UCF Veterans Legacy Program

Source Packet Overview

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Luther Wade Pilcher

Sergeant, USMC

Short Biography

Luther Wade Pilcher was born on January 1, 1898 in Dothan, AL, and moved to the Florida Panhandle by 1910. On April 27, 1915, he joined the US Marine Corps, lying about his age. He served in US interventions in Haiti and Cuba before going to France in August 1917 to fight in World War I. He was killed in action on June 6, 1918, on the first day of the Battle of Belleau Wood, one of the most important battles in USMC history. After the war, he was interred at the Aisne-Marne American Cemetery in Belleau, Aisne, France, near where he died.

UCF VLP has a full biography of Luther Wade Pilcher.

Key Historical Themes & Events

- USMC History
- Banana Wars
- US intervention in Cuba
- US intervention in Haiti
- World War I
- Belleau Wood
- Aisne-Marne American Cemetery

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Source Packet Document List

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Luther Wade Pilcher

Document Set List

1900 Federal Census	3
1910 Federal Census	4
Portrait	5
Muster Roll: April 1915	6
Muster Roll: May 1915	7
Muster Roll: Haiti, November 1915	8
Muster Roll: Cuba, May 1917	9
Muster Roll: August 1917	10
Muster Roll: June 1918	11
WWI Service Card	12
Cablegram	13
Transcription of an Article in *The Birmingham News*	14
Transcription excerpt of a *Washington Post* Article	15
Transcription of an Article in *Orlando Sentinel*	16
Transcription of an Article in *The Dothan Eagle*	17
Burial Card (Front)	18
Burial Card (Back)	19
Headstone	20

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Source Packet Documents

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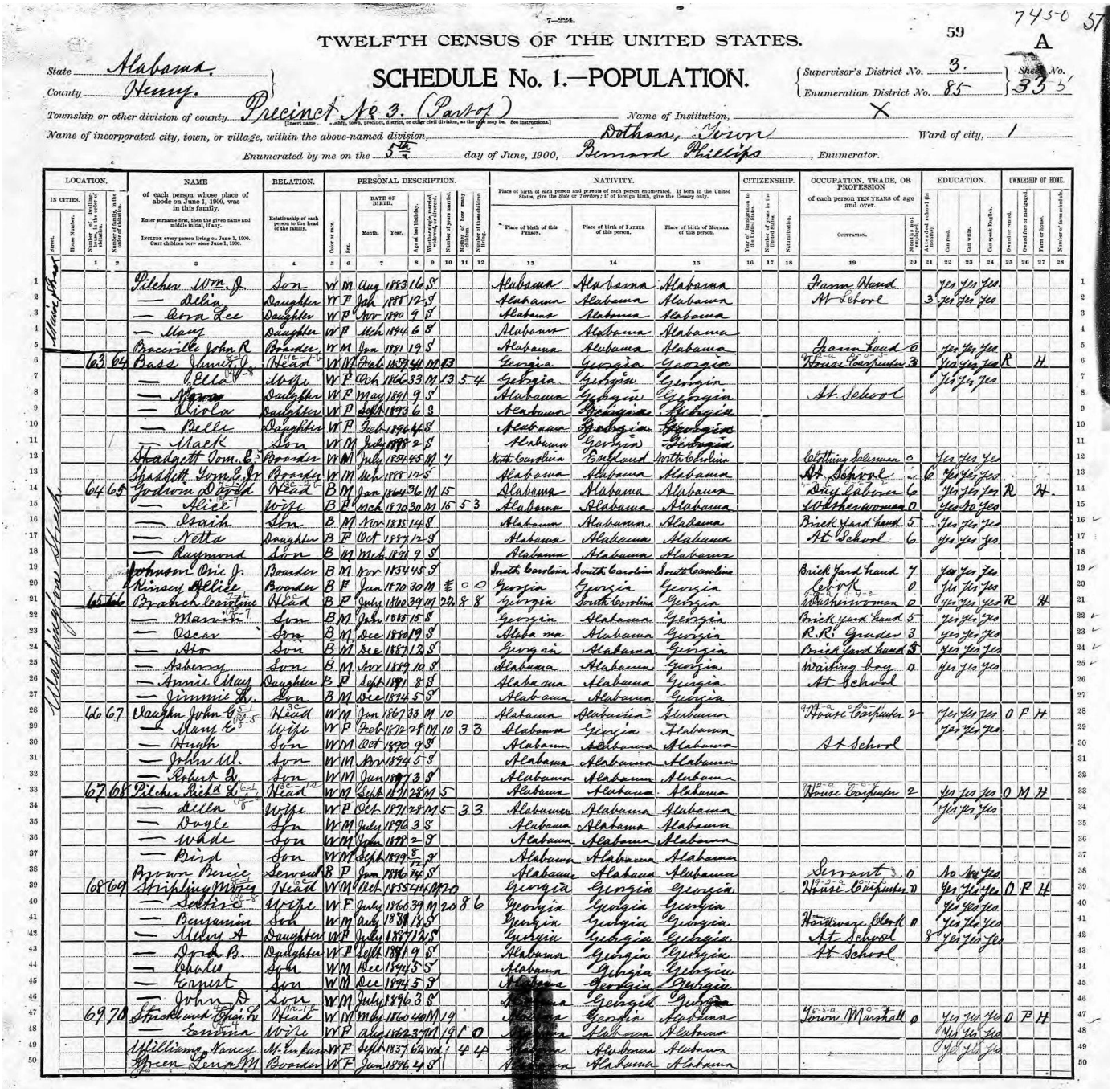
1900 Federal Census



7–224.

TWELFTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES.

59 A

SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION.

State Alabama. County Henry. Township or other division of county Precinct No. 3. (Part of) [Insert name ... ward, town, precinct, district, or other civil division, as the case may be. See instructions.] Name of Institution, X

Supervisor's District No. 3. Enumeration District No. 85 Sheet No. 33

Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division, Dothan, Town Ward of city, 1

Enumerated by me on the 5th day of June, 1900, Bernard Phillips, Enumerator.

LOCATION. IN CITIES. Street.	House Number.	Number of dwelling-house, in the order of visitation.	Number of family, in the order of visitation.	NAME of each person whose place of abode on June 1, 1900, was in this family. Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. Include every person living on June 1, 1900. Omit children born since June 1, 1900.	RELATION. Relationship of each person to the head of the family.	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION. Color or race.	Sex.	DATE OF BIRTH. Month.	Year.	Age at last birthday.	Whether single, married, widowed, or divorced.	Number of years married.	Mother of how many children.	Number of these children living.	NATIVITY. Place of birth of each person and parents of each person enumerated. If born in the United States, give the State or Territory; if of foreign birth, give the Country only. Place of birth of this Person.	Place of birth of Father of this person.	Place of birth of Mother of this person.	CITIZENSHIP. Year of immigration to the United States.	Number of years in the United States.	Naturalization.	OCCUPATION, TRADE, OR PROFESSION of each person TEN YEARS of age and over. Occupation.	Months not employed.	EDUCATION. Attended school (in months).	Can read.	Can write.	Can speak English.	OWNERSHIP OF HOME. Owned or rented.	Owned free or mortgaged.	Farm or house.	Number of farm schedule.
1	2			3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Alma Street				Pilcher Wm. J.	Son	W	M	Aug	1883	16	S				Alabama	Alabama	Alabama				Farm Hand			Yes	Yes	Yes				
				— Delia	Daughter	W	F	Jan	1885	15	S				Alabama	Alabama	Alabama				At School		3	Yes	Yes	Yes				
				— Cora Lee	Daughter	W	F	Nov	1890	9	S				Alabama	Alabama	Alabama													
				— Mary	Daughter	W	F	Mch	1894	6	S				Alabama	Alabama	Alabama													
				Bracville John R	Boarder	W	M	Jan	1881	19	S				Alabama	Alabama	Alabama				Farm Hand	6		Yes	Yes	Yes				
	63	64		Bass James J.	Head	W	M	Feb	1857	44	M	13			Georgia	Georgia	Georgia				House Carpenter	3		Yes	Yes	Yes	R		H	
				— Ella	Wife	W	F	Oct	1866	33	M	13	5	4	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia							Yes	Yes	Yes				
				— Nora	Daughter	W	F	May	1891	9	S				Alabama	Georgia	Georgia				At School									
				— Viola	Daughter	W	F	Apr	1893	7	S				Alabama	Georgia	Georgia													
				— Belle	Daughter	W	F	Feb	1894	6	S				Alabama	Georgia	Georgia													
				— Mack	Son	W	M	July	1898	2	S				Alabama	Georgia	Georgia													
				Shadgett Tom E.	Boarder	W	M	July	1854	45	M	7			North Carolina	England	North Carolina				Clothing Salesman	0		Yes	Yes	Yes				
				Shadgett Tom E. Jr	Boarder	W	M	Mch	1888	12	S				Alabama	Alabama	Alabama				At School		6	Yes	Yes	Yes				
	64	65		Godwin David	Head	B	M	Jan	1866	34	M	15			Alabama	Alabama	Alabama				Day Laborer	6		Yes	Yes	Yes	R		H	
				— Alice	Wife	B	F	Mch	1870	30	M	15	5	3	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama				Washerwoman	0		Yes	No	Yes				
				— Isaih	Son	B	M	Nov	1885	14	S				Alabama	Alabama	Alabama				Brick Yard Hand	5		Yes	Yes	Yes				
				— Netta	Daughter	B	F	Oct	1887	12	S				Alabama	Alabama	Alabama				At School	6		Yes	Yes	Yes				
				— Raymond	Son	B	M	Mch	1891	9	S				Alabama	Alabama	Alabama													
				Johnson Orie Jr.	Boarder	B	M	Nov	1875	45	S				South Carolina	South Carolina	South Carolina				Brick Yard Hand	7		Yes	Yes	Yes				
				Kinsey Allice	Boarder	B	F	Jun	1870	30	M	5	0	0	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia				Cook	0		Yes	Yes	Yes				
	65	66		Brabech Caroline	Head	B	F	July	1860	39	M	22	8	8	Georgia	South Carolina	Georgia				Washerwoman	0		Yes	Yes	Yes	R		H	
				— Marvin	Son	B	M	Jan	1885	15	S				Georgia	Alabama	Georgia				Brick yard Hand	5		Yes	Yes	Yes				
				— Oscar	Son	B	M	Dec	1888	9	S				Alabama	Alabama	Georgia				R.R. Grader	3		Yes	Yes	Yes				
				— Ato	Son	B	M	Dec	1887	12	S				Georgia	Alabama	Georgia				Brick Yard Hand	5		Yes	Yes	Yes				
				— Asberry	Son	B	M	Nov	1889	10	S				Alabama	Alabama	Georgia				Waiting Boy	0		Yes	Yes	Yes				
				— Annie May	Daughter	B	F	Sept	1891	8	S				Alabama	Alabama	Georgia				At School									
				— Jimmie L.	Son	B	M	Dec	1894	5	S				Alabama	Alabama	Georgia													
	66	67		Vaughn John G.	Head	W	M	Jun	1867	33	M	10			Alabama	Alabama	Alabama				House Carpenter	2		Yes	Yes	Yes	O	F	H	
				— Mary E	Wife	W	F	Feb	1872	28	M	10	3	3	Alabama	Georgia	Alabama							Yes	Yes	Yes				
				— Hugh	Son	W	M	Oct	1890	9	S				Alabama	Alabama	Alabama				At School									
				— John M.	Son	W	M	Nov	1894	5	S				Alabama	Alabama	Alabama													
				— Robert D.	Son	W	M	Jun	1897	3	S				Alabama	Alabama	Alabama													
	67	68		Pilcher Richard L.	Head	W	M	Sept	1871	28	M	5			Alabama	Alabama	Alabama				House Carpenter	2		Yes	Yes	Yes	O	M	H	
				— Allen	Wife	W	F	Oct	1871	28	M	5	3	3	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							Yes	Yes	Yes				
				— Doyle	Son	W	M	July	1896	3	S				Alabama	Alabama	Alabama													
				— Wade	Son	W	M	Jan	1898	2	S				Alabama	Alabama	Alabama													
				— Bird	Son	W	M	Sept	1899	8/12	S				Alabama	Alabama	Alabama													
				Brown Bercie	Servant	B	F	Jan	1886	14	S				Alabama	Alabama	Alabama				Servant	0		No	No	Yes				
	68	69		Stripling Mary	Head	W	M	Dec	1855	44	M	20			Georgia	Georgia	Georgia				House Carpenter	0		Yes	Yes	Yes	O	F	H	
				— Sallie	Wife	W	F	July	1860	39	M	20	8	6	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia							Yes	Yes	Yes				
				— Benjamin	Son	W	M	July	1888	11	S				Georgia	Georgia	Georgia													
				— Mary A	Daughter	W	F	July	1887	12	S				Georgia	Georgia	Georgia				Hardware Clerk	0		Yes	Yes	Yes				
				— Ora B.	Daughter	W	F	Sept	1891	8	S				Alabama	Georgia	Georgia				At School		8	Yes	Yes	Yes				
				— Charles	Son	W	M	Dec	1894	5	S				Alabama	Georgia	Georgia				At School									
				— Expert	Son	W	M	Dec	1894	5	S				Alabama	Georgia	Georgia													
				— John D	Son	W	M	July	1896	3	S				Alabama	Georgia	Georgia													
	69	70		Strickland Chas L	Head	W	M	May	1866	40	M	19			Alabama	Georgia	Alabama				Town Marshall	0		Yes	Yes	Yes	O	F	H	
				— Emmina	Wife	W	F	Aug	1863	36	M	19	1	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							Yes	Yes	Yes				
				Williams Nancy	Mother-in-law	W	F	Apr	1837	62	Wd	1	4	4	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							Yes	Yes	Yes				
				Green Lena M	Boarder	W	F	Jun	1894	5	S				Alabama	Alabama	Alabama													

In 2-year-old Luther Wade (line 36) lived with his family in his hometown of Dothan, AL. His father, Richard Pilcher, worked as a carpenter, and the family owned a mortgaged home. 14-year-old Bercie Brown, an African American servant, lived with the family .

