

HEADQUARTERS 72D FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE
ANTI TANK BATTALION
Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri

To the men and officers of the 72d Anti Tank Battalion:

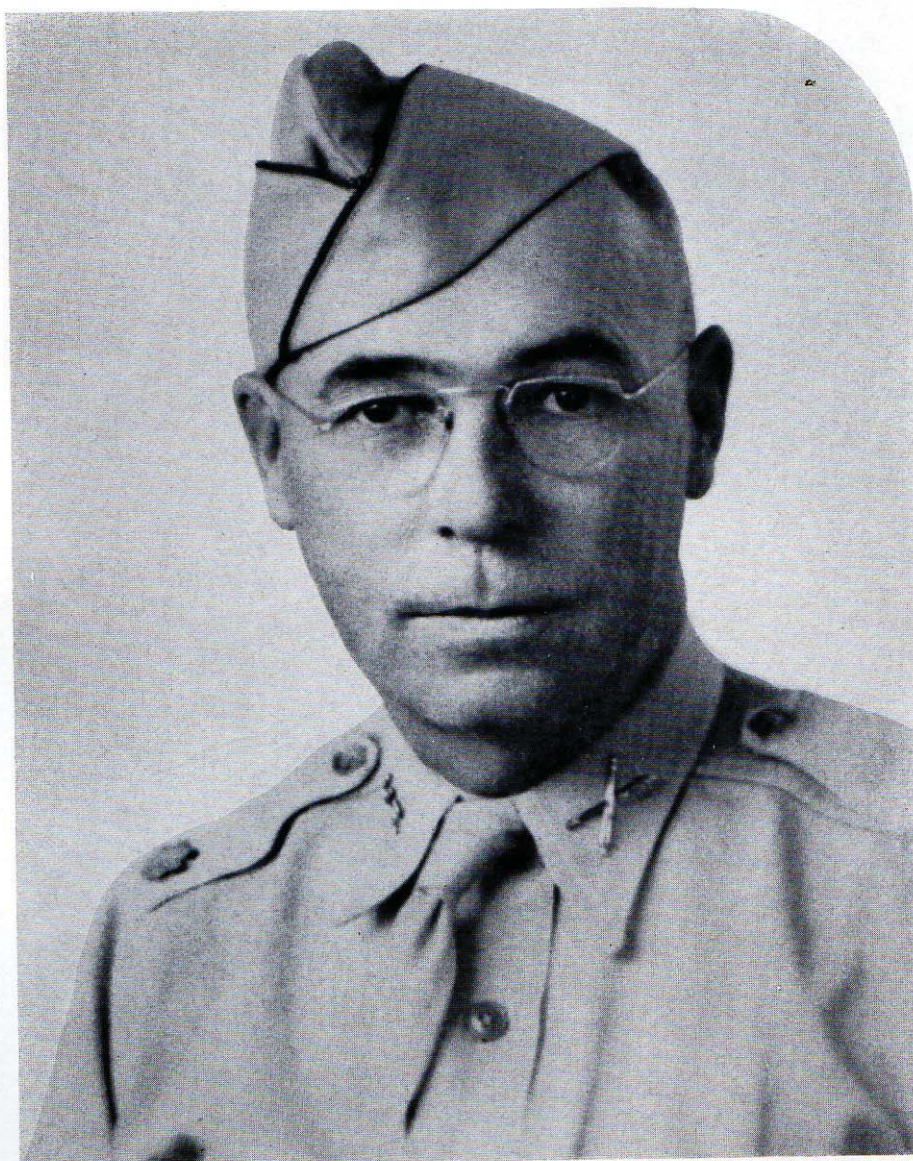
During the short time that this battalion has been organized there has been little opportunity to meet with and commend you upon the high "esprit de corps" which you have shown in the initial organization and training efforts of this organization.

In your organizations you have men who are serving under the provisions governing the National Guard and the Selective Service. You are composed of men from all walks of life and the spirit with which you are assisting to weld an efficient component of our Army for possible defense of the democratic principles of our country is very commendable. I am satisfied that you have done a good job and if this same spirit continues, and I have every reason to believe that it will, you will all later look back on your service with the 72d Anti Tank Battalion with much satisfaction.

Very truly yours,

George B. Ely

GEORGE B. ELY,
Lt Col. FA,
Comdg 72d Anti Tank Bn.

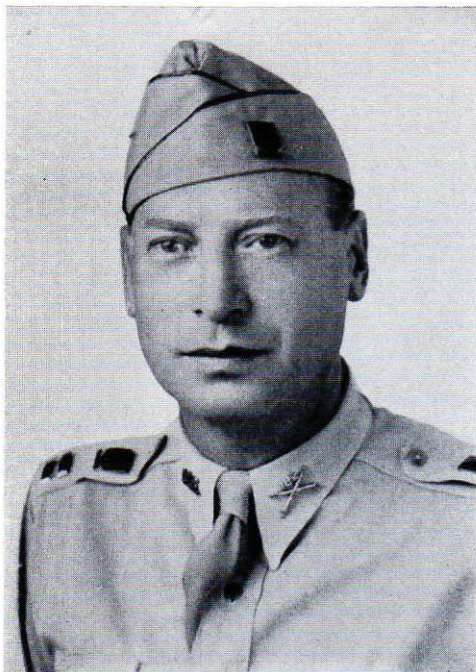


GEORGE B. ELY
LIEUTENANT COLONEL
U. S. A.

**COMMANDING, 72nd FIELD ARTILLERY ANTITANK BATTALION
 (PROV.)**

George B. Ely, Lt. Col. F. A., was born at Olivet, Michigan, January 11, 1889, and graduated from Purdue University as B.S.E.E. in 1914. He enlisted in 1918 and attended the Third Officers Training Camp at Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio. Being appointed 2nd Lt. F. A. July 12, 1918, he served with Battery A, 146th F.A. in France throughout the World War I, returning to the United States and being discharged as a 1st Lieutenant July 11, 1919. He organized and commanded Battery F, 119th F.A., Charlotte, Michigan, which was federally recognized October 5, 1921. He was promoted from Captain to Major July 3, 1929, and was assigned to command the 2nd Battalion, 119th F.A., and later commanded the 1st Battalion of the same regiment. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on August 2, 1940. After returning from summer maneuvers at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, he was assigned to the 72nd F.A. Brigade as Brigade Executive, serving until the formation of the 72nd F.A. Brigade Antitank Battalion in July, 1941, at which time he was assigned to command this new organization.

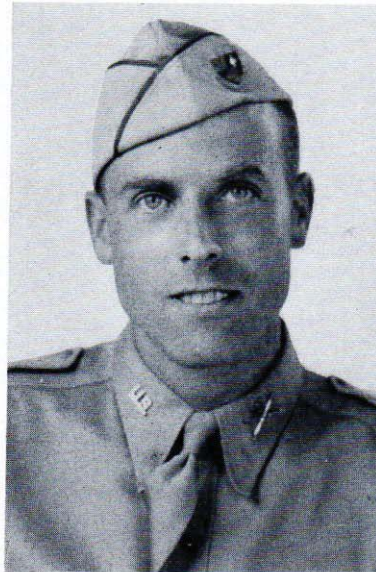
He attended and graduated from the Field Artillery Officers School, Saumur, France, in 1918, the Battery Officers Course at Fort Sill in 1922, the Advance Course in 1930, and the Special Course at the Command and General School at Fort Leavenworth in 1934.



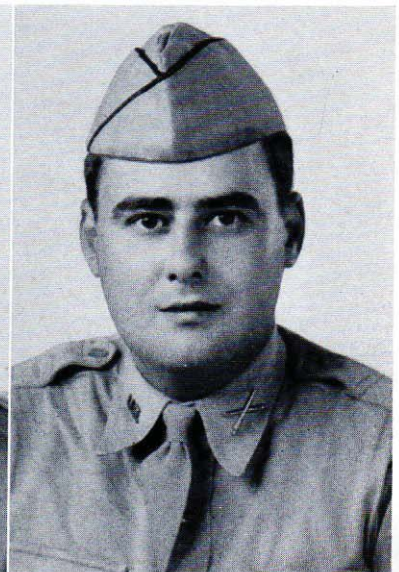
HARRY W. PILBEAM
Captain
 Executive Officer

STAFF

72nd FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE
 ANTITANK BATTALION (PROV.)



GEORGE C. THOMAS
Captain



HUGH E. ANDERSON
2nd Lieutenant



JAMIE M. MARTIN
2nd Lieutenant



RICHARD W. SIERK
2nd Lieutenant



HISTORY OF THE 72nd FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE

ANTITANK BATTALION (PROV.)

On the 24th of June, 1941 the War Department directed by letter that the 72nd F. A. Brig. form a provisional antitank battalion, composed of the antitank elements then existing within the brigade. Accordingly on July 12, 1941 the 72nd F. A. Brig. issued General Order No. 4, directing that the 72nd F. A. Antitank Bn. (Prov.) be formed and commanded by Lt. Col. George G. Ely. The battalion was formed at once and consisted of the following composition:

Bn. Hqrs. and Hqrs. Battery
Batteries A, B, C and D

The Bn. Hqrs. Battery was composed of 29 enlisted men from each of the following organizations: Hqrs. Btry. 1st Bn, 182nd F. A.; Hqrs. Btry. 2nd Bn., 182nd F. A.; Hqrs. Btry. 1st Bn., 177th F. A.; Hqrs. Btry. 2nd Bn., 177th F. A.; and Regimental Hqrs. Btry., 119th F. A. These men were from the anti-aircraft and antitank platoons of these batteries and were reconnaissance, communication and pioneer personnel. The 1st and 2nd Antitank Batteries of the 177th F. A. were transferred from that regiment as "A" Btry. and "B" Btry., which the 1st and 2nd Antitank Batteries of the 182nd F. A. were transferred as "C" Btry. and "D" Btry.

