

Victor Brown, WWI Code Talker

Corporal Victor Brown, one of the Choctaw Code Talkers of WWI, served in the 143rd Infantry, 36th Division. Brown enlisted in the Army on May 29, 1918, at Idabel.

His daughter, the late Napanee Brown Coffman of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, wrote, "He was one of the Indian telephone operators who spoke Choctaw."

"The Germans could not break the code the served in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive and was wounded (as his citation from President Wilson states - gassed (mustard gas), broken nose and head injuries.

"My father seldom talked about the war, but I used to ask him, and he would tell me about his war service and experiences.

"I remember quite well about his stories of speaking in Choctaw over the telephone lines as he was very proud and pleased that they had 'fooled the Germans.' My father attended Armstrong Academy, was a graduate of Haskell Institute at Lawrence, Kansas, attended Tyler Commercial College and Southeastern State College.

"After the war, he entered the Indian Service and was Field Clerk for the Choctaw Nation. He was an auditor in the Internal Revenue Service and finished his government service at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma as a civilian.

"During WWII, he was a Deputy State Examiner and Inspector for the State of Oklahoma. He died July 22, 1966.