



19TH CAVALRY RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON

A Brief History

In Memory of my father...

Pvt. Dominick Gesualdi

BRANCH OF SERVICE

U.S. Army

HOMETOWN

Newark, NJ

HONORED BY

Maria Gesualdi Clerico (Daughter)

ACTIVITY DURING WWII:

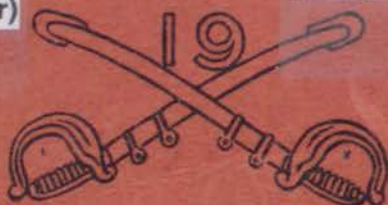
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS,
19TH CAVALRY RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON,
NOVEMBER 30, 1944 TO AUGUST 15, 1945.

TROWBRIDGE TO TRIER

TO OBERSTEIN TO MAINZ

TO BAD HOMBURG TO EUSKIRCHEN

TO BIRKENFELD TO MARSEILLES.



HEADQUARTERS
19TH CAVALRY RCN SQUADRON

Camp Campbell, Ky.

10 November, 1945

Memo to All Troopers

I WANT TO EXPRESS to each and every one of you who were overseas and fought with the squadron the sincere appreciation of Lt. Col. Schlanser, myself and all of your former officers for all that you have accomplished. It is impossible to express personal gratitude to each one of you individually and this type of letter seems rather impersonal. But I hope each of you will look upon it as a personal letter, for that is how it is intended.

The 19th Cav. Rcn. Squadron was completely inactivated on the 10th of November, and will be only a name except to those who were in it. However, I am certain that the former members of this command will not forget it. True, we did not see as much combat as many outfits did, but that which we saw proved to me and I think to you, that it was a good squadron.

Again, thank you, each one of you, for your devotion to duty as good soldiers.

Sincerely,
ROSCOE R. KERR,
Major, Cavalry, Commanding.

In Memoriam



SIMPLE WHITE CROSSES standing in rows of white crosses somewhere in Luxembourg mark their resting places. They were good soldiers, good guys. They gave all that they had to give. We cannot forget them. Let us resolve their sacrifice shall not have been in vain. To them, this booklet is dedicated:

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS THOMAS F. BROWN
CORPORAL HENRY R. MAYNARD
CAPTAIN RUSSELL H. ROTHWEILER
FIRST LIEUTENANT JOHN C. WELCH
SERGEANT MARTIN J. SAMPSON
CORPORAL LEON N. HAZEL
CORPORAL ERNEST J. BAILEY
CORPORAL WILLIE W. CATLETT
PRIVATE FIRST CLASS BRADEN C. BETTIS
PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ROBERT E. BRESLIN
PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JOHN L. DOUNAVANT

Let's Get Rolling

With the 19th Cavalry Rcn Squadron (Mecz), from Maine to Mainz and other points of interest



A LONG LINE of sweating troopers cursed heartily under the strain of toting heavy combat packs as they pushed up the gangplank of the huge Queen Elizabeth in New York harbor the afternoon of 19 Nov., 1944.

Web straps cut deeply into aching shoulder blades. Duffel bags dragged. So did certain portions of the human anatomy.

"First thing I do when I get into combat is throw away half this damned gear," said one trooper as he readjusted the handle of an intrenching shovel which tangled with his legs and nearly tripped him. "How do they expect us to fight with all this stuff?"

At long last, the 19th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, veterans of the war in Tennessee and guardians of the "Fortress of Mainé," was going overseas.

But a great howl went up when word circulated that the squadron had drawn the mess details on the great ship, packed with 18,000 troops.

"We gotta work our way across," moaned T/5 Alvie Carr of Hq and Sv troop, "it's the only way we could get overseas . . ."

The great Limey liner lay at anchor another day while the men took a last lingering look at the New York skyline, home for perhaps a third of them. The next night she slipped out alone into the grey Atlantic, without benefit of convoy, for she could outrun the Nazi subs and vary her course constantly. She could pitch and roll too, causing pale green complexions among those who worked in the crowded messes below decks, dishing out the Limey chow and gaining a new appreciation for GI army food.

As the ship zig-zagged her erratic course across the South Atlantic, the men could look back on an outfit which was just one year old. Organized at Fort Devens, Mass., on 19 Nov. 1943, it had been part of the old 16th Cavalry Regiment under command of Col. Vennard Wilson. Most of the men had been with the old 16th through Tennessee maneuvers in July and August, 1943; many had been with the old regiment when it was activated at Camp Forrest, Tenn., on 15 June 1942. None, however, had served with the first 16th Cavalry Regiment of World War I, a mounted outfit which patrolled the Mexican border and never got overseas.

The regiment had a sharp reputation in Tennessee maneuvers, receiving numerous praises for its mobility and the spirit of the men; the fact that it moved around so swiftly that it gave the enemy "Blues" the impression that it was the size of a small division. After maneuvers, many had expected to go overseas. But other events were in the making. Regiments had gone out of style. "Groups" were the order of the day.

At Fort Devens, the regiment was split into the 16th and 19th Cavalry Reconnaissance squadrons, with a Group Hq and detachment of 50 some men designated as Group Troop. Col. Wilson assumed command of the Group Hq and moved his headquarters to Framingham, Mass. Lt. Col. (then Major) Tom Sills, former adjutant of the regiment, took command of the 16th Squadron and moved to Framingham; his mission to patrol the coast of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

The 19th, under command of Lt. Col. George W. Busbey (class of West Point, 1924), moved to Saco, Me., with the mission of patrolling the long and irregular coast of Maine from the Canadian border to New Hampshire. Col. Busbey, former instructor at the Cavalry School, Fort Riley, Kans., had been executive officer of the 16th Regiment. He was distinguished by a pair of waxed handlebar moustaches which gave him the nickname of "Handlebar Hank" on Tennessee maneuvers, but later, in the 19th, he was generally known among the men as "Uncle George."

Group Hq and Group Troop, whose duties were largely administrative, came to be known jocularly as "Poop Troop," and the question most often heard around the squadron message center was: "Any poop from group today?"

The 19th had relieved an Infantry regiment in providing security along the coast of Maine. The doughs, after patrolling the beaches with "war dogs" for the past two years, had been broken up as an outfit and sent overseas as individual replacements. The Cavalry, with greater mobility provided by M-8 Armored Cars, Jeeps and light tanks, and with ample radio communication, could patrol the coast with fewer men.

The recon troops—A, B and C—rotated between camps at Camden, Ellsworth and Millbridge, while Troop E, with assault guns, and Troop F, with light tanks, took turns at High Pine and Saco. Squadron Headquarters was located at Saco, first in the High Shoe building near the tracks and later in some frame buildings assembled from beach hutments left by the Infantry.

Combat suits and arctic pup tents were issued to the troopers on patrol. Nearly every trooper had at least one experience with an overnight bivouac on the frozen ground. The tankers and assault gun men got a lot of valuable training firing at rocky islets off the rugged coast—but not one periscope offered itself as a target. The monotony of the Maine winter was varied by sudden alerts called at all hours of the day and night.

On one patrol T/5 Elmer J. Ballantyne of Troop F was swept off Bald Head Cliff south of Biddeford Pool, Me., by a huge wave, and carried out to sea. His body was never recovered. Sgt. Watson Gregory of Troop F.

rescued another member of the patrol who was swept off the cliff, and was awarded the Soldier's Medal. The citation read: "For heroism at Bald Head Cliff, Me., on 5 January, 1944. Sgt. Gregory, at the risk of his life, descended the face of the slippery cliff through dashing waves and rescued another soldier who had been swept into the sea by the heavy surf and was clinging to the rocks and nearing exhaustion."

In January, Col. Wilson left the group to take command of the 106th Cavalry Group, then in Louisiana and preparing to ship to the European theater. Lt. Col. Busbey went to Framingham to assume command of the 16th Group, and shortly thereafter won his "eagles." Lt. Col. Lawrence E. Schlanser, formerly chief of the communications department at the Cavalry School, Fort Riley, arrived on 12 January to take command of the 19th.

During this period of operations along the Maine coast, the 19th was assigned to the Eastern Defense Command and attached to the Northeastern Sector. American Theater Ribbons were later authorized for this service; but since no enemy action was encountered the battle star cannot be worn on the ribbon. Perhaps the nearest thing to action occurred when Troop B, at Ellsworth, helped the county sheriff corner a couple of youthful desperados who had stolen a payroll and taken refuge in a country house. Armored Cars and 37 mm guns persuaded the "bad men" to surrender—but there was embarrassment later in military circles. Regulations forbade the army from taking any part in such law enforcement tactics.

Came the month of May and early summer, and prospects of a carefree season at Old Orchard Beach, when the 16th Cavalry Group was ordered to move to Camp Pickett, Va. The Fortress of Maine was entrusted to the remaining Coast Artillery units whose fate before long was to be converted to "doughs."

Almost reluctantly, the 19th troopers bade farewell to the friendly, French-speaking people of Biddeford and to other friends in High Pine, Camden and Ellsworth (also to a goodly number of wives), mounted up their vehicles, and rolled on to Fort Devens. There, the movement to Camp Pickett was completed by train.

Group Hq and the 16th were together in one end of Camp Pickett while the 19th occupied barracks at the opposite end of camp. Soon all were together on the A. P. Hill military reservation near Bowling Green, Va., for a session of maneuvers to determine if the outfit was prepared to fulfill its combat mission overseas. Observers first from XXII Corps and later from XXIII Corps checked the tactics closely, held critiques, finally adjudged the outfit ready for action. Then came a strenuous session of POM (Preparation for Overseas Movement) at Camp Pickett, and the final flurry of furloughs and leaves before going overseas.