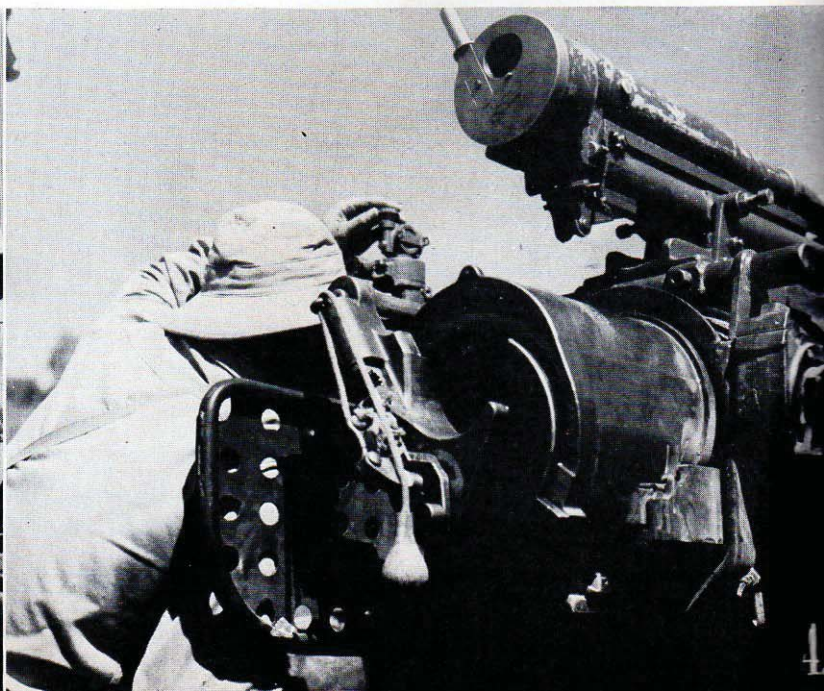
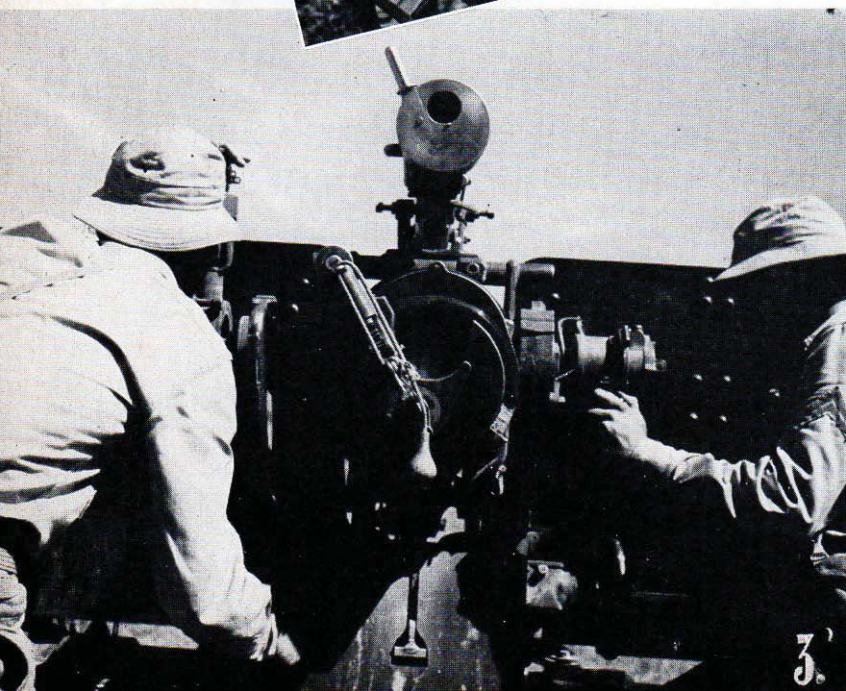
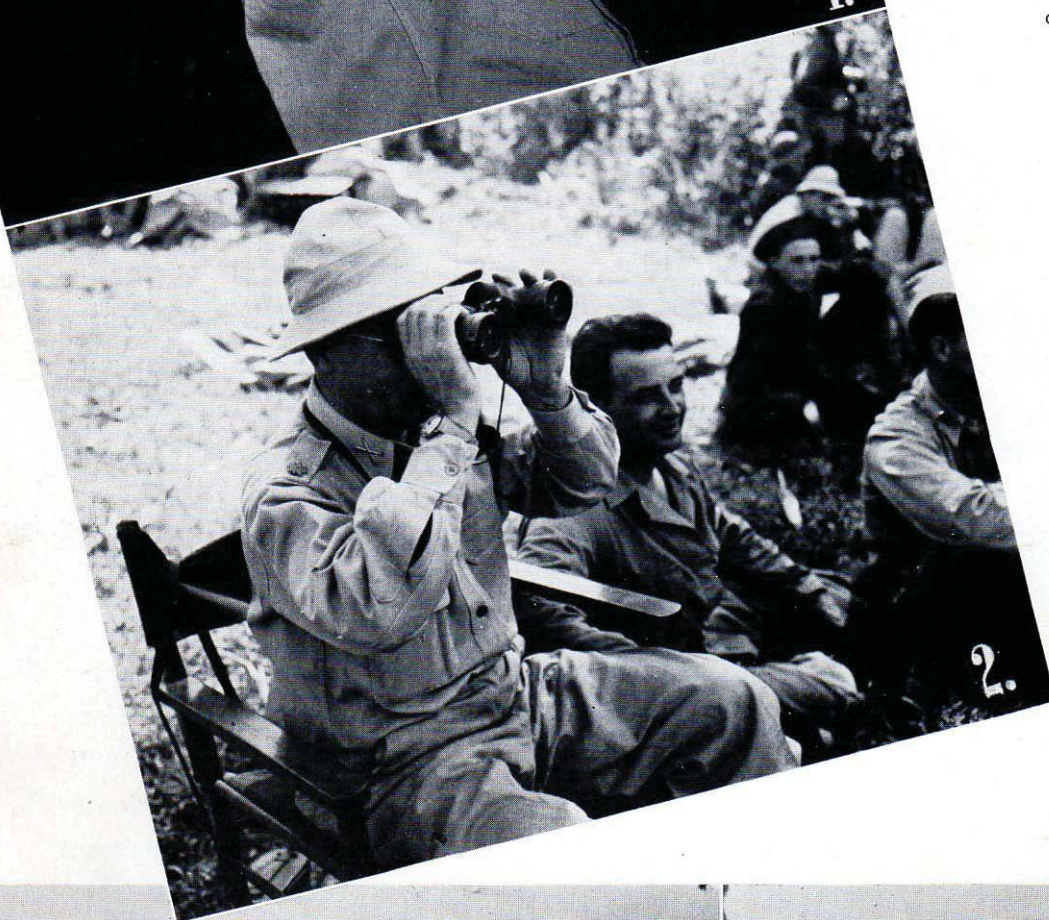
At the time of formation the Battalion was composed of 545 men and 30 officers—145 men in Bn. Hqrs. Btry. and four gun batteries of 100 men each. The officer personnel was drawn from the entire 72nd F. A. Brigade to officer and staff the Battalion.

The Battalion tackled at once the problem of welding a compact and workable organization from these units in preparation for its participation in the 1941 fall maneuvers of the Second Army.

72nd FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE

ANTITANK BATTALION (PROV.)

1. Colonel Ely, Commander of Antitank Battalion, observing fire.
2. Colonel Ely with Antitank Battalion officers on Antitank range.
3. Gunners in position at breech of piece, Battery B.
4. Close up of sub-calibre breech, Battery B.
5. Moving M-2 position on Antitank range, Battery B.
6. Firing at moving targets in Antitank defense work, Battery B.
7. Extracting dud from sub-calibre tube, Battery A.





5.



6.



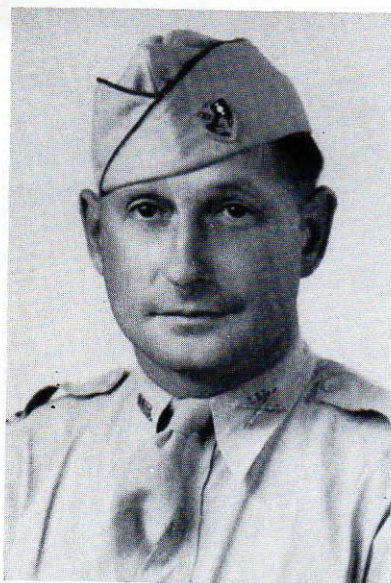
7.



72nd FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE ANTITANK BATTALION (PROV.)

1. Reconnaissance section radio operators, Headquarters Battery. 2. Firing sub-calibre gun at rapidly moving targets, Battery B. 3. Firing on Antitank range, Battery B. 4. Moving gun into position, Battery A.

