

gr.

284

G.R.S. Form #114-B

To The A. G. O.

5629

JAN 21 1926

DATE

1. NAME COUCH, William R.

SERIAL No. 729882

RANK Pvt.

ORGANIZATION Sup. Co. 64th CAC.

GRAVE LOCATION Amer. Cty., ANGERS, (Maine et Loire).

297

CTY. NAME

NUMBER

143

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

2. ORIGINAL BATTLE AREA GRAVE LOCATION

143

ANGERS

M. & L.

As shown on GRS Form 1- A dated 9/29/19

GRAVE

COMMUNE

DEPT.

COORDINATES

None given

CONCENTRATED TO Nothing of record

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

CEMETERY

CTY. NUMBER

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

Nothing of record

DATE OF DEATH

Oct 7, 1918

STATE FROM WHICH HE CAME

Texas

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS AWARDED

SUBSEQUENT REBURIALS

Nothing of record

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

CEMETERY

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

CEMETERY

SIGNATURE, AREA SUPERVISOR

Stanley J. Grogan
STANLEY J. GROGAN, Captain, Infantry.

3. FINAL GRAVE LOCATION August 9, 1922

4

35

Block D

DATE

GRAVE

ROW

PLOT

Oise-Aisne American Cemetery #608, Seringes-et-Nesles (Aisne)

CEMETERY

AUDITED BY

A. G. O.
JAN 23 1926
WORLD WAR DIV.

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.



✓

CODE SLIP

HEADING	SUB HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE
NAME	Couch,	3	35-1 ⁰⁻¹⁷
	William		
BURIED	R.		
	CEMETERY 608	1	2
	GRAVE 4	2	04
	ROW 35	2	35
	BLOCK 4	1	4
STATE	Texas	2	50
RANK	Private	1	2
DIVISION	Q AC	2	48
ORGANIZATION	64th	3	064
ARM	Regt	1	1
MARITAL	NO	1	2
NAME	Harris	3	818 ⁰
	Mrs. Posa		
RESIDENCE	STATE Texas	2	50
	COUNTY Leon	2	45
	CITY Oakwood	3	XXX
RELATION	mother	1	/
OTHER		1	
ELIGIBILITY	yes	1	
NATIVITY		1	/
RACE		1	
ENGLISH	yes	1	/
ATTENDANT		1	
HEALTH	good	1	/
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF TRIP	NO.	1	
	YR.	1	
ACCEPTANCE	no age	1	
29/514/EAB			270

AUDITED
 DEC 17 1931

IMMEDIATE ACTION

IN REPLY
REFER TO

QM 293 A-M

WAR DEPARTMENT

Couch William R (OA)

OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

October 13, 1932

Mrs Rosa Harrison
Oakwood
Texas

SPECIAL

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

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

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

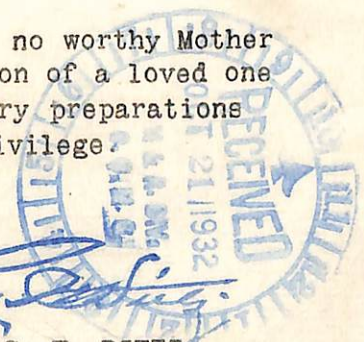
This reply will assure your Government that no worthy Mother or Widow has failed to receive its offer in commemoration of a loved one departed, and will greatly assist in making the necessary preparations for those of them who wish to take advantage of the privilege.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,



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



WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M
Couch, William R. OA

September 6, 1932.

Mrs. Rosa Harrison,
Oakwood,
Texas.

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

Couch, William R. (OA)

July 11, 1932.

Mrs. Rosa Harrison,
Oakwood,
Texas.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

2 Encls.

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

(Write answer here)

(Sign here) _____

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M
Couch, William R. O-A M₂

October 2, 1931

Mrs. Rosa Harrison,
Oakwood, Texas

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?	NO
2. Please state your age and condition of health:	Age: 70 Health: Good
3. Do you speak English?	Yes
4. What other language do you speak?	None

Mrs Rosa Harrison
Sign here
Mrs Rosa Harrison

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

June 20, 1931

Couch, William R. Pvt.(OA) M

Mrs. Rosa Harrison,
Oakwood, Texas.

