

VETERANS OF THE GREAT WAR



NAME:
Agostini, Eugene Augustin Henri
 DATE OF BIRTH: 17th April 1890
 COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: The Colony of Trinidad and Tobago
 DESIGNATION: Army: Artillery
 BRANCH: Artillerie de Compagne, de 75 of the 31st Regiment of Artillery
 RANK: Brigadier
 THEATRE OF WAR: Western Europe – Belgium
 YEARS OF SERVICE: 1913-1915

COMMENDATIONS:
 His conduct during the Battle of Mons, brought him to the attention of his seniors, and when he distinguished himself at the Battle of Marne, was awarded the Croix de Guerre (Cross of War) with citation for bravery.

NOTES ON CAREER: Being the recipient of the award in 1914, signified Agostini as the first Trinidad and Tobago born soldier to be decorated for bravery in the Great War.

FORM OF REPOSE: Contracted typhoid fever in war torn Belgium, he was admitted to the hospital in the French town of Breteuil s/Nogie but did not recover. He died on 28th of January 1915.



NAME:
Bain, William
 DATE OF BIRTH: 10th August 1890
 COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: The Colony of Trinidad and Tobago
 DESIGNATION: Army: Infantry
 BRANCH: 1st London Scottish Regiment
 RANK: Corporal
 THEATRE OF WAR: Western Europe – France
 YEARS OF SERVICE: 1914 – 1916

NOTES ON CAREER:
 Fought at Loos where half of his battalion was lost and all but nine of his platoon survived. He fought at Hulluch where half of the Brigade was lost. He also fought at Vermelles.

FORM OF REPOSE:
 He was killed by a shot to the head on 1ST July 1916 at the Battle of Somme in the 3rd German Trench. His body was never recovered.



NAME:
Bentley, Charles Arthur Campbell
 DATE OF BIRTH: Unknown
 COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: The Colony of Trinidad and Tobago
 DESIGNATION: Army: Infantry
 BRANCH: Royal Warwickshire Regiment First Battalion 4th Division
 RANK: Captain
 THEATRE OF WAR: Western Europe - France
 YEARS OF SERVICE: 1912-1914

NOTES ON CAREER:
 Fought in the first Battle of Ypres, led an attacking force of 270 Royal Warwicks against a German battalion of 800 men and succeeded.

FORM OF REPOSE:
 Sustained heavy enemy fire to his body in 3 places and succumbed to his wounds mere hours after his victory. He was buried in Cite Bonjean Military Cemetery, Armentieres, France. He was the 1st soldier from Trinidad and Tobago to give his life in the Great War.



NAME:
Cipriani, Arthur Andre
 DATE OF BIRTH: 31st January 1875
 COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: The Colony of Trinidad and Tobago
 DESIGNATION: Army: Infantry
 BRANCH: British West Indies Regiment (B.W.I.R.)
 RANK: Captain
 THEATRE OF WAR: North Africa – Egypt
 YEARS OF SERVICE: 1916 – 1918

NOTES ON CAREER:
 Captain Cipriani was influential in the recruitment of soldiers for the Great War in the colony of Trinidad and Tobago. He raised four contingents from the colony. He advocated for the British West Indies Regiment to fight on the front lines in Western Europe. In the last years of the Great War he became known as the 'Prisoners Friend' at Court Martials for all members of the army who were stationed in Egypt. He continuously clashed with Colonel Wood-Hill and General Carey Bernard due to their racist actions against the members of the British West Indies Regiment.

POST WAR:
 Cipriani returned to the colony of Trinidad and Tobago in 1919. In 1921 he was elected to a seat on the Port of Spain City Council which gained him entrance into the Legislative Council. In 1923, Cipriani became the leader of the Trinidad Workingmen's Association (T.W.A.) a leading trade union on the island. Cipriani became Mayor of Port of Spain in 1925 and served eight consecutive terms. The Trinidad Labour Party (T.L.P.) was formed by Captain Cipriani in 1934.

FORM OF REPOSE:
 He died of natural causes on the 18th April 1945.