

libe

FEB 6 - 1926

FULL NAME... CLAYTON, Virgil A.

RANK... Private

SERIAL... 1309506

DIVISION & ORGANIZATION... Company L, 117th Infantry

30 Div

DATE OF DEATH...

Oct 6, 1918

STATE FROM WHICH HE CAME...

Tenn.

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS AWARDED...

none found

FINAL GRAVE LOCATION...

Date

Grave

Row

Block

636

Cemetery

4  
FEB 8 A.G.O.  
1926  
WORLD WAR DIV.

Robert O. ...  
Major General  
The Adjutant General  
by CXX

FEB 9 1926

AUDITED BY  
1024-3-05

FEB 10 26  
M. & R. BRANCH  
O. Q. M. G.

4  
FEB 8 1926  
A. G. O.  
WORLD WAR DIV.

# GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Clayton, 1309506, Virgil A.  
(Surname). (Number). (First Name and Initials).

Pvt.  
(Rank). (Organization).

PLACE OF DEATH: near Estre

CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in action

DATE OF BURIAL: Oct 10-18

PLACE OF DEATH: Sevier Cemetery

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

Sheet 62 C 17 D 7 11

GRAVE NUMBER: No 18, Row 2, Plot 1

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:

NEAREST RELATIVE:

ADDRESS:

RELATIONSHIP:

REPORTED BY:

Clayton Virgil A. Foster  
(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer).

This portion to be forwarded to Central Records Office, A. G. O., A. E. F.

8° L. 117th Inf.

- (a) Informant
- (b) -----
- (c) Ground was
- (d) Death inst
- (e) Informant
- (f) No other
- (g) Tall stone
- (h) Informant

L.H.G.V.

Emergency addr

CLAYTON, Virgil A., 1309506, 10/7/18, 10/11/18, Sevier Military Cemetery. (Sheet 62b C 18 & 11).

8° L. 117th Inf.

GLAYTON Virgil A. Pvt. 1309806

Home address: unknown

- (a) Informant was eye witness
- (b) -----
- (c) Ground was held
- (d) Death instantaneous Burial place unknown
- (e) Informant knew christian name and initial but not number
- (f) No other man of same name in the company or battalion
- (g) Tall slender fair complexion light hair (slender build)
- (h) Informant gave clear and intelligent replies

Informant Markett: Alvie L. Pvt. 1309499

8° L. 117th Infantry

Home Sharon Tenn

January 20th 1919

Ray C. Hoffman searcher

and 17 117th 1919

L.M.G.V.

Emergency address: Mrs. Willie Lay  
RD4 Brownsville Tenn

GLAYTON, Virgil A., 1309806. 10/7/18. 10/11/18. Soviet Military  
Cemetery. (Sheet 62B C 18 o 11).

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL.

Remains of:

Name: CLAYTON, VIRGIL A.

Number: 1309506

Rank: PVT.

Organization:

Disinterment and Reburial made by Group #2 Unit 302

Disinterred (Date) JUNE 9, 1919. From: (Give complete location)

GRAVE 18, ROW 1, PLOT A, SEVIER MILITARY CEMETERY, MAP RES. CAMBRAI  
S.E. EAST 184.5, NORTH 362.7.

Reburied (Date) JUNE 9, 1919. in: (Give complete location)

GRAVE 21, ROW 1, PLOT B, BONY MILITARY CEMETERY, MAP RES. 13 S.W.  
EAST 176.3, NORTH 363.8.

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

NO WRAPPING, CONDITION POOR.

Was one identification tag found upon the body? YES.

What other means of identification were found on the body? NONE.

**CONFIRMED N°D**  
**11246**

Note:

If upon disinterment, effects are found upon bodies, they will be promptly sent to the Effects Depot direct as is required by G.O. 170, G.H. 2, 1918., after being carefully examined for clues to identity in doubtful cases, notation whereof will be made and reported to Chief, Graves Registration Service.

Supervised by: James M. Simpson

C. E. Bradley 2ND LT. QMC

C.O. Group #2 Unit 302

Page No. 15  
Date JUNE 11, 1918  
RANGE BONY



REPORT OF DISTINTMENT AND REBURIAL

Name: CLAYTON, VIRGIL A.  
Rank: PVT.  
Organization:   
Number: 1309506

Distintment and Reburial made by Group Unit 302

Distintment (Date) JUNE 9, 1918. From: (Give complete location)

GRAVE 18, ROW 1, PLOT A, SEVIER MILITARY CEMETERY, MAP REG. CAMBRIA

S.E. EAST 104.8, NORTH 32.7.

