

ALBERT H. VESTAL, IND., CHAIRMAN.
 JOHN M. ROSE, PA.
 LOUIS B. GOODALL, ME.
 JOHN W. LANGLEY, KY.
 REUBEN L. HASKELL, N. Y.
 CLIFFORD IRELAND, ILL.
 FLORIAN LAMPERT, WIS.
 JOHN REBER, PA.
 WILLIAM N. ANDREWS, MD.
 R. CLINT COLE, OHIO.

WILLIAM A. ASHBROOK, OHIO.
 WILLIAM L. NELSON, MO.
 DANIEL F. MINAHAN, N. J.
 SAMUEL M. BRINSON, N. C.
 CLAY S. BRIGGS, TEX.
 HUGH S. HERSMAN, CALIF.

House of Representatives U. S.
 Committee on
 Coinage, Weights, and Measures
 Washington, D. C.

October 30, 1919.

General P.C. Harris,
 Adjutant General,
 Washington, D.C.

My dear Sir:

Will you kindly let me have a
 report of the death and place of burial of

Vernon Taylor,
 Co. K., 339th Infantry,
 85th Division.

He was killed in France and his
 mother was notified, but no details were given her
 and she is anxious to know more about it.

I am

Thanking you for your attention,

Sincerely yours,

A. H. Vestal

*(b)
 33
 201
 Taylor
 85th*

n

b

*ack.
 Nov 3 form 25
 car. - 1-27*

Received AGO NOV 1 1919
 REC'D RECORDS BR. A. C. O. NOV. 1 1919
 NOV 5 1919

201(Taylor, Otto V.)DR

1st Ind.

CAR-1-217

War Department, A. G. O., November 10, 1919- To the Chief, Graves Registration Service, Washington, D. C.

1. For reply direct relative to the location of the grave of Private Otto.V. Taylor, Company K, 339th Infantry.
2. Representative Vestal has been advised of this reference.

By order of the Secretary of War:

P. O. Harris Per

The Adjutant General.

Per:

201(Taylor, Otto V.)DR

1st Ind.

CAR-1-217

War Department, A. G. O., November 10, 1919- To the Chief, Graves Registration Service, Washington, D. C.

1. For reply direct relative to the location of the grave of Private Otto V. Taylor, Company K, 339th Infantry.
2. Representative Vestal has been advised of this reference.

By order of the Secretary of War:

P. C. Harria,
The Adjutant General.
Per: *RC*

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

Date

11/13/19

FROM: INQUIRY BRANCH.

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

NAME Taylor Otto V.

Serial Number

RANK

Pvt

ORGANIZATION

Co K 339 Inf

NO.	QUESTION	ANSWER
1.	Do particulars of soldiers given above agree with Records?	✓ # 2007904
2.	Date of Death.	2/ 10/16/18
3.	Cause and place of death	3/ K / a record
4.	Number of Casualty Cablegram	5/ 10/16/18
5.	Date buried	6/ Not given
6.	Grave Location. (a) Complete record required. (b) Name of Cemetery or Commune only required. (c) Note reinterments.	2nd search 11-20-19 - m.u.n
7.	Who reported burial?	
8.	Confirmed by G.R.S.?	
9.	Report as to Grave Marker.	
10.	Identification Tags: (a) Buried with body? (b) Attached to grave marker?	
11.	Complete Emergency Address?	11/ Cynthia Taylor / Mother 1101 West Madison St Alexandria, Ind
12.	Has above been notified? (Give date)	
13.	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply in all cases if no information on record)	12/ Not given
14.	What is the Photograph No.?	
15.	Inquiry made by?	

Released by Information Control Dept.

