



"ON THE WAY"



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“ON THE WAY”

A historical narrative
of the
Two-Thirtieth Field Artillery Battalion
Thirtieth Infantry Division

16 FEBRUARY 1942

TO

8 MAY 1945



To those who died that right and decency might live,
this book is humbly dedicated.

THEY KEPT THE SOLDIER'S FAITH

2nd Lt Richard C. Arnold
1st Lt Charles A. Bartz
2nd Lt Earl Dickerson
1st Lt Linwood E. Heath
1st Lt Thomas P. Laney
1st Lt William B. Murnighan
Tec 5 Vaudra Addison
Pvt Nissim Attas
Tec 5 Millard E. Baker
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Pfc Jess Mendoza
Pvt Sam Monceaux
Tec 5 Joseph R. Muskey
Cpl William T. Robinson
S/Sgt Arthur O. Schultz
Pfc John B. Shaver
S/Sgt Edward M. Smith
Tec 5 John J. Stanton
Cpl Fred R. Stern
Tec 5 William J. Teetsell
Sgt David D. Townsend
Cpl Alexander J. Troup
Cpl Theodore Veltman
S/Sgt Harold M. Ward
Pfc Edgar D. Wissen
Pvt Robert D. Yeazel
Pvt Steven Zarkovich



LEWIS D. VIEMAN

Lt. Col., 230th F. A. Bn.

Commanding

FOREWARD

Great deeds are done by skilful and courageous men who have disciplined themselves to work together and sacrifice together through hardship and adversity in heroic endeavor. We embarked a year ago on the fight to preserve the freedom of our Country, in the firm conviction that this Division would make a bold mark in the history of warfare; its performance in the historic battles of the arduous campaign from Normandy to the Elbe fully justified that faith.

We of this Battalion are extremely fortunate in having been teamed for combat with a glorious Infantry Regiment which counts few equals in skill and valor. Long ago we took as our soldier's creed an obligation to expend in training and on the battlefield whatever of our time and talent and effort and blood could make less costly the bitter task of the Doughboy; and our greatest satisfaction can come in the knowledge that by faithful adherence to that creed we have averted hundreds of American casualties and earned for ourselves a place in the very highest ranks of the American Artillery, for which our foe had such a profound respect. Each member of the Battalion has a full share in the tactical skill which kept our guns continually ready and able to fire, the courage and high devotion to duty which kept our observation and liaison parties in position to direct the fire, and the technical proficiency which placed the fire rapidly and accurately in the proper places. The fury of that fire enabled our Infantry to repulse many vicious counter-attacks and to mount what may well be a record number of gallant and victorious assaults on a skilful and desperate enemy.

We have dedicated our memories and this narrative to our fallen comrades, and all of us must also feel a tacit dedication to those of our Infantrymen by whose supreme sacrifice the essential victory was so dearly won. Nor shall we ever forget the fortitude of our seriously wounded whose contribution to success was so much greater than that of the rest of us.

To each soldier of the Battalion I acknowledge a debt of sincerest gratitude for his part in making it the finest command one could have had and extend the ardent wish that all the good things for which he fought may be his.

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Acknowledgment is made to the Battalion Personnel section, for continuous use of records and assistance from each man; and to the scores of officers and men of the Battalion, whose advice and criticism made this publication possible.

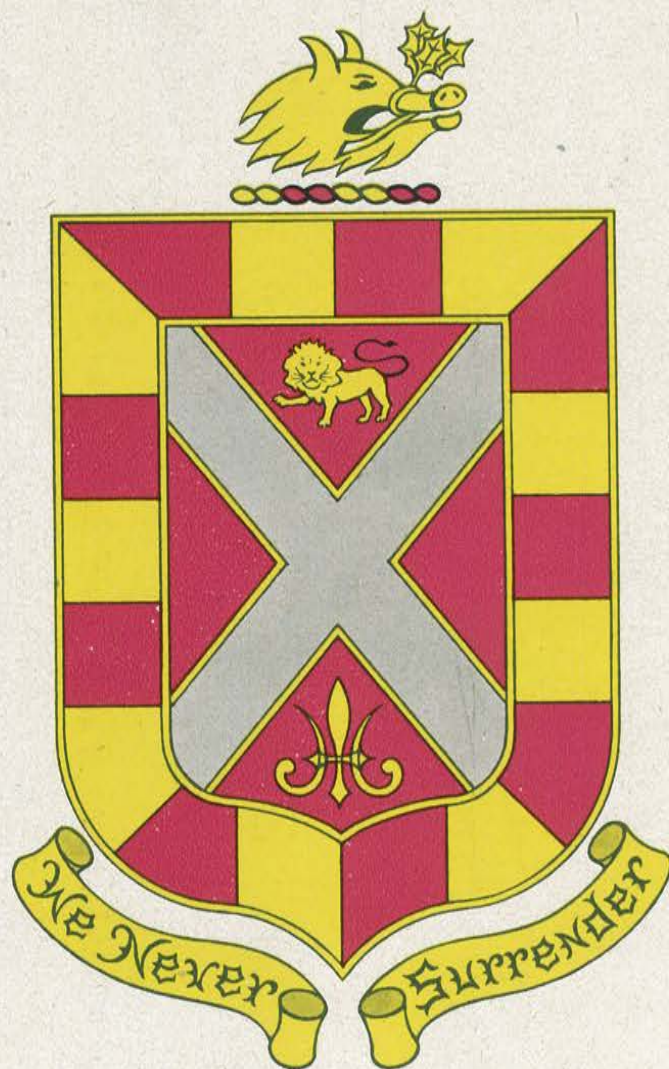
PREFACE

This is the history of our record as Artillerymen in the 230th Field Artillery Battalion. In its pages we will march together again as comrades-in-arms, with quiet pride in the job we have done, and with the hope that Saint Barbara, the patron of all artillerymen, will look upon our record and find it worthy of the Field Artillery tradition.

It would be ideal if each of us were mentioned by name in this history. But this is the story of *our* Battalion, and *we* were and are the Battalion. There was a story to tell; and it had to march along without too much regard for the individual and what he had done. You will find yourself in these pages, because you were there, or you had a friend who was there. You know what the situation was--this may keep your memories fresh.

We were "CROW"--and our black wings covered a continent. When peace comes, the rustle of wings of a crow will remind us again of what we did.





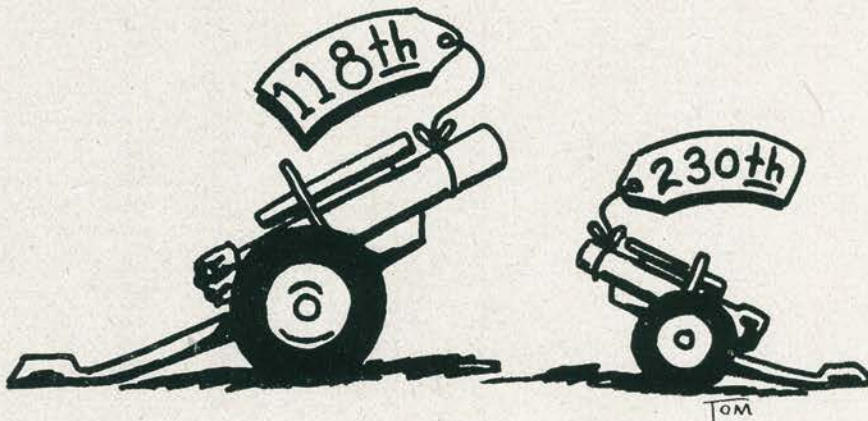
230th Field Artillery Battalion

COAT OF ARMS

PART ONE

ANCESTRY AND EARLY HISTORY

The batteries of our Battalion have a long and honorable history; the Battalion itself, however, is not very old. Prior to February 16, 1942, when the 230th Field Artillery Battalion was created by the War Department, the batteries were a part of the 118th Field Artillery Regiment, now the 118th Field Artillery Battalion. We have an authorized Coat of Arms which is like that of the 118th Field, except



And as a "child" we inherit all the rights and privileges of our parent.

that ours has a border around it to show descent. And as a "child" we inherit all the rights and privileges of our parent. We can say, then, that the lion on our Coat of Arms shows that our military ancestors fought in the Revolutionary War; and that the fleur-de-lis stands for service in World War I. We also have battle streamers for the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and World War I.

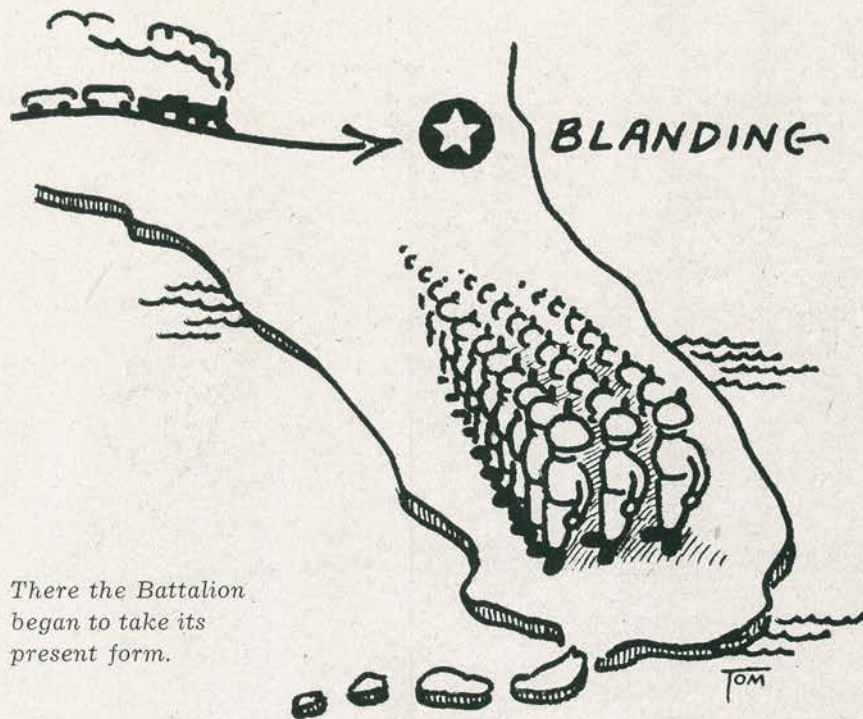
"B" Battery is a descendant of the Irish Jasper Greens, Service Battery of the German Volunteers, and "A" and "C" batteries of the Chatham Artillery, all of Georgia. During the last war the batteries served with the 31st Infantry Division.

Following World War I the batteries became part of the 30th Division, organized as a Georgia National Guard unit. On September 16, 1940, they were inducted into federal service and sent to Fort Jackson, South Carolina, for training.

ACTIVATION AND TRAINING

Following the 16 February 1942 activation, the Battalion encountered Spring Maneuvers in Carolina. Then in September 1942 after most personnel had been shipped out, the rest went to Camp Blanding, Florida, as a training cadre. There the Battalion began to take its present form.

Recruits streamed in from all but four of the states of the union, and Pennsylvania moved up to tie Georgia in number of men. Lt. Col. Paul H. Googe, of



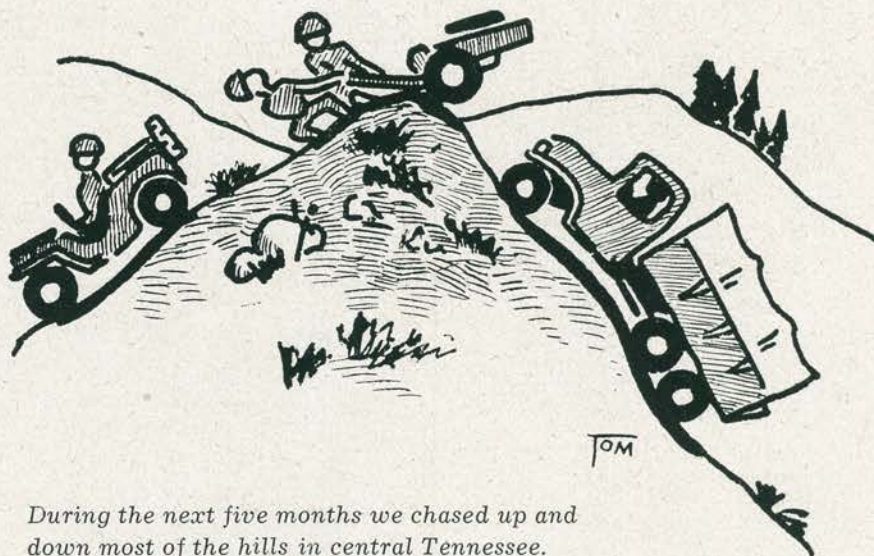
Savannah, Georgia, Battalion Commander, shook his head, but gave the strangers a warm welcome. He could often be seen, though, listening wistfully for the old familiar "geechee" talk.

After basic training was completed at Camp Blanding, and after we had passed our Army Ground Force tests at Camp Gordon, Georgia, the Battalion moved in June, 1943, to "tick camp" outside of Camp Forrest, Tennessee, for combat team problems and maneuvers. Here we became combat team partners with the 120 Infantry Regiment, commanded by Col. Hammond D. Birks. During the next five months we

chased up and down most of the hills in central Tennessee, and traveled several times to Spencer Range for the service practice. The last day of maneuvers found us near Nashville, feeling victorious in our "war".

Winter was at hand and the feel of snow was in the air. We headed north, by way of Fort Knox, to Camp Atterbury, Indiana. Intensive training followed, and we passed the revised Army Ground Force tests with flying colors, rating the highest score of any artillery battalion in the Army up to that time.

At last *the day* came. It was February 1, 1944, and we took the last solemn march down a training camp's street to a waiting train. The Army said we were soldiers! Under secrecy we travelled to Camp Myles Standish, a staging area in Massachusetts,

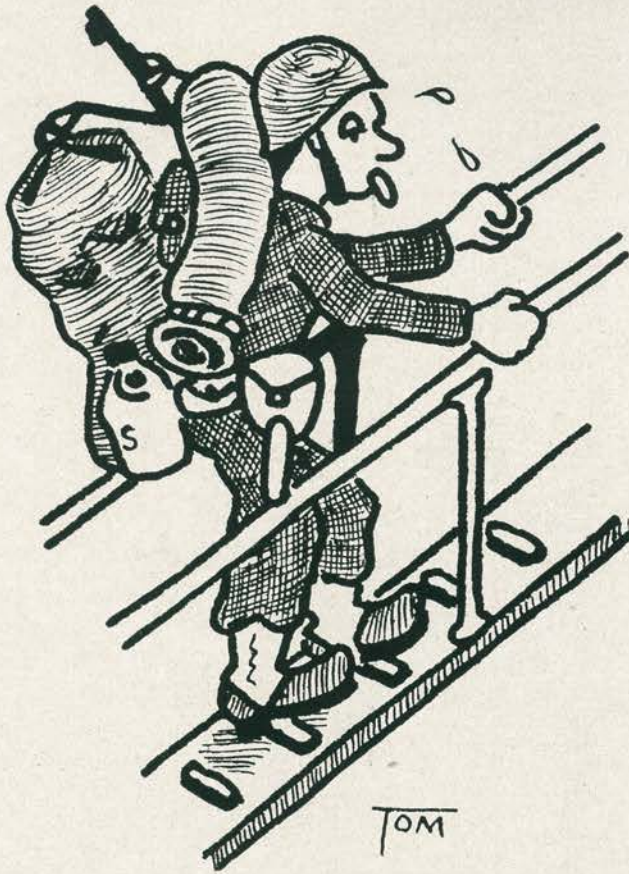


During the next five months we chased up and down most of the hills in central Tennessee.

where a few of the "damnyankees" got passes, and the "rebels" sat in their temporary barracks and shivered and moaned. But everyone survived, and in the cold wintry darkness of the morning of February 11th, we boarded a train, heading north to Boston and a North Atlantic crossing.

WE SAIL

When we detrained in the darkened shed on a pier along the East Boston waterfront, we were loaded down like mountain artillery mules. We didn't quite know whether to be scared or excited. The Red Cross gave us hot coffee and dough-



We were loaded down like mountain artillery mules.

Battery was so far down that only the bilge separated the boys from the keel, and just a few hundred rounds of 5 inch naval gun ammunition kept them from being against the stern-plates. Since the Argentina usually brought up the rear of the convoy, we often thought of what a propeller-following torpedo would do. It was crowded below; bunks were slung four deep, and there was no smoking below decks except when the smoking lamp was lit, and then only in the latrines. But those of us who could get around soon became sea-going artillerymen, going "aft", "below", or "topsides" with the greatest of ease.

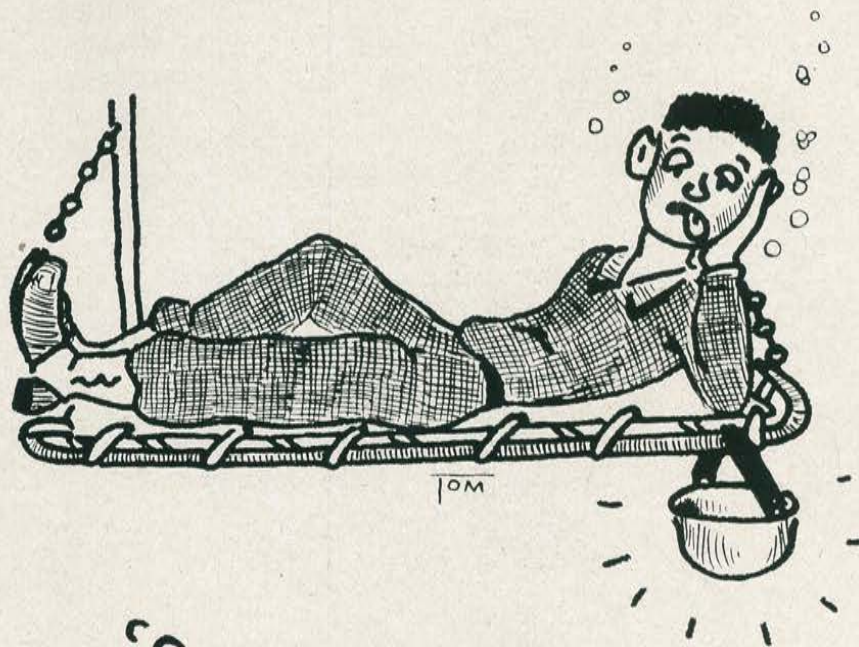
The ship's loud-speaker system brought music, canned or contributed by the men, news, and orders; and the chow (two meals a day) was generally good, always substantial. Hard-boiled eggs a specialty! There were compulsory periods on deck for "all hands"; calisthenics, particularly knee-bends and toe-touching on the rolling deck, gave the doughboys much amusement. Out of the quarters we wore life preservers, and there were frequent "abandon ship" drills. But it was the general consensus that Mr. Berry, Personnel Warrant Officer, got more exercise than anyone.

nuts; a band was playing. We could see the slab-like grey side of a huge ship, tied up to the pier. Just like the movies, only *we* were going up the gangplank in the swirling snow. That was February 11, 1944.

We sailed the next morning, Lincoln's Birthday; a lucky omen, perhaps, for the "blue" and the "grey" sailing together. As the first swells of the outer harbor gently rocked the ship, helmets were conveniently slung by bunks. It was going to be a rough passage for some of us.

Our ship was sturdy and fast - the S.S. Argentina, formerly a luxury liner on the South American run. The combat team traveled together, but the artillery got the stern, below decks. Headquarters

*Helmets were
conveniently
slung by bunks.*



Hard-boiled eggs a specialty!

Mr. James B. Liles, of the 120th, was forever seeing imaginary torpedoes and was constantly getting Mr. Berry on deck, ready to go over the side.

There weren't any torpedoes however, and so far as we know submarines stayed clear of the convoy. It was a big convoy; liners, freighters, tankers, shepherded along by the U.S.S. Nevada (we saw her again off Omaha Beach), small escort carrier, and a whole flotilla of light cruisers, destroyers, and corvettes. We could count about thirty-seven ships of all kinds.

It was a cold, windy passage; except for a day or so when we were in the Gulf Stream and the weather bright and warm. No whales or porpoises sighted. But finally on the 22nd we did sight land. Our destination was, of course, a secret, but it didn't take long to find out that we were sailing up the broad waters of the Firth of Clyde on our way to Glasgow, Scotland. The Firth was full of ships and naval vessels, and over-head scouting planes kept constant watch. We never got to Glasgow, though; this Battalion never seemed able to get to any large city!

After passing through a large minefield and a submarine net barrier, we dropped anchor in the Clyde River opposite the town of Gourock. This was on February 22nd, Washington's Birthday. Another happy omen. For two days we swung at anchor.

On the morning of the 25th a ferry-boat came alongside and transferred us, bag and baggage, to a pier where our trains were waiting. More coffee and doughnuts, and the great relief of being able to walk on the solid earth. The Scottish band that played added color and amusement to the occasion.

The train was typically English, compartments and all; small by our standards but effi-



A typical English train - small by our standards, but efficiently run.

ciently run. We traveled all afternoon and most of the night. After the black-out shades came down we could only guess our route and location. We did pass through London however, stopping at Waterloo Station. Just before dawn on the 26th we detrained, somewhere in Sussex County, southern England. The firing batteries were quartered in Nissen huts, near Billingshurst; Headquarters and Service batteries in huts on an estate called Hawkhurst Court, near Petworth, the much publicized town where a German bomb hit a school-house killing and wounding so many children. Our final period of training was at hand.

TRAINING IN ENGLAND

The huts we lived in were cold and damp; coal was strictly rationed, and there wasn't too much heat from the small English stoves. Among other unique "furnishings", we saw for the first time *honey buckets* in latrines. At night German bombers were overhead, dodging the searchlights; we could hear the dull thud of bombs in London, some fifty miles away.

Passes were soon issued, and thus began the Battle of Petworth, Wisborough Green, Billingshurst, and Horsham. This was just a warm-up, however, for the great Battle of High Wycombe which lay ahead!

We worked hard, "beautifying" of course, and training. Long hikes, speed marches, classes, and sectional practice. Certain officers and men were sent to Whitby, England, for machine gun practice on aerial targets. We drew our trucks



The huts we lived in were damp and cold.

and guns, and before long we were on the road to South Downs range, on the English Channel near Lewes. Gone were the days of isolated ranges, fences, and range guards. We fired over each other, on each other, and across towns and villages. Major Richard E. Evans, Jr., Battalion S-3, became famous for the wooden leg he almost bought, when fragments from a short round chipped an "old chap's" wooden leg. But the Englishmen weren't the only ones who received a taste of combat, for one day a few rounds fell short on a ridge used as an OP. Everyone blamed everyone else; and even Dog Battery, the six howitzer cannon company of the 120th



*Dog Battery
inspected
by General
Eisenhower.*

Infantry Regiment, was accused. "Dog" trained on the ranges with us, and later on the continent was often attached to the Battalion.

Overnight passes to London were authorized, and soon there was a lot of talk about St. Paul's Cathedral and the Houses of Parliament - but more about Piccadilly Circus. We learned that a tuppence wouldn't buy very much beer, that skittles was a game, not something to eat, and that a dart game was not the push-over it seemed to be. So the weeks passed, and each day brought more rumors of the invasion.

On April 4th we got march order. All camps near the coast were being filled with invasion troops, and we had to move. Our route took us by Windsor



We learned about German weapons and uniforms.

Castle and Eton to an estate called St. John's - about two miles from the town of High Wycombe. As we settled down in huts just vacated by units of the famous 5th Black Watch, little did we realize that there was beginning one of the most bitterly fought "battles" in our history - the Battle of High Wycombe. Scouts brought back the first reports - of "enemy" strongpoints in The Falcon, The Red Lion, The Three Tuns, The King George; of friendly girls and scotch, while it lasted. Passes were issued and the battle was on, not to stop until we pulled out for Southampton and Normandy. Even the hill couldn't stop us; that was one battle we decisively won!

The training program was speeded



A familiar sight in High Wycombe, England — the merry-go-round.

up. We went to Dunwick range for service practice and combat team problems. The range is on the North Sea and in Suffolk County. The beach was heavily mined, and lined with barbed wire in depth. Hundreds of our heavy bombers passed over daily. The war was a lot closer. We also had service practice on Salisbury Plain near Tilshead. There we occupied regular barracks and had some of the conveniences of garrison life. Trips were arranged to Stonehenge, the famous circle of stones erected by ancient Britons for religious purposes. Southampton was bombed while we were there, and German planes were again overhead.

In May we learned how to waterproof vehicles, in preparation for the day when we

might have to drive off an LST ramp into deep water on the coast of France. A long, tough job with amazing results. When the trucks were "waded" in a testing pool, submerged jeeps rolled along with only the driver showing above water. Our bombers seemed to be going overhead in increasing numbers.

General Montgomery reviewed and addressed certain units of the division. "The young Germans are tough, very tough", he said. "There's not much you can do with them except kill them. We kill them." General Hodges spoke to the assembled artillery of the Division; and other generals inspected the Battalion in training. General McLain, commanding general of the 30th Division Artillery, informally



1st Sgt. Zittrauer getting the once over by Maj. Gen. Hobbs, as Lt. Col. Googe looks on.

spoke to us, and answered questions. His quiet humor and commonsense did much to steady us, then and later in combat. In France he was made commanding general of the XIX Corps. Our biggest honor, however, came when General Dwight D. Eisenhower inspected the Battalion.

May was passing and there was much talk of invasion in June. Tours were arranged to Windsor Castle and Oxford University. "Roll me over in the clover" was one of our marching songs, and the Battle of High Wy-

combe got hotter and hotter. On the 5th of June General Hobbs, commanding general of the Division, spoke to the Battalion. "This was a day we would never forget", he told us. We learned later that the invasion had originally been scheduled for that day. But the real show did start the following day - June 6, 1944; *Invasion of France*. We stripped our equipment down to essentials, and put everything in readiness.

In mid-afternoon of the 8th, whistles blew all over the place. "Load up - you've got forty-five minutes." Another dry run - t'hell with it. But we loaded up, and the first trucks were going through the gate when the time was up. General McLain stood there, gravely watching each truck as it passed. It wasn't a dry run; it was decidedly "wet", and not only from the light drizzle that was falling. We were bound for Southhampton and Omaha Beach, to replace, as we learned later, a field artillery battalion of the 29th Division whose howitzers had been lost in the assault

on the beach. Lt. Col. Lewis D. Vieman, who had recently taken command of the Battalion, later remarked that his only knowledge for the movement was: "General Bradley needs artillery on Omaha Beach."

*"Load up, you have
45 Minutes".*



D-DAY PLUS FOUR

It was getting dark when we rolled up to the dock at Southhampton, after hours of passing through waving lines of English people who gave us many a "thumb up" for victory and a "God bless you". No marshalling area for us - we were top priority. Water-proofing of trucks and guns was done in the darkness, with the help of specially trained service troops. Up and down the line went trucks passing out everything from halazone tablets to hand grenades. Coffee and doughnuts were really welcome.

Men slept in the rain beside their trucks. In the chart room of one of our LST's huge rolls of maps were broken down for distribution. By daylight the trucks had moved to the "hard", a steep incline running down to the loading ramps of the LST's and rolled aboard. Some were taken above on elevators to be lashed down on deck; others, like gun trucks, stayed below in the "belly", ready to roll when the ramps went down in France. Soon everything was aboard, and the LST's pulled away and dropped anchor in the open harbor. We were loaded on two ships; Number 261 under the American flag, and Number 367 under the British flag. The latter was a veteran of the Mediterranean Theatre, and had carried British Royal Marines to France on D-Day.

All day we sat there, under a protective cover of planes, watching ships of all sizes and kinds come and go. Hot rations were served in the ship's galley; and there were bunks below for those who wished to sleep.

Our convoy pulled out in the evening of the 9th. Each ship had its own barrage balloon swinging high above it. Fortunately the sea was moderately calm as we left the shelter of the Isle of Wight and headed across the channel. For this convoy there

was no flanking screen of destroyers and corvettes. The ships had a queer sliding motion, and they rode the swells in rollercoaster style. Many helmets were unslung again. All night we skidded along in zig-zag line without incident.

Dawn found us nearing the coast. Off to the right on the Cotentin (Cherbourg) peninsula we could hear the dull pounding of guns. Ahead of us long lines of warships were moving across our course. More and more ships came into view until at



In the port of Southampton.

last we became a part of the invasion fleet. As far as we could see, ships lay at anchor. Huge battlewagons fired salvos far inland, well in advance of the plodding files of infantry winding up and over the coastal ridge. Through the wrecks of landing craft and assault boats amphibious "ducks" scuttled back and forth like waterbugs, carrying the vital cargos of freighters to the front lines. Old ships with rusty sides and riding high, were being herded into line parallel to the beach. Suddenly there was a heavy explosion, and we noticed that a freighter nearby was slowly sinking. She settled on the bottom, decks awash. The now famous breakwater of ships was being built.

As the tide turned and started to ebb LST 367 received orders from the beachmaster to come in. She hit solidly, sliding well up on the sandy bottom. But there was about ten feet of water at the ramp and we would have a wait of some hours. LST 261 came in later but lacking high water grounded farther out. So much was going on around us that none of us was bored waiting, except, perhaps, Col. Vie-

man.. After pacing up and down the deck like Columbus waiting for "Land Ho!" he finally let himself over the side, landing on a pile of lumber stacked high on a huge barge. From there he jumped to the beach, the first ashore. What he found out in the confusion we didn't know.

Long files of prisoners came down the road, some with a lot of help. Cargo planes and "Cubs" were raising the dust on a temporary field on the crest of the



Each ship had it's own barrage ballons flying high above it.

ridge. Thunderbolts, Lightnings, and Mustangs wheeled endlessly overhead. Not a sign of a Jerry plane - not a sound of the mortar fire we had been expecting, or of bursting shells unless heavy explosions on the ridge were "Incoming Mail". We figured it was probably the engineers, who were destroying mines in place. The tide began to run out swiftly, exposing tangled under-water obstacles set by the Germans, and the shattered pieces of equipment lost by the assault waves.

Suddenly the ramp dropped and the first howitzer section of the Battalion - commanded by Sgt. Delbert L. Wager, "A" Battery - hit the beach. There was no need for the waterproofing - just another dry run. Without delay we went winding up the ridge, by minefields and pillboxes, through shell craters and barbed wire. At 1530 hours we were all ashore on Omaha Beach, near Colleville sur Mer. We were now ready to start our first chapter in the "230th Field Artillery Battalion's Combat Diary".

PART TWO

WITH THE 29TH DIVISION

The smell of death was heavy in the air - dead Germans, bloated cows, feet up; shocked civilians - as we passed through destroyed coastal villages on our way to a transit area. Under a roadside cross lay the bodies of four American soldiers covered with flowers by the gentle French. We moved about carefully, thinking of the long lines of white tape marking mine fields near the beach, and we peeked over hedgerows like Indian scouts. Men began to walk queerly, bending over. The "hedgerow stoop" was beginning! Every tree held a sniper, we thought - we just couldn't see them in their spotted camouflage suits. Near Isigny, though, a sniper in a church tower did temporarily hold up the Battalion Commander's reconnaissance party.

As one of our liaison jeeps was cruising down a narrow hedge-lined road, bullets began to snap overhead. Said one of the boys to the driver, "Hell, it must be tactical!"

