

PHILIP SURIANI

JANUARY 15, 1927.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed

Mr. HOOPER, from the Committee on War Claims submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 9226]

The Committee on War Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 9226) entitled "A bill to reimburse Dr. Philip Suriani," having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass without amendment.

The purpose of this bill is to reimburse Dr. Philip Suriani, of Rome, Italy, the sum of \$422.33, for surgical dental work performed for Lieut. Morgan Heiskill, United States Army, assistant to the United States military attaché at Rome during the period from March 16, 1919, to August 16, 1919, on the authority of the military attaché, there being no Army dental officer available. The treatment was largely necessitated to remove cause of infection and to cure abscesses resulting from neglect or hurried and incomplete treatment during Lieutenant Heiskill's military service in France. The crown and bridge work charged was mainly for the removal, reconstruction, and replacement of such, which was absolutely essential to proper treatment.

This claim was disallowed by the Auditor for the War Department December 17, 1920, for the reason that paragraphs 1476 and 1476½ of Army Regulations do not provide for payment for treatments of this character. However, under date of March 19, 1926, the Acting Secretary of War, in a letter addressed to the chairman Committee on War Claims, stated:

Since it appears that Doctor Suriani rendered his professional service in good faith and that his charges were reasonable and just, it is recommended that the bill for his relief, H. R. 9226, receive favorable consideration.

The subcommittee having this bill under consideration unani-  
mously recommended it to the full committee and the full com-  
mittee now unanimously recommends to the House that the bill  
be passed without amendment.

The letter from the Acting Secretary of War addressed to the chairman Committee on War Claims, referred to above, together with an itemized statement of the bill, is appended hereto and made a part of this report.

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
Washington, March 19, 1926.

HON. JAMES G. STRONG,  
Chairman Committee on War Claims,  
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. STRONG: In accordance with your request of February 15, 1926, the following report is submitted on H. R. 9226, February 11, 1926, a bill to reimburse Dr. Philip Suriani, of Rome, Italy.

Doctor Suriani's bill for \$422.33 for dental service rendered Lieut. Morgan Heiskell during March and April, 1919, was received by the War Department in August, 1919. The payment of this bill was disallowed because "expenses for artificial dentures of the character described in this communication are not, under existing regulations, payable from public funds." It was stated further that Lieutenant Heiskell himself would have to pay Doctor Suriani.

Lieutenant Heiskell protested against this finding. The claim, after considerable correspondence, was sent to the Chief of Finance on November 9, 1920, for transmittal to the Auditor for the War Department for consideration. On December 17, 1920, the auditor disallowed the claim and advised Doctor Suriani of the action taken. Subsequent to the disallowance of the claim by the auditor there was considerable correspondence but no further action was taken.

The appropriation from which Doctor Suriani's account would have been payable is no longer available, and the period during which an appeal from the findings of the auditor can be made has expired. The case, therefore, can not be opened through the usual channels, and the only means for affording relief to Doctor Suriani is by congressional action, since Lieutenant Heiskell, an emergency officer, has been discharged from the service and is no longer within the jurisdiction of the War Department.

Since it appears that Doctor Suriani rendered his professional service in good faith, and that his charges were reasonable and just, it is recommended that the bill for his relief, H. R. 9226, receive favorable consideration.

This proposed legislation has been submitted to the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, who advises that the proposed legislation is not in conflict with the financial program of the President.

The War Department will be glad to furnish further information or details on this bill should your committee so desire.

I am inclosing a report of The Adjutant General setting forth the principal items of Lieutenant Heiskell's military record.

Sincerely yours,

HANFORD MACNIDER,  
Acting Secretary of War.

CASE OF MORGAN HEISKELL

WAR DEPARTMENT, THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
March 19, 1926.

To the honorable the SECRETARY OF WAR:

The records of this office show that Morgan Heiskell was tendered an appointment as second lieutenant in the Engineer Officers' Reserve Corps September 5, 1917, and accepted this appointment September 10, 1917, at headquarters, Corps of Engineers, American Expeditionary Forces, France. He was ordered to active duty the same day and directed to report at the Chief of Engineers' office for duty with station at Paris, whereupon he was placed on duty in the camouflage section, Engineer Corps. He was promoted to first lieutenant, Engineers, May 26, 1918. By War Department orders of January 28, 1919, he was detailed as assistant to the American military attaché at Rome, Italy, and served in that capacity at the American Embassy until honorably discharged by direction of the President on September 1, 1919.

Respectfully submitted.

ROBERT C. DAVIS,  
Major General, The Adjutant General.

No. 6060.

Lieut. Morgan Heiskill, assistant military attaché at the American Embassy.

To Dr. Ph. Suriani, Roma, from March 16 to August 19, 1919, Dr.

Bill rendered in base of gold lire 50 per hour.

Surgical and medical treatment, including opening of abscesses, removing of fractured teeth, necrosed bone, opening and scraping of the antrum of highmore, bridges, etc.:

Date	Hours	Number of seatings	Gold lire
Mar. 16 to 29 .....	14	10	700
Apr. 2 to 16 .....	4	6	200
May 2 to 31 .....	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	7	225
July 9 to 31 .....	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	375
Aug. 1 to 11 .....	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	225
Aug. 12 to 19:			
Left upper 6 teeth, bridge .....			300
Right lower 3 teeth, bridge .....			150
			2,175

 $\$1 \text{ equal to gold lire } 5.15; 2,175 \div 5.15 = \$422.33.$ 


No. 5066

Lack of standard health records and the absence of a central health office in the country.  
 To the U.S. Bureau of Health Statistics, Washington, D.C. (Letter of 1919, D.C.)  
 This report is based on the information  
 received and medical records of the various hospitals of  
 the country and the various health offices of the country of the  
 various states.

Year	Number of cases	Percentage of total	Remarks
1917	10	100	
1918	10	100	
1919	10	100	
1920	10	100	
1921	10	100	
1922	10	100	
1923	10	100	
1924	10	100	
1925	10	100	
1926	10	100	
1927	10	100	
1928	10	100	
1929	10	100	
1930	10	100	
1931	10	100	
1932	10	100	
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1993	10	100	
1994	10	100	
1995	10	100	
1996	10	100	
1997	10	100	
1998	10	100	
1999	10	100	
2000	10	100	

Report to the U.S. Bureau of Health Statistics, Washington, D.C.