

Couchman,

Randall

1,044,624 ✓

(Surname.)

(Christian name in full.)

(Army serial number.)

Mech.

Bat ty E. 19 F.A.

(Rank and organization.)

State your relationship to the deceased

Mother

Do you desire the remains brought to the United States?

No

(Yes or no.)

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

(Yes or no.)

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

(Name of person to receive remains.)

(Express office.)

(Telegraph office.)

(Number and street.)

(City or town.)

(State.)

(Sign here)

Mrs Effie Couchman

302

S. Elm St., Three Oaks Michigan

(Number and street or rural route.)

(City, town, or post office.)

(State.)

Read carefully the letter accompanying this card.

Drawn by MICS

10-20-20

582-9

checked

psb/10/27/20

G.R.S. Form #114-B

9932

306
293

FULL NAME COUCHMAN, Randall

RANK Mech; SERIAL :1044624

DIVISION & ORGANIZATION ^{By} Co. E, 19th F.A. 5 Div.

DATE OF DEATH Aug. 27, 1918

STATE FROM WHICH HE CAME Mich

MEDALS OR DECORATIONS AWARDED:

none

FINAL GRAVE LOCATION
Date Grave Row Block

Meuse-Argonne, #1232

Cemetery

Robert C. Davis,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.
By *CRB*

WS 4-13-24

23/306/ARK

2. A. G. O.
AUG 11 1926
WORLD WAR DIV.

Rec'd World War Div.
APR 4 1928

AUG 14 1926

Received
AUG 16 26
M. & R. BRANCH
O. Q. M. G.

Bat. E. 19th F.A.
5th Division

COUCHMAN, Randall, Mech. IO44624

On August 25th, 1918 near Raon l'Etape, Sgt Lukas was riding in the rear of the wagon that Mechanic Couchman was riding on. Mech. Couchman had dismounted as the wagon was going up a hill and at the top it is evident that he tried to mount the wagon and fell and the front wheel passed over him. He was unconscious and recognized no one.

Informant: Lukas, Anton V. S. Sgt, IO44688
Bat. E. 19th F.A.

Home: Taylor, Wisconsin.

Emergency address:
Mrs Effice Couchman,
305 E. Sample St,
Three Oaks, Mich.

S/A

Fifth Division Statistical Records: Died Aug. 27, 1918 from wounds received in action of Aug 23rd, 1918 by moving truck.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON July 27, 1922.

*File
ACK*

FILE: 293.8 C-R - #19641

SUBJECT: Permanent Grave Location of Mechanic Randall Couchman,
Co. E. 19th Field Artillery.

TO: Mrs. Effie Couchman, 302 E. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich.

1. The permanent grave of this soldier is No. 16 Row 23
Block F, The American Cemetery of the Meuse-Argonne at Romagne-sous-
Montfaucon. Department of the Meuse. France.

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

3. In effecting removal, the utmost care and reverence were
exacted and more than willingly 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.

For the Quartermaster General:

MAILED

JUL 27 1922

G.R.S.

GEORGE H. PENROSE,
Assistant.

DATE _____

1. NAME COUCHMAN, Randall SERIAL No. 1044624

RANK Mechanic ORGANIZATION Co.E. 19th F.A.

GRAVE LOCATION French Communal Cty. 582, BRUYERES, Vosges, France.

CTY. NAME _____ NUMBER _____

12

GRAVE _____ ROW _____ PLOT _____

2. ORIGINAL BATTLE AREA GRAVE LOCATION 362 Bruyeres Vosges

GRAVE _____ COMMUNE _____ DEPT. _____

COORDINATES E.425.05 N.156.74 Map Epinal N.E.85

CONCENTRATED TO Jan. 24, 1921 12

DATE _____ GRAVE _____ ROW _____ PLOT _____

French Commun. Cty. Bruyeres 582

CEMETERY _____ CTY. NUMBER _____

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

Ident. tag found on body. Per GRS Form 16-A Jan. 24, 1921. signed Orville Davis, 2nd Lt. QMC.

