

G.R.S. Form #114-B

To The A. G. C.

MAY 14 1921

DATE 10/29/21.

1. NAME COFFMAN, RALPH L SERIAL No. 794687

RANK SGT. ORGANIZATION CO. B 15th MGB

GRAVE LOCATION Meuse Argonne Amer.Cty.Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse.#1232, Sec.51

CTY. NAME 191 - Sec.51. NUMBER 4

2. ORIGINAL BATTLE AREA GRAVE LOCATION 10 (Lola) (Brioules-sus-Meuse) ROW Line Derant Day PLOT Meuse

COMMUNE Verdun 35NE 285.21N 315.77E DEPT.

COORDINATES

CONCENTRATED TO 6/11/19 GRAVE 191 ROW 51 PLOT 4

DATE 6/11/19 GRAVE 191 ROW 51 PLOT 4

CEMETERY Meuse Argonne 1232 CTY. NUMBER

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

Tag on cross and body data f-1/pfb

DATE OF DEATH Nov. 4, 1918

STATE FROM WHICH HE CAME Mo

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS AWARDED none

SUBSEQUENT REBURIALS

DATE	GRAVE	ROW	PLOT	CEMETERY

Robert O. Davis,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.
By RVR
MAY 18 1921

SIGNATURE, AREA SUPERVISOR M. B. BIRDSEYE
1st Lt., Q.M. Corps, U.S. Army

3. FINAL GRAVE LOCATION 10/29/21. GRAVE 38 ROW 44 Block D.

DATE 10/29/21. GRAVE 38 ROW 44 Block D.

AUDITED BY Lm
4-13-23

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

CEMETERY

MAY 15 1920



INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARATION OF FORM 114 B

1. Forms 114-B are to be prepared by Registration Branch in quadruplicate, three copies to be forwarded to Area Supervisor who will accomplish paragraph 2 and return all three copies to Headquarters, American Graves Registration Service.
2. Paragraphs 1 and 3 will be accomplished by Registration Branch, Headquarters, American Graves Registration Service, Q.M.C., in Europe.
3. Paragraph 2 will be accomplished by Area Supervisor from data on file in his office.
4. If data is entered on Form 114-B from Form 1, Form 16, Form 1-A or Form 16-A, statement to this effect will be made on Form 114-B STATING WHICH G.R.S. form data is taken from. If data concerning co-ordinates is approximate and NOT accurate, statement to this effect will be made on these forms.



RECEIVED

Co. B. 15th M.G.Bn.
5th Division

Goffman, Ralph L. - Sgt., 794687

On November 5, 1918, about 6:00 A.M., after we had crossed the Meuse, we were advancing. Sgt. Goffman was in front and I saw him fall. I went up and examined him and found he had been hit by a machine gun bullet in the heart, - dying immediately.

Informant: Grove, Ralph V. - Sgt., 794712
Co. B. 15th M.G.Bn.
Home: 4145 E. 104th St., Cleveland, Ohio.
Signed: Geo. W. Griner, Capt., 15th M.G.Bn.

NB

Date 26th., June, 1919REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL:

Remains of:

Name COFFMAN, Ralph L.Number: 794687Rank Sgt. organization: Unkn

Disinterment and Reburial made by Group: _____ Unit: _____

Disinterred (Date) _____ From: (Give complete location)

11th., June, 1919GRAVE ISOLATED. LINY DEVANT DUN. MEUSEMap. 35 N. E. #1 315.77 N. 285.21

Reburied (Date) _____ in: (Give complete location)

11th., June, 1919Grave #191 Sec. #51 Plot #4ARGONNE AMERICAN CEMETERY. #1232ROMAGNE. MEUSE ✓

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

Burial good. Buried in uniform. Badly decomposedWas one identification tag found upon the body? YesWhat other means of identification were found upon the body? None

Note:

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

Supervised by Lt. Stim.R. H. ROSENTHAL2nd Lieut. Q.M.C.U.S.A.

C.O. Group _____ Unit _____

CONFIRMED No. D.

12342



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, D. C.