"1900 United States Federal Census," database, *Ancestry* (Ancestry.com: Accessed July 29, 2026) entry for Luther Wade Pilcher.

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/7602/images/4119986_00787?pId=79778663.

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Source Packet Documents

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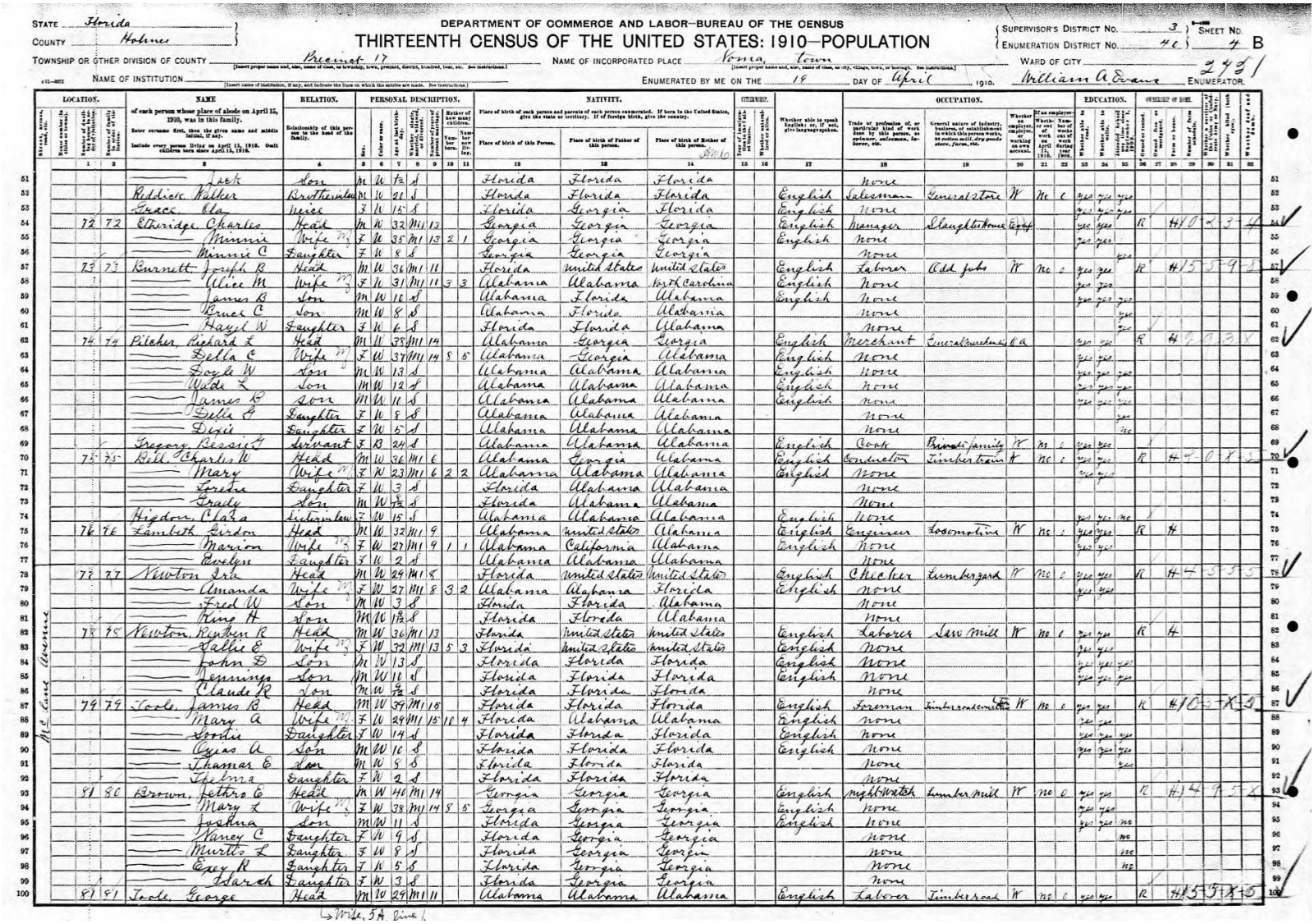
1910 Federal Census



STATE Florida
COUNTY Holmes
TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY Precinct 17
NAME OF INSTITUTION
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR—BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910—POPULATION
NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE Noma town
ENUMERATED BY ME ON THE 19 DAY OF April 1910.
SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT NO. 3
ENUMERATION DISTRICT NO. 40
SHEET NO. 4 B
WARD OF CITY
ENUMERATOR William A Evans

LOCATION.		NAME of each person whose place of abode on April 15, 1910, was in this family. Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. Include every person living on April 15, 1910. Omit children born since April 15, 1910.	RELATION. Relationship of this person to the head of the family.	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION. Sex.	Color or race.	Age at last birthday.	Whether single, married, widowed, or divorced.	Mother of how many children.	Number of these children living.	NATIVITY. Place of birth of this person.	Place of birth of Father of this person.	Place of birth of Mother of this person.	CITIZENSHIP. Whether able to speak English; or, if not, give language spoken.	OCCUPATION. Trade or profession of, or particular kind of work done by this person, as spinner, weaver, salesman, laborer, etc.	General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which this person works, as cotton mill, dry goods store, farm, etc.	Whether an employer, employee, or working on own account.	EDUCATION. Whether able to read. Whether able to write.	OWNERSHIP OF HOME.	Whether owned or rented.	Whether owned free or mortgaged.	Farm or house.	Number of farm schedule.	Whether blind.	Whether deaf and dumb.
54	72 72	Etheridge Charles	Head	M	W	32	M	13		Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	English	Manager	Slaughterhouse	Emp	yes yes		R	H	10	2	3
55		Minnie	Wife	F	W	35	M	13	2	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	English	None			yes yes						
56		Minnie C	Daughter	F	W	8	S			Georgia	Georgia	Georgia		None									
57	73 73	Burnett Joseph B	Head	M	W	36	M	11		Florida	United States	United States	English	Laborer	Odd jobs	W	Ne e		R	H	15	5	9
58		Alice M	Wife	F	W	31	M	11	3	Alabama	Alabama	North Carolina	English	None			yes yes						
59		James B	Son	M	W	10	S			Alabama	Florida	Alabama	English	None			yes yes						
60		Ernest C	Son	M	W	8	S			Alabama	Florida	Alabama		None									
61		Hazel W	Daughter	F	W	6	S			Florida	Florida	Alabama		None									
62	74 74	Pilcher Richard L	Head	M	W	38	M	14		Alabama	Georgia	Georgia	English	Merchant	General merchandise	Emp	yes yes		R	H	9	3	X
63		Della C	Wife	F	W	37	M	14	8	5	Alabama	Georgia	Alabama	English	None			yes yes						
64		Boyle W	Son	M	W	13	S			Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	English	None			yes yes						
65		Wade L	Son	M	W	12	S			Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	English	None			yes yes						
66		James R	Son	M	W	11	S			Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	English	None			yes yes						
67		Della B	Daughter	F	W	8	S			Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		None									
68		Dixie	Daughter	F	W	5	S			Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		None									
69		Gregory Bessie G	Servant	F	B	24	S			Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	English	Cook	Private family	W	M e						
70	75 75	Bell Charles W	Head	M	W	36	M	6		Alabama	Georgia	Alabama	English	Conductor	Timber train	W	Ne e		R	H	9	0	X
71		Mary	Wife	F	W	23	M	6	2	2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	English	None			yes yes						
72		Loretta	Daughter	F	W	3	S			Florida	Alabama	Alabama		None									
73		Grady	Son	M	W	1/12	S			Florida	Alabama	Alabama		None									
74		Higdon Clara	Sister-in-law	F	W	15	S			Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	English	None			yes yes	ne					
75	76 76	Lambeth Gordon	Head	M	W	32	M	9		Alabama	United States	Alabama	English	Engineer	Locomotive	W	Ne e		R	H			
76		Marion	Wife	F	W	27	M	9	1	1	Alabama	California	Alabama	English	None			yes yes						
77		Evelyn	Daughter	F	W	2	S			Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		None									
78	77 77	Newton Jr	Head	M	W	29	M	8		Florida	United States	United States	English	Checker	Lumberyard	W	Ne e		R	H	4	5	5
79		Amanda	Wife	F	W	27	M	8	3	2	Alabama	Alabama	Florida	English	None			yes yes						
80		Fred W	Son	M	W	3	S			Florida	Florida	Alabama		None									
81		King H	Son	M	W	1/12	S			Florida	Florida	Alabama		None									
82	78 78	Newton Reuben R	Head	M	W	36	M	13		Florida	United States	United States	English	Laborer	Saw mill	W	Ne e		R	H			
83		Sallie E	Wife	F	W	32	M	13	5	3	Florida	United States	United States	English	None			yes yes						
84		John D	Son	M	W	13	S			Florida	Florida	Florida	English	None			yes yes						
85		Jennings	Son	M	W	11	S			Florida	Florida	Florida	English	None			yes yes						
86		Claude R	Son	M	W	9	S			Florida	Florida	Florida		None									
87	79 79	Poole James B	Head	M	W	39	M	10		Florida	Florida	Florida	English	Foreman	Timber and commission	W	Ne e		R	H	10	X	9
88		Mary A	Wife	F	W	29	M	10	4	Florida	Alabama	Alabama	English	None			yes yes						
89		Dortie	Daughter	F	W	14	S			Florida	Florida	Florida	English	None			yes yes						
90		Cyrus A	Son	M	W	10	S			Florida	Florida	Florida	English	None			yes yes						
91		Thomas E	Son	M	W	8	S			Florida	Florida	Florida		None									
92		Thelma	Daughter	F	W	2	S			Florida	Florida	Florida		None									
93	81 80	Brown Jethro C	Head	M	W	40	M	14		Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	English	Night Watch	Lumber mill	W	Ne e		R	H	4	9	X
94		Mary L	Wife	F	W	38	M	14	8	5	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	English	None			yes yes						
95		Joshua	Son	M	W	11	S			Florida	Georgia	Georgia	English	None			yes yes	ne					
96		Nancy C	Daughter	F	W	9	S			Florida	Georgia	Georgia		None				ne					
97		Myrtle L	Daughter	F	W	8	S			Florida	Georgia	Georgia		None				ne					
98		Ezey R	Daughter	F	W	5	S			Florida	Georgia	Georgia		None				ne					
99		Sarah	Daughter	F	W	3	S			Florida	Georgia	Georgia		None									
100	81 81	Poole George	Head	M	W	29	M	11		Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	English	Laborer	Timber road	W	Ne e		R	H	15	5	X

Mc Lane Clarence

Wife, 5A. Line 1.

By 1910, 12-year-old Luther and his family had moved to Noma, FL. Luther attended school, while his father, Richard, worked as a general merchant. Bessie G. Gregory, an African American woman who worked as the family's cook, lived in the household.

"1910 Federal US Census," database, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com: Accessed July 29, 2026) entry for Luther Wade Pilcher.

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/7602/images/4119986_00787?pId=79778663.