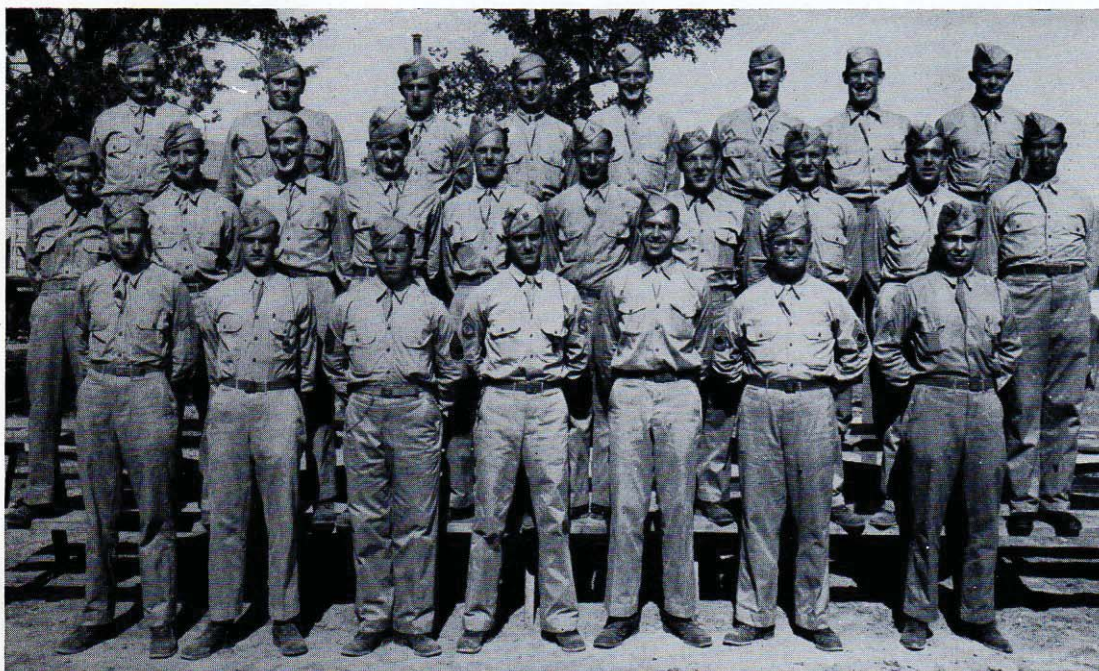




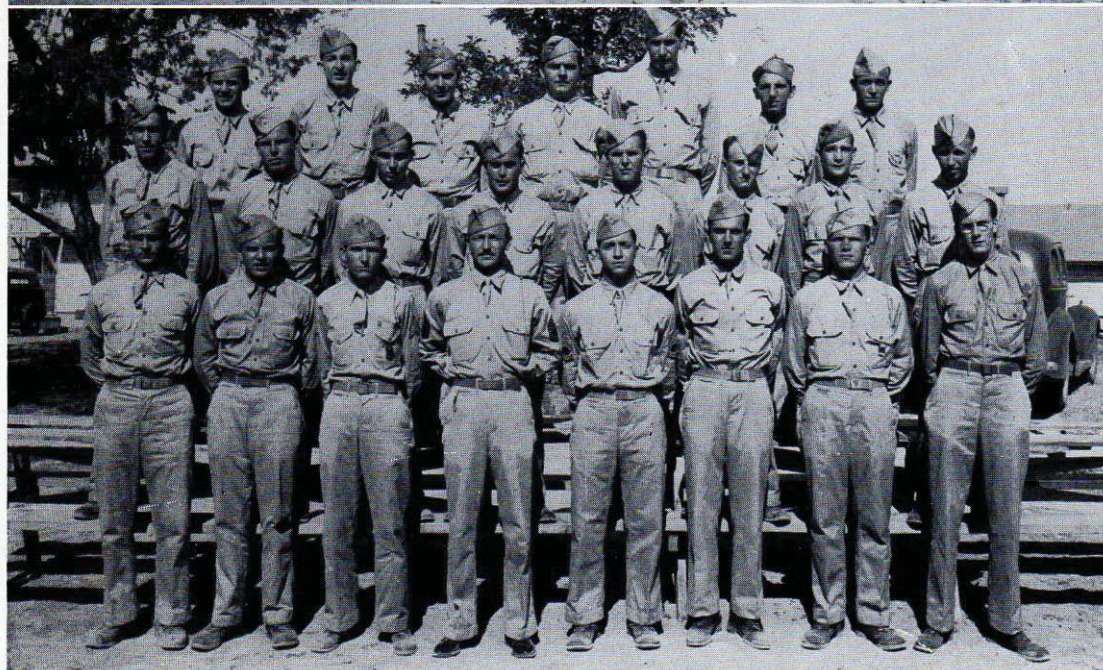
WALTER H. BROOKS
Captain
Commanding,
Headquarters Battery

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

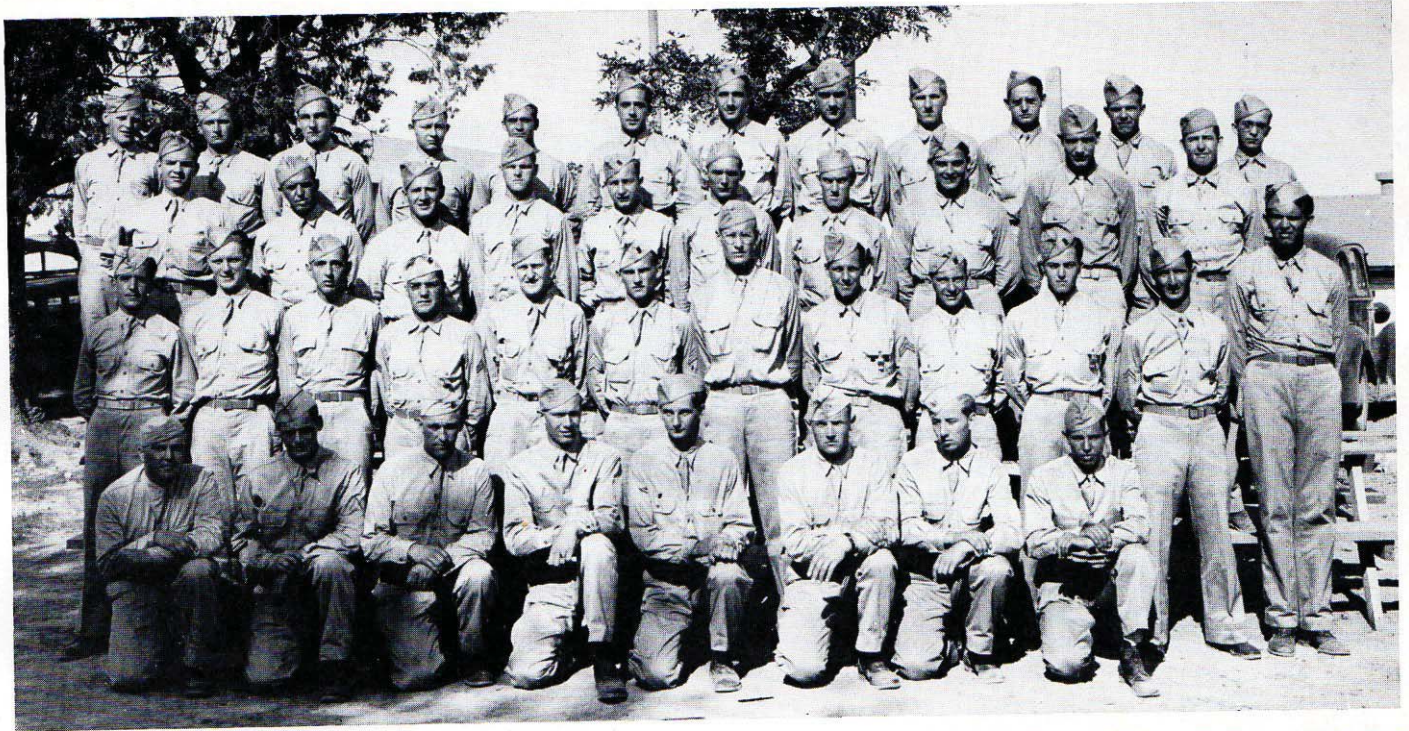
72nd FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE ANTITANK
BATTALION (PROV.)



First row: Cpl. A. F. Theodor-
ski, Sgt. A. S. Gavin, Stf. Sgt.
F. G. Wierman, 1st Sgt. E. H.
Coppock, Sgt. A. W. Race, Tech.
Sgt. A. R. Hopton, Sgt. R. E.
Schlicher. *Second row:* P. N.
Maluwanezuke, PFC R. Mil-
bourn, PFC L. McKenzie, L. F.
Bruff, PFC G. J. Quimby, G. C.
Sadilek, PFC T. A. Nowak, PFC
R. W. Snellenberger, R. A.
Mayers, H. Shoup. *Third row:*
C. D. Darnell, L. Senecal, R.
Knight, H. N. Ackerman, W. A.
Pride, F. A. Lyman, PFC R. V.
Bell, P. R. Deubert.



First row: PFC A. Lejewski,
PFC R. H. Greer, PFC W. Miller,
Tech. Sgt. C. L. Hamm, Stf. Sgt.
J. W. Reed, Sgt. L. H. Lewis,
Cpl. E. J. Karpinski, R. D. Crow-
ner. *Second row:* PFC R. Smith,
A. D. Martin, A. Wright, G. H.
Cummins, D. J. Doyon, J. B.
Lynch, H. W. Dunn, G. LaVier.
Third row: T. J. Levandowski,
S. T. Davies, D. E. Dietz, A. A.
Avery, L. D. Berthume, PFC F.
Pirrenello, Cooper.



First row: Birhonen, PFC J. F. Smietanka, F. C. Putman, C. E. Robertson, R. F. Kaeser, P. P. Domitrz, B. E. Davis, A. J. Kubicki. Second row: PFC A. V. Krzesak, R. W. Schwander, G. J. Kempf, Sgt. C. A. Heniser, Stf. Sgt. W. Thomas, Sgt. G. Gerald, Sgt. J. W. Gosen, Cpl. E. Delimeter, Cpl. M. Johnson, J. Burns, Cpl. W. L. Cliff, C. J. Nelson.

