

Adolph Bakke

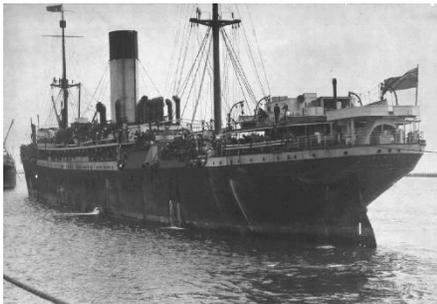


Adolph Bakke entered in the US Army on 17 December 1917 in Warren, MN according to a copy of State of Minnesota Military Service Record. Adolph's occupation was listed as Farmer, employed by P.J. Bakke, his father. Adolph was assigned to the Artillery and sent to training at Presidio, CA on 23 December 1917. Following training, Adolph was transferred to Battery C Army Artillery Park and promoted to 1st Class Private. Adolph embarked from Hoboken, NJ on the ship Anchese on 31 August 1918 and arrived in Liverpool, England on 13 September 1918. Adolph arrived in France on 20 September 1918 and went into action on 3 October 1918 at Appicourt, France. Adolph also saw combat action at Argonne Verdun and Meuse. Adolph returned to Hoboken, NJ on 2 May 1919 and was discharged from service at Camp Dodge, Iowa on 16 May 1919 with a rank of 1st Class Private. All of the above information was from the Military Service Record.

Since Adolph didn't talk about his service during WWI, we must go by what Battery C, Army Artillery Park did during the war. While doing research I found a complete history of the Army Artillery Park and Battery C including a listing of Adolph Bakke from New Folders, Minn. It was spelled with two words when the town is actually Newfolds, MN. The following is taken from that history and details what Adolph would have experienced.

Battery C left California on 15 August 1918, arriving in New York on 21 August after a train ride through several states and then crossing into Canada at Detroit, back in the US just below Niagara Falls. Battery C left New York on 1 September aboard the transport ship Anchises in a convoy passing Greenland by 30 miles through the Irish Sea and arrived at Liverpool on 12 September. At Liverpool each soldier received a card of thanks from King George which most of them mailed home. Battery C arrived in northern France on 20 September. Battery C soldiers saw action in battles at Lys, Aisne, Montdidier-Noyon, Champagne-Marne, Aisne-Marne, Somme, Oise-Aisne, Ypres-Lys, St Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne. Following the Armistice, Battery C had to hike for two days and spend a few days on a boxcar "side-door Pullman" until they finally boarded ship to return to the US. They took the southern route across the Atlantic of about 3,700 miles arriving in New York on 2 May. The Red Cross provided them with a wonderful thank you dinner on the docks of New York. Over the next several days, the soldiers were discharged. Adolph Bakke was discharged as Private First Class at Camp Dodge, Iowa on 16 May 1919 and returned to civilian life.

Les Bakke's recollections of Adolph Bakke



My father and I never talked about his service in WWI even after I got back from service in the Air Force. It has been my experience working with Veterans that most do not talk about their war-time experience. The ship's name on the Military Service Record was spelled differently than in the history. In researching the ship Anchises as listed in the history, I found it was a British ship built in the shipyard at Belfast, Ireland. In 2018 while in Ireland we toured the ship yard where the Anchises was built. If I'd only known!