SUBSEQUENT REBURIALS None

DATE _____ GRAVE _____ ROW _____ PLOT _____ CEMETERY _____

2/1

DATE _____ GRAVE _____ ROW _____ PLOT _____ CEMETERY _____

SIGNATURE, AREA SUPERVISOR _____

Stanley J. Grogan
STANLEY J. GROGAN, Capt. Inf. USA.

3. FINAL GRAVE LOCATION 10/14/21 16 23 F.

DATE _____ GRAVE _____ ROW _____ PLOT Block _____

Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery #1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon (Meuse).
CEMETERY _____

YG *Audited by*
CB/6 4/20/22

Place Brueveres (Vosges)

REPORT OF DISINTERMENT AND REBURIAL

Date September 16, 1921.

1. REMAINS OF COUCHMAN Randall SERIAL NUMBER 1044624
RANK Mech. ORGANIZATION Co. E. 19th F.A.

2. Disinterred (date) : September 16, 1921. From (give complete location) : Grave No. 12 Cemetery 582
By : Group 2 Unit Sec. 5

3. Reburied (date) : Oct. 14, 1921. Meuse Argonne Cem. 1232, Row 23 B 1. F. Gr. 16. In (give complete location) :
By : Group Reburial Sec. Unit Nature of reburial unlined casket

4. Report as to nature of original burial and condition of body upon disinterment :
Badly decomposed, features unrecognizable, blanket and wooden box

5. (a) Identification tags : Buried with body ? Yes, two On grave marker ? no

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

Reburial record agrees with form 114-A

6. What does examination of body show as regards the following identifying items 1, 14, 17, 30 MBD
2, 3, 4, 5, 18, 19, 20 Temp. fil.

(a) Height (actual measurement) impossible to determine

(b) Weight (estimated) impossible to estimate

(c) Hair—Color undiscernable

Quantity -do

Characteristics -do

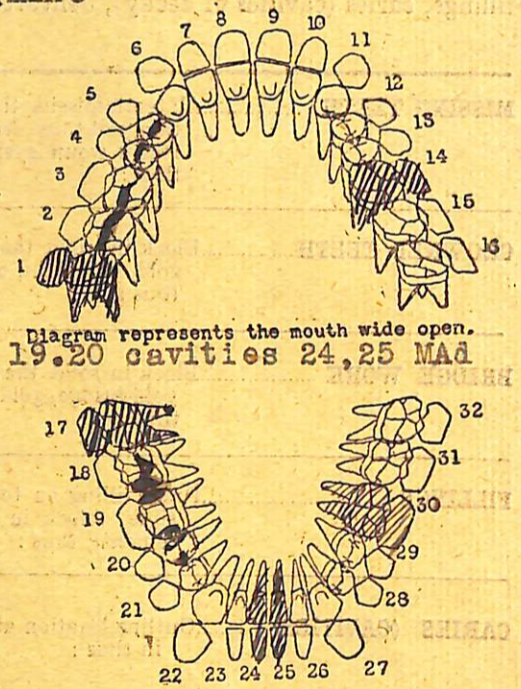
(d) Hair on face—Color -do

Location -do

Quantity -do

(e) Permanent marks on body (old scars, peculiarities, or missing parts) -do

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



Checker W O Rogers W.R.M.

7. Disinterment supervised by E. J. Frank Sup. Emb.

Approved : F. Overhiser
(Title) 1st Lieut QMC

8. Reburial supervised by W. B. SHEILD






Approved JAMES W. YOUNGER
(Title) CAPT. QMC

D-60263

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 144, 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.

<p>MISSING TEETH.....All teeth missing through previous extraction (not those fractured or displaced by recent wounds) should be scratched out, thus :</p>	 <p>TOOTH MISSING TOOTH MISSING</p>
<p>CROWNED TEETH.....Block in solid the crown of tooth (label gold, porcelain, or gold and porcelain), thus :</p>	 <p>GOLD CROWN PORCELAIN CROWN GOLD CROWN</p>
<p>BRIDGE WORK.....Block in solid the crown of tooth (label gold bridge, gold and porcelain bridge), thus :</p>	 <p>GOLD AND PORCELAIN BRIDGE GOLD BRIDGE</p>
<p>FILLINGS.....Draw filling on tooth accurately as possible (block in and label gold, silver, cement), thus :</p>	 <p>SILVER FILLING GOLD FILLING GOLD FILLING GOLD FILLING</p>
<p>CARIES (CAVITIES).....Outline location and size of cavity, shade in thus :</p>	 <p>CAVITY DECAYED DECAYED DECAYED</p>
<p>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."</p>	