Reburied (Date) JUNE 9, 1918. In: (Give complete location)

GRAVE 21, ROW 1, PLOT B, BONY MILITARY CEMETERY, MAP REG. 13 S.W.

EAST 116.3, NORTH 32.8.

Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon distintment

NO WRAPPING, CONDITION POOR.

Was one identification tag found upon the body? YES.

What other means of identification were found on the body? NONE.

11346

CONTINUED W.D.

Note: If upon distintment effects are found upon bodies, they will be promptly sent to the District Dept. of Health as required by G.O. 170, D.H. 5, 1918. Other bodies examined for signs of identity in doubtful cases, no action taken until Graves Registration Service is made and reported to District Graves Registration Service.

Suggested by: [Signature]

Group 13 Unit 302

CODE SLIP

HEADING	SUB-HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE
NAME Clayton	Clay	3	3 2 1
BURIED	CEMETERY	1	5
	GRAVE	2	04
	ROW	2	18
	BLOCK	1	1
STATE	Tenn.	2	48
RANK	Priv.	1	2
DIVISION	30	2	30
ORGANIZATION	117	3	117
ARM	Inf.	1	1
MARTIAL	No	1	2
NAME	Mellie Lay	3	2 1 125
STATE	Tenn.	2	48
RESIDENCE	COUNTY Haywood	2	38
401 St. Main St.	CITY Brownsville	3	xxx
RELATION	Mother	1	1
OTHER		1	
ELIGIBILITY	Yes	1	1
NATIVITY		1	
RACE		1	
ENGLISH	Yes	1	1
ATTENDANT		1	
HEALTH	Bad	1	2
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF TRIP	MO.	1	
	YR. 1933	1	
ACCEPTANCE	No age	1	2 57
29/514/PJ.			

**AUDITED**  
 March 7 1932  
 Kew

EM/

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M  
Clayton, Virgil A. Som

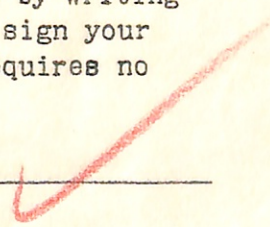
September 7, 1932.

Mrs. Willie Lay,  
401 W. Main St.,  
Brownsville, Tenn.

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.

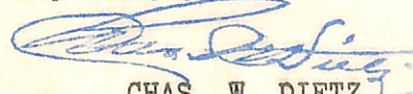
1. Do you desire to make a pilgrimage in 1933? (Answer "Yes" or "No")	<i>No</i>		
2. Please state your age and condition of health:	<i>worry Bad</i>		Age: <i>5-7</i> Health: <i>Bad</i>
3. Do you speak English?	<i>yes</i>		
4. What other language do you speak?	<i>No other</i>		

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.

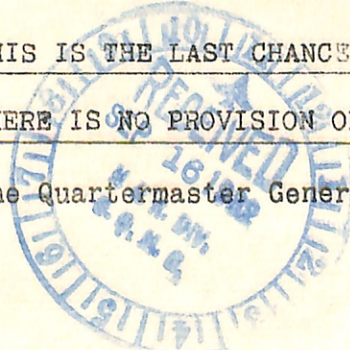
For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,



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

Encl:  
Env.



WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

July 12, 1932

Clayton, Virgil A. (Son)

Mrs. Willie Lay,  
401 W. Main St.,  
Brownsville, Tenn.

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) \_\_\_\_\_

QM 293 A-M

Clayton, Virgil A. Pvt (Som) M

March 10, 1932

Mrs. Willie Lay,  
401 W. Main St.,  
Brownsville, Tenn.

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to correspondence forwarded you from this office relative to a pilgrimage to the grave of your son, the late Private Virgil A. Clayton.

It is noted you stated your health was poor. In this connection you are advised that personnel to care for the comfort and needs of the pilgrims will be provided and doctors and nurses will be available. During the past two years a number of mothers in poor health made the pilgrimage and appear to have benefited by the sea air and the excellent care they received.

