

Gabriel Carino
U.S. Army PFC
World War I 1918-1919



WWI Victory Medal (front)



Gabriel Carino second from right in his Doughboy uniform



WWI Victory Medal (back)

Gabriel Carino served in the US Army during World War I from August 24, 1918 to June 25, 1919. His military record is summarized in the Connecticut Roster for World War I, which can be obtained from Fold3.com. All U.S. Army personnel files from World War I were lost in a fire, so the Connecticut Roster is a valuable backup. The following is a narrative of Gabriel's military history taken from the Connecticut Roster and other sources.

CARINO, GABRIEL
 3,032,489, White
 144 Pemberwick Rd.,
 Greenwich, Conn.
 Ind NA Greenwich, Conn. Aug 24/
 18. Br Morra Ispino, Italy. 25 4/12
 yrs. MD Cp Greenleaf Ga to Oct
 17/18; Evac Amb Co 72 to Feb 21/
 19; MD Cp Hosp 103 to disch. Mec
 Oct 19/18; Pvt Icl Mch 19/19. AEF
 Nov 12/18 to June 22/19. Hon disch
 June 25/19.

Connecticut Roster for WWI Veterans

Gabriel was born in Morra Irpino (now Morra De Sanctis), Avellino, Italy on April 8, 1893, and named Gabriele Felice Carino. He immigrated to the United States on May 26, 1909, and settled in Greenwich, Connecticut.

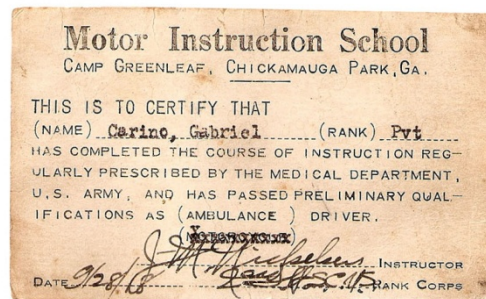
America broke relations with Germany and declared war on April 6, 1917. Anticipating war, the state of Connecticut conducted a Military Census in Feb 1917 that included several questions. Gabriel's response revealed he had many skills needed for the war effort. They included the ability to ride a horse, handle a team, drive an automobile, ride a motorcycle, experience with steam engines and electric machinery, and could handle a motor boat.

On June 5, 1917, Gabriel registered as an alien for the first selective service draft for all men between the ages of 21 and 31 in Greenwich, Fairfield, Connecticut.

Gabriel was inducted (drafted) into the National Army, as opposed to the National Guard, on August 24, 1918 in Greenwich, and given the serial number 3 032 489. He was 24 years and 4 months old.

Coincidentally, Gabriel's cousin, Angelo M. Carino, registered for the draft on the same day and place as Gabriel. Both of them lived at 144 Pemberwick Road in Greenwich. Angelo was inducted two months after Gabriel on October 22, 1918, and was assigned to Company C, 41 st Artillery, Coastal Artillery Company (CAC).

Gabriel was shipped to Georgia where most World War I training occurred. As a private, he qualified as an ambulance driver at the Motor Instruction School at Camp Greenleaf, a specialist camp for medical staff at Fort Oglethorpe, Chickamauga Park, Georgia. Upon completing the training at Camp Geenleaf, he was promoted to Mechanic on October 19, 1918, a specialty that suited him since he was an automobile mechanic as a civilian.



Gabriel was assigned to the Evacuation Ambulance Company 72 and became part of the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) in France on November 12, 1918, a day after the Armistice. He served in Company 72 until it was disbanded on February 21, 1919 along with all the other evacuation ambulance companies.



Fig. 44—Type of ambulance used by the U. S. Army Ambulance Service

The primary duty of these units was to clear the field hospitals and to transport patients to evacuation, base or other hospitals or to points with rail or boat connections. They also transported wounded on occasion from dressing stations, stations for slightly wounded, and from other places in the field. In General Pershing's organization for the evacuation ambulance companies, all transportation was motorized and consisted of 20 motor ambulances, 1 touring car, 1 motor cycle with side car, and 2 motor trucks. Its personnel included 1 captain or lieutenant, Medical Corps, 3 noncommissioned officers, 3 mechanics, 2 cooks, and 24 wagoners (drivers): 5 privates first class, and 19 privates.

Gabriel told the story that he first rode motorcycles to the front lines, but was shot at too much. So he changed to ambulance driving, and found they still shot at him.

Gabriel was transferred to the Medical Department (MD) Camp Hospital No. 103 at the embarkation camp at Pauillac in southwestern France. The hospital was established January 14, 1919. It consisted of five small stone buildings, formally used by the United States Navy. During its existence the hospital cared for 2,153 patients, the majority of whom were medical cases who needed ambulance transport. Gabriel was promoted to Private First Class on March 19, 1919. The hospital was disbanded May 31, 1919, and its personnel returned to the United States. Gabriel remained with the Camp Hospital 103 unit until his honorable discharge on June 25, 1919.



Gabriel was awarded the WWI Bronze Victory Medal and Button.



Postscript: Gabriel was naturalized a United States citizen by the State Supreme Court in White Plains, New York on January 16, 1920. His naturalization was expedited because of his service in the Army.

Note: While the Armistice was signed to end the fighting on November 11, 1918, the war did not technically end between the Allied Powers and Germany until June 28, 1919 when the Treaty of Versailles was signed. Gabriel Carino was discharged on June 25, 1919, three days before the treaty was signed.

Sources for Camp Greenleaf:

<http://history.amedd.army.mil/booksdocs/wwi/VoLVII/ch02part1.html>

<http://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/history-archaeology/world-war-i-georgia>

Source for Evacuation Ambulance Companies:

<http://history.amedd.army.mil/booksdocs/wwi/fieldoperations/chapter5.html>

Source for MD Camp Hospital No. 103:

<http://history.amedd.army.mil/booksdocs/wwi/adminamerexp/chapter25.html>

Prepared by Michael Allen, son-in-law of Gabriel Carino and husband of Patricia Ann Carino, February 2014