TO: [Illegible]
FROM: [Illegible]
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

CODE SLIP



HEADING	SUB-HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE
NAME	Coffman		
	C 0 7	3	3 0 6
BURIED	CEMETERY	1	1
	12 3 2		
	GRAVE	2	3 8
	3 8		
	ROW	2	4 4
	4 4		
	BLOCK	1	4
	D		
STATE	Mo	2	2 9
RANK	Sgt.	1	2
DIVISION	5	2	0 5
ORGANIZATION	15	3	0 1 5
ARM	M & Bn	1	2
MARTIAL	No	1	2
NAME	Coffman		
	Mr. J. M.	5	
RESIDENCE	STATE	2	
	COUNTY	2	
	CITY	3	
	Chariton, Iowa		
RELATION	Mother	1	1
OTHER	no SM	1	
ELIGIBILITY	no loco	1	
NATIVITY	Dead	1	6
	9-14-31		
RACE		1	
ENGLISH		1	
ATTENDANT		1	
HEALTH		1	
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF TRIP	MO.	1	
	YR.	1	
ACCEPTANCE		1	
	29/514/PJ		

AUDITED

APR 29 1932
Rd

KPB

la

QM 293 A-M
Coffman, Ralph L. (MA)

October 29, 1951

Subject: Compensation and insurance.

To: Director, Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C.

1. There is enclosed, herewith, a copy of a letter received in this office from Mr. J. M. Coffman, Chariton, Iowa, for your attention and reply, as this is a matter coming within the jurisdiction of your department.

2. Mr. Coffman has been advised of this reference.

For The Quartermaster General.

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

Enclosure:
Cp. Lt.

EE

EPK

QM 293 A-M
Coffman, Ralph L. (MA)

October 28, 1931

Mr. J. M. Coffman,
Chariton,
Iowa.

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of October 14th relative to insurance and compensation to which you believe yourself entitled in connection with the death of your son, the late Sergeant Ralph L. Coffman.

Your letter has been referred to the Director, Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C., for attention and reply, as this is a matter coming within the jurisdiction of that department.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

KK

EDC

US, War Department, ^{Chariton Iowa}
Washington D. C., Oct - 14 - 1931.

Dear Sir. I wrote you sometime ago, in regard to my compensation, & my wife's & I wrote you concerning my wife's death, on the 14th of Sept, 1931, I received my compensation, & also ~~at~~ I should of till Benson getting that. I am not able to do anything, at the age of 76. I have not received the insurance, yet, I am Nib's father, & his mother, is dead. now the Law gives me

~~the~~ all the insurance, as I am the first & legal heir now if there is a lot of papers to ~~sign~~ sign please send them on to the above address.

Yours Respt, J. M. Coffman

Chariton Iowa

P.S. This in reward, To Sergeant. Ralph L. Coffman,
Comd. B. 15th Machine ^{machine} ~~gun~~ ^{gun} Squad, 1st Battalion.

J. M. Coffman

Refer to U. 13.



WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M
Coffman, Ralph L. (M-A) M

September 29, 1931.

Mrs. Martha Coffman,
Box 142,
Englewood, Colo.

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: <i>Heath Bad, at Present</i> Health: <i>68 She Died Sep:</i>
3. Do you speak English?	<i>14-1931) Yes</i>
4. What other language do you speak?	<i>None</i>

Sign here

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Encl:
Env.



WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM-293-AM
Coffman, Ralph L. Sgt. (M-A) M

June 16, 1931.

Mrs. Martha Coffman,
Box 142,
Englewood, Colorado.

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
Coffman, Ralph L. 1232 M

October 28, 1930

Mrs. Martha Coffman,
Box 142,
Englewood, Colorado.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of the questionnaire, forwarded you for completion, relative to the pilgrimage authorized by Congress in the Act approved March 2, 1929, as amended May 15, 1930.

It is regretted that you do not feel physically able at this time to make a pilgrimage to the grave of your son, the late Sergeant Ralph L. Coffman, whose remains are interred in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery in France.

Should your health improve, however, and you desire to make the journey during the summer months of 1931, 1932 or 1933, it is requested that you communicate with this office, in order that the necessary arrangements may be made for you.

There is no provision of the law which would permit the Government to make a money allowance to any mother or widow who is unable or does not desire to make the pilgrimage.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

KL
ETX

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M
Coffman, Ralph L. Sgt 1232 M

October 13, 1930

Mrs. Martha Coffman
Box 142
Englewood, Colorado

per J. M. Coffman, she is too feeble to write.

Dear Madam:

A reply has not been received to office letter of 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.	<i>Age 66. Health not good.</i>
4. Do you speak English?	<i>Yes</i>
5. What other language do you speak?	<i>None.</i>
	<i>Condition of health under Dr. care all the time need money worse than at any other language.</i>

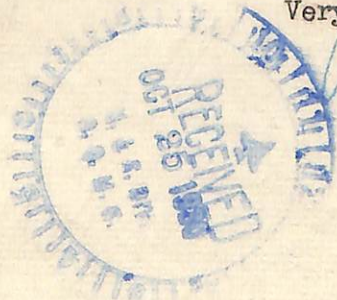
For The Quartermaster General:

Very truly yours,

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

Encls:
Act
Amendment
Envelope

30/150



WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON



IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

October 7, 1929.

