

# NOTICE OF CLASSIFICATION

Order #

Registrant Howard Smith

Order No. 11626

has been classified in Class 1-A (Until 19)  
(Insert Date for Class II-A and II-B only)

by ☒ Local Board

☐ Board of Appeal (by vote of \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_)

☐ President

10, 1, 1942  
(Date of mailing)

A. C. Kaiser  
Member of Local Board.

## NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

Appeal from classification by local board or board of appeal must be made by signing appeal form on back of questionnaire at office of local board, or by filing written notice of appeal, within ten days after the mailing of this notice. Before appeal, a registrant may file a written request for appearance within the same ten-day period; and, if he does so, the local board will fix a day and notify him to appear personally before the local board; if this is done, the time to appeal is extended to ten days beyond the day set by the local board for such appearance. There is a right in certain dependency cases, of appeal from appeal board decision to the President; see Selective Service Regulations.

The law requires you—To keep in touch with your local board. To notify it of any change of address. To notify it of any fact which might change classification.

D. S. S. Form 57 (Rev. 4-13-42)

16-19071-1

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

2

DETACHMENT 1511th SERVICE UNIT  
Medical Examination and Induction Board No. 8  
Armory, 6th & Walnut Sts.,  
Louisville, Kentucky.

SPECIAL ORDERS

December 19, 1942.

NO. 221

E X T R A C T

4. Each of the following enlisted men, inducted into the Army of the United States this date, is released from active duty this date, is transferred to the Enlisted Reserve Corps, and will proceed to Local Board No. 79, Louisville, Jefferson Co., Kentucky:

U

- |                                     |                                      |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Lish, Hugh M. 35691238           | 31. Hack, Oliver O. 35691268         |
| 2. Bealmear, Del 35691239           | 32. Smith, Howard 35691269           |
| 3. Hicks, Paul J. 35691240          | 33. Carter, Cecil E. 35691270        |
| 4. Sharp, Raymond P. 35691241       | 34. Henneberger, Frank D. 35691271   |
| 5. Bowling, Martin R. 35691242      | 35. Dew, Roderick B. 35691272        |
| 6. Cernan, Bowerth L. 35691243      | 36. Meridith, Hubert 35691273        |
| 7. Nelson, Albert J. 35691244       | 37. Ashley, Claud 35691274           |
| 8. Hollander, Edward R. 35691245    | 38. Grimmer, Elmer E. 35691275       |
| 9. Chism, Michael D. 35691246       | 39. Woosley, Lester A. 35691276      |
| 10. Bonn, George H. 35691247        | 40. Rietl, Earl J. 35691277          |
| 11. Tandy, Charles G. 35691248      | 41. Allgeier, George F. Jr. 35691278 |
| 12. Schmetzer, Urban L. 35691249    | 42. McCord, Joseph M. 35691279       |
| 13. Johnson, Claybourne I. 35691250 | 43. Beck, Louis B. 35691280          |
| 14. Harrell, Robert L. 35691251     | 44. Matherly, Henry D. 35691281      |
| 15. Bruner, Samuel 35691252         | 45. Clark, Camillus L. 35691282      |
| 16. Harbison, George R. 35691253    | 46. Daniel, Gerald B. 35691283       |
| 17. Campbell, George E. 35691254    | 47. Lucas, Leo B. 35691284           |
| 18. Ferriell, Thomas C. 35691255    | 48. Hildebrand, Herman H. 35691285   |
| 19. Triplett, Coleman R. 35691256   | 49. Heinz, Frank C. Jr. 35691286     |
| 20. Womack, Sanford D. 35691257     | 50. Hornback, Crover 35691287        |
| 21. Johnston, Philip C. 35691258    | 51. Martin, Clarence O. 35691288     |
| 22. Leach, Carl M. 35691259         | 52. Sharp, Johnnie L. 35691289       |
| 23. Kapper, Leon 35691260           | 53. Sanders, Walker B. 35691290      |
| 24. Hill, William C. 35691261       | 54. Flowers, Elijah D. 35691291      |
| 25. Patterson, Leslie O. 35691262   | 55. Weppler, Charles H. Jr. 35691292 |
| 26. Green, Calvin R. 35691263       | 56. Nalley, James N. Jr. 35691293    |
| 27. Harrington, Thomas G. 35691264  | 57. Ferriell, John H. 35691294       |
| 28. Drane, Keat B. 35691265         | 58. Sprinkle, Floyd M. 35691295      |
| 29. Hook, Edward J. 35691266        | 59. Gore, Eugene S. 35691312         |
| 30. Payton, Kenneth R. 35691267     |                                      |

60. Edmondson, Eugene J. 35691296, limited service.

Effective December 28, 1942, each of the above-named enlisted men of the Enlisted Reserve Corps is called to active duty and will proceed from Louisville, Kentucky, to Reception Center, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, reporting to the Commanding Officer thereof for duty.

The Quartermaster will issue the necessary transportation and meal tickets. Travel directed is necessary in the military service and is chargeable to FD 34 P 434-02 A 0425-23.

DISTRIBUTION - - - A

*Joe B. Orr*  
JOE B. ORR,  
Captain, Infantry,  
Commanding.



1.

Sat night  
Oct 30, 1943

Dear Sir + all.

Will how are you getting  
along by now just find  
hope us for my self  
am. find + cloudy. Will  
are you all about clean  
working which? no that you  
don't mean get clean work  
Will we are still cleaning  
the some old. thing ever &  
over not any thing new  
has it been any thing new  
happening around. there which?  
don't see it has some and  
said that Kendrick and. alda  
was in on a farlongh. now  
Will it was about time for  
him to get one. for that is  
his first. sent. how it send  
he has been in the army.  
Will I am ready for another  
farlongh. just don't give they

'2'

are ready to give it to me.  
no I get it will be. along  
time before I get another  
one. But if we stay here  
it might not be so off  
-long. and it looks like we  
are going to stay here but  
I wish we would move. for  
~~the~~ I have now all of  
the that I want to see  
Will what is Willard & the  
children cleaning the then I  
said hello say the Big meeting  
is going on at Deansy dont  
it I that Marchella said that  
it coming Monday night I dont  
get it is very much to go this time  
in ~~the~~ it. Will come I dont no  
any more to visit this time  
so I will close.  
our room.

Love Howard  
To Sir & all





1.

Wed. 8.1943.

Hello mother & all.  
 Will write a few lines today  
 while I have got only thing  
 to do for a while. Well how  
 dare this find you all just  
 fine & hope as for my  
 self I am at I think we  
 are going on the range.  
 Some time today will I  
 still think I will get to  
 come home about the  
 last of this month but  
 I don't no just what day  
 for sure but I think it  
 will be about the 27 or  
 the 28 of this month  
 so dare I hope still think  
 that he will get to come  
 the last of the month.

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS • THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICE  
 THE SALVATION ARMY • THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS  
 THE JEWISH WELFARE BOARD • THE NATIONAL TRAVELERS AID ASSOCIATION



2.

I hope he dare get to soz.  
 mother & moy. need some.  
 money. but not very  
 much. send me 2000 soz.  
 dont send any money. aady  
 just send 5.00 at a time in  
 a letter for their hard to  
 get a money aady. cash down  
 here and I see you will  
 write four more letters  
~~for the~~ any way. please  
 I see to come <sup>home</sup> and just so  
 I get it some where about  
 the last of the month it  
 will be at. well I see this  
 is all I no to write this time  
 so I will close on when you  
 home. I will  
 & want to  
 Love Howard





(2)

to it in great many places  
 you need it in about  
 80 mile from here the  
 are going on everywhere  
 and about 200 mile  
 of it is now being moved  
 which means we that  
 can you can expect when  
 you want to move in. William  
 and his children will  
 will I think it is  
 the other night and  
 hope about the same time  
 as when you are all  
 then about the same  
 from about 1000  
 don't be long. They  
 leave to move the  
 time for I don't see  
 to move now.



1.

2/20/1944

Dear sister  
 Love tips

Will try and visit you all  
 a few times before the kind  
 you all. Will let you know  
 just fine what about you  
 all from cleaning and  
 how you all doing and  
 thing I eat it is getting  
 a lot warmer and here  
 will I don't know much  
 to want for I have had  
 to make a lot more time  
 today. Will be out going  
 to learn about the  
 will have down and  
 they ready to go it was  
 a lot of them like today  
 I will put my address  
 in the next page. The  
 place that we are going



(3)

These letters today I  
don't see how you can have  
been what I have write  
please for they have done  
more and more and more  
will send you this time  
then in my address  
When you  
write to the  
address  
PVT Howard Smith  
CO A 176 inf  
Frederickburg  
Va

Howard

7-10-1916  
Lons

Dear Mother & all.  
 Sat night  
 March 4. 1888.  
 Will soon hear later that  
 I got today, sure - soon  
 glad to hear that soon  
 we are all. Will then  
 leave and just find  
 & study. Since we have  
 been in camp for  
 the last two days.  
 Just now we have  
 been. and I like over  
 here just fine. It  
 is just after we  
 while from under  
 we were played.  
 I got the Hart case  
 today that you sent  
 so I see I no afraid

all that have happen  
 around there. and  
 got the check that  
 came in the letter  
 you sent me today  
 was a thingy so  
 Henry B. will  
 I just had some  
 money sent money  
 and I didn't need it  
 and just thought it  
 in B. will  
 I got a letter from  
 L. today today  
 one from. and to  
 and I thought that  
 they were all  
 I have had from  
 R. today for report  
 to week.

B:

Now in Mrs. & J. E. Smith  
 along. I see they are  
 working. I had heard  
 they were working  
 I see this in regard  
 to the other thing  
 I am writing to you  
 See the new paper  
 and the 17th in  
 the letter and when  
 you have no more  
 thing that has happened  
 this that we have  
 you

was when something  
 mine

your friend  
 J. E. Smith

B. J. for the all  
 times



Sat  
afternoon  
"1"

Pricerville Kentucky  
March 11, 1944

Hello Howard

Received your letter Thursday  
so I will take the greatest of  
Pleasure + ans.

I am writing this while I  
have time. I won't get to mail  
it until Monday.

I went to a play to Carthage  
last night & believe  
me it was jammed enough.

I saw Marcelle yesterday  
& she's doing just fine with  
her sparking new & Paul don't  
get along so good at times.

I suppose new nody has  
tired up & downed though.  
Don't you?

"D"

San Sanders old Cow had a  
calf today I think saw and  
tickled from head to tail. ~~he~~

Something is wrong he hasn't  
show up yet. & if he breaks  
a date with me I cry my  
little eyes out.

Say you don't think Bill  
& his wife got along when he  
was home.

will you take these  
men they are hard to get  
along with. ~~he~~

Say you heard you were coming  
to get to ~~co~~ come to fare snap

Bay I hope you so.