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Portrait

Pilcher in his uniform. We see he had a rifle expert marksmanship badge on his jacket.

UCF VLP Archives, We thank the Pilcher Family for allowing us to reproduce it.

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Source Packet Documents

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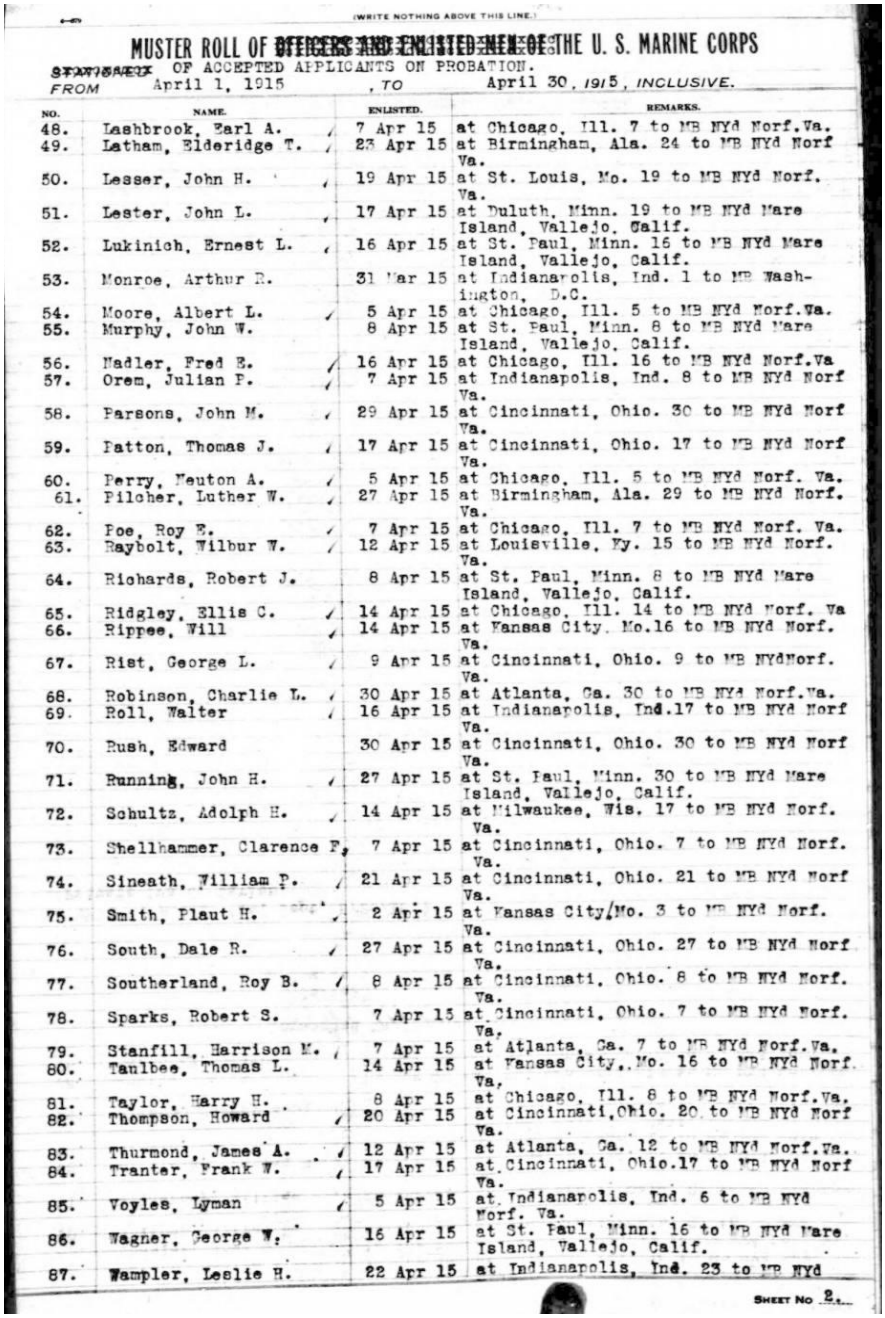
Muster Roll: April 1915



(WRITE NOTHING ABOVE THIS LINE.)

MUSTER ROLL OF ~~OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN OF~~ THE U. S. MARINE CORPS

~~STATIONED~~ OF ACCEPTED APPLICANTS ON PROBATION.

FROM April 1, 1915 , TO April 30, 1915, INCLUSIVE.

NO.	NAME.	ENLISTED.	REMARKS.
48.	Lashbrook, Earl A.	7 Apr 15	at Chicago, Ill. 7 to MB NYd Norf.Va.
49.	Latham, Elderidge T.	23 Apr 15	at Birmingham, Ala. 24 to MB NYd Norf Va.
50.	Lesser, John H.	19 Apr 15	at St. Louis, Mo. 19 to MB NYd Norf. Va.
51.	Lester, John L.	17 Apr 15	at Duluth, Minn. 19 to MB NYd Mare Island, Vallejo, Calif.
52.	Lukinich, Ernest L.	16 Apr 15	at St. Paul, Minn. 16 to MB NYd Mare Island, Vallejo, Calif.
53.	Monroe, Arthur R.	31 Mar 15	at Indianapolis, Ind. 1 to MB Washington, D.C.
54.	Moore, Albert L.	5 Apr 15	at Chicago, Ill. 5 to MB NYd Norf.Va.
55.	Murphy, John W.	8 Apr 15	at St. Paul, Minn. 8 to MB NYd Mare Island, Vallejo, Calif.
56.	Nadler, Fred E.	16 Apr 15	at Chicago, Ill. 16 to MB NYd Norf.Va
57.	Orem, Julian P.	7 Apr 15	at Indianapolis, Ind. 8 to MB NYd Norf Va.
58.	Parsons, John M.	29 Apr 15	at Cincinnati, Ohio. 30 to MB NYd Norf Va.
59.	Patton, Thomas J.	17 Apr 15	at Cincinnati, Ohio. 17 to MB NYd Norf Va.
60.	Perry, Neuton A.	5 Apr 15	at Chicago, Ill. 5 to MB NYd Norf. Va.
61.	Pilcher, Luther W.	27 Apr 15	at Birmingham, Ala. 29 to MB NYd Norf. Va.
62.	Poe, Roy E.	7 Apr 15	at Chicago, Ill. 7 to MB NYd Norf. Va.
63.	Raybolt, Wilbur W.	12 Apr 15	at Louisville, Ky. 15 to MB NYd Norf. Va.
64.	Richards, Robert J.	8 Apr 15	at St. Paul, Minn. 8 to MB NYd Mare Island, Vallejo, Calif.
65.	Ridgley, Ellis C.	14 Apr 15	at Chicago, Ill. 14 to MB NYd Norf. Va
66.	Rippee, Will	14 Apr 15	at Kansas City, Mo.16 to MB NYd Norf. Va.
67.	Rist, George L.	9 Apr 15	at Cincinnati, Ohio. 9 to MB NYdNorf. Va.
68.	Robinson, Charlie L.	30 Apr 15	at Atlanta, Ga. 30 to MB NYd Norf.Va.
69.	Roll, Walter	16 Apr 15	at Indianapolis, Ind.17 to MB NYd Norf Va.
70.	Rush, Edward	30 Apr 15	at Cincinnati, Ohio. 30 to MB NYd Norf Va.
71.	Running, John H.	27 Apr 15	at St. Paul, Minn. 30 to MB NYd Mare Island, Vallejo, Calif.
72.	Schultz, Adolph H.	14 Apr 15	at Milwaukee, Wis. 17 to MB NYd Norf. Va.
73.	Shellhammer, Clarence F.	7 Apr 15	at Cincinnati, Ohio. 7 to MB NYd Norf. Va.
74.	Sineath, William P.	21 Apr 15	at Cincinnati, Ohio. 21 to MB NYd Norf Va.
75.	Smith, Plaut H.	2 Apr 15	at Kansas City, Mo. 3 to MB NYd Norf. Va.
76.	South, Dale R.	27 Apr 15	at Cincinnati, Ohio. 27 to MB NYd Norf Va.
77.	Southerland, Roy B.	8 Apr 15	at Cincinnati, Ohio. 8 to MB NYd Norf. Va.
78.	Sparks, Robert S.	7 Apr 15	at Cincinnati, Ohio. 7 to MB NYd Norf. Va.
79.	Stanfill, Harrison M.	7 Apr 15	at Atlanta, Ga. 7 to MB NYd Norf.Va.
80.	Taulbee, Thomas L.	14 Apr 15	at Kansas City, Mo. 16 to MB NYd Norf. Va.
81.	Taylor, Harry H.	8 Apr 15	at Chicago, Ill. 8 to MB NYd Norf.Va.
82.	Thompson, Howard	20 Apr 15	at Cincinnati,Ohio. 20 to MB NYd Norf Va.
83.	Thurmond, James A.	12 Apr 15	at Atlanta, Ga. 12 to MB NYd Norf.Va.
84.	Tranter, Frank W.	17 Apr 15	at Cincinnati, Ohio.17 to MB NYd Norf Va.
85.	Voyles, Lyman	5 Apr 15	at Indianapolis, Ind. 6 to MB NYd Norf. Va.
86.	Wagner, George W.	16 Apr 15	at St. Paul, Minn. 16 to MB NYd Mare Island, Vallejo, Calif.
87.	Wampler, Leslie H.	22 Apr 15	at Indianapolis, Ind. 23 to MB NYd

SHEET NO 2.

An April 1915 Muster Roll listed Pilcher (line 61) among the applicants accepted on probation and recorded his transfer from Birmingham, AL, to the Marine Barracks at the Norfolk Naval Yard in Norfolk, VA.

"US, Marine Corps Muster Rolls, 1798-1958," database, *Fold3* (fold3.com: Accessed June 9, 2026), entry for Luther Wade Pilcher.

https://www.fold3.com/sub-image/673410964/pilcher-luther-w-us-marine-corps-muster-rolls-1798-1958?terms=luther%2Cpilcher.

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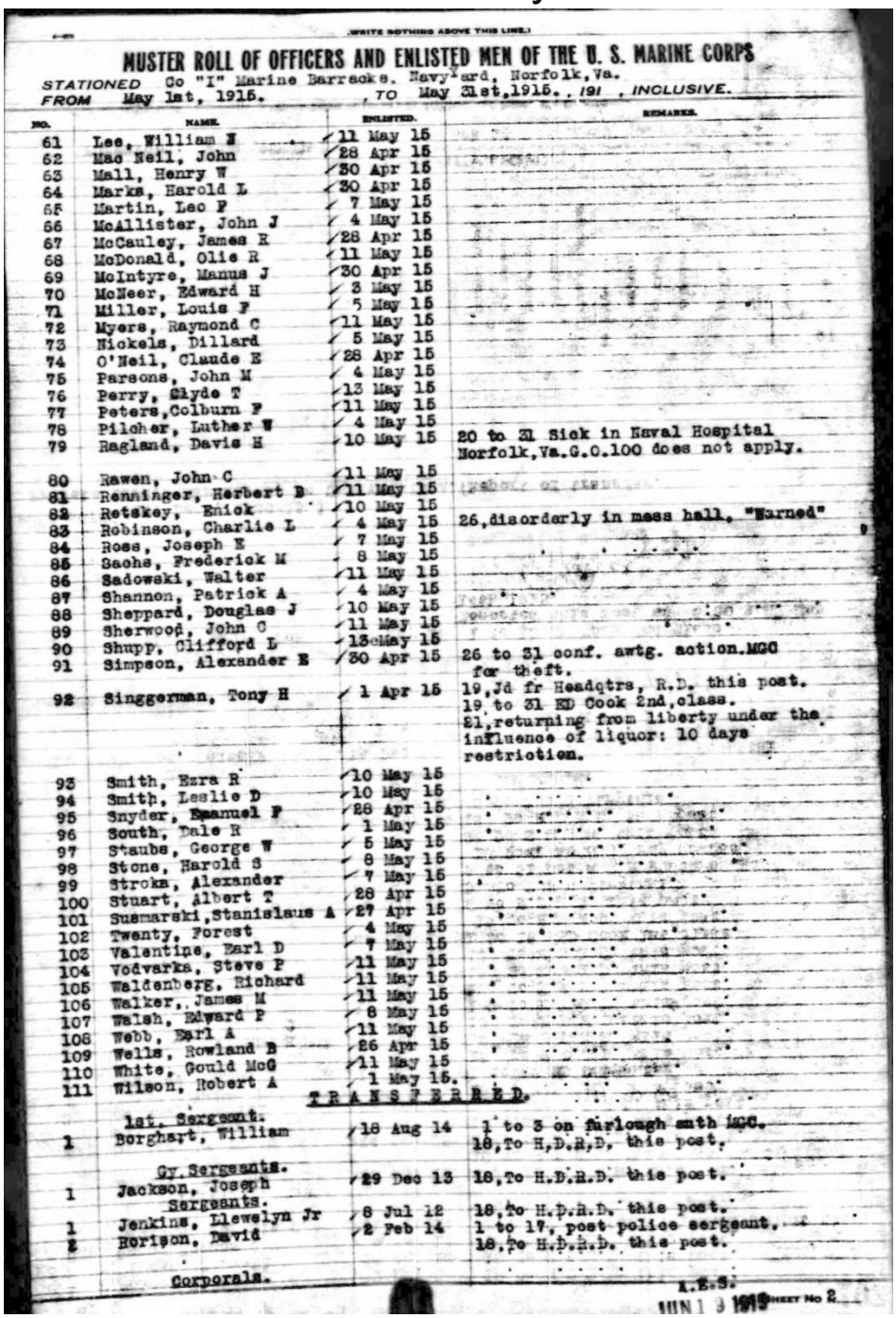
Muster Roll: May 1915



MUSTER ROLL OF OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN OF THE U. S. MARINE CORPS

STATIONED Co "I" Marine Barracks, Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va.
FROM May 1st, 1915. TO May 31st, 1915. 191 , INCLUSIVE.