Coffman, Ralph L. 1232 M.

Mrs. Martha Coffman,
Box 142,
Englewood, Colo.

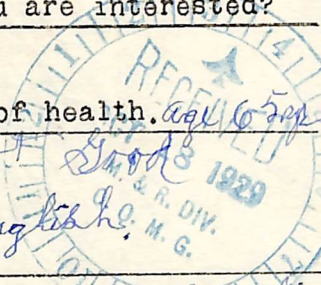
Dec d

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 <u>65</u> (Years)	Health <u>Good</u> (Good) <u>yes</u> (Poor)
5. What language do you speak?	English - <u>English</u> (Yes) (No)	Other language <u>none</u> (Specify language spoken) <u>none</u>



For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

Mr. & Mrs. James M. Coffman

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

Encl.
Act
Envelope

She finds answer to questions as best I can. Mrs. Coffman said she would rather have the money than to make the trip.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Coffman, Ralph L. 1232

September 10, 1929

Mrs. Martha A. Coffman,
Box 142,
Englewood, Colo.

Dear Madam:

The records of this office do not indicate that a reply has been received to our communication dated Aug. 13, 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:

Deceased 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.

Mother 67 yr. last
March, Martha A.
Coffman.

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

Englewood Colo.
No, too old & sick

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

2 Incls.
Act of Congress
Envelope

RECEIVED
SEP 19 1929
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON
Big
Her husband
Imhoffman

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Coffman, Ralph L.

August 13, 1929

Mrs. Martha A. Coffman,
Box 142,
Englewood, Colo.

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 Sgt. Ralph L. Coffman, Co. B, 15th M. G. Bn., whose remains are now interred in the Meuse-Argonne Amer. Cty. Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, France.

Will you please fill in the answers to the following questions in the space provided on this letter, and return 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?

2. If so, give her complete address.

3. Will you 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

Martha
IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C
Coffman, Ralph L.

June 29, 1929.
Mrs. Martha A. Coffman
Box 142, Englewood, Calo

Mrs. J. M. Coffman,
Route #2,
New Cambria, Me.

XC-108992
7/29

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 Sgt. Ralph L. Coffman, Co.B, 15th M.G.Bn., 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 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
JOHN T. HARRIS,
Major, Q. M. Corps,
Assistant.



WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

WASHINGTON, D. C.
JUL 3 3 30 PM
7929

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO
NOTIFY YOUR
CORRESPONDENTS
OF CHANGE
OF ADDRESS

RETURN TO WRITER
UNCLAIMED
not here

NEW CAMBRIDGE
JUL 17 12 M
1929
N. H.

RECEIVED



QM 293 A-M
Coffman, Ralph L. (MA)

October 29, 1931

Subject: Compensation and insurance.

To: Director, Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C.

1. There is enclosed, herewith, a copy of a letter received in this office from Mr. J. M. Coffman, Chariton, Iowa, for your attention and reply, as this is a matter coming within the jurisdiction of your department.

2. Mr. Coffman has been advised of this reference.
For The Quartermaster General.

Enclosure:
Cp. Lt.

KK

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

150
DADA

1931 OCT -29- PM 5

QMG M & R

QM 293 A-M
Coffman, Ralph L. (MA)

October 28, 1931

Mr. J. M. Coffman,
Chariton,
Iowa.

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of October 14th relative to insurance and compensation to which you believe yourself entitled in connection with the death of your son, the late Sergeant Ralph L. Coffman.

Your letter has been referred to the Director, Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C., for attention and reply, as this is a matter coming within the jurisdiction of that department.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

0451

1931 OCT -29- PM 3:31

QQMG M & R

KI

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M
Coffman, Ralph L. (M-A) M

September 29, 1931. AL

Mrs. Martha Coffman,
Box 142,
Englewood, Colo.

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,

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

Encl:
Env.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

June 16, 1931.

IN REPLY REFER TO QM-293-AM
Coffman, Ralph L. Sgt. (M-A) M

Mrs. Martha Coffman,
Box 142,
Englewood, Colorado.