'3"

But if they do moved you  
as you say they would have  
to put you in the Yard House  
to keep you + Comp.<sup>to</sup>

I havent decided where I  
want them to send me yet, to  
like I would yet to go where  
I wanted to. they would send  
me where they wanted me I  
guess.

Boy you + the little black  
girl doing just fine.

Now Howard there your  
chance you had better grab  
for her. <sup>so</sup> you wouldnt  
have to see her thru the  
day time.

just go & see her when  
over



4"

it gets dark & you wouldn't  
 & no she was black hob

well I guess you are  
 getting tired of reading this  
 & I can't think of any  
 more to write now

So by by write me  
 chance you get

Laurey  
 Agdalene

P.S. Did you know Wilson make  
 has gone across,

(1)

Tipton Ky.

R2.

April 17, [1944]

Monday Eve.

Dearest Ben.

Will write to you I am by my self. Willard is helping Ben take fix fence the girls is still going to school + Betty is asleep what kind of work do you do now howard do your apple or just rather you run much when you are taking them long walks if they are why don't you go to the bank and to get know how much longer you will get to stay there.

Well it is still cloudy and raining it don't get dry enough to walk until it rains again

We was down to the river.

Well I bet Cecilia had been down there a wk. they was all night only some had cut her right hand pretty bad with a saw. Hester + Orman was up yesterday.

It won't be long until want the new one left soon all taken down so I can't know

72)

for the Army they are calling  
 these 47 back now even Harlan  
 Finch and John Wilson boys  
 toward the pillow you sent  
 was sure pretty wish I could  
 send you something but I  
 don't see what it would be  
 that you would get now  
 I can get all the Candy I want  
 I could send some they get  
 Candy pretty often out here  
 Hubert wrote me he didn't had  
 any Candy since he left Ruth  
 sent him some he say this  
 war soon be over boys so  
 don't fear.

Now you got to hurry and  
 come home for my chickens are  
 growing fast they are feathered  
 now and there are big fish  
 in this pond.

I think all the fruit are killed  
 it has been so cold.

I got one letter from Ralph  
 and Leda since they went back  
 Winifred's don't never come or write  
 some say they have moved but I  
 don't know over



memos can't never hear from  
him either. guess they will  
come from the army  
for they are calling them  
back that I am with us. They  
passed another cow now  
guess you are getting tired  
reading. I'll stop writing so  
I will stop.

I saw Marcelle's picture of that  
Boy Bill I believe she liked  
him. he is good looking  
guess he is a good boy isn't he.  
so I would take care of your  
self and answer soon.

Love from

Tom & girls



3.

one from every camp  
 I am in fact at once  
 like this in the early  
 blood I am going to feel  
 no doubt that we will  
 to have no very much  
 longer. You know we  
 have got all the candy  
 that we want because  
 it is just 3.8 a box  
 we can get any thing  
 that we want ahead  
 on the camp and  
 any thing in real  
 cheap in the camp  
 price from in the winter  
 and what are they  
 clearing the railroad  
 that will be changed at  
 regular clearing house

4

a letter. Longue and  
 I moved home and  
 when he is released  
 reading very hard  
 from Madrid I see  
 he is I got a letter  
 from Portland today  
 and I have got to  
 know it I need not  
 report & letter. I am  
 today and tonight  
 just as in many  
 I have got a good job  
 if I could only keep  
 it any thing to give  
 me that we have  
 no one - no one -  
 out of doors.  
 To Howard  
 To Martha and Sue



May. 31. 1944.

Wed.

Dear Mother & all.

Just a few lines to say  
hello & let son know I  
am ok. and hope the  
kind son all the same.  
Wee wee I am again  
trying to write and can't  
stand up a thing to  
write about. Just maybe  
when I hear from son  
we that I can have a  
cess more to write  
about. I have just  
got down writing  
to Anna but it was  
just like this: one  
making in it

it is a lot to write  
about but son can't write  
let ~~he~~ <sup>he</sup> know I don't  
like so to a son after  
while you I know but  
my thing will be so.  
Wee mother this is  
all for this time

By for this time  
Love Howard  
to Mother & all

Print the complete address in plain letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided on the right. Use typewriter, dark ink, or dark pencil. Pencil or small writing is not suitable for photographing.

From:

To: MRS. RUSSIE FLETCHER  
PRICEVILLE  
K.Y.

PR. RALPH SMITH 38493304  
Co M 329 INF APO 90  
96 PM NEW YORK N.Y.

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

See Instruction No. 2

(Sender's complete address above)

**JUNE 17**  
**GERMANY**

Dear mother and all

How does this find you all? I am OK and hope you are the same. What have you been doing? I am doing the same old job. Are you about done seeing Ted? What is G.T. and Marcella doing now? The same thing? I guess when have you saw Lela and Graham? I got 2 letters from Lela yesterday but I haven't heard from you for a long time and I haven't heard from Winifred since I have been on this side. When have you and Emmet been down? I guess every body is behind with their work. This air well it has been a real nice day here today. Lela said that every body enjoys nature and sitting out. This time I am back in camp this week. I think I told you that yesterday I guess I wrote the same old thing every time but I don't know any thing else to say. I hope you have time to read my letter.

REPLY BY  
**V---MAIL**

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

[1944]

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.



To  
 Mrs Oma Giffon  
 Upton R-2  
 Kentucky  
 USA

From  
 The Howard Smith  
 Inf Co C APO 1532  
 Postmaster not paid  
 July 7, 1944

Dear Sir & all  
 Will try and write you just a few lines  
 to let you know I am all and hope this  
 finds you all the same. I got two letters  
 from mother yesterday & two from Maude.  
 but they were wait-the post of June  
 I have got every mail from you since  
 I left the states. But I see it is on  
 it way. How are you all getting along  
 with your work, how you son Manfred  
 since we were all home I see Ralph  
 get to come down a lot more don't  
 he. I sure hope he gets to stay  
 there, how is the sister getting along  
 tell them I said hello & to be  
 good. Well I can't tell you about  
 how every thing is over here. as I see  
 you no that. Well I see this is about  
 all for this time. I will write an often  
 as I can. Bye for this time  
 I hope you can read  
 Love Howard  
 To Sir & all



Sunday

July 16. 1844

Dear Mother

Will try and write you again today. To let you know I am getting along O.K. and hope this finds you all the same.

I just wonder what

you are are doing today just I see it in some one else today. are you are home some more what will I write home from seeing a Henry off. stay in the land few days. and if I am in Henry what

are here will from are you are sitting along with some night. By now. But I don't see you are down just the same matter I don't see any more time just now so I will leave you this time By now. How I hope to mother

Print the complete address in plain black letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. *Handwritten*

To **MRS OMA GIBSON**  
**UPTON R-2**  
**USA KENTUCKY**

From **PFC HOWARD SMITH**  
**COC 133 INF APO 34**  
**8 POSTMASTER NEW YORK NY**  
**JULY 20 1944**

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Dear **OMA + ALL**

PLEASE ADDRESS ME AS SHOWN BELOW UNTIL OTHERWISE ADVISED

**PFC** **HOWARD** **SMITH** **35691269**  
(Grade) (First name) (Last name) (Army serial number)

**C.O.C.** **133 INF**  
(Company, battery, etc.) (Regiment, group, or other organization)

A.P.O. No. **34** c/o Postmaster **NEW YORK NY**

The above COMPLETE ADDRESS should be placed on ALL MAIL sent to me

MY CODE CABLE ADDRESS IS \_\_\_\_\_

Normal signature *Howard Smith*

SPACE BELOW FOR MESSAGE

*Just a few lines to say hello  
and let you know I am ok &  
hope the finds you all the  
same. Well what have you all  
been doing for the last few  
weeks when have you seen any  
of them from down here?  
See they are all at the  
see this is all for this time  
Bye for now.*

**HELP REDUCE THE MAIL LOAD-USE** **LONG HOWARD** **To in ball**

AR 55-399  
W. D. A. G. O. Form No. 971  
5 July 1943

**V-MAIL**

\*This form superseded W. D. A. G. O. Form No. 206, 22 January 1943.  
which may not be used after receipt of this form.



Aug. 11. 1944.

Dear Mather

Will am sure later that I got Gladys  
 sure was glad to hear from you all  
 & that every body is O.K. for my  
 self I am just fine. I got six letters  
 yesterday, three of them were from you  
 & they were worth from the 10th to  
 the 20th of July. So I see I will  
 get my mail a lot faster from  
 now on, and I sure am glad of  
 that. I sure am glad that you  
 are getting my mail O.K.  
 You said that John Thomas & Armon  
 had got them a truck I bet they  
 are doing some big trucking work  
 so what time is it in it every  
 good. You said that Marcelle had  
 got back from Winfield, did she  
 have a big time while she was  
 up there. The letter that I got from  
 her yesterday she wrote it while she  
 was up there, I got Sonnerne Smith  
 address that you sent. I will  
 write him a letter in a day or so  
 You said that Ralph & Leda had  
 got them a house on Wilson st  
 they sure like that place. So  
 I sure hope he got to stay there  
 at least not & maybe he will.  
 I got a letter from them the  
 other day but it was a real  
 old one. Wrote back in June



Gon said that Gon & John Thomas had ~~some~~ some Picture made. Be sure and send me one of them, for I see I will get my mail at. from now on. so matter how Gon ever started getting any of the Allotment check that I had made out. But I see Gon are getting them.

Gon ask me if it was any thing that I wanted Gon to send me no I dont need any thing now. but if I do want any thing I will write and tell Gon.

We can get most any thing over here that we need. and we get Plenty to eat. I see Gon think that I dont write much about them over here. But it is even any thing that Gon can write about, I went to the show last night. the name of it was. Three men in white. it sure was good. Gon said that Winifred Kide was down there now. say are they as mean as they was I let Gon have a time with them. dont gon. Tell them I said hello & to be good. Gon said that the big meeting had broke and come here I see Gon all went most every night didn't gon.

I hope Gon all have had some good rain by now. & Gon every one had by now. Over.

Will it dont rain very much over  
 here. But I dont think it makes much  
 difference for they have got every craps  
 to mind to every thing. But it is  
 a lot of frost  
 so are they still taking them to  
 the army from around there.  
 But I dont see it in every body  
 left for them to get in it I dont  
 see they have call Grant away sent  
 home they say I dont know what  
 Marcellay would do if they did  
 call him to do  
 Well matter I think I have wait  
 around around for this time  
 for son may not every get  
 well up this road Well that  
 all for this time so much  
 when son home time

Bye for this time

Love Howard  
 To Mary & all



Print the complete address in plain letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided on the right. Use typewriter, dark ink, or dark pencil. Faint or small writing is not suitable for photographing.