Should you reconsider and desire to visit your son's grave this coming summer, it is requested that you so notify this office at the earliest practicable date. You are assured that not only will the pilgrimage be made at the expense of the United States, but everything possible will be provided for your comfort and welfare.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

R

mef

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

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Clayton, Virginia A. (Son) M

October 2, 1931.

gb

Mrs. Willis Lay,  
401 W. Main St.,  
Broms ville, Tenn.

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-AM  
Clayton, Virgil A. Pvt. (Som) M

June 15, 1931

Mrs. Willie Lay,  
401 W. Main St.,  
Brownsville, Tenn.

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  
Clayton, Virgil A. Pvt 636 M

October 13, 1930

Mrs. Willie Lay  
401 W Main Street  
Brownsville, Tenn.

Dear Madam:

A reply has not been received to office letter of recent date relative to the pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe, authorized by the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, as amended May 15, 1930.

The records of this office show that you are the mother of the deceased veteran named above and in order that plans may be completed for conducting the pilgrimages in 1931, it is requested you answer the following questions by filling out the blanks left therefor and return the letter to this office in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage.

1. Do you desire to make this pilgrimage?	<i>no</i>
2. Do you desire to make the pilgrimage in the calendar year 1931?	<i>no</i>
3. Please give your age and state your health.	Age <i>56 years</i> Condition of health <i>Bad</i>
4. Do you speak English?	<i>yes</i>
5. What other language do you speak?	

For The Quartermaster General:

Very truly yours,

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

Encls:  
Act  
Amendment  
Envelope

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Clayton, Virgil A.  
636

August 27, 1929.

Mrs. Willie Lay,  
Brownsville, Tenn.

Dear Madam:

The records of this office do not indicate that a reply has been received to our communication dated May 16, 1929, making inquiry concerning the name and address of the mother and widow of the deceased service man above named. These addresses are desired with a view to ascertaining the number of mothers and widows who desire to make a pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe in which the remains of their sons and husbands are interred.

Will you please fill in the answers to the following questions in the space provided on this letter, and return the letter to this office in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage?

Write answers in space below

1. Is the deceased survived by a widow who has not since remarried? If so, give her complete address:

*No was never married*

2. If he is survived by a mother, stepmother, mother thru adoption, or any other woman who stood in loco parentis to him, according to the terms of Section 4 of the enclosed Act, give her name, address, and relationship in the space opposite.

*yes Mother*

*Mrs Willie Lay  
401 W Main Brownsville*

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

*Yes*

*Sam*

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

2 Incls.  
Act of Congress  
Envelope

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C  
Clayton, Virgil A.

May 16, 1929.

Mrs. Willie Lay,  
Brownsville, Tenn.

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 Virgil A. Clayton, Co. L, 117th Infantry, whose remains are now interred in the Somme American Cemetery, Bony, Aisne, 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 remarried 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,

2 incls.  
Act of Congress.  
Envelope.

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

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M  
Clayton, Virgil A. Som

September 7, 1932.

Mrs. Willie Lay,  
401 W. Main St.,  
Brownsville, Tenn.

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

July 12, 1932

Clayton, Virgil A. (Son)

Mrs. Willie Lay,  
401 W. Main St.,  
Brownsville, Tenn.

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) \_\_\_\_\_

QM 293 A-M

Clayton, Virgil A. Pvt (Som) M

March 10, 1932

Mrs. Willie Lay,  
401 W. Main St.,  
Brownsville, Tenn.

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to correspondence forwarded you from this office relative to a pilgrimage to the grave of your son, the late Private Virgil A. Clayton.

It is noted you stated your health was poor. In this connection you are advised that personnel to care for the comfort and needs of the pilgrims will be provided and doctors and nurses will be available. During the past two years a number of mothers in poor health made the pilgrimage and appear to have benefited by the sea air and the excellent care they received.

Should you reconsider and desire to visit your son's grave this coming summer, it is requested that you so notify this office at the earliest practicable date. You are assured that not only will the pilgrimage be made at the expense of the United States, but everything possible will be provided for your comfort and welfare.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

R

mef

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

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M  
Clayton, Virginia A. (Som) M

October 2, 1931.

gb

Mrs. Willia Lay,  
401 W. Main St.,  
Brons ville, Tenn.

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-AM

Clayton, Virgil A. Pvt. (Som) M

June 15, 1931

Mrs. Willie Lay,  
401 W. Main St.,  
Brownsville, Tenn.