After so much training in the states, after patrolling the coast of Maine, after sweating out the POM requirements, it was somewhat of a relief to pack up and entrain for Camp Shanks, New York, on 14 Nov. 1944. There the personnel section ground out the last-minute changes in allotments and bonds and the squadron was ready to shove off. As ready as it would ever be.

But there were still some months ahead before the squadron got into the shooting.

The Queen Elizabeth anchored in the misty Firth of Clyde on 28 Nov. 1945 and the next day the men unloaded on tenders which took them to the nearby port of Greenock, Scotland. There they boarded coaches for the train ride to southern England, which brought them to Trowbridge and a camp of Nissen huts situated in the muddiest part of the country to be found. V-bombs were dropping on London but Trowbridge had been safe throughout the war.

The next three months at Trowbridge were filled with rain and drizzle and only occasional glimpses of the sun. It was a battle to get enough coal to keep the huts dry. Capt. Russell H. Rothweiler, Squadron S-2, and his "Royal Engineers," (a fatigue detail armed with picks and shovels) dug deep trenches along the roads to drain off the water. Armored cars slid into the ditches. The men in Squadron Maintenance worked nights to weld "baskets" on the rear of jeeps to carry extra gas cans and bed rolls and the flare of welding torches lighted the sky as they worked building the now famous "Iron Lung," or CP Teepee, a mobile command post built on an M-54 trailer, towed by a half-track. It was covered with quarter-inch iron plates, fitted on the inside with paneled wood, had telephone connections to the radio operator in the half-track, lights and other accessories. Later, in combat, it was to feel the hail of shrapnel on its hide.

Trips were made to Liverpool and Southampton to take delivery on armored cars, tanks, assault guns, trucks and other vehicles and equipment which had been shipped separately. A 16 mm motion picture projector ordered before the outfit moved overseas finally arrived, and shows were held nightly for the men. Other diversion was found in the pubs in Trowbridge, and practically everyone had at least one pass to London to visit Piccadilly Circus and other places of historic interest. Great quantities of English ale and beer were quaffed. The townspeople of Trowbridge held numerous dances for the officers and men.

The officers had a barracks supposedly heated by a steam plant which never worked except in the middle of the day, and sought warmth in English homes, in the Hotel George in Trowbridge, or in the pubs. Other nights they gathered at Group Hq to hear discussions on tactics and study a new piece of poop entitled RDO (Reconnaissance During Offensive Operations).

The order to Mount Up came again on 25 Feb., 1945, and the outfit rolled south to the port of Weymouth. Here all of the vehicles, including the half-track towing the Iron Lung, were driven aboard the decks of LST's (Landing Ship, Tank). The channel crossing was made without incident, although there had been reports of sinkings by subs in December and January, during the fateful Battle of the Ardennes.

Putting in at the devastated port of Le Havre, the LST's ground onto the gravelly beach, lowered their ramps, and the vehicles were driven off. The column formed again on a highway and rolled on to Camp Twenty-Grand, near Barrentin, France. Here the vehicles were parked bumper-to-bumper in a crowded motor park just cleared by bulldozers. Ragged-looking German PW's, the first the outfit had seen, were toiling around the camp. Trigger-happy Negro soldiers fired their weapons at random throughout the night, making the sidewalls of tents seem none too reassuring. Heavy guards were

placed on vehicles, which had a way of disappearing and losing their bumper markings.

The stay at Twenty-Grand was short. On 8 March 1945, having been assigned to the Third U. S. Army, the 19th prepared to roll again. The men were briefed by Col. Schlanser on the mission ahead. At 0100 9 March the squadron trucked to Rheims, bivouacking that night in an army transient camp.

Again at 0100 on the 10th the outfit continued through Verdun and Metz to Thionville, France, thence across the Moselle river to Camp Veckring, an abandoned French army post inside the Maginot Line. Here an overnight stop was made and the next morning (11 March) at 0800, the 19th continued on the road north to the German border, which was crossed at the blitzed, lifeless village of Perl. Continuing north into Germany, the column halted at Konz Karthaus, just short of Trier, which had been captured five day earlier by the 10th Armored Division. GI's were busy hauling cases of champagne from a captured German warehouse in Trier, and many bottles were passed along the column during the halt. Champagne was found to be a suitable beverage for helping to wash down K-rations.

At this point Col. Schlanser took the troop commanders on a personal reconnaissance trip to the front line sector, where the 19th was to effect relief of the 43rd Cavalry Rcn. Squadron that same afternoon. The Third Army was getting ready to launch its big drive, which Gen. Patton had predicted would be the last and final drive of the war in Europe. The 19th was to see action in the last inning.

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Going into action at Irsch, Germany, about six miles southeast of Trier, the squadron was attached to XX Army Corps and further attached to the 3rd Cavalry Group for initial operations. During the first two weeks of combat, the unit advanced generally east about 36 miles in the Third Army drive to mop up enemy resistance in the triangle formed by the Moselle and Rhine rivers.

In this drive the squadron captured 45 towns and villages and rounded up approximately 1,500 prisoners of war, at a cost of three killed in action and 15 wounded in action and evacuated.

At Idar-Oberstein, diamond-cutting center of 27,000 population, the squadron drive eastward in the direction of the Rhine was pinched out by the merging ahead of the 3rd Cavalry Group on the north and the 94th Infantry Division on the south.

On 24 March 1945 the squadron marched to Ober Ingelheim, Germany, to mount a "watch on the Rhine" along a 12-mile sector between Bingen and Mainz. Patrols were sent across the river, bringing back information that the opposite bank was lightly held. On 29 March the Squadron crossed the Rhine on the 1,895-foot engineer pontoon bridge at Mainz and fanned out along the north bank of the river west of Wiesbaden until contact was gained with the 89th Infantry Division, moving down from the north. The squadron was employed on the left flank of the 89th Infantry Division, which was widening its beach-head at Mainz and moving north in the direction of Kassel. Several towns on the north bank of the Rhine were captured.

The squadron then marched north to the vicinity of Bad Homburg to secure the left flank of XX Corps. Here Troop B met heavy resistance in the town of Wehrheim, where a platoon was caught in machine gun and small arms fire. Five men were killed, seven wounded and two were missing in action.

On 1 April 1945 the squadron assembled in Bad Homburg awaiting orders to move north on the autobahn in the direction of Kassel, where heavy fighting was reported in the 3rd Army advance. The second platoon of Troop A had run into an ambush on the autobahn in the early morning hours while attempting to set up three radio relay stations with armored cars between Squadron and Group Headquarters. Two men were killed.

Later in the day orders were received from higher headquarters changing the assignment of the squadron from the 3rd to the 15th Army. Orders were received to march to Euskirchen, west of the Rhine. That, in effect, ended actual combat operations of the 19th Cavalry. Thereafter, until VE day, the type of missions received dealt with occupying and governing enemy territory, locating and destroying enemy caches of weapons and demolitions, and providing mobile security for occupation forces.

The narrative of actual combat operations from day to day follows in diary form:

11 March

Squadron CP moved to village of Irsch, about six miles southeast of Trier. Several rounds of unobserved enemy artillery, .75 caliber, fell on the village. T/4 Spadaro, radio operator, was wounded in the buttock by two shell fragments and became the first recipient of the Purple Heart award in the squadron. The 420th Field Artillery Battalion, attached, shelled enemy held towns to the east, including Osburg and Morscheid.

Troop B and Company F moved into Irsch, while the rear echelon of Hq and Sv troop remained at Konz Karthaus. Duffle bags of all troops were stored with the rear echelon to lighten the load on combat vehicles.

Troop A occupied Filsch, a village in the same area, and sent the first and second platoons to take up defensive positions in the village of Korlingen. Troop C relieved the 43rd Cav Rcn Sq at Gutweiler. All three positions were shelled during the night.

Troop E, commanded by Capt. John W. Brown, Jr., moved into Filsch and placed guns into position. Fire was immediately delivered on the towns of Waldrach and Morscheid.

12 March

Troop C, commanded by Capt. Albert H. Hislop, sent out dismounted patrols to scout the woods to the south-east of Gutweiler. The enemy was observed in the town of Sommerau, located in the valley below Gutweiler. Artillery fire was received throughout the day. Casualties included Pvt. Billy B. Edwards, wounded seriously in the back after stepping on a booby trap while on patrol, and Pfc. Ralph A. Ferrer, slightly wounded by shrapnel.

Troop E fired on a rubber factory on the Ruwer river south of Sommerau. Fire was adjusted by artillery liaison plane. Other concentrations were on the towns of Sommerau and Morscheid, which continued throughout the night.

13 March

Orders were issued for the attack on Morscheid late in the afternoon. The enemy was reported to be well entrenched along the high ground east of the town, and organized in depth with tank support, anti-tank guns and mines. Briefly, the plan of attack was to hammer the town with artillery, overrun it with light tanks and finally, to send a recon troop dismounted to secure the position.

Company F, commanded by Capt. Lewis F. Winne, re-enforced with the 3rd platoon of Troop E under Lt. Beverly C. Barstow, left Irsch about 1700 and moved south to a bridge crossing the Ruwer river, well to the south of the objective. The light tanks then moved north through a valley leading to the town. Three platoons fanned out cross-country and entered the town from three different points, roaring through the streets and firing at all targets, known or suspected. Second Lt. Francis J. Purcell, tank platoon leader, was wounded by small arms fire and evacuated. Artillery fire was directed by 1st Lt. Carl F. Edwards of Troop E during the attack.

Troop A, less the 3rd platoon, left Filsch about 1730 with the objective of occupying Morscheid in the wake of the tanks. Due to darkness, however, the troop withdrew to the outskirts of the town and dug in for the night. Darkness screened the movement of the troop from enemy observation. There was heavy enemy shelling of the town during the night and the troop commander's action in withdrawing to the outskirts undoubtedly prevented many casualties. Troop B commanded by Capt. R. E. Kirkpatrick, with the 3rd platoon of Troop E attached, secured the high ground east of the town.