MRS WILLARD GIBSON  
UPTON A-2  
KENTUCKY  
USA

Aug 21, 1946  
PFC HOWARD SMITH  
CAC 133 INF APO 34  
Postmaster NEW YORK

CENSOR'S STAMP

SEE INSTRUCTION NO. 2

Sender's complete address below

Dear Oma  
Well ans your letter that I got yesterday  
- sure was glad to hear from you all &  
that you are all as far my self I am  
just fine. I wrote this in the first  
letter that I have got from you. It  
was writ the 10th of July. I just got  
fourteen letters yesterday, not fool at all  
in it. But most of them was all letters  
Oma you and me could I get anything  
that I need over here. Give I can  
get most any thing that I need  
over here. I think I will get my  
mail next time from non con. & I sure  
hope so. Oma I will write you a long  
letter one of the days But I have  
got much time now for I have got  
no more letters to write. Well that all  
for this time By for the time

Love Howard  
To Oma & all

Have you filled in Oma  
Please address at top

V MAIL

Have you filled in non  
Please address at top





AMERICAN RED CROSS

Aug 28. 1944

Dear Anna & all

Will try and answer your  
letter that I just got  
yesterday sure was glad  
to hear from you all  
& that you are getting  
along as far as my self  
I am ok I got three letters  
from you yesterday. But  
I got fourteen in all.  
That not bad for one  
day in it, ~~to be~~ But part  
of them were old ones  
but the most of them  
was new mail. I  
will get my mail just  
fine from now on  
and I sure am glad



## AMERICAN RED CROSS

of it, for it is just  
 before time for me  
 to start, I am it  
 better than I was.  
 Well they said that you  
 all had been having  
 some good rain for  
 the last few weeks. I  
 hope things had to  
 be gone. To do every  
 good. You said that the  
 war was waiting in action.  
 What was wrong with him  
 that he got out of  
 the army. Did he get  
 wounded, for the last  
 that I heard from  
 him. I thought he was



## AMERICAN RED CROSS

in England, I am glad  
 to hear that he is there  
 now, I got some letter  
 from Ralph & Leda and  
 he said that he was  
 at that time just fine  
 But I don't know to  
 if I was there, he  
 I got a letter from  
 Glenn Houston yesterday  
 he is here in Italy  
 somewhere, but he  
 is in the wrong  
 I sure would like  
 to see him but I  
 don't expect that will  
 ever happen it is  
 a lot of the time





AMERICAN RED CROSS


ever here. But I know  
 soon every one that  
 I know before I come  
 in the army. Will  
 and I can't think  
 of any thing to  
 write about this time  
 + I have got a lot  
 more letters to write  
 while I have got time  
 so I will close for now

By far this time  
 Love, Howard

To her + all.  
 Tell the girls I said hello.  
 + be good. And soon  
 I will write as often as I can

[Pre-Oct. 1944]

Print the complete address in plain letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided on the right. Use typewriter, dark ink, or dark pencil. Faint or small writing is not suitable for photographing.

	TO:	FROM:
	MRS OMA GIBSON UPTON - R-2 KENTUCKY	PFC HOWARD SMITH 3661269 INF CO. CAPD 15323 POSTMASTER NEW YORK
(CENSOR'S STAMP) SEE INSTRUCTION NO. 2		(Sender's complete address above)

Dear Oma

Italy

Will try and write you a few lines to let you know that I am at and hope this finds you all the same. I see you had begun to think that I was going to write but I haven't had much time since I left the states I have been in North Africa but now I am somewhere in Italy when have you been down home I haven't got any mail at all since I left the states but I see I will start getting some in a few days are I hope so every way. The weather over here is about like it is back home you are sure all going along with your war. are you about done. Well I see this is about all for this time so I will close. Love Howard to you & all

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

V-MAIL

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

! Oct 13, 1944

Dear Mother & all.

Will try and write you  
just a few lines. To let  
you know I am ok.  
& hope this finds you  
all the same. This is  
the first time that I  
have had time to write  
for the last two weeks.  
But I have been getting  
your all mail just  
fine. We are off of  
the front line now  
so maybe I will get  
to write a few later  
in the next few days  
how are you all getting  
along with your work  
but I get you are just



2.

about down every top  
 by this time. You said  
 that Ralph & Leda had  
 a 8<sup>th</sup> Boy. Not for in it  
 he to I made sure it would  
 be a girl. I got a letter  
 from Hendrick the other  
 day. he is in Germany  
 what is Marcella doing  
 has she been working  
 very hard. Will mother  
 I am going to close for  
 this time for I have  
 got a lot to do today  
 I will write a long letter  
 tomorrow.

By far this time  
 Love. Howard To Mother

Oct 15, 1944

Dear Mother & all.

Well try and am gone  
 long letter that I got  
 yesterday. sure was glad to  
 that you all are all <sup>there</sup>  
 as far my self I am  
 just fine. I wonder  
 what you all are doing  
 today for it is Sunday.  
 But I don't see it in  
 daylight that got far.  
 it is just 8 o'clock over  
 here, so I see you all  
 are still in the bed.  
 It look like it is going  
 to be Party over here  
 today but it has been  
 raining a lot over  
 here, is it still raining  
 as much there as it

has been for<sup>2</sup> the last  
 few weeks. hope you have  
 got the top cut by now  
 I get it was a slow

top for I don't get you  
 can get any help at  
 all this time

you said that they had just  
 about stop taking them in  
 the army from around  
 there. I get they had to for  
 I don't get it in very  
 many left in it.

get I sure have heard a  
 lot about Ralph & Leda  
 big Boy. I hope they are  
 getting along. At which  
 I get they are mother  
 I ~~have~~ am going to send



3

some of the money in  
 the letter that we have  
 over here I thought you  
 all might want to see  
 it some of it is French  
 money and some of it  
 is what we have here  
 in Italy. I will tell you  
 all about it when I get  
 back home & I don't think  
 that will be so many  
 long as I hope that  
 I get the men in good  
 fact there now sent is  
 I get you hear more  
 about the 5th army then  
 I do. ho ho I don't get  
 you have been getting

4

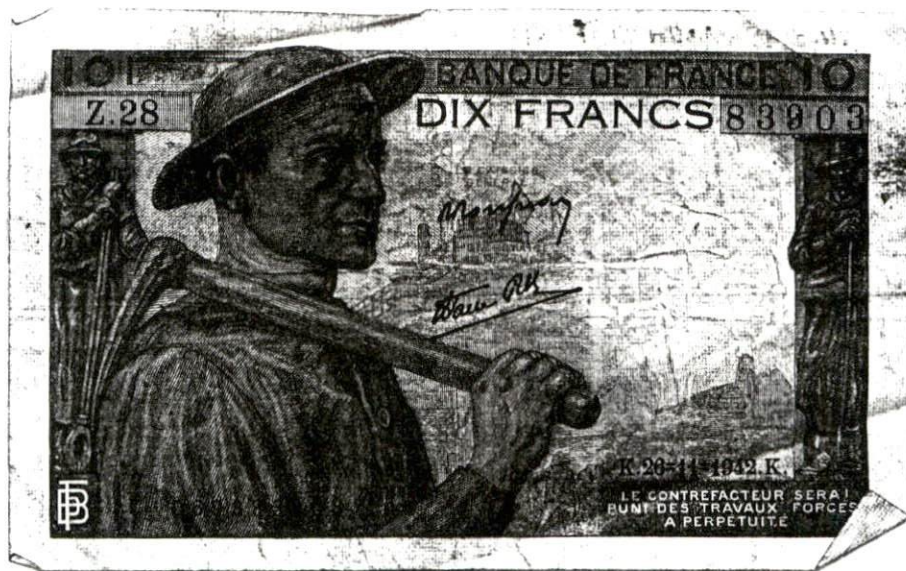
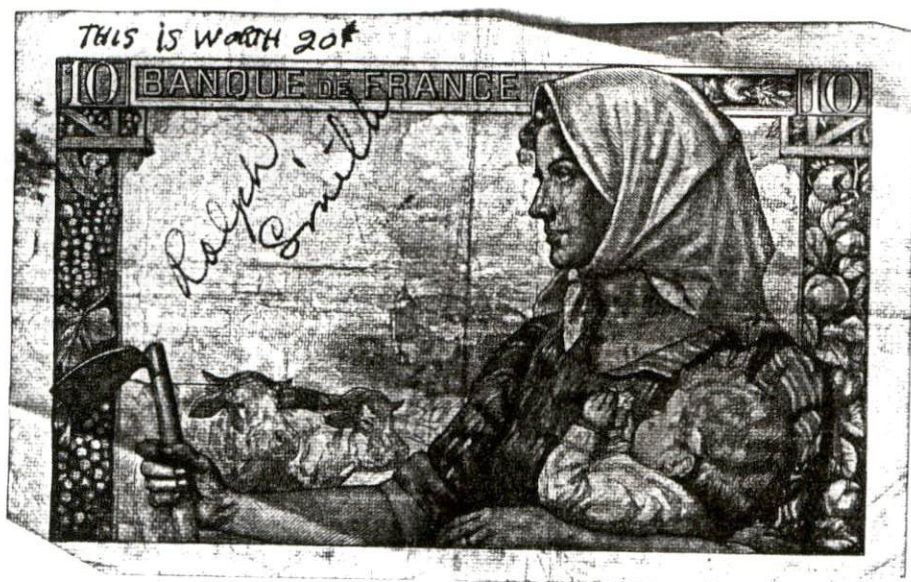
I vary much mail from  
 me for the last few  
 weeks But it is lack  
 of time that I just  
 can't write. But I will  
 write every time I can  
 so every time that you  
 hear from me for a  
 while don't weary of me.  
 Well I can't thank  
 of vary much to write  
 about - so I will close  
 for this time.

By for this time  
 Love. Howard to Mark & all.  
 See Q 7 I said hello.  
 & not to wait to hard.

this is 5¢















Friday night. Oct 20, [1944]

Dear Howard  
 Will try and write you a few more  
 lines just to let you know we are  
 all well hope you are OK when  
 you get this well I dont know  
 thing much to write about only  
 Marcella is at Ralph he come  
 after her. Wednesday to stay with  
 Leda & the body he is gone so  
 much and the body is kindly  
 sick I dont know ~~how~~ how long  
 she will stay I went with  
 John Thomas after a load of  
 Coal yesterday we started  
 night before last and come  
 back yesterday you have to be  
 there by day light if you get  
 loaded up there is so many

2

hauling coal we are aiming  
 to burn coal this winter  
 it wont be so hard to get  
 we are going to get it next  
 week I guess I have done got  
 a new stone prism  
 Gertie has gone to Louisville  
 to day to take a load of stock  
 me & Gertie takes a time a four  
 going with things ha ha  
 no I was here by my self is the  
 reason I went to the coal mine  
 and I guess I will go all time  
 till Marcella come home  
 but I dont guess she will stay  
 long be back before you get  
 this letter I guess I guess she  
 has wrote and told you about  
 Bill writing and wanting a fountain

3

Pen and writing Paper.

