Local Marine Loses Life In Saipan Battle

Cpl. Billy Pribble Tried Three Times To Enlist, Finally Succeeded; Was in Service Over Two Years

One northern Kentucky member of the armed services was listed as killed and two others wounded in action, according to messages received here.

Cpl. Billy G. Pribble, who had seen 25 months' service overseas and participated in many of the Pacific's toughest battles, has been killed in action on Saipan, according to a telegram to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elza Pribble, 2302 Center street, Covington.

The message, from Lt. Gen. A. A. Vandegrift, commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps, said the 22-year-old Covington member of an amphibious battalion, was "killed in action in the performance of his duty and service of his country," and added, "you will be promptly furnished any additional information received."

Tried Three Times to Enlist

Cpl. Pribble had not been home since his enlistment in the Marine Corps at the Cincinnati Recruiting Office in January, 1942. He succeeded in entering the corps upon his third attempt, having been twice refused because of his height. Cpl. Pribble was more than six feet tall. His brother, Randy Pribble, who now lives at Mt. Vernon, O., accompanied him on his third trip to the recruiting office and assisted Billy in his plea for a chance to serve in the Marine Corps.

Seven campaign bars were worn by Cpl. Pribble, who had been previously stationed at Tulagi, New Zealand, the Hawaiian Islands before participating in the engagement at Saipan.

In 1942, after five months of fighting in the Solomon Islands, Cpl. Pribble wrote his family to "tell everyone hello and to keep buying bonds, as we need more bullets and guns. One of the vital "front gunners" who had
Fund for 4-H Work

In Laurel county, the American Legion Auxiliary has set aside a fund to aid in 4-H club work.