Third row: C. A. Calka, B. A. Peuse, S. Drzal, T. Kalish, Cook, R. E. Dempsey, S. A. Steffenson, W. Kopanski, PFC G. J. Andrews, R. McKay. Fourth row: K. Kelsey, J. Svoboda, J. Peters, K. F. Keck, M. Fantich, M. Barnett, PFC H. Marx, F. E. Munro, PFC E. J. Kolakowski, PFC R. J. Darrow, A. Rose, J. R. Scullion.

JOHN V. DAVISON
1st Lieutenant

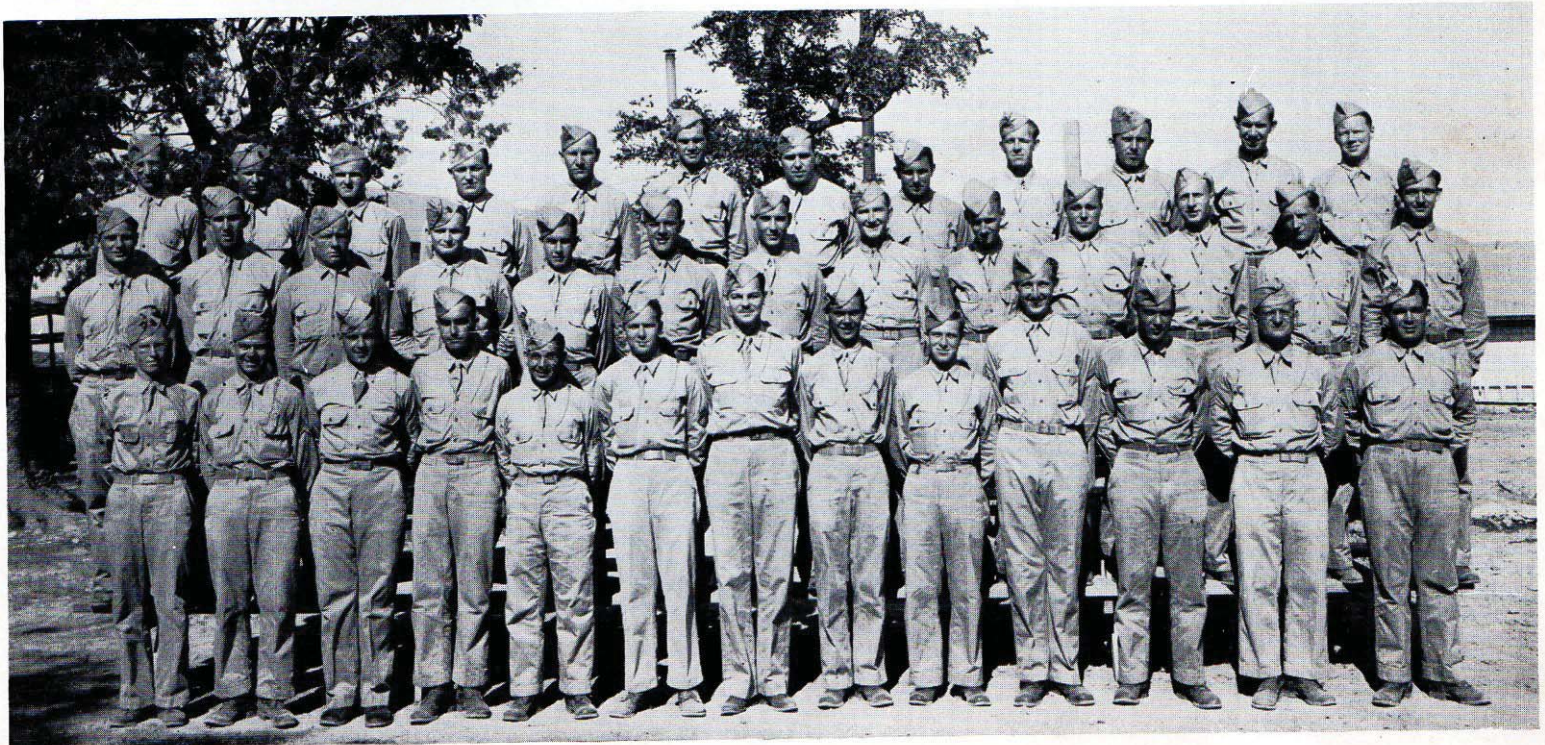
CLARENCE C. FEIGHTNER
2nd Lieutenant

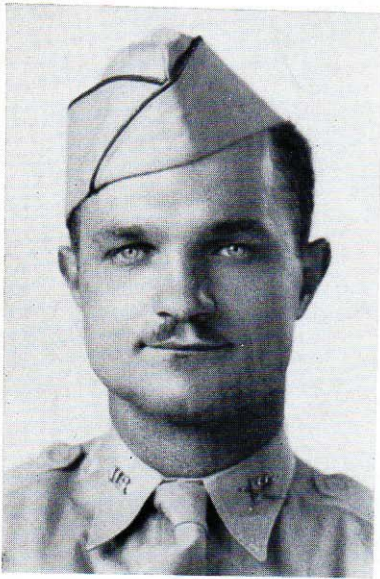
GORDON B. DENTON
2nd Lieutenant



First row: PFC J. G. Brufodt, G. L. Ross, PFC J. D. Green, PFC G. F. Dice, Cpl. H. J. Bilow, Cpl. W. Greer, H. Davison, Sgt. C. Bye, Cpl. R. A. Bilow, PFC O. A. Schlegagrait, PFC F. Engle, PFC E. J. Kolakowski, E. M. Deary. Second row: F. D. Sargent, W. Mitchell, Bell, R. L. Noble, D. Thackwray, G. Hartig, J. A. Marshall, Perry, G. E.

Clemence, C. R. Holmquist, M. D. Karp, W. Musial, H. C. Holloway. Third row: A. Carigon, C. Henry, H. L. Schroeder, T. V. Shinaver, J. Jurewicz, M. C. Cooper, E. R. Ludwick, L. C. Gray, M. C. Kniebbe, A. Cull, R. Knight, E. Stubbs.





WILLIAM N. LANE
Captain
Commanding.
Battery A

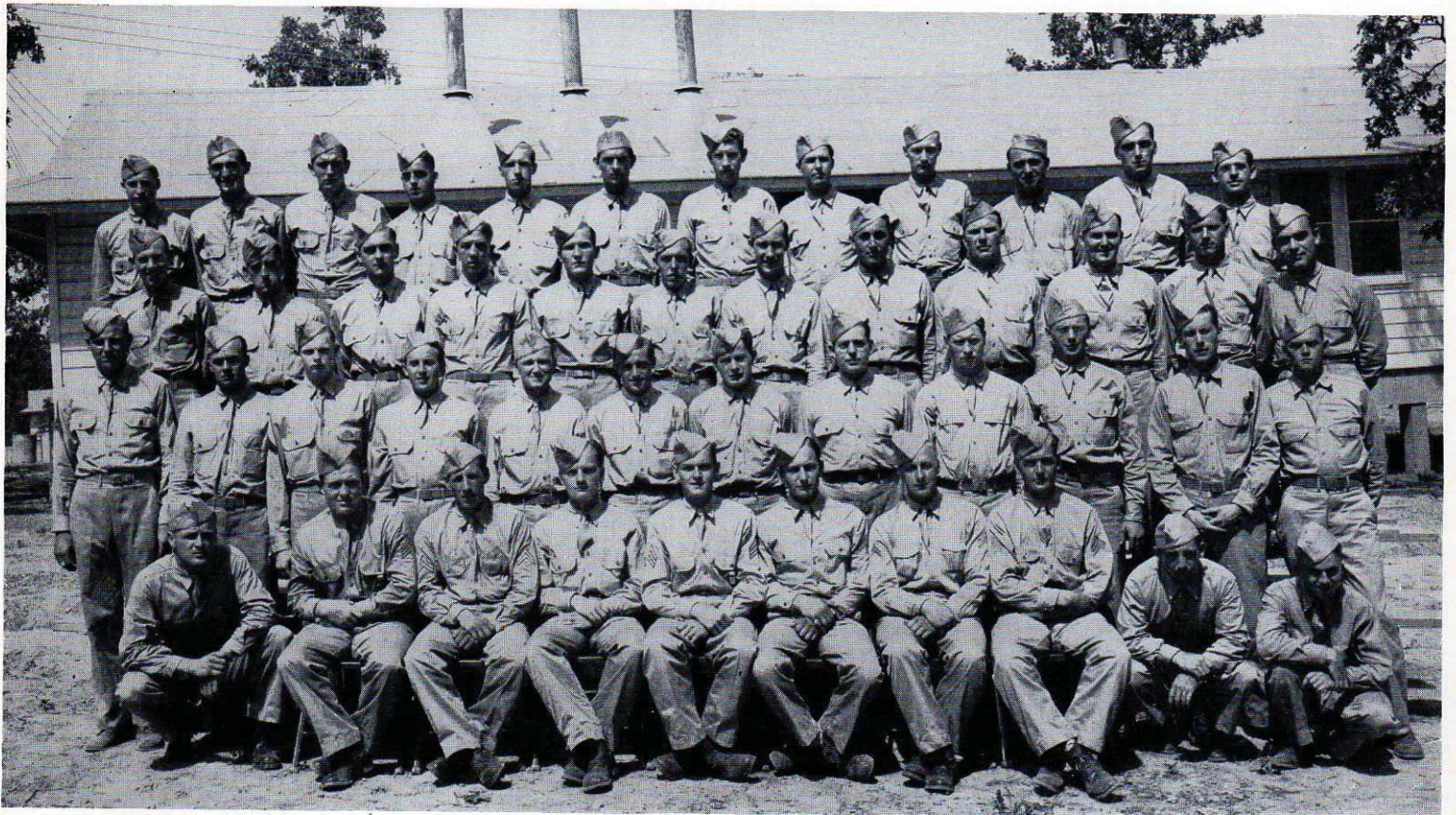
BATTERY A

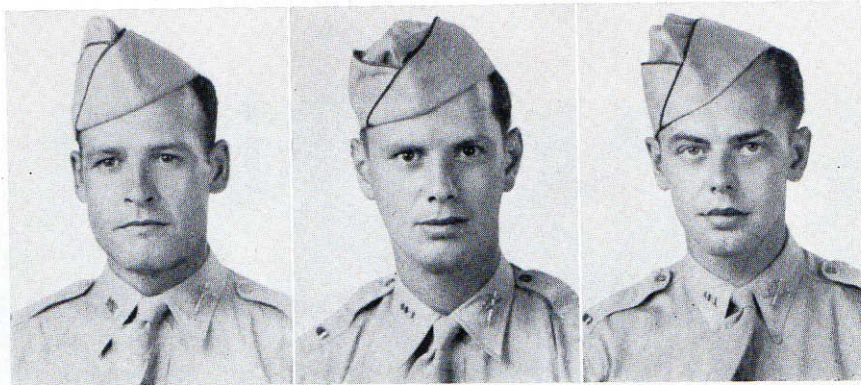
72nd FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE

ANTITANK BATTALION (PROV.)

