TANK BUSTERS

THE HISTORY

of the

607thTANK DESTROYER

BATTALION

IN COMBAT

ON THE WESTERN FRONT

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DEDICATED

TO THE SOLDIERS WHO DIED SO
THAT OTHERS MIGHT BE FREE
TO LIVE AS THEY DESIRE.

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Acknowledgment is made to the officers of all companies who aided in submitting stories from their units and to all the men who submitted the pictures found in this book.

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LT. COL. HARALD S. SUNDT

FOREWORD

SOLDIERS of the 607th Tank Destroyer Battalion:

This memento of our labor and sacrifice, of our teamwork and cooperation with the combined arms of our Army will take on increasing importance in our lives as the stress of battle grows dim and the struggle for a better world, socially, economically, politically, and religiously goes on. In the carrying out of your assigned missions there will be trials, there will be triumphs, there will be disasters, for you individually or as a member of the group with whom you may be associated. You may be faced with great personal decisions. This eternal struggle is life, men, and the pursuit of happiness, of liberty and of truth. I know that the strength of soul and of character which you have found as part and parcel of the 607th, that which you created by your everyday acceptance of risk and responsibility plus your loyalty and devotion to duty, will help to light your way. And then in the hush of the evening of life, as individuals we can proudly proclaim: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith. I have achieved 'TOTAL VICTORY'."

[signed] Harold

A. Sundt

Lt. Col. (FA) 607th TD Battalion Commanding

Introduction

The 607th Tank Destroyer Battalion was activated on the 15th day of the December 1941 at Fort Ord, California.

Personnel for the new unit was obtained from the 7th Infantry Division Provisional Anti-tank Battalion which, in turn, had received its personnel of sixteen officers and two hundred nineteen enlisted men from the following units: Battery "D", 31st FA Battalion, HQ and HQ Battery, 31st FA Battalion, 74th, 75th, 76th FA Battalions, and the 17th, 32nd, and 53rd Infantry Regiments. Later, personnel were received from the 47th, 48th, and 57th, FA Battalions.

Approximately six hundred selectees from the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana were assigned in March 1942, bringing the Battalion above its authorized strength. In December 1942 and January 1943, three hundred and sixty selectees from Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia replaced the losses of the preceding nine months.

On the 15th day of the December 1943 the Battalion was reorganized, changing it from a self propelled battalion, to a towed battalion, Reconnaissance Company being inactivated. The Battalion continued as a towed unit until November 1944, when, shortly before the battle for Metz, France, it was converted, in combat, to a self propelled battalion equipped with M-36 destroyers. The Reconnaissance Company was again activated.

With the exception of four and one half months training at the Tank Destroyer Center, at Camp Hood Texas, the Battalion received all of its precombat training in California at Sunnyvale, Hunter Liggett Military Reservation, Camp San Luis Obisbo, Lost Hills Desert Training Center, and Camp Cook.

On the 2nd of April 1944 the Battalion departed from Camp Cooke, California for Camp Miles Standish, Taunton, Massachusetts, and on 13th of April, 1944 embarked on the SS Wakefield, the United States Troop Transport for overseas duty.

Arriving in England on the 21st of April, the unit was stationed in Macclesfield, Cheshire for one month and then proceeded to Camp Barton Stacy in southern England where it made its final preparations for the invasion, arriving on the beaches of Normandy, France on 16th June 1944.

This is the background to eleven months of combat in France, Belgium and Germany for which the Battalion won battle participation credit for the following campaigns more fully described in the text:

- * 17 June 1944 to 24 July 1944Normandy
- * 25 July 1944 to 14 September 1944Northern France
- * 15 September 1944 to 21 March 1945Rhineland
- * 16 December 1944 to 25 January 1945Ardennes
- * 22 March 1945 to 11 May 1945......Central Europe

PART ONE

NORMANDY AND FALAISE BATTLES

THE BUILDUP

At 0130 June 17, 1944 (D plus 11 forward) the Headquarters Company Forward and Company A, 607th Tank Destroyer Battalion, landed on Utah Beach, the beach on the East Coast of the Cherbourg Peninsula of France – Companies B and C were unable to land until June 23 due to the roughness of the weather. After de-waterproofing the vehicles and equipment at St. Germain de Verraville, the Battalion, less Companies B and C, moved up to support the 9th Infantry Division, Company A, with the 2nd Reconnaissance Platoon attached, employed in the vicinity of Canville, and was given the mission of protecting the Division, as it advanced toward Cherbourg, from an attack from the south and southwest. While on this mission Company A captured its and the Battalion's first prisoner. The Battalion CP had moved successively to Ste. Mere Eglise, Pigard, Ste. Sauveur Le Vicomte and Blandamour during the period. Orders were received on June 19th relieving the Battalion from attachment to the VII Corps and the 9th Infantry Division and attaching it to the VIII Corps which faced to the south. Company A was attached to the 82nd A/B Division and the Battalion, less Company A, to the 90th Infantry Division.

Company A joined the 325th Glider Infantry, 82nd Airborne Division, two and one half miles south of Pont l'Abbe and was immediately emplaced to reinforce the divisional antitank defense. The Battalion CP moved to Ste. Colombe and on the next day to Cretteville via Vents and Picauville.

On June 23 Companies B and C landed in three feet of water and de-waterproofed in the vicinity of St. Germain de Verraville. Company B was attached to the 357th Infantry Regiment, 90th Division, joined them in the vicinity of Besneville and went into position at St. Lo d'Ourville. Company C moved to the TD'S secondary mission – that of indirect fire – in the vicinity of Cretteville and fired the first rounds from a 3in. gun of this Battalion on French soil. During the period of June 24 – July 5, they fired 5994 rounds interdicting roads in the enemy's rear areas. The enemy counter-batteried several times; the first on June 24, causing no casualties but some damage to materiel.

Company B went into indirect fire positions two miles east of Cretteville in support of the 357th Combat Team on June 30th. Three days later, July 3rd, Company B and Company C each placed one platoon in direct AT support of the 358th Infantry and the 357th Infantry, respectively, while the remainder stayed in general support of the Division Artillery.

The next day all of Company C was placed in direct AT support of the 359th Infantry in the vicinity of Ste. Suzanne. Company A and Company B returned to Battalion control and were placed in general support of the Division Artillery, Company A having been relieved from attachment to the 82nd A/B Division.

The Battalion CP moved from Cretteville to a field one mile south of Pretot on July 5th.

The next day, July 6th, Company B joined the 357th Infantry Regiment at St. Jores and was placed in direct AT support of them. Company A, remaining in general support of the Division Artillery, from Vindefontaine, fired over 3000 rounds during the week into the enemy's rear areas.

During the period of July 7 to 27 the Division advanced very slowly, especially in the areas around Foret de Mont Castre or Hill 122 (where Company C received heavy mortar fire), on the approaches to the island of Seves, and at Beau Coudray.

On July 12, 1st Lt. Raymond P. Nash, 1st Lt. Edmund P. Harrison, S/Sgt. Noriega and Pfc. Spears were ambushed and captured by the Germans while on reconnaissance for gun positions.

Company C's 2nd Platoon being in position north of the Seves River southeast of Gonfreville, on the night of July 20th moved the first and second gun sections into positions to support an infantry attack across the Seves River to the island. The guns were unlumbered from the half tracks and moved by hand to positions well in front of the infantry's front lines. Under the cover of darkness the positions were dug in and camouflaged. At daylight there was to be an infantry attack preceded by a ten minute artillery barrage. Under cover of the artillery fire the three inch guns were to fire direct at the enemy installations in six houses and the surrounding woods located five hundred yards to the front. The attack was postponed 24 hours leaving the guns under direct enemy observation until 0620 July 22nd when the attack was launched as scheduled. The guns expended ammunition as fast as four man crews could put out for ten minutes. Though the infantry attack was temporarily successful, the three inch guns received heavy shelling by enemy mortars and artillery from very short range. For eight hours artillery pounded the guns, the crew members being saved only by their deep foxholes. Heavy casualties were reported to have been inflicted on the enemy by the direct fire. The Germans counterattacked and it was several days before the guns could be withdrawn.

THE BREAKTHROUGH

Due to the bombing from St. Lo to the southwest toward Periers and the exploitation of the breakthrough that was subsequently forced, the enemy withdrew from the Division front on the night of July 27th. Light rearguard action, only, was encountered in the next several days. The 4th Armored Division moved southwest across the Division front to Periers and then south to and beyond St. Sauveur Lendelin on July 28th.

The Battalion moved south to the vicinity of the St. Sauveur Lendelin on the 28th July and assembled one mile east of the town.

During the month of July 15,424 rounds were fired indirect. The Battalion kept units in direct support of the AT defenses of the regiments and also in support of the Division Artillery. Platoons were rotated and the Companies displaced forward with the units they were supporting. All units received heavy enemy fire and suffered casualties.

On August 2nd the Battalion, minus Company A, marched south to the vicinity of St. Hillaire de Haurcouet via Coutances and Avranches. Company A was attached to the 357th Regimental Combat Team and moved to La Mancilliere (six miles northwest of St. Hillaire). The Battalion CP occupied Insigny (three miles northwest of St. Hillaire); Company B moved six miles south of St. Hillaire and Company C went into St. Hillaire.

ON TO LE MANS

A breakthrough to the enemy's rear had been made. The rapid exploitation of it would trap thousands of Germans or make them withdraw across the entire front to their next defense line deep inside of France. Task Force Weaver, consisting of the 357th Infantry Regiment, 712th Tank Battalion, 344th FA, 345th FA, and Company A, 607th TD Battalion was organized and given the mission of securing the crossing of the Mayenne river at Mayenne and then to proceed to Le Mans. Company A, reinforced by the second section of the 2nd Reconnaissance Platoon, was the Battalion's contribution to the Task Force.

On August 5th the Task Force left La Condonniere. The 2nd Platoon of Company A marched with the flank guard through Buais, Fougevalle, Desartines, Goron and Mayenne. Light opposition was encountered at Gorron, but no armor was engaged. Company A, less the 2nd Platoon, marched with the main body and moved through St. Hillaire du Harcouet, Landivy, Ernee and Mayenne, a distance of about 50 miles. One enemy vehicle was destroyed by the 3rd Platoon at Mayenne. The next day, August 6th, the Task Force was ordered to march on Le Mans. Company A, less the 3rd Platoon, marched with one column, the route being Mayenne, Moulay, Commer, Montsurs, St. Suzanne, Viviers, St. Symphorien, Bernay, La Quinte and Le Mans. The 3rd Platoon, marching with the other column proceeded via Avon, Jublains, Evron, St. Suzanne, St. Dennis, Coulons, Charvaun, and Le Mans. No armor was engaged by Company A on this march.

The Battalion, less Company A reinforced, remained with the main body of the Division. However, Company B was attached to the 358th Infantry and Company C to the 359th Infantry throughout the drive. The TD companies supplemented the blocking of side roads leading to the main axis of the advance. A reconnaissance platoon was attached to Company B and a reconnaissance section to Company C. The reconnaissance platoon with Company B, cooperating with the Regimental I and R Platoon, made continuous forward and flank reconnaissance. Company C destroyed two enemy half tracks, the first armored vehicles hit by the Battalion, and killed or wounded four enemy troops at Montsurs. The Battalion CP moved from Isigny to Landivy to La Bigottiere to La Chapelle Rainsouin to La Quinte to the east edge of Le Mans, arriving there on August 8th amid cheering crowds.

Twenty eight prisoners had been taken and several Germans had been killed or wounded by the Battalion. The companies remained in direct anti-tank support of the infantry regiments generally to the north and east of the town.

CLOSING THE TRAP

Pressure by the British had prevented the enemy from standing fast near Falaise. Furthermore, the strong German attack at Mortain was beaten off. Because of these events on August 9th the XV Corps was given the mission of securing Alencon and eventually of joining the forces to the north.

On August 11th Company B was attached to the 358th Infantry and proceeded to secure the Division's left flank from Le Mans to Alencon, which had been taken by the 2nd French Armored Division, to the high ground north and east of the town.

The Battalion less Companies B and C moved north to Bellon and to Danguel, a distance of the 21 miles. On August 13th the 357th Infantry plus attached troops and Company A marched through

Alencon and secured three hills and Foret D'ecoures about six miles northwest of the town. Devastating fire was placed on the enemy in Longuence. Following the companies, the Battalion CP moved to two miles northwest of Alencon. On August 15th Company B was relieved from attachment to the 358th Infantry and moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of the Battalion CP. On the same day the Battalion, less Company A, moved from the vicinity of Alencon with the 90th Infantry Division, less the 357th Combat Team, to relieve the 5th Armored Division in the general area of Le Bourg, St. Leonard-Exmes-Nonant le Pin-Chailloue. Company A and the 357th Combat Team arrived on August 17th.

The final effort to close the last gap in the Falaise pocket began. Initially, the 359th Infantry, manning the point of the threat were the enemy would try to escape, was reinforced by Company C plus one platoon of Company B. One platoon was placed in the vicinity of Le Bourg St. Leonard, one in the vicinity of Exmes, one at Nonat Le Pin, and one in the vicinity of Croiselles. Company B, less one platoon, and the Battalion CP were in Chailloue.

Company C made first contact with the enemy near Croiselles 0500 August 16th, destroying one half track and setting fire to the second. At 0800 a German infantry attack on Le Bourg St Leonard was partially successful but all the ground and equipment was regained by noon. A subsequent tank supported infantry attack was even more successful, but a determined counterattack nearly completely restored the American position at St. Leonard. During this attack, Lt. Colonel Harold S. Sundt, without regard for his personal safety, showed exceptional diligence in reconnoitering gun positions to best destroy the enemy tanks. At one critical action he personally manned a tank destroyer gun which was directly in the path of an enemy attack, assisting Sgt. Harold W. Scott and Cpl. Orlin L. Shirley, both of Company C. This action greatly assisted in the stopping of the enemy attack and the recapture of the town. This gallant action under enemy fire was an inspiration to both the infantry and tank destroyer personnel and facilitated in closing the gap at Chambois. For their gallantry in action Lt. Colonel Sundt, Sgt. Scott and Cpl. Shirley were awarded the Silver Star Medal. On the same day an enemy attack appeared from the woods near the St Leonard and approached the town. Cpl. Bertram S. Washabaugh and Pfc. Francis L. Hunsicker, both of Company C, upon their own initiative exchanged direct fire with the tank and succeeded in knocking it out of action. This was done in spite of continuous withering fire which had caused the gun crew and other troops in the vicinity to seek shelter. The Silver Star was their award.

On August 17th intense small arms, mortar, artillery and the nebelwerfer fire was received throughout the Le Bourg St Leonard area, extending fifteen hundred yards eastward. Tank fighting also raged in this area, climaxed about 1600 by an attack of six tanks launched eastward along the main road running through of Le Bourg St Leonard and supported by artillery fire. The attack was stopped by M-10 fire of the 773rd TD Battalion before it had reached a field of fire of Company C's guns which were covering that road. Company B relieved Company C platoons at Exmes and Croiselles, permitting Company C to concentrate on the Le Bourg St Leonard fight. Company B was in turn relieved by Company A when the 358th Infantry was shifted to the south and west of Le Bourg St Leonard.

Later in the evening of August 19th Lt. George W. King's platoon of Company C entered Chambois. Feeling very much put out because the other platoons had all the tank shooting to date, he personally requested his platoon, instead of the previously designated platoon, be given this mission. He certainly got all the excitement he had asked for and got two tanks and a very large self repelled gun.