NO.	NAME.	ENLISTED.	REMARKS.
61	Lee, William H	11 May 15	
62	Mac Neil, John	28 Apr 15	
63	Mall, Henry W	30 Apr 15	
64	Marks, Harold L	30 Apr 15	
65	Martin, Leo F	7 May 15	
66	McAllister, John J	4 May 15	
67	McCauley, James R	28 Apr 15	
68	McDonald, Olie R	11 May 15	
69	McIntyre, Manus J	30 Apr 15	
70	McNeer, Edward H	3 May 15	
71	Miller, Louis F	5 May 15	
72	Myers, Raymond C	11 May 15	
73	Nickels, Dillard	5 May 15	
74	O'Neil, Claude E	28 Apr 15	
75	Parsons, John M	4 May 15	
76	Perry, Clyde T	13 May 15	
77	Peters, Colburn F	11 May 15	
78	Pilcher, Luther W	4 May 15	
79	Ragland, Davis H	10 May 15	20 to 31 Sick in Naval Hospital Norfolk, Va. C.O.100 does not apply.
80	Rawen, John C	11 May 15	
81	Renninger, Herbert B	11 May 15	
82	Retskey, Enick	10 May 15	
83	Robinson, Charlie L	4 May 15	26, disorderly in mess hall, "Warned"
84	Rose, Joseph E	7 May 15	
85	Sachs, Frederick M	8 May 15	
86	Sadowski, Walter	11 May 15	
87	Shannon, Patrick A	4 May 15	
88	Sheppard, Douglas J	10 May 15	
89	Sherwood, John C	11 May 15	
90	Shupp, Clifford L	13 May 15	
91	Simpson, Alexander E	30 Apr 15	26 to 31 conf. awtg. action. MGC for theft.
92	Singgerman, Tony H	1 Apr 15	19, Jd fr Headqtrs, R.D. this post. 19 to 31 ED Cook 2nd, class. 21, returning from liberty under the influence of liquor: 10 days restriction.
93	Smith, Ezra R	10 May 15	
94	Smith, Leslie D	10 May 15	
95	Snyder, Emanuel F	26 Apr 15	
96	South, Dale R	1 May 15	
97	Staube, George W	5 May 15	
98	Stone, Harold S	8 May 15	
99	Stroka, Alexander	7 May 15	
100	Stuart, Albert T	28 Apr 15	
101	Susmarski, Stanislaus A	27 Apr 15	
102	Twenty, Forest	4 May 15	
103	Valentine, Earl D	7 May 15	
104	Vodvarka, Steve P	11 May 15	
105	Waldenberg, Richard	11 May 15	
106	Walker, James M	11 May 15	
107	Walsh, Edward P	8 May 15	
108	Webb, Earl A	11 May 15	
109	Wells, Rowland B	26 Apr 15	
110	White, Gould McG	11 May 15	
111	Wilson, Robert A	1 May 15.	
	TRANSFERRED.		
	1st. Sergeant.		
1	Borghart, William	18 Aug 14	1 to 3 on furlough auth MGC. 18, To H.D.R.D. this post.
	Qr. Sergeants.		
1	Jackson, Joseph	29 Dec 13	18, To H.D.R.D. this post.
	Sergeants.		
1	Jenkins, Llewelyn Jr	8 Jul 12	18, To H.D.R.D. this post.
2	Morison, David	2 Feb 14	1 to 17, post police sergeant. 18, To H.D.R.D. this post.
	Corporals.		

A.E.S.
JUN 1 3 1915 SHEET No 2

A May 1915 Muster Roll for I Company Barracks, Navy Yard, Norfolk, VA indicated that Pilcher (line 78) enlisted on May 4, 1915.

"US, Marine Corps Muster Rolls, 1798-1958," database, *Fold3* (fold3.com: Accessed June 9, 2026), entry for Luther Wade Pilcher.

https://www.fold3.com/sub-image/673420593/pilcher-luther-w-us-marine-corps-muster-rolls-1798-1958.

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Monster Roll: Haiti, November 1915

64	Pilcher, Luther W	4 May 15	
65	Reeves, Tom F	18 Nov 14	25 to 30 SD Messman.
66	Renninger, Herbert B	11 May 15	25 to 30 SD Messman.
67	Ridgley, Ellis G	19 Apr 15	1,2d fr 16th Co.2nd Regt.,2 to 30 sick in Field Hosp.60 100 applies.
68	Rippee, Will	19 Apr 15	
69	Schafer, Frank W	19 Apr 15	1 to 3 conf awtg result of trial by SCM (See Oct roll for offense)4,sent Lose pay $45.00 and be discharged with a BCD. L.P.remitted subject to Art. 4893,USNI, 1918.Placed on probation for 6 months.5,released and placed on probation.12 to 16 sick present 60 100 does not apply.
70	Schnitoff, Albert	15 Feb 15	
71	Seitz, John	10 Oct 14	1,2d fr 16th Co.2nd Regt. 1 to 30 SD P.H. Attendant, 2nd Regt.
72	Sheppard, Douglas J	10 May 15	ab Driver,Regtl. Corral.
73	Shupp, Clifford L	15 May 15	5 to 30 SD Regtl. Painter.
74	Smith, Alonzo J	11 Jan 15	1 to 19 SD Cook 1Cl.
75	Smith, Raymond E	15 Dec 15	1 to 19 SD Messman,20 to 24 SD Cook 2Cl,25 to 29 conf awtg action GO,30 charges dropped and restored to duty.
76	Smith, Robert B	10 Sep 15	OLA until 5:45 p.m.,1,(See Oct roll). 2, PAL awtg action GO,3 and DC, 4, PAL awtg trial DC,5, tried and sent to lose pay $10.00, L.P.remitted subject to Art.4893,USNI, 1918.App CA 5, released and restored to duty.
77	Sparks, Willie T	29 Jun 12	
78	Strickland, Norman	16 May 15	1,2d fr 16th Co.2nd Regt. 2 to 9 sick in Field Hosp.60 100 does not apply.
79	Suszarski,Stanislaus A	27 Apr 15	
80	Tuttle, Glenn E	14 May 12	
81	Votruba, Frank	14 Aug 12	1,2d fr 16th Co.2nd Regt. 2D Baker.
82	Wisocenski, William	25 Oct 15	20 to 29 Det d with Washington Detachment,30,sick present 60 100 does not apply.
83	Wolfhegel, Charles	9 Jun 15	
	HOSPITAL APPRENTICE 1Cl.		
1	Lobrano, William M.M.	15 Dec 15	1,2d fr 16th Co.2nd Regt.
	DISCHARGED		
1	Kirk, Karl S	11 May 15	3,Discharge by Favor in order to reenlist in Hospital Corps, U.S.N., Char. "Excellent".
	TRANSFERRED		
1	QUARTERMASTER SERGEANT		
1	Wicks, Philip S	3 Apr 12	1, to 16th Co.2nd Regt.
	SERGEANTS		
1	Nielson, Carl	27 Nov 11	1,2d fr 16th Co.2nd Regt. 5, trans to NB Nyd Norfolk, Va.(Via U.S.S.Hector)
	CORPORALS		
1	Alexander, James A	15 Nov 11	1,2d fr 16th Co.2nd Regt. 5, trans to NB Nyd Norfolk, Va(Via U.S.S.Hector)
2	Anderson, Nels	3 Apr 14	1, trans to 16th Co.2nd Regt.
3	Bianki, Stgin E	11 Dec 11	5,to NB Nyd Norfolk, Va., (Via U.S.S. Hector.)
4	Brainard, Abner E	15 Nov 11	1,2d fr 16th Co.2nd Regt. 5, trans to NB Nyd Norfolk, Va.(Via U.S.S.Hector)
5	Maddams, James	7 Nov 11	5,to NB Nyd Norfolk, Va., (Via U.S.S. Hector.)
	PRIVATES		
1	Broderick, John D	17 Nov 11	1,2d fr 16th Co.2nd Regt. 5,trans to NB Nyd Norfolk, Va.(Via U.S.S.Hector)
2	Carrington, Fred	2 Dec 15	1,to 16th Co.2nd Regt.
3	Chmielewski, Felix J	5 Mar 14	1,to 16th Co.2nd Regt.
4	Clayton, Henry H	25 Sep 15	1 to 4 conf awtg trans to N.P.,Portsmouth, N.H., 5, to NB Nyd Norfolk, Va for futher trans to N.P.,Portsmouth, N.H.

Space below is for use in Adjutant and Inspector's Department.

SEE FOOTNOTES ON FOLLOWING SHEET.

A November 1918 Muster Roll listed Pilcher (first line on the page) among the Marines stationed in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, as part of a US intervention to protect US economic interests.

"US, Marine Corps Muster Rolls, 1798-1958," database, *Fold3* (fold3.com: Accessed June 9, 2026), entry for Luther Wade Pilcher.

https://www.fold3.com/image/719188367/1915-page-4763-us-marine-corps-muster-rolls-1798-1958.

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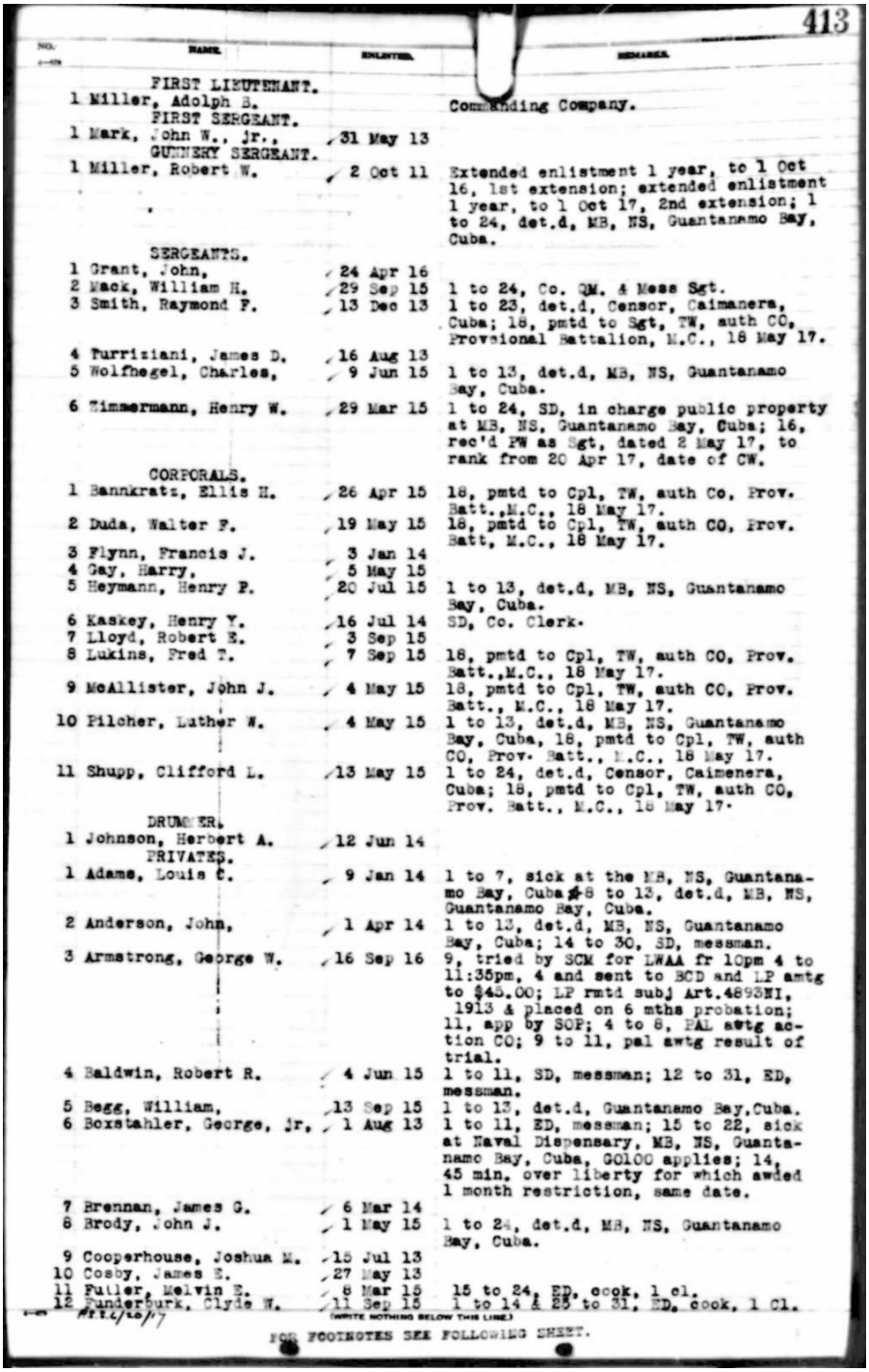
Muster Roll: Cuba, May 1917



