World War II in New Guinea and the Philippines: A Look at Charles Vernon Fleming's Experience

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World War II in the Southwest Pacific Area was very significant to the United States and its eventual victory. The New Guinea campaign secured an area for supplies destined to support the troops waging General MacArthur's "island hopping" and Philippines campaigns. Among the thousands of soldiers who served and died in the Pacific was my late grandfather, Army Buck Sergeant Charles Vernon Fleming. He was a humble soldier who always followed orders and fought because it was his job. After witnessing the Japanese surrender Vernon returned home as one of seven surviving soldiers from his company of two hundred and seventeen. Charles Vernon Fleming was the prototypical American serviceman who fought for country, family, and his brothers in uniform. This is his story.