First row: R. P. Hope, Sgt. M. F. Alleman, Cpl. E. E. Wick, Sgt. D. E. Lane, Sgt. S. C. Wakild, Cpl. O. N. Cook, Cpl. E. L. Brindley, Sgt. C. P. Chamberlin, G. B. Weaver, G. S. Kushner. *Second row:* Cpl. C. D. Mishler, B. E. Laddouceur, Cpl. H. R. Ragain, E. A. Ruppel, C. D. Ludwig, R. D. Roe, PFC F. E. Morse, G. E. Wood, R. V. Adams, E. C. Schrader, J. C. Miskill, S. W. Hall. *Third row:* H. E. Millage, Cpl. C. E. Locicero, J. R.

Warriner, V. Rick, J. D. Self, F. H. Reynolds, V. L. Teboe, V. C. Whitehead, D. E. Mallory, V. E. Wentela, R. B. Went, D. C. Muntean. *Fourth row:* PFC C. J. Kelley, F. J. Foley, R. L. Hunsberger, P. Chamberlin, R. W. Nelson, J. Romanowski, L. P. Lowing, E. H. Warren, C. H. Langelier, J. B. Zechini, L. W. Williams, E. L. Barnes.





MARION L. COMPTON
1st Lieutenant

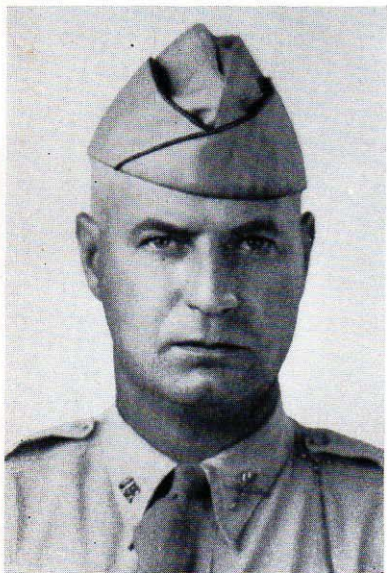
JOHN V. SLYKER
2nd Lieutenant

RAYMOND D. TAYLOR
2nd Lieutenant

First row: G. A. Gaver, Sgt. W. G. Miller, Stf. Sgt. G. D. Haynes, Sgt. H. R. Anthonson, 1st Sgt. J. H. Pearce, Sgt. F. W. Wilson, Sgt. D. B. Vincent, Sgt. W. E. Schewe, Cpl. J. S. Bunch. Second row: Sgt. D. C. Olsen, A. J. Seidel, W. H. Griffith, W. Shappee, C. J. Sawicki, H. A. LeMieux, P. I. Hutchins, W. J. Wnuk, J. C. Wenger, S. F. Snyder, Sgt. R. G. Tolles. Third row: W.

W. Milam, L. Voss, J. J. Zabinski, M. Schlesinger, PFC L. D. Ridley, A. D. Malahowski, G. J. Beier, H. E. Baker, C. G. Porter, W. J. Seibert, F. J. Ruzicka, C. H. Lane. Fourth row: G. E. White Wing, Q. J. Yager, R. L. Engler, W. H. Bell, J. I. Myers, PFC B. M. Joyce, E. C. Schaefer, R. Bender, R. J. Miller, G. F. Schuler, E. T. Beesley, PFC O. R. Pekie.