I got the Pen at Leitchfield  
 yesterday howe you ever wrote  
 to him he is all way worry  
 because he hant heard from  
 you if you get the Boxes all  
 right I will send you some  
 more but you will have to  
 write and ask for it but  
 I have one letter that I can  
 use to send you some money  
 Well I guess I had better close  
 and go to bed the rest is in  
 bed Lertne kids is down here  
 to night so you write when  
 you can. So by by for to night

Love mother  
 To  
 Howard



Read the complete address to guide letters in the panel below and your return address in the space provided on the right. Use typewritten, dated ink, or dark pencil. Pencil or faded writing is not suitable for photographing.

From 56691269

TO: Mrs. William L. Lefson  
 Winton, R. I.  
 Kentucky  
 U.S.A.

By: Donald Smith  
 Cas 133 2nd Fl. 34  
 65 PM New York  
 213

(KINDLY STAMP)

See Instruction No. 2

(Sender's complete address above)

Dear Sirs + all. Oct 23. 1944

Will try and write you just a few lines to let you know I am at and hope this finds you all the same. Just wonder what you are all doing today. Working hard? You, Oma? Love from Jimmy, you all. Mail just fine. But I haven't had time to answer any of them for the last few days. Just will send you change, I get but they may be about later. Just I get that in future then none at all. Will that do? B. B. Ford, Kansas

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT BOTTOM?

24-1

Bill Mail

1

Oct 24, 1944

Dear Mother &amp; all

Wee try and write  
 you just a few lines  
 to let you know I  
 am at. and hope  
 this finds you all  
 the home. I want  
 you and mameela  
 had a letter yesterday  
 and she said that I  
 want to you was  
 mail to and the  
 one that I want  
 to her was sent  
 free. so I you this  
 and we get the

2

Bill Mail

before later one of the  
 will for I hope you  
 to air mail don't to  
 go on this one. you  
 said in the letter  
 that I got from you  
 yesterday that you  
 had got them coming  
 top I you you are  
 and glad of that  
 you I know it was  
 a lot of work.  
 Mother I don't see  
 you have been getting  
 much mail from the  
 for the last month  
 or so. But I will  
 say a time I can

Billie

Just I get some see this  
last time you in  
Baptist. Big boy young  
along I never have  
had time to write  
to them just I see  
they are all well  
whether I don't know  
if you can read  
this we must just  
say you can.  
Well that all for  
now by love they.  
Love Howard  
to mother & all.



Print the complete address in plain letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided on the right. Use typewritten, dark ink, or dark pencil. Pencil or small writing is not suitable for photography.



To: Mrs. Russell Fletcher  
Princeton  
Kentucky  
USA

From: 3569/269  
P.O. Howard Smith  
Co. L 133 Inf. A.P.O. 34  
9 P.M. New York, N.Y.

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

See Instruction No. 2

(Sender's complete address above)

OCT 27, 1944

Dear Mother & all  
Well try and write you just a few  
lines to let you know I am at  
& hope this finds you all the  
same. I got a letter from Marcella  
yesterday & I also got one from Gertrude.  
But it was hard some time in  
June to be. It has been a good while  
going here. Now in the weather there  
now. It is a raining old time over  
here today, but it may fair up after while  
in. I hope so every way. Well mother  
I hope you can read this for I have  
got a old pen that won't write. But  
maybe you can read it. Well that all  
for this time. Love for this time  
Love, Kenneth. To Mother & all

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?

REPLY BY  
V-MAIL

HAVE YOU FILLED IN COMPLETE ADDRESS AT TOP?



IN GRATEFUL MEMORY OF

Private First Class Howard Smith, A.S.No. 35691269,

WHO DIED IN THE SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY AT

in the Mediterranean Area, October 29, 1944.

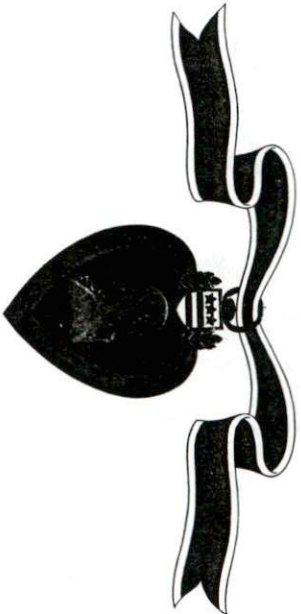
HE STANDS IN THE UNBROKEN LINE OF PATRIOTS WHO HAVE DARED TO DIE  
THAT FREEDOM MIGHT LIVE, AND GROW, AND INCREASE ITS BLESSINGS.

FREEDOM LIVES, AND THROUGH IT, HE LIVES—

IN A WAY THAT HUMBLER THE UNDERTAKINGS OF MOST MEN

*Franklin D. Roosevelt*

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY VESTED IN HIM BY CONGRESS  
HAS AWARDED THE

## PURPLE HEART

ESTABLISHED BY GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON  
AT NEWBURGH, NEW YORK, AUGUST 7, 1782  
TO

Private First Class Edward Smith, A.S.No. 35691269,

FOR MILITARY MERIT AND FOR WOUNDS RECEIVED  
IN ACTION

resulting in his death October 29, 1944.

OFFICIAL:

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON  
THIS 21th DAY OF March 19 45

MAJOR GENERAL  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL.

SECRETARY OF WAR



10/29/1944

Washington D C

Miss Mattie Fletcher  
The Secretary of War. ask  
that I assure you of his  
Deep sympathy.

But 1st Gen Howard Smith  
Who Was Recently Reported Missing  
Report Now Received States  
He was Killed in Action Oct  
29th In Italy. Condolence Letter  
Will follow signed The Adj General.

10/29/1944

DUPLICATE

CHECK TYPE REQUIRED (See Instructions attached)		APPLICATION FOR HEADSTONE OR MARKER (Please make out and return in duplicate)	
<input type="checkbox"/> UPRIGHT MARBLE HEADSTONE <input type="checkbox"/> FLAT MARBLE MARKER <input type="checkbox"/> FLAT GRANITE MARKER <input type="checkbox"/> BRONZE MARKER	ENLISTMENT DATE <b>DEC 28 1942</b> DISCHARGE DATE	SERIAL NO. <b>35691269</b>	EMBLEM (Check one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CHRISTIAN <input type="checkbox"/> HEBREW <input type="checkbox"/> NONE
NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) <b>SMITH HOWARD</b>	DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year) <b>JUNE 24 1922</b>	DATE OF DEATH (Month, Day, Year) <b>OCT 29-1944</b>	BIRTHDAY <b>1688606</b> STATE <b>KENTUCKY</b> RANK <b>PRC</b> COMPANY <b>Co C</b>
NAME OF CEMETERY <b>SMITH</b> <b>William Patton Thullen</b> <b>Munfordville Ky</b>	SHIP TO (I CERTIFY THE APPLICANT FOR THIS STONE HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH ME TO TRANSPORT THE STONE FROM THE FREIGHT STATION TO THE CEMETERY) (SIGNATURE OF CONSIGNEE) <b>Matthew Francis Fletcher</b>	LOCATION (City and State) <b>PRESTON HART CO KENTUCKY</b> NEAREST FREIGHT STATION (City and State) <b>MUNFORDVILLE KENTUCKY</b> POST OFFICE ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE <b>MUNFORDVILLE KENTUCKY</b>	I certify this application is submitted for a stone for the unmarked grave of a veteran. I hereby agree to assume all responsibility for the removal of the stone promptly upon arrival at destination, and properly place it at the decedent's grave at my expense. APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE <b>Matthew Francis Fletcher</b> ADDRESS (Street, City, State)
FOR VERIFICATION DO NOT WRITE HERE	ORDERED B/L SHIPPED	DATE OF APPLICATION	

DDMG FORM 623  
REV 6 JUL 48

IMPORTANT—Complete Reverse Side

To Mrs. Mattie R. Fletcher, Priceville, Ky.

From Washington D. C.

In Reference to your letter of the 18 of Nov.  
Only Information available in this Office is that  
Your Son, Pfc. Howard Smith, became Missing in  
Action in Italy, October 29, 1944.

Assure you everthing possible being done to  
Ascertain his whereabouts, you will be notified  
of future reports as received.

Regret, due to Military Security Regulations  
his Exact Location.

Signed the Adjutant General,

Witsell.

Telegram Taken over the thlephone by *Willie Male*



10/1944

To Mr. C. M. Walter &

Washington D.C.  
Mrs. Walter Fletcher  
Sect. of War, Desires  
me to Express with  
deep regret, that your  
son, Pfc. Howard  
Smith, has been reported  
Missing in action, Oct.  
29, in Italy.

You will be advised  
when other Details or  
Information are received  
Signed, The Adjutant  
General

12/5/1944

CLASS OF SERVICE  
This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS	
DL - Day Letter	
NL - Night Letter	
LC - Deferred Cable	
NLT - Cable Night Letter	
ENGLE - Radiogram	

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. The receipt is ST point of destination

VEAE20 60 GOVT=WUX WASHINGTON DC DEC 5 1944

MRS MATTIE R FLETCHER=PRICEVILLE KY

PC 835A WC

REFERENCE YOUR LETTER 13 NOVEMBER ONLY INFORMATION AVAILABLE THIS OFFICE IS THAT YOUR SON PRIVATE FIRST CLASS HOWARD SMITH BECAME MISSING IN ACTION IN ITALY ON 29 OCTOBER 1944 ASSURE YOU EVERYTHING POSSIBLE BEING DONE TO ASCERTAIN HIS WHEREABOUTS YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED OF FUTURE REPORTS AS RECEIVED REGRET DUE TO MILITARY SECURITY REGULATIONS HIS EXACT LOCATION CANNOT BE DISCLOSED

=WITSELL ACTING THE ADJUTANT GENERAL.

WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE



1/23/1945

CLASS OF SERVICE  
This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS	
DL	Day Letter
NL	Night Letter
LC	Deferred Cable
NT	Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram	

The time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

VEAE44 48 GOVT=WUX WASHINGTON DC JAN 23 225P

MRS MATTIE R FLETCHER=  
PRICEVILLE KY

THE SECRETARY OF WAR ASKS THAT I ASSURE YOU OF HIS DEEP SYMPATHY IN THE LOSS OF YOUR SON PRIVATE FIRST CLASS HOWARD SMITH WHO WAS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING IN ACTION REPORT NOW RECEIVED STATES HE WAS KILLED IN ACTION TWENTY NINE OCTOBER IN ITALY CONFIRMING LETTER FOLLOWS=

J A ULIO THE ADJUTANT GENERAL.