413

NO.	NAME.	ENLISTED.	REMARKS.
	FIRST LIEUTENANT.		
1	Miller, Adolph B.		Commanding Company.
	FIRST SERGEANT.		
1	Mark, John W., Jr.,	31 May 13	
	GUNNERY SERGEANT.		
1	Miller, Robert W.	2 Oct 11	Extended enlistment 1 year, to 1 Oct 16, 1st extension; extended enlistment 1 year, to 1 Oct 17, 2nd extension; 1 to 24, det.d, MB, NS, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.
	SERGEANTS.		
1	Grant, John,	24 Apr 16	
2	Mack, William H.	29 Sep 15	1 to 24, Co. QM. & Mess Sgt.
3	Smith, Raymond F.	13 Dec 13	1 to 23, det.d, Censor, Caimanera, Cuba; 18, pmtd to Sgt, TW, auth CO, Provisional Battalion, M.C., 18 May 17.
4	Turriziani, James D.	16 Aug 13	
5	Wolfhegel, Charles,	9 Jun 15	1 to 13, det.d, MB, NS, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.
6	Zimmermann, Henry W.	29 Mar 15	1 to 24, SD, in charge public property at MB, NS, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; 16, rec'd PW as Sgt, dated 2 May 17, to rank from 20 Apr 17, date of CW.
	CORPORALS.		
1	Bannkratz, Ellis H.	26 Apr 15	18, pmtd to Cpl, TW, auth Co, Prov. Batt.,M.C., 18 May 17.
2	Duda, Walter F.	19 May 15	18, pmtd to Cpl, TW, auth CO, Prov. Batt, M.C., 18 May 17.
3	Flynn, Francis J.	3 Jan 14	
4	Gay, Harry,	5 May 15	
5	Heymann, Henry P.	20 Jul 15	1 to 13, det.d, MB, NS, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.
6	Kaskey, Henry Y.	16 Jul 14	SD, Co. Clerk.
7	Lloyd, Robert E.	3 Sep 15	
8	Lukins, Fred T.	7 Sep 15	18, pmtd to Cpl, TW, auth CO, Prov. Batt.,M.C., 18 May 17.
9	McAllister, John J.	4 May 15	18, pmtd to Cpl, TW, auth CO, Prov. Batt., M.C., 18 May 17.
10	Pilcher, Luther W.	4 May 15	1 to 13, det.d, MB, NS, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, 18, pmtd to Cpl, TW, auth CO, Prov. Batt., M.C., 18 May 17.
11	Shupp, Clifford L.	13 May 15	1 to 24, det.d, Censor, Caimenera, Cuba; 18, pmtd to Cpl, TW, auth CO, Prov. Batt., M.C., 18 May 17.
	DRUMMER.		
1	Johnson, Herbert A.	12 Jun 14	
	PRIVATES.		
1	Adams, Louis C.	9 Jan 14	1 to 7, sick at the MB, NS, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; 8 to 13, det.d, MB, NS, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.
2	Anderson, John,	1 Apr 14	1 to 13, det.d, MB, NS, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; 14 to 30, SD, messman.
3	Armstrong, George W.	16 Sep 16	9, tried by SCM for LWAA fr 10pm 4 to 11:35pm, 4 and sent to BCD and LP amtg to $45.00; LP rmtd subj Art.4893NI, 1913 & placed on 6 mths probation; 11, app by SOP; 4 to 8, PAL awtg action CO; 9 to 11, pal awtg result of trial.
4	Baldwin, Robert R.	4 Jun 15	1 to 11, SD, messman; 12 to 31, ED, messman.
5	Begg, William,	13 Sep 15	1 to 13, det.d, Guantanamo Bay,Cuba.
6	Boxstahler, George, Jr.,	1 Aug 13	1 to 11, ED, messman; 15 to 22, sick at Naval Dispensary, MB, NS, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, GO100 applies; 14, 45 min. over liberty for which awded 1 month restriction, same date.
7	Brennan, James G.	6 Mar 14	
8	Brody, John J.	1 May 15	1 to 24, det.d, MB, NS, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.
9	Cooperhouse, Joshua M.	15 Jul 13	
10	Cosby, James S.	27 May 13	
11	Fuller, Melvin E.	6 Mar 15	15 to 24, ED, cook, 1 cl.
12	Funderburk, Clyde W.	11 Sep 15	1 to 14 & 25 to 31, ED, cook, 1 Cl.

Mrl/10/17

(WRITE NOTHING BELOW THIS LINE.)

FOR FOOTNOTES SEE FOLLOWING SHEET.

A May 1917 Muster Roll for the 20th Company, Provisional Battalion, recorded Pilcher's service at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and his promotion to Corporal (line 10) on May 18.

"US, Marine Corps Muster Rolls, 1798-1958," database, *Fold3* (fold3.com: Accessed June 9, 2026), entry for Luther Wade Pilcher.

https://www.fold3.com/sub-image/673793857/pilcher-luther-w-us-marine-corps-muster-rolls-1798-1958.

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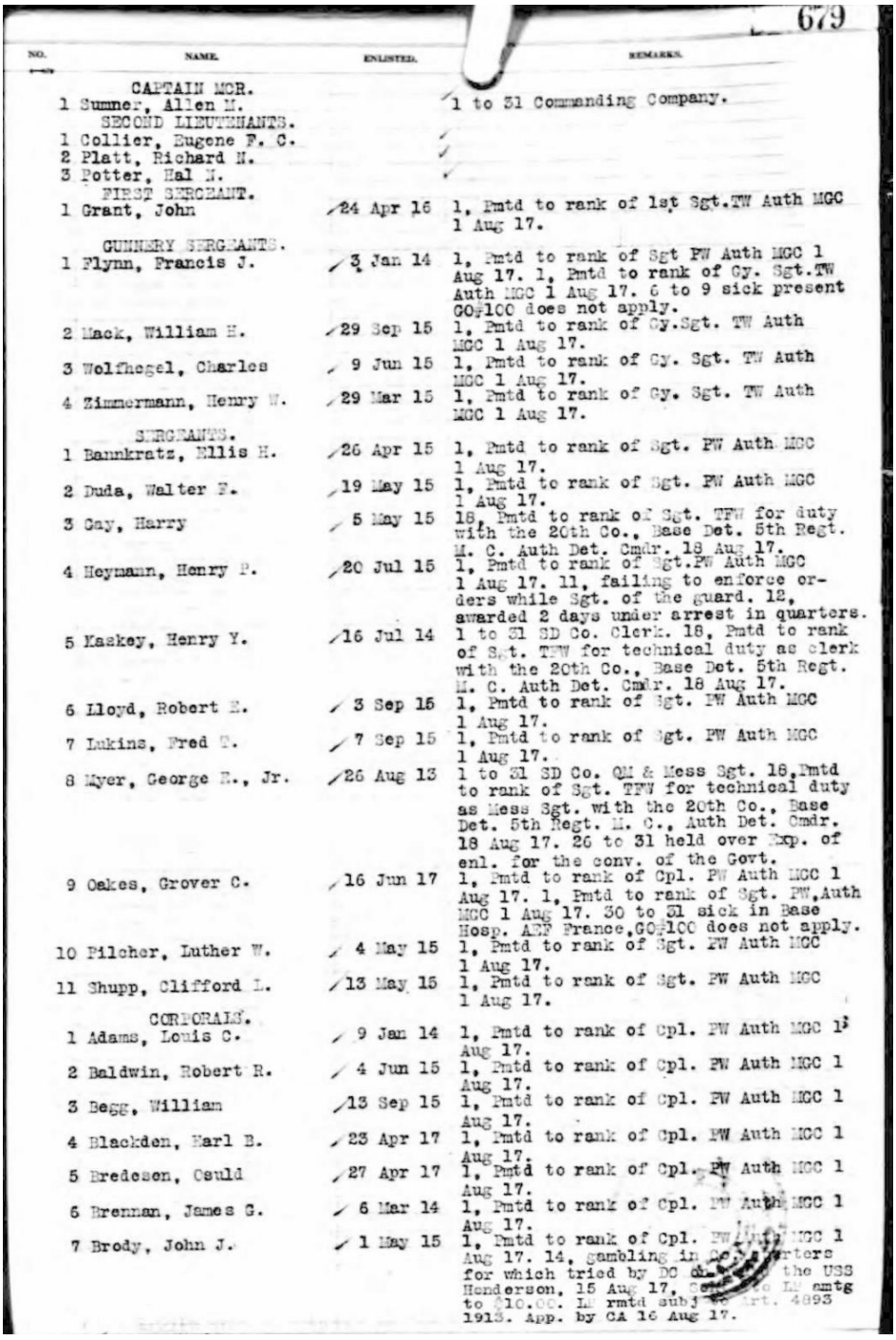
Source Packet Documents

vlp.cah.ucf.edu

Muster Roll: August 1917



679

NO.	NAME.	ENLISTED.	REMARKS.
	CAPTAIN MCR.		
1	Sumner, Allen M.		1 to 31 Commanding Company.
	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.		
1	Collier, Eugene F. C.		
2	Platt, Richard M.		
3	Potter, Hal M.		
	FIRST SERGEANT.		
1	Grant, John	24 Apr 16	1, Pmtd to rank of 1st Sgt.TW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17.
	GUNNERY SERGEANTS.		
1	Flynn, Francis J.	3 Jan 14	1, Pmtd to rank of Sgt PW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17. 1, Pmtd to rank of Gy. Sgt.TW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17. 6 to 9 sick present GO#100 does not apply.
2	Mack, William H.	29 Sep 15	1, Pmtd to rank of Gy.Sgt. TW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17.
3	Wolfhegel, Charles	9 Jun 15	1, Pmtd to rank of Gy. Sgt. TW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17.
4	Zimmermann, Henry W.	29 Mar 15	1, Pmtd to rank of Gy. Sgt. TW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17.
	SERGEANTS.		
1	Bannkratz, Ellis H.	26 Apr 15	1, Pmtd to rank of Sgt. PW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17.
2	Duda, Walter F.	19 May 15	1, Pmtd to rank of Sgt. PW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17.
3	Gay, Harry	5 May 15	18, Pmtd to rank of Sgt. TFW for duty with the 20th Co., Base Det. 5th Regt. M. C. Auth Det. Cmdr. 18 Aug 17.
4	Heymann, Henry P.	20 Jul 15	1, Pmtd to rank of Sgt.PW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17. 11, failing to enforce orders while Sgt. of the guard. 12, awarded 2 days under arrest in quarters.
5	Kaskey, Henry Y.	16 Jul 14	1 to 31 SD Co. Clerk. 18, Pmtd to rank of Sgt. TFW for technical duty as clerk with the 20th Co., Base Det. 5th Regt. M. C. Auth Det. Cmdr. 18 Aug 17.
6	Lloyd, Robert E.	3 Sep 15	1, Pmtd to rank of Sgt. PW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17.
7	Lukins, Fred T.	7 Sep 15	1, Pmtd to rank of Sgt. PW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17.
8	Myer, George E., Jr.	26 Aug 13	1 to 31 SD Co. QM & Mess Sgt. 18,Pmtd to rank of Sgt. TFW for technical duty as Mess Sgt. with the 20th Co., Base Det. 5th Regt. M. C., Auth Det. Cmdr. 18 Aug 17. 26 to 31 held over Exp. of enl. for the conv. of the Govt.
9	Oakes, Grover C.	16 Jun 17	1, Pmtd to rank of Cpl. PW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17. 1, Pmtd to rank of Sgt. PW,Auth MGC 1 Aug 17. 30 to 31 sick in Base Hosp. AEF France,GO#100 does not apply.
10	Pilcher, Luther W.	4 May 15	1, Pmtd to rank of Sgt. PW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17.
11	Shupp, Clifford L.	13 May 15	1, Pmtd to rank of Sgt. PW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17.
	CORPORALS.		
1	Adams, Louis C.	9 Jan 14	1, Pmtd to rank of Cpl. PW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17.
2	Baldwin, Robert R.	4 Jun 15	1, Pmtd to rank of Cpl. PW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17.
3	Begg, William	13 Sep 15	1, Pmtd to rank of Cpl. PW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17.
4	Blackden, Harl B.	23 Apr 17	1, Pmtd to rank of Cpl. PW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17.
5	Bredesen, Osuld	27 Apr 17	1, Pmtd to rank of Cpl. PW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17.
6	Brennan, James G.	6 Mar 14	1, Pmtd to rank of Cpl. PW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17.
7	Brody, John J.	1 May 15	1, Pmtd to rank of Cpl. PW Auth MGC 1 Aug 17. 14, gambling in QC quarters for which tried by DC aboard the USS Henderson, 15 Aug 17, [illegible] to 210.OC. LW rmtd subj to Art. 4893 1913. App. by CA 16 Aug 17.