Directory

Cards 5 x 8

Cards 4 x 6

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

WAR DEPARTMENT
GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICE
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE & STORAGE
WASHINGTON

MTB
W

ANALYSIS OF INQUIRY

11-13-19

____ Circumstances of Death
(Par. #2, Bul. 10-C-W)

____ Liberty Bonds
(G.R.S. Form 111)

____ Flowers, Flags, etc.
(Par. #6, Bul. 10-C-W)

____ War Risk Insurance
(G.R.S. Form 111)

____ Monument
(Par. #8, Bul. 10-C-W)

____ Photographs
(Par. #11, Bul. 10-C-W)

____ Discrepancies in Inscription
(Par. #9, Bul. 10-C-W)

Permanent Burial In

____ (a) France (G.R.S. Form 106)

____ Personal Effects
(G.R.S. Form 111)

____ (b) Other Countries

____ Accrued Pay
(G.R.S. Form 111)

Return of Bodies From

____ (a) France (G.R.S. Form 106)
(Par. #12, Bul. 10-C-W)

____ Maintenance
(Par. #7, Bul. 10-C-W)

____ (b) Other countries

Remarks: _____

Same location

Representative

X 104

NOTE: In addition to information furnished on Nos. 1, 6, 11, and 12, G.R.S. Form 101-A (Information Blank), supply data on the following:

Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15.

att.

Analysis Clerk.

77928

Address reply to

DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE & STORAGE
Munitions Building

WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PURCHASE AND STORAGE
WASHINGTON
December 13, 1919.

bpm

293.3 (Taylor, Vernon, Pvt.) G.R.S.

Graves Registration Service.

Honorable Albert H. Vestal, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

Location of Grave.

1. Your letter of October 30th has been referred to us by the Adjutant General of the Army for information concerning the grave location of Private Vernon Taylor.

2. I am sorry to advise that there is no record as to grave location of Private Otto V. Taylor on file in this office.

3. Your request in this case will be followed up at a later date in the hopes that the information will be forthcoming.

By authority of the Quartermaster General.

Charles C. Pierce,
Major, Q. M. C.,
Chief, Graves Registration Service.

DEC 13 1919
G. R. S. MAILED

Date 12/26/19

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

FROM:- INQUIRY BRANCH.

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

NAME

Taylor Otto Vernon

Serial Number 2007

RANK

Private

ORGANIZATION

Co. K 339th Inf.

NO.	QUESTION	REPLY
1.	Do particulars of soldiers given above agree with Records?	1.) yes
2.	Date of Death.	2.) 10/16/18
3.	Cause and place of death	3.) K/a
4.	Number of Casualty Cablegram	4.) C.C. #408
5.	Date buried	5.) 10/16/18
6.	Grave Location. (a) Complete record required. (b) Name of Cemetery or Commune only required. (c) Note reinterments.	6.) No Record
7.	Who reported burial?	7.) No Record
8.	Confirmed by G.R.S.?	
9.	Report as to Grave Marker.	10.) no Record
10.	Identification Tags: (a) Buried with body? (b) Attached to grave marker?	
11.	Complete Emergency Address?	11.) Cynthia Taylor (mother) 1101 West Madison St. Alexandria, Ind.
12.	Has above been notified? (Give date)	
13.	Report the exact position of your inquiry on this case. (Reply in all cases if no information on record)	12.) 1/16/19
14.	What is the Photograph No.?	
15.	Inquiry made by?	

M.M. 12-26-19
Unconfirmed

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

Released by Information Control Dept.
Not in Directory - No record
Cards 8 x 8 - No record
Cards 4 x 6

G.F. Graves
#16
G.L.B.

Cong. Vestal ■ ● ●

Report to C.C.P.

Case of
Otto Vernon Taylor
"K" - 339 Inf -
85 Div.
#2007904.

Buried in Archangel 2

"buried at Stadish, Russia
75 yds East of Mersnow
and Stadish road,
near Verst 9."

OM of 12/26/9 From G.H.B. - no
confirmation received
No report that remains
were sent to U.S. ✓

CCP/tvh.

December 27, 1919.

293.3 (Taylor, Otto Vernon, Pvt.)