Troop C attacked the town of Sommerau in a dismounted action following thorough artillery preparation. Slight enemy opposition was encountered. The road approaching the town was heavily mined with wooden-box mines, and the bridge over the stream before the town was demolished. Pfc. Thomas F. Brown was killed in the action and T/5 Cager A. Gammon, slightly wounded.

About dusk, Lt. Col. Schlanser, Capt. Russell H. Rothweiler, S-2 and driver, Cpl. Henry R. Maynard, proceeded in a jeep down the steep, winding road leading from Gutweiler to Sommerau, to observe the action. The vehicle struck a wooden box mine in the road. Capt. Rothweiler and Cpl. Maynard were killed instantly, and Col. Schlanser was hurled about 50 yards from the vehicle, receiving a severe concussion and numerous bruises. Capt. S. R. Kaplan, squadron surgeon, guided by 1st Lt. Clinton H. Mardick and his driver, Pfc. Jessie Taylor, drove down the same road that night to return the colonel by ambulance to the squadron aid station, where he rested for the night. Still suffering from concussion, the squadron commander was evacuated to the nearby medical collecting company for rest the next day.

14 March

Lt. Col. Edward C. D. Scherrer, executive officer, 16th Cav Gp, assumed command of the Squadron. A veteran of the Pacific, he had received the Distinguished Service Cross for carrying out a hazardous reconnaissance mission on New Georgia island. Lt. Mardick took over the duties of Squadron S-2 and 1st Lt. Philip N. Dutton was called in from Troop C to act as liaison officer with Group Hq. The CP moved from Irsch to Gutweiler, ac-

companied by Troop E, which moved into firing positions at the outskirts of the town and fired on the towns of Thomm and Osburg. Company F moved its tanks into Sommerau.

Action continued at Morscheid, with Troop A moving into the town at dawn. Slight opposition in the form of sniper fire was silenced. The troop took up perimeter defensive positions and was subjected during the day to fairly heavy shelling of .75 caliber and some mortar fire. Five men were wounded by shrapnel and evacuated, including Privates First Class John J. Stanton, Charles H. Wadman, Frank Fazzino and Privates Melvin J. Thomas and Hans A. Helbig.

15 March

Squadron CP and assault gun positions at Gutweiler were shelled by enemy artillery from 0930 to 1600. The shells fell just short of the Squadron CP, but struck in and around the assault guns and within 50 yards of the medical aid station, which was located in a house adjacent to the village church. Pfc. George F. Cichoulas, Troop E, was wounded by shrapnel and evacuated. One assault gun and three half-tracks were scarred by shrapnel. By 1600 the enemy guns were neutralized by our artillery and air action. P-38's divebombed the enemy positions. Troop E returned to Filsch at 1830 and set up new positions, shelling enemy supply points.

Company F was ordered at 0100 to attack Waldrach, a strongly-defended town on the squadron left flank, where Troop B of the 16th Cav. Rcn. Sq., suffered heavy casualties the day before. The tank platoons moved out at 0700 and attacked the objective over a route not previously reconnoitered. The tanks ran into a blown bridge in a canalized road and had to withdraw under fire, to Morscheid. First Lt. Wilbur G. Peterson was wounded in the eyes by enemy fire deflected from the turret of his tank, and was evacuated. The tanks engaged targets of opportunity and reconnoitered a new approach by dismounted patrol. They then entered the town by a new route and overran it successfully.

Meanwhile, in Morscheid, Troop A called for counter-battery on enemy artillery positions to the east, which were effectively silenced by the 105's of the 420th FA Bn. T/4 Robert M. Scroggins was wounded by enemy fire.

16 March

Squadron prepared to attack Osburg, shown by aerial photos to be strongly fortified with pill boxes, road blocks and mines. A platoon of the 609th TD Bn, a platoon of the 245th Eng C Bn and the 558th FA Bn was attached for the operation.

One platoon of Troop B arrived at points north and east of the town to secure the road and bridge at the west entrance. White flags were observed draped from most of the houses in the town, which showed signs of heavy bomb damage. First Lt. Charles F. Young, troop executive officer, took a jeep with four men and drove into the town, tossing hand grenades at mines, road blocks and booby traps wherever found. Lt. Young was slightly wounded in the face by a fragment of shrapnel, but continued on the mission of "taking over" the town. Meanwhile the 2nd platoon of Troop E had joined Troop B at noon for fire support in the attack. Guns were registered, but no fire missions were executed since the town had been taken by Lt. Young and his mounted patrol.

Attached artillery and tank destroyers were not employed in the attack.

When the other troops entered the town they found Lt. Young in the village square accepting armloads of rifles and weapons brought by the terrified villagers, and surrounded with cases of wine and champagne brought as "peace offerings."

Col. Scherrer rode into town with the tanks and accepted the surrender of the town from the German officer in charge, who also ceremoniously handed over his Luger pistol.

Troop B left the ridge west of the town at 1500 and moved in to consolidate the positions. Upon entering the town a minefield and road block consisting of fallen trees, the latter previously defended by rocket and artillery fire, were encountered. By 1800 these obstacles were removed. Troop E moved into position on the ridge formerly occupied by Troop B and supported the attack on Osburg by screening with smoke.

Troop A left Morscheid and moved into Osburg for the night. T/5 Edward J. Locklear was hit by sniper fire while standing guard.

Other action during the day included mopping up operations at Waldrach. One platoon of Troop C and one platoon of Troop A assisted Troop B of the 16th Cav Rcn Sq in combing the town for snipers. The remainder of Troop C stayed at Sommerau to maintain contact between the 94th Infantry division and the 43rd Cav Rcn Sq.

17 March

Troop A left Osburg at 0700 with the mission of capturing the town of Herl, to the east. One hour later the town, bedecked with the white flags of surrender, was taken. Only scattered sniper fire was encountered. The 2nd platoon of the troop swung south to capture Farschweiler, only to find that the town had been earmarked for capture by the 43rd Cav. Ren Sq. The town was turned over to the 43rd. The 1st and 3rd platoons of Troop A relieved the 43rd at Lorscheid and went out at 1430 with the mission of capturing and holding the town of Naurath, previously softened by a concentration of .75 shells fired by Troop E, in position at Lorscheid. It fell without resistance.

Troop B left Osburg at 0800 and moved east to capture Thomm, where white flags were flying. The troop went into the town with reconnaissance by fire, but found no opposition. Questioning of prisoners of war who gave up in growing numbers indicated the enemy had evacuated the town the previous afternoon. Col. Scherrer, who spent most of his time with the front-line troops, accompanied the troop in the action.

Troop C, in squadron reserve at Holzerath, continued to maintain contact between the 94th Infantry Division and the 43rd Cav Sq.

The tank company left Osburg at 0730 and moved northeast along the Osburg-Herl road, then moved northeast to attack Thomm. The tanks successively overran Herl at 0830 and Thomm at 1130, without meeting opposition. At 1800 the company overran the town of Beschied, draped with white flags.

18 March

Troop A left Neurath at 1100 with the mission of capturing Thalfang. The troop was supported by one platoon of tanks, one platoon of assault guns and one platoon of tank destroyers. Mission was completed at 1700, with only scattered sniper fire encountered. Six prisoners, including one officer, were captured. The 1st and 3rd platoons of the troop captured the village of Bearch at 1730, taking four more prisoners. The troop occupied Thalfang for the night.

Troop B with the 2nd platoon of Troop E attached, pulled out of Thomm at 0600 and captured Hascheid, Schonberg, Basch, Haltgenstein, Schwallen, Walzenberg and Nieder Brombach in rapid succession. All towns were entered with troops mounted in vehicles, firing as they advanced. White flags were displayed by the townspeople. Prisoner bag for the day was 95.

Troop C relieved Troop B of the 43rd at Abtei, maintaining contact between the 94th Infantry and the 16th Cav Gp.

Troop E moved from Lorscheid to Hinzert. Company F moved from Thomm to Hinzert.

Other changes occurred in the staff. Major W. R. Hayward, executive officer, was assigned to temporary duty with Hq 16th Cav Gp, to serve as liaison officer with XX Corps. Capt. Albert H. Hislop was transferred from Troop C to Sq Hq as S-3. Major Roscoe R. Kerr assumed the duties of squadron executive officer. First Lt. John A. Boland took command of Troop C.

19 March

Troop A rolled out of Thalfang in the morning and captured the towns of Immert, Gutenthal, Hoxel, Allenbach, Eifenstein, Hettenrodt and Seisbach. Eighteen prisoners were taken. White flags were displayed from homes and evidence pointed to hasty evacuation by the enemy the day before.

Troop C moved to Lauterlecken.

Troop B left Nieder Brombach at 0600 and captured Kronweiler, Sonnenburg, Reichenburg, Wiesselbach and Ehlenberg.

The rear echelon of Hq and Sv troop moved to Thalfang. Capt. Lester C. Burres, squadron motor officer, and Mr. Ralph La Rouche, motors warrant officer, had been making frequent trips to front line troops for evacuation and repair of vehicles disabled in combat. Squadron maintenance kept the squadron rolling, even using German trucks and tires. Capt. Keithley L. Maranville, squadron supply officer, Mr. Marvin A. Rahn, supply warrant officer, and their crew of 6x6 drivers kept the resupply of rations, gasoline and ammunition moving forward at all times over the roughest roads. Capt. Hugh M. Potter, commanding officer of Hq and Sv troop, with 1st Lt. James J. (Uncle Joe) Ryan and 1st Lt. James L. (Shamus) McCarthy were kept busy with transportation and maintenance problems, security of the rear echelon, and replacement of personnel.