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

October 13, 1930

Clayton, Virgil A. Pvt 636 M

Mrs. Willie Lay  
401 W Main Street  
Brownsville, Tenn.

Dear Madam:

A reply has not been received to office letter of recent date relative to the pilgrimage to the cometerios of Europe, authorized by the Act of Congress of March 2, 1929, as amended May 15, 1930.

The records of this office show that you are the mother of the deceased veteran named above and in order that plans may be completed for conducting the pilgrimages in 1931, it is requested you answer the following questions by filling out the blanks left therefor and return the letter to this office in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage.

1. Do you desire to make this pilgrimage?	
2. Do you desire to make the pilgrimage in the calendar year 1931?	
3. Please give your age and state your health.	Age Condition of health
4. Do you speak English?	
5. What other language do you speak?	

For The Quartermaster General:

Very truly yours,

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

Encls:  
Agt  
Amendment  
Envelope

30/150

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C  
Clayton, Virgil A. - 636 M

June 7, 1930.

Mrs. Willis Lay,  
401 W Main St.,  
Brownsville, Tenn.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

DO YOU DESIRE TO MAKE THE PILGRIMAGE DURING THE YEAR 1931? \_\_\_\_\_  
(Write answer here)

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

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

October 7, 1929.

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C  
Clayton, Virgil A. 636 M

Mrs. Willie Lay,  
401 West Main St.,  
Brownsville, Tennessee.

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,

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

Encl.  
Act  
Envelope

G.H. 10 PM 1 30

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C  
Clayton, Virgil A. 636 -M

October 7, 1929.

Mrs. Willie Lay,  
401 W. Main St.,  
Brownsville, Texas

*Jenn } changed on card  
and 75*

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.

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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,

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

Encl.  
Act  
Envelope

**WAR DEPARTMENT**

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

WASHINGTON, D. C.  
NOV 7  
6:30 PM  
1929

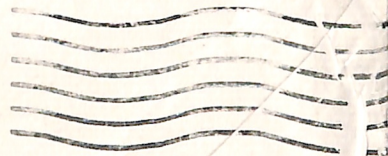
NOTIFY YOUR  
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID  
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300  
CORRESPONDENTS  
OF CHANGE  
OF ADDRESS

RETURN TO WRITER  
REASON FOR NON-DELIVERY CHECKED  
Unclaimed ..... Unknown ✓  
Deceased ..... For better address .....  
Incorrect address ..... Refused .....  
Residence in state named .....



NOT IN DIRECTORY

BROWNSVILLE  
NOV 11  
3 PM  
1929  
TEX.



WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

October 7 , 1929.

Clayton, Virgil A. 636 -M

Mrs. Willie Lay,  
401 W. Main St.,  
Brownsville, Texas

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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

October 7, 1929.

Clayton, Virgil A. 636 -M

Mrs. Willie Lay,  
Brownsville, Tenn.

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.

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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

Clayton, Virgil A.  
636

August 27, 1929.

Mrs. Willie Lay,  
Brownsville, Tenn.

Dear Madam:

The records of this office do not indicate that a reply has been received to our communication dated May 16, 1929 making inquiry concerning the name and address of the mother and widow of the deceased service man above named. These addresses are desired with a view to ascertaining the number of mothers and widows who desire to make a pilgrimage to the cemeteries of Europe in which the remains of their sons and husbands are interred.

Will you please fill in the answers to the following questions in the space provided on this letter, and return the letter to this office in the enclosed envelope which requires no postage?

Write answers in space below

1. Is the deceased survived by a widow who has not since remarried? If so, give her complete address:

2. If he is survived by a mother, stepmother, mother thru adoption, or any other woman who stood in loco parentis to him, according to the terms of Section 4 of the enclosed Act, give her name, address, and relationship in the space opposite.

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

2 Incls.  
Act of Congress  
Envelope

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

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C  
Clayton, Virgil A.

May 16, 1929.

Mrs. Willie Lay,  
Brownsville, Tenn.

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 Virgil A. Clayton, Co. L, 117th Infantry, whose remains are now interred in the Somme American Cemetery, Bony, Aisne, 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,

2 incls.  
Act of Congress.  
Envelope.

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

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C  
CLAYTON, Virgil A. - Pvt.

April 27, 1926

Mrs. Willie Lay,  
Brownsville,  
Tenn.