Hon. Albert H. Vestal,
House of Representatives, U.S.,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Vestal:

In reference to your conversation by telephone, I beg to say that we have record of the burial of Private Otto Vernon Taylor, Co. K, 339th Infantry at Kadish, Russia, at a point 75 yds. East of Mersnow and Kadish Road, near Verst 9.". Official reports which have been received indicate that 111 bodies of American dead are still left in the region of Archangel, in North Russia; it having been impossible to remove the same, owing to lack of ocean transportation and the turbulent condition of the country itself. We have been instructed to remove these bodies at a later date when the improvement of conditions may make it possible to do so, but have been told that it will probably be a year before this action can be taken.

It is practically impossible for people at home to realize the terrific conditions under which the removal of certain bodies from North Russia has already taken place, and the wonder is that the few men engaged in this enterprise have been able to accomplish anything at all.

We have great sympathy for the people in which you are interested and will hope for the power to execute their desires in due time.

By authority of the Quartermaster General:

CHARLES C. PIERCE
Major, Q. M. C.
Chief, Graves Registration Service.

ALBERT H. VESTAL, IND., CHAIRMAN.
 JOHN M. ROSE, PA.
 CLIFFORD IRELAND, ILL.
 FLORIAN LAMPERT, WIS.
 JOHN REBER, PA.
 R. CLINT COLE, OHIO.
 MICHAEL J. HOGAN, N. Y.
 FRANK H. FUNK, ILL.
 W. M. MORGAN, OHIO.
 WM. H. FRANKHAUSER, MICH.
 THOMAS J. RYAN, N. Y.
 RANDOLPH PERKINS, N. J.
 J. KUHIO KALANIANAOLE, HAWAII.

SAMUEL M. BRINSON, N. C.
 CLAY S. BRIGGS, TEX.
 L. B. RAINEY, ALA.
 PATRICK H. DREWRY, VA.
 LADISLAS LAZARO, LA.
 BILL G. LOWREY, MISS.

House of Representatives U. S.

Committee on
 Coinage, Weights, and Measures

Washington, D. C.

June 15, 1921

438

Quartermaster General,
 Washington, D.C.

162

My dear Sir:

Mrs. Cynthia R. Taylor of 1101 West Madison St., Alexandria, Indiana, has written me asking that I request the return of the body of her son, Otto Vernon Taylor, member of Co.K, 339th Inf. 85th Division, who was killed in action in Russia, October 16th, 1918 and buried there.

Please advise me what action is being taken as to the return of bodies from Russia, so that I may convey the same to Mrs. Taylor.

Thanking you for your prompt consideration of the matter, I am,

Sincerely yours,

A. H. Vestal

293.8 Cem.

(Taylor, Otto Vernon)

June 17, 1921.

Hon. A. H. Vestal,
House of Representatives.

My dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of June 15th, relative to the case of the late Otto Vernon Taylor, Company "K", 339th Infantry, you are advised that conditions in Russia are such as will not permit the resumption of operations in the removal of dead from that country. Notation has been made upon the records of this office of Mrs. Taylor's request that the remains of her son be returned to the United States for final burial, and as soon as operations in the removal of dead are resumed in Russia, the Chief, American Graves Registration Service, Quartermaster Corps in Europe, will be directed to return the body.

Very truly yours,

DS

ind.
H. L. ROGERS,
Quartermaster General.

BPM

Chief, Cem. Div.

*mailed
6/18
mi.*

OTW.

SMH.

77928

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF
Taylor 2007904 Otto V

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

Pvt. Co. K., 339th Inf. (Rank). (Organization).

PLACE OF DEATH: Kadish, Russia

CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in action Oct 17, 1918

DATE OF BURIAL: Oct 19, 1918

PLACE OF BURIAL: Kadish, Russia

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

Cemetery (name not known) Kadish
Russia

GRAVE NUMBER: One

HOW MARKED: Name Peg? Cross? Yes

Headboard? Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body? Yes

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

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

NEAREST RELATIVE: Mrs Christina Taylor

ADDRESS: 101 Madison St Alexandria Ind

RELATIONSHIP: Mother

REPORTED BY:

Charles B Ryan 2nd Lt US Army
(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer).