Lt. Richard A. Reynolds placed his 3rd Platoon of Company B in positions from which his three inch guns, by accurate and effective fire, destroyed six tanks in the vicinity of Ste. Eugenie. During the course of action, one gun received direct hostile small arms and artillery fire which could not be

effectively returned from its concealed location, but Lt. Reynolds, with his crew members Sgt. James W. Bowman, Cpl. Russel L. Kunz, T/5 Homer E. Griner, T/5 Orville C. Zinc, Pfc. Harry W. Mowery, Pfc. Paul F. Benito, Pfc. Robert L. Davis, Pvt. Theodore Sekulski and Pvt. Charles W. Sowders, in the face of enemy fire, seized the trails of the gun and pushed it forward by hand to an exposed position one hundred yards from the enemy's line. From this position the gun destroyed an enemy tank, four other vehicles, and an enemy self propelled gun which had prevented the advance of our troops. For their heroic action Lt. Reynolds and all members of the crew received the Silver Star Medal.

On August 20th the enemy furiously endeavored to break out of the trap which had been closed when the Poles reached Chambois. The enemy was stopped dead at the northwest entrance to Chambois. In the 358th Infantry area, Company B, in position at Bon Menil, and Ste. Eugenie, continued to give excellent results with flanking fire.

On August 21st the operations consisted in mainly rounding up stray Germans who wanted desperately to give up. The trap had succeeded in destroying or capturing most of the German Seventh Army [See Fig. 1]. The remarkable record of the Jerry equipment destroyed during the battles of Le Bourg St. Leonard-Chambois by this Battalion can best be shown by figures. [Figure 2-1]

	Co. A	Co. B	Co. C	Total
Tanks, Mark and IV and V.	0	27	7	34
Self propelled guns	0	20	3	23
Armored half tracks	0	8	1	9
General purpose vehicles	6	54	4	64
Horse drawn Artillery Pieces	0	16	0	16
Total of all types	6	125	15	146
Prisoners captured 519.				

The Battalion CP had moved to Nonant Le Pin, one mile southeast of Le Bourg St. Leonard and back to a battalion assembly area at Nonant Le Pin. Here the Battalion remained in assembly until August 26th.

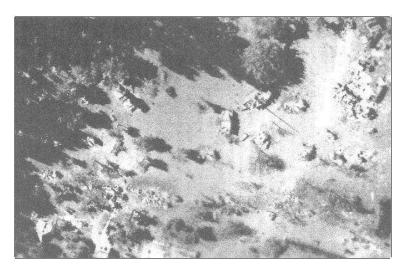


Figure 1
Just a portion of the destruction at Chambois

MOSELLE RIVER AND METZ BATTLES

RACING THROUGH FRANCE

While the 90th Division had been fighting in the Falaise pocket, other units had pushed far to the east and southeast. Our turn came now. The Battalion marched as a unit in the 90th Division column from Nonant le Pin to Fontainbleau, a distance of 171 miles, on August 26th. The route of march led through Sees, Mamers, La Ferte Bernard, Chateaudun, Janville, Pithiviers and to a woods three miles south of Fontainbleau.

The next day Companies A and C went into direct support of the 357th Infantry and the 359th Infantry respectively in their drives to the northeast. During the period August 27-30 Company A moved to Cormicy (ten miles northwest of Reims) via Jouy le Chatel, Viels Maisons, and Chatteau Thierry, where they crossed the Marne. Company C advanced to Le Croix en Brie, St. Agnau, Gueux and to St. Etienne Sur Suippe (ten miles north of Reims). Behind these units the Battalion CP, plus Company B moved across the Seine at Fontainbleau through Machault and Nangis to Le Croix en Brie, to Montmiral, across the Marne and to Savigny Sur Ardres and on to Ft. de Brimont (five miles north of Reims). The total distance traveled from Fontainebleau was 135 miles. Very little opposition was met on the drive.

Company A was relieved of the support mission with the 357th Infantry Regiment and assembled in the vicinity of the Battalion CP on September 1st. The 2nd Platoon of Company B was attached a Company C to help support the 359th Infantry Regiment's covering to the northwest of Rettel.

On September 4th Company A, with the 2nd Reconnaissance Platoon attached, and Company C were attached to the 357th and the 359th Combat Teams respectively. The following day Company A with Company B supporting, moved with a 357th Combat Team to Rouvres (4000 yards east of Etain), and Company C with the 359th Combat Team to 2000 yards north of Etain. The Battalion CP, plus one reconnaissance platoon, moved to 2000 yards northwest of Rouvres, passing through Reims, St. Menehould, Verdun and Etain, a distance of 95 miles. Company B was placed in support of the 358th Infantry Regiment and moved to 1000 yards northeast of Eton. Platoons of all companies continued to give AT support to the battalions with which they had worked during the advance.

FIGHTING FOR THE MOSELLE

On September 7th Company A and Company B were relieved of attachment and placed in support of their regiments. Company C, minus one platoon, which remained with the Battalion, was attached to the 359th Infantry. Each company was given a reconnaissance section. The Battalion CP, plus one TD platoon from Company C and one reconnaissance section, moved to the vicinity of Norroy le Sec. Company A moved their CP to Mancieulles with the platoons in the vicinity of Avril and Briey. During the day they knocked out one half-track, one machine gun and killed several Germans. Company B moved their CP to 1000 yards north of Piennes with one platoon at Spincourt. Later this platoon moved to Mairy while another platoon went to Trieux. By the end of the day Company C moved its CP to a point 2000 yards north of Landres with platoons at Constantine, Mercy le Bas and Circourt, blocking roads to the north.

One TD company and one reconnaissance platoon of the 774th TD Battalion was attached to the 607th TD Battalion and moved to an assembly area near the Battalion CP.

At 0200 September 8th an enemy column penetrated the Division Area. At 0400 it hit the Division Artillery CP, but was repulsed with slight losses to both sides. One tank approaching the Battalion CP and rear echelon was fired upon by a three inch gun. The tank changed its course out of the field of fire of the gun. Lt. Elliot Schechter, with a squad, took after it on foot. Crawling to within a hundred yards of the tank they fired a rifle grenade and several rounds of carbine ammunition at it and immediately the crew abandoned it and fled. In the ensuing skirmish one German was wounded and seven prisoners were taken, including one officer. Company B was forced to move its CP to Norry. The 2nd Platoon, at 0530, destroyed several enemy half tracks near Bonvilles as they approached from the south. Four enemy tanks fired upon Mairy from the west at 0700, but three were destroyed by two guns of the 2nd Platoon located in that town. At 0800, a column of eleven half tracks entered the town from the south and turned east. Two were destroyed by the infantry, two by TD bazooka fire, and four by the 2nd Platoon as they swung north out of the town. Company C moved their CP 5000 yards northeast and their 1st Platoon, which had been in battalion reserve, was relieved and sent to Murville. Company C, 774th TD Battalion, sent guns to the vicinity of Bonvillers, Piennes, Landres, Mercy Le Haut, Xivry, Higny, and Mairy. On the 8th they destroyed four tanks.

Company A, 774th TD Battalion, was placed in support of the 607th TD Battalion and sent two platoons to cover the south flank of woods 1000 yards north of the Battalion CP. That night all elements of the 774th TD Battalion were ordered to revert to their Battalion, but to remain on the same mission.

Company A moved their CP to Avril and immediately thereafter the enemy launched a tank-infantry attack from Trieux toward Briey to relieve their forces surrounded there. The 1st Platoon of Company A, commanded by Lt. Bruce Gildersleeve, was moving their guns to a ridge outside of the Avril when small arms fire broke out to their front. Under artillery fire they man-handled the guns with the help of the infantry to the top of the hill. From there they destroyed two enemy tank destroyers, two half-tracks, and killed about twenty foot soldiers thus breaking up the attack.

On the 9th and 10th of September the companies continued to advance with their regiments. By the 11th the Battalion CP had moved to St. Piermont, 2000 yards south of Trieux. Company A moved its CP to Neufchef, the platoons moving to Florrange and Uckange via Morlange and Rangevaux. One platoon had moved to Hayange, but was moved back to Neufchef. Company B's CP moved from Norroy to a point 2000 yards west of Fontoy and its platoons moved on the 10th of September to Fontoy, Angeviller and Algrange. On the eleventh the 2nd Platoon advanced to Elange. On the 10th Company C had moved its CP to Aumetz, following its platoons which had advanced to Aumetz, Frouville and Ludelange. The following day the Company moved to Angevillers with all its platoons.

On the 12th and 13th the companies, supporting the regiments, continued their advance, closing up to the Moselle River. Company B moved two platoons to positions overlooking Thionville from the west side of the river and its CP to the vicinity of Hettange Grande. On September 13th Company C moved the 1st Platoon two Boust, about four miles north of Thionville. The 2nd Platoon with Major John Solomon and Captain Ernest Long observing and Lt. William Pendergast commanding, took one reconnaissance section and the second gun of its platoon forward of the infantry positions to a temporary location two hundred yards west of the Basse Parth. From this position the gun, manned by Sgt. Thomas and his gun crew, fired ten rounds into Germany. The target was the church steeple in Perl. These were the first rounds fired by the 90th Division into Germany, first rounds fired by the XX Corps

into Germany, and it is believed that this was the first fire to fall into Germany from troops of the Third U.S. Army.

STORMING OF METZ

After closing up to the Moselle River, the 90th Infantry Division was given a new mission of holding an area north and west of Metz, including Thionville, instead of crossing the Moselle near Thionville. On September 14th the 358th Regiment with Company B attached was given the mission of holding the Thionville sector. The Battalion CP moved to the vicinity of Hatrize (5000 yards northeast of Conflans). Company A assembled near Malancourt and Company C near the Battalion CP. Two platoons of Company C were placed in support of Task Force Randolph which had the mission of defending in depth the area of Roncourt-St. Privat-Amanvillers-Habonville, an area taken over from the 7th Armored Division. Company A, with the 357th Infantry, held from the left flank of Task Force Randolph to the right flank of the 358th Infantry. The 2nd Platoon of Company A moved guns into position on the high ground overlooking Mirange Silvange. On September 15th Company C moved their CP to Ste. Marie aux Chenes with one platoon in position east of town and the other two with Task Force Randolph in position near Roncourt, St. Privat and Habonville.

On September 16th the Battalion CP moved to a mine 2000 yards southeast of Moinville. From September 16-26th there was very little change in positions. On the 19th Company A moved one platoon to face east across the Moselle from positions in Talange and Mondelange. The other two platoons faced south towards Metz from positions near Pierrevillers and Mirange Silvange. On September 24th Captain Bodell moved their CP to Rhombas.

Company C placed four guns in indirect fire from positions sixteen hundred yards northeast of Ste. Marie aux Chenes and fired interdictory and harassing missions. During part of the period only two guns fired indirect while the other two were in direct fire positions at Malmaison (seven miles west of Metz).

Company B remained with the 358th Infantry Regiment, firing at pillboxes near Thionville, until September 27th when they were relieved. They moved into an assembly area about two thousand yards north of Mars la Tour and about five miles southeast of Conflans before going into position near Jouaville. The Company was given the mission of covering the area from Verneville south for about six miles in support of the 358th and 359th Infantry Regiments. During the remainder of the month the companies rotated their platoons giving them a chance to rest and rehabilitate.

From September 1st to 30th six tanks and thirteen half-tracks of the enemy were destroyed. 2825 rounds (indirect fire) were fired and 45 prisoners were taken.

On October 2nd the Battalion CP moved to Ste. Marie aux Chenes and Lt. Colonel Sundt took over Task Force Randolph which was renamed Task Force Sundt. It consisted of the 607th TD Battalion (less Company A and 1st Platoon of Company B), plus Company A, 712th Tank Battalion, an assault gun platoon of the 712th Tank Battalion and Company B of the 179th Engineer Battalion. In the area, supporting but not attached, were Company D of the 712th Tank Battalion and the mortar platoon of 712th Tank Battalion. Company B's CP took over the old battalion CP's position at the Paradise Mine and placed one platoon in indirect firing position at that point.

Units in Task Force Sundt and also platoons of the three gun companies were rotated each week until the end of the month. Each of the gun companies kept one platoon doing indirect firing. Company A and Company C each had one platoon supporting the 357th Infantry's attack on Mèziéres (five miles north of Metz), and on October 30th Company A sent one platoon into the town. On October 24th the left boundary of the Task Force was moved a short distance further east and the units displaced to secure the new area.

During October 15, 105 rounds were fired indirect and 8 prisoners were taken. Forty-nine rounds of counter battery were received. Also during this period, the Divisional defenses were straightened. Company C laid 1800 yards of concertina wire, and approximately 1800 anti-personnel mines, trip flares and booby traps. Patrols from the platoons made contact daily with friendly infantry in the woods 1500 yards east. Two Germans, nicknamed Hans and Fritz, occupied foxholes on the northwest side of Amanvillers. Whenever they showed themselves, the members of one of Company C's gun crews adjusted artillery on them, using Company B's guns.

The 95th Infantry Division began to relieve the 90th Infantry Division on November 1st. The 90th Division elements of Task Force Sundt were relieved by 2400 of that day. Effective November 2nd, the 607th TD Battalion was relieved from attachment to the 90th Infantry Division and attached to the 95th Infantry Division. Task Force Sundt was dissolved on November 2nd. In preparation for the attack on Metz, three Regimental Combat Teams took over the 95th Division front.

The 379th Regimental area (south flank) was extended to the south to the Moselle River and on November 6th Company B moved to Gorze with platoons there and at Noveant in support of them. On November 6th the 357th area (north flank) was also extended to the north and Company A moved two guns to the high ground overlooking the Moselle River one mile southwest of Uckange and two guns to the road one mile west of Uckange. The following day two guns which had been firing indirect were moved to Richmont, two miles south of Uckange.

On November 12th, the 607th TD Battalion (towed) began to convert to the 607th TD Battalion (self propelled), being equipped with the M-36 tank destroyer armed with the 90mm gun. The 2nd Platoon of Company A and of Company C were the first to be converted. [Figure 3-1]

The first main efforts to take Metz began with a crossing of the swollen Moselle River south of Uckange by the 1st Battalion of the 377th Infantry Regiment against stiff resistance, the pushing south from Mèziéres les Metz by the 2nd Battalion of the 377th Infantry and the advance southeast and east by the 378th and 379th Infantry Regiments, respectively.

Supporting the 379th's advance on Metz Company B moved its CP to Vionville with a platoon at Gravelotte and one in direct fire at Vionville.

On the 13th of November S/Sgt. Hempel of the 2nd Platoon of Company C led bazooka teams across the greatly swollen Moselle River in boats to support the 1st Battalion of the 377th Infantry. In addition they carried supplies over that night and the next night in spite of heavy enemy fire, which sank several boats, and returned on the 15th.

As the 377th continued their attacks south of Mèziéres toward Metz, Company A moved its CP to Mèziéres on the 16th of November with one platoon firing indirect from a position just to the south. The 2nd Platoon remained in a ready position to support the 2nd Battalion, 377th Infantry, also near Mèziéres. The 2nd Platoon Company C, attached to Company A, advanced with the 3rd Battalion,

377th Infantry to the vicinity of La Maxe and then moved forward 200 yards and fired at Fort Gambeta, two miles north of Metz, rescuing a company of infantry, which had been pinned down by heavy machine gun fire from the fort, and covered its withdrawal.

The 3rd Platoon of Company B made a dramatic run on November 16th from its conversion area to the rescue of a force of infantry who were attempting to relieve a battalion of the 379th Infantry which for four days had been cut off behind Fort Jeanne D'Arc. The relieving column had encountered heavy crossfire from Fort de Guise and surprise fire from Leipzig Farm. It had been thought that Leipzig Farm was neutralized but reinforcements were brought up by a secret tunnel. Lt. Reynolds ably directed his guns in neutralizing the direct fire and then in spite of heavy mortar fire, with the aid of Lt. Molnar, reorganized the relief column and successfully completed the relief mission. However, their work had only begun for it then became apparent that a bold thrust toward Metz itself offered great possibilities. With the reconnaissance section leading, the infantry riding the destroyers and the engineer's mine removal team accompanying them, Lt. Reynolds drove his lead-spitting column eastward to Moulin les Metz, pausing as darkness fell just 1000 yards from the Moselle River. The following morning the drive was renewed and contact was made with the 378th Infantry in the center of Metz. About three hundred prisoners were taken by this Task Force. The might of the 90mm gun proved a decisive factor in disrupting the enemy and encouraging our forces. For their heroic leadership Lt. Reynolds received the oak leaf cluster to the Silver Star and Lt. Monar received the Silver Star.