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 Sept. 16th 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
Partly corroded tag on body reads,

1. Name COUCHMAN, Randall

10. Name "----chman".

2. No. 1044624

11. No. _____

3. Rank Mech.

12. Rank _____

4. Org. Co. E. 19th FA.

13. Org. _____

5. D.D. 8-27-18

14. (a) D.D. _____

6. C.D. DOW

(b) D.B. _____

Discrepancy found upon disinterment

7. Grave No. 12 Sec. _____

15. Grave No. _____ Sec. _____

8. Plot _____ Row _____

16. Plot _____ Row _____

9. _____

17. none

18. Cemetery Fr. Communal Cty.

19. Commune or town BRUYERES

20. Dept. or County Vosges

21. Country France

22. G.R.S. Hdqrs. Code No. 582

23. Disinterred (Date) Sept 16th 1921 By E. J. Frank

24. Inscription on grave marker:

Name Randall Couchman

Serial No. _____

Rank Mech.

Organization Co. E. 19 FA.

25. Was identification disc found on grave marker? no On body? yes (2)

E. J. Frank
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).

Reburial record agrees with form 114-A

27. Condition of body body decomposed, features unrecognizable.

28. Nature of burial wooden box and blanket.

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

30. Body prepared and placed in casket: Date Sept. 16th 1921 By E. J. Frank

31. Casket sealed by E. J. Frank

Signature of Embalmer, (Supervisor)

E. J. Frank
E. J. Frank



SHIPMENT. (Show actual marking of box) Box No. C-3124

32. Designation of body:

Name COUCHMAN, Randall Serial No. 1044624

Rank Mechanic Organization Co.E. 19th PA

33. Consigned to:

Name of Permanent Cemetery Argonne Amer. Cty. 1232, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon Meuse, France

34. Casket boxed and marked (Date) Sept 16th 1921 By H.J. Frank

35. I hereby certify that all the foregoing operations were conducted and accomplished under my immediate supervision and that the report above is correct.

Signature of G.R.S. Inspector F. Overheiser, 1st Lt. QMC

36. Remarks none

37. Shipped from point of Operation: (Date)

To point of Concentration

Convoyer _____ Signature Shipping Officer _____ (Name)

38. Received at Railhead or Point of Concentration: Date

By G.R.S. Representative

39. Shipped from Railhead or Point of Concentration: Date September 24, 1921.

To Permanent Cemetery 1232 Meuse Argonne, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon (Name)

Convoyer R E Williams Signature Shipping Officer F Overheiser, 1st Lt. QMC

40. Received: Date 12 7 SEP 1921

G.R.S. Representative James W. Younger

41. Reinterred Meuse Argonne Cem. 1232, Oct. 14, 1921.

42. Grave No. Row 23 Bl. F. Gr. 16. (Date) _____ Section _____

43. Plot _____ Row _____

G.R.S. Representative James W. Younger
JAMES W. YOUNGER
CAPT QMC

YG

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

(a) Name COUCHMAN, Randall Ser. No. 1044624
 (b) Rank Mech. Organization Co. E, 19th F. A.
 (c) Date of death 8-27-18 (d) Cause of death DMRFA

TYP. vbb
 CKR. vbb

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

(a) Grave No. 362 Row - Plot - Sec. - TYP. vbb

(b) Emerg. Address Mrs. Effie Couchman (mother) 305 E. Sample St.,
Three Oaks, Michigan.

III. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases - CKR. vbb

IV. A. G. O. DISPOSITION CARD:

Date of receipt None

(a) Name Mrs. Effie Couchman (b) Relationship Mother

(c) Address 302 W. Elm St. - Three Oaks - Mich.

(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 MKS Date 10-20, 1920.