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
CEMETERIAL DIVISION

Date 6.24-21

To Mr Houghton Room _____

All Officers,
Col. Penrose
Lt. Col. Davis, O. R. C.
Captain Hanson
Capt. Wynne
Lieut. Conner

Mr. Robb - Principal Clerk
Mrs. Hodges - Personnel Clerk
Mr. Houghton - Files
Mr. Saxton - Cemeterial Branch
Mr. Grant - Inquiry Branch
Mr. Plotner - Supplies

Prepare reply(Sec'y of War
for(General Rogers
signature of(General Krauthoff
(Col. Penrose
(Lt. Col. Davis

FOR:

To note
Information. Need not be returned
Information and return
Action or reply
Approval
Returned
Remarks and recommendation
Suspension to _____

7 File

Investigation and report
Copies _____ (State number)
Papers in case
Personal conference
Draft of letter or endorsement
Signature
Check for correction
See other side for remarks

Final return to: _____

From: Inf + Cav Br - Only

NOTE: This form may be used a number of times on same case by crossing off previous marks and inserting new marks (and date) in different colors.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

FROM : ADJUTANT GENERAL.

TO : C.O. Company K, 339th Inf.

SUBJECT : Information for burial Register.

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

By Command of General Pershing:

Robert C. Davis
Adjutant General.

Note: ☐

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

Nearest relative of deceased:

Relationship: _____

Address: _____

File 77928

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Taylor 2007904 Otto V.
(Surname). (Number). (First Name and Initials).

Pvt. Co. "K" 339th Infantry
(Rank). (Organization).

PLACE OF DEATH: Kadish, Russia.

CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in Action

DATE OF BURIAL: Oct. 16, 1918.

PLACE OF BURIAL: Kodish, Russia

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

75 yds. E. of Mersnow and Kodish

road, near Verst. 9.

GRAVE NUMBER:

HOW MARKED: Name Peg? Cross? YES

Headboard? Bottle?

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body? YES

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

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

NEAREST RELATIVE Mrs. Cynthia Taylor

ADDRESS: Alexandria, Ind.

RELATIONSHIP: Mother

REPORTED BY:

Johann Landowski, 339th
(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer)

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

WAR DEPARTMENT
Office of the Quartermaster General of the Army
Washington

FILE

G.R.S. Form 8-W-A

Information requested of A.G.O.

Date 2/28/22

File No. 77928 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 TAYLOR

b. Christian name Otto V.

c. Serial Number 2007904

d. Organization Co.K, 339th Inf.

e. Rank Pvt.

f. Date of death 10-16-18

g. Cause of death K/A

h. Authority (C.O.#) 408

i. Emergency address

j. Relationship

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

CEMETERY NO:

SHEET NO:

TYPED BY:

S/3210/LML

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

BY:

Charles J. Wynne,
Captain, Q.M.C., U.S.A.

REC'D ARCHIVES BR.

2 MAR 4 1922

Rec'd World War Division.

MAR 4 1922

ALBERT H. VESTAL
8TH DIST. INDIANA

CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON
COINAGE, WEIGHTS, AND MEASURES

EDUCATION
PATENTS

House of Representatives U.S.

Washington, D. C.

August 15, 1924.

53

Quartermaster General of the Army,
Cemeterial Division,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Sir:

Re: Otto Vernon Taylor
Co. K. 339th Infantry, 85th Division,
Died in service, Northern Russia.

The mother of this soldier, Mrs. Cynthia Taylor, Alexandria, Indiana, is still writing me about the return of the body of her son to this country. I have had no report in the matter of the return of bodies of soldiers for some little time, and wish you would advise me definitely whether there is any chance that this body will ever be returned.

Thanking you for the information, I am

Sincerely yours,

A. H. Vestal



n

293 Taylor, Otto Vernon

August 21, 1924.

QM 293 AC
Taylor, Otto Vernon

Honorable A. H. Vestal,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Vestal:

In reply to your letter of August 15, 1924, relative to the return of the body of Private Otto Vernon Taylor, Company K, 339th Infantry, buried in North Russia, you are advised that since diplomatic relations have not yet been established between this and the present Russian Government, this office is still unable to dispatch an expedition to recover the remains of our military dead left buried in that country. It is hoped that events may so shape themselves as to permit such an expedition in the near future.