On November 17th Lt. Albert C. Knapp of Company A, after having led two M-36 tank destroyers in the opening of a route from Woippy to the Moselle River continued south toward the heavily defended North Metz railroad station. The enemy flanked both sides of Lt. Knapp's approach, waited in emplacements to his front and delivered fire down on him from a railroad trestle crossing the road. Lt. Knapp, disregarding the vulnerability of his vehicle's open turrets, manned the 50 caliber AA guns and smashed into German positions, ruthlessly routing the occupants. Lt. Knapp's initiative greatly assisted in the reduction of all opposition in the area. For his gallantry he was awarded the Silver Star. Two other men to receive this award in the battle for Metz were Sgt. Milton Svoboda and Pvt. Clifford H. Ellis, both of Company A, who acted as 50 caliber machine gunners.

The 2nd Platoon of Company C, relieved from attachment to Company A, was reinforced by one reconnaissance section and moved to the east side of the Moselle via the Moselle bridgehead and advanced south to the vicinity of Malroy (three miles north of Metz). The 19th of November was spent in mopping up in Metz; Task Force Bacon having closed on the city from the northeast, while the rest of the Division had closed from the north and west. The 5th Infantry Division entered from the south and east.

Lt. Colonel Sundt received the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Silver Star for his success in directing the Battalion in artillery and anti-tank support of the 95th Division from November 8th to the 21st in the attack on Metz.

During the week of November 12th to 19th, all platoons had been converted to self-propelled units.



Figure 3-1
We Convert to S.P. for the Storming of Metz

THE SIEGFRIED BATTLES

RACING FOR THE SAAR

On November 20th the 607th TD Battalion was relieved from attachment to the 95th Infantry Division and attached to the 90th Infantry Division for the second time. Company A moved their CP to Woippy. A reconnaissance company was formed at Ste. Marie aux Chenes.

On the 21st of November the Battalion, minus the reconnaissance company, marched across the Moselle River at Uckange and moved east to join the 90th Infantry Division. The Battalion CP moved to Monnern (eleven miles east of Thionville) with the gun companies in adjacent towns.

The following day the Battalion was ordered to rejoin the 95th Infantry Division and on the 23rd moved back to the Moselle River, where they were joined by the Reconnaissance Company and thence proceeded south along the river to the vicinity of Ars Laquenexy (six miles southeast of Metz). The gun companies assembled in towns in that general area.

As the 95th Infantry Division pushed to the northeast, the enemy fought a delaying action back through the Maginot Line toward the Saar River and the Siegfried Line which bordered on the east side of the Saar. In support of the 377th Infantry Regiment, Company A, with 2nd Reconnaissance Platoon attached, moved to Volmerange with two platoons crossing the Nied River and assembling in Boulay. Company C, with the 1st Reconnaissance Platoon attached, advanced with the 378th Infantry to Macker with platoons at Momerstraff and Zondrange. The Battalion CP plus the Reconnaissance Company, less two platoons, moved to Coucelles Chaussy and then to Varize. Company B, in reserve, moved to Helstrof.

Passing through the almost undefended Maginot Line, the 1st Platoon of Company C, moving into an assembly position east of Niedervisse, was fired upon by an enemy 75 mm AT gun. The track of the leading destroyer was knocked off but by quick action the crew destroyed the Jerry gun and took fourteen prisoners. Later the 1st Platoon knocked out three pillboxes and destroyed three enemy 20 mm flak guns near Momerstraff.

The following day the Battalion CP and the Reconnaissance Company, minus two platoons, moved to a railroad station at Teterchen (five miles northeast of Boulay).

For the remainder of the month, the companies, supporting the regiments, moved on about a seven mile front up to within three miles of the Saar River near Saarlautern.

At one point in the advance the German artillery laid down a fierce barrage from the high, dominating hills southeast of Falck. 1st Lt. George King of Company C was charged with defending the town pending the arrival of reinforcing infantry. Numerically superior German infantry moved down the southern ridge onto the town as Lt. King deployed his tank destroyer platoon with the few automatic weapons at his disposal into a defensive position. Under a further barrage of artillery and mortars the Germans struck stealthily, endeavoring to infiltrate the American positions, but Lt. King's platoon fought back fiercely and repulsed them. Again and again the enemy repeated his tactics, only to find the defense impenetrable. Credit for the successful defense of Falck against overwhelming enemy numbers was largely due to Lt. King's initiative and gallantry for which he was awarded the Silver Star. To the other Company C men awarded this medal in the vicinity of Falck were Pvt. Franklin D. Monroe, for

retrieving a half track loaded with ammunition and gasoline in face of heavy shelling, and Sgt. Oscar Kaiser, for evacuating a wounded comrade 800 yards in front of friendly lines while under furious enemy fire.

Just north of Falck one of the most costly single battles occurred. On November 28th the 3rd Platoon of Company C, commanded by Lt. Leroy C. Baker, moved from a reserve position to relieve the 1st Platoon, which was supporting the 1st Battalion of the 378th Infantry in Falck. The platoon leader was given the mission to proceed according to a time schedule up the main road from Falck to Merten and to meet the infantry on the edge of a Merten. It was understood that the infantry was to storm the town by flanking attacks from the north and the south prior to the platoon's entrance into the town. The platoon proceeded according to the time schedule towards the town through artillery fire which was falling along the road. The leading destroyer reached the west end of Merten where it was stopped by an anti-tank barrier. It fired several rounds into the town which was still occupied by the enemy. In an effort to bypass the barrier, the destroyer became bogged in the mud and was fired upon and destroyed by an enemy anti-tank gun. The second destroyer of the platoon, following the first, turned around and made its way back to Falck after the first was hit. The third destroyer received a hit from an AT gun, and losing a track, its swerved off the road into a ditch where it was set afire by the enemy AT gun. The fourth destroyer had the mission of covering the advancing three. Observing the flash of the AT gun, it attempted to return the fire but the gun failed to function. Trying to turn the destroyer around ended with it also becoming bogged down in the mud. This destroyer was later recovered. The remnants of the platoon assembled in the vicinity of Falck and later returned to the Company CP. Pfc. Benjamin T. Oakley was awarded the Silver Star for voluntarily going to the vicinity of Merten, under heavy shellfire, and assisting in the evacuation of the wounded.

During November the Battalion fired 5590 rounds indirect fire, took 206 prisoners and destroyed the following listed enemy equipment by direct fire.

- 3 Anti-tank guns
- 6 Anti-aircraft guns
- 3 Machine guns
- 4 Pillboxes
- 3 Ammunition carts
- 2 Light vehicles

Several enemy strong points and OP's.

THE BRIDGEHEAD

A tremendous job now lay before the Division. Two barriers were in their path; namely, the Saar River and the Siegfried Line. This portion of the West Wall lying in front of the 95th Division was as thick as any point on the western front.

The Division continued to close on the Saar, meeting small arms, mortar, artillery, and direct fire. If the roads were not blocked by anti-tank ditches, they were blocked by mines and AT guns.

On December 1st a tank held up the infantry at Ste. Barbara (three miles northwest of Saarlautern). The tank was situated so that direct fire could not be brought on it without suicidal exposure to its fire. A bazooka team, under Sgt. Roy E. Holcomb, crawled toward the enemy tank. Covered by friendly small arms fire, the team moved to within 75 yards of the tank and opened fire, but

without effect. Sgt. Holcomb approached from another direction and when he was 50 yards from the tank he again opened fire, partially disabling it and causing it to retreat. As he made his way back to his platoon, another enemy tank moved into the position previously occupied by the one he had damaged. Thereupon, armed with a bazooka, he again crawled toward the tank and fired four rounds at it and partially disabled it but was killed by return fire. His courageous determination and his heroic devotion to duty were of the highest order. In recognition of his heroism he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. Further attempts to destroy the tank by bazooka fire failed. Lt. Knapp, the platoon leader, then directed Sgt. Rollins, destroyer commander, to fire several rounds of 90mm through the buildings in the direction of the tank. S/Sgt. Schoessler (then Cpl.), gunner, dismounted from the destroyer and made a foot reconnaissance to determine the gun-target line through the buildings. He reentered the destroyer and fired several rounds into the building adjacent to the tank. Again dismounting and going forward through heavy enemy mortar and small arms fire, Sgt. Schoessler ascertained the effect of his fire, returned and fired four additional rounds in the direction of the tank. This firing created a smoke-dust cloud which enabled the destroyer to be moved to a more advantageous position to bring direct fire to bear on the tank. Four more rounds fired through the smoke-dust cloud at the tank caused it to burst into flames. For his initiative and outstanding bravery S/Sgt. Schoessler was awarded the Silver Star.

Saarlautern, a city of some thirty thousand people, lies mainly on the west side of the Saar River, with the suburbs of Fraulautern and Saarlautern-Roden just east of the river. When the 95th Division reached the outskirts of the Saarlautern two of the three bridges crossing the Saar in the city had been blown; the one still intact being in the center of town.

The plan of attack was to occupy part of Saarlautern and then with a reserve force shoot across the bridge and establish a bridgehead before the enemy could blow it.

Company A supporting the 377th Infantry Regiment, was the first to reach the Saar. On December 2nd their 1st and 3rd Platoons moved to Beaumaris (just north of Saarlautern) and prepared to support any crossing of the river.

Company B sent its 3rd Platoon with the 2rd Battalion 379th Infantry Regiment in their assault of Saarlautern and the 1st Platoon moved to the rear of the assaulting Battalion of the 379th and prepared for an early crossing.

On the night of December 2nd, the 379th sent the 1st Battalion across the river in boats, killed the guard on the northeast end of the bridge and cut the wires to the demolition charge. It consolidated its hold on the east bank while an attack launched by the1st Platoon of Company B closely followed by infantry cleared the west bank down to the bridge. On December 3rd Lt. Calvin R Stone moved his platoon across the bridge to protect the bridgehead. This early crossing made at great risk before the bridge was completely cleared of demolition, and through a curtain of fire, was to prevent the enemy from counterattacking in an attempt to regain the bridge. Before daylight on the 4th, Lt. Robert L. Arrison moved his platoon across to support the Infantry moving east. When the Germans attacked from the north, he placed his guns to aid Lt. Stone in the defense of the bridgehead. The enemy attacked with tanks and infantry supported by heavy artillery fire. The skillful employment of the M-36's and the 50 caliber machine guns, coordinated with the infantry, repulsed the attacks time after time. A midnight attack, that had as its mission the destruction of the bridge across the Saar, was also repulsed. Four tanks were destroyed with a loss of one TD. For their superb leadership and gallantry the two officers were awarded Silver Stars.

In the initial attack five tanks approached the bridge. The leading one was hit and burned up. Cpl. Eugene L. LaFontain, Company B gunner of another TD blanked out due to smoke, pulled out past the burning tank. His destroyer was hit by an overwatching tank knocking off the track. Undaunted, Cpl. LaFontaine destroyed the nearest tank. Another round went through his destroyer cutting off Cpl. LaFontaine's leg. In spite of his serious wound, Cpl. LaFontaine continued to fire until his ammunition was exhausted. For his supreme devotion to duty Cpl. LaFontaine was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Company C, supporting the 378th in their attack on the southern part of Saarlautern and Lisdorf, sent the 2nd Platoon to reduce a road block in one of the streets. One section proceeded to do the job and as the two destroyers moved down the street a window shutter was opened and a German bazooka crew fired on the lead destroyer, hitting it on the turret. A bed roll and the lifting ring set the bazooka round off, preventing it from damaging the destroyer. The covering destroyer fired on several houses in the vicinity causing 35 Germans to run to the street to surrender. On December 5th Company C supported the successful crossing of the Saar River at Lisdorf by the 378th Infantry, neutralizing several pillboxes, the 3rd Platoon knocking out "Teters Pillbox" (containing a 75mm AT gun) while under heavy enemy artillery fire. This bridgehead was doomed never to be enlarged very much. On the same day the Battalion CP, plus Reconnaissance Company, minus three platoons, moved to Felsberg from Ittersdorf.

Upon reaching the main belt of the Siegfried Line the attacking forces were slowed down. To aid in the expansion of the bridgehead Lt. Richard A. Reynolds, Company B, moved his platoon across the bridge and supported the infantry, attacking north. He repeatedly exposed himself to enemy fire while directing his platoon. On one occasion, while heavily engaged with stubbornly resisting forces, he halted his destroyer in an exposed position and personally rescued members of another crew who were trapped in a burning tank destroyer. During subsequent action, while directing fire against enemy pillboxes, Lt. Reynolds was killed. For supreme devotion to duty and conspicuous heroism Lt. Reynolds was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

The bridgehead continued to expand and the fighting moved slowly into Saarlautern-Roden and Fraulautern, the attackers conducting a systematic destruction of pillboxes and houses being used for strong points. Sgt. Joseph F. Costa, Company A, was awarded the Silver Star Medal for moving his destroyer across a causeway in Fraulautern in the face of mortar and direct artillery fire in order to replenish badly needed rations and gasoline. In another action on this same date, Sgt. James Sheeran, Company A, was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action. Disregarding his own life, he left his place of safety to carry a wounded comrade from a street which was under heavy mortar fire to a building where first aid could be administered. All advances were met with very heavy mortar and artillery fire. In a single day 1800 rounds were received in Fraulautern. Company A relieved Company B in the bridgehead area, Company B going to Ittersdorf for maintenance and reorganization. Sgt. (then private) Eugene Esposito, Company C, promptly took command of a destroyer when his gun commander was killed by machine gun fire. He opened fire on the machine gun, silencing it and killing its crew. He then moved his destroyer forward and annihilated a bazooka team, which was situated behind a stone wall. Spotting a flame thrower creeping up beside the wall toward his destroyer, Sgt. Esposito opened fire and knocked down the wall, killing the enemy. He then eliminated another machine gun nest. For his heroic and positive action Sgt. Esposito was awarded the Silver Star. On December 9th an enemy tank destroyed an M-36 of Company A as it crossed a railroad track in Fraulautern.

Company C continued to fire on pillboxes, houses and OP's that could be seen across the river from the vicinity of Lisdorf. An artillery shell fragment hit a TD of Company C on December 13th, causing it to burn. December 17th found Company C, which had replaced Company A in the bridgehead, relieved by the 818th TD Battalion. Part of Company C, with the 1st Reconnaissance Platoon attached, continued to support the 378th Infantry, firing at targets of opportunity in Ensdorf. The Battalion CP moved to Merten.

On December 21st Company A and Company B relieved the elements of the 818th TD Battalion and the Battalion moved back to Felsberg. Company C assembled at Berweiler going into indirect fire positions. The Pioneer Platoon working with a reconnaissance platoon conducted 81mm mortar training, firing into Ensdorf. A group of fifteen enemy was seen and fire was placed on them. One was killed, four were wounded and the remainder dispersed.

THE DEFENSIVE

Because of the enemy's penetration into the Ardennes, it was feared that he might launch an attack into our weakest point, the gap between our right flank and the 103rd Division's left flank, an area being screened by the 106th Cavalry Group. A reconnaissance for defensive positions was initiated both by the Division and the 607th. The 3rd Reconnaissance Platoon established OP's and listening posts near Werbein and maintained contact with the 106th Cavalry Squadron on the Division's right flank.

