



MARK I TRENCH KNIFE

THIS KNIFE, THE MARK I TRENCH KNIFE, WAS CREATED BY COMBINING A REGULAR TRENCH KNIFE AND BRASS KNUCKLES. USED VERY EFFECTIVELY BY AMERICAN FORCES DURING WORLD WAR I, THIS KNIFE WAS FOUND TO BE A COMMON STAPLE ON AMERICAN SOLDIERS FIGHTING IN THE TRENCHES. CREATING A VERY DEADLY FORCE AGAINST THEIR ENEMIES, MANY BEGAN TO FEAR THE POWER OF THIS KNIFE IN THE HANDS OF THE AMERICANS DURING HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT.

NOT ONLY WAS IT COMPACT, BUT IT COULD INFLICT A LOT OF DAMAGE BY SLICING AND POUNDING. AT TIMES, SOLDIERS WOULD EVEN GRIND OFF THE EDGES OF THE WIDE GUARDS TO MAKE IT MORE ACCESSIBLE AND EASIER TO PULL OUT OF THEIR SHEATHS. ULTIMATELY THIS COMBINATION OF POWER AND SWIFTNES IN TRENCH KNIFE CREATED ONE OF THE ULTIMATE HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT WEAPONS OF THE DAY.

MINISTÈRE DE LA GUERRE.

ORDRE DE TRANSPORT
POUR ISOLÉ SANS BAGAGES ET SANS CHEVAUX.

Modèle A³.

(Feuille de route.)

N° 19145580

(Voir au verso les observations importantes.)

M. *Ladoux Paul Masou*
(Nom et situation militaire de l'isolé.)

VISA A LA GARE DE DÉPART.

Reçu le bon de chemin de fer modèle n° portant le même numéro.

partant de { Corps
ou Service expéditeur.
Place de

A le 19.....
Le Chef de gare,

à destination de { Corps
ou Service destinataire.
Place de

Timbre de la gare de départ

ITINÉRAIRE PAR VOIE FERREE.

AUTRE QUI VAL L'ORDRE DE TRANSPORT.

De

A le 19.....

à

(Grade et signature.)

par {

P. B. M. Masou

PARTIE À DÉTACHER POUR ÊTRE MISE A L'APPUI DES FEUILLES DE JOURNÉES OU DES REVUES D'OFFICIERS SANS TROUPE.

M. partant de

(Nom et situation militaire de l'isolé.)

le pour se rendre à

(Date du départ.)

Allocations de toute nature
perçues au départ. {

CERTIFIÉ EXACT :

L'autorité qui établit l'ordre de transport, ou le Sous-Intendant militaire,

Ladoux Paul Masou
Le Titulaire,

FRENCH MILITARY PASS

S.G. MASON WAS BORN IN BUFFALO, ND ON SEPTEMBER 20TH IN 1898. HE GREW UP IN THE BISMARCK AREA AND EVENTUALLY APPLIED FOR A PASSPORT ON APRIL 24, 1917, IN ORDER TO GO OVERSEAS AND FIGHT ALONGSIDE THE FRENCH IN WORLD WAR I. FOUR DAYS LATER HE WAS GRANTED A PASSPORT, AND LEFT FOR FRANCE A MONTH LATER. WHILE THERE, HE WAS A LIEUTENANT IN THE AMERICAN VOLUNTEER MOTOR AMBULANCE CORPS, YET STILL FIGHTING CLOSELY WITH THE FRENCH FORCES (I.E. HIS HELMET WAS FRENCH, SEE ITEM L0076). HOWEVER, AFTER ABOUT A MONTH INVOLVED IN THE WAR, MASON WAS ISSUED WHAT MANY SOLDIERS COVET, A PASS HOME (ONCE AGAIN WRITTEN IN FRENCH). WITHOUT AN EXPLANATION FOR WHY, THIS PASS ORDERED TRANSPORTATION TO PARIS FOR MASON'S RETURN TO THE STATES. EVENTUALLY AFTER THE WAR, MASON SETTLED DOWN TO SELL INSURANCE IN FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA, WHERE HE WOULD PASS AWAY IN 1969. SEPT 24



MASON'S HELMET

THIS IS THE HELMET USED BY THE PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED S.G. MASON. LINED WITH BLACK LEATHER ON THE INSIDE, THIS HELMET IS MADE OF STEEL, IN ORDER TO WITHSTAND THE RIGORS OF COMBAT. ALSO KNOWN AS THE "ADRIAN HELMET," THIS TYPE OF HELMET WAS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND TO USE STEEL. ORIGINALLY USED TO PREVENT SHRAPNEL AND DEBRIS FROM FIRING ARTILLERY FROM FALLING ON SOLDIER'S HEADS, THIS TYPE OF HELMET BECAME POPULAR AS IT ALSO HELPED PREVENT GUNSHOT WOUNDS. COMPLETE WITH THE CREST ON TOP TO PREVENT DIRECT HITS TO THE TOP OF THE HEAD FROM BECOMING FATAL, THE FRENCH CREATED AN INNOVATION SEEN IN THIS HELMET THAT WAS USED UNTIL THE 1930's.



MASON'S FLARE GUN

USED BY S.G. MASON DURING HIS TIME WITH THE FRENCH MILITARY, THIS FLARE GUN, WITH MANY OTHERS ALIKE, WAS USED TO SEND UP TRENCH LIGHTS AND SIGNALS. THUS, SENDING CODED MESSAGE AND POSITIONS WITH DIFFERENT COLORED CARTRIDGES. AFTER SHOT HIGH INTO THE AIR WITH THIS GUN, THE CARTRIDGES WOULD BURST, CREATING A SHOWER OF LIGHTS. THESE LIGHTS COULD ILLUMINATE THE SKY AND THE LANDSCAPE AROUND (TO REVEAL ENEMY POSITION), WHILE BEING SEEN FOR MILES AWAY.