155H

DORSEY  
MRS CLARENCE  
N 7103 WILLIE MABE  
MR 210P FILED  
PC 158P NFL

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE



1/23/1945

CLASS OF SERVICE  
This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

1201

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS	
DL - Day Letter	
NL - Night Letter	
LC - Deferred Cable	
NLT - Cable Night Letter	
Ship Radiogram	

The time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

VEAE44 48 GOVT=WUX WASHINGTON DC JAN 23 223P

MRS MATTIE R FLETCHER=  
PRICEVILLE KY=

THE SECRETARY OF WAR ASKS THAT I ASSURE YOU OF HIS DEEP SYMPATHY IN THE LOSS OF YOUR SON PRIVATE FIRST CLASS HOWARD SMITH WHO WAS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING IN ACTION REPORT NOW RECEIVED STATES HE WAS KILLED IN ACTION TWENTY NINE OCTOBER IN ITALY CONFIRMING LETTER FOLLOWS=

J A ULIO THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

DORSEY

MRS CLARENCE

155H

7103

WILLIE MABE

MR

210P

FILED

PC 158P NFL

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1/31/1945

WAR DEPARTMENT  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

THE PURPLE HEART AWARDED POSTHUMOUSLY

The Purple Heart was originally established by General George Washington at Newburgh, 7 August 1782, during the War of the Revolution. The decoration was revived by the War Department on 22 February 1932, the two-hundredth anniversary of General Washington's birth, thus paying respect to his memory and recognizing his military achievements. It is awarded to persons who, while serving in any capacity with the Army of the United States, are wounded in action against an enemy of the United States, or who since 6 December 1941 are killed in action, or who die as a direct result of wounds received in action.

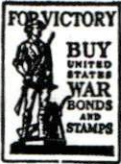
The following is a brief description of the Purple Heart: The decoration consists of a purple enameled heart within a bronze border on which is mounted in relief a profile head of General Washington in military uniform. Above the enameled heart is the shield of Washington's coat of arms between two sprays of leaves in green enamel. On the reverse, below the shield and leaves without enamel, is a raised bronze heart with the inscription "For Military Merit," under which is engraved the name of the recipient. The medal is suspended by a rectangular-shaped metal loop with corners rounded from a silk moire ribbon of purple center with white edges.

In posthumous awards of the Purple Heart the Commanding General, Philadelphia Quartermaster Depot, is directed to engrave and ship the decoration direct to the proper next of kin. Usually fifteen days time is required after receipt of notice of award, for the engraving, packaging, and shipping of the decoration.

Recipients of posthumous awards of the Purple Heart may display the decoration in any manner desired, except that decoration is not authorized to be worn by them.

J. A. ULIO  
Major General  
The Adjutant General

31 January 1945.



ARMY SERVICE FORCES  
Headquarters, Fifth Service Command  
Fort Hayes, Columbus 18, Ohio

7 February 1945.

Mrs. Mattie R. Fletcher  
Priceville, Kentucky

Dear Mrs. Fletcher:

The Adjutant General of the Army has notified me that your son, Pvt. 1st Class Howard Smith, was killed in action in the service of our country. While I know that nothing I can say will lessen your loss, I do desire to extend my heartfelt sympathy to you.

In accordance with War Department policy, detailed information concerning your son should be sent to you direct by his Commanding Officer or the Chaplain of his organization. You will understand, I am sure, that battle or other conditions incident to active service often make it impossible to know the circumstances of a soldier's injury or death. Such information as is obtainable will be sent to you direct as soon as practicable by the officers indicated above.

Please be assured that when any new information is received by the Casualty Branch, Office of The Adjutant General, Washington, D.C., they will forward same to you immediately without any request on your part.

I also want to let you know about the various benefits which a grateful nation has established for the dependents of deceased members of our Armed Forces. In the near future, you will receive forms from certain government agencies which will indicate to you what these benefits are, and who is eligible to receive them.

If you need assistance in filling out these forms, please do not hesitate to communicate with the Army Personal Affairs Office nearest your home. A list of these offices is inclosed. Should you prefer, you may address your inquiries to the Personal Affairs Officer, Headquarters, Fifth Service Command, Fort Hayes, Columbus 18, Ohio.

Sincerely yours,

*James L. Collins*  
JAMES L. COLLINS,  
Major General, U S Army,  
Commanding.

1 Inclosure.



February 19, 1945.

My dear Mrs. Fletcher:

At the request of the President, I write to inform you that the Purple Heart has been awarded posthumously to your son, Private First Class Howard Smith, Infantry, who sacrificed his life in defense of his country.

Little that we can do or say will console you for the death of your loved one. We profoundly appreciate the greatness of your loss, for in a very real sense the loss suffered by any of us in this battle for our country, is a loss shared by all of us. When the medal, which you will shortly receive, reaches you, I want you to know that with it goes my sincerest sympathy, and the hope that time and the victory of our cause will finally lighten the burden of your grief.

Sincerely yours,

*Henry L. Stimson*

Mrs. Mattie R. Fletcher,  
Priceville, Kentucky.



# VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 6, 1945



Mrs. Mattie R. Fletcher  
Priceville, Kentucky

YOUR FILE REFERENCE:

IN REPLY REFER TO: MBAB -8  
SMITH, Howard  
XC-3,824,338

Dear Madam:

The Veterans Administration has learned with regret of the death of the above-named veteran.

Existing laws provide for the payment of pension to the dependent mother or father, or both, of a veteran who dies as a result of a disease or injury incurred in service in line of duty. Dependency may not be held to exist, however, if the mother or father, or both, have an income sufficient to provide for their reasonable support and maintenance, including clothing and necessary medical treatment for themselves and members of the family under legal age, or of any age if mentally or physically incapacitated. The fact that the mother or father or other member of the family has been granted, under any of the laws administered by the Veterans Administration, insurance, pension, compensation, or other benefits will be disregarded in determining dependency.

If you desire to file a claim, the enclosed form should be carefully filled out in accordance with the instructions printed thereon and returned to the Veterans Administration, Washington 25, D. C. Should you feel the need of assistance in the preparation of your claim, you may write to the Veterans Administration, Washington 25, D. C., or contact any Veterans Administration Facility.

You may be assured that upon receipt of the claim it will be given careful consideration and you will be informed of any additional evidence which may be required.

All correspondence relative to this case should be addressed to this office, and should show the veteran's name and XC-number given above, to permit prompt identification.

Respectfully,

*R. J. Hinton*

R. J. HINTON,  
Director,  
Dependents Claims Service.

Enc. Form 535  
" " 1099



VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 10, 1945



YOUR FILE REFERENCE:

IN REPLY REFER TO: FCAD

Mrs. Mattie Russie Fletcher,  
Priceville, Kentucky.

XC- 3, 824, 338  
SMITH, Howard

Dear Madam:

You were named beneficiary for \$ 10,000.00 of the National Service Life Insurance issued to the above captioned insured which is payable monthly in an amount based on your age on the date of the insured's death. It is desired to settle this insurance as soon as possible. Your prompt submission of the following evidence is requested:

1. Your claim in duplicate on enclosed Form 355. (Par. II need not be executed if death occurred in active service.)
2. Your election of mode of payment on the enclosed Form 1501. Complete information as to mode of payment will be obtained by a careful reading of the form.
3. Certified copy of public record of birth or church record of baptism of the insured. (Record must show names of both parents.)
4. Certified copy of public record of your birth or church record of your baptism. (Church record must show date of birth of claimant.) (Certified copies of public or church records must bear the signature and seal of the legal custodian of such records.)
5. Your signature on enclosed signature card, Standard Form 1099.

If public or church record of your birth or baptism or the insured's birth or baptism cannot be furnished, the following may be submitted:

- (a) An affidavit by physician or midwife in attendance at birth; or
- (b) Affidavits by two persons, preferably disinterested, who should state their ages and addresses, the name, date and place of birth of the person concerning whom the affidavit is made, the names of the parents of such person, and the source of their information.

If evidence to prove relationship and age requested in Pars. 3 and 4, or any of the alternatives in (a) and (b), is not readily available, your own statements as to relationship and age on properly executed claim, Form 355, will be accepted tentatively subject to later submission on the further required evidence as soon as practicable, but it is to be understood that unless the necessary supporting evidence is furnished within a reasonable period, payments may be suspended until the receipt of such confirmatory evidence. **Although complete report of premium status has not been received the forms are forwarded to avoid delay and to expedite settlement on the assumption that all premiums have been paid.** Very truly yours,

Form 355 (2)  
Form 1501  
Stand. Form 1099

Insurance Form 1500  
Rev. Oct. 1944

*H. L. McCoy*

H. L. McCOY,  
Director of Insurance.



Shively, Kentucky  
May 2, 1945.

Dear Folks,

How are you all getting along? Have you all been waiting to hear from us? we have you all. I havent had any stamps nor envelopes.

Winford got his greetings Sat. to leave the 9th. he fixed to take off and the co. told him to wait till Monday morning & come to the plant. It being Sat. eve before he got the papers he could do nothing only wait. Monday morning the co. called the Board and the war man power. It was to go to Washington. The Board sent him card requested he didn't have to go the 9th as the case was before the Board of appeals. we were all stirred up here fixing to start out Tuesday for we didn't think after he got his papers to leave it would do any good. he had the cow & car sold. providing I couldn't keep the cows.

2.

me and Freda + baby walked to the bus today and went to town. I got me hat on sale 1.00 I aimed to get me a dress. They are so high I came back without any. I wanted one if I go to the decoration I don't know where I will go or not. Every thing was so lonesome I didn't buy any thing else.

This is a lonesome time of the year. Every thing was advertising Mother's gifts.

I only walked by. I have made two or <sup>3</sup> trips to get diapers. I never have found any.

We got a card from Ethel about two weeks ago saying she was coming that Sun. we never have heard why she didn't come.

We got a letter from Oma. ~~the day, we were all here~~  
~~there.~~

Marcella, when are you coming?



Jane and Lewis was out the other night for supper. We went to see them one night and ate supper. They were to come Monday and never did come.

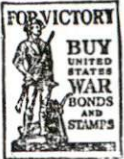
When are you all coming. Winford is off Sunday goes back Sunday night. He changes shifts 12-8. He will be on that a month now. I don't guess we will be down for we don't have no gas. He is on 12 straights Isn't Sunday all day at Cave Hill. I don't guess we will come.

Ora Thomas

I am sending the picture. Winford says it can't be him. Of course it isn't so plain. We got it out and look at it ever once and awhile.

Winford went to Wilmoth. He had such spell with his head. He didn't take no pray. thought it wouldn't do no good. He is better. He got tonic he is getting along alright.





ARMY SERVICE FORCES  
KANSAS CITY QUARTERMASTER DEPOT  
ARMY EFFECTS BUREAU

601 HARDESTY AVENUE  
KANSAS CITY 1, MISSOURI

RTB:RW:im  
July 24, 1945

IN REPLY REFER TO 292365

Mrs. Mattie R. Fletcher  
Priceville, Kentucky

Dear Mrs. Fletcher:

The Army Effects Bureau has received from overseas some personal effects of your son, Private First Class Howard Smith.

These effects are being forwarded to you in one package.

If, by any chance, the property has not reached you at the expiration of thirty days from this date, please notify me and tracer will be instituted.

The action of this Bureau in transmitting personal effects does not, of itself, vest title in the recipient. Such property is forwarded for distribution according to the laws of the state of the soldier's legal residence.