Dear Madam:

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

This American overseas military cemetery is to be maintained by the United States for all time. The graves will be permanently marked by white headstones inscribed with the name, rank, division, organization, date of soldier's death and State from which he came. Headstones will be placed at all graves, as soon as possible, and without necessity for special action or request on the part of relatives.

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

Very truly yours,

*L. W. Redington*  
L.W. REDINGTON,  
Major, Q.M.C.,  
Assistant.

1 Incl.  
Record card.

25/560/EYS

*file  
5-22-26*

*293 Clayton, Virgil A.*

636-240



Clayton

Virgil A.

1,309,506

Dup.

(Surname)

(Christian name in full.)

(Army serial number.)

Pvt.

Co. I, 117th Inf.

(Rank and organization.)

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:

(Name of person to receive remains.)

(Express office.)

(Telegraph office.)

(Number and street.)

(City or town.)

(State.)

(Sign here)

Mrs Willie Lay.

(Number and street or rural route.)

(City, town, or post office.)

(State.)

Route 4, Brownsville, Tenn.

Read carefully the letter accompanying this card.

Drawn by Pm

636-240

2-8

REVIEWED  
OSP SS.

2-9-21

1938

W. H. H. Jones

P. 1 # 1

Mr. H. H. Jones

To be prepared in triplicate.

DATE April 2, 1928

## REPORT OF DISINTERMENT, PREPARATION, SHIPMENT AND REBURIAL OF BODY

## DISINTERMENT

## COMPARATIVE REPORT

Records of G.R.S. Headquarters.

Discrepancy found upon exhumation of body

1. Name <u>CLAYTON, Virgil A.</u>	10. Name _____
2. No. <u>1309506</u>	11. No. _____
3. Rank <u>Pvt.</u>	12. Rank _____
4. Org. <u>Co. L, 117th Inf.</u>	13. Org. _____
5. D.D. <u>Oct. 6, 1918</u>	14. (a) D.D. _____
6. C.D. <u>KIA</u>	(b) D.B. _____

Discrepancy found upon disinterment

7. Grave No. <u>6</u> Sec. _____	15. Grave No. _____ Sec. _____
8. Plot <u>Block A</u> Row <u>16</u>	16. Plot _____ Row _____
9. _____	17. _____

18. Cemetery <u>Somme</u>	19. Commune or town <u>Bony</u>
20. Dept. or County <u>Aisne</u>	21. Country <u>France</u>
22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. <u>#636</u>	
23. Disinterred (Date) <u>April 2, 1928</u>	By <u>P.D. WOODMAN</u>

24. Inscription on grave marker:

Name <u>CLAYTON, Virgil A.</u>	Serial No. <u>1309506</u>
Rank <u>Pvt.</u>	Organization <u>Co. L, 117th Inf.</u>

25. Was identification disc found on grave marker? \_\_\_\_\_ On body? T.O.B.

Signature Junior Technical Assistant

## PREPARATION

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

27. Condition of body \_\_\_\_\_

28. Nature of burial Pine box and burlap

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

30. Body prepared and placed in casket: Date April 2, 1928 By P.D. WOODMAN31. Casket sealed by P.D. WOODMAN

Signature of Embalmer, (Supervisor)

for P.D. WOODMAN

SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. \_\_\_\_\_

32. Designation of body:

Name CLAYTON, Virgil A. Serial No. 1209506

Rank Pvt. Organization Co. L, 117th Inf.

33. Consigned to:

Name of Permanent Cemetery Somme, Bony, Aisne

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) April 2, 1928 By J.J. DILLON

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 J.J. Dillon  
DILLON

36. Remarks \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

37. Shipped from point of Operation: (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

To point of Concentration \_\_\_\_\_

Convoyer \_\_\_\_\_ (Name)  
Signature Shipping Officer \_\_\_\_\_

38. Received at Railhead or Point of Concentration: Date \_\_\_\_\_

By G.R.S. Representative \_\_\_\_\_

39. Shipped from Railhead or Point of Concentration: Date \_\_\_\_\_

To Permanent Cemetery \_\_\_\_\_

Convoyer \_\_\_\_\_ (Name)  
Signature Shipping Officer \_\_\_\_\_

40. Received: Date \_\_\_\_\_

G.R.S. Representative \_\_\_\_\_

41. Reinterred April 2, 1928 Somme American Cty.

(Date)

42. Grave No. 4 Section \_\_\_\_\_

43. Plot Block A Row 16

G.R.S. Representative J.F.V. Brady

J.F.V. BRADY,  
Superintendent.