KENNETH W. CHURCH
1st Lieutenant
Commanding,
Battery B

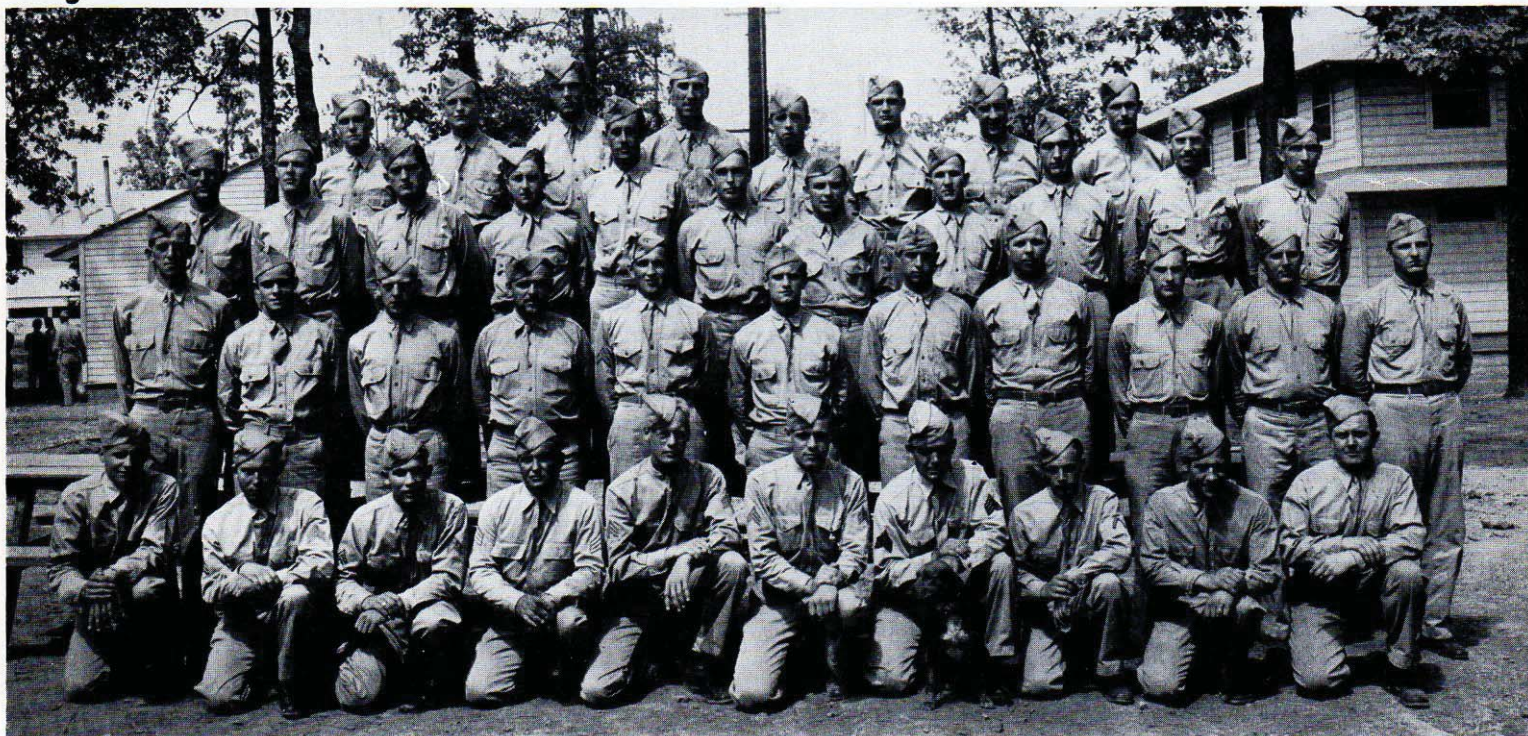
BATTERY B

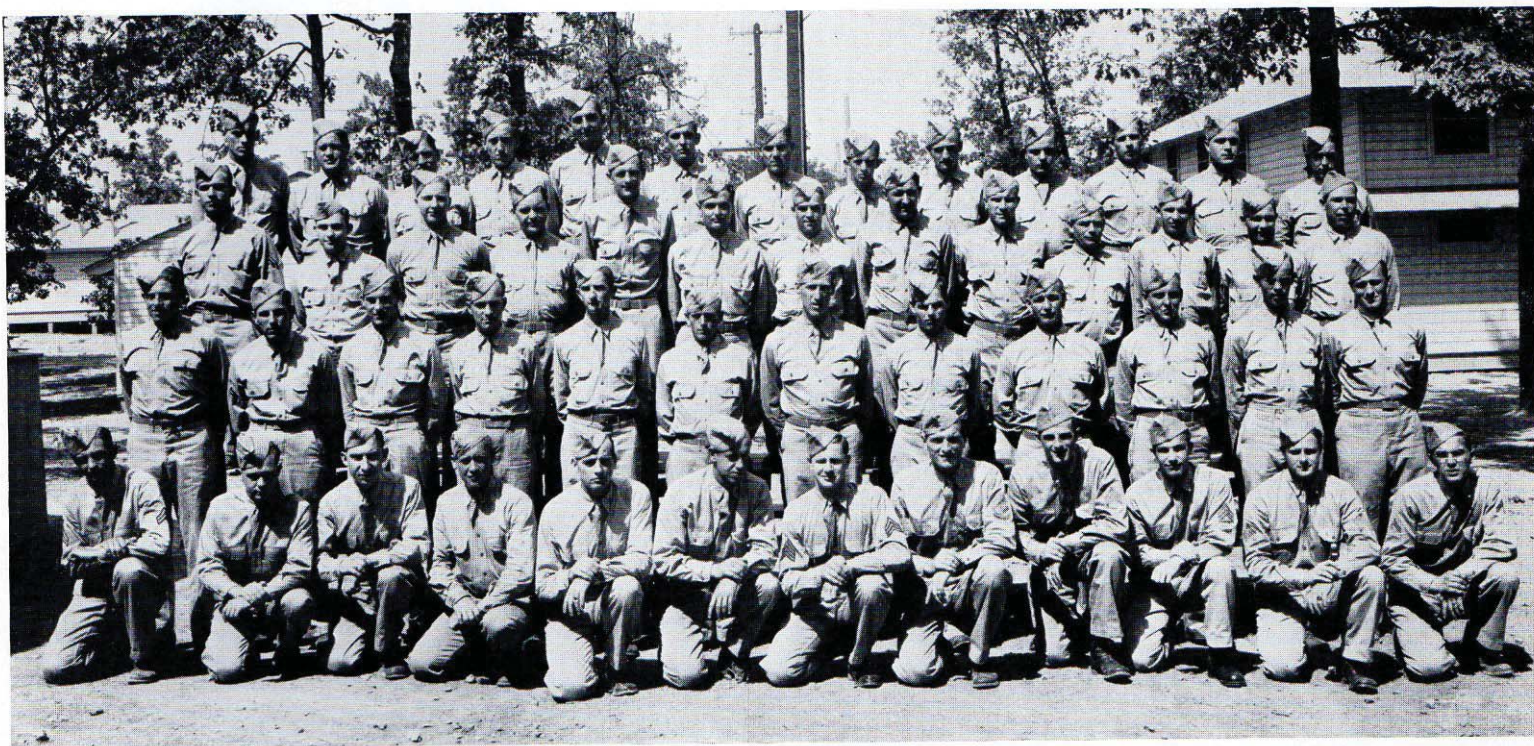
72nd FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE

ANTITANK BATTALION (PROV.)

First row: Cpl. R. S. Tihlarik, Sgt. H. A. Showers, Sgt. K. E. Elder, Sgt. H. L. Brown, Sgt. W. J. Burgess, Sgt. E. E. Adams, Sgt. H. R. Nelson, PFC L. J. Allen, R. G. Brenner, J. A. Whitney. *Second row:* PFC T. J. Fees, L. E. Hobbs, A. R. Schumacher, PFC C. Simonovic, Cpl. W. T. Frost, PFC G. A. Palmer, R. G. Russell, J. W. Jones, W. P. Hatherley, G. H. Schultz,

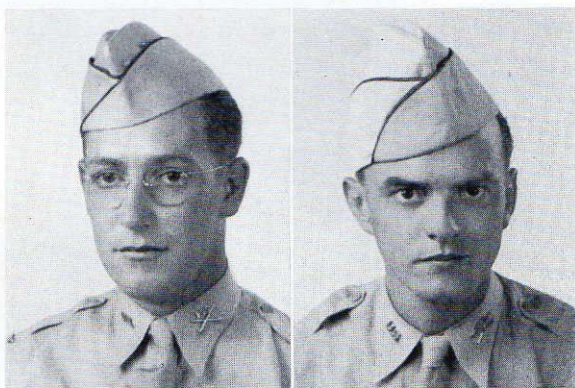
W. Sadanis. *Third row:* E. E. Root, L. C. Reece, J. Aldrich, R. G. Osborne, PFC R. L. Sowers, PFC M. C. Morris, PFC M. Simonovic, J. R. Wallace, I. G. George, G. J. Ennis, L. Rendell. *Fourth row:* PFC C. D. Shaver, PFC J. L. Kernan, Cpl. C. E. Gilman, A. Skiba, PFC P. Sapp, PFC L. F. Goward, PFC M. H. Rinckey, Cpl. E. Wolfgang, Jr.





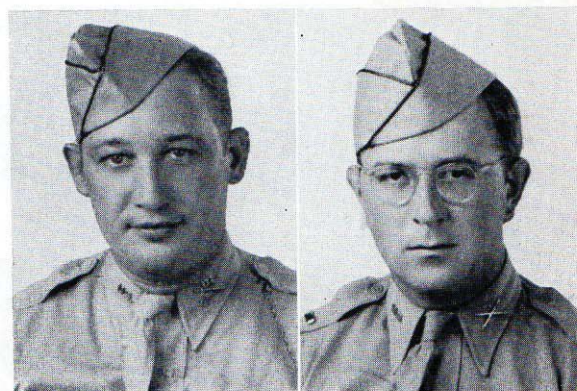
First row: Cpl. J. J. Sentes, PFC K. L. O'Dell, PFC J. W. Besaw, J. E. Miller, T. B. Ross, Sgt. J. E. Mix, Sgt. H. S. Helman, 1st Sgt. N. A. Northrup, Sgt. M. E. Hartig, Sgt. C. K. Purdy, Sgt. R. H. White, Cpl. E. R. Harrier. Second row: Cpl. G. H. Young, Cpl. W. Mitrzak, Cpl. J. Melo, PFC A. R. Fairbanks, B. L. Smithee, E. Stall, H. Richardson, N. H. Roberts, B. Rood, C. A. Siudara, PFC A. M. Hitchcock, PFC R. D. Wilson. Third row:

Cpl. P. Snacker, PFC G. R. Geyer, B. W. O'Dell, P. O'Donnell, J. S. Prezkop, C. M. Goll, G. L. Dietrich, W. M. Seeley, Q. Sabelhaus, R. J. Scholtz, W. Rappuhn, R. Rairigh, E. Raetz. Fourth row: G. Rienertson, Cpl. F. L. McMillen, J. Silva, PFC R. N. Slusser, R. F. Roberts, C. V. Mann, F. Shimmel, Cpl. C. F. Reeb, PFC R. H. Whitford, K. L. Coleman, M. P. Serenson, PFC R. W. Bebow, W. E. Cowman.



