Mutual Reinforcement is Effective

Throughout World War I, German submarines targeted ocean traffic of the Allied nations. After the U.S. entered the war, the British and American navies began a convoy system to thwart the German menace. Many of the troops and supplies destined for the Western Front landed in the British Isles first.

Brookwood American Cemetery and Memorial
The site nestles among military cemeteries and monuments of the British Commonwealth and other nations. Those who rest here were members of the American Expeditionary Forces who lost their lives in the British Isles or surrounding waters. After the Armistice, they were brought here from temporary sites throughout England, Scotland, and Ireland.

American Battle Monuments Commission
This agency of the United States government operates and maintains 26 American cemeteries and 29 memorials, monuments and markers in 16 countries. The Commission works to fulfill the vision of its first chairman, General of the Armies John J. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Forces during World War I, promised that “time will not dim the glory of their deeds.”

For more information on this site and other ABMC commemorative sites, please visit www.abmc.gov
More than two million American service members arrived in France during World War I. Almost one million landed in England first. Most of those proceeded to France. Some remained, serving at base hospitals, naval air stations, in support of the ports, and at sea and in the air.

June 9, 1917: General John J. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF), and staff arrived in Britain. They consulted with British officials before reaching Paris on June 13.

February 5, 1918: A German submarine torpedoed the American troop ship SS Tuscania near the Isle of Islay, Scotland. More than 200 men were lost.

May 31: The troop ship USS President Lincoln was sunk by a German submarine in the Atlantic west of Brest, France.

July 20: The U.S. Navy established a seaplane patrol base at Killingholme, England.

August 1: Base Hospital No. 29 of the AEF began functioning in London.

September 16-17: The Coast Guard Cutter USCGC Seneca, on convoy escort, assisted the torpedoed steamship Wellington. Eleven Seneca and five Wellington men perished.

September 26: The USCGC Tampa was sunk by a German torpedo in the Bristol Channel. She sank with all hands: 131 lives were lost, including 111 Coastguardsmen.

October 6: The troop ship HMS Otranto collided with another ship during a storm near the Isle of Islay.

General Pershing wrote in his final report: "The hospitable reception of those of our forces who passed through England has impressed upon us how closely common language and blood have brought together the British and ourselves."

Headstone
This headstone marks the grave of Teresa M. Murphy, Army Nurse Corps, of New Hampshire. She died on duty at Base Station No. 3, London, on November 9, 1918.