Our first firing positions, near Chantilly, were occupied around 0530 hours on the morning of June 11th after a wild night in bivouac areas. There was



The hedgerow stoop was beginning.

a Jerry in every shadow that night. Tec 4 Medlin, of "A" Battery, put fifteen rounds through a towel waving in the breeze, while Headquarters area was the scene of murderous crossfire, started, it was said, by a grazing mule. We were not the only jumpy soldiers. "A" Battery agent walking to the Battalion CP was pinned down by Tommy-gun fire from a tank; and Capt. William H. Boss, liaison officer, Capt. Bruce D. Stern, Pfc. Luther W. Drake, and Cpl. Milton

E. Jones of the Medicos, returning from reconnaissance, were driven into a shallow ditch by "friendly" machine gun fire.

It was a rough night on the beachhead. Jerry planes were up in force dropping flares and drawing such heavy ack-ack fire that the whole northern sky was a crazy quilt of tracer fire and bursting shells. One bomber, burning fiercely, came over "C" Battery's area and exploded in mid-air. In all this wild strangeness of the night the batteries got "march order". Positions had been surveyed in by the Battalion survey section (using lights), and the wire had been laid along dark roads and strange fields. In this area our first prisoner (and the first prisoner of the 30th Division) was taken, in early morning, by Cpl. Ralph Hyder of "A" Battery. In



"Hell, it must be tactical".

jumping a ditch he flushed out a Jerry armed with a sniper's rifle and plenty of ammunition. Perhaps the snipers were sleeping that night. We weren't.

Registration began, Lt. John R. Lloyd observing. The first round to be fired on the continent by the Battalion (and therefore by 30th Division Artillery) was sent "On the way" by number two section of "B" Battery, commanded by Sgt. Ralph Desposito. Pvt. Francis Berwanger pulled the lanyard; Jack Connell was gunner corporal.

We received orders to reinforce the fires of the 110th Field Artillery Battalion. At 1130 hours Lt. Jack Tafeen began registration from the air OP, a cub plane, flown by Lt. Linwood Heath. We were ready to go.

Here we met and talked to our first French civilians. The people of Normandy have a reputation for being solemn and reserved compared to the cheering crowds we met later. They were friendly, and they did treat us to Calvados, that

precious liquid fire which the boys in "A" Battery called "digging fluid". Many a foxhole in hard ground owes its comfortable depth to Calvados.

At 0500 hours on June 12th we fired our first preparation for an infantry attack. The advance brought us a serious loss - the death of S/Sgt. Edward Smith of "C" Battery, killed by a German machine gun while gallantly serving with a forward observer party who had run into a roadblock. During the day our mission was changed to that of direct support of the 116th Infantry. At 2130 hours "B" and "C" batteries displaced to a position north of St. Clair, "A" Battery remaining

in position to cover the displacement. Just as Able Battery was executing march order, a fire mission came down - target: enemy infantry. For five minutes each piece in the battery fired ten rounds per minute, the fastest firing the battery did in combat (later, maximum fire limitations were imposed). Paint was burned off the tubes and all hands, including officers and men, lugged ammunition and helped to service the guns. The Battery continued to fire, repulsing counter-attacks. During the firing, the commanding officer of the 116th's assault battalion remarked to Lt. Lloyd, forward observer, "Lieutenant, your battalion can really throw out lead." The answer was, "Battalion, hell - that's one battery, sir." The following day the battery received a commendatory note from the commanding officer of the 116th Infantry Regiment, stating that the firing had been superb.



Many a foxhole in hard ground owes its comfortable depth to Calvados.

BACK TO THE 30TH

The 13th was otherwise uneventful. We felt rather lonely though - when was the 120th Infantry coming over? To the pleasure and relief of all (particularly Headquarters wire section which had worked forty hours without rest), we were

released from the attachment to the 29th Division and in the evening of June 14th we were back again in the 30th Division. The day brought us further comfort - impregnated clothing came off. We had been wearing this over regular clothing since departure from St. John's. In the afternoon the Battalion displaced to a position near Catz, to the southeast of Carentan. Camouflage lessons were much in our minds then. During this displacement guns were dressed up to resemble trailers and small boats, since we would be under observation crossing a bridge of the Vire River.

This position was to be memorable for a number of things. A rabbit jumped out of the bushes while a Headquarters wire crew was laying wire, shaking the boys badly! Naval liaison parties reported to the CP, the coast was not far away and Naval guns were still firing. And it was here that we heard our first bombs falling, and received our first taste of strafing.

Ordinarily the German bombers would make two trips each night over the area. One night Cpl. Raymond Finney of "A" Battery, machinegunner, jumped out of his hole, bald head gleaming in the light of falling flares, and yelled, "Tonight" we have a double feature - this is the first attraction."



Impregnated clothing came off.

In an area where enemy patrols and snipers were undoubtedly active, near-by Air Corps Engineers would cut loose with a siren at the first sound of Jerry planes. "A" Battery was accidentally strafed by a Spitfire diving on an ME 109, and bullets splattered the position. When last seen, the Jerry was smoking and losing altitude. We learned later from the engineers that the plane crashed near the main railroad line between Paris and Cherbourg.

We were getting some counter-battery fire from 88's and probably light howitzers. We felt secure though; the 120th Infantry was in position ahead of us, to the north of the Vire et Taute Canal. On June 18th a battery of the 531st Anti-Aircraft Battalion was attached to us. The 531st was thereafter to be our constant companion until we reached the Elbe River.

There was much talk of enemy patrols using the hoot-owl call as a signal. We

should have the bird on our coat-of-arms; it caused many sleepless nights and too many stray shots. Alternate positions were surveyed in, a sound practice which was to prove most valuable in later months where counter-battery fire forced a battery out of position.

Some of us visited Carentan, seeing there our first sidewalk "latrines". For the French so many things are usable as such. Pfc. William J. Jackson, "A" Battery rear echelon, found two French kids using his foxhole for that purpose! And there was more than one time when latrine served as a foxhole when shells came slamming in unexpectedly.

Everyone watched with interest and amazement the levelling of hedgerows by air force engineers in building a P-47 airfield.

Both "A" and "B" batteries had to move; nothing could stop the Army Air Corps. Enemy shelling grew heavier. It was here that we fired for the first 120th attack as the Doughboys fought to the banks of the Vire Canal.

On June 22nd the Battalion displaced to a position near Mont Martin, crossing the main railway line between Paris and Cherbourg. On June 29th we fired 6300 propaganda leaflets over enemy lines. Jerry was getting other information too - our communication lines were being tapped. But we were rapidly improving our safety



Enemy patrols using the Hoot-owl call.

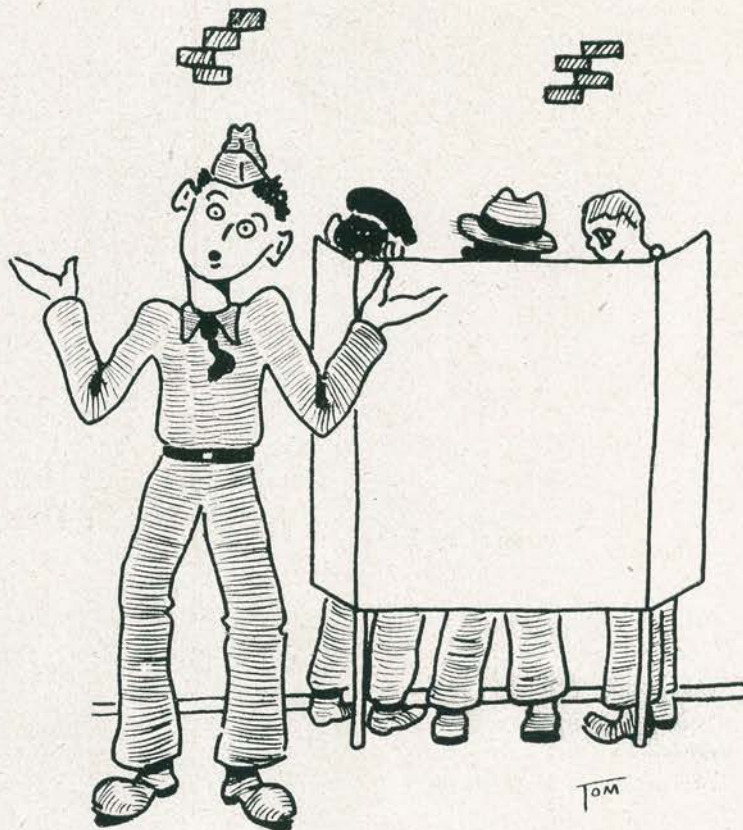
and camouflage precautions. On July 1st, "B" Battery's fourth section was rated as having the best gun position in Division Artillery. Charlie's position had its usual quota of dead cows. It became a standard joke that no one could ever find "C" Battery without receiving directions to turn off the road at a dead horse or cow! On the 4th of July we fired a special volley to celebrate the day.

The crossing of the Vire et Taute Canal was at hand. Cpl. Arthur Kachinske, battery agent for "B" Battery, came to the executive post bringing the code name and H-hour for the attack. It had been raining all night; the water was streaming down him when he said that the code name was, "The Division Water Point opens at (X) hour"!

Static OP's were established on the ridge overlooking the canal. The enemy knowing the value of the ridge for OP's, shelled it heavily. During one barrage a piece of shell fragment tore through the field jacket and shirt of Cpl. Robert L. McClanahan of "A" Battery and was stopped by a package of Life-Savers in his breast pocket.

The attack began at 1345 hours on the 7th, and we fired 2437 rounds in support. Tec 5 Ernest Powell of Headquarters Battery had the pleasure of having a full Colonel haul him over a hedgerow to cover while he was laying wire under heavy shelling.

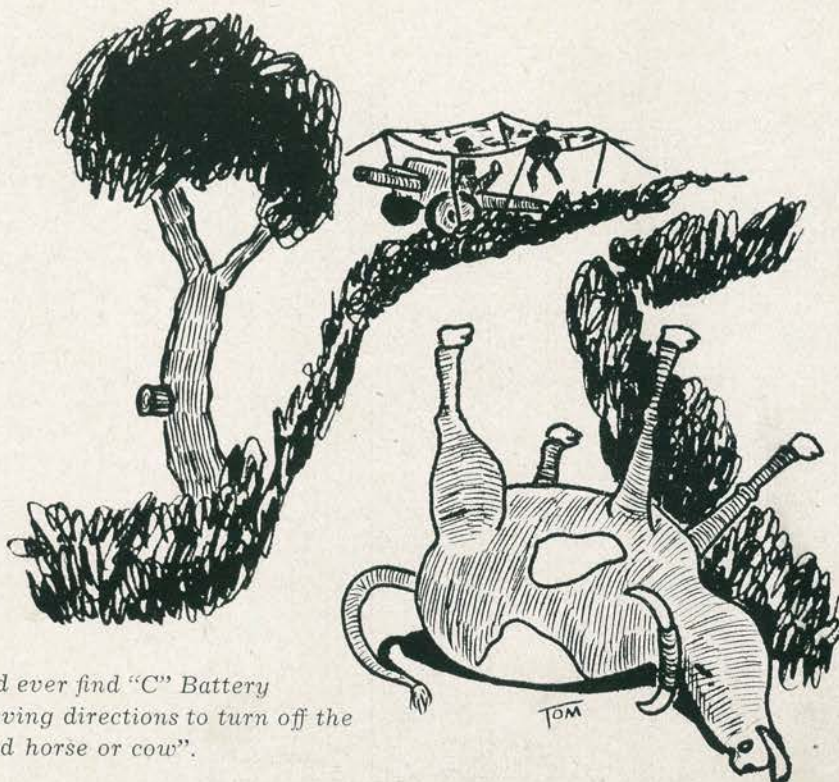
"A" Battery displaced to a position just north of the canal. Fighting through the hedgerows was confused and bitter. At one time Capt. James McCauley and Cpl. Eric Pappas, of "A" Battery's forward observation team, in seeking ground favorable for an OP, found themselves 50 yards from enemy lines, having passed a concealed German machine gun. They worked together again during the same advance, in breaking up an enemy counter-attack. Cpl. Pappas manned a machine gun until ordered to take shelter by a company commander; and Capt. McCauley



— seeing there our first sidewalk latrines.

brought down such an accurate concentration of fire in the next small field that over ninety Germans were killed and the counter-attack was broken up.

When St. Jean de Daye was taken the Battalion displaced across the canal to a position near the town. Here the bullets, shells and rumors flew. Troops on the right of the 120th Infantry had not advanced so rapidly, leaving our flank exposed. The Battalion dug in and manned a defensive line in anticipation of a threatened



"No one could ever find "C" Battery without receiving directions to turn off the road at a dead horse or cow".

counter-attack. As enemy small arms fire decreased, our engineers began blowing Tellermines in place along the road and fields in the Battalion area. One of "A" Battery's wire crews had been constantly repairing shell-torn lines near St. Jean without knowing that they had been walking over mines. Cows found the mine-field; and the engineers found some fifty Schu-mines in the garden where the boys had been pulling onions. We were beginning to get into the war.

However the situation was relatively quiet compared to what was in store for us. Out of this comparative calm, came our first real counter-attack. German paratroopers and Panzers who took part in the engagement made their operation known by yelling, "On to Isigny!" (Later, documents were captured that stated the objective of the drive was to split the American Armies.) This counter-attack was repulsed by the aid of eight battalions of artillery and the 9th Division Artillery, firing through the 230th's fire direction center.

*Gen. Eisenhower,
Brig. Gen. McLain
and Maj. Gen. Hobbs
confer near Isigny.*



On July 10th the Battalion moved through St. Jean de Daye to a position east of Le Desert. Heavy mortar fire and shelling hit our area from our right flank, where the 9th Division was moving in. Here we saw our first 90mm all purpose gun in roadblock position. A sniper was firing "harassing" fire on the road and the

combined operations of artillery, engineers and infantry couldn't find him. German tanks came by, driven by GI's and carrying huge white flags. Here the 120th Infantry went into Division reserve, and we were used to reinforce the fires of the 118th Field Artillery Battalion.

On July 14th we suffered our first casualty in the air section. Lt. Heath's observation plane was shot down. He was killed and Lt. Tafeen, air observer, was seri-



A 120th bazooka gunner fires into the next hedgerow.

ously injured in the parachute jump. Air observation had proven itself invaluable in the hedgerow fighting, and the mere presence of our plane in the air usually silenced enemy artillery.

ST. LO BREAKTHROUGH

On July 19th the Battalion displaced to the battered woods and fields of Ht. Vents. Shattered trees and more than the usual number of dead cows marked it as a rough spot. The batteries were within easy mortar range, and "C" Battery position was hit. Verify Battery (743rd Tank Battalion's Assault Platoon) joined us here, to remain with us almost constantly until the end of the Battle of the Bulge. Dog Battery was attached to us. It was here that we believed they had the infantry's nose for tanks. During a fire mission Dog fired 50 mils short and one Kraut tank came out of the bushes!

The Battalion CP was excavated in style, by a small bulldozer. It was standard

practice to dig in all CP's until we began to use the houses of Germany. The Medics, not to be outdone, had their hole dug in too. Beautiful overhead cover, sand bags and all. Came the rain - down came the roof, exposing Capt. Stern in his underwear, unscratched but disgusted.

It was not a quiet position. The first night, flares were dropped over the area and the bombs came down, fortunately wide. Light and medium artillery ranged up and down the road from the cross-roads nearby. And there was GAS - in the dead of night. It started with wild



G I's came down the road driving a German Tank.

shouting to our rear. Sentries picked it up, firing three times as a signal "gas! gas!" "Where the hell's my gas mask?" Men slipping and falling in the mud — stuff coming off trucks in showers. Then reassuring word came — smoke shells had fallen to our rear on troops that had not previously been under fire. Afterwards many amusing stories went the rounds; of men running barefoot through the fields where cows had been, of the sentry who raced from his post trying to borrow a gas mask. But it wasn't so funny then.

Operation "Cobra" was about to begin — the start of the great St. Lo breakthrough. On 24th, just before noon, we heard the bombers coming from the north. None of us can describe the terrible grandeur of the sight — the roar of hundreds of engines, the steady flight of massed planes through the puffs of bursting ack-ack shells, the rumbling vibration of exploding bombs, the horrible sight of bombers bursting into flames in mid-air, exploding and breaking apart as they fell. We heard bombs coming down, too. Four landed in rear of our area; a truck in "A" Battery was hit by fragments from the bomb which landed some thirty yards away. Up forward it was hell. Liaison sections, wire crews, observers with the Infantry, and our medics who were helping out at a forward aid station knew the horror of saturation bombing. And still the bombers came, sending down long streamers to mark bomb release points — destroying the earth.

On the next day, July 25th, they came back, and we now watched with more apprehension than interest. Bombs again fell short near Able and Dog batteries. Operation "Cobra" began; we felt relieved. We fired propaganda leaflets, "The Ring is Closing" over



We fired propaganda leaflets — "The Ring Is Closing".

enemy lines. St. Lo fell, and the Battalion displaced through miles of destruction to a position between St. Lo and St. Gilles. That night enemy planes were active over the highway—the usual combination of flares and bombs. A few rounds fell in Headquarters area. We moved the next day, choosing positions so that “C” Battery had a dead horse to mark the entrance to its area! Again enemy planes were active, dropping heavy and anti-personnel bombs. Overhead cover on our foxholes was becoming more and more a “must”, and neighboring houses and barns suffered. Even corrugated iron roofs came off. The local inhabitants took great interest in our foxholes, as Pfc. Howard Dallas, “B” Battery aid man, learned when he dove for his hole during a strafing attack and found an old goat lying there at his ease. Two enemy planes were shot down, but two of our P-47’s fell nearby the the next day. One pilot landed safely in “B” Battery area.



St. Lo was completely destroyed.

Enemy mines and booby-traps were increasing in number. We had been lucky, particularly in the wire and survey sections, whose work always took the men along unexplored road hedges and across open fields. We suffered our first mine casualties just after we had displaced to a position south of St. Romphaire. Capt. George Bland and S/Sgt. Irby Jenkins, both of Headquarters Battery, hit Tellermines while moving slowly in a jeep. Capt. Bland was seriously injured; S/Sgt. Jenkins went up, came down, bounced, and got a scratch on his face.

There was “beaucoup” (yes, we were learning the languages!) cider and Calvados. The cider of Normandy — may it always be apple-blossom time there!

Here on August 2nd the 30th Division went into reserve after fifty-one consecutive days of action. A USO show with Edward G. Robinson played to the Battalion, and there were movies in a barn. We had our first view of P-61’s (Black Widows) overhead. General Hobbs, Division Commander, spoke to us, praising our record and stating that we had fired as many rounds as any unit in Normandy. We knew then that we were about ready to move again.

We crossed the IP at 0100 hours on August 6th under a bright moon. Our route of march took us through Percy, Tessy sur Vire, Villedieu and to a small village to the west of Mortain.



We crossed the IP at 0100 hours under a bright moon.

MORTAIN

When we moved in, the town and surrounding hills were quiet. The 1st Division, which the 30th was relieving, said there had been no trouble. We dug in, tied in Verify Battery, sent some of our trucks to carry the 3rd Battalion of the 120th Infantry to Barenton where it was shortly cut off but not surrounded and took the usual steps to maintain liaison with the 2nd Battalion, the now famous "lost battalion", on the hills overlooking Mortain. The first indication of coming trouble was a strafing attack along the roads and over our area by twelve FW 190's at about 1600 hours on August 6th. No casualties; but plane identification booklets were in great demand.

On the 7th enemy counter-attacks began. They were continued until August 12th. The story of the "lost battalion" and of the work of our artillery observers will be told and retold wherever men of the 120th Combat Team get together. Isolated and surrounded for days; short of food, ammunition and medical supplies; under steady pounding by artillery, tanks and self-propelled guns; attacked day and night from the air; assaulted by ground troops and paratroopers; they held their positions and refused to surrender. The officers and men of the Battalion who were

with the Infantry surrounded at Mortain, France, received the Presidential Citation (their names appear in the Decorations Section of the Appendix, under Presidential Citation).

In a desperate attempt to get supplies to these men, C-47's went in low, dropping parachute packages. We saw the planes go over. Ten packages were picked up. Again the planes went over, with no better luck. The situation became steadily worse, as we learned over the fading artillery observer's radio, the sole means of communication with the outside. Men were dying for lack of medical supplies. The artillery must help its own of the combat team. Under the direction of Major Richard E. Evans, Jr., and Capt. Bruce D. Stern, Medical Officer, base ejection HC



A 120th rifleman fires an anti-tank grenade from his M-1 rifle.

smoke shells were loaded with medical supplies, bandages, dressings, morphine syrettes, drugs and plasma and were fired into the area. Some were recovered, but poor communications hampered accurate adjustment. Batteries, prepared by Tec 4 Joseph Moschetta, were also fired into the area. This was the first time that artillery had sent over aid and mercy rather than death and destruction. On the 12th, the "lost battalion" was relieved by elements of the 119th Infantry Regiment and the 35th Divi-

sion. First hand accounts of a Forward Observer's part in the Battle of Mortain may be found in the Appendix.

During this period the guns were not idle. Over eight thousand rounds were fired in repelling counter-attacks, protecting the encircled position at night with a ring of fire, and in observed fire on prime targets. On the 10th all surplus men of the Battalion and of the 531st AA Battalion took up defensive positions around the Battalion area to repulse a threatened breakthrough; fortunately the forward lines held. On the 12th, we had the great satisfaction of pounding an enemy panzer convoy in full retreat. We were losing vehicles, too. Tec 5 Jack Dominick of "A" Battery had to abandon his truck under direct fire from a tank, after an "end run" hauling Infantry. And Service Battery went into truck salvaging on a large scale, stripping trucks, swapping parts, and rebuilding one vehicle from many.

Enemy air activity increased — “Bedcheck Charlie”, the twilight reconnaissance plane of the Luftwaffe, was over regularly. English Typhoons roamed the skies, giving great help with their tank-busting rockets, but causing us some casualties. On the night of the 12th, Headquarters Battery was bombed. Fragments pierced the CP tent, and a large bomb dropped about one hundred yards from the Aid Station.

Those of us who heard it's whistling fall amidst the yellow light of the flares — will long remember the incident.

On the 12th, it was reported that the enemy was withdrawing the bulk of his forces to the east. The news was not entirely good though, for in a German column somewhere in France were Lt. Webster Lee and Sgt. J. L. Bushnell, of one of the liaison sections, taken prisoner by paratroopers on the 7th.

The great German attack to split the American Armies had been stopped. When Lt. General Dittmar, German official radio commentator, surrendered to the 30th Division at Magdeburg on the Elbe, he is reported to have said that Germany lost the war in the West when the attempted German thrust through Mortain to Avranches was stopped. Yes, he remembered which division was at Mortain — the 30th.



During this period no guns were idle.



German 88mm knocked out by 105 howitzer in France.

NORTH TO DOMFRONT

When we moved through Mortain on August 14th, we were on our way northerly to Domfront as part of the southern jaw of a pincer movement closing on an enemy pocket.

Stiffening enemy resistance near Domfront, however, forced the occupation of two intermediate positions. On the 15th, we went into position on the outskirts of Domfront. Some enemy fire hit the ridges which defiladed our

position, but after Mortain everything seemed very peaceful. On the 16th, we moved northward, occupying positions near St. Bomer Les Forges. The hedgerows were thinning out and growing smaller. They still held their danger though. Headquarters Battery, on the tip of a French farmer, used a mine detector on the hedgerows around the CP and found eight S-mines (Bouncing Bettys), well dug in and camouflaged.

No firing was done in this position because of denial of permission from the British 2nd Army, which was driving in from the north. After contacting the British on August 17th, we rested. On August 19th the rat-race began.

NORTH TO THE SEINE

A road march of 112 miles took us to Brazolles; positions were occupied at 2330 hours. This march gave us our first real experience with warm hearted French enthusiasm. There were kisses for those who were brave, bottles for those who could reach, and flowers for all. This march also gave us sunburned faces and inflamed eyes, the latter resulting perhaps, from the great clouds of fine, powdered dust that rose as our trucks roared through towns shattered by recent bombing. In the morning we displaced again. By this time Verify Battery had caught up with



Infantry and tanks advance through a French village.

us, to remain with us until the drive through the Siegfried Line. The Battalion, now consisting of four batteries, was divided into two echelons. One echelon covered the advance of the other; movement was made in leap-frog fashion. Thus, at Notre Dame de Puits, Able and Verify were in position covering Baker und Charlie as they took up positions at Coudres. We were closing fast on the retreating enemy — too fast. Occupation of position had hardly been completed when heavy artillery and mortar fire hit the village and battery positions. Cheering civilians took to their besements, the GI's took cover, and the batteries took off to new positions outside of town where they were later joined by Able and Verify. The area was a former airfield, one of the many which covered this section of France.

On the 22nd, we moved again in normal echelon, leap-frogging through St. Andre de L'Eure, Droisy Garrancieres, Buisson Crossin, and Val David. In late afternoon, "A" and "B" batteries went into position on a heavily bombed airfield at Gauciel, a village some three miles from Evreux. This was to be a memorable position, but at sundown all was quiet. Meanwhile to the rear at Val David, Infantry was clearing out woods across the valley from "C" Battery's position. It was obvious that numerous pockets of Germans had been by-passed by our rapidly thrusting columns (twelve prisoners were taken by "B" Battery on the 12th). One such pocket turned up at Gauciel, in Force, and then began the "Battle of Gauciel".

There was no indication of trouble that evening. A Headquarters wire crew had laid wire from Gauciel to Val David without incident, but on its way back ran into the open skirmish which had started when Headquarters guards halted and fired upon a column of men and horse-drawn vehicles approaching from the east along the road which the batteries had come over. The Germans withdrew, and the battle-lines were formed. The batteries were naturally tense since no one had knowledge of the strength of the enemy or of the disposition of his force. Colonel Vie-man gave the order for attack at daybreak, and by radio brought down the fire of "C" Battery's guns on the German position. Throughout the whole engagement the Artillerymen wore the blue of the infantry with skill and courage. Upon surrender the German Commanding Officer is reported to have said that he surrendered only because he thought "A" Battery's attacking force to be infantry advancing with artillery support. (The full story of the battle is printed in the appendix).

The airfield at Gauciel was one of the most heavily bombed fields we had seen. The village was a guant skeleton of wreckage, uninhabitable, except by soldiers. We learned from neighboring French who had come to salvage horses, some badly wounded in the battle, that the field had been bombed three times in early June. Parts could still be used, however. A P-38 on its way back from Paris made a crash landing near "C" Battery. The pilot wasn't envious of our foxholes and K-rations.

Here we rested, in the quiet peace of a ruined airfield and a shattered village. Not a sign of life, not even a hen. Service Battery was not faring much better in Evreux. Instead of an egg one of the boys got a hand grenade left in the nest by some enterprising Doughboy to encourage the hens.

On August 26th, quartering parties left for a new area. We had orders to cross the Seine River in support of the 117th and 119th infantry, which were to attack along the north bank of the Seine enlarging the bridgehead and clearing the bank to the Oise River. Perhaps we were on our way to Paris! On the 27th, we crossed the Seine at Mantes Gassicourt on a substantial bridge built across long river barges. The Battalion occupied positions in Limay, on the low land fronting the river. Major Raymond I. Clement went fishing with a radio mast as a pole, a piece of string, a bent pin and worms — no luck, however.



Comforts of home.

On the 28th, we displaced to two positions along the north bank, receiving some interdiction fire. The reconnaissance party ran into a mine field liberally marked with "Achtung Minen!", skull-and-crossbone signs. They backed out. In late afternoon, "A" and "B" batteries displaced to positions in Hardicourt, near Meulan. This was the position known to the survey section as the "backyard survey". The guns were so close together that the cannoneers found themselves servicing the wrong piece, and the only way to get the rounds over the various trees, walls and buildings was by using high-angle fire. Burp guns were clipping the tops of the walls, sniper fire covered the street, and 150mm shells were landing in the river at the rear of the gardens. Close support! Fortunately the tank burning fiercely in the street near the forward CP didn't blow up.

The next day the situation was not much improved. We were now in direct support of the 120th Infantry. The reconnaissance party moved through Meulan, now full of cheering civilians crying, "Vive L'Amerique", and little boys yelling, "Cigarette pour Papa" (the French version of the English, "Any gum, chum"). The Infantry plodded along the road edges. On we went.

Recon trucks were parked here and there ahead of the Infantry. We passed them. We entered an orchard near a village — virgin ground. Charlie and Verify displaced; Able and Baker came up later. After recon troops had cleaned out the village, we occupied it. Some of us went swimming in a large pool on a private estate. Madame told us how terrible the shells had been. We didn't tell her that we had fired on her house as a basepoint! Here, as in many places, the civilians had been living at night in caves, deep underground.

On August 30th, the rat-race began again. We moved by echelon, occupying

positions at Osny, Les Cocus, Vaut, Chambly, Morangles, Blaincourt and LeCumbier. In the course of this day's travel we saw Paris — the top of the Eiffel Tower, some twenty miles away. Beautiful, gay Paris. We had come so far, and at last we had seen it! We were now bearing north, clearing out the right bank of the Oise River. We passed through Pontoise, which the FFI had cleared of Germans, after asking us not to fire on the town. The people hailed us with unrestrained joy; the squares were so packed with rejoicing crowds that the trucks could barely move. And it was here that we saw the humiliating shame of the women Collaborationists. As



Lts. Hale and Phleegeer observe the rat-race from the air.

they knelt in the public squares their locks of hair fell slowly on the cobblestones — a snip for this truck as it passed, a snip for the next, until at last, cropped and crying, they were dragged to their feet, to be paraded through ranks of jeering and spitting people.

We were tired that night when we occupied our last position. We had come a long way, much of it across the open fields, following the route of march. (We were learning that a route of march can always be followed by watching for K-ration boxes and tin cans!) The hedgerow country was far behind; ahead lay the prairies of northern France — and Belgium.

BELGIUM

In the morning of September 1st, the quartering party moved out for a new area in Belgium; the Battalion moved at 1830 hours. The day was cloudy and rainy. The advance party soon got caught up in a huge convoy strung out for miles. The whole army seemed to be on the road, moving slowly, but steadily through shattered German equipment. Civilians lined the roads to wave and cheer, but many were busy carrying away abandoned equipment or carving up horses, killed by our planes. During the night of the 1st, two buzz-bombs roared over the convoy, heading west. We slept in the trucks during the long halts. It was cold and wet, and we didn't feel like conquering heroes. All during the 2nd, the convoy jerked along, through the battle-fields of the last war.

