

Anything, Anytime, Anywhere, Bar Nothing (AAA-0)



Form 1 **REGISTRATION CARD** No. 10

1 Name in full Joseph B. Grace Age, in yrs. 24

2 Home address 147 W 64 St

3 Date of birth Aug 18 1892

4 Are you (1) a natural born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? Yes

5 Where were you born? New Britain Con.

6 If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject?

7 What is your present trade, occupation, or office? Clerk 29

8 By whom employed? B. Murdock

9 Where employed? 1730 Amsterdam Ave

10 Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)? No

11 Married or single (which)? Single Race (specify which)? White

12 What military service have you had? Rank No branch No

13 Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? No

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

Joseph B. Grace

REGISTRAR'S REPORT 1-9-124-A

1 Tall, medium, or short (specify which)? Tall Slender, medium, or stout (specify which)? Slender

2 Color of eyes? Green Color of hair? Black Bald? No

3 Has person lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)? No

I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

Justine Shady
(Signature of registrar)

Precinct 18. 18. 10. 15-a 10.

City or County N. Y.

State N. Y. June 5 1917
(Date of registration)

The following is a brief story about my maternal great-uncle, Sargent Joseph Aloysius Grace (1892-1918), who died on October 11, 1918 during the [Meuse-Argonne Operation](#) in World War 1. Joseph enlisted in August 1917 and was serving in the III Corps – 4th Infantry Division – 7th Infantry Brigade – 39th Infantry Regiment (AAA-0) – HQ Company at the time of his death.

While Joseph's cause of death is not noted, American Expeditionary Force (AEF) order of battle reports from that day note that "early on the morning of the 11th, the entire regimental staff of the 39th was gassed." If Joseph was assigned to headquarters, it can be assumed that he was among those who died that morning. The use of chemical weapons was deployed heavily by both sides during the campaign. ([The Use of Gas in the Meuse-Argonne Campaign](#))

The Meuse-Argonne Offensive was the largest operation of the

American Expeditionary Force (AEF) during World War and remains the deadliest American troops ever fought. The AEF launched its massive offensive on September 26, 1918 along a twenty-four-mile front from the Argonne Forest to the Meuse River—a long strip of rolling hills and wild woodland about 150 miles east of Paris. One month to the day after Joseph's death, an Armistice was signed between the Allies and Germany on 11th November 1918, bringing an end to the First World War.

Meuse-Argonne Offensive – September 26 and November 11, 1918

AEF – 26,277 killed and 95,786 wounded

German – 28,000 killed and 92,250 wounded

[The Thirty-ninth had now been in the *Meuse-Argonne* operation for seventeen days, six days of that time (September 26th, 27th, 28th, and October 10th, 11th, and 12th) occupying the front line and making vigorous assaults. An advance of eleven kilometers was made in the September fighting, and three kilometers in October, a total advance of fourteen kilometers against a most stubborn and determined enemy resistance. On the 26th of September *the Regiment penetrated the enemy line deeper than any other troops engaged*, and on the same day *had made possible the capture of the important town of Montfaucon*. These successes had not been achieved, however, without heavy losses. In the six days' engagements the Regiment lost 1,187 in wounded and 292 in killed. Though depleted in numbers, the spirit and morale of the troops was never higher. Those who had come through the fighting unscathed were filled with a determination to vindicate their comrades who had so bravely made the supreme sacrifice.

[The History of the 39th U. S. Infantry during the World War \(p.81-83\)](#)

Comments/Reviews Appreciated!

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