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-C

June 7, 1930.

Couch, William R. - 608 M

^{R.}
Mrs. Rosa Harrison,
Oakwood, Texas.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,



Very truly yours,

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

DO YOU DESIRE TO MAKE THE PILGRIMAGE DURING THE YEAR 1931? no

(Write answer here)

Mrs. Rosa Harrison
(Sign here)

✓

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C
Couch, William R. 608 M

October 7, 1929.

Mrs. Posa Harrison,
Oakwood, Texas.

Dear Madam:

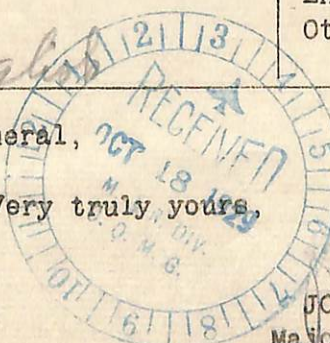
The Act of Congress which provides for pilgrimages to cemeteries in Europe by mothers and widows of members of the military or naval forces of the United States who died in the military or naval service at any time between April 5, 1917 and July 1, 1921, and whose remains are now interred in such cemeteries, 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)	<i>no</i>
2. Do you desire to make the pilgrimage in the calendar year 1930?	(Yes)	(No)	<i>no</i>
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)	<i>no</i>
4. Please give your age and state of health.	Age	Health	(Years) <i>68</i> (Good) <i>yes</i> (Poor) <i>no</i>
5. What language do you speak?	English -	(Yes) <i>yes</i>	(No) <i>no</i> (Specify language spoken)

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,



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

Encl.
Act
Envelope

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Couch, William R.

July 31, 1929.

Mrs. Posa Harrison,
Oakwood, Tex.

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 Pvt. William R. Couch, Supply Co. 64th C.A.C., whose remains are interred in the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery, Seringes-et-Nesles, Aisne, 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?

Was never married

2. If so, give her complete address.

None
No I do not feel able to take the trip.

3. Will you make the pilgrimage?

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

June 24, 1929.
XC 67 322

Couch, William R.

Mrs. W. R. Hess,
R. F. D. # 1,
Reagan, Texas.

(M) Mrs Posa Harrison
Oakwood, Tex.

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 Pvt. William R. Couch, Supply Co. 64th C.A.C., whose remains are interred in the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery, Seringes-et-Nesles, 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,

J. T. Harris

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
Couch, William R. OA

September 6, 1932.

Mrs. Rosa Harrison,
Oakwood,
Texas.

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

Couch, William R. (OA)

July 11, 1932.

Mrs. Rosa Harrison,
Oakwood,
Texas.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

2 Encls.

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

(Write answer here)

(Sign here) _____

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

October 2, 1931

~~PLEASE REFER TO~~ QM 293 A-M

kv

Mrs. Rosa Harrison,
Oakwood, Texas

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

IN REPLY REFER TO QM-293-AM
Couch, William R. Pvt.(OA) M

June 20, 1931

Mrs. Rosa Harrison,
Oakwood, Texas.

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

0135

JUN - 22 AM 11:45
COR MG

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

June 7, 1930.

Couch, William R. - 608 M

Mrs. Posa Harrison,
Oakwood, Texas.

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
Couch, William R. 608 M

October 7, 1929.

Mrs. Posa Harrison,
Oakwood, Texas.

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

Couch, William R.

July 31, 1929.

**Mrs. Posa Harrison,
Oakwood, Tex.**

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 **Pvt. William R. Couch, Supply Co. 64th C.A.C., whose remains are interred in the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery, Seringes-et-Nesles, Aisne, 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

June 24 , 1929.

Couch, William R.

Mrs. W. R. Hess,
R. F. D. # 1,
Reagan, Texas.