Behind a screen made by "Task Force Harrison", the quartering party was making better progress. But Col. Vieman excelled everyone. Somehow he managed to get up with the light tanks and reconnaissance elements with his command car



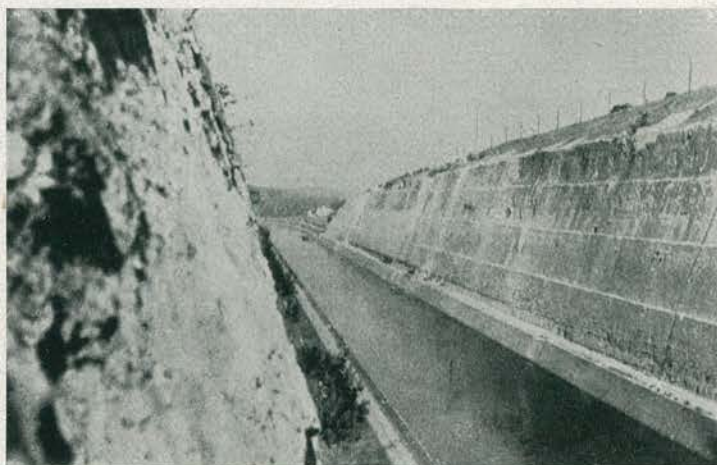
The hysterical joy of the people overwhelmed us.

bedecked with flowers. As we crossed the Belgium border, the almost hysterical joy of the people overwhelmed us. Under the thousands of flags which appeared as if by magic, great throngs of shouting, crying people threw flowers, fruit, tomatoes (often with disastrous results), handed up babies to be kissed, or climbed up to get the kisses directly. A hand appearing outside a truck was filled with a bottle, or a glass of wine or cognac. Nuns gave their blessings, and priests opened wide their doors. Little girls handed up tiny bags of hoarded sugar, or bits of precious candy. It was carnival — a riot of noise and color. "Vive L'Amerique — Vive La Belgique!" Yet under it all there was a note of quiet sadness. An old lady, tears streaming, gently

touched the face of one of the boys and kissed him, saying, "we have been waiting so long for you."

It was getting dark when the advance party entered Bruyelles. Battery positions were chosen, and three prisoners were taken. Col. Vieman, Lt. Baer, and Tec 5 Louis Penn flushed them out of a ditch. Cpl. L. C. Price of "A" Battery shared a haystack all night with an unseen German. During the night trucks and armor pounded through the square. One of Verify's tanks got to the square, and stopped — out of gas. At 0600 hours on September 3rd the Battalion rolled up and was guided to position areas, after a march of about 125 miles. Positions were surveyed in, guns were laid, but no firing was done. To our delight "rear echelon" took four prisoners; Sgt. Edward Moredock and Sgt. Edmund Robarts were the heroes. Jerries were also flushed out of haystacks in "B" Battery's position during occupation. Care and cleaning of equipment, inspection, and rest followed. Certain of the officers attended a funeral to honor a young patriot of the Belgium Armee Blanche who, after three years of underground work, appeared openly on the day of deliverance only to be killed by a burst from a German machine gun.

We were not to rest long. On September 6th a quartering party led by Capt. Robert Stewart joined the 120th Infantry quartering party and headed east. At 1845 hours the Battalion moved to an assembly near Antoing. It marched on September 7th to an assembly area near Waterloo. On the 8th the march to the east continued, positions were occupied near Vichmael. By this time the Infantry was on foot because of gas shortage. On the 10th, the Battalion displaced to a position near Tongres where it was joined by the quartering party which came down from Bilsen. (Bilsen had been the objective given the quartering party; objective attained, with the aid of advance elements of recon troops.) Fort Eben Emael, about 4000 yards to the east, was taken by the 120th Infantry. Some of the huge battle flags taken in the fort found their way into the Battalion. On September 11th "C" Battery fired the Battalion's first round into Holland. One enemy plane came over the area, the first we had seen in weeks.



Albert Canal

HOLLAND

On September 13th the Battalion displaced for movement into Holland. We crossed the famous Albert Canal which had proven no obstacle to the Germans in 1940 nor to us in 1944. The Meuse River was crossed just south of Vise. Our first position in Holland was near Noorbeek. "A", "B", and "C" batteries went into position in Holland; Verify was just over the frontier in Belgium. After a long



*Prisoners were streaming in and there were cries of
"Hitler count your men".*

reconnaissance, which involved backing the party out of town to avoid disturbing Germans who were on the point of leaving, the Battalion displaced to Termarr. All batteries rushed into position as if the area were about to be over-run by tanks. Trails dropped, guns were laid, and battalion one volley was on the way. Where? Into Germany — and "C" Battery was again first, firing at maximum range. Here four prisoners were taken by the 531st Anti-Aircraft boys.

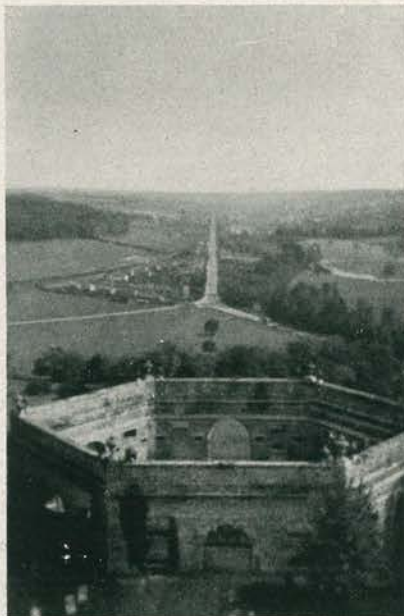
On September 15th we got an unexpected "Close Station March Order" at 2140 hours. The Battalion displaced at 0100 hours for a night occupation on a muddy hillside. It took all the experience and ingenuity of all hands to get the guns in position but they were ready to fire at dawn. The Infantry was moving rapidly, and we displaced again that day to positions outside Gulpen, near the main road

from Maastricht to Aachen. Prisoners were streaming in and there were cries of "Hitler, count your men". One of Verify's tank crushed a temporary bridge, but climbed safely out of the ditch.

The next day we were on the move to positions near Simpelveld. The people here were too busy to give more than a smile of welcome, although the little girls wore the bright orange ribbons of Holland in their hair. Everyone, it seemed, was carrying a radio, taken perhaps, from some hidden store-room, or perhaps out of German custody. During the night heavy shells passed overhead, probably from railroad guns in Germany. We were not far from the frontier. Enemy planes were more active, coming over low but causing no trouble.

On the 18th the Battalion displaced by echelon to positions near Beitel, some three miles south of Heerlen. From our position the German frontier and the beginning of the Siegfried Line defenses were only about 1000 yards away (the back fence of the house in which one of our liaison parties was quartered was on the frontier). Verify soon learned it was near the line, being shelled out of position on the 19th. It moved to a new position where, on the 23rd, it was again shelled, with casualties. A third position was surveyed in and occupied. At this time Dog Battery came back as artillery and was tied in. It too was shelled out of position, with casualties, and displaced to a new position. Dog's position was in an unhealthy area. Verify had been shelled out of a field nearby, and a Cub airfield about 500 yards away had been thoroughly shelled for two days. Enemy artillery of light, medium, and heavy calibers was becoming increasingly more active, and accurate. From a hill behind "C" Battery's position we could see clearly in Germany a large high towered building boldly marked with red crosses. We were told later that it had been used as an enemy OP.

During our occupation of this position we had a real experience — hot showers in the Wilhelmina Mine, owned by the Dutch Government. The mine "locker-room" consisted of several large rooms lined with benches, with rows of showers adjoining. After months on the ground and along the dusty roads without baths, save those taken in streams or in a helmet, the stinging warmth of showers was a luxury beyond price. The miners had an ingenious way of storing and safeguarding clothing. Long chains were run over pulleys in the high ceiling. Free ends could be locked to racks behind the benches. The other ends carried heavy



*The city of Heerlen became
a Base Point.*

balls and a cluster of hooks. Lower the hooks, attach your clothing, haul up to the roof, lock the chain, and all was safe.

On the 26th and 27th we saw the amazing, spectacle of a whole town being evacuated, presumably on German order. All the roads leading out of Kerkrade were thronged with long lines of civilians, of all ages, slowly, plodding along on foot, riding bicycles, pushing carts and baby carriages, or riding on every type of wheeled vehicle from a fancy rig to a lumbering farm wagon. On the faces of the old there was the passive acceptance of the hardships of another war in a continent that had known so many. The young smiled, and the children were bright-eyed with wonder and excitement. Where they all went, no one knows; some were killed by enemy shelling.

We had established static OP's in towering slag-piles near the German frontier. The Battalion fired many missions, particularly counter-battery, but enemy artillery was becoming increasingly effective. A gun pit of the 531st suffered a direct hit from a 105mm; and Able was heavily shelled twice. On September 28th the Battalion displaced to positions



A luxury beyond price.



USO shows were welcomed events.

near Benzenrade. Except for occasional shelling in the vicinity by enemy 150's all was peaceful. Long Toms and 8 inch howitzers moved in, however, shaking the dirt down on us in our foxholes. An Able Battery sentinel caught a saboteur, dressed in a Dutch public employee's uniform, cutting wire. It was getting cold, and the winter rains were beginning. Overcoats were issued. We began to think longingly of Germany and warm houses. The time was getting near.

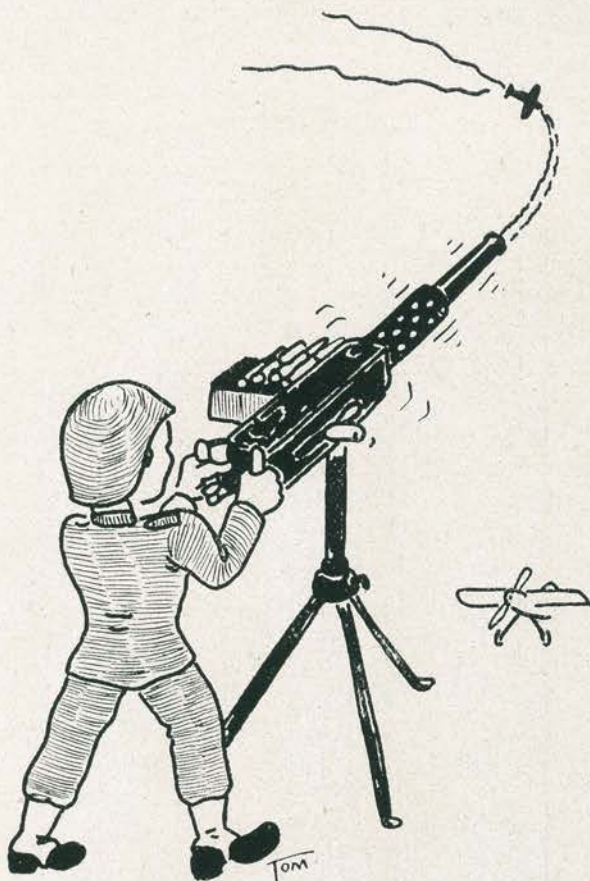
THROUGH THE SIEGFRIED LINE

On October 2nd the 30th Division was set to crack the Siegfried Line. The 117th and 119th regiments had been chosen as assault troops! The 120th was to make a feint attack toward Kerkrade, and hold. This plan was enthusiastically approved by all of our forward observer personnel, who established themselves comfortably in OP's along the front and settled down to watch, for once, the big air and ground show. Sgt. Sherman Goldstein, of "C" Battery, took the usual precaution, as did everyone else, of being sure there were no obstacles on the way



The 531st was always waiting for enemy planes.

to the "Keller"; he had learned his lesson at the St. Lo breakthrough. Observers had orders to fire at the slightest movement, and in particular to saturate Ack-Ack batteries.



He stood his ground, however, and secured direct hits on one FW 190.

The curtain went up at 0940 hours, when the air show began. We watched (close to our holes) with the fascinated interest that all mass bombings aroused, and wondered how the Jerries could possibly stand it. Plane losses appeared to be relatively light. One medium bomber, crippled by ack-ack, came down in flames behind "B" and "C" batteries, sending up a great ring of black smoke. Carried by a gentle wind the ring rose slowly, enlarging until it was hundreds of feet in diameter. But we did not have long to watch. At 1100 hours we began an artillery preparation, dropping 1330 rounds on the Westwall.

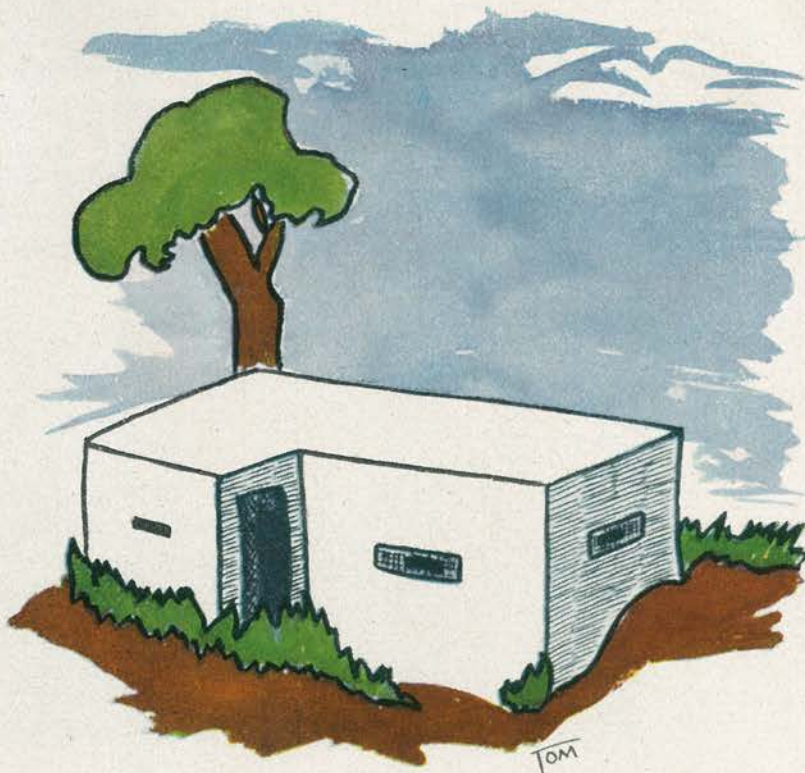
The attack on the Line continued on the 3rd. Although the 120th did not advance, observers were kept busy firing on targets of opportunity, expending 1173 rounds. A battalion of the 116th Infantry Regiment (29th Division) was attached to the 120th Infantry. For the second time on the continent we were firing over the 116th, having supported that unit during our first days in France. Enemy artillery was becoming annoying. In an attempt to locate enemy gun positions by flash

observation at night the survey section manned a BC scope on a slag-pile near the frontier. Enemy planes were out in force dropping anti-personnel bombs in the area. The Luftwaffe was striking back. On October 5th three FW 190's came in low over Division Artillery airfield, strafing the Piper Cubs used for our OP's, and Pfc. J. B. Foster, machine gunner. He stood his ground, however, and secured direct hits on one FW 190 which crashed some 2000 yards away. Headquarters area was lightly worked over by the same planes, during a poker game underground.

On October 6th the Battalion displaced to positions near Speckholzerheide, in direct support of the 116th Infantry Regiment. The 120th was moving northward to pass through the break in the Westwall made by its sister regiments. Enemy

planes were over strafing near "A" and "B" batteries. We were still in Holland, but Kerkrade, on the ridge just ahead of us, was on the frontier. It was time to go.

On October 7th, almost four months after we had landed on Omaha Beach, we crossed the Wurm River, at Rimberg, and at last entered the German Third Reich. The Battalion Commander's reconnaissance party was the first unit over the line, crossing at 1300 hours. The Westwall was not impregnable; the 30th had broken into it. But the cost was high. German pillboxes were skillfully sited on the hillside or camouflaged in the woods covering all approaches. Now they were silent and empty, marked with the impact of direct fire guns and chipped by bullets. In the fields lay twisted rows of dead Germans, caught by artillery in the open. Palenberg, just across the frontier, was a lifeless shell, and Ubach, to the south, was littered with burned out vehicles and soldiers contorted in death.



German pillboxes were skillfully sited on hillsides.

Here positions were occupied. We were in the middle of the Siegfried Line, and were moving south to help close the Aachen escape corridor.

At last — there were houses for those in a position to occupy. It was unfortunate that too often the firing batteries had none of the comforts of houses. Save for a few "backyard" positions their homes were the open fields. It was standard practice, once the gun was in position, for the men to dig one or two man fox-holes. Then the gun was dug in. Some sections, however, feeling the chill of winter approaching, began to dig eight man "rooms", complete with stove and wooden shelves for bunks. Often they had electric lights, especially after the batteries began towing around generator equipment picked up at German searchlight positions.

Ubach was still hot; Jerry was on three sides of us and his artillery knew where we were. Dog Battery joined up that night, and was surveyed in. Or at least we thought it was. It turned out, though, that in the darkness and confusion the survey section had tied in the Cannon Company of another Regiment!

There were a lot of guns bunched in Ubach that night. Good target for the Luftwaffe; and it was up in force. Heavy and anti-personnel bombs ringed the town, but we had no casualties. The Infantry was driving southward through the heart of the line, but the going was rough. The experience of Pfc. Michael Treacy, driver of Baker's forward party, is typical: pillbox used as OP hit by 88's; rockets and shells wrecked house OP, ruining radio; direct fire from Jerry tank caved in side of building, burying the party's jeep.

On the 8th we went into position at Wilhelmschacht, near Alsdorf, after the reconnaissance party had been driven out of Zopp, some 1000 yards to the south, by

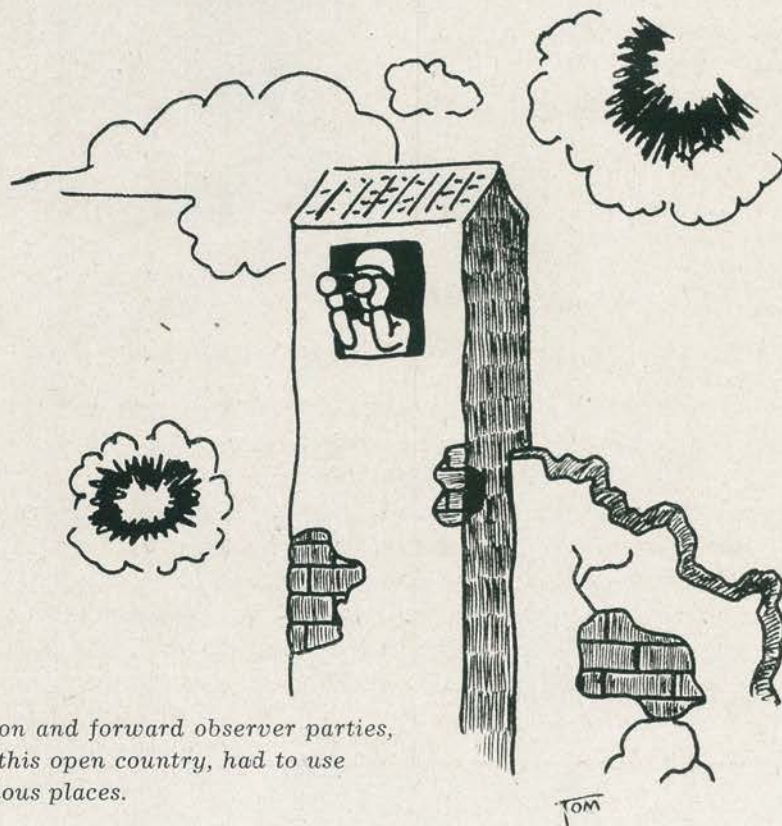


German towns were lifeless shells.

artillery fire. We were again in "very close support"; fortunately there were untouched, seemingly unused, pillboxes in the Battalion area which were ideal for battery CP's. In Wilhelmschacht civilians began to emerge; not a Nazi among them, but they were genuinely afraid of Jerry's return, not having left when ordered to do so, and got as much satisfaction as we did over our progress. Shells landed in the area, seriously wounding an old man and his daughter. The C.I.C. wandered through the town, and we wandered from building to building through "mouse-holes" knocked in basement walls by the Jerries for defensive purposes. Here there were signs sternly warning German soldiers not to plunder. Hard to get over the habits, probably.

The Battalion fired day and night, helping to break up counter-attacks; in four days we were credited with knocking out twenty-two tanks, firing a total of 8557

rounds. Night firing was especially dangerous because of the activity of the Luftwaffe. Our first sign of coming trouble would be the bursts of 40mm ack-ack shells in an empty sky. Jerry was coming over on the lane marked by the bursts. We became quite accustomed to the usual procedure of flares and bombs, and suffered no casualties. On the 19th, however, a lone plane dove in without flares and dropped



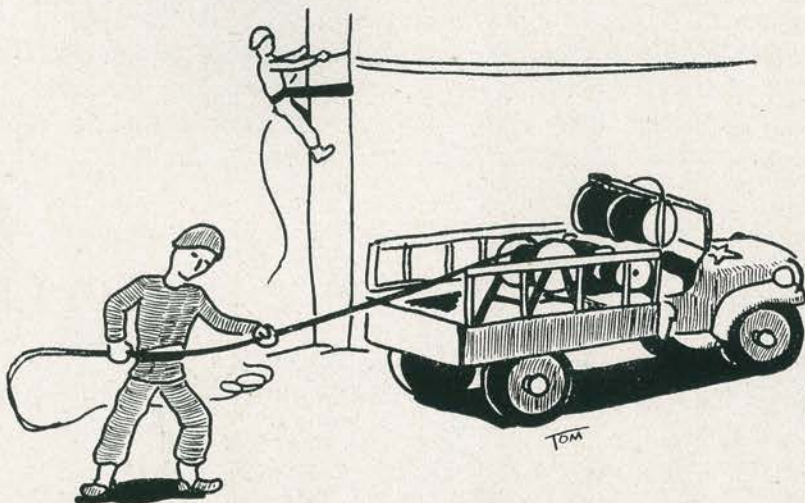
— Liaison and forward observer parties, who in this open country, had to use the obvious places.

a shower of anti-personnel bombs on Baker and Dog batteries. Both batteries suffered losses.

On the 16th the Aachen escape gap was closed, elements of the 119th Infantry joining up with the 1st Division. The 120th Infantry had performed brilliantly, throwing back one determined counter-attack after another, and steadily advancing. We helped, of course, and the effectiveness of our fire was, as always, a tribute to the skill and courage of our liaison and forward observer parties who, in this open country, had to use the obvious places as OP's, and suffered accordingly.

On October 20th we moved back to Herzogenrath, going into position roughly east of our last position in Holland. We had "doubled" the Siegfried Line. Engineers were busy blowing up pillboxes, leaving them shattered masses of concrete and twisted steel. Here Headquarters wire section really unwound, laying 110 miles

of line in all directions. Enemy shelling became annoying; kitchens seemed to be prime targets. A few 150's near Headquarters' kitchen house forced an occupation of an "alternate position". There 105's found it and started a gasoline fire that destroyed stored supplies and equipment. Service Battery also got shelled, to the rather poorly



Hq wire section really unwound, laying 110 miles of line.

concealed amusement of the firing batteries. Service was occupying a small mine to the rear of the Battalion area, unfortunately too near a Cub airfield. (We came to resent the near presence of airfields and tanks as much as the Doughboys cursed artillery positions in their areas. Such things draw too much fire.) Just at noon, Jerry 150's started to work the area over, spending an hour at the job. Fortunately the only damage done, other than to nerves, was slight injury to trucks. But if chow had not been served one half hour earlier than usual, the first round would have caught the mess-line in the open. (Near St. Lo "A" Battery had a similar experience. Chow time had been pushed ahead, clearing the ground for a bomb

which landed in the area at the regular feeding hour.)

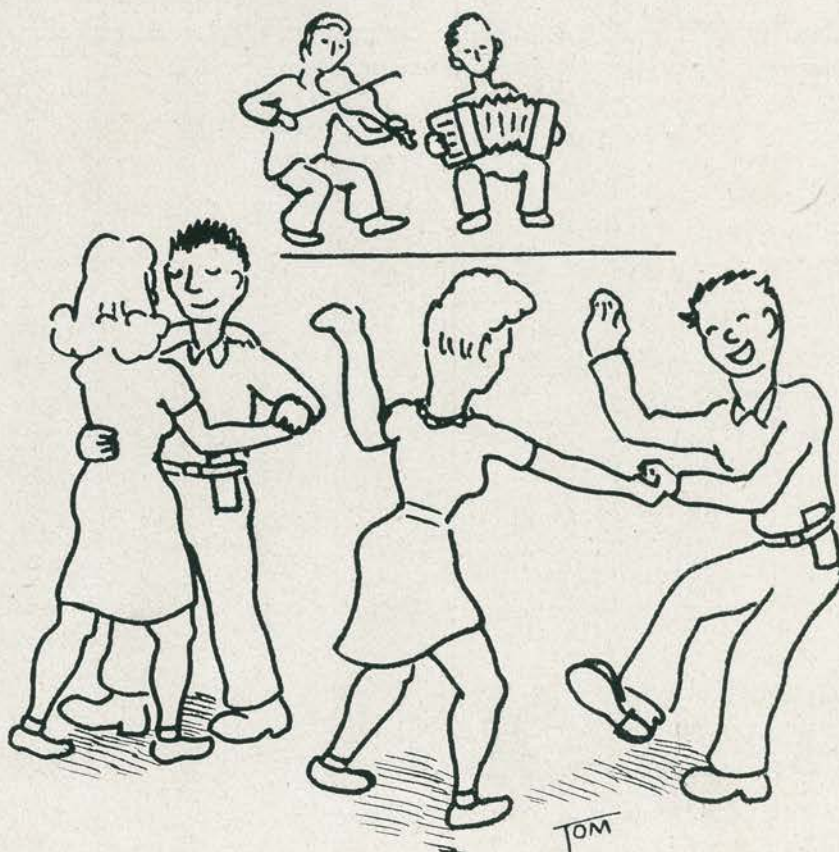


Sgt. Garrison loads the 50,000th round for Dog Battery.

At night enemy railroad guns sent their "box-cars" over, and the Luftwaffe was active. "A" Battery was hit one night with anti-personnel bombs, suffering casualties, but otherwise the bombs landed harmlessly in open fields. We were often to think of General McLain's words to us at St. Johns, "The world is a big place, and you boys don't take up much room in it." The

artillery was piling up. Verify Battery came back to us; and Dog Battery was surveyed in near Zopp, well up in front as usual. Eight-inch howitzers went into position nearby, and we helped two 155mm Long Toms (self-propelled) get set up for fire on pillboxes (these guns had been in action at Brest). "C" Battery had a personnel mine casualty, in an area where many of us had walked.

Then came "rest" at Vise, on the Meuse River. (We had passed through the town in September on our drive into Holland.) The Battalion went back in three



Dance at Vise.

echelons, to promote friendly relations, eat ice cream, and help reduce surplus stocks of cognac which, as we all knew, was not good for the Belgians. The people were most hospitable, inviting us into their homes for entertainment and lodgings (although some say we did have bunks in a public building!). There was a dance, and ferry rides to an island in the middle of the river. The popularity of the ferry was rather puzzling to some since, so far as one could see, there was not much on the island except a few houses. Liege, not too far away, was of course, off limits; but we heard that certain of our officers being unwilling to take anything for

granted, went there solely to find out the facts. They succeeded. In all war stories there should be a Marie. There was; and she ran a bar.

After we had recovered from our rest period, we sat quietly in position, firing a little, going to the movies in a nearby schoolhouse, and waiting. Things were bulding up around us. The time to march again to the east was nearing.

THE DRIVE TO THE ROER

On November 20th the Battalion, by infiltration, displaced to positions in and around Mariadorf, in the wake of what was characterized by the XIX Corps as



Motor maintenance a necessity wherever we go.

the "perfect infantry attack". This attack, which the 120th Infantry took a leading part, was written up by Corps as a training model for assaults on fortified lines.

The front lines were about 1500 yards away, clearly visible across the fields from the houses we occupied. The basement of a schoolhouse was the CP; the attic of the building was used as an OP for the conduct of fire. This was probably the shortest CP-OP line the wire section ever laid. At the edge of town 4.2 inch mortars were firing in support of the Infantry and tanks which we could see advancing toward gun flashes in the east.

Mariadorf was a nest of mines, either in the ground or in the process of being assembled or fitted into anti-tank devices or booby-traps. Verifty almost occupied

a field from which over 60 Tellermines were later removed by the engineers. Of course, we had mine detectors which we used whenever time permitted; but preliminary battery reconnaissance and survey were done on faith. Looting (of German Military equipment and fire-arms, of course) was improving. Sometimes the findings of fire-arms had odd results. In one village a German householder was turned over to Military Government because a pistol had been found hidden in his cellar. To his relief it turned out that the pistol had been hidden there for safe-keeping by one of the boys in a forward observer party.

On the 22nd the reconnaissance party entered the village of Langendorf, a collection of battered houses strung along a muddy, shell-torn street. We were on the extreme right flank of the 9th Army; on our right was the 104th Division, elements of which were passing through the villages following the 120th Infantry.



Nature's obstacle to the Doughfeet—MUD.

Fronhoven, a village some 600 yards to the northeast, had been taken after bitter fighting, and was now joined between Fronhoven and Lohn, the next objective. Able and Baker recon parties were shelled out; Charlie and Verify positions were thoroughly covered by fire — just before displacement. Mortar shells dropped quietly in, one hitting an archway above the advance wire crew taking shelter from the cold rain. Shells ranged the streets, now crowded with vehicles. Langendorf was a bottle neck, hemmed in by sodden fields. Casualties were streaming in; wiremen served as litter bearers, and our Medicos assisted in the care and transportation of wounded.

The Battalion displaced by echelon. Charlie and Verify batteries occupied positions under fire, their advances being covered by "A" and "B" batteries which displaced on the 23rd. Part of the CP section came up with the first echelon, passing through a heavy barrage. This village was to be our home for weeks. Our first impression was not very good; neither was our last—or, for that matter, any in between.

On the 23rd we fired a preparation for the attack on Lohn. Our forward observers advanced with the Infantry, against bitter resistance. Capt. Richard Trauth, liaison officer, was shot out of three OP's before he could bring down fire neutralizing a tank which was holding up the advance. Lt. Joseph Isbell, forward observer, manned his OP in a house which was hit several times by direct fire at close range. The Forward Observer party of Lt. Donald Mills, S/Sgt. Alvin Dreier, and Sgt. Hans Wischmann entered Lohn with infiltrating infantry, setting up an OP on the third floor of a house which was repeatedly fired upon by tanks. A counter-attack forced our Infantry out, but Lt. Mills covered the withdrawal with artillery fire, his party being the last to leave. Several rounds of the protective fire struck the house in which he was observing; the Infantry was able to with-



Again Verify completed the Artillery Group.

draw without loss of a man. For this action Lt. Mills was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, and the other members of his party received the Silver Star.

Lohn fell, and the advance rolled on toward Pattern. On our right the 104th Division finally pulled up on line. Langendorf quieted down. Accomodations in houses were at a premium — windows more precious than crystal. Picture frames bookcases and drawers were patched together; basements cleared out. The Medics solved one housing problem very neatly. Tec 5 Willie Heaton had a bed, a big one, and wouldn't give it up to make more room. In his absence the cross pieces were sawed almost through, giving no support to "Big Willie" when he jumped in bed that night. He went down — the bed went out.

Here, as in several other places, the Battalion began to take on the appearance of an Artillery Group. Dog Battery was surveyed in at Fronhoven, in front of an

infantry road-block, but did not occupy until later. A 75mm howitzer battery (tank mounted) of the 17th Cavalry was tied in; and one gun of the 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion went into position in the Battalion area for navy illuminating shell experiments under our fire direction. For several days Field Artillery officers of the 78th Division visited the Battalion, studying combat procedure and practices.