One of the hardest working crews in the rear echelon was the personnel section headed by Warrant Officer William Godwin, with an office built on a 6x6 truck known as "Mr. G.'s 40 and 8." The "paper war" ran unabated in the rear echelon—morning reports, casualty reports, evacuation of personal effects, courts martial cases—all handled under the roughest field conditions.

20 March

Troop A continued the mission of mopping up resistance in towns in the pocket formed by the advance of units thrusting toward the Rhine. The troop, supported by a platoon of tanks and TDs, left Siesbach at 0800 and captured Rotsweiler, Oberbrambach, Oberstein, Nahboltenbach, Mittelballenbach, Kirchenballenbach, Keferstein and Wiekenhof. Prisoners were so numerous that at times they were motioned to the rear without guards. A total of 150 prisoners of war was taken. Largest town entered was Idar-Oberstein, a diamond-cutting and industrial center of 27,000 before the war. The town was built in a narrow valley, about three miles long, offering an ideal ambush for any invading motor columns. Troop A, with attached tanks, assault guns and tank destroyers, roared through the long narrow street with a show of force, meeting with no resistance. Drove of enemy soldiers came out of side streets and alleyways to surrender.

During the day Troop B captured Ober Jackenbach, Langweiler, Grumbach and Medard. Thirty prisoners were taken.

Troop C marched to Ramsen.

The Squadron Command Post moved into Idar-Oberstein, setting up in a former Nazi party headquarters (Ortsgruppen) and taking a hotel across the street for billets.

Troop E, with its first and second platoons rejoined, and Company F moved into the town and the tank company was given the task of setting up a Prisoner of War cage. Several hundred prisoners were taken to the cage, and evacuated from there to Prisoner of War enclosures at Baumholder and Kaiserslautern.

The close of the squadron drive through the area east of Trier to Idar-Oberstein and beyond—almost to the Rhine at Worms—netted a total of more than 1,300 prisoners of war taken by all troops, at small cost in our own casualties.

21 March

Troop A, setting up Hq at Wiekenhof, carried on a mission of combing areas for German soldiers and suspicious civilians, and destroying enemy weapons and equipment.

While Troop C remained at Ramsen, the 2nd Platoon, commanded by Lt. David H. Marsden, reached the Rhine river on the left flank of the 94th Inf. Div. The platoon had been given the mission of maintaining contact with the division, with the Rhine placed as the limit of advance. No casualties were incurred on the mission.

The eastward advance of the squadron in the direction of the Rhine was pinched out by the merging of the 3rd Cav Gp on the left and the 94th Infantry on the right flank. With no more towns in this pocket to capture, the squadron was given the mission of combing overrun areas for prisoners of war, rounding up suspicious civilians, capturing or destroying stores of enemy weapons and equipment.

22 March

Troop A continued on the mission of combing areas for enemy soldiers and equipment in and around the towns of Jackenbach, Keferstein, Ehlensbach, Wiesselbach, Neweg, Algenrodt, Oberbrambach, Fiefenstein,

Rotsweiler, Mackenrodt and Hettenrodt. Enemy ammunition was destroyed by Company C, 345th Engineers, attached.

Troop B with the first platoon of Company F and the third platoon of Troop E, attached, was called on to reduce an enemy pocket of SS troops and an SS general. The area was combed and found clear of enemy troops.

Troop C moved to Heimbach on a like mission.

Company F patrolled Idar-Oberstein and "rode herd" on a large fenced-in inclosure of prisoners of war, guarded by the guns of the tanks. German Red Cross workers were allowed to bring the prisoners food during the day.

The Squadron CP moved to Birkenfeld.

23 March

Company F closed out the prisoner of war cage at Idar-Oberstein and moved to Birkenfeld to work on installing tracks and treads on the tanks. Other troops continued sweeping mission and caught up on much-needed maintenance work.

25 March

Squadron marched to Ober-Ingelheim, just south of the Rhine river, to relieve the 42nd Cav Rcn Sq along a 12-mile sector of the river west of Mainz. Here the river turns from its northward course and flows almost due west for about 15 miles before turning north again at Bingen. It was along this east-west bend of the Rhine that the squadron was given the mission of vigorous patrolling and continuous observation of enemy movements on the opposite bank. The 76th Infantry Division was on the left flank and the 16th Cav Rcn on the right flank.

Squadron rear echelon moved from Thalfang to Dromersheim, a few miles south of Ober-Ingelheim.

26 March

Active patrolling and observation were carried on throughout the day. Troop E (less 1st platoon), fired on villages across the river from defilade position at Ober-Ingelheim. Enemy operations during the day included harassing fire from defensive positions. About 80 rounds of enemy artillery fire were observed. There were no casualties. Enemy units contacted were the Fourth Panzer Grenadier division and an unidentified parachute division.

Three night patrols were sent out by recon troops on missions of determining enemy dispositions on islands in the river, and on the far shore. The patrols were handicapped somewhat by the bright moonlight which made objects on the river plainly visible.

A patrol from Troop B consisting of 1st Lt. John C. Welch, Cpl. Mappin and Pvt. Cress crossed in a rubber boat to a point only 15 yards from the eastern tip of the island opposite Ober Ingelheim when the enemy, estimated at five riflemen, opened fire. Lt. Welch was killed. The two soldiers remaining in the patrol recovered the boat and returned safely to the friendly shore.

A second patrol from Troop C, consisting of 1st Lt. Joe R. Gower, Sgt. Hanley and Cpl. Vasquez crossed the river safely between 2030 and 2230, remained in observation and noted some sounds of enemy activity in the vicinity of Erbach and Hattenheim. The patrol returned at 2400.

A third patrol from Troop A, consisting of 1st Lt. William A. Hahn, Sgt. Knott and Cpl. Cass departed at 2300, crossed a railroad bridge to a small island, where they observed one anti-tank gun and about 15 enemy soldiers. The patrol returned at 0300 the following morning.

27 March

A patrol consisting of 1st Lt. William Bryant, Sgt. Stewart and Cpl. Cass of Troop A left at 0300 with a rubber boat and a 300 series radio transmitter and crossed the Rhine River undetected by the enemy. The patrol worked its way inshore, skirting fortified enemy positions, and reached a place of concealment and observation. Remaining in close observation throughout the day, the patrol reported enemy movements by radio. Extreme caution had to be exercised in raising the radio antenna so as not to attract the attention of the enemy. Returning at 2000 that night, the patrol suffered one mishap when the rubber boat sank a few yards offshore. The boat was retrieved, repaired and reinflated, and the patrol returned safely with information indicating the east bank of the river was lightly held. (All members of the patrol were later awarded the Bronze Star medal for heroic action.)

28 March

Active patrolling and reconnaissance continued. Company F, at Gau Algesheim, was busy changing tracks. Capt. Evi C. Scholz, squadron communications officer, was severely injured when the jeep in which he was riding collided with another vehicle on the road along the Rhine. He was evacuated to a hospital. Sgt. Ludwig Ruzika, message center dispatcher, escaped with less serious injuries and continued on duty.

29 March

The squadron received orders to cross the Rhine and operate along the left flank of the 80th Infantry Division, driving northward toward Kassel. The Rhine crossing was made on the 1,895-foot pontoon bridge built by the engineer treadway company at Mainz. After crossing the river, the squadron swung westward along the north bank to mop up any enemy resistance encountered. Squadron headquarters moved into Wiesbaden.

Troop A entered the town of Dotzheim at 1825 without encountering resistance.

Troop B, supported by tank and assault gun platoons, swung left and cleaned out the woods north of the river. En route to Georgenborn, the third platoon received small arms fire on the outskirts of Wiesbaden. The platoon opened up with a .50 caliber machine gun and captured 40 prisoners, who surrendered after firing a few rounds. One mile from Georgenborn the platoon fired on two Germans and shortly thereafter 54 others surrendered, including an SS captain. The prisoners were turned over to the 89th Infantry Division, which was contacted in the vicinity. The third platoon captured Gerowborn without suffering any casualties.

Troop C crossed the Rhine at 1430, swung to the west and captured the towns of Schierstein, Niederwalluf, Oberwalluf and Frauenstein, taking ten prisoners. Hostile resistance was met east of Eltville. Opening up with machine guns and small arms, the troop killed four, wounded one and captured 52 prisoners. The mission of securing the left flank of the 80th Infantry Division was completed successfully.

Each recon troop was accompanied by one platoon of assault guns in the action. Pfc. Samuel B. Weibley of the 3rd platoon was wounded by fragments of machine gun bullets.

One platoon of tanks each was attached to Troops B and C, while the balance of the tank company waited at Gau Algesheim, on the south bank of the river, waiting for tracks.

30 March

Lt. Col. Scherrer returned to his duties at Hq. 16th Cav Gp following the return to duty of Lt. Col. Schlanser, who had recuperated successfully from the terrific concussion suffered when his jeep was demolished by a road mine early in the campaign.

The squadron marched from the vicinity of Wiesbaden northward to Reichenbach, where a bivouac was made for the night after the advance guard of the column, consisting of the security detachment of Group Troop, 16th Cav Gp, was fired on by an enemy anti-tank gun, knocking out a 6x6 truck. This occurred about 1900 a short distance north of Reichenbach.

Group Hq, Sq Hq, Troop A, Troop E and Company F bivouacked in Reichenbach for the night. Troop B moved into Kronberg, while Troop C carried out a mission of securing the towns of Oberems and Nieder and the surrounding road net.

The squadron rear echelon crossed the Rhine and moved into luxurious apartment house quarters at Wiesbaden.

31 March

Squadron CP moved to Bad Homburg, a "hospital city" which had been surrendered by the enemy without resistance. Troop A and Company F also moved into the city and secured comfortable billets.