An August 1917 Muster Roll for the 20th Company, 5th Marine Regiment, recorded Pilcher's arrival in France and his promotion to Sergeant (line 10) on August 1.

"US, Marine Corps Muster Rolls, 1798-1958," database, *Fold3* (fold3.com: Accessed June 9, 2026), entry for Luther Wade Pilcher.

https://www.fold3.com/sub-image/673914676/pilcher-luther-w-us-marine-corps-muster-rolls-1798-1958?terms=pilcher%2Cluther.

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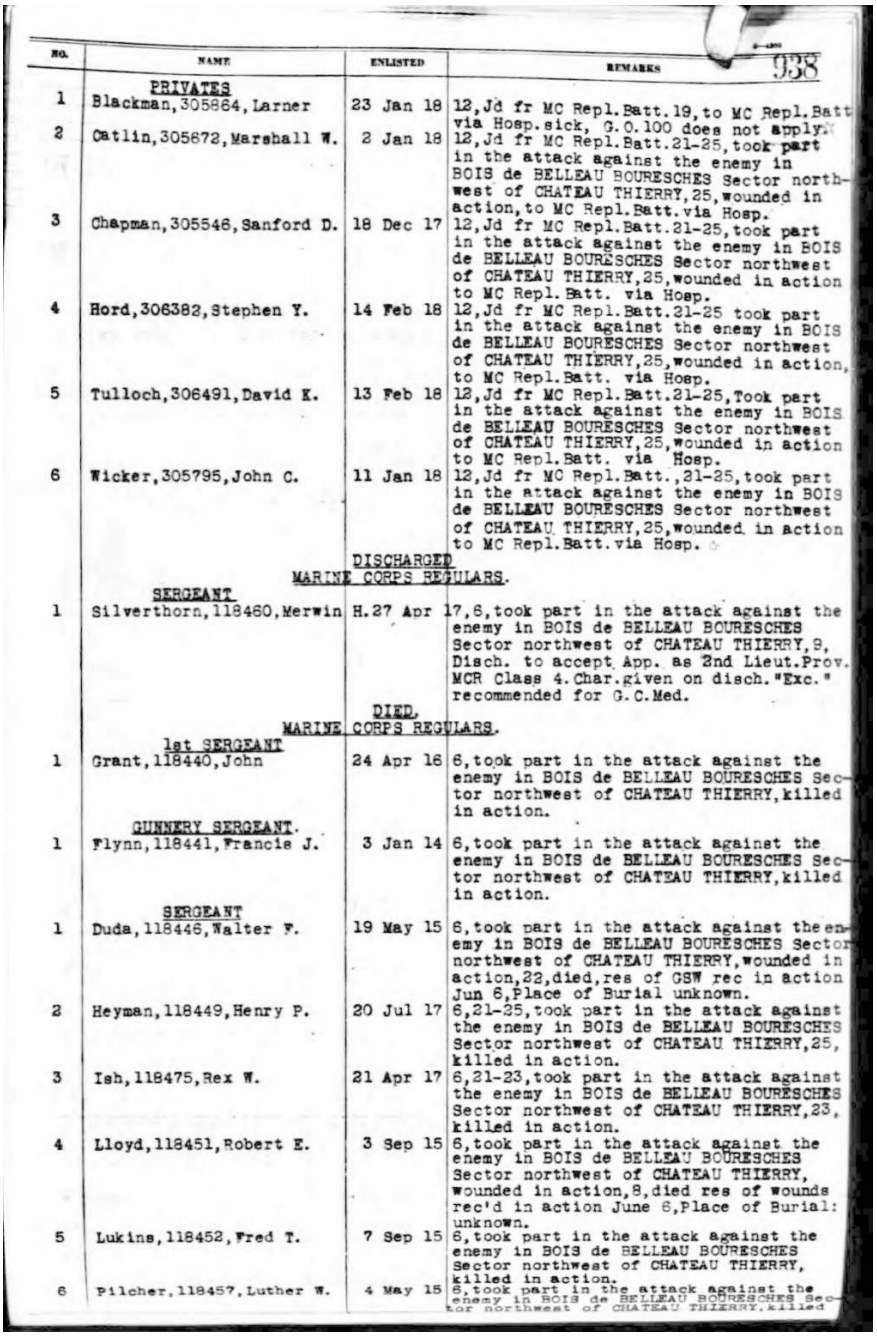
Muster Roll: June 1918



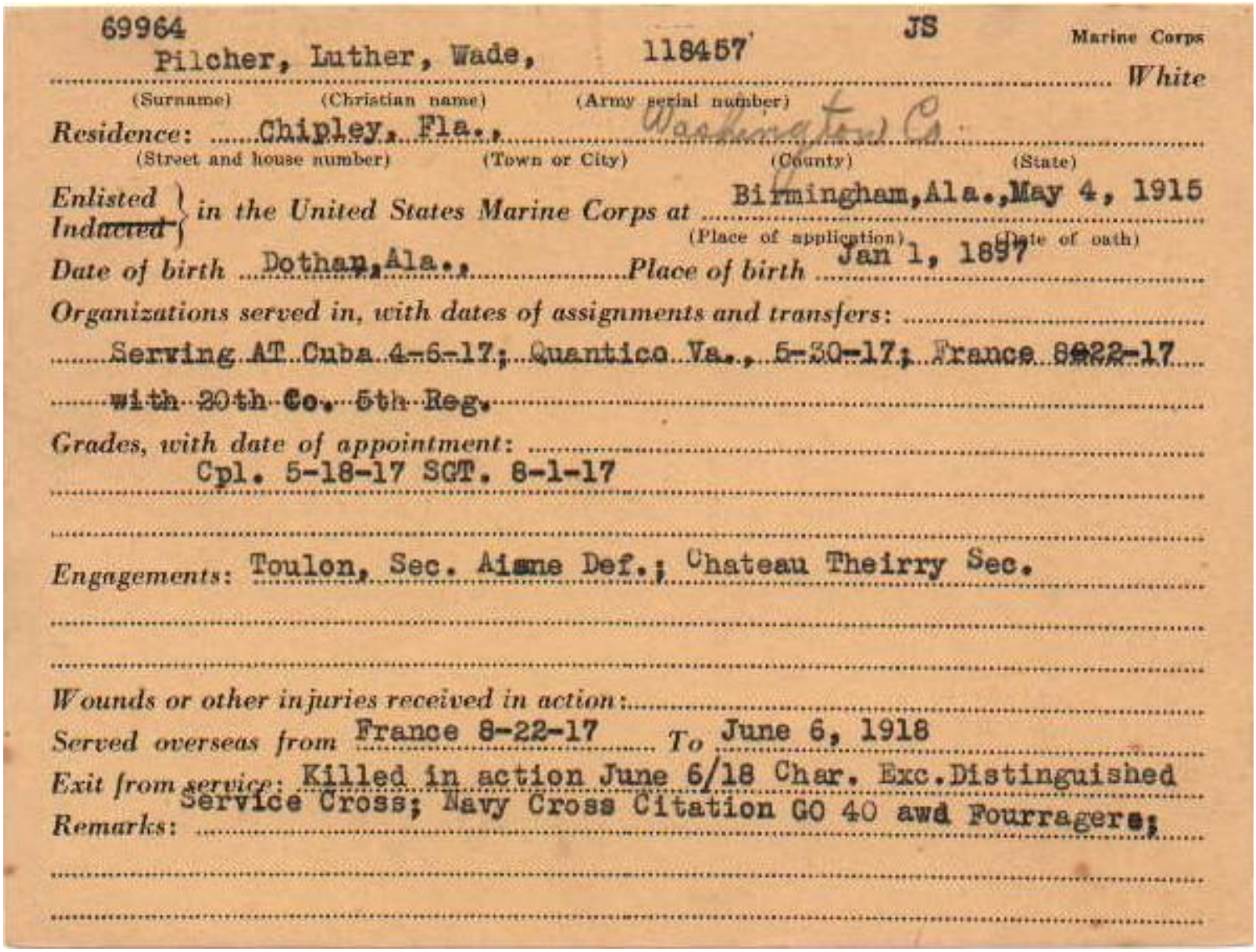
NO.	NAME	ENLISTED	REMARKS
	PRIVATES		938
1	Blackman, 305864, Larner	23 Jan 18	12, Jd fr MC Repl. Batt. 19, to MC Repl. Batt via Hosp. sick, G.O. 100 does not apply.
2	Catlin, 305672, Marshall W.	2 Jan 18	12, Jd fr MC Repl. Batt. 21-25, took part in the attack against the enemy in BOIS de BELLEAU BOURESCHES Sector northwest of CHATEAU THIERRY, 25, wounded in action, to MC Repl. Batt. via Hosp.
3	Chapman, 305546, Sanford D.	18 Dec 17	12, Jd fr MC Repl. Batt. 21-25, took part in the attack against the enemy in BOIS de BELLEAU BOURESCHES Sector northwest of CHATEAU THIERRY, 25, wounded in action to MC Repl. Batt. via Hosp.
4	Hord, 306382, Stephen Y.	14 Feb 18	12, Jd fr MC Repl. Batt. 21-25 took part in the attack against the enemy in BOIS de BELLEAU BOURESCHES Sector northwest of CHATEAU THIERRY, 25, wounded in action, to MC Repl. Batt. via Hosp.
5	Tulloch, 306491, David K.	13 Feb 18	12, Jd fr MC Repl. Batt. 21-25, Took part in the attack against the enemy in BOIS de BELLEAU BOURESCHES Sector northwest of CHATEAU THIERRY, 25, wounded in action to MC Repl. Batt. via Hosp.
6	Wicker, 305795, John C.	11 Jan 18	12, Jd fr MC Repl. Batt., 21-25, took part in the attack against the enemy in BOIS de BELLEAU BOURESCHES Sector northwest of CHATEAU THIERRY, 25, wounded in action to MC Repl. Batt. via Hosp.
	DISCHARGED MARINE CORPS REGULARS.		
	SERGEANT		
1	Silverthorn, 118460, Merwin H.	27 Apr 17	6, took part in the attack against the enemy in BOIS de BELLEAU BOURESCHES Sector northwest of CHATEAU THIERRY, 9, Disch. to accept App. as 2nd Lieut. Prov. MCR Class 4. Char. given on disch. "Exc." recommended for G.C. Med.
	DIED, MARINE CORPS REGULARS.		
	1st SERGEANT		
1	Grant, 118440, John	24 Apr 16	6, took part in the attack against the enemy in BOIS de BELLEAU BOURESCHES Sector northwest of CHATEAU THIERRY, killed in action.
	GUNNERY SERGEANT.		
1	Flynn, 118441, Francis J.	3 Jan 14	6, took part in the attack against the enemy in BOIS de BELLEAU BOURESCHES Sector northwest of CHATEAU THIERRY, killed in action.
	SERGEANT		
1	Duda, 118446, Walter F.	19 May 15	6, took part in the attack against the enemy in BOIS de BELLEAU BOURESCHES Sector northwest of CHATEAU THIERRY, wounded in action, 22, died, res of GSW rec in action Jun 6, Place of Burial unknown.
2	Heyman, 118449, Henry P.	20 Jul 17	6, 21-25, took part in the attack against the enemy in BOIS de BELLEAU BOURESCHES Sector northwest of CHATEAU THIERRY, 25, killed in action.
3	Ish, 118475, Rex W.	21 Apr 17	6, 21-23, took part in the attack against the enemy in BOIS de BELLEAU BOURESCHES Sector northwest of CHATEAU THIERRY, 23, killed in action.
4	Lloyd, 118451, Robert E.	3 Sep 15	6, took part in the attack against the enemy in BOIS de BELLEAU BOURESCHES Sector northwest of CHATEAU THIERRY, wounded in action, 8, died res of wounds rec'd in action June 6, Place of Burial: unknown.
5	Lukins, 118452, Fred T.	7 Sep 15	6, took part in the attack against the enemy in BOIS de BELLEAU BOURESCHES Sector northwest of CHATEAU THIERRY, killed in action.
6	Pilcher, 118457, Luther W.	4 May 15	6, took part in the attack against the enemy in BOIS de BELLEAU BOURESCHES Sector northwest of CHATEAU THIERRY, killed

A June 1918 Muster Roll for the 20th Company, 5th Marine Regiment, listed Pilcher (bottom of the page) as killed in action on June 6 during an attack against enemy forces at Belleau Wood, northwest of Château-Thierry, France.

