

ALL GAVE SOME; SOME GAVE ALL

This week's veteran is Carlyle Bantner.

Carlyle was drafted into the Army June 6, 1944, at Chicago, IL, and discharged November 26, 1945, at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, Missouri. He received his training at Camp Roberts, California. Carlyle served overseas with the 182nd Infantry Division in the Southern Philippines Campaign. He was a scout. Scouts are part of a unit that is sent out ahead of the main fighting force to probe the enemy to ascertain information on the enemy's strength and location. He was awarded the Infantryman's Combat Badge, Bronze Star, Philippine Liberation Ribbon, and the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Campaign Ribbon.

The following articles appeared in the Prairie State Tribune in circa 1945:

(The following news bulletin comes from the American Infantry Division in the Philippines.)

Pfc. Carlyle J. Bantner, husband of Mrs. Virginia Bantner of Assumption, Ill., has been awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge for exemplary conduct in combat against the Japanese on Cebu.

Worn above the left breast pocket, the badge is a silver rifle within a silver border with an elliptical wreath in the background.

Overseas three months, Bantner is also entitled to wear the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign ribbon with a star.

The Assumption soldier is a member of the battle-tested 182nd Infantry, a regiment organized in colonial times and cited as the oldest American regiment in existence. The history of the regiment includes Bunker Hill, Dorchester Heights, Bull Run, Meuse-Argonne, Guadalcanal and Bougainville.

About the Folks in the Service

Carlyle Bantner in Japan

(With the Americal Division of the Eighth Army, Yokohama, Japan)

Pfc. Carlyle Bantner, of Assumption, was among the first American troops to land in Japan, and is now stationed with the occupation forces near the town of Fuchinobe, several miles west of Yokohama.

Pfc. Bantner's division, the Americal, reached the Jap homeland less than a week after the surrender terms were signed.

The veteran unit steamed into Tokyo Bay just three years, eleven months, and eleven days after it's first elements left the United States for the Pacific. At Guadalcanal the Americal became the first Army ground unit to take the offensive in the war, and later fought for eleven months on Bougainville. In the Philippines campaign the division invaded Cebu, Bohol, Negros, and other lesser Islands off southern Luzon and in the Visayas, and participated in mopping up operations on Leyte, Samar and Mindinao.

Bantner is an ammunition man in the 182nd Infantry Regiment and has been overseas nine months.

Carlyle and Virginia Behl were married in 1939. They have four children: Carolyn Puckett, Robert Bantner, Kay Clutter, and Connie Harrold; seven grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren. The Bantner family ran Bantner's Hardware Store in Assumption for many years.

Thank you, PFC Carlyle J. Bantner, for what you gave for us.

Correction: Last week's article about Ray Ohl was written by Jean Ohl, not Angie Ohl-Marsters. I apologize for the error. Jim Bugg

ATTENTION: The Veterans Memorial dedication will be May 25 at 2 PM following the VFW Auxiliary chicken dinner from 11 AM to 1 PM.

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