannot make
this trip as I know I would
enjoy the trip. My health is very
poor and I am sure I could
never undertake the trip alone as
I only have the one daughter at home
who has always taken care of me
and I am sure I can never
take the trip without her unless
I regain my health.

I wish to thank you grateful
for your kind invitation and
I sincerely hope I can take the
trip some day.

Very Sincerely Yours
Mrs Martha M Bank

QM 293 A-C
Bourk, Ernest P. - 1232 M

April 8, 1930

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, South Dakota.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your telegram of April 3.
relative to the pilgrimage authorized by Congress in the Act of
March 2, 1929.

Notation has been made that owing to poor health you
are unable to sail on the SS "Washington", May 21, 1930, in order
to visit the grave of your son, the late Private, first class,
Ernest P. Bourk, in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery in France.
However, arrangements can be made for you to make the pilgrimage
at a later date during the calendar year 1930, or at some other
time prior to October 31, 1933.

If you will advise this office the approximate date
you believe you will be able to make the pilgrimage, every effort
will be made to meet your wishes with reference to the choice of
another sailing date.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

P:LG

6
QM 293 A-C
Baurk, Ernest, 1232-M

April 7, 1930.

6
Mrs. Martha M. Baurk,

Canning, S. D.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 2, 1930, relative to the pilgrimage authorized by Congress in the Act approved March 2, 1929.

In connection with your inquiry as to whether you could be granted a cash settlement in lieu of the pilgrimage to the grave of your son, the late Private Ernest Baurk, I regret to advise that there is no provision of law under which any mother or widow who is eligible to make the pilgrimage is entitled to receive a money allowance in lieu of the pilgrimage.

I am sorry that you are in poor health at this time, but should your health improve and you desire to make the pilgrimage you are assured that the best of medical and nursing attention will be available on the vessels of the United States Lines which will convey the pilgrims to Europe and that every provision is being made for their comfort and care abroad.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

bb:les

Signal Corps, United States Army

Received at

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

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO

LEASED WIRE

3-9312

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1929

25W HM 6

CANNING SDAK 910AM APR 3 1930

DEWITT QM GENERAL

WASHN DC

DECLINE ON ACCOUNT OF POOR HEALTH.

MRS ~~MARTHA~~ M BOURK

1041AM

123 ✓
Washington
5-21-30
carried on record
decline

69

Record Attached



293 - Bourke - Enlist R

Money Allowance

Lanning Islet

Mrs A. M. Hughes

April 2, 1930

Hughes Co
1232

Captain, U. S. Corps, Washington D. C.

Dear Sir;

Referring to the trip I am to take to Europe on May 21, 1930 I would like to know if the Government would allow me to keep the money that came for my trip fraudulently. I am unable to take the trip.

My health is very poor at this writing and it may be that I could not take the trip which I intend to take and think it would be a wonderful. I did not know just who to write to in order to find out whether or not I the Gold Star Mother of Private Earnest G. Bauerk could have whatever it costs the Matheres to sail to Europe fraudulently. I am not able to go. Please let me hear from you in regards to this at your earliest convenience. Yours sincerely

Mrs Martha M. Bauerk

1232

Bourk. Ernest F.

PS Please send all literature and detailed information as quickly as convenient to you, so I can commence making careful study thereof.

I ~~accept~~ ^{Declined by wire 4-3-38 as it ill} the invitation extended ^{health}

(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.

Martha M. Bourk

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk

(Name)

Canning, Hughes Co., S. D.

(Town or City)

(State)

Letter written asking her when she wants to go

Postmark

Pierre, S Dak



1232

Night Letter

Washington, D. C., April 1, 1930.

MRS. MARTHA M. BOURK,
CANNING, SOUTH DAKOTA.

REPLY TO INVITATION MAILED YOU TO SAIL MAY TWENTY ONE NOT RECEIVED STOP
DO YOU ACCEPT OR DECLINE WIRE ANSWER 105 GSM

DeWITT
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

ADH
JTB

QM 293 A-C Bourk, Ernest F.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Bourk, Ernest F. 1232-M

March 24, 1930

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning, South Dakota.