In case diplomatic relations are established with the Russian Government, efforts will be made to recover the bodies of our military dead. Should Private Taylor's grave then be found, and his mother still desires return of his remains, her wishes will be complied with.

Very truly yours,

W. H. Hart,
The Quartermaster General.

EED
RPH
FWVD



✓ X 293 Vestal, A. H. How.

KADISH--- 75 yards E of Merisnow-Kadish Road near Verst 9

Christian, Arthur-- 2986151- Pvt Co. L, 339 Inf. KIA 10 /13
CRONIN; Louis ----- 2050691- Pfc Co. K, 339 Inf. KIA 10-13
OZDARSKI; JOSPH S.- 2021793 Pvt Co. L, 339 Inf. KIA 10-14

Kadish 75 yards E of Meisnow-Kadish Road near Verst 9 400 yards from the
Omega River

TAYLOR: Otto V 2007904 Pvt Co. K, 339 Inf. KIA 10/16

Sketch shows Cronin buried just south of the Ensta River

Sketch shows Christian and Ozdarski buried in common grave- south of the
grave of Cronin. --- Woods

Sketch showing the locati n of Taylors grave not located.

1924

Recovered from Woods an Leningrad trail

3 bodies

Christian, Ozdarski and a Taton or Paton
Co. K--

One newspaper report lists him as Cpl Co. K--

Europe report

him as ~~Private~~ CO. I another as Co. K, both say Pvt.

E. Kensett Vail Investigator .

QM 293 A-C
Taylor, Otto V.

November 1, 1929

Mrs. Cynthia R. Taylor,
1101 West Madison Street,
Alexandria, Indiana.

Dear Madam:

You are advised that the recent investigation conducted in Northern Russia has resulted in the finding of the remains of 86 American Soldiers; of these the identification of 28 could not be established. An investigation is being conducted in an effort to identify these 28 American Soldiers, therefore, to aid in the investigation it will be appreciated if you will advise if you recall your son, the late Private Otto V. Taylor, 2007904, Company K, 339 Infantry, 85 Division, killed in action October 16, 1918, as having -

- (a) Had any dental work done, such as crowns, bridges, fillings or extractions.
- (b) Had any noticeable spacing or overlapping of his teeth.
- (c) Carried any articles other than his identity tag that might aid in establishing his identification.
- (d) Been a member of any lodge or society.
- (e) Been of Catholic, Jewish or Protestant Faith.

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Yours very truly,

1 Incl. DIV.
envelope,

C.M.C.M. &

29 NOV 2 PM 1 48

DISPATCHED

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

W. S. HERITAGE & SON

Furniture and Undertaking

Office Phone 318

Alexandria, Indiana, NOVEMBER 4 1929

JOHN.T.HARRIS,
MAJOR,Q.M.CORPS. ASST.

SIR: IN REPLY TO YOUR LETTER OF NOVEMBER 1, TO MRS.CYNTHIA.R.TAYLOR, IN
REGARDS TO THE RETURN OF THE BODY OF HER SON, OTTO.V.TAYLOR, QM 293 A-C,
SHE WANTS US TO TAKE CHARGE OF THIS MATTER FOR HER, AND WANTS YOU TO SHIP
THE BODY TO OUR FIRM, AS SOON AS YOU POSSIBLY CAN.

SHE SAYS SHE HAS NO WAY OF IDENTIFYING THE BODY, ONLY THAT HE HAD A FULL
SET OF TEETH, PROMINENT IN FRONT, AND ALSO WORE A SIGNET RING, ON THIRD FINGER
ON LEFT HAND.

WHEN WANTING ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS MATTER, PLEASE WRITE TO US
WE WILL TAKE CARE OF IT FOR MRS.TAYLOR.

THANKING YOU VERY MUCH,

YOURS TRULY,

W.S.HERITAGE & SON.



By Scott S. Heritage. Over Sea service man.

Chg. Vail 11-2-29

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON

Form 8 W-A

Date

108
10/24/49

SUBJECT: *Russia Seas* Information required for the Comotorial Division.