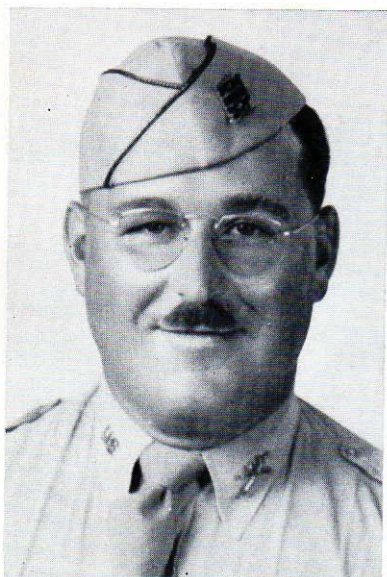
LEMUEL A. BROWNE, JR.
2nd Lieutenant

MATTHEW J. FARRELLY
2nd Lieutenant



CHARLES L. KURETH
2nd Lieutenant

WILLIAM LEPCZYK
2nd Lieutenant



GILBERT G. GREINER
Captain
Commanding,
Battery C

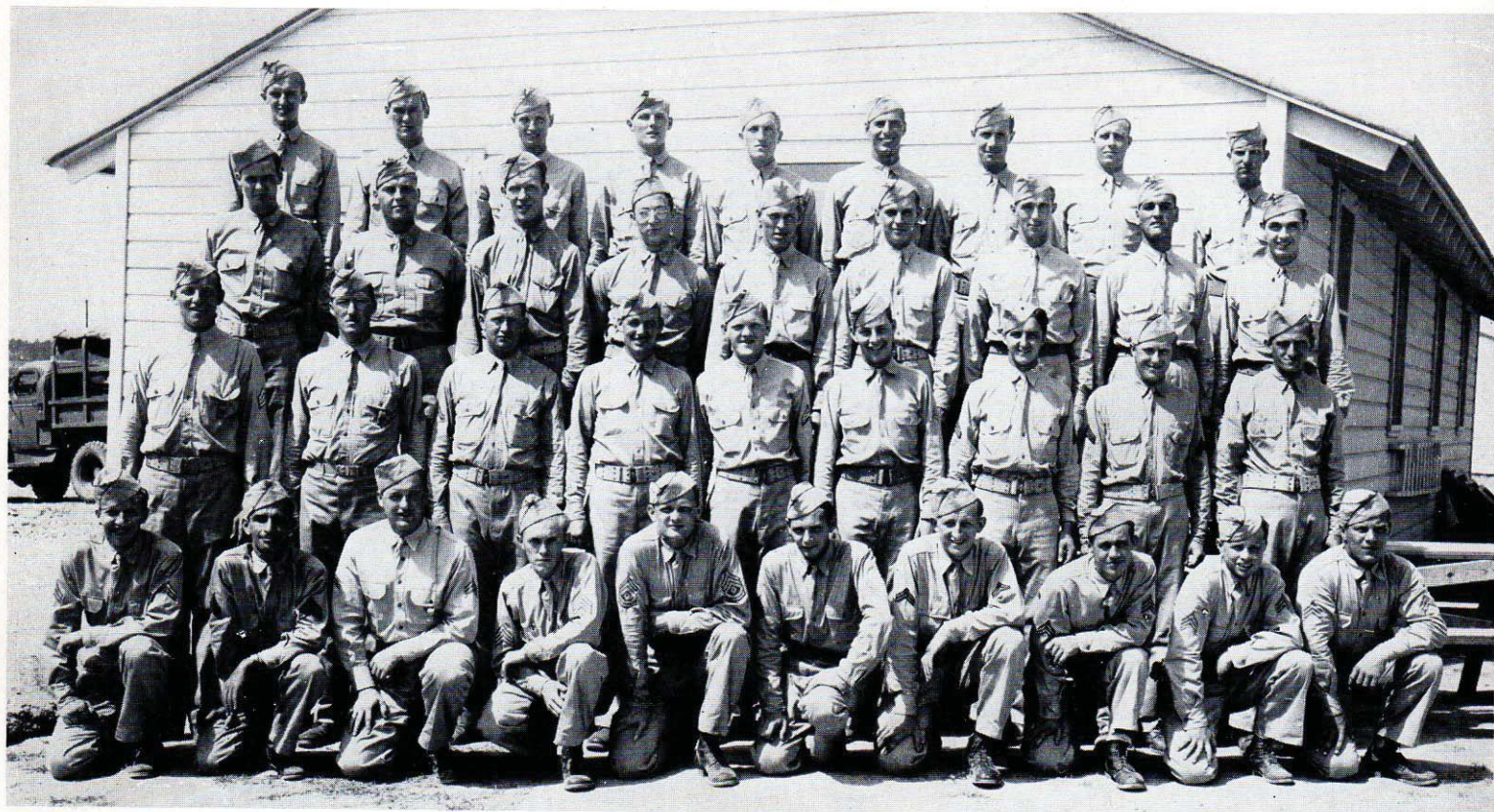
BATTERY C

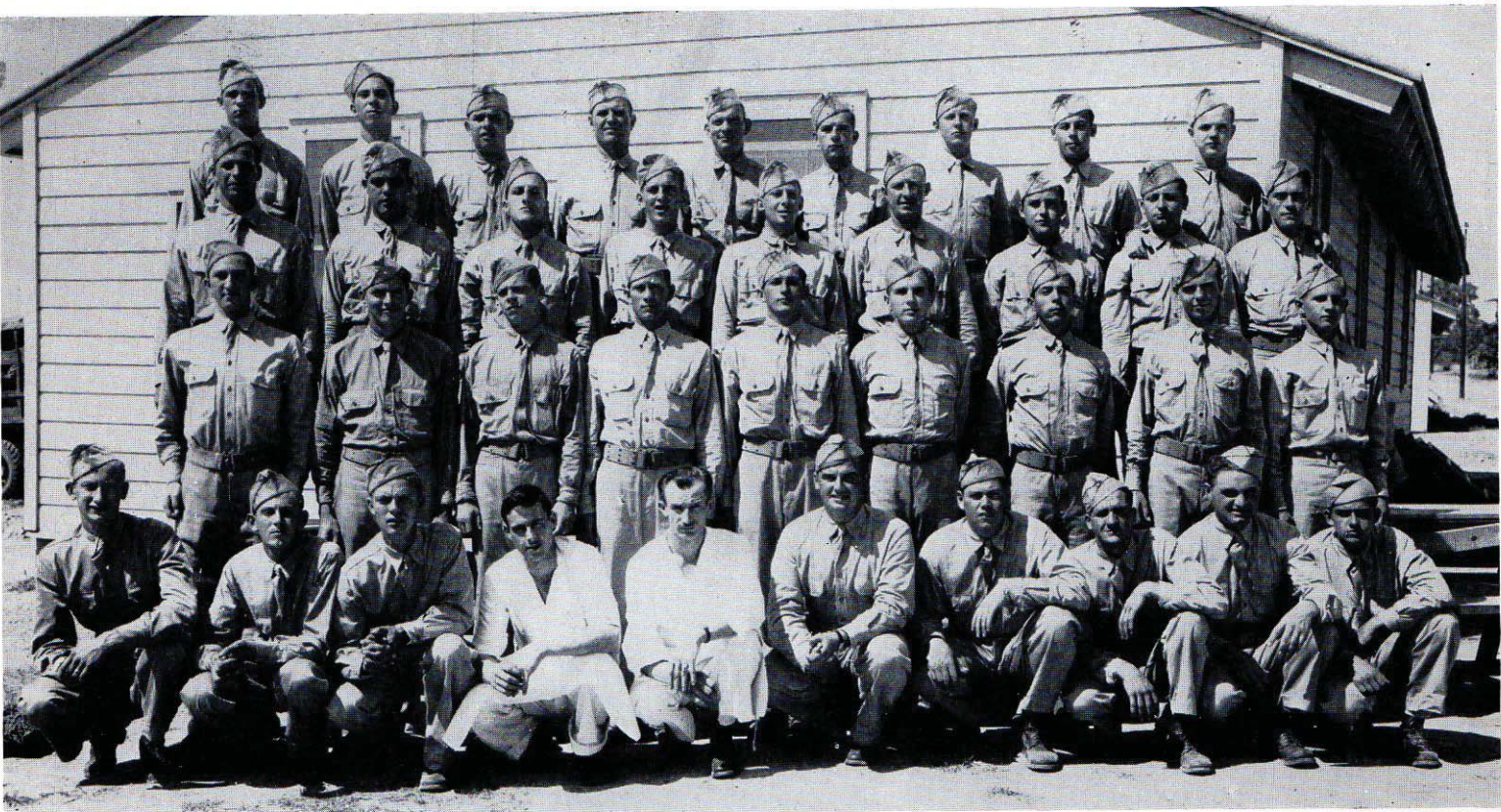
72nd FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE

ANTITANK BATTALION (PROV.)

First row: Sgt. M. F. Baier, L. H. Blustein, J. R. Sweeney, A. E. Sherman, E. A. Kokowicz, F. L. Boor, Cpl. E. G. Ketz, Sgt. J. T. Penman, Sgt. R. Kenyon, Sgt. W. A. Smela. *Second row:* Sgt. T. Mackiewicz, C. H. Woolnough, Cpl. J. E. Faulk, H. O. Donovan, J. R. Stark, R. Robichaud, R. M. Marcotte, R. R. Rigley, J. C. Furca. *Third row:* Cpl. L. P. McDougal, M. C.

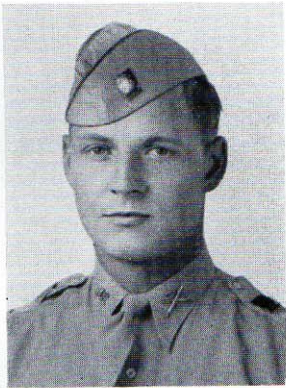
Bentz, I. R. Palmer, E. J. Singer, G. Elmore, G. Harrington, E. P. Smith, R. H. Sutterlin, B. W. Underwood. *Fourth row:* F. J. Mahalak, L. W. Swan, D. Hancock, F. T. Salesky, C. D. Grewe, A. Paterson, W. A. Pfeiffer, H. O. Olson, N. D. Mayhan.



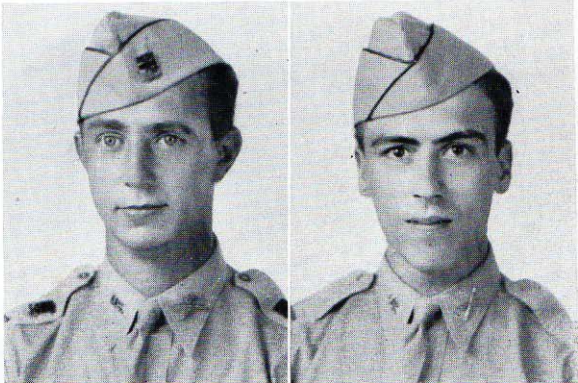


First row: G. Uchnait, I. C. Anderson, E. W. Pritchard, Jr., L. Popp, L. J. Woycik, L. C. Podgorski, H. Eldred, R. Chalou, F. P. Spezia, J. P. Fijalkowski. *Second row:* E. J. Roggenbuch, S. Michalski, J. J. Saczko, L. M. Harvey, E. Tymke, H. I. Henricks, J. Golenia, J. L. Engel, T. A. Mac-

Donald. *Third row:* J. Tursak, D. Claybough, A. C. Ruffetti, J. H. Barnwell, D. Rabinowitz, A. R. Fike, W. A. Boillotat, L. A. Alagine, R. E. Heath. *Fourth row:* W. R. Brownfield, G. E. Males, E. W. Michalak, Misk, J. E. Garrett, F. Biegas, D. B. Turell, W. S. Ward, R. B. Marshall.