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 Pvt. William R. Couch, Supply Co. 64th C.A.C., whose remains are interred in the Oise-Aisne American Cemetery, Seringes-et-Nesles, 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.

QM 293 A-C

April 25, 1924

COUCH, William R., Pvt.

Mrs. Posie Harrison,
Oakwood,
Texas.

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

Please be assured that in effecting removal of the dead, the utmost reverential care was exercised and more than willingly accorded 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,

R. P. HARBOLD
Assistant.

1-Incl.
Record card.

MPK
701

APR 25 1924
P.

Couch, William R.

(Surname.)

(Christian name in full.)

729,882

(Army serial number.)

Pvt. Sup Co. 64th CAC

(Rank and organization.)

State your relationship to the deceased.

Do you desire the remains brought to the United States?

(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)

(Number and street or rural route.)

(City, town, or post office.)

(State.)

Read carefully the letter accompanying this card.

G.R.S. Form No. 115

COUNTRY FRANCE

Cemetery No. 297

Sheet No. 68

File No. 33413

COMPILATION N/R REQUESTS

*2/10/22 Examined
for Concentration
Camp - Aisne 608
at 3/6/22*

I. DATA COMPILATION

A. Location Index Card:-

(1) Name Couch, William R. Ser. No. 729882

TYP. TW.

(2) Rank Pvt. Organization Supply Co. 64th CAC

CKR. MCH

(3) Date of death 10/7/18

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

(4) Cause of death Broncho Pneumonia

TYP. TW.

(5) Grave No. 143 Row -- Plot -- Sect. --

CKR. TH

II. FILES EXAMINATION

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

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

(6) Relationship No card in file # 711 4-23-20

(7) Name _____

(8) Address _____

(9) Desires remains brought to U. S.? _____

(10) Desires remains brought to U. S. and interred in National Cemetery at _____

(11) If brought back, what shipping instructions? _____

C. A. G. O. CORRESPONDENCE Date of communication _____

(12) Does correspondence Change or qualify request as made on A.G.O. card? If so, specify such information. _____

(13) A. G. O. Files EXAMINED by FB (Date) 4-24-20

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

No request for disposition
E. A. - Mother - Mrs. W. R. Hess, P. E. 204,
Beagan, Texas

(15) G. R. S. Files EXAMINED by _____ (Date) 4-24-20

(over)

Rechecked
7mm. 12-13-20

III. FINAL ACTION

A. MEMORANDUM to D. M. O. in E. made (Date)

(16) Removal of Remains (within custody of G.R.S.) to

(17) Instructions that remains be left undisturbed

(18) Typed by Checked by (Date)

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

(19) Typed by Checked by (Date)

C. SUSPENSION REMARKS:

Form 120, 8-19-20 from Mrs Posie Harrison
mother changes address to Oakwood, Texas
& desires body of son to remain in Europe
H 8-26-20-P

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

Approved by

(Date)

8/30/20 MRD gin
Mrs Posie Harrison, mother
Oodg. Texas

gr.

G.R.S. FORM #114-A.

STATION **Angers #297**

To be prepared in triplicate.

DATE **Dec. 5, 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 **COUCH, William R.**

10. Name

2. No. **729882**

11. No.

3. Rank **Pvt.**

12. Rank

4. Org. **Sup.Co.64th CAC.**

13. Org.

5. D.D. **Oct.7th. 1918**

14. (a) D.D.

6. C.D. **Influenza & Broncho Pneumonia**

(b) D.B.

Discrepancy found upon disinterment

7. Grave No. **143** Sec.

15. Grave No. Sec.

8. Plot Row

16. Plot Row

9.

17. **No discp**

18. Cemetery **Amer.**

19. Commune or town **ANGERS**

20. Dept. or County **Maine et Loire**

21. Country **France**

22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. **297**

23. Disinterred (Date) **12-5-21**

By **B.A. Bradford**

24. Inscription on grave marker:

Name **William R. Couch**

Serial No. **729882**

Rank **Pvt.**

Organization **Sup:Co. 64th CAC**

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

E. S. Parker
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).

Disc only.