Troop B moved from Kronberg at 0600 with the mission of capturing the towns of Wehrheim, Pfaffenwiesbach and Anspach, all northwest of Bad Homburg, thus securing the left flank of XX Corps.

The third platoon of Troop B, commanded by S/Sgt. Gipson W. Hastings, moved out to reconnoiter and capture the town of Anspach. The platoon was stopped at the edge of the town by heavy enemy fire at 1100. Holding its position until 1630, the platoon withdrew to a crossroads south of the town.

Meanwhile the 1st, 2nd and Hq platoons of the troop advanced on Wehrheim, reaching the outskirts at 1100. The second platoon, under S/Sgt. Jeter, moved to the edge of the woods to observe the town. A patrol of two jeeps, with Sgt. Sampson in charge, then proceeded along the straight road leading into the town. When well within the town the patrol received point blank fire from Schmeizer machine guns. Sgt. Sampson, Cpl. Hazel and T/5 Catlett were killed. Pfc. Howell and Pfc. Campbell were reported missing in action.

The first platoon was sent to cover the withdrawal of the patrol. Capt. Kirkpatrick, troop commander, moved his command armored car to the edge of the woods to fire into the town. The platoons were pinned down for the next half-hour by small arms and machine gun fire. Lt. Young, 1st Sgt. Horace Garner and S/Sgt. Rodwell moved forward under heavy machine gun fire to assist the 2nd platoon. They set up mortars and machine

guns while under constant fire and organized the position. T/5 Bailey was killed while manning his 60 mm mortar. The 2nd platoon returned the enemy fire and was able to withdraw.

Nine enemy riflemen attempted to outflank the troop position on the left. They were killed by 50 caliber and rifle fire. Five other enemy soldiers came up to surrender, but turned and ran for cover, receiving fire from their own positions. They were killed by S/Sgt. Anderson, troop mess sergeant, and others of the kitchen crew.

During the heat of the action T/5 South and T/5 Dorse of the squadron medical detachment insisted on going to the aid of two men who were wounded at the edge of town, although warned that the enemy fire was too hot. While bent over applying a dressing to one of the wounded men, South was shot through the back and seriously wounded. Dorse placed both South and the wounded man in the jeep-ambulance and brought them back to the troop. (Later both Medics were awarded the Bronze Star Medal for bravery.)

Two jeeps and one ammunition half-track left at the edge of the woods were manned and driven back in the face of heavy machine gun fire from the direct front. While the command armored car and assault guns directed by 1st Lt. Milward of Troop E fired on the town, Lt. Hunt, Lt. Young, S/Sgt. Romeo, Sgt. Armstrong, T/4 Kocka, Cpl. Booher, T/5 Descoteau, T/5 Barton and T/5 Hale moved forward and secured the vehicles, placing the two jeeps in front of the half-track, and driving them out.

Lt. Milward's assault gun platoon fired about 200 rounds of .75 into the town and a short while later the remainder of Troop E arrived at the scene and pumped another 400 rounds into the enemy position.

The following day it was reported that the 11th Infantry moved into the town of Wehrheim without firing a shot. The enemy, believed to be a battalion of SS troopers cut off from their main forces, apparently evacuated the position and continued in an easterly direction toward the autobahn between Frankfurt and Kassel.

Total casualties in the action were five killed, two missing and 12 wounded. Those killed in action were Sgt. Martin J. Sampson, Cpl. Leon N. Hazel, T/5 Ernest J. Bailey, T/5 Willie W. Catlett and Pfc. Braden C. Bettis. The wounded were: S/Sgt. Jack W. Jeter, T/4 Edward F. Madigan, Cpl. John H. Clark, T/5 Harold M. Horne, Pfc. Maurice J. Carpenter, Jr., Pfc. Matthew Corbett, Jr., Pfc. Thomas E. Foudy, Pfc. Anthony R. Frank, S/Sgt. Richard R. Rodwell, Sgt. John J. Armstrong, Pfc. Arthur F. Cushing, Pfc. Sidney L. McIntire. Missing in action were Pfc. Andrew R. Campbell and Pfc. Lloyd C. Howell.

1 April

Squadron assembled in Bad Homburg and vicinity awaiting orders to move north on the Reichsautobahn in the direction of Kassel, where heavy fighting was reported in the 3rd Army advance. The mission was to protect the left flank of the 80th Infantry Division.

Group Hq had already proceeded north on the autobahn about 50 miles from Bad Homburg, and heavy division traffic had moved over the highway during the preceding day.

Troop B withdrew from Wehrheim, scene of heavy casualties the day before, without taking the town. Ele-

ments of the 76th Infantry later occupied the town, after enemy troops had cleared the vicinity. The third platoon returned to the town to recover the bodies of five men killed in action during the engagement 31 March 45.

Second Lt. George F. Downing, commanding the 2nd platoon of Troop A, had been given the mission of establishing three radio relay stations on the autobahn between Sq and Gp Hq at 2200 31 March.

The platoon proceeded on the highway shortly after midnight, moving by sections. The second section, during a halt, was fired upon by an enemy patrol, but returned the fire and moved on again, escaping an ambush. The section went two miles further, then turned back, and shortly thereafter ran into some land mines which the enemy had placed across the highway. Travel was in blackout. The point jeep and armored car were demolished by the blast, and were fired upon by enemy bazookas. Privates First Class Robert E. Breslin and John L. Dounavant were killed by the mine blast and Pvt. Morris D. Geller was severely wounded.

Dazed by the explosion, Lt. Downing managed to climb out of his burning armored car. He hid himself under the vehicle while enemy soldiers prowled around the wreckage without discovering him. Later he returned to Sq Hq to report the result of the mission.

Since no radio communication was established with Group Hq, 1st Lt. Clinton H. Mardick, S-2, and his driver, Pfc. Vincent Detrick, drove in a jeep to contact Group Hq early that morning. Lt. Mardick was halted on the autobahn by a long column of military traffic held up by mines further along, which the engineers had not cleared. Told he would have to wait some time, Lt. Mardick nevertheless found a detour on the east side of the autobahn which he took around the mined area. As he traveled the detour, he could see enemy soldiers off to his right run to their artillery pieces to train them upon his vehicle. Driver Detrick needed no urging to floorboard the jeep and offered an unprofitable target to the Jerry gunners. Upon returning to the autobahn and reaching Group Hq, Lt. Mardick found he had been the first person to get around the mined stretch that morning. He received instructions changing the squadron mission.

It was thought the enemy forces which mined the autobahn were part of a battalion of SS troops which had previously defended the town of Wehrheim, had been cut off by the Third Army advance, and were attempting to rejoin their forces.

Other operations during the day: Troop C secured an army radio station; Troop E and Company F moved into the assembly area at Bad Homburg. Contact was kept with the 76th Infantry Division on the west and the Fifth Infantry Division on the east.

Pfc. Jeffrey Meisner, Troop B, was wounded during the night while guarding an armored car at a crossroads south of Wehrheim.

2 April

Squadron completely assembled at Bad Homburg, awaiting further orders.

3 April

Squadron marched from Bad Homburg at 1730 south to Rhine, recrossing at Mainz, continuing thence to vicinity of Bingen where halt was made for the night.

Orders had been received assigning the Squadron to the 15th U. S. Army, then reported becoming operational.

4 April

Squadron continued march to Euskirchen, where troops were assembled again. Thus ends day by day account.

OCCUPY and GOVERN

Following a short stay in Euskirchen, the 19th received orders on 7 April to move to the vicinity of Kempenich for the purpose of occupying and governing the area. Troops made a thorough reconnaissance of the area, checking civilian passes, turned up one lone German PW who had been hiding in the woods. The CP was moved to Nieder-Zissen on 9 April to continue the same mission.

But on 12 April the long-standing attachment to 16th Cavalry Group was severed. The 19th was ordered to Birkenfeld and attached to XXIII Corps—the same corps which had supervised the tests for combat fitness at A. P. Hill military reservation in the states. Radio contact was continued with 16th Cavalry Group, now attached to XXII Corps, but official relations ceased.

As mobile reserve for XXIII Corps, the squadron went on all sorts of missions from rounding up displaced persons to raiding coal mines suspected of containing hidden caches of explosives, all this in the region embracing the districts of Trier, Koblenz, Pfalz, Hessen and Saarland, from the Franco-German frontier to the Rhine.

At one time the squadron had the mission of maintaining a five-mile-wide prohibited zone along the Franco-German frontier, checking the credentials of all civilians attempting to cross the zone and preventing the wholesale removal of siezed foodstuffs from Germany to France. Even this mission was not without its dangers. Pfc. Eugene J. Leahy, Company F, shattered his left leg and foot when he stepped on a Schu-mine while on patrol near Saarbruecken. The region was thickly mined.

On 2 May the squadron was given the mission of combing all the XXIII Corps area east of the Rhine for displaced persons and returning them to DP camps, checking Germans for passes and possible possession of weapons, and generally locating allied and enemy arms, armament and vehicles. The mission resulted in rounding up 47 displaced persons. German and Allied equipment found included 190 guns of all calibers, 20 trailers, 10 aircraft and 547 vehicles. The region would have been a gold mine for a junk dealer.

On 8 May 1945 the squadron was relieved by the 209th Field Artillery Group of the mission of patrolling the frontier zone. All troops were called into Berkenfeld, where the choicest of the small town's residential sections were taken over for billets. V-E day on 9 May found the squadron in a peaceful setting. The event was celebrated with a big party at the 50 meter Olympic swimming pool in Birkenfeld. Barbecued deer on buns and beaucoup beer and cognac were served on that occasion. Since the non-fraternization policy was in effect, frauleins were strictly barred from the party.