I regret the circumstances prompting this letter, and wish to express my sympathy in the loss of your son.

Yours very truly,

*P. L. Koob*

P. L. KOOB  
1st Lt., MC  
Officer-in-Charge  
SJ Unit



WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

11 September 1946

Mrs. Mattie R. Fletcher  
Priceville, Kentucky

Dear Mrs. Fletcher:

The War Department is most desirous that you be furnished information regarding the burial location of your son, the late Private First Class Howard Smith, A. S. N. 35 691 269.

The records of this office disclose that his remains are interred in the U. S. Military Cemetery Pietramala, Italy, plot O, row 18, grave 1933. You may be assured that the identification and interment have been accomplished with fitting dignity and solemnity.

This cemetery is located near Mt. Beni approximately twenty-three miles south of Bologna, Italy, and is under the constant care and supervision of United States military personnel.

The War Department has now been authorized to comply, at Government expense, with the feasible wishes of the next of kin regarding final interment, here or abroad, of the remains of your loved one. At a later date, this office will, without any action on your part, provide the next of kin with full information and solicit his detailed desires.

Please accept my sincere sympathy in your great loss.

Sincerely yours,

*T. B. Larkin*

T. B. LARKIN  
Major General  
The Quartermaster General



## VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

BRANCH OFFICE No. 6  
52 S. STARLING STREET  
COLUMBUS 8, OHIO

January 5, 1949

YOUR FILE REFERENCE:

IN REPLY REFER TO: 003AB 11

Mrs. Mattie Russie Fletcher  
Priceville, Kentucky

Dear Mrs. Fletcher:

We are in receipt of your letter dated January 3, 1949, in which you seek information relative to the return and final burial of your son, Howard.

The Quartermaster General's Office of the War Department has been authorized by Congress to provide final burial for our war dead. The War Department will seek to determine from its records the person authorized to decide the question of final burial. A letter of inquiry will then be sent with a questionnaire to be filled out, accompanied by a pamphlet describing the program. By filling out and returning the questionnaire to the War Department the relative who has the right to make such decision may designate the place of burial of the deceased. All relatives will not receive the letter of inquiry and questionnaire at the same time. It will be sent only when the time approaches to return the remains. The return of our war dead from cemeteries overseas has been planned by the War Department to take place in an orderly, logical operational manner.

We are this date referring your letter to the Commanding Officer, American Graves Registration Distribution Center, Columbus General Depot, Columbus, Ohio, in order that they may give you complete information regarding the reburial of your son. You may expect to hear from their office within the very near future.

Sincerely yours,

*Olin B. Smith*  
OLIN B. SMITH  
Contact Officer



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COLUMBUS GENERAL DISTRIBUTION DEPOT  
UNITED STATES ARMY  
COLUMBUS 15, OHIO

12 January 1949

Mrs. Mattie Russie Fletcher  
Priceville, Kentucky

Dear Mrs. Fletcher:

Your letter dated 5 January 1949 directed to the Veterans Administration Office in Columbus, Ohio was referred to this office for proper action.

Please be advised that The Quartermaster General's Office, (Memorial Division, Repatriation Records Branch, Washington 25, D.C.) has informed this office that the necessary papers for the return of your beloved son, the late PFC Howard Smith, will be mailed to you as quickly as possible.

Trusting that this information is of service to you, I extend my deepest sympathy in the loss of your son.

Sincerely yours,

*Albert Barden*  
*for*

ALBERT BARDEN  
Lt Colonel, QMC  
Chief, AGR Division

5/9/1949

46

# WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN  
PRESIDENT

1220

DL =
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LC = Difer
NLT = Cable N
Ship Rad

Time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

CTA29

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MRS MATTIE R FLETCHER=

PRICEVILLE KY=

FINAL INTERMENTS ARE NOW BEING MADE IN PERMANENT UNITED STATES MILITARY CEMETERIES OVERSEAS. THE REMAINS OF YOUR LATE SON PRIVATE FIRST CLASS HOWARD SMITH 35691269 ARE BEING HELD IN ABOVE GROUND STORAGE PENDING DISPOSITION INSTRUCTIONS FROM YOU. IN ORDER THAT WE MAY COMPLY WITH YOUR WISHES COMMA URGENT YOU ADVISE THIS OFFICE WITHIN FIFTEEN DAYS BY COLLECT TELEGRAM IF YOU DESIRE PERMANENT OVERSEAS BURIAL OR RETURN OF REMAINS TO UNITED STATES FOR BURIAL IN A NATIONAL OR PRIVATE CEMETERY. IF NATIONAL CEMETERY COMMA ADVISE NAME. IF PRIVATE CEMETERY COMMA FURNISH NAME AND ADDRESS OF FUNERAL DIRECTOR TO RECEIVE REMAINS ON ARRIVAL FROM OVERSEAS. ADDRESS REPLY TO QUARTERMASTER GENERAL COMMA WASHINGTON COMMA DC COMMA ATTENTION CAPT VOGL END=

UEPOG 36C/VOGL MEMORIAL DIVISION OQMG WASHINGTON DC 091945Z

*Quartermaster General*

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION  
SUPPLY SERVICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

NOTICE OF INFORMATION RELATIVE TO ISSUANCE OF FLAGS  
TO NEAREST RELATIVES OF PERSONS WHO DIE OUTSIDE THE  
CONTINENTAL LIMITS OF THE UNITED STATES WHILE IN THE  
MILITARY OR NAVAL FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES.

The Veterans Administration is authorized to issue a flag to the nearest relative of a person who dies in the military or naval service outside the continental limits of the United States in the event the Army or Navy has not issued a flag. "Nearest relative" is defined as follows, with preference to entitlement in the order named:

- (a) Widow or widower.
- (b) Children, according to age, the sons having preference over the daughters.
- (c) Father, including adopted, step, and foster father.
- (d) Mother, including adopted, step, and foster mother.
- (e) Brothers or sisters, including brothers or sisters of the half blood.
- (f) Uncles or aunts.
- (g) Nephews or nieces.

For information as to how and where a flag may be procured, write to, or contact personally, the nearest Regional Office of the Veterans Administration in the state in which you reside. A complete list of Veterans Administration Regional Offices is shown on the other side of this notice.

(SEE OTHER SIDE)



ALABAMA	- Montgomery 10, Ala.	MONTANA	- Fort Harrison, Mont.
ARIZONA	- Tucson, Ariz.	NEBRASKA	- Lincoln 1, Nebr.
ARKANSAS	- Little Rock, Ark.	NEVADA	- Reno, Nev.
CALIFORNIA	- Los Angeles 25, Calif.	NEW HAMPSHIRE	- Manchester, N. H.
CALIFORNIA	- San Francisco 21, Calif.	NEW JERSEY	- Lyons, N. J.
COLORADO	- Denver 2, Colo.	NEW MEXICO	- Albuquerque, N. M.
CONNECTICUT	- Newington 2, Conn.	NEW YORK	- Batavia, N. Y.
DELAWARE	- New Custom House Philadelphia 6, Pa.	NEW YORK	- 215 West 24th Street New York 11, N. Y.
DIST. OF COL.	- 300 Indiana Avenue, N. W. Washington 25, D. C.	NORTH CAROLINA	- Fayetteville, N. C.
FLORIDA	- Bay Pines, Fla.	NORTH DAKOTA	- Fargo, N. D.
GEORGIA	- Atlanta, Ga.	OHIO	- Brecksville, Ohio
IDAHO	- Boise, Idaho	OHIO	- Dayton, Ohio
ILLINOIS	- Hines, Ill.	OKLAHOMA	- Muskogee, Okla.
INDIANA	- Indianapolis 44, Ind.	OREGON	- Portland 7, Ore.
IOWA	- Des Moines 10, Iowa	PENNSYLVANIA	- New Custom House Philadelphia 6, Pa.
KANSAS	- Wichita 2, Kansas	PENNSYLVANIA	- Pittsburgh 22, Pa.
KENTUCKY	- Lexington, Ky.	RHODE ISLAND	- Providence 2, R. I.
LOUISIANA	- New Orleans 12, La.	SOUTH CAROLINA	- Columbia, S. C.
MAINE	- Togus, Me.	SOUTH DAKOTA	- Sioux Falls, S. D.
MARYLAND	- 1315 St. Paul Street Baltimore 2, Md.	TENNESSEE	- Murfreesboro. Tenn.
MASSACHUSETTS	- Post Office Building Boston 9, Mass.	TEXAS	- Waco, Tex.
MICHIGAN	- Dearborn, Mich.	UTAH	- Salt Lake City 3, Utah
MINNESOTA	- Minneapolis 6, Minn.	VERMONT	- White River Junction, Vt.
MISSISSIPPI	- Jackson 107, Miss.	VIRGINIA	- Roanoke 17, Va.
MISSOURI	- Kansas City 6, Mo.	WASHINGTON	- Seattle 4, Wash.
MISSOURI	- 707 Market Street St. Louis 1, Mo.	WEST VIRGINIA	- Huntington 1, W. Va.
		WISCONSIN	- Wood, Wis.
		WYOMING	- Cheyenne, Wyo.

INFORMATION FOR NEXT OF KIN OF WORLD WAR II DECEASED

You have just been advised by telegram from Distribution Center #1 that the remains of your loved one is enroute to the United States. The purpose of this letter is to explain to you what will happen between the time you received the telegram and the time the remains will be delivered. This should help you in making your plans for burial arrangements.

The telegram that you received was dispatched several days before the arrival of the mortuary ship at the New York Port of Embarkation. As soon as the mortuary ship arrives in the United States, individual remains are debarked from the vessel and carefully checked against the passenger list deceased. The casketed remains together with the outer protective cases are then moved in special mortuary railroad cars under military guard to the distribution center, which will eventually deliver remains to the final destination.

The honored American dead being returned to the next of kin in Metropolitan New York, northern New Jersey, New England States and northern Pennsylvania are moved through Distribution Center #1 which is a Quartermaster installation located in the New York Port of Embarkation. This Distribution Center will, upon receiving remains for delivery to its area, make up a delivery schedule that will be accomplished over a period of several weeks after remains have arrived at the U. S. Port of Entry. This schedule will take into consideration the availability of appropriate escorts, transportation facilities and the operational workload of the Distribution Center itself.

Delivery of the war dead is accomplished essentially in the order in which the remains are debarked from each vessel and are delivered to the custody of the Distribution Center. There is no priority established because of rank or alphabetical order. Delivery of the remains from each vessel is completed before a delivery schedule is made for remains arriving on a subsequent ship. A period of from one to six weeks will elapse before the remains of your loved one will be delivered. This period is necessary to permit a careful inspection of the casket and its outer protective case, to determine transportation routing and to select proper military escort to deliver the remains to the place designated by the next of kin.

The remains are escorted home individually by a service man who is of equal or higher rank, of the same branch of service, of the same race and sex as the deceased.

