



Adam Francis Majeski

Adam Majeski was born in Minnesota on January 3, 1890 to two immigrants from Poland, Anton Majeski (1847-1916) and Anna Bielgalska Majeski (1850-1920). Adam's father worked for the railroad and the family lived in Hastings, Minnesota when Adam registered for the draft on June 5, 1917. He was 27 and was also working for the railroad. He was drafted and enlisted on May 28, 1918. He was sent to Camp Lewis, Washington to train with the 160th Infantry, 40th Division, Company E. Camp Lewis was established as the training camp for the 91st "Wild West" Infantry Division of the National Army (National Guard) which was comprised of inducted men from at least 14 states. He left for France, from Brooklyn, New York in August of 1918 on the SS Nestor. When he arrived in France, he was reassigned to the 308th Infantry, 77th Division, Company H. The 308th Infantry Regiment was best known for the experiences of several of its

companies, including Company H, which formed part of the "Lost Battalion" after becoming isolated behind German lines in an attack on the Argonne Forest in October 1918. On October 18, 1918 parts of the 40th and 77th were sent to an undefended gap between the German and American lines that was actually a deep ravine known as the "pocket". It was located on the edge of the Argonne Forest near the Aisne River in North East France. Considered Impregnable, the Argonne Forest was a natural stronghold.

There they were met with stiff resistance. Then they lost their communication link and were trapped. They held their position in the "gap" without food or water for six full days as they continued to fight.

With the capture of this key tactical location, the American forces were able to accomplish what the British and French had not been able to do in four years.

While we did not find the record, Adam must have been severely injured or gassed. He returns to Hoboken and Camp Mills from Brest, France on April 23, 1919 reassigned again to Battery E, 305th Field Artillery. They arrived just in time to join the 308th in the grand parade in New York City on April 28, 1919 where both units marched to celebrate their victories that helped end the war.

Adam returned home to Hastings but his Mother died in 1920 leaving him on his own. He worked for the railroad for a short time but ended up in an institution in Viola, California. In 1942 he was working on the construction of Camp Callan in San Diego. He died on October 11, 1945 at the Veterans Home in Napa, California. He was 55 and had never married. He is buried at Veterans Memorial Grove Cemetery in Yountville, California.