In the next few weeks most of the men went on pass trips to Paris, Brussels, Luxembourg and other points of interest.

Meanwhile, the outfit had been "categorized" as a unit to be redeployed directly to the Pacific to fight Japan, and on 22 June made ready to roll south to the Arles staging area near Marseilles, France. Just before departure, Col. Busbey addressed a formation of the squadron in which he commended the men for their performance in combat and broke the news that Group Hq had received orders to be stationed in Berlin. The Group was still in Berlin when the 19th was inactivated at Camp Campbell, Ky., on 10 Nov. 45.

It was a three-day march from Birkenfeld to the Arles staging area in southern France, where the squadron was assigned a tent area in the hottest, dustiest and most barren piece of ground to be found in all that country. Preparations were commenced for loading vehicles and equipment on ships for the Pacific. Off duty, officers and men visited towns and villages in a wide radius of camp, including Avignon, Marseilles, Montpellier—not to mention the Riviera. Recreation in camp included movies at the "Dust Bowl," the open air theater managed by the 66th Infantry Division. Sometimes the dust blotted out the pictures.

KP work was done by PW's who vied with each other policing the grounds to pick up cigaret butts. The ground was so rocky that blasting was required for digging latrines. "Bird baths" in steel helmets were used in lieu of showers. Sand blew into everything.

So it was with no pangs of regret that the squadron on 14 August loaded up in trucks and rode to the docks at Marseilles to board the U. S. S. General George W. Goethals, an army transport, for the trip to the Pacific, through the Panama Canal. Destination was Lingayen Gulf in the Philippines, planned as a stopover on the way to the invasion of Japan. V-J day was announced on the boat on 15 August before leaving Marseilles and there were some anxious moments lest plans change and the squadron be ordered back to Arles. The announcement that everyone was waiting for came a day after the General Goethals passed the Rock of Gibraltar. Destination was changed to Port of Boston. The ship picked up noticeable speed after that announcement and turned her course north.

Boston hove in sight on 24 August and the following day all personnel were at Camp Myles Standish, Mass., being divided into groups to entrain for reception stations throughout the country, and then to get 30 days at home for "rest and recuperation." That was later extended to 45 days, with personnel reporting back to Camp Campbell, Ky. The public was demanding speedy demobilization. Sixty-pointers were separated at the reception stations and sent home, so that a much smaller squadron was on hand when the remaining troopers reassembled on 20 October.

The squadron was ordered to inactivate, while its sister squadron, the 16th Cav Ren Sq, also back in the states, will remain as part of the strategic reserve.

Lt. Col. Schlanser was transferred to the AGF Board No. 1 at Fort Bragg, N. C., on 29 Oct. 45, and Major Roscoe R. Kerr took command of the squadron for the remaining ten days.

On 10 Nov. 45, almost two years from the date it was activated, the 19th Cavalry Ren Squadron had gone into history.

Bronze Star Medals

The following members of the 19th Cavalry were awarded Bronze Star Medals for heroic action during combat operations. Other recommendations were submitted at Camp Campbell, Ky., and are pending final action.

FIRST LT. WILLIAM R. BRYANT	TROOP A
SGT. ALBERT D. STURTZ	TROOP A
S/SGT. HUBERT D. STUART	TROOP A
CPL. THORNTON E. CASS	TROOP A
T/5 L. C. SOUTH	MED DET
CPL. DONALD W. DOXSEE	MED DET
T/5 EZEKIEL R. JACKSON	MED DET
FIRST SGT. HORACE M. GARNER	TROOP B
S/SGT. RICHARD E. RODWELL	TROOP B
SECOND LT. VINCENT L. ROMEO	TROOP B
S/SGT. JOHN J. ARMSTRONG	TROOP B
T/4 FRED T. KOCKA	TROOP B
SGT. ROBERT H. BOOHER, JR.	TROOP B
CPL. ARTHUR F. CUSHING	TROOP B
T/5 LAWRENCE E. BARTON	TROOP B
T/5 ALFRED P. DESCOTEAU	TROOP B
T/5 FRED H. HALE	TROOP B
S/SGT. OSCAR L. BRAME	TROOP C
FIRST LT. CHARLES F. YOUNG	TROOP B
CAPT. BETHEL T. HUNT	TROOP B
T/5 EDMUND A. TYSOWSKI	HQ. & SV.
PFC. BERNARD KAPITANSKY	MED DET

Permanent Change of Station to H-O-M-E

Roster of personnel on succeeding pages gives names and home addresses of all members of the unit who crossed over on the Queen Elizabeth—and those who joined in the ETO

Personnel Sq. Hq. & Sv. Troop 19th Cavalry RCN Squadron (Mecz) Shipped on Queen Elizabeth

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Capt. Lester C. Burres
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Capt. Evi C. Scholz
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T/4 Frederick J. Osborne
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T/5 William H. McArdle
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T/5 Rocco Colangelo
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Pfc. James Moore
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T/5 Matthew Corbett, Jr.
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T/5 Franklyn K. Hawley
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T/5 Verner E. Friberg
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T/4 Oscar R. Ayers
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Box 72,
Newark, Del.

Pfc. Alex Lawrenuk,
3514 Behrwalt
Cleveland, Ohio

Pfc. Willis McKenna
Box 104
Shirley, Mass.

Pfc. Herbert Menke
1925 N. Van Ness Ave.
Hollywood, Calif.

Pfc. Frank Merola
16-19 131st St. South Ozone Pwky.
New York, N. Y.

Pfc. John Morris
52 W. 72nd St.
Chicago, Ill.

Pfc. Coleman Roberts
Route 1
Dyersburg, Tenn.

Pfc. Julius Rosenbluth
145 Harrison Ave.
Jersey City, N. J.

Pfc. Kenneth Spangler
Waseon, Ohio

Pfc. James Stanfill
Finley, Tenn.

Pfc. Robert Switalski
323 N. Notre Dame Ave.
South Bend, Ind.

Pfc. Abraham Warshofsky
82 Fayston St.
Boston 21, Mass.

Pfc. Samuel J. Weibley
Liverpool, Pa.

Pvt. Cecil Eltzroth
922 S. Spring St.
Hartford City, Ind.
Pvt. Carl Harris
Pine Crest Ranch, Route 3
Woonsocket, R. I.

Pvt. George Cichowlas
1991 E. Kirby St.
Detroit, Mich.

T/5 James Castello
Box 884
Vivian, La.

T/4 Henry Paulsen
Box 224
Pottsville, Iowa

Sgt. Joe Terranova
115 Grace St.
Lake Charles, La.

Sgt. George Watso
352 Main St.
Dixon City, Pa.

Medical Detachment 19th Cavalry RCN Squadron Shipped on Queen Elizabeth

Capt. Saul R. Kaplan
Croyden Hotel
New York, N. Y.

Capt. Jetson P. Tatum
2710 39th St.
Meridian, Miss.

S/Sgt. Thomas B. Carney
18 Beacon St.
Waterbury, Conn.

T/3 Andrew Cymbrak
Auburn, N. Y.

T/3 Robert W. Weise
8011 Oak Ave.
River Forest, Ill.

T/4 Carl G. Hayes
1810 Mulberry St.
Chattanooga, Tenn.

T/5 Ezekiel Jackson, Jr.
1518 Norwegian St.
Pottsville, Pa.

Cpl. Donald W. Doxsee
Box 2
Wells, Me.

T/5 L. C. South
1621 Mineral Ave.
Gadsen, Ala.

T/5 Alfred H. Gangloff
T/5 Charles C. Bukovac
1617 Walnut St.
Monessa, Pa.

Pfc. Clarence E. Hinton
377 Highland Ave.
Jackson, Tenn.

Pfc. Bernard Kapitansky
147 Bay 25th St.
Brooklyn, N. Y.

T/5 Wilbert H. Feinstein
11511 Whitmore Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio

ETO ARRIVALS

Capt. Ralph D. Lynn
1808 Woodbowne
Louisville, Ky.

Capt. Ariel A. Mengarini
15 W. 67th St.
New York, N. Y.

Sgt. Ralph D. Thompson
3323 Grant St.
Portsmouth, Ohio

T/5 Richard P. Bale
435 Crescent St., N. E.
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Pfc. John Yaselsky
2828 E. 35th Ave.
Gary, Ind.

**"Co. F" Personnel 19th
Cavalry RCN Sq. Mec2
Shipped on Queen
Elizabeth**

Capt. Lewis H. Winne
Beekman Arms
Rhinebeck, N. Y.
1st Lt. Lavern C. Schultz
Route 1
Lake View, Iowa
T/4 Juan J. P. Pallingayan
424 Budd St.
Philadelphia, Pa.
T/5 Kalman Seidner
997 Jennings St.
Bronx, N. Y.
T/4 Clement S. Kochinski
56 White St.
Swoyerville, Pa.
Sgt. Albert J. Coulombe
69 Spruce St.
Berlin, N. H.
T/5 Bill G. Collins
3949 Normal St.
Gary, Ind.
1st Sgt. Earl L. Devine
1047 W. Main St.
Ravenna, Ohio
T/4 Frank A. Babula
470 Miller Ave.
Brooklyn, N. Y.
Cpl. Louis Uher
321 East 90th St.
New York, N. Y.
2nd Lt. Joseph H. Specht
Route 1
Conneaut, Ohio
Cpl. Edward R. Smith
2856 N. Mascher St.
Philadelphia, Pa.
S/Sgt. Ordway P. Monette
Wells, Me.
T/4 John O. Turner
20 Sturgis St.
Woburn, Mass.
T/4 William B. Mayhew
Route 2
Adolphus, Ky.
T/5 Louis J. Belanger
Box 21
East Lebanon, Me.
T/5 James B. Thompson
1538 Cresswell St.
Shreveport, La.
Cpl. Maurice P. Bonafair
Ebervale, Pa.
Pfc. William H. Kane, Jr.
36 Stillwell Dr.
Dayton, Ohio
T/Sgt. Gurdon C. Fulcher
501 Spears Ave.
Chattanooga, Tenn.
T/5 Lawrence R. Benson
815 W. 2nd St.
Kenia, Ohio
Sgt. Wendell J. Swanson
175 Savin Hill
Dorchester, Mass.
S/Sgt. Richard B. Pearlman
80 Fayson St.
Roxbury, Mass.
T/5 W. H. Burdin
1315 Wheeler St.
Dyersburg, Tenn.
T/4 Walter J. Hildebrandt
852 N. Arlington Pl.
Milwaukee, Wis.
Pfc. Andy Spitzer
Route 1
Bells, Tenn.
T/5 Marion T. Miner
1654 Madison Ave.
Council Bluffs, Iowa
T/4 Ollie C. Giles
Ochlocknee, Ga.