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

QN 293 A-M
Coffman, Ralph L. 1232 M

October 28, 1930

Mrs. Martha Coffman,
Box 142,
Englewood, Colorado.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of the questionnaire, forwarded you for completion, relative to the pilgrimage authorized by Congress in the Act approved March 2, 1929, as amended May 15, 1930.

It is regretted that you do not feel physically able at this time to make a pilgrimage to the grave of your son, the late Sergeant Ralph L. Coffman, whose remains are interred in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery in France.

Should your health improve, however, and you desire to make the journey during the summer months of 1931, 1932 or 1933, it is requested that you communicate with this office, in order that the necessary arrangements may be made for you.

There is no provision of the law which would permit the Government to make a money allowance to any mother or widow who is unable or does not desire to make the pilgrimage.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

DIV
1930 OCT 28 PM 2 44
DISPATCHED

QM 293 A-M
Coffman, Ralph L. Sgt 1232 M

October 13, 1930

Mrs. Martha Coffman
Box 142
Englewood, Colorado

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?	
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:
Act
Amendment
Envelope

30/150

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C
Coffman, Ralph L. - 1232 M

June 7, 1930.

Mrs. Martha Coffman,
Box 142,
Englewood, Colo.

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

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

October 7, 1929.

Coffman, Ralph L. 1232 N.

Mrs. Martha Coffman,
Box 142,
Englewood, Colo.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

Encl.
Act
Envelope

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

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Coffman, Ralph L. 1232

September 10, 1929

Mrs. Martha A. Coffman,
Box 142,
Englewood, Colo.

Dear Madam:

The records of this office do not indicate that a reply has been received to our communication dated ^{AUG. 13, 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

Coffman, Ralph L.

August 13, 1929

Mrs. Martha A. Coffman,
Box 142,
Englewood, Colo.

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 Sgt. Ralph L. Coffman, Co. B, 15th M. G. Bn., whose remains are now interred in the Meuse-Argonne Amer. Cty. Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse, France.

Will you please fill in the answers to the following questions in the space provided on this letter, and return 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?

2. If so, give her complete address.

3. Will you 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

Coffman, Ralph L.

June 29, 1929.

Mrs. J. N. Coffman,
Route #2,
New Cambria, Mo.

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 **Sgt. Ralph L. Coffman, Co.B, 15th M.C.Bn., 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 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.

In reply refer to:
QM - 293 C-R

August 7, 1923.

Mr. J.M. Coffman,
Route #2,
New Cambria, Mo.

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

Sergeant Ralph L. Coffman, Company B, 15th
Machine Gun Battalion, is Grave 38, Row 44, Block D, Meuse-Argonne
American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon (Meuse), France.

This is one of the permanent American military cemeteries
to be maintained by this Government in Europe. Each grave will be
marked by headstone of white marble, of suitable design, with
name, rank, division, 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
exacted 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.

Very truly yours,

H. J. Conner,
Assistant.



AUG 7 1923
C.E.H.

RD
23/494/VTW L

Coffman,

(Surname.)

Ralph I.

(Christian name in full.)

794,667

(Army serial number.)

Sgt.

Co. B, 15th MG Bn

(Rank and organization.)

State your relationship to the deceased

Father & 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)

Mr. J. S. Coffman & Martha A. Coffman
Route 2, New Cambridge, Mass

(Number and street or rural route.)

(City, town, or post office.)

(State.)

Read carefully the letter accompanying this card.

3-6713

Drawn by PK

4-23-21

1232-See 57-31

checked
4-26-21

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

1-10-22 Examined
 for concentration
 Mues - Argonne 12 32
 MHS 2-6-22

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

File # 60572

(a) Name COFFMAN, Ralph L. Ser. No. 794687
 (b) Rank Sgt. Organization Co. B. 15th M. G. Bn.
 (c) Date of death 11-4-18 (d) Cause of death K/A

TYP. hmp
 CKR. HMP

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

(a) Grave No. 191 Row ----- Plot 4 Sec. 51 TYP. hmp
 (b) Emerg. Address Mrs. M. A. Coffman, (Mother) New Cambria, Mo.

III. Files of soldiers lying from contagious diseases / / CKR. _____

IV. A. G. O. DISPOSITION CARD:

Date of receipt _____

(a) Name Mr + Mrs M Coffman (b) Relationship parents
 (c) Address New Cambria, Mo. P#2
 (d) Remains to be brought to U. S.? No
 (e) To be interred in National Cemetery in U. S. at _____
 (f) Shipping instructions upon arrival of body in U. S. _____
 (g) Disposition instructions if not brought to U. S. _____

Examiner's Initials PF Date 4-23, 1920.