Dear Madam:

The records of this office show that you have not accepted or declined the invitation extended you to make a pilgrimage to Europe under the provisions of the Act of March 2, 1929, sailing on the "Washington" on May 21, 1930.

In order that arrangements may be completed for the pilgrimage, it is imperative that you complete the card enclosed with the invitation signifying whether or not you accept the invitation and return the same to this office.

In the event no reply is received from you before April 5, 1930, the invitation will be automatically cancelled.

Should you desire to make the pilgrimage at a later date, it is requested that you advise this office to that effect.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

QM 293 A-C

Bourk, Ernest F. 1232 M

March 6, 1930.

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,

Canning, S. D.

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to office letter of August 2, 1929, relative to your desire to visit Sweden when you make the pilgrimage to the grave of your son, the late Private, First Class, Ernest F. Bourk, authorized by the Act of March 2, 1929.

It has been held that except in unavoidable cases (such as illness) there is no authority of law to extend the time specified in Section 2 (e) of the Act to cover this pilgrimage or to grant requests of individuals to leave the groups to which assigned.

Persons making the pilgrimage and desiring for other than unavoidable reasons an extension of time or variation in itinerary can be granted such extensions and variations only upon the condition that all further expenses of the pilgrimage including the return transportation to their homes will be borne by the individuals concerned.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

bb:lee

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

October 7, 1929.

Bourk, Ernest F. 1232 M

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk
Canning, South Dakota.

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

Encl.
Act
Envelope

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

QM 293 A-C
Bourk, Ernest F.

August 2, 1929.

1232
6-27-29

Mrs. Martha M. Bourk,
Canning,
South Dakota.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of July 29, 1929, relative to the Pilgrimage of the Gold Star Mothers and Widows to France.

As the Act of March 2, does not contain any provision that would permit of any member of the family other than the mother or unmarried widow making the pilgrimage, it is regretted to have to advise you that it will not be possible for your daughter to accompany you.

You may be assured that competent personnel will be assigned by the War Department to provide for the needs and comfort of those mothers and widows making the trip.

Plans for the pilgrimage have not progressed far enough to enable this office to give definite answer relative to a visit to Sweden. You may be assured, however, that The Quartermaster General will be as liberal in granting such requests as the circumstances warrant. Just as soon as a definite answer can be given, you will be further advised.

Within a reasonable time, you will be furnished blank forms upon which to make formal application for the journey. Space will be provided on these blanks for you to indicate the time during which you desire to make the trip.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

SC:LS

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SUTHERLAND, PAYNE & LINSTAD
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
OFFICE: SUITE 3, HYDE BLOCK
PIERRE, S. D.

July 20, 1929.

The Quartermaster General, U.S.A.

Cemetery Division, Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Reference your number QM 293 AC Bourk, Ernest F.
Subject: Mother's Pilgrimage to American cemetery
in Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, France.

Replying to communication of June 27th, the writer hereby expresses the request to be permitted to take the pilgrimage for mothers to France to visit the American Cemetery where my son is now interred.


I am the widowed mother of Private 1-cl. Ernest F. Bourk, Co.D, 352nd Inf., whose remains are now interred in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, France. I would like to make the trip during the year 1930 and if possible would like to be assigned to parties going during July or August or September, 1930. I am not entirely able to go unaccompanied and want my daughter to be designated to accompany me.

Will the trip be so arranged that more time than two weeks (on my own expense) can be had in Europe. If possible, I would like to visit my old home in Sweden while enroute back home.

I came to this country from Sweden when a child ten years old during the year 1872; was married here to an American citizen and have always been regarded and claim to be a citizen.

Name: Martha M. Bourk. Address: Canning, S. Dak.

Yours truly,

*Martha M. Bourk*

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Bourk, Ernest F.

June 27, 1929.

Mr. Louis A. Bourk,
Canning, South Dakota.

Dear Sir:

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

The records of this office show that you are the father of the late Private 1/cl. Ernest F. Bourk, Co. D, 352nd Inf., whose remains are now interred in the Meuse-Argonne, American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, France.

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

2 incls.
Act of Congress.
Envelope.

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