The mud was always with us. Street-cleaning details shovelled and scraped, ditched and drained, to little avail. Some of us visited a B-17 which had made a forced belly-landing about a mile away. The ship was in good condition, and made good quarters for the MP guards, who had set up a stove in the cabin. With the coming of December our thoughts turned to Christmas. Fir trees were set up in battery CP houses and decorated with ornaments found in ruined attics. Plans were made for music on Christmas Eve, and the singing of carols in the street. Then came good news; we were to be temporarily pulled back for a rest in Belgium.

On December 8th we were on our way, leaving behind us nothing but large signs — “This house is reserved” — “Don’t take these beds” — “Hands off this stove”. The little we had, we wanted when we came back, particularly stovepipe. We passed through Aachen on our way to Maastricht. Aachen seemed to us a ruined city; we did not know then that, comparatively, it was in a fine state of preservation. From Maastricht we travelled our familiar ground to Tongres and on to Looz, some six miles to the west. In no time the Battalion was dispersed, with a speed and skill we could never show in combat. The people were extremely hospitable, cognac was plentiful, and the town was large enough for successful infiltration and encircling maneuvers. We came back to Langendorf on the 11th, ready for a long rest and the celebration of Christmas.

The weather was raw and cold. Winter rains soaked the ground, and seeped through torn roofs and walls into rooms and cellars. At night the Luftwaffe was up,



The mud was always with us.

bombing nearby villages and roads, but sparing us. The "Ninth Luftwaffe" (as we called our Air Force when it bothered us) was more accurate. P-47's dove in one day, strafing and bombing. We were long accustomed to their circling overhead; so, we paid no attention to this flight until we heard the roar of diving motors and the whistle of 500 pound bombs coming down. After the first attack ground flares were set out, but not soon enough to stop the second run over the village. Verify Battery and the anti-aircraft suffered casualties. We learned later that the pilots thought they were over Pier, a village on the Roer River to the east. During the first attack Chester DeFreece of "A" Battery dove into a fertilizer pit, out of which he soon crawled. "Stay down, they're coming back", he was warned. "It can't", he yelled, "I'm drowning." The water was four inches deep.

There was talk of a coming drive across the Roer River to the Rhine, but we went ahead with plans for Christmas and New Year's Eve. On December 16th, however, there were ominous rumors of trouble to the south, of German armies again on the move through the Ardennes gateway into Belgium. On December 17th we were alerted; at 2350 hours we crossed the IP, accompanied by Dog Battery, on

our march to the Battle of the Bulge, leaving our Christmas trees gleaming in the gloom of a deserted village.



THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

We were to have air cover on our march through Aachen and to the south. We did — but it was provided by the Luftwaffe. Planes were roaring overhead, dropping flares, circling for their bomb runs. As we neared Aachen, air activity increased. Over to our left, perhaps over the Eschweiler-Aachen road where another convoy was moving, flares hung in the air in long lines, lighting the area for miles around. At one time we could count as many as twenty-five slowly descending. The enemy was trying to block troop movements from the north; but we got through untouched and marched safely to an assembly area near Eyenatten, Bel-



Flares hung in the air in long lines.

gium, for reorganization and orders. (We learned later that Langendorf was heavily bombed shortly after we pulled out.)

At Eyenatten, next morning, there were signs of something big afoot. The road was strafed by Jerry planes, putting the ack-ack boys so much on the alert that a couple of Spitfires wandering over got a hot reception. And the "A" Battery boys, awaiting patiently in line for seconds, got hot coffee, their cooks having abandoned the pot in the excitement. The road was lined with trucks and armor, steadily moving southward. Before noon the Battalion was on the march. South of Eupen we got into the high forested hills of the northern Ardennes. Snow was deep in the fields, and lay heavy on the pointed firs. Down long fire breaks machine guns were firing; we heard that paratroopers had been dropped on the hills to block roads and cut communications.

IN ACTION



Able Battery near Malmedy.



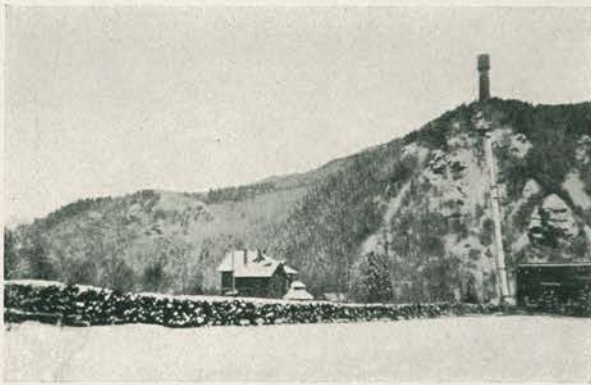
Tank Destroyers as Artillery near Recht.



Dog Battery near Recht.



Verify at Ndr Emmels.



This was Beverci, a small resort village.

plant was still in operation, furnishing lights for the village and for Malmedy. It also sheltered part of the Battalion, Tank Destroyers, units of the 99th Infantry Battalion (specially trained mountain troops which had been in the line behind the 120th Infantry at Wurselen, north of Aachen). and miscellaneous troops. Men slept around the generators and pumps, in the corridors, and under the stairs. It was cold, soon the snow came, to remain with us in ever increasing depth until we left the Bulge.

None of us knew exactly what the situation was. "C" Battery was told: we've got them surrounded; they're on three sides of us! The radio and the Stars and Stripes for days spoke of Malmedy as being in enemy hands. Yet, Service Battery drove through there, the medics were salvaging supplies from abandoned hospitals, and the boys were thoughtfully moving the contents of wine cellars to safer places. We learned that the 1st Division was on our left, the 120th Infantry in front of us. Nothing to worry about except the air — and that was full of paratroopers. But we never saw one. It was true, though, that Germans dressed as Americans were in-

filtrating our lines. A German officer who had been living as a civilian near the CP, sharing a house with rear units of the 120th Infantry, turned himself in to the CIC, a few rods down the road. We had a roadblock in front of the CP, backed some of the time by a 90mm all-purpose gun.

Probably because of our unusual position we were almost free of shelling, although Malmedy was heavily hit with shells and rockets. Three rounds whistled in one night, one landing near the



CP group poses at CP.

Medicos, one in front of "C" Battery's CP. For the first time in combat, Sgt. Harry Baer of "C" Battery had been sleeping in his shorts. When he came out of the cellar after the shelling he swore he's never take his clothes off again until the war was over. He kept his vow. Bombing, however, was different. Our Air Force must believe all it reads in



We were on buzz-bomb alley.



The bath-house in Spa with bubbling water.

the papers, particularly the Stars and Stripes. Malmedy was hit by medium bombers, and attacked by fighter-bombers. Even our valley didn't escape. Bombs fell close to "A" Battery on the hills, dropped behind and in front of "C" Battery, and spanning the valley, tore up the hillside to the east of "B" Battery and Headquarters. For once our Air Force and the Luftwaffe were attacking the same targets. On New Year's Day the Luftwaffe was up in force. Planes of all types roared over us, many not to return. One came back low, to crash on the hill behind the power-plant. The pilot bailed out, but was dead when found. Another swept the length of the valley, a few hundred feet off the ground, escaping from P-47's. During the clear winter days the skies were a pattern of vapor trails left by dog-fighting planes and bombers. At night, too, the planes were up, but we were not touched.

We were on Buzz-bomb alley. They came roaring over us from the east, some barely clearing the ridges. In their position on the hillside the boys of Dog Battery had grandstand seats. Some seemed to sputter and die just as

they were passing over; but only one came down — not too far from “A” Battery. A few landed near Spa where our rear echelon was located. Spa is an old resort town, famous for its hot mineral baths and its gambling casino. Rear echelon was in the Casino; some of us got in the baths, never to forget the feel of bubbling water, or perhaps, the sensation of having one’s back scrubbed by a woman attendant. (During the last war the German General Staff, plus the Kaiser at times, were quartered in Spa.)

Christmas Day was celebrated with church services and turkey. Some of us had small fir trees decorated with bits of bright paper and chewing gum wrappers. Trucks made the rounds of the batteries, picking up gifts of candy and food for the homeless children of Malmedy, and the sick and wounded in the hospitals. It was peaceful in our valley, white in the moonlight.

“A” Battery had to move twice in the deep snow, once to secure defilade, once to let a battery of the 197th Field occupy its position.



Some had boxes from home on Christmas Day.



Under the soft mantle of snow lay the bodies of American soldiers.

Holes had to be blasted with TNT; and ice formed on blankets at night. The guns were painted white. We were in a defensive position, and most of our missions were repelling counter-attacks. During one, "A" Battery got really close support from the Air Force. Lt. Felix McCauley, of the 9th Air Force, brother of Capt. James McCauley, happened to be visiting the Battery when "fire mission" came down. He joined the other officers and the cooks in breaking open and lugging ammunition; we fired 4629 rounds within a twenty-four hour period.

In early January, Verify joined us. There was an obvious building up of strength in rear areas. We knew the Germans were pulling back, and that soon we would be moving south to help flatten the Bulge. On January 14th positions near Geromont were surveyed in. The 120th had advanced and had cleared the ridge on which the notorious Five Points, a major crossroads, was situated. Here on December 17th the German panzers had turned westward, sparing Malmedy the hardship of reoccupation. On the edge of a field stood a simple sign — "Off Limits". Under the soft mantle of snow lay the bodies of American soldiers, captured by



Doughs and FO's used anything for camouflage.

an SS Panzer Division and shot down in cold blood as they stood helpless, their arms raised.

To the east the battle for Thirimont was raging. Heavy enemy concentrations fell on Five Points crossroads and nearby fields, interdicting the area. The Germans were counter-attacking in force. Our forward observer parties, dressed in sheets,



Ligneuville was badly battered.

tablecloths, nightshirts, anything for camouflage, were caught in the attack. S/Sgt. Rubeck of Dog Battery was captured, and Lt. Donald Bryant and Cpl. Willis Ward of "B" Battery were wounded. Both had a strange feeling of coming death or injury, and had given full instructions as to what should be done with certain personal belongings in case of trouble. Thirimont was retaken and held.

Able and Dog displaced on the 15th; Baker, Charlie and Verify on the 16th. One of Headquarters wire trucks hit a mine on the edge of the road; fortunately no one was injured. Six German prisoners were interrogated near the CP. Ya! they all had body lice! Geromont was filled with infantry and artillery CP's. Villages were small and scattered in the hills, and shelter was hard to find. Each truck had its own stove now; ordinarily we could get some warmth. Ahead of us in the snow-filled woods the doughboys were freezing and dying in their shallow holes.

On January 17th we displaced to Ligneuville, site of a vital bridge-crossing.



Tec 5 Blanchett looks over a knocked out tank.

The Battalion CP, in a Butcher Shop, was set up within "spitting distance" of the bridge and of a crossroad nearby. This was against standard practice, but fortunately no enemy rounds came in. The village was badly battered. On the main street sat a Royal Tiger tank, and on the hills close by the boys found a enemy battery of 150's still in position. Dug-in OP's with slit vision lined the ridge; a truck in a garage was booby-traped. In a house near "A" Battery

NEVER TO BE FORGOTTEN SCENES OF COLD AND SNOW



a Jerry complete with maps was routed out. Some thought he might have been an artillery observer.

As the batteries pulled into position elements of the 1st Division were moving through, to attack to the east and southeast. White tanks slipped and skidded on the icy roads. Verify, which had moved up with us, barely made it to its position on the hill to the south. The area was strangely quiet; even the 150mm shell that landed beside Dog Battery's kitchen was a dud.

On the 20th the reconnaissance party moved southerly to an area near Recht, turning off at a crossroads known as Road Block No. 2. Here the Germans had eight tanks, protected by infantry. In its advance the 120th had bypassed the roadblock, but later sent a company back to clear the crossroads to permit supplies to come forward. One German tank was knocked out, and the accompanying infantry were killed or taken prisoners. The other tanks retreated to the south passing between

two companies dug in in the woods on either side of the road. All seven tanks were there knocked out with bazookas.

During reconnaissance and survey, heavy artillery and rocket fire fell on the area, drawn probably, by a large number of half-tracks and trucks of the 7th Armored Division which were parked in the area. Dog and Verify parties were driven out of position, and were forced to choose new positions to the rear. "B" Battery



There were many German and Belgian refugees.

sent up a registration piece, accompanied by part of the CP personnel. Registration was impossible, however, because of poor visibility. The Battalion displaced on the 21st.

On the 22nd we were assigned the mission of reinforcing the fires of the 118th Field, in the closing stages of the battle for St. Vith. The reconnaissance party advanced to Nieder Emmels where units of the 120th had stopped and were being billeted. St. Vith laid but a few thousand yards away over a long treeless ridge to the south. Elements of the 7th Armored Division were detrucking near "C" Battery's position, that Division having been given the privilege of passing through the 30th to take St. Vith from which it had been driven in the early days of the German offensive. During reconnaissance and survey the Jerries let go with all they had — light and medium artillery, and showers of rockets. All position areas and roads were hit. Dog Battery's party was driven to a new position, unfortunately near Verify, whose tanks drew rocket fire as soon as the guns were brought up. "A" Battery put one gun in position, and caught heavy shelling. Fortunately the

other gun trucks had made a wrong turn and were delayed. A new position was occupied that night. Several friendly tanks and tank destroyers were firing from the ridge just ahead, attracting for us, too much attention. And a Spitfire, seeing the commotion, came down bombing and strafing the area. The snowfields, gleaming white that morning, were at evening splotted with ugly black craters. But during the night snow fell, hiding the stains of war.

St. Vith was reoccupied by the 7th Armored Division; the 30th had accomplished its mission. Refugees (in the disputed provinces of Malmedy and Eupen it was hard to tell whether a civilian was Belgian or German) in the CP house asked about Ligneuville, where we had been. "Kaput!" That was to be the answer we gave so often to refugees in the heart of Germany when they inquired about Aachen, Julich, Duren, Cologne, Dusseldorf and other Rhineland cities. A Long-tom was set up in the area, its blast causing a 40mm ack-ack gun crew to swear, jump up and down, and finally change position. A tank destroyer battery parked alongside the CP house, without attempting dispersal of vehicles or camouflage. It was too quiet here — probably time to move out.

ACROSS THE ROER

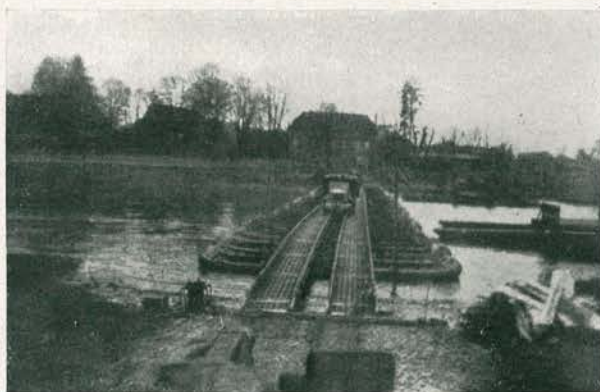
On the 28th we moved back to a rehabilitation and training area at Salm-chateau, Belgium. The people were on the whole, friendly, but some felt a slight



Rehabilitation meant cleaning our equipment.

bitterness at having again been caught in the path of war. One woman related that in September the departing Germans had had said they would be bak by Christmas. They were; but they didn't stay long. Here we had classes, and small arms and bazooka practice on temporary ranges. On the 31st there was a chance that the 30th Division would be sent in to relieve the 82nd Airborne Division, which was fighting into Germany. Resistance lessened, however, and we were not called.

On February 3rd we went on the secret list. All identifying insignia and truck markings were removed or covered. Under the code name of Armor Jig 58 we marched



Engineers soon had a bridge across the Roer.

through Stavelot, Verviers, and Aachen to our old area in Herzogenrath which we had left on November 20th on our drive to Roer. Headquarters occupied the schoolhouse where movies had once been shown. The Germans in the neighborhood knew us; in fact, some welcomed us back. Not much secrecy! We were again in the XIX Corps. That was a relief to all of us; and we relaxed in the peaceful quiet, far from the snow and cold of the Ardennes.

We were not to relax for long. Battery positions were surveyed in at Inden, on the Inde River, on February 6th. The batteries, including Dog, occupied positions at night in the interest of secrecy and safety. The Roer River was not far away, and it was obvious that we were to take up where we had left off in December. Oddly enough, the town of Inden was the source of much of the shelling that hit us, during our occupation of Langendorf in November. All personnel not immediately needed was left behind at Hehlrath, because of the acute shortage of housing accommodations. Hehlrath, unfortunately, was near a large open-pit mine used by tanks and tank destroyers as a practice range. Our "rear echelon" got all the overs.

The assault on the Roer had been originally planned for the 8th, but rising water forced indefinite postponement. The Germans were in control of a large dam upstream, and were making the most of the water barrier. Save for occasional registrations our guns were silent. Enemy artillery opened up once in a while, usually during movie time at the Big House (once a fine mansion), used as the Battalion CP. The principal target of the 150's seemed to be the two Bailey Bridges spanning the Inde, not far to the rear of our area. This river was used by the Infantry for assault crossing practice.

The Luftwaffe was becoming increasingly more aggressive. Night bombing

ASSAULT CROSSING OF THE ROER RIVER



followed the same old pattern—flares and mixed bombs. One heavy bomb hit Division Artillery, quartered in a factory not far away, causing damage and casualties. Anti-personnel bombs set off an infantry ammunition truck across the road from "B" Battery. But our greatest danger lay in daytime bombing by jet-propelled planes. These came in so swiftly and with so little noise that they were on us and away before warning could be given. One dropped a bomb in front of "A" Battery kitchen just at chow time, causing eight casualties.

The tension was growing for the assault crossing of the river. There were seven forward parties to be committed in this operation and each day became a period of "sweating it out." The water began to slowly recede and the 23rd of February was designated as D-day.



Motor repairs for Cologne Plain observing.

At 0245 hours the artillery preparation began. It sounded as if "all hell breaking loose", the ground quivered and shook. Never before had the Battalion heard such concentrated artillery preparation. The 2nd Battalion made the assault crossing of the river at 0330 hours. Capt. Slager, liaison officer, returned from Paris only a few hours before H-hour, making sure he was in on the crossing. The Dough-foot crossing in alligators, boats, and foot bridges, successfully made a bridgehead on the east bank. Sgt. Deleware Powell of "C" Battery was seriously wounded in a minefield on the far bank, after he had been in the first alligator to cross the river.

In and around the Battalion area, we didn't know whether we were in a movie studio or fighting in Germany. There were photographers, correspondents and a

recording team for "Combat Diary" waxed this long awaited occasion for broadcasting in the States.

After successfully supporting the 120th Infantry Regiment across the Roer, the Battalion displaced on February 24th across the river, over the heavily smoke-screened ponton bridge to Krauthausen. The 29th Division on our left took Julich and the 104th on our right took a couple of small towns just north of Duren. The entire operation of the Ninth and First Armies were proceeding as planned.

In the early morning of the 25th, heavy anti-personnel bombs were dropped on Baker position. The number 4 gun position was hit and the camouflage net set afire. While the planes were still overhead, men of the section put out the fire and restacked the ammunition that had begun to burn. The right platoon had just received a fire mission before this, and if it had been the left platoon, there might have been heavy casualties. Again was demonstrated another one of the "freak lucks" of war.

The 117th pulled through the 120th, who protected the Division right flank. The Battalion aided in repulsing an enemy counter-attack and fired harrassing fire for the 117th and the 119th while they jumped off. There was day and night bombing and strafing over the Battalion area, since we were close to the bridge.

On the 26th at 0700 hours we were on the move again. The reconnaissance on the previous day, for the new position at Neulich, was like something out of the books or movies. The parties left their jeeps at the edge of the Hambach Forest, to look across an open plain and see small groups of trees and scattered houses. There was the sight of gun flashes in the distance and shells landing nearby. The P-47's were circling overhead, intermingled by a few German planes. Prisoners were marching down the road from the front. And amidst all this, some nonchalant GI was riding a bicycle down the highway towards Cologne.

Although the Battalion's occupation was without incident, the sights made an interesting trip. There was much German equipment around and many dead in the woods. Along the route of march we saw three German 155mm howitzers; well camouflaged, as well as three 88's, well dug in and abandoned in the Battalion area. The Battalion CP was in a large house, with a few other units, on the edge of the Hambach Forest on the main highway between Julich and Cologne. Three guns of the 744 Tank Battalion were tied in to our "group" here.

With our supported Infantry advancing rapidly, we displaced again the follow-



The rapid pace meant digging in every day.

ing day by echelon to Kirchherten. There was a sniper near Headquarters area, who was later killed, and several Kraut soldiers hiding in nearby houses. Capt. Kruger, of Dog Battery, found a civilian nosing around his guns. An investigation discovered the prowler to be a full Colonel in the German Army. The Doughboys had taken the town the night before and for the first time were troubled with civilians (about a thousand in the town). It became very noticeable to all of us that civilians were no longer being evacuated. During the night Headquarters area was shelled by heavy guns, probably interdiction fire on the nearby road junction. There was damage to trucks, equipment and nerves. Fragments indicated that this was an American 155mm howitzer.

Keeping up our rapid pace of a new position a day, we moved on the 28th of February to a large manor house in the middle of open fields at Kaiskorb. The firing batteries were dug in around the chateau, while Headquarters shared the house with Easy Company of the 120th. Charlie's CP was a design of Lt. Vereen, executive officer. After digging the appropriate size hole, a chicken coop was placed in the hole and a stove added warmth. There were no curtains available.

Our last position for "the Roer to the Rhine drive" was occupied by Able and Dog batteries on the 1st, and Baker and Charlie batteries on the 2nd of March. We were located in Belman, about ten miles south of Munchen-Gladbach. After firing for three days (including counter-battery, harrassing fire, TOT's, and targets of opportunity) on the 4th of March we found our guns out of range and the 120th out of contact with the enemy. Everyone moved inside houses and took life easy. The only trouble we had was one German woman, who looked frantically for a ring that was missing.

In the early morning darkness of March 5th, the Battalion quartering parties, headed by Capt. Bradley, left for Susterseel, Germany, about two miles from Sittard, Holland. Once again we were heading back to the fraternizing country.

WE GO INTO HIDING

The quartering party found the non-populated town of Susterseel in better condition than most of the German towns that we had fought in. In keeping with the tradition of all quartering parties on such a move as this, the situation in Susterseel and surrounding countries was well in hand when the remainder of the Battalion arrived.

The Battalion's route of march was truly a sight-seeing tour, passing though the Roer River battleground, which included Julich and other towns of complete havoc and destruction, and Aachen, Heerlen, Sittard, and then back over the border to Susterseel, Germany.

Rehabilitation, recreation, and training was to keynote our period back in the rear area. The first day found us all hunting for mattresses, cleaning rooms, and getting a touch of home in the houses we occupied. By now, all the batteries had generators which gave juice to the "requisitioned" radios we had accumulated.

Then passes were started to Sittard, Heelen, and Maastricht to the complete enjoyment of all. Maastricht passes however, seemed to be more popular than any of the others. Maybe it was because they were made of rubber and stretched far into Belgium. This part of the country was more home to us than any other part on the continent. We had spent so much time around Heerlen, Vise, Liege, and Maastricht, that we had beaucoup friends (male and female) in each town.

Sittard was the closest of the fraternizing towns, and it wasn't long before we were developing new friends here. They had a dance for us one night, which was later summarized as a "strong girl and weak beer" affair. Charlie Battery decided to throw a party in a nearby town in Belgium one night. About five females (that demonstrated the size and shapes a woman can grow into) made the "three star cognac" taste a little bit better. There was plenty of fresh air when Charlie Battery rode home on the trucks.

The new adjustable sights were put on the carbines and we zeroed them in on the range. We also fired the bazooka, for some of us the first time since leaving England. The loading on LCM's at the Meuse River gave us a touch of what might happen when we would cross the Rhine River. Three forward observer parties trained with the Infantry on assault crossing. And all of us listened attentively to the radio, as the news of the Remagen bridgehead over the Rhine River became foremost in the news. But no matter how large this bridgehead grew, we knew that the 30th was doomed to make an assault crossing, and the tension, such as preceded the Roer crossing, began to take hold, with our only outlet—the "weak" beer and "lighter fluid" cognac.

We knew the time was drawing near when the Battery Commanders left with Col. Vieman on a reconnaissance on the 14th of March. The exact location for our movement was a secret, and it wasn't until the quartering party from each battery left on the 17th that we knew our destination was south of Wesel. At 1830 that evening the Battalion marched under a cloak of secrecy (using the code name Col-

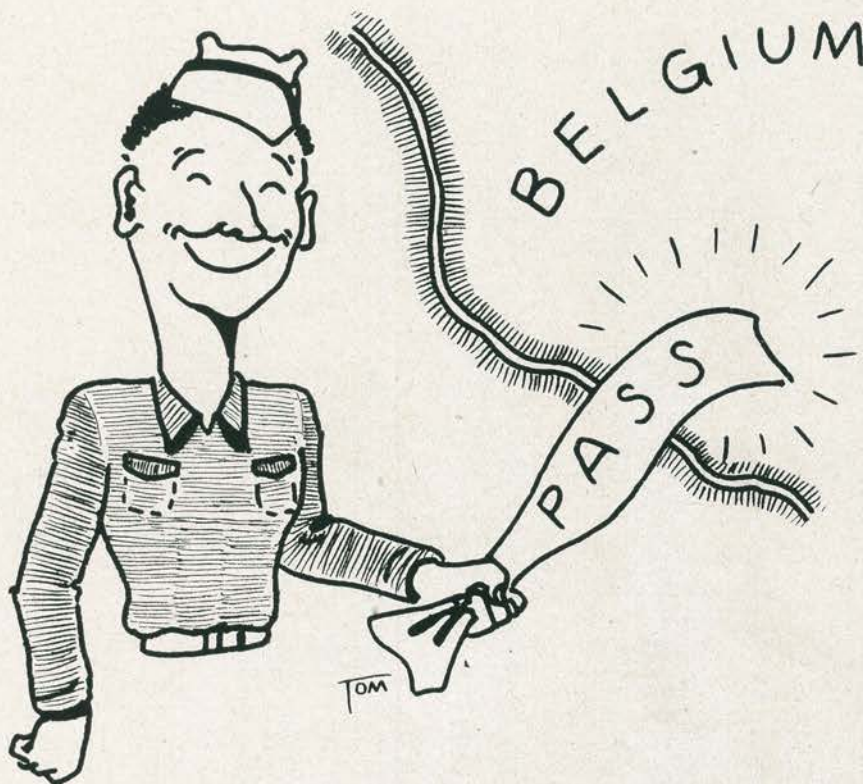


Hunting for mattresses; cleaning rooms, and getting a touch of home in the houses we occupied.

the Battalion marched under a cloak of secrecy (using the code name Col-

fax Nan 58) for 70 miles of "cat-eye" driving that was unusually difficult due to the blinding lights of on-coming traffic.

We arrived around 0330 on the 18th, tired and sleepy. The quartering party, which left at 1000 hours, guided the vehicles into camouflaged and protected positions 1000 yards from the west bank of the Rhine River at Ossenburg, Germany. The howitzers did not go into position, and it was quite a relief to go in the houses and get some sleep. The day before the Battalion arrived, all civilians were evacuated and orders were issued to treat as PW's any civilian found in this area.



They were made of rubber and stretched far into Belgium.

Camouflage discipline was rigidly enforced as the Battalion was under direct observation of the enemy. "C" Battery had the first gun to go into position, after the camouflaged gun pit was dug in at night. Every place we went we walked. There could be no fires when the stove pipe was facing the enemy. Fortunately it wasn't too cold! Our instructions were to stay indoors at all times unless we had business to be outside.

We were told that in a rear area, special troops were putting on an act simulating the 30th Division. They were said to be complete with shoulder patches (of

which ours were taken off) and truck bumper markings (our blacked out). One story goes that a Division Artillery officer passed through this town, saw all the division markings, and then it took him an hour to find out what was happening.

Then there was the mysterious malady that afflicted chickens. Whole flocks would disappear! Hen houses were claimed by sections within each battery and



*About 5 females that demonstrate the size
and shapes a woman can grow into.*

locked. Some went so far as to pull regular guard over the house. And there was one case where seven hens (good layers) were kept shut-up in a loft on the second floor. Everyone seemed amazed at the amount of food-stuff stored or hidden in the area. Latrine diggers struck "gold"-pistols, swords, etc. After this, it was unsafe to walk in the area for fear you would fall in a newly-dug latrine. To add more color to this different type of life we were living, the medics delivered several lambs.



*S/Sgt. Dreier receives the Silver Star
from Brig. Gen. Lewis.*



Metro Data provided accurate firing for the Rhine Crossing.

By the 21st all batteries' base piece had been put into position and Verify once again was tied in. The 230th "group" was complete, after the 691st and 751st Field Artillery battalions were attached. Registrations were directed from an OP in the attic of Dog Battery's CP. The Battalion had no fire missions, and Jerry followed the same routine in the Battalion area.

FROM THE RHINE TO THE ELBE

The "Big Picture" for Operation Flashpoint, as relayed by Col. Vieman on the night of the attack was: The British Commandos will drive for Wesel at 2230 after 200 Lancaster Bombers neutralized it; the 12th British Corps will cross in its zone with the mission of spearheading and making contact with the Russians; the 18th Airborne Corps composed of Polish, British, and the American 17th Airborne troops will drop at "P" hour. The mission of the 30th Division is to protect the right flank of the 12th British Corps. "H" hour is at 0200 hours

on the 24th with an artillery preparation of four and one-half hours beginning at 0100 hours.

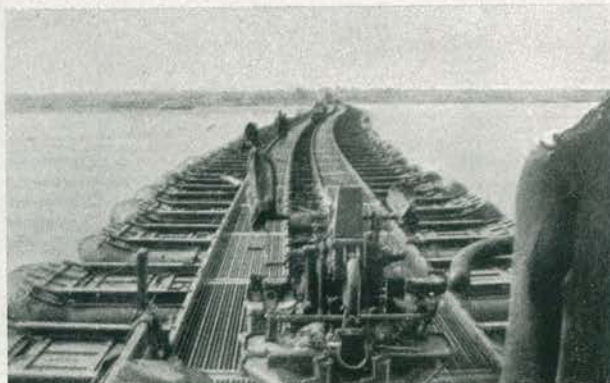
The "Big Picture" progressed as planned, the 120th began crossing the Rhine in assault boats at 0200 hours. The 2nd Battalion leading, was completely across by 0330 hours and obtained its first objective by 0400. From then on it was a series of one continuous attack after the other.

Lt. Rich and his "A" Battery party had trouble getting across the River. After the first boat was forced back, his second attempt landed them about two miles north of the designated landing spot. It wasn't until a few snipers and machine gun nests were by-passed before they reached "G" Company, ready to start the attack.

The Battalion displaced at 1640 hours on the 24th, after firing 6200 rounds since 1800 hours of the 23rd, to cross the Rhine. The reconnaissance parties had left earlier to reconnoiter positions. The head of the column reached the bridge-site, but was unable to cross because an LCM had lost control and smashed in the bridge. We went into houses or dug in, waiting for our opportunity to cross the Rhine. Enemy planes were active in the sector, amidst the barrage balloons that had been put in place by the British, and dropped flares and bombs where they thought the bridges were.