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

_____, dated _____

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

no correspondence

Examiner's Initials MKS Date 10-20, 1920.

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

No request for disposition

(a) Cancellation memos referred to? yes 26 st.

Examiner's Initials 26 st Date 10-27, 1920.

COUNTRY FRANCE CEMETERY No. 582 SHEET No. 9

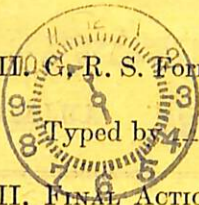
*checked
see 10/27/20*

*12/15/21 Letter from
Europe dated
10/1/21 cancelled
(AES 1-12)
No request for
Concentration memo Argentina
1232 - 10-26-20*

*1693
X*

CEMETERIAL DIVISION

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



Typed by _____, Checked by _____, 1920.

VIII. FINAL ACTION:

NOV 26 20

Following advice forwarded to Europe by

cable on _____, 1920

letter on **NOV 13 1920**, 1920

PARAGRAPH 2 - NOT TO BE RETURNED

yes

RECEIVED

JAN 6 1921

CEMETERIAL DIVISION
OVERSEAS DEPARTMENT

IX.

CORRECTIONS

CHANGE OF ADVICE.

ACTION TAKEN.

Desires body be _____

Body to be shipped to _____

X. SUSPENSION REMARKS:

Form 120, dated Dec 8, '20 from mother, N.K., confirms previous instructions. Body to remain in Europe - Mother's address - Mrs. Effie Couchman 302 So. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich. 1/22/21 - E.P. (Wash)

JAN 6 1921

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

CM

COMPILATION OF DISPOSITION OF REMAINS DATA

See 115
1-7-20 CES.

See 115
10-26-20

I. LOCATION INDEX CARD:

(a) Name COUCHMAN, Randall Ser. No. 1044624 TYP vbb
 (b) Rank Mech. Organization Co. B, 19th F. A. del
 (c) Date of death 8-27-18 Cause of death Fracture of ribs caused by fall from car. DWRIA 10/25

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

(a) Grave No. 362 Row - Plot - Sect. - TYP vbb
 (b) Emerg. Address Mrs. Effie Couchman (mother) 305 E. Sample St., Three Oaks, Michigan. 2/3

III. Files of soldiers dying from contagious diseases

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

A. G. O. card Mrs. Effie Couchman (mother) 302 S. Elm St. Three Oaks, Mich. requests that body be not returned. gsd. 11/16/20.

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

PARAGRAPH 2 - NOT TO BE RETURNED *gsd*

VI. Form 115 forwarded to G.R.S. Hoboken, N.J. NOV 23 1920 192

VII. SUPPLEMENTARY REQUESTS

Date of and Source	Relationship and name	Desires	Action taken

VIII. Form 115 received from G.R.S. Hoboken, N.J. JAN 6 1920 192

COUNTRY

CEMETERY NO.

SHEET NO.

U.S. FORM 115-A August, 1920

FRANCE

582

9

666/MB

Concentrated into P. A. C. 1232

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

FILE NUMBER

19641

FROM:-

File

DATE:

Please furnish information as indicated below regarding the following soldier:

NAME

COUCHMAN RANDALL

RANK

ORGANIZATION

19 F. 17.

NO.	QUESTION	REPLY	
1.	Do particulars of soldier given above agree with Records?	① 1044624 Mechanic	
2.	Date of Death.	② 8-27-18	
3.	Cause and place of death.	③ WW/A	
4.	Number of Casualty Cablegram.	④ 66259	
5.	Date buried.	⑤ NOT GIVEN.	
6.	Grave Location. (a) Complete record required. (b) Name of Cemetery or Commune only required.	⑥	
7.	Who reported burial?	⑦ No burial Info.	
8.	Has report been confirmed by G.R.S?		
9.	Report as to Grave Marker.		
10.	Report as to Identification Tags.		
11.	Who is nearest relative?		
12.	Has N/R been notified? (Give Date)		
13.	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply in all cases if no information on record)		
14.	What is the Photograph No?		
			⑩ MRS EFFIE-COUCHMAN 305 E SAMPLE ST. THRE OAKS MICH.