T/5 Charles E. Henderson
Route 1
Bells, Tenn.
T/5 Nicolo Giacchetti
9624 Hamilton St.
Chicago, Ill.
Pfc. Benjamin Bilodeau
1307 N. 43rd St.
Milwaukee, Wis.
Pfc. Frank Tookoian
37 Forbes St.
Worcester, Mass.
Pfc. Aurelio R. Guerrero
208 N. 13th St.
Garden City, Kans.
Pfc. George A. Chatfield, Jr.
5922 Vanderbilt Ave.
Dallas, Texas
T/4 Clarence H. Dile
Easton, Pa.
Pfc. Wilburn K. Forrest
McKenzie, Tenn.
Pfc. James R. Bunch
Route 5
Bloomington, Ind.
Sgt. Thomas C. Randall
Freeport, Me.
T/5 Herald Cales
315 W. Franklin St.
Winchester, Ind.
Pvt. Vivian E. Lodgen
Winston-Salem, N. C.
Pfc. Willard E. Neathery
Route 2, Box 139 A
Winnsboro, La.
Sgt. Freddie Westmoreland
Route 2
Dyersburg, Tenn.
T/5 Richard H. Ireland
RFD Box 69
Lincoln Center, Me.
Pfc. Harry D. Brenner
1729 N. 30th St.
Kansas City, Kans.
Pfc. Thomas J. Gallagher
601 West Leeds Ave.
Absecon, N. J.
Care D. S. Brown
2nd Lt. Claude E. Waldrop
Box 686
Liberty, Texas
Pfc. William L. Griffin
Route 2
Dyersburg, Tenn.
Pfc. Martin A. Gripb
60 Juliette St.
Hopelawn, N. J.
Pfc. Charley H. McQuarters
534 Indiana St.
Hammond, Ind.
Sgt. Alexander G. Kucsera
260 Florence Ave.
Rahway, N. J.
T/4 Daniel Miller
37 Riverside Ave.
Pottstown, Pa.
Pfc. Severin V. Gyselinck
318 Peoples Ave.
Rockford, Ill.
Pfc. Eugene J. Leahy
52 Kendall St.
Worcester, Mass.
1st Lt. Miles N. Hubbard
821 Riverside Drive.
Johnson City, N. Y.
T/4 Arthur M. Schauss
605 West Hess Ave.
Evansville, Ind.
Pfc. Pietro C. Dalla Tezza
914 Eastern Ave.
Baltimore, Md.
Pfc. Edwin G. O'Connell
654 54th St.
Brooklyn, N. Y.
Sgt. John J. Holly
206 Morris Ave.
Summit, N. J.

T/5 William J. LeBlanc, Jr.
8 West St.
Worcester, Mass.
Pfc. Maynard E. Emhof
503 Miller St.
Oriskany, N. Y.
Pfc. Howard V. Pedlar
617 E. Lincoln Way
Minerva, Ohio
Sgt. Stanley W. Cole
4347 Bell Blvd.
Bayside, L. I.
T/4 James M. Casey
Care Casey's Cafe
Washington, Iowa
Pfc. Thomas T. Paget
1318 Short St.
Youngstown, Ohio
Pfc. Theodore H. Renninger
Zerba, Pa.
S/Sgt. Mike Pachan
2569 W. 27th St.
Cleveland, Ohio
T/5 Readeth Hinson
Linden, Tenn.
Pfc. Robert H. Ferguson
8496 W. Jefferson St.
Detroit, Mich.
Pfc. August E. Schlichtings
736 Military St.
Detroit, Mich.
Sgt. Robert M. Flynn
59 Ludlow St.
Waterbury, Conn.
T/5 William R. Connolly
229 Lee Ave.
Brooklyn, N. Y.
Pfc. J. D. Sorter
1217 Obig Ave.
Gunthersville, Ala.
Pfc. Donald C. Mohler
Route 4
Zanesville, Ohio
T/4 William W. Morgan
Kennebunk, Me.
Pfc. William H. Hammett
Cotton Valley, La.
Pfc. James L. Eggleston
216 State St.
Elkhart, Ind.
Sgt. Watson Gregory
Chester St.
Locust Valley, Long Island, N. Y.
T/5 Harry A. Goyette
37 Adams
Worcester, Mass.
Pvt. Robert E. Fox
402 East 162nd St.
Bronx, N. Y.
Pvt. John J. Lawson
543 66th St.
Brooklyn, N. Y.
Sgt. Clarence Willner
1749 N. Luna Ave.
Chicago, Ill.
T/5 Carol A. Nye
5 N. Maple St.
Woburn, Mass.
Pfc. Estell Strouse
Clay, Ky.
Pfc. Paul R. Stone
Union Bridge, Md.
S/Sgt. Charles H. Graham
Dyersburg, Tenn.
T/4 Robert H. Copeland
130 S. 8th St.
Newcastle, Ind.
Pfc. William E. Lloyd
N. 2nd St.
Clearfield, Pa.
Pfc. Mitchell O. Brown
Sirocco, Ky.
Sgt. Dale M. Bryte
Bruceton Mills, W. Va.
T/5 Eugene E. Allen
325 Brandriff St.
Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Pfc. Elva West
Route 1
Pitkin, La.
Pfc. Domenick Merlonghi
1618 W. 13th St.
Wilmington, Del.
Pfc. William E. Buchanan
402 Locust St.
Indiana, Pa.
Pfc. Fred McGranahan
Hartstown, Pa.
Pfc. Stephen Roman
612 Ridge Ave.
Clairton, Pa.
Pfc. Ernest Wisyanski
929 Graham Ave.
Monessen, Pa.
Pvt. Lawrence Gurreri
54 West Princess St.
York, Pa.
T/5 Farris B. Webb
85 Prospect St.
Alexandria, La.
Sgt. Paul O. Batig
17104 Sedalia Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio
Pvt. Norman D. Polk
635 E. St. Catherine
Louisville, Ky.
T/5 Donald V. Reason
218 Kenbrough Apts.
Muncie, Ind.
Pfc. Leland E. Harrop
Route 1
Philo, Ohio
Pfc. James H. Singleton
503 Gonzales Ave.
Laredo, Texas
Pvt. Hershel T. Williams
2435 Coombs St.
Dallas, Texas
T/4 John L. Roderick
P. O. Box 223
Rio Dell, Calif.
Pfc. Craig R. Lindner
Box 767
Modesto, Calif.
Pfc. Carl F. Cooper
1325 Park Ave.
Birmingham, Ala.
Pvt. Earnest C. Butler
Fort Payne, Ala.
Pvt. Elburn H. Dorris, Sr.
Route 1, Box 189
Albany, Ga.
T/5 Richard W. Boebel
214 Southwest St.
Stillwater, Okla.
Pfc. William N. Ritter
Box 160
Ryan, Okla.
T/5 Cecil W. Skinner
3547 Ingraham
San Diego, Calif.
Pfc. Merle W. Ball
1475 S. Washington St.
Denver, Colo.
Pfc. Albert J. Annichiarico
72 Main St.
Dobbs Ferry, N. Y.
Pvt. Ralph Ferrer
3706 89th St., Jackson Heights
Long Island, N. Y.
Pfc. Jonas Fliesser
1459 Boston Rd.
Bronx, N. Y.
Pvt. Elias Holtzman
14 Rutgers Place
Passaic, N. J.
Pfc. Richard Arbaugh
Route 2
Alderson, W. Va.
S/Sgt. Arthur W. Brown
Wichita Falls, Texas
1st Lt. Wilbur G. Peterson
Toronto, Kans.