Through a heavy smoke-screen that covered the river, the Battalion started crossing the rubber-ponton bridge at 0200 hours on the 25th. Enemy planes were low over the column as vehicles would emerge from the smoke-screen. With the aid of route markers, we arrived on the east bank of the Rhine at Schanzenberg.

No sooner had the cannoneers dug in themselves and their guns, than "March



We displaced at 1640 hours to cross the Rhine.



We had fired our 150,000th round during the assault crossing.



We were always running across prisoners.

Order" came down, and the Battalion displaced at 1325 to follow a task force of the Second Battalion. This was stopped after a 1500 yard advance (we heard that a Panzer Grenadier Division had come from Holland), and we went into position around Bruckhausen.

Charlie Battery had to displace from its original position due to intense hostile observed fire. It had been a long and hard trip since leaving the west bank, and it didn't take Morpheus long to take our hand.

Activity started bright and early the next morning. Following an artillery preparation at 0600 hours, the reconnaissance parties left at 0730 hours, bypassing tank columns and advancing to cross-roads near Peters, about 600 yards behind the front lines.



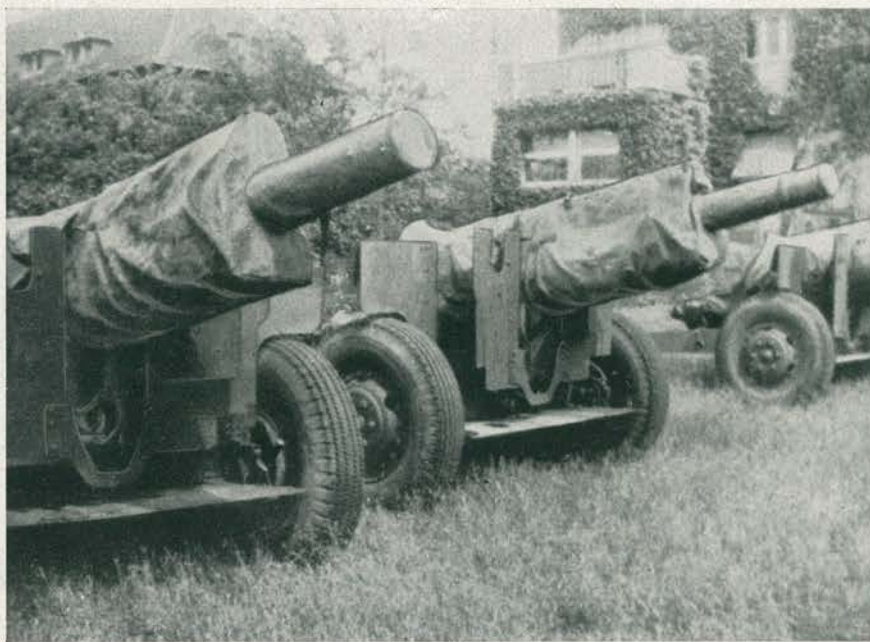
Baker, Dog and Charlie each shared one house for their CP.

During the reconnaissance for position and the survey, there was heavy shelling from 128AA, and 105's. Able, Baker, and Dog batteries came into position at 0900 hours amidst an intense air and graze burst shelling. The forward echelon received the heaviest massed enemy artillery fire since Mortain, with approximately 100 rounds landing in the battery areas. The rear echelon came into this position at 1830 hours, after the intensity of the shelling had quieted down.

Part of Headquarters moved into a "pig-pen", lived in at first by the rightful owner. There were some British troops nearby who helped dispose of the pigs by including one on their menu. Across a field, Baker, Dog, and Charlie batteries shared one house for their CP. Baker and Charlie kitchens were together and served meals so that there were two different "sittings". If you didn't like what one kitchen offered, it was convenient to wait for the other selection.

The Eighth Armored Division passed through the Infantry at 0700 hours on the 28th of March and by 1200 hours, the Battalion was out of range, awaiting further orders and instructions. We were tired, the last five days had been strenuous and nerve-wracking. We had fired during this time 14,425 rounds, a total of 258 missions and 11 registrations.

The "rear echelon paper work" changed again, when the Division was detached from the XVI Corps and reverted back to the XIX Corps. Gen. James M. Lewis, Division Artillery Commander awarded many Good Conduct Ribbons in the Battalion, as we all cleaned ourselves up the best we could for the ceremonies.



Our equipment had been cleaned and we were ready to hit the road.



Service Battery takes "ten" on the way.

We knew that up there, somewhere the armor was pushing. For two days now we had watched long columns of tanks, scout cars and gasoline trucks roll by. On the morning of April 1st, rumor turned into fact. The Division was to be motorized and follow behind the "Hell on Wheels" Second Armored Division. The quartering party left at 0630 hours and we limbered up. The "hurry up and wait" of previous moves did not appear here, for at 1300 hours we shoved off on what we sensed to be the last lap.

Moving forward along the roads we encountered the debris of what had once been a powerful army. Brand new 128AA guns lay twisted and broken by the roadside; ammunition for all types of guns and rocket projectors was piled in huge dumps along the wooded trails paralleling the woods. This explained to us the heavy volume of German fire we had received along the road during the concentrated shelling on the crossroads.



Ex-slave laborers heading west as we were heading east.

For two days we stressed care and cleaning of material in preparation for our next and final operation, "The Dash to Berlin". Morale was high as we knew that Jerry was on the run and we were right behind him to see who could get to Berlin first.

Everything was ready — our equipment had been cleaned and rumors were floating in full strength. An air of expectancy hung over the whole Battalion.

The quartering parties had fun and laughter capturing seven officers and fifty four enlisted men out of a small woods near our day's destination. Several Lugers were collected in this haul, much to the envy of the remainder of the Battalion who arrived too late to get in on any of the fun or plunder. Strange enough in that bivouac area we found no Nazis, even the soldiers claimed

to be anti-Nazi. It appeared that the deeper we moved into Germany, the fewer Nazis we saw.

We rose with the sun the next morning and continued to roll. By now the "Gremlins" were whispering that the 2nd Armored spearheads were 30 or 40 kilometers from our location and still hunting for opposition. That day we went forty miles and bivouaced in the small village of Neuen. On the way we passed seventy trucks filled to capacity with German prisoners. There must have been at least 4000 and it started to look as if the Jerries were cracking up for good.

We rolled and bounced along through mountain passes and flat country, forests and dry parched treeless spaces. It seemed as if we would never stop. On April 3rd we wiped the dust out of our eyes long enough to see the German tank proving ground at Lopshorn. This, it seems, was the German equivalent of our Fort Knox, a Tankers training school. We stared in awe at huge Royal Tiger tanks apparently intact with their muzzles pointed "helter skelter" and their sightless periscopes leering at us with a deathlike glare.

Leaving Lopshorn, we had a change of scenery—wooded mountainous terrain. There we stopped and sweated out a rain and hail storm while up ahead something, we didn't know what, was happening. It seems that in the passes outside of Detmold, the Infantry had run into a strong German roadblock and needed artillery fire, as they dismounted to fight as "foot troops" once again. We were pulling off the road to go into position when out of the low hanging clouds flashed two ME 109s. They swung the length of the column with their guns spitting. The whole column seemed to erupt with violent action and noise. Machine guns chattered, men shouted, and artillerymen tumbled from the gun trucks taking cover on the run. One plane was hit and staggered away smoking. Our luck had held again and no



There was beaucoup Jerry equipment on the road.



We saw our first captured "singing artillery".

one was injured. One truck, however, from the 2nd Armored was set on fire.

Verify joined us as we started to shell the Germans holding the pass. Quite a battle had been raging and once again the Battalion medics aided the Infantry, rescuing wounded in the face of heavy machine gun and Panzerfaust fire. The fighting continued all afternoon; early that evening the 120th pushed through the pass and took Detmold. It was only a short distance from here that in ancient days the Roman Varus was ambushed by Germans (Hermann, the Cherusk in

comand), and had his legions cut to pieces. The battle-cry by the Germans for that war was, "Varus, count your legions". Not to be outdone in any phase by the ancient warriors, the GI's came out in 1944 with, "Hitler, count your men". We saw the large monument of the Teutonic warrior perched on a high ridge. Even amidst these historic surroundings, there was one question that stood out in our minds—where was the German Artillery?

Whether puzzled by historical questions or the big picture of the present war, we found the solution in and around Detmold. Bottle after bottle of wine, cognac, calvados, brandy, armagnac, and other liquids that burn were at our disposal. And so another town became famous in the annals of history for the 230th.



Detmold.

Pushing eastward from Detmold, the 120th Combat team raced towards the Weser River and went into position just south of Hameln. The town struck a note of home for we remembered the famous legend about the Pied Piper who led the children off into the mountains because the town refused to pay him for ridding Hameln of rats. As far as we were concerned it remained a legend since no rats were encountered in the cellars, just a copious supply of wines and liquors which were requisitioned and consumed with beaucoup glee.

Crossing the Weser we shoved on. Everyone was riding high. It couldn't last much longer, we said; after all, at the rate we had been traveling there couldn't be much of Germany left to cover. Jerry planes were more frequently appearing out of the sun and attacking the dust plumes of the advancing columns. We had just



White flags quickly replaced the swastika.

pulled off the road and gone into position when a column of our Infantry was strafed and several men were wounded. Our ammunition supply was running short, so a convoy of Battalion trucks, 21 in all, were sent back across the Rhine for more rounds.

The lack of vehicles, however, did not faze us in the least. Borrowing trucks from the 978th F. A. Battalion, we pushed on. The Germans were now attempting to use their canals to delay us by blowing the bridges. But at one point near Brunswick they made the fatal mistake of leaving a railroad bridge intact. Much to the surprise of the aged station master, we crossed the canal on it. His mouth gaped open in astonishment as he beheld a battalion of 105's pulling into his station. This was the first and only time we operated as railway guns.

It was apparent to all now that we were throwing our "Sunday punch" and nothing could stop us. It was the final curtain and after ten months of bitter campaigning we had pushed through the crumbling outer structure. From here on



We passed through many un-manned roadblocks.



German equipment made bright fires.

ugly air bursts straddled the road in front of us, it sounded extremely vicious. A couple of tanks—part of Jerry's delaying action—was the objective as the Dough-
feet deployed to get them—we went into position at Gr. Lafferde, while the Infantry was in the outskirts of Brunswick. Over the radio came an unusual message from Col. Vieman, "Do not fire unless fired upon—negotiations for surrender are under way." As we puzzled over this odd arrangement, we were abruptly sent diving

in, they might delay us but they could not stop the surge of armed might that had broken out from the Rhine.

April 10th found us still on the move. We were tired, dirty and dusty, the K and C rations weren't providing the best in tasty menus—but the continued movement east boosted the morale. Up ahead of the column the reconnaissance party called a halt and there it was. The German Artillery we hadn't heard for so long. As we watched two



3rd Battalion moves out toward Brunswick, Germany.

into our foxholes by the chatter of our 50 cal's cutting loose. Eight ME 109s had slipped in on us flying in the same sort of formation that our 47's used, dropping anti-personnel bombs and strafing as they zoomed over. Pfc. Elzie Williams, of Headquarters Battery caught one squarely in his tracerstream and had the pleasure of seeing it explode in midair.

That night with everyone sweating out the Luftwaffe, we moved up to Vallsted. The black skies and flaming horizon had a very macabre appearance but the hours passed without incident.

On April 12th we were off again and operating in a Combat Team task force as usual. We began to wonder how big Germany was. In one town we encountered a large group of newly liberated American PW's. The expression on their faces and their gratitude at the K and C rations and cigarettes we gave them was something never to be forgotten. Along the road too, in ever increasing numbers, we saw groups of German soldiers straggling to our rear with large white flags, trying vainly to give themselves up. But the column roared by unheedingly. We crossed and recrossed the Autobahn; and as the darkness of night approached, we rolled through small mountain villages, to the resounding cheer of ex-slave laborers who gave us a welcome reminiscent of those happy days in France. When it was completely dark, the Luftwaffe dropped flares to our left flank. Finally we pulled off the road and slept in an open field across from a group of houses. Search parties revealed later that the houses were full of German soldiers. There was no fight left in them, and only wanted to surrender. We could not take prisoners, so we ignored them — after searching for Lugers.



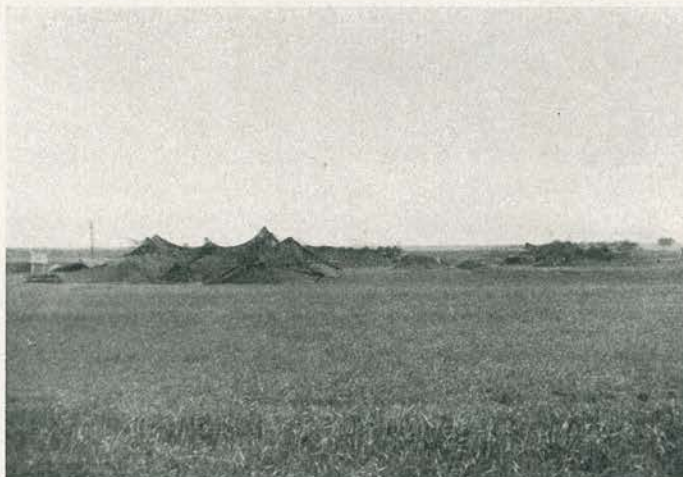
Ex-slave laborers gave us a welcome reminiscent.



We occupied positions near Barleben.

At dawn the seemingly relentless drive continued. We breakfasted on K and C rations again. At mid-afternoon we pulled off the road at the small village of Barleben. The guns went into position and everyone imagined it to be another one of these two hour stop-offs. The cannoneers lounged around the guns. They would dig in, sure, but later on. It was such a nice day and much more pleasant to just lie around in the sun and talk. Then like the proverbial "Bolt out of the Blue", it came.

Enemy artillery fire, mostly air bursts, began to hit in Charlie and Dog battery's positions. The change in outlook was astonishing. Dirt began to fly in all directions. Any moles in the immediate vicinity would have hidden their faces in shame. Fox-



Our holes were deep in the ground for the "Duel".

holes were dug in the fastest time ever, those air-bursts, just at the correct height, were quite nerve-wracking. As rapidly as it started, it stopped; and once again serenity settled over the area. We found out that our mission was to clear out the west bank of the Elbe River, with the main objective Magdeburg.

The 13th of April started off very calmly but at 1310 hours, the Battalion engaged in the sharpest Artillery duel of its career. On the east

bank was a medium sized hill, appropriately titled "Flak Hill". On it were spotted several battery positions of the new and deadly 128mm heavy ack-ack gun. We did not know whether they could see us or not, but we soon found out. Time fire began to burst directly over Dog's position. Rounds were coming in six to eight at a time and on the second salvo, an ammunition truck, with 468 rounds, was hit and started burning.

Lt. James R. White, Dog Battery Observer, radioed in the welcomed "Fire Mission--Enemy Battery firing." Jerry could see us and we could see him--the "Eyes of the Artillery" in action--and the duel was about to be waged. "A" Battery started the adjustment as cannoneers manned their pieces amidst flying fragments, ducking back and forth from their foxholes. "C" Battery was now receiving heavy time fire and Service Battery reported one truck afire. Fragments were flying all over Able's position, so the adjustment was turned over to Baker, who wasn't receiving too much fire. Closer and closer the adjusting rounds landed and then it happened--"Fire for Effect". The Battalion fired 10 rounds per gun in the enemy



The wind took one of our planes for a joy-ride.

gun position and our supporting Battalion, the 203rd Field Artillery Battalion joined in the fun. The hostile fire was silenced; Jerry deserted his guns, and never did the artillery on "Flak Hill" fire a round.

On April 15, we were awakened to the sound of our ack-ack erupting into violent action. Just at daybreak, eleven Jerry fighters came over, strafing and dropping anti-personnel bombs. One dove in low and was hit as he dropped personnel bombs on "B" Battery.

The next several days saw a repeat performance of this predawn aerial sneak and also several minor artillery duels.

On the 16th the town of Magdeburg was given an ultimatum to surrender or be leveled; the Commandant refused even though the majority of his troops wished to surrender. The following day we sat near our foxholes and watched (not without misgivings) the heavy bombers plaster the town. The 2nd Armored Division attacked from



We were taking our first step toward garrison life again.

120TH ATTACKS MAGDEBURG



The artillery fires a preparation



the mortars lay a smoke-screen.



The tanks and doughboys advance



and the City falls.

3RD BATTALION GREETS THE RUSSIANS



the south; the 117th Infantry Regiment from the west; and the 120th from the north, following a heavy artillery preparation. Resistance was not strong and the city fell.

After the fall of Magdeburg on the 18th resistance seemed to literally disintegrate in our sector. The German soldiers were more than willing to surrender and towards the end of the month, the enemy made repeated attempts to cross the Elbe, so that they could surrender to the American troops on the west bank of the river.

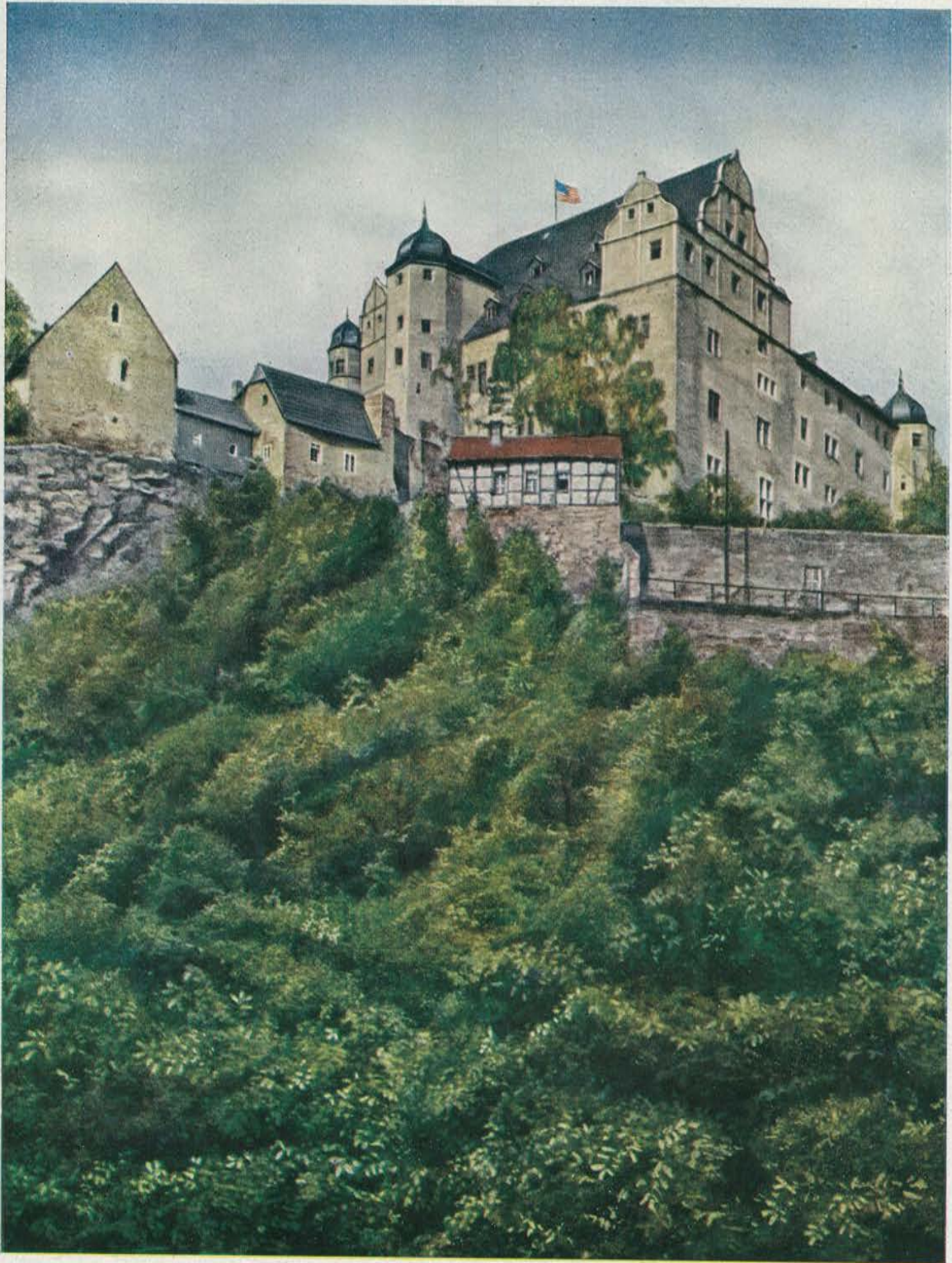


We knew then that "alles ist kaputt".

We had our first headaches in the knotty problems of military government, establishing offices in Barleben and neighboring communities. It was a new experience listening to complaints of civilians, settling disputes and making an inventory of Wehrmacht supplies in the area.

We waited anxiously for the first sign of Russian troops on the opposite bank of the Elbe, as it would signify the culmination of 11 months of fighting and the approximately 1400 miles we travelled for this momentous occasion. On May 5th, just 18 days after our arrival on the west bank of the Elbe River, the joyous news spread like wildfire through the Battalion that a group from the 120th Infantry Regiment was leaving that afternoon to greet the Russians.

At 0900 hours on the 7th of May 1945 the following message was received from 30th Infantry Division Artillery: "As of 0001 on the 8th of May 1945 hostilities will cease in Europe. VE day begins 0001 on the 9th of May 1945". On the 8th when hostilities ceased, there was no hilarious rejoicing—but rather an inner emotion and feeling of pride in a final "Mission Accomplished" in Europe.



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

PART THREE

APPENDIX

I

BATTALION RECORDS

Rounds Fired By Battalion	170,873
"A" Battery	59,079
"B" Battery	58,207
"C" Battery	53,587
Rounds Fired By Dog Battery	68,684
(Cannon Company 120th Infantry Regiment)	
Rounds Fired By Verify	26,562
(Assault Platoon, 743rd Tank Battalion)	
Total Rounds Fired By "A", "B", "C", Dog and Verify	266,119
Rounds Fired At:	
Vire Crossing	2,437
Mortain	8,000
Siegfried Line	3,652
Siegfried Line to Aachen	14,731
Malmedy	4,629
Roer Crossing to Erft	9,804
Kirchherten	4,075
Rhine Crossing	6,200 (150,000th round)
Wire Laid By Battalion	1,500 miles
Howitzer Tubes Replaced	16
Prisoners Taken	229

BATTLEFIELD COMMISSIONS

S/Sgt Eric W. Pappas
M/Sgt Harris E. Baer
S/Sgt Erick Sandor

REHABILITATION

6 Days Salmchateau, Belgium 28 January 1945 to 3 February 1945
10 Days Susterseel, Germany 7 March 1945 to 17 March 1945

REST PERIODS

3 Days Looz, Belgium 8 December 1944 to 11 December 1944
Total Days in Combat 314

ARMY AND CORPS ASSIGNMENTS

30th Infantry Division

DATE	ARMY	CORPS
15 June 1944	1st	XIXth
15 July 1944	1st	VIIth
28 July 1944	1st	XIXth
22 October 1944	9th	XIXth
18 December 1944	1st	Vth
20 December 1944	1st	XVIIIth Airborne
3 February 1945	9th	XIXth
20 March 1945	9th	XVIth
29 March 1945	9th	XIXth
9 May 1945	9th	XIIIth

DECORATIONS AWARDED

(As of 8 June 1945)

	Head- quarters	Able	Baker	Charlie	Service	Medics	Total
Distinguished Service Cross			1	1			2
Silver Star Medal . .	26	21	13	23	9	2	94
Croix De Guerre . .			2				2
Bronze Star Medal . .	72	25	24	22	14	10	167
Air Medal	22			5			27
Purple Heart	27	16	20	21	1		85
Presidential Citation	6		4	5			15
Certificate of Merit .	88	98	70	41	58		355

DECORATIONS

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS MEDAL

Capt Michael S. Bouchlas

1st Lt Donald C. Mills

SILVER STAR MEDAL WITH THREE OAK LEAF CLUSTERS

Tec 4 Sherman Goldstein

SILVER STAR MEDAL WITH TWO OAK LEAF CLUSTERS

1st Lt Robert J. Ramberg

S/Sgt Franklin W. Denius

SILVER STAR MEDAL WITH ONE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

1st Lt John W. Jacobs

2d Lt Eric W. Pappas

Sgt Harold Burney

Sgt Henry J. Costello

Tec 4 Alvin V. M. Dreier

Tec 4 Charles Licata

Sgt Hans Wischmann

SILVER STAR MEDAL

Capt Merrill S. Alexander

2d Lt Richard C. Arnold *

1st Lt Gene A. Barthelme

1st Lt Charles A. Bartz *

1st Lt Wayne H. Cofer

1st Lt Harold W. Hale

1st Lt Joseph E. Isbell

1st Lt Thomas P. Laney *

Capt Edward J. McArdle

Capt James R. McCauley

1st Lt Lawrence D. McCrea

1st Lt Carl E. Maukonen

Capt William P. Mitchell

2d Lt Antonio Moschetta

1st Lt William B. Murnighan *

1st Lt Guy O. Phleeger

1st Lt Richard B. Roche

Capt Richard P. Trauth

Lt Col Lewis D. Vieman

Pvt Nissim Attas *

Tec 4 Willis N. Blake

Sgt J. L. Bushnell *

Tec 4 Frank C. Carvalho

Tec 5 Joseph J. Chikla

S/Sgt John L. Corn *

Tec 5 Frank R. Damato

Pfc Luther W. Drake
 Tec 5 John E. Draper
 Cpl Mike A. Dudek
 Pfc Ray F. Edwards
 Pfc George A. Eitenmiller
 Tec 5 Robert J. Garon
 S/Sgt Dan C. Garrott
 Cpl Howard L. Gelfer *
 Pvt Carl R. Graham
 Tec 4 Charles A. Griffin
 Cpl Alfred O. Guimond *
 Sgt Harry G. Harrison
 Pfc Joe H. Humphrey
 Tec 4 Vernon J. Jochman
 Pfc Leroy R. Keeney
 Cpl Herman L. Knight *
 Pvt Dudley J. Lawrence
 Sgt Harold M. Lee
 Tec 5 Raymond E. Lily
 Tec 5 Eston E. Lough
 Cpl Clifford McClain
 Tec 4 Norbert W. Marbach

Tec 4 Albert A. Marinucci
 Tec 5 Ernest W. Marlow
 Sgt Donald A. Maze
 Pfc Henry T. Michaelson
 Tec 4 Joe B. Morton
 Tec 4 Vollie W. Nicholson
 Tec 5 Barney E. Nixon
 Tec 5 Dean F. Penewit
 Pvt Vincent Poidomani
 Tec 4 Deleware M. Powell
 Cpl William A. Rainbolt
 Cpl Wilbur H. Sadler
 Pfc Franklin H. Seeberger
 Cpl Nicholas A. Sica
 S/Sgt Edward M. Smith *
 Tec 5 John J. Stanton *
 Pfc Adrian D. Sullivan
 Sgt David D. Townsend *
 Cpl Theodore Veltman *
 S/Sgt Harold M. Ward *
 Cpl Verlon A. Williams
 Sgt Herbert G. Worcester

CROIX DE GUERRE MEDALS

1st Lt Robert L. Weiss
 S/Sgt Dan C. Garrott

BRONZE STAR MEDALS WITH TWO OAK LEAF CLUSTERS

Lt Col Lewis D. Vieman

BRONZE STAR MEDALS WITH ONE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

1st Lt Harris E. Baer
 Major Raymond I. Clement Jr.
 Major Richard E. Evans Jr.
 S/Sgt Henry J. Cox
 Tec 4 Frederic A. Fisher
 Cpl Howard L. Gelfer *

Tec 4 Leslie J. Hann
 Cpl Robert L. McClanahan
 S/Sgt John D. Martin
 1st Sgt Joseph E. Russell
 Pfc Louis R. Sberna

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Capt Merrill S. Alexander	Sgt Harold Burney
CWO William J. Berry	Pfc George A. Chilton
Capt George H. Bland	Cpl Edward G. Ciucevich
Capt Ralph H. Bradley	1st Sgt John T. Clark Jr.
2d Lt Horace A. Case	Pfc William E. Cooper
1st Lt Wayne H. Cofer	T/Sgt Wilbur H. Cowell
Capt Gordon L. Coltrin	Cpl Francis J. Curran
2d Lt Frank A. DeMichele	Pvt John C. Cwik
Capt Max A. Hunt	Pfc Howard G. Dallas
1st Lt John R. Lloyd Jr.	Sgt Ralph A. Desposito
Capt James R. McCauley	Pfc Luther W. Drake
1st Lt Carl E. Maukonen	Tec 4 Alvin V. M. Dreier
1st Lt Eugene G. Mosbacher	Cpl Frederick W. Durchholz *
1st Lt William B. Murnighan *	Pfc George C. Evans
2d Lt Eric W. Pappas	1st Sgt Welcome G. Farr
CWO Henry O. Phillips Jr.	Pfc J. B. Foster
Capt Andrew T. Pucalik	Pfc John P. Garman
1st Lt Barney K. Rich	Cpl Hugh J. Gartland
Capt Charles R. Slager	Sgt Eugene A. Gavin
Capt Bruce D. Stern	S/Sgt Richard J. Gilmore
Capt Robert P. Stewart	S/Sgt Thomas D. Greenway
2d Lt Charles W. Swienty	M/Sgt Gerald J. Grant
Capt Richard P. Trauth	Pvt James R. Gratto
1st Lt James R. Vereen	Pfc Karl W. Gray
Tec 5 Vaudra Addison *	Tec 4 Robert C. Gum *
Cpl David L. Alther	Cpl Bertrand M. Gyurik
S/Sgt Arthur Armstrong	Sgt Harry G. Harrison
S/Sgt Harry R. Attebery Jr.	Tec 5 Willie A. Heaton
Sgt Harry L. Baer	S/Sgt Thomas Hernandez
Tec 5 Millard E. Baker *	Pfc Thomas J. Heslip
Pfc John F. Barrett	Pfc Wallace J. Huziak
Pvt Alvin J. Baumgardner	S/Sgt Irby A. Jenkins
Sgt Howard M. Benson	Cpl Milton E. Jones
Sgt Pete E. Bludis	Tec 5 Koman M. Kitamura
Sgt George Boazzo	Tec 5 Edward J. Knize
S/Sgt Robert L. Bringle	Sgt Albert J. Kopaska
Sgt John E. Brodell	Pfc Joseph A. Kozak Jr.
Cpl Floyd E. Brooks	Tec 5 William H. Lamb
Tec 4 Robert Brooks	Pfc Newell A. Lawley
Pvt Anthony Branchini	Pvt Dudley J. Lawrence
Pvt Oscar W. Bratz	Tec 5 Joseph A. Leary

