

PERSONNEL PROFILE



Service Member

PVT. ELMER F BLONIEN

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Conflict

Service

Status

Date of Identification

WORLD WAR II

UNITED STATES ARMY

Accounted For

01/05/2026

On Jan. 5, 2026, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) identified the remains of Pvt. Elmer F. Blonien, missing from World War II.

Blonien entered the U.S. Army from Wisconsin and served with Company A the 192nd Tank Battalion, which was stationed in the Philippines during World War II. He was captured following the American surrender of the Bataan Peninsula on April 9, 1942, and forced on the Bataan Death March. He was ultimately interned in the notorious Cabanatuan Prison Camp in Nueva Ecija Province, where he died on Nov. 15, 1942. At its peak, Cabanatuan held approximately 8,000 American and Filipino prisoners of war who were captured during and after the Fall of Bataan. Conditions at the camp were poor, with food and water extremely limited, leading to widespread malnutrition and outbreaks of malaria and dysentery. By the time the camp was liberated in early 1945, approximately 2,800 Americans had died at Cabanatuan. Blonien was buried in Common Grave 721 at the local Cabanatuan Camp Cemetery along with other deceased American POWs. Following the war, American Graves Registration Service (AGRS) personnel exhumed those buried at the Cabanatuan cemetery and relocated the remains to a temporary U.S. military mausoleum near Manila. In 1947, the AGRS examined remains from Common Grave 721. The ten sets of remains which could not be identified at the time were buried at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial as Unknowns. In 2019, as part of the Cabanatuan Project, the unidentified remains associated with Common Grave 721 were disinterred and sent to the DPAA laboratory for scientific analysis. The laboratory analysis and total circumstantial evidence available identified one set of these unknown remains as those of Blonien.

He is memorialized on the Walls of the Missing at the Manila American Cemetery in the Philippines.

If you are a family member of this serviceman, [you may contact your casualty office representative to learn more about your service member.](#)

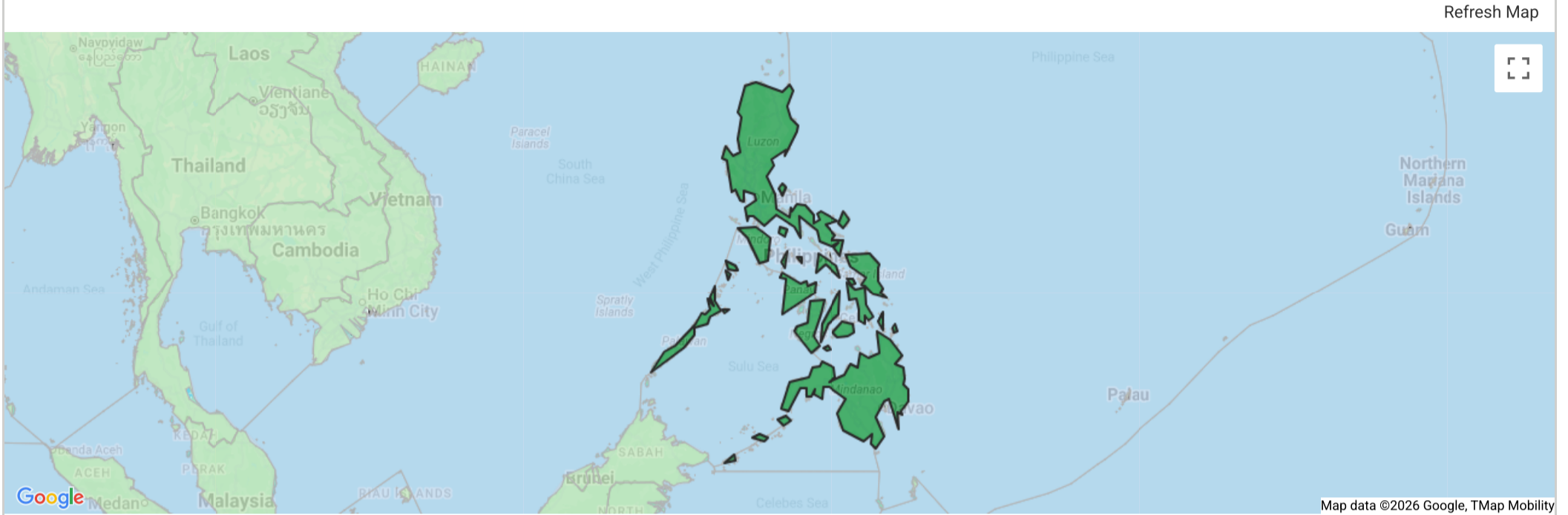


PVT. ELMER F BLONIEN

Unit
 192 TANK BATTALION
 Historical Country of Loss
 Philippine Islands
 Current Country of Loss
 PHILIPPINES
 Home of Record* WI

*Home of record is the city and/or state where the service member joined the service. This may not be the same location as where the service member was from.

Location of Loss



Service Members Associated with PVT. ELMER BLONIEN's Loss

Show entries

Showing 1 to 10 of 1,010 entries

AARON; JAMES L	Pvt.	Unaccounted For
ABBOTT; CARL F	Staff Sgt.	Accounted For
ABEL; CHARLES E		Unaccounted For
ABSHER; JAMES W	Pvt.	Unaccounted For
ACCOMANDO; JOHN J	Staff Sgt.	Unaccounted For
ADAM; CHARLES K	Cpl.	Accounted For
ADAMS; EDWIN B	Pfc.	Unaccounted For
ADAMS; ROLAND C	Staff Sgt.	Unaccounted For
AKERS; LOWELL C	Pvt.	Accounted For
ALBOSTA; LEO A	Pvt.	Unaccounted For

Previous 2 3 4 5 ... 101 Next

- Limited to 10,000 Individuals

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