Place Somme Cty. 636.

# REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date April 2, 1928.

1. REMAINS OF CLAYTON, Virgil A. SERIAL NUMBER 1309506

RANK Private. ORGANIZATION Co. L, 117th Inf.

2. Disinterred (date) : April 2, 1928. From (give complete location) :  
Grave 6, Block A, Row 16.

By : Group Cty. Unit \_\_\_\_\_

3. Reburied (date) : April 2, 1928. In (give complete location) :  
Grave 4, Block A, Row 18.

By : Group Cty. Unit \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of reburial Metallic Casket.

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

5. (a) Identification tags : Buried with body ? T.O.B. On grave marker ? Al. Strip.

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

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

(a) Height (actual measurement) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Weight (estimated) \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Hair—Color \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_

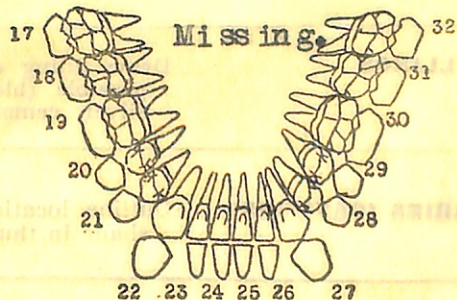
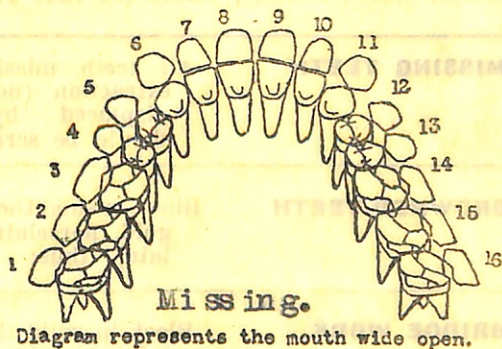
Characteristics \_\_\_\_\_

(d) Hair on face—Color \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_

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



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

Right clavicle fractured; right & left humerus shattered; right femur fractured, lower third; right & left pelvis fractured.

7. Disinterment supervised by W. Woodman

Approved : \_\_\_\_\_  
(Title)

8. Reburial supervised by J. J. Dillon  
3-7832

Approved : \_\_\_\_\_  
(Title)

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

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

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

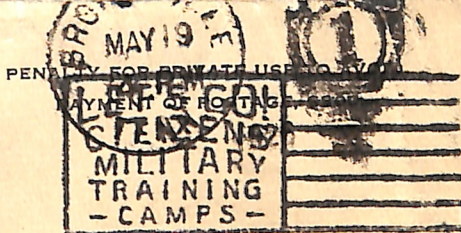


**DENTURES (PLATES)** Draw diagram of relative size and shape of plate, block in teeth attached and indicate retaining clasps on natural teeth with the word « clasp ».

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.

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS



Directory.

Mrs. Willie Lay,

Brownsville,

Tenn.

UNCLAIMED.

To avoid delay in delivery have your  
mail addressed to Street and Number  
P. O. Box or General Delivery.

not 4

Clayton Virgild

BROWNSVILLE TEXAS  
APR 30  
9 30 AM  
1928  
REC'D

APR 30 1928

Soldier's  Overseas  
Grave

Name Virgil A. Clayton

Rank Private

Organization Company L, 117th Infantry

Grave No. 6 Row 16 Block A

Cemetery Somme American

Location Bony, Aisne, France

QM 293 A-C  
CLAYTON, Virgil A. - Pvt.

April 27, 1926

Mrs. Willie Ley,  
Brownsville,  
Tenn.

Dear Madam:

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

This American overseas military cemetery is to be maintained by the United States for all time. The graves will be permanently marked by white headstones inscribed with the name, rank, division, organization, date of soldier's death and State from which he came. Headstones will be placed at all graves, as soon as possible, and without necessity for special action or request on the part of relatives.

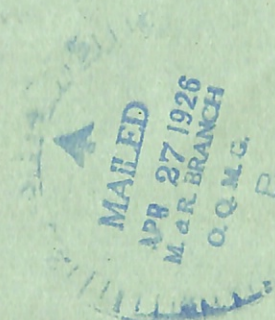
Please be assured that in effecting removal of the dead, the utmost reverential care was exercised by those who performed this sacred duty. For the future, these graves will be perpetually maintained by the Government in a manner befitting the last resting place of our heroes.