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

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

Examiner's Initials PF Date 4-23, 1920.

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

No request for disposition

(a) Cancellation memos referred to? Yes PF

Examiner's Initials PF Date 4-23, 1920.

COUNTRY FRANCE CEMETERY No. 1232 Sec. 51 SHEET No. 31

Discrepancies

Name

Rank

Serial No.

Org.

Remarks

Futterly

A.G.O. Card & Corr.

4-23-21

Discrepancies

Name

Rank

Serial NO.

Org.

Remarks

G. R. S. Corr.

Discrepancies

Name

Rank

Serial No.

Org.

Remarks

Checkers

Discrepancies

Name

Rank

Serial no.

Org.

Remarks

*Checked
10-4-26-21*

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date Oct. 29, 1921.

1. REMAINS OF COFFMAN RALPH L. SERIAL NUMBER 794687

RANK: Sgt. ORGANIZATION Co., B. 15th M. G. BN.

2. Disinterred (date): Oct. 29, 1921. From (give complete location):

Gr. 191 sec 51 pt 4 Cem., #1232.

By: Group 10 Unit Sec. 1

3. Reburied (date): Oct. 29, 1921. In (give complete location):

Meuse-Argonne Cem. #1232, Gr. 38, Bl. D, Row 44.

By: Group Reburial S. Unit Nature of reburial Unlined Casket.

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

wooden box, burlap and uniform. body badly decomposed features unrecognizable.

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

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

tag on body reads: "M. B. B. Inf report of disinterment and reburial dated 7-19-21. Sgt. chevrons found on sleeve. collar ornament reads: "M. B. B. Inf report of disinterment and reburial dated 7-19-21."

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

(a) Height (actual measurement) Imp to det.

(b) Weight (estimated) do

(c) Hair—Color do

Quantity do

Characteristics do

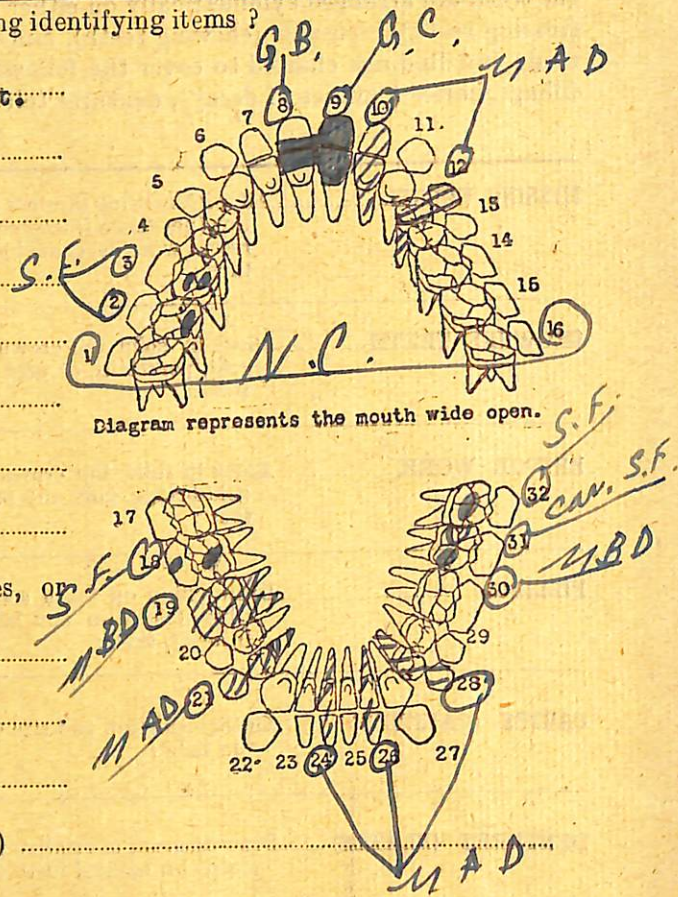
(d) Hair on face—Color do

Location do

Quantity dk

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

(f) Wounds or missing parts (received at time of casualty) None visible



7. Disinterment supervised by G. S. Wright S. E.

Approved: H. S. Harpole 1st. Lt. QMC (Title)

8. Reburial supervised by A. U. Dufault Concentration

Approved: James W. Younger, Capt. QMC, USA. (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.



To be prepared in triplicate.