On December 25th Company B assembled in Merten, being relieved by Company A, and on December 26th the Battalion CP plus Reconnaissance Company minus detached platoons, moved to Berus. The 1st Reconnaissance Platoon moved to the right flank of the Division (south of the 3rd Platoon) and established their CP and contact with 121st Cavalry Squadron at Carlsbrun. They reconnoitered routes and terrain in the area and located OP's from where it was possible to observe any enemy attack coming out of Forbach. (four miles southwest of Saarbrucken). Companies B and C reconnoitered defensive positions in the vicinity of L'Hopital and St. Avold, respectively, to meet any enemy threat. On December 27th these same companies placed platoons in indirect fire positions in Merten. and Berweiler. On December 29th the Pioneer Platoon, supporting the 206th Engineer Battalion, prepared nine roadblocks, which would be blown in case of an attack in the vicinity of St. Avold.

During the month of December 1945 the Battalion chalked up the following score:

In direct action fired 3719 rounds of 90mm HE, 1209 rounds of APC. In indirect action fired 1590 rounds on 86 missions.

Destroyed - 8 tanks (1 MK III, 6 MK IV, 1 MK V). [Figure 4-1] 10 75mm AT guns 9 machine guns 8 20mm AA guns 90 pillboxes

Prisoners taken – 94

During the week January 1-7 the Battalion continued to improve its defensive plans. The companies were rotated and the reconnaissance platoons continued to maintain contact with the units on the right flank of the Division. In Saarlautern the hammering at the Siegfried Line continued.

On January 7th, Company B, with the 1st Reconnaissance Platoon attached, was attached to the 6th Cavalry Group, which, with the 94th Infantry Division, was holding a portion of the southern shoulder of the Ardennes bulge. This area was located just northeast of the boundary between France, Luxembourg and Germany and at the edge of the Siegfried Line. Company B moved into an assembly area near Halstroff. After reconnoitering for gun positions they were reattached to the 94th Division on the 14th when they were committed, one platoon assisting in the capture of and then providing AT defense for Tettingen. The Company CP and other platoons moved to Sehndorf. On January 18th the enemy attacked with undetermined number of tanks and half-tracks. Company B having guns in Tettingen, Nennig, and Besch, repulsed the attack in the Tettingen area, destroying five tanks.

Back around Saarlautern 3rd Platoon of Company C assisted in repelling a heavy enemy counterattack, losing a destroyer to bazooka fire. On January 14th Company A had moved to St. Avold ready to go into firing positions in case of an enemy attack and on the 18th assembled near Merten, having been relieved by the 704th TD Battalion.

Company B continued to support the 94th Division until January 23rd when it was relieved by Company A. Company B assembled in Merten. On the following day Company A destroyed five tanks. They were relieved by the 704th TD Battalion and returned to Berus on January 25th

Company C continued to support the 95th Infantry Division in their attack in the Saarlautern area and the reconnaissance platoons maintained contact with units to the south.



Figure 4-1 Another Tank to our Credit – A Mark IV

AGAINST THE SIEGFRIED AGAIN

On January 27th the 95th Division was relieved by the 26th Infantry Division and was ordered to assemble in Belgium north of Bastogne. The Battalion, on the coldest day of the winter, marched 150 miles to the vicinity of Houffalize, Belgium via Boulay, Uckange, Longwy, Arlon and Neufchateau, with the Battalion CP and Reconnaissance Company going into of Taverneux.

During January the Battalion destroyed 7 MK V tanks, 3 MK IV tanks and 9 pillboxes; fired 2510 rounds in indirect fire. Two M-36's and one jeep were lost to enemy action,

On February 2nd, 1945 the Battalion was relieved from attachment to the 95th Infantry Division and attached to the 87th Infantry Division. This Division was closing on the enemy as he withdrew from

the Ardennes bulge. Passing through St. Vith, Belgium, Company A, with the 2nd Reconnaissance Platoon attached, moved northeast 30 miles to join the 347th Infantry Regiment in their area near the Belgian-German border. The platoons were employed near Berterath and Losheim with the Company CP in Manderfeld. On February 4th, Company C, with the 1st Reconnaissance Platoon attached, joined the 346th Infantry Regiment and supported them in the towns of Auw, Rothand and Wecherath. On February 5th the Battalion CP moved to Laudesfeld, Germany from Schonberg, Belgium.

For the third time the Battalion was facing the Siegfried Line. Complicated by mud, which made cross country movement impossible, the attack began. Roads became so bad that stretches had to be corduroyed to carry traffic.

Company B supporting the 345th Infantry, advanced into the pillbox area [See Fig.1] along the Schnee Eifel Ridge and took one pillbox with 50 caliber machine gun fire. The 1st Platoon advanced until all destroyers were stuck in the mud. Two were pulled out and continued on the attack. On February 7th, near Roth, Lt. Calvin Stone led his platoon on foot through heavily mined areas, keeping abreast of the advancing rifle elements. Encountering a well-fortified enemy position Lt. Stone voluntarily advanced alone and threw a grenade into the structure. Following the explosion he charged inside firing his carbine, killing two and capturing six of the enemy. During the ensuing action, Lt. Stone continuously exposed himself to enemy fire while directing his tank destroyers in locating other enemy installations. For his devotion to duty and courage he was awarded the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Silver Star. The same day Company B destroyed four more pillboxes and during the next couple of days whittled their way through pillboxes to take Olzheim and Neuendorf. [Figure 5-1] On February 11th Company C extended its front and relieved Company B, which moved into Division reserve at Wascheid (one mile west of Auw).

Due to the terrible condition of the roads little advance was made and no relief of the forward elements could be accomplished. Company A fired indirect, Company C continued to support the 345th Regiment, and Company B continued maintenance of equipment and supplied men to help construct and maintain roads. The Pioneer Platoon worked on roads and prepared alternate positions for destroyers. The attack began again on February 26th, but moved very slowly because of the mud and mines.

During February the Battalion destroyed 1 half-track, 2 horse-drawn artillery pieces, 8 machine guns, 5 pillboxes, fired 1605 rounds of 90mm in indirect fire.

On March 1st the 1st Platoon, Company A, with one platoon of tanks, formed two armored groups consisting of two medium tanks and two tank destroyers. One group was led by the tank platoon leader and one was led by the tank destroyer platoon leader. These two groups moved in support of the infantry as it assaulted the town of Ormont. After the TD's had fired 26 rounds of 90mm and 2000 rounds of 50 caliber, the tanks firing about the same amount, the town was captured by the infantry.

During the next couple of days, the companies hammered their way through more pillboxes of the strongly fortified line. With the key points of Ormont, Neuendorf and Nolzheim taken, the Siegfried Line was breached and resistance slackened.



Figure 5-1 One of the Many Siegfried Pill Boxes our T.D.'s Neutralized

RHINE BATTLES

THE APPROACH

The Division advanced slowly eastward along a six mile front extending from Kronenburgerhutte to Neuendorf being held up frequently by mines, blown bridges and artillery. On March 6th the 3rd Platoon Company C and the pioneer platoon was attached to Task Force Muir, which had the mission of capturing a bridge across the Kyll River near Lissendorf, 10 miles away. They advanced rapidly against some artillery and mortar fire and by noon had reached Lissendorf, only to have the bridge blown up in their faces. The third Platoon fired at enemy across the river while the Pioneer Platoon built a foot bridge over which the infantry crossed. The stream was shallow enough to be forded by vehicles. The remainder of Company C marched in column to the Kyll.

Company A, moving behind the Task Force, and supporting the 347th Infantry, established its CP at Lissendorf. By March 7th the Battalion CP and Reconnaissance CP had advanced through Roth and Shonberg to Lissendorf. Task force Muir and the remaining elements of the 345th Infantry crossed the Kyll river and continued to advance to the northeast through Wiesbaum., where the pioneers were released, thence towards the Ahr River. Company A advanced across the river and continued as far as Ripsdorf and Hungersdorf, while Company B continued toward Stadtkyll, crossed the river, and took Esch and Feusdorf. By March 9th the Division had cleared the area to the Ahr River. Beyond this other units had raced almost to the Rhine. During the next five days, the Battalion remained in the same dispositions with all companies conducting maintenance.

On March 14th the Division was ordered to march to a position facing Koblenz. The Battalion CP, plus Reconnaissance Company minus three platoons, moved to the Bassenheim railroad station, five miles west of Koblenz, a distance of 80 miles.

Koblenz, a city with a pre-war population of 90,000 people, lies in the triangle formed by the Moselle River flowing northeast into the Rhine which flows north. The next mission of the 87th Division was to take this historic city. All bridges across the Moselle leading to the city had been blown isolating it from the west.

Arriving in this new area, Company A with the 2nd Reconnaissance Platoon attached, stopped in the vicinity of Ochtendung, Company B, with the 3rd Reconnaissance Platoon attached, assembled at Rubenach, and Company C, with the 1st Reconnaissance Platoon attached, went into position near Mulheim-Karlich.

On March 16th Company A moved south to the Moselle River to Koburn and Winningen and supported the infantry's crossing that night. The next two days the 347th Infantry advanced southeast towards the Rhine, with Company A knocking out several roadblocks and killing enemy personnel defending them. On March 17th the 2nd Platoon Reconnaissance Company with a task force of two TD's from Company A, two tanks and an infantry platoon, was halted by a roadblock. When small arms fire was received from well-entrenched dominating positions, Pfc. Novakovich, on his own initiative, moved up the hill in an attempt to outflank the enemy. Capturing one German he returned with a prisoner to secure prompt interrogation. [Figure 6-1, Figure 6-2] He then led two comrades in a fierce and successful assault upon the enemy positions, killing several Germans and forcing others to withdraw. For his gallantry and leadership Pfc. Novakovich was awarded the Silver Star.

Company B fired at German positions across the Rhine and Company C moved its CP and one platoon to Metternick, just across from Koblenz and fired on the enemy in the southern part of the city.

On March 18th Company C moved across the Moselle to Lay and sent their platoons into Koblenz with the 354th Infantry. By evening they had fired at Fort Constantine.

As the regiments moved south the Division boundary also moved south. Company B was attached to the 28th Infantry Division and moved to Plaidt in Division reserve.

Within the next two days Koblenz was completely taken, Fort Constantine being one of the last points to surrender. [Figure 6-3] The third Platoon of Company C fired 29 rounds of APC and HE and the second Platoon fired 13 rounds APC and 27 rounds HE into the Fort. Immediately, 14 officers and 85 men surrendered the fort to the 345th Infantry. Then the infantry moved into the city proper knocking out two enemy machine gun nests. During this action Sgt. Thomas C. Johnson, Company C, was awarded the Silver Star for repairing his gun from the outside of the turret in face of vicious enemy fire, putting it into action again in a very few minutes.

On March 22nd, after Koblenz had fallen, the companies assembled preparatory to moving. Company B was relieved from attachment to the 28th Division.

THE CROSSING

The following day the entire Battalion assembled in the vicinity of Norterhausen, ten miles southwest of Koblenz. The last battles for Germany were about to be fought. Units to the north and south were crossing the Rhine and pushing deep into Germany.

On March 25th the 347th Infantry crossed the Rhine in boats against heavy 20mm fire, being supported by Company A firing at targets in the vicinity of Ober-Lahnstein.

Company C supported the 345th Infantry crossing at below Boppard. Later in the day Company C and one platoon of Company A were ferried across at Boppard and moved to support the expansion of the bridgehead. [Figure 6-4] Captain Long, commanding officer of Company C, was given the job of getting all the armor supporting the 345th across the Rhine. Two tanks of Company B, 735th Tank Battalion and two TD's of the 2nd Platoon of Company C were the first armor working with the 87th Division to cross the Rhine. Company B later moved across the bridge and assembled, awaiting the 346th Infantry's crossing.



Figure 6-1 Crossing the Mozelle – On to the Rhine



Figure 6-2 Ruins of Koblenz from Fort Constantin



Figure 6-3 Fort Constantin

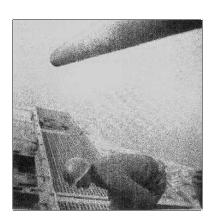


Figure 6-4 A T.D. Protects the Preparation for the Rhine Crossing

FIRST TASK FORCE

Following the crossing of the Rhine River, German resistance crumbled to such an extent that it was essential to form a hard-hitting, fast moving armored unit to reach into the German rear areas, disrupt communications, cut up German administrative units and installations. Such a force was organized and placed under the command of Lt. Colonel Harold S. Sundt and was to be known as Task Force Sundt. [Figure 7-1, Figure 7-2, Figure 7-3] Units comprising the Task Force were the 607th TD Battalion, less A and C Companies, plus Company A of the 735th Tank Battalion, the 87th Reconnaissance Troupe, K Company of the 346th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Platoon Company C of the 312th Engineer Battalion and supported by fires from the 155 mm howitzers of the 335th FA Battalion. The Task Force was divided into three hard hitting companies plus a CP group. Each company consisted of a platoon of tanks, platoon of TD's, platoon of infantry, riding on the armored vehicles, and

a platoon of the 87th Reconnaissance Troupe. The CP group contained the remaining forces. It crossed the Rhine at Boppard on a pontoon bridge and assembled six miles to the northeast at Dachsenhausen which was the limit of the Division advance.

The Task Force's first objective was Nastatten, 12 miles southeast of Boppard. At 0545 March 27th the Task Force took off for Nastatten, the plan of attack being to advance along the high ground to Ruppertshaffen, and thence to Nastatten. By 0830 the Task Force had reached Ruppertshaffen, three miles west of Nastatten, where it assembled and regrouped.

The third Task Force Company, under the command of 1st Lt. Glen J. Doman, 346th Infantry Regiment, made the attack on the town at 0915. The first Company, commanded by 1st Lt. Frank W. Jones, Jr., 735th Tank Battalion, and the second Company, commanded by Captain J. Laverne Nicklas, 607th TD Battalion, supported the attack by fires from the hills west of the town. The third Company's armor was stopped at the Muhl River when the bridge was blown in the face of the advancing reconnaissance elements. The infantry under 2nd Lt. Robert L. Picher, 346th Infantry Regiment, swept through the town and cleared all enemy resistance. [Figure 7-4, Figure 7-5] The Pioneer Platoon commanded by 2nd Lt. Caesar Merlo prepared a ford across the Muhl River. By 1300 the armor of the Task Force crossed with the mission of continuing to the east.

The 2nd Company heading northeast for Holzhausen received heavy 20mm fire, small arms fire, and AT fire coming from the vicinity of the Holzhausen. The third Company attempting to bypass to the north was slowed by darkness and enemy fire. The Task Force assembled for the night one and a half miles northeast of the Nastatten at Buch. During the day they had captured 47 prisoners and advanced eleven miles.

Behind and to the flanks of the Task Force, combat teams of the infantry regiments advanced, the TD platoons being in small task forces. Company A advanced to Bad Ems, passing through Ober-Lahnstein and meeting some resistance and roadblocks. To the south of Company A, Company C advanced with the 345th Infantry to the vicinity of Miehlen, two and one-half miles north of Nastatten, meeting light resistance and some AT and 20mm fire. [Figure 7-6]

The next morning, 28th of March, the Task Force took off again with a new objective, Hahnstatten, 15 miles away. The 2nd Platoon of Company C, 312th Engineer Battalion was attached and the 335th FA Battalion was relieved from direct support. At 0830 the attack on Hollzhausen was renewed by approaching it from two directions. No resistance was met and the Task Force headed northeast toward Katzeneinbogen meeting small arms and artillery fire 1500 yards west of the town. The town was enveloped from three sides in conjunction with the 6th Cavalry Group, which was advancing from the northwest. It was entered at 1540 after destroying two 88mm AA-AT guns. With the new objective, Kirberg, the Task Force pushed on reaching Hahnstatten a 1810 and Kirberg at 1900, the only delay being a few abatis roadblocks. The 1st Company pushed east three miles to Daudon-Eufinger and cut the north-south autobahn. During the day two 88mm AA-AT guns were destroyed, 1 prime mover destroyed, 99 prisoners captured and an advance of 18 miles was made. [Figure 7-7]

Company A had advanced with the infantry along the Lahn. River to Limburg, six miles northwest of Kirberg, and Company C had pushed to Hahnstatten meeting no resistance.