To: Office of The Adjutant General, World War Division, Washington, D. C.

1. It is requested that the items checked below be completed:

a. Surname *Taylor* *OK* b. Date of death *10-16-18* *OK*
c. Christian name *Otto* *OK* d. Cause of death *KA* *OK*
e. Serial number *2007904* *OK* f. Date of discharge _____
g. Rank at time of death *PA-1* *OK* h. Place of death *Kadish, Russia*
i. Organization *K 339 Inf* *OK* j. Place of burial _____
* k. Emergency address *Roman - Cynthia Taylor, Mother*
l. Date enlisted _____ Inducted *Apr. 25, 1918*
m. Place of enlistment or induction *Alexandria, Ind. Madison Co., Elwood, Ind.*
n. List of organizations with which he served *1 Co. 8 Bn. 159th B. Co. K, 339 Inf.*
o. All ranks held during service *Private*

BODY DESCRIPTION

a. Age at enlistment *28 yrs. 7 mos.* c. Height *5 ft. 8 in.* e. Weight *148 1/2*
b. Color of hair *D. Brown* d. Shoe size *8 E.* f. Fractures *None*

DENTAL CHARTS

At Camp

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

By Local Board

None shown 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

Statements of Comrades _____

* Emergency address - *Same as Roman address*

C. H. BRIDGES

Major General,

The Adjutant General, For The Quartermaster General:

By: *H*

OCT 25 1949

REC'D WORLD WAR DIV.
OCT 25 1949

28/554

Vail 2/01

274 K

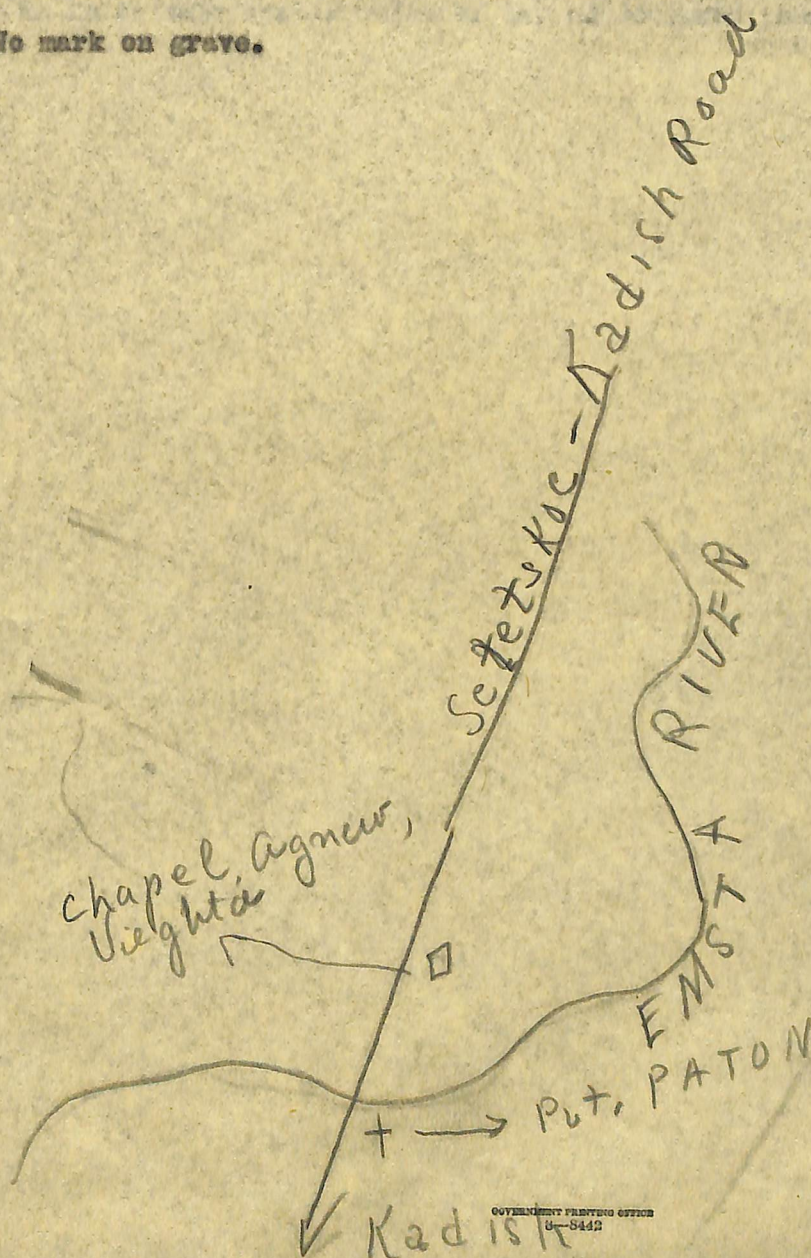
ORIGINAL PAPER FILED

CROSS INDEX

O. Q. M. G.

Extract from Diary of A.L. Stiers, Co. K, 839 Inf.

Saturday Pvt. Paton killed shot in chest below throat -- died while being carried on blanket between two rifles -- Said to have been buried near the river -- South side of river -- grave supposed to be near river -- on left of road looking south 75 yards from same in blanket. No mark on grave.



QM 293 A-C

December 17, 1929

Unidentified U.S. Soldier, Co. K, 339 Inf.

Mr. Artino L. Stiers,
10177 Sterrett Street,
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Sir:

You are advised that a search based upon an extract from your diary, (copy attached,) resulted in the recovery of the remains of an American Soldier from near the Selteskou-Kadish road, just south of the Rosta River. On the blouse were collar ornaments - "K cross-rifles 339. The identification tags crumbled before they could be read.

The Rolls and Rosters of Company K, 339 Infantry fail to disclose the name of "Paton" for either September or October, 1918, nor does the name appear among the casualties of that organization.

To aid in the investigation being conducted in an effort to identify this soldier, it will be appreciated if you will advise if you recall whether- (a) "Paton" was a nickname of the surname of the soldier; (b) The christain name of the soldier; (c) The name of the town and the state from which he came.

To further aid in the work it will be appreciated if you will advise if you recall anything relative to the death and burial of Private, first-class Louis Cronin, killed in action October 13, 1918, (see attached sketch of burial location,) and Private Otto V. Taylor, killed in action October 16, 1918. (Both formerly members of Company K, 339th Infantry.) Do you recall - (a) If the grave of Private Paton was near the grave of Private, first-class Louis Cronin; (b) How far from the grave of Private, first-class Cronin was the grave of Private Taylor.

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

For The Quartermaster General,

Very truly yours,

5 Incl.

- a- Envelope
- b- copy of report.
- c- sketch
- d- MIB (Cronin)
- e- MIB (Taylor)

JOHN T. HARRIS,
Major, G.H. Corps,
Assistant.

DECEMBER 17 1929

Taylor, Otto V.

File
12/17/29

C O P Y

Mar. 7, 1930

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

In reply to your query # QM293A-C regarding unidentified U.S. Soldier, Co. K, 339th Inf. I would advise that to the best of my recollection it was Cronin and not Paton, the body recovered from location on sketch.

The date I have recorded as Oct. 12, 1918 together with the peculiar incident but the name I have not got down having got this from another buddy who also took part in the battle with same date etc. on his record as I have with Paton's name.

I have since talked with another buddy who knew Paton probably a little better than I did and he said Paton returned OK and was with us when we got back to U.S.

I knew beyond any point of doubt that there was a man by this name in our Co. (K) and was with us the last seven months at least and that he was one of approx. 65 replacement men added to our CO. about 2 months after we landed in Russia or about in Sept. 1918.

Paton was the surname and there is a mistake in records.

I do not recollect anything in regard to Pvt. Otto V. Taylor killed in action Oct. 16, 1918, except that if he was killed on this date there is little or no chance of him being buried anywhere near where Cronin was as our position was in advance of the former one on Oct. 12 by at least 5 miles and he was probably buried about 3 miles south of Kadish along road running southwest to Avda.