"US, Marine Corps Muster Rolls, 1798-1958," database, database, *Fold3* (fold3.com: accessed June 10, 2026) entry for Luther Wade Pilcher.

https://www.fold3.com/sub-image/674380234/pilcher-luther-w-us-marine-corps-muster-rolls-1798-1958.

WWI Service Card



69964 JS Marine Corps

Pilcher, Luther, Wade, 118457 White

(Surname) (Christian name) (Army serial number)

Residence: Chipley, Fla., Washington Co.

(Street and house number) (Town or City) (County) (State)

Enlisted / Inducted in the United States Marine Corps at Birmingham, Ala., May 4, 1915

(Place of application) (Date of oath)

Date of birth Dothan, Ala., Place of birth Jan 1, 1897

Organizations served in, with dates of assignments and transfers:

Serving AT Cuba 4-6-17; Quantico Va., 5-30-17; France 8-22-17

with 20th Co., 5th Reg.

Grades, with date of appointment:

Cpl. 5-18-17 SGT. 8-1-17

Engagements: Toulon, Sec. Aisne Def.; Chateau Theirry Sec.

Wounds or other injuries received in action:

Served overseas from France 8-22-17 To June 6, 1918

Exit from service: Killed in action June 6/18 Char. Exc. Distinguished Service Cross; Navy Cross Citation GO 40 awd Fourragere;

Remarks:

Pilcher's World War I service card traced his service from Cuba, starting April 6, 1917, to Quantico, VA, on May 30, and then to France, where he served from August 22, 1917, until his death in action on June 6, 1918. He fought in the Aisne and Château-Thierry sectors, which included Belleau Wood. His awards included the Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy Cross, and the French Fourragère.

"Abstract of Military Service for Luther Wade Pilcher," RICHES, Accessed June 10, 2026.

https://richesmi.cah.ucf.edu/omeka/items/show/10387.

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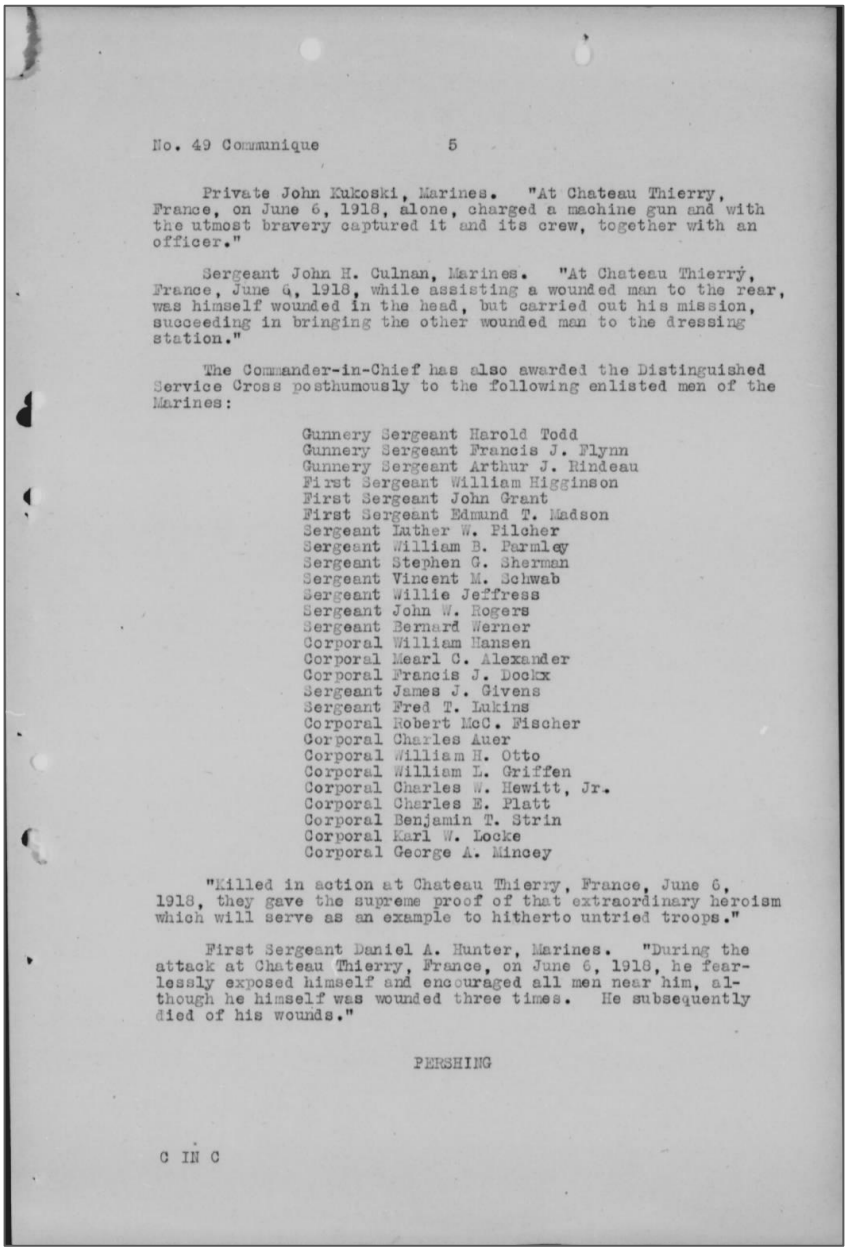
Cablegram



No. 49 Communique 5

Private John Kukoski, Marines. "At Chateau Thierry, France, on June 6, 1918, alone, charged a machine gun and with the utmost bravery captured it and its crew, together with an officer."

Sergeant John H. Culnan, Marines. "At Chateau Thierry, France, June 6, 1918, while assisting a wounded man to the rear, was himself wounded in the head, but carried out his mission, succeeding in bringing the other wounded man to the dressing station."

The Commander-in-Chief has also awarded the Distinguished Service Cross posthumously to the following enlisted men of the Marines:

Gunnery Sergeant Harold Todd
Gunnery Sergeant Francis J. Flynn
Gunnery Sergeant Arthur J. Rindeau
First Sergeant William Higginson
First Sergeant John Grant
First Sergeant Edmund T. Madson
Sergeant Luther W. Pilcher
Sergeant William B. Parmley
Sergeant Stephen G. Sherman
Sergeant Vincent M. Schwab
Sergeant Willie Jeffress
Sergeant John W. Rogers
Sergeant Bernard Werner
Corporal William Hansen
Corporal Mearl C. Alexander
Corporal Francis J. Dockx
Sergeant James J. Givens
Sergeant Fred T. Lukins
Corporal Robert McC. Fischer
Corporal Charles Auer
Corporal William H. Otto
Corporal William L. Griffen
Corporal Charles W. Hewitt, Jr.
Corporal Charles E. Platt
Corporal Benjamin T. Strin
Corporal Karl W. Locke
Corporal George A. Mincey

"Killed in action at Chateau Thierry, France, June 6, 1918, they gave the supreme proof of that extraordinary heroism which will serve as an example to hitherto untried troops."

First Sergeant Daniel A. Hunter, Marines. "During the attack at Chateau Thierry, France, on June 6, 1918, he fearlessly exposed himself and encouraged all men near him, although he himself was wounded three times. He subsequently died of his wounds."

PERSHING

C IN C

A cablegram from General John Pershing, Commander of the American Expeditionary Forces, listed awards for Marines killed in action at the Château-Thierry sector on June 6. Pilcher appeared among the 27 Marines who received the Distinguished Service Cross.

"US, WWI Military Cablegrams - AEF and War Dept, 1917-1919," database, *Fold3* (fold3.com: Accessed June 9, 2026).

https://www.fold3.com/image/26591108/49-page-5-us-wwi-military-cablegrams-aef-and-war-dept-1917-1919

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Transcription of an Article in *The Birmingham News*

Dothan Soldier is Killed in France

Dothan, Ala.,. June 21.--Special.--
The Huns have brought the war home to the people of Dothan in the killing of Sergeant Luther Wade Pilcher, who was killed in action "somewhere in France" on June 7. Pilcher was a member of the United States Marines with the expeditionary forces in France. His company left the United States for France last September. He joined the United States Marines some time before the war was declared and his company was one of the first sent over.

A June 21, 1918 article from *The Birmingham News* reported Pilcher's death on June 7, likely based on when the US military notified his family via telegram. The June 1918 Muster Roll confirmed that he died on June 6. The article also stated that his unit left for France in September 1917, while his service card placed his arrival in France in August.

"Dothan Soldier is Killed in France," *The Birmingham News* (Birmingham, Alabama), June 21, 1918, Newspapers.com.

https://www.newspapers.com/image/613470971/?match=2&terms=Luther%20Pilcher.

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Transcription excerpt of a *Washington Post* Article

War Crosses Given U.S. Troops By Pershing for Bravery in Actions

The commander-in-chief has also awarded the distinguished service cross posthumously to the following enlisted men of the marines: Gunnery Sergts. Harold Todd… Sergts. James J. Givens, Luther W. Pilcher… "killed in action at Chateau Thierry, June 6, they gave the supreme proof of that extraordinary which will serve as an example to hitherto untried troops."

The Washington Post published an article on July 4, 1918, listing Pilcher among Marines who posthumously received the Distinguished Service Cross.

"War Crosses Given U.S. Troops By Pershing for Bravery in Actions," *Washington Post* (Washington D.C.), July 4, 1918, Ancestry.com.

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/6445/images/news-dc-thewashingtonpost.1918_07_04_0004

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Transcription of an Article in *The Orlando Sentinel*

Little But Mighty.

The little town of Chipley, Fla., has lost a number of sons in the war. Our heart goes out to this grief stricken village but we glory in the loyalty of her sons fighting and dying for the right. Sergeant Luther W. Pilcher was posthumously honored by General Pershing, the brave defender of the flag being awarded a service cross.

The Orlando Sentinel reported on July 6, 1918 that General Pershing had posthumously awarded Pilcher the Distinguished Service Cross and described the war's impact on his hometown of Chipley, FL.

"Little But Mighty." *The Orlando Sentinel* (Orlando, Florida), July 6, 1918, Newspapers.com.

https://www.newspapers.com/image/313654318/?match=1&terms=Luther%20Pilcher.

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Transcription of an Article in *The Dothan Eagle*

A Letter in Reference to Death of Luther W. Pilcher.

Mr. Jas. W. Pilcher, 211 W. Troy St., Dothan Ala.

My dear Mr. Pilcher:

I am in receipt of your letter of July 11th, requesting information concerning the death of your brother, Sergeant Luther W. Pilcher, formerly of this company. Sergeant Pilcher was killed on june 6, by a machine gun or rifle bullet, it was impossible to determine which, and was buried near where he fell. His effects were taken care of by the men in charge of his burial, and should have reached you by this time, if not, they undoubtedly will soon. As he died so quickly, it was of course, impossible for him to leave any message.

