

SOUTHAMPTON
HISTORY OF WORLD'S WAR WORK
NEW YORK STATE HISTORY

Name in full and rank William George Prichard, PRIVATE
Organizations Motor Mechanics + Co. E. 38 Inf. Bn. Sign
Place and date of enlistment 42nd St. New York City Dec. 25th 1918
Place and date of discharge Camp Dix New Jersey Aug. 29th 1919
Military camps with dates Post Alhambra Jan. 25th Feb. 10th Camp Fancher Georgia
Date of trip overseas and return March 28th 1918 Aug. 2nd 1919
until March 24th

Describe below service as you saw it, battles and engagements, etc., also interesting items of historic value. Give account of all medals, citations and certificates of merit awarded you. Your photograph is especially requested. Are you a member of the Malcolm White Post, No. 433, American Legion? If so note it below.

I enlisted in the Motor mechanics and was transferred to the Infantry without my knowledge or consent shipped from Hancock to Merritt got there about 1 o'clock in the afternoon of the 24th of March and at 6 o'clock in the morning I was on the boat ~~the~~ Vernon on to give it is German name the ~~Rhein~~ Princess Cecilia. Arrived in France on April 2nd stayed three days in the Pontoniere barracks in Brest and proceeded to a little town called Couvron for a training period lasting from April 14th to May 30th (this was all the training I had before going in) Rush to the front from there to ~~stop~~ the German line. The offensive occupied a small town named Tosny for around towards + then to the next town in the Somme valley called Marly took part in the defensive July 15-18 and the drive that followed cutting my company of 260 to about 45 men I was lucky got filled up (replaced) during a two weeks rest (so called) sent to Fumes which we entered losing 60 men went to Gondrecourt for two weeks training hired about 800 miles to St. Mihiel when we did move taking there by motor truck to the

Argonne went into support around Oct 1st moved up
to the first line in broad daylight Oct 4th went over
on the 4th on the very hill were the great American
Cemetery at Romagne is captured the hill in about half
an hour with a loss to our regiment of about 1800 men
my company had 72 left stuck around a few days
losing sending men & some more of my reserves move to
around Madeline Farm a distance of about of about 3 kilo
took us 6 hrs to ~~do~~ wended on to the Mans land
got all shot up I'm lucky again but got gasped
with mustard didn't know it till next day could
smell it but didn't dry but the old mud on might
get drowned in a mud hole so day could hardly see
a thing with it on let alone off Eyes started
to close around 4 o'clock the next afternoon (not
sleep stayed) in a hole which penetrated in falling
with water that night (could tell you a whole lot about
that night it I liked nothing more worse night I ever
spent unless it was the night of the clutch bombardment
on the Mame) at daybreak ^{Oct 11th} sent for a dressing station
when I could ~~open my~~ eyes was sent to hospital
in Paris for the abdominal and after several stops
and camps landed in the Ct of O Jan 5th 1869
stayed there (at Obermending) until Aug 5th sailed for
Brest got home & was discharged

Sorry I can't let you have a picture unless
I know I can have it back have a twilight in
uniform

W. F. Richmond
If you can read this you are better than I am.