

Copy to: The Surgeon General.

The following articles set forth an agreement entered into by the Secretaries of War and Navy, which shall govern the Army and Navy in the transportation of the sick and wounded between the United States and France or England and the disposal of the remains of officers, enlisted men, and civilian employees of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps who die between the United States and France or England, or in France.

ARTICLE I. *Sick and wounded.*

(a) Sick and wounded being brought from France or England to the United States will be brought in Navy hospital ships or transports, whichever may be most suitable and available, except in special cases where transportation by commercial liners may be authorized.

(b) The Army will be in charge of the embarkation and debarkation of all Army patients.

(c) The Navy will be charged with the care of these patients while on board ships of the Navy acting as transports or otherwise. At the request of the Navy, the Army will render such assistance in personnel and material as may be necessary.

(d) No patients will be returned to the United States if, in the opinion of the Surgeons concerned, they will probably recover within six months.

ARTICLE II. *Disposition of remains of those who die in France.*

(a) The remains of all officers, enlisted men, and civilian employees of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps who have died or who may hereafter die in France shall be buried in France until the end of the war, when the remains shall be brought back to the United States for final interment.

(b) Such memorial facilities as the Army may have acquired in France shall be available to the Navy.

ARTICLE III. *Disposition of remains of those who die at sea.*

(a) The remains of all officers, enlisted men, and civilian employees of the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps who die on board a ship en route to or from the United States shall be embalmed and returned to the United States on board the ship on which the death occurred.

(b) All ships engaged in transporting troops shall be equipped with the necessary personnel and material to carry the foregoing requirements into effect.

ARTICLE IV. *Expenses.*

The War and Navy Departments will at once take the necessary steps to put the foregoing into effect.

War Department, March 28, 1918.

Navy Department, March 28, 1918.

BENJAMIN CROWELL,

JOSEPHUS DANIELS,

Acting Secretary of War.

Secretary of Navy.

Initiated by General Jerry, W. V. F. Captain Pratt.

An amendment of this agreement was effected on June 30, 1918, as follows:

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington, June 30, 1918.

The following articles set forth a change in an agreement entered into by the Secretaries of War and Navy which will govern the Army and Navy in the transportation of the sick and wounded between the United States and France or England and the disposal of the remains of officers, enlisted men, and civilian employees of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps, who die between the United States and France or England, or in France.

ARTICLE I.

Paragraph (d) Article I. Agreement entered into by the Secretaries of the War and Navy Departments, March 28, 1918, in reference to transportation of the sick and wounded between the United States and France and England and the disposal of the remains of officers, enlisted men, and civilians in the employ of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps, who die between the United States and France or England, or in France, is hereby revoked and the following substituted therefor.

Paragraph (d). The commanding general of American Expeditionary Forces will decide what class of patients and the numbers of each he desires returned to the United States. He will ascertain the actual number of each class that can be accommodated on each vessel from the senior naval surgeon through the commanding officer of that vessel and will not exceed that number.