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

*Sgt Couchman
Main 225-2*

⑪ NO

*Form #12
sent C.O.*

*accomplished
8/5/19*

January 4, 1921.

File No. 293,8 (Cor. Branch).

MEMORANDUM FOR: Cemeterial Division, O.Q.M.G., Overseas Project
Sub-section, Washington, D. C.

SUBJECT: Return of Records - Cemetery #582.
Transmittal Memorandum Number H - 558.

1. The enclosed records covering the following cases are returned herewith, it having been definitely determined that the bodies are to remain in Europe:

Reference No:

- 9 ✓ Gouchman, Randall Mech., Baty. E, 19th F. A.
12 ✓ Genoble, Rufus H., Corp., Co. D, 323rd Inf.

R. E. SHANNON,
Captain, Quartermaster Corps,
Officer in Charge.

By:

F. C. PALLAS,
Executive Assistant.

SP
4/17
2 Incls.

FILE
CENTRAL DIVISION
REGISTRATION SECTION

January 18 1922

MEMO FOR:

Cards Department.

1.

CASE OF:

Co. B. 19th "A".

ORGANIZATION (Old)

COUCHMAN 1044624 Randall Mech.,

(Name)

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

ORGANIZATION (New)

FILE NO.

SURNAME

SERIAL NUMBER

FIRST NAME AND INITIALS

RANK

DATE OF DEATH

CAUSE OF DEATH

	Date	Place	F-1A No.
Orig.			D-
1st. Reb.	1/24/21	582	D- 30066
2nd Reb.			D-
3rd Reb.			D-

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

BY: Miss Lannon

Card.,
(Department)

5 x 8 card was sent to file.

Corrections made
on Organization
File Card:

By B
S/3324/LML

Address reply to

WAR DEPARTMENT
PURCHASE, STORAGE, AND TRAFFIC DIVISION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE AND STORAGE
WASHINGTON

Division

DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE
Munitions Building

No:

From:

To:

Subject:

[Faint, illegible text and markings, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

0189

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF THE ARMY
GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE
WASHINGTON HOBOKEN, N. J.

DEC 3 1920

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

To: Mrs. Effie Couchman, 302 S. Elm St., Three Oaks, Mich.

SUBJECT: Remains of Mech. Randall Couchman, Ser. No. 1044624,
Baty E., 19th F.A.

no change

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

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

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

By authority of the Quartermaster General.

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

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

NAME OF—	NO. AND STREET.	TOWN.	STATE.
Was soldier married? <i>no.</i>			
Soldier's widow <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Soldier's children. (Name oldest first.)	1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Father <i>none</i>			
Mother <i>Mrs. Effie Couchman</i>			
Brothers. (Name oldest first.)	1 <i>James R. Couchman 721 Clinton St.,</i>	<i>South Bend,</i>	<i>Ind.</i>
	2 <i>Aden R. Couchman 212 Oak St.,</i>	<i>Three Oaks,</i>	<i>Mich.</i>
	3		
Sisters. (Name oldest first.)	1 <i>Mrs. Fay Hubbard 725 Clinton St.,</i>	<i>South Bend,</i>	<i>Ind.</i>
	2		
	3		

noted on 4/15/21
noted in Hoboken, N.J.

Date *Dec 8 - 1920*

Signature *Mrs. Effie Couchman*

Address *302 South Elm St.,*

Relationship *Mother*

DEC 11



CEMETERY DIVISION

Dec 8

1920.

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

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 Mrs Effie Couchman

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT.

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

CHARLES REGISTRATION SERVICE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT CEMETERY OF THE ARMY
WAR DEPARTMENT

3-7860

283-2 CBW

(10-10-20)
PRINTED AT THE
U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

OCT 22 1920

19641

WAR DEPARTMENT

Office of the Quartermaster General of the Army
Washington.

G.R.S. Form S-W-9-1920.
Information requested of A.C.O.

Date 10/20/20.

File No. Registration.

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

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

Subject: Information required for G.R.S.