While with this company, Sergeant Pilcher had an excellent record. He was in all respects the type and exemplar of the best of American spirit and action. His death is a loss to the Marine Corps, but it adds the name of a soldier who died doing his duty fearlessly, and to the list of those who are making the great sacrifice in order that freedom may be preserved for the lives of men. For your personal loss there can be little consolation, but you can rejoice that your brave brother knew the worth of the cause for which he fought, and counted its dangers as nothing, if only right might prevail.

Yours sincerely,
James A. Higgins,
First Sergeant. Co. K, 3rd Bat, 5th Reg., Marine Corps, AEF.

On October 5, 1918, *The Dothan Eagle* in Pilcher's hometown of Dothan, AL, published a letter addressed to his brother from a Sergeant in Pilcher's company that provided additional details about his death.

"A Letter in Reference to Death of Luther W. Pilcher." *The Dothan Eagle* (Dothan, Alabama), October 5, 1918, Newspapers.com.

https://www.newspapers.com/image/978736951/?match=1&terms=Luther%20Pilcher

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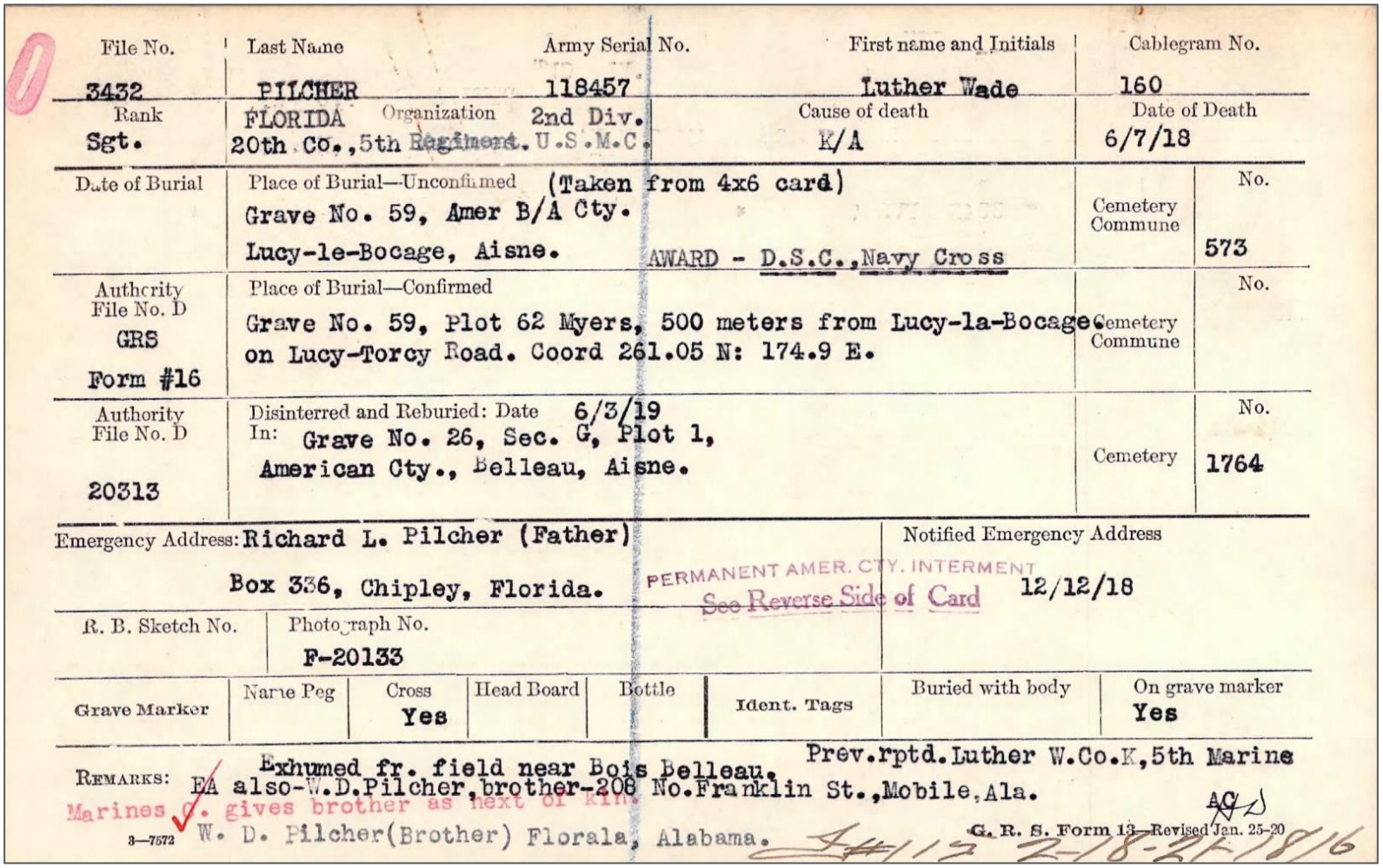
Burial Card (Front)



File No.	Last Name	Army Serial No.	First name and Initials	Cablegram No.
3432	PILCHER	118457	Luther Wade	160

Rank	Organization	Cause of death	Date of Death
Sgt.	FLORIDA 20th Co.,5th Regiment. 2nd Div. U.S.M.C.	K/A	6/7/18

Date of Burial	Place of Burial—Unconfirmed	Cemetery Commune	No.
	(Taken from 4x6 card) Grave No. 59, Amer B/A Cty. Lucy-le-Bocage, Aisne. AWARD - D.S.C.,Navy Cross		573

Authority File No. D	Place of Burial—Confirmed	Cemetery Commune	No.
GRS Form #16	Grave No. 59, Plot 62 Myers, 500 meters from Lucy-la-Bocage on Lucy-Torcy Road. Coord 261.05 N: 174.9 E.		

Authority File No. D	Disinterred and Reburied: Date	Cemetery	No.
20313	6/3/19 In: Grave No. 26, Sec. G, Plot 1, American Cty., Belleau, Aisne.		1764

Emergency Address: Richard L. Pilcher (Father) Box 336, Chipley, Florida.

PERMANENT AMER. CTY. INTERMENT See Reverse Side of Card

Notified Emergency Address 12/12/18

R. B. Sketch No.

Photograph No. F-20133

Grave Marker	Name Peg	Cross	Head Board	Bottle	Ident. Tags	Buried with body	On grave marker
		Yes					Yes

REMARKS: Exhumed fr. field near Bois Belleau. Prev.rptd.Luther W.Co.K,5th Marine EA also-W.D.Pilcher,brother-208 No.Franklin St.,Mobile,Ala. Marines G. gives brother as next of kin. W. D. Pilcher(Brother) Florala, Alabama.

3—7572

G. R. S. Form 13—Revised Jan. 25-20

The front of Pilcher's WWI burial card shows his body was exhumed from the field where he died and initially interred in just outside Lucy-le-Bocage, a small village south of Belleau. In 1919, after General Pershing secured the land, the Army Quartermaster Corps' Graves Registration Service reinterred Pilcher and over 2000 others in the Aisne Marne American Cemetery at Belleau, France. He rests in Plot 1, Section G, Grave 26. It lists his emergency contact as his father Richard Pilcher who received a notification regarding his burial on December 12, 1918.

"US, WWI Burial Cards, 1915-1919," database, *Fold3* (fold3.com: Accessed June 10, 2026) entry for Luther Wade Pilcher.

https://www.fold3.com/image/705196445/pilcher-luther-wade-us-wwi-burial-cards-1915-1919.

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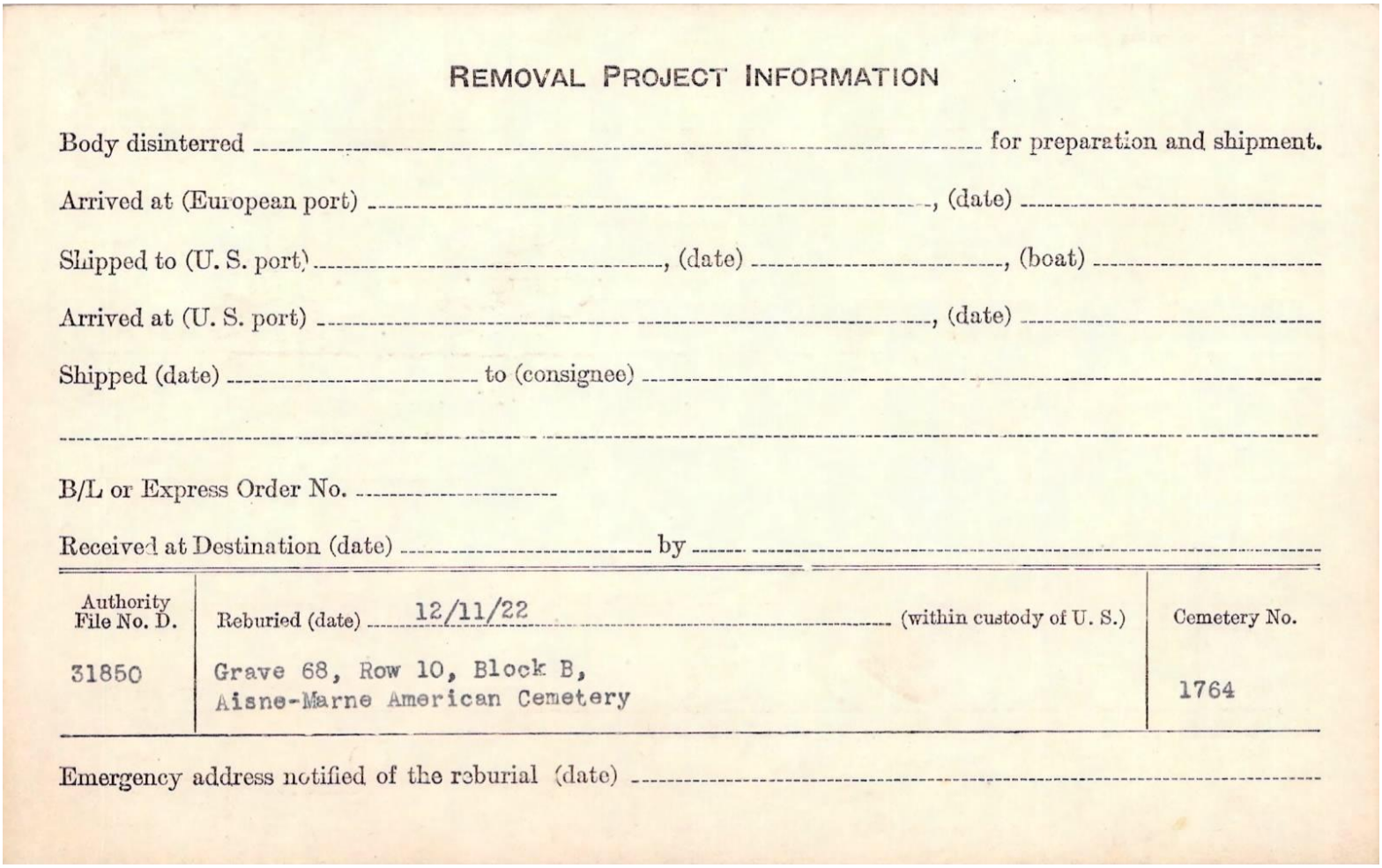
Burial Card (Back)



REMOVAL PROJECT INFORMATION

Body disinterred _____ for preparation and shipment.

Arrived at (European port) _____, (date) _____

Shipped to (U. S. port) _____, (date) _____, (boat) _____

Arrived at (U. S. port) _____, (date) _____

Shipped (date) _____ to (consignee) _____

_____

B/L or Express Order No. _____

Received at Destination (date) _____ by _____

Authority File No. D.	Reburied (date) 12/11/22 (within custody of U. S.)	Cemetery No.
31850	Grave 68, Row 10, Block B, Aisne-Marne American Cemetery	1764

Emergency address notified of the reburial (date) _____

The back of Pilcher's World War I burial card documented a change in his burial location or a cemetery reorganization, possibly when the Graves Registration Service needed to change section names and numbers when it added more burials at the Aisne-Marne American Cemetery. From December 11, 1922 to the present, Pilcher's final resting place is Block B, Row 10, Grave 68.

"US, WWI Burial Cards, 1915-1919," database, *Fold3* (fold3.com: Accessed June 10, 2026) entry for Luther Wade Pilcher.

https://www.fold3.com/image/705196446/pilcher-luther-wade-us-wwi-burial-cards-1915-1919.

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Headstone

Pilcher's headstone at the Aisne-Marne American Cemetery at Belleau, France, located at Block B, Row 10, Grave 68.

UCF VLP Archives.

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