27. Condition of body **Badly decomposed features unrecognizable**

28. Nature of burial **Uniform and wooden box.**

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 **12-5-21** By **B.A. Bradford**

31. Casket sealed by **B.A. Bradford**

AUDITED Signature of Embalmer, (Supervisor

Ben A Bradford

202-1-9-21

SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box.) Box No. C-22717

32. Designation of body:

Name William R. COUCH Serial No. 729882
Rank Pvt. Organization Sup. Co. 64th CAC.

33. Consigned to:

Name of Permanent Cemetery Oise-Aisne Amer. Cty. 608,
Seringes-et-Nesles (Aisne).

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) 12-5-21 By B.A. Bradford

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 *E. J. Riordan*
E. J. Riordan, Capt. Q.M.C.

36. Remarks _____

37. Shipped from point of Operation: (Date) _____

To point of Concentration _____ (Name)

Convoyer _____ 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 Oise Aisne, Am. Cty 608 Seringes et Nesles, Aisne
(Name)

Convoyer *C. J. Blake* Signature Shipping Officer *S. D. Campbell*
S. D. CAMPBELL, Capt. Q.M.C.

40. Received: Date 12 DEC 1921

G.R.S. Representative G. F. WAUGH

41. Reinterred Aug. 9, 1922, Oise-Aisne Cem. 608, Seringes et Nesles (Aisne)
(Date)

42. Grave No. 4 Section ----

43. -Plot BLOCK Row D 35

G.R.S. Representative *C. J. Blake*
C. J. Blake
Capt., Q.M.C.

tab

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Place

Date Dec. 5th, 1921

1. REMAINS OF ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ SERIAL NUMBER 729882
RANK COUCH, William R. ORGANIZATION Sup. Co. 64th C. A. C.
RANK Pvt.

2. Disinterred (date) : Dec. 5th, 1921 From (give complete location) : Gr. 143, Cem. 297

By : Group 1 Unit Sec. 7

3. Reburied (date) Aug. 9, 1922 In (give complete location) : Gr. 4, Block D, Row 35, Oise-Aisne Cem. 608, Seringes et Nesles (Aisne)

By : Group re-burial group Unit ----- Nature of reburial Lined casket

4. Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon disinterment :
Pine box and uniform. badly decomposed, features not recognizable.

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

(b) Other means of identification found upon disinterment, and general remarks :
Disc on ly.