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

a. Surname Couchman,

b. Christian name Randall.

c. Serial Number 1044624.

d. Organization Co. E, 19th F.A.
Baty. E, 19th F.A.

e. Rank Mechanic.

f. Date of death 8/27/18.

g. Cause of death DWRIA. ^{Fracture of} _{also covered by} _{ball from coat}

h. Authority (C.C.#) Letter also 10/5/20

i. Emergency address Mrs. Ellie Couchman
305 E. Sample St

j. Relationship ^{Mother} _{Three Lake Mich}

BODY DESCRIPTION

(See page #2 of the Service Record)

a. Age of enlistment

b. Color of eyes

c. Color of hair

d. Height

e. Weight

f. Permanent marks and physical defects at enlistment (Old fractures or breaks)

DENTAL CHARTS

(See Physical report of examination prior to enlistment)

a. Strike out teeth missing

8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
upper right upper left

8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
lower right lower left

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

BY:

H. J. Conner
H. J. CONNER
1st Lieut. QMC.

CIMETERY NO: 582. 10/22/20

SHEET NO: 9.
TYPED BY: rln.

Attachment Made
July 2-1920
File No.

OCT 23 1920

RECEIVED

GENERAL DIVISION
RESEARCH PROJECT SECTION



RECEIVED
OCT 23 1920

WAR DEPARTMENT.

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

OFFICIAL BUSINESS.



FILLE.

R. Coughman
Mechanic

19641

CODE SLIP

✓

HEADING	SUB-HEADING	NO. OF COLS	CODE
NAME	Couchman	3	3 5 12
	Randall		
	CEMETERY	1	1
BURIED	GRAVE	2	16
	ROW	2	23
	BLOCK	1	6
STATE	Mich	2	26
BANK	Meck	1	2
DIVISION	5	2	05
ORGANIZATION	19	3	019
ARM	9a	1	3
MARTIAL	No	1	2
NAME	Couchman	5	3 5 12
	Mrs. Effie		
RESIDENCE	STATE	2	26
	COUNTY	2	11
	CITY	3	XXX
RELATION	Mother	1	1
OTHER		1	
ELIGIBILITY	yes	1	1
NATIVITY		1	
RACE		1	
ENGLISH	yes	1	1
ATTENDANT		1	
HEALTH	Bad	1	2
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF TRIP	MO.	1	
	YR.	1	
ACCEPTANCE	no age	1	2
29/514/PJ			13

AUDITED

JAN 12 1982

RM

emf

ea

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M
Couchman, Randall (MA)

Sept. 7, 1932.

Mrs. Effie Couchman,
302 S. Elm St.,
Three Oaks, Mich.

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")	"No"
2. Please state your age and condition of health:	Age: 73 Health: not good
3. Do you speak English?	yes.
4. What other language do you speak?	No other

Mrs Effie Couchman
Sign here

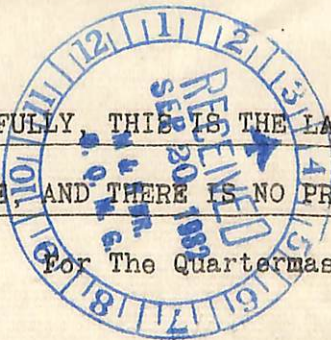
NOTE CAREFULLY, THIS IS THE LAST CHANCE WHICH YOU WILL HAVE TO MAKE THE
PILGRIMAGE, AND THERE IS NO PROVISION OF LAW FOR A MONEY ALLOWANCE INSTEAD.

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,


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

Encl:
Env.



WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Couchman Randall (MA)

July 9, 1932

Mrs Effie Couchman
302 S Elm St
Three Oaks Mich

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-AM

June 12, 1931.

Couchman, Randall Mech (M-A) M

Mrs. Effie Couchman,
302 S. Elm Street,
Three Oaks, Michigan.

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.