At 0930 March 29th the Task Force began their advance to the new objective of Grossen-Linden, 40 miles distant. They reached Niederselters, where a column of the 345th Combat Team, with Company C attached was met. The Task Force bypassed them and pushed through Ober-Brucken,

Munster, Wolfenhausen, Weilmunster, and Kraftsolms where elements of the 9th Armored Division going to Giesson via Grossen-Linden were met. Changing objectives, the Task Force moved south at Oberwetz, to Oberkleen, then to Niederkleen, Lang Gons and Holzheim, arriving at the latter place at 1500. Instructions were received to defend a line – Grosson-Linden, Lang Gons and Pohl Gons. Patrols sent into the woods in that vicinity met little opposition and took numerous prisoners. During the day 210 prisoners had been taken and an advance of 40 miles had been made. [Figure 7-8]

Company A advanced along the Lahn River to Giessen where they met the 9th Armored. Company C in a Task Force with a company of tanks and a battalion of the infantry headed for Butzbach but at Niederseltzer, three miles northeast of Kirberg, they ran into heavy resistance and were held up all day. At 1900 they launched an attack in which Sgt. Sue of Company C destroyed one 75mm AA gun. By 2100 all resistance had ceased.

Captured enemy documents and statements of prisoners indicated that the area in the vicinity of Butzbach was an assembly area for stragglers of the Rhine defenses. Accordingly, on March 30 the Task Force received a mission of securing Hoch-Weisel, three miles southwest of Butzbach, and sweeping the woods to the north and west. At 0800 the 3rd Company moved there and the 3rd Reconnaissance Platoon and the Pioneer Platoon occupied positions between Butzbach and the woods to the west. The day was spent sending patrols through these woods. During the day the Task Force destroyed nine 20mm AA guns, eight 37mm AA guns on 2½ ton trucks, one 40mm AA gun, three 105mm guns, seventeen 75mm AA-AT guns, four 88 AA-AT guns, and twenty-three vehicles. 519 prisoners were taken.

Company C advanced on Brandoberndorf, ten miles west of Butzbach.

On March 31st the Task Force continued to clear the large woods to the west of the Butzbach by first showing their armor and then by the use of combat patrols picked up the disheartened stragglers. 418 prisoners were taken.

April 1st found all missions assigned accomplished, the Task Force dissolved and the Battalion assembled near Kleeberg. During the Task Force's operation, it had taken 1485 prisoners and had advanced 76 miles.



Figure 7-1
Planning the Task Force



Figure 7-2
Task Force Commanders are Briefed
For Take Off Across the Rhine



Figure 7-3 Typical 607th Field C.P.



Figure 7-4 Our First Objective Nastattin

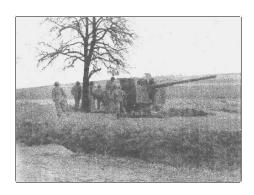


Figure 7-5
We Knock Out Another AA-AT Gun

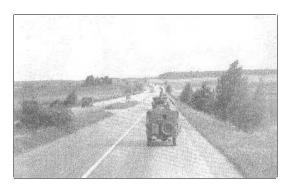


Figure 7-6 One of TFS's Objectives – An Autobahn

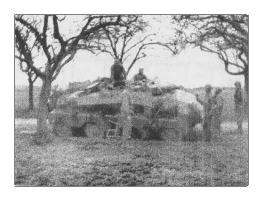


Figure 7-7 Knocked out Jerry Armored Car

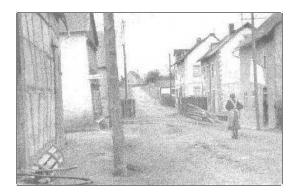


Figure 7-8
A Lone Woman Watches the Capture
Of a Frightened Village

SECOND TASK FORCE

Armored thrusts had raced miles east of the limit of the Division's advance leaving it in the rear areas.

On April 3rd Company A, with the 2nd Reconnaissance Platoon attached, was attached to the 6th Cavalry Group and joined them at Huhlbach 55 miles to the northeast, ten miles northwest of Hersfeld.

Company C, with the 1st Reconnaissance Platoon attached, was attached to the 345th Infantry Regiment and Company B, with a 3rd Reconnaissance Platoon attached, was attached to the 346th Infantry Regiment.

On April 4th the Battalion CP, plus Reconnaissance Company minus three platoons, moved to Ronshausen, 70 miles to the northeast with Companies B and C moving into assembly areas in that vicinity with the infantry regiments.

On April 6th Company A was relieved of attachment to the 6th Cavalry Group and joined the Battalion, assembling at Bebra, three miles northwest of Ronshausen.

On the following day the 87th Division went into action. Company A supporting the 347th Infantry Regiment moved southeast 40 miles to Ober-Schonau, ten miles southwest of Ohrdruf, and placed guns in position near there. Company B moved to the vicinity of Bairoda, fifteen miles northwest of Ober-Schonau. Company C advanced to the vicinity of Tambach, five miles north of Ober-Schonau, where they fired on enemy troops and destroyed one MK IV tank. The Battalion CP moved to Floh, six miles northwest of Ober-Schonau. During the next two days the regiments slowly advanced eastward fighting through heavy forests and hills, meeting some small arms, mortar, and direct fire. By April 9th Companies B and C had moved their CP's to Tambach in the heart of the Thuringen Wald. [Figure 8-1]

On April 10th Task Force Sundt was reconstituted at Tambach. Obtaining clearance from the 89th Infantry Division on the north, it marched through their area which was further advanced than the 87th, passed northeast through Ohrdruf, and Arnstadt. Then the Task Force turned south back into the 87th sector cutting behind the enemy lines. The first opposition was met at Trassdorf, six miles southeast of Arnstadt. Here heavy direct and artillery fire was encountered. The Second Company moved through Ober-Willingen, one mile northeast of Transdorf, to the high ground 1000 yards southeast where it was stopped. All efforts to advance were met by heavy fire. The First Company was ordered to bypass Trassdorf and drive southwest towards Ilmenau, pushing into the enemies rear. Then the mission was changed, orders being received to head east through Stadtilm to Rudolstadt. The First Company was ordered to the high ground to the northwest of Stadtilm and the Second Company was ordered to move into Stadtilm from Nieder-Wllingen. The First moved to attack, but was stopped when heavy artillery and direct fire hit both companies. As darkness fell, the Task Force bivouaced in place for the night.

Company A, in the southern part of the Division's zone, advanced with the 347th Infantry about ten miles, passing through the towns of Oberhof, Elgersburg, Ober-Porlitz, Grafinau and to Cottendorf where they met determined resistance. One Hundred SS men armed with small arms and panzerfausts and supported by assault guns and tanks were encountered. When a TD was hit by a bazooka and set afire Sgt. Dominic Karr distinguished himself when he evacuated a wounded man while under small

arms and artillery fire. Disregarding his own safety, 2nd Lt. Grant W. Claymore dashed through the mortar, artillery and machine gun fire to the burning destroyer, climbed inside and rescued his gunner. Returning again to the destroyer which was now aflame with burning ammunition he rescued another man. For his courageous action and extraordinary heroism Lt. Claymore was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. The support lent by the TD's enabled the infantry to take the town with very few casualties.

Company C, with the 345th Infantry, moved through Crawinkel, Plaue, Reinsfeld and Neiderwillingen. The 346th Infantry relieved the 345th, Company C passing to the 346th. By evening the Task Force and the Regiments held a line generally from just outside Stadtilm southwest to Angstadt, a distance of seven miles.

On April 12 the 1st Company attacked Stadtilm from the north and the 2nd Company attacked from the west. The 346th Infantry with the 1st and 2nd Battalions abreast (not part of the Task Force) attacked south of Stadtilm to seize and hold the high ground southeast thereof. All bridges across the Ilm River were known to have been blown with the exception of the main highway bridge, which was not to be blown until the Americans approached. The attack developed with such speed that the bridge was captured intact together with the entire company left behind to defend it. The 3rd Battalion of the 346th Infantry followed the 2nd Company into the town and occupied it.

The 1st and 2nd Companies moved across the bridge and proceeded to the high ground to the east and beyond, passing through Großliebringen and Kleinliebringen. Advancing through Solsdorf, Thalendorf, Kerlau. and Eichfeld toward Rudolstadt, the Task Force met some resistance. Dive bombing by P-47's was used on enemy in Ehrenstein with good results. The 2nd Company encountered abatis on the southwest approaches to Rudolstadt, but reduced these with the help of the Engineer bulldozers. There they encountered heavy small arms and bazooka fire, which destroyed one M-8 but by nightfall had taken the southwest part of the town. The 1st Company moved to Schaala and attacked Rudolstadt from the west in conjunction with the 2nd Company's move to attack, but encountered a defended roadblock and lost a tank to bazooka fire. The 3rd Company moved up to the left of the 2nd Company in Rudolstadt. During the afternoon the air support strafed the high ground to the east and the enemy in the town.

Company A, supporting the 347th Infantry, advanced south of the route taken by the Task Force to Bad Blankenburg meeting little opposition.

Company C, with the 346th Infantry, aided in the capture of Stadtilm and then advanced on the left and echeloned to the rear of the Task Force. They stormed Remda, overcoming small arms and artillery fire, and entered Eichfeld, three miles west of Rudolstadt. The 2nd Platoon, supporting the 2nd Battalion 346th Infantry, closed on the Task Force's CP.

The following day the Task Force continued their attacks on Rudolstadt in conjunction with the 2nd Battalion 346th Infantry, trying in vain to capture an intact bridge across the Saale River. Reaching the river after overcoming small arms, bazooka and sniper fire, they found the bridges had all been blown, as had all the other bridges in the division sector. The Task Force assembled 3000 yards northwest of Saalfeld prepared for immediate movement to take the high ground in the vicinity of Possneck, twelve miles to the east.

Company A, with the 2nd Reconnaissance Platoon attached, forded the stream at Bad Blankenburg with the 347th Infantry and advanced to take Saalfeld finding all of the bridges across the Saale River had been blown. A bridgehead was established.

Two platoons of Company C with two battalions of the 346th Infantry raced ten miles eastward to the Saale and found that all the bridges had been blown north from Rudolstadt to Uhlstadt.

At 1345 April 14th the Task Force crossed the treadway bridge erected at Saalfeld and drove 15 miles eastward to Peuschen, three miles southeast of Possneck, before meeting any resistance. [Figure 8-2] The 1st Company pushed from Schmorda, two miles west of Peuschen, was stopped by bazooka fire at the edge of the woods, losing one M-8 and crew. The 2nd and 3rd Companies, advancing from Wernberg (one and one-half miles south of Possneck), were stopped by intense direct fire 800 yards west of Peuschen. The 3rd Company moved to the high ground north of Peuschen to cover the 2nd Company's movement into the town. The 2nd Company entered followed by the 3rd. When darkness fell, the Task Force CP and the 1st Company bivouacked in Wernburg.

Company A crossed the Saale River behind the Task Force with the 347th Infantry and advanced through Schmorda to Moxa, one and one-half miles south of Peuschen, meeting only slight resistance, but knocking out one 75mm SP gun when Sgt. Esposito's crew turned in a stellar performance.

Company C crossed the bridge at Weissen, north of Rudolstadt, at 1930 and only advanced three miles before darkness overtook them.

The following morning the Task Force dashed eastward meeting little resistance through Taskau, Knau, Plothlen, Dittersdorf, Dragensdorf and Tegau, a distance of about fifteen miles. At Tegau it turned southeast to Lawitz where heavy artillery fire and small arms fire was encountered coming from the east and northeast. The 3rd Company passed the 2nd moving south on the parallel road, one mile to the west, and advanced to Kerschkau where it eliminated scattered resistance. The 2nd Company took the lead again pushing to Lossau and southeast to Lengenbuch, five miles east of Schleiz, where it intercepted a sizable force of enemy moving from the town on foot and in wagons. Joined by the 1st Company all of the enemy were killed, captured or dispersed by this force. Following this shelling the two companies moved east two miles to Thierbach, where heavy resistance was encountered and where they held up for the night.

Company A with the 2nd Reconnaissance Platoon attached, advanced with a 347th Infantry to the vicinity of Schleiz, passing generally through the Ziegenruck, Chrispendorf and Monchgrun.

Company C with the 1st Reconnaissance Platoon attached, moved with the 346th Infantry Regiment to the vicinity of Possneck where they were held up at a roadblock. Clearing it they advanced toward Zeulenroda, not meeting any resistance until they reached Pahren, four miles west of Zeulenroda, where they encountered direct fire. They fought their way east two miles to Klein-Wolschendorf where they spent the night.

The following morning the resistance continued in Thierbach with small arms fire. The 1st and 2nd Companies contacted the Burgermeister and requested the surrender of the town and Garrison on threat of destruction. The request was refused. In the center of the town was a strongly defended enemy roadblock. Disregarding his own safety Captain J. Laverne Nicklaus reconnoitered it and then led the tanks and the infantry into the town and directing the lead tanks fire on the obstacle and the house filled with German troops. While directing these operations Captain Nicklaus was killed by a sniper's bullet.

For his courageous action and devotion to duty he was awarded the Silver Star. The 1st Company pulled back and took positions overlooking the town. When the 2nd Company had cleared, the 1st Company destroyed the town with direct fire, taking 75 prisoners, including a colonel. [Figure 8-3]

The 3rd Company bypassed the town and proceeded across country, bypassing the city of Pauss, going to Unterpirk, Bernsgrun, Frabersgrun, to Steindorf and then racing to the Weisse-Elster River hoping to capture a bridge at Barth Mahlen. [Figure 8-4, Figure 8-5] The 3rd Company closed on the tail of a German artillery battery in the process of crossing the bridge. In the fight that ensued the road was blocked with knocked out artillery, horses and Germans. The delay was sufficient to permit the Germans to blow the bridge. Reconnaissance to the north located the railroad bridge at Cossengrun still intact. Seizing the bridge 1st Lt. Morrow moved his company across and on to Jocketta, Helmsgrun and Gansgrun, where they met intense tank fire. One Sherman tank was destroyed. The Company later moved to Altensalz.. The 2nd Company proceeded to Neuensalz., three miles east of Plauen, fording the river at Barthmahlen The 1st Company moved through the 2nd Company and on to Mechelsgrun. The Task Force CP moved across the railroad bridge, then south to Neuensalz, taken shortly before by the 2nd Company after a sharp fight.

The 1st Platoon of Company A, with the 3rd Battalion 347th Infantry, advanced from Schleiz through Langenbuch, Muhlstroff, Mehltheurer, Syrau to Plauen where they seized and secured a bridge. S/Sgt. John T. Johnson, Company A was given the mission of seizing this bridge across the Weisse-Elster River. He mounted a squad of infantry on two destroyers and led his small task force from the edge of the city through two miles of devastated blocks and almost impassable streets. The smoking tracks of a German tank were a risky but welcome aid in finding the way. Moving rapidly toward his objective he surprised the enemy, seized the bridge and engaged in a firefight with the Jerry's who were firmly established in three buildings over watching the bridge. Covered by the fire of his comrades, S/Sgt.Johnson fearlessly entered the buildings alone and captured one SS officer and ten enlisted men. His award was a Silver Star for gallantry. Also in this vicinity Lt. Daniel M. Auvil of Company A was making a motorized reconnaissance in advance of a task force when he encountered an enemy patrol consisting of a reconnaissance car and two motorcycles. Lt. Auvil opened fire with his machine gun mounted on the jeep eliminating the reconnaissance car and one motorcycle. When his ammunition became exhausted, Lt. Auvil returned to the Task Force, led a light tank forward and directed it in destroying the remaining motorcycle, preventing the enemy from obtaining knowledge of the Task Force. For his heroic action and initiative Lt. Auvil was awarded the Silver Star. The 3rd Platoon of Company A with the 1st Battalion 347th Infantry drove from Langenbuch south through Plauen to Oelsnitz, meeting no resistance, but firing upon fleeing Germans.