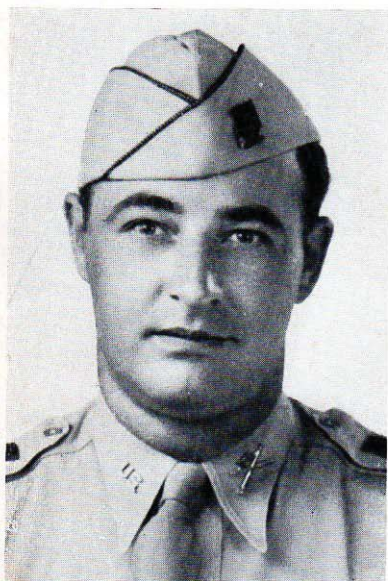


GEORGE BOLTON
1st Lieutenant



HOWARD LEITNER
2nd Lieutenant

WILBER SHAFFMASTER
2nd Lieutenant

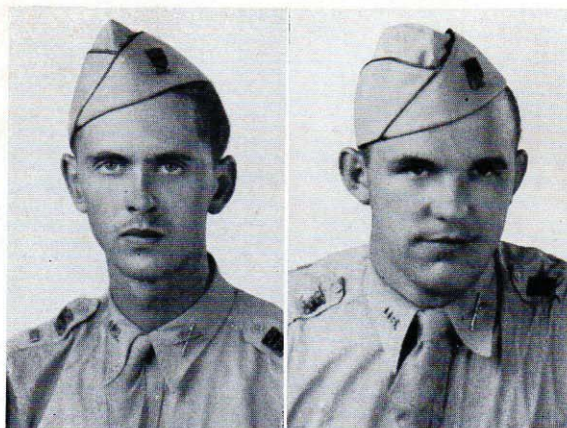


THOMAS W. MUSTON
Captain
Commanding,
Battery D

BATTERY D

72nd FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE

ANTITANK BATTALION (PROV.)

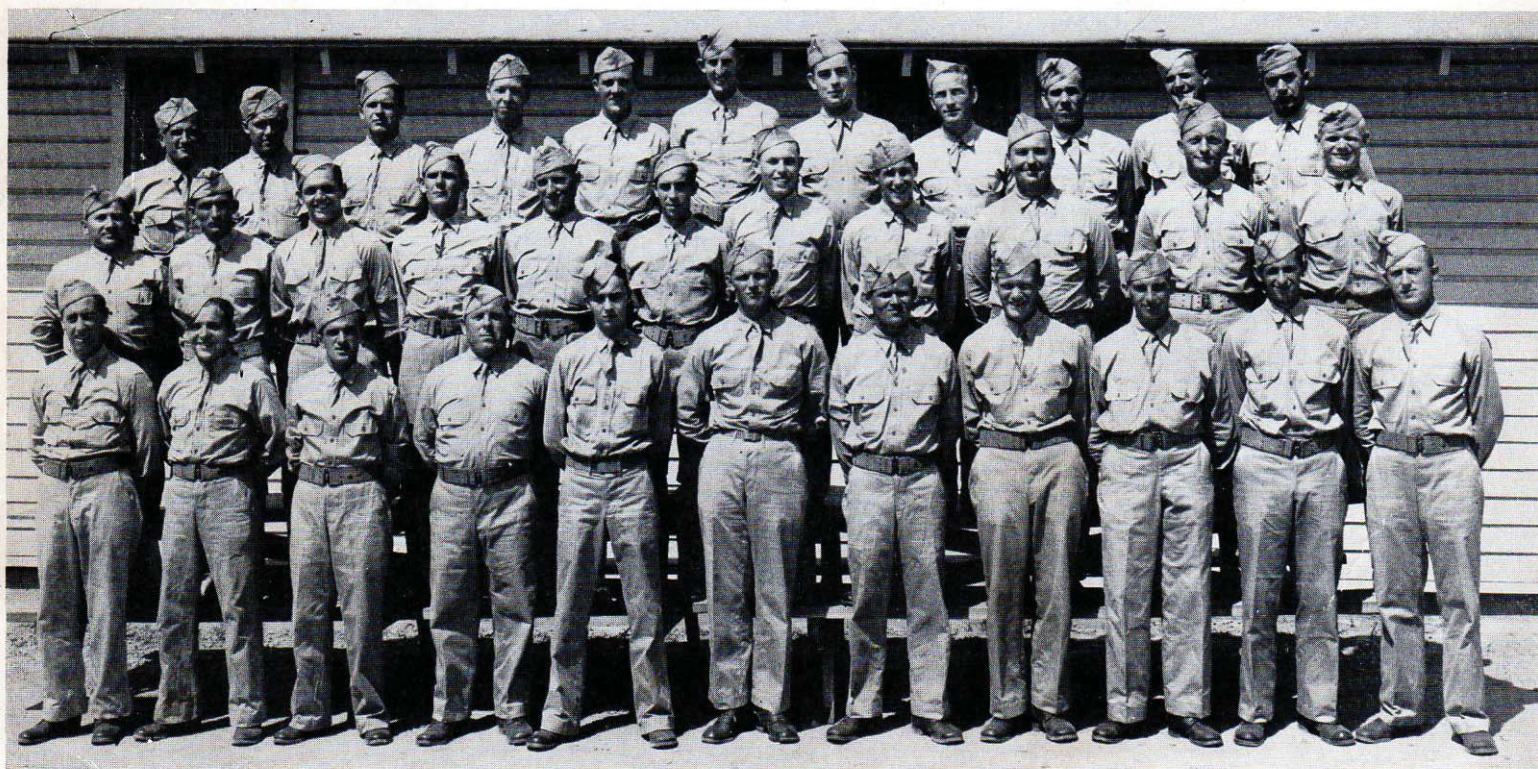


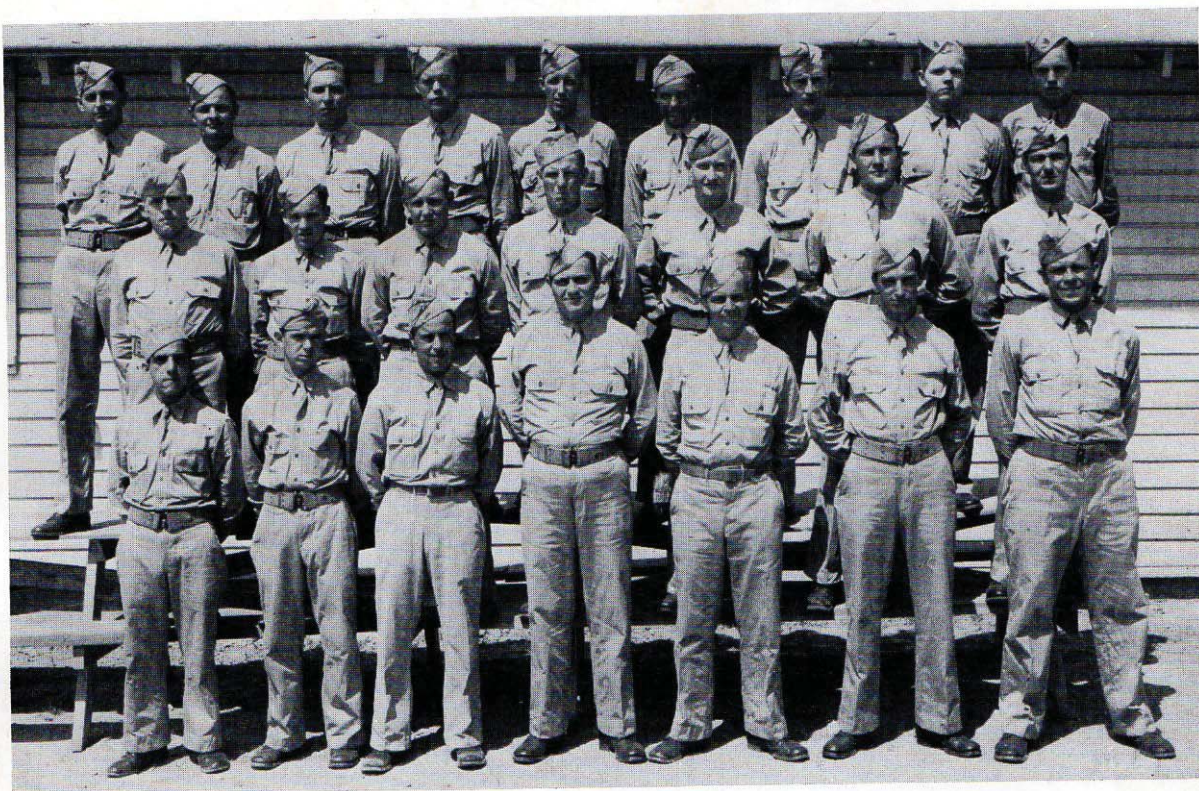
ROBERT B. BURTON
2nd Lieutenant

WILLIAM A. BICKEL
2nd Lieutenant

First row: R. Parmenter, F. Cook, G. Zanzi, L. Munger, J. Paradis, P. Hill, W. Rittner, H. Rots, N. Rupp, J. Niedzwiecki, M. Milam. Second row: F. Pirthauer, P. Gonzales, PFC R. Bork, L. Hayes, C. Niewiadonski, H. Brown,

M. Farber, H. Noyes, H. Nowland, E. Foster, G. Leckel. Third row: H. Schwartz, O. Nodolf, C. Steele, H. Ruppert, PFC C. Taylor, H. Holt, B. Trinity, E. Page, R. Herron, E. Opacki, A. Gasbarro.





First row: J. Mazzone, W. Wood, A. Sovey, J. Joyce, H. Joy, L. Markowski, C. Nickels. Second row: PFC A. Macijauskas, PFC H. Johnson, PFC H. Roberson, I. Kendal,

PFC H. Zamojcin, E. Mutschlar, N. Munger. Third row: B. Karber, P. Olynic, J. Kosh, D. Dombrowski, W. Hower, W. Jerdon, G. Craven, PFC K. Wilson, W. Kinsley.

First row: Sgt. S. McCallum, Sgt. J. Lynch, Sgt. G. Malone, Sgt. J. Montgomery, 1st Sgt. R. Irving, M. Patten, Sgt. J. Bon Tempo, Sgt. L. Stout, Sgt. L. Martz. Second row: Cpl. W. Debo, Cpl. T.

Sweeney, Cpl. J. Wolfe, Cpl. J. Markley, Sgt. J. Hojnacki, Sgt. C. Czarny, Cpl. S. Skokos, Cpl. F. Bird, Cpl. R. Poirier, Cpl. J. Grenanco.

