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

IN REPLY REFER TO QMGMR 293
Dibble, James P.
SN 0-733 844

Address Reply To
THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
Attention: Memorial Division

18 March 1947

Mrs. James E. Dibble
402 East, Green Street
Hastings, Michigan

Dear Mrs. Dibble:

Your letter concerning your son, the late First Lieutenant James P. Dibble, has been received in this office.

The official Report of Burial discloses that the remains of your son were interred in Plot K, Row 8, Grave 90, in the United States Military Cemetery Naples, located in Naples, Italy.

The War Department has now been authorized to remove, at Government expense, to the final resting place designated by the next of kin, the remains of those American citizens who died while serving overseas with our armed forces during this war.

When the necessary preliminaires have been completed, a "Letter of Inquiry -- Return of World War II Dead" will be sent to the next of kin of those American dead. The response to this letter will constitute a formal expression of the next of kin's detailed desires. Since letters to next of kin will be dispatched automatically and according to the records here, communications with this office regarding this subject will not be necessary. The necessity for complete coordination of movement in many parts of the world makes it impossible, at this time, to estimate when this letter will be mailed. Responses to them will be acted upon with a minimum of delay.

There are two national cemeteries in the vicinity of Washington, D. C., in which grave space is available. These are the Soldiers' Home National Cemetery, Washington, D. C., and Arlington National Cemetery, Fort Myer, Virginia. The nearest national cemetery to Hastings, Michigan, is the New Albany National Cemetery, Jay Street and Ekin Avenue

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New Albany, Indiana. At the time your son's remains are to be returned to the United States a request may be made that the body be shipped direct to the national cemetery selected by the next of kin, and the superintendent concerned will be authorized to permit the interment. You may be present at the time of interment.

The Secretary of War, pursuant to the authority given him in Section 4, Public Law 383, 79th Congress, has established an order of priority among the next of kin in which their desires concerning the disposition of decedent's remains will be honored.

In the instant case, since your son was married at the time of his death, his widow, Mrs. Maxine Dibble, is entitled to direct disposition of his remains unless she has remarried or voluntarily waives her right to give such directions.

Please accept my sincere sympathy in the loss of your son.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES L. PRENN
Major, QMC
Memorial Division