Company C with the 346th Infantry headed east with the mission of seizing a bridge over the Weisse-Elster River at Elsterberg. On entering the town they met small arms, machine gun and one round of 88mm fire. Sgt. Benner caught the 88mm flash; Cpl. Green destroyed the gun with his first round. [Figure 8-6] The bridge was seized and the high ground east of town secured.

On April 17th the 3rd Company of the Task Force pushed east and seized Bergen. The 1st and 2nd Companies move to Unter-Lauterbach and Trieb, both northeast of Bergen.

The 1st Platoon of Company A advanced with the 3rd Battalion of the 347th Infantry to Theuma, four miles southeast of Plauen.

The 1st Platoon of Company C with the 1st Battalion 346th Infantry advanced six miles southeast to Treuen, taking it without opposition. The 2nd Platoon with the 2nd Battalion 346th Infantry

pushed on to Leugenfeld, four miles northeast of Treuen, where four light tanks were destroyed by a 75mm Jerry tank destroyer. The panzerjaeger was destroyed by Sgt.Chriske's gun, Cpl. J. T. Wilson gunner, and the Battalion took up a defensive position around the town.

On April 18th and 19th Task Force Sundt remained in place patrolling to the east. Enemy patrols entered each of the company's areas, destroying one M-20 but sharpshooting by Sgt. Stella accounted for the German leader. On April 20th the Task Force, less the Infantry Company, assembled in the vicinity of Neuensalz. [Figure 8-7]

The dash made by this 2nd Task Force Sundt netted 109 miles and 1344 prisoners in nine days. Once the break was made through the Jerry's lines, the scene became a mad rush, fighting through or bypassing defenses – speed was the watchword. To stop was to be pinned down; to continue was to crush Jerry's frugal attempts to delay and leave a string of dead Jerries and burning German vehicles behind. The Germans had pitted the 11th Panzer Division, the so called "Ghost Division" in the 87th Division zone to "stem the tide", but to no avail. [Figure 8-8] The speed with which the Task Force operated was too great to permit a defensive position to be properly set up. 2 tanks, 11 trucks, 4 half-tracks, 3 armored cars, 6 wagons, 3 tractors, 3 motorcycles, 3-75mm guns, and 1-105mm gun were destroyed in comparison with our losses of 1 tank, 2-M8's, 1-M20, and 1 half-track.

During the two week period April 23-May 6, elements of the Battalion remained in defensive positions, conducting maintenance of equipment. Very few changes of locations were made. On May 6th Task Force Sundt was dissolved; its mission completed. The battalion elements remained in assembly positions near Neuensalz.

The most terrible war of all time was drawing to a close. Junctions between the Americans and Russians were imminent all along the front. To prevent unnecessary casualties limiting lines were established beyond which no one could advance. For the 87th Division it was the Mulde River. On May 6th the 347th and the 346th Infantry Regiments, with Companies A and C in support, advanced about twelve miles east against slight resistance. On this drive Sgt. Charles P. Patnude, Company C, encountered a very effective roadblock at the railway underpass in the vicinity of Falkenstein. Two box cars had been removed from the railroad, placed across the road and covered by artillery, mortar and machine gun cross-fire. Sgt. Patnude, taking his destroyer into the underpass, pushed the boxcars apart so he could fire at the hostile machine guns. After knocking out the machine guns Sgt. Patnude and two crew members, while still under heavy mortar and artillery fire, dismounted and hooked a cable from the destroyer to the railroad cars and pulled them to the side of the road, enabling friendly troops to advance. For his courage and leadership he was awarded the Silver Star. After reaching their objectives, patrols were sent to the Mulde River taking hundreds of prisoners. On May 7th the Battalion CP, Reconnaissance Company and Company B moved to Fredrucksgrun, four miles southeast of Falkenstein. On the 8th and 9th Companies A and C assembled with the Battalion at Fredrucksgrun. Peace had been signed. [Figure 8-9] A brilliant record was closed. The greatest of all wars was finished and the lights went on again all over Europe.

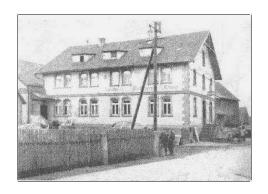


Figure 8-1 Typical C.P. in Germany 607th

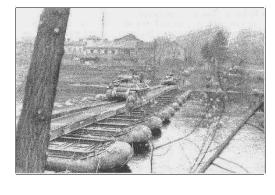


Figure 8-2 Crossing the Saale at Saalfield

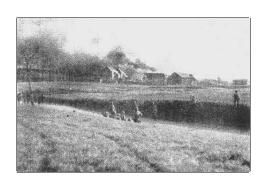


Figure 8-3 Thierbach Burns-A Monument to Captain Nicklas



Figure 8-4 Liberated D.P.'s near Barth



Figure 8-5
Passing through the Streets of
Rodewisch on the Way to
German Held Auerbach



Figure 8-6
Last Armored Vehicle Destroyed by 607.
Company C Destroys a German T.D.



Figure 8-7
Radio Contact with the Russians from Neuensalz



Figure 8-8
The War's End.
A German Division Surrenders

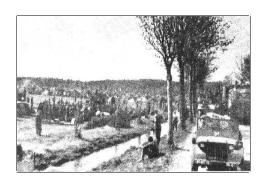


Figure 8-9 Mass Surrender after Peace Was Signed

PART TWO

COMMENDATIONS

HEADQUARTERS THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY Office of the Commanding General APO 403

16 April 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation

THRU: Commanding General Ninth U.S. Army, APO 339, U. S. Army
TO: Commanding General, 95th Infantry Division, APO 9, U.S. Army

- 1. The achievement of your division and attached units, consisting of the 607th tank Destroyer Battalion, 778th Tank Battalion, and 547th AAA AW Battalion, in successfully completing the assigned mission in connection with the reduction and capture of the strongly fortified city of Metz by Third U.S. army was outstanding, both in the combat skill of the individual units committed and the control and sound tactical judgment displayed by commanders of all echelons.
- 2. The fourteen days of continuous attack against a strong and aggressive enemy, along the 26-mile front, drove irresistibly to the heart of the city of Metz where contact was made with American forces advancing from the south. In the course of this attack you successfully (1) made four assault crossings of the Moselle River at its high flood stage, (2) penetrated the line of defending forts, reducing those necessary to accomplish the mission, and (3) greatly contributed to the destruction of an entire reinforced German division. Against these fortifications which had never before in modern times fallen by assault, in terrain favorable to the enemy, and under almost intolerable weather conditions of rain, flood, and bitter cold, your officers and men met a most searching combat test which required not only individual courage, skill, endurance, and determination, but also sound tactical judgment coupled with an insatiable desire to close with the enemy.
- 3. This achievement has added luster to the glorious history of American arms, for which you and all the officers and enlisted personnel of your division and attached units, are highly commended.

G. S. Patton, Jr.

Lieutenant General, U. S. Army, Commanding

HEADQUARTERS THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY Office of the Commanding General APO 403

April 25 1945

My Dear General Middleton:

Again the exigencies of war have separated the VIII Corps and the Third Army. We are almost regretful.

None of us will ever forget the stark valor with which you and your Corps contested every foot of ground during Von Rundtstadt's attack. Your decision to hold BASTOGNE was a stroke of genius. Subsequently, the relentless advance of the VIII Corps to the KYLL river, thence to the RHINE, your capture of KOBLENZ and subsequent assault crossings of the RHINE at its most difficult sector, resulting in your victorious and rapid advance to the MULDE River, are events which will live in history and quicken the pulse of every soldier.

Please except for yourself and transmit to the officers and men of your command my sincere thanks and admiration for the outstanding successes achieved.

May all good fortunate attend you.

Very sincerely,

G. S. PATTON JR., Lieutenant General, U.S. army Commanding

1st Endorsement

HEADQUARTERS VIII CORPS, APO 308, U.S. ARMY, April 27, 1945

To: See distribution

It is with deep appreciation and a sense of humility that I transmit to the officers and to the enlisted men who have served in the VIII Corps since December 16, 1944 this letter of appreciation from General Patton.

As we review the picture since Bastogne, we see performance of feats by officers and men of the Corps which in normal times one would have believed to be impossible of execution. It is however doing the impossible which marks the leader and returns the winner in war.

My sincere thanks to those members of the Corps now living and my humble reverence to those now deceased who by devotion to a cause and a duty made this letter of appreciation from our Army Commander possible.

TROY H. MIDDLETON, Major General, U.S. Army, Commanding.

2nd Endorsement

HQ. 87TH INFANTRY DIVISION APO 448 U.S. ARMY, 2 MAY 1945

To: All Members, 87th Infantry Division, 549th AAA Battalion, 607th Tank Destroyer Battalion and 735th Tank Battalion.

- 1. General PATTON'S letter and General MIDDLETON'S endorsement aptly express the outstanding battle performance of the VIII Corps. The 87th (Golden Acorn) Division has been privileged to play an important part in the achievement of these successes. The place names marking the record of the 87th Division will forever be illuminated with the bright light of consistently successful action. THE ARDENNES THE SIEGFRIED LINE THE KYLL THE MOSELLE KOBLENZ THE RHINE PLAUEN and THE MULDE these are written in bold letters on the pages of history for all posterity to see.
- 2. I pass the commendations of these two outstanding leaders to you with soldierly pride and pleasure.

FRANK L. CULIN, JR. Major General, U.S. Army, Commanding.

ROSTER

OF THE 607th TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

OFFICERS

SUNDT, HARALD S. (Lt. Col.), S*, B, P, LH, CG

NELSON, GRANT F. (Maj.), B SOLOMON, JOHN W. (Maj.), B BINDER, ISADORE (Capt.), B BODELL, WILLIAM J. (Capt.), PH, B

BOHRER, NED (Capt.)

HABERKORN, HAROLD R. (Capt.), B

JOY, RICHARD D. (Capt.), B LANSER, ROLAND L. (Capt.), B LONG, ERNEST W. (Capt.), B MITTLEDORF, MORTON W. (Capt.) NICKLAS, J. LAVERNE (Capt.), S, B WALKER, SAMUEL C. (Capt.) WEIBLE, RALPH D. (Capt.)

ARRISON, ROBERT L. (1st Lt.), S, PH AUVIL, DANIEL M. (1st Lt.), S, B** BAKER, LEROY C. (1st Lt.), PH CASSIDY, THOMAS J. (1st Lt.), PH, B

EBY, HAROLD H. (1st Lt.) EDENS. ROBERT B. (1st.Lt.)

HANDLER, CHESTER J. (1st.Lt.), S, PH HARRISON, EDMUND P. (1st.Lt.) JOHNSON, GUNNAR (1st.Lt.) KILLEEN, JAMES R. (1st.Lt.), PH KING, JR. GEORGE W. (1st.Lt.), S, B KNAPP ALBERT C. (1st Lt.), S LYNCH, ARTHUR E. (1st Lt.) MIRAGEAS, GEORGE J. (1st Lt.) MOLNAR, SIMON P. (1st Lt.). S

NASH, RAYMOND P. (1st Lt.), PH* NEWELL, RUSSELL D. (1st Lt.) O'CONNEL, DANIEL J. (1st Lt.)

MORETSKY, ABE (1st Lt.), PH

 $PENDERGAST, WILLIAM (1st\,Lt.), PH*, B*$

REYNOLDS, RICHARD A. (1st Lt.), DSC, S*, PH, CG

SCHECHTER, ELLIOTT (1st Lt.)
SEIDEL, RICHARD H. (1st Lt.), B
SMELTZER, RUSSELL J. (1st Lt.), PH
STONE, CALVIN R. (1st Lt.), S*, PH
TERRY, WILLIAM O. (1st Lt.), PH, B
TWOMBLY, JOSEPH G. (1st Lt.)
WOITTE, KEITH V. (1st Lt.)
YAKSHE, JOHN R. (1st Lt.), PH, B

CLAYMORE, GRANT W. (2nd Lt.), DSC, PH

DOMER, WILLIAM E. (2nd Lt.), PH

GILDERSLEEVE., BRUCE M. (2nd Lt.), PH*, B

KING, SAMUEL R. (2nd Lt.) MERLO, JR. CEASER (2nd Lt.) WEISSER, SEYMOUR T. (2nd Lt.) Long beach, California Salt Lake City, Utah Laguna Beach, California New Rochelle, New York

Lima, Ohio

Boonville, Indiana
Los Angeles, California
Omaha, Nebraska
Kansas City, Missouri
San Bernardino, California
New York, New York
Deming, New Mexico
Teaneck, New Jersey
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Sheridan, Wyoming
Mineral, Washington
Seattle, Washington
Washington, D. C.
Longmont, Colorado
Copper hill, Virginia
Washington, DC

Copper hill, Virginia
Washington, DC
Los Olivos, California
New York, New York
Bronx, New York
New Bedford, Massachusetts
Nanticoke, Pennsylvania

Venice, California Boston, Massachusetts Owosso, Michigan Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Adrian, Michigan Memphis, Tennessee Burlington, Vermont Oakland, California Memphis, Tennessee Newark, New Jersey

Wauwatosa, Wisconsin Kokomo, Indiana Peoria, Illinois

Cookeville, Tennessee Franklin, Tennessee Gettysburg, South Dakota Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Richmond Annex, California

Canton, Ohio Detroit, Michigan El Paso, Texas Stockton, California New York, New York

ENLISTED MEN

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

Adams, Bradford S. (Pfc.) Albright, James E. (Pfc.) Aloi., Joseph (Pvt.) Alexander, Ralph (Pvt.) Artymiak, Edward J. (Pvt.) Barbour, Robert H. (Pfc.) Bean, Charles H. (S/Sgt.) Beery, Donald P. (Pfc.) Bernstein, Sydney S. (Pfc.) Blacktale, Kenneth C. (Pfc.) Bonomi, Alfred V. (T/5) Bowman, Jack (T/5) Bradford, Joseph R. (Pfc.) Brees, William A. (T/5) Brookins, Henry S. (T/5), B Brosinske, Curtis M. (T/4) Brown, Alva J. (Pfc.) Brown, Quitman P. (Pvt.) Brown, Robert (T/5), PH

Brozen, Stanley S. (Pvt.) Burton, Eugene E. (Pfc.) Burton, Robert M. (T/5)

Catalano, Angelo J. (T/5), PH

Cattafesta, John (Pfc.) Channell, Isaac B. (Pfc.) Copeland, Jack D. (T/4) Cox, Oscar J. (Pfc.)

Crocker, Thurman S. (Pvt.) Cronk, Lawrence R. (Pfc.) Davis, Frank W. (T/5) Davis, Truit A. (Pvt.) Daw, William J. (M/Sgt.) Drozd, Edward L. (T/4), PH

Dubroc, Irvin J. (Pvt.)
Durkee, Clayton A. (T/4)
Eaton, John P. Jr. (Pvt.)
Edwards, Joe B. (T/4)
Enright, Kenneth J. (Pfc.)
Epidendio, William P. (M/Sgt.)