Cronin was the only one killed on Oct. 12 out of 13 of us. our small detachment being the only part of the CO. engaged in the particular skirmish.

Trusting the above will be of assistance in the case I remain.

Very truly,

Artine L. Stiers,
9801 Woodlawn Avenue.,
Detroit, Mich.

Orig. on file of Louis A. Cronin.
Co. K 339 Inf.

14/3/31

GRAVE LOCATION BLANK

LOCATION OF THE GRAVE OF

Taylor.....20079004.....Otto V.
(Surname). (Number). (First Name and Initials).

Pvt. Co. "K" 339th Infantry.....
(Rank). (Organization).

PLACE OF DEATH:.....Kodish, Russia.....

CAUSE OF DEATH:.....Killed in Action.....

DATE OF BURIAL:.....Oct. 16, 1918.....

PLACE OF BURIAL:.....Kodish, Russia.....

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

75 yds. E. of Morsnow and Kodish
road, near Verst 9.

GRAVE NUMBER:

HOW MARKED: Name Peg?.....Cross?.....YES

Headboard?.....Bottle?.....

IDENTIFICATION TAGS:

Was one buried with body?.....YES

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

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

NEAREST RELATIVE: Mrs. Cynthia Taylor

ADDRESS:Alexandria, Ind.

RELATIONSHIP:Mother.....

REPORTED BY:

John L. Randowski / 1st Lt 339th Inf
(Signature and Rank of Reporting Officer).

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

C O D E S L I P

R ✓

XC 121759

HEADING	SUB- HEADING	NO. OF COINS	C O D E
NAME <i>Taylor,</i>		3	
<i>Otto Vernon</i>	CEMETERY	1	<i>12</i> <i>9</i>
BURIED <i>Russia</i>	GRAVE	2	
<i>DD 10-16-18</i>	ROW	2	
	BLOCK	1	
STATE	<i>Kuch</i>	2	<i>26.</i>
RANK	<i>Pvt</i>	1	<i>2</i>
DIVISION	<i>85</i>	2	<i>85</i>
ORGANIZATION	<i>339</i>	3	<i>339</i>
ARM	<i>Inf.</i>	1	<i>1</i>
MARITAL	<i>No</i>	1	<i>2</i>
Father <i>NAME Taylor,</i>		3	
<i>1101 W. Madison St.,</i>	STATE	2	
RESIDENCE <i>Alexandria,</i>	COUNTY	2	
<i>Ind.</i>	CITY	3	
RELATION	<i>Mother</i>	1	<i>1</i>
OTHER <i>glg</i>		1	
ELIGIBILITY	<i>Dead</i>	1	<i>6</i>
NATIVITY <i>none</i>	<i>(died 2-10-31)</i>	1	
RACE		1	
ENGLISH		1	
ATTENDANT		1	
HEALTH		1	
NO. OF SONS		1	
DATE OF	MO.	1	
TRIP	YR.	1	
ACCEPTANCE		1	
<i>29/514</i>			

AUDITED

SEP 10 1932 *ps*

Taylor

Otto V

2,007,904 ✓

(Surname.)

(Christian name in full.)

(Army serial number.)

Pvt

Co K 339 Inf

(Rank and organization.)

State your relationship to the deceased.

Mother

Do you desire the remains brought to the United States?

Yes

(Yes or no.)

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

No

(Yes or no.)

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

W.S. Heriberto & Son

American

Western Union

(Name of person to receive remains.)

(Express office.)

(Telegraph office.)

115 West Washington

Alexandria

Indiana

(Number and street.)

(City or town.)

(State.)

(Sign here)

Cynthia R. Taylor

1101 West Madison

Alexandria

Indiana

(Number and street or rural route.)

(City, town, or post office.)

(State.)

Read carefully the letter accompanying this card.

Taylor, Otto Vernon - Pvt. Co. K. 339 Inf.
date of death - 10-16-18

died 2-10-31

Mother - Cynthia Taylor - 1101 W. Madison St.
Alexandria, Ind.

Single
Widow

XC-121759

Loose
copy - F. Marcus Taylor
same address.