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

(a) Height (actual measurement) Impossible to determine

(b) Weight (estimated) Impossible to estimate

(c) Hair—Color None

Quantity

Characteristics

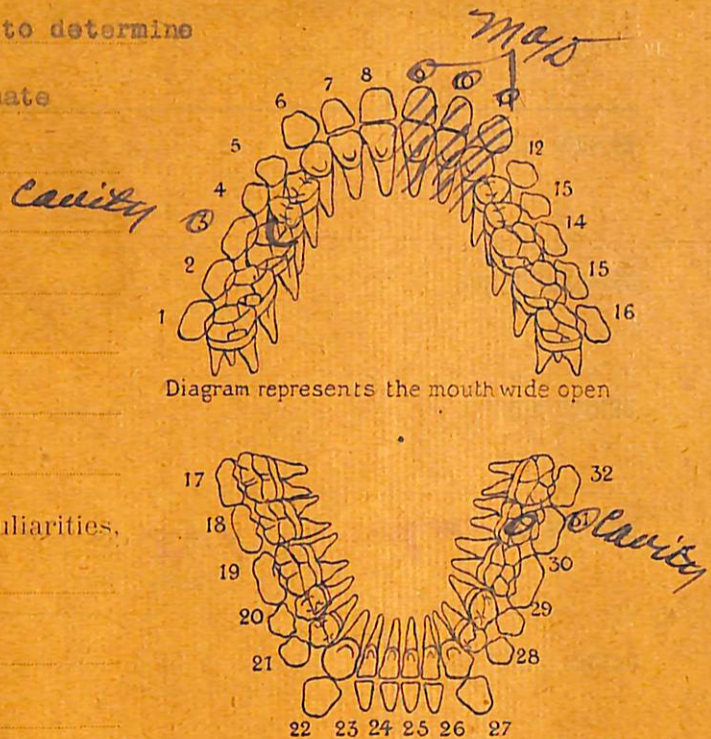
(d) Hair on face—Color None

Location

Quantity

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

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



E. S. Parker, checker.




7. Disinterment supervised by Ben A. Bradford Approved : E. J. Jordan
Ben A. Bradford, Sup. Amb. E. J. Jordan, Capt., MC.
(Title)

8. Reburial supervised by L. D. Hays Approved : C. J. Blake
L. D. Hays C. J. Blake
(Title) Capt., OMC.

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

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

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

MISSING TEETH	All teeth missing through previous extraction (not those fractured or displaced by recent wounds) should be scratched out, thus:	
CROWNED TEETH	Block in solid the crown of tooth (label gold, porcelain, or gold and porcelain), thus:	
BRIDGE WORK	Block in solid the crown of tooth (label gold bridge, gold and porcelain bridge) thus:	
FILLINGS	Draw filling on tooth accurately as possible (block in and label gold, silver, cement), thus:	
CARIES (CAVITIES)	Outline location and size of cavity, shade in thus:	
DENTURES (PLATES)	Draw diagram of relative size and shape of plate block in teeth attached and indicate retaining clasps on natural teeth with the word "clasp"	

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

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

Miss Greenberg

C 67320
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
CEMETERIAL DIVISION
OVERSEAS PROJECT SUB-SECTION.

Rush

NAME OF DECEASED SOLDIER

CEMETERY NO.

DATE

Conch, William R., Pvt.

297 - 68

July 22, 1920

SERIAL NUMBER

ORGANIZATION

729882

Supply Co. 64th CAC (Date of death 10/7/18)

WAR RISK INSURANCE INFORMATION

DATE Aug. 2, 1920

NAME OF BENEFICIARY

**Mrs. Posie Harrison
Dodge, Texas**

RELATIONSHIP

Mother

Address: _____

NS-8438/JC



G.R.S. Form #120
Shipping Inquiry.

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

tvh

APR 30 1920

FROM: Chief, Graves Registration Service, G.M.C.
TO: Mrs. W. R. Hess, R.F.D.#1, Reagan, Texas
SUBJECT: Disposition of remains of Pvt. William R. Couch

Records of this office show your request to be as follows:

Remains to be ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ not expressed ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Shipped to.....

If any modifications of the foregoing are desired please write same fully on the other side of this sheet.

The nearest living relative may choose between, (1) return of remains to home for burial; (2) interment in Arlington, Va., National Cemetery; or (3) remain in France.

You are requested to fill out the following without delay and return in enclosed penalty envelope, which does not require postage.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:
CHARLES C. PIERCE
Colonel, U.S. Army.

NAME OF	NO. & STREET	TOWN	STATE
Widow			
Children(Name of last first)			
Father			
Mother			
Brothers			
Sisters			

unclaimed

Date..... Signature.....

Address..... Relationship.....

The transfer of bodies will be made entirely at government expense.

Correct

AUG 6 1920

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

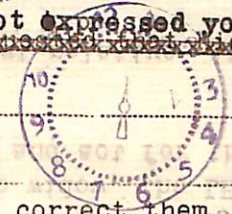
FROM: Chief, Graves Registration Service, Q.M.C.

TO: Mrs. Posie Harrison, ^{oakwood} Dodge, Texas

SUBJECT: Remains of Pvt. William R. Couch, Supply Co. 64th OAC, Ser. #729882

Rush Answer
change in address v. k.
METEMERAL DIVISION
OVERSEAS SECTION

The records of this office show that you have ~~not expressed your~~ ~~requested that his body~~
(desire as to disposition of remains.)