You have already received one telegram giving advance notification



48-2  
=

of the arrival of the remains in the United States. It was stated in this initial notification that a second telegram will be dispatched three to four days prior to the time the escort will leave the Distribution Center with the remains.

In case the burial is in a national cemetery, the family will be notified by the Superintendent of the cemetery. This notification will give the date and time of the burial service. You will receive this notification in sufficient time to make arrangements to attend. The time will usually be from three to five days. The expense of attending the ceremony at the national cemetery must be borne by the next of kin. Chaplains of the three major faiths are in attendance at the national cemetery and will conduct proper religious service. The next of kin may select a clergyman of their own choice if they so desire. Military honors are always provided by the U. S. Government at the national cemeteries.

In case of burial in a private cemetery, the funeral director or other consignee will be notified by telegram three to five days prior to delivery and he in turn is requested to notify next of kin immediately so you will have adequate time to make funeral arrangements.

The casket used in the repatriation of World War II dead is made of 18 gage seamless steel, hermetically sealed. The entire interior is quilted silk lined, consisting of upholstery, mattress and pillow. The casket is inclosed in an outer protective plywood metal-lined shipping case, which is suitable for use as a burial vault and is used for this purpose in all national cemeteries. Upon delivery of the remains, the shipping case becomes the property of the next of kin.

Transportation of the remains from this Distribution Center to the point designated by you will be at government expense. If burial is to be in a private cemetery, a government allowance of not to exceed \$75.00 is authorized to cover actual burial expenses incurred by the next of kin. Expenses in excess of this amount must be borne by the next of kin or other individual incurring such expenses. The necessary papers for applying for Government allowance, in the case of private burials, will be furnished by the escort at the time the remains are delivered. No interment allowance is authorized in the case where burial is accomplished in a national cemetery. All expenses are assumed by the U. S. Government when burial is consummated in a national cemetery.

Please feel free to call upon this Distribution Center if you think we can be of assistance to you. Letters should be addressed to the Commanding Officer, Distribution Center Number 1, New York Port of Embarkation, Brooklyn, New York.



## A PRAYER FOR

*For Ralph Smith*

**H**ear, O God, our prayer for this American Fighting-man who proudly wears the uniform of his country and bravely faces her foes on the land, on the sea and in the air.

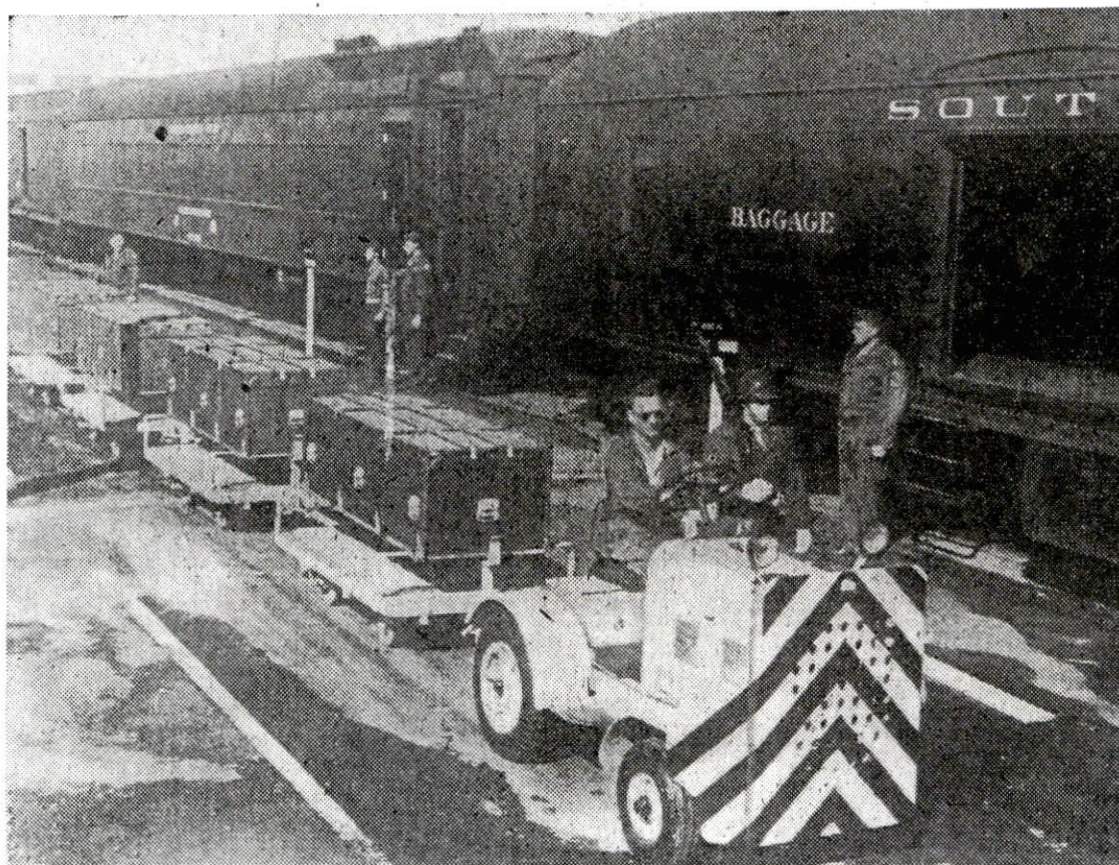
He was not born a warrior. His ways were the ways of Peace. He loved his home and his family and had no wish to leave them, but the time came when he had to do it to help keep America a nation of happy homes and a land of free people.

Help him, O God, to be a man and to do his job well, but keep him at heart the fine, clean, true boy his mother was so proud of. Walk with him for her where her own feet cannot go; shield him from danger by Thy Might, as she would gladly do with her own life.

Be with him, God. Stand by him. Help him. He's a good boy, in a bad business. Please see him safely through and when Victory is won, bring him back home to those who love him.

*John Lacer*  
 RENFRO VALLEY GATHERIN'  
 RENFRO VALLEY, KENTUCKY





Associated Press Wirephoto.

**HEROES' RETURN** is symbolized in this picture showing caskets containing bodies of World War II dead being conveyed from the funeral ship Honda Knot alongside funeral train in Oakland, Cal., for movement to their final resting places. The ship arrived Friday with 3,028 bodies from the Pacific war theater.

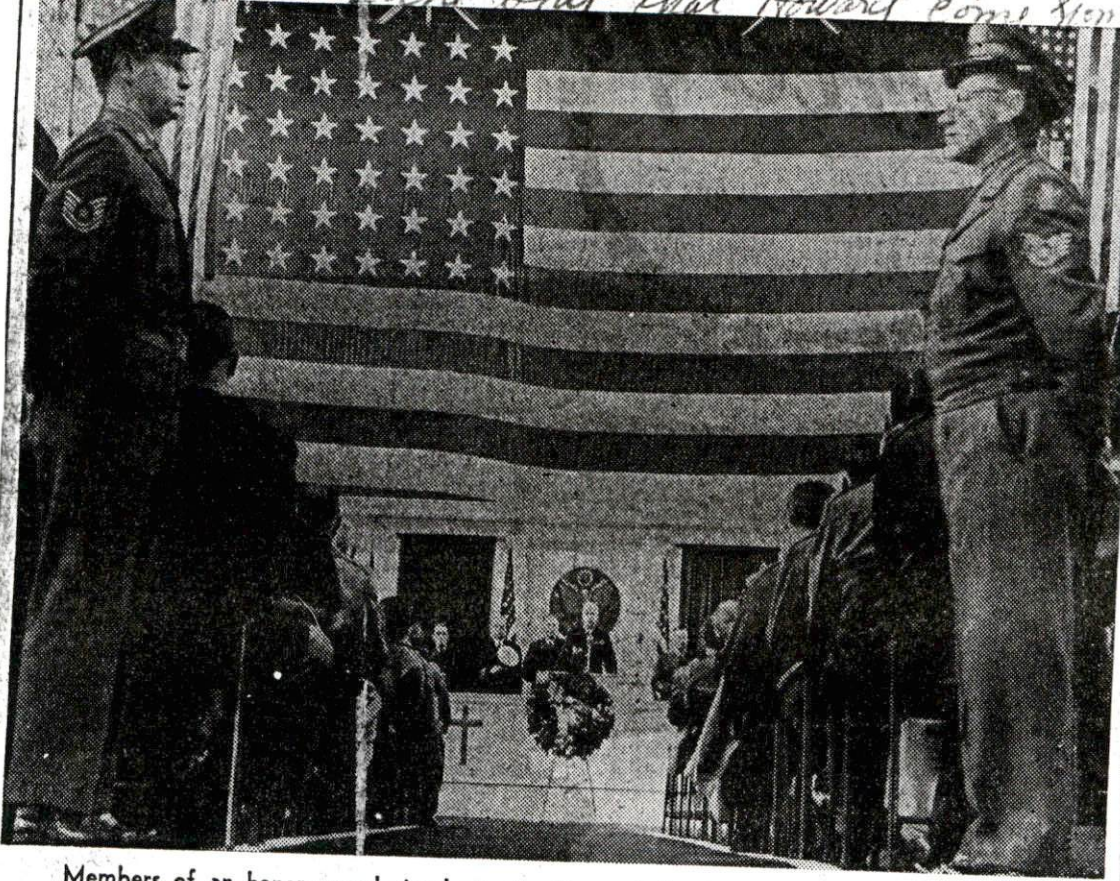
## **Military Funeral To Be Held For Pfc Smith Sunday at Cave Hill**

Military funeral services will be held for Pfc. Howard Smith, Sunday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock by members of the Buckner Post 101, American Legion and Hart Memorial Post 5912 V. F. W. at Cave Hill Church. Burial will be in Smith Cemetery. Cave Hill Church and the cemetery are located a few miles west of Priceville.

After services at the church, a full military funeral will be held at the grave. Members of both organizations should attend to pay their respect to a departed comrade.



# *Lawrence Victory* **The Fallen Return Home** *this is the Ship That Brought them Home*



Members of an honor guard stand at attention as Col. Edward R. Martin, Port Chaplain at the Brooklyn Army Base, conducts a shipside service for the last large group of war dead brought back from the Mediterranean Theater of Operations. The bodies were brought here today on the Army transport Lawrence Victory.

World-Telegram Photo by Ravenna.