Very truly yours,

1 Incl.  
Record card.

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

RD  
162



25/560/EYS

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

File-47895

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

(a) Name Clayton, Virgil A. Ser. No. 1309506
(b) Rank Pvt. Organization Co. L. 117th Inf.
(c) Date of death 10-6-18 (d) Cause of death K/A
TYP. ZK
CKR. E.L.

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

(a) Grave No. 21 Row 1 Plot B Sec. - TYP. HB
(b) Emerg. Address Mrs. Willie Lay (mother) R.F.D. #1, Vildo, Tenn.

III. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases NO CARD CKR. A.B.H.

IV. A. G. O. DISPOSITION CARD:

Date of receipt none

(a) Name Mrs. Willie Lay (b) Relationship Mother
(c) Address Route 4, Brownsville, Tenn.
(d) Remains to be brought to U. S.? no.
(e) To be interred in National Cemetery in U. S. at OK
(f) Shipping instructions upon arrival of body in U. S. Pm
(g) Disposition instructions if not brought to U. S.

Examiner's Initials H.R. Date 9-2-1920

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

no correspondence
confirming request in Par. IV., item, above, or requesting that

Examiner's Initials H.R. Date 9-2-1920

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

Wife, Mrs. Willie Lay R.F.D. #1, Vildo, Tenn. (1-8-19) asks for photo of grave. No request for disposition.

(a) Cancellation memos referred to? yes H.H.
Examiner's Initials H.H. Date 9-2-1920

COUNTRY France CEMETERY No. 636 SHEET No. 240

checked 115 A prepared 29-21

VII. G. R. S. Form No. 114 made \_\_\_\_\_, 1920.

Typed by \_\_\_\_\_, Checked by \_\_\_\_\_, 1920.

VIII. FINAL ACTION:

Following advice forwarded to Europe by { cable on \_\_\_\_\_, 1920  
letter on **SEP 16 1920**, 1920

*Par. #2 Not to be returned - (M.B.)*



IX.

**CORRECTIONS**

CHANGE OF ADVICE.	ACTION TAKEN.
Desires body be _____	<b>RECEIVED</b>
Body to be shipped to _____	

X. SUSPENSION REMARKS: *Form 120, Sept. 16, '20, signed by mother confirms previous request, 10/14/20. Form 115 std by Hoboken - Body to remain in Europe, HSK*



SEP 11 1920  
all

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

636-240

with 4.15 m

Push Answer

FROM: Chief, Graves Registration Service, Q. M. G.  
To: Mrs. Willie Lay, Route #4, Brownsville, Tenn.  
SUBJECT: Remains of Pvt. Virgil A. Clayton, Ser. No. 1309506, Co. L, 117th Inf.

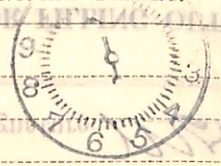
The records of this office show that you have requested that his body be not returned to United States.

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.

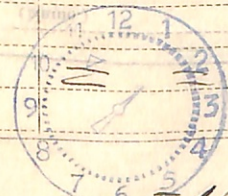
CHARLES C. PIERCE,  
Major, U. S. A.

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—	NO. AND STREET.	TOWN.	STATE.
Soldier's widow			
Soldier's children. (Name oldest first.)			
1			
2			
3			
Father			
Mother			
Brothers. (Name oldest first.)			
1			
2			
3			
Sisters. (Name oldest first.)			
1			
2			
3			



OCT 9 20



V. A. H.  
Date Sept 19, 1920

Signature Mrs. Willie Lay

Address Brownsville, Tenn.

Relationship "Mother"

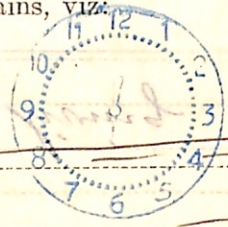
IMPORTANT.—CAREFULLY read instructions before filling out this paper.

RECEIVED  
OCT 16 1920

Sept 16, 1920.

I, the undersigned, am the mother 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.)

RECEIVED



1. As stated on first page of this sheet.

2. To be returned to the U. S. and shipped to \_\_\_\_\_ (Name.)

(R. R. station.)