Faires, John D. (T/5) Feamelli, Johnny (Pvt.) Fitzpatrick, Michael F. (Pfc.) St. Louis, Missouri Bloomington, Indiana Grant Town, West Virginia Chattooga, Georgia Wallington, New Jersey Seymour, Indiana

Asheboro, North Carolina Fort Wayne, Indiana St. Petersburg, Florida Wolf Point, Montana Marshall, California Glamorgan, Virginia

Grand Fork, North Dakota

Greenfield, Indiana
Jackson, Ohio
Spokane, Washington
Carthage, Indiana
Fortville, Indiana
Sacramento, California
Flushing, New York
Muncie, Indiana
Portland, Oregon

Curwensville, Pennsylvania Kingmont, West Virginia

Jackson, Ohio

Mountain View, Arkansas

Lumar, Arkansas Blakely, Georgia Dugger, Indiana Seattle, Washington Ethridge, Tennessee Missoula, Montana Camden, New Jersey Bunkil, Louisiana Portland, Oregon Portland, Oregon Oglesby, Texas Rock Island, Illinois Larkspur, California St. Louis, Missouri Portland, Oregon Portland, Oregon

Franklin, Robert M. (Pfc.) Gantz, Chester F. (T/Sgt.), B Genardini, Raymond (T/5) Gerber, Leroy R. (Pvt.) Giannini, George A. (Pvt.) Goss, Israel M. (Pfc.), PH Graf, Phillip E. (T/5)

Greene, Charles H. (T/Sgt.), B Gronewoller, Harold F. (Sgt.) Hamilton, Glenn C. (Pfc.), PH

Harral, Carl H. (T/4) Hawkins, Richard V. (Pvt.) Hayes, Julius M. (T/4) Helm, Clifford E. (Pfc.) Higgins, Richard (S/Sgt.) Huber, Leonard B. (T/4)

Hunsaker, Eugene O. (T/5) Hess, Harbert E. (Pfc.) Jeck, Oswald G. (S/Sot.) B

Jeck, Oswald G. (S/Sgt.), B Jeffers, Carl R. (T/4)

Jennings, Donn F. (Pfc.) Jerles, Howard P. (T/5), B Johnson, Delamar C. (Pfc.) Johnson, Howard L (T/4). Johnston, Roy L. (Cpl.)

Kelly, Donald P. (Pfc.) Kemp, Roy M. (T/5) Kennedy, Norman F. (T/5)

Kiourkas, Jimmy N. (Pfc.) Kokoszka, Bronislaws A. (Pfc.)

Kokoszka, Bronislaws A. (Pfc.) Kuhn, Robert E. (T/5)

Kuhn, Robert E. (T/5) Lahodny, Leon W. (Pfc.) Lalanne, Bruce W. (T/Sgt.) Lebeda, George (Pfc.) Lehre, Albert E. (T/5) Leonard, Norman V. (T/5)

Lindahl, Oscar W., Jr. (T/5), PH

Loiselle, Joseph E. (T/5) Lynde, John W. (T/5) Madlung, Edwin C. (Sgt.) Maloney, Christopher J. (T/4) Maloney, Frances J. (T/5) Marek, Joseph (T/5) Mancilla, Antonio (Pfc.)

Martell, Herman D. (Pvt.) Martinez, Manuel L. (Pfc.)

McCollam, Kenneth H. (Pfc.)

Fort Wayne, Indiana Novato, California Portland, Oregon Brooklyn, New York Augusta, Montana Wheaton, Illinois,

Chicago, Illinois

Portland, Oregon Beloit, Kansas Portland, Oregon Bentonville, Arkansas Gosport, Indiana Spokane, Washington

Wellston, Ohio

Altoona, Pennsylvania Portland, Oregon Portland, Oregon

Lumberport, West Virginia

Omaha, Nebraska Freedonia, Kansas Sunnyvale, California Ridgeville, Indiana Portland, Oregon Richmond, California Bozeman, Montana St. Albans, West Virginia

Portsmouth, Ohio Portland, Oregon Bonners Ferry, Idaho Chester, Pennsylvania Alexandria, Indiana Cuba, Kansas

Los Angeles, California Mount Olive, Illinois Detroit Michigan, Houma, Louisiana Portland, Oregon Spokane, Washington Howard, South Dakota Staples, Minnesota Portland, Oregon Portland, Oregon Victor, Montana

Dallas, Texas Portland, Oregon Santa Maria, California

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

MaCoy, Howard K. (T/5)
McDonnell, Jack D. (S/Sgt.), PH
McGovern, Jerome E. (T/4)
McMillen, Caroll J. (Cpl.), B
McNamar, Warren R. (Pfc.)
McNichols, Edgel (Pfc.)
Mjoen, Kenneth E. (T/5)
Moak, Freeman (T/5)
Moak, James J. (Sgt.)

Moak, Freeman (T/5) Moak, James J. (Sgt.) Moe, Gilbert W. (T/5) Montez, John C. (Pvt.) Morris, Cecil W. (Cpl.), PH Mortieau, Henry F. (T/4) Mullarkey, Joseph J. (Pfc.)

Mullarkey, Joseph J. (Pfc.) Neibarger, John E. (T/5) Nelson, Carl V. (T/4), B Nelson, Stanley O. (T/5), PH Nickson, Robert F. (S/Sgt.), B Ostrom, Carl I. (T/Sgt.), B

Painter, Lee H. (Pfc.)

Patterson, Thomas B. (Cpl.), PH Reed, Clarence S., Jr. (Pfc.), PH

Sanders, Clide T. (S/Sgt.) Scanlon, Charles F. (T/5) Schmidt, George R. (Pfc.) Scriver, Harold T. (Pfc.) Seim., Leonard (T/4), B Sharp, Eugene C. (Pfc.), PH Sheehan, William L., Jr. (T/Sgt.) Sheely, Orville V. (T/5), PH Shepard, Samuel R. (Pfc.) Sinkule, Charles A. (Sgt.), PH

Slenes, Albert (Sgt.)

Smith, Frederick W. (Cpl.), PH*

Solan, Steve (Pfc.) Stark, Lester H. (T/4)

Stephenson, Richard M. (T/4) Stewart, Fred M. (Pfc.), PH Stradley, Eugene O (Pvt.).

Streck, William P., Jr. (T/Sgt.), PH

Strong, Orno D., Jr. (T/Sgt.) Strouse, James H. (Pfc.) Tarbye, Tony E. (T/5) Taylor, Orville C., Jr. (Pfc.) Thein, Elvin J. (1St/Sgt.) Tucker, Hugh H. (T/5) Walz, Roland H. (Pfc.) Planada, California Burton, Washington Shakopee, Minnesota Mount Vernon, Ohio Ada, Minnesota

South Bloomingville, Indiana

Foston, Minnesota

Boque Chitto, Mississippi Boque Chitto, Mississippi Arlington, South Dakota Wheatland, Wyoming Hazelhurst, Mississippi Helena, Montana Youngstown, Ohio Mount Vernon, Ohio Santa Ana, California Portland, Oregon Pasadena, California Seattle, Washington Mohegan, West Virginia Santa Clara, California Stanton, Delaware

Winters, Texas Spokane, Washington Seacliff, L. I., New York Browning, Montana Finley, North Dakota Chicago, Illinois Hutchison, Kansas Oregon, Illinois Jackson, Ohio

Helena, Montana Portland, Oregon Hammond, Indiana Kenmore, North Dakota

Cicero, Illinois

Lubbock, Texas
Portland, Oregon
Coral Ridge, Kentucky
St. Louis, Missouri
Spokane, Washington
Mount Vernon, Ohio
San Gabriel, California
Willow Branch, Indiana
Sunnyvale, California
Evansville, Indiana
Freeman, South Dakota

Wappler, Martin E. (T/5)

Warburton, Harold O. (Pfc.), PH the

Wardell, Ray A. (T/4)

Watkins, Robert B. (Pvt.)

Weber, Hobart H. (T/5)

Wethington, Troy O. (T/5)

White, John O. (T/4)

Willman, Clifford H. (Pfc.), Ph

Wilson, Fairell C. (Pfc.)

Worosz, Stanley F. (Pfc.)

Yenchochic, Michael (Pvt.), Ph

Zamsky, Emil (T/5)

Zurawiec, Edward T. (T/5)

Portland, Oregon Spokane, Washington

Portland, Oregon

McDonald, Mississippi

Evansville, Indiana

Merrimack, Kentucky

Victorville, California

Deer Park, Ohio

Butler, Tennessee

Hammond, Indiana

Mingo Junction, Ohio

Dayton, Ohio

Hammond, Indiana

MEDICAL DETACHMENT

Ball, James R. (Cpl.)

Bell, Luther H. (Pfc.), PH, B

Biter, Dorance R. (S/Sgt.)

Blattel, Arnold A. (T/4)

Briggs, Ralph H. (T/5)

Buzzard, John J. (T/5)

Capps, James F. (Pfc.)

Craig. Roger E. (Pfc.)

Crawford, Porter D. (Pfc.)

Clawford, I offer D. (

Hilliard, Wesley (Pvt.)

Kippen Roderick, M. (Pfc.)

Laidig, Oswald W. (Cpl.)

Laitinen, Oswald W. (Pfc.)

McIntosh, James H. (T/5)

Poe, Melvin A. (T/5)

Schurwanz, Leroy E. (T/5)

Scott, Harold E. (Pvt.)

Thomas, Gerald W. (T/4), B

Thurman, John W. (Pfc.)

Wyburn, William J. (T/5)

Dayton, Ohio

Baker, Oregon

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Ancell, Missouri

Chillicothe, Ohio

Huntington, Indiana

Montezuma, Tennessee

Norwood, Ohio

Xenia, Ohio

Concord, California

Bozeman, Montana

Los Angeles, California

Spokane, Washington

Tallega, Kentucky

Fort Smith, Arkansas

Chicago, Illinois

Chillicothe, Ohio

Indianapolis, Indiana

Louisville Kentucky

Spokane, Washington

COMPANY A

Alfort, Earnest W. (Pfc.)

Allen, Clifton W. (Pfc.)

Allison, Clyde (Pfc.)

Archer, Andrew J. (T/5)

Waitsburg, Washington

Liberty, Kentucky

Fresno, California

Bloomington, Indiana

Avedisian, Gabriel J. (Pfc.) Barfield, James F. (Pfc.) Bell, Hubert M. (Pvt.) Berger, Steven J. (Pfc.), PH

Bery, Acel L. (T/4) Bischoff, Richard R. (T/5) Black, Hobart (Pfc.) Black, James C. (Pfc.)

Braucher, Max W. (1st Sgt.), B*, PH

Britten, Sherman D. (T/5) Boz, Dominick R. (Sgt.), PH

Brown, Hollis (Cpl.)

Brown, Ralph Y. (Pfc.), PH Brown, Ralph D. (Pvt.), PH Brown, Virgil M. (Pfc.) Bruce, Arthur S. (Cpl.)

Burkard, Rudolph A. (Sgt.), PH, [KIA]

Burnett, William (Pfc.)
Burton, Roy O. (T/4)
Byrd, Virgil C. (Pvt.)
Callen, George W. (Pfc.)
Chambers, Clifford A. (Cpl.)
Christensen, Gravers C. (Pvt.), PH

Cloyd, Maurice E. (Pfc.) Cole, John W. (Pvt.)

Constantino, Marino A. (Pfc.) Cook, Bruce E. (S/Sgt.) Costa, Joseph F. (Sgt.), S Coates, Joseph (T/4) Crowder, Willard H. (Pfc.) Cox, George C. (Cpl.) Cowan, George D. (Pfc.) Dammeler, Paul A. (Pfc.)

Davis, Charles A. (Sgt.), PH, [KIA]

Denner, Sam (Pfc.)
Desol, Louis P. (S/Sgt.)
Dickey, Hubert F. (Cpl.)
Dikowski, Alexander (Pvt.)
Dopirak, Steve F. (Pfc.)
Durhum, John E. (Cpl.)
Duzy, Marion A. (Pfc.)
Ellis, Clifford H. (Pvt.), S, PH

Ellis, Walter L. (Pvt.) Esposito, Eugene (Sgt.), S Ferguson, Hartsol A. (Pvt.) Fields, Paul A. (Pfc.) Fresno, California Indianapolis, Indiana Roachdale, Indiana Johnston, Pennsylvania

Avon, Idaho

Beachgrove, Indiana Yosemite, Kentucky Newport, Kentucky Allentown, Pennsylvania Brisban, Pennsylvania Bronx, New York Spokane, Washington Kearny, New Jersey Liberty, Kentucky Ft Wayne, Indiana New Ross, Indiana Clearwater, California Winlock, Washington Billings, Montana Humphrey, Kentucky

Sagle, Idaho Kent, Ohio

Redwood City, California

Oakland, Illinois

North Baltimore, Ohio Mt. Morris, New York Baldwin City, Kansas Portland, Oregon

Fayette City, Pennsylvania

Muncie, Indiana Wilmington, Delaware Mt. Vernon, Illinois Ft. Wayne, Indiana Huntington, West Virginia

Portland, Oregon

Middletown, New York Rippon, California Newark, New Jersey Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Norwalk, Ohio Goshen, Indiana Liberty, Kentucky Hughsville, Missouri New York, New York Newland, North Carolina Bloomington, Indiana Fleckenstein, John A.. (Sgt.) Fleenor, William F. (S/Sgt.), B Flenner, Jesse C. (T/4), PH Fox Myron A. (Pvt.), PH Freaner, George R. (Cpl.) Fredericks, Earl F. (Pvt.) Friguglietti, Tony (T/5) Fultz, Arnold (Pfc.)

Ganger, Donald P. (Pfc.), PH, [KIA]

Gendron, Alfred (Sgt.) Glass, Howard L. (Pvt.) Gleet, Arthur N. (Sgt.), PH Goodman, Donald H. (Pvt.) Graf, Joseph F. Jr. (Sgt.), PH Greiner, Louis A. (T/4) Grose, Eldon J. (Pvt.), PH Hall, Gerald F. (Sgt.)

Hamman, Bartlett H. (Pfc.), PH Harper, Waldermer D. (Pvt.), PH

Hamilton, Vernus (T/4)

Harris, Val M. (Pvt.)
Harrison, Edward A. (Pfc.)
Hartman, Raymond C. (Cpl.)
Henthorn, Emory (Pfc.)
Hertzler, James E. (T/5)
Holcomb, Roy E. (Sgt.), DSC
Holloway, Hewey R. (Pfc.), PH
Holloway, Robert M. (S/Sgt.)
Hummer, Emery S. (T/4)
Hyson, Virgil H. (T/5)
Jablonski, Alojzy J. (Pfc.)

Jackson Howard P. (T/4), PH James, Edwin (T/4) Johns, Robert W. (Pfc.) Jonaitis, George Jr. (Pfc.), PH Jones, Edward C. (Pfc.)

Johnson, Hilton N. (S/Sgt.), B*, PH

Johnson, John T. (S/Sgt), S Kapsner, Leander F. (Pfc.), PH Karr, Dominick J. (Sgt.), B* Kersey, Bivin R. (Pvt.) King, Frank R. (Pfc.) Kiriazes, James (Cpl.)

Kleiber, Theodore P. (Sgt.), B*, PH Klingenberger, Xavier F. (T/5)

Knapstead, Paul L. (T/4)

Kret, John (Pfc.)

Portland, Oregon

Walla Walla, Washington Cupertino, California Dillonville., Ohio Lansdowne, Maryland Oakland, California Los Banos, California Vanceburg, Kentucky

Goshen, Indiana Spokane, Washington Buena Park, California Madera, Pennsylvania Birdseye, Indiana

San Francisco, California Indianapolis, Indiana South Bend, Indiana Mt. Vernon, Ohio Waynesburg, Kentucky South Bend, Indiana San Jose, California Toledo, Ohio

Tabor, South Dakota Bloomington, Indiana Underwood, Indiana Liverpool, Pennsylvania

Dayton, Ohio

Pittsburg Landing, Tennessee

Salisbury, Maryland

New Providence, Pennsylvania

San Francisco, California South Bend, Indiana Shepherdsville, Kentucky Walpole Island, Canada Bloomington, Indiana Worcester, Massachusetts New Straitsville, Ohio Taneyville, Missouri Pinetown, North Carolina

Pierz, Minnesota Hammond, Indiana Arlington, California Portland, Oregon Sacramento California Chicago, Illinois Ft. Wayne, Indiana Minot, North Dakota New York, New York Krisher, Gaylord L. (Pfc.), PH Kuduscwicz, Frank (Pfc.), S Larson, Everett M. (Sgt.), PH LaShaw, Howard (T/4)

LaShaw, Howard (T/4) Laxton, Conrad H. (Sgt.) Leboeuf, Charles J. Lee, Olen (S/Sgt.), PH Lerch, Fred E. (Pvt.) Light, Harold T. (T/5) Lucas, Alexander (T/5)

Lucent, Patsy J. (Sgt.), PH Luding, Charles L. (Cpl.)