\* \* \*

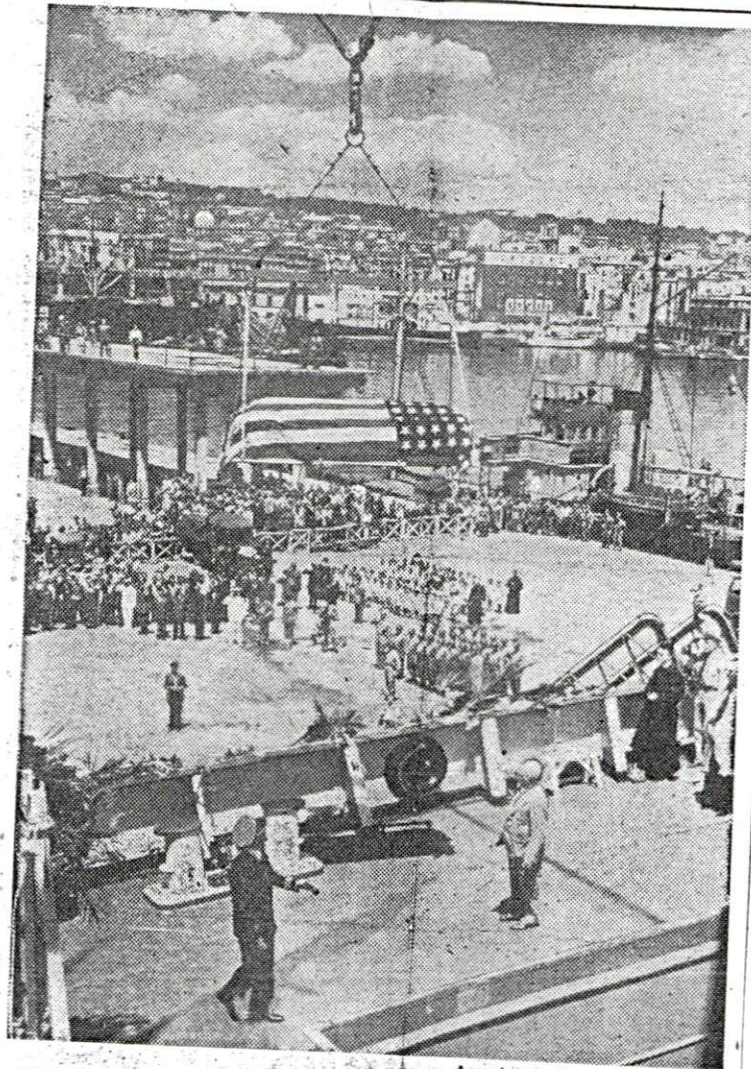
Overseas nearly three years, an Infantry regiment of the "Red Bull" Division in Italy has piled up more hours in actual combat than many American divisions have time overseas. These veterans first blazed their guns at a cocky enemy in the mountain ranges of Tunisia and defeated the Krauts in the famous battle for Hill 609. Backed from Tunisia to the Arno, the defeat-written faces of retreating German troops are still haunted by the Red Bulls who have gored the enemy at Cassino, Anzio, and in crushing drives above Rome. With a record of having taken every objective assigned to it, this regiment has become one of the most decorated units in the Mediterranean Theater. Louisville men included in the group are: **PFCs. ROBERT M. MADDOX**, 2627 Payne, rifleman; **HOWARD SMITH**, 1786 Wilson, ammunition carrier; **URBAN L. SCHMETZER**, 37, 3207 River Park Dr., ammunition carrier; **THOMAS E. DEELEY**, 602 Rubel, basic, and **PVT. CHESTER E. HERDT, JR**, 939 Shelby Pkwy., rifleman.

\* \* \*

Enjoying a two-



THE COURIER

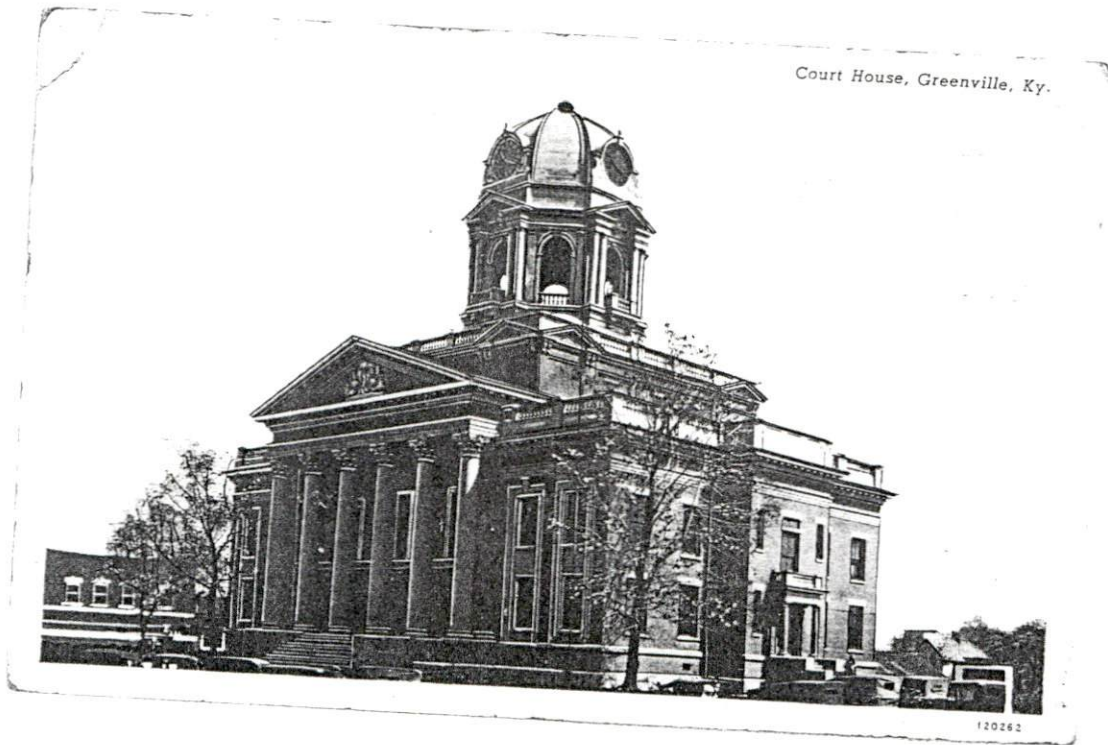


Associated Press Wirephoto.  
GOING HOME . . . Flag-covered coffin is swung aboard the U. S. Army ship Carroll Victory at Naples. The ship will bring back 4,841 U. S. war dead in the first repatriation movement from Italy.

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Back Page—Section 2

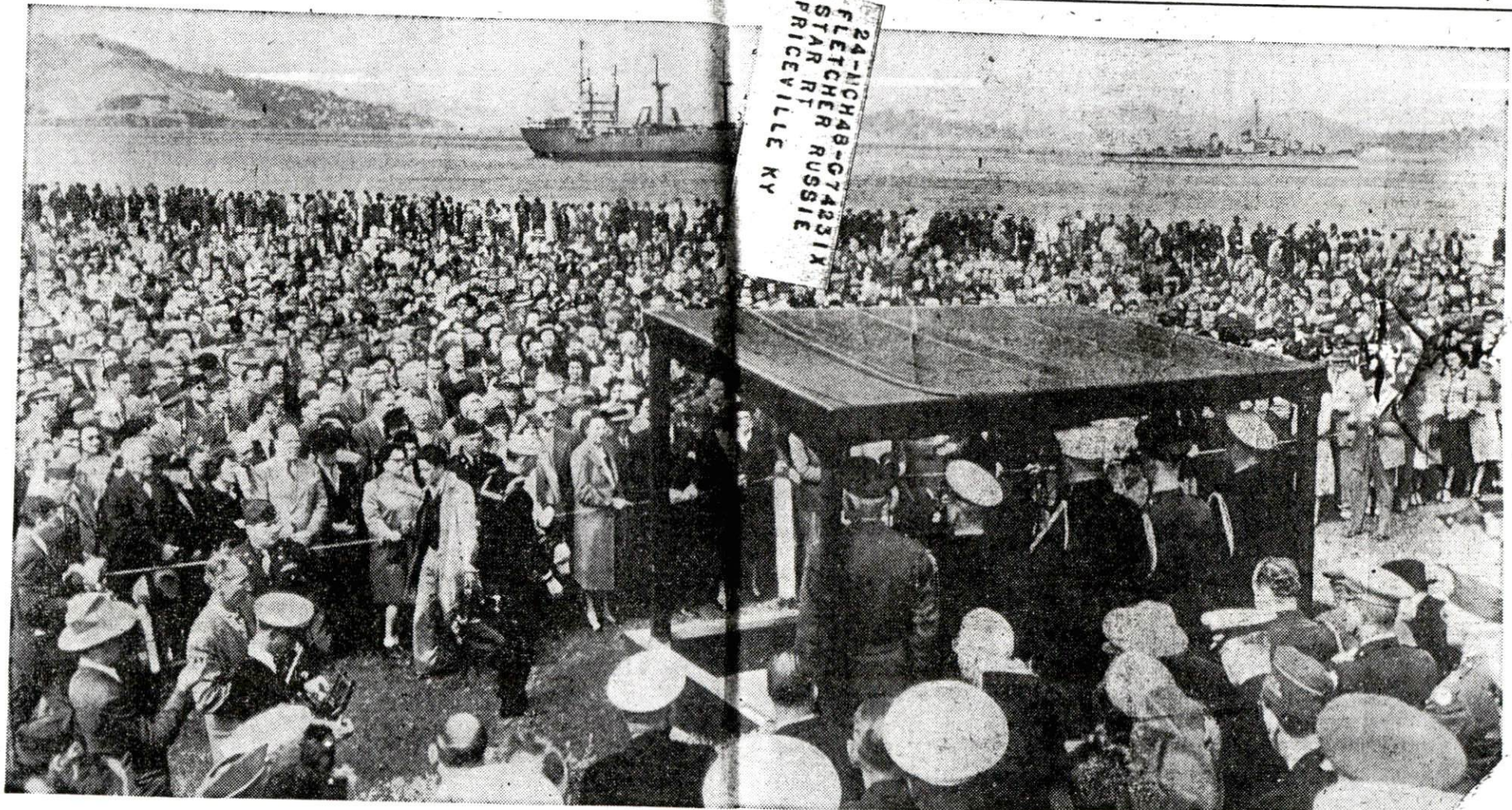
# The Courier-J

VOL. 186. NO. 103

★★★★

Associated Press and Wirephoto

LOUISVILLE, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1941



HOME IS THE HUNTER. . . . As the Honda Knot, carrying the bodies of American World War II dead, lay in San Francisco Bay, thousands gath-

ered on the shore to render homage. Secretary of the Navy John L. is speaking from the covered speakers' stand. Story on Page 1

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COURTESY OF  
WILLIAMS, PATTERSON, MILLER & SEGO  
Funeral Directors  
HODGENVILLE — SONORA  
UPTON — MUNFORDVILLE  
KENTUCKY





Howard Smith was born on June 24, 1922. He joined the Army when he was 18 and was killed in 1944 at the age of 22. He was blown up in a barn in Italy. Initially he was buried in Italy but later his body was interred at Cave Hill Church cemetery near Priceville, Kentucky, in Hart County.

His mother was Mattie Russie Fletcher. Winford Fletcher was Howard's brother. Howard was Kim Bowles' great uncle. Carleslie Logsdon was Kim's grandmother.