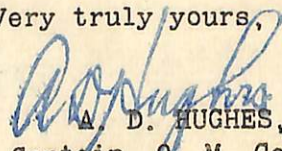
To assure proper and satisfactory accommodations, reservations for steamship transportation required during the summer of 1932 must be made by this office not later than August 1st of this year. It is therefore desired that you answer the question below by writing either of the words "Yes", "No", or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

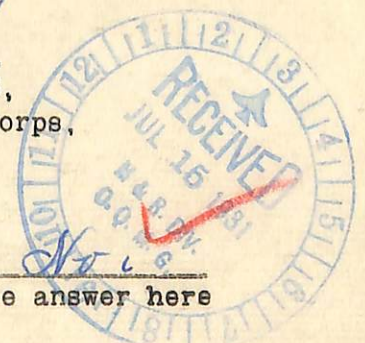
As soon as you have answered the question, please sign your name and return this sheet in the enclosed addressed envelope which requires no postage. Do not delay, as a prompt reply is essential.

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?

No
Write answer here


Sign here

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

June 18, 1930.

Couchman, Randall - 1232 M

Mrs. Effie Couchman,
302 S. Elm Street,
Three Oaks, Michigan.

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 Effie Couchman
(Sign here)

America

6-4-30

1232

Couchman, Randal

I decline, the invitation extended
(Accept or decline)

me to make a pilgrimage to Europe at the expense of the
Government of the United States under the provisions of
the Act of Congress approved March 2, 1929.

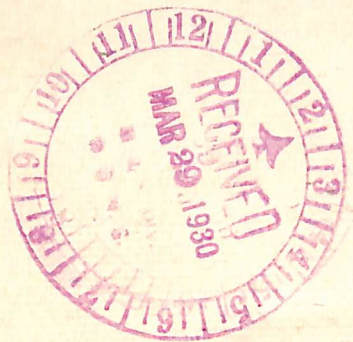
Mrs. Effie Couchman

(Name)

302 S. Elm St., Three Oaks, Berrien Co., Mich.

(Town or City)

(State)



WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON



IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C
Couchman, Randall 1232 -M

October 7, 1929.

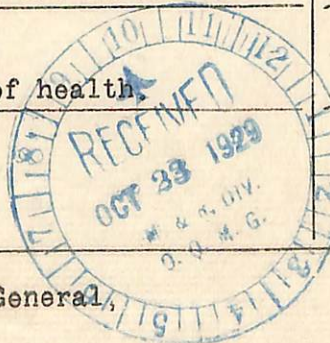
Mrs. Effie Couchman,
302 S. Elm Street,
Three Oaks, Mich.

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) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(No)
2. Do you desire to make the pilgrimage in the calendar year 1930?	(Yes) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(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) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. Please give your age and state of health.	Age <u>70</u> Health <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(Years) (Good) (Poor)
5. What language do you speak?	English - (Yes) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(No)
	Other language	(Specify language spoken)



For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.
Act
Envelope

#1232

9-6-29

QM 293 A-6
Couchman, Randall

October 2, 1929.

Mrs. Effie Couchman,
302 S. Elm Street,
Three Oaks, Michigan.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of recent date relative to the Pilgrimage of the Gold Star Mothers and Widows to Europe.

With regard to Section 2 (d) of the Act of March 2, 1929, you are advised that the term "personnel" used therein does not refer to individual traveling companions, but refers to those persons to be assigned by the War Department to provide for the needs and welfare of the mothers and widows making the pilgrimage. This personnel will consist of doctors, nurses, guides, etc.

With reference to other passengers being allowed to go on the same boat with the mothers and widows making the pilgrimage, you are advised that the War Department has been charged with the execution of this Act and its efforts therefore must be restricted to making the arrangements necessary for the transportation, entertainment, etc. of those named as eligible under the Act.

Any arrangements which are desired to be made by relatives or friends of such eligibles to visit the cemeteries in Europe, must be made by them personally. The limited accommodations available in the small towns in the neighborhood of the cemeteries in Europe, and the fact that it is contemplated that the War Department will utilize these accommodations to the limit for those mothers and widows eligible under the above mentioned Act, make it necessary for those ineligible under the Act to make their own arrangements.