Remain in Europe

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

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

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

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

filed on
Form 114
8-26-20-100

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

NAME OF	NO. & STREET	TOWN	STATE
Soldier's Widow	Not married		
Soldier's Children (Name oldest first)	1. 2. 3. None		
Father	Deceased		
Mother	Mrs. Posie Harrison	Oakwood	Texas
1.	H. P. Glover	Oakwood,	Texas
2.	L. O. Cahill	Elkhart	Texas
Brothers (Name oldest first)	3.		
1.	Mrs. Maude Heatley	Dodge	Texas
2.	Mrs. Carrie Cook	Kosse	Texas
Sisters (Name oldest first)	3.		

Date August 19, 1920

Signature *Posie Harrison*

Address Oakwood, Texas

Relationship Mother

IMPORTANT: CAREFULLY read instructions before filling out this paper.

(OVER)

Oakwood, Texas, August 19 1920.

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



1. ~~As stated on first page of this sheet~~
2. ~~To be returned to the U.S. and shipped to~~ _____
(Name)
_____ (R.R. Station) _____ (State)
3. ~~To be returned to the U.S. and buried in~~ _____ National Cemetery
4. To remain in Europe, for burial in a permanent American Cemetery.

Signature Wm. Howard Johnson

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT

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



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

93-755

33413

1. G. R. S. Form No. 1. Ho G. R. S. File

2. Soldier's No. 729882.

3. Couch. William R.
Surname (in block letters) First Name and Initials

4. Pvt. Sup. 64 C.A.C.
Rank Company Regt. or Corps

5. Oct. 7, 1918. Pneumonia.
Date of Death Cause, if known

6. Oct. 9, 1918. American Cemetery.
Date of Burial Cemetery

7. Angers, France. Maine et Loire
Town or Commune (in block letters) Department

8. 143 A.C.
Grave No. Plot No. or Letter

9. Name Peg? YES Cross? NO Headboard? NO Bottle? NO.
Check Method of Marking

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

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

.....

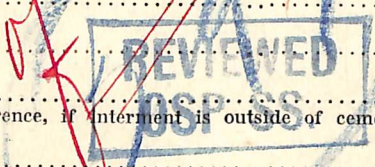
12. Map Reference, if interment is outside of cemetery

.....

13. J. R. Cox. Chaplain.
Give name of Chaplain or Burial Officer

Signed James R. Cox Chaplain

Group..... Unit..... G. R. S.



112 OCT 20 1918

File 33413

Reg. Co. ^{March} // 1919

G.R.S. Form No. 8; Cont. 1 Records Liaison.
Memo For: G.R.S. representative, C.R.C.
SUBJECT: Information required for G.R.S.

1. Items checked are to be completed:

- Surname: Couch
- Number: 729882
- First name: William R;
- Rank: Pvt,
- Company: Co Supply
- Organization: 64th Coast Artillery
- Date of death: Oct, 7th 1918
- Cause:
- Place:

Location of hospital:

- Number " "
- Class " "
- Relative: Mrs. W.R. Hess
- Relationship: Mother
- Address: RD#1, Reagan, Texas

- Authority:
- Cablegram No: 279
- Telegram from:

dated:

- Reported to Washington:
- C.C. Nos:
- (UnderSCORE the "official" C.C.)

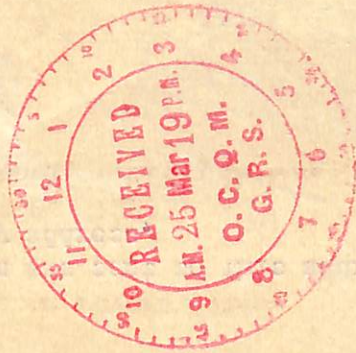
- Remarks:
- Show present status on reverse side.

Burial notification was sent to this address and returned, verify address.

