

Arpad Demeter

Arpad Demeter was born in Austria-Hungary on April 5, 1892. He was likely born in Czekefalva, Transylvania, then Hungary, and now known as Cechești, in central Romania. His parents were Denes Demeter and Maria Mayor, and he had at least one sibling, Rebekka or Rebi. Arpad immigrated to the U.S. in December 1908, going first to his brother in Illinois. He came to South St. Paul in October 1911 for the purpose of getting a job. He was employed by Swift & Company, working in the beef house, the ham boning floor, the sausage room, and on the pork trimming floor. His father Denes Demeter and his sister Rebi Demeter worked for Swift & Co also. When he enlisted for the army he was single and was working as a butcher and boarding with his sister Rebi and her husband Joseph Bedo at their rented home on Camber Avenue and Water Street in South St. Paul.

He enlisted at age 21 at Fort Snelling, Minnesota on March 6, 1914. During his time in service He attained the rank of Corporal on September 1, 1917, Sergeant on January 21, 1919, and Mess Sergeant on April 19, 1919. Arpad Demeter was a Sergeant in Company A, 14th US Infantry. He was discharged at Camp Grant, Illinois on May 8, 1919.

He re-enlisted on the following day for Coast Artillery Corps and reported for duty at Camp Winfield Scott in California. He was stationed there until 1920 when he was transferred to Company H, 1st Infantry, with station in Ft. Lawton, Washington. The Company went to Camp Travis, Texas. Then, Arpad was transferred to Company C, 3rd Motor Repair Battalion at Camp Normoyle, Texas. Camp Normoyle was established during World War I and was located across the railroad at the northeast corner of Kelly Field in western San Antonio. In 1920 the base served as an Army vocational school. His permanent address was 122 2nd Avenue South in South St. Paul Minnesota where he said his father Denes Demeter and his sister Mrs. Rebi Bedo also lived. Arpad declared he had been a resident of Minnesota for 2 years and 7 months. He listed his present occupation as soldier, Co C Camp Normoyle, Texas, U.S. Army. By 1930 Arpad had married Olga. He was employed by Sears, Roebuck & Co as an electrical worker. The couple rented an apartment at 625 Summit Avenue North in Seattle for \$25 a month. In 1940, Arpad was working as a storekeeper at a hospital, and Olga was working as a seamstress also at a hospital. Olga's mother, Maria Stenberg, was living with the couple in their owned home at 905 Fourteenth Avenue in Seattle. Arpad Demeter died on 15 March 1947 and is buried at Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno, California.