Sgt Harold M. Lee
 Pvt Frank P. Lewis
 Pfc Paul L. Lewis
 Tec 5 Glenn A. Louis
 Pfc John R. Lynch
 Tec 4 Milton McBee
 Cpl Clifford McClain
 Pvt Frank C. McGovern *
 S/Sgt Warner R. McNulty
 Sgt Charles C. Maddox
 Tec 4 Albert A. Marinucci
 Tec 5 Ernest W. Marlow
 T/Sgt Leo H. Mason
 Sgt Donald A. Maze
 Pfc Donald L. Millerin
 Sgt Roy M. Minch
 Pfc Fred F. Mitchell
 Pvt Sam Monceaux *
 S/Sgt Lawrence E. Morgan
 S/Sgt Delbert J. Moritz
 Tec 4 Joseph Moschetta
 Tec 5 Edward A. Mufich
 Tec 5 Joseph R. Muskey *
 T/Sgt Walter E. Myers
 Tec 3 James Nassar
 Tec 5 Leonard F. Nichols
 Tec 4 Vollie W. Nicholson
 Cpl James C. Patty
 Sgt James L. Payne
 Tec 5 Joseph Pekar

Tec 5 Dean F. Penewit
 Tec 5 Lewis P. Penn
 T/Sgt Warren G. H. Pickler
 Pvt Vincent Poidomani
 Tec 4 Delaware M. Powell
 Tec 4 James H. Pruette
 M/Sgt Haran R. Ritchie
 Tec 3 Harold M. Rix
 Cpl Wilbur H. Sadler
 Tec 4 Armon A. Sasser
 Cpl Claude L. Sanders
 Pfc John B. Shaver *
 Pfc Clarence W. Sterner
 Tec 5 Edgar R. Stewart
 Tec 5 Cloyd V. Sullivan
 Tec 5 Edward G. Sweeney
 Tec 5 Paul J. Sweeney
 Pvt Clifford L. Taylor
 Tec 5 William J. Teetsell *
 Pfc William C. Tomlinson
 Tec 5 Charles S. Tourtellot
 Cpl Morris W. Trammell
 Pfc Michael J. F. Treacy
 Tec 4 Buford C. Trantham
 S/Sgt Anthony Venzon
 Pfc Wilfred H. Williams Jr.
 T/Sgt James B. Wilson
 Pvt Robert D. Yeazel *
 Pvt Steven Zarkovich *
 1st Sgt Hugh W. Zittrauer

AIR MEDAL WITH EIGHT OAK LEAF CLUSTERS

1st Lt Harold W. Hale

AIR MEDAL WITH SIX OAK LEAF CLUSTERS

1st Lt Guy O. Phleeger

AIR MEDAL WITH THREE OAK LEAF CLUSTERS

1st Lt Henry H. Hanna

1st Lt William A. Pfeil

AIR MEDALS

1st Lt Harris E. Baer
1st Lt Horace A. Case
2nd Lt Jack H. Tafeen

PURPLE HEART MEDAL WITH ONE OAK LEAF CLUSTER

1st Lt Robert L. Weiss	Cpl Joseph F. Dale
S/Sgt Robert L. Bringle	Tec 4 Deleware M. Powell
Pvt Daymon H. Clemons	Cpl Claude L. Sanders

PURPLE HEART MEDAL

1st Lt Wayne H. Cofer	Sgt Eugene A. Gavin
Capt Max A. Hunt	Cpl Richard Gerhardt
1st Lt Joseph E. Isbell	Tec 4 Sherman Goldstein
1st Lt John R. Lloyd Jr.	M/Sgt Gerald J. Grant
1st Lt Donald C. Mills	Pvt James R. Gratto
Capt Andrew T. Pucalik	Cpl Bertrand M. Gyurik
1st Lt Barney K. Rich	Tec 4 James B. Hamlin
2d Lt Erick Sandor	Cpl George W. Hill
Capt Charles R. Slager	Sgt Frank K. Huffman
1st Lt James R. Vereen	Pfc Wallace J. Huziak
Pvt David P. Acosta	Tec 5 Robert E. Kauffman
Tec 5 Vaudra Addison *	Pfc Alonzo J. Kennedy
Tec 5 Patsy A. Albano	Pfc Robert L. Koopman
S/Sgt Harry R. Attebery Jr.	Tec 4 Herman S. Kozub
Sgt Osborne F. Brown	Tec 5 William H. Lamb
Pfc Oscar W. Bratz	Sgt Harold M. Lee
Sgt Harold Burney	Pvt Frank P. Lewis
Sgt Henry J. Costello	S/Sgt Charles Licata
Pfc Chester S. DeFreece	Tec 5 Maurice G. Livingston
S/Sgt Franklin W. Denius	Tec 5 Norman S. Locke
Tec 5 Jack C. Dominick	Tec 4 Norbert W. Marbach
S/Sgt Alvin V. M. Dreier	Pfc Morton M. Margolis
Pfc Ray F. Edwards	Tec 4 Albert A. Marinucci
Cpl Robert W. Fenn	Sgt Donald A. Maze
Tec 4 William J. Ferriter	Pfc Robert D. Menzie
Pvt Rubin E. Finke	Sgt Kenneth E. Merritt
Tec 5 Ralph C. Finn	Pvt Philip P. Monaghan

Tec 4 Joseph Moschetta
Pfc Homer A. M. Napier
Tec 4 Vollie W. Nicholson
Tec 5 Joseph Pekar
Pfc Paul H. Pitt
Tec 5 Vincent Poidomani
Pvt Clyde Polk
Cpl James D. Purcell
Cpl William A. Rainbolt
Sgt Frederick I. Rohlfs

Tec 5 Albert J. Schneider
Pfc Staley Shanely
Pvt Robert L. Smith
Pvt Clifford L. Taylor
Cpl Martin I. Thuftin
Tec 4 Francis F. Vitikacs
Tec 5 Willis J. Ward
Pfc Wilfred H. Williams Jr.
Sgt Herbert G. Worcester

PRESIDENTAL UNIT CITATION

1st Lt Charles A. Bartz *
1st Lt Webster R. Lee **
1st Lt Robert L. Weiss
Sgt J. L. Bushnell *
Pvt Cecil E. Christy
S/Sgt John L. Corn *
S/Sgt Franklin W. Denius
S/Sgt Dan C. Garrott

Tec 4 Sherman Goldstein
Cpl Bertrand M. Gyurik
Pvt Dudley Lawrence
Tec 5 Vincent Poidomani
Pvt Clyde Polk
Tec 4 Armon A. Sasser
Cpl Louis R. Sberna

* Awarded Posthumously

** Prisoner of war

“THE LOST BATTALION”

As Told By

1st Lt. ROBERT L. WEISS

Artillery Forward Observer with the 2nd Battalion, 120th Inf. Regt.

During the morning of Sunday, 6 August 1944, my party moved forward to occupy an OP in the vicinity of Mortain. After consulting Lt. Lee, the liaison officer in the town itself, we decided to move on ahead and occupy a position on the very high ground about 1000 yards east of the town although our own supported Infantry had not yet arrived to take up positions in that area. At that time elements of the 18th Infantry were holding the hill with “A” Company in the position which we occupied. On arriving at the hill we contacted Lt. Walsh of the 32nd Field Artillery Battalion, who was the forward observer of the artillery battalion we were relieving. He pointed out possible OP’s and in particular showed us one which gave a view straight down the east-west road, which ran over our hill and into Mortain. This road paralleled another 1500 yards to the north which was a main highway and represented the principal avenue of escape for the German units which we believed were trapped in front of us. The road to the north was connected with the road to our front by numerous trails which were hidden from observation by hedgerows and foliage. It was pointed out to us that shooting the retreating Germans on these roads was a regular picnic and that all we had to do was knock them out when they showed themselves. This was easy in our zone of observation as any enemy movement was always revealed by a cloud of dust. We also learned that the 18th Field Artillery had been supported by the 5th Field Artillery, Anti-tank units, and Tank Destroyers who had even fired from the top of the hill not 50 yards from the artillery OP, and their discarded shell cases were still visible on top of the hill. The situation then, was a matter of our merely holding the high ground which we occupied, shooting the Germans which our enveloping troops flushed out of the hedgerows, making use of the excellent observation which our OP afforded. In this respect it must be noted our hill was one of the highest points in Normandy and dominated the land to our front, to the northeast and north, and in the south. In the latter direction we had observation for perhaps 15 miles, but at first we didn’t bother with this sector as it was supposedly a friendly flank. The best information we had when taking over was to watch to the front. The observation to the north, although considerable, did not permit us a view of the roads. Our most important missions would lie to the east or direct front; which, in fact, they did.

Several hours after we moved in, "E" Company, 120th Infantry Regiment, occupied the hill with the same holding mission. It was evident at first, and more so later, that this high point we occupied was a pivot on which either one army or the other could be turned, depending on who occupied it.

The first afternoon we set up our BC scope and observed the hill to our front very carefully. Movement was negligible and we were able to fire only three or four missions during daylight hours, these targets being principally foot troops. Hostile aerial attacks were active over us that afternoon.

That night we moved into the draw behind the hill and bedded down for a quiet night in the well dug in foxholes, which the 32nd Field Artillery had been thoughtful enough to prepare for us. By this time we had wire communication and our plan of defensive fires from Lt. Lee. This, incidentally, was the last we heard from or about him. We gave "E" Company Commander, Lt. Curley, a copy of the defensive fires and also informed him of the presence of an observer from the 980th Field Artillery Battalion, a 155mm outfit. We never saw him after the first evening. As we bedded down everything was quiet, and we anticipated that any action we would see in our position would be slight indeed.

Rations that day which the Field Artillery Observer consumed had been regular breakfast with the battery, K-rations for dinner, and hot B-rations with the Infantry that night. This ration record over the period of time is included in this report; the Field Artillery Observer without a doubt ate more and better than anyone else on the hill, because of the rations he carried with him and because of the solitude of the Infantry for the Artillery, which later proved to be a life-saver.

That first night, like five others which followed, we had no sleep. Briefly, German aviation was over us, tanks were active to the front, and finally, German troops came around our right flank thru "H" Company, which was attached to us. In that minor envelopment, they captured 19 out of 20 jeeps, the 57mm Anti-tank gun which was the *only* such protection on the road that bordered the right flank. We were kept awake firing missions from the plan of defensive fires we had, the basis of our missions being reports of Infantry listening posts and patrols. We also fired a few missions by sound in the area in which the Germans had cut through our flank. Some artillery fire lit a trifle close, but injured none of our own troops and probably beat off the German menace of which we were not aware, but which must have been there. This statement is based on the regular night attacks which the enemy made on our position thereafter, and of which we were then more than aware. We were also harassed by sniper fire that first night.

The morning of August 7th was very misty, and it was 0930 or 1000 hours before we could observe much to the front. When the mist did clear it left us facing a German attack. Machine gun fire which snipped the bushes all around the rock in front of our OP forced us to abandon it quickly. S/Sgt. Corn and Cpl. Garrott had gone to investigate the possibility of getting back to 24-2 for batteries around the left flank, as our rear was in enemy hands. Sgt. Sasser and I crawled off the

OP with the BC scope, tripod, radio, and battery pack, and one telephone between us. When we got back to our foxholes we found a runner from Lt. Curley waiting for us. We discarded the excess equipment in our jeep, which was right there; and left for the south end of the hill where Lt. Curley was directing the defense of his position. This was the highest point on the hill, and probably furnished the best all-around observation. The attack in front of us was mostly infantry advancing across the field toward us; we took most of the fight out of them with a few concentrations of time and ricochet fire. By 1400 hours the situation was well in hand and Sgt. Sasser went to find the rest of our party which was still unheard of since they had gone to look into the possibilities of getting back for supplies. Shortly after this an 88mm opened up on this second OP of ours. It made a good target being a very prominent outcropping of rock. Fortunately, its fire was more annoying than anything else, although a few uncomfortable close rounds bounced off the rocks beside us. One in particular never exploded until it was well into the valley to our rear; the only explanation to be made was that the Germans were using Polish ammunition. During the late afternoon sniper fire from the hill to our rear made the valley in between untenable; we moved up on top and became the pocket. "G" and "K" companies were also in the pocket; we did not form a consolidated force however, as our only contact with these companies was by patrol. Before darkness we had received several casualties and our position looked critical. First platoon put in a road block at the road junction on our left flank and we fired a normal barrage and some important concentrations for our defense that night. Our party established itself well behind the high rock outcropping on the OP, after having had the top of our antenna shot off during the afternoon firing. Our situation was this: the company had no food or water since the day before and no prospect of receiving any; we were surrounded; snipers to the rear neutralized us to some extent; our right flank was open, and the enemy could move in or out without much trouble. (Cannon Company fire in this area was excellent and its consistency probably discouraged the movement of the enemy enough to prevent his establishing positions on our right flank). We had one 81mm mortar that could fire at one elevation and which had no ammunition; we had two 60mm mortars, one of which could not be traversed and which had a little ammunition; there were no anti-tank guns available; we had a few rifle grenades; the road block had all our strong anti-tank weapons, one bazooka with nine rounds of ammunition; we had no mines; and most of our machine gun ammunition was in the valley. To the front we could hear enemy tanks moving in the darkness. We believed these were part of the 17th Panzer Division. This information had been received from a German artillery officer captured early in the day on top of our hill. He had come up to reconnoiter positions for his guns to be used for direct laying.

Rations that day were two K's and two squares of D-rations.

That night one tank came into our positions, but for some reason no others followed him up. We could have been driven off the hill with ease. Artillery fire

that night, as before, kept the enemy away and made the avenues of approach too dangerous.

During Tuesday, August 8th, we were under fire from 88's, 75's, and one 150mm gun. This fire was heavy and was meant to drive us off our OP. It included HE, AP, and WP shells. Our Artillery was quite active and we effectively neutralized three enemy batteries which were shooting at us. One good point of German fire was that everytime he fired over our position he had a hit on the hill behind us which his troops occupied.

At our OP we still had no water, although it was rumored that on our left flank men were getting water from a farm house which was still lived in by a Frenchman. Rations for the day: one K-ration.

That night we moved towards the left flank as the German fire had made observation from the rock quite spotty. The Infantry Commander continued to use it for his OP however, and did so during the entire fight. He didn't seem to give a damn. We moved in to the Company CP which was also the PW collecting point, aid station, supply depot, and so on. We established our own fire direction center that night. All protective fires were shot in; and at the approach of enemy forces (almost invariably tanks) from either flank, the infantry would call us by phone from those points, and we would give them the fire. We kept our radio well entrenched — it was our salvation.

That night the enemy made three very definite attempts to come thru on our left flank, and each time artillery fire drove them off. An attack on our position was also made by foot troops armed with automatic weapons — this attack was repulsed. Their fire was effective, however, and caused many casualties. The man lying next to me was shot thru the leg and head — we were all splattered with lead and rock splinters from the ricocheting bullets.

On the 9th of August we moved up on the hill into our third OP, more centrally located, but generally on the left flank. We had good observation down the road and still had communication with the roadblock on the left and the Infantry Commander on the right. Troops of the enemy occupied our roadblock, but we drove them off with artillery fire and reoccupied it. The troops to our rear asked us to surrender and reported the capture of 16 enlisted men and 5 officers, including Lt. Pyke of the 2nd Battalion. Lt. Curley told them "HELL NO". From this information, it looked as if the 2nd Battalion Staff had been captured. We believed the hill behind us to be occupied by approximately 35 men who were in a bad way and were bluffing (information was from a prisoner). We didn't realize how many Germans were behind us. Things looked very bad that night and we fortunately were saved by the ring of fire set up by the seven battalions of artillery. We all slept with our hands on our guns ready for a final fight. One tank came within 50 yards of our OP, fired a few rounds, called for us to surrender or die, and left. One man surrendered.

Rations that day: four squares of D-ration and the proportionate share of

one K-ration which was split five ways. We now had plenty of water from the farmhouse, although sniper fire sometimes prevented its procurement.

On the 10th of August we began using discarded batteries for the second time. Our set had been off since the second day, except when we were actually transmitting. C-47's dropped supplies that day, half of which were lost to the enemy and which contained no batteries or medical supplies. The mortars had plenty of ammunition. That night was relatively quiet and the ring of fire made approach by the enemy hazardous.

Rations on the 10th were: 4 squares of D-rations and two K-rations.

On the 11th of August we continued to drive the enemy. By this time we were confident that aid would reach us by noon, which never happened. That day we drew a lot of enemy artillery fire from the front and rear, and mortar fire from the hill behind. That night we again received the protecting ring of fire. Five tanks came from the rear and occupied our roadblock. They made no attempt to contact their forces to the front. Our troops reoccupied the roadblock.

Rations for the day were two K's.

Early in the morning of August 12th there was lots of movement to the front and we commenced firing in earnest. At 0515 my chief of detail, S/Sgt. Corn, was injured by artillery fire from the rear which hit almost in our slit trench. I had left it not five minutes before. He died quietly four and one half hours later, showing complete interest, consciousness of the situation, and good judgement on decisions up to the end. Visibility came early and we stopped large concentrations of enemy troops and tanks to the front. He began an attack which never attained momentum because of the devastating artillery fire laid down on him. He seemed to have vacated the area by the time the dust cleared. For hours afterwards we could see smoke in the draw to the front, from burning vehicles and the east-west road was strewn with wreckage. Second platoon sent patrols to investigate, and reported turrets and other portions of enemy tanks and vehicles throughout the area. Trucks were in utter confusion and showed clearly how the enemy had sought to avoid our fire.

We were relieved at about 1430 by elements of the 35th Infantry Division.

Throughout the entire occupancy of the hill we noticed an apparent indecision on the part of the enemy to overwhelm our position which he could have easily done. Any wreckage or injured personnel were removed almost as soon as they became casualties; to this end he employed every means, including the use of an ambulance as a wrecker and tow vehicle. He fired on us with artillery at night only once, that being the time S/Sgt. Corn was hit. Although quite often beat back and silenced, at the slightest carelessness in exposing ourselves thereafter, the enemy would strike back at us. He doesn't quit. His aggressiveness demands 24 hour observation, whether by sight or sound.

HEADQUARTERS
230TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
APO #30, USA

13 August 1944

SUBJECT: Report on Medical Supplies Fired with Shell M-84.

TO : Commanding General, 30th Infantry Division Artillery, APO 30,
U. S. Army.

1. On August 7, 1944, the 2nd Battalion of the 120th Regiment which had taken up its position in the vicinity of Mortain, France, was completely cut off and surrounded by enemy troops, and despite efforts of friendly patrols and tanks, remained inaccessible on the ground until the morning of August 12, when the 1st Battalion of the 119th Infantry Regiment and units of the 35th Infantry Division broke through enemy lines and relieved the encircled Battalion. During the six day period, medical supplies, food, and ammunition were exhausted or the supply was very low. The supply of radio batteries was so depleted that the battalion was left with but one failing radio as its sole means of communication.

2. In an attempt to relieve the situation the Air Force was called upon to drop food, medical supplies, and other necessary supplies. This means was resorted to after artillery observation planes, in attempting to drop supplies, had been driven off by intense anti-aircraft fire. On August 10th, a flight of C-47 planes, with fighter cover, dropped supplies in the vicinity of the battalion, but only food could be recovered. On August 11th, the attempt was repeated; nothing recovered.

3. During the evening of August 10th we attempted to shoot medical supplies to the Battalion. At 2000 hours ten rounds of shell M-84 (base ejection, HC smoke) were opened by removing base plate of projectile with hammer and screw-driver, no wrench available. Smoke cannisters and base ejection charge were removed, steel disc in nose of projectile replaced to keep fuze, when detonated, from ruining contents. In each of the five shells, after consultation with Captain Stern, the Battalion Surgeon, we placed bandages, cotton, adhesive tape, morphine syrettes, and sulpha drugs. In one other we placed one unit of plasma mixed in bottle which was well padded with cotton and bandages. Approximate contents: 4 small Carlisle dressings, 2 large Carlisle dressings, 8 envelopes Sulfanilamide powder, 6 3in. gauze bandages, 2 boxes morphine syrettes (5/box), 6 packages sulfadiazine tablets, 3 rolls 1 in. adhesive tape, 6 sterile gauze compresses (1/2 yd. length).

4. Four projectiles were filled with sand to weight approximating that of the medical projectiles, then replaced the base plates on all. Instructions for opening were radioed to our Forward Observer and at 2100 our adjustment with sand

loaded projectiles was started. We would report "Dud on the way". The Forward Observer made arrangements with infantry personnel to watch for the shells and report to him where they fell as it was expected that the projectiles would be very erratic. Due to poor communications and ricochets on the reverse slope, it took about an hour to complete the adjustment. Data: Map Range 6030 yards, Adjusted Data: Charge 5, elevation 350 mils. Adjusting rounds and medical shells were fired with fuze quick. When the adjustment was completed we reported "Medical round on the way". Fired at 5 to 10 minute intervals. The first medical round was a ricochet, the other five were seen or heard to land very close. The Forward Observer reported that he thought they could all be found. About 2400 the observer reported to Fire Direction Center that none had been located due to enemy sniper fire and darkness. At 0100 hours the Battalion Surgeon was awakened and with his aid men assisted in loading six additional shells to be fired as early as possible the next morning. In the meantime we had secured and filled five 155mm base ejection shells to be fired in the morning of the 11th. These shells contained one unit of plasma in cans plus most of the contents of the 105mm shells.

5. On August 11th, as soon as the ground mists had lifted, we fired one sand filled shell for check round and six of the medical supplies. Firing completed about 0730. All hit within a radius of 100 yards. All six were found. The first ricochet off a tree and finally landed about 500 yards to the left but was picked up by a patrol and brought to the CP. The supplies were in usable condition except about 50 to 60 % of the morphine syrettes were broken. More morphine was requested, three more shells were prepared containing only morphine packed in cotton and bandages and fired.

6. On August 11th at 1030 hours, Battery "A", 113th Field Artillery Battalion began adjustment with empty base ejection shells. They had a 1400 yard range error, on basis of initial data, and wide lateral dispersion in both empty and medical shells. All the 155mm shells contained approximately the same medical supplies. One was found, plasma broken, other supplies in usable condition.

7. In the afternoon of August 11th, "K" Company on the left of the 2nd Battalion area, requested additional medical supplies. Four 105mm base ejection shells were loaded with the same supplies as those contained in the shells fired on the evening of the 10th; and one shell was loaded with morphine syrettes. All were fired; three out of five picked up, all supplies in usable condition. Later in the afternoon "E" Company asked that more medical supplies be dropped, having recovered none of those dropped by the Air Force that day. The forward observer with "E" Company also requested BA 39 and BA 40 radio batteries. We filled six shells with medical supplies, to be fired on the 12th, and attempted to disassemble BA 39 and BA 40 batteries for packing in the shells. The plan was abandoned however, and on the recommendation of Capt. Coltrin, Battalion Communications Officer, and Radio Technician Sergeant Joseph Moschetta, we wired together three BA 37s and soldered the leads, those could be used in lieu of BA 39 and

40s. Five shells were filled with these improvised batteries, and instructions for use were prepared and inserted in each shell.

8. On August 12th, the sending over of the medical and battery shells was delayed because of the necessity for heavy artillery concentrations on enemy targets, particularly a Panzer Regiment spotted on the road in closed column. When such firing was completed, friendly elements had begun to relieve the 2nd Battalion. It is believed that with normal radio communication better results might have been obtained. It was extremely difficult to get information since the sole radio working was used sparingly for sensings and fire missions only. On the morning of August 12th the forward observer's radio could only transmit.

9. To the best of my knowledge this is the first time that artillery has been used in this manner.

RICHARD E. EVANS JR.
Major, 230th FA Bn.
S-3

“THE BATTLE OF GAUCIEL”

On 22 August 1944, the 230th Field Artillery Battalion was leap-frogging northward in two echelons, one consisting of one half of the CP personnel together with “A” and “B” batteries, and the other echelon consisting of the remaining half of the CP personnel and “C” Battery together with a battery from 743rd Armored Battalion; the latter being six tanks mounting 105mm assault guns. “C” Battery and the 743rd Armored Battery occupied positions successively at St. Andre de L'Eure, Garancieres, and Val David, bivouacing for the night in the village of Val David. “A” and “B” batteries occupied positions at Droisy and Buisson Crossin, finally the advanced position on an abandoned air field near Gauciel, a village some two or three miles to the east of Evreux. The CP was set up in the basement of a once substantial house “A” and “B” batteries were reported ready to fire and the battalion posted security and settled down for the night.

About 2400 hours, guards heard horse drawn vehicles moving west on the road just south of the CP area and Sgt. Strozier reported this to Major Clement. Col. Vieman, Major Clement and Sgt. Strozier then went to the nearest outpost. The sound of wagons continued and voices could be heard but it was not possible to determine whether French or German was being spoken. Several men were placed at intervals covering the approach of the wagons and as the approaching column reached the guard post at the cross road southeast of the CP it was challenged; the challenge was answered by enemy fire which was returned by members of the guard post, killing one German and causing the enemy column to withdraw and disperse in the fields east and southwest of the CP. The enemy movement inter-

mittently and about 0300 hours shouts of "Kamerad" were heard and one German approached the guard post again; when he was ordered to halt he turned a flashlight on the challenger and then ran to his rear. He was fired upon and is believed to have been wounded.

It was then decided to try and induce the surrender of the Germans. After investigation Colonel Vieman discovered that no one at the forward CP had sufficient knowledge of German language. Thereupon a call to the rear CP was initiated and Lt. Baer instructed Cpl. Schultz how to say "Do you want to surrender" — "How many of you are there" — "Come forward singly". With this information Colonel Vieman and Cpl. Schultz called to the enemy from one of our outposts but there was no answer and they returned with only one German team and wagon which was found near the outpost.

Orders were then issued for the attack at daybreak as follows: "A" Battery, from its position northwest of the CP to attack east with 40 men to a point 300 yards east of the road running north and south through Gauciel and then continue the attack to the north in order to take the enemy in flank and rear, as it was thought that he would try to move north past the troops manning the CP. "B" Battery was to attack on the right of "A" Battery with 40 men, starting from its position west of "A" Battery and therefore being echeloned to the right rear. It was to take with it one howitzer for direct laying.

About 0540 hours Sgt. Grant awakened the Battalion Commander with the information that enemy activity was increasing, and a few minutes thereafter the enemy attacked the outpost and CP with fire from mortars, rifle grenades, 20mm AA gun, machine guns, and other small arms and began moving southwest. "A" and "B" batteries were ordered to attack at once and enemy fire was returned by members of Headquarters Battery and Battery "D", 531st AAA Battalion. Capt. Sandager of the latter unit was ordered to attack southeast from the CP with a squad of hastily gathered men in the gap between the outpost and Battery "A".

Capt. Coltrin, on orders from Col. Vieman, radioed the rear CP that the forward CP was being attacked by a group of infantry estimated to be between a platoon and a company of enemy infantry, who were employing mortars, machine guns, and small arms. This transmission was made possible through the gallantry of Sgt. Pruette who despite mortar fire falling 20 feet from his radio, maintained communications throughout. In the mean time Colonel Vieman had established an OP in the attic of the forward CP and decided that artillery from "C" Battery could be employed against the enemy. A warning to "A" and "B" batteries not to cross the road was issued and elements that already penetrated across the road withdrew so that artillery could be used. Wire communications were established between the CP and the attic to direct fire. An attempt had been made during the night to establish wire communications between the forward and rear CPs and even though a complete line was laid between the two CPs it was impossible to contact each other so it was assumed that Germans had cut the line soon after the wire trucks had passed them.

Colonel Vieman with Sgt. Grant, acting as telephone operator, started adjustment of fire on the enemy and soon thereafter a white flag was shown by one group of Germans and the artillery fire ceased. Prisoners later testified that it was the artillery fire which caused them to surrender.

In the meantime "A" Battery, led by Capt. McCauley and 1st Sgt. Russell, had been attacking vigorously in the face of intense fire from all enemy weapons; they also saw the white flag and Capt. McCauley accepted the surrender of that particular group. At the same time Major Clement moved from the CP in an armored half track commandeered from nearby TD troops. It was fired upon by another group of enemy who may not have known of the surrender of part of their force, and returned to the CP after firing effectively on the enemy. Major Clement suggested to Colonel Vieman that it was possible that the half-track might have frightened the Germans and that he and Colonel Vieman approach on foot. Upon advancing it was discovered that the remaining German soldiers had already surrendered to Capt. McCauley of "A" Battery.

Total enemy casualties: 96 Enlisted men, including 6 wounded and 3 officers taken prisoner, 5 dead. Enemy equipment, aside from horses included 9 loaded wagons, one truck, 20mm AA gun, and a large quantity of small arms together with several machine guns and burp guns.

Casualties sustained by the 230th Field Artillery Battalion were: 5 Enlisted men killed from "A" Battery and 1 enlisted man wounded, 2 enlisted men wounded from "B" Battery when a burning ammunition wagon exploded after the fight was over.

Casualties sustained by Battery "D", 531st AAA Battalion were: 1 Enlisted man killed, 5 enlisted men wounded, 4 of whom were wounded in the explosion of the ammunition wagon.

II COMMENDATIONS

HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS
Office Of The Commanding General

14 August 1944

Major General Leland S. Hobbs
Commanding, 30th Infantry Division
APO 30, United States Army

Dear Leland:

Upon the relief of the 30th Infantry Division from the VII Corps, I wish to express to you and, through you, to the officers and men of your fine division and attached troops my admiration and appreciation of the splendid defense conducted by the 30th Infantry Division during the operation just ended. After relieving the 1st Infantry Division in the vicinity of Mortain, your division, with the Combat Command Boudinot of the 3rd Armored Division and the 12th Infantry Regiment of the 4th Infantry Division, bore the brunt of the desperate attack of the German Seventh Army aimed at separating the First and Third American Armies in the vicinity of Avranches. This furious attack by four SS and Panzer Divisions succeeded only in making one penetration of the 30th Division's front. With the assistance of the artillery of the 4th Division and Combat Command Boudinot, the 30th Infantry Division checked this penetration and then destroyed the German force that had made the advance.

I wish to pay special tribute to the tenacity of the 2nd Battalion, 120th Infantry which, when isolated on Hill 317 east of Mortain, held out for five consecutive days against determined efforts of the enemy to annihilate it.

The 30th Infantry Division thus played a major role, in conjunction with the other divisions of the VII Corps, in preventing a severance of the two American armies. At the same time, the division captured and destroyed great quantities of German personnel and materiel which cannot be replaced. I am confident that this action will materially hasten the ultimate defeat of the enemy.

Good luck to you and all of the officers and men of the 30th Infantry Division.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ J. Lawton Collins
J. LAWTON COLLINS
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding.

(14 Aug 1944)

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION, APO 30, U. S. Army. 20 Aug 44.

TO: The Officers and Men of the 30th Infantry Division.

It is with extreme pride and pleasure that the above letter from the Commanding General, VII Corps (under whom we operated at the time of your magnificent defense in and around Mortain), is transmitted to you. You have earned an envious position in the fighting forces of the American Army in this present war.

/s/ L. S. Hobbs
L. S. HOBBS
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 30, U. S. ARMY

16 March 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Officers and Men, 230th Field Artillery Battalion, APO 30.
(THROUGH: Commanding General, 30th Division Artillery.)

1. I desire to commend the officers and men of the 230th Field Artillery Battalion for outstanding actions from 22 to 23 August 1944 during an engagement with the enemy in the vicinity of Gauciel, France. Your initiative and aggressive action when you were unexpectedly required to protect your battery positions from enemy ground troops who were overrun in an area immediately adjacent to your positions (the successful accomplishment of which resulted in the destruction or capture of 110 enemy), reflects great credit upon all members of the 230th Field Artillery Battalion.