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

Initials of Reporter: *D.*





THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT
OTTAWA

FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT
OTTAWA

NEW YORK
JAMES H. HARRIS
100 WALL STREET
NEW YORK

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT
OTTAWA



WAR DEPARTMENT

GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE
American Expeditionary Forces

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

*Return
address
not known*



2nd Lieut., Q. M. Corps, USA,

Not 1

Mrs. W. R. Hess,
R. F. D. No. 1,
Reagan, Texas.

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



*File
33413*

REACAN
FEB
10 PM
1919
TEX

REACAN
FEB
10 PM
1919
TEX

33413

Couch W. R. #729882

Pvt. Sup. 64th CAC

DD 10/7/18

Buried American Cemetery at Angers

Grave 143

297

B-581

Couch, William R.

729,882

Div. Sup Co. 64CAC.

F. a. on letter Reel.

Mrs. Posie Couch

RFD#1 Box 38.

Reagan, Tex.

"not known"

2. Co. file

Same E. a.

3. Carres File

Teleg was sent to
same E. a. Not returned.

P. G. shows Reagan,
Texas and in Tenn,
also Reagan Wells,
Texas.

RECEIVED
MAY 24 1919
RECEIVED
INCL

E. a.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300.



13
Address not known

25 Received A G O, APR 25 1919

Received Enlisted Division
MAY 24 1919

THRIVE by THRIFT
Buy War Savings Stamps



XX

AGO
RECEIVED
MAY 24 1919

Not 1

Couch, William R. - Deceased.

33413

WAR DEPARTMENT.
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON.

MAR 20 1919

AGO CAPT
RETURNED
UNCLAIMED

Mrs. Posie Couch,
R F D 1, Box 38,
Reagan, Tex.

Dear Madam:

The War Department desires to ascertain the wishes of the families of officers, enlisted men, and civilian employees regarding the permanent disposition of the bodies of those who have died overseas.

The original plan of the Department was to deliver the body in every case at the home address of the deceased to the person legally entitled to dispose of the remains. A desire has been expressed, however, in numerous instances to have the body remain abroad, and General Pershing is likely soon to enter into negotiations with the French and Allied Governments with the view of establishing permanent cemeteries for members of the American Expeditionary Forces. Marshal Petain in a most courteous letter has informed General Pershing that "France would be happy and proud to retain the bodies of the American victims who have fallen upon her soil."

A bill is now before Congress for the establishment of "Fields of Honor" abroad, which will insure future care by the United States Government as national cemeteries are now cared for. Burials have been made heretofore in cemeteries of the Allied nations or at or near the battle field in land set apart for this purpose as a cemetery, and religious services in accordance with the rites of the Protestant, Catholic, or Hebrew faith have been held at the grave.

In case the remains of a deceased soldier are returned to the United States they will be interred either at the former home of the deceased or at a national cemetery, according to the wishes of the one authorized to direct the disposition of the remains, and all expenses, including transportation, casket, shipping case, flag, and the preparation of the remains for shipment, will be paid by the United States. Hire of a hearse and other burial expenses incurred at the home of the deceased may be paid, on application by the relatives, by the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, Treasury Department.

In order that the proper disposition of the remains may be made, and that such disposition be directed by the person entitled to do so, the War Department will recognize the right to direct the disposition of remains in the following order:

In the case of an unmarried man—

- (1) Father; (2) mother, if father is dead; (3) brother, if both parents are dead; (4) sister, if both parents are dead and there are no brothers.

In the case of a married man—

- (1) Wife; (2) parents or children and other relatives in order set forth above.

It is desired that the information indicated on the inclosed card be furnished concerning the person named thereon at the earliest practicable date. If the card is received by some one not authorized to direct the disposition to be made of the remains, please deliver this circular and the card to the person who is entitled to do so.

The Department is unable to state when it will be possible to begin the removal of the remains of the soldiers, but the information requested is being collected at this time in order that there may be no delay when the time comes for such removal.

In returning the card please use the inclosed addressed penalty envelope, which requires no postage.

Very respectfully,

P. C. HARRIS,
The Adjutant General.