DATE Oct 29 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 COFFMAN, RALPH L
 2. No. 794687
 3. Rank Sgt.
 4. Org. Co. B 15th MGR
 5. D.D. 11-4-18
 6. C.D. KIA

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

Discrepancy found upon disinterment

7. Grave No. 191 Sec. 51
 8. Plot 4 Row _____
 9. _____

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

18. Cemetery Meuse Argonne Amer.

19. Commune or town Romagne-sous-Montfaucon

20. Dept. or County Meuse

21. Country France

22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. 1232 - Sec. 51

23. Disinterred (Date) Oct 29 1921

By G S Wright

24. Inscription on grave marker:

Name Ralph L. Coffman

Serial No. 794687

Rank Sgt

Organization Co B 15 MG Bn

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

C. T. Brown
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).

Tag on body reads ----H.L. Co----687. Sgt Chevrons on uniform. Collar ornament reads MG B Inf. Report of disinterment and reburial dated 7-19-21

27. Condition of body Badly decomposed, features unrecognizable

28. Nature of burial Wooden box, burlap uniform.

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

None

30. Body prepared and placed in casket: Date Oct 29 1921 By G S Wright

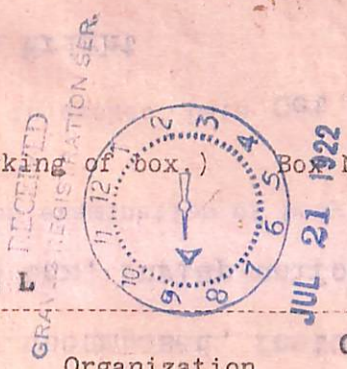
AUDITED BY

31. Casket sealed by G S Wright

Signature of Embalmer, (Supervisor) G S Wright

SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. **C-13953**

32. Designation of body:
Name **Coffman, Ralph L** Serial No. **794687**
Rank **Sgt.** Organization **Co. B 15th MGB**



33. Consigned to:
Name of Permanent Cemetery **Meuse Argonne Amer. Cty. #1232. Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse**

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) **Oct 29 1921** By **G S Wright**

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 **H S Harpole, 1st Lt QMC**

36. Remarks

37. Shipped from point of Operation: (Date) **Oct 29 1921**

To point of Concentration **Morgue Romagne**

Convoyer **W J Royed** Signature Shipping Officer **G F Spann, Capt. QMC**

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 Signature Shipping Officer

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

41. Reinterred **Oct. 29. 1921. Meuse-Argonne Cem. #1232.**

42. Grave No. **38.** (Date)
43. ~~Plot~~ **Block D.** Row **44.** Section

G.R.S. Representative **JAMES W. YOUNGER, Captain. QMC. USA.**

60572

8 APR 1947

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

COFFMAN 794687 Ralph L

(Surname). (Number). (First Name and Initials).

Sgt. Co B 15th M.G. Bn.

(Rank). (Organization).

PLACE OF DEATH:

CAUSE OF DEATH:

DATE OF BURIAL:

PLACE OF BURIAL:

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

FILE

(Meuse)

Brussels-sur-Meuse

230 35 NE

GRAVE NUMBER:

HOW MARKED: Name Peg? Cross?

Headboard? Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body?

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

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

NEAREST RELATIVE:

ADDRESS:

Communal List No. 230-2641
Daily Report No. _____



G. R. O. FORM NO. 12

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

FROM : ADJUTANT GENERAL.

TO : C.O., Co. B, 15th M.G. Btn.

SUBJECT : Information for burial Register.

1. You are directed to transmit without delay to the Chief, Graves Registration Service, the information indicated on enclosed Graves Location Blank as necessary for the completion of official records.

By Command of General Pershing:

Robert C. Davis
Adjutant General.

Note:

In case this item is checked, you will note hereon:

Nearest relative of deceased:

Relationship: _____



1st Ind.

C.O., Co. "B" 15th M.G. Bn., A.P.O. #745, American E.F. 18th March 1919. To The
Adjutant General, G.H.Q., A.E.F. Returned.

1. Sgt. Ralph L. Coffman (794687) was killed by machine gun bullets on Nov.
5th, 1918. on the right bank of the Meuse River across from Briuelles, France.

2. The date and place of his burial is not known here.

Geo. W. Griner

Geo. W. Griner
Captain 15th M.G. Bn.

Received
A. G. O.

21 MARS 1919

G. H. Q. A. E. F.

Stout

LT

✓



RECEIVED
MAR 24 1903
O. C. Q. M.
G. P. S.

RECEIVED
MAR 24 1903
O. C. Q. M.
G. P. S.