2. The superior manner in which you conducted yourselves during this engagement is most gratifying and this commendation is forwarded with sincere appreciation of your contribution to the tactical achievement of the division.

/s/ L. S. Hobbs
L. S. HOBBS
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS XIX CORPS
Office of the Corps Commander

APO #270
c/o Postmaster, U. S. Army
6 September 1944

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Commanding General, 30th Infantry Division, APO #30, United States Army.

1. On August 29, 1944 the 30th Infantry Division rejoined the XIX Corps after serving for a brief period with the XV Corps and establishing a bridgehead on the SEINE River. At that time, this Corps was ordered to advance into Belgium.

2. From its position astride the SEINE, the 30th Division advanced against opposition across the SOMME River and numerous smaller streams and into Belgium, a distance of 180 miles in 72 hours. It arrived on its objective in good order. This is believed to be one of the fastest opposed advances by an infantry division over a similar distance in the history of warfare.

3. It is desired to commend you, your officers and men, on this splendid achievement. It is also desired to express the pride and pleasure it gives this headquarters and other Corps units to serve again with your fine organization. We will go on together to further victories.

/s/ Charles H. Corlett
CHARLES H. CORLETT
Maj. Gen., U. S. Army
Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

APO 339
15 March 1945

SUBJECT : Commendation.

THROUGH: Commanding General, XIX Corps, APO 270, U. S. Army.
TO : Commanding General, 30th Infantry Division, APO 30. U. S. Army.

1. It was a distinct pleasure to me last October when I learned that the 30th Infantry Division was being assigned to the Ninth Army; a pleasure all the more keenly felt because of the fact of my previous association as one-time commander of the Division. I have been happy to share with you the pride of accomplishment that has characterized the history of your division since the initiation of operations on the Continent.

2. The operation just concluded again furnished your division with an opportunity to distinguish itself. I scarcely need point out that this opportunity was accepted and completely exploited by the division, thereby adding another glowing chapter to the record.

3. Particularly gratifying to me was the surprise which was achieved in your crossing of the Roer River at an unsuitable site, and the ingenuity with which your organization overcame the difficulties of building up a bridgehead despite meager access and egress roads. Your expeditions, clearing of Hambach Forest and the firm protection which you furnished for the Army right flank, materially assisted the Army to successfully execute the maneuver by which the enemy was turned out of his positions and driven to retreat across his own lines of communication.

4. It was characteristic of your division that, with the original mission accomplished, you were ready and waiting to execute another mission—that of further securing the Army's right flank and facilitating the capture of the key strongpoint of Neuss.

5. It is with great personal pleasure that I acknowledge the splended job performed by the 30th Infantry Division and express my commendation of the individual contribution made by every officer and man.

/s/ W. H. Simpson
W. H. SIMPSON
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Commanding.

1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS XIX CORPS, APO 270.

TO: Commanding General, 30th Infantry Division, APO 30, U. S. Army.

1. The operation to which the Army Commander's commendation is directed was, in fact, a flanking movement, swinging wide of the strongly situated Munchen-Gladbach area and driving against the Rhine, then splitting the industrial area along the west bank of the Rhine. This was accomplished by the Corps quickly and well ahead of schedule, clearing twenty-six (26) miles of the west side of the river. As such it is a classical as well as a historic achievement. The smoothness of the successful operation was vitally influenced by the thorough and rapid action of your division, by which the blow never lost its momentum, and the enemy moves to check the advance were overrun before they got underway.

2. This can easily be considered an outstanding operation of the war, and the remarks of the Army commander are therefore of high significance.

/s/ Raymond S. McLain
RAYMOND S. McLAIN
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding.

2nd Ind.

(15 Mar 45)

HEADQUARTERS 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION, APO 30, 25 March 1945.

TO: Commanding Officers, All Units, Assigned and Attached, 30th Infantry Division.

This commendation is YOURS---each of you who participated so fully and so well in this splendid achievement. It is with great pleasure and pride that I forward it to you who made it possible.

/s/ L. S. Hobbs
L. S. HOBBS
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

APO 339
12 April 1945

SUBJECT: Congratulatory Message.
TO : See Distribution.

1. The following message has been received from the Chief of Staff, United States Army:

TO: LIEUTENANT GENERAL SIMPSON:

My congratulations and admiration to you, your Corps and Division Commanders and to all your Men for the magnificent job done in the advance to the Rhine and the crossing into the Ruhr.

SIGNED: MARSHALL
CHIEF OF STAFF

2. It gives me great pleasure to pass to you and the personnel of your command this congratulatory message from General Marshall.

I wish to add my own congratulations and commendations to you, your officers and men for the superb manner in which you have accomplished these great tasks. The advance to the Rhine and the crossing into the Ruhr will undoubtedly rank high in the annals of history as an outstanding military achievement.

I desire that this commendation be read to all troops as early as practicable.

/s/ W. H. Simpson
W. H. SIMPSON
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Commanding.

1st Ind.

(12 Apr 45)
HEADQUARTERS 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION, APO 30, 20 April 1945.

TO: All Officers and Men, 30th Infantry Division and Attached Units.

1. It is with the greatest satisfaction and pleasure that I forward this message to you and add my own congratulations for another splendid accomplishment.

2. This message will be read to all troops at the first opportunity after receipt.

/s/ L. S. Hobbs
L. S. HOBBS
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General

APO 339
10 May 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : All Officers and Men of the Ninth U. S. Army.

1. In your advance through Germany you have added a glorious chapter to military history and contributed in large measure to the crushing defeat of the German army. Significant milestones in that advance were the operations in the Western Rhineland, the crossing of the Roer River, the crossing of the Rhine, the reduction of the northern half of the Ruhr Pocket, and the dash across northern Germany to the Elbe.

2. In your last great operation east of the Rhine your exploits will rank among the greatest of military achievements. To list only a few of your outstanding achievements I cite the juncture with our brothers-in-arms of the First Army; your making contact with our Russian Allies; your capture of more than 519,000 members of the Wehrmacht; your liberation of nearly 350,000 Allied prisoners of war and nearly 631,000 citizens of subjugated nations; your capture of more than 3500 cities, towns, and villages and some 11,340 square miles of Germany. In destroying German Army Group Northwest and Eleventh German Army, and forcing the surrender of both the Ninth and Twelfth German Armies, you delivered a vital blow against hostile resistance in Northern Germany.

3. My congratulations to each and every officer and man upon your brilliant accomplishments and my heartfelt thanks for your never-failing support. Command of the Ninth Army I consider a great privilege; service in it, along with you, is a great honor.

/s/ W. H. Simpson
W. H. SIMPSON
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Commanding

1st Ind.

(10 May 45)

HEADQUARTERS 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION, APO 30, U. S. Army. 15 May 45.

TO: All Officers and Men of the 30th Infantry Division and Attached Troops.

1. It is a pleasure to forward this commendation from the Army Commander which you so richly deserve.

2. The great accomplishments enumerated by Lieutenant General Simpson, to your contribution was an important one, were a fitting climax to the outstanding record you have made during the entire European war.

3. My congratulations to each of you and my sincere appreciation for your loyalty and cooperation.

/s/ L. S. Hobbs

L. S. HOBBS

Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding

HEADQUARTERS NINTH UNITED STATES ARMY

Office of the Commanding General

APO 339

28 April 1945

SUBJECT: Order of the Day.

TO : See Distribution.

The following Order of the Day by General Bradley is published:

"Soldiers of the First, Third, Ninth and Fifteenth American Armies: At 1640 hours April 25, 1945 in the twenty-ninth month of our land war against the German Government, American troops of the 12th Army Group joined forces with Soviet elements of Marshall Koniev's First Ukrainian Army Group.

These Armies have come to you from the ruins of Stalingrad and Sevastopol—across the scorched cities of the Ukraine. In two years they have smashed 1,400 miles through the German Armies to drive the enemy from Russia and pursue him to the Elbe.

Their achievements—and they have given immortality to a people that would not be conquered—are made more meaningful by your own deeds.

Across 3000 miles of an ocean supply line, you forced a coast the enemy had been years preparing against you. Within four months after landing you destroyed more Armies—to take Paris, free France, and give the World a symbol of freedom. When the enemy raised a new Army and threw it into the winter battle of the Ardennes, you smashed it and flung its remnants back. You have beaten and broken down his mighty Siegfried Line. You crossed the Rhine in your stride, encircled and reduced the Ruhr.

While demonstrating new lessons in mobile warfare, you have annihilated whole Groups of German Armies in the west on their own German soil. In ten months you have fought your way 700 miles from the beaches. These accomplishments were secured by your courage, your resourcefulness, and by your comrades who died to achieve them.

You have shared in the liberation of four Nations, given hope to others, and conquered half of Germany.

The People of America, who armed you, have had great faith in you. You have justified that faith as you will in the battles to follow

O. N. BRADLEY

General, U. S. Army

Commanding"

By Command of Lieutenant General SIMPSON:

/s/ John B. Williams

JOHN B. WILLIAMS

Lt. Col., AGD

Asst. Adjutant General

HEADQUARTERS NINTH UNITED STATES ARMY

Office of the Commanding General

APO 339

10 May 1945

SUBJECT: Messages.

TO : See Distribution.

The following congratulatory messages received by the Supreme Commander will be brought to the attention of all personnel of your command:

1. Message from the President, Harry S. Truman:

"In recognition of the unconditional and abject surrender of the Nazi Barbarians please accept the fervent congratulations and appreciation of myself and of the American People for the heroic achievements of your Allied Army, Navy and Air Forces by their sacrifices, skill and courage. They have saved and exalted the cause of freedom throughout the world. All of us owe to you and to your men of many nations a debt beyond appraisal for their high contribution to the conquest of Nazism.

I send also my personal appreciation of the superb leadership shown by you and your Commanders in directing the valiant legions of our own country and of our Allies to this historic victory.

Please transmit this message to the appropriate Officers of your command and publish it to all Allied Forces in your Theaters of Operation."

2. Message from the Secretary of War:

"In this first moment after one of the greatest military victories in all history, I find it most difficult to express to you in words the thankfulness which fills the hearts of millions of your countrymen for all that the victory means to them.

In this great hour of victory I join with all peace loving peoples of the world in sending my most heartfelt thanks to you, your Staff and Commanders, and to every member of your Allied Armies."

3. Message from the Secretary of the Navy:

"The United States Navy sends to you and your Commanders its congratulations and admiration for the superb accomplishments of the American Armies in achieving in conjunction with our Allies the destruction of Nazi Germany.

To you personally goes my unbounded admiration for great accomplishment in terms of military strategy, leadership and above all those qualities of will, patience and tact which have earned for you the unswerving support of our own Forces and those of our Allies."

4. Message from Admiral King:

"On behalf of the Officers and Men of the U. S. Navy, I extend hearty and sincere congratulations to you and all Officers and Men under your able command on the victory attained in Europe.

The unselfish devotion to duty demonstrated by your Forces will serve as an inspiration to renew our determination to hasten the day of victory over Japan."

5. Message from Admiral Nimitz:

"The smashing victory of American and Allied Armies over Germany ends the reign of brute force and terror in Europe. Millions of the World's people are beholden to you and the superb Forces under your command for the restoration of their right to life, liberty and the pursuit to happiness.

The victory confirms the wisdom of our world strategy which required the use of the bulk of our strength against Germany while holding Japan and driving them back when possible. Now the whole overwhelming weight of our Force can be turned upon our treacherous enemy in the Pacific. Japan deserves and from now on will receive our united and undivided attention.

My sincere congratulations to you, your Staff and all the Men of your command on the completion of a formidable task supremely well done."

6. Message from Her Majesty, the Queen of the Netherlands:

"Please accept my most sincere congratulations on the great and decisive victories which have caused the final downfall of a powerful and ruthless enemy. Together with me and my peoples, grateful thanks to you and all the Armies under your supreme command, who, by their unflagging bravery and sacrifice, have brought about the triumph of our common cause and the Liberation of the Netherlands."

7. Message from Prime Minister of Canada:

"I send to you and to the Forces under your command the heartfelt congratulations of the Government and people of Canada upon the final defeat of the military might of Nazi Germany to which defeat the Allied Expeditionary Forces contributed so decisively. We are indeed proud that Canadians had so worthy a place in the great company of the Forces of the liberation which, under your supreme command, have achieved so complete a victory."

By command of Lieutenant General SIMPSON:

/s/ John B. Williams
JOHN B. WILLIAMS
Lt. Col., AGD
Asst. Adjutant General

III

BATTALION ROSTER

OFFICERS

NAME	RANK	BATTERY	HOME ADDRESS
Alexander, Merrill S.	Capt	B	Box 244 - High Springs, Florida
Anderson, Robert C.	1st Lt	Hq Staff	Montevallo, Alabama
*Arnold, Richard C.	2nd Lt	C	301 22nd Ave. N., Seattle, Washington
Baer, Harris E.	1st Lt	Hq Staff	1580 St. Paul Street, Denver, Colorado
Barthelme, Gene A.	1st Lt	C	General Delivery, St. Marie, Illinois
*Bartz, Charles A.	1st Lt	C	826 Washington Street, Lincoln, Nebr.
Baysinger, Howard E.	Capt	Hq Staff	322 South 11th East, Salt Lake, Utah
Beesmer, Vernon B.	2nd Lt	B	22 Broadway, Kingston, New York
Berry, William J.	CWO	Hq Staff	3 East Gordon Street, Savannah, Georgia
Bland, George H.	Capt	Hq	817 Abella Road, Columbia, South Carolina
Boss, William H.	Capt	Hq Staff	1 Richfield Avenue, Yonkers, New York
Bouchlas, Michael S.	Capt	C	435 East Lemon Street, Tarpon Springs, Florida
Bradley, Ralph H.	Capt	Hq Staff	718 Yadik Street, Kingsport, Tennessee
Bryant, Donald R.	1st Lt	B	115 Reading Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey
Case, Horace A.	1st Lt	C	3106 High Street, Oakland, California
Clement, Raymond I.	Major	Hq Staff	402 East Henry Street, Savannah, Georgia
Cofer, Wayne H.	1st Lt	B	808 Carolina Avenue, Bluefield, West Virginia
Coltrin, Gordon L.	Capt	Hq Staff	245 Upper Terrace, San Francisco, Calif.
DeMichele, Frank A.	2nd Lt	Hq	81 Kermit Place, Brooklyn, New York
Devitt, Edward J.	2nd Lt	C	409 Simpson Place, Peekskill, New York
*Dickerson, Earl	2nd Lt	A	2300 Sherman Avenue, Middletown, Ohio
Evans, Richard E. Jr.	Major	Hq Staff	8 North Oakwood Drive, Oakwood Subdivison, Savannah, Georgia
Ferguson, David G.	Capt	B	99 Oregon Street, Greenville, South Carolina
Googe, Paul H.	Lt. Col	Hq Staff	2019 East Duffy Street, Savannah, Georgia
Hale, Harold W.	1st Lt	Hq	Abbott Road, Hamburg, New York
Hanna, Henry H.	1st Lt	Hq	Blacksburg, South Carolina
*Heath, Linwood E.	1st Lt	Hq	Richmond, Virginia
Hunt, Max A.	Capt	B	Route 2, Portland, Michigan
Isbell, Joseph E.	1st Lt	Hq	1650 1st Avenue, Terre Haute, Indiana
Jacobs, John W.	1st Lt	C	405 Boulevard, Gainesville, Georgia
Kuenzli, Quentin D.	WOJG	Hq	215 W. Atlantic Street, Appleton, Wisconsin

NAME	RANK	BATTERY	HOME ADDRESS
*Laney, Thomas P.	1st Lt	B	120 Euclid Avenue, Barnesville, Ohio
**Lee, Webster R.	1st Lt	Hq Staff	608 West 29th Street, Richmond, Virgin.
Lloyd, John R.	1st Lt	A	416 North 7th Street, Cambridge, Ohio
Maukonen, Carl E.	1st Lt	Service	6704 Madison Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio
McArdle, Edward J.	Capt	A	93-27 211 Street, New York, (Queens) New York
McCauley, James R.	Capt	Hq Staff	1520 North 29th Street, Birmingham, Alabama
McCrea, Lawrence D.	1st Lt	A	154 Park Street, Burlington, Vermont
Mills, Donald C.	1st Lt	B	2747 Spruce Street, Shreveport, La.
Mitchell, William P.	Capt	Hq Staff	347 North Green Street, Tupelo, Mississippi
Mosbacher, Eugene G.	1st Lt	B	Fults, Illinois
Moschetta, Anthonio C.	2nd Lt	A	351 East 155 Street, New York, New York
*Murnighan, William B.	1st Lt	Hq Staff	843 Indiana Avenue, Hammond, Indiana
Pappas, Eric W.	2nd Lt	A	1084 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, New York
Pfeil William A.	1st Lt	C	43 South Park Avenue, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin
Phillips, Henry O.	CWO	Service	La Roch Park, Route # 2, Box 216, Savannah, Georgia
Phleeger, Guy O.	1st Lt	Hq	11760 Evanston Street, Detroit, Michigan
Pucalik, Andrew T.	Capt	Hq	506 West 5th Avenue, McKeesport, Pa.
Ramberg, Robert J.	1st Lt	A	1311 East 1st Street, Duluth, Minn.
Rich, Barney K.	1st Lt	A	920 Texas, Avenue, Texarkana, Texas
Roche, Richard B.	1st Lt	Service	273 6th Avenue, Newark, New Jersey
Rosenberger, Elmer G.	1st Lt	B	1627 Henrici Street, Ambridge, Pa.
Sandor, Erick	2nd Lt	B	121 West 72nd Street, New York, N. Y.
Sayer, Edwin J.	2nd Lt	C	531 1/2 Chenango Street, Binghamton, New York
Schwartz, Alvin H.	2nd Lt	B	2600 Allendale Road, Baltimore, Md.
Slager, Charles R.	Capt	Hq Staff	15 Sylvan Street, Salem, Mass.
Stern, Bruce D.	Capt	Med. Det.	205 Washington Avenue, Santa Monica, California
Stewart, Robert P.	Capt	Hq Staff	150 Elizabeth Ave., Charlotte, N. C.
Swienty, Charles W.	2nd Lt	A	Box 252, Iron River, Mich.
Tafeen, Jack H.	2nd Lt	Hq	158 North Whittlesey Avenue, Wallingford, Conn.
Trauth, Richard P.	Capt	Hq Staff	3306 Werk Road, Cincinnati, Ohio
Vieman, Lewis D.	Lt Col	Hq Staff	Dickinson, Texas
Vereen, James R.	1st Lt	C	216 East Green Street, Perry, Florida
Ward, Eugene J.	2nd Lt	B	403 South Jefferson Street, Delphos, Ohio
Weiss, Robert L.	1st Lt	B	404 Elmhurst Street, Valparaiso, Indiana
White, James B.	Capt	Service	211 Royalty Building, Ponca, Oklahoma

* Officers deceased ** Prisoner of War

ENLISTED MEN

NAME	RANK	BATTERY	HOME ADDRESS
Ackerman, Howard E.	Cpl	Hq	112 Larkspur Street, Munhall, Pa.
Acosta, David, P.	Tec 5	C	515 Sampson Street, San Diego, Calif.
*Addison, Vaudra	Tec 5	B	Route 1, Brilliant, Alabama
Alba, Thomas	Pfc	A	305 Fycke Lane, Teaneck, New Jersey
Albano, Patty A.	Tec 5	C	43 Suffield Street, Agawam, Mass.
Allen, Albert	Pfc	B	Rowdy, Kentucky
Alley, Pierce W.	S/Sgt	Hq	Glendale, South Carolina
Alther, David L.	Cpl	Hq	2668 Ammon Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Amador, Carmel A.	Pfc	Hq	Royalton, Wisconsin
Amore, Vincent	Pfc	Sv	592 Hartford Avenue, Providence, R. I.
Anderson, Harold D.	Tec 4	Hq	R.F.D. 2, Bertrand, Nebraska
Armstrong, Arthur	S/Sgt	Hq	Grosse Point Woods, Michigan
Ashworth, Thomas L.	Pvt	A	419 Woodlawn Avenue, Aurora, Ill.
*Attas, Nissim	Pvt	C	275 Broome Street, New York, N. Y.
Attebery, Harry R.	S/Sgt	C	1128 Franklin Street, Napa, Calif.
Baer, Harry L.	Sgt	C	270 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y.
Bailey, Edwin C.	Pvt	Hq	347 Montgomery Street, Savannah, Ga.
*Baker, Millard E.	Tec 5	A	General Delivery, Spencer, Tennessee
*Bandosz, William J.	Pfc	Hq	1016 Vine Street, Joliet, Illinois
Barnett, Thurman	Pfc	A	Lost Creek, Kentucky
Barrett, John F.	Pfc	C	200 Elm Street, Quincy, Mass.
Barrett, John L.	Pvt	A	Route 1, Cummings, Georgia
Barrick, Jack C.	Tec 5	Hq	Mackinaw, Illinois
Basista, John J.	Tec 5	Hq	14 Main Street, Sandy Run R.D. 1, Freeland, Pa.
Baumgardner, Alvin J.	Pvt	B	12682 Monte Vista Avenue, Detroit, Mich.
Beard, John W.	Pfc	C	R.F.D. 44, Lakeville, Conn.
Beard, Russell A.	Cpl	B	753 McPherson Street, Mansfield, Ohio
Benson, Howard M.	Sgt	Sv	4437 Frankford Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.
Berkel, Stanley J.	Pfc	Sv	6 Ancona Road, Worcester, Mass.
Berube, Lawrence D.	Tec 5	Hq	23 Gould Street, Wakefield, Mass.
Berwanger, Francis X.	Pvt	B	1812 West Hasting Street, Chicago, Ill.
Bessinger, James C.	S/Sgt	C	Route 2, Georgetown, South Carolina
Betzen, Nicholas B.	Cpl	B	RFD 1, Colwich, Kansas
Bilinski, Michael	Tec 5	Hq	249 Hall Street, Phoenixville, Pa.
Blain, Charles E.	Tec 4	Hq	1433 Lakewood Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio
Blake, Willis N.	Tec 4	Hq	124 Waldo Avenue, Belfast, Maine
Blanchette, Raymond, I.	Tec 5	Hq	66 North Street, Winooski, Vermont
Bledsoe, Kindred T.	Tec 5	B	525 Oak Street, Shelbyville, Tenn.
Blocker, William V.	Pfc	B	1010 Woodland Street, Columbia, Tenn.
Bludis, Pete E.	Sgt	C	235 South Allen Avenue, Donora, Pa.
Boazzo, George	Sgt	C	1117 1/2 Agnew Street, New Castle, Pa.

NAME	RANK	BATTERY	HOME ADDRESS
Bobilin, Ernest J.	Tec 5	Sv	Star Route, Athol, Mass.
Boggs, Coy	Pfc	B	Wooten, Kentucky
Bolan, John E.	Tec 4	Hq	Winterport, Maine
Bormann, Robert E.	Tec 5	Hq	2605 A. West Walnut St., Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Borowicz, Stanley J.	Pfc	C	4335 South Maplewood Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Boucher, Lionel A.	Pfc	C	11 Reservoir Avenue, Manville, R. I.
Boyd, William E.	Pfc	Med	Rt. 1, Sand Springs, Oklahoma
Branchini, Anthony	Tec 5	A	287 Cedar Street, New Haven, Conn.
Brannen, Cecil T.	Tec 5	C	Box 33, Rt. 1, Statesboro, Georgia
Branstetter Earl F.	Pvt	B	Route 4, Ashville, North Carolina
Bratz, Oscar W.	Pfc	Hq	Box 104, Reedsville, Wisconsin
Brincko, Matthew S.	Tec 4	Hq	442 Wiseman Street, Youngstown, Ohio
Bringle, Robert L.	S/Sgt	B	Duke Street, Beaufort, South Carolina
Brodell, John E.	Sgt	Hq	Engelberg Route, Pocohontas, Arkansas
Brooks, Floyd E.	Cpl	Hq	7103 Estrella Avenue, Los Angeles, Calif.
Brooks, Robert H.	Tec 4	Med	16 B - East 39th Street, Savannah, Ga.
Brown, Don W.	Pvt	Hq	RFD 1, Sylvania, Ohio
Brown, Osborne F.	Pvt	B	17 Cannon Avenue, Greer, South Carolina
Bryant, James	Pfc	Sv	Rt. 1, Hermitage, Tennessee
Bryant, Merritt J.	Pfc	C	Rt. 1, Salem, Illinois
Brysh, Walter S.	Pfc	C	28 Cliff Street, New Castle, Pa.
Buck, Wiley E.	Pvt	Sv	1482 Glover Street, Augusta, Georgia
Bullard, Willie H.	Pfc	A	Route 1, Statesville, Tennessee
Bundrick, James M.	Cpl	C	771 Center Street, W. Columbia, S. C.
Burke, James J.	Pfc	C	2028 West Pine Street, Dunmore, Pa.
Burney, Harold	Sgt	Hq	248 Depot Street, Albemarle, N. C.
*Bushnell, J. L.	Sgt	Hq	General Delivery, Meadow, Utah
Calderon, Leo	Cpl	B	3412 West 12th Place, Chicago, Illinois
Caldwell, Wesley E.	Pfc	C	P.O. Box 421, Dante, Virginia
Cannon, Harry	Tec 5	B	Route 2, Bon Aqua, Tennessee
Capuzzo, Arthur	Pfc	C	67 Linden Park Street, Roxbury, Mass.
Carnot, Howard A.	Pvt	Hq	716 Boyd Avenue, Kaukauna, Wisconsin
Carr, Frank J.	Pfc	C	31 Suffolk Street, Lynn, Mass.
Carroll, Howard R.	Pfc	Hq	General Delivery, Carney, Oklahoma
Carvalho, Frank C.	Tec 4	C	631 Brayton Avenue, Fall River, Mass.
Cassidy, Louis E.	Pfc	C	19 Madison Avenue, Central Falls, R. I.
Cesario, Louis A.	Tec 5	B	3245 West Lexington Street, Chicago, Ill.
Chikla, Joseph J., Jr.	Tec 5	A	65 Lamberton Street, New Haven, Conn.
Chilton, George A.	Pfc	Hq	594 Riverdale Street, W. Springfield, Massachusetts
Christy, Cecil E.	Pvt	Hq	White Bluff, Tennessee
Chynoweth, Arthur D.	Pvt	C	2814 Overington Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

NAME	RANK	BATTERY	HOME ADDRESS
Cimabrone, Joseph A.	Pvt	B	1139 38 th Street, Brooklyn, New York
Cirella, Victor	Cpl	Hq	12 Canton Street, Lawrence, Mass.
Ciucevich, Edward G.	Pvt	B	318 Lincoln Street, Savannah, Georgia
Clark, John T., Jr.	1st Sgt	B	67 Brooklyn Avenue, Lancaster, South Carolina
Clemons, Daymon H.	Cpl	Hq	Pearman, Kentucky
Coburn, Ralph A.	Pfc	C	89 Lawrence Street, Brockton, Mass.
Connell, Jack R.	Cpl	B	301 Elm Street, Lancaster, South Carol.
Cook, Dwight	Pfc	A	457 West Street, Woodland, California
Cooksey, Gary W.	Pfc	B	25 Houston Street, Savannah, Georgia
Cooper, William E.	Pfc	Sv	7925 S. Carpenter Street, Chicago, Ill.
*Corn, John L.	S/Sgt	B	219 West 4th Street, North Onawa, Iowa
Corn, Lawrence J.	Tec 4	Hq	Marion, North Carolina
Cornell, Thomas P.	Pfc	A	1444 Dineen Street, Marinez, Calif.
Costello, Henry J.	Sgt	Hq	221 Sherman Avenue, New York, N. Y.
Coulter, Ralph	Tec 5	Hq	335 Quitman Street, Dayton, Ohio
Cowell, Wilbur R.	T/Sgt	Hq	239 Fitzpatrick Street, Hillside, N. J.
Cox, Henry J.	S/Sgt	Hq	524 Emmett Street, Battle Creek, Mich.
Cox, William O.	Pfc	A	3405 Welsh Road, Philadelphia, Pa.
Crowley, John H.	Pfc	A	General Delivery, Sumter, South Carol.
Curran, Francis J.	Cpl	Hq	17 Storey Avenue, Lynn, Massachusetts
Cwik, John C.	Pfc	Hq	2246 S. Whipple Street, Chicago, Illinois
Dady, Lagora F.	Pvt	Sv	Hamilton Road, Munhall, Pa.
Daignault, Joseph	Pvt	C	229 1/2 Essex Street, Haverhill, Mass.
Dale, Joseph F.	Cpl	A	319 East 12th Street, New Albany, Ind.
Dallas, Howard G.	Tec 5	Med	Alto Pass, Illinois
Damato, Frank R.	Tec 4	C	1046 W. Grand Avenue, Chicago, Illinois
Danzero, Ernest P.	Pfc	B	417 Clay Street, Joliet, Illinois
Dearth, Leo E.	Pfc	B	840 South 1st Street, DeKalb, Illinois
De Frank, Joe	Pfc	C	408 North Court Street, Marion, Illinois
Defreece, Chester S.	Pfc	A	Highland Park, Kingsport, Tennessee
Denius, Franklin W.	S/Sgt	C	507 E. Tyler Street, Athens, Texas
Denton, Dorris	Pfc	A	P.O. Box 105, Clarksville, Tennessee
Desposito, Ralph A.	Sgt	B	307 East Hall Street, Savannah, Georgia
Deterding, Roy H.	Pfc	C	121 Washington Avenue, Collinsville, Ill.
Dominguez, Rafael A.	Pvt	A	518 West 134th Street, New York, N. Y.
Dominick, Jack C.	Tec 5	A	Newberry, South Carolina
Donovan, Robert J.	Pvt	B	624 Withrop Street, Toledo, Ohio
Doss, Thomas E.	Pfc	B	Cherry Fork, Ohio
Doyon, Romeo	Pfc	B	No. 7, Block 56, Augusta, Maine
Drain, Floyd M.	Pvt	B	112 West Grand Avenue, Alhambra, California
Drake, Luther W.	Cpl	Med	3394 Medbury Street, Detroit, Mich.
Draper, John E.	Tec 5	C	Box 212, Cobden, Illinois

NAME	RANK	BATTERY	HOME ADDRESS
Dreier, Alvin V. M.	S/Sgt	A	1212 W. 14th Street, Vancouver, Wash.
Driver, John D.	Pvt	A	Cherokee, North Carolina
Dudek, Mike A.	Cpl	A	RD 2, Box 212-A, Portage, Pa.
Dudley, Carroll E.	Pvt	Hq	Box 61, Benton Station, Maine
Dupuy, Elton J.	Pfc	A	Prairieville, La.
Duue, Jesus A.	Pfc	Hq	720 Camell Street, Belvidere, Illinois
*Durchholz, Frederick	Cpl	Hq	RR 1, Elkhart, Illinois
Dye, Mason T.	Pfc	A	230 Dyke Street, Wellsville, New York
Edwards, Ray F.	Pfc	B	812 Gibbs Avenue, Norfolk, Virginia
Edwards, Willard G.	Pfc	Sv	Rt. # 1, Sparta, North Carolina
Eitenmiller, George A.	Pfc	Hq	RFD # 2, Pekin, Illinois
Ellison, Vincent J.	Pfc	Sv	64-10 45th Avenue, Woodside, New York
Elsner, James A.	Tec 5	Hq	498 Missouri Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio
Emberton, Selby E.	Pfc	Hq	Mud Lick, Kentucky
Epstein, Morris	Pfc	A	1314 44th Street, Brooklyn, New York
Evans, George C.	Pfc	Hq	5791 Bishop Street, Detroit, Mich.
Fanale, Henry V.	Pfc	Hq	Riverton, Illinois
Farnham, William J.	Tec 4	C	3236 36th Avenue S., Minneapolis, Minn.
Farr, Welcome G.	1st Sgt	Hq	4114 Bull Street, Savannah, Georgia
Farrell, William P.	Tec 5	C	55 Shannon Street, Brighton, Mass.
Fenn, Robert W.	Cpl	B	McLaughlin Heights, Vancouver, Washington
Ferrara, Frank	Pfc	Sv	1018 60th Street, Brooklyn, New York
Ferris, Mahlon A.	Pfc	A	34 Maine Street, Camden, New York
Ferriter, William J.	Tec 4	A	74 Linden Street, Springfield, Mass.
Fidell, Samuel A.	Pfc	B	425 Friendship Street, New Castle, Pa.
Fields, Wilmer V.	Pfc	A	Box 631 West Russell, Kentucky
Filippello, John	Pfc	A	66 Herkimer Street, Albany, New York
Finke, Ruben E.	Pvt	Hq	116 Olive Street, Cedar Falls, Iowa
Finn, Ralph C.	Tec 5	Hq	15 Union Street, Northampton, Mass.
Finney Raymond M.	Cpl	A	416 E. Waldburg Street, Savannah, Georgia
Fischer, John M.	Pfc	B	Strasburg, North Dakota
Fisher, Frederic A.	Tec 4	Hq	1032 S. W. 20th Ave., Portland, Oregon.
Fitz Gerald, William E.	Cpl	Sv	Station Street, Brookline, Massachusetts
Flis, Anthony F.	Pfc	B	2919 West 40th Street, Chicago, Illinois
Fonte, Louis A.	Cpl	A	83 Van Sicklen Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Force, Jonathan T.	Tec 5	A	Chandlerville, Illinois
Ford, Donald V.	Cpl	B	1121 South Weller Avenue, Springfield, Mo.
Ford, Walter R.	Cpl	C	Rt. 4, Halls, Tennessee
Foster, J. B.	Pfc	Hq	Rt. 2, White Bluff, Tennessee
Franklin, James H.	S/Sgt	Hq	302 Putney Street, Farmville, Virginia
Freitag, LaVern G.	Pfc	A	423 N. Church Street, Watertown, Wisc.