Within a reasonable time prior to the beginning of the pilgrimage, (May 1930), blanks will be furnished you upon which to make formal application for the journey. Space will be provided thereon for you to indicate the time you desire to go.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

SC:LS

In regard to (C) under paragraph
(d) of Sect. 2. May a war mother
select a person to accompany
her. the latter having free
passage also? will other
passengers be allowed to go on
the same boat. if so what
would the passage cost.

Mrs Effie Conclinan
202 S Elm St
Three Oaks
Mich.



WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Couchman, Randall
1232.

Sept. 6, 1929

Mrs. Effie Couchman,
305 E. Sample St.,
Three Oaks, Mich.

Dear Madam:

The records of this office do not indicate that a reply has been received to our communication dated June 29, 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:

Randall Couchman
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.

Mrs Effie Couchman (own)
302 S Elm St. (Mother)
Three Oaks Mich

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

Am considering
it.

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 29, 1929.

Couchman, Randall

Mrs. Effie Couchman,
306 E. Sample St.,
Three Oaks, Mich.

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 Randall Couchman, Mechanic, Co. E, 19th F.A., 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 remarried it is requested that a statement to that effect be made.

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

2 incls.
Act of Congress.
Envelope.

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

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M
Couchman, Randall (MA)

Sept. 7, 1932.

Mrs. Effie Couchman,
302 S. Elm St.,
Three Oaks, Mich.

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,

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

Encl:
Env.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-M

Couchman Randall (MA)

July 9, 1932

Mrs Effie Couchman
302 S Elm St
Three Oaks Mich

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-AM

June 12, 1931.

Couchman, Randall Mech (M-A) M

Mrs. Effie Couchman,
302 S. Elm Street,
Three Oaks, Michigan.

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

Couchman, Randall - 1232 M

June 18, 1930.

Mrs. Effie Couchman,
302 S. Elm Street,
Three Oaks, Michigan.

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

Couchman, Randall 1232-M

March 20, 1930

Mrs. Effie Couchman,
302 S. Elm Street,
Three Oaks, Mich.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General:

Very truly yours,

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

1 Enclosure.
Regulation.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C
Couchman, Randall 1232 -M

October 7, 1929.

Mrs. Effie Couchman,
302 S. Elm Street,
Three Oaks, Mich.

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

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

Encl.
Act
Envelope

QM 293 A-6
Couchman, Randall

October 2, 1929.

Mrs. Effie Couchman,
302 S. Elm Street,
Three Oaks, Michigan.

Dear Madam:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of recent date relative to the Pilgrimage of the Gold Star Mothers and Widows to Europe.

With regard to Section 2 (d) of the Act of March 2, 1929, you are advised that the term "personnel" used therein does not refer to individual traveling companions, but refers to those persons to be assigned by the War Department to provide for the needs and welfare of the mothers and widows making the pilgrimage. This personnel will consist of doctors, nurses, guides, etc.

With reference to other passengers being allowed to go on the same boat with the mothers and widows making the pilgrimage, you are advised that the War Department has been charged with the execution of this Act and its efforts therefore must be restricted to making the arrangements necessary for the transportation, entertainment, etc. of those named as eligible under the Act.

Any arrangements which are desired to be made by relatives or friends of such eligibles to visit the cemeteries in Europe, must be made by them personally. The limited accommodations available in the small towns in the neighborhood of the cemeteries in Europe, and the fact that it is contemplated that the War Department will utilize these accommodations to the limit for those mothers and widows eligible under the above mentioned Act, make it necessary for those ineligible under the Act to make their own arrangements.

Within a reasonable time prior to the beginning of the pilgrimage, (May 1930), blanks will be furnished you upon which to make formal application for the journey. Space will be provided thereon for you to indicate the time you desire to go.

For The Quartermaster General.

Very truly yours,

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

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO QM 293 A-C

Couchman, Randall
1232.

Sept. 6, 1929

Mrs. Effie Couchman,
305 E. Sample St.,
Three Oaks, Mich.

Dear Madam:

The records of this office do not indicate that a reply has been received to our communication dated June 29, 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

June 29, 1929.

Couchman, Randall

Mrs. Effie Couchman,
305 E. Sample St.,
Three Oaks, Mich.

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 Randall Couchman, Mechanic, Co. E, 19th F.A., 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 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.