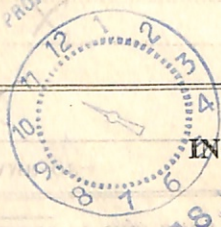
OCT 18 1920

(State.)

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

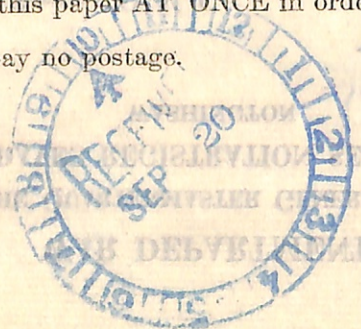
4. To remain in Europe, for burial in a permanent American Cemetery.

Signature Mrs Willie Lay



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.



47893

# GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

## LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Clayton, 1309506 Virgil A.  
(Surname). (Number). (First Name and Initials).

Pvt  
(Rank). (Organization).

PLACE OF DEATH: Near Estrem

CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in action

DATE OF BURIAL: Oct 10 - 18

PLACE OF BURIAL: Sevier Cemetery

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

Sheet 62<sup>t</sup> B 17 D. 7. 1.

GRAVE NUMBER: No 18. Row A. Plot 1.

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:

638

NEAREST RELATIVE:

ADDRESS:

RELATIONSHIP:

REPORTED BY:

Chaplain Arthur J. Foster  
(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer).

REVIEWED  
OSP SS



47895

2. Soldier's No. 1309506

3. Clayton ..... Virgel A .....  
Surname (in block letters) First Name and Initials

4. Pvt ..... L .....  
Rank Company Regt. or Corps

5. 10/7/18 ..... K.I.A .....  
Date of Death Cause, if known

6. 10/11/18 ..... Sevier Mil Cem .....  
Date of Burial Cemetery

7. Geneve .....  
Town or Commune (in block letters) Department

8. 18 a ..... 1 .....  
Grave No. Plot No. or Letter

9. Name Peg? ..... Cross?  ..... Headboard? ..... Bottle? .....  
Check Method of Marking

10. Buried with Body? ..... Attached to Grave Marker? .....  
Identification Tags

11. If name unknown and tags missing, give marks and description.

12. .....  
Map Reference, if interment is outside of cemetery

62b C 18 c 11

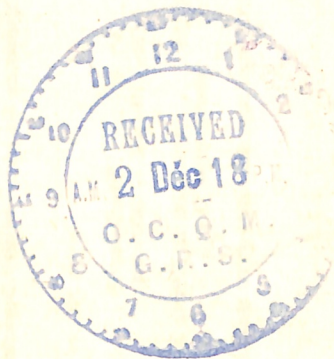
13. .....  
Give name of Chaplain or Burial Officer

Signed. *Charles A. Vann*

Group 2 ..... Unit 702 ..... G. R. S.

638

RECEIVED  
OSP  
Foster



to write for them before but  
knew not to whom to write.

REVIEWED  
OSP SS.

I have personally and  
the Government as well for your  
information and interest shown  
and earnestly requesting a picture  
of said Virgil A. Claytons grave, at  
the earliest possible date

RECEIVED  
28 JAN 1919  
O.C.Q.M.  
G.R.S.

I remain - yours truly

Mrs. Willie Lay  
R. F. #1, Vicksburg, Tenn.

985. 004.5  
April 29-1919  
47895

Brownsville, Tenn.  
Jan - 8 - 19  
Mr. Charles C. Poirce -  
Lieut. Col. I. M. C, U. S. A.  
Chief, G. R. S.  
Kind Sir -

Your letter concerning  
the graves of our American  
dead to hand, contents noted,  
and the same highly appreciated,  
I would be only too  
glad to receive a picture  
of my son - Virgil A. Clayton -

Co. L., 117<sup>th</sup> Infantry - grave, so please  
make note of my request and  
place same on file -

It is indeed a comfort to  
know that my son's body has  
been recovered, and lies buried  
in a spot under our nation's  
care and control - and while  
nothing, not even time can  
ever still my heart's ache - I  
realize that I am only one of the  
thousands of grief stricken mothers  
who have laid their sons upon  
Freedom's Altar - and must  
await my turn - for the  
picture of his dear grave and  
the personal belongings of my  
darling - I shall write to  
the Adjutant General - Washington, D.C.  
in today's mail regarding  
the latter - I have been wanting