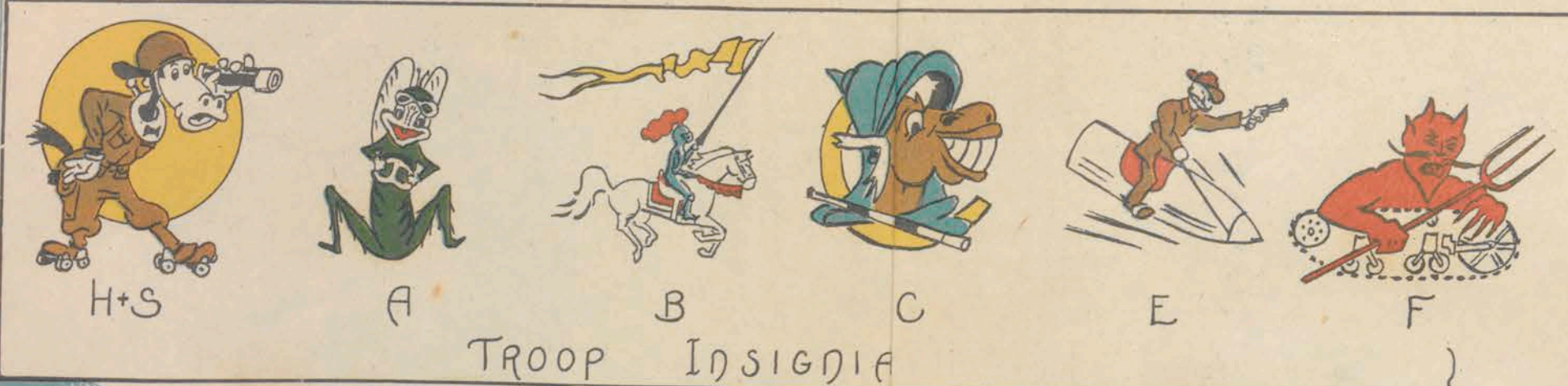


THIS BOOKLET was "thrown together" in the
rush of inactivation at Camp Campbell, Kentucky.
Forgive us if we are guilty of errors or omissions.
We were in a hurry to go home, too. The Staff:

FIRST LT. ARTHUR I. GARBUTT	<i>Editor</i>
S/SGT. WILLIAM H. GAYLORD, JR.	<i>Cartoonist</i>
PVT. CARL M. ASCHERL	<i>Lettering</i>
T/4 STANLEY L. WAGNER	<i>Assistant Editor</i>
S/SGT. THOMAS B. CARNEY	<i>Treasurer</i>

(Enlisted Men's Club of Birkenfeld, Germany)

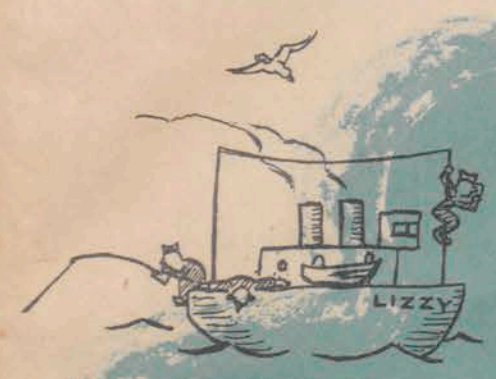




ETO TRAVELS OF NINETEENTH CAVALRY RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON

TROWBRIDGE to TRIER to OBERSTEIN to MAINZ
to BAD HOMBURG to EUSKIRCHEN to BIRKEN-
FELD to MARSEILLES (and points in between).

30 NOVEMBER 1944 15 AUGUST 1945



TROWBRIDGE
1 DEC '44 ~ 25 FEB '45

London

WEYMOUTH
26 FEB '45

PICCADILLY
CIRCUS

LE HAURE

ROUEN

29 FEB ~ 8 MAR

PARIS

RHEIMS

VERDUN

3 APR
EUSKIRCHEN

MORSHEID-
GUTWEILER

TRIER
10 MAR

THION-
VILLE
9 MAR

LOAR - 18 MAR
OBERSTEIN

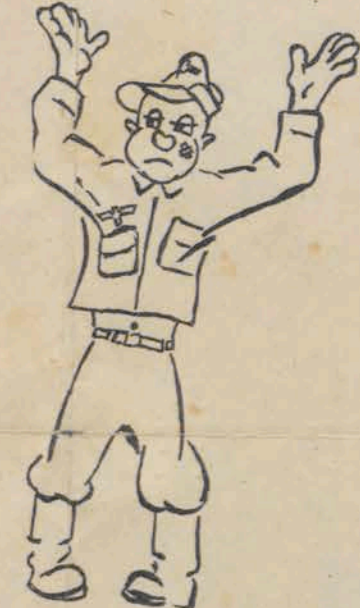
BIRKENFELD

WIESBADEN

MAINZ
26 MAR

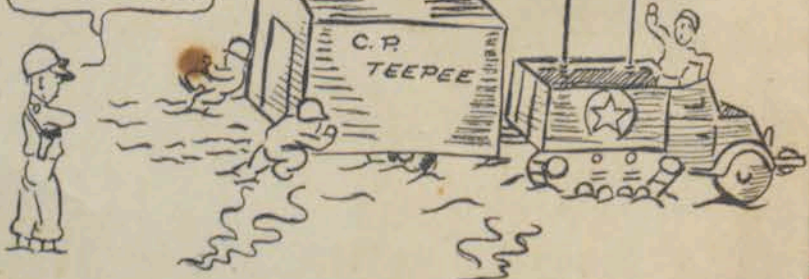
BAD HAMBURG - 1 APR

BERLIN



C'MON YOU
YOUNG BUCKS

C.R.
TEEPER





HISTORY IN BRIEF

16th Cavalry Regiment (Horse)
Patrolled Mexican Border in
World War I.

16th Cavalry Regiment (Mecz)
Reactivated 15 June 42, Camp
Forrest, Tenn.

19th Cavalry Reconnaissance
Squadron — Organized at Fort
Devens, Mass., 19 Nov 43, from
personnel of the 16th Cavalry
Regiment. Attached to 16th
Cavalry Group (Mecz) Stations
in the U. S. of the 16th Cavalry
Regiment and the 19th Cav Rcn
Sq (after 19 Nov 43) were as
follows:

Camp Forrest, Tennessee
15 Jun 42-7 Jul 42

Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia
8 Jul 42-14 Oct 43

Camp Forrest, Tennessee
15 Oct 43-21 Oct 43

Fort Devens, Massachusetts
24 Oct 44-28 Nov 44

Saco, Maine
29 Nov 44-21 May 44

Fort Devens, Massachusetts
22 May 44-25 May 44

Camp Pickett, Virginia
26 May 44-13 Nov 44

Camp Shanks, New York
14 Nov 44-20 Nov 44

COMMANDING OFFICERS

Lt Col George W. Busbey, 19
Nov 43-11 Jan 44.

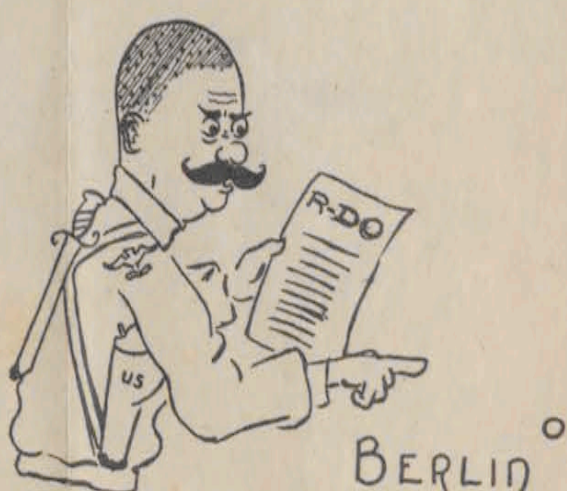
Lt Col Lawrence E. Schlanser,
12 Jan 44-13 Mar 45.

Lt Col Edward C. D. Scherer,
14 Mar 45-31 Mar 45.

Lt Col Lawrence E. Schlanser,
1 Apr 45-29 Oct 45.

Major Roscoe R. Kerr, 30 Oct 45-
10 Nov 45.

Unit embarked at New York port
of embarkation 20 Nov 44 on
Queen Elizabeth, disembarked at
Greenock, Scotland, 28 Nov 44.
Stationed at Camp Trowbridge,
Wiltshire, England, until 25 Feb
44. Crossed channel to Le
Havre, France, 27 Feb. Stayed
at Camp Twenty Grand, France,
from 28 Feb to 9 Mar 45. Moved
vicinity Trier, Germany, 10 Mar
45 and committed to combat with
Third U. S. Army in Rhineland
and Central Europe campaigns.
Assigned to 15th Army 1 Apr 45,
moved to Euskirchen, thence to
Birkenfeld, Germany. Mission:
occupation, security forces.
Moved 23 Jun 45 to Arles Stag-
ing Area near Marseilles, France,
for direct redeployment to Pa-
cific. Boarded U. S. S. General
Goethals at Marseilles 14 Aug 45;
sailed 15. Ship diverted to Bos-
ton, arriving at port 24 Aug 45.
Assembled at Camp Myles
Standish, Mass., where all per-
sonnel were given 45 days tem-
porary duty for rest and recuper-
ation at home. Reassembled 20
Oct 45 at Camp Campbell, Ky.
Inactivated 10 Nov 45.



HISTORY IN BRIEF

16th Cavalry Regiment (Horse)
Patrolled Mexican Border in
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29 Nov 44-21 May 44

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14 Mar 45-31 Mar 45.

Lt Col Lawrence E. Schlanser,

1 Apr 45-29 Oct 45.

Major Roscoe R. Kerr, 30 Oct 45-

10 Nov 45.

Unit embarked at New York port of embarkation 20 Nov 44 on Queen Elizabeth, disembarked at Greenock, Scotland, 28 Nov 44. Stationed at Camp Trowbridge, Wiltshire, England, until 25 Feb 44. Crossed channel to Le Havre, France, 27 Feb. Stayed at Camp Twenty Grand, France, from 28 Feb to 9 Mar 45. Moved vicinity Trier, Germany, 10 Mar 45 and committed to combat with Third U. S. Army in Rhineland and Central Europe campaigns. Assigned to 15th Army 1 Apr 45, moved to Euskirchen, thence to Birkenfeld, Germany. Mission: occupation, security forces. Moved 23 Jun 45 to Arles Staging Area near Marseilles, France, for direct redeployment to Pacific. Boarded U. S. S. General Goethals at Marseilles 14 Aug 45; sailed 15. Ship diverted to Boston, arriving at port 24 Aug 45. Assembled at Camp Myles Standish, Mass., where all personnel were given 45 days temporary duty for rest and recuperation at home. Reassembled 20 Oct 45 at Camp Campbell, Ky. Inactivated 10 Nov 45.