Lutes, Ray I. (T/5) Mahler, Gilbert P. (T/5) Mannix, John W. (Pfc.)

McConnell, Ernest W. (Pfc.), PH Meitler, Laverne F. (Pfc.), PH Meredith, Robert M. (Pvt.) Miltenberger, Bert Q. (Cpl.) Mlay, Michael (Pfc.), PH Modich, John T. (Pvt.), PH Montoya, Manuel P. (Pfc.) Moran, James C. (Sgt.)

Murray, Winford E. (Pfc.) Myers, James S. (T/5) Nellor, Keith R. (Pfc.) Neubauer, Jacob C. (Cpl.) Niday, Foster G. (Pfc.), PH

Norman, Elza R. (Pfc.) Orr, William H. (Pfc.), PH

Oswalt, James W. (T/5) Owens, Orville (Pvt.)

Phillips, Bernard F. (T/4), B Pilarski, Daniel A. (Pfc.), PH

Porter, Frank J. (Sgt.) Porter, Lawrence O. (Pfc.) Price Raymond L. (T/4) Prince, Ancel W. (Pfc.) Queen, Joe S. (Pvt.)

Rand, William C. (Cpl.), PH Ransey, Willie P. (Pvt.) Reese, Johnny E. (Pfc.)

Reynolds Edward D. (Cpl.), PH Robinson, George (Pvt.), PH Rohland, Thomas R. (Cpl.)

Rollins, J. C. (Sgt.)

Ft. Wayne, Indiana Lyndhurst, New Jersey Spokane, Washington Rockford, Washington Granite Falls, North Carolina

New Orleans, Louisiana Ardmore, Oklahoma Lompoc, California Lexington, Kentucky Hawk Run, Pennsylvania Clarksburg, West Virginia

Whitefish, Montana Lapwai, Idaho Evansville, Indiana

Worcester, Massachusetts Spokane, Washington Plainville, Kansas Gomer, Ohio Portland, Oregon Swissvale, Pennsylvania

Hamtramck, Michigan Pescadero, California Milwaukee, Wisconsin Frankford, Delaware New Orleans, Louisiana Beemer, Nebraska Wells, Minnesota Belpre, Ohio

Columbia, South Carolina

Tuld, Mississippi Muncie, Indiana Helena, Montana Toledo, Ohio

Liberty, Kentucky

East Rochester, Pennsylvania

Fayette, Alabama Bethlehem, Kentucky Bloomington, Indiana Shelby, North Carolina

Rochelle, Illinois

Santa Monica, California Centerville, Mississippi Newport, Kentucky Clarkston, Washington Huntington, Pennsylvania

Tioga, Texas

Rothrock, Howard A. (Pvt.)

Roy, Leo (Pvt.)

Runkel, Robert E. (Pfc.), PH

Rush, Ira J.(Pfc.) Rusnak., Joseph (T/5) Russell, Delbar (Pfc.)

Ribowsky, Solomon M. (Pfc.) Saegner, Andrew F. (T/4) Sanchez, Hector A. (Pvt.) Sandoval, Herman (Pvt.) Sayers, Simon S. (S/Sgt.)

Schoessler, Reuben F. (S/Sgt.), S

Seeman, Charles C. (Sgt.) Sexton, Millard E. (Pvt.) Sheeran, James S. (Sgt.), S Simpson, Gearon L. (T/5) Sims, Louis S. (T/5) Snyder, Roz S. (Pvt.) Sckolich, William A. (Sgt.) Sowders, Max E. (Pfc.) Sparkman, William W. (Pfc.) Stallings, Gerald E. (T/4), PH

Starks, Clyde A. (T/5)

Starzynski, Henry B. (Sgt.), B*, PH Sternberg, Ernest A. Jr. (Sgt.) Stewart, Charles C. Jr. (Cpl.)

Stone, Otho M. (Pfc.) Sturm, Denzil (T/5), PH

Svoboda, Milton F. (S/Sgt.), S, PH

Swan, Edward (Cpl.), PH Swiderski, Ollie (Pvt.) Swinehart, Clyde E. (Pvt.) Tacha, Leo W. (Sgt.) Taylor, Floyd L. (Pvt.) Taylor, William B. (Pfc.) Testerman, Levi O. (T/5) Thornell, Richard R. (Pfc.) Treadway, Kenneth E. (T/Sgt.) Tribble, Colombus B. (1st Sgt.)

Thayer, Carter A. (Pvt.)

Vannah, Warren M. (Cpl.), PH

Vaught, Ralph W. (T/5) Vogel, Virgil E. (Sgt.) Watson, Lester J. (Cpl.), PH West, Roland E. (Pfc.) White John O. (T/4) Spokane, Washington

Phil, Kentucky Muncie, Indiana

Redfield, South Dakota Phillipsburg, Pennsylvania

Oakhill, Ohio Bronx, New York Spokane, Washington Del Rey, California Las Vegas, New Mexico Los Angeles, California Walla Walla, Washington

Toledo, Ohio

Terre Haute, Indiana Jamaica, New York Greensburg, Kentucky Los Angeles, California North Baltimore, Ohio Helena, Montana Bloomington, Indiana

Spur, Texas

Wadesville, Indiana

Gettysburg, South Dakota Stephenson, Michigan Detroit, Michigan Toledo, Ohio St. Ann, Nebraska Evansville, Indiana Alameda, California Claremore, Oklahoma

Toledo, Ohio
Canton, Ohio
Jennings, Kansas
Gates, Tennessee
Gaston, South Carolina
Waitsburg, Washington
Indianapolis, Indiana
Yakima, Washington
Dresden, Kansas
Artel, Washington
Waldobore, Maine
Miltonville, Kentucky
Pocahontas, Highwood
Santa Barbara, California

Searcy, Arkansas Victorville, California Whitt, Gilbert (Pfc.)

Wintemberg, John H. (Pfc.), PH

Wooten, Edward (Pfc.), B*

Williams, Willard T. (T/4), PH

Wilson, Harold E. (Cpl.), B*

Wiren, Everett M. (Cpl.), PH

Yakel, Charles (Cpl.)

Zeller, Waldemar W. (Sgt.), B*, PH

Zendek, John (T/4)

Springfield, Ohio

Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania

Eunice, Louisiana

Oak Ridge, Oregon

Lincoln, Montana

Vader, Washington

Portland, Oregon

Mobridge, South Dakota

Utahville, Pennsylvania

COMPANY B

Aarup, Theodore T. (Sgt.), PH*

Abbott, Earl L. (Sgt.), PH

Adamo, William J. (Pfc.), PH

Albanese, Austin A. (Pfc.), PH

Anders, Arthur C. (Pfc.), PH

Arnold, John E. (Pfc.), PH

Armstrong, Edward H. (Cpl.)

Aument, Robert S. (S/Sgt.), PH

Balsizer, Dale L. (Cpl.)

Bain, Edward L. (Cpl.), PH, B

Bang, Sidnie (T/5), PH*

Bark, Clarence B. (T/5), PH

Bauman, Robert J. (Pvt.), PH*, B

Beem, Wallace (Sgt.), PH*

Begert, Gordon C. (Pvt.), PH

Bennett, Claude H. (Pfc.)

Berlin, Wilho J. (Pfc.)

Bobkin, Nathan N. (T/5), PH

Benito, Paul F. (Pfc.), S, PH

Bowman, James W. (Sgt.)

Boyd, Phillip A. (Pfc.)

Bramlett, Eugene E. (S/Sgt.)

Brooks, Harold J. (Cpl.), S, PH, CG

Brown, Granvil L. (Pfc.)

Brown, Joseph S. (Cpl.)

Brisker, Lawrence E. (Cpl.), PH

Bryditch, Matt (T/4)

Budimlija, Duscan (T/5)

Bunch, Lucion B. (T/4), PH

Burnett, William T. Jr. (Pfc.), PH

Burek, Merritt J. (S/Sgt.)

Harbor city, California

Portland, Oregon

Brooklyn, New York

Somerville, Massachusetts

Valparaiso, Indiana

Elmore, Ohio

Ashtabula, Ohio

Strasburg, Pennsylvania

Gibsonberg, Ohio

Fairmont, West Virginia

Spokane, Washington

Kelly Station, Pennsylvania

Fort Wayne, Indiana

East Fultonham, Ohio

Cheektowaga, New York

Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Toledo, Washington

New York, New York

Newark, New Jersey

Charlotte, North Carolina

Templeton, Pennsylvania

Oakland, California

Greensfork, Indiana

Magnum, Oklahoma

Vermilion, South Dakota

Oak hill, Ohio

East Helena, Montana

Taylor, Wisconsin

Rosedale, Tennessee

Louisville, Kentucky

Deshler, Ohio

Burzynski, Danial A. (Pfc.), PH, B Bush, Arthur L. (Sgt.), PH, B Campbell, Carol F. (Cpl.) Cantrell, James W. (Pfc.), PH Carlton, Bert H. (Cpl.), S, PH Caroll, Arley W. (Sgt.), PH, B Casey, James V. (Cpl.), PH Cisek, Albert Jr. (Pvt.), PH Cockman, Charles F. (Cpl.)

Coker, Bert (Pvt.)

Comeau, Harold C. (Pfc.)

Corrigeux, Reginald P. (T/5), PH

Cross, Edward E. (Pvt.) Crouch, Gilbert O. (T/5), PH Daniels, Frederica B. Jr. (Sgt.), PH

Davis, Robert (Sgt.), S, PH Day, Marion L. (Pfc.)

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Dubose, Loranzo B. (Cpl.)
Duhamell, Wilbur A. (Cpl.)
Dullum, Henry E. (Pfc.)
Eichhorn, Jack L. (T/4)
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Fagan, Ralph F. Jr. (Pfc.)

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Haubert, Richard C. (Pfc.)
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Hayes, Darrell A. (Sgt.), PH
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Kellems, Bennett E. (Pfc.), PH Kelly, Lawrence P. (Cpl.) Brooklyn, New York

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Lee, Victor (Pvt.)

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Lindahl, Oskar W. Jr. (T/5)

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Monticello, Indiana
Kirkland, Washington
St. Louis, Missouri
Flint, Michigan
Ithaca, New York

Knowles, Herbert D. (Pvt.) Kreider, Ralph H. Jr. (S/Sgt.) Kovacsik, Frank C. (T/4) Krusula, Joseph A. (Pfc.) Krutil, Edward J. (Pfc.) Lanier, Robert H. (Sgt.) Leary, Thomas F. (Pfc.) LaGrande, Sylvester C. (Pfc.) Leonard, Charles W. (Pvt.) Marinos, Chris (S/Sgt.), PH Martin, Matthias J. (Pfc.) Maynard, Lester E. (Pfc.) MaCoy, Blythe F. (Pfc.) McCray, Ralph W. (Pfc.), PH

McGhee, Gener L. (Pvt.) McIntyre, Walter N. (T/5) Madere, Joseph G. (T/5) Meek, Omar J. (Cpl.), PH Mehr, Elmer A. (S/Sgt.) Melvin, Douglas W. (Pfc.) Misetich, Rudolph A. (T/4) Mitchell, Daniel S. (Pfc.) Monosky, Steve (Cpl.) Moore, Alfred (Pfc.)

Moore, Hammond M. (Cpl.) Morgan, Bernard L. (Cpl.) Morgan, Frances A. (Pfc.)

Mowery, Harry W. (Pfc.), S, PH

Murphy, Maurice L. (Sgt.) Musgrove, Gerald R. (Pvt.) Nelson, Carl S. (Pfc.)

Novokovich, Ned N. (Pfc.), S

Osborn Carl (T/5)

Ostlie, Melvin B. (Sgt.), B, PH

Pajak, Louis (Pfc.) Philage, William H. (Sgt.) Pixley, Paul J. (T/5) Poole, James E. (Pfc.) Powers, Woodrow W. (Pfc.) Pyle, Joseph W. (Pfc.) Roberts, Dillion B. (Cpl.) Russo, Stanley A. (Pfc.)

Rvmers, Raymond J. (Pfc.), PH Sanders, William B. (Pfc.), PH Sekulski, Theodore (Pfc.), S Shearer, Clinton E. (T/5) Simmons, Henry W. (Pvt.)

Tacoma, Washington Lebanon, Pennsylvania

Oberlin, Ohio Perrysburg, Ohio Independence, Ohio Tigard, Oregon

Fitchburg, Massachusetts

Fremont, Nebraska Somerville, Massachusetts Los Angeles, California Prescott, Washington Greenfield, Indiana Centralia, Washington Cat, West Virginia Mobile, Alabama Crawfordsville, Indiana LaPlace, Louisiana Paxton, Indiana Tacoma, Washington

Portland, Oregon Portland, Oregon Chicago, Illinois Rossiter, Pennsylvania Elma, Washington Elberton, Georgia Zanesville, Ohio

Highmore, South Dakota Johnstown Pennsylvania

Silvis, Illinois

Junction City, Kansas Portland, Oregon Magadore, Ohio Thorp, Washington Winchester, Idaho Hammond, Indiana Madera, Pennsylvania Portland, Oregon Maury City, Tennessee Sweetwater, Tennessee Monticello, Indiana

Portland, Oregon Hamilton, Ohio Defiance, Ohio

San Francisco, California

Toledo, Ohio

Spokane, Washington Portland, Oregon

Sloop, Robert D. (Cpl.) Spears, Glenn W. (Pfc.) Spry, Richard A. (T/5) Stallings, Verlin S (Pfc.) States, William S. (Pfc.), PH Stewart, Thomas L. (Pfc.) Stuart, George E. (S/Sgt.) Styer, Alvin H. (T/5) Sullivan, Robert L. (S/Sgt.) Talerico, Anthony S. (T/5) Thornbrew, Dewey L. (Pvt.)

Thomas, S J. (Pfc.)

Thompson, George W. (T/4), PH

Tucker, Lloyd G. (Pfc.) Ullman, Lloyd C. (Pfc.)

Vahrenwald, Dale E. (Pfc.), PH Verdolivo, Nicholas T. (T/5) Vought, Floyd E. (Pfc.) Walker, George J. (Pvt.) Walski, Stanley (Pfc.) Ward, Thomas E. (Pvt.) Weber, Jake C. (Sgt.), PH Welshans, James (Sgt.), PH*

Wilson, Baird F. (Pfc.) Wilson, Frank O. (Pfc.), PH*

Wittrock, Raymond (Pfc.) Wright, George W. Jr. (Pfc.)

Zeigler, George C. (T/5)

Zeller, Edward J. Jr. (Pvt.), PH

Boyne City, Michigan Eubank, Kentucky Craig, Montana Pinson, Alabama

Glenolden, Pennsylvania Stonewall, Mississippi Kodiak, Alaska

Rodiak, Alaska Portland, Oregon Portland, Oregon

Fairmont, West Virginia Lake City, South Carolina

South Bend, Indiana Yoncalla, Oregon St. Louis, Missouri

Kent, Ohio

Cave Junction, Oregon
Sacramento, California
Sand Point, Idaho
Portland, Oregon
Sloan, New York
Newton falls, Ohio
Hamilton, Montana
Blue Ball, Pennsylvania
Indianapolis, Indiana
Mt. Vernon, Ohio

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

St. Louis, Missouri Helena, Montana Louisville, Kentucky

KEY TO AWARDS

DSC – Distinguished Service Cross

S – Silver Star

B – Bronze Star

PH – Purple Heart

* – Cluster Added to Award

CG – Croix de Guerre (French)

LH – Legion of Honor (French)