NAME	RANK	BATTERY	HOME ADDRESS
Friedman, Willis H.	Tec 5	Hq	P. O. Peoria, Illinois
Fritz, Arnold J.	Cpl	C	Reddick, Illinois
Fry, Herschel T.	Pfc	B	Rt. 3, Clay City, Illinois
Fuller, Paul R.	Tec 5	Hq	449 S. Franklin Street, Delphos, Ohio
Gagnon, Camille J.	Pfc	B	Eagle Lake, Maine
Gardner, Phillip C.	Pfc	C	Rt. 2, Kankakee, Illinois
Garman, John P.	Pfc	B	155 Gautier Street, Johnstown, Pa.
Garnaat, Jacob S.	Pfc	Sv	809 6th Avenue, Lake Odessa, Mich.
Garon, Robert J.	Tec 5	B	701 Marinette Avenue, Menominee, Mich.
Garrott, Dan C.	S/Sgt	B	833 South 3rd Street, Mayfield, Ky.
Garrow, William R.	Pfc	A	53 Whitcomb Avenue, Hingham, Mass.
Gartland, Hugh J.	Cpl	Hq	55 Mechanic Street, New Haven, Conn.
Gavin Eugene A.	S/Sgt	B	8 Brady Street, Savannah, Georgia
*Gelfer, Howard L.	Cpl	A	2754 Grand Concourse, Bronx, New York
Gerhardt, Richard	Cpl	Hq	Sycamore Street, Weston, Ohio
Germani, Louis D.	Pfc	B	80 India Street, Portland, Maine
Gilbert, Clark A.	Cpl	A	123 Smithwood Avenue, Cantonsville, Md.
Gilmore, Richard J.	S/Sgt	Sv	1424 N. Highland N.E., Atlanta, Georgia
Glasscock, Edward L.	Tec 5	C	Rt. 2, Shelbyville, Tennessee
Glasscock, Hubert D.	Pfc	C	Norris City, Illinois
Gleason, John T.	Tec 5	Hq	18 Hillside Road, Watertown, Mass.
Goebel, Clarence F.	Pfc	B	Royal, Nebraska
Goff, James T.	Pfc	Sv	Decherd, Tennessee
Goldstein, Sherman	Tec 4	C	516 Nottingham Terrace, Toledo, Ohio
Gossett, William P.	Cpl	Sv	Converse, South Carolina
Graham, Carl R.	Pvt	A	210 Harrison Avenue, Lancaster, Ohio
Grant, Gerald J.	M/Sgt	Hq	20 Chiles Avenue, Asheville, North Car.
Gratto, James R.	Pvt	B	34 Maple Street, No. Vassalboro, Maine
Gray, Grady T.	Pfc	A	Box 115, Dellas, North Carolina
Gray, Karl W.	Pfc	Hq	2001 Voorhees Street, Redondo Beach, California
Green, Edwin W.	Cpl	Hq	RFD 2, Fredonia, New York
Greenway, Thomas D.	S/Sgt	C	737 East 39th Street, Savannah, Ga.
Gregoire, Valmore R.	Sgt	A	43 Fred Street, Lowell, Mass.
Gregory, Cecil V.	Pfc	Sv	Rt. 1, Olin, North Carolina
Griffin, Charles A.	Tec 4	Sv	Rt. 3, Tifton, Georgia
Griffith, Seabron J.	Sgt	B	407 East Charlton Street, Savannah, Ga.
Grosskopf, Chester J.	Pvt	B	810 Reedsdale Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.
*Gudaitis, Benjamin	Pvt	A	77 View Street, New Haven, Conn.
*Guimond, Alfred O.	Cpl	B	433 Main Street, Norwich, Conn.
*Gum, Robert C.	Tec 4	Hq	535 W. Jefferson Street, Petersburg, Ill.
Guy, Earl C.	Tec 5	C	Rt. 2, Lafollete, Tennessee
Guzman, Herman L.	Pvt	C	Somerset, Texas
Gyurik, Bertrand M.	Cpl	Hq	429 10th Avenue, Munhall, Pa.

NAME	RANK	BATTERY	HOME ADDRESS
Haberman, Alexander	Tec 5	Sv	RD 2, Saegertown, Pa.
Hakala, Toivo M.	Pfc	C	Rt. 2, Box 128, Ogema, Wisconsin
Hamlin, James H.	Tec 4	Hq	Middlesboro, Kentucky
Hamill, Abner E.	Pfc	Sv	1816 St. Louis, Dallas, Texas
Hammock, Willie C.	Tec 4	C	General Delivery, Westmoreland, Tenn.
Hammond, Lewis M.	Pfc	B	Rt. 2, Box 306, Plant City, Florida
Hampsten, Richard D.	Tec 5	C	Grayville, Illinois
Hann, Leslie J.	Tec 4	A	Box 94, Shawmut, Maine
Hardee, Fred M.	Sgt	B	508 East Bryan Street, Savannah, Ga.
Harrell, Leamon	Cpl	B	Rt. 1, Slayden, Tennessee
Harriott, James L.	Pfc	Sv	Brunson, South Carolina
Harrison, Harry G.	Sgt	C	604 N. Kingshighway, Sikeston, Mo.
Hathcock, Offie R.	Pfc	Sv	Norwood, North Carolina
Haubner, James F.	Pfc	Hq	222 E. 17th Street, Covington, Kentucky
Hayes, Thomas W. Jr.	Pfc	B	1317 Enterprise Street, Springfield, Ill.
Heaton, Willie A.	Tec 5	Med	Reevesville, South Carolina
Hembree, Herschel L.	Tec 5	Sv	Rt. 1, Cumberland Furnace, Tennessee
Hendrickson, Luther	Pfc	C	119, Rudy Street, Knoxville, Tennessee
Hennessy, Francis X., Jr.	Tec 5	A	1431 Crosby Avenue, Bronx, N.Y.C., N.Y.
Hernandez, Thomas	S/Sgt	C	418 W. President Street, Savannah, Ga.
Heslip, Thomsa J.	Pfc	B	2426 County Line Road, Ardmore, Pa.
Hickman, Sutlief J.	Pvt	B	804 Donald Street, Haynesville, La.
Hill, George W., Jr.	Cpl	B	31 Branch Street, Gardner, Mass.
Hoar, Francis E.	Tec 5	C	Rt. 2, Carmi, Illinois
Hodges, Franklin A.	S/Sgt	C	710 E. 39th Street, Savannah, Georgia
Holmes, James R.	Pvt	Hq	General Delivery, Estill Springs, Tenn.
Hooper, Lewis E.	Pvt	A	General Delivery, Clarksville, Tennessee
Huber, Arthur J.	Pfc	C	534 East 145th Street, Bronx, New York
Huffman, Frank K.	Sgt	C	Blue Mound, Illinois
Hughes, Herbert F.	Tec 5	Hq	Box 445, Station 9, E. Liverpool, Ohio
Hull, James D.	Pfc	B	202 East 15th Street, Centralia, Illinois
Humphrey, Joe H.	Pfc	Sv	Rt. 1, Walland, Tennessee
Hunter, Zane G.	Sgt	C	7929 3rd Street, Dexter, Michigan
Huziak, Wallace J.	Pvt	C	288 Custer Avenue, Youngstown, Ohio
Hyder, Ralph E.	Cpl	A	Clermont, Georgia
*Iannucci, Luigi A.	Pvt	B	Rt. 1, Evansville, Indiana
Jackson, William J., Jr.	Pfc	A	537 Union Street, New Bedford, Mass.
Jenkins, Irby A.	S/Sgt	Hq	403 W. 40th Street, Savannah, Georgia
Jenkins, Karl H.	S/Sgt	Hq	210 Main Street, Rising Sun, Indiana
Jochman, Vernon J.	Tec 4	Sv	Rt. 2, Appleton, Wisconsin
Johnson, William J.	Sgt	Sv	900 College Street, McRae, Georgia
Jones, Gerald	Pfc	C	Rt. 3, Belington, W. Virginia
Jones, Howard F.	Pvt	C	Bellevue, Nebraska
Jones, Milton E.	Cpl	Med	Wake Forrest, North Carolina

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Kapchinske, Arthur J.	Cpl	B	2429 Dakin Street, Chicago, Illinois
Kartes, Robert G.	Pvt	Hq	Box 48, Redwood Valley, California
Kasarsky, Alfonzo J.	Cpl	A	115 Kerlin Street, Chester, Pa.
Kauffman, Robert E.	Tec 5	Hq	543 W. Dow Street, Tipp City, Ohio
Kearney, Thomas G.	S/Sgt	Sv	105 West 38th Street, Savannah, Ga.
Keeney, LeRoy R.	Pfc	Sv	2621 Woodbrook Avenue, Baltimore, Md.
Kennedy, Alonzo J.	Pfc	A	Rt. 2, Kingsport, Tennessee
Kent, John P.	Pfc	Hq	2480 Lombard Street, Berwyn, Illinois
King, Ralph H.	Pfc	C	1707½ E. Creighton Street, Ft. Wayne, Indiana
Kissell, Richard H.	S/Sgt	B	Huntingdon, Tennessee
Kitamura, Koman M.	Tec 5	Hq	Utica, Michigan
Knize, Edward J.	Tec 4	C	8307 Pennsylvania Avenue, St. Louis, Mo.
*Knight, Herman L.	Cpl	B	Rt. 1, Box 851, Savannah, Georgia
Kominak, John A.	Pfc	A	79 Archibald Street, Carbondale, Pa.
Koopman, Robert L.	Pfc	C	1717 Lowell Avenue, Springfield, Ill.
Kopaska, Albert J.	Sgt	B	South 3rd Street, Guthrie Center, Iowa
Koplow, Roland T.	Pvt	B	3419 Beechwood Avenue, Cleveland Heights, Ohio
Korsnick, George A.	Pfc	C	57 45th Street, Wheeling, W. Virginia
Kot, Thaddeus J.	Pfc	C	75 Palmer Street, Fall River, Mass.
Kott, Walter	Tec 5	Sv	80 Washington Street, Fall River, Mass.
Kowalczyk, John	Pfc	C	240 Baker Street, Fall River, Mass.
Kozak, Joseph A.	Tec 5	C	1308 W. Indiana Ave., South Bend, Ind.
Kozub, Herman S.	Tec 4	Sv	Dearborn, Michigan
*Krasinskas, Edward J.	Pvt	Hq	31 First Street, Worcester, Mass.
Kreel, Michael J.	Cpl	C	309 S. Thomas Avenue, Sayre, Pa.
Lamb, William H.	Tec 5	A	Rt. 2, Clinton, Indiana
Lambert, Hubert O.	Cpl	C	Stonega, West Virginia
Lampe, Joseph L.	Tec 5	B	322 Broadway Street, Cincinnati, Ohio
Lancaste, Thomas	Cpl	Hq	123 Evergreen Street, Bensenville, Ill.
Lane, Solomon	Pfc	A	Cordova, West Virginia
Lape, Robert B.	Pvt	B	98 Sheraton Drive, Rochester, New York
Laufer, Robert P.	Sgt	C	205 Division Street, West Bend, Wisc.
Lawley, Newell A.	Tec 5	Hq	Box 103, Quincy, Oregon
Lawrence, Dudley J.	Pfc	Hq	Box 84, Holles, N. H.
Leary, Joseph A.	Tec 5	Hq	47 Adams Street, Lynn, Mass.
Lee, Harold M.	S/Sgt	C	Burkhalter Road, RFD 4, Savannah, Georgia
Leonard, Frank E.	Cpl	A	Wells River, Vermont
Leonard, Harry M.	Pfc	C	55 Lamb Street, Lowell, Massachusetts
Levesque, Arthur W.	Pfc	A	94 Gagnon Street, Fall River, Mass.

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Libutti, Carmine	Pfc	A	818 East 229th Street, Bronx, New York
Licatta, Charles	S/Sgt	A	817 Drey Street, Arnold, Pa.
Lilly, Raymond E.	Tec 5	A	RFD 1, Beacher City, Illinois
Livingeton, Maurice J.	Tec 5	Hq	Loyall, Kentucky
Locke, Norman S.	Tec 5	A	1911 South 3rd Street, Louisville, Ky.
Loconto, John N.	Pfc	C	75 Gage Street, Worcester, Mass.
Lough, Eston E.	Tec 5	C	Rt. 1, Box 31, Roseburg, Oregon
Louis, Glenn A.	Tec 5	B	4648 Sacramento Street, Chicago, Illinois
Love, Charles M.	Pvt	Hq	219 Parker Street, Chester, Pa.
Lynch, John R.	Cpl	A	20 Whitman Street, Dorchester, Mass.
Machak, Ferd L.	Tec 4	A	RD 4, McDonald, Pa.
Macomber, Harold E.	Tec 4	Hq	RFD 2, Winthrop, Maine
Maddox, Charles C.	Sgt	Sv	201 North Lewis Street, LaGrange, Ga.
Majewski, Walter F.	Pvt	B	3058 West 44th Street, Chicago, Illinois
Mansberger, Glenn L.	Pfc	Sv	RD 1, New Haven, Pa.
Maples, Glenn	Pfc	B	Rt. 1, Walland, Tennessee
Marbach, Norbert W.	Tec 4	B	North Washington, Iowa
Margolis, Morton M.	Pfc	Hq	9719 N. Martindale, Detroit, Michigan
Marinucci, Albert A.	Tec 4	C	1910 East 120th Street, Cleveland, Ohio
Marlow, Ernest W.	Tec 4	A	9 Huntington Street, Malone, New York
Martin, John D.	S/Sgt	Med	16 B East 39th Street, Savannah, Georgia
Martin, Watson E.	Tec 4	C	Rt. 2, Oliver, Georgia
Mason, Leo H.	T/Sgt	Sv	313 Gordon Avenue NE-Atlanta, Georgia
Mathis, Sylvester	Pfc	C	Rt. 1, Duck River, Tennessee
Maze, Donald A.	Sgt	Hq	1623 Carlyon Road, Cleveland, Ohio
Maze, Earl F.	Pfc	C	Beaver Dam, Kentucky
Mazurek, Joseph W.	Tec 5	Hq	403 Monroe Ct., Vandergrift, Pa.
McBee, Milton	Tec 4	Hq	112 Stanley Ct., San Antonio, Texas
McCarter, Hugh	Pvt	A	Rt. 1, Gatlinburg, Tennessee
McClain, Clifford	Cpl	Hq	Finchville, Kentucky
McClanahan, Robert L.	Cpl	A	Beaman Street, Clinton, N. Carolina
McClure, Arthur D.	Tec 5	Hq	RD 2, Howard, Pa.
McCoy, James A.	Pvt	C	217 Church Street, Sumter, S. C.
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McNair, William J.	Pfc	Sv	Wrens, Georgia
McNulty, Warner R.	S/Sgt	Sv	Oak Hill, West Virginia
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*Mendoza, Jess	Pfc	A	RFD 2, Lamar, Colorado
Menzie, Robert D.	Pvt	A	922 Minor Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan
Merchant, Glen M.	Pvt	B	417 South James Street, Plana, Illinois
Meredith, Vernon A.	Pvt	A	RFD 1, Arbyrd, Missouri
Merritt, Kenneth E.	Sgt	Hq	818 N. 2nd Street, Clinton, Iowa
Mewborn, Woodow W.	Cpl	Sv	432 Greene Street, Augusta, Georgia
Michaelsen, Henry T.	Pfc	B	25-33 23rd Street, Astoria, New York
Militello, Frank	Pfc	C	Gonzales, La.
Miller, Walter A.	Pfc	C	Millwood, Kentucky
Millerin, Donald L.	Pfc	B	404 Davison Street, Joliet, Illinois
Minch, Roy M.	Sgt	Hq	Rt. 2, Owenton, Kentucky
Mitchell, Fred F.	Pfc	B	Rt. 2, Box 129-A, Dallas, Texas
Mixon, Joe C.	Pfc	B	Rt. 1, Clarksville, Tennessee
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*Monceaux, Sam	Pvt	A	Rt. 1, Box 152, Welsh, La.
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Moore, Wesley B.	S/Sgt	Sv	Eastham, Mass.
Moredock, Edward E.	Tec 4	Hq	15467 Marlowe Street, Detroit, Michigan
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Moschetta, Joseph	Tec 4	Hq	6830 Arbor Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.
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Muzzillo, Martin M.	Pfc	Sv	417 S. Randolph Street, Garrett, Indiana
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Myrick, Thomas J.	Pvt	C	General Delivery, Eagletown, Oklahoma
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Nader, Samuel M.	Tec 5	C	120 Main Street, Irwin, Pa.
Napier, Homer A. M.	Pfc	C	538 High Street, Hazard, Kentucky
Nassar, James	S/Sgt	Med	516 Bush Street, Toledo, Ohio
Neal, Charley S.	Pfc	C	RFD 4, Kinmundy, Illinois
Nelsen, Wallace C.	Pfc	Med	716 Grove Avenue, Racine, Wisconsin
Nelson, Ivan M.	Tec 5	Sv	Newark, Illinois
Newton, Sidney E.	Sgt	A	Ferguson Avenue, Savannah, Georgia
Nichols, Leonard F.	Tec 5	Hq	47 Montgomery Street, Pawtucket, R. I.
Nicholson, Vollie W.	Tec 4	Hq	Rt. 1, Neptune, Tennessee
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Nowak, Boleslaw E.	Pfc	B	908 Norwood Avenue, Toledo, Ohio
Nuvola, John	Pfc	Sv	46-44 Vernon Blvd., Long Island City, New York
Ohlmann, Albert A.	Pvt	B	900 West 50th Place, Chicago, Illinois
Olesky, Roman W.	Pvt	Sv	7743 Carrie, Detroit, Michigan
Paar, Patrick J.	Tec 5	C	177 East 101st Street, New York, N. Y.
Parker, Lloyd A.	Tec 4	Hq	Wells, Minn.
Parrott, Charles	Pvt	A	Rt. 1, LaFollette, Tennessee
Partner, Herman Y.	Cpl	C	Walnut, Pa.
Patty, James C.	Cpl	C	P.O. Box 5503, Jacksonville, Florida
Pavao, William R.	Pfc	C	142 Transit Street, Providence, R. I.
Paxton, George M.	Cpl	C	Rt. 3, Isle of Hope, Savannah, Georgia
Payne, James L.	Sgt	Sv	RFD 5, Louise, Virginia
Payton, Oldham L.	Pfc	B	Rt. 3, Campbellsburg, Kentucky
Pekar, Joseph	Tec 5	B	915 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, Pa.
Penewit, Dean F.	Tec 5	A	RFD 1, Osborn, Ohio
Penn, Lewis P.	Pvt	Hq	1203 Getz Street, Akron, Ohio
Pennington, Caleb E.	Cpl	Sv	1997 Fennick Street, Augusta, Ga.
Pennington, Clarence Z.	Cpl	Hq	Rt. 3, Seminole, Oklahoma
Peters, William	Pvt	B	Rt. 1, Bassfield, Ohio
Pickler, Warren G. H.	T/Sgt	Hq	Rt. 1, New London, North Carolina
Piojda, Edward J.	Cpl	A	637 Marmion Avenue, Toledo, Ohio
Pitt, Paul H.	Pfc	C	1112 Batts Blvd., Springfield, Tenn.
Poidomani, Vincent	Tec 5	Hq	241 Eldridge Street, New York, N. Y.
Polk, Clyde	Pfc	C	Beaver, West Virginia
Poradish, Walter J.	Tec 4	Sv	Ladysmith, Wisconsin
Potts, Curtis N.	Pfc	A	Rt. 1, Greenwood, Mississippi
Powell, Deleware M.	S/Sgt	C	Abbeville, Alabama
Powell, Ernest	Tec 5	Hq	301 South Park Street, E. Pittsburgh, Pa.
Poyant, Andre A.	Pfc	A	37 Brown Street, Fairhaven, Mass.
Preusser, Francis A.	Tec 5	Hq	4560 Friendship Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Price, Lihugh C.	Cpl	A	40 Habersham Street, Savannah, Georgia
Prince, Arthur J.	Pfc	Hq	530 Cambridge Street, Fall River, Mass.
Provencher, Leo R.	Pfc	B	1109 Summer Street, Auburn, Maine
Pruette, James H.	Tec 4	Hq	Rt. 4, 2228 Green Street, Charlotte, N. C.
Purcell, James D.	Cpl	B	Campbellton, Florida
Puttlitz, Maxwell R.	Pfc	B	14-18 25th Avenue, Astoria, L.I., N. Y.
Rainbolt, William A.	Cpl	B	403 East Doddridge, Kingsville, Texas
Randahl, Lilburn D.	Pfc	A	Janesville, Minn.
Raposa, Joseph L.	Pfc	C	57 Grace Street, Fall River, Mass.
Raposa, Mercias	Pfc	Sv	123 Boyden Street, Fall River, Mass.
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Rego, John	Pfc	C	63 Cook Street, Fall River, Mass.
Reininger, Lee, Jr.	Pfc	A	Spang Street Ext., Roaring Spring, Pa.
Richmer, Maurice G.	Tec 5	A	Lanesville, Indiana
Ritchie, Haran R.	M/Sgt	Sv	Rt. 3, Salisbury, North Carolina
Rivas, Joe S.	Pfc	C	232 Ortega Street, Santa Barbara, Calif.
Rix, Harold E.	Tec 3	Hq	RFD 4, Marion, Illinois
Roach, Arthur O.	Pvt	C	Greasy Ridge, Ohio
Robarts, Edmund W.	Tec 4	Hq	5222 W. Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois
*Robinson, William T.	Cpl	B	177 Oliver Street, Daly City, California
Roderer, Raymond H.	Cpl	A	2808 Whitter Avenue, Dayton, Ohio
Roe, Paul C.	Pvt	B	Rt. 1, Crestline, Ohio
Rogers, James R.	Pfc	Sv	Bristol Highway, Kingsport, Tennessee
Rohlf, Frederick I.	Sgt	A	1353 Holly Avenue, Dayton, Ohio
Rowe, James O.	Tec 5	C	Rt. 1, Lumber City, Georgia
Russell, Joseph E.	1st Sgt	A	513 East Congress Street, Savannah, Ga.
Russell, Walter J.	Sgt	A	199 Pearl Street, S. E. Atlanta, Ga.
Russo, Frank	Pfc	Hq	3134 Flourny Street, Chicago, Illinois
Ryan, Michael E.	Pfc	Hq	4208 John Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio
Sadler, Wilbur H.	Cpl	Hq	1043 Belden Avenue, Chicago, Illinois
Sanders, Claude L.	Cpl	C	Rt. 5, Gaffney, South Carolina
Sanders, Paul H.	Tec 5	Hq	1218 E. 6th Street, Royal Oak, Mich.
Santman, Paul H.	Pfc	Sv	21 Dryden Street, Worcester, Mass.
Saraniti, Patrick J.	Pfc	A	11318 Revere Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio
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Schneider, Albert J.	Tec 5	Hq	2935 32nd Street, San Diego, California
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Schultz, Jacob	Tec 4	Hq	28 Almont Street, Malden, Mass.
Schuster, Abe	Pfc	A	477 Stow Avenue, Oakland, California
Scott, Edgar H.	Tec 4	Sv	Odessadale, Georgia
Scott, Hugh G.	Cpl	Sv	135 Virginia Avenue, Lexington, Ky.
Seeberger, Franklin H.	Pfc	Sv	33 Pulver Avenue, Ravena, New York
Sell, Frank O.	S/Sgt	A	840 South 1st Street, DeKalb, Illinois
Sendera, Theodore F.	Tec 4	Hq	1375 North Clinton Avenue, Rochester, New York

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Shafer, William G.	Pfc	A	RFD 1, Webb City, Montana
Shanely, Staley	Pfc	B	1548 1/2 North 4th Street, Columbus, Ohio
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Shelburne, Ike C.	Pfc	C	Box 466, Somerville, Texas
Shelton, Hugh R.	Pfc	B	RFD 4, Clarksville, Tennessee
Shelton, Julious M.	Tec 5	A	Rt. 2, Lawrenceville, Georgia
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Sica, Nicholas A.	Cpl	Med	9207 43rd Avenue, Corona, New York
Skapura, Michael	Pfc	C	Lore City, Ohio
Slone, Kenel	Tec 5	A	RFD Peachdale, Rhode Island
*Smith, Edward M.	S/Sgt	C	1 Brady Street, Savannah, Georgia
Smith, George F.	Tec 5	B	Main Street, Oakville, Conn.
Smith, Howard L.	Pfc	C	43 West 2nd Street, Rittman, Ohio
Smith, Robert L.	Pvt	A	Rt. 3, Brookhaven, Mississippi
Smith, Walter	Cpl	A	Rt. 1, Londonberry, Ohio
Smith, Wesley H.	Tec 5	B	Rt. 2, Winchester, Tennessee
Snody, James P.	Pfc	A	Church Avenue, Halifax, Pa.
Solomon, Jack	Tec 4	Med	1410 Plimpton Avenue, Bronx, N. Y.
Salorio, Ignacio L.	Cpl	C	313 Broad Street, Johnstown, Pa.
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Sterner, Clarence W.	Pfc	B	RD 2, Jonestown, Pa.
Stevens, Floyd	Pfc	Sv	Decherd, Tennessee
Stewart, Edgar R.	Tec 5	C	1115 Mechanic Street, Pekin, Illinois
Stewart, Harry B.	S/Sgt	Hq	6263 Gravois Avenue, St. Louis, Mo.
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Sullivan, Adrian D.	Pfc	Hq	715 Jackson Street, Memphis, Tenn.
Sullivan, Cloyd V.	Tec 5	Sv	Hanover, Pa.
Sweeney, Edward G.	Tec 5	A	32 Ramsdell Avenue, Roslindale, Mass.
Sweeney, Paul J.	Tec 5	Sv	401 N. Lafayette Street, Jerseyville, Illinois.
Tancredi, Frank	Cpl	Sv	RFD 1, Windham, Greene County, N. Y.
Taylor, Clifford I.	Pvt	C	27 Marion Street, Knoxville, Tenn.
Tarrant, Charles B.	Pfc	B	148 West 66th Street, Chicago, Illinois
*Teetsell, William J.	Tec 5	Hq	23 Dumond Street, Catskill, New York
Terry, Wilgus	Pfc	A	Jackson, Kentucky
Tester, Norman M.	S/Sgt	B	General Delivery, Rominger, North Car.

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Trantham, Buford C.	Tec 4	B	Rt. 1, Canton, North Carolina
Treacy, Michael J. F.	Pfc	B	104-18 40th Avenue, Corona, New York
Treadway, Billy B.	Pfc	B	Rt. 2, Fayetteville, West Virginia
Tremore, Maurice W.	Pvt	B	121 Washington Street, Momence, Illinois
Trometer, Lawrence T.	Pfc	A	RFD 1, Hinton, Iowa
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Troxclair, Leonard M.	Pvt	C	Rt. 2, Box, 302, Plaquemine, La.
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Updegrove, Robert G.	S/Sgt	A	433 N. 11th Street, Allentown, Pa.
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Vick, Herman P.	Cpl	C	Rt. 1, Ashland City, Tennessee
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Weeks, Calvin R.	Sgt	A	Rt. 3, Columbia, South Carolina
Weems, William G.	Tec 5	Sv	Rt. 2, Cedartown, Georgia
Wells, Floyd W.	Pfc	A	RFD 2, Montrose, Illinois
Whitney, George A.	Pfc	Hq	528 Liberty Street, Schnectedy, N. Y.
Wiegert, Elmer	Pfc	B	RR 5, Elwood, Indiana
Williams, Elzie O.	Pvt	Hq	Rt. 3, Versailles, Missouri
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*Wissen, Edgar D.	Pfc	A	Rt. 1, DelValle, Texas
Woehlck, Wilton A.	Pvt	C	5031 N. Sawyer Avenue, Chicago, Ill.
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* Deceased

CANNON COMPANY

120 INFANTRY REGIMENT

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*Duncan Henry R.	2nd Lt	76 Judson St., Albany, New York
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Schieferstein, Frederick A.	1st Lt	50 West End Ave., Somerville, N. J.
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Alger, Glen W.	Pfc	Rte. 1, Starksbor, Vt.
Altman, Arthur	Pfc	Rte. 1, Santa, Oregon
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Andrews, Elmer	Pfc	
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Behlen, Everett C.	Sgt	Rte. 1, Box 145, Mantera, California
Berry, Ralph P.	Tec 5	Rte. 1, Butler, Indiana

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* Deceased

** Prisoner of War

PERSONAL NOTES

AUTOGRAPHS

"ON THE WAY"

Supplement

Paste Supplement to "ON THE WAY" along this stub.

